

Tundra Times

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Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Scia Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktaq The Aleuts Speak



Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

Vol. 9, No. 27

Wednesday, March 15, 1972

Fairbanks, Alaska

KOTZEBUE PHONES ON 'BLINK'



THE EAR PULL—Tommy Smith of Inuvik is wincing with pain just before he lost the ear pull contest to his opponent in last week's Arctic Winter Games held in the city of Whitehorse, Y.T. About a thousand athletes participated in the games. —Photo by JOHN METZGER

Councilmen ask PUC to Revoke North State Phone Co. Certificate

The city councilmen of Kotzebue have informed the Public Utilities Commission in no uncertain terms they want the North State Telephone Company put out of business in their area.

"We request permanent revocation of North State Telephone Company's certificate and ask the PUC to fully support a local telephone cooperative," they announced last week after the commission gave North State notice it must defend its license.

The news release came from Mayor Bobby Schaeffer but the Tundra Times found it impossible to call him for comment. Carl Berger, who represents the state welfare office in Kotzebue, happened to be in our office at the time and explained the problem.

"The mayor doesn't have a telephone. . . can't get one. His office is over our office and he uses our phone."

"Well, then, we'll just call your office."

"No, you can't do that," Berger explained patiently. "Our phone doesn't ring. It just blinks. You see the phone company took out the buzzer and lost it. So you can't call in unless someone happens to be at the desk to notice the blink. What we do is arrange a time to be somewhere and the office can

call out."

The Tundra Times blink to the welfare office didn't attract a runner to go for Schaeffer so our reporting is limited to the council's release.

"North State Telephone Company has been serving Kotzebue for the past six years. During the past six years, the population of Kotzebue jumped from 1,200 to 2,000 plus.

Also during the six year period, the number of telephone subscribers quadrupled. Also during this six year period, North State Telephone made NO effort in meeting the rising demand of the citizens of Kotzebue," the release reports.

"Now there are 150 subscribers and more want phones but could not get them because of North State's obsolete equipment. They have here a 100 circuit board and 150 subscribers and in many parts of the city, five to six families share ONE service line.

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Alaskans Dominate Winter Games

By JIMMY BEDFORD

WHITEHORSE, Y.T. — Alaska's native people seemed to be everywhere at the second Arctic Winter Games here last week, participating in just about everything from ear weight pulling and blanket tossing to rifle shooting.

At least one Alaska native won a gold medal — Stan Bogenrife, a Bethel-born Eskimo living in Anchorage, won junior rifle top honors in individual competition.

Although Alaska natives were outnumbered by Eskimos and Indians from the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Arctic Quebec, they were not outclassed.

In the "Crafts North of 60" (north of the 60th parallel), the most popular exhibits were live Alaskans demonstrating native arts and crafts. Artists ranged from Leo Jacobs of Haines carving a large self-standing totem pole to a spry 72-year-old Aleutian island basket weaver, An-fesia Shapsnikoff, now living in Unalaska.

They came from as far north as Point Barrow, with Carl Hank demonstrating the nearly extinct art of baleen baskets, and as far West as Shishmaref, home of Andrew Ninguelook who carved ivory.

Among the interested spectators of Mrs. Shapsnikoff's basket-weaving, were two visitors from Yakut, a Siberian republic of the Soviet Union. Although Yakuts are not Eskimos, and do not speak Eskimo, they were able to talk with Mrs. Shapsnikoff in Russian.

There were exhibits from the musk ox farm, including qiviut scarves and sweaters knitted by Nunivak island women, Annie Mayo of the Fairbanks Native Center demonstrating Indian beadwork and Melvin Olanna of Shishmaref and Fairbanks demonstrating print making.

In the Haines contingent there were the Chilkat dancers as well as three carvers: John Hagen, formerly of Fairbanks, and Ed Kasko, as well as the previously mentioned Leo Jacobs.

Laura Bergt, perennial emcee of Eskimo Olympics, served as emcee for the native games programs. The Alaska team participating in the native games included Louis Pauken, Gordon Killbear, Harry Kaleak, Reggie Joule and Robert Aiken, with Roger Kunayak, University of

Alaska sophomore, serving as coach.

Fairbanks area sent a native dance team including Lucy Jimmie, Wade Kallock and

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State Opposes Act Amendments—

Cites Concern of State to Some 77 Million Acres Selected

Attorney General John E. Havelock today told the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs that the State of Alaska opposes any amendments to the Native Claims Settlement Act that would attempt to wipe out the state's right to some 77 million acres of land it selected recently.

Havelock said his testimony as lead-off witness before the

committee was marked by "courteous but firm exchanges" with Senator Lee Metcalf, who is sponsoring an amendment to the Claims Act that would subject Alaska to a continued freeze on its Statehood selection rights, as well as prohibiting other forms of entry under the Public Land Laws.

The Attorney General testified for the State at a session of

the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee chaired by Senator Mike Gravel for the purpose of considering a bill of technical amendments to the Claims Settlement Act.

Touching on various aspects of the Act as relating to state land selection, Havelock concluded by reiterating "the opposition of the State of Alaska to any purported technical amendment which would have the effect of attempting to subordinate State selection rights to proposed conservation withdrawals."

He said, "In our view, if this proposal is included in the bill, the bill must not pass."

Havelock said the state urged the adoption of provisions of that technical amendment which "would provide for earlier disbursement of federally appropriated funds to regional corporations, prior to the completion of a Native enrollment."

He said the State also "urged a new amendment that would make money available to the Regional corporations well before any appropriated funds became available from the Congress."

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FNA Potlatch This Saturday--

Native Foods of All Kinds in Menu Once Again

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW Staff Writer

Honoring the North American Dog Races, the Fairbanks Native Association will host its annual potlatch at the Lathrop High School Cafeteria this Saturday, March 18, beginning at 5:00 p.m. Native games and dances follow at 8:00 p.m.

Drawing visitors from all parts of the state, from Barrow, Arctic Village, Bethel, and many of the interior villages, this event has become an established communi-

ty tradition.

Ralph Perdue, founder and past president of FNA, started the potlatch several years back as a place for visitors from the outlying villages to gather during the races, to talk and to share food, dance, songs, and friendships.

The potlatch, like the Association itself, grew from a small intimate gathering of a few people into a major event with guests numbering over 2500.

John Bergamaschi and Robert

Charlie, Co-Chairmen for this year's potlatch plan a variety of events. There will be Indian and Eskimo dance groups from Mintop, Nenana, Barrow, Ft. Yukon, the Klingit Haida, and from Fairbanks.

Entertainment will also feature the blanket-toss and the highkick. A drawing will be held at the potlatch, the prize of which is an expense-paid round trip for two from Fairbanks to Mexico City.

Highlighting the evening's ac-

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