

# Tundra Times

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Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktaug The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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## HAPPY VALLEY SEEPAGE OOZES

### Melting Tundra Releases Oil Leak from Past Spill

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW  
Staff Writer

**HAPPY VALLEY CAMP** — Whether the amount of oil that entered a tributary stream of the Sagavanirktok River by the Alyeska Happy Valley construction camp during a period from December, 1970 to July 1972 was of a magnitude to damage the delicate Arctic tundra and the stocks of Arctic Char and grayling fish that abound in those waters was still not solved after a visit to the site of the spill on July 12.

Flying north over the Brooks Range to investigate the reported leak on the North Slope, BLM engineer Ed Waszkiewicz pointed out the vastness of the space over which the plane was flying, relating it to the relative smallness of the area set aside for the pipeline route.

"Putting the pipeline in proportion," he said, "is like taking a shoestring in the Chena Building (a modest three story building in Fairbanks) and laying it from end to end."

Tim Wallis, vice-president of the Tanana Chiefs, agreed that "It's a good analogy. But it doesn't go far enough. If the shoestring was made out of some kind of acid and it began to eat into the material around it, the floor and so on, until eventually it spread out into the structure and the Chena Building collapsed, that's more like what you're talking about."

No one was able to give a figure as to the exact amount of the leakages or for that matter, as to the number of actual leaks. The original accident seems to have occurred within a utility building housing the camp's generator in December of 1970. A report from Alyeska's engineer on the site described the accident.

"In December 1970, a 2" fuel line cracked inside the utility building. Oil escaped both inside and outside the building. How much was not known but conservative estimate is 200 gallons. The oil soaked gravel fill was excavated and wasted 100' uphill from the creek."

"This waste area," says the August, 1971 report, "and the original oil soaked leak area is the apparent source of fuel oil showing up in the creek (in 1971). New fuel line installed after the break. No present leaks in evidence."

The problem was persistent.  
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**LIMITED SUCCESS IN CLEAN-UP ATTEMPT—** A fuel oil leak inside a utility building at the Happy Valley pipeline construction camp and a new leak this June continue to cause problems. "The cut-off trench below the waste area had only limited success in stopping the sub-surface

flow of oil to the creek," said a 1971 BLM report. The trench continues to collect drainage with residue of oil as the ground warmed up this spring, and new leakage appeared.

— Photo by JACQUELINE GLASGOW

### Interview with Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska

Sen. Ted Stevens, recently in Fairbanks, reported to the Tundra Times, progress on the Conference Committee on the Interior Appropriation Bill.

Sen. Stevens announced several important additions to the bill. About \$30,000 has been added for health communication radios in fifty villages. The villages will be selected on the basis of need. Money was also made available for new health clinics.

\$100,000 was set aside for

the Native Health Clinic portion of the Fairbanks Community Hospital.

Following a recommendation by Howard Rock, Tundra Times editor, and with the backing of the Department of the Interior's Arts and Crafts Board, to which Rock is a member, \$25,000 will be utilized for a feasibility study for an Institute of Alaskan Native Arts.

Senator Stevens said that the setting for the institute has been recommended and that it should be at the University of Alaska.

Funds have been earmarked for alcoholism programs aimed at the nation's Indian population and also for contract dental care.

Over a million dollars will  
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### Rights Commission—

#### Age Discrimination Leads to Back Pay

**ANCHORAGE** — The State of Alaska has been ordered to award back pay amounting to \$9,325.48 to a woman whose age discrimination case was upheld by the Alaska Human Rights Commission, according to Executive Director Robert Willard.

The case is that which was filed by Bessie A. Stevens of Anchorage in which she charged that the McLaughlin Youth Center, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, discriminated against her on account of her age for a position she applied for three years ago.

The Commission staff spent many months investigating the matter and informal efforts to conciliate a settlement failed.

Cyril W. George of Angoon, Chairman of the five-member Board of Commissioners, ordered a formal public hearing which

was held on March 15, 1972, in Anchorage before the Board of Commissioners.

This is the first formal order that came as a result of a formal  
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### Nix Appointed Magistrate Supervisor

William Nix, former captain in the state troopers, has been appointed the new magistrate supervisor for the Alaska Court system.

Nix is a long-time Alaska resident and has extensive experience with the bush. He has worked out of Ketchikan, Fairbanks, Kotzebue, Juneau, Sitka, and most recently, Anchorage.

In his duties as a state trooper, he has long been a supporter of improved bush justice in outlying areas.

"It may seem strange," he said, "for a trooper to become a magistrate supervisor, but I feel we have a valid opportunity to upgrade the justice in those areas."

Nix has been implemental in developing several federal programs for training of village policemen.

The policy on appointing magistrates continues to be following the recommendations of the village councils whenever possible.

state and throughout the world.

Performance records could easily be broken in this year's Olympics. On 4th of July games in Kotzebue earlier this month, Reggie Joule of that city high kicked with both feet up to seven feet.

This performance equaled the Eskimo Olympics record in that category.

The lighting of the Olympic seal oil lamps will initiate the activities at 7:00 P. M. each evening for the three day event.

Admission to the games is three dollars for adults, two dollars for children.

Tests of strength and endurance, such as the knuckle hop, high kick, ear pull, blanket toss, ear weight, arm pull, four man carry, Indian stick pull, and others are combined with exhibitions of Native dancing, seal skinning, fish cutting, a muk-tuk eating contest, a Native baby contest, and the selection of a queen to reign over the festivities.

Villagers from all over the state will take part in the competition. Tom Drake, chairman of the 1972 Eskimo Olympics, mentioned a few of the places who will be sending contestants: King Island, Anchorage Urban Natives, Barrow, Kotzebue, Inuvik, Canada, Tanana, Ft. Yukon, and many others.

Co-chairman for the event is Charlie Moses of Fairbanks. The queen contest is under the supervision of Betty Johnson, and is still open for Native girls of one quarter heritage, 17 to 21 years old, and single. The Miss Eskimo Olympics contestants will compete in Native costumes.  
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### Olympics Excitement Mounts— New Games to Be Introduced, Records May Fall