

Of pageants, spelling bees and other things

Miss CINA: Maria Williams is the new Miss Cook Inlet Native Association after win-

ning the title last Friday evening at competition held in the Anchorage-Sheraton Hotel. For

her talent, Miss Williams played an original piece celebrating the raven on the viola. More on

this and pictures in next week's Tundra Times.

ANF: After months of uncer-

tainty, the Alaska Native Foundation appears to have found new life. The foundation, which has been involved in many projects in both rural and urban Alaska, will continue to operate, but under the wing of the Alaska Federation of Natives. More on this next week.

Beverly Jerue: Beverly Jerue, the young dog musher who withdrew from the Iditarod Sled Dog race while levying complaints of unsportsman-like conduct and racial discrimination, received a letter from the Iditarod race committee last week assuring her there was no discrimination. Her traveling companion, Jan Masek, who filed his own complaint and says he is supporting Jerue's, received a letter telling him he was banned from the race for three years because of unsportsman-like conduct. Race official Bobby Lee denies Jerue's charges and says he is "shocked and surprised" to hear talk of racial discrimination. Jerue and Masek hold fast to their stories, and complain that they were not allowed to speak for themselves or even be at the meeting where the action against Masek was taken. The two plan to seek arbitration on the issue.

ICC: The Inuit Circumpolar Conference announced that it is questioning a planned U.S. military buildup in Greenland. ICC seeks to have the Arctic declared a nuclear and military free zone.

Spelling Bee: Jennifer Degnan of Unalakleet found herself in the final round of the statewide spelling competition held in Anchorage last weekend. Degnan gave a good fight, but lost out to Noelle Hahn of Anchorage with the word juxtapose. Several Bush contestants competed in the event.