

Eskimo Dance to a 'Square Drum,' Pretty Girls to Be at 1967 Olympics

"We're going to bring the prettiest Eskimo Girl in Canada to the Eskimo Olympics to compete in the queen contest," Tom Butters told Laura Bergt over the

phone this week.

Butters had had a lot to do with generating interest at Inuvik, N.W.T., in having that town to participate in the World Eskimo Olympics this year.

"We'll have about 40 people, contestants and spectators, on a C-46 charter to Fairbanks," added Butters.

Tom Butters is the editor of THE DRUM at Inuvik and Laura Bergt is the chairman of the World Eskimo Olympics.

"We'll have about 15 girls

(Continued on page 6)



Lorraine "Honey Bun" Peterson

"HONEY BUN"—Lorraine Dale Peterson is the Fort Yukon entry for the World Eskimo Olympics Queen pageant during the Olympics August 9-12. Honey Bun is five-foot three inches tall and 18 years old. She was born at Fort Yukon but has lived in Circle and Beaver. She likes swimming, skating and sewing.

SQUARE DRUM, PRETTY GIRLS...

(Continued from Page 1)

in the Eskimo Olympics queen contest this year," beamed Laura Bergt.

Girls that will definitely take part are from the following cities, towns and villages: Barrow, Inuvik, N.W.T., Kotzebue, Midnight Sun Princess, Nome, Arctic Native Brotherhood Princess, Nome, Cook Inlet Native Association Princess, Anchorage, Miss Upward Bound, University of Alaska, College, Miss Fairbanks Native Association, Fairbanks, Miss Hooper Bay, and Miss Fort Yukon.

Mrs. Dorothy Perdue, chairman of the Olympics queen contest is expecting contestants from Minto, Unalakleet, St. Mary's, Southeastern Alaska, Kodiak, Point Hope and others.

"I think Simon Paneak of Anaktuvuk Pass will be here and he may perform imitations of moose, ducks, dogs, ravens, ptarmigans, wolves and other animals," said Laura Bergt. "I've heard him. He does them so well it's weird to listen to him."

There will be other novel additions in this year's Eskimo Olympics.

"Pete Sovalik and his dancers at Barrow are reviving some ancient dances and some that are done with a square drum," Laura revealed. "I've never heard of that one—dances done to a 'Square drum.'"

She said when she was at Barrow recently, Pete Sovalik

had already started working on the drum. Pete also said he and others may have enough time to make a new kayak to enter in the kayak races at the Olympics.

"Bring your own kayak," Laura said. "Don't worry about the transportation for it."

She said the contestants should also furnish their own harpoons for the harpoon throwing contest and women should bring their own ulus for the seal skinning contest—a very popular event at the Olympics.

Northway and Tetlin will bring their dancers, as well as St. Mary's, Kotzebue, and, perhaps, King Island dancers from Nome.

Mel Brown of Unalakleet is expected to represent his village in the athletic events. Mel has been a varsity basketball player at the University of Alaska before he graduated.

There will be muktuk eating contests, knuckle hop contests, and others.

Minto will take to the river to bring its dancers and contestants to the Olympics.

Come one, come all. The World Eskimo Olympics is bigger and more exciting than ever before.

"It's getting so big I'm a little frightened," said Chairman Laura Bergt.

The big event takes place August 9-12. And don't forget, Inuvik is bringing its Drum Dancers.