



**SHUCKS! IT'S NOT THAT BAD**—The symbol of the Eskimo Olympics, the polar bear, seems to be encouraging Chairman Laura Bergt that things weren't going to be that bad—and they weren't. Seemingly worried officials are from left to right: Capt. Bill English, Wien Air, emcee; Amos

Wallace, famous totem carver, judge; Howard Rock, Tundra Times editor, judge; and Laura Bergt. Steve Gordon's camera went on the blink early and the "worrier's" picture came out the best.

—Photo By STEVE GORDON

## 1967 Eskimo Olympics in Booming Start

The 1967 World Eskimo Olympics literally boomed its way into Fairbanks' Lathrop High School gymnasium Wednesday as the native Alaskan performers marched around in front of the spectators to the chanting and beating of drums of their dance teams.

Athabascans, Tlingits, Aleuts and Eskimos paraded in their colorful costumes

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# 1967 Olympics

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applauded by a well-fitted house despite heavy rains that drenched the City of Fairbanks.

"You could feel that there was a lot of spirit and interest in this year's Olympics," a spectator said.

Mackenzie Delta Drummers from Inuvik, N.W.T., won the first round of a dance contest by one point over its highly rated team rival of Barrow dancers.

On the hi-kick contest, Harry Kaleak of Barrow and Dan Thomas of Kotzebue tied at the height of six feet ten inches. Forest Solomon, Jr., Barrow, and Charles Edwardson, Barrow and Fairbanks, tied at six feet four inches.

The hi-kick is performed by touching a suspended seal poke with both toes simultaneously and landing back on the floor on both feet.

Chairman Laura Bergt of this year's Olympics won the first round of the nalukatuk (blanket toss) contest squeezing past Jenny Felder of Barrow.

The perennial seal skinning contest winner, Rhoda Nageak of Barrow, came through the initial contest over her only rival, Elizabeth Lampe, also of Barrow.

Edith Tegoseak, Fairbanks and Barrow, was to be the third contestant but her dull "ula" (woman's cutting and skinning knife) disqualified her. This was proven after Edith demonstrated for the audience, and for picture taking, how a seal is skinned. Edith had trouble cutting through tough parts of the seal.

Seventeen Olympics native queen contestants paraded one by one in their colorful costumes much to the delight of the audience.

The crowning of the 1967 World Eskimo Olympics queen takes place after the deadline of this newspaper.

The master of ceremonie slot is being handled by three veteran Eskimo pilots of Wien Air Alaska, Bill English, George Thiele and Thomas Richards.