

Karen Jim Elected—

Impressive NCAI Queen Pageant

By LIBET JOHNSON

Karen Jim, 18, a proud and lovely young Yakima Indian from Washington State now reigns as the new Queen of the National Congress of American Indians for 1970-71. Standing tall and noble in her traditional beaded dress, she was crowned by the former Queen, Tina Manning, a graceful, bird-like girl, who is a Shoshone from Owyhee, Nevada.

Tina opened the contest by reciting a Shoshone legend in sign language. Her fluid, magical gestures and serene expression left all who watched her spell-bound.

Assisting Tina with the coronation was Ginny Walker, Miss Alaska 1970.

The first runner-up was Audrey Ambrose, 22, an Athabaskan Indian. Formerly from Hulsia, Alaska, she now lives in Fairbanks.

Glenna Jenks, a Ute Indian from Fort Dequesne, Utah was the second runner-up and Carol Holt, a Cherokee from Tahlequah, Oklahoma was voted Miss Congeniality.

All of the girls wore the ceremonial costumes traditional in their tribes. Many of the dresses were made by mothers and grandmothers especially for this occasion. The bead and leatherwork was extraordinary and each dress was unique among the others.

The contestants were judged according to their beauty and poise, the authenticity and symbolism of their costume and their own understanding of this and the history of their people.

During the following year Karen will travel throughout the United States representing the NCAI.

The Queen crowning ended a week of NCAI meetings, a grand parade, the likes of which Anchorage has never seen, a delicious Pot-Latch dinner, tribal dances and dance contest, several pow-wows, and Olympic Games of Eskimo and Indian Skill.

With representatives from almost every American Indian tribe, many dressed in traditional clothing, the events were extremely colorful.

The dances, especially, were

inspiring. So much so that many of the audience invariably ended up joining in as well.

Aside from the Queen Contest, the NCAI had its annual elections. Earl Old Person will be serving the second of his two year presidential term. Frank Ducheneaux was voted the next executive director and Dorothy Davis was re-elected treasurer. The first vice-president will be John Rainer, and Secretary will be Veronica Murdock.

On Sunday, forty delegates from the NCAI and eight Board members flew to Prudhoe Bay oil field. The trip was courtesy of British Petroleum Inc., one of the two controllers of the field. After the inspection tour by bus the group was supposed to have gone on to Barrow, but was forced to cancel the trip because of hazardous weather conditions.

Nick Begich ...

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acres in fee simple," he said, "And I don't think most natives want 40 million acres in fee simple." Such a land settlement has been consistently called for by the AFN.

The Democratic candidate has said that he does not feel 10 million acres in fee simple is enough. That is the amount provided for in the Senate bill and the amount supported by his Republican opponent.

Begich has called for no specific acreage settlement but rather has advocated the use of a formula such as the one mentioned earlier.

Also, he said, written into the bill could be a provision allowing the natives to control the land through a leasing procedure. Possibly leases could be drawn up requiring a certain percentage of native hire.

There are many ways to increase one's wealth, he continued, and a guarantee of employment is one, just as is land.

Having traveled to some 60 or 70 villages, the educator and state representative said that he will be spending the last days before the election in Fairbanks and Anchorage.

No Stand on Split...

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ber and December. Congress is expected to reconvene Nov. 16, he added, but some of the committee members will probably begin arriving several days before.

It is uncertain just what effect the withdrawal of the Arctic Slope Native Association will have on AFN efforts in Washington.

The association, which represents about 4,000 Eskimos north of the Brooks Range, announced Tuesday, Oct. 20 that it was pulling out of the AFN because it disagreed with the philosophy underlying the AFN land claims position.

Charlie Edwardsen, Jr., executive director of ASNA, made the initial announcement in Anchorage at the annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians.

He charged that the AFN "has undercompromised and has undersold us and we have to protect the corpus of our title."

Both he and Joe Upicksoun, president of ASNA, made it clear that the Arctic Slope natives are still retaining the AFN goal of 40 million acres, \$500 million and a 2 per cent overriding royalty in mineral revenues. However, the ASNA proposal calls for distribution of land to villages on the basis of native claims, not on the basis of population, as has the AFN.

The split was probably no big surprise to many members of the AFN. ASNA, which claims the entire 56.5 million acres on the Arctic Slope, has in the past clearly stated to board members that it opposes a land settlement which does not take into account the special subsistence needs or the rich oil lands of the Slope.

An Eskimo family of five reportedly needs at least 1,500 acres to subsist off the land.

When asked why the group chose to break away now, Edwardsen replied that it feared the partial freeze proposed by Interior Secretary Walter Hickel will not protect the land claims of the Arctic Slope Natives.

Hickel's proposal would freeze eight townships around each village but would allow for the processing of state applications for land. These applications will be honored, he said last week in Anchorage, if they don't infringe on basic native rights.

However, Upicksoun said, "we have instructed our attorneys to prepare for and initiate any course of action that may be

required to protect our interests, including a lawsuit to revoke the tentative approval of land selections by the State of Alaska in the Prudhoe Bay area thereby nullifying the September 1969 lease sale.

"We continue to be dedicated to a fair, just and honorable settlement and will work to that end," Edwardsen said.

But, he added, "the AFN has lost sight of the fundamental principles upon which the entire settlement is premised. That is, this is a land claims settlement, not a federal welfare program or another piece of anti-poverty legislation."

Neither the AFN bill nor the Senate passed bill, he said, "provide for a fair exchange between what is being taken from us and what we receive in exchange."

Upicksoun offered a brief explanation of the Arctic Slope bill, which, he said, has been submitted in outline form to Congressman James Haley, chairman of the House Indian Affairs Subcommittee and to every member of the committee.

The ASNA proposal would divide the State into seven regions based on similar geographic and ethnic characteristics. A regional corporation would be established to administer the settlement proceeds and to receive title to the land located within the various regions.

Each regional corporation would receive a proportionate share of 40 million acres of land based on each region's land claim area.

Following is the name of the region, the percentage of the 380 million acres in the State the region claims, and the share of the 40 million acres it would receive based on that percentage.

The region would also receive its share of the \$500 million and the 2 per cent royalty on the same proportionate basis, according to the ASNA proposal.

Arctic Slope—15 per cent, 6 million acres; Northwest—10 per cent, 4 million acres; Southwest—15 per cent, 6 million acres; Central—30 per cent, 12 million acres; Aleutian—5 per cent, 2 million acres; Southern Coast—15 per cent, 6 million acres; Southeast—10 per cent, 4 million acres.

Under the recently passed Senate bill the villages of the Arctic Slope would each receive only about 23,000 acres for every 400 people (as would all villages). ASNA has estimated

Fred Notti on As Write-in

Fred Notti, Democrat from Aniak, announced today that he is back in the running for the State House seat in District 15. First he was running in the primary. Meeting defeat at that level, he decided to run as a write-in candidate in the general election.

But he was later told by election officials that such was against state regulations because he had lost in the primary.

However, he said that he was told by the elections office Tuesday morning that he could run, after all, as an independent write-in candidate due to a court ruling.

So a week before the election he is reopening his campaign—this time with a trip in the Keyukuk, Upper Yukon, and Tanana river areas accompanied by Jo Ann Joseph, Miss 1970 World Eskimo Olympics and Audrey Ambrose, Miss Eskimo Olympics of 1968.

Others will campaign for him in the lower Yukon and Kuskokwim area.

Probe...

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tion before winter sets in, Peter requested that Nichols approve the plans and authorize a resumption of work within 10 days.

As of Oct. 27, the Development Corporation spokesman said that he had heard nothing from the Operation Mainstream and felt that no recourse remained but to protest the holdup publicly and to call for an investigation.

T-H, Vote

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ment of from 10 to 12 million acres with no oil and gas rights and has opposed a 2 per cent overriding royalty. It would lift the land freeze and would oppose the right of Southeast Alaska to receive national forest land in a claims settlement bill.

In contrast, the AFN called for full title to 40 million acres, including all mineral rights, a 2 per cent overriding royalty and continuation of the total land freeze.

that on this basis it would receive only 138,000 plus the additional 500,000 granted solely to it under the bill.



VOTE ☒

**JAMES "JIM"
LUNDGREN**
for
STATE HOUSE

(paid pol. adv.)

OUR Candidate



SELWYN CARROL
for
STATE HOUSE

Carrol needs our vote Nov. 3.
Carrol will bring Juneau to you and will take your views to Juneau!
Carrol supports the U. of A. Bonding proposal.
Vote for Selwyn Carrol.
Help Carrol to help us!

(paid pol. adv.)