

Lakota medicine man seeks racial, religious harmony


by De Bora A. McIntosh
for the Tundra Times

Racial and religious harmony are needed in today's world, according to Martin High Bear, a medicine man and spiritual leader.

Speaking to a gathering of members of the Baha'i Faith Sept. 27, High Bear talked about the need for respect and honor for one another and choosing the "right" road to follow.

High Bear was invited to Alaska as a guest of Rose Dreyer, an Athabascan Baha'i, who met High Bear seven years ago after hearing about the healing ceremony he performed which cured a friend's son of epilepsy.

High Bear, a member of the Hunkpapa band of the Lakota Sioux Plains Tribe in Eagle Butte, S.D., has been traveling for more than 15 years throughout the United States, Canada and Europe helping people of all tribes and races by performing vision quests, healing and purification ceremonies and traditional weddings. He has serv-



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ed as intercessor at many sacred Sun Dances.

According to Bill Walters, a Lakota who has lived in Alaska for 14 years, there are about 20 Lakotas living in Alaska. They felt very blessed and honored by High Bear's presence here, he said.

High Bear will be traveling to Germany this month to teach the small number of Lakotas there about their heritage.