

Wind speaker

April 17, 1987

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Suicide inquiry results released

By Terry Lusty

In June of 1984, Richard Cardinal was found hanging from a tree with a rope around his neck. Cardinal was a ward of the government, a foster child. So, too, was the 16-year-old Pamela Soosay who was discovered last August hanging from a tree on the Samson Indian Reserve with an electric cord wrapped around her neck.

An official inquiry into the cause, manner and circumstances of Soosay's death now hangs in the balance following a hearing in Wetaskiwin on April 7. The inquiry judge, Douglas Crowe heard testimony and has reserved decision on the matter.

As was the case with

Cardinal's death, evidence given at Soosay's inquiry has raised a number of questions regarding the care and custody of wards of the government.

Soosay, a permanent ward since 1983, had been living with her boyfriend who, it is said, would beat her at times when they were drinking. "She lived in fear," said her cousin Leroy Soosay when contacted by Windspeaker. He claimed it was her way of a repulsive situation.

Crowe expressed concern about Soosay not being contacted for several months by those responsible for her care. Her case worker, Catherine Rowbotham and Band child wel-

Continued Page 4



A TIME TO BE PROUD

AMMSA's president Fred Didzena accepts an award from Jacob B. Terrel Jr. of The Washington Post. Didzena, Bert Crowfoot and Kim McLain recently spent a week in Albuquerque, New Mexico participating in the Third Annual Native American Press Association Convention. Didzena was kept busy during awards night as Windspeaker swept up numerous top honors. See complete coverage on Page 7.

-- Photo by Bert Crowfoot

Dr. Anne Anderson Heritage and Cultural Centre

Cultural centre in jeopardy

By John Morneau Grey

EDMONTON — The Dr. Anne Anderson Native Heritage & Cultural Centre may be forced to close its doors due to recent grant cutbacks, with the previous funding being denied.

At present, the centre is existing mainly on Dr. Anderson's privately owned "Cree Productions," but an ongoing dependence on this source will force Cree productions itself to possibly collapse.

Dr. Anderson says the centre will continue as long as it can, but that funding must be found.

"For the past 18 years," she states, "I have struggled to keep the Cree language and culture alive. When we first moved here, we had many promises and some funding, which made it possible for us to continue with our endeavors. After three years we found ourselves lacking funds since the grant cuts were made. To this date, I am very worried

about what funding we will receive. If we do not get the funding, I can see our place close like many others."

After working on this project for so long, she doesn't want to see this happen, being that it is one of the only Native-Metis cultural resource centres in this province and Canada. "In our centre, we do several things, such as teach the Cree language, display Native and Metis crafts and artifacts, have a library, teach about herbs and their historical importance, and many other things," says Dr. Anderson.

What money that does come in stems from the sale of crafts, her Cree language classes and her book sales. This is not enough to support both the centre and her company. She is seeking other sources of revenue, but the options available are few.

"I am just wondering, which way do I turn in order to survive? We are in dire need of funds, that is for

sure. I am hoping that whoever sees this writing on paper may be able to help or offer suggestions. We are willing to listen, because we do want to carry on. The people who do use this centre also are wondering where they can go if we close our doors to them," she states.

When asked how the Native-Metis groups could assist her she said, "It seems to me that all Native organizations should give some kind of support, because we speak the same language (Cree), have the same cultural understandings and are striving to keep it alive. If we can all remember that this is part of us and that we have to work together and not alone, then we will make it through these hard times together. Whether this could happen, I don't know?"

She is at present seeking funds through Alberta Culture, the Heritage Foundation, other grant sources,

bingos and donations. Most of these grants and funding sources will not be decided upon until late in the year. This would be too late in coming. Her last grant installment from Native Secretariat (now Native Services) was received in March, and has to last until July. After this period, the centre will be totally without funding.

About the function of her centre and others that are concerned with the Native-Metis culture, she further added, "Imagine what a Cree or Metis nation would be like without history or a language? The Elders used to, and still do worry about this. History and language create a strong sense of a national identity, because these identify a certain tribe or people. Who cared many years ago about the Indian and Metis culture? It was almost lost. Today, there is an increasing demand and desire among the Native people to find their cultural roots and



DR. ANNE ANDERSON
...needs financial support

history.

"Many Native people could not speak their own language, and were punished if they did (residential schools). Now they're trying to get back to the proper groove so that they can be proud of their language, identity and culture. The demand for material to assist these people is increasing, and some of it is right here in this centre, if we are allowed to continue."

The demand for material about the Native culture is also being sought by non-

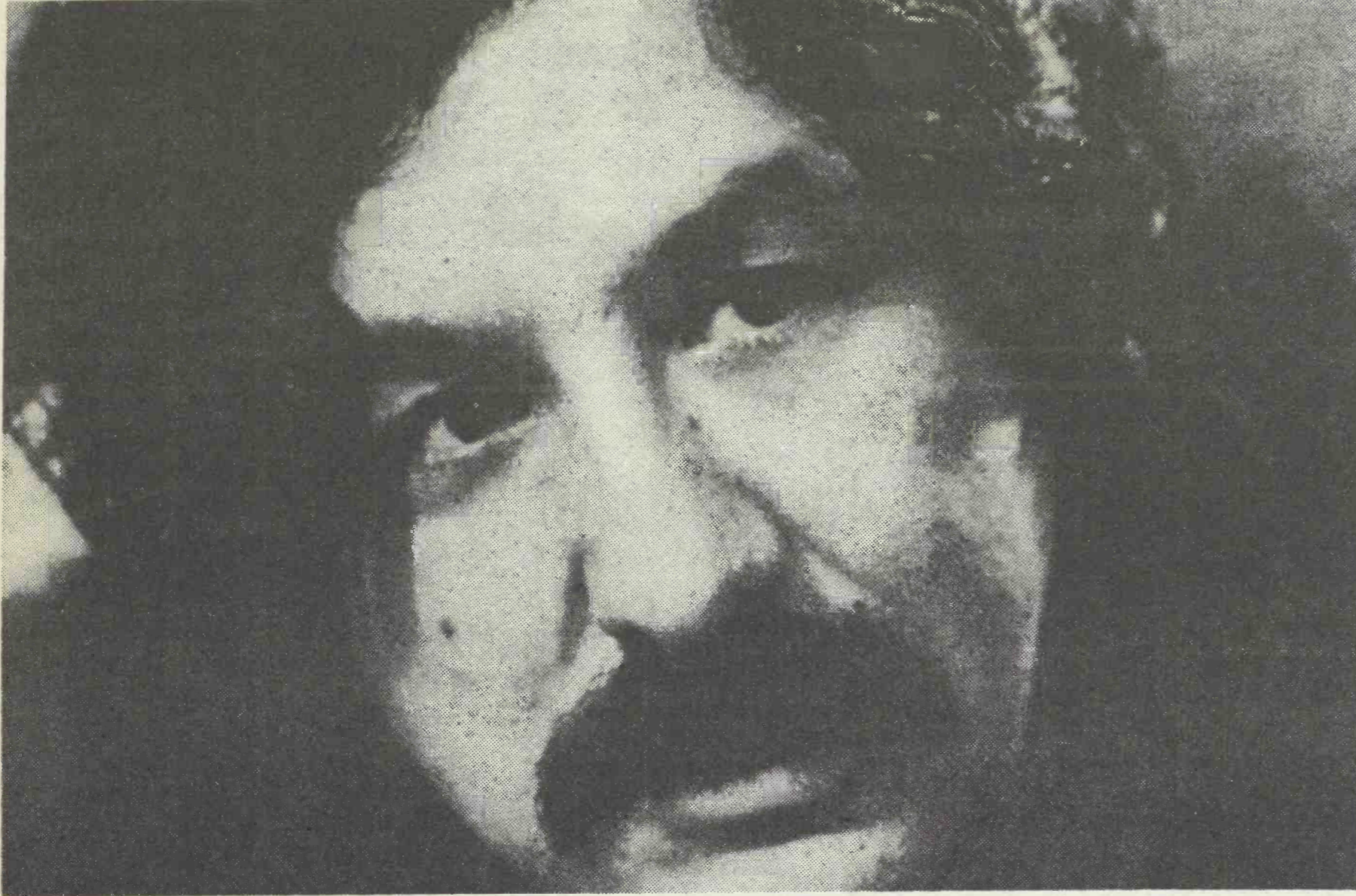
Native people, and phone calls have more than doubled over the past year.

"We are here to promote an awareness of the Native and Metis culture, renewal and development for these two cultures and a clearer understanding of them. I hope that this centre can continue to assist in this way."

If anyone wishes to donate or offer any suggestions to Dr. Anderson, please feel free to call her at 452-6296.

National

Peltier's freedom denied



LEONARD PELTIER
...rights activist or common criminal?

By Jamie McDonell

OTTAWA — A motion that might have brought freedom for jailed Indian rights activist Leonard Peltier died here on the floor of Parliament, shortly after 6:00 p.m. EDST, last Thursday.

The motion, Bill M-28 deplored the extradition of Peltier to the United States from Canada in 1976 "on the basis of false information filed with a Canadian court by American authorities" and says that the government should "seek the return of Mr. Peltier to Canada and the annulment of all extradition proceedings in this regard."

The bill, moved by NDP Justice critic Jim Fulton, had support of members of all three parties in the House of Commons, but died when members on the government side of the House refused to let the matter come to a vote.

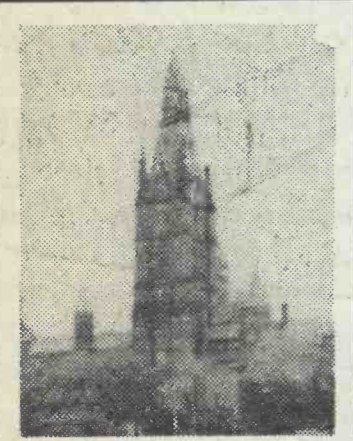
In support of Fulton's bill and Peltier's freedom, members of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee

set up a vigil on Parliament Hill, running from dawn on April 7 until the bill died on the afternoon of April 9.

Peltier, who was arrested 11 years ago in Hinton, is now serving two life sentences at Leavenworth, Kansas for the murder of two FBI agents killed during the American government occupation of Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Peltier's case has been taken up by groups around the world including Amnesty International, the American National Association of Criminal Defence Lawyers, 60 Members of Parliament (who have asked for a new trial for the American Indian Movement leader) and 55 members of the U.S. Congress.

In the words of American congressman Don Edwards, chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, evidence in the case clearly indicated "government abuse of the investigation process, suppression of evidence and falsehood."



OTTAWA REPORT

By Owenadeka

The head of the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee is a tall bony Indian named Steve Robideau. His journey through life used to be a highway of violence. Twenty years ago he was in prison for armed robbery and assault. Now, he follows the path of peace.

He was walking in a big circle when I met him in Ottawa recently. He was taking part in a two day demonstration on Parliament Hill. There were no speeches or loudspeakers -- just a dozen Indians with picket signs marching in a slow, silent parade. He was asking for Canada's help to free Leonard Peltier from an American prison.

I spoke to Steve Robideau in the shadow of the Peace Tower for more than an hour. His jet-black hair was tied in a single braid that fell to his waist. He wore a thin jacket, a ribbon shirt, blue jeans and cowboy boots. An ugly scar ran half-way across his throat and the index finger on his left hand was missing.

We spoke about the way he had changed his life and about his crusade for Leonard Peltier. I came away surprised -- not by what he said but by the way he said it. He wasn't spouting the militant tough talk from the old days of the American Indian Movement. Instead, he delivered a quiet, soft-spoken message of peace and prayer.

Steve Robideau used to be an Indian warrior in the classic, radical sense. He was at Wounded Knee in 1973 when the American Indian Movement shot it out with the Army and the FBI for more than two months. He helped to smuggle food, medicine and supplies into the village.

Two years later, there was another shoot-out on the same reservation. Steve Robideau wasn't there then but his life hasn't been the same since. Two FBI agents were killed in a six-hour gun battle. One Indian man was also killed. The man was Steve Robideau's cousin-in-law.

Eventually, three Indians were tried for killing the FBI agents. Two of them were acquitted. The jury ruled

that they were acting in self-defence. One of the two men acquitted was Steve Robideau's brother.

The third man was Leonard Peltier. He was arrested in Alberta in 1976. Since then he has insisted that he is innocent. He was convicted, however, and he is now serving two life sentences at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas. Leonard Peltier and Steve Robideau are first cousins.

For the past eleven years, Steve Robideau has devoted himself to one full-time, unpaid mission -- trying to free Leonard Peltier. Steve Robideau still considers himself a warrior but the strongest weapon he uses now is the power of prayer.

He must be doing something right. The defence committee he founded and heads has pulled together a world-wide network of supporters. The list includes 55 members of the American Congress, 60 Members of Parliament, groups like Amnesty International and dozens of church leaders.

In the course of our conversation, Steve Robideau said he gave up the use of force, threats and violence because all they produced was pain and death. So he began to follow the instructions of the Great Spirit as handed down by Indian Elders and Indian traditions. That's why prayer -- not violence -- is the driving force behind the defence committee.

The demonstration on Parliament Hill was called a prayer vigil, so the demonstrators stopped their march three times a day to hold a prayer ceremony. Steve Robideau prayed for strength and guidance. He prayed to help to win his cousin's freedom. He also prayed for the future of Indian people and the future of the Earth itself.

Steve Robideau is confident that someday Leonard Peltier will get a new trial and be acquitted. But even then, he says his crusade won't be over. He says he'll continue working on behalf of other Native people in prison and he'll continue working with Indian children to pass on the ancient traditions.

Steve Robideau answered my many questions without hesitation but he kept drifting back to his favourite topic -- the importance of prayer and the need for a religious revival among Indian people.

In addition to seeking his cousin's release, Steve Robideau wants to do two other things with his life. He wants to protect the environment of Mother Earth and he wants to win social justice for Indian people.

There was little more to say. Our conversation was over. As he stood up to resume his place in the silent march on Parliament Hill, Steve Robideau told me that he had a lot of work to do.

The Pas gets money, land

OTTAWA — The Pas Indian Band, the province of Manitoba and the federal government recently announced the conclusion of an agreement settling a claim arising from the acquisition of 142.6 acres of riverfront reserve land by the provincial government in 1953 for dyke purposes.

The Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian and Northern Development; the Honourable Leonard E. Harapiak, Minister of Natural Resources, representing the Manitoba government; and Chief Oscar Lathlin of

The Pas Band announced details of the agreement which provides the band with 377.4 acres of land and \$381,107 in compensation.

Mr. McKnight said he was pleased to see that a successful conclusion to the claim had been reached. He also commended the band and the Manitoba government for their display of good faith during the process of reaching this joint agreement.

Mr. Harapiak joined with his federal counterpart in expressing satisfaction with the successful outcome of the negotiations.

Wind speaker

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Costs of hunting licences increases by ten per cent

By Terry Lusty

Another public luxury must now pay the price as the Alberta government continues to implement rising costs for goods and services in an aggravated assault designed to wipe out a \$3.3 billion deficit of the province.

This time it is the sportsmen who are now required to cough up more money. Effective April 1, recreational hunting licences for residents went up, in most instances, by 10% which is not really all that big a bite out of an individual's income.

An exception to the rule are special categories for "highly regarded and relatively scarce" animals like trophy sheep and antelope, grizzlies and mountain goats for which resident fees increased from \$20 to \$40.

A moose licence has gone up from \$10 to \$11, northern antlerless moose from \$20 to \$22, black bear from \$10 to \$20, elk from

\$10 to \$15 and birds from \$5 to \$6. Remaining the same is the \$10 fee for mule and whitetail deer, bow hunting and pheasant licences.

Non-resident fees have generally increased as well by 10% except for the special categories in which case the increase has doubled as in the case of resident fees.

In addition to the above rates, a Wildlife Certificate and a Resource Development Stamp have increased from \$11 to \$13. Such a certificate and stamp is required before one can purchase any licence.

The two dollar increase is intended to go towards the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund for conservation projects.

"All these fee adjustments reflect the provincial government's commitment to conservation of wildlife species as well as to review areas of revenues and reduce budgetary deficits," says Forestry, Lands and Wildlife Minister Don Sparrow.

Blackfoot councillor dies

By Lesley Crossingham

The Blackfoot band, east of Calgary, has again been plunged into mourning with the tragic death of council member, Hubert Low Horn whose death comes almost six months after the death of another council member, Adam Solway.

Low Horn, who held the portfolio of education on council died of cancer last week.

"Many of us are not participating in any of the

social activities at the moment," explained band member Julia Wright. "We all feel so shocked at two of our councillors going so close together," she added.

The Blackfoot band is due to go to the polls to elect Chief and Council in November. However, a by-election to elect a councillor to replace Low Horn will be held within the next three months.

Other members of the Blackfoot council were not available for comment at the time of going to press.

Provincial



DON LOGAN
...outreach president



CONNIE OSTERMAN
...social services minister

Cutbacks force Native Outreach to close Ft. McMurray office

EDMONTON — The Native Outreach Association of Alberta has closed its Fort McMurray regional office, effective March 31, 1987. The decision to terminate career and employment services in Fort McMurray is due to the latest financial cutback of \$67,569. This cutback has forced the Association's Board of Directors to act promptly alleviating some uncertainties within the organization.

The Native Outreach Association of Alberta is a service organization designed to provide career and employment placement services to the Native people of Alberta — off-reserve Indians, Metis and non-Status.

The Association is funded by Alberta Career Development and Employment. Minister Rick Orman informed Native Outreach representatives that the

decision to reduce the Association's budget is non-negotiable. The minister made a commitment to review the association's financial counter-proposal and to consult with Minister Connie Osterman, Social Services; and Minister Ken Rostad, Solicitor General.

The economic variables, outside the budget restraint, contributing to the decision to shut down Native Outreach's services in Fort McMurray are:

- (1) the world price for oil is low and marketing trend of oil is unstable;
- (2) the instability of the price of oil is forcing a down-turn in Alberta's energy industry;
- (3) the overall economy of Alberta is on a downward trend;
- (4) bleak economic projections by Syncrude and Suncor;
- (5) industries are streamlining operations;

(6) expansion plans by major and minor oil contractors are shelves; and (7) spin-off and secondary industries are encountering financial instability.

Interpreting the variables to the decision simply means very little employment placement opportunities in the hard pressed area of Fort McMurray. This particular region, (due to its reliance on the energy development) is encountering drastic ramifications from the low world oil prices.

This reality compounded with the downward trend of the overall economy in Alberta is hurting all sectors of businesses in the region. One direct ramification of this is the lack of employment opportunities in the area.

The president of Native Outreach Association of Alberta, Don Logan, cites

this decision as "...regrettable and unfortunate." Don Logan, serving his ninth year as president, acknowledged the Fort McMurray's operational track record and its achievements in providing career and employment placement services to the Native people.

To reiterate this recognition, Logan paid tribute to the office's "viability" and its significant "contributions" toward the career and employment placement needs of the Native people.

This decision to shut down Fort McMurray is an interim measure. The Board of Directors and administrators of Native Outreach will monitor the economic trend in the area and will provide liaison services to the Native community.

ANWA 'encouraged to split'

Weaselchild bitter about government 'tactics'

By Lesley Crossingham

"The government is deliberately trying to break the Alberta Native Womens' Association by using its 'old tactics of divide and conquer,'" said an angry President Donna Weaselchild speaking before more than 30 delegates at the Region 5 annual general meeting April 5.

However, the government wasn't the only target of the president as Weaselchild also accused former president Loro Carmen of deliberately misleading delegates at the last provincial annual general meeting held in June last year at Edmonton's Continental Inn.

"I have documentation

that will give you a clear picture of what is going on," Weaselchild said bitterly. "Loro (Carmen) reported that a line of credit had already been established last year. But after I was elected, I found that this had not been the case."

Weaselchild explained that because of lack of funds and because no line of credit had been applied for cheques, including pay cheques, bounced and ANWA was forced to lay off staff.

"When I started as president, we had creditors threatening ANWA at all times of the day and night. And now I feel that perhaps the government has done this deliberately. Perhaps we were getting too power-

ful for the governments' comfort," she added.

Weaselchild also accused Carmen of saying "that ANWA had folded."

"But the fact that you ladies are sitting here is proof that ANWA has not folded," she said.

Weaselchild told delegates that ANWA had been promised \$100,000 last year in core funding from Secretary of State. However, the organization only received its first payment December 29, 1986.

"I will be sending you information packages which give you a breakdown for other organizations," said Weaselchild, "And you will find that they receive much more money than ANWA."

"I am disappointed that ANWA has been pinpointed by the government. The level of funding is not adequate in the first place."

Weaselchild placed the blame for lack of funding on the shoulders of Secretary of State, Regional Director Marc Arnal saying that after Loro Carmen was elected president in 1985 that "Marc approached board members saying as long as Loro was president he didn't want to fund us. He encouraged us to split."

"And again this year he is trying the same tactics. We need to inform the government that organizations they fund are supposed to be representative of all the women - Treaty, Metis and non-status.

"Before an organization is funded they are supposed to have a track-record. They are supposed to have priority before Secretary of State funds other organizations. They say (Secretary of State) that funds are limited. Yet a new organization, (Women of the Metis Nation) was funded recently despite Secretary of State saying they had no money. They still found \$25,000 for this new womens' group."

The assembly then went into an in-camera session and asked reporters to refrain from reporting. However, in a statement after the session, Weaselchild announced that further steps would be taken against former

employees and former ANWA elected representatives.

Weaselchild was addressing delegates on the final day of a two day Annual General Meeting for Region 5. Region 5 of ANWA extends from Red Deer to just south of Calgary.

At the time of going to press, Marc Arnal was not available for comment. Loro Carmen, who is currently marketing manager for the Cardston-based Indian News Media was elected president of ANWA in September, 1985 defeating former president Gloria Laird. Carmen was also unavailable for comment.

More ANWA Page 4

Soosay suicide inquiry results released

From Page 1

fare worker Doreen Johnson testified that there had been some difficulty in making contact with Soosay. "I'm pretty sure they (her friends) used to hide her," said Johnson.

Rowbotham's supervisor, Joyce Crandall, informed our paper that Soosay's sister, Shelley, admitted to hiding people in the bush when social workers would come out to the reserve.

"It's a hide and seek thing," said Crandall. "Sometimes they don't mind seeing us and other days, they want nothing to do with us."

Rowbotham testified that department policy requires that their wards be visited at least once a month but that she only managed to see Soosay four times in 12 months. Records indicate that she did not have any contact with the deceased Soosay for a five month period.

Judge Crowe also expressed regard over the fact that Soosay had not been living in a department approved home. Apparently, Soosay had been liv-

ing with foster parents in town but longed to be with relatives on the reserve. Arrangements were made for her to stay with relatives but she was not always where she was supposed to have been.

Dr. Herbert Sohn of the Children's Guardian office said that Johnson thought that Mrs. Eagles, with whom Soosay stayed for several months, was "a good guardian...a good influence...didn't have any reason to worry about Pamela Soosay." While living with the Eagles, Soosay was staying common-law with a young man.

Sohn explains away any wrongdoing on the part of Rowbotham because, (a) she was unable to contact Soosay, and (b) the situation did not appear to be a crisis in the estimation of the case worker.

Sohn, Rowbotham and Johnson all claim that there are quite a number of youth on the reserve that live common-law and that such is "not unusual."

What appears to amaze some people is the truancy of Soosay from school from age 14 to 16. Sections 142 and 143 of the School Act

are quite explicit about compulsory attendance up to age 16. How is it that a child can be absent from classes for two years and unaccounted for?

The only exceptions in which a child such as Soosay could have been excused from classes over any extended period of time are: (a) due to illness or other unavoidable causes, (b) if suspended or expelled, (c) in a special case where a proper officer of the board, in consultation with the pupil's parents and consent of the principal, excuses the child.

Certainly, there are questions surrounding the fatality of Soosay. These are being weighed by Judge Crowe who will render his decision and possible recommendations at a future date. That could be tomorrow, next week or next month.

Social Services Minister Connie Osterman has stated that her office is looking into the matter and will "come down hard" if there were breaches of procedure in Soosay's case.

She has been informed that some social workers

find it difficult to deal with Natives on reserves. She hope that the gradual takeover of child welfare by the Bands will prove to be one means of resolving similar problems.

Osterman's executive assistant Jim Dau also agrees that Bands are in a better position to deal with their own people. "Bands around the province are more interested in having responsibility for their own kids because they figure they can do it better and we agree," he said.

A step in this direction began last month when the

Yellowhead Tribal Council signed an agreement with the provincial and federal governments which is putting the control of child welfare programs into the hands of five Alberta Indian Bands.

Dau said that the minister's office now awaits the decision of the judge and that her office will "then take whatever actions are necessary to take once we have that decision."

Rowbotham was unavailable for comment.

In the meantime, another human life has been lost.

Welfare worker pinpoints suicide culprit

By Terry Lusty

Leroy Soosay, a child welfare worker for the Samson Band and a cousin of suicide victim Pamela Soosay, has an interesting theory about how and why children are becoming lost souls. Their situation he says is precipitated due to the influence of a materialistic society in which bingo has become an obsession.

Soosay says, "I'd like to tell the world that we're having a big problem. I know it." He claims that the incidence of alcohol abuse has diminished but that other evils have taken its place.

"Sniffing is really bad here," charges Soosay who contends that plastic wood (also referred to as "peanut butter") and glues are two of the major ills.

As for alcohol explains Soosay, "you'd be surprised at the number of people that quit drinking. It's not as bad as in the city."

The fault says Soosay, partly lies with the families themselves, especially the parents. "They don't have that family tradition where they want to be together" because parents and grandparents are not around to give the youth the guidance and direction they require.

He stresses the significance of a large youth population which constitutes about 75% of the reserve people. When the rate is that high, there needs to be more attention to that group he says.

The real culprit contends Soosay is bingo. "Now that people have quit drinking, they've got nothing to do but go to bingo. They're hooked. It's like a bad habit leading to another," he says.

While Soosay commends the community for curbing its drinking patterns, he is quick to admonish the bad habit of gambling. The parents get up, do their business, clean up the house in the morning and take off for the bingo halls of Wetaskiwin and Leduc in the afternoons complains Soosay.

With the arrival of evening, they are at it again by 6 p.m. in preparation for the

6:30 p.m. bingo. Their infant children are left at a daycare beside the bingo hall he says as he accuses people of being addicted. "These kids are up 'til 12 o'clock midnight," he adds.

"Parents think they've done a lot by quitting their booze but actually it's worse laments Soosay who seriously questions the effect of bingo playing. "At home, what's a 13-year-old girl or boy doing? Ever wonder about that?"

No wonder kids are encountering problems, he says. They are left unattended and have nothing to spend their time at other than recreational activities. "Now we're getting this

high rate of teenage pregnancies," he chaffs.

What Soosay is striving to do is create an awareness among parents of the need for them to spend more time with the rest of their families. Many, he says, only see their children for about an hour a day because of bingo.

As president for the Hobbema Foster Parent Association, Soosay has set up suicide prevention workshops. The money for the workshops came from the Alberta Foster Parent Association.

"We need parents to pitch in (and help). I'm saying, 'don't bring the kids, bring the parents.'" The objective Soosay is shooting for is to educate foster parents and to have them trained so they can return home and work at creating a better home environment.

Soosay says he has lost a lot of respect for both parents and Elders whom he considers are neglecting the youth. They are not serving as good role models and do little to improve conditions he adds.

"I can't blame the children, I got to blame the adults," declares Soosay. He is emphatic about the high price paid by faultless children who have become wayward and encourages adults to participate in constructive problem-solving through the foster parent group and to surrender their bad bingo habits for the sake of the youth. After all, they are our parents and leaders of tomorrow.

"Now that people have quit drinking, they've got nothing to do but go to bingo. They're hooked. It's like a bad habit leading to another...I can't blame the children, I got to blame the adults."

**-- Leroy Soosay
Child Welfare Worker**

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Women

ANWA changing structure

By Lesley Crossingham

After almost a year of "housekeeping" renovations, the financially troubled Alberta Native Womens' Association (ANWA) is about to undergo huge re-organization changes that will make the association a regionally, rather than provincially controlled body.

In a Region 5 Annual General Meeting held in Calgary's Sunbow Inn April

4 and 5, provincial President Donna Weaselchild, who was also past-president of Region 5, announced that ANWA had been informed by Secretary of State official, Marc Arnal, that "he could no longer see any reason to continue funding to ANWA."

"He did however, say that he would prefer each region apply for their own funds," said Weaselchild.

A resolution was then passed that each of the six regions within the organization would apply for funds separately. However, they would retain a head office and a provincial president.

The ANWA organization will now be structured similarly to the Metis Association of Alberta, which also divides the province into regions, called Zones.

The assembly also passed

a resolution to investigate the \$12 yearly treaty monies paid to Treaty Indian people since the signing of the Treaties more than a hundred years ago. Several delegates expressed concern that the monies had not been tied to the cost of living rate or to the inflation rate and demanded that Treaty monies be increased to allow for the difference between a 1877 dollar and a 1987 dollar.

New regional president elected

By Lesley Crossingham

Blackfoot band member, Angie Ayoungman is the new Zone 5 president, replacing provincial president, Donna Weaselchild, who declined from re-election.

Ayoungman, who will be graduating with a Bachelor

of Social Welfare from the University of Calgary in June, announced that she was "overwhelmed with the decision," after defeating Stoney band member, Clarice Kooteney. ANWA delegates decided not to release the voting figure to Windspeaker.

However, Kooteney was

elected vice-president, Tina Ayoungman, was elected treasurer and Elnora Weaselchild, secretary.

Three board members were elected. They are: Rosie Wolf Leg and Erna Pike from the Blackfoot band and Rachel Snow, daughter of Wesley Chief John Snow, from the Sto-

ney tribe.

In a decision prior to the election, delegates were asked to elect an interim board until such time as the Region 5 incorporates.

The elections came during the final day of a two day Annual General Meeting for Region 5.

Membership cautious about who signs the president's pay check

By Lesley Crossingham

The Alberta Native Womens' Association, could soon have a paid president, after a resolution passed at the Region 5 Annual General Meeting, giving direction for the association to change its constitution to allow the president to be paid a salary was passed unanimously.

However, delegates stressed in the discussions that any salary the president does receive will not come from core funding but rather from independently raised sources.

In a speech before the resolution, President Donna Weaselchild told delegates that she felt a paid president was a good idea, but stressed that she would not like to see the salary coming from core funding, which in turn comes from the government.

"I for one would not like to see the president of ANWA's salary cheque signed by the government. It gives the government too much power over that person, especially if she has children or really needs that pay cheque."

Weaselchild pointed out that traditionally ANWA representatives had hitchhiked across the province and stayed in private homes. However, she stressed that this is impossible now and that the president must have some way of paying for her needs.

Blood Elder, and one of



WEASELCHILD
...will get paid

the founders of ANWA, Annie Cotton, agreed with Weaselchild and pointed out that she didn't want to see ANWA "tied down by the funding agencies."

"The government pretends they are listening to us but they are busy with their schemes," she said.

The next provincial Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June when this resolution will be brought to the floor. Currently, there is no provision in the ANWA constitution for a paid president. However, executive representatives, including the president, can receive an honorarium of \$75 per day when carrying out the functions of ANWA.

Weaselchild sees Ottawa talks as a 'success'

By Lesley Crossingham

The media has got it wrong, announced Alberta Native Womens' Association (ANWA) president, Donna Weaselchild during the final day of the Region 5 Annual General Meeting, April 5 in Calgary.

"The press has labelled the First Ministers Conference (FMC) a failure but take my word for it, for Native people it was a real success," she said.

Speaking before about 30 Region 5 delegates and other ANWA members, Weaselchild said the reason the FMC was a success is because all Aboriginal people stuck together and

side-stepped the governments' "schemes."

"The government was as usual trying to split the people with an amendment. But the prime minister was furious because this year we stuck to our guns."

"In other years the government would drag the leaders off into the backrooms and by offering them a few million (dollars) they would split up our men."

"But this year they had their wives and children with them. And each leader knew that if he sold out his people, he would have to look into the eyes of his wife and his sons."

"We really do have to congratulate our male

leaders this year."

However, Weaselchild pointed out that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney had made a veiled "threat" in his final speech saying that "we would all start paying" for the lack of a constitutional agreement.

"Yes, we will pay a price," said Weaselchild, "In fact I believe that the Alberta government has announced that welfare programs will be cut back. That falls into the prime minister's threat. But you can't put a dollar value on our Treaty rights or our Aboriginal rights."

"If it means some of our organizations will be cut, it could mean we grow

stronger and that the organizations themselves go back to the people level."

Weaselchild added that Aboriginal people should also thank the resource-rich Indian bands which helped lobby for Aboriginal rights.

"Now we have our pride and trust back in our leaders, and that is due to the fact that we learned the government's tricks and we learned to out-smart them."

Weaselchild was speaking on the final day of a two day Annual General Meeting held at Calgary's Sunbow Inn April 4 and 5.

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Cultural funding neglected

Guest Editorial by Terry Lusty

Over the years some major Native organizations have devoted little other than lip service towards two vital needs — culture and education — of its clientelle.

While space does not allow this writer to address both subjects, I would like to at least address the one of culture.

The development and progress of mankind does not operate in a vacuum. From the very day on which one is born until the day that person is returned to Mother Earth, an important element of life is the value and need to self-identify and that is largely accomplished through cultural expression.

We are all raised in a cultural environment. It surrounds us each and every day of our lives yet little is done to preserve and maintain it.

An inquiry into the June, 1984 suicide of Richard Cardinal concluded that he was in no position to deal with his lack of identity. Simply put, his spirit was killed. He never knew who he was or what he was all about and he was not the only Native teenager to live in a cultural vacuum. He was not the only Native child to attempt suicide, in part, because of his inability to self-identify.

A good number of us have been the product of the mission school which forbade, denied and suppressed Native culture.

The language, history, spirituality and cultural heritage of a people are the foundations which contribute to the rounding of any given individual. These are the ingredients which make us what we are. Without them, one is never a complete person. Without them, one is left to struggle, confused and frustrated, in a world without meaning.



Editorial

If ever there were a reason to lash out at non-Native authoritarian colonizers, this is certainly one of them. Their attempts at integration and assimilation have proven futile and have given rise to the need for concrete solutions.

One solution has been to incorporate the instruction of Native culture within the schools or to evolve separate institutions such as cultural centres or museums.

In the 1970s, the Indian Association was unsuccessful in its bid to woo major dollars to establish a mammoth Indian education centre with a strong cultural component that could meet the human needs of Indians, while providing learning resources for Natives and non-Natives alike.

The now-defunct Metis Historical Society in Calgary failed to secure federal funds for a Metis museum, library, archives and hall of fame. A subsequent movement, the Louis Riel Historical Society in Edmonton has, so far, been inhibited in its drive to achieve similar goals.

Today, the Dr. Anne Anderson Native Heritage and Cultural Centre in Edmonton is agonizing as it ekes out a bare existence on a shoe-string budget. Anderson has had little support during her decades of hard work and personal sacrifice to revitalize and preserve Indian and Metis history and culture.

The centre is now faced with a life and death situation. Who will bail it out? Who will come to its rescue if government does not? Where is the support of the major organizations now, at a time when it is so badly needed?

It is said that, "our life is our culture." If Native culture is not maintained, it will die before its time. If Native people are really here to stay, is it not now the time to unite and stand up for one's heritage as a priority. I think so.

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Native American Press Association

Windspeaker big winner at press meeting

By Rocky Woodward

The third annual convention of the Native American Press Association (NAPA) held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, saw "Windspeaker" walk away with eight first place excellence in journalism categories out of 13 offered in the competitions, April 8-11.

Windspeaker's brightest moment shone when it captured first place for Overall Excellence, as a weekly newspaper. This prestigious award was won by the newspaper twice, doing it once before in 1985, and now for 1987.

In 1986, Windspeaker failed to meet the deadline for entries to the NAPA competitions.

The NAPA awards, held annually in different locations in the United States each year, began in 1985. This year, the New Mexico Press Association orchestrated the judging of the newspaper competition.

Under the direction of Rob Piggott, the manager of the New Mexico Press Association, the judging was broken down into various categories and distributed to various members of the association. Some of those included the Journalism Department at the University of New Mexico, the Taos New, the New Mexico Press Women's Association, the Albuquerque Journal, the Albuquerque Tribune and the Albuquerque Publishing Company.

The photography judging was done at the University of New Mexico and the professor, a former reporter at the Albuquerque Journal, enjoyed the photos that were entered so much that he used some of them in his classroom.

Throughout the four day affair workshops were held that ranged from column and editorial writing, newspapers and the law to combating illiteracy through print media and photojournalism.

Windspeaker was represented by Executive Director Bert Crowfoot, Production Manager Kim McLain and the president of AMMSA, Fred Didzena.

Both Crowfoot and McLain held workshops on photojournalism and layout and design, respectively.

Windspeaker's eight accomplishments included, Best Typography and Design, Best Advertising

Idea, Best Editorial (with Clint Buehler winning the award for his editorial on "Time to be Proud"), Best Feature Picture (Rocky Woodward), Best News Series (People on the Edge), Best Feature Story (Kim McLain), Best Special Issue and Overall Excellence.

Honorable mention was also given to second place finisher, Terry Lusty for Best Spot News Picture, Bert Crowfoot for second place finish for Best Sports Picture, Kim McLain for second in Best Feature Picture, Rocky Woodward for second place for Best Sports Reporting and Jane Ash Poitras for third place finish in Best Spot New Picture.

"We are very proud of all of you. You have done a super job. It makes me feel proud to be a part of this organization," said Fred Didzena.

Didzena while showing his appreciation of staff and management on behalf of the AMMSA board of directors said that he has always been a firm believer in trying to do as much as one is capable of and "you people are the same."

"Again I can only say that I am proud of you all because of the excellence you try to achieve in your work. We won't stop here," commented Didzena.

Didzena also thanked everyone with a bit of humor for, "giving me the opportunity to run back and forth accepting all the awards."

Windspeaker's General Manager Bert Crowfoot stated: "I'd like to mention that Windspeaker has made quite an impression with the other newspapers in Albuquerque. We will have to push ourselves to improve upon that standard that we achieved last year. We made a lot of friends down there and I promised them that we would be more than willing to work with them if they wish to."

"Another important factor that Windspeaker enjoys is that our newspaper is not politically controlled like most tribal newspapers in the states. The content has to be approved by the council before it goes to press.

"An example of this control is the fact that the largest weekly newspaper in Arizona, "The Navaho Times," was shut down

EIGHT FIRSTS AND SIX HONORABLE MENTIONS



A WINNING TEAM — Some of the Windspeaker staff pose with the total of 14 awards won at the Native American Press Association's third annual convention. Reclined is Kim McLain, the row behind, from left to right is May Strynadka, Gail Stewart, Sharon Barbeau and Margaret Desjarlais. The back row from left to right is Bert Crowfoot, Terry Lusty, Mel Miller and Rocky Woodward.

when Chairman Peter MacDonald was re-elected.

Because of the type of board structure that Windspeaker has, it doesn't have to worry about politics and can concentrate on the business of putting out the paper."

"We should be proud of our product. The salespeople here are doing a tremendous job. I must mention that our writers were up against excellent writers

one of them being George Gorospe," said Kim McLain while adding that writing skills have now begun for staff and freelancers of Windspeaker, with planned workshops with Carlton University Professor of Journalism Bob Rupert.

"We have a lot of talented people here and it overwhelmed me to see us win in eight categories," McLain added.

It was also a proud

moment for the Native Press from the Northwest Territories who took first place as a monthly in the Best Typography and Design, Best Special Issue and Overall Excellence competitions.

In a telephone conversation with Native Press, Lee Select in Yellowknife mentioned they were unable to send a representative to the conference due to a lack of funds. "You should of

picked them up for us Bert," said Select while showing his enjoyment for the Native Press' achievements at the NAPA awards.

The Native Press also won two honorable mentions for "Best Local Column" by Antoine Mountain and by George Blondin. Anne Sankey also had an honorable mention in the "Best Feature Story" category.

Opinion

MAA membership criteria questioned

Dear Editor:

What is the criteria for membership in the Metis Association of Alberta? I had the opportunity to attend the Annual Assembly of the Metis Association of Alberta on the weekend of March 14 and 15, 1987. This specific issue was brought to light on the first day of the assembly.

An individual had her membership challenged by Local #84. Once this happens the member may appeal in writing to the regional council. The person choose to go to the executive of the MAA with her complaints. The executive told her at that time that she had to appeal the decision to challenge her membership in writing to the Zone 3 Regional Council. She was also informed that they were meeting on Saturday, March 21, 1987 and her membership application would be reviewed at that time.

This does not constitute membership. This individual does not hold a membership in the MAA or any Local until the Zone 3 Regional Council meets to discuss the issue and approves the application. What this means, at an assembly, is that legally, the individual cannot vote on any resolution presented at the assembly.

This person choose to vote on several resolutions. After observing this, the director of Zone 3, called "point of order" and made reference to the fact that there was an individual voting on resolutions who was not "a member of the association in good standing."

The reasoning behind this being, that none of the resolutions passed up to that point were done so legally, if a non-member was allowed to vote at these

proceedings. The assembly's chairman allowed this issue to be turned into a strictly personal free-for-all.

Friends of the non-member then proceeded to go to the floor and in an attempt to right the so-called wrong against her started to defame other persons in the association, specifically members of Zone 3. These actions were also allowed to continue.

After this one-sided name calling continued for several minutes the chairman of the assembly asked the members of the association attending this assembly to decide if in fact this person was a member.

According to the by-laws of the Metis Association of Alberta under Article V, sub-sections (5) and (5A): (5) All applications for membership shall be in written form approved by the Board of Directors, and shall be submitted to a Local in which a person resides. Upon approval by the Local, and upon payment of the prescribed membership fee, the applicants shall become members of the Metis Association of Alberta, subject to the by-laws of the Association. (6) Any person denied membership, or wishes to challenge an applicant's right to membership in the Association, may appeal in writing to the Regional Council and his/her zone. A person may further appeal in writing to the Board of Directors of the Metis Association. The decision of the Board shall be final.

This series of events may seem inconsequential however, it will set a precedent. Until the Metis Association of Alberta decides on a definite membership criteria how can we expect to ever become a nation.

Theresa Arseneau
Local #14
Calgary, AB

Education

Community joins in support of life skills graduates

By Rocky Woodward

When I finally arrived at High Level in the afternoon of April 11, I was thrilled I had made the 800 km trip, quickly enough to catch the opening period of the Oiler's, Kings NHL semi-finals.

The NHL playoffs may be an important event at this time of the year but there was something happening in High Level that was just as important, especially to the people involved.

Precisely at 6 p.m. a group of Dene Tha people were to graduate from a life skills course they had spent the last seven weeks in, the reason I had made the trip.

For me it was important. Earlier in the year I had the opportunity to visit with the group, when they were going through the course at Twinn Lakes, about 90 km east of High Level. The group arrived at Twinn Lakes from Assumption, Bushie River and Meander reserves of the Dene Tha.

At that time I was impressed. Here was a

group of people that felt they wanted to learn, to change and gain more knowledge, so in turn they could be helpful and better people in their communities.

After seven weeks they accomplished what they had set out to do under the watchful and highly experienced eye of Life Skills Coordinator Martha Many Grey Horses.

Many Grey Horses has taught life skills throughout Canada and values this program as very important.

Standing up inside the ballroom of the Star Dust Hotel, Many Grey Horses who is originally from the Blood Reserve in southern Alberta, praised the dedication and efforts of her group.

She began her talk in a shaky voice, full of emotion.

"I want to say that I too learned a lot from all of you. I would say that this is the greatest accomplishment that I have ever achieved in my life. I am very very touched by the parents who have gone through this program," said Many Grey Horses.



MARTHA MANY GREY HORSES
...developing the individual

Validictorian, Wilfred Hoozanooza summed up what the program was about. At one time it is understood that Hoozanooza was a loner.

"He always was quiet and always alone. It makes me feel so good to see him standing there, talking," said Alexis Mercredi, a member of the Dene Tha.

"When we entered the first part of the course we learned about our Native traditional values, but also recognized the importance of technology.

"During the three modules, the main focus was on family. Among the many important teachings we learned of the sacredness of family unity and recognized that family is the main foundation of any community.

"The last part of the course we learned about and discovered new ways to understand better the many different community concerns as well as new ways to improve our relationships within our communities.

"We give a special thank

you to our Native sister, Martha Many Grey Horses, for her guidance and for the direction she gave," Hoozanooza said.

Others recognized were Fairview College for "administering the program in the spirit of respect, interest and love."

Program Coordinator Abe Janzen of Fairview College, was honored with a plaque from the Dene

Tha.

Canada Manpower was also recognized for providing the necessary funds for the program, "which expressed your sincere concern in the well-being of our people," commented Hoozanooza.

An appreciation award was also given to Brenda Semantha, youth worker for McKenzie North, for her involvement.

It is nice to take note that throughout the evenings agenda of events, Bill Pelech, coordinator of the Dene Tha Social Development Program, which is responsible for many programs for the Dene, was constantly appreciated by the life skills group and others.

Although the Band Manager Fred Didzena was not available for the ceremony, Harvey Denocheon spoke on his behalf.

"I care what happens to all of you and now I can see courses like this occurring in

the future. I would like to thank Bill for the idea, and would like to thank our employees who felt through the life skills course that there can be a better tomorrow," commented Denocheon.

Prior to a dance played by the "Northern Warriors," certificates were handed out to the life skills graduates by Many Grey Horses and Janzen.

In attendance for the special evening were Chief Harry Chonkolay, Elders Baptise Deedza and Alexis Semantha.

"I want to extend an appreciation to the Elders of this area because I realize it was their prayers that guided us through the experiences we shared through this past winter, thank you," said Many Grey Horses.

A circle was shared by everyone while a song used frequently by the life skills group, closed the ceremonies.

Eleven graduate

Congratulations to the graduates of the Dene Tha Life Skills Course held recently in northern Alberta. Eleven people graduated from the life skills program:

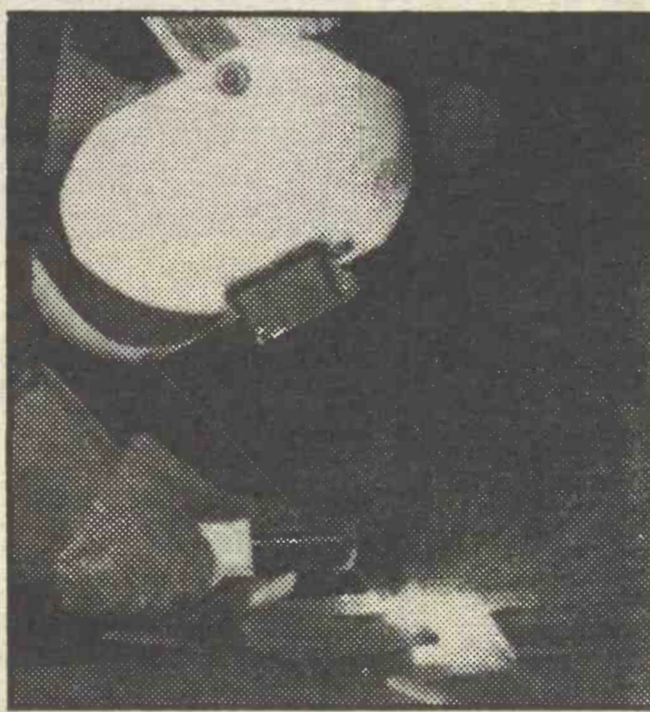
Kathy Akazay	Barbara Beaulieu
Jane Chalifoux	Florence Chambaud
Marg Chonkolay	Laura Dahdona
Valerie Denechoan	Wilfred Hookanooza
Mary Konda Martel	Emma Metchooyeah
Brenda Semantha	

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Good News Party Line

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Production Visions,

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PUT IT HERE.

Call or write the editor to include good news of non-profit events you want to share, courtesy of AGT.

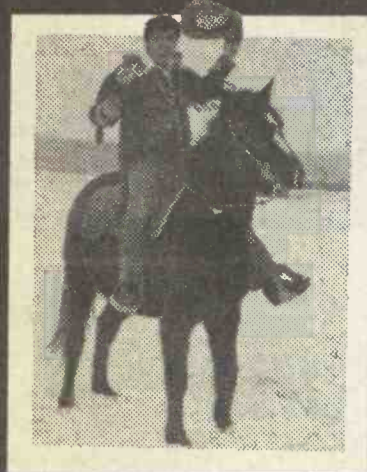
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DROPPIN IN

By Rocky Woodward

Hi! Dropping In is dropping out for a spell so we'll keep it short. First of all, I want to thank all the people who are sending in tapes for the Native Nashville North series.

It is a go! So far. Why I say this is because as I write I am just preparing to meet with CBC in a production get-together (April 16).

AMMSA is prepared to go ahead so I will let you know in two weeks.

I say two weeks because I am taking a breathing spell for a week to get set for the taping.

Keep those tapes coming in. Tell you more when I return.

EDMONTON — Another ugly Pussycat!
Doris Paul sent this picture in of her cat who she

simply calls "Pussycat."
Who will win the Dropping In Ugly Pussycat Competition?
Who will win the \$149.72?
This is the last chance to send in your picture of an ugly pussycat before the contest ends.
When I return we will have a winner!



Can you believe who this is?
This is none other than Big John Fletcher!
In 1972, "Big John" posed for this picture at the Iron Eyes Cody Museum in Los Angeles, California.
Nice pic John.
Did you know that John was in Viet Nam? I found that out yesterday when John and Boye Ladd were visiting in my office.
It made me proud, John.



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Employment & Economic Development
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Monday, April 27 — \$7.00
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Marlboro Inn

**NATIVE ART SHOW
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April 27 — 8:30 p.m.
Room 219 — Marlboro Hotel
April 28 — 7:00 p.m.
Exhibition Hall

**NATIVE ART SHOW
& SALE**
April 27 — 7:00 p.m.
Room 219 Marlboro Hotel
April 28 — 7:00 p.m.
Exhibition Hall
Final Show & Sale

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Singers

*Voyageur
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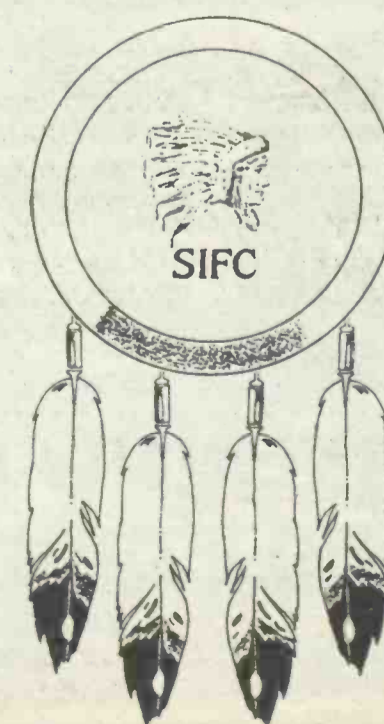
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Out-of-country residents: October 15, 1987

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BINGO FEVER



Edmonton 'bingo capital'

Albertans spend \$122.5 million on bingo

By Kim McLain

In 1985, Albertans spent a whopping \$344.1 million dollars on bingos, raffles, pull tickets and casinos. Bingo spendings account for about one-third of that figure, bingo revenues for 1985 were \$122.5 million. These are the latest figures released by the Alberta Gaming Commission.

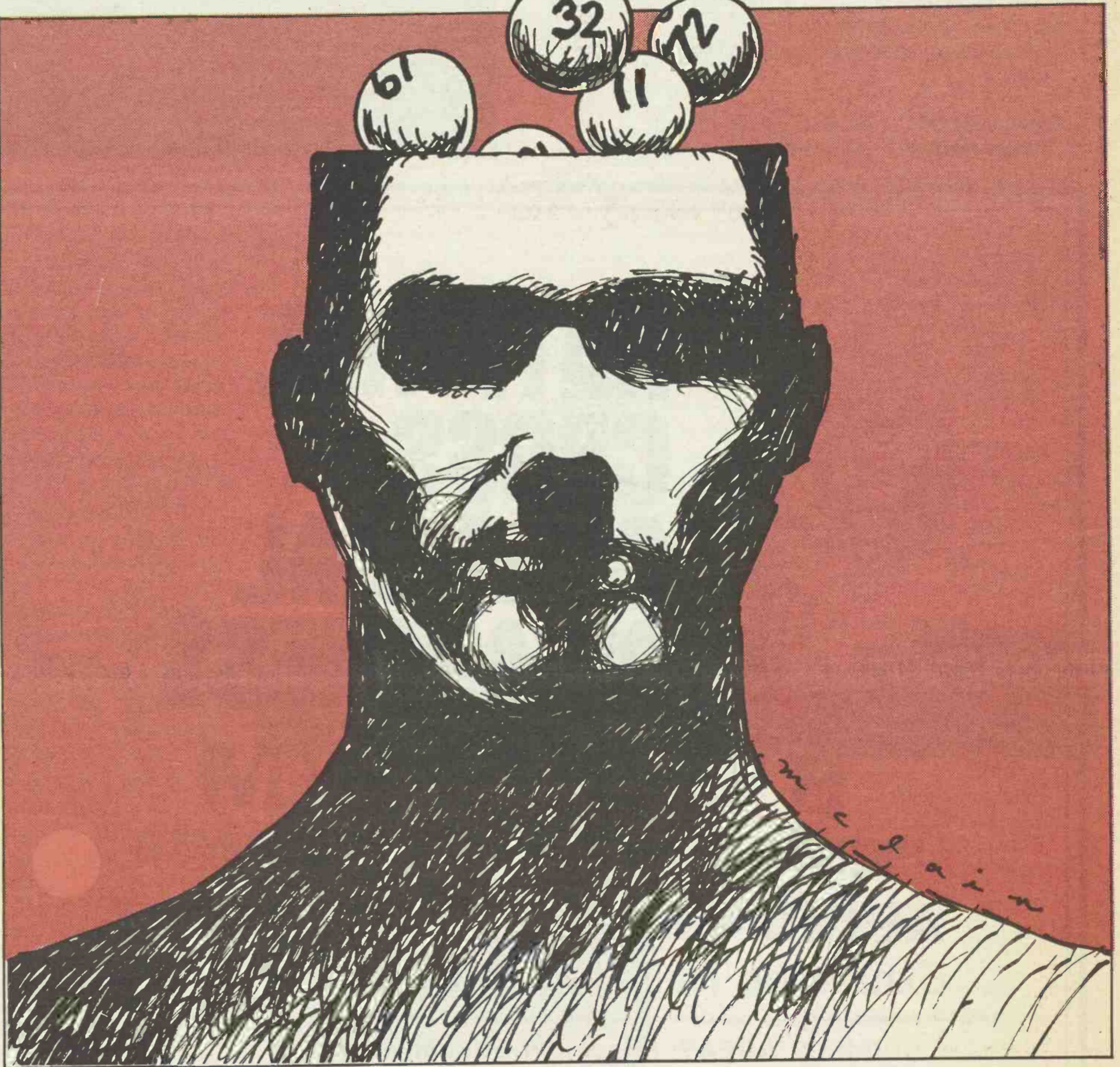
The commission is the provincial authority responsibility for setting the gaming policies and make the decisions for who gets the gaming licenses.

The numbers of bingos held has risen drastically since 1983, with over 7,000 new bingo events in 1985. Bingo revenues have sky-rocketed from \$54.3 million in 1983 to \$122.5 million in 1985, as mentioned earlier.

Bingo players took home \$86.5 million dollars in winnings in 1985. Bingo sponsors made \$20.7 million for their charitable causes.

Edmonton was the bingo capital of Alberta, total gross revenues totalled \$53.6 million in 1985. Calgary was a far second with \$37.9 million in total monies spent.

The gaming commission has made it clear that only charitable organizations receive licenses. They further specify that gross revenues by split 65% for winnings, 10% for expenses and 25% for profits. Another condition says that only callers, cashiers and bingo coordinators can be hired staff, all other bingo workers must be volunteers. Any deviation from the guidelines must be formally applied for or it's an offence under the Criminal Code.



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Profile of a troubled bingo player

By Kim McLain

Betty G. can never play bingo again, if she does, she will lose everything.

Betty is a 33-year-old Cree living in Edmonton. She has a steady job and shares an apartment with her boyfriend. A year ago her 16-year-old daughter moved out of home to live with friends of the family.

Betty is an attractive woman, looking younger than her real age. From her west end home, she told of the details that wove her "bingo career," as she calls it. Her speech is relaxed and articulate, often pausing for thought or taking a careful puff off a long, slim cigarette.

Frowning with thought, she recalls, "bingo was fun for me."

"It was a time to meet people and visit and I didn't spend a lot of money." This was the start of her bingo playing, she was in her early twenties then. "It was cheap entertainment," she says in retrospect, "I went a couple of times a month and played six cards, that's all."

She vividly remembers one of her first games. "One night the bonanza was \$2,000. I was one number away after the first 49 numbers called. I felt sick to my stomach and was shaking, I knew I was going to win." As it turned out, she didn't win that night. "But I came so close, I knew I would win the next night," she says.

She returned the following night and again, she lost. "That whole experience just totally grabbed me. Since then I've never been the same." The loss discouraged her, she felt let down, so she quit bingo.

That lasted for seven years. Last spring she returned to the bingo halls. "It started out the same way. It was fun, the whole bingo trip had changed. The game was played on paper cards and doblers, it was faster paced," says Betty.

But this time Betty crossed a fine line. Suddenly she was at the bingo halls every night. Her spendings shot up to \$50 to \$70 a night. She was playing sixteen cards and she says she lost count of how many bonanzas she played. Cab fares and lottery tickets added to the expense.

"It just kind of snuck up on me," adding, "I was ignoring my friends, didn't cook, clean house or buy groceries. All my time and energy went into bingo." And as her bingo playing progressed, "I started lying, taking time off work to play, borrowing money. I even stole money from my boyfriend's wallet."

Betty's personal life began to crumble. Her daughter left home and her relationship with her boyfriend was threatened. Once an out-going, socially active person, she now was a loner. "I felt ashamed because others knew that

this was out of character for me. I was miserable to live with."

It soon became evident that bingo was jeopardizing all that was important to her. Something had to be done.

"So I quit...for one day," she says, "I craved it, just like an alcoholic would crave alcohol."

Another rational that drove her to continue playing was she, "had to keep going, so I could make up for my losses." Finally, she conceded, "I just gave into the craving to play. I didn't care about losing, I just wanted to gamble. I didn't even get a thrill out of win-

ning since I was so far into debt anyway."

Betty's heavy bingo playing only lasted a few months, but in that short time, she had accumulated almost \$5,000 in debts.

It was then that Betty knew she was in trouble with bingo. "I just sickened myself," she says, shaking her head in disgust.

Quitting on her own was useless, she was at the end of her line and needed outside help.

Betty did find help and has come to terms with herself and bingo.

She's thrown out the stereotype image of a problem

gambler, the casino and racetrack type, and is a self-admitted compulsive gambler. "My bingo playing is compulsive gambling. It is a psychological, emotional and mental disease. It wasn't how often I played or how much money I spent -- it was how it affected me," says Betty, lighting up one more cigarette.

Betty says she was able to get the support of family and friends because she "was able to admit what was really going on with me," and with that support, she hasn't gambled since, "and it feels wonderful," she adds.

She's been successful in kicking the habit and has made positive changes in her life. Her family mended, she's re-established old friendships and has found different forms of entertainment than bingo. She's made financial amends and is able to save money and spend it wisely. "I'm back to living a full life," she says.

She laughs, "I had bingo doblers hidden all over the apartment. I threw them all out."

Then in a more serious tone, "I think of all those people still sitting at the bingo halls, spending money and calling it entertainment, and it may well be for social players, but it makes me wonder about the reality of it all -- how many people win, compared to how many lose."

When asked if she would ever go back to playing bingo she said, "why would I go back to a lifestyle that caused me so much pain? It doesn't make me a loser because I'm admitting to a problem, a serious problem. I'm a winner because I'm doing something about it."

Looking into the gambler's psyche

By Kim McLain

"Yes, bingo is gambling," according to Gary. He's a member of Gamblers Anonymous. (The group traditions ask that members maintain their anonymity at the level of press, radio, films and television.)

"Everything from flipping a coin to lotteries is gambling," he said.

To the Gamblers Anonymous (GA) program, compulsive gambling is an illness that "only gets worse, never better," and has no cure but can be arrested.

GA is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others. There are no fees or dues. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop gambling.

GA is convinced that once a person is caught in the web of compulsive gambling, there is no way out.

"When asked how someone could tell if they were a compulsive gambler, Gary answered "only you can make that decision about whether or not you are a compulsive gambler." He continued that, "most people turn to GA only after they become willing to admit defeat."

GA has some ideas about what some of the causing factors might be, too.

One possibility is an inability and unwillingness to accept reality, resulting in the escape into the dream world of gambling.

Compulsive gamblers also find emotional security only when "in action." An irony of gambling is the sense

of security they get while gambling, yet at the same time, self-destructing.

"Money for nothing," are the lyrics of a popular song that seems to reflect a common attitude among problem gamblers. Many GA members accept the fact that they were unwilling to grow up and without really knowing it, they became obsessed with the struggle to escape responsibility.

Another theory is that compulsive gamblers, subconsciously, want to lose to punish themselves.

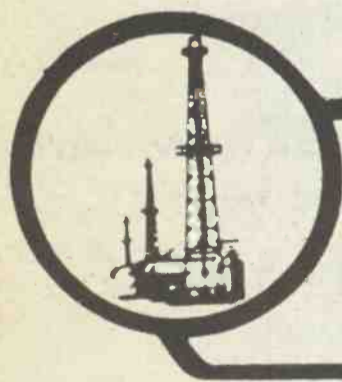
Many problem gamblers fantasize about the "big win" that will buy them grandiose luxuries. Inevitably, not even the smallest of their dreams are realized.

Windspeaker searched locally for possible institutions or people that could aid in the recovery of a problem gambler, but only found GA. Most helping professionals don't yet fully understand the nature of the gambling disease -- they can only refer help-seekers to GA.

That single source has offered help and hope to over 10 million problem gamblers all over the world this year. The fellowship was founded in 1957 in the United States.

Right now, Alberta holds weekly meetings in Edmonton and Calgary.

Persons wanting more information about this anonymous group can find the Gamblers Anonymous phone number in the Edmonton and Calgary phone books or by writing to their head office at, post office box 17173, Los Angeles, California, zip code 90017.



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Culture

POWWOW COUNTRY

23 drum groups at Denver powwow

By **Boye Ladd**

The 13th Annual Denver Powwow was held at the Denver Coliseum March 27 to 29, 1987. This year's three day event commemorated the patriotism Indian people have for our flag and our country.

Denver, Colorado, situated at the base of the Rocky Mountains is a central location where the northern and southern plains meet. The Denver Coliseum is one of

the finest facilities to host a powwow of this calibre. There were over 100 arts and crafts stands from across the nation, which made this powwow a major attraction, especially for the non-Indian.

The powwow had over 320 registered dancers with 23 drums. Drums were well represented with special mention to Stoney Park, Porcupine, Red Leaf, Sun Eagle, Rocky Boy and Southern Medicine for the beautiful music. The southern mens' fancy dance competition was definitely the highlight matching speed, footwork and smoothness to the beat of Southern Medicine and the Cozad Drum.

Special mention in the dancing competition saw two of the best Sioux champions in the mens' northern tradition. Both Terry Fiddler of Eagle Butte, South Dakota and Terry Larvie of Rosbud, South Dakota are recognized champions who win wherever they dance. They are very humble, sharing and dedicated individuals who represent their people well.

Team dancing is new to many of the powwow celebrations and when performed can be quite entertaining. Team dance has usually three to five dancers uniformly dancing the same footwork in perfect unison.

Denver's interpretation of team dance was more like a group presentation. Whistles were restricted to "no whistles" at all for the entire weekend. There was mixed reactions by the powwow people and even among the committee to this rule, since it is an integral part of the powwow.

When properly used by the individuals who have the right, it recognizes those drums and songs in respect, and can liven up a powwow. The subject of powwow whistles will be discussed more in detail in an upcoming editorial.

The system used for the competition was a semi-Oklahoma style, totalling grand entry points with a one time shot, with no finals.

The masters of ceremonies were Wallace Coffey, Comanche, of Denver Colorado and Henry Green-crow, Winnibago, of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Due to the hazardous road conditions and threat of snow, the powwow ended early each night. The Vis-count Hotel was the official headquarters for night entertainment and the ever popular '49. The "southern boys" sang the oldie goldies with a few new round dance songs — Seymour, Luke and Pink Floyd complimented the northern boys. The horse was let out to pasture at dawn by Lyle and Seymour, leaving Pink Floyd solo at the drum!

ALBERTA NATIVE INTER-POST SECONDARY CONFERENCE - SPRING '87

Theme:
To promote inter-tribal harmonious relations
in education

Eagle Point, Morley, Alberta

April 30th and May 1st, 1987

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day

A traditional Round Dance will close each separate session

Workshops will commence in the morning with an open forum for all students in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided and there is no registration fee. All native students affiliated with post-secondary institutions are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration would be advised to determine workshop attendance.

For more information contact Rachel Snow or Jane Barnum at 881-3845.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Thursday, April 30, 1987

9:00 a.m. — Opening Prayer by Elder
9:00-10:30 a.m. — Inter-Post Secondary
Workshop
Moderator: Darrell Bretton, Blue Quills
10:30-10:45 — Coffee Break
10:45-12:00 p.m. — Old Sun Community College
Moderators: Janice Many Heads, Continuing
Education Coordinator & Rachel Crawford,
Academic Vice-President

12:00-1:00 p.m. — Lunch Break

1:00-4:00 p.m. — Open Forum
4:00-4:30 p.m. — Traditional Round Dance
4:30 p.m. — Closing prayer by Elder

Friday, May 1, 1987

9:00-10:30 a.m. — Indian Education Today
Moderator: Dr. Bea Medicine, Native Student
Services, University of Calgary
10:30-10:45 — Coffee Break
10:45-12:00 p.m. — Native Professionals
Moderator: Shirley Crawler, Counselling
Coordinator, Stoney Education Authority

12:00-1:00 p.m. — Lunch Break

1:00-4:00 p.m. — Open Forum
4:00-4:30 p.m. — Traditional Round Dance

Denver Powwow Results

Little Girls' (5 - 9)

Meliny Ghost Dog, Oglala

Little Boys' (5 - 9)

Ervin Keeswood, Navaho

Jr. Girls' Fancy (10 - 15)

Marcella Shota Dubray, Oglala

Jr. Boys' Fancy (10 - 15)

Stacy Phelps, Lakota

Jr. Girls' Traditional (10 - 15)

Tonia Cozad, Kiowa

Jr. Boys' Traditional (10 - 15)

Waylong Gaddie, Lakota

Jr. Boys Grass (10 - 15)

Vydell Yellowrobe, Northern Cheyenne

Womens' Fancy (16 & over)

Jovon Plenty, Crow

Womens' Southern Traditional (16 & over)

Patricia Wilson, Northern Cheyenne

Womens' Northern Traditional (16 & over)

Beverly Larvie, Sioux

Sr. Womens' Traditional (50 & over)

Nellie Two Bulls, Sioux

Sr. Mens' Traditional (50 & over)

Elwood Koshaway, Otoe

Mens' Northern Traditional (16 & over)

Terry Fiddler, Sioux

Mens' Grass (16 & over)

Junior Two Teeth, Cree

Mens' Southern Straight

Hank Howell, Pawnee

Mens' Southern Fancy (16 & over)

Tony Tallbird, Pawnee/Cheyenne

Mens' Northern Fancy (16 & over)

Luke Dubray, Sioux

Upcoming Powwow Calendar

April 4, 1987 — Mary College, Bismarck, N.D.
Contest Powwow

April 10 & 11, 1987 - Missoula Spring Powwow,
Missoula, Montana

April 11-12, 1987 - UND, Grand Forks, N.D.
Contest Powwow

April 18 & 19, 1987 — Gathering of Nations,
Albuquerque, NM

April 24-26, 1987 — Beaver/Simon Noon
Morley, AB

NOTE: There will be an Elders "Drop-in" room which is ongoing for two days. If the Elders from all the Alberta tribes can talk amongst themselves and identify a common vision, then this guidance and advice can be handed down to us to establish a base for our province-wide association.

Entertainment

Indian rockers stick with it

By Robert Shade

It was back in 1978 after countless attempts of trying to cut it in a C.C.R. cover band, Lance Tailfeathers decided to leave the drum kit and pursue a solo career. This time he'd be the front man.

Throughout the next two years he jammed with many musicians around the Southern Alberta area. In and out of the local club circuits between Calgary and Lethbridge he checked out many acts coming through town jamming with the likes of heavy metalists 'Kick-Axe' and many others.

In 1980 he and two other musicians, Curtis and Garret Tailfeathers (yes, they're related!) formed the group KINROQ.

Having all the same influences in the rock world and being related as what they called 'Next of Kin.' This is the name they chose and they were going to do anything to stick with it!



With such novelty happening and a following that was growing rapidly the group decided to pack up their gear and headed to the U.S. This time they took 19-year-old guitarist Myron Fox with them.

It was Fox's guitar playing that added more dimension to the group with lesser guitar duties Lance Tailfeathers finally had the chance of introducing the synthesizer to their raw guitar sound.

KINROQ returned home in 1985 to record their first LP 'Afraid Of The Dark.'

"We love performing live," says Lance, "It was very difficult to adjust in the studio, trying to capture the energy of our music but I think we pulled it off."

When asked about the future of the group? He smiled.

"Look, it's been really tough at times but I had expected that. We've gone this far. I don't think another day is going to make a difference. We feel strong about our music and — what we are doing with it."



KINROQ — Lance Tailfeathers, Curtis Tailfeathers, Garret Tailfeathers and Myron Fox.

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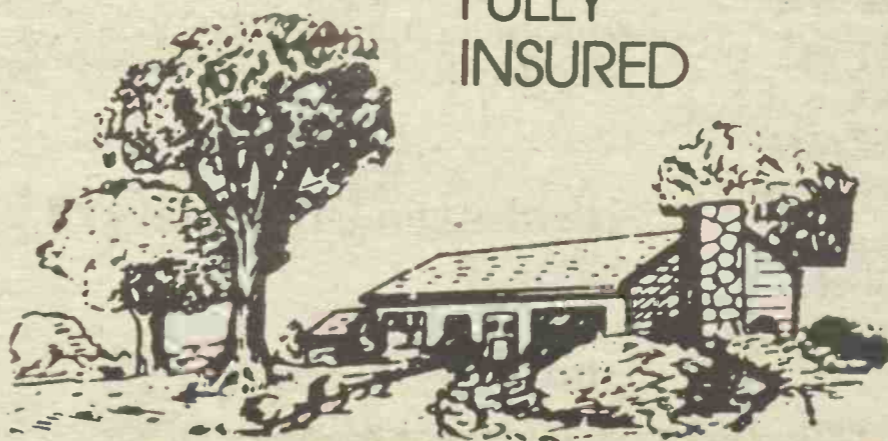
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Sports

Enoch hockey tourney Hobbema Oilers take first place

By John Copley

ENOCH RESERVE — The Enoch Band's 12th Annual All-Star Hockey Tournament took place last weekend at the Band's recreation centre in front of an estimated 300 to 400 fans attending each game.

The winners of first round action went to the "A" side while the loser went to division "B."

Once the division category had been decided a loss put the team out of the race for the championship.

The first game of the double knock-out schedule saw the Deschambeault Lake Wings easily handled the Gift Lake team by 11-5.

Round two, another six point spread, was won by the Enoch Tomahawks who out-skated their opposition — the Alexis Saints — to a 7-1 victory.

Game three saw the Prince George Lumber Kings out-score the Alexander Braves in a 5-0 shut-out action.

The fourth game of the competition saw the JD Blues outmaneuver the

Enoch Hawks as they skated to an easy 10-1 win.

Game five, the biggest blow out of the three day series, saw the well-rounded Hobbema Oilers trounce the Atikameg Flyers by a whopping 18-0 shutout.

Another big point spread occurred in game six as the Goodfish Lake Flames out-shot the Alexis Arrows in a 11-3 win.

Day two and game seven was the beginning of closer encounters.

Gift Lake posted a 5-4 victory over the Enoch Hawks while in game eight the Deschambeault Wings clipped the Blues by yet another narrow 5-4 win.

The Alexis Saints end to end nonstop work-a-thon fashion edged the Flyers 3-2 in one of the most exciting games of the tournament.

In game 10 the second of the host clubs, the Enoch Tomahawks, were eliminated as the Oilers took them by a 3-1 margin.

Game 11 saw the Alexander Braves defeat the Arrows by four in a 7-3 win.

Controversy in game 12

saw the Goodfish Lake Flames win by default over the Lumber Kings from Prince George. In an official protest, lodged by Flames coaching/management staff, it was alleged that the Lumber Kings had violated tournament rules by permitting more than the allowed amount of "import players" (in this case three was maximum) to participate.

The protest was carried and the Lumber Kings left the arena.

Semi-final action began in game 13 as the Alexander Braves advanced to the finals of the "B" side as they beat Gift Lake 7-3.

In division "A" the Flames out-hustled the Wings as they wrapped up a playoff berth with a 9-2 victory in game 14.

The second last game of the tournament was fast paced and action packed. The Saints scored twice to take an early two goal lead over the Braves who at first appeared intimidated by the hard checking defensive unit of their opponents. The Braves got the third goal but fell behind again as the Saints struck for a 4-2 lead. But, perseverance paid off for Alexander as they fought back and eventually scored the game winner (a snapshot by



THE WINNING GOAL
...shot by Oiler Louis Gardiner

Dwayne Arcand) in a four goal unanswered spree that saw the Braves post a 6-4 come from behind victory.

The "B" side cup was well earned by the hard working team that played without any "import" players on their roster.

The final game of the annual tournament began three hours late as the original 5 p.m. start didn't actu-

ally get underway until 7:55 Sunday evening.

The game, scoreless through the first period saw its first goal at the 12:19 mark in the second period as Hobbema broke the ice.

Penalties, though numerous, were minor infractions which included hooking, slashing, elbowing and interference.

The Oilers had a 4-0 lead

going into the third period.

The Flames fought gamely but the Oilers proved too much as they increased their margin and went on to win 6-2.

The winning goal was scored by Louis Gardiner, an import player from Saskatchewan, who was voted the MVP (Most Valuable Player) of the event.

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Applications for the 1987/88 academic year must be completed and returned by June 1, 1987. If you are interested in getting more information or wish to apply for an Educational Award, please contact us at the address below:

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EDUCATIONAL
AWARDS
PROGRAM

B.C. hockey team disqualified at Enoch

By John Copley

The Prince George Lumber Kings, an entry in last weekend's (April 10-12) Intermediate All-Star Hockey Tournament at Enoch's recreation centre,

were the focal point of a major controversy in the last day of competition.

The first round of semi-final action saw the Lumber Kings easily defeat the Braves from the Alexander reserve by a 5-0 tally.

The controversy began during the initial stages of game two. This match-up was to be between the Lumber Kings and the Goodfish Lake Flames — last year's tournament winner.

Prince George was disqualified from further action when Flames coach Melvin Steinhauer, noticing a discrepancy between players and their eligibility requirements, filed a protest. The protest, filed on

grounds of "too many import players" was apparently justified as the Lumber Kings failed to produce suitable documentation of their players.

"The import rule was clearly violated by the Prince George team," said Goodfish Flames nine year veteran head coach Mel Steinhauer.

"The rule in this particular tournament stresses a maximum of three (3) imports, which is what we have, but Prince George came with seven to nine extras. This is clearly not allowed, not fair, and a detriment to the properly organized tournament scenario we are trying to establish in Alberta and western Canada."

Steinhauer explained that tournament qualifications at the Enoch Band's annual event were designed to give every team entered an equal chance to pick up the prize money.

"It's not right to play 'out-law' hockey," emphasized Steinhauer, "In organized sports you have registered teams, registered players, and a fair competition. That is the way the AHA (Alberta Hockey Association) sets up the program and you've got to live by the rules."

This, according to Steinhauer, is not the first time that the Flames have encountered difficulties with their counterparts from Prince George.

"We won a hockey tournament in Prince George last year," claims coach Steinhauer, "but we were shorted \$2,000 in expense (prize) money. There is no way we were going to let them get away with this one."

Someone called the RCMP.

Acting as mediators, the police force took no official action toward any person or persons. However, shortly after their arrival the ice was cleared and the Lumber Kings left the arena facilities.

The Prince George players, claiming innocence, said they were "here for a hockey tournament" and were totally surprised by the incident at the rink.

The Goodfish Lake Flames recovered from the incident but lost the "A" division final by a 6-2 margin to the Hobbema Oilers, a fast skating and hard checking team led by the tournament MVP (Most Valuable Player) Lou Gardiner, himself an import from Saskatchewan.

B.C. hockey coach responds in defence

By John Copley

"The Goodfish Lake Flames knew we were a better team, and after we had a 3-1 lead, they decided to protest," said Prince George Lumber Kings Coach Harley Finchley.

"They were mad at us for two reasons," he said.

"First, we laughed at their poor efforts at a recent hockey tournament held in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. The second, and probably the most important was the fact that we stole their best shooter. They weren't too pleased when Brent Pascal joined our club. I guess he wanted to play for a winner," commented Finchley.

Finchley said that despite allegations that his team played illegally, everything was "above board and every team member was properly registered, except one."

"I have a letter here in

front of me," said Finchley during a telephone interview with Windspeaker, "that proves beyond any doubt that our team and players were all properly registered. The letter is dated April 7 and is from the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association.

"The fact that the billing was for an All Star Tournament indicates to me that everyone can play," he added.

Alberta Hockey Association officials could not be reached for an interpretation of the words 'all-star' tournament.

Finchley said that he heard through "the grapevine" that only three import players would be allowed and that he immediately contacted Enoch tournament co-ordinator, Lorraine Alexander.

"She told me that the import rule would be waived," claimed coach Finchley.

"It was only after our arrival, and at considerable expense, that we were officially notified of this import rule. It was only after we came to Edmonton that we were officially notified of this import rule. It was only after we came to Edmonton that we were given a sheet with the rules on them," he said.

Lorraine Alexander could not be reached by Windspeaker at press time for comments on the statements made by Harley Finchley.

"We'll be gunning for them now!" emphasized Finchley.

Commenting on the \$2,000 prize money shortage to Goodfish Lake last year, Finchley said that they had no choice because of a bad turnout.

"You can't expect to pay out five grand when only seven teams show up to play," he said.

"They (Flames) should

know as well as anyone that before prize money can be paid out we must first receive the entry fees."

Finchley said that he'd ask the next tournament committee to set an early game between the two teams because "we're not afraid to play them right off the bat — it will create less conflict if we knock them out early."

He said that next year his Lumber Kings would probably move up from Intermediate A to Senior AA thus eliminating further confrontation and bad feelings.

"We come to have fun and win tournaments, not to create ill will and bad feelings between teams," he said.

Admitting his failure to carry the required proof of proper registration of his players and team, Finchley said "he'd be sure to do so" in the future.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Mark
McCallum

Ancient Inca (Native) rulers from South America used runners called Chasquis to deliver messages and to spread their law throughout the Inca nation.

"They were legendary runners," says Ross Munro, "that really existed."

Munro's interest in the Inca runners began when he heard about the CP Air sponsored Chasquis 180 mile Relay Race from Jasper to Banff. The race is run in 17 stages, using one runner for each stage, through the coarse terrain of the Rocky Mountains.

The Chasquis club, based at the University of Alberta, founded the relay race. The club selects 120 relay teams to participate in the race each year. They got about 400 applicants for this, their 10th race, and selected teams on past performance and on a lottery system.

Munro, a Fort Chipewyan school teacher, contacted the Chasquis club early this year to enter the two-day relay event. He reasoned that because of the Native background of the Chasquis race, a "predominately" Native Fort Chipewyan relay team would be perfect for the race. The Chasquis club agreed and selected them to be one of the teams in this year's race.

Munro and Fiona Savage will share captaining duties for the 24-member team, which includes four support people who will follow the team in a van.

On June 6, at exactly 12 noon, the first leg of the 17 stage race will begin. Teams will have no more than 24 hours to finish the race.

The Fort Chipewyan team, called Osakocihiwew: "the one who always wins — the victor" according to Munro, have been training for nearly three months. Members of the team are running roughly eight miles a day now, preparing for the Chasquis. But they'll have to add another three miles onto that for them to complete the race with 17 runners.

EDMONTON — On April 25 and 26, the Provincial Junior Boxing Championships will be held at the Friendship Centre. The championships will be sponsored by the centre's boxing club and the Boys' and Girls' Boxing Club.

Recreation Director Gordon Russell says May 2 and 3 will be the try-outs for the centre's ladies' fastball team. Gordon adds that "the team will compete in the NIAA (National Indian Athletic Association) Nations in September in Edmonton." If you're not interested in fastball, the centre is also sending a team to a Western Indian Native Golf Association sanctioned golf tournament at Sherwood Park, on May 9 and 10. For more details call Gordon at 482-6051.

FORT McMURRAY — The June Friends In Sports games at McMurray are officially cancelled. The Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre called the event off because it ran too close to the date for the Edmonton Friendship Centre's 25th Silver Anniversary. "Most of the friendship centres can't afford to go to both events," explained Recreation Director Kevin Daniels, "so Nistawoyou is going to wait 'til next year to hold the Friends In Sports games at McMurray." But, the centre is still sending a track team to the Edmonton Friends In Sports games, occurring from July 6 to 9.

Anyone between the ages of 13 and 20 interested in joining the team have 'til May 15 to register. On May 29, Nistawoyou will hold a mini-Olympics at Core Lass Field which will decide who will represent McMurray at the Edmonton games.

Kevin says that the centre is "working with Fort McKay and Anzac to start a mixed co-ed slow pitch league this year." The centre is also sponsoring three other softball teams.

Three-time Canadian Light-Heavy-Weight Champion Danny Lindstrom, of Fort McMurray, will be helping his former coach Rex Clews, who was inducted into the Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame in March; train fighters at the Nistawoyou centre. The winning pair will coach the likes of three-time Alberta Junior Golden Gloves Champion Brett Marchand, who improved his record to 26-2-1 after winning the Golden Gloves title in Lethbridge earlier this month.

For more information about any of the exciting activities the Nistawoyou friendship centre has in store for this summer, call Kevin at 743-8555.

HOBHEMA - On April 28, a 3-on-3 noon hour basketball league will begin play and run 'til the middle of May. Recreation Director Lorna Lenz says their hoping for six teams for league play at a cost of \$5 per team, per team.

Lorna says they're also trying to start a 30 and over club. The club already has eight members and meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. "Anyone can join," she said, for a cost of \$25. Jogging, racketball and swimming are activities the club plans to try.

Lorna also invites everyone to come to Hobbema for the long weekend when the Canada West Volleyball and a Four Bands Native Junior Hockey tournament will take place. Phone her at 423-9115 for more details.

On April 22, a group will meet at the Jim Rattle Snake sports building to discuss the possibility of starting a women's fastball league. Call 585-3088.

BLOOD TRIBE — A Co-ed Jackpot Volleyball Tournament, sponsored by the BT Elder's Society, will be held at the Moses Lake Hall, on April 24 and 25. Recreation Director Monica Bruisedhead says that teams have 'til April 22 to pay the \$150 entry fee. Monica adds that "50 per cent of the entry fees gathered will go to the first and second place teams and the rest of the money will go to the BT Elder's Society."

On May 15, 16 and 17, the BT Elder's Society will also be sponsoring a Jackpot Slow-pitch tournament. May 12 is the deadline for teams to pay the \$150 registration fee they're asking.

The Kainai Minor Co-ed Basketball Tournament for 12 to 15-year-olds will be held on April 22 and 23. The entry fee is \$50 per team.

Monica says, "many time IRC (Indian Rodeo Cowboy) finalist qualifier in the saddle bronc event and two-time Indian World Bareback Champion Rider Bill T. Head is holding a rodeo school." Head will teach students the fundamentals of bareback and saddle bronc riding at the Kainai Memorial Agri-plex, from April 28 to May 1. Monica added, "there'll be plenty of bucking stock, video replay and classroom instruction and awards to the most improved students."

There is a limit of 25 students for the bareback class (\$100 fee) and 10 students for the saddle bronc class (also \$100 fee). So you better hurry up there partner and call Blood Tribe Recreation today at 737-3926/3998.

ENOCH — Recreation worker Randy Gladue says they're trying to start a mixed slow-pitch league. "We had about eight or nine teams out here last year," explained Randy, "so we'd like to try get the league going next month with about 10 teams."

Call Randy at 470-5647, he says, "we're always looking for players."

Until next week, that's all.

NADC Public Forum

Nampa
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, 1987
Nampa Complex

The Northern Alberta Development Council holds regular public meetings throughout Northern Alberta, giving everyone the opportunity to present briefs on matters of concern and general information.

The Council consists of ten members and is chaired by Bob Elliott, MLA for Grande Prairie.

Groups or individuals interested in making submissions at the Nampa meeting should contact Council member Ted Sonntag in Manning at 836-3955 or the Northern Development Branch in Peace River at 624-6274.



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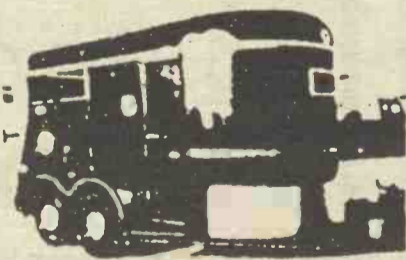
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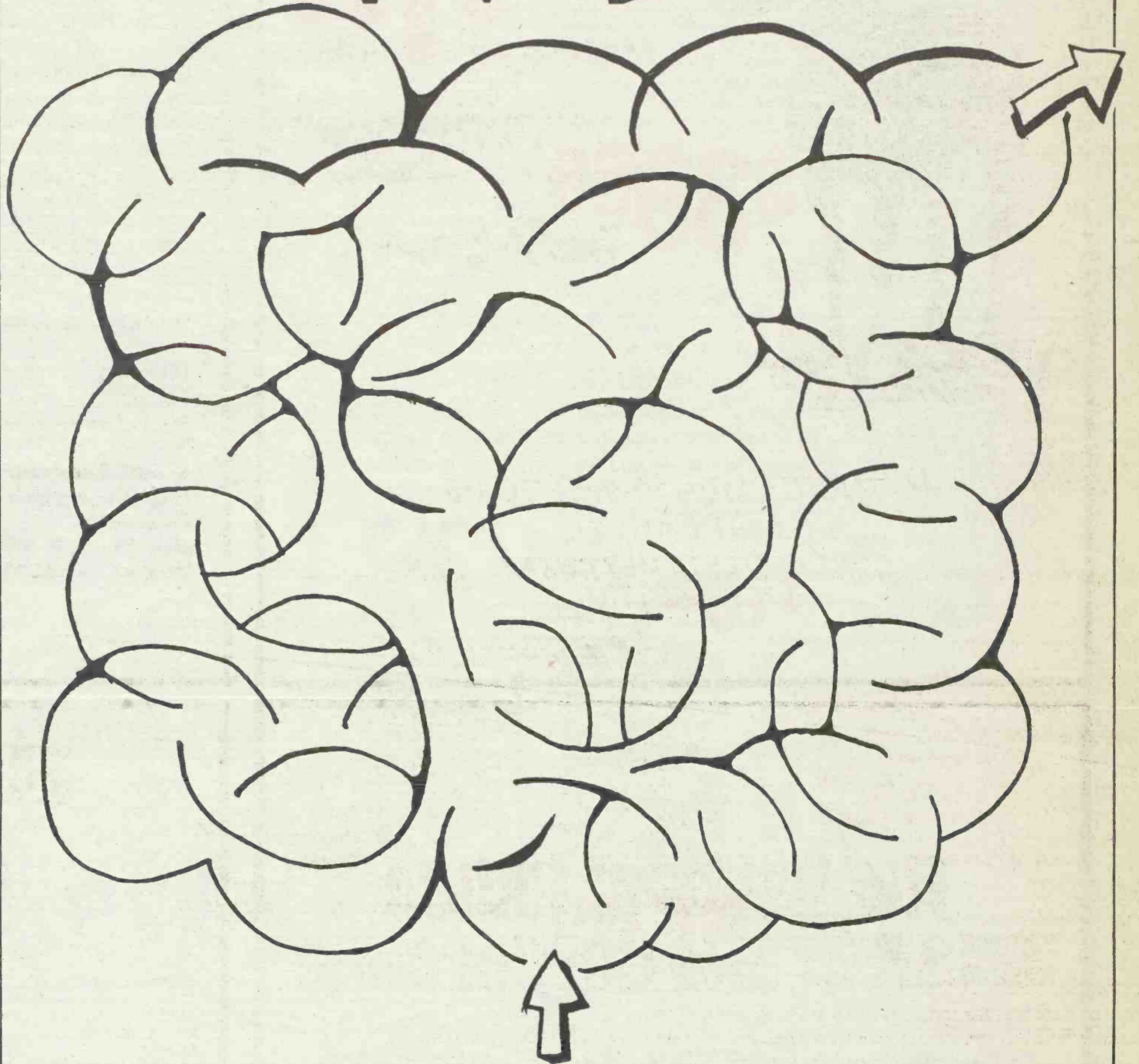
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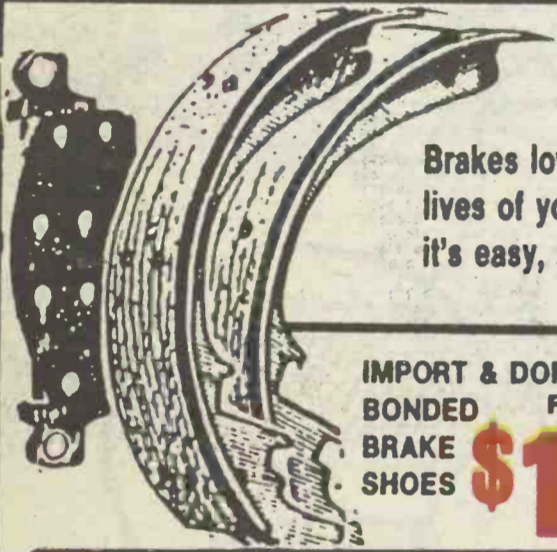
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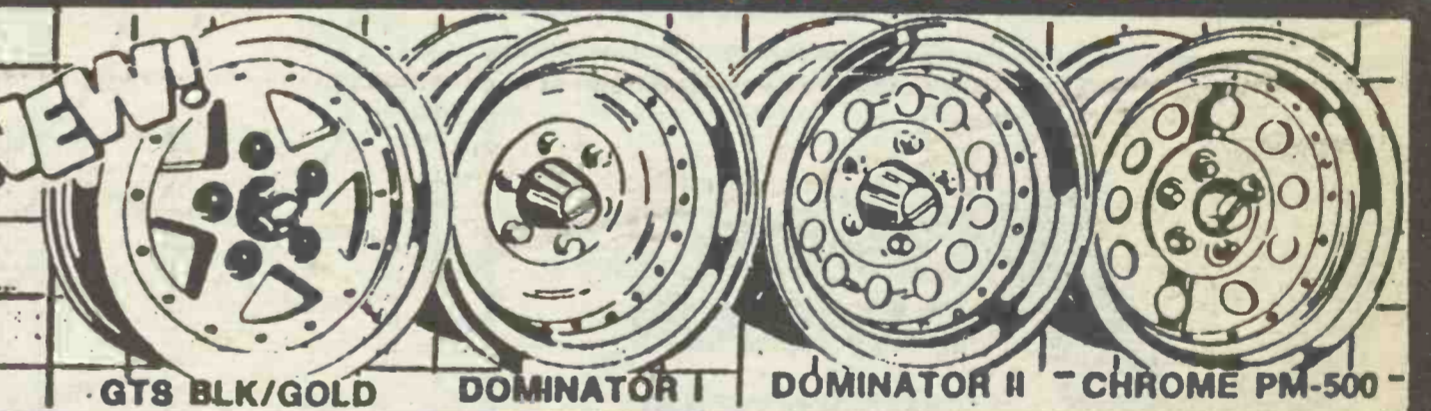


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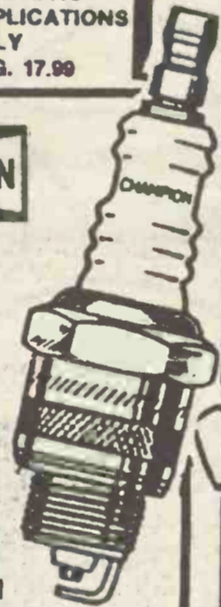
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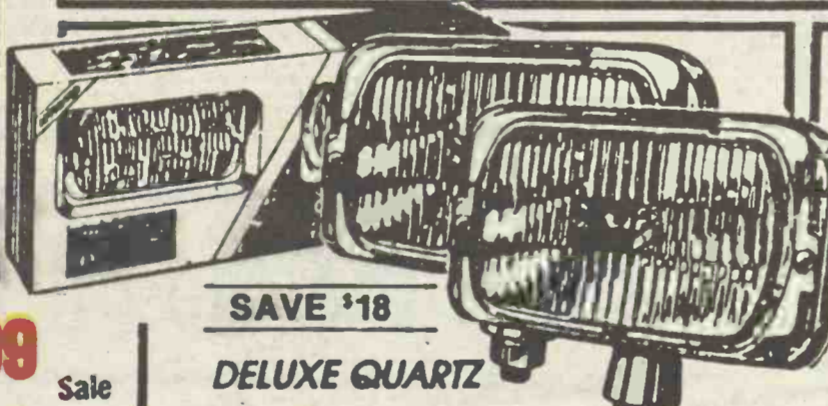
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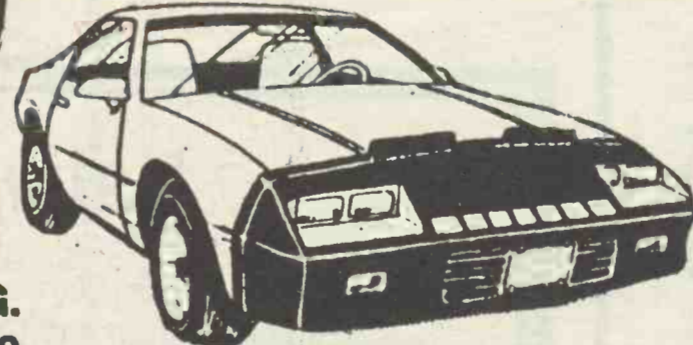
FROM
39.99
SALE
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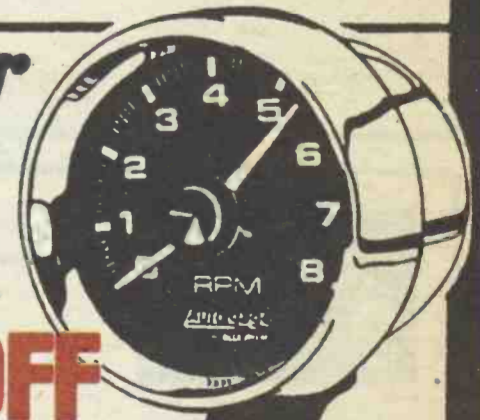
\$144.50

#113901
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