



AFN CONCENTRATES POWER

1973 Olympics: New Games A Hit So Is Wainwright

FAIRBANKS — Weir Negavonna of Wainwright played "Old Black Joe" with a violin bow and converted buck saw, then swapped it all for a skin drum in the 1973 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics.

The drum and the beat of an Eskimo song helped Wainwright dancers win top honors in the games, which ended Saturday night in an all-tribal dance.

For three days the spectacular of traditional Native games and dances drew hundreds of spectators and provided a colorful look into traditional sports, and, of course, a reunion for many old friends. The games are coordinated by the Tundra Times, which receives all profits.

Top Olympic athletes Reggie Joule, Kotzebue, Lester Bodfish, Wainwright and Roger Kunayak, Nome were to be on the Johnny Carson Show Tuesday night with Laura Bergt.

Joule hurled himself six feet eight inches into the air to win the two foot high kick, while Bodfish swung eight feet up into first place in the one-foot high kick.

Joule placed second in the one foot high kick, at seven feet nine inches, while Bodfish placed second at six feet two inches. Robert Okpeaha placed third in both events. He jumped seven feet five inches in the one foot high kick and six feet two inches in the other event.

Joule also won the Nalakutuk (blanket toss) competition for men, over Roger Kunayak, Nome, Billy Killbear, Barrow, Joe Kaska, Barrow and Robert Okpeah, Barrow.

But he conserved his energy enough to give a big kiss to 1973 World Eskimo-Indian Queen Martha Anagiek, 19, of Unalakleet, as he claimed one of his trophies.

Martha, a sophomore at Stanford University, wore a purple corduroy parka with white fox ruff and wolf fur-trimmed mukluks. Nita Sheldon of Noorvik, Miss Fairbanks Native Association, was first runner up, and Darlene Seeburger of Kotzebue, Miss Arctic Circle, was chosen as Miss Personality.

Others in the queen's court were Dorothy Woods of Manley Hot Springs, Miss Tanana Chiefs, Evelyn Pederson of Nome, Miss Arctic Native Brotherhood, Lorraine Synder of Bethel, Miss Upward Bound, Lulu Atkins of Metlakatla, Miss Metlakatla, Carolyn Tritt of Arctic Village, Miss Arctic Village, and Edith Edwardsen of Barrow, Miss Barrow.

Queens committee chairman



DISTANT DRUMMER - Napatcheecalak, a Canadian Eskimo, demonstrates his singing style at the World Indian/Eskimo Olympics. He had just ended a 3,000 mile canoe trip from Repulse Bay to Point Barrow. — Photo by FRANK MURPHY

Dee Kern, an Athabaskan beauty from Ruby, spent the week showing the contestants around Fairbanks, making media appearances, and keeping numerous appointments.

But after a new queen was safely on the throne, she entered the woman's Nalakutuk, and won over competitors Edith Edwardsen, Eva Kowunna, Barrow, Polly Tegoseak, Fairbanks and Laura Bergt, Fairbanks.

Winner of the Native baby contest was Lynette Winfrey of Minto.

Cliff Topkok of Teller won the Indian stick pull.

Walter Lord of Fairbanks proved the strongest of them all, carrying four men weighing a total 586 pounds for 44 feet, five inches. Leonard Menka of Koyukuk was second, carrying that group five feet, six inches and Joe Kasak of Barrow placed third, at two feet, 11 inches.

Freddie Titus of Minto went 800 feet with 18 pounds dangling from one ear to win the ear weight contest. In 1971 he set the ear weight record, carrying

19 pounds for 860 feet. Billy Killbear was second, at 544 feet 10 inches and Robert Okpeaha was third, at 93 feet.

Louis Pauken of Bethel won the ear pull contest.

Joshua Okpik Jr. of Barrow was the winner of drop-the-bomb, keeping stiff as he was carried 95 feet two inches. Joe Kasak placed second, at 60 feet 10 inches and Roger Kunayak was third at 51 feet.

Wainwright's 12 member dance team placed first among Eskimo Dancers and the 32 member contingent from Minto won top prize among Indian dance teams.

Indian leg wrestling winner was Robert Okpeaha and the champion mukluk eater was Roy Katairrok of Barrow. Billy Killbear placed second in that event.

Killbear also placed second in the knuckle hop, at 32 feet, eight inches. James Itta of Barrow won that event handily at 41 feet eight inches and Joshua Okpik Jr. of Barrow was third at 28 feet 11 inches.

Polly Tegoseak of Fairbanks placed first among Eskimo women sewers and Mabel Charlie was the top Indian sewer.

Seal skinning honors went to Rhoda Nageak of Barrow, who skinned out a seal in one minute 15 seconds. Beverly Negavanna of Wainwright was second at one minute 50 seconds.

The top fish cutters were Rhoda Nageak, at one minute 21 seconds and Olive Anderson of Kaktovik in one minute 25 seconds.

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Organization To Focus Mainly On Land Claims

By MARGIE BAUMAN
KTVE/KFRB

FAIRBANKS — The Alaska Federation of Natives Inc. took strong steps Sunday to relieve itself of secondary responsibilities and concentrate solely on implementing the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

While strongly supporting all social service programs

now under the statewide body, the board voted to transfer some administrative responsibilities and agreed to return to their regional boards with a proposed plan to finance the statewide body through regional assessments.

The transition will take some time, because another statewide group has to take on these responsibilities and as yet has not been appointed.

For months now, board members have invariably agreed that the main function of the statewide body was implementation of the land claims act, and that a statewide group to handle social service responsibilities should be set up to handle it.

Current social service programs within AFN Inc. include Healthright, the Alaska Student Higher Education Services, OEO Technical Assistance Grant, a nutrition program and several thousand dollars in health contracts, plus Johnson-O'Malley education funds.

The board called the move a "mile stone" in its efforts for the statewide Native community.

Also in line with financing, the board moved to send each

region a formal request for payment of land claims debts, and approved a proposed budget and work program prepared by the administrative staff.

Willie Hensley, president of AFN Inc. called it a "very successful meeting" and a move that could help the organization proceed in "a more businesslike fashion" dealing mainly with capital and land involved in the settlement and related business.

Hensley represents NANA Regional Corporation Inc. Also present were Nels Anderson, Bristol Bay Native Corp., Hank Eaton, Konig Inc., Ralph Johnson, Cook Inlet Region Inc., Showalter Smith, Calista Corp., Herb Smeleer, Ahlta Inc., and chairman of the board John Sackett, Doyon Ltd.

Dick Jensen sat in informally for Chugach Natives Inc., their representative, Cecil Barnes, was unable to attend. Mike Swetozof, president of the Aleut Corp., also attended portions of the meeting, but did not participate. The Aleuts have withdrawn from the statewide body.

The board meeting began Saturday and delved into a

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Canadian Land Claims Leader Tells TT Of Growing Movement



JAMES WAH-SHEE

By MARGIE BAUMAN
KTVE/KFRB

From the fight for Indian control of a village school to the movement to establish land rights of Native peoples north of the

60th parallel, it has been a rough road for James Wah-shee.

The visiting Athabaskan Indian leader, president of the Federation of Natives North of 60 acknowledges that the fight of Native peoples against the government, gas and oil interests is going to be a bit rougher than gaining control of a school-house, but in essence, it's all the same.

Native peoples in Canada are pushing for a land claims settlement, such as the one Alaska Natives began fighting for in the 1960s — pushing for the right to control their own destiny.

And beyond that, Wah-shee talks of circum-polar unity for all Native peoples north of the 60th parallel, stretching across much of the top of the world. Greenland Eskimos, already approached on the idea and Scandinavian peoples too have greeted the idea with enthusiasm. "If all goes well, we hope to

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