

Tundra Times

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Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

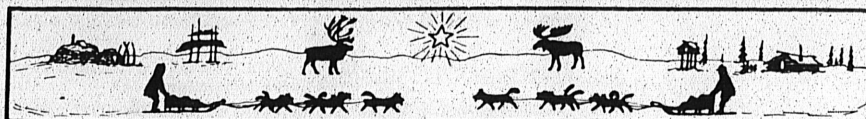
Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

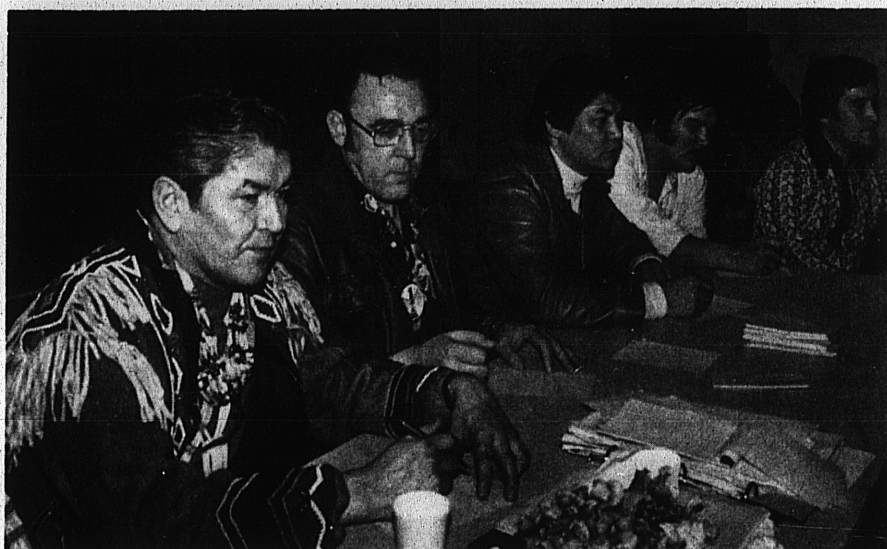
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Fairbanks, Alaska



TCC unhappy with BIA



PAUSING FOR LIGHTER MOMENTS—Prominent men in the Tanana Chiefs Conference take time out from more serious matters at the conference and judged a queen contest. Left to right: Ralph Perdue, former FNA president; Jerry Ivey; Rep. Tim Wallis; Chris Anderson and John Sackett, state senator.

—Photo by JENNIFER ORTIZ

Contracting policies Ruffle Athabascans

Group may take up problem
If statewide meeting is called

By MARGIE BAUMAN

FAIRBANKS—Tanana Chiefs Conference officials unhappy with the Bureau of Indian Affairs contracting policies are asking for a statewide meeting to develop realistic and workable policies.

Word of meeting plans for Anchorage March 22-23 came Thursday in Fairbanks as TCC's director of Native services, Tom Richards, addressed the TCC convention. "We feel that we must do this because the Bureau of Indian Affairs is presenting absolutely no leadership in turning over to Native people the programs which provide services to Native

people," Richards said. "The attitude of the bureau has been entirely negative and entirely defensive of the bureau's role in Alaska. What we have to do as Native people, not only throughout the Tanana Chiefs region but throughout Alaska, is convince the BIA that it has to cut the apron strings and let us deliver our own programs to our Native people," he said.

Richards noted that at present only two regional organizations, the Tanana Chiefs and Tlingit-Haida Central Council, have contracts with the BIA. There are seven other regions that wish to contract for BIA services," he added.

Richards said telegrams had been sent to other regional groups with services similar to TCC, requesting a meeting for March 22-23 "to develop realistic and workable contracting policies and contracting procedures to have adopted by the BIA."

One of the biggest bones of contention between the Tanana Chiefs and BIA has been hiring practices.

"We have maintained that we are more interested in hiring people who know the people of this region and know how to help solve their problems," he said.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference maintains further "that this is our contract and the BIA should not be trying to dictate how it is implemented, so long as it provides the services contracted for.

TCC officials did offer the BIA a compromise, whereby they would hire people who have a

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Finest ever Festival of Native Arts here

By SUE GAMACHE

Native groups from all corners of Alaska and a Navajo group from Montana gathered at the University of Alaska campus to participate in the 1976 Festival of Native Arts on March 15-19.

The festival featured five nights of entertainment by a different Native group each night. The first night was dedicated to the Inupiat, the second to the Aleuts, the third to the Yupiks, the fourth to the Athabascans, and the fifth to the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian.

Dance groups from Nome-Beltz, Barrow, Bethel, Toksook Bay, Nenana, Montana, Hoonah, Sitka and the

University of Alaska danced on their respective nights.

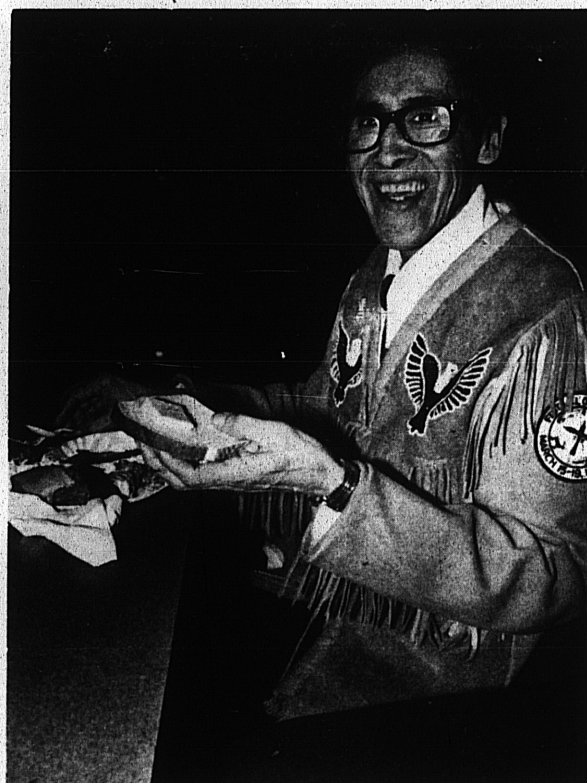
Demonstrations of arts and crafts by each group were displayed during the intermission of each one of the evening performances.

At noon of each day the different Native groups had a blanket toss and invited all the participants and interested persons attending the festival to join in the fun.

A display of slides, pictures and crafts was set up in the Wood Center. A full-sized skin boat was also part of the exhibit.

Elaine Ramos, vice-president of Rural Educational Affairs at

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LUNCH BREAK—Alfred Grant, member of the Tanana Chiefs, is pausing for a snack. In the past, Al has served as a master of ceremonies at the Tundra Times banquets.

—Photo by JENNIFER ORTIZ

FNA potlatch— Past presidents honored

People from all over Alaska gathered for the Fairbanks Native Association's Annual Potlatch held in the Monroe High School Gymnasium this past Saturday.

The highlight of the night was the dancing of Native groups from all corners of Alaska including: Toksook Bay, Bethel, Nome-Beltz, Nenana, Nulato, Sitka, Point Barrow, Stevens Village, Minto and the Omuak dancers from Unalakleet.

This year's Potlatch paid tribute to the past presidents of FNA. Awards were presented to Ralph Perdue, president of FNA in 1962-65 and again in 1972. Perdue also received a special President Emeritus Award.

The other FNA presidents

awarded were Jules Wright 1965-67; Richard Frank 1967-69; Jerry Ivey 1969; Sam Kito, Jr. 1969, 1974-75; Tim Wallis 1970-72 and Chris Anderson 1973-74.

Honorary awards went to Terry Brady, Judy Brady, Kathleen "Mike" Dalton, Dr. Deely and Rusty Heurlin.

Sam Kito, Jr. was unable to attend, so Mitch Demientieff of Nenana and Al Grant of Tanana shared the microphone for the night's festivities.

The donations of moose, beaver, caribou, salmon, muktuk and Indian and Eskimo ice cream along with many other foods highlighted the festive meal.

Roxanne Frank, daughter of

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Harvey Drake North American champ

By SUE GAMACHE

FAIRBANKS—Harvey Drake from Fairbanks munched his way to victory in the \$10,000 31st Annual Open North American Dog Race Championships this past weekend with a total elapsed time of 261:69.

The race consisted of a 20-mile heat on Friday and Saturday and a 30-mile heat on Sunday. Drake finished the first

day of racing in the top position with a time of 71:99, 2:51 ahead of Joe Redington, Jr. of Knik, Alaska who finished second.

On Saturday Marvin Kokrine from Fairbanks, took top honors for the day with a time of 73:09 over the 20-mile trail. He left the chute Sunday wearing No. 1 and returned in the same position followed by

Drake who was only three hundredths of a second behind him in time for the day.

Harris Dunlap, from Baker Mills, N.Y. turned in the best time over the 30-mile course with an outstanding time of 115:82. He was followed by Kokrine, Drake and Joe Redington, Jr.

Second place in the Open

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