

DAWSON CITY, YUKON

VOL 3, NO 5, MONTHLY

THE RECOVERY DAYS ISSUE

.60 CENTS

# \$12 MILLION HOTEL PROJECT IN THE WIND

by Dan Davidson

Imagine a year round world class 100 bedroom hotel in the North End of Dawson City. Imagine suites that go for \$250.00 a night to upwardly mobile Europeans who stay for 10 days at a time, soaking up the exotic experiences of both the northern summer and the northern winter.

Imagine a three story building in historic facade, modeled somewhat after St. Mary's Hospital, which once graced those lands. Imagine a swimming pool and tennis courts, lots of lawns, rentals to guests of bicycles, boats, ski-doos, etc.

Imagine all of this falling into place by May 1992 and in operation by the end of May 1993.

If it all sounds like a dream, it is nonetheless the dream of N.V. Distribution International (Distrinal), of Belgium, a company which represents a group of investors willing to sink \$12 million into the realization of the dream.

Distrinal's president, Didier Truyens and a technical executive, Marc Michiels, were at the September 5, 1991 meeting of Dawson's municipal council to explain this dream and to find out why the response at this end is so faint so far.

Michiels explained that the pair first came to Dawson as tourists in June 1990 and stayed a week. Subsequently, Distrinal began to develop proposals for a hotel and they travelled in Alaska and the Yukon, checking

out locations. Dawson, it seemed, had the most potential as a draw.

Truyens is very clear on the notion that this hotel, tentatively named the Dawson Grand Palace on a sketch accompanying the 2 page outline of the project, would cater to a different type of visitor than Dawson sees now. This would be a destination of specific choice,

Cont. Page 2

# DISCOVERY DAYS: 24 CARAT FUN by Jennifer Williams

Good luck is what led to the discovery of gold 95 years ago by George Washington Carmack, Skookum Jim and Tagish Charlie just outside of present day Dawson and every anniversary the City's inhabitants and visitors hope for a bit of luck with the weather as many outdoors events are planned to

mark the occasion. While the

temperature was a bit cool

(especially for the raft race) the

area did not receive the rain

predicted over the long week-end and most activities were able to proceed as scheduled.

Friday evening the opening ceremonies got underway with treats for the ears, eyes and throat: first the Fairbanks Air Force Quartet and then a volunteer military band from Cold Lake Alberta filled the air with sounds from days-gone-by; Can Can dancers from Whitehorse kicked up their heels on gravel -no mean feet - but

their mock strip-tease number also raised some eyebrows among those who, expecting family entertainment, had brought their children. 'Drink of the Klondyke' contest seemed wholesome in comparison; Gareth Jones, Pat Cayen, Carol Murray and Allana Wiebe were the judges chosen on the basis of having virtually no criminal record, full-time

Cont. Page 13

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates



Mary Hanuliks 8th Ave. home takes 1st. place in the Annual K.V.A. YARD AWARDS

### DAWSON BAND SIGNS \$4.8 MILLION FEDERAL FUNDING DEAL by Dan Davidson

The Dawson Indian Band has become the third Yukon First Nation to assume a greater degree of control over its finances as a result of an Alternative Funding Agreement signed at the band council offices on the evening of August 13. Band Chief Steve Taylor and Alan McDiarmid, the regional Director of Indian and Inuit Affairs, along with most of the Dawson Band Council, signed the \$4.8 million, five year agreement in an atmosphere of general good will and high spirits.

In a press release given out at the event McDiarmid stated, "This agreement makes the Band Council directly accountable to its members for setting and administering the band's budget, and for program development, program delivery and the management of resources. Spending authorities once held by DIAND are now at the band level, enabling more efficient and effective program delivery to band members.'

The press release notes that: "The AFA gives the Dawson Indian Band as much authority for local decision making as is possible under existing legislation by establishing a new financial and administrative relationship between the band and the Minister."

The band can now develop social programs, capital works, community services and band management on its own, using what amounts to block funding. It also has responsibilities in education to provide supplies and guidance counselling for school age band members.

As long as the overall DIAND program requirements are met. the band can transfer any of its health, safety and individual rights of community residents are protected."

One way to do that is to show continued good financial management.

'We've had unqualified audits," says Steve Taylor, "which basically means that our books are perfect. I think that the government realizes the potential Dawson has to manage its own affairs when it comes to managing money. It's also a step towards self-government - a fairly big step."

Alan McDiarmid jokingly remarked, "I wouldn't think it would be fair to give all the credit to chief and council. Certainly people like Peter Kormendy, and before him, Joe Mason, deserve some recognition for recruiting the right kind of people for special positions."

Marg Kormendy has been band manager since 1987 and, before

Cont. Page 2

#### \$12 MILLION HOTEL cont'd from page 1

and not part of a multi-city package deal. Truyens envisages customers of between 35-50 years of age - mostly couples - so the hotel could contain 200 people during any given fortnight.

The pair returned to Dawson in December 1990 and were present at the public meeting on the Official Community Plan which discussed the possible options for the North End, which had become quite controversial at that time. Truyens says that Don Drackley, the consultant hired to prepare the plan, was aware of their interest in the 35 lots which make up the North End

In May the Distrinal

representatives had a meeting with Mayor Jenkins and Councillor Lambert Curzon, at which more specific plans were discussed. On June 4, 1991, Distrinal sent the city a letter asking for specific information related to discussing such a project. One of the things which now puzzles Truyens is why the city waited until August 8 to reply to that.

'A \$12 million investment needs a reply," he said in an interview. He complained that the letter he did get was not very helpful, evading most of the issues he wanted information about.

"Evasion," he said, "doesn't work. Personally, I am very much behind this project, but I don't know how long I can keep defending it if there is no decision."

The issues surrounding the North End are complex. For one thing, it is a provision of the not vet enacted Official Community Plan that public input has to precede any development there. Before the plan is in place all transactions on this site are frozen. After it is in place, it would require an amendment to the plan - a lengthy process with another public hearing - to decide to allow a zoning designation change, and still another set of hearings to put that into place.

Then, the parcel of land in question has three separate owners, the city, the territory and the Roman Catholic Diocese, all of whom would have to agree to the sale or at least, to entry right of way.

Mayor Peter Jenkins pointed all this out to the two visitors, suggesting that Distrinal needs to put together a complete proposal, one suitable for presentation to the public as well as to the levels of government involved.

both Jenkins and As Councillor Tim Gerberding noted, there was no question but that public consultation would have to be a big part of this development proposal and council could not provide any guarantees as to how that would

Distrinal does have a deadline in mind, would like to get this project under way by spring 1993, and probably isn't prepared to wait much beyond that. If that sounds like a pressure move, it probably is.

Truyens complains of a political blockage at this end, noting that this project would probably get a go ahead in Alaska inside of two months if he were to take it there.

"Politicians should not be doing business," he says, "and businessmen should not be doing politics."

In spite of that, it sounds like there could be a good deal of both in the wind before this issue is finished.

## BAND GETS MONEY CONTROL cont'd from page 1

by Dan Davidson

her, Karen Mason held the position. Both have been called strong administrators.

"But seriously," McDiarmid went on, "Marg and other competent staff, past and present, have contributed a great deal to their (council's) successes."

Band councillor and former chief Angie Joseph-Rear pointed to continuity of staff as one of the reasons the band was ready to take this step now. Staff like Jenny Christiansen and Marion Roberts have been with the band for 9 and 10 years, while Juanita Nakishima was an asset to their team, which received a commendation from the band's auditors.

'We hardly ever see any change of staff," Joseph-Rear said proudly.

For some years the Dawson Indian Band has been preparing for this day. In 1988 the band wrote and adopted a written constitution. Its business arm, Chief Isaac Inc., has been successful in a number of business endeavors, the most visible of which is Han Fisheries.

funds to any of its projects, based on the council's own judgement of where the money can best be used.

McDiarmid expanded on this in an interview, indicating that the band would no longer have to submit budgets to DIAND for approval and could look forward to life without making periodicai reports to DIAND about how its various projects were go-

Band manager Marg Kormendy added that the re-allocation of surplus funds in one project to a deficit in another would now be much simpler.

"I think it means," said Steve Taylor, "that there will be a lot less red tape. It's really not new, we've been doing everything anyway. Now we can juggle funds back and forth to balance things out."

McDiarmid was quick to agree that the band is already doing nearly everything that the AFA will allow it to do. It's just that this new arrangement will make it possible for council to get on with the job without asking for permission all the time.

DIAND's Yukon Regional Manager in charge of AFA's, Russ Smoler, contributed the fact that this agreement wasn't giving the band any more money than it would have received anyway during the five year period, and that the actual numbers on the document were not necessarily carved in stone. They could be revised if circumstances dictated the need.

In order to negotiate AFA's with DIAND, bands like the Dawson, Na-Cho Ny'a'k Dun (Mayo), and Champagne-Aishihik First Nations must, says the press release "demonstrate their ability to manage funds and programs as well as agree to meet minimum program requirements." These are based on "the Minister's obligations under the Indian Act, and on the need to ensure that the

"We are confident," the press release quoted Chief Taylor as saying, "that we are now prepared to assume greater financial responsibilities.

Bob Sutherland's Social Studies 11/12 class took its annual Dempster Trip in August this year. Was it cold? See next issue for the story photo by Bob Sutherland

#### SEWER AND WATER REPAIR COSTS JUMP by Dan Davidson

It was shocking enough when calculated at a rate of 45% this Dawson city council found out it would need to borrow \$1.6 million from the YTG to cover the repair bill for its deteriorating sewer system, but that was an estimate made in June and based on the preliminary results of tests conducted to that point. The tests are finished now, and the real news is quite a bit worse. It is now estimated that the total replaced. The final results of the cost of the repairs will be on the order of \$2.9 million.

to cover the costs but that of the project. wasn't the end of the story. That bill has since been repealed and is being replaced by another to borrow a mere \$1 million. It's not that the costs have gone down, merely that the method of financing them has changed. Earlier on, Dawson was going to borrow by debenture an amount which included the YTG's share of the total cost, which is

In addition, the city is constrained by regulation not to borrow more than a million at a time without going to the public for approval.

Repairs to the system are needed on nearly every avenue except Fifth and Seventh. In one case, Sixth Avenue, over 700 metres of pipe will need to be pigging tests and video examination revealed problems Council recently passed a which were far in excess of those bylaw to borrow \$2.2 million already discovered in June, thus from the territorial government the dramatic increase in the costs

> This is a major capital expense for a town with a yearly budget of just over \$5.2 million, and could not be covered without borrowing unless a lot of other programs were either trimmed or cut.

Repair almost seems to be the wrong word to describe what will be taking place under many of Dawson's streets this fall. Mayor Peter Jenkins describes the process as one of laying new line parallel to the one that has collapsed and gradually switching the properties on the street to the new line. The old system is left in the ground and covered over. It seems more like a reconstruction than a repair.

In the long term, Jenkins pessimistically predicts that sewer and water costs in Dawson will become a major burden. Even after the lines have been replaced with the quality of pipe which the climate seems to require, there will be further problems related to sewage treatment, including expansion of primary treatment capacity and the eventual need to move to secondary treatment.

The mayor keeps saying, at meeting after meeting, that he will not be running for office again this fall. One cannot help but wonder if the size of the problems facing Dawson in the near future hasn't grown a bit daunting, even for him.



I always look both ways before I jump Photo by Palma Berger

#### COUNCIL BRIEFS:

by Dan Davidson

# CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTS BAND REQUESTS

Dawson City Council has passed a resolution in support of a request by the Dawson Indian Band to have the federal government declare about 180 acres in the area of Lousetown a reserve under the terms of the Indian Act.

Lousetown, or Klondike City, as it was once known, has been under consideration by the band as a Land Claims site for a number of years, having been the place where the Han Indians were living when the gold seekers arrived here in 1898.

Lousetown has also been the site of some mining exploration in recent years. Claims there are staked in the name of Berglund Resources and are presently being worked in some manner by Gary Crawford,



The tranquil setting of Klondike City , ( Lousetown ) soon to disappear under the Miners Cat Blade

hoto by Michael Gates

#### SUMMER DOCTOR TO STAY

Dawson is getting its second doctor. Stephen Howells, who has been here for the summer assisting Dr. Gerard Parsons, has decided to stay the winter in the community. They have found a place to live other than the guest quarters at the federally owned nursing residence, and the City of Dawson will be helping them foot the bill for their rent.

Howells is delightedly informing all the clinic's patients and allowing Parsons to have a much needed vacation from long days and 24 hours on call. He and his wife, Janet, came here in June from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Mayor Peter Jenkins says the

city has had no luck getting any financial support from either the territorial or federal governments and so has taken the initiative in attempting to attract a second physician to the community.

"The only way to attract and retain a physician was to come up with a housing package," Mayor Peter Jenkins said in an interview. While the details haven't been worked out yet, he estimates that this move will cost the city between eight and nine thousand dollars a year.

He is hoping that the senior levels of government can be persuaded to get on board the plan once it is up and running.

#### CITY OF DAWSON ELECTION NOTICE

The Town of the City of Dawson advises that the BOARD OF REVISION will meet on MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1991, to hear applications for revision to the PRELIMINARY LIST OF ELECTORS.

PLACE; COUNCIL CHAMBERS TIMES: 1:00 P.M. -- 5:00 P.M. 6:00 P.M. -- 8:00 P.M.

Any person or persons not listed or listed incorrectly on the preliminary list of electors should take this opportunity to appeal before the Board. If unable to attend the meeting, application forms are available at the City office until SEPTEMBER 30, 1991.

UNION PICKETS AT POST OFFICE, BUT THE MAIL GOES THROUGH by Dan Davidson

Striking federal employees picketed the Dawson federal building on September 9, but they didn't stop anyone from picking up their mail. The strikers, mostly made up of staff from Klondike National Historic Sites, were creating a bit of history themselves, according to union member Byrun Shandler, who noted that they were the first pickets ever seen in Dawson.

"Support for the strike has been good," Shandler said. "There's only one scab in Dawson." He meant that only one federal employee in the union had turned out for work.

He also said that, with a few noteworthy exceptions, the public had been polite and accepting of the workers.

He explained that the union was asking only that people refuse to do federal government business while the pickets were in place.

"If you need to mail a letter to the feds, do it tomorrow. We won't be here then," he said. Any other mail could be collected with the union's blessing.

The strikers' plan is to picket high profile sites in the community, such as the post office building and some of the KNHS

#### FENCING ISSUE STILL AT IMPASSE

August 16 has passed and Donna Mendelsohn's chain link fence is still up around her property. But city council says it won't be anytime after September 19, which is the date Mendelsohn has been given as a final deadline.

Mayor Peter Jenkins says the original date was to determine when to take Mendelsohn to court for violating the city's Historic Code Bylaw, but the legal advice the city has received now holds that a court date isn't necessary. The city has, Jenkins avers, the right to move in and take down the fence when it is ready to.

Jenkins says the destruction project will probably be put out to tender and the contract awarded just as in any other situation. He says Mendelsohn has had plenty of warnings. A letter has been fastened to the door of her home. Another, double-registered, letter is waiting for her to pick it up at the Post Office. The tenants she has in her trailer have been given a copy of the letter, though Jenkins says they returned it to the city as having been delivered to the wrong person.

"We don't have much choice here," Jenkins said. "When you have bylaws you either enforce them or you don't."

sites, so that they will be seen. Picketing the headquarters of KNHS, near the extreme south end of town on Front Street, would be a pretty lonely and invisible exercise. They are seeking to overturn the wage freeze imposed on federal employees as part of the government's austerity package.

Not everything ran so smoothly. Some of the signs used by the strikers were a bit faulty in execution. Shandler ended this interview by rushing off to correct the word "negociate" on his own sign when it was pointed out to him by a passerby.

#### KLONDIKE VALLEY WILL GET SIGNAL

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has responded to Dawson City council's concerns about its proposed new antenna site on the hill beside the town. Last April council opposed the CBC site on the grounds that a higher site would be more attractive and would also spread the signal further down the Klondike Valley, which does not receive CBC television.

CBC's S. Alexan, the Assistant Director of the corporation's Transmission and Distribution Dept. in Montreal, replied in an Aug. 29 letter to Jenkins that "the proposed new location was chosen in view of consolidating our facilities and providing coverage in the Klondike River Valley, while maintaining a good signal within the Dawson municipal boundaries.

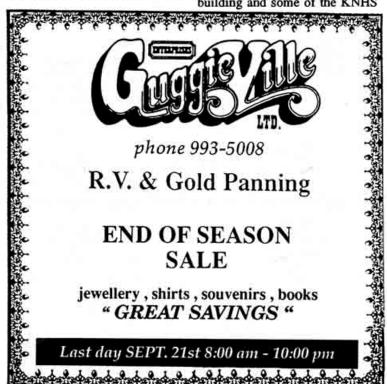
The letter went on to say that "...the relocation and increase of transmitter power from 5 watts to 250 watts will improve the

overall coverage to Dawson and will provide new coverage to the Klondike River valley up to Arlington, as well as along Bonanza Creek up to a distance of approximately 5 km from the Klondike River."

Arlington is at the mouth of Hunker Creek, so the extended service will reach past Bear Creek but not as far as Rock Creek. Alexan's letter notes that "due to the mountainous nature of the local terrain, coverage beyond Arlington cannot be achieved, even with higher transmitter power."

Apparently, the need to expand coverage to the ever increasing population in the valley was one of the reasons the relocation was planned in the first place.

Council was satisfied with this response. Mayor Jenkins, who had been most critical of the proposal prior to receiving this clarification, remarked that CBC seemed to "have done their homework" on this project.





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#### EDITORIAL: DOLLARS AND CENTS by Dan Davidson

Autumn's arrived. Sure, it's not official until the 21st of September, but it got here a month before that. Seen the despondent tourists walking around with ski jackets and toques? Mind you, the rest of us don't look much happier. Our only consolation may be that no matter how bad the weather here may be, it's generally worse in Whitehorse. Time, then, to talk about changes generally. And since most changes involve money, let's take a quick look around.

Lots of money in this issue. \$4.8 million here, \$2.9 million over there, another possible \$12 million way down there. Incredible numbers, really, when you stop to think about them.

Getting a sense of what it costs to keep this place going is probably only possible if you attend council meetings on a regular basis and stick around long enough to listen to the discussions relating to the "accounts payable". The most recent statement showed that the city had spent over \$180,000.00 on salaries, parts, roads, gravel, and all the many things it needed to run during the two week period at the end of August.

That statement was a little bit misleading, since it was inflated by some flow-through cash that originated with the Klondike Visitors Association's remaining debts from the rebuilding of Gerties some years ago. This money comes from the KVA into the city's coffers and then flows right out again to the bank. It was around \$70 thousand this year.

Even so, the city routinely hits the \$75-\$100 thousand range on a bi-weekly basis. Pretty amazing stuff for a town this size, eh?

The nicest money story comes from the Dawson Indian Band, where devolution of responsibility actually seems to be working. Congratulations!

The continuing sewer & water story is the bad news this month (and nearly every month for the last year). The costs and inconvenience associated with this mess are enough to make us grumble, but I haven't met anyone yet who doesn't see the need for the expense. Have you got your water saver shower heads installed yet? Do you know how much your bleeder really needs to run when the time comes?

The most visionary news comes from Belgium. Read our story on the hotel proposal and see if you have any more trouble closing your mouth than some of us did at city council on Sept. 5. This is a pretty wild dream, but these people seem to be serious. What do we want?

Don't say it's impossible. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ceased to exist last week. In the last decade of the 20th century it would appear that nearly all things are possible. Maybe Ronald Reagan will finally remember where Oliver North got all those

Speaking of changes, many of you told us to keep some of the ones we made last issue...so we did. Let us know what you think, okay? This is your paper, after all. We just put it together.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Klondike Sun:

My sincerest thanks go to Kathy Jones-Gates for the wonderfully touching tribute she wrote about my mother, Joan Bilton. I take comfort in knowing that she touched the hearts of many people in Dawson and will be remembered with such affection. Thanks Kathy!

A heartfelt thank-you also to all the people of Dawson who have helped John and Wendy these last few months, your kindness will never be forgotten.

Yours Sincerely, Shelley Varga 1851 Treelane Road Campbell River, B.C. V9W 4E9

Dear Editor:

Enclosed find my cheque for \$17.12 for which please renew my subscription to The Klondike Sun for another year. I look forward to this newspaper very much and don't want to miss a single issue.

I agree wholeheartedly with Dan Davidson's editorial (July 11, p. 4) about saving back issues -- "This stuff is history in the making!" Too often people don't realize this until it is too late. I have saved all my copies since I started subscribing, in August 1989. Unfortunately I am missing the very first issue, which I gather has become quite a collector's item by now.

I know that Sue Ward's birthday is sometime in August so I want to extend birthday greetings to her. I had the great pleasure of meeting her on my trip to Dawson City two

years ago and had a most fascinating conversation with her. What a great public relations person! I shall never forget her hospitality during that visit. It was one of the highlights of my Yukon trip.

Yours sincerely, Keith Foster

#### The Klondike Sun

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KVA Manager Bob McConkey will soon be seen on CTV's W5 (Channel 13) talking about the symbiotic relationship between mining & tourism.

Dear Klondike Sun:

How could I forget to send off a cheque to you for our renewal? I don't know ..... We certainly don't want to miss a copy of our hometown paper.... There has been so much going on during the past month here. Both Lynne and family from Kamploops and Debbie and family from Dawson met at our place in White Rock and together the 10 of us had a great holiday. What with the ocean to swim in and relatives to visit etc. the time passed far too

quickly. Now we must settle down and pay our bills. Our summer, as usual went far too quickly, didn't get to see everyone, but there is always another summer, and again we say, " we will do everything then."

Have a good winter -- see you in May / 92

Pete & Brownie Foth White Rock, B.C.

To the Editor:

Just a note to let you know we enjoy the paper very much. We miss all our friends in the North and wish we were able to be up there. We like Kamloops, everyone here seems very nice. Say hi to all our friends in Dawson for us. Keep up the good

Sincerely

Elaine & Bob Donaldson Kamloops, B.C.



# KLONDIKE VISITORS ASSOCIATION

IT'S SEASONS' END !

The Board of Directors and staff of the Klondike Visitors Association would like to thank the residents of Dawson City and surrounding area for your much appreciated patronage and support of Diamond Tooth Gerties, Gaslight Follies, Jack London Centre and our many events; Commissioner's Ball, Yukon gold Panning Championships, Talent Night , Mixed Slo-Pitch Tournament, Outhouse Race and the Int'l Dart Tournament.

At this time we would like to remind local businesses and citizens that Gerties gambling chips may be redeemed at the Gerties box office until noon Monday, September 23, 1991. After that time, redemptions may be processed through the K.V.A. Office above the V.R.C.

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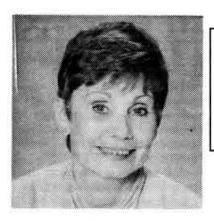
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# REPORT FROM OTTAWA

by Audrey McLaughlin, Yukon M.P.

Statistics, Literacy, Furs and a New Session pr

Statistics Canada's (Stats Can) surveys provide information on trends upon which public policy can then be based. The Economist magazine and the U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce rate Stats Can's data as the world's best and most reliable.

However, political interference may have harmed Stats Can's reputation. In June Stats Can reported that it was not social programs and health care that caused the increase in the deficit after 1975, but rather too many tax loopholes for the wealthy and big corporations, and a high interest rate policy which caused exorbitant interest payments on the federal debt.

This study contradicted the federal Conservative's claim that social programs were responsible for the federal debt.

Following criticism from Finance Department officials, Statistics Canada "clarified" their original report saying that "This position was not argued in the body of the article and should not have appeared in the conclusion."

This incident is disturbing as both Statistics Canada's objectivity and its reputation have been weakened. We have something world class. Let's keep it.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

September 8 is International Literacy Day. Society is better when people have the ability to read and write well enough to be able to earn a living and take part in community life.

The Prime Minister talks about how Canada must become more competitive and be more productive. It's fine to talk about productivity in the world market, but one needs a job first. Where are the "jobs, jobs, jobs" he talked about not so long ago?

Literacy will not be improved by cutting funding for education and training. According to Statistics Canada, federal spending in 1990-91 in support of education and training dropped by 7.6% from the previous fiscal year. Yes, we must support programs like the Yukon's Project Wordpower. Yes, we must improve the rate of literacy in Canada and world-wide. But illiteracy won't go away by cutting funding.

In April 1989, I called for the inclusion of fur products in the federal government's environmentally friendly labelling program. The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC) share my view.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

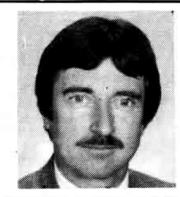
However, this view is not held by Arthur Campeau, an aide to Environment Minister Jean Charest. His July 1990 memo to the Deputy Minister says that the idea that "skins of animals" raised on fur farms or trapped are ecologically acceptable is "ludicrous". He goes on to say that the fur industry's lobby to obtain "green" tags for their products must be stopped before "it makes a mockery of the entire process".

ITC President Rosemarie Kuptana, who obtained the memo under Access to Information, called on the Minister demanding the aide's removal or transfer to a position where "his animal rights fanaticism can do Inuit no harm."

Hear, hear! I've been lobbying for labelling furs as environmentally friendly for over two years.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* This summer I enjoyed meeting with various members of the Dawson community and attending the wonderful Music Festival. Fall is just around the corner with the House of Commons fall session starting September 16. Amongst other pieces of legislation we can expect introduction of a gun control bill, an environmental assessment bill and of course, more discussion on the constitution. New Democrats continue to support the concept of a constituent assembly to make sure Canadians have a voice.

I will be travelling to Washington this month to meet with American politicians to discuss protection of the Arctic Refuge and of a northern way of life. It promises to be a busy fall.



Art Webster, M.L.A. Klondike

The right to vote, as guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, is the most fundamental principle of the democratic process. An independent Electoral District Boundaries Commission, established by an act passed during the spring session of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, offers the public the opportunity to express its views on our democratic process in the Yukon. Specifically, the purpose of this Commission is "to review the area, boundaries, name and representation of each of the existing electoral districts and recommendations respecting any way in which they should be altered." The act appoints Mr. Justice Kenneth M. Lysyk, a Judge of the British Columbia Supreme Court and a Deputy Judge of the Yukon Supreme Court, as the sole Commissioner. The first matter Mr. Lysyk

The first matter Mr. Lysyk must consider in creating a new political map for the territory is the total number of electoral districts or ridings. By provisions of the **Yukon Act**, the number of electoral districts may not be fewer than 12, nor greater than 20.

The only time Yukoners went to the polls to select 12 Members of the Legislative Assembly was the general election of 1974. Then the average number of voters for the 5 Whitehorse seats was 1,124, whereas the average in the 7 rural districts was 590, for a total overall average of 795 voters per each of the 12 districts.

In that election, Dawson was divided in half to form part of two districts. Everyone living north of King Street, including residents of Clinton Creek and Old Crow, voted in the Ogilvie riding (424 eligible), while those living south of King Street, including residents of Pelly Crossing and Carmacks, voted in the Klondike riding (616 eligible). Sixteen districts were created for the general election of 1978 - the first one officially fought on party lines and have remained in place virtually unaltered through another three elections to the present day. Incidentally, the total number of eligible voters in 1978 was 11,051, for an average of 690 for each of the 16 ridings, whereas the total number eligible in 1989 was 15, 093, for an average of 943 per riding. For the next general election, which must be called prior to March 1993, (psst, the false), rumours are approximately 16,500 will be eligible to vote.

Should the number of electoral districts for not only the next election but perhaps the next few to serve us into the 21st century remain at 16, be reduced, or be increased?

An increased number of electoral districts would permit greater flexibility in making allowances for a variety of factors that must be taken into consideration. For example, although equality of voting power among electoral districts is of major importance, effectiveness of representation has been the focal point of recent court decisions. Factors which play a critical role in the ability provide effective representation include: geographic and demographic considerations; the availability communication and transportation systems; any community or diversity of interest of the residents of any part of the Yukon; and any special circumstances of the Yukon, including, but not limited to, the right of members of Yukon First Nations to have an effective voice in the Legislative Assembly. In answering this question, the

WORDS

FROM

WEBSTER

Commission must determine how much deviation from the overall average number of voters per district can be justified in the Yukon, having regard for the above factors.

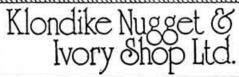
What do you think? How many electoral districts should be created? Should Old Crow retain its own electoral district for reasons of special and unique circumstances? Should more districts be created in the Whitehorse area where approximately 60 percent of Yukon voters reside? (Of the current 16 districts, 7 are within Whitehorse city boundaries, and 9 are rural ridings.) How many districts should be created in which the majority of voters are aboriginal people? (There are presently four: Old Crow, Tatchun, Kluane, and Campbell.) Can we, as taxpayers, afford the financial cost of adding members to the Legislative Assembly, or for reasons of more effective representation, can we afford not to?

Your views are important, and the Yukon Electoral District Boundaries Commission wants to hear them. You can participate by writing to the Commission by September 10th, or by speaking at the public hearing scheduled for Dawson City on the evening of Tuesday, September 24, in the City Council Chambers. To notify the Commission of your intention to speak, and to request an Information Kit, call the tollfree number 1-800-661-0408. I, too, am looking forward to hearing what Klondike residents have to say on this very important matter.

# **HELPING HANDS**

FRAN HAKONSON (the chocolate cake was Scrumptious) BRENT MORRISON SHEILA JONES

MICHAEL GATES JOHN BURCHAT PAM LAWRIE JOANNE SMITH BONNIE BARBER



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#### "THE SAINT OF DAWSON" FINDS A PLACE IN HISTORY by Dan Davidson

After years of official neglect the gravesite of Father William Judge, S.J., Roman Catholic Parish priest in Dawson City from 1897-99, when he died from overwork, has been granted an official plaque by the federal Historic Sites and Monuments Board. The official unveiling took place in a newly created commemorative park near his grave, overlooking the Yukon River, on Saturday, August 17.

number of dignitaries, including Dawson, inspired by the man Commissioner Ken McKinnon, Mayor Peter Jenkins, Bishop saint for his good works, re-Thomas Lobsinger and W. placed it with a bigger one Douglas Harper, Director-General of Environment Canada Parks Service.

event was Dr. Daniel Tlen, repre-Monuments Board. He presented his flock and his God. the audience of about 70 with an overview of Judge's career. Judge, the Society of Jesus as a missionary. In 1890 he was posted to became his Call too.

He found conditions harsh in Dawson when he arrived. Poor sanitation and malnutrition had precipitated outbreaks of typhus and scurvy. Judge set to work to establish a hospital for the needy as well as carry out his religious duties. By August, 1897, he had Saint Mary's Hospital in operation as well as a church. It was a massive job of cajoling and soliciting funds and help, as well as working himself. The church Present to honour Judge were a burned, but the citizens of who was already being called a within ten weeks.

The work demanded a price of Judge, never a well man. He fell Master of ceremonies for the ill in January 1899, and was dead by the 16th of the month, burned senting the Historic Sites and out by his exertions on behalf of

Father Leo Boyd, O.M.I., the current priest at Saint Mary's who was born in Maryland in Church, mentioned the fact that 1850, worked in many trades be- some mysterious person has confore finally being accepted into tinually placed a rose on Judge's grave during his tenure here.

Bishop Lobsinger spoke Alaska, a rugged assignment for briefly of Judge's dedication to this man of poor health. By 1895 his calling. Historian David he had followed the progress of Neufeld, with ECPS, talked of the miners to Forty Mile, and how appropriate it was to recogthe call of the Gold Rush in 1896 nize Judge at this time. W. Douglas Harper called upon Father Boyd to assist him in the unveiling ceremony.

Before the formalities and during the reception, the audience was kept in the proper frame of mind by a selection of appropriate instrumental hymns provided by the Fairbanks Air Force Brass

The new park was established this summer on land owned by Saint Mary's parish by Klondike National Historic Sites. It will be maintained by the church.

The plaque reads as follows: " William Judge, S.J. (1850-

"Father William Judge is remembered as the 'Saint of Dawson'. An American Jesuit missionary, he went to Alaska in 1890 to work among the Indians of the lower Yukon. He moved to Forty Mile in 1895, and when gold was discovered near Dawson, he followed his parishioners there in 1897. Judge devoted himself totally to the physical and spiritual well-being of the miners. He built Dawson's first hospital, St. Mary's, and for one year singlehandedly ran both it and his church. He was well loved by the local people and his death caused widespread mourning throughout the community."

## **DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA SETS** BANQUET DATE

**Press Release** 

The Dawson City Committee of Ducks Unlimited Canada has announced that its second annual banquet will be held at: Diamond Tooth Gerties, Dawson City, on October 5, 1991, at 6 p.m. Committee Chairperson Kelvin Leary feels the fundraising function should be marked on the calendar by anyone who is interested in the future of North America's waterfowl and wetlands.

"Ducks Unlimited has been preserving, and restoring wetland habitat in Canada for half a century," says Kelvin Leary. During that time, landowners, Canadian governments, corporations and individuals have made more than 4 million wetland acres available free of charge of almost 3,000 individual water control projects scattered throughout the nations. "Now there is growing interest from Canadians to contribute

financially to the future of waterfowl and wetlands conservation. These banquets are one way for conservationists to make solid contributions to Ducks Unlimited's time-proven habitat program."

Kelvin Leary explains that natural wetlands throughout Canada are under continuing and intensive pressure from a variety of developers. "Ducks Unlimited is the only private non-profit organization in North America doing something to offset these habitat losses," he says.

Tickets for the Dawson City banquet are available at \$60.00 each couple, \$40.00 each single, and include a one year subscription to the colourful and informative Ducks Unlimited magazine as well as the Conservator magazine. For tickets and more information. call Gord Crowe at 993-6419 or 993-5444.

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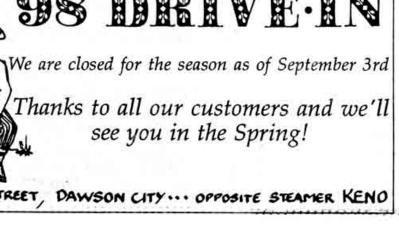
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Doug Harper, Director General of Environment Canada Parks Service and Father Leo Boyd unveiling the plaque, watched by Whitehorse RCMP Corporal Jim Baker. Photo by Dan Davidson.

FRONT STREET, DAWSON CITY ... OPPOSITE STEAMER KENO





#### FOOLS GOLD REVUE STRIKES PAYDIRT

by Dan Davidson

One of the more interesting presentations in Dawson last summer was performed Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in Oak Hall on Second Avenue. There, behind the storefront display of period clothing, the curtain rises on the Fool's Gold Revue, a production of the Pyrite Players.

It's a marionette show, one with a little history, a little slapstick, some singing, a joke or two, some Robert W. Service and a bit of can-can dancing. In a sense it's a condensed version of some of the adult fare around the town."

"We're all fools, so it's the fool's gold revue," says Glenda Bolt, leader of the troop of puppeteers who have assembled this variety show. She has been pulling the strings of this operation for the last three years, but this year marks a change in direction for the program.

"Last year, because most of our audience was adults," Bolt says, "we tried to do something with a plot...but...the kids were bored to tears. So, even though most of or audience is (still) adults, we went to a format where kids could enjoy it more: moving quickly, shorter show, lots of slapstick, changes of scene, something that will keep the kids entertained."

The show opens with three gold nuggets - Goldie, Richie and Dusty - giving an abbreviated version of the Discovery story. Then life size Mudly Muck-Finder wanders in from stage right and tells a tall tale. The scene shifts to Eliza Elongate, a new member of the cast and a lady who puts her whole throat into her performance of "Baby Has Gone Down the Plughole". A quick change leads into a jugband skit in which the players find that they have to keep playing in order to calm a bear that has somehow wandered onto the stage.

"The Shooting of Dan McGrew" receives a clever reading and presentation in a set adapted from last year's melodrama, and paves the way for the grand finale chorus line, bringing the show to a close.

Bolt and fellow cast members Jay Armitage, Brenda Baxter and Miriam Wilson invite their audience backstage after each show to demonstrate the various types of puppets that are used in the show. Marionettes are the most numerous, of course, but there are several hand puppets and one body puppet as well.

Bolt and her collaborators wrote the script and made the performance tape last fall before the season ended, and arrived at the beginning of the season ready to make the puppets and choreograph the show to fit the audio track. Things were a little tight.

'Eliza is one of our new puppets," Bolt says, "and she was actually still wet during our first performance."

The biggest weakness in the show is the pre-recorded sound. Not that there's anything wrong with it, but the fact that it is moving inexorably on inhibits the audience from responding with full appreciation to some of the humour in the show, for fear of missing what comes next. A live show can pause and stretch its timing to allow for audience reaction. Without more in the human cast that's just not possible in this case.

Between July 2 and August 1, five hundred people filed into the hall to see the show. That's up about 3 from last year, but Bolt is quite satisfied with the results, and the audience on this day seemed equally pleased.

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# **Tour Dates are** October 3 - 5, 1991

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#### THE BARE BONES OF PALEONTOLOGY

by Jennifer Williams

Gold isn't the only buried treasure in the Yukon, the bones of pre-historic animals are being uncovered in the Dawson and Sixty Mile area which are of great value to scientists. While some people might think a man who dates squirrel droppings is a bit odd those in attendance at the Museum slide show called "Scenes from the Ice Age" realized that Dr. Dick Harington wasn't talking about his social life but about the aged specimens he has added to the national collections. Over the past 25 years Dick, as he insists on being called, has been visiting miners in the area and thanks to their cooperation has been able to contribute to the international body of knowledge on the flora and fauna during the last Ice Age. On August 21st Dick shared the findings of his fieldwork with an audience made up of many of the miners who had lead him to his quarry.

Presently the Curator of Quaternary Zoology at the Paelobiology Division of the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Dr. Harington managed to breath life into what is often thought of as a dry subject with some amusing anecdotes. His enthusiasm about paleontology was also easier to understand once the unique geological features of the Yukon had been explained. According to Dick, at the peak of the last Ice Age, about 18-20,000 years ago, more than 90% of Canada was covered by ice but the Yukon territory was one of the largest areas in the country that was still open. It provided a refuge for many animals and over 60 species that date back to the last glaciation have been found in North, West and Central Yukon, ranging in

"Old Crow is the best place to collect Ice Age vertebrates in Canada period," said Dick in an interview with CBC Yukon. "In the Dawson and Sixty Mile area we have some of the best quality specimens, many good display specimens, though generally of more recent age, belonging to the last part of the Ice Age and preserved extremely well under the permafrost conditions in this region," he added.

size from small rodents to large

camivores.

At the talk in the Dawson Museum, Dick showed slides of Chuck and Lynn McDougals' site at Sixty Mile, near the Alaskan border, which had produced at least 3000 good specimens over about 6 or 7 years. One summer's collection was "stacked like cord wood," which Dick said, "really impresses a paleontologist because sometimes when you're in the field and you find a trace of a fragment of a leaf in sediment you feel you've done quite well." "Furthermore," said Dick, "it was really exciting to discover a site like this and to have the cooperation of the miners who were extremely gracious in donating most of the



"Mastadon head found 45 feet below surface on Quartz Creek"YT Canada March 5, 1904 W.P.KJelly Photo Marion Hadley Collection

material to the national collection."

It is not only the quantity but the quality of the specimen that requires team work as Dick recalled; "One of the more spectacular finds is something that the dog brought in quite literally. Chuck and Lynn's dog Molly went on a foraging expedition just before I got to their camp and came in with something dangling in her mouth. Chuck threw it into the freezer and I was very glad he had the presence of mind to do that because it turns out to be a black-footed ferret which is now extinct in this area." Carbon dating, a process that measures the decay of organic matter in a specimen, showed that this particular ferret was 40,000 years old and further research done by an associate of Dick's revealed that the animal had made a meal of moles before it died, literally ages ago. "So lots of information can be derived from good specimens like that," he concluded.

In another slide he showed how the placer mining technique of washing away dirt with a high-pressure water hose, called monitoring, exposes specimens. The stratigraphic cross-section allows for fairly accurate dating and most bones are located just above gravel, as it acts like a resting platform after a natural density sorting process. In one instance runways made by ground squirrels were uncovered by Harold Schmidts, near the mouth of Miller Creek, and within the pre-historic tunnels he found droppings and seeds. Back in Ottawa the seeds were planted in an experimental farm and turned-out to be a form of Arctic Lupin that grew over 10,000 years ago.

Captured in the permafrost the specimens are sometimes actually frozen in time.

"One miner happened to pick up what looked like a ball of silt, he called it a moon rock. This went to a Conservation Officer who passed it on to me. I didn't know what to make of it, but after brushing it a bit I noticed some red hairs coming through. It turned out to be a complete carcass of a ground squirrel with its head tucked under its tail as if it had died in hibernating position. This has been dated at a little over 47, 000 years old and is one of the oldest specimens, by radio-carbon technique that we have. I've always been grateful to that miner for collecting what looked like an odd lump of silt."

Another interesting case is "a spectacular specimen from Eldorado Creek that the Johnson brothers uncovered. It's the best Pleistocene wolf skull we have and it dates to around 37,000 years ago by radio-carbon dating. It was laying on a grassy surface and the chlorophyll in the base of the grass was still coloured green. This had been covered by about 9 meters of permafrost, they monitored this off and low and behold there was a grassy, rolling terrain of a landscape that had vanished probably about 40 - 50,000 years ago. I took a big sample of this and was really excited about it. I passed the sample to a colleague in Ottawa to take over to the geological survey to a friend who I thought could help identify this material before getting it radio-carbon dated and they lost it. I was really crest-fallen, these things happen unfortunately but I keep encouraging the Johnson brothers and other miners if they see anything like this that they know is deeply buried to let me know or at least to make a record

Word has gotten around that there is a friendly bone hound that visits almost every summer but some miners can't wait. "One Christmas, about 8 or 10 years ago, I received a small blue package that was loosely wrapped with string and silt." Although dripping slightly damaged that thoughtful gift turned out to be a virtually complete skull of an American lion and the best specimen the museum has of its New Hours:

Dr. Harington can appreciate the curiosity of the new comer to the study of fossils. initially became interested in Ice Age animals when as a wildlife biologist working in the Arctic

he began to wonder why the prehistoric looking musk-ox had survived while so many other species had become extinct. Pointing to the photograph of a jaw bone Dick said, "The woolly mammoth, according to its teeth, was more advanced then the living Indian elephant, it's closest living relative." However in answer to questions about the cause of the mass extinctions he had to admit it is still a puzzle; "we're probing ...we haven't got the whole picture, we're just taking a few leafs out of the history book of time and this can give us distorted views.'

While stressing limitations of the information available Dick succeeded in painting a rich scene of life in the not-so-frozen North when it was covered in grassy terrain and populated by a varied cast of characters which included the short-faced bear, the Western camel, lemmings, lions, moles and mastodons.

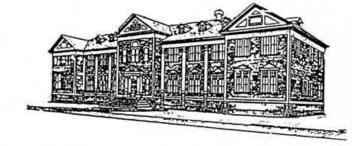
The record attendance for the last of the summer lecture series was made up of an equally diverse lot, including both tourists and miners. Evan and Ryan Johnson, two teenagers from Virginia, have been coming North every summer for as long as they can remember to mine on Eldorado Creek with their dad, Dave. After the talk they eagerly approached Dick to discuss their

latest discoveries, "I enjoy finding the bones almost as much as the gold," said Evan. Their father is one of many miners who has both contributed to and seen the national collection in Ottawa. Dick ultimately finds it "very gratifying" to show miners around the exhibits as both parties obviously enjoy being able to help share a part of the Yukon's great wealth.



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gate.

# Dawson City Museum



# NEW FEATURES

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RESOURCE LIBRARY

Lecture by Barb Hogan " THE YUKON DITCH " September 18th 7:30 p.m.

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FUNDRAISING AUCTION September 29th 2:00 p.m.

September 3rd to 14th Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 1pm to 4pm

After the 14th by appointment only

## CAPTAIN'S FAMILY VISITS "YUKON ROSE"

by Sue Ward



Beached on Third Ave. Owners Murray Matchett, Kevin Hewer and Ron McReedy Photo by Sue Ward

Just when you begin to think "it's all over until next year" the magic and the mystery appears. This scribe was reluctant to let go and settled with a sketch pad for a study of our second riverboat, the Yukon Rose. Two visitors strolled into the scene and they asked a young man if he would take their picture. It dawned on me that these were the folks related to a riverboat captain who had piloted both the Keno and the Yukon Rose. My hunch was that their story had already been recorded by one or another of the Klondike Sun crew. Yet I ventured to join in the chat. What a pleasure! Meet Millicent Fawnsworth and her daughter Vivian Burgos of Sunnydale, California.

Like so many, these women treasured the stories of their family Klondike Adventurer, and like many, they were drawn to the scenes of romance and struggle. Flying from San Francisco to Vancouver, on to Whitehorse, and further to Dawson City, they were stunned by the immensity of the lands leading to the Klondike, though Mrs. Fawnsworth had faint memories of being taken from Ft. McMurray, Alberta where her father had migrated from England with his young wife, to Vancouver, B.C. as no schools were available for six-year old Millicent. Her father Alex George Courquin, finding no work in depression ridden Vancouver, applied and won a job on Taylor & Drury's Rose, having earned his Masters ticket during the Ft. McMurray years on the Athabasca-Mackenzie River systems.

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Daughter Vivian remarked that they had invested some time in Whitehorse Archives but the task of finding some record of her grandfather had proved too immense, and without "wheels" they were about "walked out" in finding the Yukon Rose. "Cleo" happily made room for Millicent and Vivian waved off the dog-hair up front, and we drove to visit Michael Gates at Parks Canada Hdqts. at the south end of town. It took less than five minutes for Michael to produce a record of Master A.G. Courguin's Personal Record of the White Pass & Yukon Route, River Division, and copies were made for the family records. That's the Mystery and the Magic in action.

A refreshing ferry ride put us on the road to the Riverboat Graveyard, which, of course, is truly a disaster and a victim of time, weather and ravaging. However, the immensity of the boats can be sensed and a rusty square-sided spike proves a remarkable memento to those who

harbour family memories.

Later, we made our way slowly down the Dome Road, having oriented the Klondike Goldfields, Bonanza, Dog and Sisters' Island and gazed north at the first snowfall on the Ogilvie and Richardson Mountains, chat turned to where our roots hunkered down.

Courquin was of France, the family being specialists in candymaking. In point of fact, the Grandpere Courquins had been the creators of JELLY BEANS and LIQUORICE ALLSORTS! Just goes to show you what fascinating stories our visitors bring us.

It was a grand afternoon and both Millicent Fawnsworthy and her daughter Vivian Burgos will have copies of the The Klondike Sun to enhance the magic and the mystery they discovered in Dawson City.

Their greatest hope was for a restoration of the Yukon Rose. Could that be the Centennial Project this town could make happen?



Millicent Fawnsworth and daughter Vivian Burgos of Sunnydale, California Photo by Sue Ward

# APPOINTMENT NOTICE





Michael G. Carter

Mark. G. Needham

Northwestel Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael G. Carter as Manager Corporate Communications, and Mark G. Needham as General Customer Services Manager.

A Concordia University graduate, Mr. Carter comes to Northwestel having had communications experience with the private and public sectors. Mr. Needham is a graduate of the University of British Columbia and the University of Calgary, and possesses a broad range of experience in the telecommunications industry.

Ms. Anne Grainger, the former Manager Corporate Communications, and Mr. James Parker, the former General Customer Services Manager, have accepted positions in the company's Human Resources department.

Northwestel provides telecommunications services to approximately 80,000 residents of Canada's vast northwest. It is a BCE Inc. subsidiary and one of the largest employers in





**\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$\\$** 

of an born in the cont

by Palma Berger

The weather has been great. The berries are out in abundance. The garden is sporting great crops of blackcurrants, raspberries, strawberries, saskatoon berries. The apple tree survived a rabbit attack. The rabbits did

The fireweed is in magnificent bloom. Peoples' flower

Grant and Jan Owen have had Grant's mum, Dorothy Owen, from North Vancouver, up for a 4 week visit. Thank heavens she came. It has been rather quiet around here this summer after the great number of visitors last

Scott McNally has been staying in Cathie Hines' house now

the Dempster to work on the weekends. Has to get away from all this violence. Ann Bilina's horse tossed her into a cool cool puddle. Otherwise her pony is so gentle. But do real life cowboys have it so tough as we "horsepeople"? Oh, well, have to go and put on the steel toed shoes now; time to take the pony for a walk.



Almost a wipe-out! When surprisingly strong winds at Bear Creek blew over this large spruce in front of the old Catholic Church, it missed this car by 4 inches. Photo by Palma Berger

gardens are beautiful. From the neatly kept lawns and garden of Audrey and Bill Harris to the most colourful cover for a holding tank of Sally and Greg's, the colours are out.

Some know how to enjoy the summer - with complete laziness - but then one gets people like Pete Dunbar and Marion Dejean. They are making great progress with their additions to the A frame. But the sound of that much activity stirs twinges of guilt in the not so active folk.

Some of the summer visitors have been from far afield. Minnie and Tony Beets had Tony's mum, Magda Beets, over for a 7 week visit from Bolsward, Holland.

that Cathie is relocating to Whitehorse.

The first Bear Creek baby of the year has arrived. He is Olin Mirko Hampl. Born to Alena and Kennedy Hampl on July 30th, in Whitehorse. Heard that the new one looks like his brother, Misha.

I have broken a little toe. The happy pony prancing around landed on it. Runners give one no protection whatsoever. Honestly, I've had broken glasses and a broken toe from this pony. Greg Skuce had a broken finger last year (when Uncle Donny was happily showing his spirit by kicking up his heels and a hoof connected with his finger) and a broken ankle. No wonder Sally goes to



#### WEATHER FOR AUGUST, 1991, FOR DAWSON CITY, YUKON

Compiled by Art Vickers, your friendly Flight Service Specialist at the Transport Canada Flight Service Station at the Dawson City Airport

Well, weather fans, August, 1991, is done. Even I, your eternally happy person did not have much to smile about when thinking about this month's weather.

I know I'm not supposed to use the "F" word but I will when talking about the temperatures in August. (I guess it means that I am truly the rebel that everyone thinks I am -- or else I'm just older than a good portion of the population.) So here goes -- all bracketed temperatures are in F-F-Fahrenheit!!! for those who more easily relate to those measurements.

Here is a comparison of this August, last August and a Thirty-Year Average for August.

	Augu	ıst 1991	August 1990	30-Yr. Aver.
Max. Temp.	23.6	(74.5)	28.6 (83.5)	
Min. Temp.	-6.5	(20.3)	-2.4 (27.7)	
Mean Max. Temp.	16.7	(62.1)	19.9 (67.8)	19.0 (66.2)
Mean Min. Temp.	4.6	(40.3)	6.5 (43.7)	6.3 (43.4)
Mean Temp.	10.7	(51.3)	13.2 (55.8)	12.7 (54.8)
Days with FROST		7	2	2
Days - Measurable R	ain	16	17	12
Days - Measurable Snow			JUST KIDDING!!	
Rainfall - mm (in)	71.8	(2.8)	59.0 (2.3)	50.5 (1.99)
Days Above 20 ° (68	(0)	Q	14	

It was not a great month and didn't give us our usual extension to summer. Oh well, stats fanatics, all was not lost as we had to make a few changes to our record books. Sadly, only Minimum temperature records were tied or beaten as no Maximum temperatures were even remotely challenged this August.

August 20th tied the old record of -3 (26) set in 1931.

August 21st set a new record low of -3 (26). The old record was -2 (28) set way back in 1909.

August 26th destroyed the old record of -3 (26) set in 1925 with a new record low of -7 (20).

August 27th tied the old record of -3 (26) from the Gold Rush days of 1905.

With above average rain and below average temperatures, August went by surprisingly quickly. Hopefully, September will give us a much deserved "Aboriginal People's (Indian) Summer".

Talk to you all again next month -- Keep Smiling!!! It Works!!!

#### **OBITUARY**

Jessie Suza 1898 - Sept. 3, 1991

Jessie was born in Selkirk and lived most of her life in the Pelly area. She spent time in Dawson with her husband Tom Edwards. Her heart was always in Pelly with her people and we are happy that she was in Pelly with her family and friends when she died. Jessie lived at McDonald Lodge for the last two years and we were treated to sessions of drumming and lessons in making chew and preparing moose nose and fish heads. God bless you Jessie, we'll miss your smiling face.



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# DAWSON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

by Chief Pat Cayen

Since starting at my position of Fire Chief for the City of Dawson Fire Department on July 2, I have come to realize the work my predecessor put into the community and the Fire Department. It will not be an easy task to fill those boots. I would like to thank Chief Dennis Montgomery for the work that he has done for the Dawson Fire Department and on behalf of the Fire Department and myself good luck to you, Dennis. In keeping with the tradition of the Dawson Fire Department column in the Klondike Sun I have been Asked to continue to produce it. As I have not tried my hand at this before, please bear with my inexperience.

As a Fire Chief, one of my main concerns is fire prevention and to inform the public on how they can prevent fires. We all must recognise the fact that accidents happen and we must be prepared for fire by having smoke/fire detectors, fire extinguishers and plans of escape. We must also be prepared for loss. Do you have your important papers in a fire proof container? Do you have an updated list or a video tape of your possessions in this box? If you own your home, do you have home owners insurance? If you insurance? Fire can happen! Please be prepared.

If you have any questions or suggestions for topics you Klondike Sun or at the Fire Hall. You can also contact me at the Dawson Fire Department nonemergency number 993-5434.

is presently taking applications for volunteer firefighters. If you are interested please stop by the Fire Hall Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

# RALPH NORDLING PLACES 3RD IN



His 2nd Place finish in the Yukon rent, do you have tenant Goldpanning Championships earned Ralph Nordling a trip to the Edmonton "International Goldpanning Championships" on July 27th. In keeping with other would like me to cover in this Dawsonites who have done exceptionally well column, I would be happy to in this event, Ralph picked up 3rd place help. Just drop a note at the honours. In the Edmonton event, he had to find 5 large flakes and 18 tiny ones, all having point values. He missed 1 tiny flake, and actually tied for 2nd place. However, the The Dawson Fire Department Judges awarded him 3rd place because his pan wasn't as clean as the other 2nd place panner.

# EDMONTON



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#### "MOUNTAIN AND FLOWER" ON VIEW IN DAWSON MUSEUM

The court house above the Dawson City Museum was packed for the opening evening of "Mountain and Flower", an exhibition of works by local artist Danielle Shula on Friday, August 2. Most of the material was recent, though one piece went back to 1987. This was Shula's first solo exhibit, though she has previously shown work in "Points of View" and in the annual "Yukon Expressions" show.

Shula works in water colour using acid free materials. Her canvasses show a delicate line and her colours have that translucency that is common to water colours. Shula notes in her brochure that her materials are light sensitive and will deteriorate in direct sunlight.

Shula and her family lived year round on various mining claims as well as in and out of town before buying a winter residence on the Carcross road south of Whitehorse last year. Her choice of subjects reflects the life she has lived in and around the Klondike over the last 11 years. St. Mary's Catholic Church and a North End Dawson building are set comfortably with willows along the creeks, flowers, seasonal pictures and children set in tall grass or peering out from under a craggy looking, grey stone fence.

While some of Shula's titles are merely descriptive ("Watkin's Residence" or "December on

Hunker Creek"), some others reflect a state of mind ("Obsession with Willows" or "Birch Heaven"). Trees are generally found in groups, which is partly what makes the solitary "Bonanza Birch" stand out from the rest of the pictures.

Shula was plainly pleased at the reaction to her work, and hardly seemed able to stop smiling as she chatted with friends and listened to people admiring her 23 paintings.

Shula also produces a line of greeting cards which features her work and these were selling briskly along with her paintings.



#### Obituary Vera Freeman

The ashes of the late Vera Freeman were scattered in the Klondike area by her close friend Doreen Jeffrey recently. Vera died July 13th 1991 at the Langley Lodge, B.C. Dawsonites will recall Vera's gardening prowess, a special knack for incredible homemade wines, and a guarantee of a warm 'cuppa' any time you called in. Vera and husband Les, who had predeceased her, used to live in a small house near the corner of 5th and Queen where the KVA parking lot is located. They left Dawson in the mid-1970's.



We would like to give everyone a special "Thank - You for your patronage this summer, And we look forward to serving you in 1992



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# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## DAWSONITES AT HOME & ON THE MOVE

Doreen Jeffrey from Surrey B.C. was visiting for a week during the Discovery Day activities. She thoroughly enjoyed catching up on Caley family news and taking in the Discovery Day events.

Bertha DeWolfe from Vancouver, B.C. was another familiar face over the Discovery Day festivities. Bertha enjoyed her visit with niece Violet Peirson and family.

The K.V.A.'s very first general manager, Gordon Steele, with wife Anita, and three sons, Grant, Clifford and Fearon Days spent Discovery participating in the many events and catching up on local developments since their last visit three years ago. The Steele's are long-time Whitehorse residents. Gordon was hired for the summer of 1975 as the K.V.A. General Manager, while Anita could be found working at the Museum as well as keeping all the Gerties costumes and laundry up-to-date.

Dawson visitors during the Outhouse Race weekend included Marion Lane from Buena Park, California and Mrs. Dale Smith from Wilmette, Illinois. They were totally amazed at the goofy antics of the "Biffy Brigade" not to mention the outlandish costumes. But they also enjoyed local hospitality and the friendliness of townspeople.

There was a mini-invasion at Vi Campbell's home for nine days in August. Vi's sister Ruth Taylor, her three daughters, Ruth and Becky Taylor and eldest daughter Rachel Prentice, Rachels' husband Jim, their three children Marie, Michelle and Joel joined with Ruth's oldest son Bill Taylor,

#### WEDDING BELLS FOR A GERMAN COUPLE

Two previous visits to Dawson captivated Rainer Blum and Evelyn Goletzke from Haan, Germany, so much so, that they decided on a third visit. This time, there was a very important reason! Accompanied by two friends, they were married at the Campbell residence at 4th and Church on September 4th with J.P. Vi Campbell officiating. The two friends were witnesses at the wedding.

Tyson Knutson and Andrew Sprokkreeff attended Howie Meekers Hockey School in Parksville, B.C., for two weeks. They had a wonderful time while staying with Andrew's grandparents, sailing and swimming in their free time. Welcome back boys!

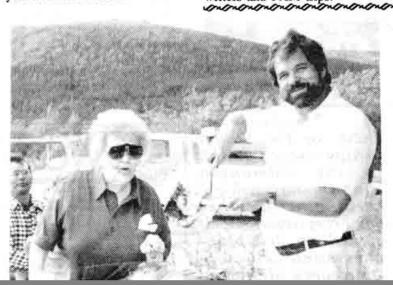
Andre North and husband, Dick, stopped into the Sun offices to see who was burning the late night oil. Dick has just about finished this year's stint at the Jack London Centre and will soon be getting back to full time work on one of the three books he is presently working on. Andre is here to make sure he remembers to come home this year when he finishes.



Photo by Fran Hakonson

Linda Bierlmeier was the guest of honour when a number of her friends presented her with a Dawson quilt. Originally it had been planned as a farewell gift when she moved to Whitehorse a year ago. The sixteen squares were finally gathered depicting Dawson buildings and some reminders for Linda of her 24 years here. Contributing to the gift were Myrna Butterworth, Bev Close, Peggy Amendola, Brenda Caley, Lorraine Fisk, Debbie Greenlaw, Sylvie Guibord, Shelly Hakonson, Fran Hakonson, Kay Holloway, Barb Hanulik, Madeleine Gould, Eileen Leier, Rose Margeson, Lynn MacKenzie, Cam Sigurdson, Donna Stutter, Nikki Walsh and Debbie Whittingham.

Linda is now employed with the Department of Tourism so we see her often as she escorts travel writers and FAM trips.



The rumours are not true. Barry and Chris Hunter are already married and have been for the last 14 years. But it was a civil ceremony and they recently decided that they wanted to have the Church's blessing as well as the state's permission. The service of re-dedication was held in St. Paul's Anglican Church on September 3. The Rev. Andrew Wilson presided over the service, assisted by Harmony Hunter. Betty Davidson played piano for the hymns and Dan Davidson provided a solo, "The Wedding Song (There is Love)". Tyler Hunter read from Paul's

The rumours are not true.

Barry and Chris Hunter are last 14 years. But it was a livil ceremony and they recently ecided that they wanted to have the Church's blessing as well as Joan Posno has returned to New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, after visiting the Davidsons for a little over a month. Joan was sorry to go and would like to return here on a more permanent basis in about a year's time.

Just after last issue came out we bade good-bye to Paula Pawlovich's mom, Marion Pawlovich., who had the bad fortune to be trying to visit our summer office manager while we were trying to put out our August issue.

Very soon we will be saying good-bye to Jennifer Williams, our energetic and exhausted

# LOCAL MINERS TAKE ON THE WORLD

#### by Noreen Sailer

The World Gold Panning Championships were held this year in Kopparberg, Sweden, from August 6-11th. The weeks events included tours to old mine sites and refineries, museums, prospecting and panning outings, along with mining displays. The actual panning took place on the 9, 10 & 11th following a parade from Kopperberg town centre to the goldpanning grounds.

Approximately 350 panners representing 16 countries panned in 7 events.

All events were well represented with supporters and spectators who gave a lot of vocal encouragement to the

The grounds were set up with many concession booths advertising tourist spots in Europe and selling handicrafts, jewellery, mineral samples, gold pans and food, etc. Also at the grounds were large camping grounds set up for all the trailers, tents, etc. They also provided shower facilities, and very modern portable bathrooms (in Sweden always referred to as "Toilets").

Competitions are held earlier in all participating countries in preparation for the World Panning Championships. Some winners are given assistance to attend the Championships but many others pay their own way to compete.

A group of Panners from Czechoslovakia said they had competed in a panning competition that involved over 6000 panners.

The organization Committee that staged the Championship in Kopparberg, did a fabulous job



Noreen and Art Sailer wait to pan at World Goldpanning Championships in Sweden.

and should be highly commended for their efforts.

The Committee also arranged that their display included the largest nugget ever found in our Klondike on Claim 34, Eldorado Creek -- 31 August, 1899, which weighed 72 ounces. Up until this time it has been in a Stockholm Museum vault.

Art and Noreen Sailer were the sole representatives of the Yukon and Canada. They panned in Men's, Ladies, Veterans and in Team categories. There were 180 men vying to qualify in the Men's Open. Art placed 3rd in his first qualifying heat. In his quarter-final heat he placed 3rd and in his semi-final heat he placed 1st, but in the finals he lost some colours and ended up in 24th place. Noreen panned in the ladies in which there were 60 ladies vying for position, but failed to qualify. They both panned in the Veterans which had 24 vying for position. Here Noreen placed 5th and Art 9th. They both panned with the British Team #2, but failed to make the prizes. This event also had two heats with 5 persons per

The winner of the Ladies was Veronika Stedra from Czechoslovakia. Her win was well deserved as she was up most of the night before the finals acting as an interpreter at the hospital for an injured Czech soccer player. The dollar value of the prize she won was equal to more than half a years wages in her country.

The winner of the Men's Open from Austria. Unfortunately we don't have his name. The major prize for the Mens was a deluxe cartop carrier that was worth over a thousand dollars Canadian in Sweden. The top winners in all events received medals and gold as well as prizes of merchandise.

The week flew by very quickly but everyone enjoyed themselves, renewing old and making new acquaintances. We should look forward to seeing many of the participants back in Dawson for the 1996 Gold Panning Championships.

It should be noted that panning is very big in Europe and everyone that pans is not involved in mining or can even hold any ground. They participate in this sporting event, just as if it were a big golf tournament. So let's see everyone

become a panner next July 1 in Dawson so that it might be you that gets to go to the World Championships in Scotland.

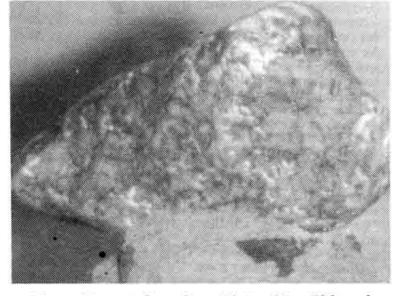
Thank you...

We would like to thank the City and KVA for Flags and Pins, and the KVA for Sponsorship.

Art and Noreen Sailer

#### (Editors Note:

The Sailers were worthy representatives. Noreen says that they were the only Canadian entries, with only one competitor from the U.S.A. If -as Noreen says, non-gold miners can compete from all over Europe, surely the Yukon will gain top spot in the near future. Last year's World Goldpanning tee-shirts were worn by many of this year's competitors -- again -valuable free advertising for Dawson! Many thanks to Art and Noreen for the article and photos.)



72 oz. Nugget found on Claim 34, Eldorado Creek on August 31 1899 was on display in KOPPARBERG SWEDEN.

# DAWSONITE TO REPRESENT YUKON ON NATIONAL BOARD

#### by Kathy Jones-Gates

In 1992, Canada celebrates 125 years of Confederation. In these days of dis-unity headlines, Canadians are being asked to put aside their differences and help celebrate the anniversary. A nonprofit corporation responsible for organizing the activities commemorating the 125th anniversary was announced in Ottawa on August 30th. To be known as the CANADA125 Corporation, the new board of directors is comprised of Canadians who represent all the regions and are known for their community involvement. Dawson resident, Viola Campbell has been asked to sit on the board as the Yukon's sole representative. She will join Cece McCauley from the N.W.T. and two persons from B.C., four from Quebec, three from Ontario and one each from Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland, Manitoba, New Brunswick and P.E.I. Co-Chairmen are Claude Depras and Frank King.

Vi Campbell is a long time Dawson resident. She has been involved in many local

organisations over the years. She is currently Dawson's Coroner. For the past nine years she has been a local J.P. She is a member of the Yukon Public Utilities Board, and has just been reappointed as a Notary Public, a position she has held for the past

The positioning and programming of CANADA 125 Corp. is based on the results of in-depth research conducted among the people of Canada, which shows that the majority of Canadians, including in Quebec, wish to mark the 125th anniversary by events that reflect their aspirations. Topics of particular concern to Canadians are: their interest in human rights and individual freedoms, future opportunities and personal security, a desire to preserve the environment, the importance of getting to know one another and a pride in Canadian successes and achievements.

Board members will have to evaluate the hundreds of projects that have already been submitted, and then make choices in accordance to their board mandate. Vi Campbell is very interested in hearing from Yukoners on ideas that she could take with her to board meetings, but is particularly keen to have Yukoners start submitting their own projects for 1992.

Interested persons should contact the CANADA 125 Corp. at 1-613-953-1992, or Vi Campbell here in Dawson.



# LOOKING FOR A FEW NORTHERN MINUTES

#### by Dan Davidson

Any time since March 31, Yukon television watchers may have found themselves tantalized by a series of mini-dramas that have been popping up on the screen. Characterized by a "letterbox" style screen and high production values, these 60 second spots have fooled some people into thinking that they were seeing a teaser for a new show or some sort of advertisement. They are part of the "Heritage Minute" series of historical dramas which are being co-produced by the CRB Foundation Canada Post and the Corporation.

Ann Dadson, administrative director for the CRB Foundation, says that in some cases people have actually contacted their local stations to find out when the show they've just seen advertised will be coming on. Attracted by the rapid editing, concentrated plots and dramatic action, people are actually showing an interest in material that it obviously Canadian content. This pleases Dadson no end, since this was the aim of the

Heritage Minute concept when CRB first developed it.

Dadson noted that international interest has been strong as well. The series is going to run on the American PBS network.

The first baker's dozen Heritage Minutes featured material on war and peace, the naming of Canada, the Underground World, orphans, Superman, the Halifax Explosion, Jennie Trout (the first Canadian woman doctor), feminist activist Nellie McClung and hockey star Jacques Plant, just to name a few of the topics.

Dadson was in Dawson in mid-August looking for possible stories to turn into Heritage Minutes. There was a wearin or material to be seen, and she was sorry to note that it was likely that only 2-4 items would likely come out of the North altogether. She would be interested in receiving ideas from anyone who thinks they have a suitable story angle, and can be contacted at The CRB Foundation, 1170 Peel Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3B 4P2.

Klondike River Raft Race Winners Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates Bern Johnson and Dave Millar

#### 1991 Klondyke River Raft Race

August 18th. Rainy, overcast and cold. The early morning quiet is shattered by the arrival of rafts, people and dogs. The 1991 version of the Discovery Days Raft Race is about to begin.

Nine entrants registered for this year's race, braving not only the river but the elements as well. The cool temperatures could not dampen the enthusiasm and the mounting tension as the start time drew near.

Some special awards judging were completed before the start of the race. The most colorful raft award went to the Finning Hampson. The green on green striped raft, appropriately named was "Rambut", further highlighted with the rafters matching attire of green on green camouflage clothing. Isn't green Caterpillars colour? Come on you guys, you should be painted in yellow and black.

The judges special award was presented to another Finning team. Irv Clutchey and Troy Sanderson secured this award with their less than spectacular Jacki and Ron Johnson, the Raft finish. It seems that their raft Race Coordinators, the safety temporarily got away on them on one of the turns and after their support.

rescuing their "medical supplies", finished the race in the comfort of the rescue boat.

The river was higher than normal for this year's event and some near record times were recorded.

First Overall:

Dave Millar & Bern Johnson 50:42

Men's First:

Ladies First:

Joanne Hunston & Lorraine

1:05:48 Mixed First:

John & Jennifer Flynn 55:35 Other entrants to brave the team of Ken Serink and Pat river were the medical team of Gerard Parsons and Allen Howells. And the head Finning team of Peter Allen and Don Onyshuk.

After hot showers and a change into warmer clothing, awards and presentations were completed in the Hospitality Room in the Waterfront. Special thanks to Molsons, who continues to provide sponsorship for this event.

Other thank you's go out to boat operators and to KVA for

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT Canadian Parks Service Klondike National Historic Sites

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**Project Identification:** 

Old Post Office Dawson City, Yukon Project Number: K4595 -91-0012 Project Number: K4595-91-0013

> Tender Documents may be obtained from:

Klondike National Historic Sites Administration Building Front Street and Turner Dawson City, Yukon

Further information may be obtained from:

Marjie Stephenson 993-5462

#### DISCOVERY DAYS ROUNDUP

con't from page 1

employment their entire adult life and never having touched liquor before in their lives (they were apparently also entered in Menzies' "That's unbelievable" claim staking competition). The crowd waited patiently while judges sipped and consulted, Gareth wiggled his hips, and the band played on. Four local drinking establishments entered Gerties' bartender Mary Gartshore won first prize, the title of 'Drink of the Klondike'. with her original concoction called 'Gold Fever'.

Saturday morning there was a commemorative ceremony which served as a reminder of the real hardships experienced in Dawson during the Gold Rush. A representative for Canada's Historic Sites and Monuments, Dr. Daniel Tlen, unveiled a plaque near the grave of Father Judge, a Jesuit missionary whose work from '97 to '99 earned him the name of "Saint of Dawson" (see article elsewhere).

The rest of the day was packed Ross Sailor &\* Dirk Millar52:40 with activities that required more participation and less reflection. Run Dawson held the last of their series of summer fun runs; this one not only had a 5 km but also a 10 km open to both locals and visitors (see Janet Johnson's write-up).

Despite menacing clouds it never did actually rain on Dawson's parade. Probably the biggest attraction of the day with marching bands, elaborate floats, clowns, kids on decorated bikes, old fire engines and a large contingent of RCMP in Red Serge. Bill Jackson, the local bag piper, led the procession to Minto park where there was a great deal to do to keep everyone occupied. Joanne Hunston and Lorie Sprokkreeff organized the kids games which judging from the laughter and cheering was great fun. For the adults there was a horseshoe throwing contest and the young at heart got more than their feet wet in the water bucket contest organized by the Fire Adults and Department. children were able to share a moment together throughout the day at the Read



Canada tent where local Dawsonites were encouraged to read stories aloud to the youngsters gathered around. The Yukon Order of Pioneers Horticultural and Handicraft Exhibition was a big drawing card for its display of local talent in the homes and the gardens around town. The room it was held in overflowed like a cornucopia with the fruits of long hours of labour.

With so much to do few people wanted to leave the site

to eat and fortunately they didn't have to. A Native Culture Tent was set up at the park and sold stew, tea, and delicious bannock; the proceeds of which went to the Dawson Indian Band's cultural programs.



While some of the traditional competitions had to be cancelled due to lack of interest the canoe race drew both serious entries and a large crowd to the Front St. dike. Four pairs paddled across the Yukon River to the ferry landing, carried their canoes over uneven and hilly ground, before fighting the current on the return trip. It was undoubtedly one of the more strenuous event but Joe Flynn won it for the third time. This year he placed first with his partner Gerard Parsons (both of whom had run the 5 km race earlier the same day). It was a close finish as the canoe nose of Bern Johnson and Dave Millar reached the bank a mere two seconds after the winners'.

Even those who hadn't competed had worked up a hardy appetite by the time the Salmon Bar-BQ rolled around. It proved to be a successful fund raiser for the Percy de Wolfe Memorial Mail Race and both diners and passers-by were able to enjoy an outdoor concert by the Cold Lake Brass Band gratis.

After the music died down over twenty people tried their hand at a little gold panning under the direction of Peter 'Pan' Menzies. Joe and Marian Langevin, who had placed 1st and 3rd respectively in the seniors category of the 1984 World gold-panning competition, also volunteered their expertise. The sunshine was a welcome sight not only for its warmth but also because it reflected the 'colours' in the pans - one visitor even found a nugget!

Despite a large turnout of spectators at the Callison Sub-Division the Demo Derby had to be cancelled. The one car entered raised some dust and rearranged some gravel as it spun and twisted. But as every school child knows bumper cars requires more than one vehicle. (see Brent Morrison's article)

However, "Way Too Far North" delivered the goods and the dance was sold out at the Bonanza Centre. Their repertoire ranged from the Beach Boys to AC DC and the wooden dance floor did fill from time to time but for the most part people seemed intent on talking and drinking (which resulted in the bar being shut down early).

Sunday was rainy and cold for

the raft race and the children's pool games. Fortunately for the kids the water was heated but the adults weren't quite so lucky. Several members of the Mayo swim club took part in the friendly competition with Dawson swimmers. While a few rafters unintentionally went in 'the drink' (see story).

That afternoon the whip saw, nail drive and log saw contests were held at a new location on Front St. along the Dike. Compared to the other two events the whip sawing took fairly elaborate some preparations as a wooden structure had to be set up, a 6 foot log carefully nailed down lengthwise, and a 4 foot long saw hung perpendicular to the ground. Gareth Jones and Peter Menzies, the two organizers, demonstrated the difficulty of the task and Peter, who volunteered to be underneath, experienced the nutritional value of pine trees first hand. The nail driving and log sawing went smoothly (so to speak) with many more competitors, some from as far away as New Zealand, Germany, and Dallas,

Commissioner Ken McKinnon was also in town for the weekend, along with many other ex-Dawsonites. He awarded the prizes for the parade, sampled pancakes at the Curling Club lounge and was seen at various events around town.



Monday marked the finale of some serious and silly sports events. The baseball tournament which had been running all weekend came to an exciting conclusion with the hometown teams winning both the Men's and Women's division (see Jan Malfair's article). While perhaps not as much a game of skill and grace but equally entertaining Mini Golf continued on the last day of the long week-end. After watching how the kids faired the day before, the 'grown-ups' got a chance to 'putter-away' under brilliant skies.

or course, as any experienced miner will tell you it isn't just luck that leads to gold, and by the same token the success of Discovery Days doesn't just depend on the weather. Peter Menzies, Lawrie Stewart and the rest of the Discovery Days committee put in long hours both planning and implementing events. Each year changes are made to fine tune the schedule and next year the timing of many of the 'King and Queen of the Klondike' activities will be changed to facilitate greater participation. Says Menzies, Every year and in every way we're getting better and better."

# CONSERVATION NEWS

#### A Notice to Licenced Holders:

To all hunters, the 1991/92 Hunting Regulations Synopsis is now available at our Office. Hunters are reminded to read the Synopsis prior to commencing a hunting trip to ensure restrictions and closures that may apply. The 1991/92 fall hunting season for Big Game opened on August 1. The hunting season for upland game birds commences on September 1.

#### Attachment of Seals:

Upon killing a Big Game animal the hunter must indicate on the seal the date, GMZ of the kill and the sex of the animal. The seal must then be affixed to the carcass and remain so until the carcass has been taken to the place where the person who killed it ordinarily resides or it has been inspected by a Conservation Officer.

- Moose and Caribou seals should be attached around the base of an antler or the tendon on a hind quarter.
- Mountain Sheep and Mountain Goat seals should be attached through an eye socket or nostril.
- Black Bear seals should be attached to the hide.
- Grizzly Bear seals are in two parts: one should be attached to the hide and the other to the skull.

The parts listed below ascertain the sex and species of Big Game carcasses and must be retained until the carcass is conveyed to the hunter's residence or until it has been inspected by a Conservation Officer.

- a) The head or skull attached to the horns or antlers, or the mammary glands or scrotum attached to the carcass of any Mountain Goat, Mountain Sheep, Moose or Caribou.
- b) The baculum attached to the hide of any male Grizzly Bear.

#### Compulsory Submissions:

Every person who kills a Mountain Goat, Mountain Sheep, Black Bear or Grizzly Bear must deliver compulsory Biological Submissions to a Conservation Officer or a Wildlife Technician not later than 10 days after the end of the open season for which the animal was killed, or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

#### **Biological Submissions:**

Black Bear - Complete skull

Female Grizzly Bear - Complete skull

Male Grizzly Bear - Baculum attached to the hide plus complete skull

Sheep, Goat -- Skull attached to horns, including entire eye socket

All sheep horns which are required to be submitted for Biological Submission must now have a numbered metal plug inserted in them in order to be legally possessed. Only Conservation Officers and Wildlife Technicians may insert the plugs.

Wolf and Wolverine pelts must be sealed by a Conservation Officer or a Sealing Officer within 15 days of the season in which the animal was taken.

#### Special Licence to Guide:

- A person who is the holder of a valid resident hunting licence may apply for a Special Guide Licence to guide a non-resident who is a Canadian Citizen residing in Canada, for the purpose of hunting big game.
- A person being guided under the authority of a Special Guiding Licence may hunt only in the area stated on the licence.
- Every application must be accompanied by a remittance of \$10, and will be issued to qualified applicants on a first come basis.

For more information, please contact our office.

#### Moose Hunters:

If your Moose antlers have a spread of less than 90 cm. (36"), please deliver the antlers and lower jawbone to our Fish & Wildlife office. In return for the submission of antlers and jawbone you will receive a hat badge. Although it is not compulsory, it is for research purposes and proper wildlife management. Antlers larger than 90 cm. are not required.

#### **Hunter Education:**

In 16 hours of class time the course covers firearm safety, outdoor survival, animal and bird identification, hunting regulations, ethics, ecology and wildlife management. If you are a new hunter, or have not had the opportunity to participate in a hunter education program, we encourage you to sign up for the course. To learn more, please contact our office or Whitehorse at 667-5617 or Toll Free 1-800-661-0408.

We also have a Toll Free number in the Yukon called TIP - Turn in Poachers. Please call 1-800-661-0525 for any violations; a reward is

The Dawson City Fish & Wildlife Branch office is located on the second floor of the museum building. Our office hours are 8:30 - 5:00, Monday through Friday.

Should you have any questions regarding hunting and regulations, please feel free to contact us at 993-5492.

\*Hunters are reminded that in GMZ 03-01 to 03-06, open season is August 1 to September 30 and one male Caribou is taken only. This applies to the area at the Top of the World Highway.

\*\* Small Game Hunting: The 1 km Corridor from km 68 to the NWT Border is now open to Small Game Hunting. Big Game hunting remains closed.

TOTAL TRANSPORTER AND SECURITION FROM SECTION

## TEDDY BEARS PICNIC



The Community Action Team sponsored the first 'Teddy Bears Pinic' in Minto Park on Sept. 1st. Hosted by Grandpa and Grandma Bears Grant Hartwick and Kim Norman, and organized by Sally Derry. Terry Bears and kids of all ages, shapes and sizes swarmed around the picnic site. Prizes: Cuddliest Bear -Jessie Worsell: Smallest Bear, Jenny Matchett; Oldest Bear:- owned by Heather Noakes -36 years old! Biggest Bear: Carolyn Selch; Cutest Bear owned by Jenny; Bear most like owner-owned by Kaitlin; Best Dressed Bears; runners up were Megan Gates and Corey DeWald; winners were Kyle Hunter and Elizabeth and Mary Fraughton.

# 1ST YUKON HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

#### by Kathy Jones-Gates

The first ever Yukon Territorial Horseshoe Championships were held at Beaver Creek August 31 and local pitchers captured top honours in the men's and women's events. Vi Campbell placed first in the ladies, ably backed up by Wanda Artho who placed second. Larry Haner, who mines in the Sixtymile area took top spot in the men's category, edging Archie Lefleur of Beaver Creek.

The Yukon Horseshoe Association was established in Whitehorse on September 18, 1990. It then affiliated with Horseshoe Canada who have been staging Canadian Championships since 1929. A driving force behind the Yukon formation, Jim Neely of Beaver Creek, died suddenly in September, 1990. In commemorating Neely's efforts, the Yukon association established the Jim Neely Memorial Trophy for the annual championships.

Dawson's major tournament is staged during the annual



Discovery Days festivities (see results elsewhere in this issue). While there is not organised league or playing area yet, a number of residents have official length playing areas in their yards, Minto Park has two pits laid out for the local tourna-

ment, and pitching is popular at the Trail of '98 Mini Golf. Ideas are in the works to try to construct four permanent pitching areas and establish practise sessions with the possibility of bringing in a coach for a clinic.

#### **UPDATE HENDERSON CORNERS**

#### by Dahna Fisher



It seems like yesterday and I was writing about spring and its re-birth, but only to soon, its fall, how is it, that these beautiful colours, will once again, be blanketed with frost, freezing temperatures and snow.

Our hamlet remains quiet and undisturbed in this beautiful section of the Klondike Valley, one strange plant has taken root in a few back yards. These black round objects look like some sort of turned up mushrooms, all leaning to a light source out yonder somewhere. We will keep our eye peeled on these giant's, to see what fruit they bare.

I look forward to each and every month when I can make an entry into this paper. Your news, will help keep our community well informed of 'what's happening now.' I'll continue next time.

# KEEPING UP WITH JONES IS A MAJOR PROJECT

by Jennifer Williams

Gareth Jones feels he has hit the motherlode of projects. The British Major and member of the Corp of Royal Engineers cannot believe his good luck to have been assigned the excavation of the Dredge #4 while on an exchange with the Canadian Armed Forces.

Originally from Wales, Major Jones moved with his young family to Winnipeg where he was stationed with a Canadian Engineering Unit. That was close to two years ago and although he was scheduled to return to England shortly his stay has been recently extended until the end of next August.

"I'm delighted to be here to finish the project because the preparation is all very well but this more than any other has a crowning glory - when the thing actually moves. At the same time I think Dawson City is a marvellous place to live and for that reason alone I'd be delighted to be staying. It's a lovely part of the world and I think the people here are smashing I really do," said Jones in a recent interview.

Eleven years ago when he graduated with a degree in Engineering Science from Durham University Gareth had no idea he would end up on a project like the old gold dredge, but he was well prepared, "The degree is more relevant than many to this particular operation because it has a fairly wide range of engineering problems: there is a lot of civil and geo-technical engineering in the excavation and behaviour of the ground water; there is structural engineering in the assessment of the hull - how damaged it is, how much damage we can accept, and what we have to do to repair the damage that we can't accept; there is mechanical engineering in the effect of the heat flow and how to melt the ice. So there is a fairly wide range of disciplines (in the project) and that particular degree is nice (because) it contains a little bit of all of them."

One of the things that initially attracted Gareth to the military was the variety of engineering tasks he would be asked to do. "In general terms the British Royal Engineers are not quite the same as the Canadian Royal Engineers in that they are more combat oriented. The first little while of my (military) life I was very thoroughly involved in combat engineering and field engineering, which has a lot to do with minefields, airfields and equipment bridges. I also led a battery of sappers (privates) in & the field and that sort of thing, which doesn't involve much of an engineering intellectual challenge but is management and leadership.'

Part of the reason he thinks he was put on the dredge project is the 2 year training course in civil engineering he had completed just-prior to coming to Canada;

"if somebody insisted that I give one particular discipline to this project I'd put it down as civil."

The reasoning behind all the variety and the training is fairly obvious to him, "If you really look at it and if you insist on being absolutely rigorous about it the British Army's role in peacetime is only training for war. Although that may be a fairly extreme view of it but anything that we do in peacetime ought at least to have some training aspect to it."

People might wonder why the army is involved in the project but according to Jones the skills used to raise the dredge are also applicable to wartime engineering assignments. Says Jones, "The project from the very start was a largely unknown situation, I had to look at it, design a solution, decide what I needed to solve the problem, procure it, arrange for it to be moved to the right location at the right time, arrange for all the necessary people, bring the whole thing together and to manage it on site. If you are trying to do an engineering task in wartime it is just the same, you have to concentrate on the logistics and you have to have a flexible enough mind to be able to approach unusual problems and at least have a stab at solving it the best way - although normally a quick decision on the second best way is better than a slow decision on the best way to solve a problem in wartime, so I am told, I've never been to war."

Nor does he particularly want to go to war, "I would go without a fuss ... I'm drawing pay on the assumption that if they tell me to go to war and defend the Queen's interest or whatever it might be then I will do it ... At the same time I think you have to be a little bit stupid to voluntarily put yourself in a situation where you are most likely to be shot dead. It's not the sort of thing that a normal person would want to do, I don't



This is not the sort of thing one would expect from a selfprofessed "military type". But Gareth is no regular recruit; for fun he bikes up King Solomon's Dome and is planning to take 3

days to cycle to Whitehorse at the end of September. He can do it if anyone can for he recently won the local mountain bike rally and placed respectably in the Midnight Dome Race. A good sport and a real joiner he volunteered to demonstrate his good taste as one of the judges for the Discovery Days "Drink of the Klondyke", worked on the winning dredge (parade) float and traded his uniform for a pinstripe suit as part of the Klondike National Historic and would not have extended Jones' assignment had the Canadian Forces not asked for it due to unforseen personnel reallocations. But Jones doesn't mind a bit in fact the area reminds him of home "It's quite nice to see these rounded hills because they look a little like British ones".

After he leaves Dawson Gareth will head down to Aldershot, Nova Scotia in November to do a survey then he will spend the winter writing,

Winnipeg); "They (the British Army) discovered that the Canadian weather gets very hot at times and they're right. But they didn't bother sending me any Arctic clothing at all. Which I think is a bit of a shame." However his tropical uniform was quite appropriate for the hotter days of Dawson's summer, when he was escorting dignitaries around the dredge. "I've never been on a project that has had so many VIPs before ... I have a suspicion that the place



Photo by Michael Gates

# DREDGE #4 ON BONANZA CREEK RISING FROM THE MUCK

Sites' 'Bureaucraps' team in the Outhouse race.

While making the most of his stay Gareth has a great deal of responsibility and is definitely not working under the wartime policy of "the second best solution in the shortest time". Based on a report by Paul Arsenault done for the Unit in 1987 Gareth has been in charge of the overall organization and implimentation of the original plan with some adjustments.

"The basic principle is still fairly valid, you can't help but do a lot of it - you have to dig the ground out around it, you have to empty the frozen material out of it. The fact that we are floating it to move it was originally suggested by Paul and it is obviously the ideal method."

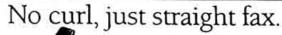
However several aspects such the actual completion date are still tentative, "The situation was complex and there was so much that was unknown, because when something is frozen in a block of ice it's very difficult to get in there and see what is going on and so there is quite a lot of day to day reaction or week to week reaction."

the continual Despite assesment the British Army considers this a "plum posting" calculating and computing the data. Engineering studies and designs are what his Canadian exchange partner has been doing all the time, with a British Engineering Unit, in areas such as Kenya and Belize. opportunity to command a project may have been "sheer luck" says Jones, but "it is my gain and his loss".

As the season draws to a close Gareth is looking forward to seeing his wife, Judith and two daughters but the British Army didn't really equip him for Canadian winters (especially in

attracts them more than the project does."

Next fall, after the project has been completed, Jones and his family will move back to Britain. His next assignment is to teach at the Army Apprentices College in Chepstow, Wales, his homeland and that of his namesake, the Arthurian knight. No doubt Dawsonites will miss the officer who explodes all the myths and makes the British Army look like it has a head, a heart and a sense of humour.





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#### DERBY WAS A DEMO

#### by Brent Morrison

On Saturday August 16th a large group of people left the town's Discovery Days events behind and headed for the Calision industrial park to witness a demolition derby. About a hundred people gathered on the banks of the gravel pit behind Frontier's warehouse eagerly awaiting the seven thirty start. A fire truck was on hand, as were both doctors (as spectators only) but there was no sign of the competitors.

Shortly after seven thirty one driver raced out and roared the enclosed derby area. With the engine roaring and tires spiting gravel at lethal velocities the crowd was ready for a good old smash 'em up. Unfortunately that was the only driver that had gotten his act together in time, and the derby had to be cancelled. This didn't stop the lone entrant from doing some demolishing to himself, as he got hung up on the gravel barricade that enclosed the area and had to be pushed off of it by several helping hands.

The event's organizers promise the show will return next year, and considering the storm that hit moments after people began leaving, the "no-show" was probably for the best. This was the first year for the derby and it showed that there is a lot of interest is this sport, hopefully next year there will be enough



Canadian Parks Service winning float

time for more people to enter the game. Anyone who has been thinking of scrapping their old car or truck should hold onto them for another year and ready them for next year's derby. There's bound to be a crowd on hand to watch you trash it and prizes to be won.

> K.V.A. Yard Awards 1st Mary Hanulik 2nd Beryl Zaykowski 3rd Fran and Bill Hakonson Honourable Mentions: 1st Bill Bowie 3rd John Bilton 4th Greg and Shelley Hakonson

olunteer Groups; 1st Dawson City Child Care Assoc. 2nd Trin'ke Zho Daycare 3rd Club Y Camp Commercial Floats: 1st Canadian Parks Service -

Klondike National Historic Sites 3rd Klondike River Lodge

K.V.A. YARD AWARDS #2

Non- Residential lst. WESTMARK DAWSON

CHURCH

PARADISE ALLEY **EMPORIUM** 

Hon. Mentions 1st CABIN GIFT SHOP

3rd DAWSON CHRISTIAN

4th FLORA DORA STORE



# ISCOVERY DAYS



The Discovery Days Committee would like to thank the many sponsors and volunteers who helped make the weekend a success. Thank you to:



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A special thank-you to all the spectators who went to the Demo Derby. See you next year.

And, sorry if we forgot anyone - we appreciate the support.

Robert Service School

Page 18 The Klondike Sun Thursday, September 12, 1991



Mini Golf
9 Yrs & Under:
Lyn Webster (9 yrs) 59
Robbie Laseur (6 yrs) 59
Kirstyn Kobayashi (7 yrs) 60
Sam Phelan (4 yrs) 62
Jamie Allen (7 yrs) 62
Best Style:
Megan Gates (4 yrs)
Most Determined to Finish:
Emily Lindley (5 yrs)
10-16 yrs:
10-16 yrs:
Christopher Johnston 68
Sheldon Blanchard (16 yrs) 70
Care Theman (16 yrs) 71

Best Girl: Tara McCauley (13 yrs) 101 Best Swing: Darren Bullen (11 yrs) 105

Most Eager Golfer:
Kevin McCauley (10 yrs) 88
Happiest Golfer:
Murray Webster (12 yrs)122
Adult:
Par 50
Coleman Johnson 60
Ross Lindley & Harry Sager

Jeff Stephenson 72
Corporate Challenge: Par 200
Klondike Paint Shop 300
Harry Sager
Murray Matchet
Paula Pawlovich
Coleman Johnson

300

J.S. Services
Jeff Stephenson
Sonja Paulitchke
Dave Stobbe
Ross Lindley
Fischer Contracting

ischer Contracting
Wayne Fischer
Bev Fischer
Karen Fischer
Blair Fischer

Robbie Laseur Sonya Paulitschke
Lyn Webster Norma Kobayashi
Megan Gates Julia Kana
Emily Lindley Helen Dewell
Sam Phelan
Kirstyn Kobayashi

Whip Saw:

1st Frank Hawker, Dawson City
and Cyril Jones, Vancouver Isl.
2nd Jim Johnston, Dawson City
and Larry Chermishnuk, Alberta 4:47
3rd Gareth Jones, U.K.
and Peter Menzies, Dawson City
4:28
4th Egbert Schmidt, Germany
and Aladair Dunwoodie, N. Z.
4:31

Horseshoe Tournament

Brianne Ward Volunteers:

Laurie Bergland

(Coordinator)

Ladies' Singles: 1st Vi Campbell 2nd Nellie Backstrom

Men's Singles: 1st Archie LeFleur 2nd Larry Haner

Ladies' Doubles: 1st Vi Campbell/Bev Mayes 2nd Karen Nichols/ Wanda Arthe

Men's Doubles: 1st Archie LaFleur/Dwayne Backstron 2nd Larry Haner/Dan Cousins

Mixed Doubles: 1st Vi Campbell/Larry Haner 2nd Bev Mayes/Dan Cousins

Most Points in 3 Events - Vi Campbell

Ringers: Vi Campbell 8 Doubles- total 47 rin Archie LaFleur 6 36 Lany Haner 6 32 (there is more ..?)









John Flynn and Gerard Parsons 1st Place



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL AND KATHY GATES, & JENNIFER WILLIAMS

These 3 " visiting Tourii" (plural of tourist?) amused spectators at the Discovery Days parade. L. to R. - Murtle (Wendy Burns), Raymond Sludge (Boyd Duffee), and Tallulah (Sharon Edmonds)