

IAA battles cited in upcoming year

By Lesley Crossingham

The Indian Association of Alberta (IAA) has been given strong mandates on several key issues for the upcoming year and President Gregg Smith sees the largest battle being waged against government policies formed to undermine true Indian self-government.

The 44th annual general assembly of the IAA took place at the Eden Valley reserve, one of the two Stoney Tribe reserves, southwest of Calgary June 15, 16 and 17.

In an interview after the final assembly ceremonies a tired but confident Smith says he is optimistic about the upcoming battle.

"We've seen this coming. These discussions have

been going on with the government for almost two years. They consult with us, but then totally ignore us. But, if enough pressure is brought to bear, I think we will see changes."

During the next few months Smith pledges to meet with other Aboriginal groups such as the Assembly of First Nations and the Metis Association of Alberta in order to make a concerted united effort against what he describes as the disastrous undermining of

Indian treaty and Aboriginal rights by the current government.

"There are a lot of things we can do. There has to be pressure and as long as it is steady pressure — united pressure, we can change the situation."

During his address to the assembly on the first day, Smith pointed out to delegates that the federal Conservative government had been the worst government in history.

"And I don't just mean

over Aboriginal matters. Generally, right across the country, they are unpopular, they are weak."

Smith points out that a federal election is due within the next year or so and that a minority government made up of a coalition of the Liberal and New Democratic parties could be formed.

"We have to lobby all politicians. We have to inform them of the Conservative government which has consistently

molded legislation and policy aimed at undermining Aboriginal rights."

Smith expressed concern over the Meech Lake Accord, which he says gives far too much power to the provinces and in many ways precludes the amendment to the constitution which would allow for true self-government.

"We cannot have genuine self-government without that amendment and now

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Wind speaker

June 26, 1987

Volume 5 No. 16

Welfare control may be shifted

By Dianne Meili

Control of Native child welfare should be shifted to Native reserves and settlements, recommends a report to the provincial government.

The report comes three years after Richard Cardinal, a 16-year old Metis foster child, hanged himself. The suicide sparked a review of Native child welfare services in Alberta.

On Tuesday, Social Services Minister Connie Osterman announced her department is agreeable to the transferral, considering past government efforts had failed.

Though the minister is still ultimately responsible for welfare services "whatever is necessary for the delivery of these services will be in the hands of Natives themselves," explained Maggie Hodgson, member and spokesman for the working group which represented the

should be made in three years to monitor progress made regarding the Native child welfare situation.

In reference to the first two directives, Hodgson pointed out several Indian bands have already been given responsibility for child welfare and "the success has been very positive because children are kept in their own environment."

Regarding the nebulous term "native" used in the Child Welfare Act, Hodgson points out that it makes no distinction between Treaty, Metis and non-status Indians. Foster children must be recognized as having distinct identities, so that proper placement can be made accordingly, she added.

It is also recommended that assistance to foster parents be adjusted. The committee heard "on repeated occasions, concerns about the need for families receiving a fair and equitable form off assistance when caring for dependent children from extended family" the report states.

Hodgson hopes the government will adopt the recommendations in the report and that special attention will be paid to the suggestion of an evaluation process in three years to ensure that directives are being implemented.

"Other commissions have been in place to recommend guidelines for child welfare and nothing really was done," Hodgson said. She added she would also like to see the report guidelines designated as policies so that they will be strictly adhered to by all involved.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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Lots of sun and smiles at Awasis Day celebration

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National arts group to open at Calgary
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Pro ball in future for young Indian?
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Golf season is in full swing
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LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

Hoop dancer Jerome Youngchief and son, Kevin, teamed up to entertain the Heart Lake crowd. A mini-powwow was part of Heart Lake's 7th annual Treaty Days which was held last weekend. See story and pictures on Page 12.

--Photo by John Morneau Gray

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

National Aboriginal groups getting phased out

OTTAWA — Funding for the Aboriginal groups who attempted to negotiate the entrenchment of self-government at the recent First Ministers Conference is being curtailed. Representatives of the Inuit, Metis, and non-status Indians say they are at various stages of shutting down shop.

The Metis National Council has already closed its office. The staff of four at the Inuit Committee on National Issues will be laid off at the end of this month. The Native Council of Canada, who represent non-status Indians, say their staff will be cut in half after six staff members will be let go.

Only the Assembly of First Nations, representing status Indians, will be able to keep a staff of constitutional experts because it has legally assured funding.

Although Prime Minister Brian Mulroney says that negotiations on self-government are still possible, many say the wind down in funding was not expected and that it underlines where Native issues have slipped down on the prime minister's agenda.

Mini-series about Metis hits national television

A four-part series about Metis history over the past 200 years entitled "Daughters of the Country," has recently aired on Superchannel.

The film, produced by Norma Bailey, won the top award at the International Festival of Films by Women this year.

"Daughters of the Country" features a huge cast of professional and amateur Metis actors. Two familiar names are Tantoo Cardinal (Loyalties) and Dianne Debassige (of CBC's Spirit Bay). Another familiar name, but not for acting, is Harry Daniels, a veteran Metis politician.

"Daughters of the Country" has unconfirmed plans to air on CBC-TV prime time in about six months.

Chief held in B.C. prison, fighting deportation to U.S.

American Indian leader Robert Satiacum has been held in a B.C. prison for the past three and a half years, fighting deportation to the United States.

The hereditary chief of the Puyallup Tribe in Tacoma, Washington was convicted of 42 racketeering charges in 1982 by U.S. authorities, who claim that Satiacum failed to pay sales tax on businesses making him a multi-millionaire.

Satiacum opened a business in 1970 selling cigarettes out of a tent and using a cigar box as a cash register on the Puyallup reserve. His business activities expanded to include a liquor store, nightclub, fireworks shop and gambling club. When the U.S. Internal Revenue Service began hounding him to pay sales tax on his businesses, he argued that an 1854 Treaty signed with the government protected the Indian right to restricted commerce and "free trade," the loophole he basis his defense on.

ABC Network hires Indian as feature reporter

An Idaho Nez Perce, Hattie Kauffman, 32, has a new job. She's a feature reporter on ABC-TV's Good Morning America.

Kauffman was born in Grangeville, Idaho, but she was raised in Seattle, Washington where she became a top TV news anchor woman. She also worked on an Indian radio news program in Minnesota, a television program called Native Vision in Tacoma before going to New York's Good Morning America.

One of her first assignments was a story on an Oklahoma town that didn't allow dancing. Her travelling schedule is hectic. She's flew to Chicago, then Mississippi, then to Arizona, then to Mexico, all in one week. One day she had to fly to Washington state, then back to Washington, D.C. in one day.

Government blamed as saying

Indians have to tough it out

By Lesley Crossingham

The president of the Indian Resource Council blasted government for its "Thatcherism" and likened the deputy minister to Adolf Eichmann, the notorious Nazi commander executed for his part of atrocities committed against Jews during the Second World War.

In a scathing attack on recent policies, Joe Dion, president of the Indian Association from 1977 to 1980, called upon delegates to form a unified front against recent policy changes.

"It's the old right-wing attitude. It's Thatcherism transported from England," he says.

Margaret Thatcher is the British Prime Minister who recently won a third term of office. Thatcher has been dubbed the Iron Lady for her strong stand against socialism and public spending.

"The attitude of our government now is 'Indians



JOE DION
...blasts DIA

have to tough it out, Indians have to pay their way.' The government wants to put money where it makes them popular," he added.

Dion urged Indian people to become more vocal and to take a lesson from other Aboriginal peoples.

"How do the Blacks in South Africa make their feelings known? They get attention by throwing stones. That is how they get the attention of the

international media. I am not suggesting we throw rocks, but we have to put on some resistance and start getting our people organized. People power is the only thing these people understand," he added.

Dion explained that the Indian Resource Council was formed to lobby and to keep resource-rich bands informed of government policies on resources. The council was formed shortly after a report written by Dion for the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA) in 1984 was leaked to the media.

The report detailed DIA mismanagement of Indian resources, and shortly after, the report was published in the "Kainai News" in February 1986 and then the Edmonton Journal, the task force was formed.

Dion is still critical of Indian Minerals West, the department within DIA which oversees Indian resources.

"Very often Indian people who own those resources

have been taken for a ride by the Department and the oil companies," he complained. "Then the Indian nations have been penalized for money mismanaged by Indian Minerals. There was mismanagement of about \$3 to \$4 million of Stoney money alone, because they (DIA) are not watching what was going on."

Now the council oversees the operation of Indian Minerals West and inspects contracts and negotiations conducted with independent oil companies on behalf of the Indian Nations says Dion.

"The department did not want such an organization formed but we are here and we will continue to watch over Indian Minerals West," adds Dion.

Dion will continue negotiations with the government during the next year and will be investigating certain legislation, such as the Transfer Act, which transferred jurisdiction of resources to the provinces.



OTTAWA REPORT

By Owenadeka

A new report was released recently on the subject of battered women and it reminded me of a line in an old Humphrey Bogart movie: "The only thing a dame understands is a slap in the face or a slug from a .45."

That cave-man approach was not just the way tough-guys like Bogart sometimes handled their women in the movies. It was also the way that tough-guys and a lot of other not-so-tough guys were supposed to handle their women in real life. The thinking, if you can call it that, is that violence is not only a perfectly legitimate way for men to deal with women, it's also the most effective way for a man to make sure a woman will do what he says.

The trouble is that this kind of thinking is not restricted to the movies. Hollywood didn't invent wife-beating. It just made the problem worse because it reinforced macho attitudes on the subject. I can remember, for example, hearing men joke that it's a man's duty to beat his wife -- that he should beat her regularly, whether she needs it or not.

And it was only five years ago, when Margaret Mitchell stood up in the House of Commons to announce that ten per cent of Canadian women were beaten by their husbands. The Members of Parliament -- almost all of them men -- snickered and laughed. The incident triggered an angry reaction that changed public attitudes. I think people know, finally, that you just can't laugh out loud at the mention of wife-beating because it just isn't funny anymore.

Which finally brings me around to the wife-battering report. The report is titled "Battered But Not Beaten... Preventing Wife Battering in Canada." It was published by the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

The report did not concentrate on individual horror stories but it did provide a few chilling and sorry insights into the lives of battered women, as told by the women themselves: "I was hit plenty by my husband over the years. I had a couple of concussions, broken ribs and I'm still deaf in one ear from him always hitting on that side of my head. But you can't understand what I went through if you only talk about the beatings... The thing that's most hurting for me is the way he makes me feel so dirty, so filthy... He tells me I'm ugly and worthless.

Opinion shapers should focus on wife battering

He spits on me. Sometimes I think the hitting is better than being made to feel so low."

The 120-page report includes a two-page section on Native women. But the only hard fact in that section is that 15 per cent of the women in shelters are Native women. Although the report doesn't come right out and say so, a little arithmetic would seem to show that Native women are beaten at a rate that is five times the national average.

The report is also pretty vague when it comes to suggesting workable solutions in the Native community. That's partly because the report admits that the situation of Native women differs considerably from non-Native women. For example, the report points out that physical violence is an accepted and inevitable part of Native life. It also says that Native people don't like going to court or to the police.

The report says that since alcohol is usually involved, Native women don't blame the men who beat them so much as they blame the alcohol. It says that many Native women defend the actions of Native men because all Native people have been victimized by society. Here's how one Native woman explained it: "You can talk about men being powerful in our society if you want, but you're not talking about my husband. My husband's never had any power in his whole life. He was born poor. He was born Indian. He's never felt better than anyone. He's never felt better than me. It's because he's so low that he hits me."

Only a few Native groups are trying to do something about the problem. That's why Native leaders and opinion-shapers should begin focusing attention on this issue.

We as Native people need to look into the mirror of family violence and face up to the ugly reality so that we can begin the healing process. We have to stop leaning on the crutch of Native alcoholism and Native powerlessness because there is no excuse for beating wives, husbands or children. We won't solve the problem of family violence until we admit there is a problem and start to talk about it. It's too bad the report on battered women won't be much help but like a lot of other problems we face as Native people, it's something we've just got to begin to do for ourselves.

Provincial

Blue Quills students reunite after 10 years

By Diane Parenteau

ST. PAUL — This year marked ten years since the first Blue Quills Morning Star class graduated from the two year program.

Saturday June 20, some of the 18 who completed it were reunited at the graduation-reunion celebrations.

The Morning Star Program was set up jointly by the now defunct Alberta Indian Education Centre and the University of Alberta. The Blue Quills Native Education Council picked up the program.

For one year, Morning Star was the only post-secondary program at Blue Quills.

"This program broke a log jam in Native University Education," says John Gray, past coordinator of field experience for Morning Star. "Before that there weren't many going through."

"Professors came out from the University of Alberta to deliver courses rather than the students going there," says Sharon Steinhauer, support staff for the program.

"It was the first time there was a program of this kind, where education was



MORNING STAR & CLERK TYPIST REUNION: (Front row) Gloria McGilvery & Jan Pedersen; (2nd row) Shirley Gambler, Alice Steinhauer, Liz Poitras & Sue Dion; (Back row) Theresa Cardinal, Pat Makokis, Mary Collins, John Gray, Sharon Steinhauer (support staff).

delivered in their home environment," Gray adds. In 1975, 33 students started the program. By the second year, only 26 remained -- 18 of those completed and received an interim teaching certificate from the Department of Education.

"That certificate allowed us to teach for five years but within that five years, we had to pick up five full courses," says Morning Star graduate Liz Poitras. Poitras went directly to the

U of A and received her bachelor of education degree in 1978, convocating in November.

"Quite a number of the students went on to the U of A and bypassed the five year plan," says Poitras.

Mary Collins graduated from Racette School in St. Paul in 1965 and was a resident at Blue Quills School for all 12 of her grade school years. "Blue Quills was my second home," says Collins.

She attended and completed the Morning Star in 1977, worked for one year, then entered the U of A for two years. She received her bachelor's in education and is presently working on her masters.

Now, 15 of the 18 Morning Star graduates have university degrees and two others are pretty close," says Gray.

Morning Star, which means a new beginning, ran for three cycles.

Lubicon Olympic boycott

Heated debate at IAA meeting

By Lesley Crossingham

A long, heated and at times emotional debate on the participation of Indian nations in the Calgary winter olympic games dominated the final day of the Indian Association of Alberta (IAA) annual assembly.

Several delegates wanted explanations regarding the IAA stand on the Lubicon Lake Cree Band's 47-year old land claim and several demanded the immediate boycott of the olympic games in support of the Lubicon band. Lubicon Lake band Chief Bernard Ominiyak for a boycott of the games and the Glenbow museum "Spirit Sings" exhibition of Native artifacts in support of their outstanding land claim.

In an impassioned plea, Treaty 7 vice-president Narcisse Blood explained that in many ways his hands are tied.

"I have tremendous respect for Chief Bernard Ominiyak. He has tremendous courage and he has

everything to lose. It hurts to be a fence sitter for too long, the price is tremendous."

Treaty 7 bands have supported the Lubicon Lake land claim, but have failed to support the boycott. Several Treaty 7 members have undertaken contracts with the Olympic organizing committee, including Chief Leo Youngman of the Blackfoot band, who is organizing an international powwow.

"I haven't made any statement. We don't have to sacrifice unity, because we need it now more than ever," added Blood.

After further discussion a motion was made by Peter Manywounds Sr. in support of the Lubicon Lake Cree band's land claim and the boycott of the Glenbow museum's exhibition of Native artifacts.

Chief John Snow, one of three Stoney Chiefs, then addressed the meeting and called for restraint.

"The Olympics are coming into the Treaty 7 area and this would weaken the

association's position on land claims. Even after the olympics we will have to deal with those land claims and there could be a backlash again us."

The Stoney tribe is planning a large powwow to be held at the Good Stoney arena during the Olympics.

A vote was taken, with 17 people voting for the resolution, 5 people against and 48 abstentions.

Chairman Peter Manywounds Jr. dismissed the resolution, saying the wording was obviously not what the people wanted to hear.

In an interview after the meeting IAA President Gregg Smith said he supported the boycott against the Glenbow museum, but felt the assembly made the right decision not to fully boycott the games themselves."

He pointed out that the Association had already passed a motion supporting the Lubicon Lake band's land claim.

"We are concerned

about the Glenbow exhibition," explained Smith. "We understand there are many ancient articles that they refuse to return to the people. These articles are very old and very special. We cannot support such an exhibition."

Smith referred to a recent Windspeaker story, which appeared in January, with details of the artifacts expected to be shown during the exhibition. A detailed list, obtained by Windspeaker, included several delicate and sacred artifacts such as the headdress of the holy woman of the sundance, several medicine bundles and several naval amulets. The sacred headdress of Chief Poor Man, of the Poor Man reserve, was also listed along with several robes and peace pipes.

Glenbow officials have consistently stated that the artifacts are not sacred, but Elders contacted by Windspeaker indicate they are.

PROVINCIAL NEW BRIEFS

AIDS could have devastating effect on Native communities

Although there haven't been any reported AIDS cases in Alberta's Native population, Indian Association of Alberta (IAA) vice-president Lawrence Courtoreille says, "I'd be very concerned if the AIDS (virus) started to hit the Indian communities."

"It never ceases to amaze me -- the type of diseases that follow the whiteman," says Courtoreille, "TB and smallpox that almost wiped us out, then cancer and other diseases."

Recently, Manitoba health experts said the first AIDS-related death of a Native is reason for alarm in the northern community.

The director of the IAA says he's watching the AIDS issue very closely.

Austrian accuses Lubicon of using AIM tactics

An Austrian museum curator has charged that American Indian Movement (AIM) tactics are "very much apparent" in the Lubicon Lake Olympic boycott.

He claims that "the Lubicons themselves certainly would not have had this idea" and goes even further by saying, "their advisor (Fred Lennarson) is a former AIM employee and even if he was not, this is a strategy...practised by AIM in the U.S.A. in the '70s."

Christian Feest, who is the curator of the Museum for Volkerkunde in Vienna, defined the AIM strategy as "looking not for compromise but confrontation to create a media event."

Lennarson says that Feest's claims are "completely untrue," adding that, "I am not now, nor have I ever been employed by AIM in the United States or any place else. Neither have I ever had any other kind of relationship with AIM."

The Lubicon advisor responded to the suggestion that the Lubicon Lake people "didn't initiate and neither understand nor control their own Olympic boycott is incredibly condescending, insulting and a gross underestimation."

School celebrated Indian culture by making a totem pole

Students at Edmonton's Edith Rogers junior high school erected a 21-foot totem pole that they built themselves. Every year the school has multicultural celebrations, and this year they are focussing on Native Canadians.

The 21-foot log was brought in from British Columbia. Carving had to begin immediately while the log was still wet. The students worked in shifts, six students at a time, until 7 or 8 p.m. and on weekends using only chisels and mallets. The totem pole was completed in 14 days.

The totem displays traditional Native symbols mixed in with the students own ideas.

Leduc boxer suing Alberta Amateur Boxing Association

Grant Burwash of Leduc is suing the Alberta Amateur Boxing Association for \$100,000. Burwash claims the association failed to ensure the fight was judged fairly.

The bout in question took place at the Edmonton's Canadian Native Friendship Centre on April 26. Burwash took to the ring with Fort McMurray's Brent Marchand in the Alberta championship title, when Burwash was allegedly hit by a low blow. Referee Joe McGowan stopped the fight since Burwash was unable to go on. A tally of the score up to that point gave Marchand a split decision over Burwash.

Marchand went on to represent Alberta at the Canadian Finals and won.

IAA official warns of corporate plan

By Lesley Crossingham

A three-man "dictator-like" committee armed with widespread powers and the ability to control the purse strings of every Indian nation has been put into place by the federal government warns IAA official, Peter Many Wounds Jr.

In an emotional address at the assembly on the new corporate plan released by the Department of Indian Affairs recently, Many Wounds demanded that all DIA officials immediately leave the room.

Department official, Robert Laboucane, based in Edmonton was the only DIA official in attendance and after his removal, Many



MANYWOUNDS
...warns IAA

Wounds explained that many of his comments would be frank and to the point.

Many Wounds explained that according to the new DIA corporate plan, a three-man steering committee comprised of Associate Deputy Minister Fred Drummy, chairman; the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance and Professional Services and Assistant Deputy Minister of Human Resources, has been structured and effectively controlled more power than the minister of Indian Affairs, Bill McKnight, himself.

"These people have a mandate to control 5,500 person years, resources of approximately \$256 million, plus capital assets, along with administration of alternative funding arrange-

ments, provided year by year. And the total amount of these monies is to be transferred to Alberta tribes," he says.

In a seven page analysis of the corporate plan, Many Wounds explains that local DIA officials can only provide advice and direction to the Steering Committee. Only the Steering Committee, without any consultation with the minister, would make final decisions for all Indian nations right across the country.

"Dennis Wallace, (Alberta Regional Director General) has no control over the process, all the power lies with the committee," says Many Wounds.

IAA

From Page 1

that power has gone to the provinces," complained Smith.

Smith joins his voice with that of former prime minister Pierre Trudeau in labelling Prime Minister Mulroney as weak and ineffective.

"We saw that in the First Ministers' Conference, where Mulroney made plans and when they didn't sail, blamed the whole situation on the provinces. It was his fault. He was to blame," says Smith.

Smith reiterated his statements on the role of the IAA made shortly after his election last year.

"I see the IAA not as a voice in itself but as a lobbyist, as a representative of the bands in Alberta. We will take direction from the bands, not the other way 'round."

Smith, at 36, is the youngest president of the association and is determined to continue the open-style government of the IAA and maintain a close working relationship with the media.

"We want to assist the bands in obtaining self-government -- it has to be a decision of the community. Our position is to help where possible. To help form the basic model."

Smith feels the government still wishes to promote the "Sechelt" model of self-government based on a municipal style of self-determination.

"The choice is the bands'. If they wish to pursue it we will assist. But I think we can do better than this style. But we may have to fight for it."

However, Smith feels his greatest challenge this year will be to fight the devolution and the new power structure of the Department and in particular the three-man steering committee.

"We are in the social envelope and that is why our programs and services are so often cut. We are an easy target. And this is not surprising because the deputy minister is Bruce Rawson, who tried to cut our health agreement when he was deputy minister of Health and Welfare in 1979. If there is any one person whose policies are delib-

erately destructive, it is Bruce Rawson," says Smith.

During the final day, a resolution was passed to include a constitution amendment to the IAA's bylaws which would increase the term of the president from two to four years. The resolution will be discussed and voted on at the next annual assembly scheduled to take place in the Treaty 8 area.

A band council resolution by the Fort McMurray band to hold the assembly in the Fort Vermilion area next year was discussed. A decision will be made during a Treaty 8 meeting later this month.

Other resolutions passed during the final day included a resolution regarding Treaty Indian veterans made by Percy Potts and Terry Newborn. The resolution indicated new government policies regarding veterans has come into effect and there was a need for workshops and discussion on the new guidelines.

A resolution on the high drop-out rate of high school students was made in order to carry out a study on why

Indian children quit school at a much higher than average rate.

Health Committees of ten tribes have been funded by Medical Services and 35 tribes are precluded from participation. The lack of funding has created many problems on these reserves and the IAA has been directed to lobby for extra funding.

Another resolution on the "Memorandums of Understanding," signed between the federal and provincial governments on Indian issues, was made. The IAA was directed to convey complete displeasure and disagreement with this activity to both levels of government.

A resolution on the care and maintenance of Treaty Indian children was introduced because the federal government is currently in the process of formulating a new child welfare policy. The IAA was directed to demand the Department of Indian Affairs commence immediate consultation with Alberta Indian governments prior to any formulation of a new child welfare policy.

In his analysis, Many Wounds asserts that the main objective of the corporate plan is the downsizing of the department and the devolution of programs. The department undertakes to transfer programs and service delivery, called devolution, to the control of the bands. However, Many Wounds points out that only administration control will be transferred to the bands. Policy, legislative and financial control will remain with the department.

Some sections of DIA control will not be transferred. These include the Minister's residual responsibilities under the Indian Act and other legislation, remaining administration functions and the administration of financial transfers to Indian tribes.

The proposed transfer does not include the establishment and funding of Indian child care agencies, the transfer of policing -- now handled by the RCMP, Indian and Inuit management development programs, and the Indian Economic development fund.

The report goes on to point out that the transfer of programs and services and alternative funding arrangements will be implemented with full consultation with Indian nations. The report also indicates that wherever possible, DIA staff will also be transferred.

"When a tribe does not want to take the DIA official, the tribe will lose those person years," says Many Wounds. "They (DIA) are putting their own officials before the people they are supposed to be serving."

Many Wounds accused the government of including several "well-worded traps" such as: the fact that tribes

will not receive increases in funding after devolution has occurred; no program enhancement plans are allowed; complete program transfers are preferred over selected sections of services within programs.

"This corporate plan sets a blue-print to force tribal governments into preparing them for a lesser level of government than they have been seeking. The whole thrust is to force us to adopt policies of only administrative control," he says.

In an interview after the discussions, President Gregg Smith said he felt the whole thrust of the department was to again follow the infamous Neilson Task Force paper which advocated the dissolution of the Department of Indian Affairs and the transfer of jurisdiction for Indian nations to the provinces.

"If there is one person whom I blame, it is (Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs) Bruce Rawson. He is the same person who tried to deprive Indian people of the right to health care when he was deputy minister of Health and Welfare. He hasn't changed," says Smith.

Smith also pointed out that former Department of Indian Affairs Minister, David Crombie, had been quite approachable and in cases where Indian people had received unacceptable treatment from officials, they had approached the minister.

"These officials have circumnavigated this process. The minister is now just a figurehead," he adds.

Many Wounds was speaking on the second day of the three-day IAA annual assembly held on the Eden Valley reserve, one of two Stoney Indian tribe reserves, southwest of Calgary.

Ten new members elected to board

By Lesley Crossingham

Ten members were elected to the Board of Directors for the IAA during the final day of the annual assembly held in Eden Valley June 15, 16 and 17.

As results were reported, a tie for one board position in the Treaty 7 area between former treasurer Frances Weaselfat and Alfred Dixon was announced.

In accordance with IAA bylaws the two names were placed in a hat and a one extra vote was given to the name drawn. Alfred Dixon's name was chosen and he was awarded an extra vote.

Treaty 6 candidates

were: Richard Arcand 21, Wilson Bearhead 14, Peter Bird 42*, Terry Newborn 39, Louise Raine 54*, John Samson 68*, Eric Shirt 28, Jim Small 32.

Treaty 7 candidates: Andrew Bear Robe 37, Rengena Crowchild 47*, Lionel Crowshoe 25, Kathleen Poucette 32, Floyd Smith 52*, Jim Wells 39, Al Dixon 42*, Frances Weaselfat 41.

Treaty 8, by Acclamation: Bernard Meneen, Harry Laboucane, Robert Cree.

The new board members were elected to a two-year term. The first board meeting takes place in early July.

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Urban Indians recognized

New-status rep comes on board

By Lesley Crossingham

New-status Indians, who recently received status through Bill C-31 and who are predominantly urban dwellers, are to be represented on the Board of the Indian Association of Alberta (IAA) by a non-voting appointee.

A resolution was made to include "urban Indian" involvement in the association during the final day of the IAA annual assembly after several new status delegates had addressed the meeting calling upon the association to recognize their rights.

Russell White, a former Native Council of Canada (Alberta) director and founder of his own organization for new status Indian people, New Status Indian Confederation of Alberta, says he felt the resolution did not go far enough.

"This resolution does nothing for us," he said in an interview. "We are in need of off-reserve housing, full Treaty rights and other programs."

However, White added that although the resolution does not go as far as he had hoped, it was a step in the right direction.

"Next year (at the next annual assembly) you will see more involvement of new status Indians at the association. We are making inroads."

Several new status people attended the three-day assembly including Lawrence Willier and Teresa Bone, both former members of the Native Council of Canada.

Willier, who ran for the position of Board member, said he felt the resolution was a good first step.

"My band has accepted me back, but I still live in the city. There are a lot of urban Indians now and we have special problems."

Willier pointed out that the fear expressed two years ago when Bill C-31, which amended the Indian Act to include Indian people who had lost status rights, was exaggerated.

"We are all going back to our reserves and we are fitting in. There are no hard feelings and no resentment."

Willier added that he felt comfortable in the annual meeting and had in fact been nominated in a board position.

During discussion of the resolution, Blackfoot band administrator, Andrew Bear Robe, who is also the chairman of Calgary's Urban Aboriginal Affairs Committee, pointed out that the resolution would be a "good way to work toward unification."

"We at the Urban Affairs Committee have been requested by the New Status Indian Association of Alberta to try to resolve the situation of urban Indians. I think this resolution would help resolve the situation and help my committee deal with this organization."

However, Board member, Regena Crowchild felt the resolution would weaken unity within the association.

"I have no objections to meet and express opinions with urban Indians. But by splitting our board into urban and reserve Indians we are weakening our position. The Indian Association still represents our membership regardless of where they live."

However, Bear Robe replied that non-recognition of the new status urban groups would only encourage splinter groups.

"They already accuse the Association of ignoring them and they have already formed several splinter groups. This is not unity," he urged.

The resolution stated that approximately 30 per cent of Treaty Indian people live off-reserve and that the Association desires to address the unique problems of the urban Indian.

The new board member will be appointed on a trial basis and will not be given voting privileges. After a one year trial, and if the appointment "proves to be beneficial to the organization

and urban Treaty Indian people" the association will consider altering the bylaws to enable permanent urban Treaty Indian representation on the board.

In an interview after the closing ceremonies, IAA President Gregg Smith said he felt the inclusion of the new board member would prove to be beneficial to the association and the membership as a whole.

"The new board will be meeting in July to appoint the new board member and we will take it from there," he says.

Smith however is cautious about the new appointee and says the one year trial period will be necessary before making the position permanent. But, whether the appointee will be

allowed voting privileges after the one year trial will be up to the board to decide he added.

The assembly of approximately 400 voting delegates voted on the resolution which passed by 53 votes for the resolution and ten votes against.

Bill C-31 was a federal bill that amended the Indian Act to give back Treaty and Indian status rights to Indian people who had lost them after marrying non-Indian people. The controversial legislation passed into law in 1985 drew criticism from several western Indian nations as it was felt that the government would not be transferring additional funds to bands who would be receiving many new members.



RUSSELL WHITE
...critical of resolution

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Windspeaker is a weekly publication of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta. Windspeaker is published every Thursday at 15001 - 112 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 2V6, Phone: (403) 455-2700.

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Editorial

Native child welfare kids must be heard

It's good to see the government reacting positively to a report put together by a working committee regarding Native child welfare services.

And it's fitting to hear a member of the working committee say that, at all times during the child welfare study, the interests of the foster children themselves were kept as top priority -- not the interests of adults or society in general.

This same committee member was the child of an alcoholic and left to run loose...and her childhood was often unsettled. "But, I knew my mother loved me. I knew who I belonged to." Years later, when put into a religious institute, she felt demeaned and humiliated. A sense of identity was lost.

It is important that a child feels a sense of belonging. He or she may be given all manner of schooling and material things, but if there is a disconnection with his or her roots, the child is not whole. To this end, every effort should be made to place Native children within their own environments, as the report recommends.

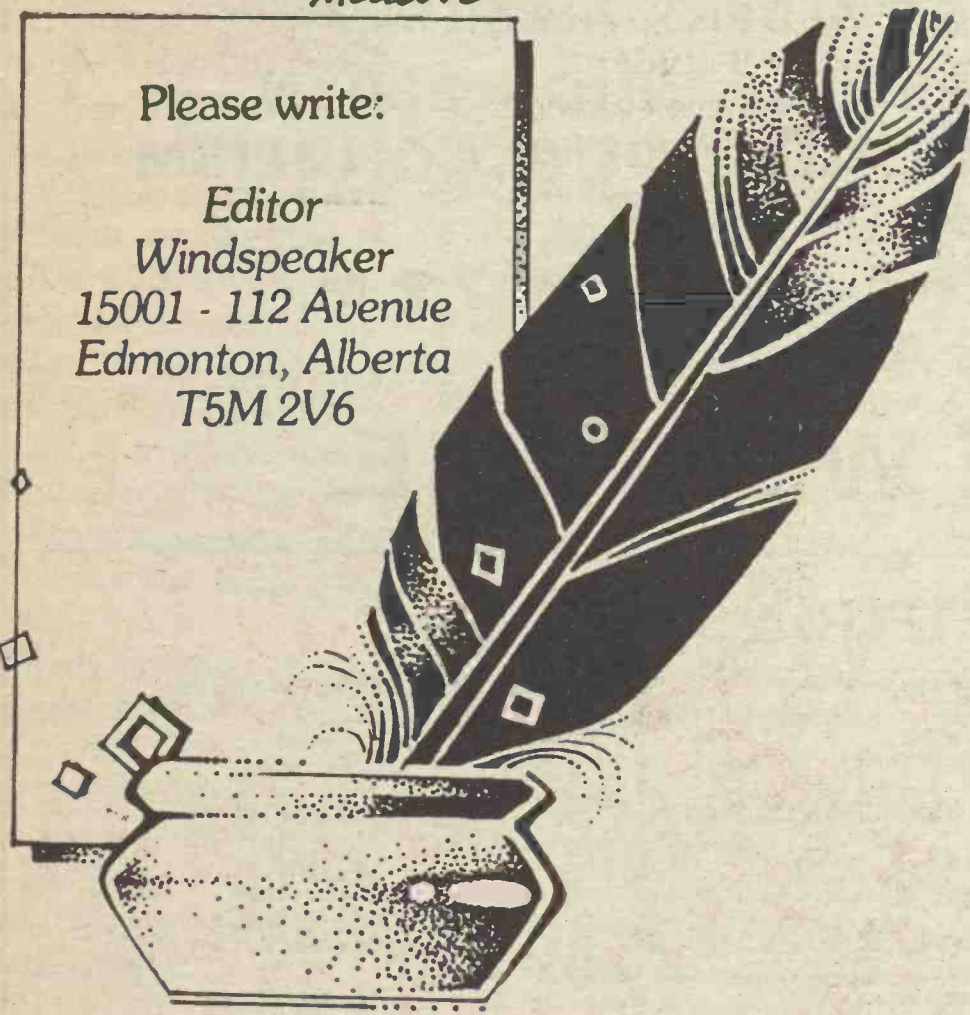
At the same time, if there has been a successful foster child-parent relationship outside of the reserve -- there does not necessarily have to be repatriation of that child back into the Native community.

Again, we must listen to the child, act according to what he or she feels. The child must have a say. His or her interests must remain first.

mclain

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Opinion

Rocky Lane parents puzzled over transfer of eight teachers

Dear Editor:

Nearly 200 concerned students, parents, and long-time residents of Rocky Lane and surrounding areas, gathered on the school playground Monday evening, June 8, to raise this question: Why had seven teachers and two support staff, many of them having served long dedicated years of service to Rocky Lane school, been handed transfers the previous week?

Four of the eight elected school trustees of Fort Vermilion School Division were present, but soon made it very clear that they would only listen to the questions and concerns and later review these statements at a board meeting. Throughout the evening the board members continued to reinforce their decision not to answer or comment on any questions asked.

Noreen McAteer, vice-chairman, addressed the crowd, remarking on the near completion of the multi-million dollar rebuilding and remodeling of the school, emphasizing the board's continuing commitment to the E.C.S. through Grade 12 program in Rocky Lane.

Chairman, Peter Hawry-

liuk, called for questions: What reasons did the board have for moving some of the best teachers of Rocky Lane? Had the teachers been consulted? Were they willing to leave after all the years they had given to the school to make Rocky Lane one of the top schools in the division? Are the replacement teachers as qualified and dedicated? Why did the community know as early as March 25 that these transfers were in the planning stages? Why were the effected staff not notified before June? Does the board realize what devastating impact this has on Rocky Lane's sense of strong community and school spirit? When will answers come? Why was the notice of transfers given at school during school hours and not after? Did they not expect the teachers reacting? Are central office staff required to operate under a code of ethics? Are you as a board requiring central office staff to act in a professional manner?

When Lewis Patmore, Rocky Lane trustee, was asked if he represented most people at Rocky Lane, he responded "I feel I am representing the best interests of all people at Rocky Lane."

However, the majority of

Rocky Lane residents voting by secret ballot following Patmore's comments, were not pleased with the board's decision. Eighty-six votes were cast showing non-confidence in the board, 25 votes supported the board's transfer decision, and 1 vote was undecided. Although students did not vote, they spoke on behalf of the Students' Union. Genette Bancarz, a Grade 11 student, said the board has made a decision affecting the students' future. It will be difficult to obtain the required viable referrals when applying for university. A teacher must know a student for three years to give a reference. "This will be impossible for Grade 11 students when the time comes next year."

She pointed out how this has disrupted the school greatly and just prior to exams. The students are losing the teachers they love and respect the most, the teachers that have made the extra educational experiences possible. Genette felt the board must consider the need for a stable learning environment in order for students to reach their full potential. She questioned if the board had stopped putting the welfare of the students

first?

Harvey Bulldog, Chief of the Boyer River Band addressed the meeting, stating that since the band is not allowed to vote in the general election for trustees, this was one of the first meetings the Band had been present at concerning school affairs. Chief Bulldog added that the Boyer River Band had contributed \$850,000 to the Rocky Lane school renovation in spite of their lack of voting representation because they were pleased with the school's programs and teachers. He indicated that there is "no racial discrimination" at Rocky Lane, and "if the teachers aren't good for Rocky Lane, they are not good for any school." He expressed fears that the drop out level will skyrocket at Rocky Lane but feels it is going to happen here with the major teacher transfer. He requested a valid reason from the school trustee as to why this complete changeover is needed.

An annual meeting is scheduled for June 15, in Fort Public school. There, the gym will be packed, all ears awaiting the board's reply.

Submitted by,
Catherine Bunton
Fort Vermilion

SPEAKING OUT...

"If you were the Prime Minister of Canada for a day, what's the first thing you would do for your people?"



Neil Courtoreille, 16, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 graduate:

"I would bring information to other cultures in Canada about what it means to be an Indian because there's too many stereotypes like having a big family and boozing all the time."



Kelly Courtoreille, 15, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 graduate:

"I would give our people self-government in education...what happened in Ottawa (at First Ministers Conference) was wrong."



Michelle Arcand, 14, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 student:

"I would give everybody a chance to finish their schooling because most of the people out here don't have all of their education completed."



Cheryl Campbell, 14, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 graduate:

"The government doesn't give us much of a chance to learn about our culture in the school system...so, I would try to make things easier for us to learn about our traditions like burning sweetgrass in the classroom every morning."



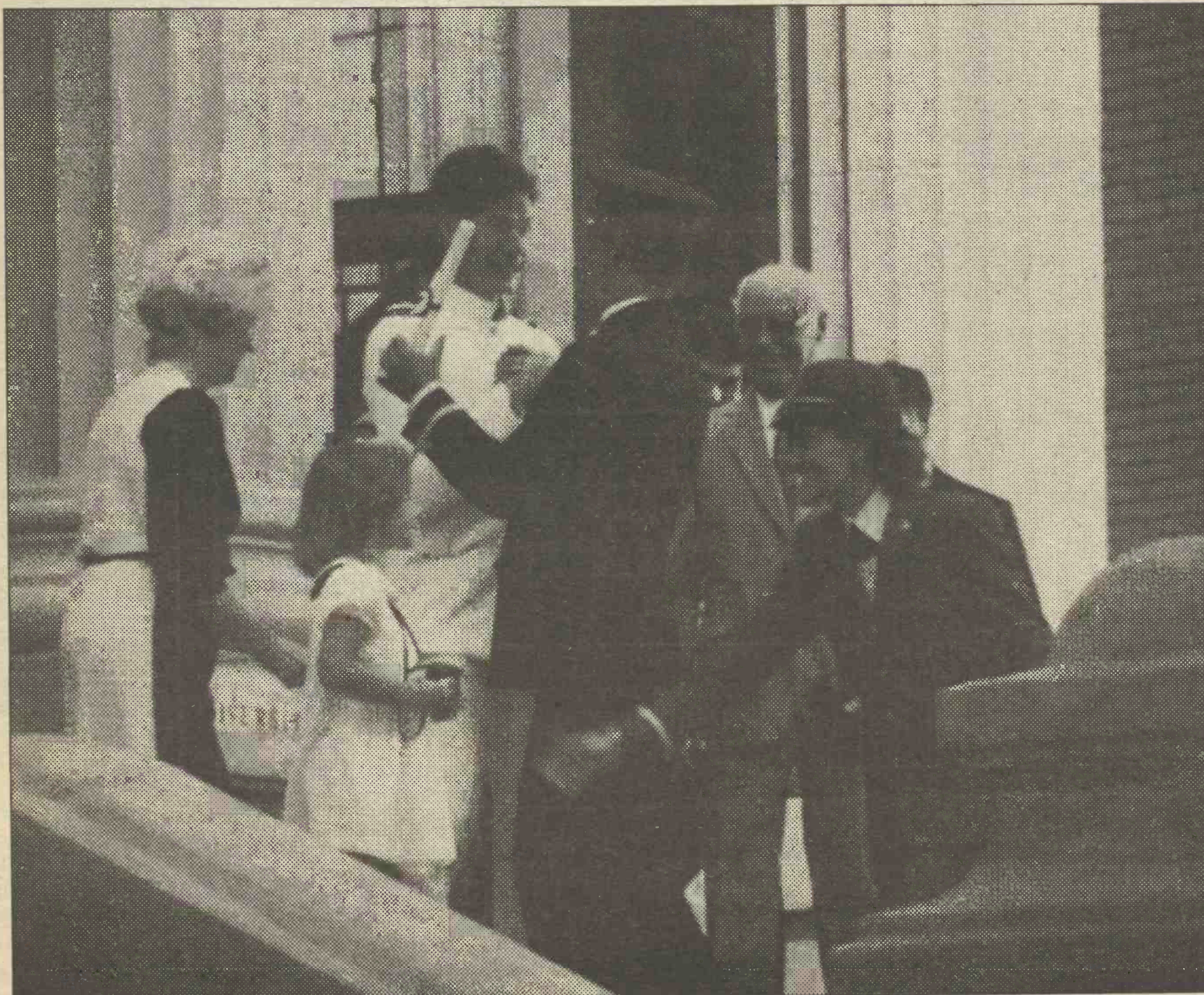
Ian Arcand, 15, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 student:

"I would give them a chance for self-government because they should be able to govern themselves."



Tammy Arcand, 16, Alexander reserve, Grade 9 student:

"I would educate all of them because I think they need it in order to succeed in life."



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Clan mother here to speak out on kids



MARGRETTE GIBSON
...teaches kids

By Mark McCallum

Margrette Gilson, of Australia, has been visiting reserves and speaking with people across Canada for almost two months, gathering support for the 3rd annual International Aboriginal Child Conference. Gilson will be a keynote speaker and run workshops at the conference, to be held in Calgary from October 7 to 10.

As the clan mother, or "Mookai" in her native tongue, of the Eagle clan

(tribe) in Australia, Gilson explains her people are divided into four clans collectively called the Wakka Wakka nation.

"The clan mother is responsible for the growing, in whiteman's terms -- education," explains Gilson, who is in her late 30's and has a master's degree in social work from the University of Wollongong, New South Wales.

As a Mookai, she teaches "all the children in the clan traditional education in law and ritual ceremony. At age

8, the boys are separated from the younger children and go with the men," she says. "But, the girls remain with me until they're married. I sometimes, well...most of the time, make sure they get a good husband. But, they have the final choice."

Gilson believes children must learn a "culture shift -- a blending of the cultures." She explains, "When you're on a reserve, you're an Indian and follow Indian values. When you're in university, you're an academic. You have to shift between the two worlds. Our children are going to have to do that more so than we did."

"Our cultures can exist right alongside the whiteman's culture. He wants to assimilate us, but in culture there is strength and identity. It's who we are."

But, she warns, "you don't have to wave a flag or demonstrate to be Indian. And, you don't have to live

in the past because it's done. Always remember what it was but get on with the '80s. All cultures change with time. If you choose to live under traditional law, you should have this right. But, you also have to live under whiteman's law."

When Gilson visited various reserves across the country, she noticed similarities and differences between the Native and aborigine culture. She reasons, "Traditionally, our ancestors lived a similar type of life. They had respect for every other person. They had hereditary chiefs, and they had spirituality because our Creator knows no demonization. So, how can he separate people into different categories. We are the same."

The similarities, she noted were also "a lot of little things. The tea pot was always on and we'd sit up half the night talking. No

one shut their doors."

Elders taught her the concepts and philosophies of sweetgrass, tobacco and sweats. There is a similar sweat practise in her country. The two cultures differ economically because her people have to pay taxes and rent for their homes. The laws of the societies are also different. For example, the Eagle clan will cut off a thief's finger for stealing.

The conference, which will be held at the Calgary Convention Centre, will focus on the development of knowledge, relating to community resources, programs and services that strengthen and create a solid bond in Aboriginal families.

Gilson concluded, "I think the greatest thing you can teach a child is to be responsible for themselves. Because, you see you're the only person that's going to help you in this world. The whiteman won't, the bureaucracy won't -- you will."

Powwow dancer leads kids through the motions

By Mark McCallum

At first glance, 20-year old Rick Boudreau, a White Braid Society dancer, may not seem mature enough to shoulder the responsibility of teaching a gym full of elementary students from the Prince Charles school in Edmonton how to dance powwow style.

But he is and he did. His accomplishment became evident at the June 19 celebration of Awasis Day, when nearly 30 students performed for about 400 of their classmates, teachers and parents. Boudreau says, "You don't know what you can teach and learn from kids; you don't know what you can feel 'til you teach kids."

The Manitoba-born dancer, who has been with White Braid since 1982, worked with the children for six weeks prior to Awasis Day, a year-end celebration where culture and education come together. For 10 hours a week, Boudreau showed the students basic steps, using essential body parts such as the feet, hips, shoulders and head. He also blended the culture and tradition surrounding powwow dances into his class by teaching the children the significance of the four directions and colors (red, black, yellow and white).

Explaining the importance of footwork and body



WHITE BRAID'S RICK BOUDREAU
...you can't learn unless you listen.'

control, Boudreau says, "I used aerobics and calisthenics to strengthen the kids legs and give them balance. "Discipline was the hardest part to show them. You can't learn unless you listen."

But it wasn't all work for the students in Boudreau's class. "We did things you don't see at a powwow -- like skipping or just kicking

a ball around." The activities had a hidden purpose though -- to improve the fitness level of the students.

Boudreau says some students were disappointed because they didn't have elaborate outfits. He offset that attitude by wisely telling them "an outfit is like a book cover. It's what's inside that counts."

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Dr. Anne Anderson award gives students incentive

By Terry Lusty

Special Dr. Anne Anderson scholarships were recently awarded to four deserving Native students in the Edmonton Catholic School Division. The scholarship program has now been in existence for several years.

"It was very hard to choose (recipients this year) because some have very good marks," Dr. Anderson says. The awards are "meant to encourage or provide incentive for students to go on with their education and, at the same time, given them a bit of money while attending school."

Richard Amable: This Grade 9 student in the Ben Calf Robe school program was one of the more highly regarded recipients. With the exception of a mark of 75, all others were 80% and better.

Amable was recommended by all his teachers as "a young man who has overcome great adversity." He comes from a large family from which he has been separated and he has very few material goods. Despite the passing of his father this year, he demonstrated the capacity to cope with the situation even though he has had little emotional support.

An avid reader, Amable has an excellent attitude towards school, enjoys music and exhibits good manners and maturity.

Lori Lynn Cardinal: As a Grade 7 student at H.E. Beriault school, Cardinal has also shown herself to be quite mature. She gets along "extremely well" with others says her counsellor who adds, "I cannot think of any one Grade 7 student who is more deserving."

Cardinal lives with her younger brother and her grandmother and says he will use the award to help offset costs at home.

She has been highly praised by all of her teachers who gave her their highest recommendation for the scholarship.

Cheryl Crane: A Grade 12 student at St. Joseph Composite High



RICHARD AMABLE
...overcame adversity

school, Crane has been described as "a bright, competent, conscientious, industrious and delightful student."

The majority of her marks indicate average and above average performance especially in personal qualities.

Crane's math teacher says she puts forth an "excellent effort...is an excellent candidate."

Christine Lund: This Grade 12 student, also from St. Joseph, has remained in school even though "her parents wanted her to quit" to work full-time says one of her teachers.

Lund helps to provide for herself by working part-time. Her English teacher describes her "as hard working and highly motivated to succeed."

Apart from her good academic standings, Lund is very active at track and field and cheerleading. She is "a caring and empathetic individual" who "has a contribution to make to society," says one teacher.

Vicki Tait would have been a recipient but was deemed ineligible because she will be working during the summer, the period of time in which she was to take some summer classes.

Tait, a clarinetist, plans to enter university to major in music.

O'Leary High school principal, Mel Niebrugge, expressed admiration for Tait and encourages her to continue on.

Anyone wishing to nominate a Native student for the award in future may obtain further information from the Edmonton Catholic School Board offices.



DROPPIN IN

By Rocky Woodward

H! I hope all you Dads out there in the communities were treated by your children as I was on FATHER'S DAY. I woke up Sunday morning to the smell of burnt bacon and eggs and watered down coffee! Let me tell you it was a great gesture of appreciation to Dad who at least, for one day, felt like he was king of the castle.

Burnt or not, I loved it! Cory and T.J. thanks.

Speaking of great kids, we had 11-year old Sarah St. Jean as a guest singer on Native Nashville North and at one point in the program I talked with her while cameras were rolling.

I said to Sarah, although she is a superb singer, I understood she had another talent -- that of a drummer for the Fourth Generation country rock band. Here is the cute answer she gave me.

"Yeah. Like I learned how to play drums and like it's a lot of fun you know...and like my Dad and Mom helped me a great deal..."

Like you had to be there. Too bad someone made a mistake and we had to redo the interview because after that it just wasn't the same anymore. Still, Sarah did a great job getting through her interview and the performance she gave on the singing numbers, Proud Mary and Bad Moon Rising, was fantastic. In fact, the whole show was fantastic.

The other guests were Bobby Hunter, who powwow'd his way to fame on Native Nashville North, Raylene Rizzoli (and let me tell you, everyone fell in love with this professional tap and jazz dancer) along with fiddle player, 13-year old Tyler Vollrath. Also, left-handed fiddle player Art Vollrath, who is Tyler's grandfather, thank you.

Did you know I was somewhat worried about the show and because of their ages (the children). I was predicting all sorts of problems. The only one that made mistakes on the show...was me. Cut! Rocky blew it! And here are these four pro's...who never made one mistake through the whole show.

OTTAWA: I just have to run this picture below of Diane Lewis. Did you know that Abenaki Computer Enterprise Limited have recently announced the appointment of Diana Lewis of the Shubenacadie Band, Nova Scotia, to their newly created position of TRAINING MANAGER. They have.

Diane has several year's background in computer programming and the operation of a number of software application packages. She will be responsible for coordinating and marketing Abenaki's computer training courses. Congratulations Diane!



EDMONTON: Country singer and guitar player Ray Desjarlais is looking to form a country band.

"Basically, what I do is sing and play rhythm. I have some equipment for a four piece band and if there is anyone out there Rocky, who would like to join up with me, have them call," says Ray.

Okay Ray. Dropping In is always glad to pass on information. You can reach Ray at 439-6173 in Edmonton.

Come on Alvis Grey...give Ray a call.

GIFT LAKE: "We won our first big money tournament Rocky!" says Leonard the coach screaming over the mobile phone.

I had to tell Leonard to slow down and then he said that the Gift Lake Steelers, an all ladies' baseball team,

Young pros make it easy for show to go on with zip

came in third and won \$200 big ones. That's great Leonard. How did the mens' team do?

"Not too bad, but the Atikameg Drifters shared first place with the High Prairie Selects. They split the prize money and only had to quit playing ball because of darkness."

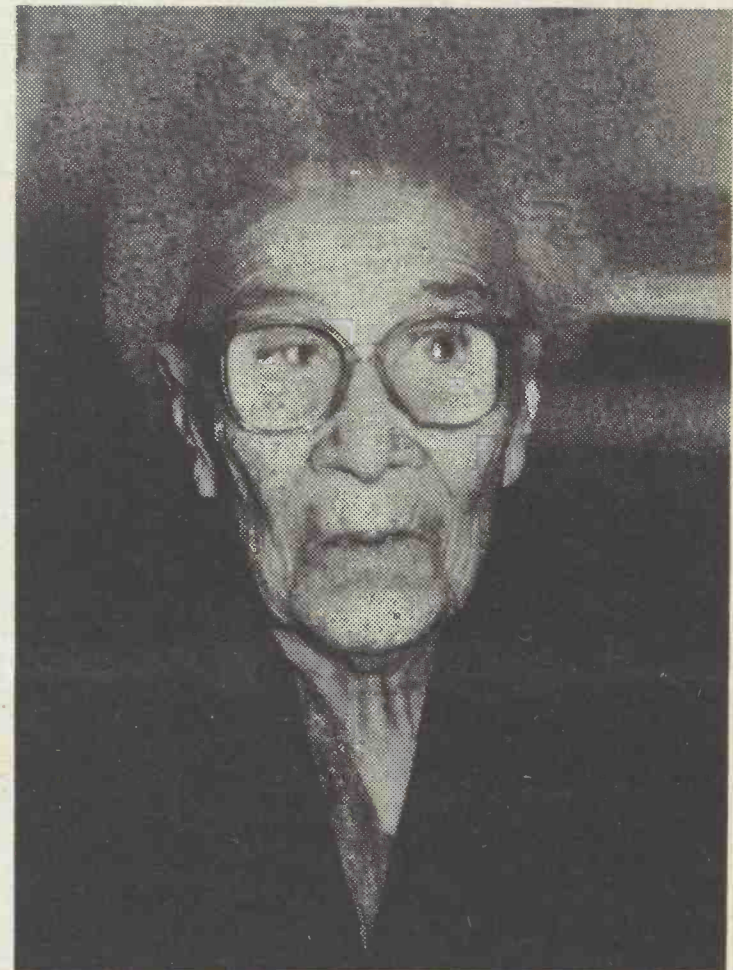
The tournament was held at Peavine near High Prairie and had eight mens' and seven womens' teams involved.

Leonard, thanks for the news and please stay in touch. Nice to see you're back home again.

MARLBORO: Is located only 22 km northwest of Edson and that is where Flossie Belcourt lives. Below is a picture of Flossie who just happens to be 97-years old.

Did you know that age means nothing to her? Flossie still hauls her own water, cooks her own meals and cuts her own wood. I have a rough time walking to the store.

People will still tell you of Flossie that at one time she was known in the area as a very slick Red River jigger! Flossie has lived in the Marlboro area most of her life and is aunt to Metis Russell Plante.



EDSON: People in Edson can be assured that Niki Martel is a bright and promising Metis dancer. She proved this when she danced her way into the hearts of many who attended the first annual Metis Cultural Days, held in her home town recently.

Niki is 8-years old and is the daughter of Audrey and Dan Martel. Niki first started dancing at home and she says her only actual practice occurred one week before her debut at the cultural days.

Niki is in Grade 3 and stressed she will be "nine on June 16."

Below is a picture of Niki. Happy birthday Niki and keep on dancing.



That's all the space I have so ya' all just keep on trucking out there and have a happy weekend.

TRAINING OFFICER

AIADC, a non-profit body owned and operated by the Indian people of Alberta, has a position open for a Training Officer, working from Calgary Head Office.

The duties involve development and co-ordination of training programs suitable for the Indian agricultural community and AIADC field staff.

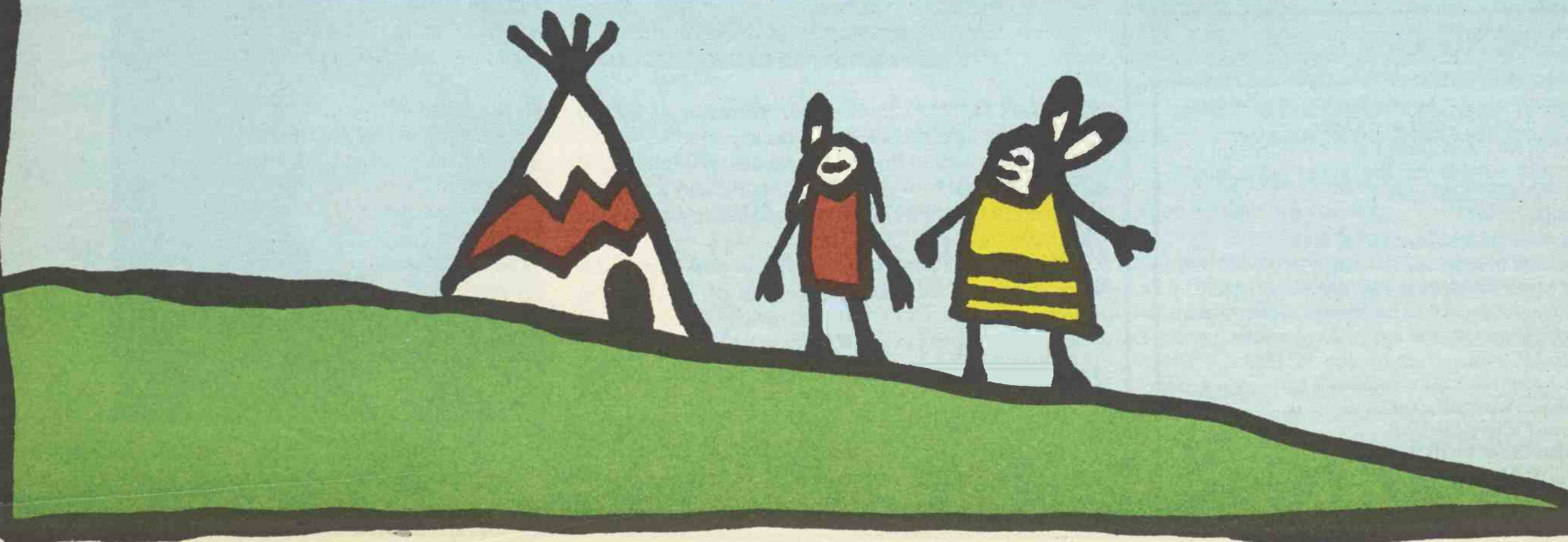
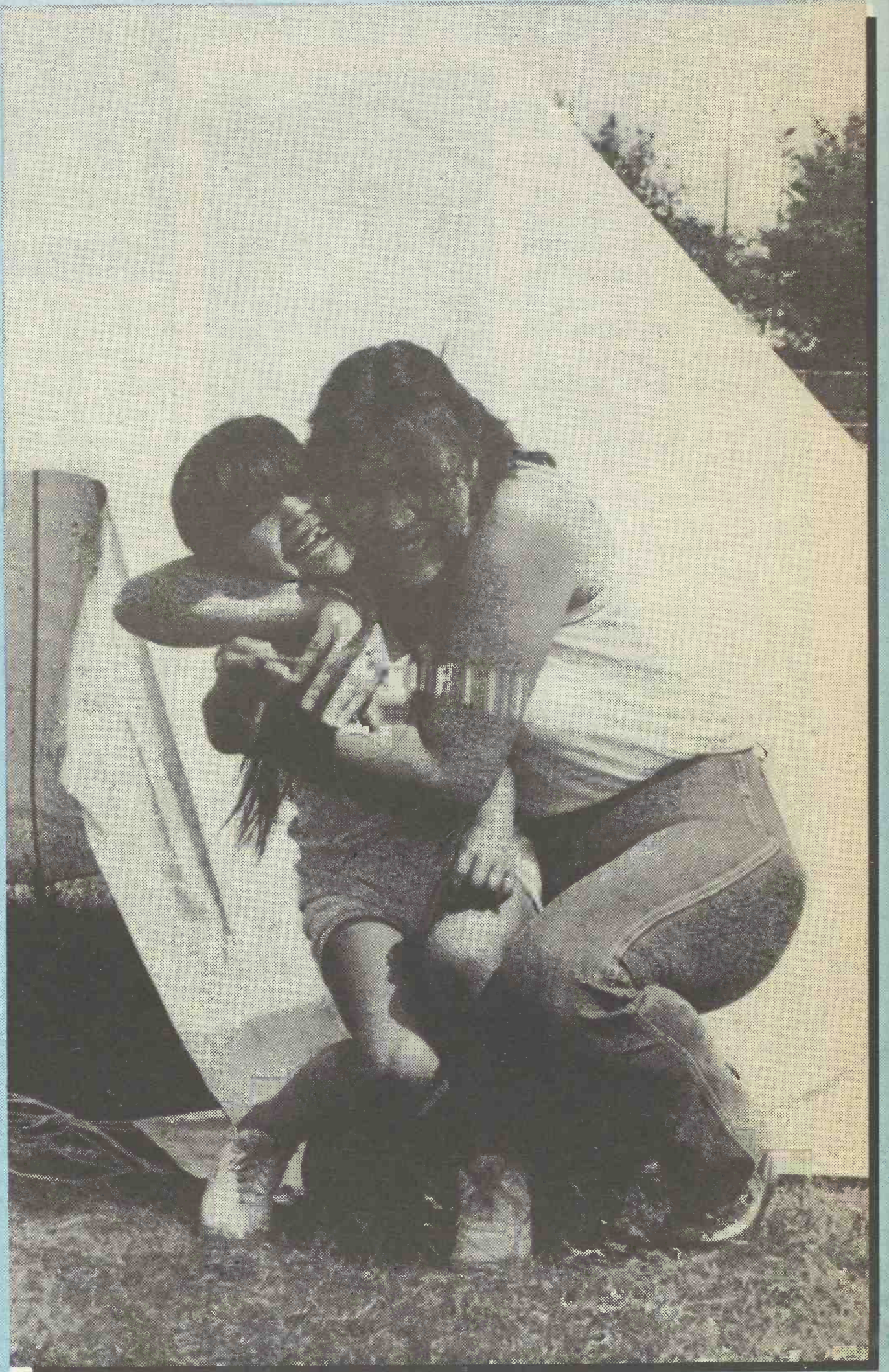
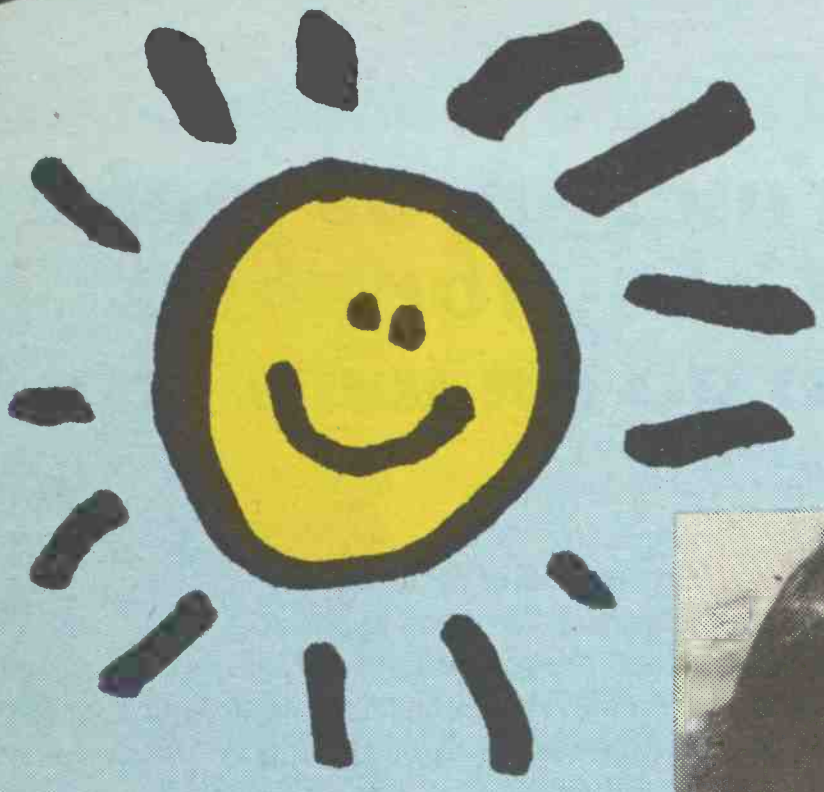
Qualifications:

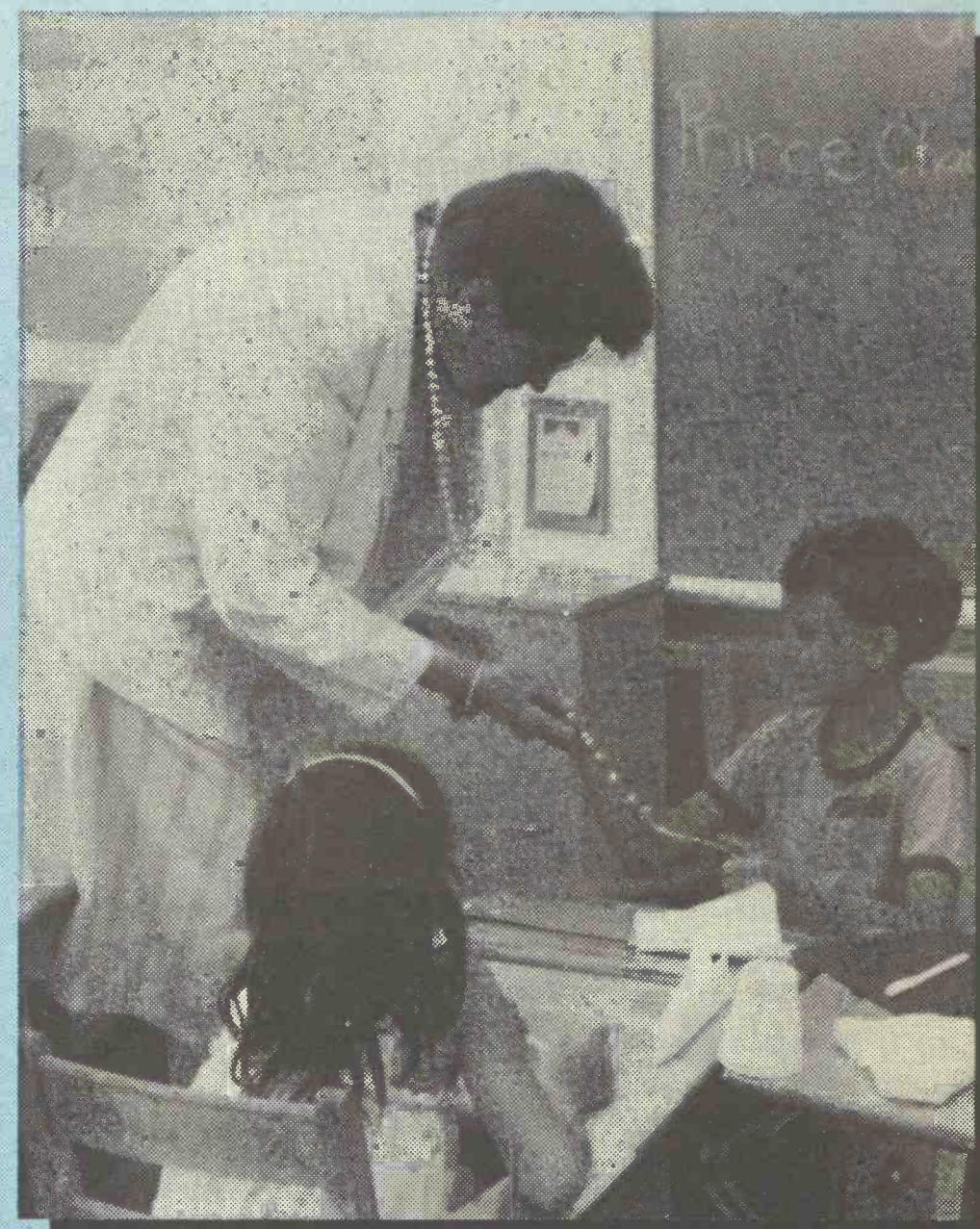
- experience in financial and agricultural fields
- organizational and training skills
- must be able to work with Native people
- be able to deal with educational institutions, government agencies, agri-businesses and financial institutions.

Closing date for competition: July 15, 1987.


Please forward your resume in confidence to:

**Alberta Indian Agricultural
Development Corporation
309, 5940 Macleod Trail South
Calgary, AB T2W 2V3**





Awasis Day



Whenever students have a day off from the regular routine of books and instruction, you know it must be a special occasion. Such was the case on June 19 at Prince Charles Elementary School in Edmonton which celebrated its annual Awasis Days.

It was a day for the children, a day for sharing and learning, and an example of multiculturalism at work.

The day was highlighted by events such as a feast, powwow, socializing and games. In attendance were a number of visitors and special guests representing services and organizations like the Secretary of State, city police, school boards, Poundmakers, the Friendship Centre, AMMSA, Ben Calf Robe School program, Alberta Education's Native Education Program and the minister of education, Nancy Betkowski.

Betkowski, who made a brief appearance during the powwow, told students, staff and visitors that she was really impressed with the students and the pride that they take in maintaining their culture.

The day's activities were kicked off by a feast at which special guests joined students in their classrooms to have lunch with them. This gave the children an opportunity to actually meet with the guests and talk to them.

Dr. Ann Anderson, for example, was one of the guests who took the time to meet and speak to children and to observe the crafts they had made.

Native and non-Native students obviously enjoyed themselves as they interacted with others and proudly displayed crafts they had made at the school. Instructor, Betty Logan had taught them how to make beaded sashes, bracelets and necklaces which were worn this day with pride.

For the powwow portion of the program, Mervin Wolfleg served as the emcee. Many of the dancers were from the school and had been taught by Rick Boudreau who performs with Edmonton's White Braid Society. He has been instructing twice a week since

April. His main focus has been on dancing basics, rhythm and having participants feel good about their accomplishments through dance says the school's cultural coordinator, Pearl Ducharme.

Ducharme elaborated on how their program provides Native and non-Native students with an opportunity to share their cultures. "It's a learning experience," she commented.

But, it is not only the children who are involved. "It is the children and parents working together that made it the success it is," Ducharme pointed out.

Ducharme thinks this year's experience may generate ideas for future Awasis Days. Because there had been a last minute cancellation of the drum group and emcee, she says they will look very seriously at the possibility of forming their own group through interested parents.

Parents have already proven their value. Many turned up to help serve at the feast and supplied the bulk of the raw vegetables and bannock for it.

A variety of innovative children's games were also part of the activities and students appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. They ran obstacle courses, conducted a relay race in which a bead on a toothpick had to be passed from one runner to another and they practiced their accuracy at tossing bean bags through a hole in a box.

"The games were not a competition; they were strictly a fun thing," says Ducharme.

For those who are passing on into Grade 7, they were presented with Awasis T-shirts and a special achievement certificate.

The Awasis Days, now in its tenth year, is partly sustained through a grant from the Native Education Project.

Principal Dave Forster was quite pleased with the outcome and said that the occasion is, "basically the big cultural event of the year."

Culture

Heart Lake Treaty Days

Dancers celebrate 1889 treaty

By John Morneau Gray

The Heart Lake reserve celebrated the signing of Treaty 8 in 1889 by holding its 7th annual Treaty Days on June 19 to 21. In attendance at the event were dancers from Saddle Lake and White Braid.

With storm clouds looming overhead and strong winds coming off the lake, they started up with the grand entry.

Elder Morris Quinn from Saddle Lake performed the invocation by giving thanks to the Great Spirit for what has been given to the Native people, to practice the culture, traditions and religions. He reminded the people to be proud of that and inherit it so they could in turn pass it on to their children.

Next came the traditional sneak-up performed by four dancers. White Braid drummers and drummers from Saddle Lake who had not performed together quickly adapted to the drum. An eagle feather fell, stopped the performance until the Elder could pick it up. The girls' fancy dance followed. The Saddle Lake princess Deanna Cardinal, White Braid princesses Melody and Christine Auger and dancers from both groups put together a good performance. The wind was tangling up the shawls, but after dancing, the clouds broke and a rainbow transversed the lake.

Then came the girls' traditional. Lloyd Auger told the legend of this dance. "One legend has it that whenever our people in the past became ill, the loved ones would call on the ladies to perform a dance for the one ill."

With the intertribal, one of the Elder ladies from Heart Lake joined in to



celebrate her Native heritage.

The big feature of the event was Jerome Youngchief and his son Keven, 9, from Kehewin, performing the hoop dance. Youngchief used 24 hoops, while his son tackled 12. The skillful older Youngchief delighted the crowd while his son also managed with a bit of effort and prompting from the crowd.

Cecil Redstar from Saskatchewan, the only grass dancer present, did a solo. Lloyd Auger informed the young spectators to tell their parents to get them a grass dance outfit as it is becoming rare to find this type of dance.

The evening performance on the last day finished off with the round dance. The drummers closed with a bittersweet song that united everyone in movement.



CHIEF EUGENE MONIAS

...spoke of tragedies resulting from alcohol

Hard lessons and lost lives prompts no drinking, no alcohol rule

By John Morneau Gray

A large sign at Heart Lake reserve warns those entering that "the reserve does not tolerate alcoholic beverages in any form."

A second sign prompts visitors to stop before going further and read the rules governing reserve policy and intoxicants. RCMP, with permission of chief and council, are also allowed on the reserve to assure this

rule is kept.

This decision came from hard lessons and lost lives as a result of alcohol. The chief, Eugene Monias, spoke of the tragedies as a result of alcohol. "There were so many people who would walk out on the ice drunk. We would find them 15 to 20 days later drowned. We would try to stop them from drinking, but it didn't work. That's the reason we decided to make this a dry reserve."

The chief's wife Rose Monias stated, "We have only two families now on the reserve with drinking problems. We're working on that and slowly we hope to solve that too."

There is little in the form of recreation and this contributes to the problem. Reserve leaders are at present trying to get a multi-purpose building for recreation -- a place for the elderly members and band office.

The band office was formerly the chief's house and it resembles a shack. The Department of Indian Affairs is refusing funding for this project at present as a result of problems with the previous chief and council.

Until the hoped-for funding comes through, the band will continue to administrate out of the present building and make sure the reserve remains dry.

Art group opens chapter in Calgary

CALGARY — The Canadian Native Arts Foundation recently announced the formation of its first national chapter in Alberta.

Through this vision by an Indian for Indians, founder Symphony conductor John Kim Bell desires to afford other Native persons the opportunities and exposure in the arts that have enriched his life. Kim Bell notes, "The soul of Native people everywhere is expressed through the art that is an important and viable means through which they can share the richness of their heritage with the rest of society."

The Foundation has been established to enable

Canadian Native, Metis and Inuit youth who would otherwise not have the opportunities to cultivate their talents to do so, by affording them the necessary training and materials for their studies.

Since 1985, a concert sponsored by Northern Telecom with Bernadette Peters, the Toronto Symphony and featuring two young Native entertainers; the Pacific Western Valdy concerts throughout the west; donations from the private and corporate sectors and various fund-raising events have raised more than \$500,000 for the Foundation's endowment fund.



BACKSTAGE AT NATIVE NASHVILLE

Rocky Woodward, host of Native Nashville North (NNN), gets the makeup job from the television show's makeup artist Mary. Rocky's just taped five shows and will tape eight more this fall. The 1987 season of NNN will air in January. The show, produced by CBC and AMMSA is seen as far north as Inuvik, east as Windsor, west as Vancouver and of course, all of northern Alberta.

-Photo by Bert Crowfoot

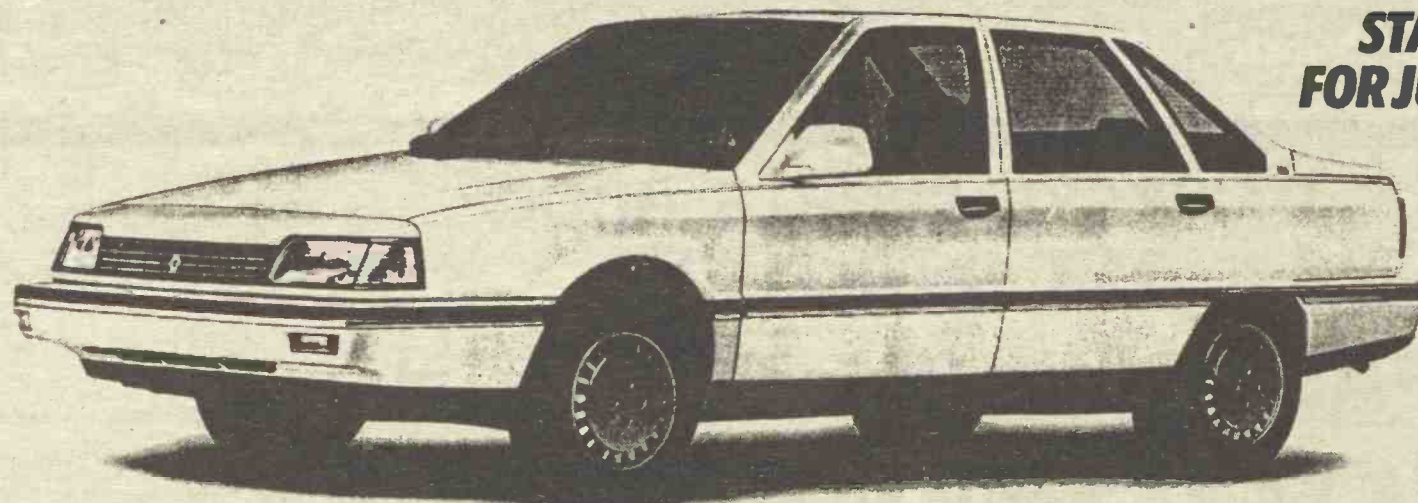
The Windspeaker Calendar of Events

Check it out!

- Stampede, Pro Rodeo & Chuckwagon Races**, June 27 to July 1, Ponoka, AB
- Kinuso Rodeo**, June 30 & July 1, Spruce Point Park, Kinuso, AB
- Poundmaker/Nechi Annual Powwow**, July 3-5, St. Albert, AB
- Goodfish Annual Celebration Days**, July 3-5, Goodfish Lake, AB
- Dance**, July 4, Alexander Campgrounds. Music by Percy Tuesday - Admission \$5.
- High Level Rodeo**, July 4 & 5, High Level, AB
- Teepee Creek Rodeo**, July 4 & 5, Teepee Creek
- Louis Bull Golf Tournament**, July 4 & 5, Blackbull Golf Course, Ma-Me-O Beach. For more information call Bill at 585-4075
- Calgary Exhibition & Stampede**, July 3-12, Calgary, AB
- Friends in Sports**, July 6-9, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
- Cold Lake First Nations Treaty Days**, July 9-12, Cold Lake Reserve
- International Native Golf Tournament**, July 9-11, The Links Golf & Country Club, Spruce Grove
- R.C.A. Rodeo**, July 10 & 11, Buck Lake, AB
- Rodeo, Chuckwagon Races & Parade**, July 10-12, Whitecourt, AB
- 2nd Annual Yellowhead Tribal Council Celebrations**, July 10-12, Alexis Cultural Grounds
- Alexis 10th Annual Mens' & Ladies' Fastball Tournament**, July 10-12. For further information call Dennis Cardinal at 967-2225
- Annual Sports Day**, July 10-12, Paul Band
- River Daze Canoe & Raft Races**, July 11, Fort Vermillion, AB
- Treaty Days**, July 12-14, Fort McKay Band
- Canadian Native Princess Pageant**, July 17 & 18, CNFC & West Edmonton Mall
- Mens' & Womens' International Fastball Tournament**, July 17-19, Enoch Reserve
- Powwow**, July 18, 2-4:30 p.m. (only), Ice Palace, West Edmonton Mall
- Big Valley Jamboree**, July 16-19, Craven, Saskatchewan (20 mi. north of Regina)
- Intertribal Powwow**, July 17-19, Paul Band
- Mens' & Ladies' Fastball Tournament**, July 17-19, Paul Band
- Klondike Days**, July 16-25, Edmonton
- Louis Bull Mud Bog**, July 18 & 19, Panee Agriplex, Hobbema. For entries call Irvin at 585-2817.
- Klondike Days Breakfast**, July 19, CNFC, Edmonton
- Lac St. Anne Annual Pilgrimage**, July 19-23, OMI Mission, Alberta Beach
- CNFC Kiddies Play Day**, July 23, CNFC, Edmonton
- CNFC Senior's Games**, July 25 & 26, CNFC, Edmonton
- Interpretive Centre Grand Opening**, July 23, Head Smashed In Buffalo Jump (World Historic Site), Fort Macleod
- River Boat Daze**, River Relay, Race, Midway, Rodeo, July 23-26, Slave Lake
- Back to Batoche Days**, July 24-26, Batoche, Sask.
- Elks Stampede & Pro Rodeo**, July 29 & 30, High Prairie

GREAT NEWS THE NEW 1988 MEDALLION.

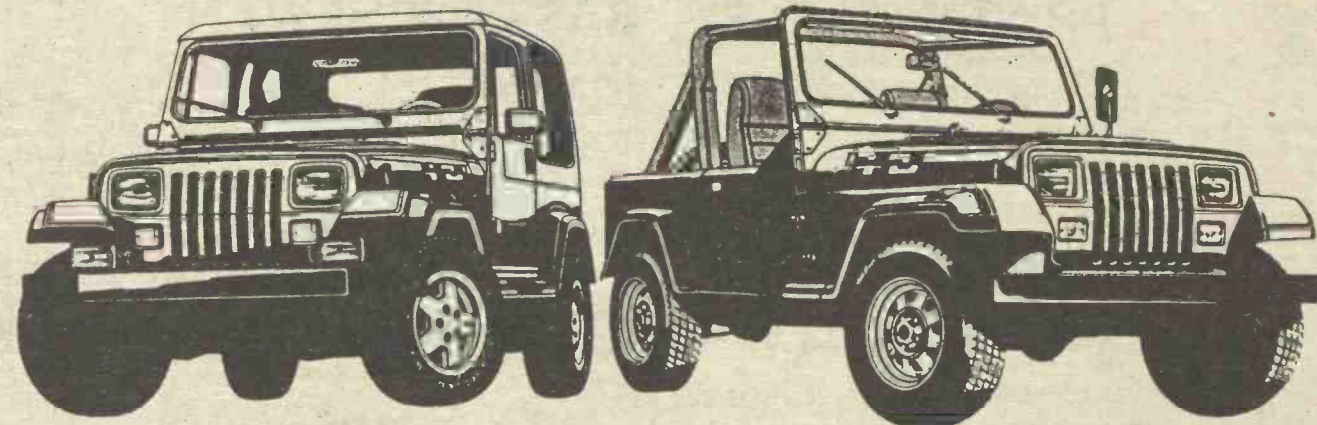
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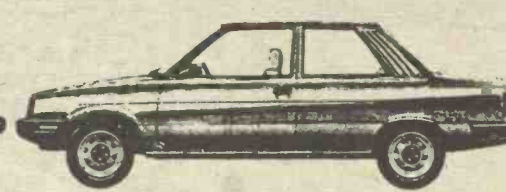
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Sports



STAN CUNNINGHAM
...gets serious about training

Pro boxer aims at title shot

By Mark McCallum

When boxer Stanley Cunningham first got into the fight game at age 13, he admits he wasn't a serious athlete because he didn't have any motivation. But inspiration came easy after he became a professional boxer this year. The 22-year old made a goal for himself, to win the Canadian welterweight title by next year.

"Boxing makes you feel good about yourself. Your body is always in shape and you've got direction. I love the sport and it's going to be my living so I have to take it serious," says the Edmonton boxer.

Cunningham, who weighs in at 147 pounds for fights and has a record of three wins and one loss, feels he'll be ready for a title shot after

his tenth pro-fight. He won his last fight against Jimmy Chong by a split-decision.

"He (Chong) was my toughest and most experienced opponent so far," says Cunningham, whose next fight will be in August on the Willie deWit/Ken Lakusta card.

The boxer that will face Cunningham in the scheduled six to eight rounder is Gasper Bonana. Bonana should prove to be a tough opponent because he beat the only fighter (John Polinski) that Cunningham lost to since turning pro.

"I was a little overconfident for that fight because I fought and beat him (Polinski) before," explained Cunningham.

He plans to train hard so he'll be prepared for Bonana. "When you're getting ready for a fight,

you've got to cut out going out, go to sleep at a reasonable hour and just live right and eat right."

Before a fight Cunningham usually starts sparring with his stablemate (sparring partner and teammate) Harpal Talhan, who is ranked third in the light-weight division in Canada.

Cunningham trains Monday to Friday for about

12 hours a week. He wakes up at 6 a.m. each day and jogs three to five miles. After Cunningham gets off work from Minute Carwash, he goes down to the Edmonton Panther gym where he fine tones his craft by working on the heavy and speed bags. After a few rounds of shadow boxing, he skips and does stomach exercises.

Goodstriker pitched rocks

By Jerome Bear

Leon Goodstriker, 20, has gone from throwing rocks at gophers on the Blood reserve, to pitching baseball for Team Alberta.

"I didn't think that I would be playing baseball at this level when I was picking off those gophers," says Goodstriker.

Goodstriker, who has been playing ball for nine years, has been playing for Team Alberta for two years now. He has played for other teams in the past.

"As you get better, they move you up to a better team," says Goodstriker.

Goodstriker will be attending the Cochese College in Douglas, Arizona, which is five miles from the Mexican border. He will be taking General Studies and will be playing ball at the same time.

In 1984, Goodstriker won the Rita Houle award

for the best male athlete of the year, and since then has almost totally devoted his time to baseball. He has played football, hockey and baseball in high school.

Goodstriker played pitcher in high school for the St. Mary's Warriors where they won the provincial title two years in a row. But in high school, he had also played for the football team, basketball team and also the track and field team.

Goodstriker's father, Rufus, is at present in Washington making a movie. Rufus is an actor and had a part in the movie 'Running Brave' about Billy Mills, a Native Olympic gold medalist.

Young Goodstriker, who doesn't smoke or drink, hopes to someday play in the major league and says that he might have a chance when he goes to Arizona.

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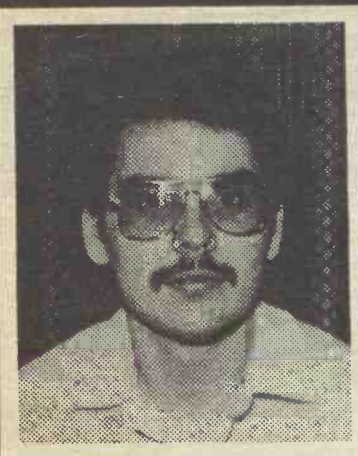
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SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Jerome Bear

Summer is here and the golf season is in full swing and do I have quite a bit to say about golf this week.

First of all, let's talk about the Western Indian Native Golf Association or WINGA, they are going to hold a Pee wee/Junior golf clinic on July 13, 14 and 15 at the Wolfe Creek golf course. The deadline for registration will be on July 7.

Only 20 students are allowed to register and these students are required to have their own clubs. If you do not have your own clubs, then you must let Leona know before or by the registration deadline.

Instructions will include use of mid-irons, woods, putting, chipping and sand play. On completion of the clinic, the student will receive a Graft check picture of golf swing, official CPGA test of skills and grotec golf swing, and will have participated in a nine-hole golf tournament.

So those of you who would like to learn how to play golf or want your children to learn how to play golf, sign them up for the clinic. For more information, call Leona at 585-4101 or 428-6778 (Edmonton direct line).

There are three golf tournaments coming up in July and August that are affiliated with WINGA, they are:

SARCEE: golf tournament on July 25 and 26 and will include all categories. The registration fee is \$90 and it is to be prepaid by July 15. For more information, call Bradley Crowchild at 278-4512 or Alex Crowchild at 238-1342 (days) or 251-1787 (nights).

WIN GOLF PEEWEE/JUNIOR TOURNAMENT: this tournament will be held at the Ponoka Golf Course on July 31. Tee off time will be at 10 a.m. and it will only

Pee wee and junior golfers get skills tested in challenging Native clinic

be a nine hole tournament. The entry fee is \$20 and the deadline will be on July 27. The organizers are looking for some Adult volunteers. For more information, call Leona Lafond at the above mentioned numbers.

KEHEWIN GOLF TOURNAMENT: will be on the 15th and 16th of August at the Cold Lake Air Base. You are to be pre-registered for the tournament and the deadline for registrations in August 7th. Entry fee is \$60 for men, seniors and ladies, and \$30 for juniors/pee wees. This includes a barbecue after the first round. For more information, call Roy John or Rita Badger at 826-3333.

EDMONTON: It is getting real close to the 'Friends in sports' meet which will be held on July 6, 7, 8 and 9 at the University of Alberta's Steve Fonyo field.

It all starts off with the registration from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lister Hall for those teams staying at the Lister Hall. The opening ceremonies will be held at 1 p.m. on the 6th of July. At 7 p.m., there will be an orientation for the athletes and their coaches.

Then from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the 7th and from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the 8th, the competition will take place at the Steve Fonyo field. The events are the 100, 200, 400, 800, and 1,500 metre races as well as some relays and a five kilometre run. In the field events, there are the high jump, long jump, shot put, discus and javelin.

There are three divisions and they are the A division, ages 13 and 14, B division, ages 15 - 17 and C division, ages 18 - 20. All participants are to be members of a friendship centre which is closest to their home. For more information, call Big John or Gordon at 482-6501.

ENOCH: At present, Ron and Don Morin, in conjunction with the Indian Association and the Yellowhead Tribal council, are trying to set up an Indian Days celebration there. They plan to hold a powwow and ball tournaments hopefully in August sometime. They said that they will know more at the Indian Summer Games or you can call them at 470-5647.

Also, there is a co-ed softball league there and if anyone in the area wants to set up an exhibition game or want to start a team for the league, you can contact Ron or Don Morin and they will help you out as much as they can.

HOBHEMA: A golf tournament was held last weekend at the Wetaskiwin golf course and it was in conjunction with WINGA. The winner of the tournament was Leo Saskamoose with a score of 148, beating Ken Sinclair by one point. The winner of the womens' division was Betty Oriche with a score of 183. She beat out Wanda Baptiste who had a score of 188.

There was a playoff for first place in the senior division between Simon Threefingers and Louis Potts who both had a score of 172. Threefingers won the playoff over Potts. And finally in the junior division, Garth Buffalo beat Darren Simon for first place by a score of 176 to 197.

The tournament had a total of 124 golfers and they had a barbeque at the end of the tournament. For other results, you can call Calvin at 585-3793.

Well, that's it for this week and remember to keep in touch and if you have any information regarding sports, don't hesitate to call me at 455-2700. Until next week, this is the 'Bear' signing off...

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For further information, contact the Conference Office, The University of Lethbridge, 4401 University Drive, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada T1K 3M4 or telephone (403) 329-2427.



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Education

First grad ever

Peerless Lake school reaches out to community

By Dianne Meili

Pulling off the deeply rutted and dusty gravel road from Red Earth Creek to Peerless Lake in Northern Alberta, one comes upon a quiet community.

What meets the eye are a collection of weathered homes, a few worn administrative buildings and a school that in contrast, looks spanking new. Insects buzz in the afternoon sun and a handful of children play along Peerless Lake's shoreline. Except for them, no other human activity is evident. This calm belies the activity of the celebration to occur later.

Tonight, the Peerless Lake Community School, in which 93 students are enrolled is center stage. The walls of its gym have been gaily decorated and tables set complete with name cards. Outside, a barbecue is being readied.

The Cree community has much to celebrate. Four young people are being honored in a graduation ceremony in commemoration as they leave Grade 9 and pass into ten. It's a milestone for the community which, one and a half years ago, mourned as six of its young people died after drinking xerox copying fluid.

The community has experienced sadness, but tonight's graduation is a positive and happy event to inspire other potential graduates. This is the first time graduation ceremonies have been held in Peerless Lake, though this year the school boasted having two students in Grade 10. In the upcoming 87-88 school

year there will be eight students enrolled in Grade 10 (four adult students from the local Community Vocational Centre will join this year's four graduates from the high school) and two in Grade 11.

"When we start getting students in Grade 12, it'll be back to the drawing board (because Peerless Lake school doesn't go that



GRAD DANCE
...Launa Loyie and escort

high)," says Rod Giles, principal at Peerless Lake school. At present, a school in the Trout Lake community, 29 km away, accommodates Grade 12 students.

Giles sees the number of graduates growing in the next few years as things become brighter for the Peerless Lake community. He believes the school has a role to play in "bridging a gap" between the "school itself and the community." Social problems like drinking and the non-support of parents toward their children can be solved by "getting the parents involved with the educational process" and bringing the community together, he believes.

"There is a lot of drinking here, but I think we're moving in a positive direction," Giles explained, adding he sees the school as a "community leader."

According to Grade 3 teacher and vice principal Diane Wyllie "a lot of activities are put on by the school. It's the focus of the community. Everything revolves around it."

She described a number of special activities the school has sponsored, including community dinners, talent shows and family dances.

"We're really trying to reach out to the community," explained Grade 9 teacher Ken Hoekstra, who is in his first year of teaching at Peerless. "We (the teachers and school board) are trying new things and gaining confidence. This year has been a really 'up' year for Peerless." The students competed in sports tournaments, winning a trophy in volleyball and second place in floor hockey. Several students competed in a talent show and won second place for their "airband" act.

Throughout the summer six teams comprised of men, women, boys and girls aged 13 years and up will play in a baseball league.

"Our goal is to increase community participation," says Hoekstra. He hopes to see increased numbers of parents out to watch this winter's hockey games, as well.

Hoekstra acknowledges that Peerless youth are special. "They are competitive. There's a lot of talent here in sports, academics and especially the performing arts. The band playing tonight at the grad is all-local. The kids need success and to start believing in themselves... they're really good kids."

But, everything is not rosy in Peerless Lake. Giles stresses that poor student attendance and negligent parents are problems to be overcome, along with the alcoholism.

"Attendance seems to go with the weather. In the fall, when it's cold, they come. But when it's hot out..." He adds that some students come to school without having had breakfast. "But, the Alberta Education program provides a hot lunch."

School secretary and community association treasurer, Frances Starr, also describes alcohol as a community enemy. She indicates that parent attendance at school-sponsored events is not high.

"We have problems. There's not that much to do here. The people here still rely on hunting and fishing, but there's nothing like powwows here. The culture seems to be dying.

"Yes, we have arts and crafts -- some people make moccasins, bead and tan hides, but we're not really traditional. There seems to have been more religion here when I was younger... the Elders don't teach the younger ones..."

Besides the lack of tradition, which seems to leave the community without a unifying bond, there are other difficulties for residents. Jobs are sporadically available and usually involve lengthy stays in work camps, which takes husbands and fathers away from their families. And the absence of the community recreation program leaves residents with time on their hands.

But, the situation may change if the community association activates its plans. A fishing lodge on Peerless Lake and four outposts may provide employment if funds can be secured to complete

development.

"We also have a position open for a leadership recreation officer that's funded by Municipal Affairs," explained Starr. The officer will alternately spend three weeks in training in Grouard and then spend three weeks working in the community. After a year this will be a full-time permanent position.

Other efforts have been (or are going to be) in place to address community problems. This year the Four Worlds Development Project visited twice and conducted the 'Spirit of the Rainbow' program with the students. "They learn living skills based on the Medicine Wheel," explained Giles.

As well, Delorian Bighorn, the sister of Phil Lane who is behind "Four Worlds" gave workshops to the school board. The board, according to Giles, is much more open to trying "new things" within the community. This year three community dances were held, compared to only one in 85-86, with board approval.

"We also want to see a treatment and counselling centre for alcoholism at Red Earth Creek (about 80 km from Peerless Lake). We've held a few meetings about it already," says Starr.

Counsellors from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC) visit the community twice a month and a social worker from the nearby Bigstone Band looks after the Treaty Indians. Another social worker from Slave Lake travels to the community to see people.

As well, this summer government programs will provide employment. A facility manager will be hired to oversee the local hostel and two youths will be employed as community workers.

There are still hurdles to be cleared, but as Giles puts it "there's no easy solution here. It seems to be a case of everyone becoming more aware (of what is happening). Definitely, the growing here is constructive...rather than destructive."

Ice cream sellers make grad possible

By Dianne Meili

Sitting proud on the Peerless Lake school stage on June 19 were four of the community's most accomplished young people, the Grade 9 graduates.

As they were handed their certificates applause filled the room. This was their moment.

But, planning for the celebration had started long before in the cold of winter. Louise Graham, a teacher at the school, determined that a special ceremony should mark the achievements of the students, organized them in an ice cream selling campaign.

According to school principal, Rod Giles, many a time during the long winter months he would hear a knock on the door of his home and there would stand a diligent ice cream seller. Eventually, the students raised enough money for all grad night activities.

Following the dinner and awards ceremony, Windspeaker spoke to the radiant graduates, asking of their future plans and if they had any advice they might pass on to those who will come behind them.

Margie Cardinal, 15, says she "is going to go on to Grade 10 and hopefully become a nurse. I enjoy math the best in school...I like Mr. Corkum the best, as a teacher, because he was fun and made school easy. To her fellow students she says, "You should be more educated so that you can do something with your life."

Launa Loyie, 16, explained that she used to want to be a teacher "just like my mother, but I've been thinking more...I just want to be a wife and have a family. So many of us are graduating now in education, but it's still hard to find a job." Launa says she likes Peerless Lake and would like to stay there. Her sage advice to young people is to stay in school. "You really don't know what's out there yet and you have to think of all the opportunities first before you do anything."

Marcel Nanemahoo just celebrated his 15th birthday and would like "to be a policeman, maybe." He says he was "kind of nervous to be up on the stage in front of so many people" but thinks school is a good thing and likes social studies best. He especially enjoyed studying the Soviet Union this year.

Beverly Muskwa, 15, wants to be a nurse to help other people when they're sick. She says she is "pretty proud that I did it (graduated) even though the last year was kind of hard." She hopes to get a summer job this summer.

The Red Deer Native Friendship Centre Presents a Seminar on "How To Write Effective Funding Proposals"

Mr. Michael Goldstein, President of RPM Planning Associates will be conducting this two day Proposal Writing Seminar. Mr. Goldstein has more than ten years experience of writing effective proposals and, for the last four years, has worked with several Native communities and Indian organizations across Canada.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

The participants will learn how to collect the appropriate types of information for the proposal; how to prepare a winning proposal; and how to make an effective presentation based on the contents of the proposal.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This seminar will be two days in duration for a maximum number of 30 participants. Using relevant materials, the participants will prepare an annual proposal. The materials will be relevant to Native people.

DATES AND REGISTRATION

The seminar will be conducted at the Friendship Centre on July 16th and 17th for a cost of \$150. The cost includes course materials but not accommodation or meals. The Red Deer Native Friendship Centre will be using resource people from RPM Planning Associates.

Registration must be completed by July 7th. Please contact the Friendship Centre at 340-0020 for any further information.

5217 Gaetz Ave. RED DEER, Alberta T4N 4B4

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Billy Mills inspires YTC award winners

By Jerome Bear

A total of 53 students were honored at the Yellowhead Tribal Council's (YTC) annual awards night which was held at the Continental Inn last Friday evening.

There were five different areas in which awards were presented: upgrading, university programs, social services programs, university, college entrance preparation program (UCEP). Other students were also presented with awards.

There were 19 students honored in the UCEP

program and the Academic Excellence awards went to Dianne Bellerose and Douglas Alexis. The most improved awards went to Dennis Swan and Sherry Callingbull.

In the university program, there were seven students honored. They were Linda Borle and Cindy Ladouceur for academic excellence and best attendance. Lorraine Arcand and Cassie Calliou for academic excellence. Also for dedication to the program, Sandra Potts, Evy Tobias and Roderick Alexis received the awards.

There were also seven students honored in the

upgrading program: Bev Ward and Debra Ward for academic excellence and Esther Ward, Emile Kootenay, Elaine Letendre, Shirley Arcand and Alexina Healy for completion of program.

In the Social Services program, 16 students were honored and presented awards. The winners of the academic excellence awards were Doreen Alexis, Georgina Alexis, Judy Alexis, Judy LeCompfe, Terry Lorranger and Carolyn Peacock.

Other students received awards for their outstanding achievements during the past year, Carmella Goodrunning won a \$50 award for being the high school student of the year for winning the Edmonton Journal award.

Shane Peacock won the student of the year award and will be attending Notre Dame College next year to take regular high school courses but to also concentrate on hockey.

Cheryl Arcand Kootenay received a \$50 award for completing a bachelor of arts degree in science and Irvin Cardinal Jr. received a \$50 award for winning a gold medal in track and field.

Richard Arcand, executive director at YTC, says that the awards night is to encourage students to complete their education and inspire them with recognition awards.

After awards were presented, students and guests were entertained by Billy Mills, who gave a speech to the students about how important it is to set a goal in life and then go after it without giving up. An autograph session followed.

Students achieve great heights

By Jerome Bear

Linda Borle, 28, received an award for academic excellence and best attendance at the Yellowhead Tribal Council's (YTC) annual awards night held last Friday at the Continental Inn.

Borle has finished her first year in a bachelor of arts program at the University of Alberta and wanted to go on to get a degree in anthropology, but has recently changed her mind. She doesn't know what field she wants to enter yet.

Cindy Ladouceur, 31, also received an award for academic excellence and best attendance at the YTC awards night held last Friday night. She has also completed her first year in Arts at the University of Alberta.

Ladouceur plans to go into psychology but may

change her mind in the near future. She thought that the banquet went very well but didn't expect to see so many people there.

"I've heard Billy Mills speak before and he was inspiring then; he is still just as inspiring now," says Ladouceur.

Shane Peacock, 12, received a \$50 award for his high marks and his outstanding athletic ability. He is from Enoch and has attended the Enoch school where he was in Grade 8.

Peacock will be attending Notre Dame college where he will continue into Grade 9, but he will be playing hockey for the college team. He hopes to play in the National Hockey League (NHL) in the future.

Peacock thought that Billy Mills' speech was very inspirational because he wants to make it into the NHL and he is also into track and field.

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Blue Quills holds historical grad

By Diane Parenteau

ST. PAUL — In an historic, sometimes emotional ceremony last Saturday afternoon, a record 65 students graduated from high school and post-secondary classes at Blue Quills School.

"I can't help but stand in front of you here today and be proud," says Blue Quills Native Education Council President Joe Dion.

His opening remarks revealed that this, the 12th annual graduation, was the largest in the school's history.

It was, according to Dr.

Gerry Kelly, president of Grant MacEwan Community College "the largest of graduates of any Native education institution across Canada."

Thirteen Grade 12 students and 52 students enrolled in post-secondary programs were introduced and honored for their academic achievements on June 20.

The Saddle Lake McGilvery drum group performed the Flag Song and set a traditional mood for Elder Henry Gadwa and his opening invocation.

Other speakers included representatives from

Grant MacEwan Collge, Athabasca University, Indian Affairs, Province of Alberta, AVC, Lakeland College, Town of St. Paul and Chiefs.

Chief Al Lameman, from the Beaver Lake Reserve, wore an honor suit with red piping, and spoke of Blue Quills as a Treaty right to education.

"Blue Quills is the only school in my area that will continue with teachings also taught in my school," says Chief Lameman.

The graduation address was delivered by world renowned artist Alex Janvier from the Cold Lake

Nation. "Today it hit me right in my heart," says Janvier. "You are tracking a new path."

Acting principal Peter Bughhins called up each high school grad. Drums sounded and the high pitched cries of drum leader Lyman McGilvery echoed in the background. In turn the students accepted their respective diplomas and an eagle feather to provide them with spiritual guidance and strength.

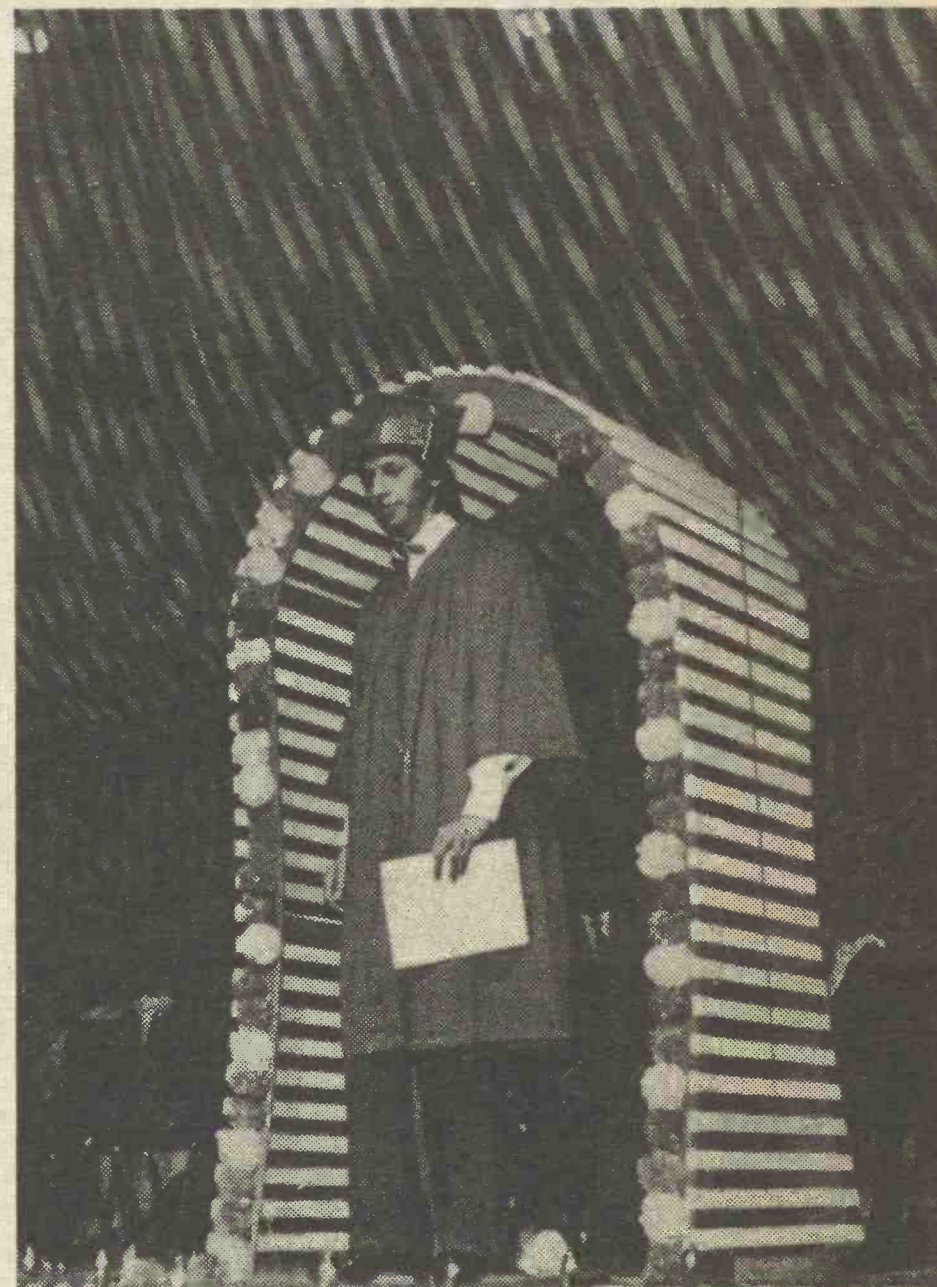
Two memorial awards, named for Priscilla Ann Brereton, 19, and Terrance Moosewah, 17, killed in separate accidents on June 6, were presented by their parents. Both had been involved at the school. During the touching presentations, one mother wiped a tear as the details of the memorial were revealed.

The Brereton award for achievement through dedication and love, went to Roxanne Pasquayak. Moosewah Award for achievement with effort was given to class valedictorian James Allen McKay.

The 19-year old McKay was the one high school grad having pursued the advanced (metric) diploma. He has been accepted by the Devry Institute in Calgary and is looking at a possible engineering career.

Diploma presentations to post-secondary graduates were made by Director of post-secondary programs, Larry Kaida.

Recipients included 15 Social Service students, eight Child Care grads, 13 from each the Early Child-



CLASS OF '87 GRAD
...valedictorian McKay

hood Development program and management studies and three bachelor of arts degrees. One of these went to the late Bella McGilvery who received her degree on February 26 of this year.

One Social Service grad, 41-year old Theresa Willier, moved her family to St. Paul when she was accepted at Blue Quills. The mother of four from Edmonton has been continuing her education for a long time. "I've been going to school for the past ten years," she says. Though it has been a long struggle she assured Windspeaker she enjoyed her two years at Blue

Quills. "This course really gives you a challenge. It makes you want to carry on and get more educated."

Willier hopes to continue her bachelor of social work (BSW) at the University of Alberta.

"It's a year of accomplishments," says Joe Dion. "We look forward for you to a better future and a better Blue Quills."

Theresa Willier, James McKay, and the other 63 Blue Quills graduates are as one speaker put it, free now to follow their chosen theme and "let your dreams take flight."



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Grads have great year at Grouard

By Albert Burger

GROUARD — Over 230 graduates took part in the annual convocation of Alberta Vocational Centre (AVC) Grouard as the largest graduating class in the institution's 15 year history. The ceremony was also the first ever in the open air, noted AVC Grouard President Fred Dumont.

Dumont told the crowd that the institution had come off "a banner year." Over 500 students attended classes at September 30, 1986. Dumont says that represented a 19 per cent increase in enrollment over the previous year.

Many of the graduates were not present at the convocation, but rather than decry their absence, it was a fact that was proudly noted.

For instance, indicated Dumont, all of the graduates in the forestry and survey courses had already found jobs.

"That is what we are about," Dumont says. "To assist our students to find work after they have taken this skills training."

The graduates, having studied in at least 30 programs of studies at campuses in Grouard, Valleyview and McLennan, represented communities, Metis settlements, and Indian reserves throughout northern Alberta, other parts of the province, and as far away as Manitoba.

Besides receiving graduate certificates, a number of them were also honored with special awards.

Dennis Laboucan of East

Prairie received a citizenship award as the student who demonstrated outstanding initiative, leadership, congeniality, and good citizenship in both the centre and in the community. Laboucan also was the recipient of the Orleanne Dechamps mother, Thelma Chalifoux, who noted that this was the ninth time it has been awarded. Orleanne was a former AVC Grouard student of the Louis Bull Band at Hobbema.

Joseph Chalifoux of Grouard was the recipient of the adult basic education achievement award for showing outstanding scholastic achievement.

In the commercial division, Tammy Badger and Hazel Backs of High Prairie shared the secretarial arts achievement award, while Tammy Badger also received the commercial division's achievement award as the student with the highest academic standing in the division.

Michelle Blize of Swan Hills achieved the computer accounting award.

Larry Muskego of Cold Lake received a special award from the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre for showing outstanding achievement and contribution in the Native cultural arts division.

Scholarship recipients through the Edmonton Northland Endowment program were Karen Dietzen of High Prairie in the Grouard campus high school credit program, Carmella Wohlgemuth in the Valleyview campus high school credit program, and Grace Gilfillian of Grande Prairie in the addictions resource worker program.

One of many AVC Grouard milestones this year was an address by the first valedictorian of the

centre. Michael Lamouche was chosen from final nominees representing each of AVC Grouard's divisions of studies. He is a graduate of the addictions resource worker program and a resident of the Grouard community.

Earlier in the day, the nursing assistant program held a ceremony at the Elk's Hall in High Prairie where they were presented with nursing pins and the official white caps with two pink stripes. The 19 new registered nursing assistants returned to Grouard to take part in the afternoon's convocation ceremonies.

The ceremonies were followed by a cocktail hour and an outdoor dinner at Grouard, before moving to the High Prairie curling rink for an evening dance.



BIGGEST GRADUATION SO FAR

Eleven graduating Grade 12 students took part in the largest graduation to date at the Saddle Lake Onchaminahos school. (L to R) The graduates: Calvin Steinhaur, Leon Mooswah, Kevin Moses, Lynnette Birtton, Mona Cardinal, Mavis Cardinal, Violet Byrd, Eva Stamp, Michelle Steinhaur, Stephanie Moses and Velma White.

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- applicants must pass the A.V.C. Lac La Biche entrance exams

Start Date: October 19, 1987

Location: A.V.C. Lac La Biche

To apply or for more information contact the Admissions office at:

Alberta Vocational Centre
9531 - 94 Avenue
Lac La Biche, AB
T0A 2C0
623-5583

Alberta Vocational Centre
St. Paul Office
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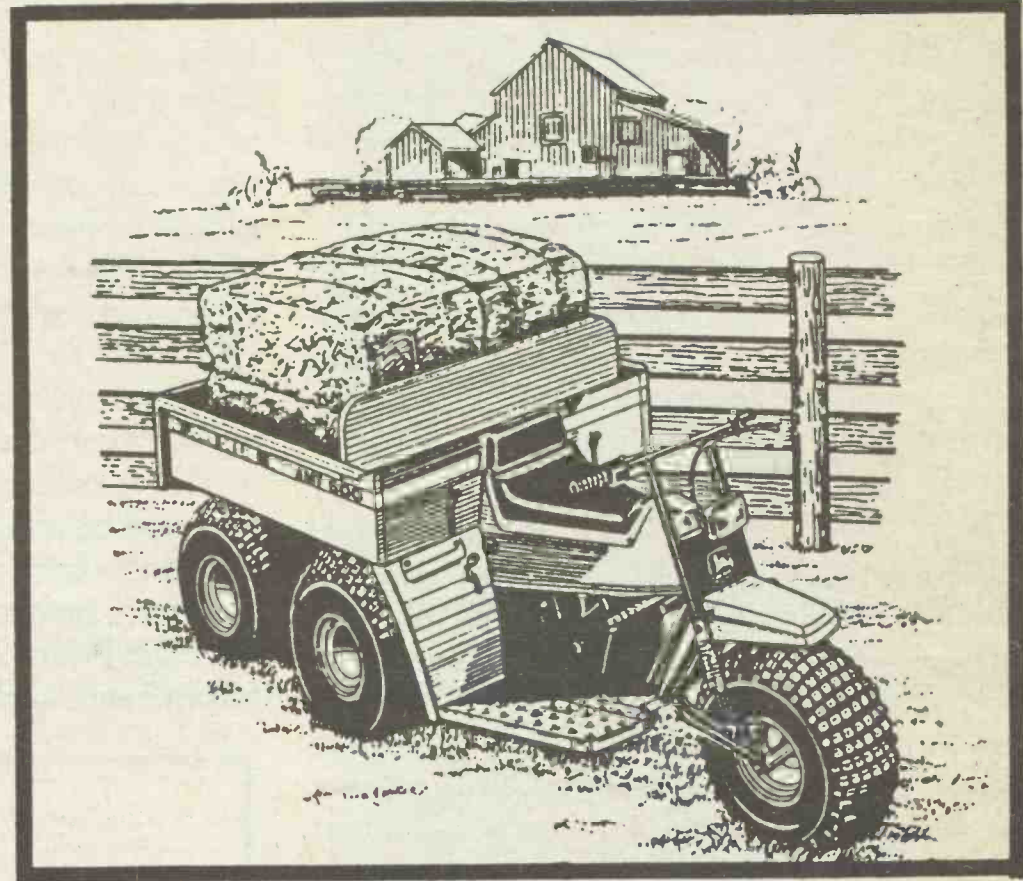
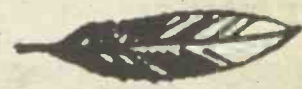
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