

Youngsters ready for Native Youth Olympics

Some students are working on their necks, making them strong so that hopefully when the leather strap is placed over their head, they will be able to drag their opponent over the line. Others are practising their kicks, leaping high into the air and sending miniature seals flying, sometimes with one foot, sometimes with two.

Students from some 30 communities all across Alaska are

practising these and other skills as they prepare for the 13th Annual Statewide Native Youth Olympics, to be held in Anchorage April 22 and 23.

The games, sponsored by the Cook Inlet Native Association and the Johnson O'Malley program will be held at the City Gymnasium, located at the corner of 6th and G Streets.

Greg Nothstine, NYO-coordinator for CINA/JOM stresses that admission is free, and in-

vites everyone with a bit of interest to attend. Included in the games, notes Nothstine is "the mystifying two-foot high kick, where students have to jump leaving both feet off the floor and kicking a suspended ball, sometimes seven feet high with two feet; and the seal hop where students are tested for strength and endurance by getting in a low push-up position and hopping across the floor, having hands

and feet leave the floor at the same time, as they go for the farthest distance.

The tentative agenda calls for the opening ceremony to begin at 8:30 Friday morning, followed by the headpull, leg-wrestle and then lunch. In the afternoon, athletes will compete in the stickpull, toe kick and the kneel jump.

They will gather again Satur-

day morning at 8:00 for the one-arm reach, the one-foot high kick, lunch, the two-foot high kick, the seal hop, Native Dress Review, Native dancing and the awards ceremony.

A dance will be held at Central Junior High in the evening, with the competition continuing during a dance contest. Admission to the dance is \$2.00 per person.