

# THE KLONDIKE SUN

DAWSON CITY, YUKON

FIRST SNOWFALL ISSUE

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60¢

## Northern stores looks at Dawson

by Dan Davidson

Northern Stores may be coming to Dawson. By this writing a good number of the homes in Dawson have already been visited by a representative of Chief Isaac Inc., carrying an extensive survey form designed by the Northwest Company to test the consumer waters in the town. In the event that the company does decide to open an outlet here the Dawson First Nation will probably be a partner in the venture through its business arm.

According to Jeff Cook, Chief Isaac's manager, the Northwest Company, which took over the running of the northern line of Hudson's Bay stores a few years ago, and subsequently changed the name to Northern Stores, first approached the Dawson First Nation last fall, even before the Whitehorse branch was closed.

"Three months ago," said Cook, "they contacted us and asked us if we would be interested in a Northern Store opportunity as a First Nation. We are presently considering some kind of involvement if they decide to build a store in Dawson."

"It's very preliminary, but we're administering a survey on behalf of Northwest Company. Approximately 250 surveys - done door to door - is what we're ultimately hoping to get."

The survey questioned people not just on their desire to have a Northern Store in Dawson, but on their buying habits, total family income, use of mail order catalogues, frequency of trips to Whitehorse, perceived need for services and what types, and their concerns about what a major new store in the community might do to other businesses here.

Northwest will do the analysis and make the decision.

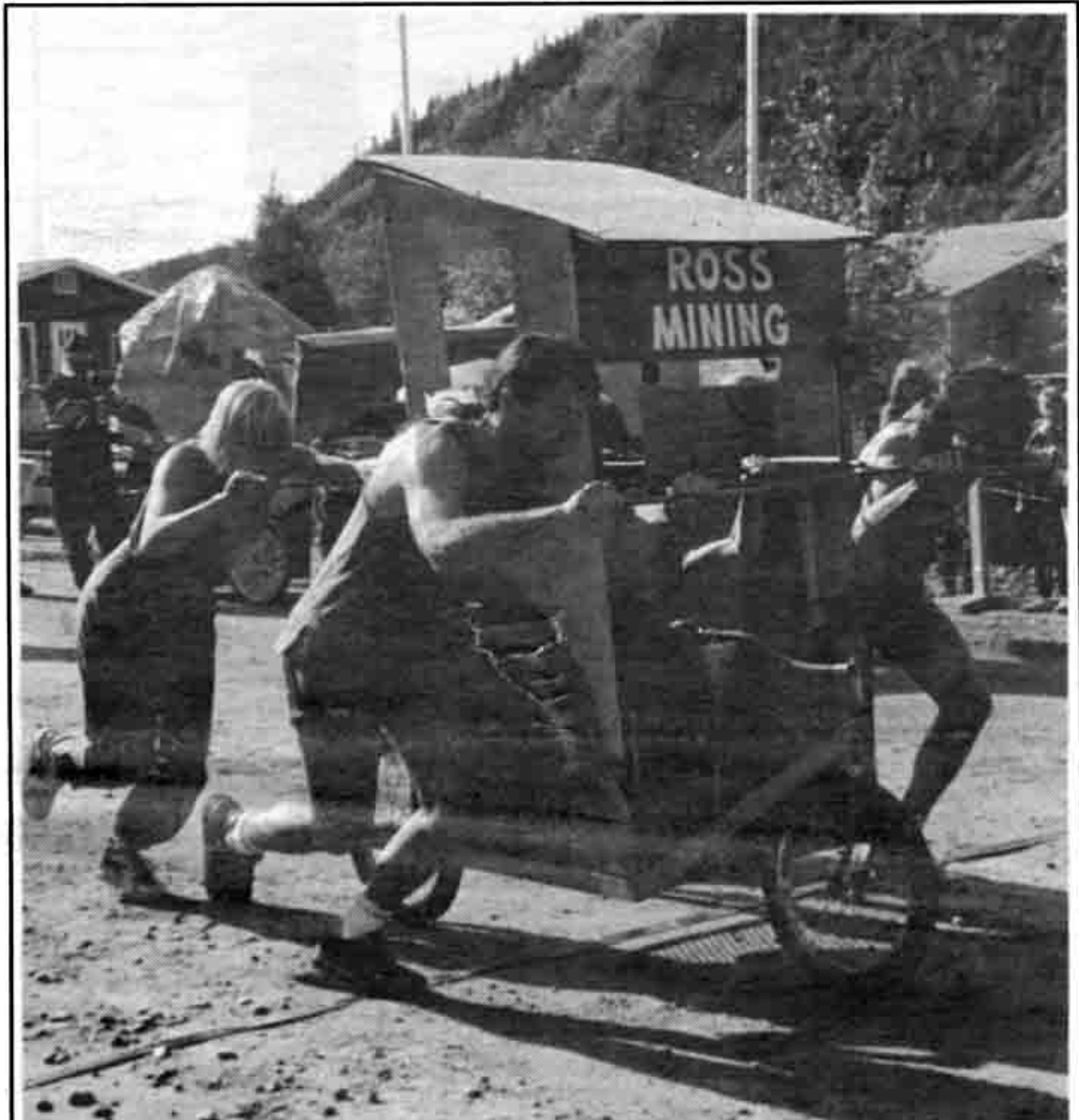
Cook said, "I think ultimately they're trying to decide on what kind of product to bring here."

As Cook understands the plan, the proposed store would be about half supermarket and half everything else, from hardware to furniture and clothing, an operation similar in form, if not in scale, to the sort of operation that the Hogen's company used to run in Faro in the late 1970's and early 80s.

Cook's understanding is that Northwest might break ground next spring and be ready to open in the fall of 1993 if the survey results are positive. The Han First Nation has an eye on some four-lot spaces that such a store might occupy if it were to be built.

"We're negotiating how we might participate," Cook said.

cont. on pg. 2



Ross Mining's Mixed team pours on the power as the Outhouse Race begins. See story and photos on pages 8 and 9.

Photo by Dan Davidson

## Circling the Circle

by Brent Morrison

In March of this year, in the eastern Siberian town of Uelen, Graeme Dingle, Kim Price, and Tolya Chernishov set off on a journey that would take them around the world, while remaining north of the Arctic Circle.

Known as Expedition Arktikos (Arktikos being the name the ancient Greeks gave to the constellations around the North Star and the lands beneath them), the three men headed west on Russian built snowmobiles that were equipped with low pressure tires. The machines quickly "fell apart leaving us walking," notes Dingle. The group was forced to return to Uelen which is the area of Siberia nearest Alaska, and begin again, this time in a tractor-like vehicle which Dingle describes as being, "Basically a

small tank."

On May 11 they reached Dudinka, the westernmost point of Siberia, they could reach overland, but were prevented travelling further west to Murmansk because of the ice break-up. Eventually they gained passage on an ice-breaking cargo ship.

From Murmansk they hired a small Russian research ship which took them to Southern Greenland. The group had planned to cross the ice-cap of Greenland but found themselves in a Catch-22. Ice around the island's monstrous coast prevented them from sailing to shore, but weeks later when the ice would have been sufficiently melted to allow them to land, the ice-cap could not be crossed. The group decided to go around the southern coast of the country using a six metre inflat-

able boat equipped with outboards.

After travelling 2,000 kilometres up the West Coast of Greenland in mid-summer, the group ran into more problems, the ice in the North-West Passage had not broken and they were unable to continue in their boat. Graeme flew to Inuvik to continue up the Mackenzie, while Kim remained at an American base in Greenland to secure transportation of their boat. To complicate matters further, Tolya's visa had expired and he faced deportation. It has now been extended until the end of September while a new one travels from Moscow.

From Inuvik Graeme travelled the Mackenzie and Peel rivers with nine other people from New Zealand and a couple from Prince cont. on pg. 2

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Jo-anne Wilkinson and Graeme Dingle of New Zealand stop over in Dawson before setting out on the last leg of their circumnavigation of the Arctic Circle.

Photo by Brent Morrison

## Circling continued from pg. 1

George; in three boats powered by the New Zealand invented Hamilton Jet motor which uses expelled water as a propellant. One of the group happened to be the son of the motor's inventor.

Graeme arrived in Dawson on Sept. 4 and was joined by Jo-anne Wilkinson who had travelled to Dawson by an easier route, flying from Auckland to Hawaii, then to Vancouver, Whitehorse and Dawson. She will be accompanying the group on the final leg of their journey.

They spent their first few days at the Midnight Sun Hotel, then moved across river, but the Sun's owners arranged for them to receive messages there and provided use of their fax machine. On the eleventh Ross Knox of Rock Creek invited them to stay with him for a few days, an offer they gratefully accepted.

Graeme has recently learned that his boat will be arriving in Fairbanks, not Dawson, so he and Jo-anne will canoe to Circle City, Alaska where they hope to meet up with Kim Price and their boat. Price has managed to break his leg since the group split up but is determined to finish the trip. Once back together they plan to take their boat down the last stretch of the Yukon river, then cross the Bering Sea and return to Uelen. A total distance of approximately 25,000 kilome-

tres, the majority of which has been in vast wilderness areas above the 66th parallel.

Dingle mentioned that Dawson is only about "The ninth town of substantial size" he had encountered on the journey which has gone from being, "Dark and cold, to light and cold, then light and warm," and is now becoming dark and cold once again.

Although he is from an area most people consider tropical, Dingle has spent most of his life "down under" in the cold, mountainous regions of New Zealand and the Himalayas and he wanted to see the Arctic. He set out to accomplish two things on his expedition, "To circumnavigate the Arctic Circle on the surface, and to promote care of the polar regions."

His timing and the weather made it impossible to do the entire journey on the surface, but his flight to Inuvik was the only time he had been in the air. He says he will return later in the year to do that area, probably using snowmobiles, but not likely Russian ones.

When finished, the total time for the trip should be right around the scheduled two hundred fifty days. Not exactly "Around The World In Eighty Days", but then this is not a fictional balloon story.



## Advanced artists fall awards

Whitehorse -- Yukon people in the performing, visual and literary arts have until October 1 to apply for travel, education and project funding under the Advanced Artist Award program. This is the final of two granting sessions for 1992. The first was held in April.

Artists may qualify on one of two levels. Those involved in more advanced activity may be eligible for up to \$5,000 for an "A" level grant. Applicants qualifying for a "B" level grant may get up to \$2,500. Applications are adjudicated on the basis of artists' skill, talent, education, public exposure and their contribution to the community.

Awards totalling \$30,000 each for the two granting sessions are funding entirely by the Yukon Lotteries Commission. The program is administered by the Arts Branch of the Department of Tourism.

Application forms are available from municipal offices, regional libraries, community recreation boards, the Yukon Arts Council office, the Yukon Lottery Com-

mission, or the Arts Branch.

For further information call the Arts Branch at 667-5264. Outside Whitehorse call toll free 1-800-661-0408.

## Northern cont. from pg. 1

Han Housing might do the construction and Chief Isaac might be the landlord, or the company might have equity and take a hand in the ownership and management.

In the beginning Northern would likely bring in an Outside manager and then use that person to train someone local to take over. There could be as many as 29 people employed in the operation, and Cook says it is clearly Northwest's plan to use as many locals as it possibly can.

"It's really quite sophisticated. This is a big corporation and they've done it many many times and it's impressive... to see their presentation package. You have to ask yourself what this will do for the community."



The boat the Arktikos expedition used to travel around Greenland and will use to take them down the Yukon and across the Bering Strait. Its similarity to Greenpeace vessels has caused a few minor problems. Photo by Brent Morrison

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# Council argues over landfill costs

by Dan Davidson

What do you do when you discover that a project has tripled in value, that the work has been done without your being told of the change and that the tradesman is now awaiting payment? This was the position three members of Dawson's city council found themselves in on September 4, when going over the accounts payable.

A landfill project designed to create an overflow parking space for recreational vehicles near the old Dome Road came in at a cost of \$10,700.00 over and above the \$5,340.00 that council had previously approved for the project.

The increase, in the words of councillor Tim Gerberding, was "never approved or discussed."

Mayor Peter Jenkins responded several times that the money was covered by the budget, but the three other members of council were having none of that.

"This is baloney. This is total baloney," Gerberding snapped back. He maintained that there was no line item in the budget to deal with a project of this magnitude, not when the budget had already been pared to the bone last spring.

He was seconded by Shirley Pennell, who felt that council "should have had input into how big the project would get." Even councillor Henry Procyk agreed that the project, however well intentioned, had gotten too big to be carried on without council having been apprised of the increases.

Pennell questioned who would have had the authority to make such an expenditure, when amounts of this size are supposed to be approved by council. The mayor has no spending authority of his own, but he reminded council of the \$10,000.00 authority controlled by the city manager and the discretionary \$5,000.00 under the superintendent of public works. Since much of the money had been spent to hire equipment for the landfilling, it was possible to see how the money could have been accessed.

"It did not come to council for further approval," Pennell said, pressing her opinion that it should have. The others were firm on this. Gerberding went further, citing three areas where someone was at fault in this instance.

First, he said, the city didn't even own some of the land it was levelling. Even though negotiations with the YTG will probably result in the transfer of the land shortly, he felt the project should have waited until then.

Second, he went on, tendering was not used to secure the equipment for the project. At the original cost this might have been okay, but the city's own procedures state that projects over \$5,000.00 should go to tender.

Third, he concluded, spending authority had been exceeded by someone, even if the intentions were good. While the spending authority can be extended for budgeted items, Gerberding contended that this project was not identified in the budget in such a way as to make this possible in this case.

Pennell agreed, and said so plainly to Jenkins, who was holding the line on his budget argument. She demanded that a full breakdown of the project should be on the agenda at the next council meeting, to be reviewed before anything else was done.

Where she and Gerberding disagreed was on what to do about the bill from Klondike Transport. He wanted to pull it from the accounts until the matter was resolved, while she said it should be paid, since the work had, after all, been done.

"I don't see any admission on anyone's part that anything was amiss," Gerberding complained. "I have no assurance, based on our discussion here this evening, that this isn't going to continue."

In the end, the accounts were approved, with Gerberding voting against the others.

Pressed by the gallery at the end of the meeting to indicate just who had spent the money, Pennell would only say, "Council did NOT approve it."

Previous councils have struggled with similar issues, and a

case in the late spring of 1990 resulted in an investigation of council's affairs by the Inspector of Municipalities, John Cormie. In his report, issued in January, 1992, he noted that the council of that day had made errors, and that four steps needed to be taken to keep the situation from recurring.

Council, Cormie wrote, "must follow the Yukon Municipal Act process for budgeted/non-budgeted items", must follow its own policy statement (#12) which says that all "contracts of over \$5,000.00 must be put out for tender", must "adhere to its Expenditure Authority bylaw", and "must maintain separate documentation for each of the major components of budget line items...so they may be identified and managed more effectively."

Cormie concluded that Mayor Jenkins had violated the city's own procedures in 1990. What he would say now is anyone's guess.



They say money talks, but I've never been able to keep mine around long enough to start a conversation

## ODE TO THE MINER

by Ian Hamilton

First came the cold, and then came the Gold  
Then miners from near and afar.  
To try out their luck, and dig in the muck.  
For nuggets, to put in a jar.

They dug, and they panned, and they built this great land  
Called the "Yukon", but you knew that I'm sure.  
They built us new roads, to carry our loads,  
Gave us bridges and cities, and more.

But then from outside, came the Fisheries, who lied,  
With their stories of linkage and silt.  
And ruined the dreams, of those on the streams,  
And all of the things, they had built.

But the miner was smart, for he knew in his heart  
That the end, was near at hand,  
So, within a year, he packed up his gear,  
And moved to a more welcome land.

Now, on the creeks, with hair to their decks,  
Live the hippies, who brought this about.  
And friends, they will find, of the tree hugger kind,  
To live off their welfare, no doubt.

And the fish, they're still gone, after finding no need,  
To swim up some river, that offers no feed.  
And the Fisheries too, have all flown the coop,  
To levy their screw-ups, on some other group.

But then by and bye, the coffers ran dry,  
And they begged us all to come back.  
But NO! said the miner, we like it here finer,  
We're Welcome, we're staying and that's that.

Well, the Yukon's still there, with her minerals and gold.  
Waiting for someone, to take a good hold.  
To lead them away, from Ottawa's grasp,  
To stand on their own, and be a Province at last.

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## Editorial: Matters Silly and Serious

### Silly Bits...

There's no truth to the rumour that someone left the cap off the RV sanitary dump by the Museum deliberately to speed the teams away from the starting line at the Outhouse Race, but it's certainly true that the air was pungent whenever the wind was blowing in the right direction.

It's also not true that the city dug up Fifth Avenue and all those other streets on purpose to create a new obstacle course for the Race. Dawson goes to great lengths to promote itself, but not quite so far.

There has been some talk of making certain streets in the downtown core into one way streets. I suppose if we did that and then dug up all the sewer and water connections at the major intersections, we could keep some of the late season tourists here for a few extra weeks. But then, there are some that say we're becoming too much of a tourist trap already.

It may be true that some of the later arrivals at the Race finish line had to detour around some of our oversized potholes in order to make their unscheduled pit stops on the bar circuit. We're not sure about that one.

As for the suggestion that the race route was redesigned so that it would come down a steep hill just to inject some gravity into a ridiculous spectacle, well, that's not even worthy of consideration. After all, gravity has always been important to the proper functioning of outhouses.

The only certain thing is that the White Lightning team was flushed with success as it trotted to the finish line. Kevin and Dirk sure looked interesting with their legs flapping in the breeze behind the younger runners.

### Issues in the Pipeline...

The question of our fall municipal by-election will soon be before us. The last year has been a tough one, what with budget cuts and rising utility bills. It's plain that the cost of this service will be rising again, as the rate is distributed more evenly among the residential and government customers of the system.

The reason, simple enough to see, is that neither the federal or territorial governments will want to continue paying a rate twice that of the Dawson ratepayer. Imagine both levels of government refusing to become involved in any further housing schemes in Dawson, if you want to consider some the implications.

It's hard for Mayor Jenkins to defend the billing policy in the long term. He did, after all, appear before the electrical utility hearings shortly after the S & W rates were set for Dawson, and roundly condemn a Yukon Energy Corp. policy that subsidized private consumer rates by jacking up those paid by governments and some businesses. We just can't have it both ways.

The Mayor has suggested already that \$1,000.00 per household is a likely figure. Council will have to struggle to wrap the 1993 budget around that raise. Those interested in running for office should think carefully about the time that will be consumed by this issue as well as the strain it has placed on relations with the Dawson First Nation, whose residential water bills are supposed to be paid by the federal government. You can just imagine what hit the fan when those bills got to Ottawa.

Sniff, sniff....I seem to have ended somewhere near the topic with which I began. Perhaps this is a good place to end these ruminations for this week.

## MINING THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S ALASKA CHAMBER CONFERENCE

The 1992 Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Convention and Trade Show will be held this year at the Juneau Convention Center, October 3rd - 7th. This will be the 10th annual trade show and convention and the theme this year will be "MINING." Some of the features will include a "Dinner in the Home" event, tours of A-J and Greens Creek Mines, as well as many receptions and banquets sponsored by various Alaskan mining and mining supply companies.

The convention will include several sessions on mining related topics including "The History of" and "The Future for Alaskan Mining", "The Current Mining Impact on the Alaskan Economy" and "Doing Business in Russia". Keynote speakers will include Frank Joklik, CEO of Kennecott Copper and Bob Calman, CEO of Echo Bay Mines.

Although the emphasis will be on mining, the Trade Show booths will have representatives from throughout the Alaska business community, much like the Whitehorse Trade Fair. A contingent of Yukon businesses will be booking a block of booths in order to represent their companies at the trade show.

If you would like more information on the Trade show, contact Larry Bagnell at Industry, Science and Technology Canada in Whitehorse at 667-3925.

## The Klondike Sun

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# WINTER TRAPLINE TRAVEL

### by Bush Thoughts

Wind is slamming against the mountain faces. Sparks are popping out of the stove pipe into the starry sky. The dogs are huddled on spruce bough beds, nose to tails. In calm moments I hear them whimper in their sleep.

This tent, seven by seven feet, is a huddle of white canvas in the willows snaking along a creek valley. It is one of the several human lights scattered amongst hundreds of square miles of mountain ranges. The light comes from a candle stuck in a hole punched in a tobacco can lid. It shines steadily through the canvas and is lost in the dappled moonlight of the willows.

I have been snowshoeing in front of the dog team all day. I am too tired to sleep which is just as well as there isn't much room for me to lie down. We don't have room on the toboggan for a tent that sleeps us all properly. Our load is taken up with children, their pet cats, dolls, stuffed animals, kids books, and dried trail snacks.

Following this valley, we will climb tomorrow onto a pass down into another river valley on the far side of our trapline. We will spend the last month of trapping season in a line cabin there. The few spruce trees here are green. They are short and broad at the butt with boughs that spread out wider than the tree's height. We are reduced to burning willow tonight. It burns hot but fast, then collapses into coals.

I am huddled by the tent stove's warmth, my clothes steaming on me as they dry. The girls and R. are sleeping on caribou hides inside patched down bags. We've decided to keep the fire going tonight. I have the first shift.

I was snowshoeing today in a head wind. Once I stopped to get out of the wind and looked back. R. was hopping on and off the back of the sled trying to keep warm. The girls sat propped against the back of the sled on top of the load. They travel inside several down bags. They are kept warm by each other's body heat and by down much thicker than their own bodies. With only eyes and mouths exposed, they belted

out nursery rhymes to encourage the dogs. About the girls were placed four dolls and a good many stuffed animals. Their cats were clutched in their arms. One doll, Baby Chris, has his limbs duct taped to his torso. He shattered a couple of nights ago from the extreme cold.

My eyelids were frozen almost shut. I took off my mittens and rubbed my eyes until I could see. We looked completely silly.

"Let's keep going," yelled R. "It's too cold to stop."

"Okay," I shouted. "Let's look for a camp spot."

When we stopped, I took my bare hand and felt inside the girl's 'nest'. They felt hot. Comforted, I began hunting for firewood while R. set up camp. There were spruce boughs to chop for dog beds, snow to melt for water, and the toboggan to unpack but first we needed warmth. I checked the thermometer. It had bottomed out at -45. With the wind chill added in, the air felt painful when we breathed.

"Can we get out now?" asked E. Her little sister flipped over

the side rail into the snow. I put her back in the sled bags.

"No," I said. "You can't get out until the tent is up and the stove lit."

At more moderate temperatures we simply light a fire outside until the tent is livable. The girls can play and warm themselves when necessary.

The sub-arctic night drew about us as we worked. At last, the tent was thrown up. Smoke disappeared on gusts of wind. The girls raced for the tent with their toy bag. I stood outside awhile after the others had gone in. I watched their shadows moving through the canvas, in the candlelight. The girls were playing with a string and cat. I heard them laugh.

For me, this wilderness with its enormous power and its silently unfolding dramas will always feel magical. For our children, it will only be home.

Ed. note:

"Bush Thoughts" is a long time Dempster Highway trapper who prefers to remain anonymous.

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# Cultural gathering at Moosehide

by Roberta Humberstone

On what was to become the last real day of summer, at least 200 people ventured to the village of Moosehide on the Yukon River.

That day was Saturday, Sept. 5. Riverboats, operated by local residents, ferried Dawsonites and tourists downriver a few kms. A few brave souls hiked the steep trail over the slide.

The beginning of the ceremony was signified by drumming and singing by the performers as they made their way from the riverbank to the dancing area in the middle of the village. They were then greeted by Chief Steve Taylor, Elder Percy Henry, granddaughter Randi and a host of many people took turns greeting all performers from Alaska.

The visitors then got dressed in

their traditional costumes and made a grand entrance, proceeded by flag bearers carrying the Canadian, American and Alaska flags. The dancing and singing continued throughout the afternoon under clear and sunny skies.

In the cookshack, some dedicated volunteers prepared a delicious meal, including bannock, wild meat, salads, soup and lots of juice that fed over 100 people.

Early in the evening, Chief Steve Taylor honoured the performers with gifts of appreciation. Edgar Russell was presented with a beaded baseball cap for organizing the event.

As the sun set across the river, the temperature dropped drastically making the trip upriver back to Dawson shockingly cold!

Thanks to Angie Joseph-Rear for her generous donation of the

meat.

This is the 2nd year James Kayotowape and 22 others have come to perform at Moosehide. They have given us a chance to see a tradition that may become lost without such gatherings.

The group travelled from Anchorage and remote villages throughout the State of Alaska. They all loved Dawson and the hospitality they received from the people. We hope they will be able to return next summer. It sure was an honour to have them visit once again.

The Dawson First Nation would also like to thank the Shell Station, those who donated food, those who cleaned up, and anyone else who we may have forgotten.



Former YCGC Manager's home built in the 1940's, (of B.C. fir) at 6th and Princess has served as a doctor's accommodation, lastly as home to the Frank Burkhard family. It's new owner Gary Gammie is rolling it back onto it's eight foot rock fill foundation.

Photo by Sue Ward

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Audrey McLaughlin, M.P.  
Leader of the N.D.P.  
Constituency Office  
6 - 210 Lambert St.  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1Z4

## Just After the First Snowfall

by Dan Davidson

We've watched the Yukon River rise to bully ice before our eyes.

We've seen the buses, row on row, and motorhomes with cars in tow.

The squatters lined the hill with tents discouraged by the town's high rents.

The ferry line-up blocked a lane, as West Dawsonites watched in vain.

The gals at Gerties kicked their heels

but the biggest draw was the slots and wheels.

Gold panning, Dome Race, Music Fest., it's hard to say what worked the best.

Discovery Days were fine, we think, in spite of those who over-drink.

The Outhouse Race brings up the rear; we show our sense of humour here.

It's been a blast, but now, that's all; that was Summer, this is Fall.

The exclamation point is disappearing; people aren't surprised at anything anymore.



If you're a person living with HIV or AIDS, and feeling alone, or

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# FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

by Sue Ward

The parchment signed by the joint mayors of Dawson City and St. Andrews-by-the-Sea reads "...the mutual desire to foster understanding and friendship between the two communities". A similar document was signed by the same two mayors when the Dawson delegation of six members flew to the small town situated at the mouth of the St. Croix River emptying into the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick.

There are similarities, our incorporation in 1902, theirs in 1903, their town sits with waters creating a peninsula of sorts, as rivers carve our townsites. But many of St. Andrew's homes are large well-preserved, well-kept mostly white blocks sitting on non-fenced large lots divided by blacktop roads and tree-lined grass boulevards. Many are two hundred years old. It is the land of the United Empire Loyalists, where minds still equate Upper Canada, Lower Canada, "Townies" and Others. The Yankees are across the river. The wealthy old Canadian and American families own summer mansions set in seclusion on the shorelands. They are the snow-birds who seek warm waters at the passing of the glorious fall colours.

There is Lady Beaverbrook, who has treated the town as a large land owner in old England cared for her tenants, financing

the huge recreational complex, the high school, the hospital, etc.

We resided in the splendor of the Algonquin Hotel, which is jointly owned by the CPR and the province of New Brunswick. and the tides of the Bay of Fundy rise twenty feet!

So what do we have in common, you may well ask? The "real people of St. Andrews" as Willa Walker speaks of in her delightful volume "No Hay Fever and a Railway" which is the "Who's Who" of that chosen fragment of the enormous land-mass we call Canada.

The "real people" are the town council members who took the long flight from Atlantic to Pacific, and darn near to our third ocean, before returning to their year-round positions. They are: Mayor Margaret Peterson, businesswoman, and her Councillors, Walter Kozak, among other talents and experienced fisherman; Mary Dowling who drives thirty miles to preside as Postmaster at Black Port Bay; Jim Frize, an extremely efficient general manager of the Algonquin Hotel, which rated as Canada's number one resort of 1991; Gerald Ingersoll, Principal of the St. Andrews Campus, one of nine in New Brunswick; Dr. John Allen, Executive Director of the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, and his wife Eloise Lemire who teaches French language classes.

For all of the adverse CBC publicity on St. Andrew's rain, we drew three sunny days out of four. To our disbelief, when in Dawson, they drew three days out of four overcast, even rain.

Our towns were chosen for similarities; end of trail south-east and north-west, economy, tourism.. Problems: Airport 72 miles to St. John's airport while we dream of a pad to set jets onto. A big problem, not shared in quite the same circumstances, is cross-border shopping. St. Andrews faces the state of Maine on the other river bank. Dawson shoppers look increasingly to Alaska, what with free trade and all, and Whitehorse on a more common basis, and lately pressure by phone and mail. They lose many residents when snow flies as we are apt to, though our 1,800 population compares surprisingly with their 800 in November.

St Andrews history covers the arrival of Champlain, ours with Robert Henderson, and George Carmack, so to speak, as we both had the First Nations folk around. This gives them a couple of hundred years to promote if times get really tough.

We had very little time to visit the shops; an oversight on the part of the organizing committee. but the half-hour I did squeeze in,

on a holiday weekend Sunday, I found many shops closed. Those I did visit were delightful with every inch of available space displaying unique products, large and small, reasonable and expensive, imports from Ireland, many locally crafted. Methinks we need to promote the making of small, good quality items, during the "whatever do you find to do in winter" days.

The idea of capturing some Yankee Dollars through a Casino is raising eyebrows both in shock and excitement. There is even a building on the fine grounds of the Algonquin which bears the name "Casino" and New Jersey visitors have been known to head there when disembarking only to have their slots-arms drop to their sides in disbelief. When enquiring how our visitors liked Gerties, everyone had a ball, though thought the Variety show at the theatre was easier to take.

When lagging behind on a Street Walk in St. Andrews, a local reporter asked me what was the difference between their town and ours. I replied that Dawson is a Frontier Town. Later, at the City Chambers, the same young reporter asked for my definition of a Frontier Town. "When I was a tour bus guide," I ventured, "I would look at my sleepy passengers and say I know you think you have reached the end of the earth. You haven't. But you can see it from here."

I like to think the St. Andrews friends recalled that one-liner as they glided in a helicopter over our Klondike Goldfields en route home from the Norm Ross goldmining operation on the Indian River. Our Mayor had driven the delegation over the summit and into the Indian River valley on a chilly, overcast Sunday morning. If the lengthy air trip across our mighty Canada hadn't got to them, that memorable Sunday would do it.

My only fear is that they will be so thankful for their glorious, picturesque, tranquil nest, so cushioned by wealth, like the CPR, the province of New Brunswick, Lady Beaverbrook,



Delegates from St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea pan their paydirt under the watchful eye of Brenda Caley at Guggieville Campground.

Photo by Sue Ward

not heeding my previous advice to "Don't just talk about it. DO IT!"

I have not mentioned the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, world-renowned, and ably overseen by Dr. John Allen, because my heart ached as I viewed worn-out equipment in old buildings where smart people from everywhere studied everything from sea-lice to sea-monsters.

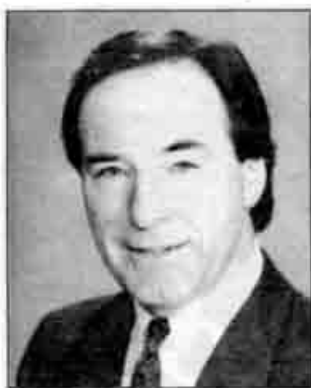
These brave people are concerned that the operation could be moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia. There is a unique water quality at Huntsman, brought about by the immense tides of the Bay of Fundy, and adjoining waterways which permits an enormous exchange of sea water twice daily, experienced nowhere else on the planet, permitting the water temperature to remain frigid. The science of raising Atlantic salmon as a crop exceeds British Columbia's Aquaculture program in the eyes of the New Brunswickers.

The purpose of this exchange has been fulfilled in great measure. Each of us has gained a

new friend, with several vowing to return to the Yukon. We will watch the weather to know how fierce are the storms of winter, how they will come out of the Constitution debate, "Compromise but never Appeasement," barks the fisherman. We are all Canadians. We do not stand alone, but together.

As the Canadian jet soared eastward somewhere west of Toronto, I asked the young man beside me his destination. "England, near Manchester. I live there." His family had been visiting relatives in Maple Ridge, near Vancouver. Would he like to come back to Canada? Yes, he most certainly would. His family would have three hours at Toronto airport where he would buy souvenirs. "Young friend," I remarked, "When I reach the end of my flight, I will have travelled 4,000 miles and I WILL STILL BE IN CANADA." I gave him a card should he care to write for more information about becoming a Canadian. What a trip! And I never even mentioned our Lobster Cook-out at Katy's Cove!

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## Report from Ottawa

by Audrey McLaughlin M.P.

Well, another Yukon summer has nearly passed us by. Luckily I was able to be at home a couple of times this summer. My last trip included participation in the Peter Gzowski Golf tournament for literacy. Thousands of dollars were raised for literacy and the event was certainly a lot of fun.

The golf tournament took place in Whitehorse and in Watson Lake but it was noted at the dinner that Art Webster was doing some serious lobbying to have the tournament up in Dawson next year!

In the last issue, I talked about the new Yukon River salmon monitoring program. I have now written twice to the Minister of Fisheries, John Crosbie, urging that he fully fund Canadian participation in this program.

As mentioned before, without Canadian participation, we will have no way of verifying the results which will directly impact on current Canada-U.S. negotiations for a new salmon treaty.

Many of you will know that the sonar system is being set up near Eagle, Alaska to more accurately assess the numbers of salmon in the Yukon River. These numbers will then be used to help determine the allowable catch on either side of the border.

I still have not received a response from the Minister but you can be sure that this issue is far too important for me to let him "off the hook". I will be pursuing this issue closely.

Now I promise to almost never talk about the constitution again!! But given the developments over the last couple of

weeks, I certainly have to mention a few things.

As many of you will remember, both Premier Penikett and I were opposed to the Meech Lake Accord. Why have we now indicated support for the new agreement?

We opposed Meech because aboriginal and territorial leaders had been shut out of the process. Now, for the first time ever, territorial and aboriginal leaders were included at the table. And they made an important contribution towards the agreement.

Premier Tony Penikett played an invaluable role on the issue of self government. His understanding, knowledge and experience with our own Yukon Land Claim Agreement was certainly well appreciated.

Just another example of the Yukon leading the way!

This historic agreement includes an increase in the size of the House of Commons with an equal decrease in the size of the Senate resulting in the same number overall as at present.

While there may be some aspects of the new deal which could be improved, we must remember the Constitution is flexible. It can be changed. In time those parts of the Constitution which are not appropriate, can be revised.

When we look to other countries and see how they resort to violence and bloodshed to settle their differences, let us celebrate the fact that we have shown the world that talk, dialogue, and compromise can be attained peacefully.

## Words from Webster

by Art Webster, M.L.A.  
Klondike

A complaint often expressed by visitors to the Yukon is the high cost of products and services offered by our tourism operators. As a consequence, some claim, particularly Americans who comprise approximately 80% of our visitors, the Yukon is less cost competitive, and thus a less attractive place to visit than other Canadian jurisdictions.

However, from my expenditures made on two recent trips to Atlantic Canada -- one to St. John's to participate in a national conference, and the other to Charlottetown to meet with Ministers of Tourism -- it is clear that this complaint about the Yukon is not justified. For example, while in both cities I found accommodations and meals to be similar in price to that of comparable quality available here in Dawson City. The cost of goods and services in Atlantic Canada is at least equal to, if not greater than, one would pay here.

As a result of high provincial taxes in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, such common commodities as gas, cigarettes and beer are less expensive in the Yukon. In addition, with a provincial sales tax of 10 or 11%, the purchase price on articles likely to be acquired by tourists, be they clothes or crafts, is just as high, if not more costly in Atlantic Canada than in the Yukon, where we don't have a local sales tax.

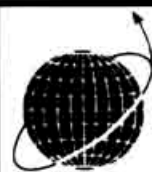
Regardless of the cost to visitors

for their holiday, the bottom line is getting value for one's money. The conclusions of surveys of tourists from Canada, the United States, and Europe consistently indicate visitors are willing to pay top dollar for their holiday if they feel they're getting their money's worth. Providing excellent service plays a major part in delivering good value.

With this in mind, I believe the Yukon, and in particular, Dawson City, has a secure future in tourism. After all, in addition to our interesting Klondike Gold Rush and placer mining history, unique aboriginal culture, and spectacular wilderness setting, the Yukon has a great deal to offer our visitors. We have numerous services, attractions, and special events provided by Parks Canada, the Government of Yukon, and the Klondike Visitors Association, if not free of charge, then at minimal or reasonable cost. This adds up to good value.

If we continue to provide these benefits coupled with the excellent service one expects from friendly Yukoners, then we will be successful in having our visitors not only returning to the Yukon, but also convincing their friends, relatives, and neighbours to make the trip themselves.

These are just a few of several reasons why the Yukon is one of only three jurisdictions in Canada to experience an increase in tourist numbers this year, and why, I believe, our record will continue to improve.



# 1992

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(NC)—Canada was the third nation into space with the launch of Alouette in 1962. We were the first nation to launch a domestic geosynchronous communications satellite with Anik A in 1972. In 1976, an Anik-type satellite, named Palapa, was launched to provide coverage of the 3,000 islands which make up Indonesia. Today, Spar Aerospace has built or is building satellite communications systems for countries all over the world, including China, Spain, Mexico, and Peru. **NC**

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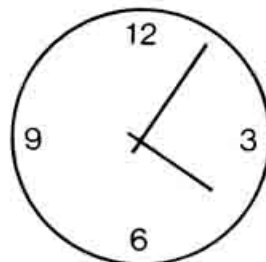
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Application forms are available from Health and Social Services' offices, First Nations' offices and health centres throughout the Yukon. They are also available from the Health Investment Fund Co-ordinator in Whitehorse. Call 667-3010 (toll free 1-800-661-0408, local 3010).

Applications submitted by the September 20 deadline will be reviewed on or before October 15, 1992.

Applications for funds \$500 or less can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed within three weeks of receipt.

Submit applications to:

Barb Boleen

Health Investment Fund Co-ordinator

Health and Social Services

Box 2703

Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6

Fax: 667-3096

**Yukon**  
Health and Social Services



# White Lightning Wins On the Downhill Run

by Dan Davidson

Take a tough course and add a hill to it and you might expect that the finishing times would be just a little bit slower. Not so for the victorious White Lightning crew in Dawson's 16th Great Klondike International Outhouse Race on September 6. The five men reprised their wins of the last two years and continued to shave seconds off their winning run by completing the course in just 9 minutes and 12 seconds.

In the last two races Dirk Millar's team had logged times of 9:42 and 9:24. This year, with Dawson's streets full of holes from sewer and water line reconstruction, the traditional outhouse race route had to detour to the

very top of the town, up the additional block to Eighth Avenue. As the 12 teams passed the old turn onto Seventh runners were gasping and slowing to a walk to make the final ascent.

This is a hill where mountain bikes shift into low gear, a hill that vehicles have trouble climbing in the winter if the street hasn't been well sanded. But that's only the half of it. After making the grade to Eighth and jogging across to Queen, the runners faced the sort of downhill slide where drivers go into low gear. This, according to Downtown Hotel racer Chester Kelly, is where the White Lightning team made its move, hitching a lift from gravity and taking the

hill at almost full speed.

For Kelly and his crew, who had already had to rebuild their biffy when it rolled out of the back of a truck, that hill was a little daunting. They slowed down, and Kelly says it cost them the race.

Kevin Anderson had another view of the race. Asked why his Northern Kat sponsored team had managed to win its third race in a row, he quipped: "We've got Brian Bell on our team, and Brent Langback. These are just the fastest guys in the Yukon. Dirk and I, we only have to touch the ground every few steps, just to keep up with them." The team was rounded out by Sean Pond.

The rules for the Outhouse

Race aren't too taxing. Each team has five runners, and each runner takes a turn riding on the throne while the others haul him or her around the 3 kilometre course. The outhouses must be functional, but costumes and decorations are optional. The serious runners go in shorts and t-shirts, while those in it for the fun run in a variety of outfits. This year's Finning team pulled a bee hive. Another team dressed up in tights and fancy outfits and raced in what looked like a giant box of Ritz crackers. Still another entry, certainly not built for speed, was done up as the Queen of the Yukon, a bushplane complete with wings. There was also a team of pink pigs.

Names such as Cash and Carry Crapper, Jackpott and K.V.Eh Slots reflect the spirit of the race.

The awards ceremonies returned to Diamond Tooth Gerties on Sunday night. White Lightning took \$200.00 and the trophy for fastest team overall. The Cash and Carry crew won as the fastest female team with a 15 minute run. Ross Mining was fastest of the mixed racers, at 10:29, and the Downtown team was second overall with 9:28. The Bees won a prize as the most original outfit, while the Slots were most humorous and the Ritz were best dressed. The judges' special award went to the pigs, who must have escaped the wolf. A good time was had by all.



"All right, cut the crap. On your mark, get set..."

Photo by Dan Davidson



Photo by Dan Davidson



Photo by Dan Davidson

Runners struggle up the hill towards 8th Avenue

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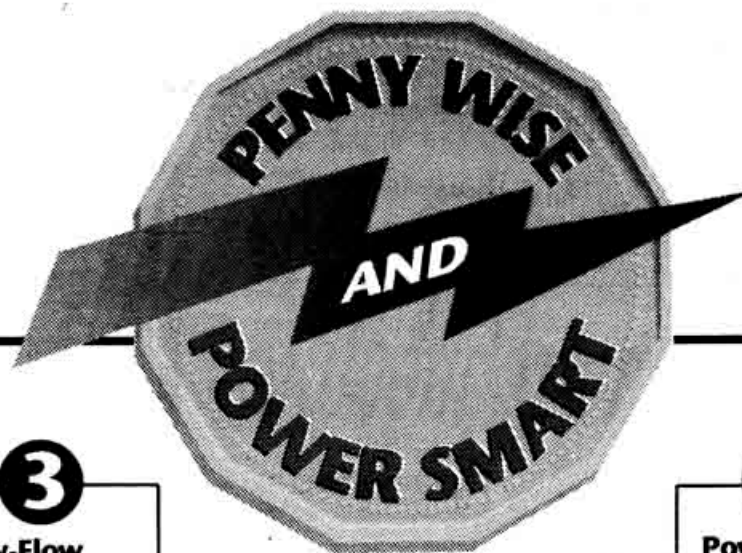






White Lightning's Brent Langback, Kevin Anderson, Dirk Millar, Sean Pond and Brian Bell cool off after a tough race.

Photo by Dan Davidson



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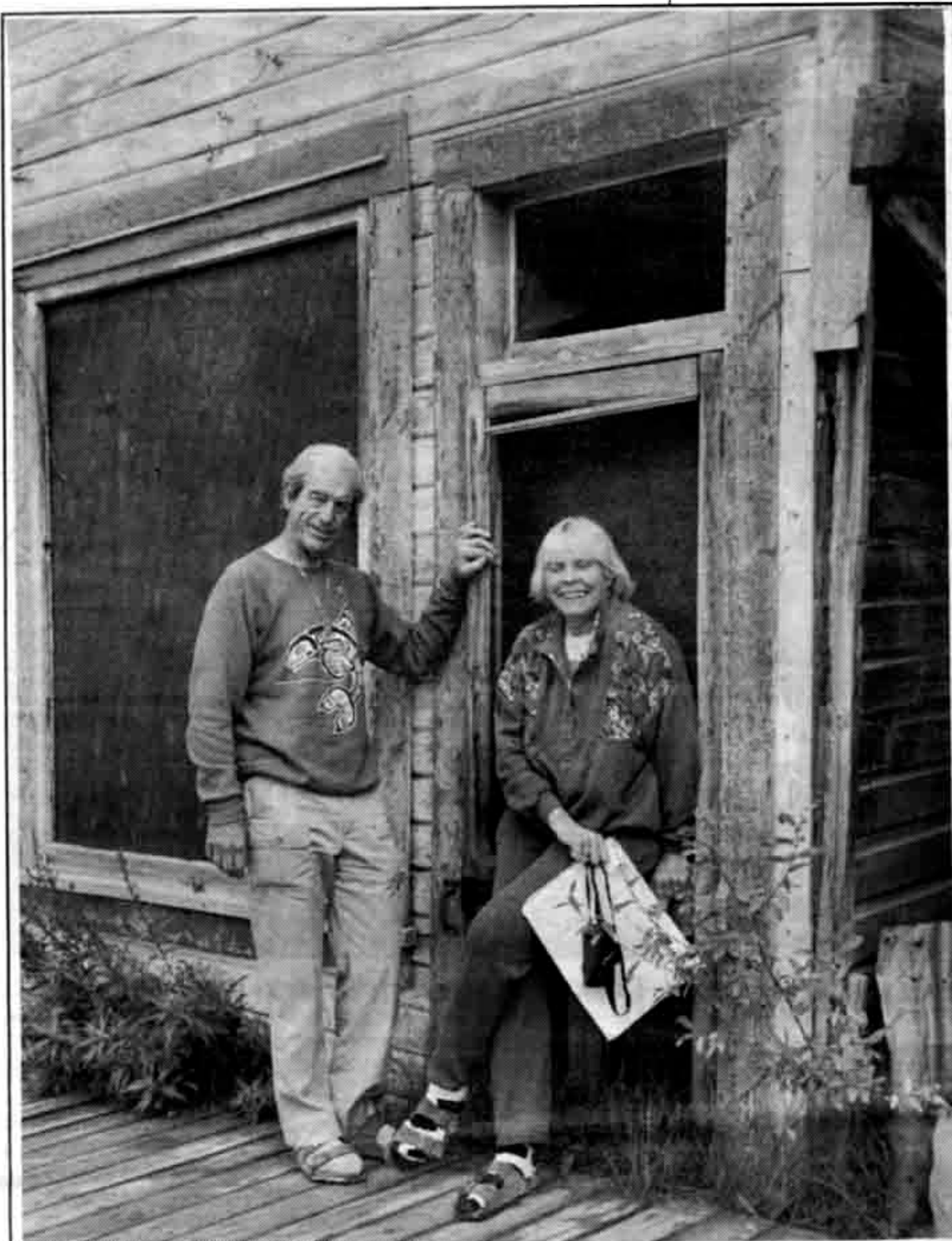
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Stan and Peggy Burke pose in front of a building they feel represents the Dawson City visitors want to see. photo by Dan Davidson

## A "New" Slant on Dawson Architecture

by Dan Davidson

Dawson may think it's cleaning itself up for the centennial of the Gold Discovery in 1996, but Stanley Burke thinks the town is ruining a good thing, and that it should reconsider before it gets any

tidier.

"What the Devil are you folks doing to your buildings?" said the voice on the telephone as the former C.B.C. national news anchor began to outline his case against present developments.

"When the most photographed building in town is the old Gun and Ammo Shop, doesn't that say something about what visitors come here to see?"

Burke, who was last here almost 20 years ago, was particularly upset by what had happened to the Old Red Feather Saloon. The original ruin was dismantled a couple of years back and its design is now being incorporated into a larger building which will feature the Red Feather on one end and a new territorial liquor store on the other.

Burke isn't upset at the combination of projects, but feels that the restored Red Feather will be so straight that no one will ever connect it with the original. A big part of Dawson's visual charm, in his eyes, at least, is the uneven silhouette presented by its buildings, the warped outlines so familiar to people from Outside through the paintings of artists like Jim Robb and Ted Harrison.

"Ted Harrison and others have created, internationally, the image of old buildings," Burke said, "and so that's what you're expecting to see here. And they've all been straightened up. ... The unique quality of this community is the permafrost and the heaving, so why not make a priceless asset out of the problem?"

"I imagine you have the engineering mind that wants to straighten everything up and solidify it, and the bureaucratic mind that probably goes along with that. And I'm sure that many people in town would like to see things look 'right', but as far as the tourist image of the town, it's very disappointing."

"I think it's a tragedy that they

didn't, when they had the money, spend a little more and retain that unique look that it had twenty years ago. But the plea is for those few buildings that still remain. Isn't it possible to keep them at those wonderful angles and stabilize them?"

While he noted that new construction in the downtown area is sympathetic to the community's roots, a design enforced by an Historic Code bylaw, he was most puzzled by the colours of the some of the buildings. Over the last 3 or 4 years, Dawson has exchanged a lot of its greys and whites and dusty browns for a palette with a broader range.

"I'm not criticising Ted Harrison's colour schemes," Burke said. "God knows I helped to discover Ted and I love his work." The colours, however, didn't fit his concept of what Dawson ought to look like. His wife Peggy, an artist who had come to Dawson with hopes of seeing interesting scenes to sketch, was also quite disappointed.

She was more willing than her husband to let go of the frost heaves, but she was firm on the colour scheme.

"Don't paint things colours that were never here then," she said.

The Burkes, who now live in Ontario after a number of years spent running a newspaper in British Columbia, were touring the North while Stanley was working up ideas for a new book he's writing on the subject of communication. They were both quick to say that they enjoyed their brief Dawson stay, but that they hoped the town wouldn't be completely straightened up and repainted by the next time they came through.

The Burke's comments are not unique and have been echoed by a number of people over the last few years. The Sun is interested in your opinion on this subject. Drop us a line.

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## Extended Radio Coverage for Rural Areas and Highway Travellers

Whitehorse -- A four year project to extend coverage of CBC North FM radio to rural areas and major portions of Yukon highways has begun with a broadcast site on Paint Mountain near Haines Junction.

A licensing application for a broadcast site at Horsecamp Hill near Beaver Creek will be heard by the Canadian Radio-Television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) next month. As soon as approval is received, CBC will be heard at 93.3 on the FM dial.

The Pink Mountain signal at 106.1 FM reaches the Kusawa cutoff on the Alaska Highway south of Haines Junction, Christmas Creek to the north, and the Dezadeash Lodge on the Haines Highway. The Horsecamp Hill site covers up to Beaver Creek and the Alaska border and south as far as Kluane Wilderness Village on Kluane Lake. The cost of installing the two broadcast sites was \$157,000.

"The communications policy as outlined in Yukon 2000 identified the need to keep Yukoners in touch with each other, the rest of Canada and the world," said Community and Transportation Services Minister Maurice Byblow. "Providing radio coverage along the major highway system will provide valuable public service and added safety to the travelling public."

The entire project will extend in phases over the next few years with 11 additional installations in



CIBC manager Paul Henderson and Aimee Lefebure-Anglin, deputy minister for Canadian Parks Service, unveil a plaque commemorating the architectural uniqueness of the Old CIBC building during the Discovery Days weekend.

photo by Dan Davidson

the following areas:

1993/94 - One site at Stewart Crossing;

1994/95 - Three sites between Carmacks and Dawson City;

1995/96 - Four sites between Teslin and Watson Lake; and

1996/97 - One site between Carmacks and Faro, and two sites between Teslin and Watson Lake.

Once the project is completed, travellers will be able to tune in to radio broadcasts anywhere on the Yukon's major highways. In addition to regular broadcasts, important public service messages including road conditions and emergency broadcasts will reach more people. More people will also hear the RCMP "seek to assist" program.

Weather Report for Dawson City for August, 1992, compiled and presented for your reading pleasure by Art Vickers, your friendly Flight Service Specialist from the Transport Canada Flight Service Station at the Dawson City International Airport.

Hello again weather fans. So, how was your summer?? Yep, Dawson's summer is done for another year. I somehow missed it. It seems I equate hot temperatures with Summer and that didn't really happen this year. It wasn't terrible but it wasn't what I have come to expect for Summer weather in good old Dawson. On the positive side -- this August sure thumped the whatever out of last year's monsoons of August. We didn't even get the long term average rainfall for the month. All in all, we had an "average" August based on the long term records. We didn't even get the token two days with f-f-frost that the 30-year statistics say we get in August.

We only have to look at Alberta weather to appreciate

what we got this year. (NO SNOW!!!) Eat your hearts out, Albertans!!

Tourist activity seems to have slowed some but should keep up till probably the Labour Day weekend. It seems that the crummy weather in the Spring that kept people away just backed things up and the tourist season is a few weeks longer at this end.

The wonderful Autumn colours are starting to show and the evenings are perfect for taking a nice long walk. There is one other "sure" sign of Autumn in Dawson -- the inevitable detours around the water and sewer construction all over town. So, Fall is here to enjoy so let's truly take some time to slow down from the Summer rush-rush activities and stop and smell a few flowers when we go for our evening walks. (Yes, the flowers are still in bloom all over town.)

So, here are the stats for August (Fahrenheit in brackets.)

	1992	1991	30-Year Average
Maximum Temp	24.7 (76.5)	23.6 (74.5)	—
Minimum Temp	0.0 (32.0)	-6.5 (20.3)	—
Mean Max.	18.6 (65.5)	16.7 (62.1)	19.0 (66.2)
Mean Min.	6.1 (43.0)	4.6 (40.1)	6.3 (43.4)
Mean Temp.	12.4 (54.3)	10.7 (51.3)	12.7 (54.8)
Total Rainfall	49.2mm (1.9in)	71.8mm (2.8in)	50.5mm (1.99in)
Days with Precip.	17	16	12
Days with Frost	Nil	7	2

See you next month.

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Last month was Vienna . . . this month it's Italy. I feel like doing a slow tour of Europe, maybe Portugal next. This is a meal for the fall -- warm and hearty and full of flavour.

**Tomatoes on Garlic Toasts** (You can prepare this about 1/2 hour in advance so the toast can absorb the tomato flavour and soften up a bit.)

- 1 long loaf French bread
- 1/3 cup good quality olive oil
- 1 lg. clove garlic, peeled
- 2 ripe tomatoes, seeded & cut into 1/2" dice
- 5 green onions, about 1/2 cp. minced
- 1 small onion, halved and thinly sliced (1/2 cp)
- 1 tbsp. chopped parsley
- 1 tbsp. chopped chives
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1 tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper

- Cut the loaf into slices about 1/2" thick, spread 2-4 tbsp. olive oil onto a rimmed cookie sheet and press the bread slices, first one side, then the other, in the oil. Arrange the slices in a single layer on the cookie sheet and bake in a preheated 400° oven for 10 minutes until nicely browned and crusty.

When the toast slices are cool enough to handle rub them lightly on both sides with the peeled garlic clove (I always use more than one). Set aside.

- Combine the tomatoes, green onions, onion, herbs, the remaining olive oil, vinegar and salt and pepper in a bowl. Set aside.

- About 20-30 minutes before serving, arrange the toast slices on a serving plate and spoon the tomato mixture on top. Sprinkle a little olive oil around and on top of the rounds before serving.

**Spaghetti with Basil Pesto** - (Double the pesto recipe, it's good with grilled meat, on baked potatoes and other pasta dishes.)

#### Pesto

- 1/4 cp. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cp. pine nuts or walnuts
- 5 cloves garlic, peeled
- 1 small jalapeño pepper, cut in half & seeded (optional)
- 1 cp. tightly packed parsley leaves
- 2 cp. moderately well-packed basil leaves
- 1/2 cp. good quality olive oil

Place the Parmesan cheese, nuts, garlic, jalapeño pepper if desired, parsley and basil in the bowl of a food processor and process for 30 seconds until the mixture is finely pureed. Add the oil and process a few more seconds. Set aside. (I've done this same process in my blender, poking everything down and stirring the mixture every 5-10 seconds or so. It's slow, but it can be done.)

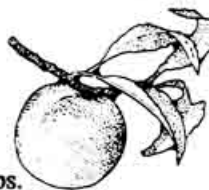
- Cook the spaghetti of your choice until it is al dente. Using a measuring cup, remove 1 cp. of the cooking water and mix with the pesto mixture.

- Drain the pasta well in a colander and add it to the sauce, along with salt and pepper to taste. Toss and serve immediately with hot pepper flakes and additional grated Parmesan.

- Pesto will keep for a week in the refrigerator. Cover the top with a piece of plastic wrap, pressing it down so it touches the surface of the pesto.

**Salad Al Forno** - a salad from a restaurant on Rhode Island, well-known for its superb trattoria-style cooking.

- 1 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cp. plus 2 tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cp. virgin olive oil
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 6 cps. shredded cabbage
- slab bacon, cut into 1/2" cubes -- 2 heaping 1/2 cps.
- 3 cps. mixed leafy lettuces
- 1 cp. sliced mushrooms
- 1 cp. endive or spinach or both



## Creature Comforts

by Shelley Hakonson

Make a vinaigrette by whisking together the mustard and 1/4 cp. vinegar, then slowly whisk in the olive oil. Add up to 3/4 tsp. salt and fold in the cabbage. Set aside for 1 hour at room temperature to marinate -- or you can put it in the refrigerator overnight. Allow the cabbage to return to room temperature before proceeding with the recipe.

Broil or fry the bacon until it's brown and crispy. There should be a few tbsp. of bacon fat in the pan. Remove the bacon and immediately add the remaining 2 tbsp. vinegar to the pan, swirl it together and pour the vinegar and bacon into the cabbage. Toss to combine.

- Line a large platter or individual plates with the mixed greens, top with the cabbage mixture and mushrooms and serve.

**Sesame-Seeded Italian Bread** - unlike typical French bread this contains a small amount of oil, which keeps it from going stale so fast.

- 2 1/4 cp. lukewarm water
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tbsp. honey
- 2 tbsp. yeast
- 2 tbsp. soft butter or oil
- 6 cps. unbleached white flour
- 1 cp. toasted wheat germ
- 1 egg white, sesame seeds

Combine lukewarm water and 2 tbsp. honey in a large bowl. Add the yeast and let sit in a warm place up to 10 minutes to proof.

- Add the salt, butter or oil and gradually mix in 1/2 the flour. Mix well and then add the rest of the flour and the toasted wheat germ and stir until it's too thick to use the spoon. When the dough leaves the sides of the bowl, turn it out onto a floured board and knead for about 10 minutes. Place in a greased bowl, butter the top of the dough and let rise, covered, in a warm place 1 1/2 hours.

- Punch down the dough, turn it over and let rise again, covered, 45 minutes.

- Divide dough in half, cover and set aside for 10 minutes. On a floured board flatten dough with hands into oblong shapes, fold over in half and flatten again. Gently roll each piece with hands and shape into round or oblong loaves, place on baking sheets which have been sprinkled with cornmeal. Let rise, uncovered, in a warm place 30 minutes. Then brush with cold water. Make 1/4" deep slashes in the dough and set aside for 15 minutes. For a crisp crust brush with egg white diluted with 1-2 tbsp. water. Sprinkle thickly with sesame seeds and bake in a 400° preheated oven for 30 minutes until nicely browned and bread sounds hollow when tapped on the bottom. Makes 2 large loaves.

**Tartufo** - my version of a beautiful dessert

1 recipe baked cream puffs - split them open and bake them some more until they are slightly crisp. Cool them on a rack.

- At dessert time fill them with a good quality coffee ice cream, put the lids back on and drizzle over a generous amount of chocolate sauce and chopped pistachios or hazelnuts (toasted).

**Mocha Chocolate Sauce** - will keep for 1 week in the fridge.

- 1/4 cp. sugar
- 1 tbsp. instant espresso powder
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 1 1/2 cp. semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 tbsp. corn syrup

- In a 1 qt. bowl combine sugar, espresso and 1 cp. water. Heat to boiling in the microwave on high 2 minutes, stirring twice, till sugar is dissolved.

- Add butter and chips and stir till melted and smooth. Stir in corn syrup. Serve immediately or store, covered, in refrigerator 1 week.



## Recording recollections of the past



(NC)—It goes without saying that older people are living libraries of information and insight of things past. This year, when we celebrate Canada's 125th anniversary, it's particularly important that we capture their thoughts and memories to share with future generations.

Video Souvenirs is an imaginative electronic way to make this possible. It's a video contest that gives high school students a unique opportunity to display their journalistic skills, while recording senior citizens' recollections of their experiences and reactions during significant events in the history of our country.

The best 125 videos, selected by a panel of renowned Canadian historians and members of the media, will be combined with historical film footage, and presented to the National Archives to form a unique and valuable permanent record of Canadian recollections. These tapes will be available as a resource to schools across Canada.

While the deadline for the contest was July 1st, students can send videos until November 15. The late entries will be considered for inclusion in the National Archives collection.

By video-capturing the remembrance of things past, Video Souvenirs is bringing generations together in a common sharing of what it means to be Canadian.

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# TO LAURIE WITH LOVE

by Sue Ward

Had just poured my coffee when Banjo's bowwow announced an early visitor, a deep tanned young woman who introduced herself as "I'm Laurie, and I was on stage with you at the Palace Grand Theatre in 1969. My sister Linda and I rode on a funny horse."

There aren't too many stories that begin with the backend of a horse. This one does. Twenty-three years ago. In 1969 this scribe was discovering who Sourdough Sue was as part of the Gaslight Follies in Dawson City's main attraction at the Palace Grand theatre.

There wasn't too much else. One four o'clock appearance of the Ghost of Robert Service, and a slide show on the freight deck of the S.S. Keno which I had put together from a set of twenty oldtime black and whites using commentary from the accompanying record, available at two town shops. John Gould provided his projector and extension cord. No mike. Just my chirpy voice through which my enchantment with the Klondike Gold Rush tumbled forth. Visitors or locals, who could tell, unless an extra large family arrived, like the Lee clan from Summerland, B.C., all eleven of them.

We had a wonderful chat and I learned that Todd and Thirza Lee wrote stories, often for Sunday School papers, (one could sell the same story times over, when one would take years to make Reader's Digest). With careful management, this family had travelled all over Eastern Canada the previous summer, and 1969 would introduce the children to Western Canada and Alaska. Next year would be South America, about which the kids were already studying with Spanish no less.

Here comes the rearend of the horse. As my second act for the show we had created not HI HO SILVER, but his cousin STAINLESS STEEL. The front end was

Darlene Googel while the rear was performed by April Speare, my daughter. To wind up the act I would invite a small child from the audience to come on stage to ride the magic mount. The Lees agreed that their two little girls should represent the whole family, one being 9 year old Laurie and the other sister Linda. It was a memory not to be forgotten.

The family travelled in a pink Volkswagen Van staying in economical cabins such as McCallister's, then on Fifth Avenue. It was raining so hard and we all scurried inside where the big kids took care of the smaller ones. The baby snug on the floor of the clothes closet, etc. The oldest Patricia almost sixteen, whose long blonde wavy hair framed a beautiful face, seemed so capable and mature. The oldest boy, Ken was the only biological son of the Lees, all of the others were adopted having been born in Vancouver of various mixed races and both sexes.

Though Thirza and Todd Lee had been born in British Columbia, Thirza in the Peace River country, and Todd at Charlie Lake in the Cariboo, they had met when students at the University of Washington, where theology dominated their studies. The love of the Lord was strong, Todd became a United Church minister, with Thirza by his side. They opened their hearts and their home to those who society shunned. Raising such a large family of adopted children, not foster children who are subsidized by government, brought the added challenge of funding, which is how the Lees took pen in hand, writing suitable material for Sunday school papers.

Somehow the slide of No. 4 Dredge on Bonanza Creek, and the explanation of how it grabbed the gold from bedrock, forty feet under the creek bed, became the story of Greed, the Monster of Bonanza Creek. Others might see old No. 4 as a proof of man's ingenuity and

ability to conquer adversity. Either way, it was and still is, a remarkable story, and the Lee family a noteworthy alliance.

We bade our farewells, they enroute to Alaska returning to their home in Summerland, and I to the Fraser delta in Richmond. We would keep in touch through the mails. And the morning came when the clunk of the letterdrop invited me to scoop up the letters strewn on the red brick entrance. With instant delight I opened one from the Okanagan, from Summerland. Nothing could have prepared me for its message.

The Lees had reached Anchorage without mishap and had found a laundromat where their considerable soiled clothing could be put to rights. The pink van was parked nearby on the boulevard strip. Pat, the mature sixteen year old, while returning with a big armful of clean clothes and two young brothers in tow, was struck by a drunken driver, a university student, in broad daylight. "Her golden hair lay in a pool of her blood like a halo." Pat died a few hours later.

I recall my state of shock as I struggled to make some sense of it all on paper. "Sometimes it seems the good die young, I have know several beautiful young friends who have been taken. They seemed to have learned all of life's lessons so soon. She will never grow old but will always be that beautiful young woman." Words, words, words. No answer ever come to that letter. Last Saturday, with Laurie's arrival, I learned why.

Laurie will be 33 soon enough, and is a nurse in the Summerland Hospital. She was travelling with a neighbour who had introduced her to Girl Guiding at that special time in young Laurie's life when so many things were no longer as they have been.

The sudden tragic, needless death of Patricia was more than her adoring mother could come to grips with. For three years the door to

Pat's bedroom was kept locked, even though the girls, sharing bunkbeds in crowded space, were needful of privacy. Only harsh words would settle the space factor, but the heart and mind of Thirza remained unforgiving of God's cruelty until the last five minutes of her cancer-ridden life which ended in 1981, with Laurie's special talents of caring at hand for the final three weeks.

Twenty-three years passed before Laurie would complete her pilgrimage, to sit again in the Palace Grand Theatre, enjoying both evenings of mirth and laughter, to find Sourdough Sue, to travel up Bonanza Creek and see again "The Monster of Bonanza Creek", to recall the huge chain links which suspend the bucketline. "There's a picture of me holding onto that link, that second one, because the third one was half buried in the

silt." She had revisited Anchorage, and enroute to Summerland there would be a couple of days to enjoy the past and the present at Liard River Hot Springs, the parting hug enduring for our lifetimes.

The whole family are adults, several with families of their own. Ken is forty while Patricia II, is twenty-two. Father, now Stephen Todd Lee, has remarried and living in Prince George, where he continues to teach and act of Probation Officer, and the author of three books. Once again I shall watch the mailbox for books and happenings of the remarkable Lee Family. This larger-than-life story will reach "the rearend of the horse", daughter April Moi of Tumbler Ridge, B.C., and be shared with husband Dan and my grandsons, Dusty, 19 and Joe, 16.



Photo by Sue Ward



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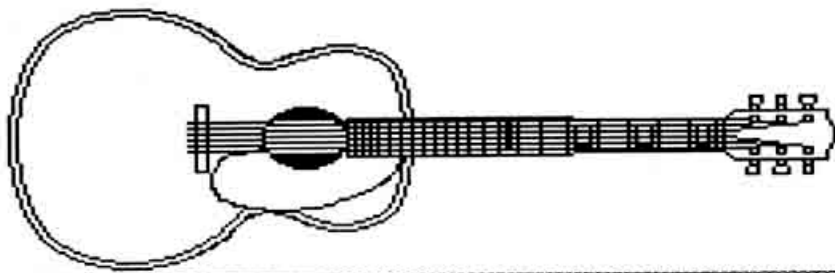
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# Valdy Plays Dawson



by Dan Davidson

Everyone who has ever heard "Me and Martin", Valdy's ballad to his old guitar, knows that this is a man who loves his music. What just LISTENING to Valdy won't tell you is how MUCH he loves his music. This is a performer who dances with his guitar as he plays and sings, doing little jigs and stepping into the bass runs between the chords.

Playing in a variety of styles over two forty minute sets, Valdy proved to a Dawson crowd on August 22 that he didn't need a backup band or any sort of fancy razzle-dazzle to capture an audience. Pitching his material to everyone from five to fifty-five, the versatile performer evoked smiles, laughter, cheers and lots of clapping from the several hundred people in the sweltering auditorium at the Robert Service School.

Valdy is no stranger to Yukon audiences. He played at the very first Farrago Folk Festival back in the early 1970's and was hired to play two closing concerts when the Clinton Creek asbestos mine shut down in 1977. That was his last visit to Dawson City, and he didn't see enough of the place to be able to compare it with Dawson of today ("It still feels dusty though, and the wooden sidewalks are just glorious."), though he was hoping to get a bit of a chance after his show and the next morning before his plane had to leave. He's been in the territory 7 other times, most recently in May 1991 in Whitehorse.

The concert, sponsored by the City of Dawson Recreation Department, came about due to the fact that he was going to be in the Yukon anyway as part of the Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournament in support of literacy.

He enjoyed his night in Whitehorse closing two bars. Playing with Horsepower and the Rinkbinders. The latter gig he especially enjoyed because he played bass guitar, his first instrument, with them.

"It was just wonderful to get on it and feel a good drummer and a good rhythm section and just be part of it."

As a performer he is something of a one man band, using his body and face as well as his voice and coaxing the audience to join him where ever he can fit them in.

He obviously loves his work.

"I get excited and I tend to play too fast," he says. "I do enjoy it. I'm a good accompanist. When I have to play lead I tend to clam up, but as an accompanist guitar player, that's where my strength is."

The dancing?

"I do. I get excited and I tend to dance a bit, but it's subliminal choreography. It's not something I do on purpose."

He hasn't recorded a lot since the early 80's, having only 1985's "Notes from Places" to his credit. His career has been busy, though. He does about 200 one night shows a year, mostly

to smaller audiences. He's also doing folk festivals all over North America. When the Gzowski tour is over, he will be going into a studio to put together an album ("You can't call 'em records anymore," he chuckles.) which he hopes will be out in stores by March 1993. At that point he may start doing larger venues again.

There's a wealth of classic material on his list however, and the audience burst into applause with the opening chords of such well worn numbers as "Yes I Can", and "Peter and Lou", a song that is almost the definitive tale about losing friends and following them to strange places.

There were love songs, and kids' songs (from a 1982 album) as well as a lot of material probably seldom heard outside of live performances. The hilarious "Ten Little White Men (Edited Version)" brought gales of laughter from an audience tired of Meech Lake and its fallout.

A protest fantasy about blue herons in Point Robert not only raised the issue of protection but offered an alternative to a golf course. "Living in a Kid's World" reflected on the 60's generation as seen by their kids, and "Daddy's OK" would have been familiar to Dawson families which don't see their fathers too often while the gold fields are active in the summer.

Concerts like this one are sort of a happy accident during the Gzowski tours. This is Valdy's

third year with the tour and he takes the work of promoting literacy quite seriously. His first year he was the "poet laureate" of the tour and wrote "Read Between the Lines" to celebrate literacy. Sometimes he has bookings at the same time as the tour, but he doesn't usually seek them.

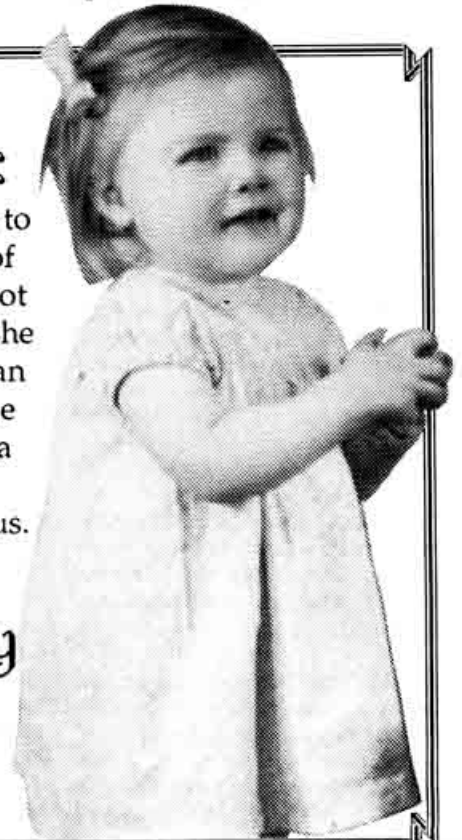
"We don't block off time for this sort of thing because it's a benevolence," he said, explaining that to be too busy with his own work during a PGI would be to lose the sense of what the tour was for.

Two of the other members of the tour, C. David Johnson and Cynthia Dale, from C.B.C. t.v.'s successful series "Street Legal", accompanied Valdy on his Dawson swing, and joined him on stage to harmonize in a rendition of Tom Paxton's "Stars in Their Eyes." It's a song about dreamers and dreams that Valdy received from a southern contact just before he headed off on the PGI, and the final verse fit the tour so well that he's worked it in. It may end up on his new album.

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