

Call number: 02-00-133-20 PT.3

World Eskimo Olympics

Summary created by: Varpu Lotvonen

Date of summary's creation: 03/10/2014

Series: ATS-1 Educational Satellite Project Tapes

Notes: Original in 7-inch tape, master copy on CD. Produced by Roger McPherson. THESE TAPES WERE PRODUCED AS A PART OF AN EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM NOW DEFUNCT AND WERE BROADCAST OVER THE RADIO FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

The recording begins with singing and drumming. [Unclear talking, voice levels fade in and out.] More singing and drumming. [The volume fluctuates.]

9:29 A woman says that her association, the Urban Natives United dancing group is from Anchorage. They were formed in 1970 and they came to Fairbanks last year in order to participate in games [World Eskimo Olympics]. They had such a wonderful time that they have returned. Their performers are John Kakarak [sp? Kaktaruak?] who is their 79-year old teacher, and his wife Alice. They have Olive Miller, Anaktuk Saklook [sp? Sukaluk?], Ben Snowball, Pete Sinjaki [sp?], Grace Luceer [sp?], Isabel Tukelak [sp?], the speaker herself, Jean Stretch, and her daughter Margaret, and Charles Luceer [sp?]. Their performers are from St. Mary's Igloo, Wales, Teller, Point Hope, Stephen's Village, Little Diomedede, Nome and Anchorage. They are going to do two [unclear] dances. One of them will be Daniel's no. 2 from Little Diomedede and the other one is [Unclear] from Wales, [Alaska]. [Unclear noises.]

11:30 Singing and drumming starts quietly. Roger says that he is recording the Anchorage dancers but that the white drummer beats too loud.

An announcer says that they have one more demonstration dance "after this." He'd like to announce [Break in the recording.]

15:00 Drumming and singing starts again. [Break in the recording.]

16:24 Roger asks someone if he participated in Eskimo games when he was young. He says he did, and that his favorite games were running and jumping. Roger asks how far he usually ran in the contest. He tells that it was about 20-24 miles. He doesn't remember how many hours it took. He also participated in high kicking when he was younger and got maybe up to 7 feet. He never tried knuckle hop.

Roger asks if they did any games that are not done anymore. He tells that they had the same games that are done today. There are other games that are not done at least in same style. They don't do running. Roger asks about jumping and the man tells that there are two jumps. He doesn't know what it is called. Sometimes people jump 10 feet.

Roger asks if he ever did the blanket toss a lot. He tells that he did it in springtime. They celebrate whale hunting with blanket toss. Roger asks if mostly girls go up, but the interviewer says that anybody does

and that some men are pretty good at it. They have blanket toss “after big times too.” There are over 2,000 people in Barrow. [Break in the recording.]

20:16 [Breaks in the recording.] Roger says that he’s recording Point Barrow dancers who are doing a non-competitive dance. [Singing and drumming begins, sounds like Pete Sovalik’s dance group. They sing songs, which are followed by applause.] Roger says that that was recorded from distance [unclear] feet away. [More songs are sung.]

31:14 Roger says that during the previous song, he started up close to the men and moved back to the women when drumming started. [Another song.]

[End of the recording.]