

**"I may not agree with what you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it" -VOLTAIRE**

# Editorial Comment

## *THE SUMMER OF '86: WEIO, ICC, AND THE ST. GEORGE ISLAND BICENTENNIAL*

*Despite the wretched economic problems currently afflicting Alaskans, this summer will be a lively one with a number of major Native events. Look to the villages, or in the cities, or on the Aleutian Chain, and you're likely to find fun and cultural celebration going on.*

*If you happen to be passing through Fairbanks on your way to the Northwest, check out the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, this year being held at the Big Dipper Recreation Center in Fairbanks.*

*WEIO is a twenty-six year old annual event featuring Alaska Native athletic games and much more than that. This year, the race of the torch begins on Thursday, July 24. The events scheduled promise another record breaking WEIO. We hope to see you there.*

*On your way to Kotzebue around the end of July, you'll probably be attending the Inuit Circumpolar Conference. This event is one that most Alaska Natives have been waiting for.*

*Participants will be coming from as far away as Greenland and Canada, hopefully even Russia to attend the week long meeting which is certain to draw world wide attention to the Alaskan Arctic. We hope to see you there too.*

*A major celebration is shaping up on the Pribilof Islands at St. George. This celebration of the discovery of St. George Island in June 1786 will include religious ceremonies as well as games, picnics, and the dedication of the harbor.*

*And if you still have vacation time to spare, go the the Chevak Tundra Festival, which starts on August 7. We hope to be there too.*

## *INCREASING SECOND-CLASS POSTAL RATES ARE HURTING US*

*Since the beginning of the year, our second class postal rates have gone up approximately 37.5 percent. Most newspapers distribute either personal delivery or street sales, but the Tundra Times, being Alaska's oldest statewide weekly newspaper must depend on the U.S. Mail for circulation, and we're hurting with the elimination of the second class postal subsidies.*

*It just is not fair that small weekly newspapers should have to take a greater share of the increases in so short a time. We hope that our Congressional delegation will realize that in Alaska, much of our news must travel by mail, and we can't manage so large an increase at this time.*

*If our readers would care to help us out, please contact someone in Washington, D.C. to let them know that we need help in reducing the cost of second class postage.*