



THE EAR PULL—Tommy Smith of Inuvik is wincing with pain just before he lost the ear pull contest to his opponent in last week's Arctic

Winter Games held in the city of Whitehorse, Y.T. About a thousand athletes participated in the games.
—Photo by JOHN METZGER

Alaskans Dominate Winter Games

By JIMMY BEDFORD

WHITEHORSE, Y.T. — Alaska's native people seemed to be everywhere at the second Arctic Winter Games here last week, participating in just about everything from ear weight pulling and blanket tossing to rifle shooting.

At least one Alaska native won a gold medal — Stan Bogenrife, a Bethel-born Eskimo living in Anchorage, won junior rifle top honors in individual competition.

Although Alaska natives were outnumbered by Eskimoes and Indians from the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Arctic Quebec, they were not outclassed.

In the "Crafts North of 60" (north of the 60th parallel), the most popular exhibits were live Alaskans demonstrating native arts and crafts. Artists ranged from Leo Jacobs of Haines carving a large self-standing totem pole to a spry 72-year-old Aleutian island basket weaver, An-fesia Shapsnikoff, now living in Unalaska.

They came from as far north as Point Barrow, with Carl Hank demonstrating the nearly extinct art of baleen baskets, and as far West as Shishmaref, home of Andrew Ningeulook who carved ivory.

Among the interested spectators of Mrs. Shapsnikoff's basket-weaving, were two visitors from Yakut, a Siberian republic of the Soviet Union. Although Yakuts are not Eskimoes, and do not speak Eskimo, they were able to talk with Mrs. Shapsnikoff in Russian.

There were exhibits from the musk ox farm, including qiviut scarves and sweaters knitted by Nunivak island women, Annie Mayo of the Fairbanks Native Center demonstrating Indian beadwork and Melvin Olanna of Shishmaref and Fairbanks demonstrating print making.

In the Haines contingent there were the Chilkat dancers as well as three carvers: John Hagen, formerly of Fairbanks, and Ed Kasko, as well as the previously mentioned Leo Jacobs.

Laura Bergt, perennial emcee of Eskimo Olympics, served as emcee for the native games programs. The Alaska team participating in the native games included Louis Pauken, Gordon Killbear, Harry Kaleak, Reggie Joule and Robert Aiken, with Roger Kunyak, University of

Alaska sophomore, serving as coach.

Fairbanks area sent a native dance team including Lucy Jimmie, Wade Kallock and

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UNUSUAL GAME—Louie Paukan of the University of Alaska swings his feet high while fighting the pain on his neck from the belt.



GYMS PACKED—The gyms were packed every day to watch the special events at the Arctic Winter Games.



WRIST PULL—Mickey Gordon of Inuvik is on his way to winning a tug of war with his wrist.

—Photos by JOHN METZGER

Winter Games . . .

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Louise Holmberg from Tanana and the following dancers from Minto: Burma Silas, Roxanne Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Titus and Robert Titus. Completing the dance team was Lorraine Beetus from Hughes.