

Psst. Where can I get a music festival ticket?

by Brent Morrison

Tickets for the Dawson Music Festival were sold out 10 minutes after going on sale June 19.

Maximilian's drew the largest line-up, but many were unable to get tickets and had to scramble to the Eldorado or Downtown hotels where tickets were also being sold.

In the end many Dawsonites were unable to get tickets and none were too pleased about it.

Paula Hassard, a member of the Music Festival Board, stated that, "We have a fairly restricted amount we can sell because of the liquor regulations. It's just kind of unfortunate that this year it seems that they sold out a lot more quickly than it ever has before."

The annual festival is held in a double circus-type tent holding a maximum of 750 people. 700 tickets went on sale. In Dawson, 320 were available, but some of those were allotted to volunteers and board members. Tickets sold by mail numbered 260 and 120 were sold in Whitehorse.

The other 50 tickets must go to all band members, lighting and sound crews and anyone else involved in the show so that the Festival Board can keep track of the numbers.

Hassard also explained that, "We've got complimentary tickets that we're kind of obligated to give out, we try to keep that down to a minimum too." These tickets include press passes and courtesy tickets to certain VIP's such as mayors, members of parliament and others.

Sales were limited to four per person and Hassard maintains that, "We're doing our best, and in terms of numbers there were actually more tickets for sale in Dawson this year than there were last year. What it says is that it's a really sought after event."

While a common complaint is that the festival should be bigger, the logistics and costs associated with such a move are another matter. "We've got

a big crowd there and we want to make sure we're really well organized. The festival is sort of in a maintenance mode. Let's not get any bigger until we're sure we can handle this."

The festival's board met the Wednesday after the tickets had sold out and there was talk of some changes being made, "We're definitely going to handle the tickets differently," Hassard stated. But exactly what those changes would be are still undetermined, although having them sold from one site next year is a probability.

Volunteers are allowed a ticket after a certain number of hours are put in, and board members, "Have the privilege of reserving two tickets," up to a certain date.

But as to, "Some people suspecting that tickets are sold ahead of time, or whatever, you hear lots of those stories but it isn't our policy to do that. If we sell out of the office we'll have a lot more control over it next year."

The size of the festival is also an attraction Hassard states, because bands like the intimacy the tents provide. Numerous workshops throughout the town give those who didn't get tickets a chance to catch the bands up close.

Tickets may also come available if it appears people haven't made it or have left the festival.

Hassard also pointed out that memberships are available to anyone. The Board plans to advertise more this year, probably during the fall or winter when memberships would most likely to go to residents, "Every organization wants to increase its membership," she adds.

As to selling all the tickets in Dawson, Hassard explains that there are people in Whitehorse who have been coming to every festival for the past 14 years and buy their tickets there. There is also the matter of grants which help to fund the festival and are granted based on the festival's territorial appeal.

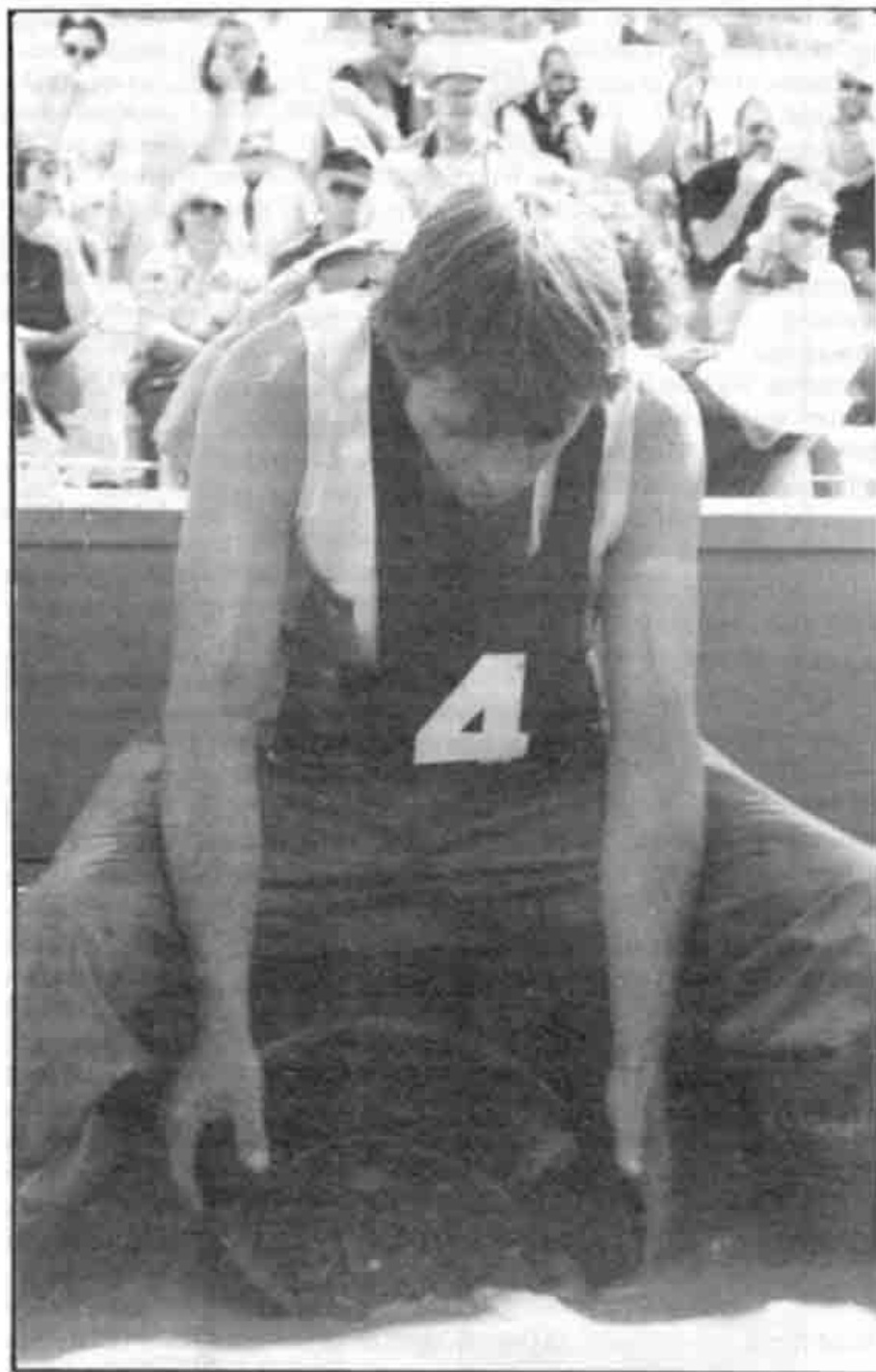


photo by Liza Sardi

Dawson miner Henry Reinink strikes the classic panner pose, as seen on our licence plates, as he competes in the Yukon Gold Panning Championship. See story and photos page 36.

Accused returns to Dawson

by Liza Sardi

A 30-year-old British Columbia man who has been charged with sexually assaulting a Yukon woman in Dawson on June 28 returned to town on July 7.

He was scheduled to appear at the District Court in the Dawson City Museum. The circuit court comes to Dawson approximately every month.

Brian Michael Priske, a recently unemployed seasonal worker, has been charged with sexual assault with a weapon, engaging in anal intercourse and uttering a threat. He was in Territorial Court in Whitehorse on June 30 but did not enter a plea at that time.

RCMP Constable Eric Zalitis had called the assault "one of the most violent we've had for some time."

The sexual assault occurred in the early morning of June 28. A 29-year-old woman had gone to a local bar with the alleged attacker. They returned back to her campsite in west Dawson in the squatters camp across the Yukon River after the bar closed. The attacker had left his knapsack at

her site when they went to the bar.

The woman reported to the RCMP approximately 6 a.m. on June 28. She submitted a statement and was taken to the Father Judge Memorial nursing station for examination. She is now in the care of the local woman's shelter.

Both the accused and the victim were in Dawson for summer employment. Both were camping across the river, but not at the government campsite.

The accused did appear briefly before Justice of the Peace Joanne Smith on June 28 at 4:30 p.m. where he was remanded into custody for three days until he could be sent to Whitehorse. He did not enter a plea at that time either.

The accused had asked the Justice of the Peace to be set free to pick up his last paycheque. But Smith said she believed that the victim and the community would not be safe. She also said that the accused had no roots of significance in Dawson and had recently lost his job as a cook at the Westmark. He was fired on his birthday, June 27.

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First Nation concerned with harvest of cow moose

submitted by the Dawson First Nation — Dawson First Nation Chief and Council are concerned with the way Dawson First Nation citizens are exercising our aboriginal rights to harvest wildlife.

We have the right to harvest all species of fish and wildlife for subsistence purposes at all times of the year. There are no restrictions on the sex or age of the animal.

This right is in recognition of the fact that our culture and traditions depend on the utilization of fish and wildlife resources. Our people have harvested Yukon game populations since time immemorial. We have lived in balance with with these populations, and have been careful to never diminish the numbers of the animals we depend upon. We must continue to exercise this care.

The fish and wildlife populations we depend on are coming under ever increasing pressure. Game populations in the southern Yukon are already suffering. Unless we act carefully, we will face the same situations here.

Healthy game populations for Dawson first nation in the

future require careful management today. We have priority harvesting rights, but those rights will become meaningless if game populations are seriously compromised. If there's no game to harvest, it won't make any difference that we've got first harvesting rights.

Our rights have been reaffirmed in Yukon land claims agreements.

With rights, however, come responsibilities. We have confirmed our responsibilities in resource management. Now we must accept them. The inherent right to self-government carries with it the obligation to govern ourselves. In some instances the rights of the individual — and the opportunity of the moment — must be restrained for the good of all.

It is Dawson First Nation's philosophy that only Bull Moose should be taken. Cow moose are our future providers. Our children and grandchildren deserve the same opportunities to harvest fish and wildlife resources we have had. It is not in our best interest to harvest cow moose.

William James DeWolfe March 28, 1908 to June 26, 1993

by Liza Sardi

Willie DeWolfe will surely be missed around Dawson.

The "Asbestos King" or "Tin Man," as he was fondly referred to, passed away quietly on June 26, 1993. Residents and newcomers to Dawson having been coming into the offices of the *Klondike Sun* for details. A announcer local radio station CFYT even recited poet Dylan Thomas' poem "Do not go gentle into that good night," for him.

William James DeWolfe was born on March 28, 1908 at Twelve Mile on the Yukon River. He was a dog team driver and horse freighter and the son of famous mail carrier Percy DeWolfe. Percy carried mail from 1915 to 1950 between Dawson City and Eagle along the Yukon River. He is known as the "Iron Man of the North."

Will used to work with is father, carrying mail and sometimes passengers to various towns and outposts along the Yukon.

The DeWolfes had a fish camp about 25 miles downstream from Dawson and spent most of their summers at the camp.

DeWolfe recounted much of the following history to journalist Ron Wendt in 1986. He liked the finished article so much he gave it to Joanne Smith, of MacDonald Lodge, she passed it on to the Sun.

In it, Will told of his father, his family and his own life. It was full of Will's colorful stories of helping his father deliver mail and working the dredges on Bonanza Creek and Dominion Creek.

"I used to watch that stacker belt where the tailings went out on. We had four men to shift, one winchman, one oiler, two deckman, one in the bow and one in the stern. We only

got 45 cents an hour in those days."

Will also worked on on the road crew building the Taylor Highway. He was a prospector. He worked



Fondly remembered

taking care of the site at Forty Mile for Parks Canada and trapped in the winters.

"I used to trap about 25 miles up the creek. I did some prospecting up there and I was the one discovered asbestos up there on the creek, and over on Cassiar and Clinton Creek. I discovered the asbestos deposits in 1958. They called me the Asbestos King."

In the article he recounted all those who had passed away before him.

"As long as I've been around Dawson, it's changed a lot. There's lots of new houses going up and the old buildings coming down.

"Everybody's changing. All those guys I knew died off I guess there aren't too many left."

Coincidentally, the article's

author was in town this week, and came into inquire if there would be something in the paper.

"When you talked to Willie, and you knew the history, he opened up. He was the type of person who wanted to talk about the old days. Especially on the river, the fish camp, about his father, Percy and about Forty Mile. He really loved Forty mile," said Ron Wendt.

"So many oldtimers are dying off, pieces of the past, those few that still connect the past," said Wendt, who first interviewed DeWolfe in 1985 for Northern Adventures Magazine.

Others commented on Willie's sense of humor and his special love for the Yukon River.

It's obvious, thought I never had the pleasure of meeting Willie myself, that he was much admired.

Willie was predeceased by his parents Percy DeWolfe and Belle Phillips, brother Walter and sister's Ellen, Jessie and Anne.

He is survived by his brother Percy Jr., and sister Bertha, his daughter Freda Roberts, son Davey deWolfe, granddaughters Sandra Roberts and Emily DeWolfe and grandsons Tyler and Cody McDiarmid.

"I was born and raised in Dawson," DeWolfe once said. "And will probably die here."

And so he did.

Water and sewer rates up in air

by Liza Sardi

City council is still unsure as to whether or not they can carry through on their promise to lower water and sewer rates.

At a special noon hour meeting on June 28 council agreed that the total income they received from water and sewer rates in 1992 should be matched in 1993.

But that doesn't mean that individual homeowner and business will be paying the same rate, simply that the city is holding its own revenue at the same rate.

The city may be forced to increase water and sewer rates later on if the electricity rates increase by the proposed 40 per cent.

About 20 to 25 per cent of the cost of water and sewer rates comes from the cost of electricity.

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Anderson heading south for shot at the big leagues

by Brent Morrison

Dawson resident Murphy Anderson is moving a step closer to his dream of playing in the National Hockey League.

The 18-year-old is in the final stages of signing an agreement that will see him play part of the 1993-94 season for the Olds Grizzlies in the Alberta Junior Hockey League.

From there he should move up to the Kamloops Blazers of the Western Hockey League. "They [the Blazers] want me to play a few months in the AJHL to get my legs back," he explained.

Murphy began playing league hockey when he was nine-years-old and living in Shelbrooke, Sask.

He moved to Dawson in 1989 but

says there was, "Not really any competitive hockey up here."

envelope" of papers to arrive he is working in town and trying to get a flat tire on his Trans-Am fixed.

He says that right now he is concentrating on his hockey career and hasn't made any other solid plans for his future.

He is encouraged by the number of expansion teams in the NHL and the trend for those teams to draft "the new breed of forwards. Small fast guys who can score goals."

Anderson describes the competition in the south as "guys of NHL calibre."

Many of the people he has played with or against have been in a few NHL games. But who moves up, and how long they stay there, is often determined by the number of healthy regulars the NHL squads have.

Anderson will be heading south again at the end of August.

The New York Rangers and the Chicago Blackhawks have recently drafted players from the Blazers, and while optimistic about his future he realizes, "Nothing's really guaranteed in hockey."

AJHL Grizzlies are hopefully only the first step

Two winters ago he moved to Alberta to attend a private school and was asked to the school's hockey team. Scouts from the Olds then asked him to try out and he ended up playing six league games for them.

He scored five goals and three assists from the right wing during that stretch. "They thought it was a bit irregular for someone who really hadn't played in a league before," Anderson says.

While a fan of the Chicago Blackhawks, he says his favourite player is Calgary's Theo Fleury. "He's about the same size as me and plays an explosive game," Anderson says with a smile.

While he waits for "a thick

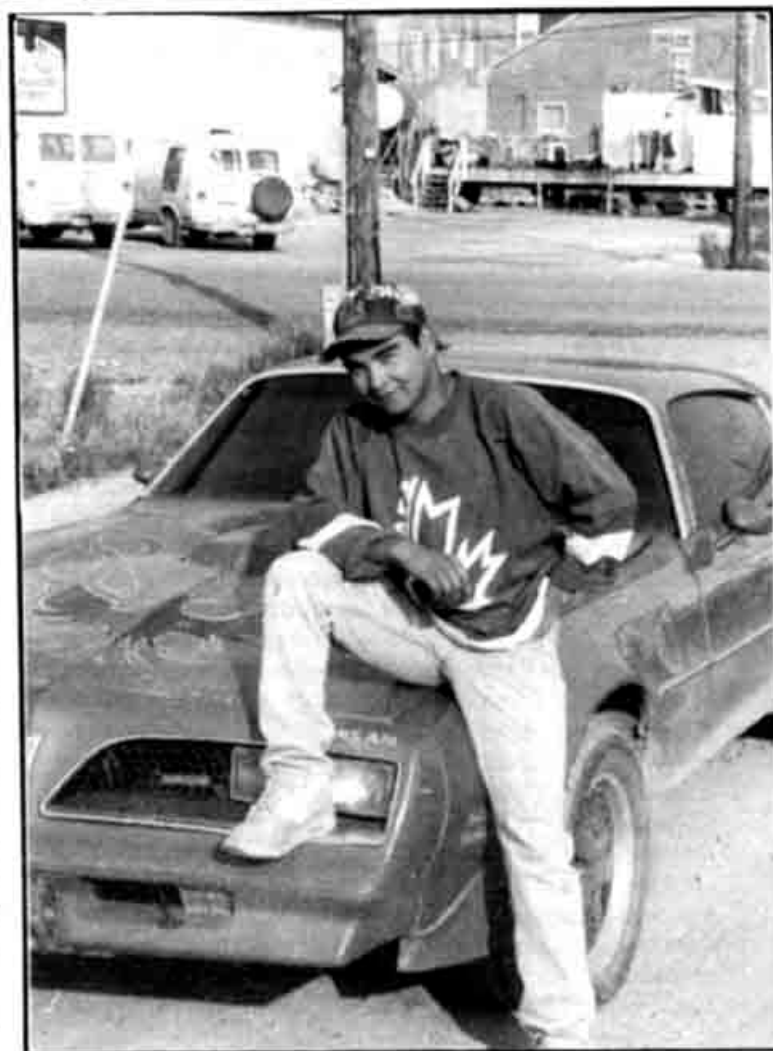


photo by Brent Morrison

Anderson relaxes on his car, he'll have little time for this when the junior hockey season starts.

Berton home to be repaired

by Liza Sardi

The Berton residence will be stabilized this summer thanks to a \$27,000 government grant.

"It's about time," said Pierre Berton who donated the home to the Yukon Arts Council in 1990.

Berton suggested when he bought and donated the home that it should become a residence for a Yukon writer's.

The Yukon Arts Council leased it the Klondike Visitors Association for \$1 a year for about 12 or 13 years on the understanding that they restore the house and turn it into a writer's in residence house, said Economic Development Regional Manager John Weirida.

Part of the house will be used as living accommodations for the writer in residence, while the rest will be a sort of shrine to Berton with museum nostalgia.

The Community Development Fund has contributed the money to the KVA specifically to stabilize the Berton residence, install a new foundation and roof and replace the porches.

"The Community Development Fund enables groups to initiate projects which contribute to the economic growth of their communities," said John Devries, minister of economic development.

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EDITORIAL:

Celebrations and Community Concerns

Canada Day conjures up all sorts of ideas, doesn't it? It was certainly nice to have a year in which we were not forced to be thinking about some manner of referendum or accord. On the other hand, we are only a week past the installation of a new Prime Minister, and only a few months away from finding out whether she can hang on to the job. Politics never seems to get that far away, does it?

Visitors to Dawson could be forgiven for being a little confused at our Canada Day celebrations. There was some suspicion that the local Legion had decided to sneak a Remembrance Day ceremony into the midst of our national holiday. What with the re-dedication of the Victory Gardens and the war memorial cenotaph, the speakers spent a lot of time talking about wars and soldiers. But no, it was a warm July 1, not a chilly November 11.

Any doubts were dispelled by our resident paraglider, sailing majestically off the Dome and down to the park. Steve Kurth has a lot of fun on these flights of his, and has provided me with several afternoon's worth of enjoyment watching him soar and glide around the town, catching the thermals and weaving his way down to his usual landing spot on the dyke. His arrival was a novel way to celebrate the flag.

It would be nice to celebrate a summer without any acts of violence, but it doesn't seem to be likely. The most recent offence (as I write) is a sexual assault case which occurred in the transients' camp across the Yukon River. While we might like to think that we had to count on Outsiders for such behaviour, that's not the case. There has been a rash of such offences over the last 12 months, leading us to the unfortunate conclusion that reality has arrived in the Klondike.

Liza Sardi, our summer reporter at the Klondike Sun, has written an impassioned defense of sexual assault victims and their rights in this month's issue and has wondered why we don't take the offence more seriously than we do. Unfortunately, some people in the community have "cried wolf" on a few of the cases that went to court over the last year, and that sort of behaviour tends to reduce our general anxiety level over the whole issue. It shouldn't, but it does.

As we become an increasingly litigious society, primed to head off to court at the drop of a hat, we do run the risk of debasing the value of the law. The more regulations we set up to restrict our baser impulses, the more court cases there are and, consequently, the less each one comes to mean less.

While the miners' committees that administered "White" justice in the Yukon River basin before the 1890s would never work in today's society, their original notion was a good one. With their "Do as you would be done by" adaptation of the Golden Rule, they set a standard for moral behaviour that our society with its "do it but don't get caught" attitude cannot touch.

Talking to the RCMP while reporting my stolen ladder recently, I learned that the level of petty theft and crime in the community was "normal" for the time of year. Bruce Cockburn has the best line about the concept of "normal" that I've ever heard: "The trouble with normal is it always gets worse."

Let's hope not.

Dan Davidson

INTERESTED IN RESPONDING TO WHAT YOU'VE READ?

We'd like to hear from you!

Please come to our offices in the blue waterfront building on Front Street, drop us a line at Bag 6040, Dawson City, Yukon, Canada, Y0B 1G0 or fax us at (403) 993-6625.

Letters to Editor

More good news...

To the dedicated gang at the Sun:

The trip was very good. Saw lots of wildlife and the weather was great. Arrived here the morning of May 30 to a bit of sunshine and a great deal more rain.

They call it showers but it is still wet!! Furniture arrived June 2 and I have been unpacking ever since. Today the place looks liveable.

Will write others as soon as I find my other pen.

John Bilton
Campbell River, B.C.

A letter from home

Dear Editor:

Please renew my subscription for another year. I enjoy reading your very informative newspaper. It keeps me

caught up on all the local happenings in your great town and surrounding areas.

Thanks again for doing a great job. I remain,

Maxine Taylor
(Sue's Mom)

Dawson's hospitality makes an impression

Dear Editor:

I recently spent 10 days in Dawson City (early May). During this time I fulfilled two ambitions—to pan for gold in Bonanza Creek (successfully) and travel to the Arctic Circle.

Through the medium of your newspaper I like to express my sincere thanks to all the residents of Dawson for their kindness and help whilst staying there.

May I express particular thanks

to Cath and Coleman, Kathy and Torfniu, Rowland and wife, Dan, Ted, Derc Uleac Gillivay and others whose names I never knew.

I look forward to the time when I can return and see so many "old" friends again.

Thank you Dawson.

Keith Larrad,
West Yorkshire, England

Sun-shines

Dear Editor:

The Sun shines in the winter too, through you all.

A continued touch with reality—and how each voice who wants to be heard can be through your great paper.

Keep up the good work—it shows!

Subscriber
Yvonne Wabersich
Thornhill, Ontario

Accessibility in Dawson City

by Jon Calon

Well, it sure is nice to know who has the real power in the newspaper! It sure isn't the writers or the photographers. Nope, the power lies solely in the editors. [ed. note: and don't you forget it!]

My humorous article (Well, it was before the editing) was chopped by rather serious editors bent on getting it crammed into the space set aside for it. That aside, it seems rather ironic that I got more compliments than complaints about the article.

As I mentioned last issue we get quite a few seniors in this town, but Dawson doesn't strike me as a town that caters to the tourists age 50+. I mean take a look at the boardwalks. They are historical, but many of them have six inch drop-offs at one or both ends, and they can have some loose or broken boards that, when stepped on, can make someone lose their balance and fall over, possibly breaking something. They just don't cater to those people that have disabilities. Even in the winter, these are problems for the able-bodied as ice can form at the bottom of these drop-offs. For those that can get on the sidewalks, try getting into a building without having to climb some stairs. Can't think of any places? I only know of three

buildings in this town that are wheelchair accessible. The school, nursing station, and the McDonald Lodge. There is no coincidence that all three are government buildings.

Point of View

Imagine yourself getting in an accident and losing control of your legs. Confined to a wheelchair, try to do some things around town. Even your basics are hurdles in a long and hard race. Try eating. Hurdle #1. You need to get around your home. This means retrofitting your house to be wheelchair accessible so you can move around, make a meal, and the necessities of life, including eating. Once you have run out of food, you need to buy some. Hurdle #2. Both grocery stores, and every other store in town have no ramps and no method of entry into the building for those in wheelchairs. You starve and die. Of course, that seems a little drastic. If you can't eat, then leave town for a place that can seem to be a little friendlier to those with disabilities. But... you

need money to get out. Hurdle #3. This requires a few dollars which can be borrowed off a relative or friend, or by working at a desk job at a place in town. Hurdle #4. Getting a job in this town requires one to get to the workplace, which requires using sidewalks, and stairs. These are seen as a 10-foot wall by those who can't walk. This means

that you have to be dependent on others which can be quite unnerving to the person who tries to be independent, but can't, and the caregiver, who feels tied to the handicapped person.

Being disabled is a bummer. Almost every able-bodied person (and a few disabled) can say that. These simple barriers can make the disabled feel shut out of everything. But with a few changes, they can feel and be welcome in the community.

P.S. I like getting feedback about my articles. This problem in town was brought up to me by Madeleine Gould. If you have any ideas that could be aired (or printed), please let me know. Write me at

Point of View feedback,
c/o Jon Calon
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THE OPINIONS PAGE

Education on sexual assault needed

by Liza Sardi

On June 28, a young woman was raped. I know her name because I was at the arraignment of the man who stands accused, but I don't know her personally.

She was a seasonal worker here in Dawson, just like I am. Maybe, also like me, she came a long way looking for adventure, a chance to meet new people and a summer job.

I am not allowed to give her name out. RCMP Officer Eric Zalitis requested, on her behalf, that there be a ban on publication of her name and any details that might identify her. That's her right, I don't dispute it.

She should be allowed the privacy to grieve and recover from one of the most traumatic events in her life. Even if she had asked that her name be released to the press I wouldn't have printed her name. Dawson is a small town, where gossip travels far faster than the "news," particularly when the newspaper only comes out once a month. I'm not sure anything other than the curiosity of others would be served by the publication of her name.

What bothers me is that she even had to ask that her name be kept private. Nobody ever asks for a ban on publication when they've been mugged, or if their car has been stolen. These are crimes where there is clearly a perpetrator and a victim.

But things get sticky when a rape occurs.

As I was coming back from the arraignment another woman commented to me that someone certainly should have heard the crime occur. Didn't she cry out? The RCMP reported that a knife was involved and also threats against her life. No one ever asks if a victim fought back when they were mugged.

But somehow women are expected to fight back or else some people suspect they are complicit.

These are naive attitudes surrounding sexual assault. Not only must women be afraid of rape—but of societies treatment of it's survivors with skepticism.

I've even heard that some men around town are warning women to watch out for strangers and not walk home alone.

Statistics show that most women are attacked by men they know, in places that are familiar to them. Sexual assault doesn't necessarily happen in dark places. Look at the Yukon, we have 24 hour sunlight.

Rape happens everywhere, no one is immune.

I think it's time that Dawson residents took their heads out of the sand and realized that their little city is not immune to big city crimes.

Celebrating Canada's 126th

Sue Ward remembers our past while Dawsonites look towards the future

On July 1, 1993, over 200 people gathered outside the museum to re-dedicate Victory Gardens and the Cenotaph. For those who missed the ceremony, here is a copy of the re-dedication speech by Sue Ward.

Good morning Fellow Canadians, Visitors, Comrades, Mr. President. I am honored to have been asked to fulfill this important task on behalf of my fallen comrades whose names are recorded here. On a per capita basis, it has been said, more men volunteered from the Yukon, to serve in the First Great War, than from any other area in Canada.

It was not the war to end wars, as promised, and in 1939, once again many men and women answered the call to bring Hitler and the war machine he represented to heel. The victory was achieved, if there is any victory in war, at tremendous cost of life and limb, and mind

The true victory is ours. Yours and mine. To be privileged to gather here this very day in this glorious land, Canada, where never a bomb



has been dropped, where no civil war was fought to give birth to this nation, unless you count the seventeen minute affair on the Plains of Abraham in Quebec City, where both gallant leaders, young Gen. Wolfe, and young Gen. Montcalm gave their lives.

A short time ago I had a conversation with a Canadian of German heritage, who, as a child of 10, had dared the Allied Gunners

who swooped down, to strafe the civilians in his village. He said, "War held no horror for us children, We thought of it as a big

game."

I remarked I had difficulty understanding why Canadians are so highly esteemed as Peacekeepers, as we had never had to battle to be Canadians, though our men ranked second to none in battles overseas.

Without hesitation, my newfound friend replied, "That's it. That's it exactly! Canadians have never had to learn to HATE!"

Why? Because the men and women whose names are honoured by this monument didn't wait for the enemy to attack. They beat him on his own turf!

We will never know how many lives they have saved, and continue to save, as we, Canadians, who have never learned to hate, continue to serve the troubled world over as peacekeepers, and, of late, peacemakers.

It is with the greatest pride as a Canadian, as a veteran, and as a Yukoner, that I share with each of you, this rededication of our Cenotaph, as it sits straight as a ramrod, on our beloved permafrosted, hallowed ground.

Thank you for being here, thus making this 1993 Canada Day even more special.

Uffish Thoughts by Dan Davidson

One can hardly blame the tourists, and more than a handful of non-attending locals, for turning out to see the show as we folks filed in to the Palace Grand for the Commissioner's Ball.

After all, we locals and special guests were seriously overdressed, decked out in rental tuxes and specially created formal gowns for the major event in the Dawson year in which gumboots are not optional attire.

A quick check of memories around the tables inside the building indicates that this was not always the case. Several ballgoers recall the early days of this 21-year-old event, when the site of the ball was so cold that extra coats were worn well into the evening, and the ground so muddy that rubbers were a necessity. That was not the case this night, as the weather continued to smile on the day's festivities.

Others recall when this was more of an amateur event, and the ball was catered the same way the afternoon Tea still is, by volunteers. Now it's a professional job, good, but perhaps a bit less personal.

Formal wear has its own peculiar way of altering your perceptions of the world. Looking at old photos of Dawson takes on a whole new meaning after you've walked its modern dirt streets in a dress tux or a gown. How did they do it then, when the streets were even dustier? Are the suits in the the pictures dark brown to hide the dust? Did the ladies simply rip the bottoms off their dresses and throw them away after a walk in the mud?

Last year I learned about dress hats, which were designed with

something more roomy than the front seat of my car in mind. This year I went hatless. My wife, on the other hand, had a dress constructed for this year's ball, and we discovered lots of interesting things about it.

First, such dresses make the institution of footman perfectly understandable, and certainly do a lot to revive old fashioned manners. Not that I never open doors for my wife, but this gown made it essential to open them. By the time she's got it gathered into both hands and prepared to insert herself into the car, there nothing left to handle a door with.

Can't use the seatbelt either. It won't go around all that material she has to hold in her lap. It's probably okay. She's got the equivalent of an airbag in front of her at that point anyway.

Both of us are faced with problems when parking. I had it easier; the mud and swamp areas left over from the last rain seem to congregate on the passenger's side of the car. I end up stopping in the middle of the street, offloading my precious (expensive) cargo and then parking the car elsewhere. Embarking at the end of the evening is the same in reverse.

For all our problems, we do better than the 20 year veteran of our party (who must remain nameless or she'll kill me). She managed to lock her front door with about a metre of her dress caught inside it. While she was able to unlock the door with the help of a friend, she did need that help. Alone, her alternative would have been to shuck off the skirt part of her outfit in order to reach her spare key so she could unlock the

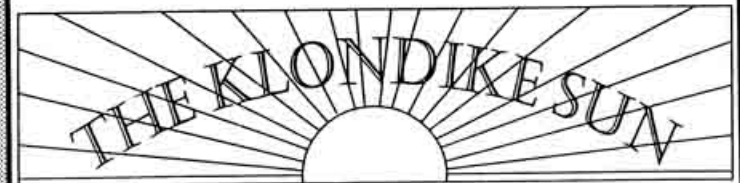
door and get free. Awkward when your house is plainly displayed to the neighbourhood at the top of a hill.

No matter. It is worth it to get all gussied up for just a few hours and pretend a little. It is taxing though,

and the most often repeated comment of the evening was a variation on "Can you imagine trying to get around like this every day?" The makers of track suits and jeans can relax. I didn't meet anyone who could.

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photo by Liza Sardi

Diamond Tooth Gertie's dancers strut their new stuff in bathing costumes.

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Future of Crocus Bluff RV park still up in air

by Liza Sardi and Brent Morrison

An RV park at the base of Crocus Bluff may be a step closer to reality after council voted to leave the area zoned Service/Commercial.

Council voted three to one in support of the resolution at a special noon hour meeting on Monday.

Mayor Peter Jenkins has been pushing for an RV park, while Councillor Glen Everitt wants the land at the intersection of the Klondike Highway and the Dome Road to become residential or recreational.

Unless there is a change in the city's Official Community Plan, which took three years to draft, the land cannot become a public park.

Currently the base of the Bluff is used to dump excess snow from city streets in the spring. It used to be part of the old Klondike highway.

The meeting was the second held to debate what to do with the lot.

At an earlier meeting last Thursday, Councillor Glen Everitt presented a survey that his children had conducted. Of the 122 who were surveyed 113 preferred Crocus Bluff not become a RV park. Two supported the RV park while seven had no opinion.

But Councillor Tim Gerberding accused Everitt of slanting the questionnaire to get the results he wanted.

"It seems to me that this particular little questionnaire is not entirely unbiased," said Gerberding. "To make this more reflective of actual opinion you should not have attributed any particular preference to any particular person and you should not have even necessarily stated what your preference was."

Gerberding originally supported Everitt's suggestion that the area be turned into a ball park. But when Jenkins suggested that a new ball park could be built further up the Dome Road, Gerberding said he supported the possible creation of a ball park up the Dome but was still opposed to the RV park.

The meeting ended without a resolution when Mayor Peter Jenkins decided to postpone the decision until Councillor Shirley Pennell could attend.

Monday's meeting opened with

Chamber of Commerce President Denny Kobayashi presenting a proposal for a new adult ball park on the Dome Road to be linked to the Dawson Ski Club. Kobayashi suggested that Minto Park become strictly a minor ball park so that children could stay in town, while adults could make the trek outside town limits to play sports.

Councillor Shirley Pennell also supports the idea of a recreation park outside town. She likes the idea of it being more than just a baseball diamond, but a year round park with cross country skiing, volleyball, baseball and maybe even tennis courts.

"The key thing is that enough area has to be set aside," said Jenkins. The area below Crocus Bluff is not big enough for a large recreational facility.

Councillor Gerberding was absent from the second meeting.

"Certainly people I've talked to would rather see the area down below the bluff developed commercially," said Kobayashi. He suggested the land, which is located just outside the residential area of Dawson City on the Klondike Highway, has better commercial visibility. While a park further up the Dome would be safer for children because it was off the highway.

Dawson First Nation's Chief Steve Taylor supported the idea of a ball park on the Dome. The proposed park will not conflict with Dawson First Nation land claims as the area is no longer part of their selections.

But neither the new trailer or ball parks are done deals.

The proposed Dome ball park site is still being mined by Djukastein. Kobayashi's plan would have Djukastein helping to resculpt the landscape when he is finished mining. The park would still need close to \$125,000 from corporate sponsors, grants and volunteer work.

And after two meetings all that has been decided is not to rezone the Bluff. According to City Manager Carol Murray, the city still has to decide whether or not they want a RV park at the base of the Bluff. If so, they will try to obtain land tenure from the territorial government and call for proposals from private businesses.

Summer reading program

by Jennifer Wills

Reading is fun for the children involved in this year's summer program at the library.

The program has been running for a few weeks and many children have registered. As in previous years, the program includes the independent reading game in which the children read books at home and accumulate points for prizes. The kids are proving to be voracious readers.

The children can also participate in a weekly activity theme, and we read books and take part in activities which are relevant to the theme. These activities include plays, arts

and crafts, songs and movies. On Saturday, June 26, the older group performed Robert Munsch's Pigs in the museum's auditorium for an enthusiastic audience of parents and children.

Depending on the age group, we meet every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for programs, and on Saturdays for movies. There will be no programs the week of July 20. Programs will resume on Tuesday, July 27, and will extend until mid-August. Registration is free and there is still room for more kids. For more information, contact the library at 667-5571. Come join us!

Jenkins' remarks upset Phillips

by Dan Davidson

While the Yukon Anniversaries Commission hasn't set up shop in Dawson City yet, Doug Phillips, the Minister of Tourism, says this is not due to any reluctance on his part. He is very upset with remarks made last month to that effect by Dawson's mayor, Peter Jenkins.

"I don't know how much more certainty I can give you other than to stand in the middle of the street in Dawson and yell 'The office is going to be here!'" Phillips said on June 12, after reading an account of Jenkins' complaints in June's *Klondike Sun*.

Although the Yukon Party endorsed the relocation of the Yukon Anniversaries Commission to Dawson City at its convention

here in April, and Phillips announced its intention to follow through with this move later on at the Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon conference here in May, Jenkins indicated to his council on June 3 that he was very disappointed with the speed of the move.

He felt Phillips and his deputy minister, John Spicer, as well as the executive director of the YAC, Ron Pond, were "not in total concurrence" with the move. He said he could see the Klondike Centennials Society going it alone if the government didn't get moving.

Phillips fairly steamed over these comments when he was in town during the weekend of the Commissioner's Ball.

"I want to get something going," he said. "I've guaranteed the people of Dawson strong involvement in the commission, and I've guaranteed the people of Dawson the office will be here no ifs, ands, or buts. It will be here. If the anniversaries commission themselves want to set up a sub-office in Whitehorse...for some reason, that's fine, but I fully expect the main office to be here. That

was the reason for the core funding. That was the reason for the TIAY announcement."

"I can tell you, the office isn't going in Whitehorse, it's going to be here in Dawson. I don't know how much clearer I can be."

Phillips says he had told Jenkins this on at least three occasions in the last month or so,

the last time within the a fortnight of Jenkins' comments, and that he has no idea where the mayor was getting his ideas or what he was attempting to accomplish.

Phillips confirmed that it is his intention to see major strength (five of the 12 seats) from Dawson on the new commission, which he said should be announced by the end of June. He says the first delay

was caused by the need to wait for the report on Rendezvous '92.

After that it was a question of appointing a new commission. Since the deadline for nominations to the YAC was June 11, Phillips says he really couldn't understand how he could have been expected to have the job done by June 3. He says he simply wants to cut out all the picking and jabbing and get on with the work of anniversaries planning as quickly as possible.

"I am very very disappointed in Peter Jenkins," Phillips said. "I wish he'd just take all the energy he has to criticize people and just get on the bandwagon and use it in a more productive manner."

Jon Magnusson, chair of the KCS, says the minister confirmed all of this to the Klondike Centennials Society at a meeting the day after the Ball. He is anxious to get his group on a working footing with the YAC, whatever form the new board takes.

Phillips swings back at Jenkins

by Liza Sardi

City council wants Mayor Peter Jenkins to stop shooting from the lip.

"Watch your mouth," advised councillor Henry Procyk at the June 17 council meeting after receiving a copy of a May 21 letter from Tourism Minister Doug Phillips to Jenkins.

Phillips

expressed concerns over Jenkins' outspoken criticism of the pace of the opening of a Yukon Anniversaries Commission office in Dawson.

Phillips had announced his intention to relocate the office at the tourism industry's annual general meeting held in Dawson in May.

Jenkins has said that while he is sure the government will keep its

commitment they're taking too much time. He told city council that his concerns that the "minister is dragging his feet" are also held by the Yukon Anniversaries Commission.

In the letter Phillips urged Jenkins to express his concerns directly to the minister "rather than in public venue or by sending copies of your letters on the subject to all Mayors." Phillips promised he would be frank and open in discussing any concerns.

"However, I would prefer these discussions to be face-to-face or through direct correspondence between ourselves."

In particular Phillips mentioned an incident

which happened after he announced that an anniversaries office would be located in Dawson.

"In your 'rebuttal' following my speech at the TIAY conference, you made it clear that my senior officials and their staff are inefficient and that their communications with me and with the industry are ineffective."

Jenkins had presented the minister with a kit on effective presentation and communication, by keynote speaker David Richardson, at the awards dinner following the conference. The crowd was stunned into silence by the boldness of Jenkins' actions.

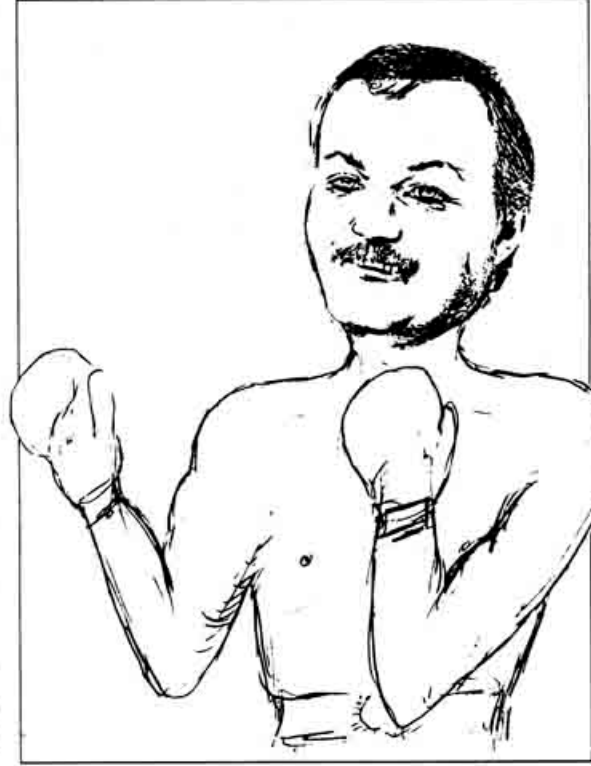
Ironically, the rest of Phillips' tourism conference speech repeatedly stressed that the tourism industry should work cooperatively.

"To succeed and take advantage of the opportunities we must — I repeat, must — assemble new partnerships. The industry must begin to work in a united and cohesive way."

"I should not have to apologize to my officials for your comments. I, therefore, suggest you owe them an apology," said the ministers letter.

"What is your direction council?" Jenkins queried.

In response Councillor Tim Gerberding urged that Jenkins to be "somewhat less corrosive" in the future.



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Racing into the summer

by Janet Johnson

If you thought you saw 33 enthusiastic people running around Dawson City about midnight on June 21 you were not hallucinating.

This was Run Dawson's sixth annual Summer Solstice 5 kilometre Fun Run. However, this year, for a change, it started at 11:30 p.m. so the runners could be finished about Midnight and continue celebrating the longest day of the year with refreshments.

Although this was a Fun Run some of the participants were really serious about their task. Lucas Fennell of Dawson City, overcame a challenge by Pierre Mikhail, to finish first in 17:52. With this effort, Fennell broke the 5K course record by six seconds! (The former course record of 17:58 was set by Michael Kelly of Whitehorse when he was 16-years-old). Fennell, who is also an avid cyclist, said he was pleased with his win, and this was his personal best on our hilly course. Pierre Mikhail, from Toronto, finished second in 18:02, while Lou Oud finished third in 18:16.

Masters runner, Janis Campbell, of Whitehorse, was the first woman to finish with a good time of 22:04. She was running for fun, but shattered our former master women's record by over three minutes on the process. Campbell is no stranger to Dawson City. She was the "Queen of the Klondike" in last years Discovery Days events because of her combined 10K running, canoeing, gold panning, and river rafting skills. Lauresa Stinson was second overall in 23:23, which gave her first place in the women's open category (ages 17



Janis Campbell was the first woman to cross the finish line, and it doesn't even look like she broke a sweat.

though 39) Barbra Nyby was second, and Suzanne Crocker was third in this category.

In the Master's men category, the indomitable, 45-year-old, Chester Kelly, formerly of Dawson City, finished in first place with a respectable 18:59. Bryan Heibert of

Calgary was second in 22:10 and Robert Lessing of Ohio was third. In the Master's Women category Janet Johnson placed second to Janis Campbell, while 65-year-old Beverly Forero of Weaverville, California was third. Mrs. Forero has the honour of being the oldest

female participant to date in our 5K races while her husband, Lawrence, at age 69, likewise has the honor of being the oldest male participant. They are a very fit couple indeed!

Also special congratulations go to the children of Dawson City who participated. In the junior male category, 9-year-old Morgan Fraughton was first in 31:02, while 9-year-old Malcolm Dewell placed second. In the junior women's category 11-year-old Christine Gouthro was first in 27:10, while 10-year-old Katie Sparrow was 2nd, and 7-year-old Hanna Dewell was third.

Run Dawson's next exciting event is the Triathlon on July 11 followed by our unique and challenging Midnight Dome Run or Walk and Delicious Barbecue on July 24. See you there!

Total participants: Kevin Anderson, Peter Brindley, Janis Campbell, Candace Coubrough, Suzanne Crocker, Hanna Dewell, Malcolm Dewell, Lucas Fennell, Beverly Forero, Lawrence Forero, Morgan Fraughton, Christine Gouthro, Roger Harrison, Bryan Hiebert, Janet Johnson, Michelle Jones, Chester Kelly, Jim Kurtzman, Robert Lessing, Ross Lindley, Luc Longtin, Pierre Mikhail, Bob MacDougall, Dirk Millar, Barbra Nyby, Lou Oud, Gerard Parsons, Ross Sailer, John Sherman, Katie Sparrow, Lauresa Stinson, Randy Talbot, and G. Lee Worden.

Theft at Dawson First Nation

by Dan Davidson

The Dawson RCMP and Dawson First Nation are looking for anyone with information about a theft which apparently took place at the First Nation's Front Street offices in the Chief Isaac Building on Wednesday, June 9.

According to First Nation manager Margaret Kormendy, the theft was discovered on Wednesday morning at about 11:30.

"Just basically cash, some cheques and our coffee fund," Kormendy said on Friday.

The amount of cash in the safe has varied at any given time. First Nation staff had been banking every other day or when the cash receipts on hand seemed large enough. From now on, Kormendy says, they will be banking daily. Generally the contents of the safe would not have been much on any given day, and it certainly won't in the future.

"Not any more," Kormendy said "Nothing's going to amount to much any more."

RCMP Corporal John Gillen says that there was no sign of forced entry. The burglar(s) either came in during the day or had a way to get in after hours.

The safe is in the finance office, in one of the private offices, not in one of the high traffic areas of the building, which is otherwise fairly open to visitors.

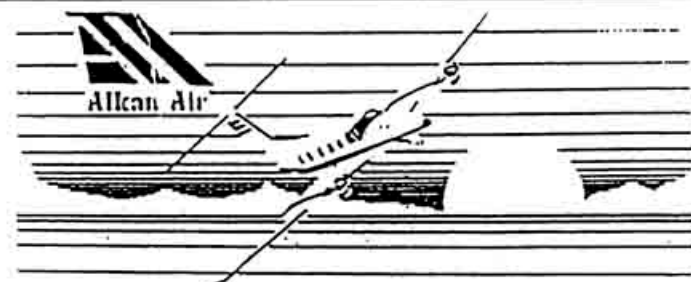
"What it appears," Gillen said, "is that the safe was opened in the morning when the staff came in and then it was left open. They're speculating that sometime between when it was opened at 9:30 and 11:30 when the theft was discovered, that somebody must have picked them (cash and cheques) up."

"What we usually do," Kormendy said, "is open (the safe) in the morning, but the finance person is always there or if she's out her door is closed. That's why we don't know when it happened. Normally somebody would see if someone was behind there or whatever. It's a very visible place."

The morning of the discovery was a very busy one at the office, which makes it harder to figure out when it happened.

Gillen reported that the force's identification team had come in from Whitehorse last Thursday (June 10) and had dusted for fingerprints. "We're getting little bits and pieces (of clues) but nothing of any real value as yet. We're still investigating it, still trying to run down potential suspects. We have no particular suspects in mind at all."

Constable Karen Olita is in charge of the investigation. Information could be passed to her at 993-5555 or to Kormendy at the First Nation's offices at 993-5385.



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Tailing pond dangers

By Sue Ward

Many years ago a little girl drowned in the tailing pond known to some of us, as the Beaver Pond, beside the Trans North Helicopter Pad, within the city limits.

She was one of several Dawson youngsters to lose their lives in the treacherous

waters. The members of the Dawson Branch of Kiwanis took upon themselves the task of creating our heated swimming pool, salvaging sections of the redwood pipe used in the Yukon Ditch.

Everyone knew the ponds were death traps because they also knew the dredges had reached depths of forty feet to bedrock, where the greatest gold lay.

Nothing has changed except the population of Dawson City. Most families know nothing of those YCGC years, when Dawson was the capital of the Territory and as many as 500 men would flood into the country each spring to search for the precious metal.

Newcomers take their visitors to

the Dome to focus on the rows of "silver dollars," the waves of washed gravel, or out Bonanza Creek to see No. 4 Dredge which squealed and gnawed the half-

frozen gravel from the creek beds. The tailing ponds are made up of the waters trapped between the columns of

rocks. Deadly cold and deadly deep!

Although sympathetic and concerned, the R.C.M.P. may not trespass, until the accident has been committed.

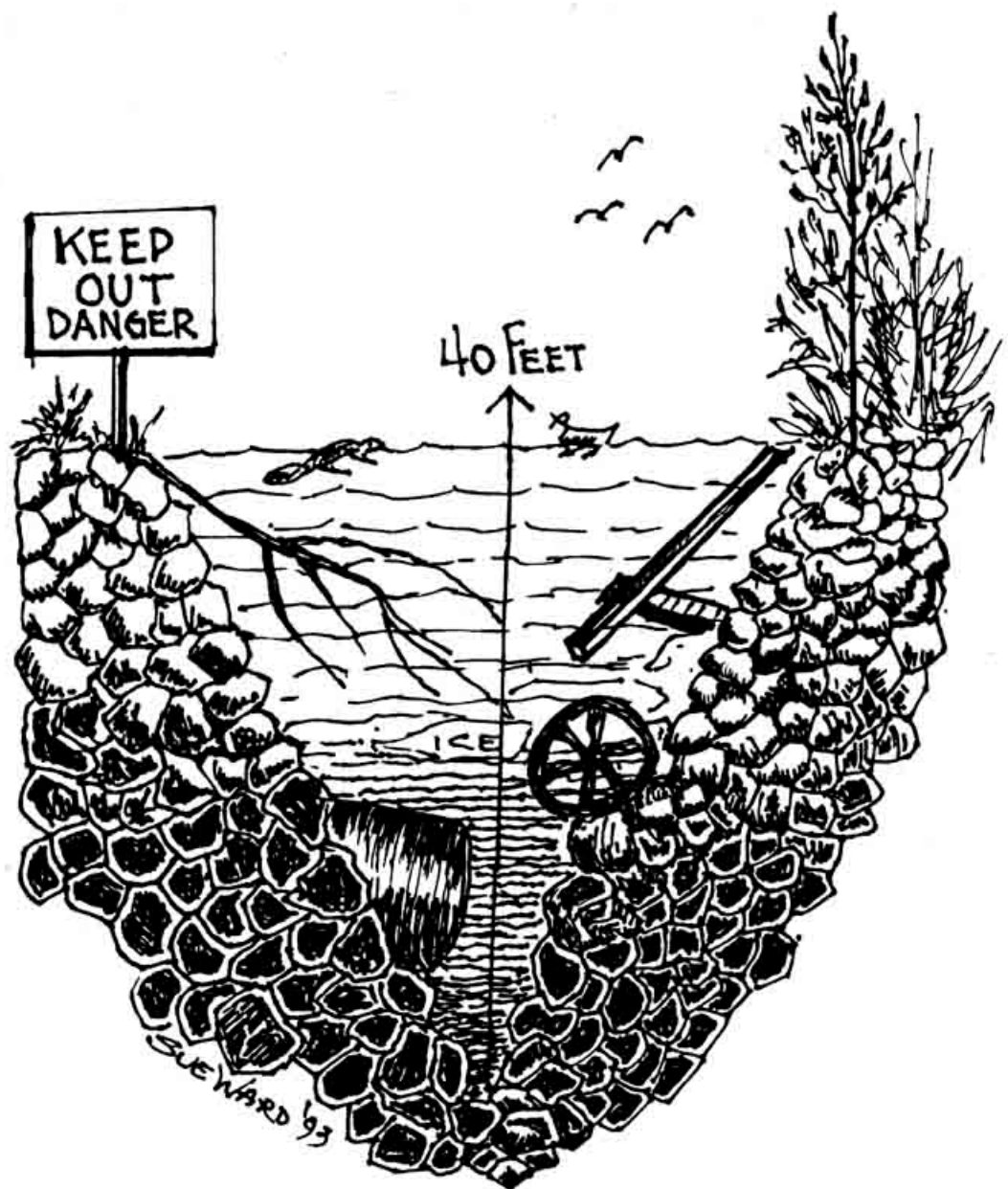
The City Office has posted a "KEEP OUT—DANGER" sign beside the highway because kids have been seen on rafts on that pond. The *Klondike Sun* wishes to commend Carol Murray for this action.

But one inflatable raft, and the makings of a wooden one are still inviting any kids who happen that way to "be a Tom Sawyer."

A second sign on the river-side of the pond could cancel the threat. The rest is up to you, parents and friends of our children.

Let us be forewarned.

Keep out
Danger!



sketch by Sue Ward

The tailing ponds are deep and full of cold water and debris.

Former Dawson resident, Muriel Cruden, passes away

Submitted by Brenda Caley --We regret to announce the death of Muriel Louise Cruden in Vernon Jubilee Hospital on June 26, 1993 at the age of 64. she has lived in Vernon, B.C. since 1986 when her husband Jack retired from NWTel.

They lived in the Yukon for 21 years in Swift River, Dawson and Whitehorse. Muriel was a member of the IODE and always a willing volunteer for the Curling Club, Ball Clubs and KVA. She was a supervisor at Visitor Reception Centres at both Dawson and Whitehorse.

She was predeceased by both parents and by two brothers, Dan and George. Muriel will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by her husband Jack of Vernon, son Doug (Marian) of Hinton, Alta. and their children Shaun and Devin and daughter Donna Cruden of Red Deer, Alta.

She is also survived by brother Bill of Thunder Bay, Ont. and three sisters, Marg (John) Jolly of Vernon, Helen (Jim) Cole of Gimli, Man.

and Ella (Barry) Bradley of Calgary as well as numerous nieces, nephew and extended family members.

A service of remembrance was held on Wednesday, June 30. Friends wishing to do so may make donations

in memory of Muriel to the B.C. and Yukon Heart Foundation, Box 156, Vernon, B.C. V1T 6M2.

Our sympathy to Jack, Doug and Donna and family. Muriel will be fondly remembered by her many Yukon friends.

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Circling the world by 'cycle

by Liza Sardi

At first one might be skeptical of travelling the world on a motorcycle.

What about the weather, spare parts, insane drivers, highway condition or the isolation of travelling alone?

But none of this seems to bother Igor Plenicar, 37.

While the rest of us dream of having enough money to take trips, Plenicar has been travelling around the world.

He's already been across Europe and North America. In 1990 he logged 18,000 miles in Canada, the United States and Mexico on a 50 day tour on his Kawasaki Enduro 650 KLR motorcycle. Now he's in town, with the same bike, doing odd jobs and trying to raise support for his round the world journey.

In a town full of motorhomes and campers, his motorcycle seems strangely out of place. While many travellers are coming into Dawson, Plenicar is using the town as a jumping off point.

From Dawson Plenicar will travel south until he reaches Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. He'll catch a boat across to Dakar, Senegal and circle Africa and enter Europe through Gibraltar, Spain. Then he will cross back and forth across most of the countries in Europe before



photo by Liza Sardi

Igor Plenicar plans to circle the world when he leaves Dawson City.

going to South East Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. He will then head back to Australia and head north to Japan into Russia. In Russia he will cross back into Alaska.

In total, Plenicar estimates he will travel close to 150,000 miles, circle all the continents and see 100 countries before returning to Alaska and Dawson.

"It can be done in one year," said Plenicar. "But if I see a nice beach

and I want to stay there, I will."

"Africa scares me the most," said Plenicar. He is afraid of the constant political changes and diseases. He also estimates that it will be the most expensive continent to break down on.

The dual purpose motorcycle will give him access to spots that other travellers cannot reach because of rough terrain. The bike also gives him the freedom to stop anywhere

along the way.

Plenicar's no stranger to travel. He grew up in Slovenia, the northernmost province of the former Yugoslavia. While a teenager he travelled everywhere in Europe, camping and hitchhiking. Plenicar first came to North America for a trip when he was 19-years-old. He emigrated to Canada and settled in Montreal where he designed clothes. Before he came to Canada he had

also worked as a jewelry designer and importer.

He speaks seven languages including German, Spanish, Italian and French.

Eventually Plenicar wants to write a book about "shoestring" travelling on a motorcycle.

He will research bikes around the world and tie it in with his personal experiences. He will travel with a small laptop computer to make notes and a 35 mm camera to take slides. He is also carrying a portable ham radio that should let him communicate everyday with friends back in Canada.

Plenicar estimates that he has about \$30,000 tied up in the project so far, almost all from his own pocket. His bike is stacked high with specially designed containers that hold all his personal belongings. He also has pretty much half his bike in spare parts.

Plenicar is still trying to line up sponsors for his trip. He estimates it will cost him \$20 a day for food and gas. The total trip will be about \$15,000 not including visas which he estimates are between \$40 and \$100 "a pop."

He will work at the places he visits, but he'd like to be able to drive straight through.

If you'd like to help him out you can contact him at the Bunkhouse at 993-6164.

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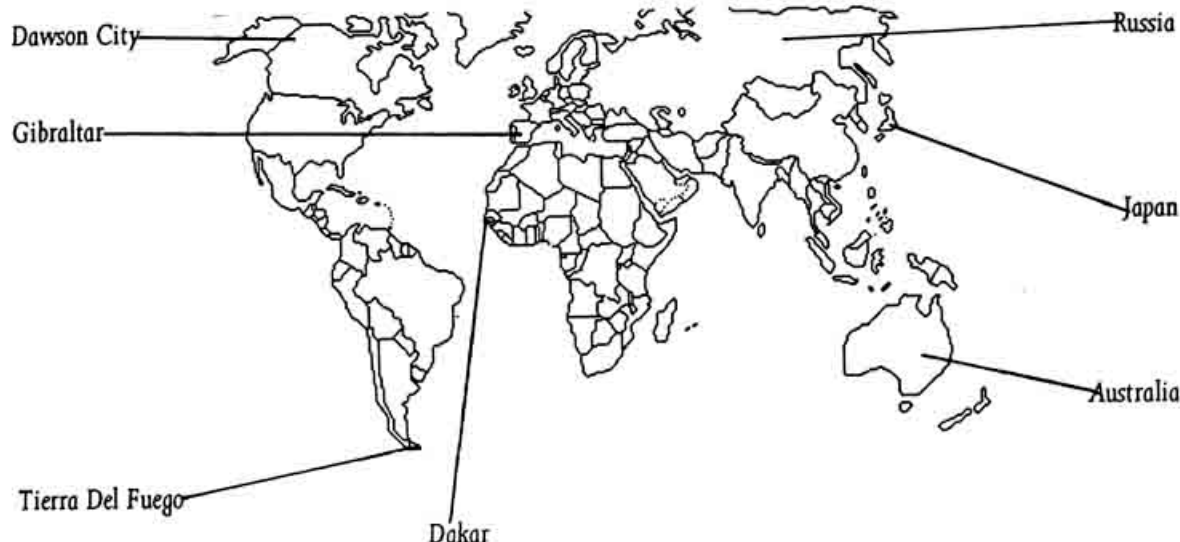
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Pool packed during the hot weather

The Dawson Pool is the favorite hang-out for kids this summer.

Jim Gattie, 8, comes everyday with daycare and has fun all the time.

His favorite thing is to come on Wednesday nights "when they blow up seals, alligators and dragons and play on them."

Daniel Peat, 14, also like the pool. "I think it's very unique and I come here very often."

Night swimming was popular with some of those interviewed at the pool. The lifeguards are also popular. "They treat kids with respect," said Peat.

Lifeguard Tara Florence said that the pool can fit 150 kids at one time, but she's never seen it that full. On June 30 the pool there were about 60 kids and parents in the pool. There must one lifeguard for every 75 kids, but usually there are three lifeguards on duty.

The lifeguards job is not easy. They must be able to scan the pool from one end to the other in seven seconds. They look through the water of the pool not just the surface.

Florence said she likes working at the pool sometimes, when the kids

are good.

She said the three biggest problems at the pool are kids running on deck, dunking and peeing in the water.

Dawsonites can visit the pool during the public hours, take lessons and also rent it out for pool parties. Pool Manager Allana Murray said that they have sold 38 season's passes this year.

"I think the pool should pay higher wages for staff and the staff is doing an excellent job with the resources

they have," said Grant Hartwick.

Though most people like the pool a few had some suggestions on how to improve it.

Dale Cooper says she likes the pool hours, but thinks the pool should be bigger.

Others suggested an indoor pool, a good water slide, diving board, jacuzzi, sauna and warm showers. *Story and photo by Judy Lilley, JoAnna Davidson, Cassandra McCollum, James Lilley, Kirstyn Kobayashi and Michael Davidson*



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MacDonald Lodge barbecue's

by Liza Sardi

MacDonald Lodge held their annual summer barbecue on June 16.

"The summer gathering lets people who come in for the summer see the seniors who live at the lodge year round," said Joanne Smith, lodge coordinator.

Residents and community members were treated to a wonderful meal and beautiful weather during the two hour gathering. Staff members Sandy Pelon and Lynn Nimmo prepared

hamburgers, salad and two enormous trifles for the occasion.

Doctors Suzanne Crocker and Bob MacDonald attended the barbecue and chatted with residents.

Sue Ward played a few tunes on the electric piano and resident Angela Lypochuk joined in for a few songs. Annie Laurie Schell, a visitor from California, also joined in many of the songs.

Dick North, Grannie Johnson, Martha Taylor, Annie and Joe Henry also attended.

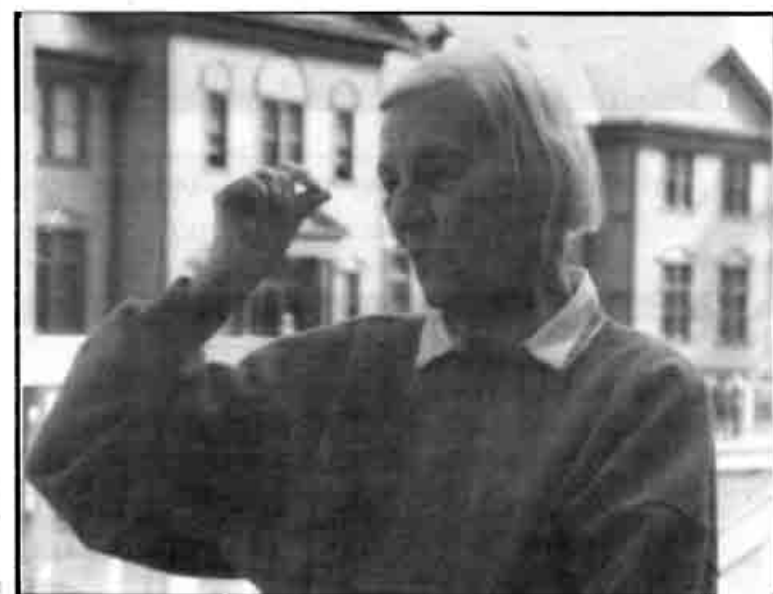


photo by Liza Sardi

Elly Berglund talks with guests on the porch of MacDonald Lodge during the barbecue.

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photo by Liza Sardi

Jake, above, is owned by Larry Vezina. He's the "vicious" dog that started the debate over dog pound renovations.

City to renovate dog pound

by Liza Sardi

The City has bowed to complaints and has agreed to pump \$1,500 into renovating the dog pound. The money will be put into a new concrete floor.

The decision was made at the June 10 city council meeting after council received a series of recommendations by veterinarian Jim Kenyon on improving the pound.

Last month a local citizen, Larry Vezina, went public with his complaints about the condition of the pound when he felt he wasn't getting any response from the city. He had said he was disgusted with the dog pound and the manner in which dogs were treated in Dawson.

Council's decision to construct a new floor was happily received by Kenyon. In his recommendations he had called the floor "the worst of the current design." According to Mayor Peter Jenkins the floor originally had a bag of concrete poured on it with some water poured on.

Pennell believed that the city was showing good faith in putting down a new floor, and in said that possibly in the future they would look into steel dividing walls between the pens.

Councillor Tim Gerberding said he also thought that \$1,500 was all the city should spend on upgrading the pound.

Kenyon said his recommendations were meant to give the city

something they could afford while giving dogs shelter, bedding and a warm and clean environment.

Kenyon described the current state of the pound as "very rough. And if it was used to house dogs for over a week it would be a lot rougher."

Should southern Humane Society standards be enforceable in the north?

But he was afraid that the alternative, no pound at all, would be even worse. In that case, loose dogs would simply be shot on sight.

Councillor Shirley Pennell said that

criticism of the pound was unfair because complaints against the pound are based on "southern standards".

In his recommendations Kenyon agreed with Pennell. He outlined standards set by other provinces but said they "would not be possible in remote locations and that minimal standards are better than no facility at all."

But the new floor is just one of the many recommendations he suggested.

Others included providing adequate ventilation, sealing holes made by rodents and vandals, placing sheet metal between the dogs, and providing at least one window.

Kenyon also recommended that "Decisions should be made concerning length of stay of the average dog, average population of the pound...and who is going to service and clean the facility on a daily basis."

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SEAL Program underway

WHITEHORSE — A program initiated by the Government of Yukon to help homeowners and businesses save money on energy is now underway.

The Saving Energy Action Loan (SEAL) for residential and commercial buildings is administered by the department of Economic Development.

SEAL provides residential homeowners with loans of up to \$3,000 and businesses with loans of up to \$10,000 to carry out energy saving retrofitting activities on their buildings. The interest rate is set at 2.6 per cent on all loans.

Economic Development Minister John Devries said, "The program helps homeowners and business people make energy saving changes that will result in reduced energy costs for those consumers."

Only expenses related to approved energy conservation measures are eligible. Applicants must complete an energy audit checklist and estimate the cost of the energy saving measures.

Bunk House is a dream come true

by Dan Davidson

It's been a long, hard haul for Reinald Nohal, but the late July opening of the Bunkhouse, Dawson's latest hostelry, was the realization of a dream, and he was clearly enjoying every minute of his triumph.

Nohal moved happily from guest to guest, dispensing welcome and good cheer at his open house party on June 20. The bar was free to his guests and a five piece band churned out country tunes from the first floor balcony.

Nohal first came to the North in the winter, wanting to see it in its darkest times. He intended only to visit.

"I got hooked," he says. "It hadn't been in my plans to ever continue to live in the North. I always had an inclination for the North though, and I fell in love with the country. So I came back the same summer on a long canoe trip."

That was nine years ago, and he's spent a lot of time here since. He purchased an old log building on 2nd Avenue and expanded it into a home. He was devastated a couple of years ago when it burned down. It happened on a blustery November night when the water froze on the fire fighters almost as fast as they could pour it on the fire. He was at home in Germany at the time.

Originally from Austria, he owns an internationally known restaurant, The Paris Bar, in Berlin.

"It pays for my adventures in the Yukon still."

Building in the Yukon became a bug for him. He built a cabin at Cassiar Creek, and then cast his eye around for another project. A piece of land at the corner of Princess Street and 2nd Avenue caught his attention and he decided there was room for a building there. The notion was to put up a sort of a hostel, relatively cheap accommodations with no frills for those travellers who were on tight budgets and still looking for adventure. Small rooms with limited facilities.

"I think it will be a commercial success too, which is very good, but was not the original idea," he says. "I just wanted to do something and I wanted to be involved; not just coming as a tourist but being involved in the going on."

Nohal is the majority shareholder in McLondon Holdings, which includes local dentist Helmut Schoener and a younger Austrian contractor named Bernd Schmid. Three years ago, Nohal and Schmid were at the center of a controversy over work permits and were asked

to leave the country. The two had managed to erect most of the framed portion of the building and the roof in just about five and a half weeks.

Nohal still can't really understand why the law would prohibit him from working on his own project, but he accepts that it did. He and Schmid got "a free flight into Whitehorse and were given the choice of appearing (in court) in Vancouver with very slim chances or to leave the country within 48 hours."

For the next while Nohal was only able to come to Canada to pay his bills and get his affairs in order. Schoener handled the business from this end while Nohal tried to obtain landed immigrant status, which he believes he will soon have.

"I have a work permit now. I'm all legal!"

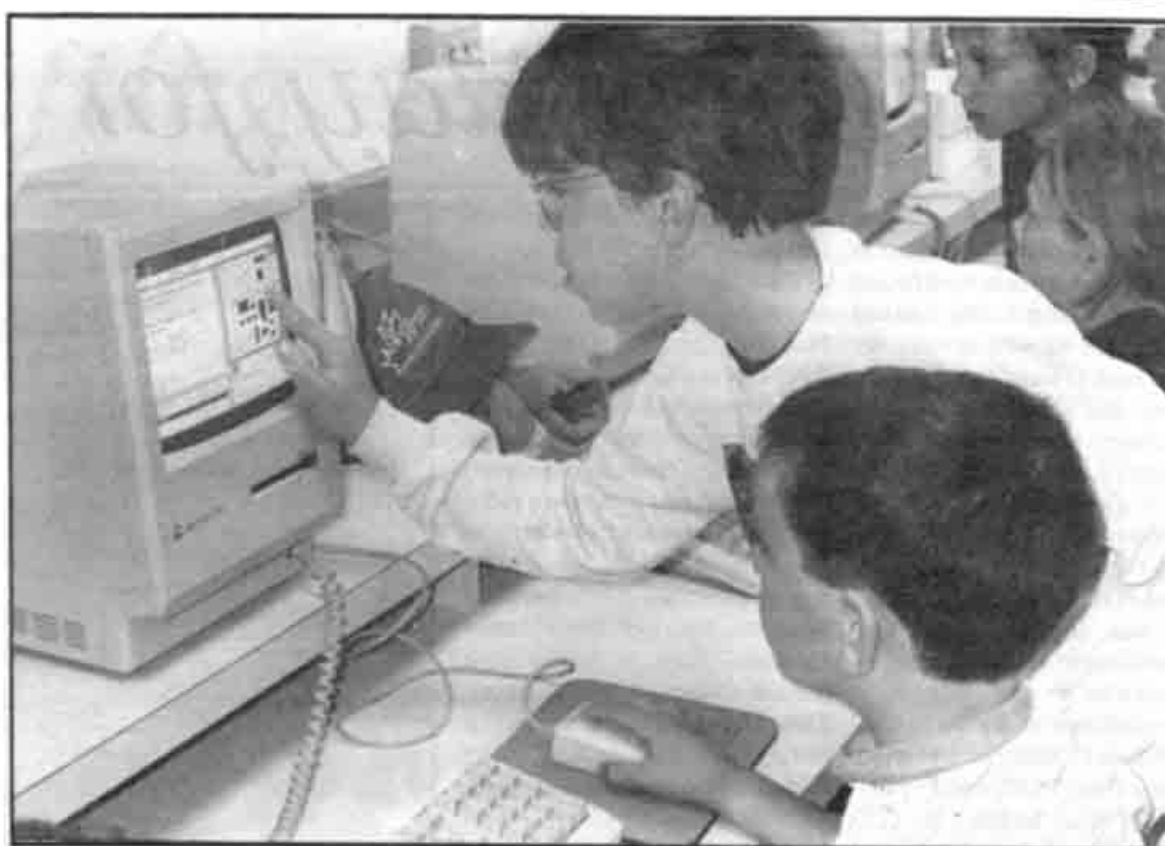
The continuing legal struggles left the partners pretty discouraged. There was a tentative agreement for McLondon to go into partnership with the Dawson First Nation. That fell through due to disagreements over who would exercise majority control over the finished enterprise.

"It's my baby and I wasn't just willing to sell out," Nohal says.

Nohal and his partners decided that they would finish the building themselves anyway, and perhaps talk about a partnership later on. For the size of the project, it went up quite cheaply. Nohal estimates \$430 to \$450 thousand. The 32 rooms could sleep up to 69 people during the summer season. It won't go beyond that. The building isn't heated, and has only the minimal plumbing needed to have one bath/shower unit for every three 8 by 12 foot bedrooms. The building's design is quite flexible, and space has been left to add those finishing details some year down the road if they are needed. There are a few units with private baths on the west side of the Bunkhouse.

For Nohal, the finished product is all part of belonging to a place he has come to think of as his second home.

"I really feel at home in Dawson. I have friends and I feel really well embedded and accepted here. I have had very hard times over here, but I have very good times too."



R.S.S. students get hands-on experience during summer computer camp

Photo by Dan Davidson

Hooked on computers

by Dan Davidson

The computer lab at the Robert Service School was packed with 23 youngsters the week of June 7th. Attendance was solid all week and there were very few complaints.

"I wish the camp wasn't over," said 11 year old Kieran Hogan on the last day.

Instructor Esther Woods noted this positive mood. "They liked everything. Usually there will be one game or program the kids just hate, but not this group."

In fact the group was of an unusual size, according to program coordinator and instructor Shannon Murtagh. Generally the rural camps have up to 14 kids, but this one worked out well.

The week went by quickly, with no major problems. Murtagh had to send two kids home for unruly behaviour while they were at Minto Park on Friday, but that was as bad as it got. The kids were generally well behaved while they were with their instructors.

The computer camp in Dawson gets to be the prototype for the summer's program now that the school here closes so much sooner than most others.

While Dawson kids get a first crack at the season, this year they missed out on the new software that will be used at most of the other camps this summer. The packages hadn't arrived in time to use them. No one seemed to mind using programs they had seen the year before, however. Indeed, one of the most popular games was one of the oldest, MazeWars, an interactive adventure that allows kids on different terminals to compete against everyone else in the class.

The big computer event of the final day was a fast and furious MazeWars tournament, in which an excited 10 year old Michael Davidson racked up the most impressive student score, exceeded only by that of instructor Esther (Wonder Woman) Snow.

There were lots of other games, both competitive and co-operative in nature, as well as games which involved a fair amount of thought.

Brendan Hogan felt that Sim City was his favourite computer activity. In this game the player gets to design and build a simulated community on the monitor in front of him, using limited resources to do the best job possible. Brendan enjoyed putting his community together, but admits that he had even more fun using the built-in disasters the program contains to tear it apart when he was finished with it.

The kids do a lot more than just sit at computer terminals all day for a week. Murtagh's specialty is computer instruction. Snow is the recreation director, putting together a program of physical activities to liven up the days and keep the cardiovascular system moving. There were games both indoors and out, videos, an even a afternoon booking at Dawson's outdoor pool.

That was ending on a high note for Josh Paton: "I think today was the best, with the tournament and all."

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A perfect day for a tea party

by Dan Davidson

"I told John that if he wanted to make a lot of friends here all he had to do was tell people at the Ball this evening that he was moving the capital back to Dawson."

It was said in fun, of course, and Government Leader John Ostashek had nothing of the sort in mind. It's the sort of whimsical challenge that Commissioner Ken McKinnon issues every year as he welcomes his guests to the annual Tea on the lawn and veranda of the Old Commissioner's Residence in Dawson City.

Ostashek was at the tea to hear him on June 12, along with Tourism Minister Doug Phillips and a party of guests which included the U.S. Council General, David Johnston; the British Council General, Tony Joy; the Chair of the Peace River Regional District, Ben Knutson; Mr. and Mrs. Yukon, William and Winnie Atlin from Carcross.

Most of the Commissioner's guests had been liaison people during the planning and execution of the Alaska Highway's 50th Anniversary bash in 1992, and he said he wanted to get them used to the town they would have to know about for the next two sets of anniversaries in 1996 and 98.

The Tea, despite its name, is an open air affair put on by Klondike National Historic Sites and the IODE. Run this year on a tight budget (especially after last year's visit by the Governor General) a lot of

volunteer cooking and legwork went into the afternoon's festivities.

The Robert Service School Choir was reassembled (school ended on May 28 in Dawson) by their leader, Betty Davidson, to recreate some of the numbers that had won them acclaim at the Rotary Music festival in Whitehorse, two months before.

It was announced that two of the singers, Harmony Hunter and Rebecca McKim, would be receiving Rotary Club bursaries from the Pat and June Harvey Memorial Fund to further their musical studies. A third member, Tara McCauley, will receive a Rotary Scholarship for Voice. Harmony also sang her solo work, "Brazzle, Dazzle Day".

Tom Byrne brought the flavour of the Gold Rush to the Tea, transplanting his afternoon reading from the works of Robert W. Service from the Dawson bard's cabin on 8th Avenue to the residence on Front Street. He was well received by the crowd of several hundred that filled the chairs and tables arranged on the front lawn.

The afternoon's entertainment concluded with a selection of folksongs by KNHS tour guides Sylvie Bourdreau and Marjorie Logue.

All the while the IODE, Brownies, Guides and Pathfinders were busily serving tea, lemonade, cookies and cakes, including the big Commissioner's Tea cake which was cut by Ken and Judy McKinnon



photo by Dan Davidson

This year's Commissioner's tea was not as lavish as last years. The International Order of the Daughters of the Empire did a lot of volunteer

cooking for the festivities. The Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders helped serve tea, lemonade, cookies and cake.

while all the fun was going on out front.

The weather cooperated beautifully and the only clouds in the sky provided a bit of welcome

shade. It was so nice that a red serged RCMP constable on duty could be heard explaining to one southern visitor that she really should come back in January before she

formed quite such an exalted opinion of the climate in Dawson. Mind you, at 30 degrees in the sun, winter seems a long way off.

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Talking to her fans

A crowd of close to 100 people, including tourists and locals, lined up outside the Palace Grand to watch those dressed in period costume enter. Kim Tuson, a local

actor and dancer stopped to talk to a group of admirers. Other guests were asked politely to wait while complete strangers snapped their pictures.

Pomp and Circumstance at the Palace Grand

by Dan Davidson

Approaching the Palace Grand Theatre on the evening of June 12 one could only be struck by the crowd of people outside, dressed in all manner of tourist costume from shorts to blue jeans.

These were the visitors to the community, along with some locals, snapping cameras and gawking at the assembled finery as Dawson society turned out in evening clothes to attend the Commissioner's Ball. Formal attire, rented or specially made, is the rule of the evening, and Dawsonites do themselves up proud to attend the gala.

For this ball the Palace Grand, home of the Gaslight Follies, is stripped of its usual rows of chairs and they are put to another purpose as seating for a meal. The formal dinner was held in Diamond Tooth Gerties last year, when the Governor General's party was here, but it has returned to the Palace for this year. The meal, catered by the Triple J Hotel staff, was buffet style. Following the meal Lenore Calnan made a special presentation to Judy McKinnon on behalf of the IODE and then Commissioner had a few words to say.

The departing chair of the Yukon Anniversaries Commission had a few dues to pay and some kidding words of wisdom for members of the legislature.

Referring to Yukon politics as a "bloodsport", McKinnon noted how often it is that one set of politicians begins a process only to have it fail or succeed after they have been removed from office by election. Thus Danny Lang usually carries the blame for the mistakes of the Dawson sewer and water system, which was completed while he was the minister in charge.

"Of course," said the Commissioner, "it had been designed while I was the minister of municipal affairs and it came to conclusion under Danny."

He recalled also the Skagway Road, which was initially planned while he was in office and was completed after he was out. "Geoff Latin got the credit for opening the Skagway Road. The plaque, at the aptly named place in Alaska called the Liarsville Campground, has Geoff's name on it."

The point of these reminiscences was that something similar happened during the planning and execution of the Alaska Highway 50th Anniversary celebrations.

"It wouldn't have been possible except for all of Yukon's politicians coming together and cooperating on the venture. And it was your member for Klondike, who was then Minister of Tourism, the Honourable Art Webster, who saw it through."

McKinnon called Webster up to the stage to receive one of the 100 commemorative black licence plates of the Alaska Highway, mounted on a wooden plaque and bearing the legend "With sincere thanks and appreciation for your contribution to the success of Rendezvous '92".

"Art had the best job a politician could, because he gave us the money and then he moved out of the way

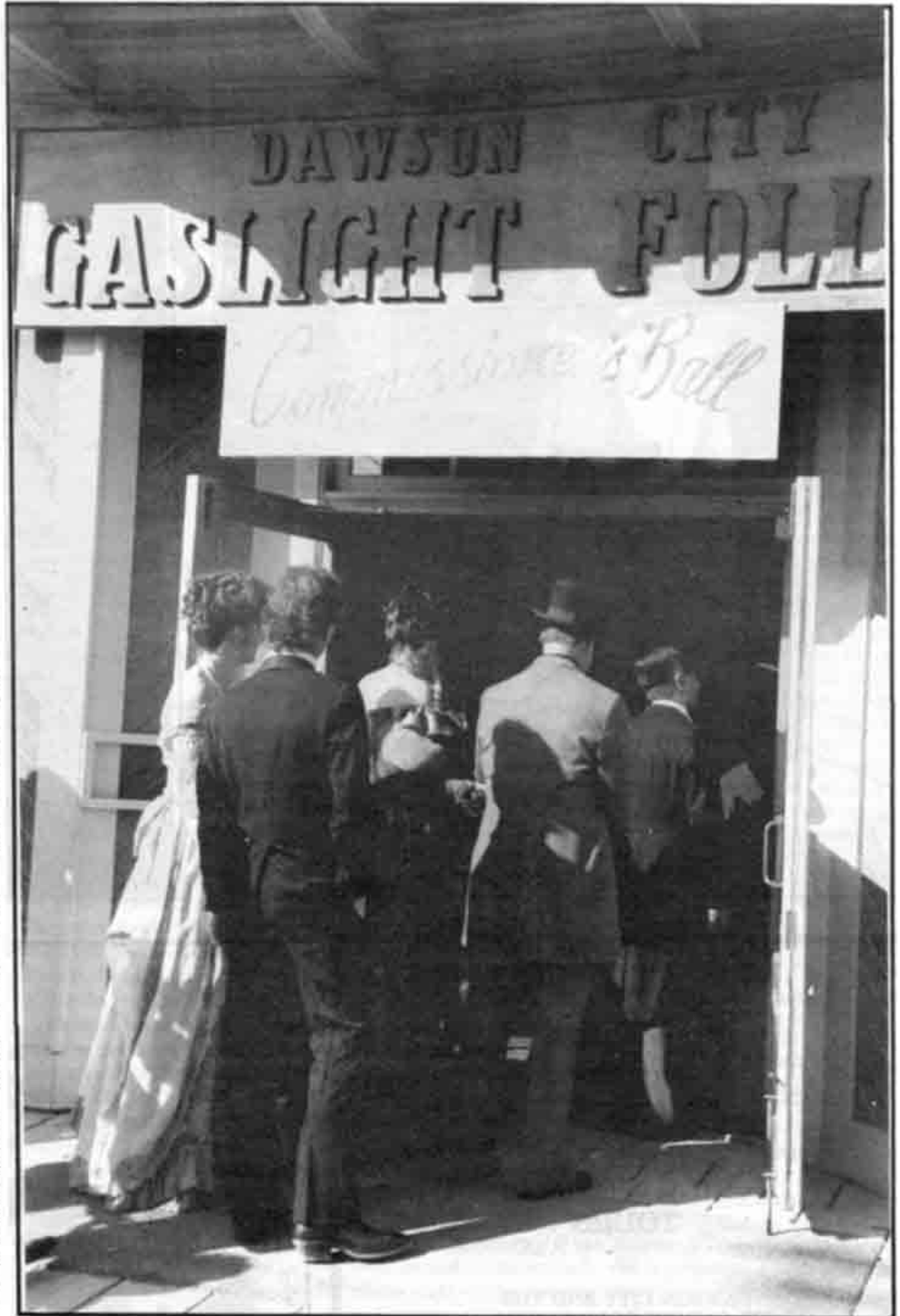
and, if we were unsuccessful he could say 'Oh that damn McKinnon; can't trust him to do anything'. Of course, Art, just like me, in the interim, was defeated and now Dougie (Phillips, Minister of Tourism) gets the kudos for the success of Rendezvous. But your turn'll come Doug, I promise you, of all things in the Yukon."

McKinnon called up Chuck Halliday, the chair of the Rendezvous '92 finance committee. Halliday was presented with a Yukoner Award at the Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon held in Dawson in May, but the Commissioner retained the award to present at the Ball. It was presented to "Chuck Halliday, for outstanding individual effort in a field of endeavour which contributed to the advancement of the Yukon tourism industry."

McKinnon also presented Ron Pond, the executive director of the Yukon Anniversaries Commission, noting that Whitehorse clubs of which Pond is a member have been ringing his phone off the hook complaining that Pond will be moving to Dawson when the head office of the commission is relocated. "Their loss is going to be Dawson's gain...he is so involved in the community and such a dedicated member of the community that I think you'll find it 'll be great having Ron here...and you'll really enjoy seeing what he can accomplish."

"I don't have to sell you on the fact that you've got a great decade coming up, and handled properly, it bodes marvellously for the future of the tourism industry in the Yukon." By comparison, McKinnon recalled last year's Ball, with all its dignitaries in attendance, and noted that all of them had found the time spent here "magical".

Following the dinner and presentations, the room was reorganized for a dance, with music provided by Bill and Rusty Reid and the Northernaires. The guests alternated between the dance floor and the fare at Diamond Tooth Gerties for the rest of the evening, bringing another Ball to a successful conclusion.



Above: the guests for the Commissioners Ball make their way into the Palace Grand

Left: John Ostashek and his wife pose for photographs before they join the line up.



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Ken McKinnon recounts how as a student he used to stand outside to watch others go into the Palace Grand for the Commissioner's Ball. Now he's Commissioner.

(top left) Ann MacDonald and Art Webster have a ball at the Ball.

(top right) Gerard Parsons puts a new twist on ties and tails.

Show opening attracts buyers

by Dan Davidson

It's turning into a good year for Halin deRepentigny.

His opening show at the Yukon Gallery's new Dawson outlet on June 11 was a success too.

Of the 25 recent paintings hung for the exhibition, nine sold the evening the show opened and proprietor Art Webster says there has been interest in a number of other works.

His public profile was raised earlier in the spring when the new NorthWestel telephone book appeared with his painting "Paying the Bills" on the cover.

Then the Dawson based artist and trapper received a \$3,500 grant from the Advanced Artists Awards to help him record the historic mining areas and prospectors' cabins of the Hunker Creek-Bonanza Creek Loop.

Webster says the show was well attended, with a good response to the 200 invitations that were sent out around town and to the advertising in the local paper.

"He was very happy and I was very happy, but the best part of the show was seeing so many local people come in," Webster said. "We went through 12 bottles of wine, I think, or maybe more. It was a good evening."

The paintings on display included a good cross section of Halin's work, from still lifes to scenes in the bush and his more recent trend towards street scenes and buildings in Dawson.

Halin is still doing sign and window work around the town as well as accepting commissions for peoples' homes. One client will be paying him to do a painting of the house in which she grew up. The building still exists, but the painting will be back-dated to resemble the way the house and grounds looked years ago.

Klondike Artists have a chance to display their wares locally

by Brent Morrison

Eleven Klondike area artists contributed 50 pieces to Dawson City's Yukon Gallery's June 24 show.

From Native carvings to cross stitching many mediums were represented.

Charlene Deuling's In Gods Country was one of the most popular pieces in the exhibit.

Children and adults alike were impressed with her large pencil and India ink portrait of two cougars nuzzling.

While most of the pieces were hung on the walls, several items were displayed in and on a display case.

Eight of Michael Mason's carvings were displayed, as were five fantasy ceramic pieces by Elaine Henderson.

Two scaled down fish wheels, like those actually used on the Yukon River, were submitted by Isaac Henry.

Also in the display case were earrings, brooches, and a vase made from Mastodon Ivory and inlaid with gold by Tom Harvey.

Julius Melashenko and Chuck McLeod contributed acrylic on canvas paintings, while Wilda Webster exhibited four oil on canvas.

Gerald Brisebois displayed his pen sketches and Halin de Repentigny's oil on canvas paintings were also on display.

Five cross stitched items by Melody Caywood also gathered a lot of attention due to the intricate

details and the obvious time put into such work.

The newest item exhibited was an oil painting by Halin de Repentigny which he had completed during the afternoon. It was still wet when hung up and the smell of wet paint filled the back of the gallery.

Tentatively titled as 3rd and King, it is the view from the patio of the gallery showing the old post office, Xpressions (the old NCPC building) and Halin's truck, complete with flat tire.

The gallery's proprietors Art Webster and Ann MacDonald plan to incorporate the local work through out the gallery after the show. They are planning a complete change-over in the building July 1, and are obtaining some fixtures which should better display some of the pieces.

While the special exhibit attracted 11 local artists, Art is hoping to have half that many again when a second Klondike Area Artists exhibit is done again in September.

MacDonald agreed, stating that, "There are a lot of artists around who don't think their stuff is good enough." She indicated that an anonymous show might attract a lot of artwork from locals not as well known as some of the other local artists.

While the owners are "pleased with the way things have been going the last few weeks," the peak of the tourist season is just around the corner.



photo by Liza Sardi

Halin de Repentigny, his wife Suzanne and daughter Madeline take some time away from interested buyers to pose with gallery owners Ann MacDonald and Art Webster.

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Well deserved laughs

"Lunacy that draws hisses, boos, cheers and merriment in all the right places"

by Dan Davidson

From the moment that Star, a young woman of the Han nation, appears on the stage, it is clear that something a little different is happening in this year's Gaslight Follies melodrama.

Star, played by Follies' veteran Kim Tuson, is narrator of this season's "The Trials of Suwanee McPhee", and her character plays an active role in the events which follow. It is the first time a Native character has had a key role.

Match that with a cast of characters which includes a gay villain (in both senses of the word) whose master weapon is a dredge, and a Scottish witch with environmentalist leanings, and you have a distinctly odd sort of production for the stage of the Palace Grand Theatre.

The typical Follies' melodrama follows an "innocents abroad" kind of structure, in which naive cheechakos with more luck than brains brave their way to the Klondike during the Gold Rush. Like the real miners, they are seeking the elusive yellow mineral and, true to life, they often find turmoil and hardship instead. The conceit of a melodrama is that we can weather the trials of nature, but the plots of men may do us in.

Suwanee McPhee (Dale Cooper) inherits a gold claim from her dying uncle and vows to make her way from Nachez to Dawson to honour his memory. She persuades her beau, Biloxi Bart (Conrad Boyce) to come along, not knowing that she is leading him to his death on the Chilkoot Pass. Death comes in an



photo by Liza Sardi

Star (Kim Tuson) frees Constable John A. MacDonald (Tim Gunter) as they race to save Suwanee McPhee (Dale Cooper) from the clutches of a gold digging madam and a schemer in the Trials of Suwanee McPhee.

avalanche, the act of Arabella Suwanee's case, this means murder young Mountie whose romantic leanings lead him to several false plunges as the evening progresses. In various guises, she is also protected by Willie the Witch (Boyce), who opposes Bradshaw's

Jones is in league with "Big Bad Bruce" Bradshaw (Grant Hartwick) who plans to buy up all the claims in the Klondike and dredge the works. Bruce is not only a few years ahead of his time, but is also an evil schemer whose means make his ends vile. In

or intimidation, whichever will do the job.

Suwanee is assisted in her travails by Star and by Constable John A. McDonald Smith (Tim Gunter), a

planned rape of the creeks and their denizens.

The tale has rafting accidents, falling boulders, discharging firearms, dynamite and cliff-hangers; one of the characters is even left tied up on some railroad tracks. It's a fast paced adventure with over a dozen quick scene changes; Grant Hartwick brags that the players never see the same scene twice.

"Suwanee McPhee" is a play with some history in Dawson, having begun life as a seemingly endless radio saga on CFYT-fm during one of Boyce's previous Dawson engagements. At that time Suwanee was called "Sweetums" and Boyce

did all the voices for the serial. When he suddenly acquired the Follies contract last winter and found himself in need of a play, he decided to re-work his old material, assisted by Hartwick, who says that the main task was getting the dozens of scene changes down to a reasonable number.

The play was still left with a large cast, which means that most of the players have to do multiple roles and play both sexes. Hartwick doubles as Lulu, while the agile Lee Worden plays both Fonzo and Jezebel. Even pianist Bill Costin is forced into the act as Bonzo, another of Bruce's henchmen.

Like the troupe's other show this season ("La Siege Inferno"), this one features a lot of music. Many of the original numbers are by Costin, Hartwick and Boyce. One song, about the joys of being bad, is given several different treatments: a duet, a torch solo and a redeemed version about the joys of being good.

In addition, there is a truly malevolent re-working of snippets from Mozart's "Regina Coeli" in a dramatically evil sequence at Bruce's secret lair. After he has captured Suwanee and arranged the Mountie's certain death, the villain serenades his evil dreams. Surrounded by schematics and demonic renderings of a dredge, Bruce chortles while Suwanee protests.

Some might see an anti-mining message in all of this, but the comedy is so broad it's hard to make it stick. Star talks mostly about the survival of her people when she reflects on the meaning of it all. When there are good miners as well as bad it's pretty clear the message is about good v.s. evil, not the pros and cons of mining.

The audience reaction to this lunacy is just what it should be. Lots of hisses, boos, cheers and merriment in all the right places. Puddlejumper Pete's death agonies and the slow motion struggle for control of the weapons near the end of the play get a lot of well-deserved laughs.

"The Trials of Suwanee McPhee" plays alternate nights at the Palace Grand.

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A hot time at the Follies

Director Grant Hartwick recreates original program with a "Faustian" tale for this year's melodrama at the Gaslight Follies

by Dan Davidson

The curtain goes up at the Palace Grand Theatre. The audience settles back to enjoy some vintage Klondike fare. Out comes the cast and everything seems normal enough at the beginning. But then things get strange.

Suddenly, Dr. John Viodonni, the alchemist, is making a deal with the demon King Zamiel to deliver unto him two souls in exchange for the secret of transmuting base metals into gold. This is the Gaslight Follies?

Yes it is. This Faustian melodrama is the linking vehicle for a 2 hour vaudeville show, and is, furthermore, a homage to "La Siege Inferno", the four hour program with which the theatre opened back in 1899 when it was first known as the Grand Opera House.

The enlarged handbill in the lobby gives the audience an idea of the scope of Arizona Charlie Meadows' extravaganza: a dozen acts, forty dancing girls, etc., etc.

Unfortunately, that's about the most detailed information available concerning what actually happened that first night. That left principal writer and director Grant Hartwick with the interesting challenge of writing a program which incorporated as many of the names and apparent themes of the program (judging by the extended sub-titles) as he could in a two hour program.

The "re-creation" was producer Conrad Boyce's dream, and Hartwick tried hard to make his first draft of the play bring it to life.

"I did some research at the archives at Yukon College, and looked at reviews from the Klondike Nugget newspaper...looked at the handbill and so on. The Archives...gave me everything they had on early entertainment in the Klondike," said Hartwick.

Besides the length, the original show presented some problems in taste and safety. One of the minstrel show numbers was called "All Coons Look Alike to Me" and the trapeze act in the show might have run the production into some legal hassles.

It was the mention of a banjo song and dance that inspired Grant to link up the tale of Toby (Lee Worden) with the instrument and to use the temptation of innocents as the continuing story. This provided a way to bring in fairies, devils, scenes set in both Fairyland and Hades, and some of the traditional elements of a follies show.

"There are certain things that the KVA, tour directors and the people of Dawson have come to expect," Hartwick said. One of these is the skit that puts a man and/or woman on the stage, to be serenaded by a cast member of the opposite sex. Another is the presence of Arizona Charlie Meadows, welcoming people to his "Thee-AY-tre". Finally, although there is no solid evidence that this is historical, there has to be a Can-can sequence. ("You've heard of Can-con? This is Can-can con.")

So this year, one of the two alternating shows at the Palace Grand is "La Siege Inferno", a drama interrupted and extended by such vaudevillian fare as a shooting act, a recitation ("The Ballad of Blasphemous Bill" by Boyce), dance numbers, running gags, a juggling routine and a comic turn on a unicycle.

"La Siege..." is a self-conscious parody of the form, bringing to mind the Loony Tunes antics of a Tex Avery cartoon. It's a show set inside the frame act of opening night at the Grand, an opening night in which the leading man absconds with the box office receipts, forcing impressario Meadows (Boyce) to play the demon king in the planned drama.

Hartwick is delightful as the devious alchemist, who leads off with a butchered version of "The Spell of the Yukon". Patricia Henman takes the double roles of Mae Melbourne (Meadows' shrewish wife) and Titania the Water Queen. With the help of Dale Cooper as the Fairy Golden Rule, she strives to keep the innocents Sylvia (Kim Tuson) and Toby on the straight and narrow.

The demon Zamiel has as his helper the Demon Spitfire, played

Arabella Jones (Pat Henman) and Big Bad Bruce Bradshaw (Grant Hartwick) team up to steal Suwanee (Dale Cooper)

in a crouch by Tim Gunter as something of a cross between the Tasmanian Devil and Beetlejuice.

The finale of this show is a comic operatic confrontation, with the dialogue set to bits and snatches of familiar classical music. It brings the house down.

While it is fun, Hartwick laments that it couldn't have been closer to the original program. If this season works, Conrad Boyce says he would like to take this idea and try to recreate the actual show, researching the actors and as much of the material as he can, until he finally has it just as it once was. Sounds like an interesting centennial project.



Photo by Liza Sardi

McPhee's gold claim. The melodrama is typical Follies' with an atypical conclusion.

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Northern booksellers honored

by Dan Davidson

Whitehorse entrepreneur Elaine Smart, owner of Maximilian's Goldrush Emporium here in Dawson, has been chosen as one of the recipients of the Roy Britnell Award as part of the 1993 Canadian Book Industry Awards.

In a surprise move, the Canadian Booksellers Association has decided this year to honor not just one bookstore, but to recognize all five of the individuals who operate bookstores in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The list of recipients includes Kenn Harper of Iqaluit (Arctic Ventures Ltd.), Dick Hill of Inuvik (Boreal Books), Ib Kristensen of Fort Smith (North of 60 Books), Judith Drinnan of Yellowknife (Yellowknife Book Cellar) and Smart, whose company owns Mac's Fireweed Books in Whitehorse and Maximilian's.

"If the truth be known, I feel a bit of a fraud accepting this alongside the guy from Iqaluit," Smart says. "Now there's a guy who's striving against all odds."

"One of the things that so great about this award," she says "is that over the years you tend to think that they don't even know that you exist and that they don't care. It's kind of nice to see that they do know that we're here."

Smart has owned Mac's, in conjunction with her partner, Earle Bennett, since 1984, when she bought it from then owner Dave Robertson.

The business was in a mess, having been forced to relocate from its traditional (and present) home due to a complicated set of business deals.

By 1988, she had turned the business around and was in a position to buy out her rivals,

acquiring the building along with the business.

"We could then control our own destiny. We had a permanent home forever and were never going to get booted out again."

Also in 1988, Books on Main became the home of a Canada Post outlet when the corporation closed the branch in the old federal building.

It was something which Smart felt would help to bring people back in to the store. It wasn't a successful experiment, she says. So in the spring of 1992, Canada Post was out and Mac's was relocated to its original spot on Main Street.

In the meantime, Maximilian's in Dawson had gone from being a seasonal tourist shop with a line of paperbacks and Northern books to a year round operation, marketing a combination of books, magazines, music, electronics, and tourist fare under the management of Chris Sorg who has a management contract and operates independently.

"Within reason Chris has carte blanche to do what he thinks is best for the community," Smart says. "He knows what he can do and that survival is the name of the game. He's managed to make it survive for almost 4 years now and he's done a great job."

Sorg has kind words for Smart as well: "The award is for her overall ability at putting a team together which has allowed her to prosper in Whitehorse and get a year round store operating in this community."

"She's put a lot of time into developing the bookselling industry in the territory and developing a better service for everyone in the territory."



photo by Karen Dubois

And the graduates are ... (back row) Simon Nagano, Styd Klugie, Grace Blanchard and Cheryl Cook. (front) Dahna Fisher, Garth Ntedka and Norma Johnson.

Graduation at Tro'odek Hatr'unotan Zho campus

by Palma Berger

In a room decorated with streamers, balloons and colourful wall charts listing names and achievements of each student this past year, students, instructors and members of the Campus Committee sat down to an end of year dinner at the Triple J Hotel. Even the menu was especially computer designed to suit the occasion.

Dahna Fisher gave the valedictorian address. Dahna began by quoting Theodore Roosevelt, "it is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed. In life we get nothing save by effort." It is because of those efforts of the past nine months that we are gathered here today, she went on to say. The year has been a journey of self discovery, during which time we have learned about our interests, our weaknesses and limitations, and have improved our communication skills. For all your patience and encouragement during Skills for Life and Learning we offer our sincere thanks to Pat

Russell and Karen Keenan. In the work experience we learned the true meaning and value of responsibility, and above all what employers expect

"It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried."

of employees. I would like to thank Karen Dubois and Helen Winton for all their help in our Academic Courses. Next year some students will be returning to Yukon College to continue our studies, and others will be moving on to other colleges. Good luck to Selina (Henry) at Olds College, Styd (Klugie) if you make it to N.W.T., good luck. (Styd was accepted at Arctic College.)

Then Pat Russell assisted by Chairperson Carol McCauley thanked Susan Russell, this year's teaching substitute, for good work and congratulated the students and

presented awards to students Dahna Fisher, Garth Ntedka, Norma Johnson, Grace Blanchard, Styd Klugie, Simon Nagano and Cheryl Cook for their achievements. Awards were also presented to instructors for a change. The 'Great Instructor Award' went to Helen Winton for innovation in teaching. The 'Award of Excellence' went to Karen Dubois for her commitment to excellence.

The tables were neatly turned on Pat Russell, instructor, for a change. Unbeknown to Pat, the instructors and students had assembled a graduation present for her. This year Pat had completed four and a half years of study by correspondence to attain her Masters Degree in Adult Education. As she had earned her Masters from St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, N.S., she found it too distant to go there to partake in their graduation ceremonies; so students and instructors included Pat in theirs. They presented her with an azalea plant in full bloom, a silver plate engraved with her achievements and a home made mortar board. An overwhelmed Pat managed a Thank You speech and ever the instructor, reminded the students what they can achieve if they keep at it. But it was still an accomplishment of which Pat and all those present were very proud.

Many students put in their year or years of work, and graduate and pass on to other fields. Their efforts are commemorated only in tucked away files. But this year the staff obtained a plaque on which the names of the students who graduated and their year are recorded. It begins with 1984 with Roberta Joseph being the first graduate (Roberta is now working in Whitehorse for CYI in the Finance Dept.) and right on to the graduates of 1992.

This plaque will be on the wall of the local campus for all to see.



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photo by Brent Morrison

Ed Kormendy drives one at the Solstice Tournament at the Top of the World golf course on June 19 and 20.



Sourdough Sue Ward turns 80

Local resident, tourguide extraordinaire, singer, radio announcer, journalist and author is celebrating her 80th birthday this month.

All the best to her!

photo by Liza Sardi



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Players in the minor baseball tournament had a real swinging time.

FLY the flag

by Dan Davidson

Despite the sighting of an Elvis impersonator on the speakers' platform just before the ceremonies began, Canada Day in Dawson went off without a hitch. Organizers used the formal part of the event to accomplish a number of things besides saying Happy 126th Birthday to our country.

The ceremony was held this year in the new, restored Victory Gardens just south of the Old Territorial Administration Building. The gardens, along with the Cenotaph, were rededicated to the memory of Dawson's war dead in a prayer by Father Boyd.

John Gould, a Legion member, spoke briefly, remembering the original gardens and how he used to play in them with Pierre Berton when they were schoolmates together.

Sue Ward, another member of the Legion, said a few moving words about Canada's efforts in war and peace, and reflected on the fact that Canadians don't really understand how to hate because we have never had to fight a war on our own soil. While a youngster behind her lounged under the stationary cannon in the park, Ward reflected on how hard it is for Canadian children to understand how serious war can be.

At that point the focus returned to the national holiday at hand. The authentic RCMP in red serge raised the Canadian flag while pseudo-Mounties in turn of the century Northwest Mounted Police garb looked after the podium. Gaslight Follies songstress Pat Henman led in the singing of "O Canada" while local para-glider Steve Kurth sailed



The first, second and third place gold panners pose for a group shot at the 1993 Gold Panning Champion