

Editorial Comment—

1975 Eskimo-Indian Olympics Wows Crowd

As time goes, the annual Eskimo-Indian Olympics performances will have to be rated as one of the major sporting events in Alaska. The program is not only a sporting event, but many people will have to admit that one of its greatest yearly contributions will have to be the perpetuation of Native cultural heritages that have been so vital in the existence of our Alaskan Native population from the remote past to the present.

As one of the people who have much reverence in the ages gone by and the people that had to struggle in the process of establishing culture ways, this editor cannot help but be proud of his ancestry. One just has to imagine a bit to realize that those Natives of the ages ago had to have a great deal of guts to arrive at the levels they did and to provide ample room for light-hearted occasions to relieve them of great stresses they have had to undergo.

As the Natives' existence has changed to a noticable degree at the present time, who knows that the initiation of the present Native activities quite a few years ago has become an effort of perpetuation under different kind of stresses the present Native world has encountered including the development of greater communications between Native areas. This would seem to be a correct evaluation considering the great enjoyment our people receive from the annual performances of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics. They come to perform and watch from the far reaches of the Native world along with enthusiastic participations of the Natives of the Northwest Territories of Canada. This is an effort by our people, we believe, to stage a concentrated program so that more Native folks of today can see what their ancestors had done to help them meet multiple obstacles under their severe environments.

And so the 1975 version of the Olympics is in the books along with records of stellar performances so that the contestants next year will aim their skills to attain greater heights.

We also want to commend scores of volunteers who labored for long hours under the direction of the 1975 Eskimo-Indian Olympics Committee headed by Jerry Woods. Many of us know the back-breaking work involved in the preparation of the program as past E-IO chairmen know like Laura Bergt, Sylvester Ayak, Thomas Richards, Jr., Thomas Drake, Chris Anderson and Jerry Woods himself. A vote of gratitude from the personnel of the Tundra Times and its board of directors. We are not forgetting thousands of people who came to witness our yearly presentation.

**THANKS TO EVERYONE AND COME BACK NEXT
YEAR!**

— H.R.