

THE KLONDIKE SUN

DAWSON CITY, YUKON

The return of the night issue

VOL. 5 No. 4

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1993

60¢

Public pressure could build bridge

by Liza Sardi

The line for the ferry stretches almost a mile and a half during the busy morning rush in the summer. Camper after camper waits for the George Black Ferry to chug across the Yukon River and back. It can be as long as four hours with no relief (and no bathroom.)

For the tourist, the memory of the long wait is wiped clean after the breathtaking drive of the Top of the World Highway to Tok, Alaska. But for those in Dawson the ferry is a constant thorn.

But relief may be on the way.

The department of transportation has finished a survey of the number of vehicles travelling the ferry. They videotaped a 24 hour period between July 12 and 16 to measure the capacity of the ferry. Now they are currently considering three options. They can install a bigger ferry with a new, faster loading area; install a second ferry or build a bridge across the Yukon River.

The ferry costs about \$700,000 a year to run. Wally Hiding, the manager of transportation planning and programming, estimates that a bridge over the 600 metre wide river will cost \$20 million.

The department has considered a bridge from Lousetown to an island, with a causeway linking the island to West Dawson. But it would have been too expensive, with too many environmental problems.

A bridge further downriver, where the George Black Ferry currently runs, would be environmentally friendly. It would mean an end to the pollution of the ferry.

"It's a good answer except for the price tag," said Hiding.

Another positive side is that the bridge would be a permanent fixture which would probably need little

maintenance for about 50 years. \$20 million amortized over 50 years is a lot less than \$700,000 a year. But it's the initial capital expenditure that has the government worried. There just isn't any money in the territorial kitty.

In the past governments have been able to come up with some imaginative financing for their projects. It's rumoured that a fixed link between Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island was tendered out to private contractors. In exchange for building the bridge, the company will charge a toll fee for its use.

The traffic in Dawson peaks only during the summer months and the Top of the World Highway closed in the winter. Not much to lure a private investor. But if a bridge were in place it might encourage development along the highway, including a new airport that many Dawsonites dream of.

In the past the army has been involved with building bridges in the Yukon. They built a bridge over the Eagle River in the late 1970s and Ogilvie River in the late 1960s. But at the time these bridges were constructed the areas were totally isolated places. The logistics of getting men and equipment were extremely hard.

Hiding said a similar deal for Dawson would be "highly unusual." The armed forces aren't used for publicly tendered projects.

What is clear is that the department of transportation has opened its ears to the concerns about the flow of traffic over the Yukon River in Dawson. Hiding has admitted that he will be listening to those who have some interests and concerns about the ferry and a possible bridge.

The ultimate decision rests with cabinet and the legislature.



photo by Liza Sardi

Get out of their way! -- Two children find that the shortest way across the Commissioner's lawn is **not** through the three legged race at the National Parks Day picnic on July 17.

Personalities impede planning process, says councillor

by Dan Davidson

Dawson's boundaries should expand within the next year. While it might seem advisable for the city and the YTG representatives to sit down and work through the problems that might be related to the transition, Mayor Jenkins has made it clear that he, personally, wants no part of any process that involves Ann MacDonald, the local community planner for YTG.

Midway through what began as a discussion of issues the mayor launched into an attack on MacDonald's past performance, with specific reference to her role in the contentious official community plan meetings of 1992. The rest is perhaps best conveyed in transcript form.

Jenkins: "I'll tell you where I'm coming from Ann. After my involvement on the official community plan with yourself and with your department, I am not prepared to work with you, period."

Tim Gerberding: "That's ridiculous...I mean, why do we have to let personalities intrude into this?"

MacDonald, while surprised at the vehemence of the exchange, indicated that she was prepared to live with their differing opinions of what went on a year or more ago, and get on with the future, a view that was upheld by councillors Gerberding and Henry Procyk.

Gerberding (to Jenkins): "I think,

that your personality (conflict) is overruling your reason in this matter and you're losing the opportunity to cooperate with someone who might be able to assist us in this regard."

Jenkins: "I thank you for your opinion but I'm still not prepared to cooperate with Ann or work with

Ann. Thank you very much. I have a bad taste in my mouth from the last time I had the opportunity of having any dealings with you."

MacDonald: "Well, Peter, frankly it wasn't a bowl of cherries for me either."

Continued on page 2

Sewer and water rates hold line

by Dan Davidson

The final version of Dawson's newest revision to the Sewer and Water bylaw proves that Community and Transportation Services Minister L.M. "Mickey" Fisher is a pretty good prophet.

Back in May the YTG indicated that it would be picking up the lion's share of the bill for repairs to the sewer and water system here. Fisher indicated he thought rates would not go up this year, and that residential rates would be pegged at \$1,000 across the board, with a \$400 rebate to home owners.

That's just what the new bylaw passed in mid-July says.

The rates for businesses, hotels, service stations, etc. have gone unchanged. The cost of delivered water for those not on the system has risen to \$480 or \$45 monthly for 1,000 gallons. Properties which are within the area covered by the sys-

tem but not hooked up to it will be still be charged \$125 monthly for the same maximum amount. This is a cost recovery charge of \$1500 a year, which should encourage people to link up if they can.

A new charge is being levied for sewage education by users who are outside the town's boundaries and who bring their sewage in to dump at the plant. This will be \$0.025 per gallon.

The bills are intended to be in the mail the week of August 9th. They are many months later than usual this year due to the negotiations over the cost-sharing arrangements for the sewer and water replacement. Had the YTG assumed less of the financial burden the rates would probably have been set much higher. As it is, most home owners will find that the charge for their residential use is actually \$36 less by the time they get the rebate.

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photo by Liza Sardi

The volunteers cleaned the mess up this time. Next time Dawson youth might not be so lucky

Ski chalet vandalized

by Liza Sardi

The Dawson Ski club has been vandalized for the third time this summer.

The RCMP were contacted on July 15 when volunteers noticed that vandals had broken the front door lock and torn strips of wood off the front door of the chalet before partying inside. The vandals also tore the door off a cooler, squirted dish soap around the room and spray painted "House of Pain" in fluorescent green paint on the walls.

Bottles of Labatt's genuine draft, cider and coolers lie strewn around the grass behind the chalet. They look as if they have been heaved out from the inside of the chalet once they were empty.

The windows on a storage shed have also been broken. Broken boards on another shed show where the vandals tried to get in.

On Saturday July 24, music festival weekend, volunteers who stopped at the ski club on a random check must have just scared off intruders. There was still half a case of cold beer left inside the chalet, said volunteer Dina Cayen.

In the past "adventurous" drivers have driven their vehicles on the ski hill. During the winter the chalet is plagued by skidoo tracks, which can be dangerous for skiers, who can catch the edge of their skis. It has

only to get slapped in the face.

"This is what we get in return," said Cayen as she pointed out the broken glass and garbage strewn across the floor of the chalet.

Each time the damage sets the ski club retracing their steps cleaning up after someone else.

Skiing is one sport that anybody of any age, size and sex can participate in. The volunteer effort that goes into the ski club includes everything from preparing for the year by cleaning the brush and overgrowth on the hill to grooming the snowy trails and operating the lift. But the patience of volunteers can only hold out so long. It seems they may be disheartened. They work hard without pay and don't feel they are being appreciated.

Security checks to the ski club have been stepped up. Constable Bruce Kirpatrick said that the RCMP have increased their patrols in the area and alerted neighbours to watch out for anything suspicious.

But the real solution rests with the perpetrators.

The volunteers feel frustration that they give Dawson youth a chance to hang out, only to get slapped in the face.

also been popular to push over the two wooden outhouses

This isn't even the first year the chalet has been vandalized. One year parts of the motor that runs the ski lift were stolen.

Cayen isn't sure what the cost of this clean-up will be. It will probably be more volunteer clean-up time than money.

More than anything, the volunteers feel frustration that they give Dawson youth a chance to hang out,

Personalities impede planning

cont'd from page one

MacDonald: "But I'm prepared to put that aside in the interests of the land area that we're responsible for."

Jenkins: "You might, I'm not."

MacDonald: "Well then why did you invite me here tonight?"

Jenkins replied that he was just one voice on council and that the rest of the members had a right to hear what she had to say and form

their own opinions. Still, his own mind was firmly made up.

Henry Procyk: "Irregardless of what happened in the past, we've got to look at how to stop this (Klondike Valley settlement problems) from happening in the future. We have to sit down and resolve this in one way or another."

MacDonald: "I agree with that."

Gerberding: "I find your behavior in this matter reprehensible Peter. It is really unbefitting for a mayor to take this attitude towards a citizen here who has come here really out of good will..."

Jenkins: "No no no. She has her responsibility, her capacity as a community planner..."

Gerberding: "She's not getting paid for this..."

The discussion finally did reach more productive ground, but not without a lot of bumps.

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Yukon School Calendar 1993-94

School	Opening Date	Closing Date	Total Days	Hrs/Day
Most Whitehorse Schools	Mon., Aug. 30, 1993	Tues., June 14, 1994	184	5:10
F.H. Collins High, Grey Mountain Primary, Selkirk Elementary	Wed., Sept. 1, 1993	Fri., June 24, 1994	190	5:00
Robert Service (Dawson City)	Wed., Aug 18, 1993	Wed., June 1, 1994	181*	5:15
Eliza Van Bibber (Pelly Crossing)	Mon., Aug. 23, 1993	Fri., June 3, 1994	181	5:15
JV Clark (Mayo)	Tues., Aug. 24, 1993	Fri., June 17, 1994	190*	5:00
Carcross Community	Mon., Aug 30, 1993	Thurs., June 9, 1994	181	5:15
Del Van Gorder (Faro)	Mon., Aug 30, 1993	Fri., June 10, 1994	181*	5:15
Golden Horn Elementary (Mt. Lorne)	Mon., Aug 30, 1993	Thurs., June 9, 1994	181	5:15
Kluane Lake (Destruction Bay)	Mon., Aug 30, 1993	Thurs., June 9, 1994	181	5:15
Ross River	Mon., Aug 30, 1993	Thurs., June 9, 1994	181	5:15
Tantalus (Carmacks)	Mon., Aug. 30, 1993	Mon., June 6, 1994	178	5:21
Teslin	Mon., Aug. 30, 1993	Thurs., June 9, 1994	181	5:15
Beaver Creek	Wed., Sept. 1, 1993	Thurs., June 16, 1994	181*	5:15
Chief Zzeh Gittlit (Old Crow)	Wed., Sept. 1, 1993	Mon., June 13, 1994	181	5:15
Johnson Elementary (Watson Lake)	Tues., Sept. 7, 1993	Mon., June 20, 1994	180*	5:20
St. Elias Community (Haines Junction)	Tues., Sept. 7, 1993	Mon., June 13, 1994	178	5:21
Watson Lake High	Tues., Sept. 7, 1993	Mon., June 20, 1994	180*	5:20

The following statutory holidays will be observed:
Labour Day (Sept. 6), Thanksgiving (Oct. 11), Remembrance Day (Nov. 11),
Heritage Day (Feb. 25), Good Friday (Apr. 1),
Easter Monday (Apr. 4), and Victoria Day (May 23)

Christmas Break: Dec. 20 through Dec. 31
Spring Break (Arctic Winter Games): Mar. 7 through Mar. 11

*Calendar includes at least one 'school holiday' in addition to statutory holidays and prescribed breaks. Check with individual school for exact date(s).

Yukon
Education

I would like to thank all the businesses and people who were kind enough to sponsor me on my trip to the North American Indigenous Games which were held in Prince Albert Sask. July 18-26th

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I would also like to thank Glen for taking the time to get the sponsors for me without being asked.

Edie
(Edith Henry)

Pressure from School Council results in second school bus

by Liza Sardi

Katlyn Reynolds, 7, will be starting grade one at the Robert Service School now that the department of education has purchased a second school bus.

Her mother, Donna Reynolds, was considering holding her daughter back when the department initially decided that 92 students, who needed to be bused, would arrive in two shifts instead of purchasing a second bus.

According to a bus schedule circulated at a school board meeting on July 20, Katlyn would have spent more than 10 hours away from home. She would be getting up at close to 6 a.m. to catch her 6:50 a.m. bus at Dempster's Corner and wouldn't return home until 5:20 p.m.

Donna Reynolds felt that wasn't acceptable. She and 31 other angry parents gathered in July to discuss their plan of attack.

The school council invited David Millar and accused him of backing down on one of his original campaign promises. In the October issue of the Klondike Sun Millar stressed the need for a second bus. "I think the children's comfort (along with the bus drivers) and safety should be looked at NOW — not when the situation becomes intolerable."

But with a little more than a month before the school year officially started there was still no second bus.

Back in April, Lorie Sprokkreef, a member of the Robert Service School council, had written the

department of education regarding extension of the school bus service. The board had anticipated problems in the fall.

The response was in a letter dated close to three months after Sprokkreef's original request and five weeks before the 1993 school year starts. The request that a second bus was denied. In his letter, Superintendent of Education Wally Seipp estimated that the children in the first run would arrive 15 to 20 minutes earlier. "This arrangement is feasible and it is common practice in other communities such as Whitehorse," said Seipp.

But bus driver Ron Ryant said that the first run would arrive not 15 but 50 minutes earlier. He drove at the speed he expected he would be drive this fall and winter and gave time at each stop for kids to load. Ryan argued that while the maximum number of children allowed on a school bus is 72, that number doesn't take into account the parkas and snowsuits worn by Dawson school children in the winter. The

bus is 8 feet wide, with two rows of seats and a 18 inch aisle between them. There would be three children to a seat, each having 13 inches. A full bus can also be distracting for the driver, because of the noise factor.

And if the bus were to arrive early at school, the board would have had to rely on teachers volunteering their time and arriving early to school to supervise the students.

The council decided to circulate a petition to pressure the government to buy a second bus and Millar promised to do his best to find a solution by August 2.

The pressure from parents paid off. A second bus has been purchased by the company that has the contract for YTG's busing, Diversified Transportation Ltd. The bus has 54 seats, which is larger than necessary, but the department of education is anticipating future growth at the Robert Service School.

"They did their homework and presented a good case," complimented Dwayne Wheeler, supervi-

sor of facilities and transportation for the department of education.

Wheeler said the new decision was based on a combination of factors including the distance and safety of the students and length of time students on a second trip would have to wait. The school council provided a precise summary of information listing the number of students, their grade level and the location of their homes on a map. They also circulated a petition and got 50 signatures.

While Millar, tried to take the credit for the victory in his July MLA report which said "the resolution of this busing issue demonstrates the Yukon Party Government's commitment to the safety and education of our children."

The new bus will be picking up students on the Midnight Dome, Klondike Highway, Bonanza Creek Road and the Callison area. The original larger bus will be picking up Katlyn Reynolds at the Dempster Corners, at about 7:30 a.m., for her first day of elementary school.



photo by Liza Sardi

Klondike MLA David Millar looks "comfortable" listening to Valley residents air their concerns over proposed bus routes.

No ferry priority for West Dawson residents

by Liza Sardi

Some West Dawson residents will be lining up hours earlier to catch the ferry across the Yukon River to get to work on time.

The commercial boarding passes they were using to bypass the sometimes three hour long line of tourists and campers, had to be returned to the Chamber of Commerce last Friday.

The residents were using priority passes launched by businesses, for business purposes. The original intent was to give priority service to those businesses who frequently travelled the ferry. The passes were initiated on a trial basis last August and adopted fulltime this summer.

But West Dawson resident Peggy Amendola argues that many of those across the river work in town and shouldn't have to wait with tourists. The residents also need to drop their children off at school, pick up water, fuel and mail and dump their

garbage. She had a commercial pass even though she didn't have commercial plates.

The passes were sold through the Chamber of Commerce for \$100 each. Only those with commercial plates were supposed to buy the passes, but some of the 50 West Dawson residents purchased them for their personal vehicles. They argue that the cost of a regular licence plate is \$25 a year as opposed to \$60 for a commercial plate. And insurance for vehicles with commercial plates is higher.

The Chamber decided that anyone without commercial plates, would have to return the priority pass for a full refund when they received complaints from residents in the City of Dawson. While Chamber President Denny Kobayashi is sympathetic to the residents pleas, he said the pass was not designed for residential traffic.

Finning Ltd. service support

Shirley Reeves, who sat on the committee that started the passes, argued that Finning mechanics were often stuck in four hour line-ups to get to clients. A mechanic's wage is usually \$100 an hour. And with the mining season only about 100 days long, time was definitely a priority. Reeves recommends that Dawson residents strike their own committee and come up with their own alternatives instead of freeloading off the commercial pass which is intended only for businesses.

In the meantime, a parking lane has been built on the West Dawson side of the Yukon River. Residents can park and walk onto the ferry and then walk to work. But they complain it's difficult to juggle propane and groceries from town back to the ferry and their vehicles.

Louella Stevenson, who has lived in West Dawson for 15 years

Continued on page 9

YUKON TALENT NIGHT

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9 P.M.

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EDITORIAL:

Questions, not Answers

Some things come to us unbidden, as it were. We're sitting around trying to figure out what to do next with the paper and someone tells us about some idea another person has had. These may not be things that we have any individual opinions about, just ideas. Maybe you have opinions. Here are a few of the topics.

Should the Music Festival be moved out of town? Opinions are sharply divided on this. There are people who will say that it's a two and a half day invasion of privacy, a breeding ground for noise, drinking and chaos. There are others who maintain that it can be better managed in town than out and that it is a very positive contribution to the summer's activities. What do you think?

Are we losing too many old buildings? Three more have gone lately and that has moved some folks to ask if we won't soon be marketing the ghost of a memory rather than the real thing. The flip side of this is the cost of trying to repair our older structures and the social planning waste of letting those lots (often in key places) go unused. Again, we welcome your opinions.

What is the proper standard of conduct for public officials? The Commissioner objected to a few lines in our reporter's coverage of the Martha Black event, but we've heard many positive comments about the same story. Lots of people have complained about getting burned at city council meetings. We have an example for you this issue. What's fair and proper? You tell us.

What do we need more in the valley, a bridge or an airport? We might be able to use the leverage of our centennial year to get one or the other but probably not both. You've read lots about airports in these pages in the past and there are a couple of stories about the river traffic this issue. What's the answer?

It was nice to get a letter from our MLA this month, but wouldn't it be even nicer to hear from him here every month? The space is available, but he's used it only once. It's free, although that might cause the Post Office some lost revenue. It's also ecologically sound, because none of these pages end up in the Post Office garbage bin. What do you say?

Although our coverage of negative events is usually much more tasteful than everyone else's, are there any types of stories you think we shouldn't run on the front page? Last issue's sexual assault coverage gave us some mixed feedback. We'd like to know what you think.

We ask that you keep your comments to less than 500 words.

Dan Davidson

ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

The deadline for the September *Klondike Sun* has been changed to Wed. Sept. 8. We will publish on Thurs. Sept. 16.

We have delayed ourselves by a week in order to bring better, up-to-date, coverage of the Labour Day events taking place in town.

It will also allow for more in-depth coverage of Discovery Days events.

We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause.

Our October issue is still planned for our usual second Thursday of the month publication.

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

Dear Folks:

I enjoy the paper and look forward to its coming. I read it thoroughly and pass it along to other Yukoners. It comes back and I give it a second go. So best of luck and happy writing.

Lil Munro
Vancouver subscriber

Open letter to David Millar:

O.K. David. We've already heard how hard you're working as our MLA to honour your, and your Yukon Party's promises of the last election campaign on the matter of Dawson water and sewer rates. (Incidentally, we do all appreciate the hard work you personally contributed to ensure these rates would remain at the same level as last year, even though you vowed to roll them back to lower levels of previous years.) But aren't you over-stating your dedication to the task in your recent newsletter on the issue of the second school bus?

After all didn't you tell some parents before the July 21st meeting that despite your election promise to provide a second school bus there would definitely not be one? And why is there no mention in your report of the fact that a favourable decision was made only after a petition was circulated which called for a reasonable response from your government? Probably because the inclusion of such pertinent details would dictate a serious revision to your concluding remarks that "the resolution of this busing issue demonstrates the Yukon Party Government's commitment to the safety and education of our children."

You're not fooling anyone David, so

forget the rhetoric, and start working hard to serve your constituents with the representation they deserve.

Sincerely,
Art Webster,
Dawson City

Dear Editor:

Please find enclosed a copy of an article that appeared in the Yukon News, written by the Klondike Sun's summer reporter, Lisa Sardi (sic), and a copy of my response.

Having gone through the trials and tribulations of working as a young reporter, I always try to be open and honest and candid and accessible to those who are now in that situation.

I think Ms. Sardi will agree that I've bent over backwards to help her through her summer job in Dawson and I was amazed by the personal attacks and the total lack of professionalism show by Ms. Sardi in her reporting.

Yours Sincerely,
J.K. McKinnon
Commissioner of the Yukon

The original letter that appeared in the Yukon News

Dear Editor:

Please allow me space to correct some of the false statements in your Dawson correspondent's article regarding the ceremony at the unveiling of the plaque for Martha Louise Black.

Liza Sardi reported that the Commissioner attended "and brought with him two friends from Whitehorse." This has

given the impression to your readers that I chartered a plane load of friends to Dawson City, which would have been nice, but it didn't happen. I was a passenger on the regular flight. The two friends made their own arrangements, and in fact, only one flew, the other drove to Dawson City.

Ms. Sardi expressed the opinion that "The audience wasn't impressed with the Commissioner who attended the ceremony wearing a jogging suit..." All present knew that we were late getting into Dawson, and I told them why; there was no time to go to my hotel to change before the ceremony began. Besides most Yukoners think the official Team Yukon track suits are pretty classy wearing apparel.

As for the personal opinions your reporter expressed regarding the quality of the speeches delivered during the ceremony, I would have expected any competent editor to have blue-pencilled them, if, in fact, the report was supposed to be a news item. I was on the program — not to make a speech — but only to bring greetings, which I did in Dawson informal style that I felt was appropriate for the small group of friends who had gathered for the occasion.

Since this is a personal letter, not a news item, let me just say Ms. Sardi could benefit from her summer job with a little more experience and some professional guidance.

Yours sincerely,
J.K. McKinnon
Commissioner of the Yukon

Non-Smoker Writes

The Magna Carta, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the (relatively) new aboriginal rights. These rights and more that have been awarded to the people of this world. These rights are protected, so I take them for granted, but there are so-called rights that make me fume.

Smokers claim that they have the right to smoke when and where they want. I disagree.

As a proud non-smoker, I feel that smoking is something that should be done in private where no one will be bothered with second-hand smoke.

Non-smokers have gained victories in such public areas, such as government buildings, some stores, and on domestic flights. We are also given smoke-free areas in large restaurants, and on international flights. At the howling of smokers saying that they should be given similar rights and given rooms in the workplace. Give me a break. Hasn't the governments raised the

taxes enough (say good-bye to the \$5 pack) and cut down on your free-space to get the message across? There are several ways to quit smoking. Don't worry about supporting your share of the economy. Most stores make so little profit on the cigarettes that it's more of a "service" than a moneymaker.

Spelled out in the Canadian con-

stitution is the right to commit suicide without prosecution (as if they are going to go and arrest you for killing yourself), but killing someone else is the worst crime one can commit. After all those people that work in bars, bingo halls, night clubs, etc. have lower life expectancies due to the second-hand smoke. Besides, the smoke can be downright annoying. Small amounts make me cringe, while a good breath of

second-hand smoke can make me cough a few times. There are even environmental rights, and that chemical soup that we breathe would be a few chemicals smaller if everyone butted out. As they say, everyone can do their part...

Here's a post-script to last month's column about accessibility here in Dawson. Klondike National Historic

Sites (KNHS) and the City of Dawson have a memorandum of understanding to make more of the core side-walks wheelchair accessible.

KNHS has also made extensive photo collections of buildings that are wheelchair inaccessible, so that those people can see what the inside looks like. They also have available free of charge, large-tired wheelchairs that are easier to maneuver on gravel. A few hotels have rooms and ramps that are made specifically for wheelchair bound travelers. The washrooms at Minto park are also wheelchair accessible.

Point of View

by Jon Calon

stitution is the right to commit suicide without prosecution (as if they are going to go and arrest you for killing yourself), but killing someone else is the worst crime one can commit. After all those people that work in bars, bingo halls, night clubs, etc. have lower life expectancies due to the second-hand smoke. Besides, the smoke can be downright annoying. Small amounts make me cringe, while a good breath of

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THE OTHER EDITORIAL PAGE

Weather Report - July

Weather Report for Dawson City, Yukon for July 1993. Prepared and presented by Art Vickers, your friendly Flight Service Specialist, who you will find slaving away at the Transport Canada Flight Service Station located at the magnificent, but dusty, Dawson City International Airport.

Greetings, once again, weather fans. It's time to recap our somewhat sensational weather for July (comparatively speaking). All in all, this July was a good One! We had very little rain — only roughly 42.5 percent of the long term average for the month.

Our average or mean maximum temperature was a comfortable 24.0 (75.2) — a couple of degrees above the long term average. Although the daily minimum temperatures were about a degree cooler on the average, we still managed to be almost one half of a degree warmer for a mean or average temperature for July than the 30 year average. (WOW!! Can it get any better than that?)

Compared to the unlucky inhabitants of southern Canada and a good portion of the U.S. of A. we had it goooood!! The majority of people from the "South" were suffering from wind burn or webbed feet or both. Family and friends from "sunny" (right?) Alberta had a very wet, windy, cool and just plain UGLY July.

So far, good old Dawson has had

generally fine spring and summer weather. Most of us hope for more of the same, but, there are some who are not entirely happy with this type of weather. I have talked recently with a few of the true Sourdoughs of the area and got these bits of knowledge from them. I was left with the opinion that Fran Hakonson and Sue Ward would both have preferred the weather to be a "little cooler," but they "really weren't complaining" (were they?) Joe Langevin did say he could use a "bit more water" for his mining operation up Bonanza, but then, not being able to sluice does give them more time to visit (and he sure is good at that!).

Our all-time record high of 34.0 (93.2) and the all-time record low of (-2.0 (28.4) survived another test this July.

A strange thing happened the other night — it got DARK! Yes, our wonderful 24 hour daylight is gone for another year. For those trivia buffs out there in reader land (Yes, I know there are some.) we lost two hours and 52 minutes of daylight from the 24th till the 31st of July.

There are a few forest fires in the area that can be seen by the smoke in the air. However, it hasn't been a "bad" fire season this year even though it has been so dry.

I think the west to northwesterly upper air flow is bringing much of our present smoke from our Alaskan neighbours' forest fires. We sure

appreciate their sharing ways, don't we?

Another odd thing is happening to quite a few trees and bushes in the Dawson area. Their leaves have turned yellow already!! Could it be they don't want to take a chance at getting caught with their leaves on like last year when they were frozen on the trees by the "early winter of '92? No! There has NOT been widespread frost yet. Some areas such as "frozen" Henderson Corner have had some very cool nights, but, I think it is just dryness that is causing this phenomenon to occur. The water tables are low as are the creeks and rivers in the area. It sure does bother me to see those leaves turning color so early!

The gardens are producing those scrumptious "new" potatoes, fresh and delicious peas, carrots, beets and lettuce. If only someone could manage to capture those fresh-from-the-garden flavours and inject them into our bland winter veggies. (YIKES! I used the dreaded "W" word in July! Shame on me! It won't happen again. Promise.)

Well I better quit babbling for now and give you the super stats for July. I even threw in the days with reported thunderstorms (at the airport) — Boy I sure must be bored, right?!

Anyhow, you'll find Fahrenheit and Imperial measures in brackets, as usual. Enjoy.

Till next time. Bye for now.

The stats

	1993	1992	30 Year Average
Max. Temp.	30.2(86.4)	29.0(84.2)	--
Min. Temp.	3.7(38.7)	0.4(32.7)	--
Mean Max.	24.0(75.2)	23.4(74.1)	22.2(71.9)
Mean Min.	7.8(46.0)	8.8(47.8)	8.8(47.9)
Mean Temp	15.9(60.6)	16.1(61.0)	15.5(59.9)
Total Rainfall	22.5mm(0.89in)	5.4mm(2.8in)	53.1mm(2.09in)
Total Snowfall	No chance my friends		
Days with rain	16	17	13
Days with thunderstorms	5	10	--

CENTENNIAL OPPORTUNITY



Tour of Old Dawson Homes & Out Buildings

Touching the Arctic Circle

by Sue Ward

It took a gal from Seal Beach, Ca. to get me on the Gold City Tour to the Arctic Circle on June 28.

Like most of us in Dawson, we are so busy with projects, extra jobs, or visitors and gardens, we usually find mid-September is upon us, school has been in a month, and we, once again, didn't get "up the Dempster to the Arctic Circle." Sometimes we even feel we are far enough down-North, and a jaunt up-South seems more inviting. As of now, I truly appreciate just how far down-North we are, but how much farther there is to go. Gives more credence to that remark, "living on the edge."

And there's no doubt about it, the trip is less edgy when you have a driver like Gordy Caley, who has driven the trail when it literally followed the frozen river-bed. His instant handling of on-coming traffic allows all passengers to relax and gawk at faces and license plates. Like, "Who else is venturing into this empty land?"

The changing topography keeps one busy. "Which way is that river running?" And hopefully, some wildlife will venture near. A glorious caribou in full velvet draws first

a thrill, then pity as it limps hurriedly away. More alone than the seven humans in that mini-bus, at mile "who knows?" A far-away forest fire explodes on the horizon. Only scrub black spruce. But what about the animals scurrying for their lives.

A shocking disappointment at Ogilvie Campsite. One outhouse closed off, full to capacity, the second should have been. No excuse for such a disgusting contrast to the majestic beauty of the site. There are staff setting up nature walks. Should clean facilities not be part of their job description? Or does it not exceed scribbling the sighting of a lynx some kilometre out that-a-way?

We were of one mind on a second issue. The tour began at 8 a.m. from Dawson and the trip to Eagle Plains Hotel would take five and one-half hours. Unless you were forewarned there would not be one ounce of fluid available in all of that dusty travel.

Gold City Tours should provide a coffee machine, and a pastry, with mugs carrying the company logo, plus a marking pen to imprint the traveller's name on her mug, which would be the greatest P.R. Gold City Tours could get, as they sat in

special places in homes the world over. And I'll bet the cost could be written off as advertising. Oh, don't forget the cream and sugar and a few napkins.

It would surely give more positive feedback than the memories of the stomachs hitting the back-bones as "Food! Drink!" croak from the testy travellers, as they tumble out at Eagle Plains.

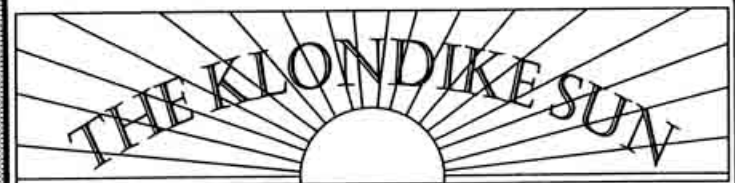
One more thing, Buffalo. Your staff should have complete knowledge of the time required for this long haul. To lead patrons to believe that they will be back in 12 hours, when it takes a minimum of 14 is disconcerting as time is of the essence in a Klondike Holiday.

As you will not be back for your dinner appointment, and in fact, dining-rooms may be closed, our group wisely ordered sandwiches to pickup on returning from the extra 23 miles to the Arctic Circle marker.

We were all munching and enjoying a can of pop as we shared a complete double rainbow in the North Fork Valley. Our fellow travellers were from Cornwall, England, and a friendly farm couple from the Peterborough, Ontario. I hope I can recall at least half of the stories that flew around the van!

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Perspectives differ on what to do about the Valley

by Dan Davidson

Terminology says a lot about how people view a problem. While both Peter Jenkins, Dawson's mayor, and Ann MacDonald, YTG's Dawson based community planner, seem to agree that the issue of people residing on mining claims needs to be resolved, that's as far as it goes.

For the mayor, these people are living and working, usually at something other than mining, on what he calls "placer squats", and he wants to see them controlled and cleaned up.

MacDonald speaks of the land as placer claims and breaks the people living on them into two categories. There are those who are carrying

out legitimate mining and those who are not. Both groups should be brought into conformity with proper land-use procedures, especially with regard to water purity and septic discharges.

Whoever these people are, and there are a fair number of them, they reside on land currently under the control of either the territorial or federal governments and are governed by the federal regulations respecting placer mining. The mayor and the planner would agree that neither of these levels of government have properly addressed the matter of policing violations of existing regulations in the corridor between the present municipal

boundary and the Callison Industrial Sub-division.

They would also agree that something should be done to resolve the outstanding issues in the corridor sometime before the city assumes control of it as recommended by the Yukon Municipal Board nearly a year ago. That recommendation, the result of hearings and submissions the previous spring, has not been implemented due to the incomplete Land Claim in the Klondike area. Both of these issues will probably be wrapped up within the next year.

Jenkins cited a helicopter pad, a storeyard for heavy industrial equipment, and a number of residences in the area which he feels have not been dealt with according to the regulations.

"Isn't it time that somebody started to make a move on these things?"

The YTG has controlled the area for a year, since the last block transfer of federal lands, and Jenkins says that in that time more should have been done to tighten up on enforcement. He cited the Callison Industrial Subdivision, established in 1979, as an example of a so-called regulated area where in fact the

regulations exist mostly on paper. Jenkins noted that three amendments have been made to the Callison regulations since the area was established, and that the effect of each amendment has been to legitimize some unauthorized activity which had taken place there.

The mayor expressed a distaste for the notion of dealing with what he calls placer squats by simply legitimizing them, but did not really offer an alternative.

MacDonald felt that her recommendation to the government was a bit more complicated than that. She has suggested that claim dwellers be permitted to buy their land and live there provided they relinquish their mining rights and bring their residences within the proper regulatory standard. This is not a YTG policy at this point however.

As for enforcement, MacDonald agreed that neither senior level of government has done an effective job, something that she, as a planner, finds frustrating. She wants to have further meetings with the city council and administration to identify the major problem areas and reach an agreement as to how to deal with them.

Phillips to visit Dawson this week

Minister of Tourism and Education Doug Phillips is expected to arrive in Dawson on Friday, August 13 to wrap up a three week "working holiday" of the Yukon.

Phillips is travelling the Yukon to familiarize himself with the front line tourism industry. The trip is at no cost to the taxpayers.

Phillips expects to stay at RV parks, meet businesses and organizations, tour visitor reception centres, museums and local attractions. He will also tour schools and meet with local school councils.

The three week itinerary also includes Teslin, Watson Lake, Mayo, Elsa, Keno, Haines Junction, Burwash, Destruction Bay and Beaver Creek. The final leg of the trip will be Ross River and Faro.

Elderhostel visits YOOP

by Carol McBride

Elderhostel Canada, a non-profit, educational organization for participants aged 60+ years, will be in Dawson August 21-24.

A reception at the Dawson City Curling Club is planned for Saturday evening August 21 at 7:30 p.m. Open to the public, a special invitation is extended to seniors and elders.

Other scheduled activities include presentations on Yukon wildlife, native healing, gambling, land claims and field trips to the goldfields and Dempster Highway.

This exciting program is not currently at capacity, and anyone wishing more information should contact Dilys Kluthe at 668-5803, or Fax 668-5804.

Hope to see you at the reception!

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M.V. Anna Maria arrives in Dawson

by Liza Sardi

The M.V. Anna Maria arrived back in Dawson on July 6 around supertime.

She sailed quietly to the north end of town and now floats tied to a big rock. Most of the town hasn't even noticed that she's arrived, since all that can be seen is her big false yellow and black smokestack, unless one climbs the dyke.

She departed quietly from Lake Labarge on July 3 at 9:30 a.m. According to original plans, the boat wasn't expected to leave Whitehorse until August 1.

She'll only be in the water for a few more days before her new tenant, the Alaska Yukon Sternwheeler Co., pulls her out to "take things apart and put them back the way they originally were." The boat was renovated by her last owners to accommodate dinner cruising. The boat was launched into Lake Labarge on June 28.

Company President Jonathan Wolman, and a captain, pilot and eight crew were on board during the 420 mile trek. The captain for the voyage was Harry Lowry, a current shareholder in the boat.

They say their journey was peaceful and uneventful. They eased safely down the river, past the site where two sternwheelers, the Casca and Steamer Dawson, were previously lost. The propeller did touch a few rocks but the damage is repairable. The entire trip took four days. Wolman had originally estimated that the trip would take between five and 10 days.

The Anna Maria travelled 101 miles the first day, 116 the second, 90 the third and about 120 miles the final day, according to the boat's engineer Buddy Gow. He called the trip "quick and comfortable."

"I'd never do the river any other way," said Gow.

"We had the benefit of high water," said Wolman. "That's one reason for moving up the date (of departure)."

There is some speculation that another reason is that the owners did not want any publicity if they did have an accident.

They whizzed easily through one of the most difficult points on the river, Five Finger Rapids by sticking close to the right hand side of the river and turning on full power. They squeezed through since the river is only 10 feet wider than the boat, said Captain Lowry.

The crew stayed in Big Salmon Village the first night.

While the Anna Maria was going

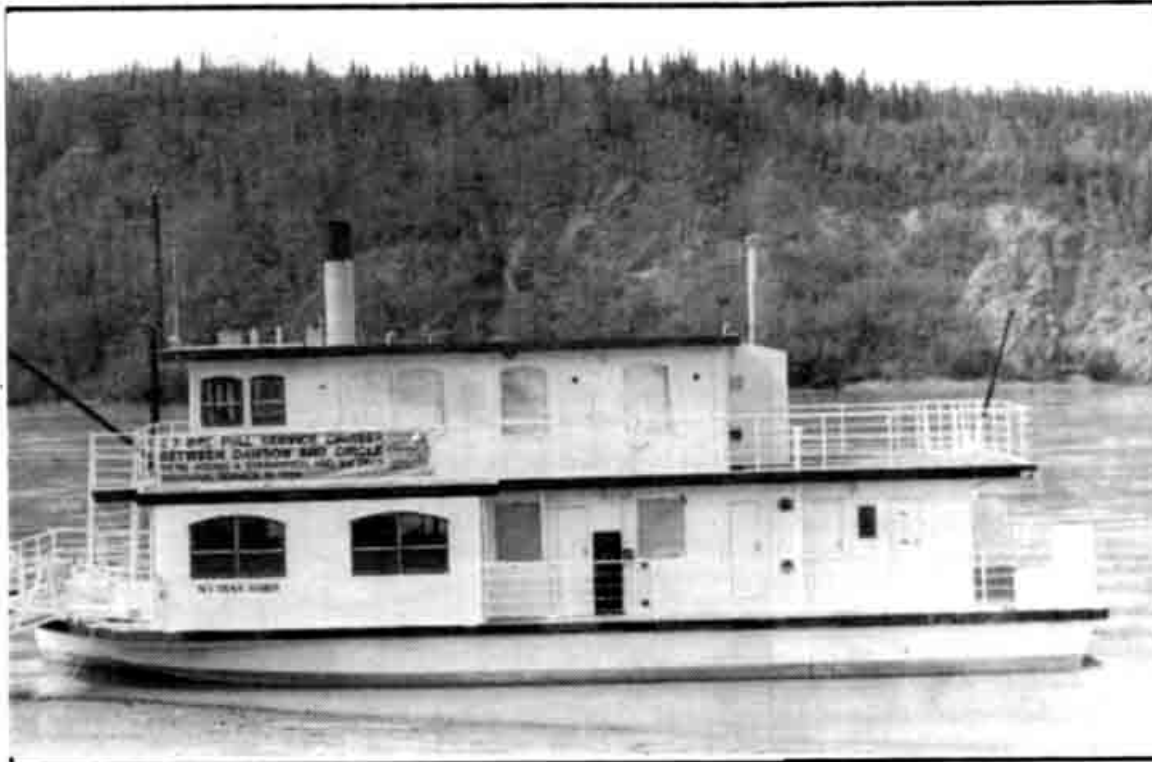


photo by Brent Morrison

Rumor has it that the M.V. Anna Maria's new name will be the City of Dawson.

under the bridge at Carmacks, Wolman said that he stood on the roof of the second deck and stretched out his hand.

"There was about two feet of clearance from the tip of my finger to the bridge."

On the second night the crew stopped at Merrice Creek. They were averaging eight to 10 hours a day on the Yukon River.

"We left around 9:00 a.m. and usually got in around 6:00 p.m.," said Wolman.

For the third night the crew stopped at Isaac Creek.

"We had a great time. We barbecued on the back deck and even had a campfire with marshmallows one time," said Wolman.

The boat arrived in Dawson at between 4:40 or 4:45 p.m., said Wolman proudly.

"I liked the chance to see the river from Whitehorse to Dawson."

Wolman credits the relatively accident free trip to the experienced crew he journeyed with. "They are good people, just about the most knowledgeable people who know the boat and river."

The crew used a combination of three different river guides, including an original paddlewheeler log sketched in 1957, to guide them, said Lowry.

Now that the Anna Maria is in Dawson she will undergo major renovations. The first job will be hoisting the boat onto a trailer and

dry docking her near the ferry landing. A third deck will be added, the pilothouse relocated from the second deck and various cabins will be reconstructed. A sternwheel will also be added, bringing the boat's total length to 85 feet. Most of the structural work on the boat will be done in February and March. The third additional deck, to be prefabricated in Whitehorse, Vancouver or possibly Dawson, will be added at that time.

Both the Coastguard and the original builders agree that the addition of the sternwheel will help stabilize the boat and give the pilot more control. Though it could be another

year before the boat is actually propelled by the wheel because of some fine tuning with the hydraulic systems.

Before the boat is relaunched she will be renamed. Rumor has it that the boat will be called the City of Dawson, but Wolman said he is keeping it a secret while the Coastguard looks over the copyrights.

When she does sail, according to Wolman, she will be the first sternwheeler passenger service on the Yukon River in 39 years. Her first tour is expected to be in May 1994.

German movie star scouts Dawson City

German movie star Hardie Kruger spent some time gambling at Gertie's last month.

He arrived in Whitehorse on July 24 to conduct a scouting trip for an episode of his 30 minute television series "Globetrotter," which appears on the German National Network. He spent July 26 and 27 at the Eldorado Hotel while scouting around Dawson for a location for his show.

The Globetrotter series reaches a first-time television audience of more than 15 million in Germany, Austria and Switzerland and is often re-broadcast.

The travel series highlights a destination by showing landscape and interviewing people of interest who live in the area.

Kruger has starred in 75 international films, many of which were Hollywood productions. His co-stars have included John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart and Sean Connery. His films include Matari, the Flight of the Phoenix and A Bridge Too Far.

Tourism Minister Doug Phillips said Globetrotter will enhance Tourism Yukon's European public relations activity which kicked off in early June.

The shoot will take place in late August. The program will be aired during the important holiday booking period for German travellers, early in the new year.

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Biking on the Yukon River

by Brent Morrison

A bike trip to Whitehorse became a canoe trip to Dawson City for two young men experiencing Canada for the first time.

Sixteen days after leaving Whitehorse, Karl Simonlehner of New Zealand and Herbert Rettenbalher of Austria were enjoying ice cream cones under the scorching summer sun on the east bank of the Yukon River, just downstream from the mouth of the Klondike. Piled ashore was their tiny canoe, loaded down with the basic provisions. And their mountain bikes.

The pair had flown to Vancouver then cycled up Vancouver Island, "as a warm-up," Simonlehner says. With the island completed they took the ferry to Skagway, hiked the Chilkoot, and rode their bikes to Whitehorse. Although Simonlehner didn't think they would have enough time, they decided to canoe to Dawson.

Simonlehner had been planning a trip to Canada when his original partner backed out. An Easter-time phone call from Rettenbalher put the trip back on course.

Following the advice of others they stayed to the right channel of Five Finger Rapids and had an ex-

citing but safe trip through this infamous section of the river. Once past Minto their trip became much more interesting.

Rough weather forced them to make camp early in the islands between Devil's Crossing and Hell's Gate. With their tent set up Simonlehner says they noticed, "a really big moose about 120 metres away. It was walking in a big circle, then trotted towards us, then walked away to the side." He adds, "I've seen lots of deer before, but deer always run away. This moose was just standing there watching us."

It was the first time either of them had actually seen a moose.

Eventually the moose wandered off while they ate but as he was coming out of the tent Simonlehner came face to face with it again. "It was about 18 metres away, just standing there. It looked pretty scary from far away, but looked nice up close."

The moose finally took off at a gallop and left the adventurers alone.

As they set off the next morning they noticed a large black bear at the shore of the next island. The bear quickly departed and Simonlehner observed that this bear was quite different from one they had encoun-



photo by Brent Morrison

Next time we should get one of those --Herbert Rettenbalher looks enviously at a power boat just before docking in Dawson. Rettenbalher and Karl Simonlehner canoed from Whitehorse.

tered near a B.C. Provincial Park which seemed to have no fear of humans.

"The bears we saw [in the Yukon] always ran away," he added. In all, the pair saw three black bears and two moose. "It was nice that all the animals we saw were up close."

Now that they've reached Dawson, it's time to hit the bikes again. Although their canoe trip has

set them about 700 kilometres off course they are considering a trip across the Top-of-the-World highway before heading for Calgary and their return flight.

The pair plan to spend a few days in Dawson seeing the sites and trying to buy some salmon. They are also interested in finding out more about the Yukon winters, especially about mushers and dog sled races.

It was the Yukon winter that drew the pair to Canada. While visiting Herbert in Austria, they saw a slide presentation on dog sledding in the Yukon. "Canada has always been interesting," Simonlehner states, "but when you see something like that it makes you think that the next trip will be to Canada."

It took three years but they feel the wait has been well worth it.

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Wendy Burns

A sincere apology to all those whose names have been ommitted

Daycare fieldtrips downriver to Moosehide

by Brent Morrison

Fourteen children attending Tr'Inke Zoo Daycare made their weekly journey to Moosehide on Wednesday July 14.

At 9:00 a.m. Caroline Rever loaded up the first seven preschoolers and Ronald Johnson and Simon McLeod drove the boat to the ancient Han village.

The children have been going to Moosehide for a month and put their life-jackets on without fuss, and sit quietly in the boat.

Once onshore they tear off up the hill screaming in delight. It is obviously their favourite day of the week.

The boat returns to Dawson for the next load. In all, three trips are

needed to bring the children, supplies and the five daycare workers to the village.

Moosehide is a buzz with activity. Members of Dawson's First Nation prepare for their upcoming Pow Wow which is expected to attract 300 to 600 people during the last weekend in July.

Fire weed and birch trees grow wherever the land has not been cleared, and the gardens are thriving.

The children play in the sand pit and on the swings, but the older boys quickly get restless and go into the school to play. For reasons known only to them it is their favourite place.

Rever and the other daycare workers follow their regular schedule loosely.

Snacks of apples and juice are served shortly after the last boat arrives then it's time for more exploring.

The children lead their caregivers up the hill to the graveyard and then down to the creek.

They delight in throwing sticks from one side of the log bridge and going to the other side to see them float by.

Then it's back to the main play area, and more explorations of the school and church.

The tiny church is cool and damp, an oasis from the heat of day. Instead of religious hymns, nursery rhymes fill the church.

For lunch the children are given meatball stew with bread and plenty of drinks. Then it's off to play again.

Rever describes the Moosehide trips as, "a nice break in the week," and says the kids are angels on Thursdays. "They're in control here," she says, "there are some rules, but they get to learn about nature and learn to respect the land."

At 1:00 it's quiet time, and all the kids they put down fall asleep.

The older kids go looking for raspberries and find some ripe ones among the bushes that have many more still ripening on them.

At 2:35 it's time for cheese and crackers and a bit of time for playing. The first boat heads back at 3:30 then it's off to the daycare for a couple more hours of fun in the sun.



photo by Brent Morrison

Troy Gordon fills his face with raspberries while accomplice Dustin Morrison looks for more.

Ferry priority passes returned con't from page 3

favours a priority service for residents, but thinks it should be free.

"I should not have to pay for services on the ferry and I shouldn't have to sit in line," said Stevenson. She feels residents should be allowed to travel at least once in and out of Dawson without having to line up. She said she is trying to organize residents to talk to Tourism Minister Doug Phillips when he arrives in Dawson next Friday to wrap up his two week working holiday.

Another priority pass doesn't change the ferry's capability to move vehicles. With or without passes, the amount of vehicles that can be

moved is static. The line-ups for tourists would still be up to four hours in the busy season.

One solution would be to have a larger ferry, or have two ferries. But operating two ferries on the Yukon River could be dangerous because of the strong current. And while a larger ferry would be able to take more vehicles each trip, it would take additional time loading and unloading.

A bridge across the river seems to be everyone's logical solution. Unfortunately, while the ferry costs about \$700,000 a year, estimates on a bridge across the 600 metre wide river come close to \$20 million.

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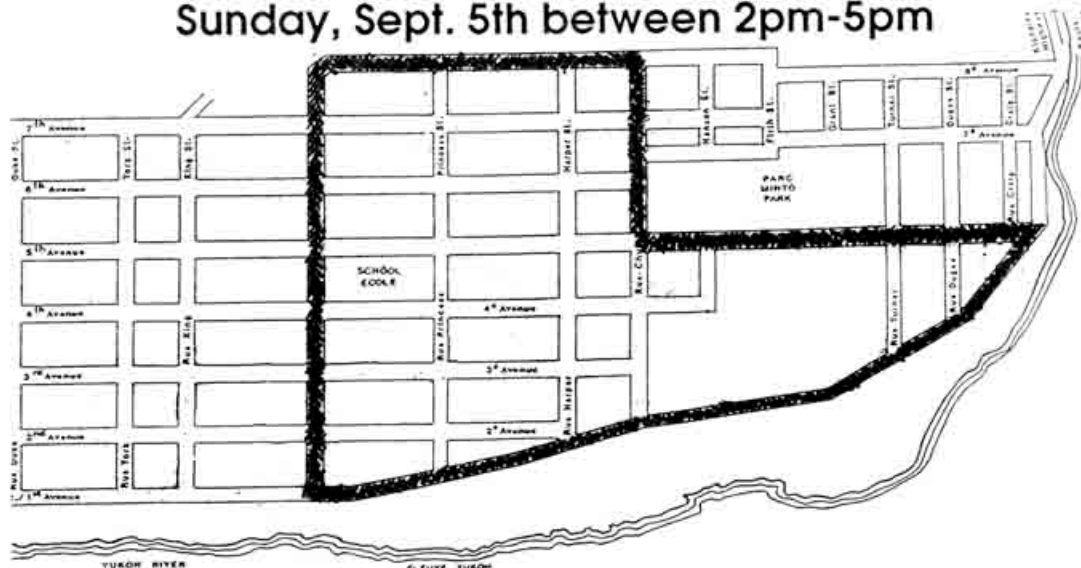
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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Klondike Visitors Association would like the residents of Dawson to be aware of the road closure for the 1993 Outhouse Race
Sunday, Sept. 5th between 2pm-5pm



We hope this will not be an inconvenience and look forward to seeing you all at Minto Park for the Festivities

Martha Louise Black honored at Commissioner's "Pad"

by Liza Sardi

Martha Louise Black's national historical significance was affirmed at a small ceremony on the lawn of her former home, the commissioner's residence, July 17.

Florence Whyard, Martha Black's biographer and friend, gave a historical address at the ceremony, which she said, "confirms my belief of some 50 years ago when I met her in Ottawa that this remarkable lady was a person of national historic significance."

Whyard had worked for almost 10 years to get the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada to recognize Black's contribution to Canadian history.

In her speech at the morning ceremony she called Black a legendary figure and a true example of the pioneering spirit, deserving national recognition; "the epitome of women colonizers, both ornamental and useful."

Whyard explained that contemporaries of Martha Black saw her only as a Dawson housewife; but that was only because she was one of many heroic figures in her time, "the like of which we do not see today."

In 1957 a national news story began: "All Canada looked to the Yukon with a bow when Martha Black died." Another said: "A blithe spirit has left the Yukon... Martha Louise Black was the unrivalled queen of all that host of men and women who sought the northern magic. She above all, caught and



photo by Liza Sardi

The Commissioner, looking comfortable in his infamous tracksuit, waits to address the crowd of 25 that gathered to honour Martha Louise Black.

reflected the true spirit of the Yukon, and some of it died with her."

Black survived the 1871 great fire in Chicago which left 100,000 people homeless, including her family. She married at age 21 and had two children before she and her husband were struck with Klondike

fever. But it was Martha alone who ventured to the Yukon. She became the 631st woman to cross the Chilkoot.

"This, ladies and gentleman, is what Martha wore over the Trail of '98," said Whyard as she picked up her skirts and modelled the very latest in outing costumes. She was wearing a brown corduroy skirt, slip and full bloomers. A dress similar to what Martha wore.

"If you think it's too heavy to wear in the heat today, consider she made that climb on July 12, 1898, and was still wearing it when their boat arrived at Dawson August 5."

At Dawson Black faced a bleak future. She was pregnant, bringing an unwanted child into the world.

"Her life was a failure, at 33 and she wanted to end it," said Whyard.

But instead she turned her energies to running the prospecting mill and sawmill her family brought to

Dawson, divorced her husband and married her lawyer and soon-to-be Commissioner, George Black.

"I often used to walk by Government House and deplore that only the prosperous and important were entertained there. I wished that it's doors were thrown wider open to the real makers of Yukon," Black said in her biography *My Ninety Years*. She had her wish fulfilled.

During WWI she followed her husband George to England and lectured about the Klondike for the YMCA and wrote reports back to Dawson. In Buckingham Palace she watched the son she bore in Dawson win the Military Cross at age 19.

The Black's returned to Canada to start life again in their 50s. In 1921, Yukoners nominated George Black as their Member of Parliament until 1949, except when he was too ill. Martha ran in his place and became the second woman MP.

She joined Agnes McPhail who had been alone for 14 years. She admitted she was tired, lonely and discouraged but she never missed a day in the House.

"At a dinner in Ottawa years later, a Toronto paper reported: Little Mrs. Martha Louise Black stole the show... behind the frail little grey-haired woman are the vast spreads of the Yukon... and she smilingly said, 'I represent no party, I represent the people of the Yukon.' She received the main ovation of the evening from a hard boiled audience," said Whyard.

Black is remembered in both the Dawson and Whitehorse museums. She is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and received the Order of the British Empire for her cultural and social contributions to the Yukon. She is the topic of a CBC television documentary and the subject of countless articles. She even has a Canadian Coast Guard Ship named for her.

"The Martha L. Black is an ice-breaker, and certainly there was never anyone better at breaking the ice that Martha Louise," said Whyard.

An officer of the RCMP unveiled the historical plaque commemorating Black's achievements. Black's plaque is the third in the garden she tended. It is adjacent to one for Surveyor William Ogilvie (1846-1912) who mapped the northwest corner of Canada and an early authority on the Yukon. Ogilvie was also Commissioner from 1898 to 1901. The other plaque belongs to Joseph Burr (1858 to 1957) a member of the Geological Survey of Canada and a pioneer in the search for gold.

Daniel Tlen, of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada also spoke, but his speech did not compare to the eloquent historical background that Whyard presented.

Commissioner Ken McKinnon also attended and brought with him two friends of Martha's from Whitehorse, Betty Taylor and Goody Sparling. The audience that attended the ceremony seemed less than impressed that the Commissioner chose to attend the ceremony wearing a jogging suit, running shoes and a t-shirt with Alaska printed on it.

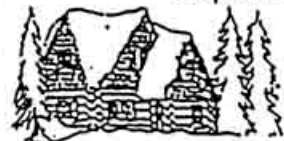
The Commissioner joked about his casual attire and eventually put on a "Yukon" windbreaker for the ceremony. He was even less prepared than Tlen who seemed to be adlibbing his speech. He referred to the commissioner's residence as "his pad."

Al Fisk, of Klondike National Historic Sites, represented the new Minister of the Secretary of State and Communication, Monique Landry.

On the recommendations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, created in 1919, close to 1,000 people and places have been commemorated across Canada on National Parks Day. According to Tlen, most of the commemorations are due to the tireless efforts of citizens like Florence Whyard.

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Pathfinders visit "Africa" in Guelph international camp

Local Pathfinders Melissa Flynn and Tara McCauley joined 3,000 other Guiding members from Canada and around the world in a 10-day camping adventure in Guelph, Ontario.

Ex-Dawsonite Kristin Grabowski was also one of the other eight Yukon women to attend Guelph '93, an international camp from July 12 through 22.

The theme of Guelph '93 was "Living in Harmony — Today's Challenge." The Honorary Chief was Dr. Roberta Bondar, Canada's first female astronaut in space and a former Guiding member.

Close to 2,000 Canadian girls, 500 international guests and 500 adults attended the camp. Some of the 50 countries that attended are Argentina, Belgium, China, Cyprus, Haiti, Hong Kong, Jordan, Oman, Sweden, Tanzania, the U.S.A. and Zambia.

The Canadian participants were chosen on their abilities and skills learned in Guiding. After an initial screening, 19 girls attended a special camp at the territorial Girl Guide Camp (Sprucewind) in the fall, where they evaluated on teamwork, initiative, resourcefulness, co-operation and attitude. The selection committee had a hard time narrowing down the field to the 10 positions allotted to the Yukon.

To cope with the large number of campers, the Guelph '93 site was divided into seven continents. Antarctica was home for the adult staff. The six other continents, with a population of 420 to 440 girls and adults, were divided into 12 smaller sites with two Canadian and one international leader each.

Most Yukon participants stayed in Africa, although two visited Asia for their stay. The girls worked in patrols of 10 or 11, with eight Cana-

dians and two or three international members.

There were many exciting choices for camp activities, including overnight adventures of hiking, canoeing, horseback riding and biking, as well as roller blading, motocross riding, trail riding, pioneer projects, an obstacle course and rappelling. Creative activities included pyrophyllite carving, memory lane games, photography, toy making, belly dancing, yoga, ethnic and square dancing, palmistry, video recording, fencing, mime, bell ringing and rap.

Several projects were part of the camp. The girls painted, cleaned up, cared for stables, washed other campers hair, made crafts for shut-ins, built duck nesting boxes, toys for hospitalized children, quilts for women's shelters and visited seniors.

Off-site trips included Niagara Falls, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Science Centre, Casa Loma, Wild Water Kingdom, CN Tower and Canada's Wonderland.

"The camp's goal of living in harmony was successfully fulfilled, with the girls living in an atmosphere of fun and friendship, exploring ways to live with one another and the environment, developing as persons and increasing their global awareness," says Provincial Commissioner Pat Duncan.



photo by Brent Morrison

Jerry Liotta finds another easy parking spot amid the campers and vans on Front Street.

The little car that travels as luggage

by Brent Morrison

Jerry and Peggy Liotta of Winchester, California raised a few eyebrows as they drove around Dawson in their little car on July 30.

Their "little" car is a 1970 Honda which has been cut down two and a half feet to a total length of just 7' 10". The car arrived in the belly of the Liotta's 40 foot Trailways bus.

With the windshield removed, the car is winched into the luggage compartment then hydraulically

lifted and locked into place.

While Jerry claims the four-speed car will do 55 m.p.h. with its two cylinder 600 c.c. engine, he admits it usually driven around in the towns they drive their bus to, weather permitting.

Liotta is a glassblower by trade and travels around teaching wherever he finds someone willing to

learn the craft.

Neither Jerry or Peggy are concerned with being called backseat drivers. The front seats of their car were removed when it was cut down to size and all the driving is carried out in the back seats.

The Liotta's arrived in Dawson from Tok, Alaska and are continuing south back to their home.

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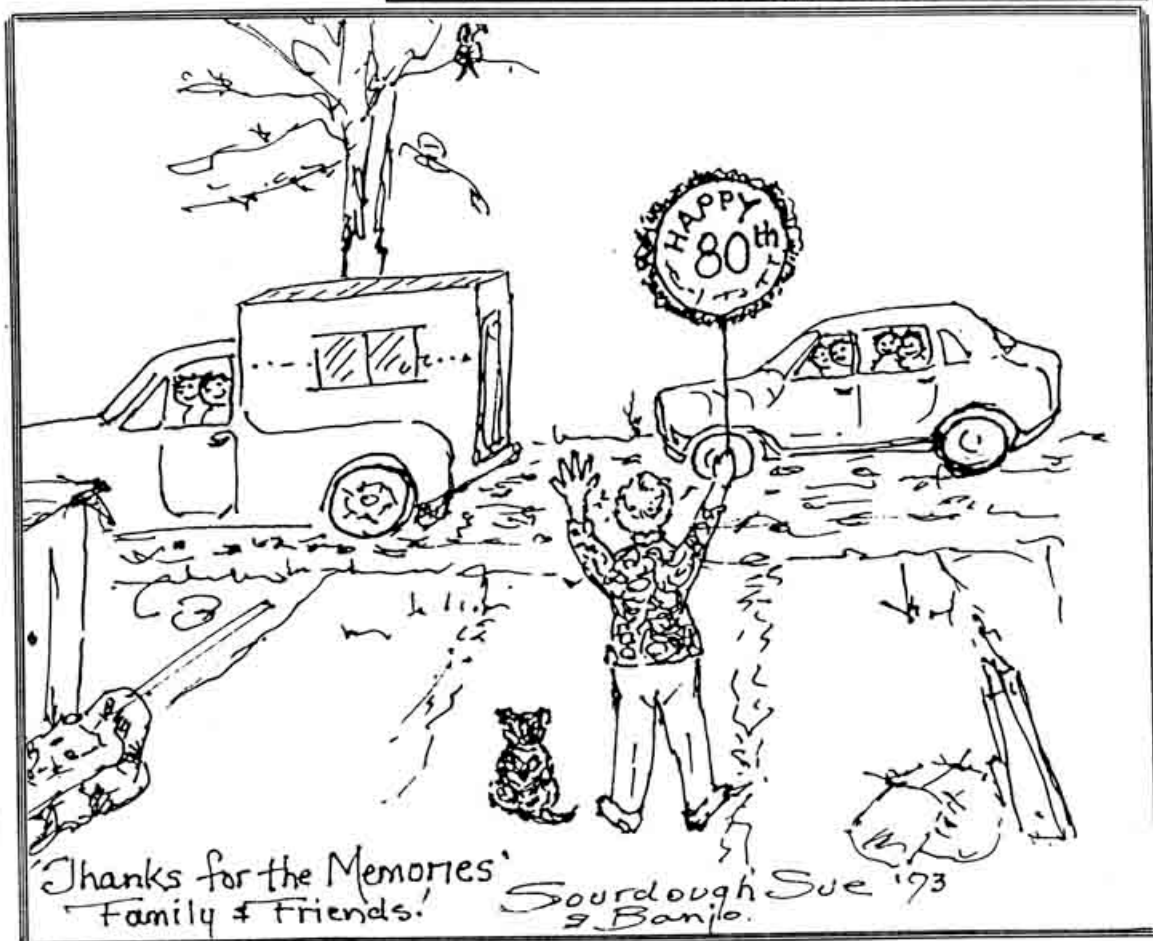
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TENDER NOTICE
MODULAR HISTORIC RETROFIT
DAWSON CITY, YUKON
1993

Sealed tenders, plainly marked "MODULAR HISTORIC RETROFIT DAWSON CITY, YUKON" will be received up to 4 p.m. local time Monday, August 23, 1993 at the Yukon Housing Corporation Office 410A Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2H5.

Tenders may be obtained from the Yukon Housing Corporation Office 410A Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2H5 or the Dawson City Housing Association office. Specifications are available for viewing at the Yukon Contractors Association office, #6-105 Main St., Whitehorse Yukon.

The lowest or any tender is not necessarily accepted



"Thanks for the Memories"
Family & Friends!
Sourdough Sue '93
& Banjo

BILL BERRY MAKES THE PAST HIS FUTURE

by Liza Sardi

Bill Berry wants Dawson City to remember the great-uncle he cannot forget.

Clarence J. Berry was born in 1867 in Mendocino county, California and grew up on a farm east of Selma in the San Joaquin Valley. His parents, William J. and Anna, were farmers who came to California to make their fortunes. They met on a wagon train from Missouri. Clarence had three brothers: Frank, Fred and Henry; and two sisters: Nellie and Cora.

Bill Berry is the great-grandson of William J., and the family historian. He stopped in Dawson on his way to the University of Alaska, where he will be presenting a scholarship, on behalf of Clarence Berry, to a graduate student. He told this rags to riches tale of his family.

Clarence Berry was a farmer, like his father when he was wiped out in the panic of 1893. His crop, 80 acres

of fruit was pledged against the cost of his farmland. When his crop failed he took off, like his parents, to what he hoped would be the land of opportunity. It was the 1890s depression when Clarence decided to join the gold rush to Alaska. His father

helped him out by selling 40 acres of the family farm to help finance the trip.

Clarence took a boat from San Francisco to Seattle and another on to Skagway. It was 1894 when he joined 40 men heading for the Yukon. Most of the group turned back after losing their supplies on Lake Bennett. He was almost penniless when he arrived in Forty Mile.

After more than a year of hard-ship working his own claims and those of others with little reward, he returned to Selma to marry his sweet-

Clarence made at least
\$1.5 million on Eldorado,
one pan alone was said to be worth \$595

heart Ethel Deene Bush. The newlyweds were joined by Clarence's brother Fred, on their return journey to Forty Mile.

Clarence was tending bar for Bill McPhee when George Carmacks came in with the news of his claim. Clarence and his brother Frank (Bill's grandfather) went upriver, leaving Ethel to flag the first boat to Dawson. Clarence and Frank asked Carmacks if they could test his claim, and when they reassured themselves that there was indeed gold, they staked Eldorado. Clarence staked at the conjunction of Eldorado and Bonanza.

Clarence made at least \$1.5 million on Eldorado, one pan alone was said to be worth \$595. Ethel was called "the Bride of the Klondike" for enduring the harsh Yukon. It is said that she panned about \$10,000 worth of gold in her spare time.

Clarence sold his Number 5 claim on Eldorado for \$2 million.

In 1897, Clarence and Ethel were among the first to confirm that there was gold strike in the Klondike. By 1898, over 30,000 men, women and children made their way through the Chilkoot to Dawson City.

In what would become a pattern for the rest of his life, Clarence traded some of his claims, wheeling and dealing. Berry invented the steam point, which revolutionized placer mining. He introduced hydraulic mining and bucket line dredging near Fairbanks, Alaska and organized the successful C.J. Dredging Co., which operated profitably for many years in Mammoth Creek.

Clarence and his brother Frank also made a second strike outside Fairbanks. They established a town named Berry in 1906, which is now known as Ester.

When reports of oil in the San Joaquin Valley reached Berry he decided to look for another bonanza. He found oil in California, forming the Berry Petroleum Company which became the third largest independent oil company in the state. Berry developed his first oil production in August 1908 on a 160-acre property near the site now occupied by the headquarters for Berry Petroleum Co.

He named his property Ethel D. after his wife. Within three years Ethel D. was producing 100,000

barrels a day. While it wasn't a spectacular gusher. Cumulative production passed the 10-million-barrel mark in December 1989. The company is the 12th largest oil producer in California.

Clarence Berry remained a generous man.

He tried to pay back Bill McPhee who had originally helped him out when he first arrived in the Yukon. But legend has it McPhee refused. But when McPhee's saloon burned down Clarence wired him the money and then willed him \$100 a month for the rest of his life.

Among the many who benefitted from Clarence's generosity was "Gentleman Jim" Jeffries, an ex-heavy weight champion of the world.

When he first struck in rich in Eldorado he is said to have left a pan full of nuggets for those who were less fortunate to help themselves to.

Clarence Berry died in 1930 of a ruptured appendix. He was inducted into the National Mining Hall of Fame in Leadville, Colorado last fall.

Bill Berry will be presenting The Clarence Berry Fellowship of \$12,000 to be given to a promising graduate student this month. It is largest endowment in that university's history.

Pretty good from a family of a poor fruit farmer.

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Discovery Day Weekend
Aug 13, 14, 15

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Hot Lunch Buffet Daily 11:30 - 2 p.m.
\$9.95

3 Entrees - Salad Bar
Rib Eye Steak Sandwich - \$8.95
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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Best of Luck to all Participants

Happy Discovery Day Weekend

Convert
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SAVINGS!

DFN hosts first gathering since 30s

by Liza Sardi

The Dawson First Nation held their first gathering since the 1930s at Moosehide on July 29 to 31.

"It has meant a lot to the members to revive their culture and promote their language," said powwow coordinator Kelly Van Every.

Close to 400 people attended the four day gathering or, sharing of traditions. Representatives participated from all of the Yukon First Nations, Fort McPherson, Inuvik, Lower Post, B.C., and Circle and Eagle, Alaska. Tourists and visitors to the Dawson community were also invited. The executive director of the Yukon Anniversaries Commission, Ron Pond, also attended.

A sacred fire burned from the beginning of the powwow on Thursday till it's end on Sunday night.

The idea for a gathering came from last year's Tanacross gathering in Alaska. Those who attended decided that it was about time that Moosehide host their own gathering. A proposal was put before the Chief and Council, and a committee of eight was struck.

Every was hired in May, and has been planning the details of the gathering for the past 11 weeks.

A number of workshops were held: drum, Jerry Alfred; medicine wheel, Sis Van Bibber; grieving, Donna Lynn Rear; face painting and art, Jackie Worrel and a puppet show by Jim and Arlene Johnston. The emcees for the three day powwow were Bob Charlie and Gerald Isaac. There was also a fiddle jigging contest, song and dance workshop, storytelling and Indian bingo.

The Sleeping Lady Singers from Anchorage facilitated a staking ceremony, where those who attended were invited to pledge their sobriety. The entire weekend was alcohol and drug free.

Representatives from Ross and Pelly taught stick gambling. Archie Roberts taught traditional Han songs and dance.

There were draws for a quilt, silkscreen, anorak and model fish wheel. Local artist Halin de Repentigny donated a painting, which was won by Brian Walker, Whitehorse.

There was also a talking circle, where participants in the powwow were invited to talk about how they felt about the potlatch.

Elders took part in an elders workshop facilitated by Percy Henry.

Moosehide was prepared for the huge turnout. Tent frames have been

under construction since June. Victor Henry volunteered his time to build an arbor at Moosehide.

The volunteer chefs were still cooking into each night as the demand for caribou, moose, salmon and duck continued.

On Saturday afternoon all those at Moosehide gathered on the banks of the Yukon River to welcome elder Martha Taylor. Taylor seemed surprised but happy about the potlatch which was held in her honor. At 94-years-old, Taylor is the oldest Han elder.

The powwow ended on Sunday evening with a potlatch and giving of gifts. The generosity was astounding.

There were sewing kits, coolers, potlatch bags containing dishes, sleeping bags, kids toys and lunch boxes, T-shirts, hats, mugs, homemade fireweed honey and cranberry jam. There were also four boxes of mixed candy that children were invited to dig into.

The money for the gathering was raised through fundraisers such as the YTG clean-up, flea market, hockey pool, raffles and a \$5 registration fee for the gathering.

The T-shirt and souvenir sales broke even.



photo by Liza Sardi

YOOP Horticulture and Handicrafts Exhibition

General Rules: Entries will be received at the Minto park Tent or concession from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on August 14. State clearly the class or classes in which you wish to compete. One entry per person in each class. Note the limited quantities of the different varieties. This is to conserve space. It is important to bring small boxes or dishes for you exhibits. The exhibit will be open until 3:00 PM. Prizes in all classes will be awarded as follows:

1. Six Exhibits or more (3 Prizes)
2. Four or five Exhibits (2 Prizes)
3. Three Exhibits or less (1 Prize)

Vegetables

Fruits, Plants and Flowers

1. Beans--Yellow or Green
2. Beans--other
3. Broccoli--1 head
4. Cabbage--1 head
5. Cauliflower--1 head
6. Corn--3 ears
7. Celery--1 head
8. Cucumber--2
9. Kohl Rabi--2 head
10. Lettuce--1 head
11. Lettuce--leaf/other (2)
12. Onions (from sets)--6
13. Onions (from seeds)--6

14. Peas 12 pods
15. Peas--Novelty/other--12
16. Parsnips--6
17. Parsley--2 bunches
18. Pumpkin--1
19. Peppers--2
21. Potatoes (coloured)--6
22. Radish--bunch of 6
23. Rhubarb--6
24. Squash--1
25. Squash (other)--1
26. Swiss Chard--2 bunches
20. Potatoes (white)--6
27. Sunflowers--2 heads
28. Tomatoes--4
29. Tomatoes (cherry/novelty)--6
30. Turnips (white or yellow)--2
31. Kale--1 head
32. Water Melon--1
33. Cantaloupe--1
34. Leeks--bunch of 6
35. Garlic--bunch of 6
36. Beets
37. Carrots
38. Zucchini
39. Peppers (other)
40. Cucumber (English)
- Fruits, plants and flowers
46. Berries (one type)--24, Plate of 12
47. Berries (assorted)--36
48. Crab Apples/Novelty--6
49. Novelty Fruit
50. Flowers (Garden) assorted
51. Flowers (wild) assorted

52. Flowers (Wild) one type
53. Roses--bouquet
54. Sweet Peas--bouquet
55. Snap Dragons--bouquet
56. Glads--bouquet of 5
57. Dahlia--bouquet
58. Pansy's--bouquet
59. Asters--bouquet
60. Petunia--bouquet
61. Poppies--bouquet
62. Marigolds--bouquet
63. Begonia--bouquet
64. Roses (other)--bouquet
65. Grain
66. Mums--bouquet
- Canning, Preserves, Jam, Jellies, Pickles
71. Canned Fruit--2 types
72. Canned Vegetables--2 types
73. Canned Meat--2 containers
74. Canned Fish--2 containers
75. Dried or Smoked meat
76. Dried or Smoked Fish
77. Jam--2 types
78. Jam--2 types
79. Jellies--2 types
80. Marmalade--2 containers
81. Pickles or Relish--2 types
82. Mincemeat
83. Antipasta

Due to financial restraints, ribbons will be the only awards this year in the horticultural exhibit.

Hamming, or should we say "Salmoning" it up for the tourists taking pictures at the Dawson First Nation Gathering on July 29 to August 1.

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TENDER NOTICE

DUPLEX HISTORIC RETROFIT
DAWSON CITY, YUKON

1993

Sealed tenders, plainly marked "DUPLEX HISTORIC RETROFIT DAWSON CITY, YUKON" will be received up to 4 p.m. local time Thursday, September 02, 1993 at the Yukon Housing Corporation Office 410A Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2H5.

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Specifications are available for viewing at the Yukon Contractors Association office, #6-105 Main St., Whitehorse Yukon.

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MARIA & CORRINE

Ex-Klondike Sun cartoonist publishes book

by Liza Sardi

Curtis Vos is a student at the university of life.

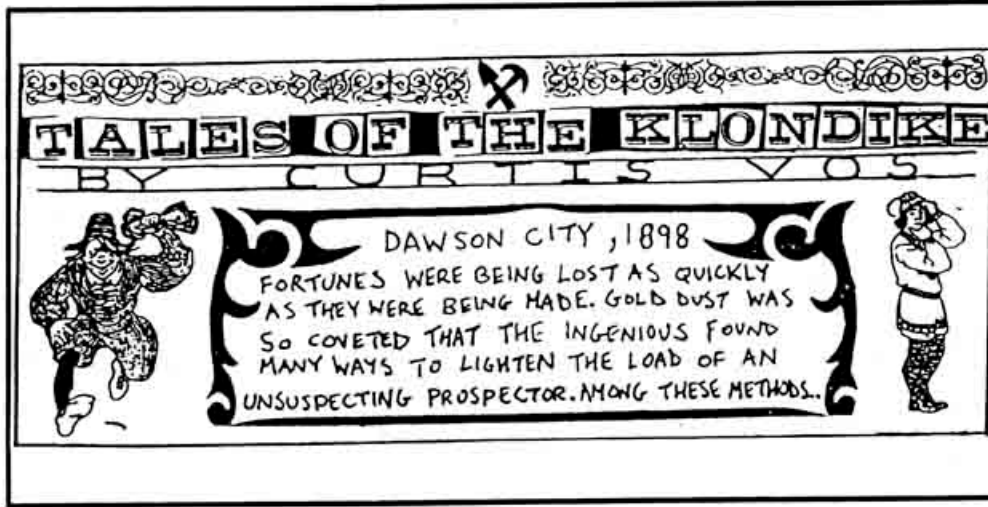
While his contemporaries were at Queen's or UBC, he was travelling Canada. They may have their degrees, but the 25-year-old Vos is signing copies of his new book on Yukon history in cartoon format, *Klondike Ho! The book* and it's author made their debut at the Dawson City Music Festival.

It all started two summers ago when Vos was working in Dawson. He submitted a few cartoons called *Tales of the Klondike* to the *Klondike Sun*. The idea for a complete book based on cartoons was cemented that same summer when Vos climbed the Chilkoot Pass.

"It was really important to me to finish the book with making a concerted effort not to go to university," says Vos.

Vos has always been interested in Canadian history and the character of the land which he says "has a tranquil, sublime side and a murderous side that can take your life." He prepared himself by reading

voraciously. He continued travelling around the country, stopping at different libraries to do research. Vos spent some time in photography archives in Seattle to get ideas for his caricatures of stampedeers.



The cartoon that started it all, in the August 8, 1991 *Klondike Sun*.

The result is a 70 page book depicting the real life events of the gold rush.

It seemed only natural to illustrate the book with cartoons, says Vos, because of elements of the humour in *Klondike* history.

Vos uses slapstick and wordplays to gear the book to a wide audience because he feels people of all ages can relate to cartoons.

Much of the history is humorous by itself — such as Soapy Smith. He was a classic villain, dressed in black; with a network of spies and hired thugs who took charge of Skagway, Alaska. Or Cad Wilson, one of

Dawson's favourite performers. Legend has it her fans filled a bathtub full of champagne for the "Queen of the Dancehalls."

It took Vos a year to finish the book, but he says the different stages kept him interested. He had to narrow down the general history into particular characters and stories. Telling the tale of the gold rush through different life stories allowed Vos to see the human side of the *Klondike*, those striving to achieve their goals.

"It parallels my own adventure into writing," says Vos.

Then he had to sketch out the storyline on storyboards, large pieces of bristol board, similar to what happens in the movies. Each picture had to flow into the next, carrying the storyline. He carefully considered what would work in a cartoon context. Many of the people were easy to caricature. It seems every Mountie and miner had a big hat and handlebar moustache. The first drawings were done in pencil and later filled in with ink and patterned Letraset.

The hardest part was editing his own work. He had to ditch eight pages at one point. "It was a lot of hairpulling. Good thing I have lots of hair to pull," says the long, blond haired Vos.

For Vos the exciting part was

developed his own pattern — working till 4 or 5 a.m. and then waking up to start again at 2 or 3 p.m. Vos took

watching the fine pencil lines become solid ink lines. It took him months to fill in the patterns on clothing and scenery with Letraset. He figures he spent minimum 3,000 hours working on the book. He de-

and let out a howl," says Vos.

The title *Klondike Ho!* came from an accident. Vos had almost made up his mind to use *Klondike* or *Bust* when a roommate left a message saying that he was going out, and to have fun working on his "*Klondike ho*" book.

When all the writing, drawing and editing was complete Vos published the book himself in June. He printed 300 limited edition copies in the first run of the book in Vancouver. He is distributing the books himself. It is black and white, but Vos has been watercolouring the front covers at his booth at the music festival.

Vos financed the book by working summers as a camp cook for a tree planting company.

He made close to \$8,000 in two months and then lived off the money for the next year. Vos likes to be self employed. He has had offers from publishers to market the book.

But it's not the money, it's all a learning experience.

His next project will be printing more copies for next summer. He hopes to sell them at various locations in Dawson, Whitehorse and the Klondike Highway. His summer sales have allowed readers to meet the author and get his autograph. And Vos has had the chance to feel out the market and see the reactions to his book, firsthand.

"I love to see reactions to the book," says Vos. "To have people pick it up and laugh is a thrill."

In the long term he is planning a series on major events of Canadian history. He's shooting to have them used in schools as a learning aid.

"They are a more inviting combination of humour and history. Cartoons are an excellent medium for portraying adventure."

In the future fans can look forward to the story of the quest for the north pole, true tales of the north and all about the fur traders.

Vos hopes he can obtain a Canada Council grant to help fund his next books, so he can put aside his kitchen utensils permanently for pen and ink.

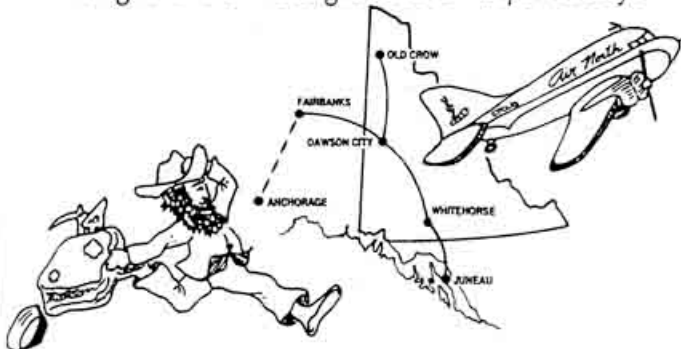
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1993 Discovery Days Schedule of Events



Mud Bog /Demo Derby

Back by Popular Demand!! This year these events take place in the North End Pit under the slide. Just follow Front Street two blocks past the Ferry Landing. Please walk up as there is no parking within 3 blocks of the venue.

Friday, August 13, 1993

Fastball Tournament
5:00 pm

Minto Park All Weekend Opening Ceremony
7:00 pm

Front Street Gazebo
Birthday Cake for All
Entertainment

Treasure Hunt Registration
Co-ordinator: Carol Murray

Saturday, August 14, 1993

Pancake Breakfast
9:00 am - Noon

Curling Club (5th Avenue)
Co-ordinator: Curling Club

"3 on 3" Volleyball
9:00 am - All Day

Minto Park Volleyball Court

Co-ordinator: Liz Woods

Horticulture Registration
9:00 am

Minto Park Concession
5 km. and 10 km. Race

10:00 am

Front St. Gazebo

Co-ordinators:

Deb Menzies/Maureen Gillen

(Saturday Continued)

Parade Marshall 11:00 am
Behind Fire Hall (4th Avenue)

Parade Marshall: Glen Mullen

Parade Noon Hour

Front Street and King
Parade Ends on Front St.

D-Days Mid-Way
Noon - 3:30 pm

Dike Green Space on Front Street

Between Queen and Prince

Bazaar/Dunk Tank/Kid's

Games/Concession

Music/Parade Awards

Bike Awards /Street Theatre

and much, much more.

Contact: Peter Menzies

Canoe Race 2:00 pm

Eldorado Hotel

Race Ends on the Dike by Old Bank

Goldpanning 4:00 pm

Minto Park Goldpanning Site

Claim Staking 3:30 pm

Minto Park Goldpanning Site

Co-ordinator: Lindsay Beck



— Parade Route

- - - 5 & 10 Km. Race Route

Salmon Bar-b-que 5:00 pm

Dike by the Old Bank

Co-ordinator: Percy DeWolfe
Committee

Open Stage Concert

Musicians and Poets Welcome

D. Days Concert 8:00 pm

Dike by the Old Bank

Featuring "Force V"

USA Force Band

From Anchorage, Alaska

Sunday, August 15, 1993

Pancake Breakfasts

9:00 am - Noon

Curling Club (5th Avenue)

Horseshoe

Tournament 1:00 pm

Top of the World Golf Club

Co-ordinator: Wanda Athro

Raft Race 9:00 am

Klondike River at Bear Cr.

Head Timer: Shirley Reeves

Mud Bog and Demo Derby

Noon - 4:00 pm

North End Pit past Ferry Landing

(No Parking Past Han Fishery)

Contacts: A. Brickner/P. Cayen

Concession by Moose Ski Club

Golf Tournament 2:00 pm

Top of the World Golf Club

Contact: John Kostelnik

Pool Events Noon - 4:00 pm

Dawson Swimming Pool

Family Bar-b-que

and Outdoor Dance

6:00 pm on Dike by Old Bank

Co-ordinator: Carol Murray

Bathtub Race 5:00 pm

Dike by Old Bank

Monday, August 15, 1993

Mini-Golf Tournament

11:00 am

Trail of '98 Mini Golf

(Klondike Highway)

Contact: Coleman Johnson

.22 and Hand Gun

Shoot 1:00 pm

Quiggley Creek Gun Range

Knock Down Targets

Contact: Ron Ryant

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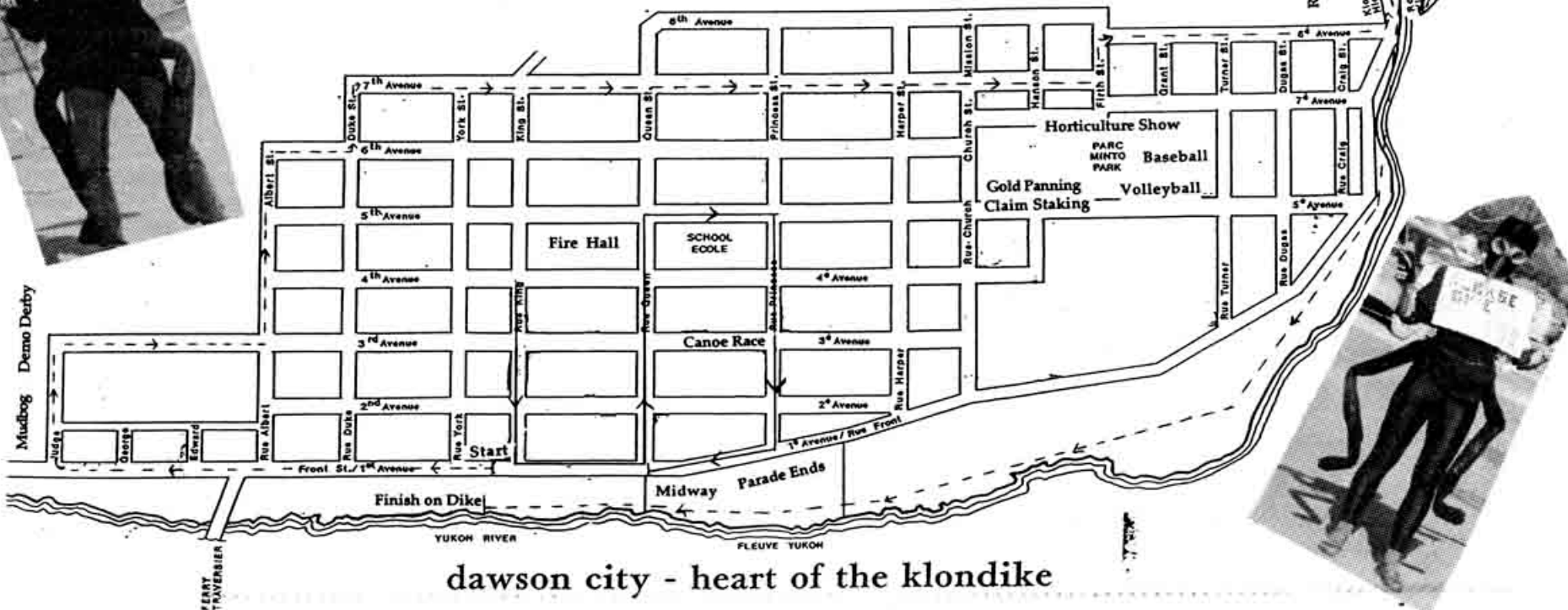
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Discovery Days Information?

Have some questions? You can get most of your answers at either the Visitor Reception Centre on Front Street. Or, you can ask at the Discovery Days Information Booth which is on the Dike Green Space beside the Old Bank of Commerce.

Something Zany for Everyone

Dawson City, Y.T. - The Elmendorf AFB Force V Band from Anchorage, Alaska will kick off the opening ceremonies of Dawson City's famous Discovery Days on Friday, August 13 with an opening concert.

This is just part of an already fun-filled, activity-oriented series of events in the month of August in this famous gold rush era town.

Discovery Days, now in its centennial count down, centennial-minus-three has long been a family-oriented summer celebration in the Yukon Territory featuring games, sporting activity, children's events, parades, dancing and music. This year Discovery Days is set for August 13, 14 and 15.

Following the opening ceremony on August 13 the first clue for the "Go for Gold" treasure hunt with the top prize being gold jewellery valued at \$1,000.00 will be distributed. The hunt continues through out the weekend. Clues are available from the businesses around Dawson City.

The three-day event has a full schedule starting with a pancake breakfast on Saturday along with a parade at noon, 5 and 10-k runs, children's events, a mini-golf tournament, a canoe race, claim-staking and gold panning.

The first day wraps up with the Force V featured at a "Concert on the Dike" at 8 p.m. according to Akio Saito of the Discovery Days Committee. "The participation by the Elmendorf AFB band is not only a highlight, but a show of the good relationships between the Yukon and Alaska," he said. Force V will play a variety of country/western, rock and other favourites.

"Sunday's events are equally as fun for the family," said Saito. Following a pancake breakfast, a raft race on the Klondike River at Bear Creek is the first event of the day followed by a mud bog, demolition derby, horseshoe tournament as well as a golf tournament at the Top of The World Golf Club. A barbecue and family dance at 6 p.m. on Dawson City's famous Front Street wind up the day's events.

For those still ready for action on Monday, there is a shooting competition as the finale at the Quiggley Shooting Range.

Saito indicated a softball tournament will also be held on August 13-16 with hopes that visiting Alaska teams will enter as they have done previously. In the past, teams from Tanacross, Tok and Northway have participated.

In keeping this strictly a family event there will be no alcohol served at any Discovery Days committee-sponsored event.



IN FRONT AND BEHIND THE SCENES AT

THE 1993 DAWSON CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

by Brent Morrison and Liza Sardi

Dawson City's 15th annual Music Festival ended with a stage packed full of the festival's varied performers playing classic rock songs.

From *Knockin' on Heaven's Door* to *Burnin' Love*, *Woolly Bully* and closing Festival Anthem *I Shall be Released* the musicians gave it their all. And when it was over there was nothing left, three (technically four because it was well past midnight) days of festivities had ended.

As usual festival weather, the skies were unstable but sun seemed to battle out the rain. Those without

tickets were welcome to stay outside and listen. The beer garden, which took up most of Minto Park, was open to those with or without tickets.

This year's entertainers included: Annie Avery and friends, Sundog, Matthew Lien, Kent Greentrio, Crawfish Fiesta, Lynn Miles, Mother Tongue, Gregory Hoskins and the Stick People, and headliners, the Skydiggers. Local performers Dale Cooper, Grant Hartwick and Lee Worden appeared as Weenie Tatoes for the childrens concert along with Simmons.

Emcee Al Simmons introduced

Sundog to start the Festival off. The First Nation foursome played indigenous instruments from around the world. "It's our honour to be here tonight to share this music with you," Phil Gatensbey stated. Nedra McKay, Doug Smarch and Ken Bloor made up the rest of the band.

It was Sundog's only performance as part of the main stage performers and the band took the time to explain about their instruments, which are hand made.

Their set was short but it took awhile for Smarch and Bloor to pack up all the instruments. "We're always the last," Smarch stated, "we're non-smokers."

Mother Tongue threatened to steal the entire festival. Their reggae, African, soul and funk sound had audiences dancing up a storm. Predictions by some that Gregory Hoskins might steal the show from the Skydiggers couldn't have been more wrong. Hoskins first performance was admittedly disappointing. It may have had something to do with the bands placement on the roster, they were the last performance for an audience that had travelled across the Yukon for the renowned festival.

Hoskins style was a bit too mellow to follow Mother Tongue on the first night of the three day festival. For their second performance they sped up their songs to meet the audience expectations for those who were more interested in dancing than listening to the thoughtful and deep personal songs. It's was the audi-

ence's loss.

The Skydiggers seemed to play exactly what the audience demanded. They rocked the crowd at both their performances, and were called back again and again for encores.

The festival was co-hosted by John Steins and Al Simmons. Steins is a talented guitarist, pinunaker and one of the founders of the music festival. Simmons certainly outdid Ralph Benmurgui's performance as emcee last year. He had the crowd entertained playing his harmonica with his nose and encouraging audience participation in the song "Head and shoulders, knees and toes." The time between set changes passed quickly, almost too fast for some.

Over the course of the weekend, 21 different workshops were held, but artists, such as Mother Tongue's Yared Tesfaye were disappointed that they didn't get the chance to share and learn. Some workshops turned into jam sessions where band members showed off their particular talents.

The Skydiggers seemed miscast at the reggae workshop. They are a folk/rock band.

The festival hosted more workshops than last year, by starting them early in the morning. One Lynn Miles fan showed up at her Sunday morning concert with his toothbrush in his pocket.

The craft show adjacent to the main tent was a rainbow of crafts, tie-dyed clothes and handmade jewellery. As usual the music festi-

val t-shirts were sold out by the first night.

The idea for a Dawson City music festival evolved in 1978, when Monina Wittfoth, John Steins and David Essig were at the Frostbite Festival in Whitehorse. The first festival was held in a hay field in across the Yukon River. It was funded mostly through donations from local businesses — including salmon, vehicles, and 18 gold nuggets for the 18 performers. The first dance was held in Diamond Tooth Gerties. The price for the dance, barbecue and concert was \$10, compared to \$50 this year. The first festival turned a profit of \$1,000.

Since 1979 the festival's organizing committee has been run almost entirely through volunteers. This year the festival had 10 members on their board of directors. There are only two paid employees — a production manager and an office clerk.

Since it's inception, the festival has had only a few technical changes. In 1985 a tent was purchased, which doubled attendance. In 1990, a second tent was linked to the first to make the venue even larger. The tent now holds about 700 people. This year a new tarp was purchased, though some say it doesn't quite fit. A craft fair and childrens concerts have also been added.

The festival has earned a reputation for bringing in acts that are on the verge of stardom. In the past Jane Siberry, Crash Test Dummies, Blue Rodeo, Barenaked Ladies, the and Fred Penner have played.

ATTENTION YUKON CRAFTSWOMEN:

The Women's Directorate is looking for someone to create five pieces of art or craft work. These items will be presented to the winners of the **Yukon Women's Day Awards** which will be held at Mt. McIntyre on Oct. 7, 1993.

If you are interested, please submit a short proposal, with pictures if available, describing your work. Must be received by the Women's Directorate before August 20, 1993. Total cost not to exceed \$500.

For more information call 667-3030 or 1-800-661-0408, extension 3030.

Yukon
Women's Directorate



Photo by: Liza Sardi

Sundog had the crowd dancing during Saturday's TouchThe Earth workshop at the Gazebo. The First Nation band impressed performers and spectators alike with their traditional musi, instruments and philosophy.



Photo by: Liza Sardi

Andy Maize of the Sky-diggers leads Matthew Lien, Lynn Miles, Gregory Hoskins and the other musicians who took part in the Festival's grand finale Sunday night.

The final set featured over a dozen musicians who performed classic rock anthems such as Great Balls of Fire, Woolly Bully, and I Shall Be Released.



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Photo by: Liza Sardi

Gregory Hoskins leads the Stick People through another set. The group played the first and last nights of the festival, including the huge finale.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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This notification that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will be disposing of one cabin located near the North Fork Klondike River Bridge. The site is located at 64° 03' North, 138° 37' West.

This situation is in conflict of Section 20 of the Territorial Lands Act.

Any enquiries regarding this matter may be directed to the Dawson District Office prior to 3:00 pm on August 24, 1993.

Telephone: (403) 993-5468



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et du Nord Canada

Canada



Photos by: Brent Morrison

Above: Kent Greentree plays his "disgereedoo" during the Open Jam Barbecue hosted by The Brash Monkeys. Elena Garde and Mike Jacobs help with guitar. Right: Garry Comeau of Crawfish Fiesta wasn't just blowing in the wind, he did a Bob Dylan impersonation during the final set of Gregory Hoskins and the Stick People Sunday night.



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OPEN DAILY

Just (Brash) Monkeying Around

by Brent Morrison

The Brash Monkeys never took the main stage at the Dawson Music Festival, but the quintet from Hazelton B.C did perform a couple of sets at other locations.

On Friday afternoon, Mike Jacobs, Dave and Erly Silver, Elena Garde and Paul Glover did an interview on CFYT's noon hour Tumbleweed Radio program and played three songs live in the studio.

On Saturday, the group used a solar panel to power their amplifiers and microphones during their open barbecue jam outside the main tent.

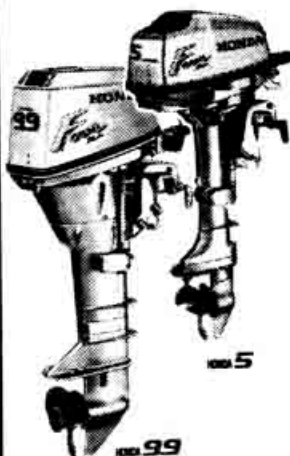
Musician Kent Greentree (playing an instrument resembling a mammoth tusk), and members of Mother Tongue joined in, providing a free pseudo-folk concert for the hundreds of people enjoying the beer garden.

Although the band was occasionally drowned out by the sound check going on in the tent everyone seemed to enjoy the effort.

On Sunday the group held a "Bush Music" workshop where they again featured their solar panel and their intricate mix of guitars, mandolins, pan flutes, congas, and harmonicas.

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The Mother of all dance bands Sundog and their many weird instruments

by Brent Morrison and Liza Sardi
Toronto's Mother Tongue turned the Friday and Saturday night portions of the Dawson Music Festival into dance parties.

Combining the sounds of reggae with West African, Ethiopian and latin music, the band took the festival by storm and had anyone who felt like dancing up and doing it.

The band is made up of Celina Carrol, Carlos Cesta, Rachel Melas, Conny Nowe, Yared Tesfaye, and Chip Yarwood and they play together as one incredibly tight unit. They play a variety of instruments and lyrics shift between English and Amharic (Ethiopian) seamlessly, the rhythm of the band a constant that keeps everyone moving.

The band has been labelled one of Toronto's most diverse world beat bands.

Mother Tongue has played a variety of festivals across Canada including the Frostbite festival in Whitehorse, Afrofest, Mayworks, Northern Lights, WOMAD, Blue Skies and the Hillside Festival.

While the Friday night crowd seemed hesitant at first, the band's infectious rhythms quickly won them over.

"It's simple. They feel they can

trust us," bassist Melas answered Saturday afternoon to why their music had such a strong effect on

Tesfaye is so enamoured with the music festival scene that he wants to launch a Canadian folk festival in his Ethiopian homeland.

He has embraced music as the solution to Ethiopia's problems. After all,

music changed his life.

Mother Tongue

people.

"I think it has a lot to do with our rhythm section," vocalist Carrol said. "It's all groove music, right?"

The group performed at Saturday's reggae workshop, and unlike the Skydiggers performed actual reggae numbers.

Well over 200 people attended the workshop, which was basically a mini-concert, and when the band performed Love Song, an original number they had played the night before, even the tech crews couldn't help dancing along.

The crowd began chanting for an encore even before band members left the stage. Mother Tongue obliged with another song, their last of the festival.

Melas also pointed out that there is more than simple rhythms found within the band, "We do have enough top end variety, intricacies, to keep it interesting."



photo by Liza Sardi

Doug Smarch and Ken Bloor rattle away.

instruments are too weird, just the people who play them."

"These are deer hoof rattles," Gatensby holds them up. "Now there's a bunch of barefooted deer." The audience laughs as Gatensby injects his wry monologue into the seminar.

"This is a killer whale flute, but the fin broke, so now it's a dolphin." The lines come one after another from Gatensby. He's a member of Sundog, a Whitehorse group with Smarch, Ken Bloor and Nedra McKay. Their name comes from the reflection the sun makes off the snow in winter. It looks as if there are two suns.

"Well, we can't just be them guys," says Gatensby.

Sundog has been together for two years. They started out playing background music for a play at the Justice Conference in 1991. They don't do the bar scene. In the past they have played the Frostbite and storytelling festival. They are planning to attend the Bald Eagle music festival in Alaska. In October they have been invited to play the International Indigenous Cultural Festival.

"We just go where we're asked to play," says Gatensby.

They are enjoying the Dawson City Music festival because they say it gives them an opportunity to see new instruments and hear other music.

"It's an incredible learning experience," says McKay.

"It's like a magic show," says Gatensby.

The group is still finding their way around their music. Last year they listened to a northern Alberta

drum band. They sat around and tried to learn the songs and chants they heard. They say the music so far has come to them. They call it "spirit food." They call themselves "messengers," not composers of the music they sing.

The music they play comes to them when they pray together. The songs are given to them by the spirit. Their very first song was the Rain Song.

When they play they ask the audience to come with them. Many of their sounds come from nature, water, animals, sun and wind.

The uniqueness of their music may come from the instruments. Most of the flutes and pipes come from Smarch. He said he learned to make wind instruments from Whitehorse drummer Cameron Black. Smarch has always been interested in wind instruments and Peruvian music. He would ask friends who were visiting South America to bring him back a Lacota flute, but he got tired of waiting. Black taught him how to make the first cuts. His favourite flute is still the first he ever made.

"It didn't sound the way I wanted it, but it was beautiful," says Smarch.

Since then he's been making wind instruments out of everything he can get his hands on.

"He once made a flute out of pen while we were waiting for a movie," says McKay.

"He made one out of a Pringles box for me," says Gatensby.

"Don't show him anything," warns Bloor.

They say he even made a whistle out of the turkey's wishbone last Christmas. It's not so strange, according to Gatensby, natives have traditionally made use of every part of the animals they hunted.

The other instrument are traded from other musicians.

Unfortunately Sundog played centre stage at the festival, only once, on Friday night. They were the first band to play at the festival and might have been easy to forget had they not been at many of the workshops.

The group doesn't have an album out yet, but one of their songs appears on the CBC recording A Day in Paradise.

"Thanks you," says Gatensby at the end of the weird instrument workshop and walks away from the microphone before he turns back again. "Thanks for coming out, you're all weird."



photo by Brent Morrison

3/4 of DikdhuWillie, Frank and Barnacle Bob perform on the main stage.



So sorry

we misspelled these names last month:

Angela Lopuschuck

Sandy Pilon

Dr. Bob MacDougall

Joanne Smith

Chuck Holloway



photo by Liza Sardi

Nearly rivalling Steve Page of Barenaked Ladies, Skydiggers lead singer Andy Maize boogies down.

SKYDIGGERS DIG FESTIVAL

by Brent Morrison

The Skydiggers have played numerous venues in their years together, but festivals are still a relatively new experience.

"We've always been a folk/rock band," says drummer Joel Anderson, "but didn't play the folk festivals," he says. "The band hasn't done a lot of festival work and it's been really good for opening up everybody's eyes to the different kinds of music."

"This is a perfect size," He adds, "I like the idea of not worrying about the weather. That's the biggest problem with Canada in the summer, the weather's wacky."

As the headlining act, the Skydiggers had Friday night off and took advantage of their time to see some

of Dawson's sights. Diamond Tooth Gerties was one stop for the Toronto natives, "I think we all lost a little bit of money," Anderson admits, "Andy [Maize, the lead singer] got a few hours gambling in; he had a really good time."

"In Ontario it's so conservative, it's Victorian. 'Stop drinking by quarter to one', it's craziness. They have all those people there, they could be making a fortune."

Anderson has been with the band less than a year, but has played many different shows with them, "We play a lot of University venues. At those it's generally some students who have been drinking and they want to party, and we can put on a show for them that's quite up-tempo. Then when we get to the theatres and

we'll pull out some of the more subtle stuff."

There was very little of "the subtle stuff" during their two festival performances, "At a show you want to make it entertaining, so we probably tip the balance a little more. If there's people dancing and jumping up and down you want to keep the flow going."

Anderson also enjoyed taking part in Sunday afternoon's percussion workshop, "You don't get to do that in Toronto. Only at festivals do you generally get together 10 drummers that you don't generally hang out with. Usually bands have one drummer, or two. So getting 10 of them together was pretty cool."

The Skydiggers being featured in the Reggae workshop was still a bit of a mystery to him, "That was a weird thing," He admits, "Our manager supposedly said something like 'the Skydiggers are all into reggae.'"

The band played three rocking numbers at the workshop and some back-up instruments.

Lead singer Andy Maize seemed as amused as everyone else with the band's reggae billing. He introduced each song as, "this is the only reggae song we know."

Increasing popularity has meant changes for the band, "We're to the point now where we don't open as much, we probably have bands open for us some of the time."

But whether the headliner or the opening act, the band is still influenced by others, "Whoever you play with you're going to be listening to them."

Anderson enjoyed the enthusiastic crowd, many of whom had never heard of the Skydiggers before.

He says talk of the festival does get around back east, "This isn't like a regular tour stop, it's definitely something that gets talked about because it's such a unique place. It's a nice intimate venue."

If their performance here is any indication, they will follow in the footsteps of several other "unknown" festival headliners whose careers seemed to skyrocket after playing in Dawson.



photo by Brent Morrison

Skydiggers guitarist Peter Cash "kneaded" a little more emphasis on his strumming action.

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Left: Rebecca Campbell, back-up for Lynn Miles, filled out many of Mile's song. What a disappointment that she wasn't on Mile's album "Chalk this one up to the moon."



photos by Liza Sardi

Above: Celina Carrol and Yared Tesfaye, with their band, Mother Tongue, stole the spotlight from Gregory Hoskins on Friday night.

Left: Lynn Miles on centrestage, playing one of the many songs she wrote.

Music belongs to women

by Liza Sardi

There was a touch of resentment in Lynne Miles speech when she welcomed those who gathered in St. Paul's Church for the women's music workshop.

"Since more than half the population of the world are women, music really belongs to us," said Miles.

It's obvious the Miles has been shuffled off to this seminar before at previous festivals. The other (women) musicians who sat next to Miles nodded in agreement at her words.

Miles launched into a difficult solo instrumental piece on her guitar that she had written herself. The audience that filled the church, and overflowed onto the steps and front

lawn of the church sat hushed as her fingers plucked away. She called the piece "Don't quit your day job."

Rebecca Campbell, Mile's back-up singer, was up next with a melancholy Irish tune about a bride who married the wrong man. She had more than a few of the audience members in tears by the end.

Local musicians Pat Henman and Elizabeth Logue also joined the imported talent. Logue stumbled at first but the audience seemed more than willing to encourage her and the results were worth the wait.

Lynn Simmons, back-up singer for Gregory Hoskins, gave an equally impressive speech about women composers. Simmons said that she had studied music in uni-

versity but that her curriculum had very few women composers. So she started studying them independently and was amazed to find so many. She sang a song about a woman who "does not know her beauty." It was originally written for three singers but the range and strength of Simmons voice filled out the song.

Annie Avery contributed a humorous song about a "suburban" woman cowboy, who "shops for a range." Avery wrote the song while she was in Alberta, where she found the materialism overwhelming.

The women's music workshops are traditionally popular ones. This was one workshop where the musicians "shared" their work instead of showing off for the audience.

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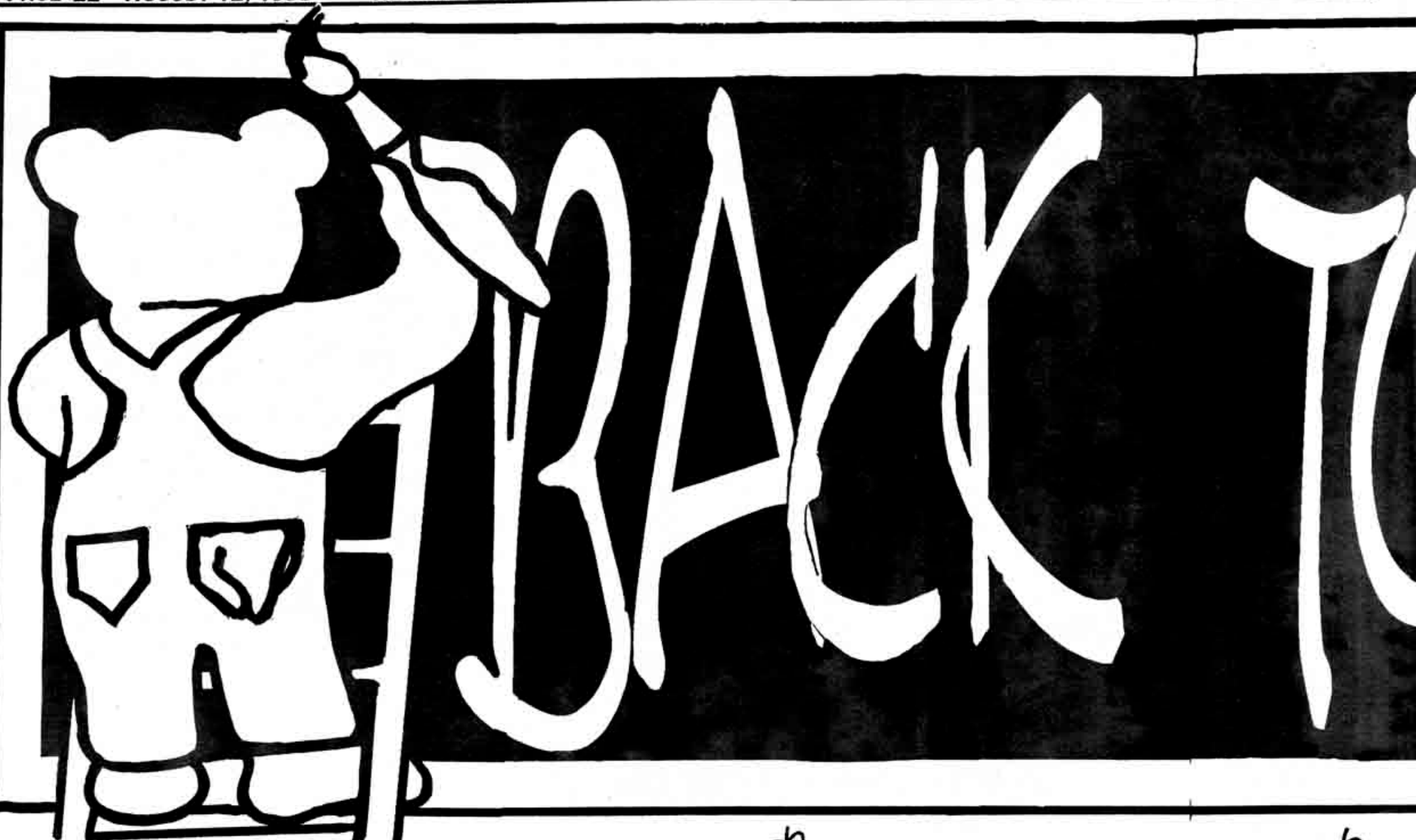
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