

ULU NEWS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 2006 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES WWW.AWG2006.ORG ISSUE NO. 4 / MARCH 8, 2006

Medal Counts

Alaska:

Gold:	17
Silver:	16
Bronze:	16
Total:	49

Alberta North:

Gold:	5
Silver:	6
Bronze:	2
Total:	13

Greenland:

Gold:	1
Silver:	3
Bronze:	2
Total:	6

Northwest Territories:

Gold:	10
Silver:	8
Bronze:	14
Total:	32

Nunavik Québec:

Gold:	3
Silver:	3
Bronze:	3
Total:	9

Nunavut:

Gold:	7
Silver:	5
Bronze:	6
Total:	18

Saami:

Gold:	3
Silver:	4
Bronze:	5
Total:	12

Yamal-Nenets:

Gold:	4
Silver:	5
Bronze:	3
Total:	12

Yukon:

Gold:	7
Silver:	7
Bronze:	10
Total:	24

Weather Forecast



Partly Sunny
28/0



Photo by Allan Rudisill

Paul Beaulne of Team Nunavik catches seven feet of air in the Inuit 2-foot high kick. See article page 4.

Home Sweet Home: A day in the life of a participant

By KATHERINE WELLS
Ulu News

The athletes and participants in the Arctic Winter games live in "villages" quite unlike the villages they call home in the Circumpolar North. However, while they may not look like home, almost all the comforts are available.

Several schools on the Kenai Peninsula have been transformed into "villages" where the participants eat, sleep and meet new friends. About 300 are staying at Kenai Central High School, and similar numbers are living at Skyview High School, Soldotna High School, Redoubt Elementary, Sears Elementary, and Kenai Middle School, according to Alan Fields, Accommodations Chairperson.

"We had about 150 school kids stay after school and help set up the rooms and beds. They were really excited about the games after setting up the rooms," said Fields. There are 25 to 30 bedrooms set up in each of the villages with about 16 beds to a room. The Games purchased six truckloads of mattresses and seven truckloads of bed frames that will be used throughout the games and then given to the Canada Games to be used for traveling athletes this summer.

"These beds will probably make their way to the 2008 Arctic Winter Games to be held

in Yellowknife. It's recycling on a grand scale," said Terry Brookes, a member of the 2008 AWG host committee.

The participants were each given a sleeping bag and duffel when they arrived in Kenai for the games. The duffel bags were donated by Coca Cola and the sleeping bags were purchased for the athletes to keep by the Kenai host society. After finding out the bags would not be ready until April, a secondary source had to be found to provide the bags, according to Fields.

"Drivers from Peterkin Distributors drove non-stop from the East Coast to get the bags here on time. They got here on Thursday, the day before athletes got here," said Fields.

"I have had trouble sleeping," said Cody Pequeno, a member of Team Alaska. One night a boy was sleepwalking and ended up in his bed by accident, according to Pequeno.

"I woke up and saw a head at the foot of my bed. I thought I was dreaming and went back to sleep," said Pequeno.

The athletes have cafeterias at some of the villages that provide their meals. About 3,000 meals are served daily at each cafeteria and snacks are supplied for the athletes between meals, according to Fields.

"We are feeding the spirit within!" said Fields. Some of



Photo by Allan Rudisill

AWG participants use the internet café at KCHS

the food was donated by local vendors, such as salmon by Kenai Wild, while the Arctic Winter Games provided the rest.

"The food is good. I feel like I have been eating too much," said Pequeno. The food is untraditional for some of the visiting participants. The hamburgers, fries and sodas are quite different from the bread and milk eaten in Norway, according to Rolf Morten, a cultural contingent from Team Saami.

"It's good, but to eat it every day gets old," said Morten.

The athletes and performers have other comforts of home at the schools. There is a

participant's lounge for the athletes to relax in with couches, magazines, board games and a TV.

"They have even thrown birthday parties in here for the participants," said Fields.

Homesickness hasn't been a problem for Pequeno, he is enrolled in Mt. Edgecombe boarding school in Sitka and is used to being away from home. He has been using KCHS's internet café to e-mail and the internet protocol phone system to call home.

The internet café is open from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. for participant use. The athletes and performers use the lab to e-mail, play games and even keep up on homework.



Photo By Robert Bell

Beverly Stavley answers the phone in the AWG Communications Command Center AWG Communications Command Center keeps everyone on the same page

By ROBERT BELL
Ulu News

From Girdwood to Homer, in the event of an emergency such as an earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruption or even an avalanche such as the one that occurred last night at Mile 54 of the Seward Highway, communications are the key to responsiveness.

The Communications Command Center at Arctic Winter Games headquarters in Kenai serves as the nerve center for ensuring those that need to know are in the loop. Radios, telephones, and an array of computers and monitors, fill the center.

Even "the buses used for transporting athletes have radios installed," said Communications Chairperson Kathy Dawson. "And when they drive to Seward, Homer or Girdwood, they are escorted by Alaska state troop-

ers also equipped with radios" using the same frequency.

With staff, equipment and bandwidth on loan from the U.S. Department of Defense, anything and everything that happens at every sport venue, athlete village, and points in between is communicated effectively and efficiently. In the event of an emergency, medical and security personnel, and Laidlaw transportation can be dispatched quickly according to Dawson.

Installation of the communication system was done by a five-person crew that arrived February 22, and was quickly completed allowing two members to return home while three members remain to operate the system.

The equipment is very expensive, but is made cost effective because "it is used over and over at different events," said DOD Special Event

Coordinator Bill Sauder. "This same equipment is used for Boy Scout Jamborees, the Olympics, and Presidential Inaugurations," he said. The actual cost is equated to "a couple thousand dollars because it is used over and over," said Sauder.

Good sportsmanship, not Ulu medal count, determines Hodgson's Trophy winner

By RHONDA LARSON
Ulu News

The Hodgson's Trophy is given to the Arctic Winter Games contingent that demonstrates what Webster's Dictionary defines as "a person (or persons) who can take loss of defeat without complaint, or victory without gloating, and who treats their opponents with fairness, generosity, courtesy."

While sportsmanship helps to define the camaraderie manifested by all throughout the Games, only one contingent will be given the coveted award.

The trophy is described as being an "actual piece of Inuit artwork. Its main feature is a more than 1.5 m. high narwhal tusk mounted on a soapstone

scrimshaw. A carved walrus wraps itself around the tusk at the base, and a carved bear clings to the tusk's upper reaches, symbolizing the efforts of participants to reach for the top through their endeavors." The trophy was donated to the Games in 1978 by Stuart Hodgson, one of the Games' founders.

Fair play pins are also awarded in recognition of an athlete, coach, official or other participant who displays good sportsmanship and fair play. These pins are awarded by International Committee members or on the recommendation of the Chef de Missions. Pin trading is an important cultural aspect of the AWG and these pins are considered a badge of honor and help to exemplify the spirit of the Games.

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Up to the Minute Results

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Yukon Boys slip past Nunavut on the hardwood

By CHARLES PULLIAM
Ulu News

The Yukon boys basketball team snuck away with a 67-65 win Tuesday against Nunavut at Cook Inlet Academy in Soldotna.

"They outplayed us tonight...the only thing that wasn't in their favor was the final score," Yukon boys coach Jamie Shaw said.

Tim Steele-Beaver of Yukon sank 1-of-2 from the foul line with six seconds remaining in the game. Steele-Beaver finished with 19 points to lead Yukon. Nunavut's Jamie Innuaraq's desperation jumper at the buzzer fell short as Yukon pulled out the win.

"We had a few mistakes in the end there, but this is by far our best game we've played," said Nunavut's Sam Carter.

Carter picked up his fifth foul with only 39 seconds remaining and was forced to watch the end of the game from the bench. He scored 17 points in the losing effort.

"That final 30 seconds or so was the longest of my life," Carter said of fouling out.

Both teams started the game rather slow offensively and combined for 18 turnovers in the first quarter of the game. Nunavut stretched their slim 12-11 lead after the first quarter to 32-26 by halftime.



Photo By Charles Pulliam

Zach Carey (#12) of Yukon battles Jamie Innuaraq (#20) of Nunavut for a rebound, while Robin Cunningham (#11) and Johnny Pederson (#13) look on.

"It was a very back and forth game. I think my guys really underestimated them (Nunavut)," Shaw said.

In the third quarter, Nunavut maintained a slim lead despite shooting only 33-percent from the floor to set up the intense fourth quarter.

"We played our game and had faith in each other," Nunavut boys coach Qajaq Robinson said, "Defensively

this game, we were relentless."

Nunavut forced 31 Yukon turnovers throughout the game.

Aaron Pederson drained five 3-pointers and scored 19 points to lead Nunavut in the loss. Peter Ohokak added 18 points for Nunavut, while Jiarui Liang scored 11 points and David Peterson had eight points for Yukon.

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2006 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

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Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Wednesday Sports Schedule

Alpine Skiing

Alyeska Resort, Girdwood

10 a.m. Female	Giant Slalom - First Run
11 a.m. Male	Giant Slalom - First Run
1 p.m. Female	Giant Slalom - Second Run
2 p.m. Male	Giant Slalom - Second Run
3 p.m.	Medal Presentations



Badminton

Soldotna Middle School, Soldotna

Round 1

Alberta vs. Nunavut
Alaska vs. NWT
Greenland vs. Yukon

Round 2

Yukon vs. Nunavut
Greenland vs. Alaska
Alberta vs. NWT

Round 3

Alaska vs. Nunavut
Greenland vs. NWT
Alberta vs. Yukon

Round 4

Alberta vs. Alaska
Greenland vs. Nunavut
Yukon vs. NWT

Round 5

Alberta vs. Greenland
Alaska vs. Yukon
NWT vs. Nunavut

9 a.m. Singles-Round 5

1:30 p.m. Doubles-Round 4

3 p.m. Mixed-Round 1

2:15 p.m. Doubles-Round 5



Basketball

Cook Inlet Academy, Soldotna

7 a.m. Female	Yukon vs. NWT
9 a.m. Male	Yukon vs. NWT
11 a.m. Female	Nunavut vs. Alaska
1 p.m. Male	Nunavut vs. Alaska
3 p.m. Female	Alaska vs. Yukon
5 p.m. Male	Alaska vs. Yukon



Curling

Homer Ice Rink, Homer

10:00 a.m. Junior Male	Yukon vs. Nunavut
Junior Female	Nunavut vs. Alberta
Junior Female	Alaska vs. NWT
Junior Female	Alberta vs. Alaska
3:00 p.m. Junior Female	Yukon vs. Nunavut
Junior Male	NWT vs. Yukon
Junior Male	Alaska vs. Nunavut
Junior Female	Alaska vs. Alberta



Dene Games

Mt. View Elementary, Kenai

10 a.m. All	Finger Pull Competitions
6 p.m.	Medal Presentations



Dog Mushing

Soldotna Air Field, Soldotna

10:30 a.m. Juvenile	10 km x 5 Dogs Individual
12 p.m. Junior	13 km x 7 Dogs Individual



Figure Skating

Soldotna Sports Center, Soldotna

5:30 p.m. Level 1	Freestyle Program
Level 2	Freestyle Program
Level 3	Freestyle Program
Level 4	Freestyle Program



Hockey

Soldotna Sports Center, Soldotna

8:15 a.m. Women	Yukon vs. Alberta
10 a.m. Midget	Yukon vs. Nunavut
11:45 a.m. Bantam	NWT vs. Nunavut
3:30 p.m. Midget	Alaska vs. NWT

Kenai Ice Rink, Kenai

1:30 p.m. Bantam	Yukon vs. Alberta
3:15 p.m. Women	Alberta vs. Alaska
5:30 p.m. Bantam	Alaska vs. Nunavut



Indoor Soccer

Soldotna High School, Soldotna

8 a.m. Junior Female	Alaska vs. Nunavut
9 a.m. Junior Male	Yukon vs. Nunavut
10 a.m. Int. Female	Yukon vs. Greenland
11 a.m. Juvenile Female	Alaska vs. Nunavut
12 p.m. Juvenile Male	Nunavut vs. NWT
1 p.m. Juvenile Female	Alberta vs. NWT
2 p.m. Juvenile Male	Yukon vs. Greenland
3 p.m. Int. Female	Nunavut vs. NWT
4 p.m. Juvenile Female	Yukon vs. Greenland
5 p.m. Juvenile Male	Alaska vs. Alberta



Inuit Games

Kenai Central High School Auditorium

9 a.m. Junior	Alaska High Kick
10:30 a.m. Open	Alaska High Kick
1:30 p.m. Open	Sledge Jump
3:30 p.m. Junior	Sledge Jump
5 p.m. Open Male	Airplane



Snowboarding

Alyeska Resort, Girdwood

10 a.m. Giant Slalom



Snowshoe Biathlon

Skyview High School, Soldotna

1 p.m. Sprint Races 3 km



Table Tennis

Redoubt Elementary, Soldotna

10 a.m. Juvenile Mixed Doubles Events
10:30 a.m. Junior Mixed Doubles Events
11 a.m. Juvenile Mixed Doubles Events
11:30 a.m. Junior Mixed Doubles Events
12 p.m. Juvenile Mixed Doubles Events
1 p.m. Juvenile Mixed Doubles Events
1:30 p.m. Junior Mixed Doubles Events
2 p.m. Juvenile Mixed Doubles Events



Volleyball

Skyview High School, Soldotna

9 a.m. Female	Alaska vs. Greenland	Court 1
Male	Alberta vs. NWT	Court 2
11 a.m. Female	Nunavut vs. NWT	Court 1
1 p.m. Male	Nunavut vs. NWT	Court 1
Male	Yukon vs. Greenland	Court 2
3 p.m. Female	Yukon vs. Greenland	Court 1
5 p.m. Male	Yukon vs. Alaska	Court 1
Male	Greenland vs. Nunavut	Court 2



Wrestling

Kenai Recreation Center, Kenai

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Individual Competitions



Photo By Allan Rudisill

Josh Carr, Team Yukon kicks for the rafters in the two-foot Inuit high kick.

Kicking up a storm in two-foot Inuit fashion

By KELLIE MASSA
Ulu News

Once used for communication and a test of strength and endurance during the winter months in villages, the two-foot high kick has become one of the more popular events at the Arctic Winter Games.

Participants in this year's Games for the junior two-foot high kick included teams from Alaska, Nunavut, Nunavik-Quebec, Yukon, Greenland, Northern Alberta and Northwest Territories.

The athletes practice year-round and compete at events like the Peninsula Winter Games, said Courtney Sullivan, Inuit chairperson.

"This is my first year and it is awesome," said Josh Carr of Team Yukon, "I am meeting lots of people from all over."

"We train all year, two times a week. It is like a club for the youth," said Helga Nielsen, Greenland's coach. "In October 2005 we picked our team and had athletes try out from many communities and villages."

The junior girls two-foot high kick largest leap was 6'0" by Team Alaska's Jasmine Simmons, and the junior men's top height was 7'4" by Alec Airo from Nunavik.

During the finals, coaches and teammates talked to each athlete and went over strategy for the jump. The athletes got the crowd going with rhythmic clapping and throat singing.

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Tuesday Event Results



Photo By Dawn Fitzpatrick

Juvenile girls on the snowshoe starting line Experience not always on winner's side in Snowshoe matches

By DAWN FITZPATRICK
ULU News

There is a wide assortment of experience levels at the snowshoe competitions. Many participants have never been on snowshoes, some have family members that have competed previously while others have years of experience. However, since the snowshoes are the same length, width and weight, there is no equipment advantage when it comes to competitions.

Without equipment advantages, Arctic Winter Games matches often come down to who is the best athlete and not necessarily the person with the most experience on the 'shoes.

Leah May, a 15-year-old junior with Team Quebec, from Kuujuaq, Nunavik, came in second at Monday's 100 meter sprint. She was unsure how she would do because she is sore, she said. She plays hockey at

her school and had no experience prior to the tryouts.

Another competitor, Aisa Surusilak, an 18-year-old from Puvirnituk, Quebec, also with Team Quebec, had never competed on snowshoes either. He is a goalie on his hockey team and is also "sore today but had fun yesterday." He lost a snowshoe in Monday's sprint and went from 1st to last in the 100 meter race.

Someone with experience under his belt, Northwest Territories Team's Jeffery Robert, 17-years-old, placed in the top two in his qualifying events. His family has been competitive and he has raced since he was 15 years old.

Russia Team's, Tanya Somova, had "help from Team Alaska with how to put the snowshoes on so they stay tied," said coach, Grigof Khangelidier, from Yamal. Tanya is 16-years-old and has no previous experience but trained by running.

Alpine skiing

Slalom female, male
NOT AVAILABLE

Biathlon

Individual 7.5K
NOT AVAILABLE

Cross-country skiing

* 500-meter sprint, midget female
Gold: Janelle E. Greer, Yukon
Silver: Mackenzie R. Kanady, Alaska
Bronze: Frida Tokle, Saami

* Midget male

Gold: Eric J. Ryan, Alaska
Silver: Dag Andreas Balto, Saami
Bronze: Jeff Wood, Yukon

* 750m sprint, junior female

Gold: Tonje Haanaes-Rensberg, Saami

Silver: Aila Biret Selfors, Saami

Bronze: Moa Olina Myhre, Saami

* Junior male

Gold: Thomsen D'Hont, Northwest Territories

Silver: Erik Amondson, Greenland

Bronze: Jan Petter Nedrejord, Saami

* Juvenile female

Gold: Larisa Kuznetsova, Yamal-Nenets

Silver: Galina Aleksandrovna Terentyeva, Yamal-Nenets

Bronze: Silje Wilsgaard, Saami

* Juvenile male

Gold: Svein-Arne Kristiansen, Saami

Silver: Alexey Pterovich Melnik, Yamal-Nenets

Bronze: Tyler S. Kornfield, Alaska

Dene games

* Stick pull, junior female

Gold: Cassandra N. Dupuis, Yukon
Silver: Robyn LM McLeod, Northwest Territories

Bronze: Andrea Evelyn Meneen, Alberta North

* Junior male

Gold: Matthew Akikuluk, Nunavut
Silver: Allan Angutinguak, Nunavik Québec

Bronze: Joe D. Audlakiak, Nunavut

* Juvenile female, open male

NOT AVAILABLE

Dog mushing

* Juvenile individual, 7.5K — four dogs

Gold: Benjamin L. Kinvig, Yukon

Silver: Rebecca Jean Baxter, Northwest Territories

Bronze: Hannah M. Summers, Alaska

* Junior coed, 10K, six dogs

Gold: Alyn B. Charlie, Northwest Territories

Silver: Sophia Daniels, Yukon

Bronze: Aryn B. Charlie, Northwest Territories

Figure skating

* Short program, ladies 2

Gold: Viktoria Andreyevna Lobanova, Yamal-Nenets

Silver: Tatyana Andreevna Borisova, Yamal-Nenets

Bronze: Kayla Hallonquist, Yukon

* Ladies 1, 3 and 4

NOT AVAILABLE

Gymnastics

* Team

Gold: Team Alberta North
Silver: Team Alaska
Bronze: Team Yukon

Snowboarding

* Boardercross, junior female, junior male
NOT AVAILABLE

Snowshoeing

* 2.5K cross country, junior female, junior male
NOT AVAILABLE

* 5-kilometer cross country, junior female, junior male
NOT AVAILABLE

Speed skating

* 1,000m, junior female
Gold: Jill M.D. Gilday, Northwest Territories

Silver: Tara MacKinnon, Yukon
Bronze: Rebecca P. Mahler, Northwest Territories

* Junior male

Gold: Troy Henry, Yukon
Silver: Ryan Mark Schoorlemmer, Alberta North

Bronze: Brett T. Elliot,

* 777m, juvenile female

Gold: Marie Christine Auger, Northwest Territories

Silver: Stephanie P. Bourgois, Northwest Territories

Bronze: Isabelle Gorgette Martel, Nunavut

* Juvenile male

Gold: Manasie Steven Kendall, Nunavut

Silver: Philip Keeheinak Verreault, Nunavut

Bronze: Calvin Frank Tilley, Nunavut



Photo By Allan Rudisill

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Photo By Brian Keith

Teammates look on as Greenland's #8 Malik Ktsgede attacks the ball.

Greenland boys start strong

By BRIAN KEITH
Ulu News

The Soldotna High School gymnasium was once again the scene of intense competition as Greenland and Nunavut junior males went head-to-head in soccer play.

Tuesday's game started off very tight, but Greenland started the scoring and netted the first two goals. Nunavut scored one soon after, which kept them close. They matched goal-for-goal until the score was 5-3 in Greenland's favor though Team Greenland pulled ahead in the second half to win the game 10-4.

Cheers of "Lets go Greenland, lets go!" were screamed to the rafters as Greenland stretched their lead. The big scorer for Greenland was Malik Juhl, who played most of the game.

Of course the big win margin could not have been possible

without some good defense. It was provided most of the match by Malik Ktsgede, who despite being an iron wall for Nunavut offense managed to score a goal himself in the process.

"It was good and close, but they just outscored us," said Nunavut Chris Ussaka. "We tried hard, though."

Greenland's Junior Males brought home the gold Ulu for indoor soccer and Silver in Junior Male when their home country hosted the 2002 Arctic Winter Games. Greenland didn't medal in the 2004 Wood Buffalo, Alberta Games, although their Junior Females brought home the bronze. Nunavut Intermediate females made it to fifth-place in the 2004 Games as well.

Nunavut has plenty of time to make up for Tuesday's loss to Greenland. Wednesday they play five games, starting with a Junior Female match against Team Alaska at 8 a.m.

Alyeska Resort yields gold and silver to Team Alaska women

By RON MCGEE
Ulu News

Team Alaska took home gold and silver Ulus in the Arctic Winter Games' Ladies Slalom competition Tuesday afternoon at Alyeska Resort.

Hometown favorite Kami C. Cabana, 15, won the competition posting a time of 51.06 on her first run and 53.16 on her second run. The Girdwood teen's gold medal was her first time at the top of a competition. Her previous best finish was third place in this year's Alaska Championship's slalom.

Cabana said she skis five or more days a week all winter and has skied Alyeska her entire life. She joined Alaska team member Tricia Richardson, on the podium.

Richardson, 14, won the silver, posting times of 54.77 on the first run and 54.68 on the second run. The Anchorage skier finished in third place in this year's Alyeska Cup State Championship Super G.

Alberta, Canada's Kayla F. Strickland won the bronze medal, with times of 55.58 on her first run and 56.56 on her second run.

With skiers battling in a snowstorm, competitors who were use to Alyeska had a definite advantage, according to race officials.



Photo By Joleen Huffmon

Chelline Laresen, and Pam Joslin hold up the winning quilt.

Quilt Challenge 'Release[s] the Spirit Within' Local Artists

By JOLEEN HUFFMON
Ulu News

The excitement of the Arctic Winter Games coming to the Kenai Peninsula wove an idea for local resident, Pat Reese, owner of Robin's Fabrics. Caught up in the enthusiasm, she asked an official if it would be possible to have a Games Quilt Challenge with an original design that depicted the Games' slogan.

Reese and the official agreed this would be a great way to promote the games, and to show off some of the talents of the community. And with that, 13 local quilters began sewing, collecting materials and creating masterpieces.

The Quilt Challenge qualifications were: quilts had to be an original design, be within a 54"x 54" limit, and promote the Games theme, "Release the Spirit Within."

"This is the largest project that I have ever worked on," said Chelline Larsen, and was the first quilt she ever submitted to a challenge. She was ecstatic when learning she won first place, along with \$700. Her quilt was 44"x 54" and was made from hand-painted silk.

"The ravens surrounding the woman symbolize releasing the spirit within," said Larsen, when asked to explain her original design.

Larsen spent approximately 40 hours of work on the beads and stitching took another month to complete. Now, the quilt will be hung at the Aspen Hotel through the rest of the Arctic Winter Games.

Second place and \$500 went to Lily Huebsch while Pam Joslin took third place and \$300. "Robin's Fabrics" provided the prize money for the winning entries.

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Without bus transportation, the Games Would Stop

By STAR MCGLASSON
Ulu News

Saturday morning at approximately 8:10 a.m. with temperatures reported at 13 degrees, official Arctic Winter Game bus drivers in orange-transportation attire circled while waiting for the first Boeing 747 to arrive at the Kenai Airport.

Volunteered and on-the-clock, Laidlaw Transit bus drivers prepared for their first run of participants due to arrive at any moment.

"Ninety-nine percent of our training has been safety," said Robert Fowler, Laidlaw bus driver, current Kenai resident and now official AWG bus #23 driver. His credentials include a Commercial Drivers License, a forty-hour training course, standard AWG volunteer FBI background check, and a successfully passed Department of Transportation physical, said Fowler, who said he is expecting to drive six to seven hours each day of the games. Additional bus attendants ride along with drivers so "we don't drive concentrating on a piece of paper and keep our eyes on the road," he said.

There are three different types of busing transport, said Shawn Maltby, AWG care and comfort manager. Large haul busing provided by Grey Line of Alaska, goes to and from Alyeska, Homer and Seward. Dedicated transport and route transport is provided by Laidlaw Transit, said Maltby.

Dedicated transport is strictly for athletes and coaches coming and going from their

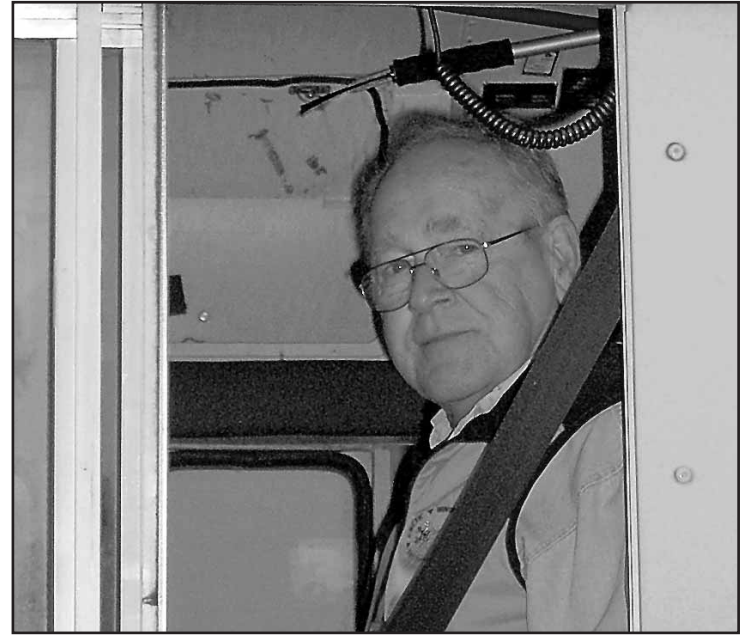


Photo By Star McGlasson

AWG Bus #23 driver Robert Fowler preparing for participants to arrive.

sleeping venues to sporting events while route transport makes clockwise and counter clockwise loops through Kenai and Soldotna so athletes can get to their venue.

One of the challenges at the Games in Buffalo, Alberta was

participant transportation, said Maltby. When you are coordinating travel to each sporting event for participants from nine different countries it can get complicated, he said.

"We want the transportation right," added Maltby, "I know we're prepared".



Photo By Charlotte Nicolet

Part of the Alberta Inuit team on the sidelines encouraging their fellow athletes. From left to right: Will Young, Jen Bell, Nikki St. Martin, Ashley Goretzky, Curran Speager, and Corey Wills.

Alberta athletes show how The 'Spirit Within' is team spirit and doing your best

By CHARLOTTE NICOLET
Ulu News

"It's not all about winning, it's more about doing your best; they all want you to do your best," is how Curran Speager describes her fellow athletes on the Alberta Team.

As her Alberta teammates hammed it up on the sidelines and encouraged their fellow athletes in the Inuit Games on Monday, Nikki St. Martin was asked if she would do an interview. Not wanting to take any glory from her teammates, she asked if six of the Alberta athletes who were seated together, could all be interviewed. With a team spirit you could feel, they all agreed and

cheered for a security guard named Josh.

"I really like how everyone's really helpful. Last night we had a guy from the Alaska Team who helped us before we competed with him," said Corey Wills.

On Tuesday, with fellow teammates and family cheering, St. Martin and Ashley Goretzky participated in the High Kick.

Everyone has their specialty in the Inuit games that range from the high kick to the arm pull and more. Although all the team mates have their specialties, Coach Tim Horsman said "they all participate and are great in several of the games."


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Photo Courtesy of Alaska Volcano Observatory

Mt. St. Augustine: Games' officials prepared to deal with mightiest opponent

By AKIN FRANCISCONE
Ulu News

About 120 miles southwest of the Arctic Winter Games headquarters, the Games most intimidating opponent could lie in wait. Rising 4,206 feet out of Kachemak Bay near Homer, looms Mt. St. Augustine, a volcano that has recently shown its "spirit within" by unleashing ash and clouds into the skies over the Kenai Peninsula.

Some days there are multiple eruptions, other days there are none. The fact that volcanic ash can destroy motorized equipment, stop an airplane in mid-flight or be harmful to human lungs is something Peninsula residents have been living with for a few months. However, with an additional 8,000 visitors now within its grasp, some are wondering what might happen if a major eruption or ash advisory occurs during the Games.

Tim Dillon, general manager for the Games, addressed this during Tuesday's media briefing and talked of how the Games are prepared for natural disasters like avalanches, earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis.

Dillon said this is something we are used to in Alaska and that State Troopers always know what is going on.

"We had black boxes installed in the buses transporting the athletes to monitor any problems," said Dillon. He explained how Homer has a tsunami warning system in place that gets tested the first Thursday of every month.

Some parents are not aware there could be an ash cloud that could smother the events rapidly if wind conditions are just right during a major eruption.

"I heard on the news something about a volcano, but no concern, everything seems to be okay. I did not know that that the volcano was nearby," said

Christine Siu, who has a child competing for the Northwest Territories in the indoor soccer tournament.

Parents and participants can rest assured the State Troopers know what to do if a natural disaster unfolds.

"Emergency Services in Anchorage has a plan to deal with the situation if a problem arises," said Alaska State Trooper Todd Vanliere.

As far as safety for the athletes on the highway system going to and from Homer, "one or two State Trooper patrol cars will escort the buses to make sure there are not any problems along the highway," said Vanliere.

For those of us who live here, earthquakes and volcanoes are frequent occurrences in Alaska, so rest assured we're ready. While you can't beat a competitor like Mt. St. Augustine, you can be prepared for whatever it has to dish out.

Team Alaska hockey women ice victory with first win

By STAR MCGLASSON
Ulu News

In the first contest of women's hockey in the 2006 Arctic Winter Games, Team Alaska was pitted against Team Northwest Territories, during early morning play at the Soldotna Sports Center. At the final buzzer, the score stood at 4-2 in Alaska's favor.

"It feels good to come out strong the first game," said Team Alaska center Holly Perkins, who scored two goals and dished out two assists. Perkins is a freshman at Soldotna High School, where she plays on the varsity team.

"They definitely gave us a run for our money," said Breanna Stilwell of Team Alaska about NWT women's team.

"We had a good start for our first game," added Stilwell. Stilwell is from Anchorage and has been playing hockey for nearly 15 years.

"Since it's my last year of the Games, it's a good way to start off the tournament," said Jessy Koshak of Team Alaska. Koshak is 21-years-old, Team



Photo By Star McGlasson
Team Alaska gathers on the ice after their first win.

Alaska's oldest, and is participating in her third Arctic Winter Games, including the 2004 Games, when Team Alaska won the Bronze.

"It's just the first game, and we're a little nervous," said Kaleigh Ashby, of NWT. Ashby is 16-years-old and is participating in her third Arctic Winter Games. "Our team is trying as hard as we can and will continue doing our best."

Hockey action continues the rest of the week, with the medals rounds slated for Friday.

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Green Star will provide portable recycle containers and coordinate recycling duties assisted by ReGroup who will be coordinating volunteers. The Solid Waste Department will provide recycle roll-off containers and will manage recyclables at Borough landfills. Cardboard containers and all recycle hauling services will be donated by Alaska Waste.

Be on the lookout for collection containers at different venues for the following materials:

- Cardboard
- Mixed Paper (includes newspaper, programs, office paper, etc.)
- Aluminum Cans
- PET #1 Plastic drink containers (remove lids)

If you have any questions, need information, or would like to help with recycling activities during the games, contact Marie at 262-2005 or e-mail mvinson@borough.kenai.ak.us.



Juvenile boys on the snowshoe starting line.

Photo By Don Fitzpatrick

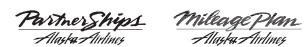
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