

# Chante Would Help Beltz Students But No Nome Fare

Chante and Michelle, a hypnotist-mentalists duo that has performed in clubs and schools throughout Alaska, is trying to get to Nome.

There, they hope to give a

benefit performance to raise money to send the youngsters at Beltz School home for Christmas vacation.

Presently appearing at the King's Kup in Fairbanks, the

mentalists act will be there till the beginning of December. At its last bulletin, Beltz school students had \$6,000 to raise in order to pay the plane fares which would get them back to

their villages by Christmas.

School lets out the week before and December 15 is their deadline for raising that sizeable amount of money.

Nome police are anxious to

sponsor the show, according to Jack Silbaugh, the act's manager.

Alaska Airlines has already donated free room and board for their stay, he told TUNDRA

(Continued on page 6)

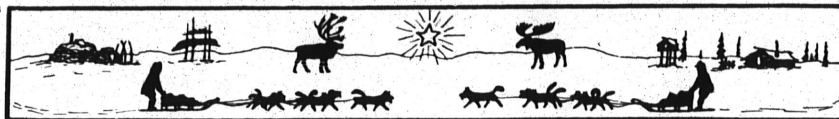
## Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

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Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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# ROADBLOCK: LAND SELECTION

## Supreme Court Decision of Importance

By MADELYN SHULMAN  
Staff Writer

Coming before the village magistrate, Joseph H. decided it wasn't worth the trouble to claim he wasn't drunk and disorderly. He pleaded guilty, expecting to spend a night or two in jail.

In disbelief he listened to the village magistrate sentence him to six months at the state jail in Fairbanks.

This happens all the time in Alaska's villages. Though this name is fictitious, dozens of natives have found themselves in the same problems.

Now, according to a Supreme Court decision delivered last week, defendants in all criminal cases, even misdemeanors, are entitled to a court appointed lawyer. If the defendant cannot afford a lawyer, the state must provide one through the public defenders agency.

The affects of the decision in the case of Kathleen Alexander could be heavily felt in the state if people in bush areas begin demanding their right to representation of an attorney, explained public defender Dick Madsen of Fairbanks. In the vast majority of cases in his experience, he explained, they do not.

"Unfortunately," he told the

(Continued on Page 6)



JUST A BIT MORE TURKEY PLEASE—Head Starters Cindy Amouak and Keith Anders polish off a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner at the special dinner given by the Fairbanks Head Start center last Wednesday. Out of sight in this picture are their parents who joined the children for the annual celebration.

—Photo by MADELYN SHULMAN

## No Pilgrims at Fairbanks Head Start Thanksgiving Feast

"The Indians are a lot more popular around here than Pilgrims," quipped Head Start project director Betty Wescott as she modeled her own brilliant collection of Indian beadwork.

Thanksgiving at the Fairbanks Head Start Center was the day for sumptuous feasting. Thanksgiving turkey, dressing, cranberry jello, sweet potatoes and all the trimmings attracted parents and guests as well as the 80 head starters.

Rooms and children wore Thanksgiving decorations. With

a large Eskimo and Indian population and not a pilgrim to be seen, Fairbanks Head Starters celebrated.

The day was not all celebration, however. Promptly at one o'clock Head Start staff members attended the funeral of six Fairbanks native children, a "Head Start family" who died last Sunday in a tragic trailer fire.

## Wright Disappointed Governor, Delegation Not in Solid Position

By THOMAS RICHARDS, JR.  
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As the House-Senate Conference Committee began its week of meetings on the Alaska Native Land Claims bill Tuesday, Governor William A. Egan prepared to leave Juneau to be in Washington for the committee's work.

"I think it's imperative that I be there, in case they have questions of me," Egan reported Tuesday morning.

The major roadblock to a settlement of the land claims before Congress adjourns December 9 is the question of land selection.

In Washington on Monday, Don Wright, President of the AFN told the TUNDRA TIMES that he is greatly disappointed in the inability of the members of the Alaska Congressional delegation and the Governor of Alaska to unify on one solid land claims position.

Wright stated his concern that the delegation and the Governor would not commit themselves to a position on the claims issue which would be

acceptable to the AFN. At this time, Wright said, he still had no idea of what the outcome will be from the meetings of the House-Senate conference

(Continued on Page 6)

## State/Federal Land Use Plan Under Attack

Sen. Willie Hensley and Rep. Frank Ferguson, both of Kotzebue, have taken serious objection to the exclusion of Native representation on the joint state/Federal land use planning program for 200 million acres of Arctic Alaska recently announced by Gov. Egan.

Rep. Ferguson and Sen. Hensley feel that the 200 million acre study of land resources and their potential uses should provide for direct input by members of the Arctic Slope Native Association and the Northwest Alaska Native Association.

These organizations presently

(Continued on Page 6)

## Fairbanks Power Outage Chills Staff

Here at TUNDRA TIMES in Beautiful Downtown Fairbanks we're still shivering a bit after an electrical outage Sunday cut the power off for Fairbanks homes and businesses.

A fire at municipal utilities caused the equipment failure and for hours the utility system played "musical electric." They gave each area of town power for an hour at a time. Temperatures during the power shortage were a shivery 25 below.

In the ghostly early hours of the morning, Fairbanks' bright lights were shut down to conserve electricity. It was a dark and dismal morning.

In the TUNDRA TIMES office, editor Howard Rock and composer operator Diana Cartier sat by candlelight waiting for the power to return.

Mr. Rock was reportedly frozen out of his downtown apartment where it got chillier than it did in the chilly Chena

Building.

All's well that ends well, however. Just as we were about to evacuate, the lights came back and Fairbanks returned to normal.

By MADELYN SHULMAN  
Staff Writer

Throughout its 29 years of operation, the National Congress on American Indians, the coun-

try's oldest and largest Indian group, has represented many of the country's native people. It has never been able to represent all of them.

Its membership, based on

recognized groups, excludes Indians who are not organized into tribes, recognized associations or villages.

The powerful Navajo people, numbering over 100,000 have refused to join an organization where their representation would not match their population. Their tribal and life structure does not match the NCAI mold.

Membership is expensive. Smaller Indian tribes and groups do not always have the money to join. This has been true for many Alaskan villages.

ASNA executive director Charles Edwardson, Jr. paid \$150 in back dues for his village in order to vote at last week's NCAI convention at Reno. Next year, all 200 Alaskan villages are eligible.

This will give the Alaska delegation over 2,000 chapter votes but it will also mean a great deal

(Continued on Page 6)

## State Suit Against Sleeping Bag Co.—Consumer Protection Case Against Beaverton, Ore. Firm

The State of Alaska has filed its first consumer protection suit, seeking not less than \$25,000 in penalties against a mail order firm which the state claims has "misled and deceived Alaskan buyers," Attorney General John E. Havelock said.

The suit was filed against the Alaska Sleeping Bag Company of Beaverton, Oregon, "because it is the Department of Law's responsibility to prevent unfair trade practices and to protect consumers," Havelock said.

The action was filed in Superior Court in Juneau early last week on the basis of consumer protection legislation that took effect in September 1970.

"Preparation of the suit began after initial state action on complaints against the company this spring did not lead to satisfactory results," Havelock said.

The State's consumer protection suit against the catalog order firm says it has "failed to fill orders placed by Alaskan customers, and has frequently

utilized unresponsive, deceptive, and misleading statements as to the status of customers' orders."

It continues, "When orders have been filled, defendant has in some instances taken months to fill them, and has then done so only under threat of legal action."

The company also consistently refused to acknowledge refunds, the complaint said, and it often failed to make refunds on those few occasions when it did

(Continued on page 2)