

Editorial—

The World Eskimo Olympics of 1969

The 1969 World Eskimo Olympics is history having had its two-day run ending last Saturday. Although the Olympics encountered difficulties in locating a site for the performances, the program came out as one of the most pleasing in its eight-year history.

Commendations are due those in charge of the uniquely native cultural show especially its young chairman Thomas Richards, Jr., who at 19 years of age steered the program to its highly successful performance despite the shortness of time in which to make preparations. Young Richards' committee, composed mostly of young people, also did a fine job under a maze of difficulties.

We would also like to commend Dr. William R. Wood, president of the University of Alaska, for his valuable support in providing the Patty Gymnasium for the performances of the Olympics events and for providing housing for the performers along with eating facilities.

Daphne Rylander Gustafson did a superb job of working with Olympics queen contestants. She would be first to admit, we are sure, that she had excellent help of other able women. As a result, the pageant was presented in its finest form to date.

Demonstrating its ever popular public appeal, the 1969 World Eskimo Olympics performed before capacity crowds. The 2,500 seat capacity Patty gym was filled to the brim on the last day of the performances proving once again the popularity of the program. The UA gymnasium proved to be the best site the Olympics ever had for presenting its unique native events.