



# Beating Around The Bush

by Steve Kakaruk

Tundra Times

## PITKAS POINT

### Spring Carnival Sled Dog Races

The men's 17-mile and women's seven-mile sled dog races took place April 26-27. Ruth Riley telephoned the race results into *Beating Around the Bush*.

**Men's Races:** first place, Steve Fitka, 51.01 min; second place, John Riley, 52.59 min; third place, David Peterson, 55.59 min; fourth place, Chet Holdon, 57.21 min; fifth place, Paul Alexie, 57.56 min; sixth place, William Riley, 60.14 min.

**Women's Races:** first place, Ruth Riley, 43.24 min; second place, Lucy Peterson, 44.52 min; third place, Dolly Kiyupelek, 46.51 min; fourth place, Bibiana Thompson, 47.13 min; fifth place, Anna Alexie, 47.18 min; sixth place, Beverly Sipary, 47.42 min.

Soon school will be out and graduation is just around the corner. Ten students and three adults will be ready to travel to Montana after graduation. The travel is part of the Cultural Heritage Program. Ruth said, "The students have never really traveled anywhere, this is their chance to look at how the other world lives."

## BARROW

### First Bowhead Replenishes Eskimo Community

Sunday morning Whaling Captain, Harry Brower Sr. and his crew of about ten harpooned the season's first bowhead whale measuring 27 ft. in length. Harry said, "it went smooth," as the crew towed in the whale to Barrow, completing the hunt, butchering, and using sleds to bring in and divide the whale among Barrow Eskimos late Monday night. Harry said, "Luther Leavitt and crew landed a whale too." June is when the whaling festival usually begins. Harry said, "when it's warm out and the snow and ice is gone is when the potlatches begin," adding, "it's really good, we had to fight for it (whale meat and muktuk) but it was worth it."

## SITKA

### Raven's View Requested Locally and Statewide

Radio stations between Barrow, Kodiak and Ketchikan have one thing in common. "Tune in and support Native programming, it's long overdue," said Raven Radio KCAW • 104.7 FM, "Raven's View" programmers. "Raven's View" is a Native Culture and Community Native news and information program that began last March. The weekly 29-minute program exclusively addressing Native people's concerns is aired via Public Radio.

## BETHEL

### Kuskokwim Ice Classic Update

Ice classic predictions are close for this week. Those who have guessed the exact time and date could earn a total cash prize of \$12,000. Gross sales were \$21,000. Kathy Collins of the Kuskokwim Ice Classic Headquarters told the *Tundra Times* that "the ice is getting real honeycombed." Bethel is experiencing warm weather in the 40's. Sleet-mute is about 150 or so miles up the river from Bethel. Collins said, "they're (National Weather Service) predicting breakup about May 12-20 up there."

TO ALL MOTHERS STATEWIDE  
Happy Mother's Day!

"Beating Around the Bush" is a new column which we hope to be able to offer on a weekly basis. You can help us out! Is there anything of interest going on in your community? Write to: Bush Beat, c/o Tundra Times, P.O. Box 104/80, Anch., AK. 99510. Or call Steve @274-2512. —Ed.