

INSIDE

A Salute
To Youth
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Wind speaker

Quote of the week:

"They (the IAA) are in the throes of their last gasps of breath if they don't do something about it." — Albert Lameman, chief of the Beaver Lake band.

December 22, 1989

North America's No. 1 Native Weekly Newspaper

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Josie Auger, Windspeaker

Waiting (and waiting) for Santa...

Mrs. Claus dropped in on the kids at the Canadian Native Friendship Centre Dec. 17 because Santa Claus caught a dose of the flu. But for wide-eyed kids like Zachary Auger (inset), the anticipation of getting Santa's special gift this year was worth the wait. Right, Zachary?

Louis lashes back at Bigstone Cree pullout

Charges band has conflict of interest with Al-Pac

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Indian Association of Alberta president Roy Louis has struck back against Chief Chucky Beaver for pulling the Bigstone Cree Band from the IAA.

Louis claims questions are being asked about the northern band's strong opposition to the proposed Alberta-Pacific pulp mill and its presentation to the environmental impact assessment review board at Desmarais Dec. 5.

Bigstone withdrew from the association after Louis threw his support behind the project in a controversial presentation to the review board in Edmonton Nov. 30.

Louis' position was condemned the next day by Chief Johnsen Sewepogaham of the Little Red River Band and Chief Bernard Meneen of the Tallcree Band. Sewepogaham said Louis' position was "nothing short of being a sell-out of Treaty 8 Indian interests."

The two chiefs represented the Aboriginal Resource Development Group, a coalition of Indian and Metis groups representing 20 bands and two Metis regional councils.

Beaver announced in Desmarais four days later he had been instructed by his council and band elders to pull Bigstone from the IAA. The band can't under any conditions accept the mill, he said.

But Louis criticized Beaver for making his moves without any Band Council Resolutions. "Normally people have BCRs," he said.

Beaver confirmed the council had yet to pass a BCR, but said he would be seeking one on Dec. 20, which would formalize the withdrawal of Bigstone from the IAA as well as the Assembly of First Nations and the Prairie Treaty Nations' Alliance.

When the resolution is signed it will be sent to the other Treaty 8 bands in northern Alberta, he said. "They can adopt a similar resolution if they wish to do so."

Louis downplayed the significance of the Bigstone withdrawal.

"There's always that question of differences and it's going to continue. It happens in any organization. To me that's called democracy," he said.

Louis said "the IAA represents individuals and not bands, not chiefs."

He noted a proposed Congress of Chiefs was rejected by the IAA mem-

bership at the annual assembly in High Level in the Treaty 8 area about 17 months ago.

"We worked damn hard at getting a Congress of Chiefs and the members voted it down," he said.

Lorraine Sinclair of the Mother Earth Healing Society said "Mr. Louis is going to be in for a surprise in 1990. Mr. Louis will see exactly who he represents or doesn't represent in the coming weeks and months."

Meanwhile, Louis questioned whether the Bigstone council was united against the Al-Pac mill since one councillor works for the company.

But Beaver said "there's no conflict of interest on our part as to his position. He's an individual and he has a right to be employed by whomever he finds the opportunity to work with."

But Louis suggested the band isn't as firmly opposed to the mill as it has led everyone to believe. He claimed the band had signed a clear-cutting contract in case the mill did get the nod.

"Everybody has a Plan A and everybody has a Plan B if the pulp mill goes through," said Louis.

"How many side deals

Con't page 5

Judge finds Potts guilty; appeal planned

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Alberta Indian leader Percy Potts, who was arrested in September during a scuffle with security guards at a downtown shopping mall, has been found guilty of assault by trespassing in Edmonton provincial court Dec. 13.

Potts, Treaty 6 vice president for the Indian Association of Alberta, was fined \$200.

He declared he will be seeking legal action against mall owners Triple Five Corporation and will be appealing the verdict.

"It's a shame," he said in a telephone interview after the decision was handed down. "Something is wrong with the legal system when this can happen."

Potts, 35, was on a family shopping trip with his 12-year-old daughter at the Eaton Centre when he was approached by security guards after stepping off an elevator they claim was exclusively for patrons of the mall's lavish hotel.

Potts said he and his daughter Misty were told to leave the mall or they weren't unauthorized to use the elevator.

He said he was then wrestled to the ground and handcuffed after protest-



Bert Crowfoot, Windspeaker

In this picture taken in June, Percy Potts shows his misfortune with security guards at Eaton Centre.

ing complaints that he was trespassing.

"The guard singled us

out. It was humiliating," he said.

Potts' lawyer, Murray

Marshall, was on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

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Provincial News

'Winds of change' coming for IAA — Beaver

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WABASCA-DESMARAIS

The winds of change are blowing across northern Alberta, says the chief of the Bigstone Cree Band, which has divorced itself from the Indian Association of Alberta.



Good News Party Line

MEMORIAL ROUND DANCE

In Memory of Simon Prosper Jackson; Jan. 27, Goodfish Lake, AB; Pipe Ceremony at 5:00 p.m., Supper to follow; There will be giveaways, singers will be paid; Everyone Welcome; Sponsored by Prosper Delver & Lillian Jackson & Family.

PUT IT HERE.

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

Northern Alberta chiefs are generally frustrated with the IAA, the provincial political body representing treaty Indians, said Chief Chuck Beaver.

"The feeling I have is that it's a time for change on their part also," said Beaver, who announced Dec. 5 he had been instructed by council members and elders to pull out of the IAA.

That feeling seems to be spreading in the wake of a controversial speech given by IAA president Roy Louis Nov. 30 in which he offered conditional support to the proposed Alberta-Pacific pulp mill.

Chief Matthew Lepine of the Cree Band at Fort Chipewyan said his band is "seriously thinking" about following Bigstone's lead.

"If we have to, we will."

It depends on the outcome of a meeting between Treaty 8 chiefs in January, he said.

Lepine agreed with Beaver that northern bands are feeling let down by the IAA. "They haven't been doing too much for any of us."

Beaver Lake Chief Al Lameman, who heads the Northeast Tribal Council, which also includes Kehewin, Cold Lake and Frog Lake, applauded Chief Beaver for pulling out of the IAA.

"I think it was one hell of a smart move on his part. We (the tribal council) haven't been associated with the Indian Association for a number of years," he said.

Louis made a "very big mistake," said Lameman. "He's in trouble."

"They (the IAA) are in the throes of their last gasps of breath if they don't do something about it," he said.

"They could turn it into a Congress of Chiefs, which might work, because then the power would be with the chiefs."

Lameman said he favored setting up organizations to represent each treaty area.

Beaver said Alberta's Indian chiefs have little power in the IAA, because it is an association of individual Treaty Indians.

"We don't really have quite the impact we should as chiefs, because it is an association. I don't feel comfortable with that at all."

Lameman, who is against the proposed mill, said protection of the environment is his first priority.

"With some people like Roy Louis dollars — jobs — is the number one priority. That's the difference between us and the IAA," he said.

Louis, who has offered

Cree band considering pullout

support for the mill in exchange for job guarantees from Al-Pac for Natives, is "dreaming," said Lameman.

"Jobs have been guaranteed before with Syn-crude (at Fort McMurray) and with Esso Products at

Cold Lake. They didn't come across with what they promised and it's going to be the same thing here. We're not going to get the jobs," he said.

Louis said those who have accused him of not consulting northern bands,

should consult community residents before they speak out.

"Does every band that has spoken against me have a BCR (band council resolution) from their chief and council and from their community?" he asked.

Mega-mall project set to start on Blackfoot reserve

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

GLEICHEN, ALTA.

Construction of \$4 million shopping and office complex on the Blackfoot reserve near Calgary is set to get under way in order to keep buying and selling power in the hands of local Indians.

The Siksika Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) has announced that plans for their jointly-sponsored mega Blackfoot project is ready to be built.

After gaining the \$2 million needed from the Native Economic Development Program, the Blackfoot Indians will be able to take a step further towards self-reliance, said SEDC General Manager Richard Hankinson.

He said the new business plan will help generate a cashflow in the Native community where it is needed.

"It will help capture the dollars currently flowing off the reserve," he said.

"It's a two-fold project — to provide business opportunities for Native entrepreneurs and to keep money circulating here."

Hankinson said many of the 2,500 Blackfoot members are forced to buy most of their goods in Gleichen because there is little available for them on the reserve, located 90 km east of Cal-

gary.

There are only six registered retail tenants for the strip mall so far, he said, but there is an 18,000 sq. ft. section of space for more stores.

There will be a 6,000 sq. ft. supermarket and a 1,900 sq. ft. restaurant.

The mall will also include an arts and crafts shop and a delicatessen and there are plans to include a bank, an Alberta Motor Vehicles office and a video game arcade in the mall.

There is also a Turbo service and gasoline station available which has already been built, Hankinson said.

He is expecting 35 to 40 full-time Native employees to be working there when the mall is completed. The start and completion date is not yet available but Hankinson said construction will begin early in the new year.

There is also a 28,000 sq. ft. office centre to be located adjacent to the strip mall. It will house the Siksika Nation Tribal Administration which will be paying rent to SEDC.

Peace Hills Trust and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce also helped finance the project.

The Blackfoot strip mall and office complex will be located near the Canadian Pacific Railway which borders the Blackfoot reserve and Town of Gleichen two km south of Trans-Canada Highway.

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Standoff, Alberta

The Blood Tribe Housing Association, a newly structured/reorganized non-profit organization on the Blood Indian reservation, is offering this challenging career opportunity to any qualifying Band member.

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Provincial News

Review of court verdict worries hunters

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDEN VALLEY, ALTA.

Traditional hunters on a small, southern Alberta reserve may be back to square one in regaining their hunting rights if a court ruling is overturned denying them access to Crown land.

The provincial appeals court may re-open a case that pitted area ranchers against members of the Eden Valley Indian reserve earlier this year.

Shots were fired and hostilities flared after Eden Valley hunter George Alexson was acquitted last July of trespassing on Crown land leased by an area cattleman.

If the verdict, which is being reviewed by the provincial appeals court, is overturned, it would have divesting affects on traditional hunters across Alberta who are fighting to maintain similar treaty rights, Alexson said.

On Dec. 8 Alexson appeared before an appellate court judge in Calgary who announced he will be deciding whether to hold a new trial or simply overturn the original verdict. Alexson said the decision is expected in the new year.

Alexson, 39, was arrested in Longview, Alberta in Oct. 1988 by fish and wildlife officers who accused him of hunting with a rifle during cross-bow season and being on Crown land without per-



Jeff Morrow, Windspeaker

Eden Valley reserve member George Alexson awaits an appeal court decision

mission. They confiscated his two elk.

He was found not guilty of the charges by Provin-

cial Court Judge John Robbins, but Alexson fears the case could now have a different outcome.

"In the future it could have an effect on our treaty hunting rights. But as it stands right now, we could

be back to where we started," he said during a telephone interview from his Eden Valley home.

Robbins ruled that Indians have the right to unrestricted access to Crown land.

After the initial verdict was handed down, an Eden Valley hunter claimed he was fired on by an angry rancher from a pick up truck on land across from the reserve 75 km southwest of Calgary.

The rancher wasn't identified and no charges were laid, but Alexson said the incident wasn't isolated.

"It's getting out of hand," Alexson said. "The minute they see you're

Native (and you're on Crown land) they run up to you and chase you off like they own it."

The province leases more than 5.3 million acres of land. More than 4.5 per cent of it is Crown land used by Alberta ranchers to graze their cattle. There are about 5,000 lessees in Alberta.

Alexson said there is more at stake in this case than whether he is found guilty.

He said the decision could reflect how insignificant the province and the ranchers view the 1877 Treaty that guarantees Indians the right to hunt on land owned by the Crown.

Yellowhead council signs \$16.8 million agreement

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Indian Affairs has signed its first multi-year Alternative Funding Arrangement (AFA) in Alberta with the Yellowhead Tribal Council (YTC).

The \$16.8 million, five-year agreement was signed by Indian Affairs Minister Pierre Cadieux and member chiefs at Enoch Dec. 11.

It's the second AFA signed in Alberta. The Blackfoot Band earlier this year became the first band in the province to sign such an agreement

with the federal government.

Ottawa is providing \$6.6 million to the southern Alberta band in 1989 under the one-year AFA.

The YTC under the direction of its band chiefs and councils will now have as much authority for local decision-making as is possible under existing legislation, according to Indian Affairs.

Cadieux said the agreement marks the beginning of a new relationship between the council and the federal government.

"Encourage you to take this opportunity to build a stronger and more progressive foundation for the future of the Yellowhead

Tribal Council," he told them.

Member bands of the YTC include Alexander, Enoch, Sunchild, Alexis and O'Chiese.

Alexis Chief Howard Mustus, who is also chairman of Yellowhead Tribal Council, declined comment on the pact.

Sandi Serediak, area manager of self-government (AFA) with Indian Affairs, said discussions are under way with the Blackfoot band, to extend its agreement to five years.

AFA discussions are also under way with the Athabasca Tribal Corporation and the Alexander band, she said.

AFA's give flexibility to

Indian organizations in spending money and Indian Affairs requires "much less" paperwork than typical funding agreements, which have been for a maximum of one year, she said.

But the organizations must meet minimum department criteria and maintain standards to ensure the AFA remains in place, Serediak said.

Most of the YTC money is for post-secondary students sponsored by the member bands. The agreement, which is retroactive to April 1, expires March 1994.

Blackfoot Chief Strater

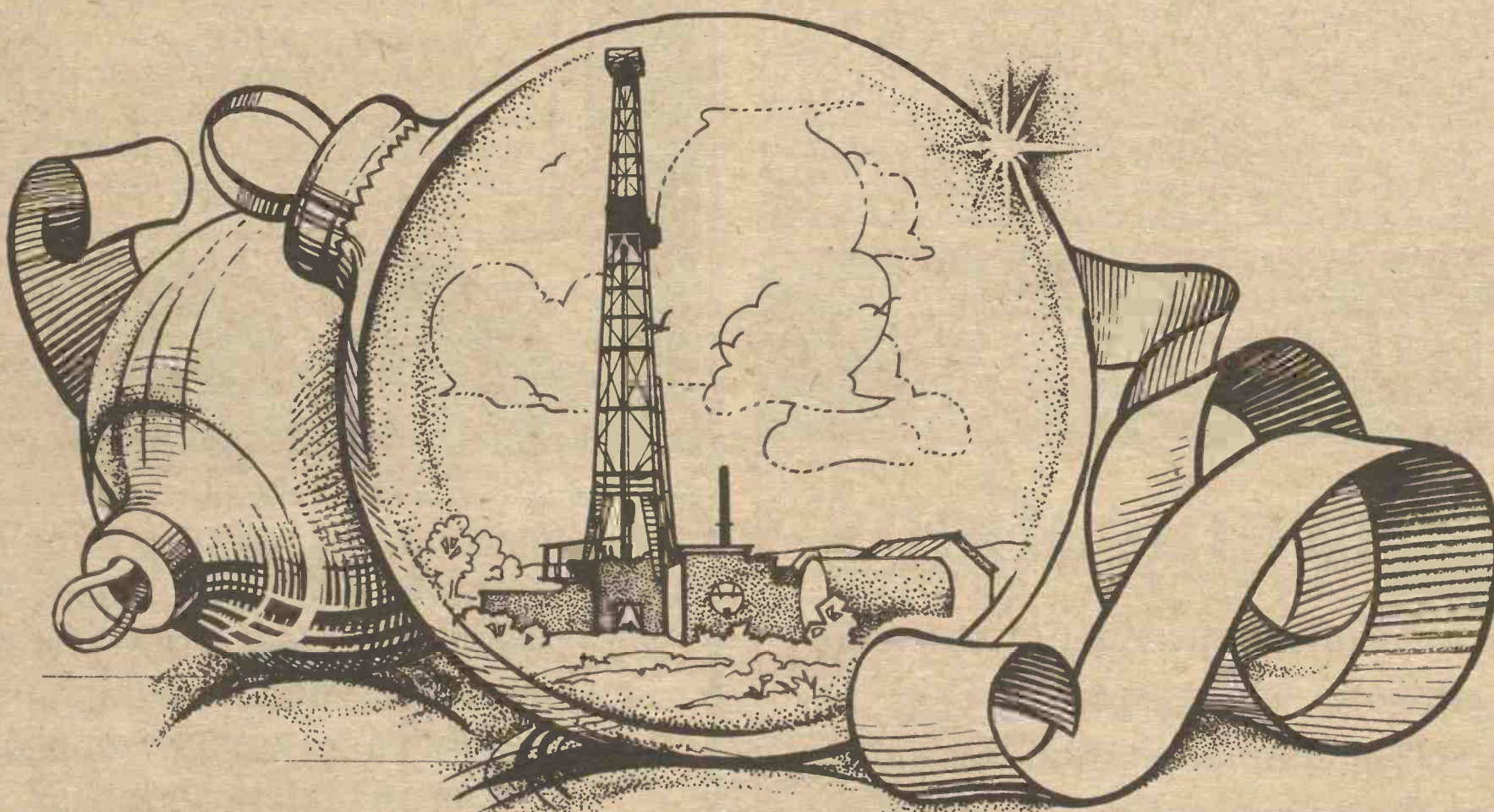
Crowfoot said at the time the agreement was signed with his band it was a stepping-stone towards developing an Indian self-government framework.

The AFA gave the 3,700-member tribe responsibility for social development, community services, band membership and economic development.

Alberta was the last of the provinces to sign an AFA with Ottawa.

Across the country 47 agreements with an estimated value of \$504 million involving 96 bands have been signed, said Serediak.

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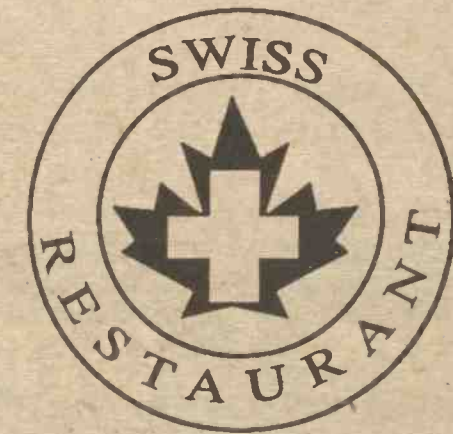
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Provincial News

Crowfoot trounces opposition in Blackfoot race

By Wayne Courchene
Windspeaker Correspondent

Elected as chief for another two years

GLEICHEN, ALTA.

Blackfoot Chief Strator Crowfoot won an impressive landslide victory Dec. 13, as he was re-elected chief of the Siksika Nation Indian Reserve.

An organized door-to-door campaign, focusing on continuity and a commitment to get things done, helped Crowfoot to another second-year term.

"The campaign was run by a committee of volunteers, much of their activity I was unaware of until after the election.

"I owe thanks to the campaign workers for their hard work for going door to door and speaking to the voters about the rumours and misinformation that was circulating," said Crowfoot, after winning handily with 48 per cent of the total votes cast.

Of 947 ballots cast, 453 of those votes went to Crowfoot. His nearest contender received 87 votes. There were nine other candidates vying for the chief's position.

"I was gratified that the people wanted me to continue as Chief," said Crowfoot, adding, "I was surprised by how much I won in the election."

He indicated there were many issues and concerns to work on in the next term including developing a land taxation bylaw on the reserve for non-Natives interested in Indian land.

Youth are also a priority and he wants to establish a Youth chief and council.

"The youth are exposed to the issues and concerns facing the tribe today. We must develop ways to use their talents," he said.

Crowfoot also said with so many young people who

leave the reserve, the new council must address the "brain drain" of young qualified people who move to urban centres because of a lack of opportunities on the reserve.

His immediate plans are to work closely with council in January. Chief and council will then assess the band's progress within the last two years, conduct further planning and establish priorities.

The newly-elected council is comprised of four women and eight men. Nine incumbents sought re-election to office, of which seven were successful.

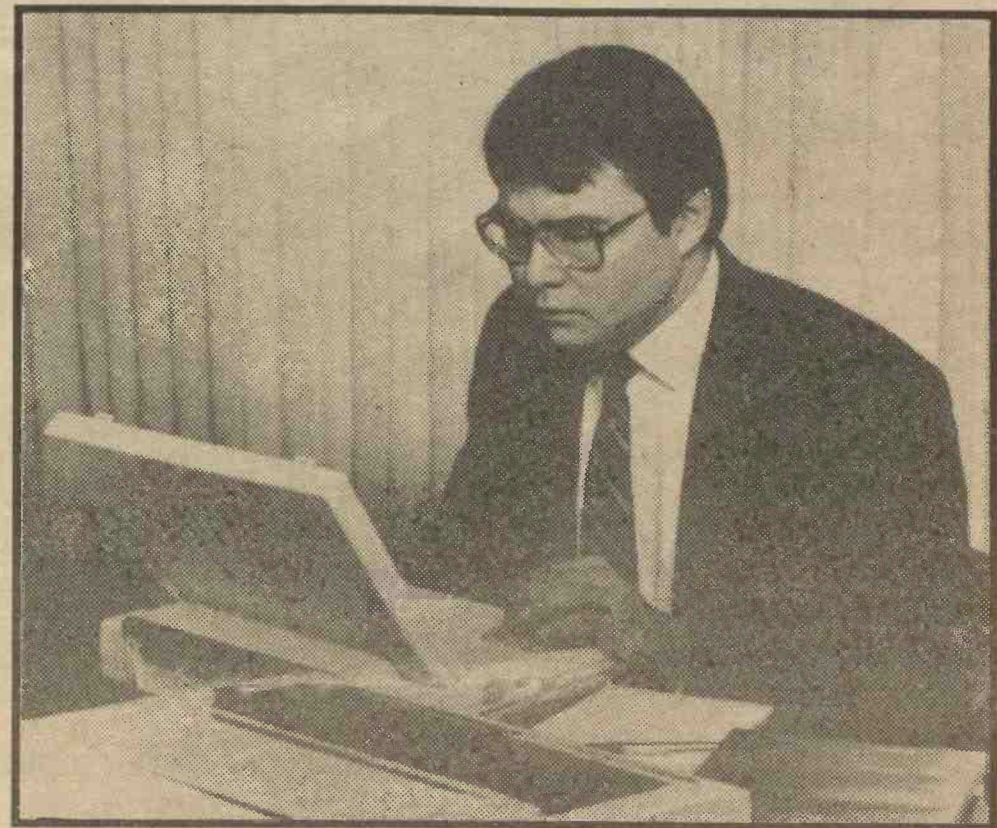
Leonard Good Eagle was elected to council with the most votes at 367, Clifford Many Guns received 292 votes, Kathleen McHugh 289, Ann McMaster 278, Fred Breaker 275, Clarence Wolfleg 253, Murray Whitford 251, Gerald Sitting Eagle 242, Percy Yellowfly 239, Gwendors Bear Chief 208, Angeline Ayoungman 206 and Ronald Many heads 204.

Six candidates who ran for chief, also ran for a seat on council. Three of them, Clifford Many Guns, Fred Breaker and Clarence Wolfleg, were successful in their bids.

The average age of the newly-elected council is 40 years, one of the youngest elected to the office on Siksika Reserve.

Two of the new administration hold degrees. Chief Crowfoot has a master of Business Administration and Angeline Ayoungman has a Bachelor of Social Work Degree.

The swearing-in ceremony has been set for the new year, January 4, 1990 at which time the portfolio for each of the council members will be announced.



Chief Strator Crowfoot

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Louis questions Suzuki appearance

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

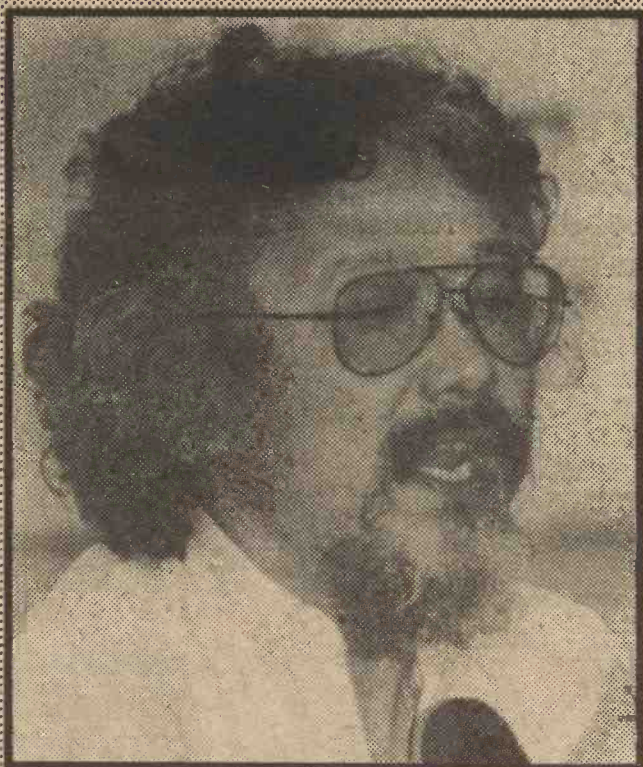
EDMONTON

David Suzuki's appearance at Desmarais on behalf of the Bigstone Cree Band has been questioned by IAA president Roy Louis.

The noted Canadian scientist on Dec. 5 addressed a review board, which was considering the environmental impact of the proposed \$1.3 billion Alberta-Pacific pulp mill, which is to be built near Athabasca. Suzuki was supporting the Bigstone Band, which hopes to stop the mill.

People want to know how much Suzuki was paid to go to the northern community and who paid him, said Louis.

An annoyed Chief Chucky Beaver of the Bigstone Band said it was none of Louis' business



David Suzuki Dana Wagg, Windspeaker

whether Suzuki was paid. The IAA boss has "no business dealing in Bigstone Band affairs as far as our presentation is concerned," he said.

But he revealed Suzuki was only reimbursed for his meals, travel

costs and accommodation.

"We don't pay people to come and make presentations for us," said Beaver.

Normally, Suzuki is paid at least \$5,000 for a speaking engagement, said Lorraine Sinclair of the Mother Earth Healing Society.

"We were really thankful for his input," she said. "No way does anybody have a right to criticize. The guy is super busy and he took the time out of his schedule to come up here."

Louis also took Suzuki to task for criticizing a presentation he made to the review board in Edmonton, although the scientist admitted he hadn't read it.

"How can he disagree with something if he hasn't read it?" he asked.

Sinclair said Suzuki was briefed by a number of people, who read the Louis speech.

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Mrs. Claus came to the friendship centre to distribute gifts

Josie Auger, Windspeaker

Friendship centre provides happier Christmas for Native children

By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

On Sunday, December 17, the Canadian Native Friendship Centre spread its warmth and hospitality to more than one hundred children.

Each year the Canadian Native Friendship Centre kicks off its Christmas season with a party for Edmonton's Native children.

The friendship centres' aim is to provide a warm family-like atmosphere for Native people from all walks of life.

Native people who are new to the city and those who have lived here all their lives are invited to participate in any event like bingos, fastball or their Christmas parties.

"Some are under-privileged kids from the inner city area but not all. The rest are from lower middle-class families," says CNFC recreation assistant Brian Gladue.

The parents, babies and tiny tots sat by and watched the older children take part in the festivities. The popcorn and juice that were served, went quickly.

School-aged children had a great time. Younger ones quietly looked on.

"The children were freaking out. They were getting really hyper! I have never seen so many kids in my life!"

said Gladue.

However when it came time to receive the gifts, all the children settled down and waited for Santa Claus to come with his bag of goodies.

It was rumoured that Santa and his reindeer were not feeling well, so Mrs. Claus would be taking his place and she did, handing out presents with her helpers.

Once the gifts were given out, the children raced back to open their presents in front of mom or dad.

"It gives them recreational activities. It gets them excited. It builds self-esteem. We show people that the friendship centre is here for them," said Gladue.

It gives them hope to believe in goodwill and the Christmas Spirit.

"Someone they don't even know will give them a gift. I think that's what amazes quite a few people," says Gladue, who was busy distributing gifts.

"It's a good, warm feeling you get inside," he said.

Unfortunately, some volunteers didn't show up but mothers in the crowd joined in to help make their child's Christmas a better one.

Gladue who had a sore throat from the Christmas party admits that it could have been better if they had a projector to show the Christmas carols so everybody could sing along.

"I think people went away happy," says Gladue.

The gifts and snack were bought by the Canadian Native Friendship Centre.



Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year

Season's Greetings from Dino Yice & Staff

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Windspeaker

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Viewpoint

1989 a watershed year for Native community

1989 has been a watershed for First Nations people in Alberta.

The road towards self-determination for Indian bands and Metis organizations was fraught with obstacles — some self-imposed — but Native leaders and their communities managed to chisel away at some of the roadblocks and come away with some measurable success in determining their own destiny.

Among the major successes was a co-ordinated effort by a majority of northern Alberta Indian bands who joined with environmental groups to force a review and a delay in the planned \$1.3 billion bleached kraft pulp mill in northern Alberta.

Native groups can take credit for pushing forward their arguments that the environment and health of the people in their communities where the mill will be built will be irreparably damaged.

In 1990, the big question facing Native people in northern Alberta is whether the mill will be built in their backyards or not.

This year also saw a significant milestone made by the Metis community of Alberta. In June, under some controversy, settlement Metis voted overwhelmingly to endorse a 17-year, \$310 million land and resource agreement which for the first time ever provided Metis people with a land base and limited self-government.

It's the first such agreement for Metis people in Canada although that achievement has been somewhat tarnished by the pullout of the largest Metis settlement in Alberta — Paddle Prairie — late in the year out of the Federation of Metis Settlements.

Off settlement Metis also scored some major progress towards a better future with the signing of a three-year framework agreement with the province, an economic development strategy that is expected to upgrade the employment and living standards of many Metis.

While internal dissension in the Native community slowed progress on many fronts, a move toward unifying Indian communities across Canada through a national defence pact made politicians and governments face the reality of a more united Indian Nation joined by a common purpose in the 1990s.

That unity was never more clearly demonstrated in showdowns with the federal government over funding cutbacks to post-secondary education where a national campaign has forced the federal government to reconsider its position; a successful blockade on Sarcee land of a former ammunition range used by the department of National Defense protesting the danger of unexploded shells; and a Lubicon challenge to jurisdiction over their land, forcing Petro-Canada and Norcen to shutdown their oil wells until a 50-year-old promise to negotiate a land claim is fulfilled.

There were other victories.

But what was sharply evident in 1989 was that Native communities have come of age.

Native people, who have seen their communities decimated by poverty, sickness and a dominant society which unjustly treats them like second-class citizens, are taking action to change their lives.

No longer are they willing to sit back and wait for fulfillment of promises made in treaties more than a hundred years ago.

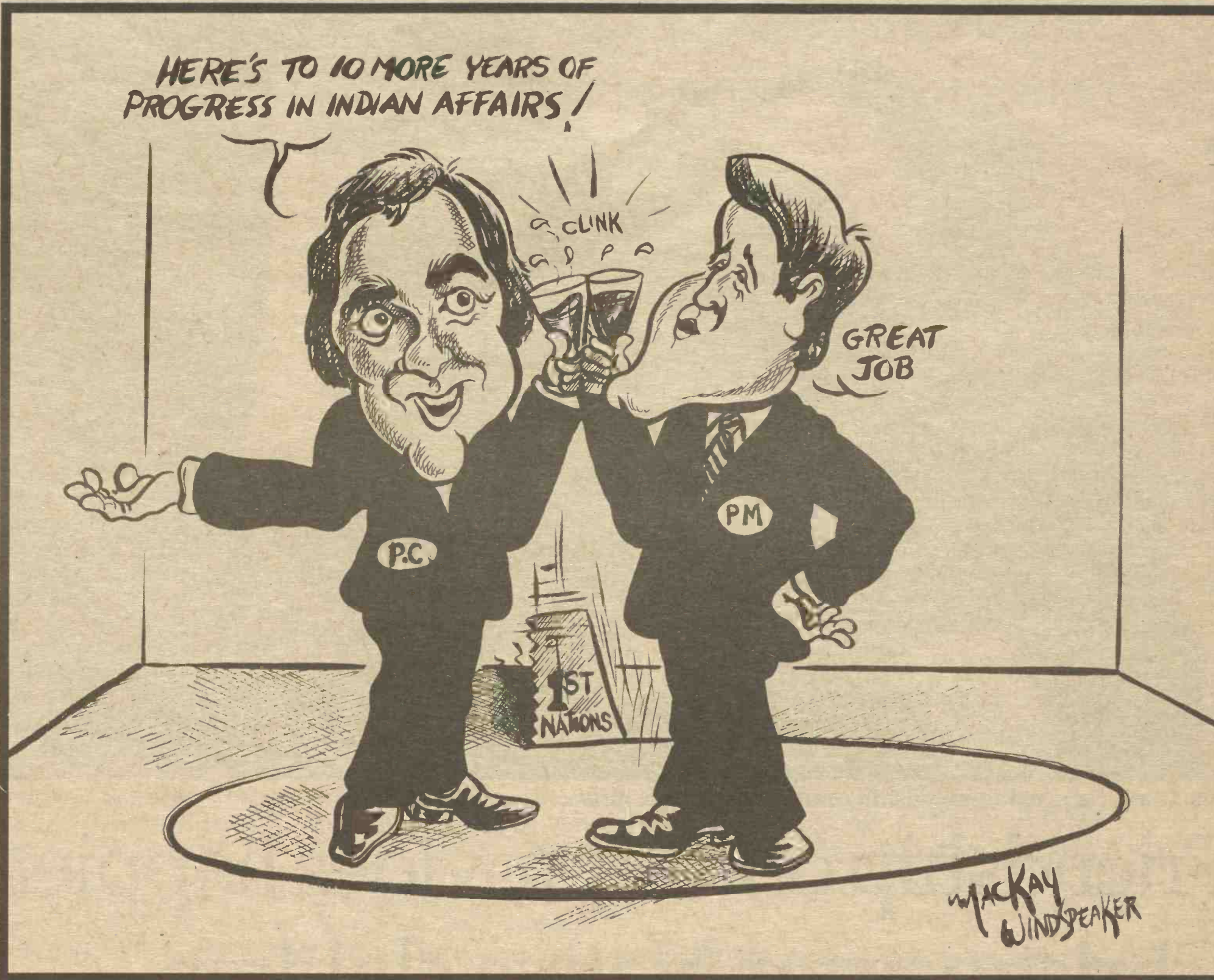
They are taking charge of their lives.

In the 1990s, that bodes well for First Nations people across Canada as they unite to reclaim their land, their rights and their lives.

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Editorial Page



Letters to the Editor

Windspeaker an 'educational' journal for Natives, non-Natives — reader

Dear Editor:

Your paper is in high demand in most prisons across Canada.

I believe it is read across Canada and around the world.

What's particularly fascinating about this paper is the high percentage of articles which you publish from various writers across Canada.

Windspeaker is, in a sense, an educational journal used by Native and non-Natives alike to keep abreast to what's happening to Canada's Native peoples.

Young and old, leery or worry, us Natives all read it. This is why I chose to write you.

Often I've opened "Windspeaker" and found interesting articles to read.

For instance, your article about the "Special Olympics" held in Edmonton Institution. It's a comforting message to read by all.

The Edmonton Institution Lifers Group and Native Brotherhood should be proud of their achievements.

These groups of people have displayed throughout the years, that they have the ability such as any outside organization, to provide a healthy, inspirational atmosphere for many dependent Special Olympians. I commend them.

Moreover, Windspeaker gives me the opportunity to express my-

self to other Native people.

Of particular interest to me presently is the Remembrance Day Rallies held across Canada on Nov. 11, 1989.

In Victory Square in Vancouver, British Columbia, the first Native War Veteran's chapter were able to march with other non-Native war veterans.

What a historical recovery!! For the first time, in Canada's history, Native Indians were recognized for their war efforts.

This should be a lesson to all the younger generations in providing evidence to how much we, as Natives, have lost.

I'm proud of the veter-

ans. They have given us back a part of Canadian history that was buried under Canadian politics.

If the "Indian Act" would not have been revised, our Native war veterans would never have been officially recognized. I commend them.

Finally, Windspeaker openly discusses and displays various articles about Indian bands and Metis organizations that are experiencing internal problems.

I think all this political infighting between aboriginal groups displays just how bureaucracies affect all of us.

Our Native leaders, I'm

sure, have come across many barriers in their political lives. I only hope that they do not turn on each other because of European politics.

What's required here I feel, is a more unified effort by all Indian and Metis groups across Canada, in tackling aboriginal issues.

All for one, one for all. Besides, if our younger Native generations are to read all these Native vs. Native issues, they certainly would subconsciously be affected by all this negative press.

Yours in struggle;

Davey C. Maurice

Native people must unite

Dear Editor:

I just can't help but wonder why Indians are so worried about what the white man thinks or says?

It is the mind games they play with us. If we let them get to our minds, we will lose.

But if we combine together like allies, instead of trying to win a losing battle alone, we will conquer! Instead of talking about it, why not just do it?

Our culture, our future is at stake just because Indian leaders are afraid to take a stand.

We are people. We are not minorities! We are a nation with a goal, but we will achieve it if we try.

Only time will tell. Those who read this please think about it and do something about it please.

Sincerely,

Shaun Waskahat
Frog Lake, Alta.

Windspeaker welcomes your opinion

Windspeaker welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be brief and include the name, address and telephone number of the writer. We will not print unsigned letters unless there is a good reason for withholding the identity of the writer. Windspeaker reserves the right to edit letters for taste, length and grammar.

Opinion

Christmas is a time of magic for all of us

Tansi, ahnee and hello.
It's in the air.

Everywhere you go these days, it seems to hang over everything like an unspoken thing.

Sometimes you want to ignore it all and get on with the business of living but you can't.

Magic. This is the time of magic.

When you think of Christmas you always seem to think of it as something for the children. I'm getting older, you say, as if you somehow believed that the very words themselves could slow down the process.

Christmas is a special time of the year for the children. I doubt very much if there are very many of us adults who don't get a touch of the old electricity in our veins watching the smiles and antics off the youngsters come Christmas morning.

I doubt very much if there are very many of us who don't somehow get a little closer to believing in magic come this Christmas season.

But if Christmas is really a special time for the children then maybe what we should remember as adults and parents is that there is a small child in all of us despite the years.

The Old Ones tell us that within all of humanity there is the reflection of the child.

Too often we get caught up in the responsibilities of the grown-up world. There are bills to pay, mouths to feed, work to get done and a thousand other responsibilities that sometimes never seem to get finished. It's a complicated life.

As adults and parents it's sometimes easy to get caught up in the idea that our roles are that of guides



TOUCHING THE CIRCLE

By Richard Wagamese

and teachers. That we always have to be on guard.

That everything we do in this life should reflect strong cultural and spiritual values to the young eyes that watch our every move.

And all too often we somehow come to believe that we should always try to show the youngsters that there is a big difference between adult behavior and the carryings on of children.

Our role modelling becomes serious business. At this time of the year, a child beckons. This child doesn't seek counsel or the wisdom of the elders.

This child doesn't seek teaching. This child seeks the magic that exists in this one very special time of the year. This child seeks the

freedom to explore its own unique and wonderful sense of itself. The freedom to be nothing else than just a human child.

This child beckons from within each and every one of us.

The old teaching tell us that we carry within us reflections of the man, the woman, the elder and the child.

When we only choose to reflect the particular role, that we believe the world needs to see from us we are actually choosing to live as incomplete human beings.

As an adult man I've had to discover that it's OK in the eyes of the world to reflect the gentler qualities of the woman that lives inside me.

It's OK in the eyes of the world to reflect the old

man qualities of the child.

This Christmas season, I plan to run around and play just as much as the young people I'll be around. Yes.

There's still lots of snowmen to build, snow angels to form flat on my back in the snow, great mind-boggling goals to score on some backyard rink and quiet carols to hum as I move around my kitchen Christmas morning.

Oh, I've known for some time now that Santa Claus is just a creation of someone's mind and I've known for just as long that reindeer can't really fly.

But I also know these days that magic really does exist and that if I allow that child within me to come out and play this Christmas that Santa Claus can be as real as real can be and there really will be tiny hoofprints on the roof Christmas morning.

Magic. It's everywhere. Not the kind of magic that exists in the sideshows and stages and movies. Nor the kind of magic that is merely illusion.

But the kind of magic that is possible in every

human heart when we allow ourselves to live as fully functioning creations. When we allow that child within us the freedom to be.

The child within us believes in love and laughter and gentleness and play and in magic. The child within us believes in us.

It's my Christmas wish for all of you wherever you might happen to be, that you not only have all of the love and warmth, happiness and goodwill, faith and devotion, and especially the magic that this season brings with it but also that you find that small child within yourselves and allow it to come out and play.

Thank you all for allowing me and my words to come into your homes and lives this past year. Thank you all for being the circle of people that inspires and motivates me.

Thank you all for maintaining the traditions and values that have always allowed our people to carry on.

Until next week, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Meegwetch.

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Canadians 'apathetic' to Native people — reader

Dear Editor:

On recently reading a provincial Native publication, I was struck by the apathetic attitudes displayed by the non-Native communities to the very real concerns of Native people in Canada.

It would seem that the only time Canadians respond to the issues raised by the First Nations with any interest or concern, is when the majority is responding to negative national coverage generated towards the minority.

Words such as "United Native Nations" or the ever popular "Mutual Defense of First Nations Agreement" cause the ever pious guilt-ridden Canadian citizen to sit up and wonder if now it's for real.

What would happen if in fact it was for real, how then would the general public respond to the concerns raised by the First Nations of North and South America?

Would the public's attention be directed towards the problems that precipitated such a desperate action on the part of Native people or would it be directed towards the maintenance of the status quo?

Canadians want to believe that its government treats in a just and honorable way with The First Nations of this continent.

It wants to see the all too infrequent success stories regarding Native people, the rare view of

justice and equality for all.

It doesn't want to see the Innu people of Labrador being imprisoned for protesting low level Jet training flights over their land, destroying a unique and historical society.

It doesn't want to see the raping of virgin pine and timber stands for a few years of economic revival for a small community, doubly so if the land's "ownership" is in question by the First Nations.

It doesn't want to hear of the forced assimilation of Native children in residential schools or it's tragic outcome for a lot of those children and for culture.

Canadians look to their history and most feel some sense of shared guilt for the outcome of the relationship between our two peoples.

So they look away from the problems and that lessens the impact of the despair and desperation they see in the Native communities.

They just hope that somehow the solutions will magically appear and we'll all live happily ever after.

Unfortunately, reality is not kind to the conscience of people with a history of deception and deceit, a history of beautiful words with no substance, empty rhetoric and bold faced lies.

So Canadians live with that burden of shared guilt, knowing that they've grievously wronged a

people for nothing more than greed and national fortune.

So, yes, when Canadians see the words "Armed Native Blockade" or "Lubicon orders PetroCan out", they must wonder if maybe this is the time they've pushed the First Nations too far.

I asked earlier where would the attention of the majority be directed if such a confrontation resulted in the use of armed force, I doubt very much if the cry for justice's "Blind Eye" would be heard in this land.

You would hear nothing of the problems, the "white" tape and jurisdiction disputes or the personal desperation of a First Nation's people seeking justice.

You would never hear of the endless and mindless merry-go-round these people must go through to seek justice on the homelands of their people.

Seeking redress and justice they appeal to your courts of law, once majority indifferent to their concerns, with the government that is morally bankrupt and racially condescending, with the sanctity of the law prostituted to deny justice for the sake of the almighty dollar, how are my people expected to continue to respond?

I suspect that the sword of Canadian justice would be swift and sure. It may be blind but I'm sure the government and the majority

will ensure that it won't be "Color Blind" as well!

Yet can you understand the motivating factors that precipitated such a response, are you so insensitive and uncaring you do not recognize the struggle for our national identity and cultural preservation?

The same struggle you so enthusiastically applaud and support thousands of miles away from your own backyard, a struggle you should in fact assist, but you must also assist the same struggle for the First Nations of this continent with equal encouragement and support.

Being influenced by your national guilt, you will hide behind the sanctity of your laws, the same laws and system we are struggling against.

You use the law to fit your own interpretation of justice, and I know after a confrontation you will not seek justice but will seek vengeance instead. After all, is that not the custom of a "civilized society"?

When the almost for certain armed confrontation does occur, remember that history provided you with an opportunity to be just and fair, but also bear in mind that history teaches many lessons; even to people in our present position.

You have not learned from our history that is clearly evident, but we have and we have learned wisely.

Naiweh,
T. Mitchel Staats

Louis lashes back

From front page

are there?" he asked. "On the one hand they say they don't want any trees cut, they don't want any development and yet they still have a clear-cutting contract, although I don't know if it's for Al-Pac."

Beaver firmly denied the band had signed such contracts with anyone, including Al-Pac.

"We have no deals with Al-Pac at all. We are not looking at other forest-related industries at this time," he said, adding that development of tourism and the band's oil and gas reserves are potential alternative economic ventures.

Meanwhile, Louis insisted the position he outlined to the review board was "fair, balanced and conditional support based on guarantees."

However, things are still topsy-turvy at the IAA head office in Enoch, said Treaty 8 vice-president William Beaver. "Nothing has been corrected yet," he said.

"Everything is upside down."

A meeting planned for Dec. 11 at Slave Lake of Treaty 8 chiefs didn't go ahead, because of conflicts with other meetings, he said.

Community News

New Year's promises that you promise to keep...

Happy New Year! And so a new one starts. With it comes new year resolutions, got any?

Here are some resolutions that people in past years have promised to keep, never break, like under no circumstances.

*Promised to keep the promises he or she promised to keep last New Year's Day.

*Promised to remember your wife's birthday, January 1.

* Promised to quit drinking alcohol for a year and possibly forever after your 12-month sentence is completed.

* Promised to quit smoking after the negative from your x-ray your doctor took couldn't locate your lungs.

* Promised to be nicer to your kids because they outgrew you and patted you on the head.

* Promised to be nicer to your dog because your dog outgrew you and patted you on the head.

* Promised your wife you would never scotch tape a note on your mother-in-law's back again that read, \$1.49. At her garage sale.

* Promised your wife you would buy her mother back from your neighbour.

* Promised to go on a diet after walking into a dining club and the waitress asked, "Table for two?"

* And lastly. Promised to be kinder to yourself, laugh more, enjoy life more, be more tolerant towards your fellow human being, control anger and learn to smile a little during difficult times, and promised to never make a promise that you could not keep, especially to others, but mostly to yourself.

PEAVINE: Doesn't Lloyd Gauchier remind you of Butch Goring when Butch played for the New York Islanders?

Goring used to wear the same type of hockey helmet (almost the same) as Lloyd is wearing.

When you see a player wearing that type of helmet, and you line up opposite him, then you automatically know you're going up against a veteran.

Three things come to the forefront. Who is this guy, is there any sign of dried blood on his helmet and, "Damn! I think it's going to be a long shift."

Lloyd "Butch" Gauchier played for the Peavine Stingers in the Federation of Metis Settlements hockey tournament December 15-17, and on several occasions I couldn't believe he wouldn't score a goal.

The only thing that stopped him was good goaltending. Gauchier proved he is a capable hockey player and veteran of the game.

To the Gauchier family, Thelma and Lloyd, Lorne,



Droppin' In

By Rocky Woodward



Lloyd Gauchier

Chris, Calvin, Layne and Lavern, Droppin' In wishes you the best in the new year.

EDMONTON: How strange. I thought I'd phone some of the Metis organizations in the city to get a new years message for your column, and this is what happened.

It may be useful to anyone wishing to get in touch with Metis Local 1885 and the Metis Regional office.

First, I phoned the MAA office for 10 minutes. No answer. Wednesday 1:30 pm.

Then I phoned the Regional office (Zone Four). I used

the telephone directory, 488-8500. It's changed.

A voice said, "The number is 425-2893."

I dialed the number and an operator said, "Please stand by for new listing." 451-3170. There you have it. The regional office new number, and after all that, Joe Blyan wasn't in.

Now on to the Metis Local 1885. I dialed 488-8500 and that number is no longer in service. So I phoned Metis Children Service and asked, "Help! Where is Butch Plante!"

The kind lady at the other end of the phone said, "Butch isn't here right now, but this is where the local takes membership calls now."

Where have I been? I leave town for a moment and everyone changes their phone numbers or cancell. I know the Metis were once nomads but isn't this carrying it a little bit to far?

Now, I'm scared to call home. I might have moved???

Anyway, Happy New Year to all the Metis organizations in Edmonton.

ALEXIS: "Be sure you print this message Rocky," said Indian Association Of Alberta Vice President, Percy Potts.

"I hope everyone everywhere had a great Christmas with little worry and a lot of happiness.

"I hope that the new year brings a "truck load" of happiness to every household, to every "Tipi" across Alberta. To all the people of the Alexis Reserve, I wish each and everyone a Happy New Year."

Thanks Percy and Droppin' In wishes you and your family the same.

COLD LAKE: First Nations. "On behalf of Chief and Council we would like to extend a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year to all members of the Cold Lake First Nations and people everywhere," said band administrator, Les Isbister.

ANZAC: I remember my Christmas and New Year's Day spent in the community of Anzac. As people will tell you, even today, many locations in Anzac could very well be on Christmas cards, if they're not already.

Happy New Year, Irene and Ernie Woodward, Nancy and Bill Woodward, the McKenzie's, the MacMillian's and all my cousins back home.

Happy New Year to all the Metis Settlements, Indian Nations, Native communities and Native people everywhere.

In 1990, I wish each and everyone a very happy year, blessed by all the angels in heaven and may your Guardian Angel watch over you as we begin this trip into a new decade...the 1990's.

Compiled by Tina Wood and Connie Morin

NATIONAL FILM BOARD, Special Screenings of Aboriginal Films, beginning Sept. 6, every Wednesday at noon, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; N.F.B. Theatre, 120 Canada Place, 9700 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ANNUAL FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPERS; Fort Vermilion; Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

ST. HENRY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL; every Sunday in Ft. Vermilion at 10:15 a.m.; children 3-8 years old are invited to attend; for more info. call Leona Skulmoski at (403) 927-3712.

POWWOW DANCING LESSONS; every Monday from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.; and Wednesdays from 7 - 10 p.m.; Bonnyville Native Friendship Centre; for more info. call (403) 826-3374.

FREE SOUP KITCHEN; Tuesdays & Thursdays 12 - 1 p.m.; Bonnyville Native Friendship Centre; for more info. call (403) 826-3374.

AA MEETINGS; Tuesdays & Thursdays starting at 8:00 p.m.; Bonnyville Native Friendship Centre Hall; for more info. call Larry Ducharmes at (403) 826-3374.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS; Tuesdays starting at 7:30 p.m.; Bonnyville Native Friendship Centre; for more info. call Brian Tercier at (403) 826-3374.

SWIM NITE; Fridays from 9 - 10 p.m.; Bonnyville Swimming Pool; free to all members; for more info. call (403) 826-3374.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN-BUFFALO-JUMP MINI-EVENTS; Each Sunday from Dec. through March; celebrating this rich Native heritage; Dec. 24, Beadwork Display; Dec. 31, Artifact Display; arrangements can be made to accommodate large group tours; for more info. contact Louise Crow Shoe at (403) 553-2731 or Calgary Office (403) 265-0048.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY; Dec. 20; Continental Inn West; tickets available from staff at \$10 or at the door; Cocktails at 8 p.m.; Dance at 10 p.m., Harley Buffalo Band; Midnight snack; sponsored by I.A.A. staff.

NATIVE PASTORAL CENTRE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES; Dec. 24, 8:00 p.m. Youth Mass for families; Midnight Mass 12 Midnight English & Cree for adults; for more info. call (403) 424-1431 or 428-0846.

MEMORIAL ROUND DANCE & HANDGAME TOURNAMENT; Dec. 27, Kehewin School Gym; Kehewin, AB; Handgame tournament starts at 10:00 a.m., Feast starts at 5:00 p.m. for more info call (403)

Indian Country Community Events

826-3333.

HEALING MASS; Native Pastoral Centre; Dec. 27, 7:30 p.m.; Celebrant Fr. Bernard Black and Our Lady of Mercy Music Ministry will be coming to sing; for more info. call (403) 424-1431.

COWBOY ROUND DANCE; Dec. 22 & 23, Onion Lake Band Hall; Onion lake, AB; for more info call (403) 344-2107.

CHRISTMAS CASEY HALFE MEMORIAL NO-HIT TOURNAMENT; Dec. 28 - 31; Goodfish Lake Lakeside Arena; \$350 entry fee; prizes and round dance; for more info. call Albert Houle or Ronald Bull at (403) 636-3622, Ext. 11 or Albert's residence at (403) 636-2067.

BRING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH THE EDMONTON METIS LOCAL; Dec. 31; Featuring Dave Boyer & Rocky Mountain High; Saxony Motor Inn, 15540 - Stony Plain Rd. Edmonton; Tickets \$20, for more info. contact Lyle Donald at 461-0779.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL; Dec. 31; Recreation Centre; Fort Vermilion; sponsored by the Indoor Rodeo Assoc.; Band-Midnight Cruisers; for ticket info. call Tracy Flett at (403) 927-4445 or Wendy Randle at (403) 927-4356.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL; Dec. 31; Fort Vermilion; sponsored by Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #243; music by D.J. Rockin' Roger; for ticket info. call Reg Scarfe at (403) 927-3342.

C.N.F.C. AEROBICS PROGRAM; Preregistration Jan. 5, 1990; for more info. call Brian Gladue at (403) 452-7811.

PRINCE ALBERT INDIAN METIS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 6TH ANNUAL ABORIGINAL TOURNAMENT; Jan. 12, 13, 14, 1990; Prince Albert Communiplex; Entry Fee: \$550 payable in advance; 1st Prize - \$3,200, trophy and jackets, 2nd Prize - \$2,200, 3rd \$1,100 & 4th \$1,100; for more info call Prince Albert Friendship Centre at (306) 764-3431.

C.N.F.C. MODELLING PROGRAM; Jan. 17, 24, 31 & Feb. 7; 13-18 year olds, males & females; for more info. call Rene at (403) 452-7811.

CLIFFORD METCHAWAIS MEMORIAL HOCKEY

TOURNAMENT; Jan. 26 - 28, 1990; Goodfish Lake, Alberta; no contact but slapshots are allowed; for more info. call Randy Metchawais at (403) 594-1457.

MEMORIAL ROUND DANCE; In Memory of Simon Prosper Jackson; Jan. 27, Goodfish Lake, AB; Pipe Ceremony at 5:00 p.m., Supper to follow; There will be giveaways, singers will be paid; Everyone Welcome; Sponsored by Prosper Delver & Lillian Jackson & Family.

4th ANNUAL 1990 TUNE-UP GOLF; Feb. 2-5, 1990; Sahara Golf & Country Club, Las Vegas, Nevada; for more info. call Gina (403) 585-4298 (home) or Bill (403) 585-2139 (home) or Emile (403) 585-3805 (home).

CO-ED NATIVE VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE; For interested Native Groups and Associations; Registration deadline, Feb. 5, 1990; for more info. call Brian Gladue at (403) 452-7811.

C.N.F.C. NATIVE RECREATION HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 16, 17 & 18; Held at Enoch Recreation Centre; for more info. call Rene Houle at (403) 452-7811.

SENIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; March 16, 17 & 18, 1990; Regina Exhibition Stadium - Exhibition Park, over \$7,000.00 in prizes; Entry Deadline: March 9, 1990; for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333.

REACHING JUST SETTLEMENTS (LAND CLAIMS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA); Feb. 21 & 22, 1990; University of Victoria, Victoria B.C.; conference sponsored by the School of Public Administration & The Division of University Extension and Community Relations, University of Victoria; for more info. call (604) 721-8055.

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: LIVE IN CONCERT; Mar. 30, 1990 at 8 p. m.; Calgary Centre for the Arts, Calgary; for ticket info. call (403) 294-7472.

NATIONAL INDIAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS; (Men/Ladies), April 7-8, 1990; University of Regina Physical Activity Centre; Entry deadline: March 29, 1990 for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333 or Fax (306) 584-0955.

12th ANNUAL SPRING POWWOW; April 14-15, 1990; held at Canada Centre East Building Regina Exhibition Park; for more info. contact Melody Kitchemonia at (306) 584-8333 or Fax (306) 584-0955.

BIRTLE INDIAN SCHOOL REUNION; July 1990; Winnipeg, Manitoba; for more info. Write to W.C. Thomas, Box 280, Hodgson, Manitoba, R0C 1N0 or call (204) 645-2648 (bus.) or (204) 645-2456 (Hm.).

Community News

Career day a success at Smoky Lake

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SMOKY LAKE, AB.

The County of Smoky Lake held a Career Day Program at H.A. Kostash School in Smoky Lake on December 6, with over 400 students and parents from the county of Thornhill, Saddle Lake and the county of Smoky Lake.

The participants could choose from over 67 sessions of many careers, from D.J.'s to photography to farming.

"The purpose of career day to expose students to a variety of educational alternatives and to make information available about post-secondary school programs, specific occupations, starting your own business, independent living, student loans and how to find a job," said Bart Eison, director of student services for the County of Smoky Lake.

The instigator for the idea of having Native role models for the day was Martin Makokis, the Native liaison for the County of Smoky Lake.

Makokis decided the community needed Native role models after a minor hockey executive meeting.

"There were a lot of negative forces in that meeting of how (non-Native) people see Native people. That they're all drunks and drug users."

He suggested to Eison



that they needed successful Native people for career day.

"We used some Native people. Doctors, lawyers, teachers, politicians..."

The students selected were grade 9 and 12 from the schools in the three different counties.

"Kids going into grade 9, so they have an idea of careers they are going into so they can plan their school courses accordingly," said Eison.

"In grade 12, it's especially important, because they're going to other schools or to post secondary schools or right into a career," he said.

There were 113 speakers and 67 sessions involved in the one day, six-hour program.

"In general, we had people who were very competent in their areas," said Eison.

"We didn't necessarily pick people who were tops in their trade, but we tried to do a combination of things."

"We tried to pick speakers who were local and who were from farther away to give a provincial perspective and put them together in each session."

"So for many of the sessions we had two, three... who could give different opinions, different points of view and a pretty true pic-

ture of what's happening out there," he said.

Eison believes it was successful due to the volunteers who took time out of their schedules and work to speak to the students.

"If it wasn't for them, it wouldn't have been as successful as it was. We're all very grateful for their volunteering."

The career day was a positive event for the students who have responded with positive feedback.

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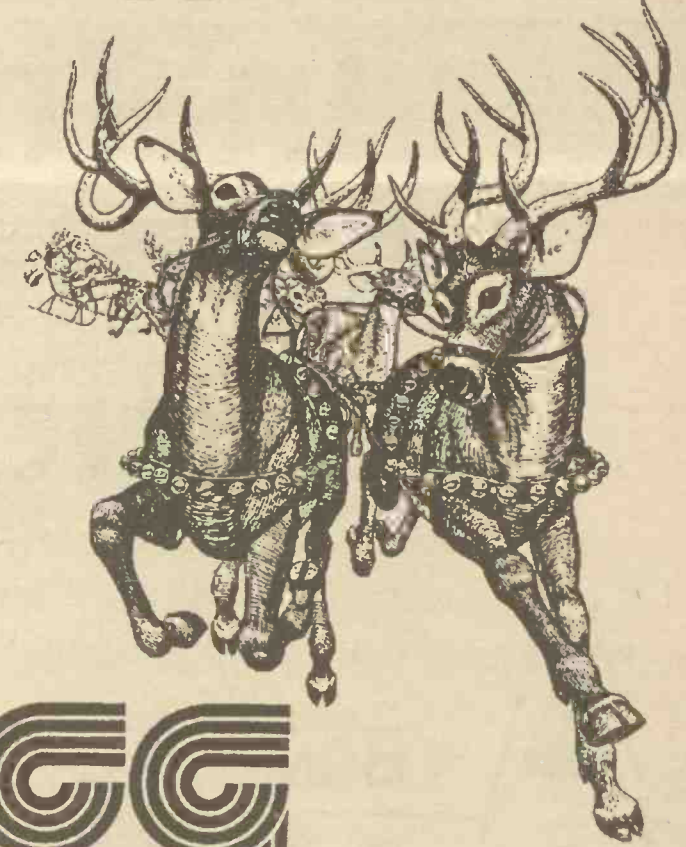
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A Salute to Youth

Young drummer continuing traditional ways



Youth drummer Jennifer Paul (R) Josie Auger, Windspeaker

By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

The traditional roles among Native people has slowly been changing.

At one time, only Native men were allowed to join the drum circle.

In recent years, some women have been taking this cultural commitment upon themselves, within the drum circle.

Many people in the Native community realize that in the near future, many elders will be passing on and believe it is important that youth take over and live the traditional ways of their forefathers.

Jennifer Paul is an 18-year-old drum singer with "Little Boy", her family drum group.

Jennifer's late father has left a tremendous impact on her life. She knows that women are not supposed to sing at the drum, yet she does.

"He had said that women were not supposed to sing at the drum," says Jennifer.

After her father had a heart attack, his traditional views changed.

He would say, "times are changing. If this is the way to teach the young people, then that's the way we got to do it," recalled Jennifer.

Jennifer's father had a weak heart, suffering two heart attacks because of excessive drinking. In his younger days, he sang, fancy danced and in his later years, danced men's traditional powwow.

He had problems battling the bottle and was eventually forced to give it up for health reasons.

Before her father passed away, he had encouraged his daughters to live a better life than he did — to live holistically.

After his first heart attack, he began teaching eldest daughter Daphne the traditional ways he was taught because she was willing to listen.

Today, she teaches her sister and other youth who are willing to learn.

In her childhood, Jennifer recalls her mother going out to play bingo while her father would go out drinking and was left with a babysitter.

During some of these times, the babysitter would abuse her. As Jennifer got older, the memories and torment that were bottled up inside, became too painful.

So she began to drink. "I thought I was disgusting. When I drank it was to numb myself, but mostly I got high," says Jennifer.

"My mom just about gave up on me. Daphne took me in, she told me I couldn't stay with her if I drank. I had no place to go. So I stayed home for two years," says Jennifer.

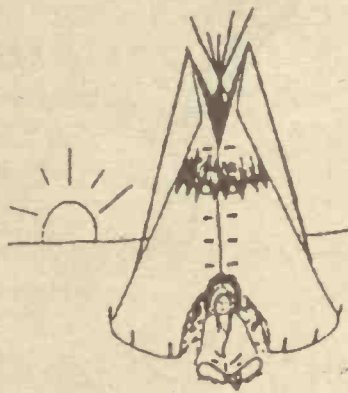
When Jennifer was 15-years-old, her life began to take a positive turn due to her sister Daphne.

Daphne Alexis formed the drum group "Little Boy", to keep the youth straight and sober.

Both sisters live "culturally-enriched" lives. During the winter, they socialize at round dances. In the winter, they perform at powwows.

"It's the only place I feel good," says Jennifer Paul, who is engaged to be married next year.

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A Salute to Youth

Young artist inspired by Native culture

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

When the Alberta Indian Arts and Crafts Society held their annual Asum Mena show at the Front Gallery this summer, one of the up-and-coming artists chosen to show her art was 19-year-old Dale Mervyn.

It was an honor, noted the young Metis woman.

"Last year I entered three pictures and only one was accepted and this year I entered six and three were accepted. Maybe next year all of them will be," said Dale.

Dale, originally from Whitehorse, NWT, is a self-taught artist and has been drawing and painting all her life.

"I remember when I was a little girl I used to sit one of my little sisters in front of me and I'd draw a picture of her, so it's always been something I've loved to do," she said.

"Now I'm just getting into it more professionally."

She took art all through high school and is now taking some courses at a school called Sutton Art in Edmonton.

She's hoping to go back to school after getting some financial aid.

In her art, Dale favors painting, and acrylic paints over oils although they're very similar.

"I try to draw every day. But when I what to do a painting, like a large painting, then I have to sit down and set aside a time and when I do, I usually do one or two that aren't very good and then the third one will turn out very nicely. You have to get into it, warm up a bit."

Much of her inspiration for her art comes from Native culture.

"A lot of the colors I use are Native," says Dale.

"I was at the Native arts and crafts show and I was watching the dancers and I was drawing pictures of them. It was really quite exciting, the colors that they had and the costumes."

She says she is experimenting right now and does not stick only with Native themes.

"I like painting people and when I paint I like to paint color and experiment on how colors relate to each other," she said.

Most of her ideas for her art come from what she sees around her.

"These flowers here are from our garden," she said, pointing to one of her paintings.

"The people that I've painted are people that I know, or that woman in that painting over there was a woman I saw on the bus."

Like many artists, Dale finds painting the "easiest way" for her to express herself.

"It shows. If I'm drawing and upset or if I'm really happy, you can see it in my drawing."

Dale says her family is very supportive.

Her grandfather is an artist also, as well as her mother who is taking a course with Dale at the same school.

Dale says art is what she want to do as a career for the rest of her life.

"I'll probably end up being a waitress or something to support myself, just so I can keep painting," she said,



Artist Dale Mervyn

Leta McNaughton, Windspeaker

laughing.

She says there is a lot of up and coming Native artist who are "really talented," she said. "There's a lot of competition."

She has already sold one picture from her Asum Mena

show in the past few years.

"That was the first picture I've ever sold," she says smiling.

In this year's show, one sold as well.

"It was one of my best," she noted.

The Winning Attitude — By Sylvia A. Gambler

I'm going to compete
I plan to be successful
in everything I do
My dreams will come true
I'm determined to finish
what I have started
I won't take freedom
for granted
I want to be remembered
as the person who lived
to her fullest
I will use all my resources
and use all my courage
to succeed in everything I do

I will get ahead in life
I plan to take risks
I don't need support
I can do it alone
Don't pity me
Be proud of me
I won't let my problems
be the obstacles of my happiness
I won't care if I lose
that won't stop me
from trying again
I plan to be a winner
and make the most out of life

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A Salute to Youth

Youth marathoner wants to inspire Native people

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Ever overhear two fit-looking people discuss "hitting the wall" and wonder what it meant?

"Hitting the wall" refers to the sudden fatigue and weakness felt by the runner in the last few miles.

It happens when the body runs out of glucose and glycogen (carbohydrate sources of energy) stored in the muscles.

After that, willpower and discipline take over and the body burns fat stores and in rare cases, muscle tissues.

Allan Beaver, 24, has hit the wall at least a couple of times in his life, having completed two recognized marathons.

He has come a long way from jogging just to keep in shape and does not know how to give up.

Beaver took up jogging when he was 14-years-old to keep in shape for other sports while living in Desmarais, Alberta.

When he moved to Edmonton four years ago to attend a transfer program at the University of Alberta, he promptly joined the Chasquis Running Club to train for his ultimate goal: to run the Boston Marathon, the most prestigious race in North America.

That's when he got serious about running.

But he also got serious about setting an example for Indian people.

"(I want Native youth) to look at me and say, 'If he can do it, I can do it,'" he said in a recent interview.

"Being a role model is very important to me."

Beaver wants to inspire Native people, to help

them out of their problems, particularly alcohol and drug abuse, because he thinks too many people are hurt by them.

Instead, he is addicted to the camaraderie and healthy lifestyle that comes with sports.

"I think without sports my life would be empty," he added with a solemn face.

Athletes and people must pursue their dreams, not just hope they'll come true, Beaver advised. But they must follow the work ethic, he added, referring to his daily grind of 12 miles "don't give up."

Training for a race takes at least three months of running up to 15 miles a day. Currently he runs 12 miles a day — six in the morning and six in the evening.

But he also does "speed-work" or sprinting to develop speed, and runs up and down hills to build up leg strength and stamina.

Next November the slim, trim Cree may run the New York Marathon, the largest in the world, if he doesn't qualify for his dream run — the Boston Marathon, for which he previously failed to qualify.

Entrants to the Boston marathon must run a previous marathon in under three hours. A marathon is 26 miles and 385 yards long.

His past achievements include finishing the Toronto Marathon in Sept. 1988 and the Vancouver International Marathon before that.

What does he have to show for his athletics? A slim trim physique and over 100 medals and trophies since high school and hundreds of ribbons.

"I've lost count," he

said, grinning proudly.

Beaver experienced some rough times but preferred not to talk about them and concentrated on the next positive step in his life, a dream that he has always had — entering the police force.

After spending a semester at the U of A, he transferred to the Columbia Academy of Radio Arts and Television in Edmonton and spent a year learning radio announcing and copywriting.

Earlier this year he had been upgrading high school courses at the Alberta College but quit when he heard he had been accepted into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to train as a full-fledged constable.

He had applied to the RCMP and was informed he could enter as a special constable. But he wanted to be a constable and took the entrance tests.

"I scored high," he says, smiling.

Now he's off to Montreal to learn basic French for six weeks, though he already knows how to speak Cree.

After that he will go to Regina, Saskatchewan for six months training. By next July he should be a full-fledged constable.

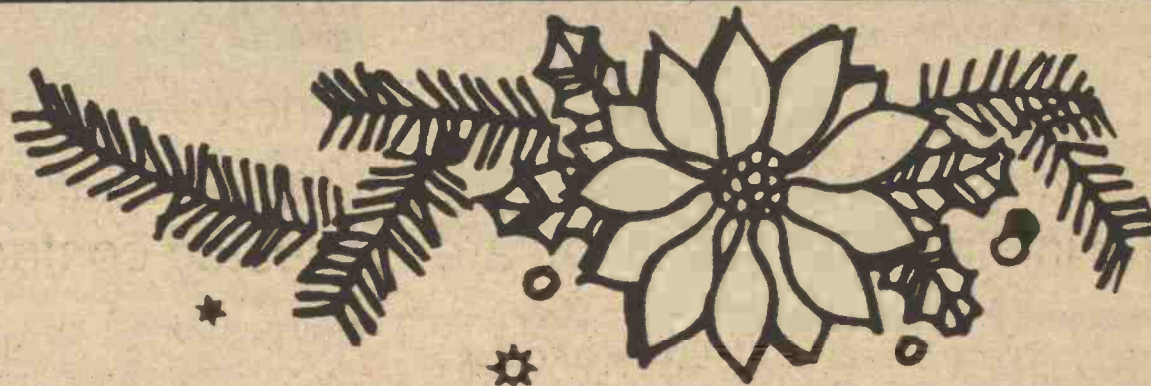
Pearl Calahasen, MLA for Lesser Slave Lake and Mike Cardinal, MLA for Athabasca/Lac la Biche, met with Beaver to congratulate him.

"I'm losing a constituent," joked Calahasen. Native people need more "exemplary constituents" like Beaver as encouragement, she added.

She told him not to forget his roots with Native people. "That's our strength and being proud of your heritage," she said.



Native youth marathoner Allan Beaver



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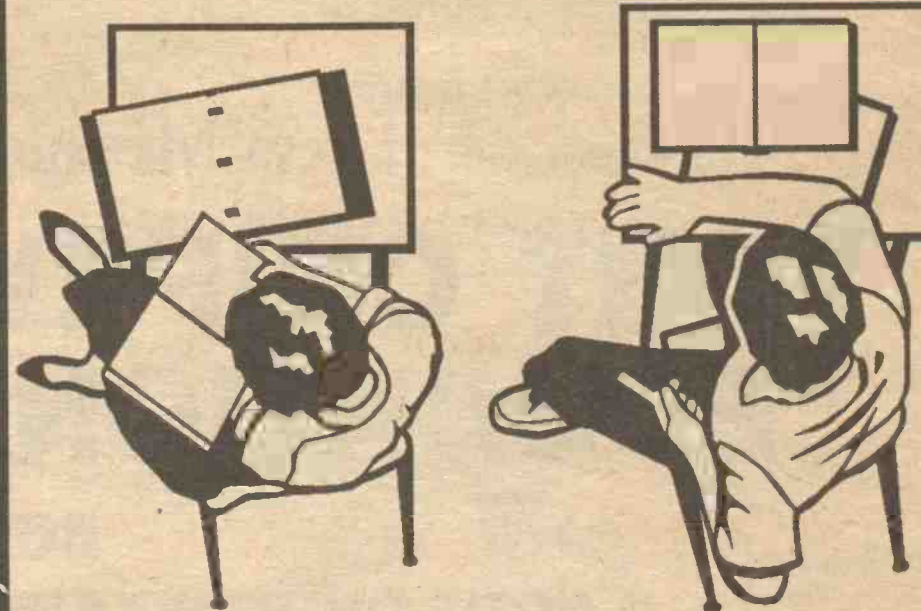
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Community News

Indigenous Games office opens

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

The official opening of the office for the 1990 North American Indigenous Games was held on December 7.

It is the same office which co-ordinated the Universiade Games of 1983.

"This is history in the making!" said John Fletcher as he pointed to the sticker on the door.

"Everyone wanted me to cover it up, but I wouldn't."

There was just a handful of people

present but among those were Travis Dugas, male athlete of the year, Rene Houle, recreation director at the Friendship Centre and Gail Desmeules-Zajac who is chairman of athletics for the Games.

The Games are scheduled for June 30 to July 8, 1990 and will be the first such games ever held.

"So far, we are on schedule for the Games," said Fletcher. "We have 400 rooms rented at the University for the athletes."

However, Games organizers still need, 1000 volunteers who can billet athletes in their homes.

Saddle Lake begins hot lunch program

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SADDLE LAKE, ALTA.

The Saddle Lake School has recently started a soup program for the students.

"It came about when teachers said that 50 percent of the elementary students were not bringing a lunch to school," says Elsy Whiskey Jack, one of the two co-ordinators of the program.

Whiskey Jack and Jenny Cardinal are the co-ordinators of the soup program. They are members of the Parent Advisory Board which was started in the fall.

"It's in its fourth week now," says Whiskey Jack. "We started on Monday, November 13. It was in the planning for two weeks."

She says that it works by volunteers and donations from the community.

"People donate meat: chicken, beef, hamburger, macaroni, rabbit," says Whiskey Jack.

"Alec Whiskey Jack brought us meat from Fish and Wildlife, and Alex Boyda paid for the fixing with them. Eric Large is one of our biggest dona-

tors of food to the program," he noted.

She says that they have 12 classes to feed. The junior high kids deliver the soup to the classes so it's always hot and on time. Then the elementary kids help wash dishes.

"It's all by volunteer. Each week we have two different cooks that come in to cook their own recipes. I show them the kitchen and where everything is," says Whiskey Jack.

"They bring their own tea towels and can openers and everything they need and take them home at the end of the day."

She says the only thing the school has to buy is the fresh vegetables each day.

Whiskey Jack says the soup program is on trial until Christmas and will continue if the communities support is still there.

"If this is any sign (the donations), it will go on for sure. It's been a success so far," she says.

And the program appears to be working. "Teachers say the students are more settled down now and really enjoy the soup. No soup is ever wasted. It's always all gone."

NATIVE ARTISTS

**Wind
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Lillian is married to Jack and has two children. Together with Jack, they have established a self-sustaining Cattle and Sheep operation on the Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement.

Earlier in 1989, Lillian identified a need of the people of the Settlement and surrounding area, and this led to the creation of L&L Chuckwagon. L&L is a mobile canteen service which caters to an assortment of rodeos and outdoor events. In addition, Lillian coordinated a daily route to supply refreshments at local worksites and businesses, as well as providing grocery delivery to seniors and Shut-ins on the settlement. Recently, Lillian established a much desired coffee shop on the settlement.

Settlement Investment Corporation feels Lillian epitomizes the Metis Settlers commitment to service and community as well as the embodiment of entrepreneurship. We wish to extend our congratulations as the recipient of this year's award.

Prizes this year include: Individual trophy plaque- all expense paid trip to Edmonton to attend Federation Award Supper- two nights accommodations at the Sheraton Plaza- Cash, and a S.I.C. Jacket.



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Sports

Peavine Flyers win 1st Federation Cup

Hockey final a 'family affair' between Peavine teams

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Correspondent

ENOCH, ALTA.

It was a family affair when the Peavine Flyers and Peavine Stingers met on the ice to decide who would take home the Federation of Metis Settlements hockey tournament cup.

But it didn't matter to most locals who attended the final game, the cup would be going home with them either way.

Dads, uncles, cousins and brothers faced off against each other after both teams defeated other settlement teams to make it to the finals.

The Federation Cup Hockey Tournament, held at the Enoch arena Dec. 15 to 17, saw seven of the eight Metis Settlements of Alberta, enter teams in the first annual federation hockey tournament.

The only Settlement to not enter a team was Fishing Lake, while Kikino and Peavine both entered two teams.

Reaching for the finals was not easy. Tempers sometimes were high and according to tournament organizer

Ralph Ghostkeeper Jr., the tournament was not without its fights.

"There was individual

knocking around and line fights on the ice and some of our referees took a lot of abuse. I think the refs did a tremendous job but the teams that took part really wanted to win for their individual communities, it caused a lot of tension," he remarked.

Over the three-day event, the Flyers—a junior hockey club—defeated the Elizabeth Oilers and Gift Lake Islanders, while the Stingers, made up of dads, uncles and a few younger players, got by East Prairie and the Kikino Chiefs, to reach the finals.

It was the setting for a great playoff game.

In the first period, the Flyers struck first with a goal and at the 13:43 mark of the second period the junior team went up by two goals.

For awhile the Stingers were forced to play defensive hockey but led by veterans such as Lloyd Gauchier and Terry Gauchier, they continued to play solid hockey.

With just over a minute left in the second period, The Stingers struck with their second goal to tie up the game.

The game opened up in the third period and although both goalies played with their hearts on their sleeves, it was not enough.

The Stingers, happy by their success late in the

second period, than with superb passing, strong defense, managed to score two goals to bring the game to 4-2 and 12 minutes closer to a possible victory.

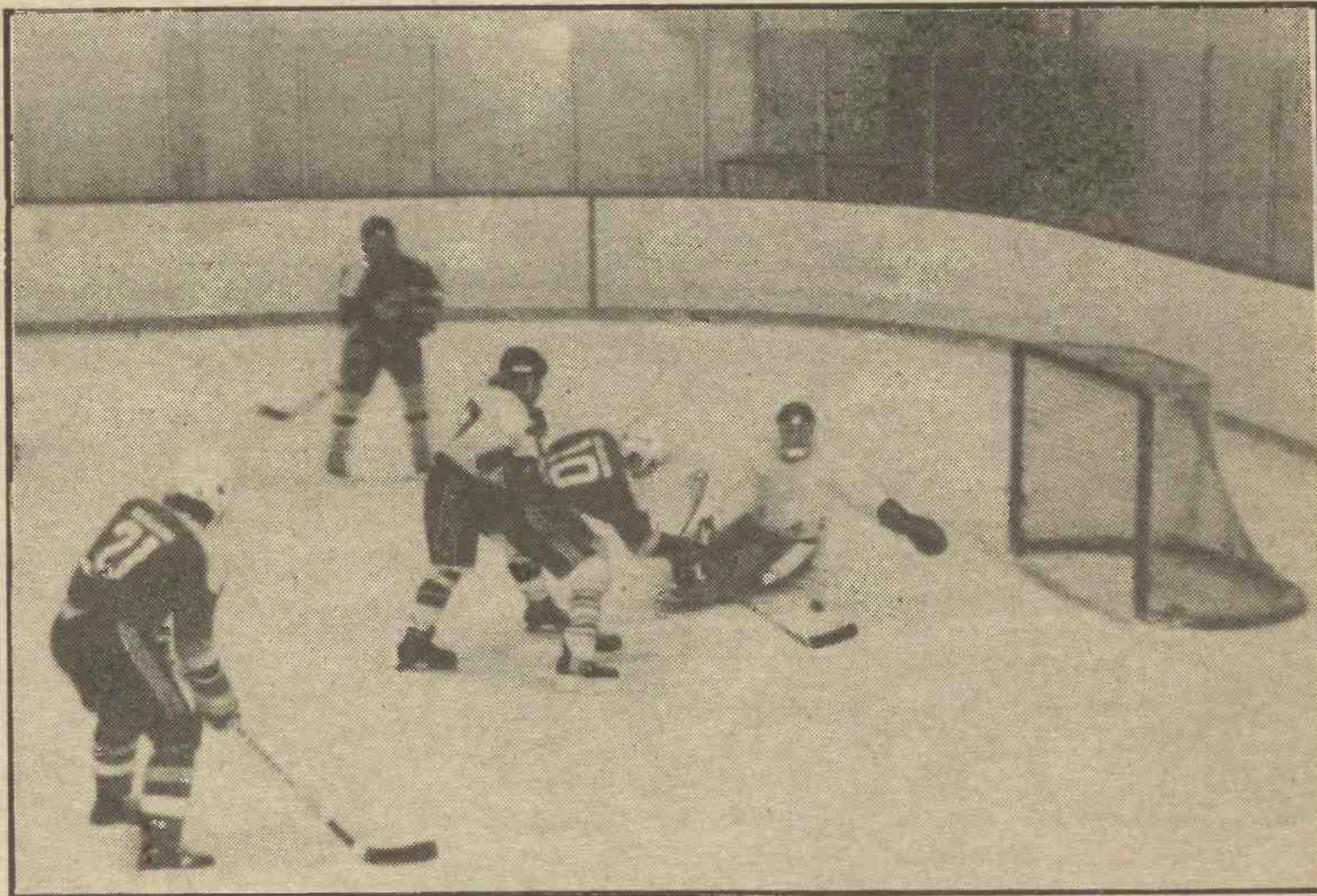
However, the faster junior Flyers saw their chances to win the cup slipping away, and as in the early part of the first period, they used their speed and passing skills to score two goals, the last goal with about two minutes left in the game.

In the last two minutes of the game, it was both goalies again who came to the forefront with remarkable saves. They shutdown the shooters and the game ended in a 4-4 deadlock.

Tournament rules allowed for each team to draw three of their best goal scorers. The championship was to be decided in a shootout.

Out of the six hockey players chosen only one of them got by the goalie and the Peavine Junior Flyers stormed out on to the ice to bury their goalie in bodies, after winning the first annual Federation Cup.

Over on the "B" side of the tournament The Gift Lake Islanders, after defeating East Prairie, the Kikino Nighthawks and the Elizabeth Oilers, met the Paddle Prairie Broncos for the B side championship title. Previously, the Broncos had wins over the



A good chance thwarted

Rocky Woodward, Windspeaker

Buffalo Lakers and the Kikino Chiefs.

The Gift Lake Islanders play great hockey. After the first period they led in the final game 3-0. By the end of the third period and after shutting the door to a powerful comeback by the Broncos, the Gift Lake Islanders lifted the "B" side Federation Cup over their heads, winning the game 5-1.

On the final day, it was splendid hockey. The teams that made it into the finals played hockey as it was supposed to be played.

Individual skating skills, sound defense and offense by each line and great goaltending, led to a great ending to the first Federation of Metis Settlements Cup Tournament.



The Champions!

Rocky Woodward, Windspeaker

Hawks lose player at critical time

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Correspondent

HOBBEEMA, ALTA.

A separated shoulder has sidelined Hobbema Hawks hockey player Layne Gauchier from further games for at least four to six weeks at a time when the Hawks need every available player.

Gauchier was injured on Dec. 16 in an exhibition game against the touring Soviet junior hockey team. The Hawks lost to the Soviets 11-3.

Since the hockey season started in the Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL), the Hobbema Hawks have been struggling. They are presently in the cellar in the South Division, and unless they turn things around soon, they will likely remain there.

According to Gauchier, the team's troubles are not because they lack good offense. Right now, the Hawks have three players that are amongst the league's top ten in goal-scoring.

"I guess we just have to turn things around, maybe work on our defense. I understand we may be receiving some help on the defensive end. I think the team is planning to pick up some players in a trade. We're coming back," commented Gauchier, always optimistic and a fairly good goal scorer himself.

Gauchier got his start playing hockey in High Prairie, near his home at the Metis Settlement of Peavine.

Gauchier's mother Thelma says that her son began playing hockey when he was only two-and-a-half years-old.

"He was playing minor hockey in High Prairie when he was only four," beams his mother proudly.

Now 18, Gauchier gives all the credit to his blooming hockey career to his mother and father, Thelma and Lloyd.

"They're the ones who drove me to all the hockey games when I played in High Prairie. My dad and all my brothers, all play hockey, we're a real hockey family," smiles Gauchier.

At the recent Federation Hockey Cup tournament, held

at Enoch, Gauchier found himself sitting with spectators, something he hadn't done for awhile, while his brothers squared off against, Dad, Lloyd Gauchier and the rest of the Peavine Stingers.

"It was really something to watch. I wanted to play in this tournament but being injured, it's wasn't possible," said Gauchier.

Gauchier is now into his second season with the Hawks, beginning with the team in the '88-89 season.

Prior to playing as a left winger, sometimes centre and defense positions for the Hawks, Gauchier played hockey in Lloydminster, Alberta. After a short stint there he asked for a trade and got it.

Packing his hockey gear, he moved to Red Deer where he joined the Red Deer Rustlers, before being picked up by the Hobbema Hawks.

Although hockey is a big part of his life, Gauchier says the most important thing to him is his education. Presently, he attends school at the Maskwachees College in Hobbema, but his future dream is to attend university "Possibly at Florida State and on a scholarship," says Gauchier.

At the moment, Gauchier says he is not sure what career he will enter.

Every since his mother and father began driving Gauchier and his brothers, 30 miles from Peavine to High Prairie, for hockey practices and games, his goal was to be the best he could be in all sports that he played. When he lived at home he was a part of the Peavine Rangers baseball club and, "I always gave my best."

Today, Gauchier is still giving his best, probably the main reason why he is an important part of the Hawks organization.

From Hobbema to St. Albert to take on the Saints, or from Hobbema to Fort McMurray to take on the Oilers, the travel and long hours does not seem to bother Gauchier.

"We have a lot of road trips and it gets tiresome. But I enjoy going from town to town to play hockey. I may get tired but I never get bored. I love playing hockey," Gauchier concluded.



Layne Gauchier

Rocky Woodward, Windspeaker

Sports

Two be or not two be? Fate by numbers

This week Philadelphia Flyer Tim Kerr wanted to change his jersey number from 12 to 55 because he felt it was cursed with all his injuries. Management refused him on the grounds that it was too showy; i.e. 99 belongs to Gretzky and 66 to Lemieux.

It reminded me of my own number woes. At track meets, hockey games and even in pickup games of football on the weekends, I wore the number 13 in response to the fears and suspicions of my fellow team mates.

I did well and had no sufferings, proving the number was not an ill omen.

But one year, for a change, I adopted number 12 and was promptly injured with a simultaneous rear tackle and a hit from the front — snapping an artery in my nose — before that I had bobbed the ball a lot.

Later, during track practice, I developed a pain in my right ankle and limped everywhere. Later, I changed my number back to 13 and my troubles disappeared. Suspicion or just a bad day? I'll never know.

What I do know is that Native men's volleyball teams should beware of the F.O.C. team sponsored by Alex Carsom's Tire Service just east of Hobbema.

F.O.C. (Friends of Carmine) has two towers of power — middle-blocker Gary Wolfe and power-hitter Carmine Maglioni, who runs and owns the tire service with his ma.

The first half of the Dynamite Duo is Maglioni, who carries 190 pounds on a 6 ft. 1" frame. His vertical jump is 43 inches — making his reach a miraculous nine feet nine inches!

Not including his arm's reach, of course. Wolfe jumps 40 inches high but makes up for it by being two inches taller than Maglioni.

The set-and-spike duo has blasted their way to a number of tournament jackets with their skills. The rest of the all-Native team ranges in age from 19 to 30 and from 5 ft. 10" to 6 ft. 4".

They have captured four tournaments, undefeated, since they began in April, and with no practice! What helps is Maglioni's two years with Red Deer College's team and Wolfe's two years for Grant MacEwan College.

Another team member, Luke Faylant, currently plays for the college. Other team members include Derrick McKay (Rocky), Glen Couillard and Mark Doyle.

The team has captured all four of the tournaments



Sports Beat...

With John Holman

they've attended including Gleichen, Brandon, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and one at Prince Albert last Sunday. The team has won a launderer's nightmare of team jackets and \$5,000.

The best team they've faced so far is from the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College team in Regina.

"They're really good," Maglioni comments, aware that all kings of the mountain are eventually tumbled. "We've come up against them in the last three tournament finals. They don't have the strength enough to beat us yet, but the day might come."

Future tournaments include a national Native competition in Regina on Apr. 7 and 8 as well as one in Hobbema in January sometime. Be warned!

The team has no jerseys or numbers (how about that!), but in college Maglioni took the uniform that every other teammate veered from, number 13.

Genevise, Alberta: The Alexis band is hosting the senior Native hockey provincial championships in the latter part of January or early February.

They get the honor since they won it last season. "Hopefully we will have all the bands from treaties 6, 7 and 8 take part in it," said Dan Alexis, who holds the recreation portfolio.

The band will meet with the Native Hockey Council at Red Deer to discuss it. For more info contact Dennis Cardinal, Dan Alexis or Chris Alexis at 967-2225.

Lesser Slave Lake: The boxing card turned up three winners from Slave Lake. Local fighters Francis Beaver, Jason Yellowknee and Ricky Twin thrilled the crowd with their victories. Clubs came from Fort Saskatchewan, Lac la Biche, Grande Prairie, and Edmonton. Four wins went to Grande Prairie and four to Edmonton's Cougar Club.

"Slave Lake is a good boxing town," spouted Alex Coutorielle, coach for the Slave Lake Boxing Club. About 150 people showed up to entertain themselves and cheer on their fighters — that was a good turnout, considering the Slave Lake Wolves also held a home game in the Junior B hockey league, according to Coutorielle.

Fort Chipewyan: This small sport-minded community is taking a rest over Christmas, but there are plans to get into the swing of things.

The recreation office is hosting the first Senior Men's Gentlemen's Hockey tournament from Jan. 19-21 next year. "Gentlemen's" means no checking. Any teams that are interested can call recreation director Nathan Schultz at 697-3682.

Local minor hockey registration applications are now available at the rec. office and the games begin Jan. 4, 1990.

Coaches and assistant coaches, "people willing to tie skates," jokes Schultz — are desperately in need. Again, the person to call is Schultz at the above number.

A local curling league is also getting under way and the contact is Bill at 1-697-3632. Local residents can also call Allan Fraser.

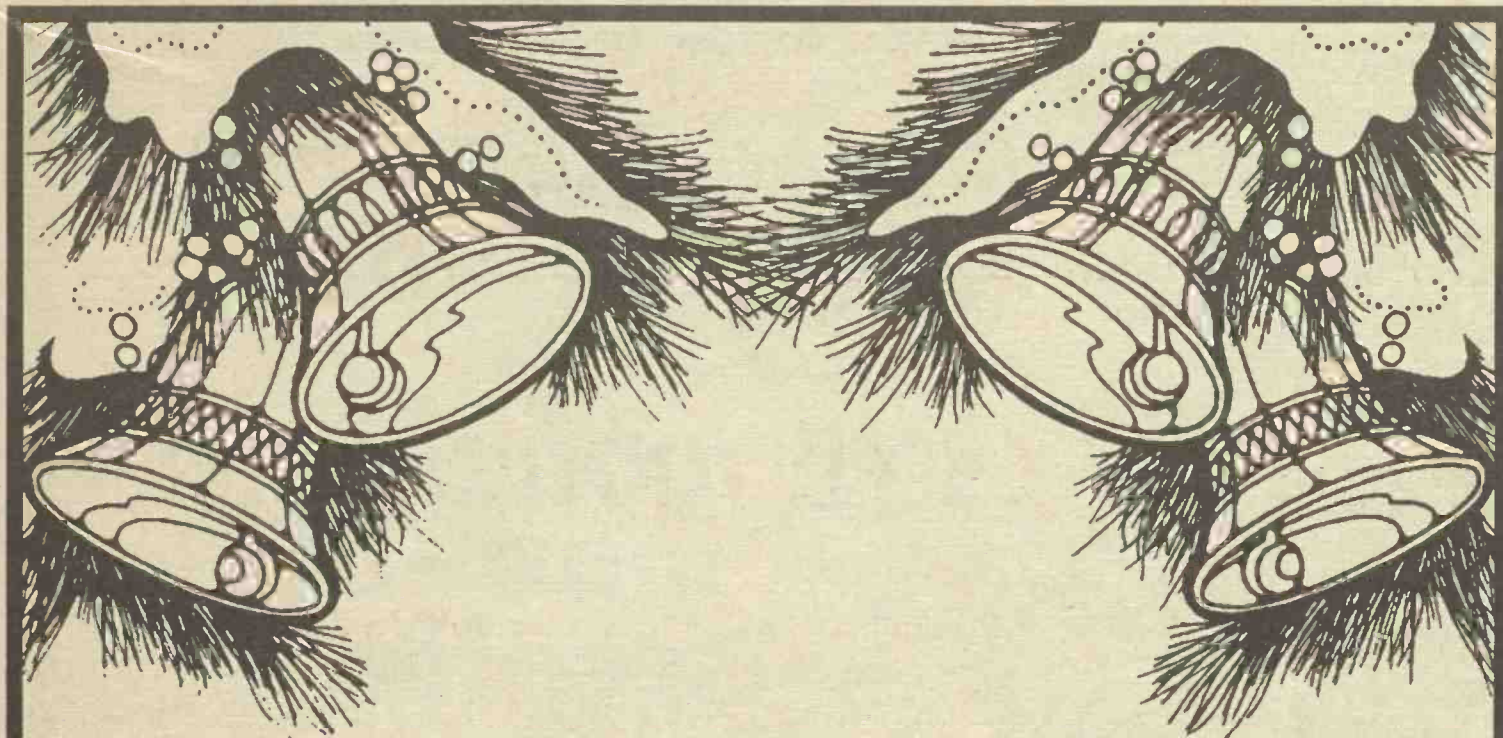
Jack rabbits (Arctic hares?) will be pleased a 30 km cross-country ski trail is being built. A club is soon to follow. Those interested can call Annette Stegehuis at 1-697-3691.

Schultz reminds local spikers, setters and blockers that the volleyball league is on holidays until the New Year, anyone wishing further info. or updates can contact Linda Martin.

Well, I go into that good night, the eve of 1990, with open eyes.

I hope you do, too, and call me at 455-2700 in Edmonton if you have any sports or recreational happenings you'd like to appear in Sports Beat. Keep your eyes out for Indian and Metis athletes too, a lot deserve coverage for their abilities.

It pays to advertise in



Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

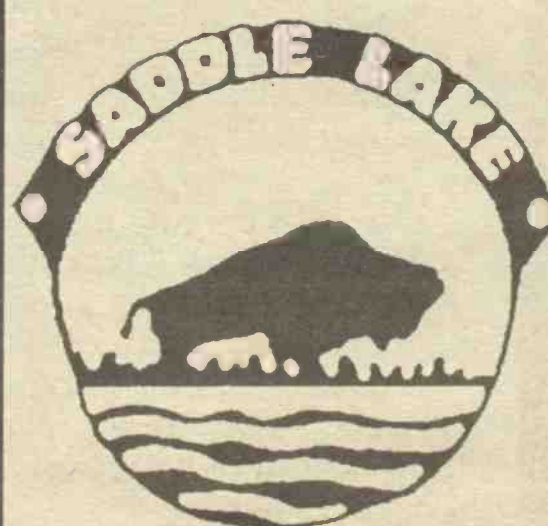
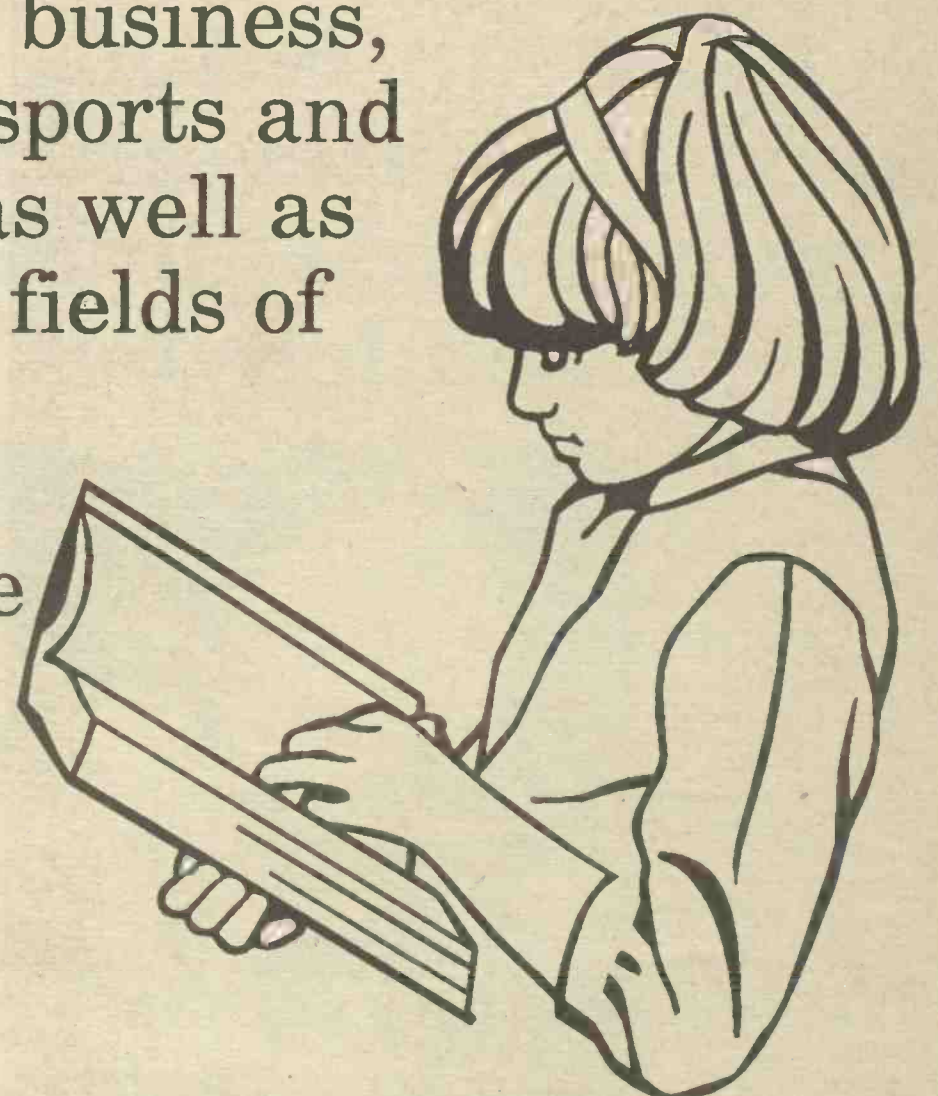


For information on programs, please contact Student Services in Dawson Creek (604) 782-5251 or Fort St. John (604) 785-6981

We honor the youths who have excelled in 1989.

The coming New Year will see our youth gain even further ground in the fields of business, recreation, sports and education, as well as many other fields of endeavour.

We congratulate those who aspired and achieved.



ONCHAMINAHOS HIGH SCHOOL

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Player of the game for each game on January 12 will receive tickets for 2 to the game
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- * 12 Team Limit - Double Knockout
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- January 12 - Friendship Centre
- January 13 - Exhibition Centre
- Admission \$10.00 Per Person
- Advance tickets only
- I.D. May Be Requested

Dene Tha' Ehts-Ande people wish to take this opportunity to extend our congratulations to the youths who have excelled for the school year. Special congratulations to all special achievers. We wish you the best in all your endeavors.



DENE THA' EHTS-ANDE

Box 958
High Level, Alberta T0H 1Z0
Telephone: (403) 321-3940

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Congratulations from Chief Ernie Houle, Council & Band Members.

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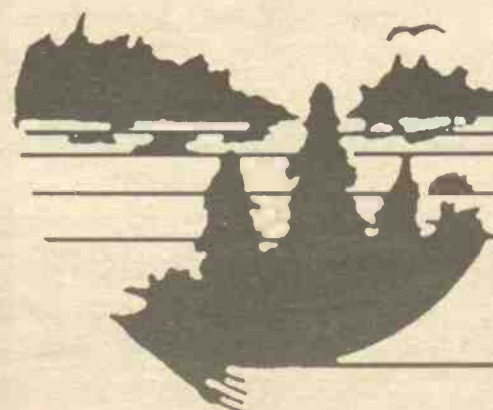


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A Message From Chief Pat Marcell,
Council and Band Members



**ATHABASCA
CHIPEWYAN
BAND 201**

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