

Inupiat People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

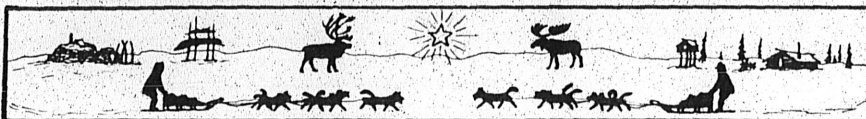
Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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RECORD CROWDS ATTEND E-I



NEW QUEEN — Ginny Nathan, 1975 Queen of the Eskimo-Indian Olympics is caught by the camera during an emotional moment after receiving the crown. — Photo by MARC OLSON

Friendship, Sportsmanship Were Evident

By MARC OLSON

FAIRBANKS — Applause roared when Eskimo-Indian Olympics master of ceremonies Alfred Grant remarked on the air of cooperation among competitors, "everyone should have that sense of sportsmanship around the world."

Sportsmanship and friendship were evident during the 1975 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics last week. Back slapping, hand shaking, and helpful suggestions were given freely between Alaskan and Canadian competitors, especially during the most competitive and difficult events.

ATHLETES SET THREE RECORDS

Dozens of competitors vied for recognition in nearly 20 events, and new records were set in the Four Man Carry, Two Foot High Kick, and Ear Weight Contest. Ginny Nathan, from Metlakatla, was chosen Miss Eskimo-Indian Olympics, the first deaf-mute Queen to ever win the title.

Buck Dick of the Northwest Territories, Canada, set a new Olympics record in the Four Man Carry, taking 605 pounds 100 feet before stopping. Lester Keller of Nome placed second, carrying 605 pounds for 64 feet.

Charles Komeak, of the Northwest Territories, the Canadian Champion, set a new Alaska record in the Two Foot High Kick, and broke his own week-old record with a kick of 7' 4 1/2". Reggie Joule, of Kotzebue, the former champ, kicked 7'3", placing second.

The Ear Weight Contest was won again this year by James Itta of Barrow. He carried 18 pounds for 1679 feet, setting a new Alaska record and beating his old record by a wide margin. Freddie Titus of Minto carried 18 pounds for 692 feet for second place, and Billy Ahlik carried it 615 feet for third.

Tough competition marked the queen contest as an exciting, (Continued on Page 6)



OUTGOING QUEEN — Marilyn Pete, Queen of the 1974 Olympics, takes a last walk before handing over the crown to her successor, Ginny Nathan. — Photo by MARC OLSON

No Place to Stay...

Boarding Students

Several teen-age students from the bush have no place to stay this Fall when they come to Fairbanks to school.

About eight of the 20 rural students who will be going to Fairbanks high schools and living with Fairbanks families are still not matched with homes through the Boarding Home program, administered by Tanana Chiefs.

Pipeline impact is probably the major reason for difficulty in finding suitable homes, according to Helen Lee, who finds homes and matches students with them. She said that high rents, which entice people to rent extra rooms, and the job situation, with many on the slope or working long hours are factors in the problem.

Lee does expect to find homes for all of the students, but it may take some time. She said that she doesn't want to make commitments to prospective families too quickly, either. A more compatible home might come along, she said.

The students in the program come from villages without high schools, and are usually those with college aspirations. Students who would benefit most are considered first. The great majority this year are "repeaters," having been in boarding homes with the program in past years.

A number of things are considered before a home is assigned to an incoming student. Interests of the students and families are considered to find

compatible matches. Religious preference, safety of the home, suitability of the home for studying, and many other considerations affect the choice.

Boarding homes must meet certain state regulations of the Division of Family and Children Services to qualify.

Lee said that one thing many prospective boarders don't realize is that they get a stipend of \$200 to help pay for food costs for their boarder.

In closing, she emphasized that the boarders should be treated like a member of the family. We want people to let them "be a member of the family for nine months," she said.

And Propagates Slowly—

Russia Says Polar Bear Population Is Small

By
ALEXANDER KISHCHINSKY
Novosti Press Agency

The polar bear, the most well-known of the Arctic's land animals, is at the same time little known. It is the most powerful among land beasts of prey; The lion and tiger are lightweights in comparison to the average female bear which weighs 683 pounds. Studies have shown that the

population of polar bears is small. Though it is very difficult to make a count in the ice-bound polar reaches of these constantly roaming animals, their number is held to be between 12 and 20 thousand. Apart from this, the polar bear propagates slowly.

The female begins to bear young at the age of four, and usually brings forth cubs once in three years. Fifteen to twenty per

cent of the cubs usually die in the first year of their lives. In addition to this, some fifteen hundred animals or more annually are hunted down. Though seemingly not a large figure, it has brought the polar bear to the brink of extinction.

This and other data that scientists have at their disposal points to the problem of the

(Continued on Page 6)

Senate Committee Approves—

ANCSA Omnibus Bill

The Senate Interior Committee today approved by unanimous voice vote an omnibus bill introduced by U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens and cosponsored by U.S. Sen. Mike Gravel, clarifying and amending the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The bill passed from committee includes the extension of the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission until June 30, 1979; extending the deadline for enrollment under the Act; allowing mergers of village corporations; establishing an escrow fund; allowing benefits under the Act for Klukwan; and providing grants for four villages and seven reserves.

The deadline for the enrollment of Natives who missed the (Continued on Page 6)

Pribilof Fur Seals Being Killed Off By Sea Debris

(From ALASKA on ALASKA)
The National Marine Fisheries Service and fur seal experts are concerned about the increase of death and injury among fur seals caused by scraps of fishing nets and other debris tossed overboard by careless commercial fishermen.

Compounding the problem is the development of synthetic, nonbiodegradable fibers and their widespread use in fishing nets. Both the United States and Canada are preparing a pamphlet that will be distributed soon to West Coast fishermen to explaining the problem and urging the fishermen to discard their used netting ashore.

Some recent fisheries treaties also include stipulations that foreign fishing fleets will not discard debris at sea. The National Marine Fisheries Service said the proportion of seal entanglements caused by plastic bands has climbed from none in 1969 to more than 30 per cent last year among seals returning to the Pribilof Islands of Alaska.

The Pribilofs are home to the largest fur seal herd in the world.