

Wee Buffy Sainte-Marie 'Is Spontaneous, Enigmatic, Enchanting, and Gifted'

An Indian girl, born on a reservation in Canada, and adopted by an American couple in New England, will highlight the entertainment at the annual Tundra Times-AFN, Inc. banquet in Anchorage this Saturday.

Wispy, fragile Buffy Sainte-Marie is spontaneous, enigmatic, enchanting and gifted. Although often called a "folk" singer, her songs are her own, born of her own experience and realization.

Everything she does is in her own name. One moment, with almost a peal of thunder, she delivers a bloodcurdling denunciation of the genocide committed on her Indian brothers in the name of democracy. The next, she knocks you over with a feather, telling you how she falls in love. No matter what she does, she is unspeakably beautiful (and personal) doing it.

The big name star and headline attraction comes to Alaska and the Captain Cook Hotel's Discovery Ballroom thanks to the efforts of U. S. Senator Ted Stevens and Mrs. Laura Bergt.

Native leaders from around Alaska will attend the banquet, held in conjunction with and as the grand finale of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. annual convention which opens at the Captain Cook tomorrow.

Banquet tickets are \$15 per person with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and the meal at 8 p.m.

Honored guests, invited by



BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE

Howard Rock, editor of the Tundra Times, include Congressman Lloyd Meeds of Washington; Governor and Mrs. William A.

Egan; U. S. Senator Ted Stevens; U. S. Senator Mike Gravel; Congressman Don Young; the AFN

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Gifted Buffy Sainte-Marie . . .

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Citizen of the Year; BIA Commissioner Morris Thompson; Miss Eskimo-Indian Olympics Marilyn Pete, AFN President Roger Lang, and Miss Sainte-Marie.

Buffy Sainte-Marie says she just "lets songs happen." She claims she doesn't know anything about songwriting.

"To ask me about songwriting is like asking a patient to talk about a disease he was born with.

"Songs are something in and of themselves. They come unbidden. Song stuff writes me, I don't write it. I don't decide, 'Hmmm, I think I'll write a song.' More likely, I discover a song already formed and playing in my head. The feeling is as unbidden as finding out you have to sneeze in a few seconds. It would seem stupid to try if you didn't just plain have to, or to try not to if you must. . ."

Buffy had her first hit with "Universal Soldier," and the Highwaymen covered it, Glen Campbell recorded it, Donovan

went to the charts with it.

Bobby Darin sang her classic "Until It's Time For You To Go"; Bobby Bare had a country hit with her "Piney Wood Hills."

Buffy's childhood was spent in the woods of New England, and her classmates were the fair-skinned, raw-boned children of Yankee stock. But Buffy was different, small and dark and silent, with eyes that were too dark and a nose that was too big, and she felt uneasy with the other kids.

Her days were spent in the forest shadows, playing with the dogs and goats. Her mind was filled with the music she always played "by heart" on the piano and with the songs that have always come to her so naturally.

She speaks to people in their own language, she gives them herself and her songs, she demands their emotions, and she comes to Alaska with her love.

She has learned that she does not need to be anyone other than herself; she discovered her own

personal glamour. She will be a treat for the banquet guests and an inspiration to young Native Alaskan girls who are lucky enough to come Saturday night to hear her perform.

Buffy should like the banquet's main course, Chicken Hawaiian with sweet and sour sauce. Miss Sainte-Marie will fly into Anchorage from Hawaii where she has a home.