

**Editorial—**

# **Unique, Fabulous Eskimo Olympics**

The Eskimo Olympics of 1970 wound up its two-day performance last Saturday night at the Patty Gymnasium of the University of Alaska amid spontaneous claps of applause by a large audience. The unrestrained and happy outbursts were a tribute paid to the able Alaska native performers who competed and presented their skills in the unique native sporting event.

The traditional native games were presented with fine-edged skills before keenly appreciative audiences of both the white and native peoples. Along with the exciting sporting events were the delicately executed facets of native cultures. The audiences also witnessed feats of brawn some of which were contests of endurance and pain.

There were the usual and ample moments of humor that have always infused the lives of Alaska's native people. There were, also, the unplanned and hilarious situations that always seemed to crop up at the Eskimo Olympics and inadvertently add to the enjoyment of the native program. These were, and are, happy accidents that many times interplay into the well executed program because they were just what they were—unplanned.

This year, Tundra Times and its able board of directors are proud to have a close working relationship with the World Eskimo Olympics of Fairbanks, Alaska. The native newspaper scarcely two months ago took over the operation and management of the popular program. It was a rather suddenly imposed challenge to the board, that served as the Eskimo Olympics committee as well, but it took on the job well qualified because the members have good knowledge and understanding of the cultures of Alaska's native people.

We feel that we have had a good beginning with this year's Olympics and we will endeavor to try to improve the quality and presentation of the native program. We fully recognize its importance as an outlet of presenting the fine cultural heritages of Alaska's native people.