



UP AND UP, AND UP AND UP — This young lady is being tossed high at last year's World Eskimo Olympics. The title of the event has been changed to World Eskimo-Indian Olympics this year. Nalukatuk, or blanket toss, is a very popular event at the Olympics every year. There will be quite a number of new games introduced this year. The Tundra Times' Olympics will be staged at the Patty Gymnasium of the University of Alaska on July 26 - 27 - 28.

— Photo by JOHN METZGER

New Indian Games at Olympics

The 1973 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics will be sporting a brand new name this year, along with bright new parkas for special contestants and officials, and an all-new oogruk blanket for the popular blanket toss.

More exciting for the spectators, however, will be a whole raft of new events, new games, and new features.

Honoring the Indian participation in the games, the Olympics will feature Indian games that have never been seen by Fairbanks audiences: the Rope Game, a test of strength performed on two parallel ropes suspended at shoulder height; Walking the Greased Pole, where two men not only attempt to maneuver their way across the pole but to knock one another off; and a Beaver-Skinning or Muskrat-Skinning Contest.

The World Eskimo-Indian Olympics will begin with a three mile footrace, beginning and ending at Patty Gymnasium, site of the games.

The winner will carry a lighted torch into the auditorium, from which two women, Eskimo and Indian, will light the traditional lamps.

The Eskimo lamp will burn on seal oil, the Indian lamp on moose tallow.

Arrangements are being made to bring the famous Chilkat

dancers to the Olympics from the Southeast, and Yupik Es-

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kimo dancers will also be on the program for the first time.

With many authentic dance groups from village Alaska, this year's competition should be outstanding.

Contestants from Inuvik,

Canada, are expected to return again this year, demonstrating some of the games of Canada. The Inuit Association of Northern Quebec has contacted Tundra Times and is hoping to attend.

Although the complexities of diplomatic arrangements and the requirements of time may make it impossible to bring in contestants from Lapland, Greenland, Russia, and other northern countries, they will be contacted and asked to exchange observers to pave the way for an international Olympics in the future.

Among the lists of "firsts" this year will be a food concession featuring native foods, as well as a booth with native arts and crafts.

Villages, regions and native art cooperatives are asked to contact the Tundra Times about displaying objects during the three day event.

Crowning the festivities will be the selection of a Miss World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, dressed in authentic native costume, and a Native Baby Contest of babies of at least one-quarter native blood, also in authentic dress.

From the opening welcome in all the native languages of the contestants to the finale, the 1973 Olympics promises to be packed full of excitement and surprises.