

# Nuchalawoyya '73 . . .

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zing the celebration in order to revive the old Indian games and to have the sort of good times the Interior people used to have years ago; he also added competitive games and sports. It has been a successful event since.

This year, Glen Butler, Katherine Mayo, Leroy Patsy and Linda Nicholai, the Nuchalawoyya committee, put together an exciting program. Starting each day's activities was raising the Nuchalawoyya flag and singing the Nuchalawoyya song. Following were canoe and speed boat racing, men, women and little childrens tug-of-war, egg throwing, men's stick pulling, muskrat skinning, tea making, arm wrestling contests and tennis marathon. Highlighting the day's activities was a potlatch and competitive Native dancing.

Substantial cash prizes were awarded to the top finishers in each day's event, as well as overall. On Saturday, Gary Edwin won \$75 for finishing the canoe race across and back the wide Yukon River in 19 minutes 55 seconds with Arland Dick finishing second with 20 minutes and 5 seconds, winning \$25. The egg throwing contest was won by Alfred Grant and Julie Roberts; Todd and Eileen Kosevnikoff finished second.

The muskrat skinning contest was most exciting and also the most fast-moving contest of all, with Todd Kosevnikoff skinning in 1 minute and 1 second.

For the tea making contest, at the sound of Al Grant's "Go!" the competitors ran for their boats in a "Le Mans" start and crossed the Yukon for fire wood. This they needed upon their return to build a fire and boil some tea water. There was a lot of "talking to the tea pots"

before Arland Dick and Eileen Kosevnikoff saw their tea boiling; finishing second were Roy Folger and Prunty Elia.

The 10 mile cross country marathon, called the "Jay Harwood Marathon," was won by Gary Edwin. One woman competed, Barbara Page from Fairbanks, along with several other men from town. Gary Edwin's time was 50:03; Eric Skidmore finished second with 54:07 as Joe Rogers (finishing in 52:26) was disqualified.

The Fairbanks Outboard Association added to the excitement with a Class B riverboat race. Finishing first into Tanana was "Sloe Moe Two" with Andy Jimmie, Doug McCotter, Jerry Woods and Ray Titus. Second was "Jolly Green Giant" with Jim Movius, Ed Gustafson, Dick Herman and Charlie Titus; third was Chuck Pratt and crew.

Returning to Fairbanks, in total elapsed time, the "Jolly Green Giant" finished first with "Sloe Moe Two" coming in second.

Competitive Native dancing was won by the Stevens Village group. Also competing were Minto, Tanana, I-skimo and Hopi dancers. Following this, a "regular" dance was held which was enjoyed by all.

Al Grant, who has been invited to MC the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, was the master of ceremonies for Nuchalawoyya. He thanked the out-of-towners for celebrating this occasion with them. Senator Ted Stevens thanked everyone for inviting him and stated that "we are sure we will enjoy ourselves, no business, just fun." Many hundreds of people did just that enjoyed themselves no business, just fun!

# Natives Lobby — Gravel Amendment May Pass

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this time, when debate began Monday in the U.S. Senate on the Jackson Bill.

Hensley, executive director Sam Kito of Doyon Ltd. and John Borbridge, president and chairman of the board of Sealaska Corp. left Saturday night from Anchorage and planned to spend a week or so lobbying.

"They're going to be on the bill virtually all week," Hensley said. Senator Jackson anticipates a substantial number of amendments. "He's particularly concerned about the so-called Mondale amendment, which would require a trans-Canada route study prior to beginning construction of the Alaska line."

"From a Native standpoint and a state standpoint too for that matter, such a study could result in substantial delay of the trans-Alaska pipeline or perhaps no trans-Alaska pipeline at all. The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act essentially ties us to the tune of a half billion dollars to resource development," Hensley noted.

The Jackson bill was to be the first order of business in the U.S. Senate Monday. Some members of the Senate Interior Committee predicted it would be in the Senate for at least a week.

The Jackson bill proposes broad new powers for the Interior Secretary to grant all types of right-of-way across federal lands, with the stipulation that the Secretary follow specific guidelines and rules in reviewing applications for such rights of way.

Most important, the bill would lift the 50-foot right-of-way width limitation contained in the 1920 mineral leasing act. But the Jackson bill would

not prevent continued litigation over complex environmental issues that have been part of the prolonged lawsuit over the pipeline.

In addition to the Mondale amendment, there is one by U.S. Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, which would declare environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) have been met and order the pipeline built.

Gravel talked last week with Speaker of the House Carl Albert, D-Oklahoma, about the

prospects of getting his amendment through the House. Albert noted that the house is an independent body and that rejection of that amendment by the U.S. Senate would not necessarily preclude its chances in the House.

At St. Louis, Mo. Later in the week, Albert predicted that Congress will authorize construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline. Albert said he favored that route because it would relieve the current fuel shortage for the rest of the nation.

# Committee Claims . . .

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ing Home Program when he heard of the committee's decision.

"It looked like we were about to pick up a program that was going to lose 90 per cent of its funding."

The program has been run in the past by the State Department of Education, and relied heavily on Johnson-O'Malley funding. Last year's costs ran in the neighborhood of \$4½ million, with only about \$300,000 coming from the State of Alaska's general fund and the balance from Johnson-O'Malley.

"SOS has not relied heavily on Johnson-O'Malley," said Friese. "Of the total SOS budget of about \$35 million for last year's operation of the widespread rural school system, only about \$400,000 came from Johnson-O'Malley."

The SOS budget for the coming year is about \$40 million.

Does the state have the money to fund the Boarding Home and dormitory programs if that is the ultimate decision?

"It doesn't," Friese answered. "It is liable to cost all the districts in Alaska money."

Native leaders have complained that the State of Alaska has historically misused Johnson-O'Malley funds, which were appropriated to meet special needs of Indian children, over and above the basic education needs provided by the State.

Commented Friese, "With that kind of money you can really enrich the educational system. If the state is funding the basics."

Over all the hubbub hangs a landmark lawsuit filed on behalf of a native student, Molly Hootch. The suit points up the state's obligation to provide a secondary education to every child in the State of Alaska within the community in which that student resides.

The issue, which is perhaps more of a pocketbook issue for the State than one of recognizing legal and moral obligation, has become a focal point for the crisis in the State's delivery system of upper education in rural areas.

Friese foresees that the Boarding Home and Boarding School programs will diminish as regional high schools are built in remote areas. "But I don't think that means the need for these programs will disappear altogether," he added.

"I am not ready to admit that the small village high school of three to five students is the complete answer. It's quite a complicated program in Alaska. How do you provide secondary education in every community?"

Senator John Sackett believes that under the State Constitution, the State will be forced to allocate funding for school construction in rural areas.

Sackett anticipates a fight in the next legislature on establishing the priority of education as one of the state's top needs.

He sees the job of the Legislature as one of continuing what was initiated in the last session. Finding a method of going toward local control," he stated. "The next action then would be rural school construction, and from there you go down to curriculum."

The issue of rural education in Alaska became a key issue in the last legislature, where a bill was introduced to abolish SOS altogether and institute local control. After much discussion, it was held over for the next legislative session with two interim committees appointed to study the problems and report back in January.

U.S. Senator Henry M. Jackson, in introducing the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Reform Act in February of this year, commented on the Johnson-O'Malley Act. The bill is still pending before Congress.

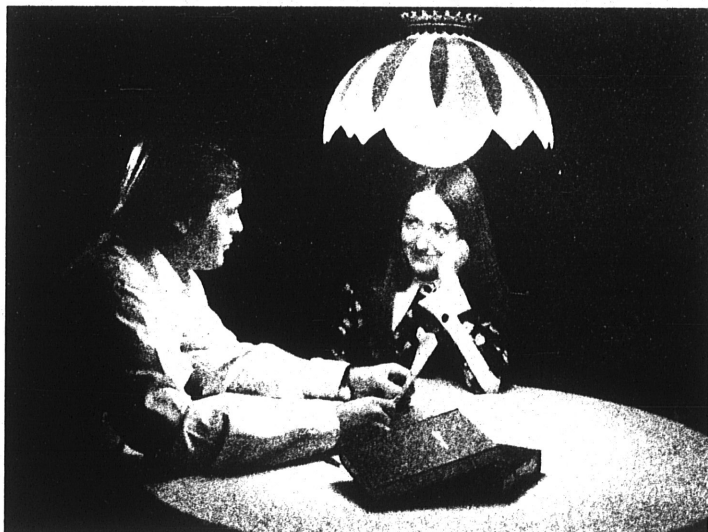
"In the past few years," states Sen. Jackson, "some major questions and criticisms have evolved regarding administrative policy of the BIA in implementing the Johnson-O'Malley Act and the use or misuse of such funds by the local public school districts."

"The vagueness and ambiguity of the Act has resulted in varied and inconsistent administrative procedures within the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State education agencies, and the local school districts. The absence of a clear concise policy which defines compliance and programmatic responsibility of the school districts in administering these programs has produced a long history of inefficient and ineffective programs which have not met the special needs of Indian children."

"The last decade," observes Jackson, "has seen an increased demand from Indian people for more involvement in the decisions which affect their lives and the lives of their children. Presently, there is great concern and dissatisfaction in local Indian communities regarding the misuse and inadequacies of Johnson-O'Malley programs and the lack of Indian participation."

The Alaska Federation of Natives Review Committee for Johnson-O'Malley funds in the State of Alaska came into being only in June. Clearly, however, they have already begun to evidence the concerns of which Jackson speaks.

The Department of Education must reassess what are the state's responsibilities under Constitutional law. In the meantime a \$4½ million dollar tab for the complex State Boarding Home and dormitory school programs lies on the table, waiting for someone to pick it up.



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