

Committee Sets—

TT's Annual Olympics

By MARGIE BAUMAN

FAIRBANKS — Plans for the 1974 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics begin to take shape tonight, as the Olympics committee meets at 7 p.m. at the Careage North building at 1949 Gillam Way in Fairbanks.

Committee chairman Chris Anderson, who chaired the 1973 Olympics Committee, said plans called for an organizational meeting before specific assignments for this year's event are made.

The 1973 Olympics, which drew hundreds of spectators to three days of colorful traditional Native sports at the University of Alaska Patty Gymnasium, was capped by an invitation for four top athletes and Olympics Committee member Laura Bergt to be guests on the Johnny Carson Show.

Before a nationwide audience Carson tried his hand at Olympics events against Reggie Joule of Kotzebue, Lester

Bodfish of Wainwright, Roger Kunuyak, Fairbanks and Fred Titus of Minto, while Bergt discussed the Olympics with Carson and presented him with an oosik.

Among the top sporting contests of the 1973 Games were the two foot high kick, in which Joule hurled himself six feet eight inches into the air to win the event. Joule also won the Nalakutuk (blanket toss) competition for men.

Walter Lord of Fairbanks also wowed the audience, carrying four men weighing a total of 586 pounds for 44 feet, five inches and Freddie Titus went 800 feet with 18 pounds dangling from one ear to win the ear weight contest.

Joshua Okpik Jr. of Barrow was the winner of the drop-the-bomb event, keeping stiff as he was carried 95 feet two inches.

Louis Pauken of Bethel won the ear pull competition.

(continued on page 6)

Annual Olympics

(Continued from Page 1)

Indian leg wrestling winner was Robert Okpeaha and the champion muktuk eater proved to be Roy Katairroak of Barrow.

James Itta of Barrow placed first in the grueling knuckle hop, moving 41 feet eight inches on his knuckles and toes.

Barrow's Rhoda Nageak proved her prowess as a crafts-woman, skinning out a seal in one minute, 15 seconds, and also placed first in the fish cutting competition, with a time of one minute 21 seconds.

In dance competition, prizes went to the Eskimo dance team from Wainwright and Athabascan dancers from Minto.

Reigning over the festivities was 1973 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics Queen Martha Anagick, 19, of Unalakleet, a sophomore at Stanford University.

A special feature of 1973 Olympics was a change in the name of the Games itself, from World Eskimo Olympics to the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, recognizing the wider spectrum of Native peoples in Alaska.

To publicize the event, large silk screened posters depicting an Eskimo drummer were sold, as well as tickets to the event, which serves in addition to being a cultural happening for Alaskans to an annual fund raiser for the Tundra Times.

Plans for publicity of this year's event are still being made and persons interested in working in all the preliminary work for the Games are asked to attend tonight's meeting.