

# Release the Spirit Within

March 5th - 11th 2006

# ULU NEWS



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## Event Venues

### Girdwood

#### Alyeska Ski Resort

40 miles South of Anchorage along the Turnagain Arm

Alpine Skiing  
Snowboarding

### Homer Ice Rink

Sterling Hwy to Homer Spit Road

Curling

### Kenai Athletic Village

#### Kenai Central High (KCHS)

583 Kenai Spur Hwy

Inuit Games

#### Kenai Ice Rink

Behind Challenger Center

Hockey

#### Kenai Middle School

201 Tinker Lane

Gymnastics

#### Kenai Recreational Center

227 Caviar St.

Wrestling

#### Mountain View Elementary

315 Swires Rd

Dene Games

### Seward

#### Seward High School

1600 Swetmann Rd. Just before the city of Seward

Cultural Events

### Skyview Athletic Village

#### Skyview High School

One mile South of Soldotna  
Mile 98 on the Spur Hwy

Biathlon

Cross Country Skiing

Snowshoeing

Snowshoe Biathlon

Volleyball

### Soldotna Athletic Village

#### Soldotna High School

425 W. Marydale

Indoor Soccer

#### Soldotna Middle School

426 W. Redoubt

Badminton

#### Soldotna Air Field

2 miles down Funny River Rd.

Dog Mushing

#### Soldotna Sports Center

538 Arena Ave off Kalifornski Beach Rd

Figure Skating

Hockey

Speedskating

#### Rebort Elementary

486 W. Redoubt St

Table Tennis

#### Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

1 Skii Road

(Frontage Rd. in front of Spenards, Soldotna)

Snowshoeing

#### Cook Inlet Academy

40610 Kalifornski Beach Rd.

Basketball

## Weather Forecast



Periods of snow, accumulating 1-3"  
32/14



Photo By Charlotte Nicolet

## Teams walk onto the ice at the Soldotna Sports Center as the 2006+ Arctic Winter Games Opening Ceremonies begin Spectacular Opening Ceremonies "Release the Spirit Within" the Kenai Peninsula

By Kellie Massa and  
Charolotte Nicolet  
Ulu News

Nearly 4,300 people heeded the call to "Release the Spirit Within" and participated Sunday night in the official Opening Ceremonies of the 2006 Arctic Winter Games at the Soldotna Sports Center.

The excitement was electric even before the ceremony. Athletes filled the air with cheers, and the audience chanted "We love the Games!" Spectators from Yellow Knife, Northwest Territories—which will host the 2008 Games—led an impromptu cheering competition between the two halves of the audience. Throughout the night there was definitely a sense of pride in the air. People walked tall. They smiled at one another. They chatted easily with strangers.

At 7 p.m., the program began with Native Alaskan Kenaitze dancers offering an Athabaskan welcome dance and Raven song. The history of Alaska was then performed in dance, from early exploration to modern day. The crowd rose in cheers during the performance by the gold rush can-can girls.

Flags were tossed to the audience during the Parade of Athletes. The first team was Alberta North, led by Rascal, the

Games mascot, and then followed by Teams Greenland, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Nunavik-Quebec, Yamal, Sami and Yukon. When Team Alaska entered the arena, the crowd roar was deafening. At the close of the parade, more than 2,000 athletes and their coaches filled the ice rink. The contingent national anthems were then played: Canada, Greenland, Russia, Sami and the United States.

The Lord's Prayer was then offered in Dena'ina, by John Ross, President of the Alaska Native Heritage Center and member of the Kenaitze Tribal Council. Then two students, Katie Thorton and Kasey Shields, sang Psalm 67.

Various dignitaries offered short speeches of welcome, beginning with Gerry Thick, president of the Arctic Winter Games International Committee.

"We welcome all of you, who have come from the 162 cities, towns, and villages of our circumpolar region," he said.

Alaska Senator Ted Stevens welcomed the crowd in "peace and friendship," and Governor Frank Murkowski noted, "We are an energy state; tonight the energy is all here."

When Alaska's premier balladeer Hobo Jim appeared on stage to sing his original "Release the Spirit Within"

Games theme song, the crowd roared in approval.

John Williams, mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and former borough mayor and Host Society president, Dale Bagley, both welcomed the international visitors on behalf of Kenai Peninsula residents.

A highlight of the evening was the lighting of the ceremonial Arctic Winter Games torch. Forming the torch relay to the stage were the dozens of people who had been named Volunteer of the Month in the period leading to the Games. And then the identity of the torch lighter was revealed: Rosey Fletcher, 2006 Olympic snowboard bronze medal winner.

The official Games flag was then raised and Bunny Swan-Gease performed "Ggoggoyni"—the Raven Song. The athlete and official oaths were recited as the audience awaited official word that the games had begun.

At 8:05 p.m., President Thick rose and declared, "It is a great pleasure to declare the 19th Arctic Winter Games officially open!" As the crowd slowly made its way to the exits, it was if they weren't ready to leave, wanting to soak up the energy created by a ceremony that will likely be a once-in-a-lifetime event for most everyone. As the numbers dwindled, "We love you, Alaska" was heard by many. Let the games begin!



Photo By Charlotte Nicolet

The dignitaries' stage is flooded in bright lights as the 2006 Arctic Winter Games welcomes the teams at the Soldotna Sports Center

# Age doesn't matter when you're part of the team

By JOLEEN HUFFMON  
Ulu News

Joel Hanthorn of Fort McPherson, Northwest Territories, is one of approximately 2,000 athletes participating in the Arctic Winter Games this week.

Only 12 years old, Hanthorn is a competitor in the cross-country skiing events being held at Skyview High School in Soldotna. He is one of about 10 other NWT team members.

Hanthorn shows a lot of enthusiasm for the Games.

"I am really excited that I am here in Alaska participating in the Arctic Winter Games," he said.

Hanthorn's first race will be Monday and is one of four



Photo By Joleen Hyffman

## 12 year-old cross-country ski competitor Joel Hanthorne

competes in cross-country skiing races where he will be competing against others maybe six years older than him.

Cross-country skiing event is one of 20 main sports that make up the Games.

## In event of emergency, breakout this plan



Photo By Kellie Massa

## Central Emergency Services showing off their preparedness for the Arctic Winter Games

By KELLIE MASSA  
Ulu News

Should there be any kind of natural disaster or threat to human safety, Arctic Winter Games officials have a plan.

"The beauty of this plan is the responders and team leaders are from the Peninsula; they have world class training and many have dealt with disasters such as fire, floods and more," Glen Szymoniak Kenai Peninsula Borough School District assistant superintendent and co-chair of emergency preparation.

If there is a fire at a venue there will be an incident commander, athlete supervisor, stag-

ing, search and rescue, and building manager; each of these team leaders are trained in response to critical incidents. There is a bucket at every venue in case of an incident with a checklist for each team leader so nothing is overlooked.

Every venue will have medical personnel on hand. The type of event determines the number of medical volunteers, for example: the table tennis venue will not have as many emergency personnel as the wrestling venue, and during sleeping hours two medical volunteers will be on the site, said Chris Mokracek, chief of Central Emergency Services.

# Snow creates winter wonderland, but creates work for volunteers

By ROBERT BELL  
Ulu News

Those who were dreaming of an even whiter Arctic Winter Games got their wish late Saturday night when almost 10 inches of snow fell on the Kenai Peninsula. While the white stuff gave even more meaning to the term "Arctic," it created more work for volunteers.

For those maintaining and grooming the Tsalteshi Trails at Skyview High School, volunteers had their work cut out for them to get the trails and range ready for Sunday practices of Snowshoe Biathlon and Cross Country Skiing.

"We're learning where our gaps are for our volunteers, and we had to call our troops in," said Chief of Competition, and former 1992 and 1994 U.S. Olympic athlete Joan Miller.

Having the range open on time and functioning smoothly and safely is not a big worry for Chief of Range Micheal Milhollin.



Photo By Robert Bell

## Kasilof resident and Chief of Competition, grooms the firing ranges after snow Sunday Morning.

"I've got quite a cadre of people who will be helping, I have two assistant range officers that run the right and left sides and kind of keep an eye on things," said Milhollin. "We even have a special detachment of folks who do nothing but take care of the target area," he said.

The general concern wasn't the amount of snow, but whether the range could be opened on time for Snowshoe Biathlon. "I don't think you can have too much snow, I just hope we can get it groomed in time," said Assistant Chief of Range, Mike Dunn.

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Photo By Jahnne Triplet

## AWG volunteer training session draws huge crowd

By JANICE HIGH  
Ulu News

Meeting the needs of the thousands of athletes, performers, and guests gathered on Kenai Peninsula for the Arctic Winter Games is no easy task. Making the job easier are the 2,800 volunteers who will assist in every aspect of the Games' operation. More than 1,600 of those volunteers attended a two-hour training session February 18 at Kenai Central High School.

"People ask me if the games will be a success," said games general manager Tim Dillon. "I tell them they already are, because of people like you."

Dale Bagley, president of the Games host society, acknowledged the impact of the thousands of people expected here for the games. "Traffic will be bad and restaurants will be full," he noted, "but you'll probably cry at the closing ceremonies."

Dave Carey, a host society Games official and Soldotna mayor, told the group that enthusiasm and motivation will get them through the long days of volunteer service, and led them in a chant: "We want the games. We got the games. We are the games!"

Glen Szymoniak, co-chair of the Games' Care and Comfort Division, discussed the critical incident plan. While he acknowledged the federal government has expended resources for cameras and badges, "Our greatest concern is not terrorism; it's natural events like volcanoes and earthquakes, things we're used to preparing for anyway." A chain of command is in place, and in the event of an emergency, each volunteer have a team leader to report to. "It will be a case of following orders," said Szymoniak. Emergencies aside, "Friendships developing in the circumpolar region are the main thing. You're the emissaries," said Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman during the volunteer event. He said that when peoples of countries become friends, "They don't fight each

**CLARION**  
Printed by the Peninsula Clarion on behalf of the Arctic Winter Games.

other."

The highlight of the volunteer gathering was to have been the unveiling of the Games cauldron, from which the ceremonial flame will burn throughout the games. But at nine-feet high and 1,100 pounds, it was too massive to fit through the high school doors. Instead, photos of the cauldron were displayed, and mini-cauldrons were presented to Borough Mayor John Williams, former Borough Mayor Bagley, Carey, and Leman.

Volunteers then met with their team leaders to receive credential badges and official jackets, vests and gloves. For easy recognition during the games, the uniforms are color-coded by volunteer category: yellow for security, red for medical, orange for transportation, teal for special guest, green for sports, black for sports officials, blue for general volunteers, and a different blue for media committee volunteers. Of the nearly 2,800 registered volunteers, only 50 are from out of state.

## Pamyua opens the Games in international fashion as local Native college students join them onstage

By CHARLES PULLIAM  
Ulu News

Feel the beat of the drums. Watch the entertaining showmanship. Listen to the variety of lyrics of Pamyua (pronounced "bam-u-ah").

The sold out crowd of more than 350 Arctic Winter Games international visitors witnessed the diversity of the indigenous rock group, Pamyua, Saturday night at Kenai Peninsula College's Kenai River Campus.

The concert, performed in the new Ward Building on campus, was sponsored by the KPC Showcase, Multicultural Consortium and Games.

"To tell you the truth, I was a little bit nervous tonight," Pamyua member Phillip Blanchett said. "There were a lot of people I knew here and this building makes the show a little more intimate."

One of the highlights of the concert was when students from the Alaska Christian College joined Pamyua on stage. Most ACC students are Alaska Native and attend classes just a 1/4 mile from Kenai Peninsula College, the show's venue. They performed a seal hunting dance and acted as if they were all in a kayak led by Pamyua member Ossie Kairaiuk.

"No one usually likes to dance or perform on their own in front of a bunch of people, but when they came on stage, it really added to the show,"



Photo By Charles Pulliam

Blanchett said. Blanchett narrated the song using both the Yupik and English language.

"It was awesome for those kids to come up on stage...It really pumped everyone up," Kairaiuk said.

"We had people ranging for small kids to adults and it's nice for all of them to share in

our performance," Kairaiuk said of Pamyua's diverse music consisting of traditional Yupik songs and Greenlandic melodies.

To purchase CD's of Pamyua's music, check out cdbaby.com on the internet or go to Pamyua's official website at www.pamyua.com

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Local Team Performances

TUESDAY FROM 6-10 PM  
Kenai Community Night

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# Cultural Festivities

## Daily Art Exhibits (Mon. - Fri.)

Art Exhibit - "Fair Days"	Artworks Art Exhibit
Art Exhibit - "Arctic Dreaming"	Kenai Peninsula College
Art Exhibit - "History of Arctic Winter Games"	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
Art Exhibit - "Indigenous Peoples of the Kenai"	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center

Date/Time	Event	Venue
<b>Sunday, March 5</b>		
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Praise & Worship Service	Soldotna High School Auditorium
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Play - "Adam & Eve Through the Ages"	Kenai Playhouse
6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies	Soldotna Sports Center
<b>Monday, March 6</b>		
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch - Local Performances	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Elders Lunch - Local Performances	Tyotka's in Old Town
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Rotary Lunch - Local Performances	Paradisos
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Pin Trading Party	Central Peninsula General Hospital
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Cultural Performances	Kenai Central High School
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Play - "What's it Worth to Ya?"	Peninsula Center Mall
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Movie Night	Soldotna High School
<b>Tuesday, March 7</b>		
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch - Local Performances	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Elders Lunch - Local Performances	Tyotka's in Old Town
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Community Night - Jabiláina Dancers Kenaitze Indian Tribe	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Cultural Performances	Homer High Auditorium
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Play - "Adam & Eve Through the Ages"	Kenai Playhouse
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Play - "What's it Worth to Ya?"	Peninsula Center Mall
<b>Wednesday, March 8</b>		
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch - Local Performances	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Elders Lunch - Local Performances	Tyotka's in Old Town
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Chamber Lunch - Local Performances	Paradisos
1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Cultural Performances	Soldotna High School Auditorium
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Play - "Adam & Eve Through the Ages"	Kenai Playhouse
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Play - "What's it Worth to Ya?"	Peninsula Center Mall
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Dance	Old Carr's Mall
10 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Fireworks	Old Carr's Mall
<b>Thursday, March 9</b>		
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Art & Craft Fair	Old Carr's Mall
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Cultural Workshops	Old Carr's Mall
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch - Local Performances	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Elders Lunch - Local Performances	Tyotka's in Old Town
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Play - "Adam & Eve Through the Ages"	Kenai Playhouse
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Cultural Contingent Performance	Seward Highschool Auditorium
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Play - "What's it Worth to Ya?"	Peninsula Center Mall
<b>Friday, March 10</b>		
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Art & Craft Fair	Old Carr's Mall
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Cultural Workshops	Old Carr's Mall
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch - Local Performances	Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Play - "What's it Worth to Ya?"	Peninsula Center Mall
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Cultural Performances and Awards	Kenai Central High School
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Movie Night	Soldotna High School
<b>Saturday, March 11</b>		
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Art & Craft Fair	Old Carr's Mall
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Cultural Workshops	Old Carr's Mall
11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Movies	Soldotna High School
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies	Soldotna Sports Center

## Arctic Winter Games downhill ski racer shares flashback

By CHARLOTTE NICOLET  
Ulu News

Excitement about the Arctic Winter Games sparks unexpected conversations in unexpected places. Take for instance an innocent ride to the hospital in a TransCare hospital shuttle bus, and who should be driving but Michael Thompson, a former downhill ski-racer who participated in the Arctic Winter Games held in Eagle River, Alaska in 1996.

"I won two silvers and one bronze in the downhill ski racing competition held at Alpen Glow, formerly known as Arctic Valley," said Thompson. He garnered one silver in the Giant

Slalom, another in the Slalom, and a bronze in the Super G.

"I was sixteen then. Two years later I blew out my shoulder, or I would have continued. But when you get injured that young, you fall behind real fast with everyone racing in that age group," explained Thompson. "There's no way to make the time up, and in downhill ski racing you can lose by 100th of a second," he said.

When asked how he blew out his shoulder, "I was free-skiing and extreme cliff jumping," was his answer. "After surgery I just couldn't get back into it," Thompson lamented.

Besides working for TransCare, Thompson is cur-



Photo By Charlotte Nicolet

## Down Hill skier Michael Thompson competing in the 1996 Arctic Winter Games

rently a paramedic student at the Medical Training Institute in Anchorage. He expects to get his paramedic certificate in three months. When asked what he'd say to young ski racers in this year's competition: "Have fun! Enjoy it and don't stress out too much," said Thompson.

## Sled Dogs Challenge the Musher's

By DAWN FITZPATRICK  
ULU News

The mushers of sled dog racing have unique challenges that other winter game participants won't encounter. Each dog driver has four to seven dogs they have to care for. In other events, the participants only deal with their own personal gear and equipment.

The dog equipment includes a sled, dog bag, (attached to the sled bed for injured dogs), a snow hook, (the team's emergency brake), harnesses and lines, bowls and dog food. The dog drivers also need proof of the dogs' vaccinations.

"There will be teams participating from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Alaska," said Michaud, "and they're all driving here." Needing special transportation, most mushers



Photo By Dawn Fitzpatrick

## Northwest Territories participant Rebecca Baxter loading a dog

have a dog truck—a modified pick-up with the bed built to contain separate sleeping compartments for each dog.

It is important to keep the same diet for the dogs. If the diet gets changed, they can get sick and not perform as well, if at all. Many teams are fed extra meat or fish for protein for the hard training and for keeping warm. Along with the food, the dogs

need lots of water and insulated water coolers are often used to carry water and to keep it from freezing. The dogs need to be kept hydrated and are usually watered well after their race is over.

While sharpening ice skates and waxing skis may seem like a lot of work, caring for a dog team poses many more challenges for Arctic Winter Games mushers.

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WE WISH ALL THE ATHLETES SUCCESS AND HOPE THEY ENJOY THEIR TIME HERE IN ALASKA!



Photo By Dawn Fitzpatrick

The Kalifornsky Youth Band takes a moment for prayer before starting the praise and worship service at the Soldotna High School Auditorium Sunday

By AARON YANKEY  
Ulu News

Arctic Winter Games coaches, athletes and members of neighboring congregations gathered Sunday for a praise and worship service at the Soldotna High School auditorium. The crowd of about 70 people, representing four of the nine contingents here for the Games, clapped and sang to lively praise songs. The music was lead by the Kalifornsky Youth Band with some songs by the Alaska Christian College choir, whose members were dressed in traditional kuspuks. The service also featured Yupik dancing and music. The nondenominational event was held because there was not enough transportation to get everyone to the different churches they might want to attend.

"It's so important to provide this opportunity for them (the participants), since they are away from

their home churches," said Pam Howard, chair of the participant hospitality committee. "It's an opportunity to do what people want to do on Sunday."

"Love can give you a life purpose" was the theme, and the speakers' topics and the music reflected love. The youth band lead songs such as "Your love is extravagant" and others that had love as their main message. The speakers shared how God had changed their lives for the better.

The difficulty of growing up in rural Alaska was one of the examples used by the youths to illustrate the power of love and what it can overcome. The event was open to the community and people from surrounding church groups attended. Free Bibles were handed out to participants and spiritual counseling was available to anyone who desired it.

Student journalist Courtney Proctor contributed to this story.

# Monday Sports Schedule

## Badminton

Soldotna Middle School, Soldotna

Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5	
Alberta vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. Nunavut	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. Nunavut	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Greenland vs. Nunavut	Alaska vs. Alaska	Greenland vs. Nunavut	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Greenland vs. Nunavut
Alaska vs. NWT	Greenland vs. Alaska	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Alaska	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Yukon	Greenland vs. Yukon
Greenland vs. Yukon	Alberta vs. NWT	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. NWT	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. NWT	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. NWT	Alaska vs. Nunavut	Yukon vs. NWT
9 a.m. Singles-Round 1	10:30 a.m. Singles-Round 2	1:30 p.m. Doubles-Round 1	2:30 p.m. Doubles-Round 2						

## Basketball

Cook Inlet Academy, Soldotna

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

## Cross Country Skiing

Skyview High School, Soldotna

9 a.m. Classic Long Races 3 km and 5 km

## Curling

Homer Ice Rink, Homer

10 a.m. Junior Male	Skills Competition
12 p.m. Junior Female	Skills Competition
2:30 p.m. All	Curling Opening Ceremonies
3:30 p.m. Junior Male	Alberta vs. NWT
Junior Male	Alaska vs. Yukon
Junior Female	Alberta vs. Yukon
Junior Female	NWT vs. Nunavut

## Dene Games

Mt. View Elementary, Kenai

10 a.m. All	Snow Snake Competitions
5:30 p.m.	Medal Presentations

## Hockey

Soldotna Sports Center, Soldotna

5:45 p.m. Bantam	Nunavut vs. Alberta
7:30 p.m. Midget	Alaska vs. Yukon

## Indoor Soccer

Soldotna High School, Soldotna

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

## Inuit Games

Kenai Central High School Auditorium

10:30 a.m. Junior	Kneel Jump
11:45 a.m. Open	Kneel Jump
2 p.m. Open Male	1 Hand Reach Airplane
3:30 p.m. Junior	Arm Pull
4:45 p.m. Open Female	Arm Pull

## Snowshoeing

Skyview Track

10 a.m. Juvenile Female	100 m Sprint
Juvenile Male	100 m Sprint
Junior Female	100 m Sprint
Junior Male	100 m Sprint
10:40 a.m. Juvenile Female	400 m Sprint
Juvenile Male	400 m Sprint
Junior Female	400 m Sprint
Junior Male	400 m Sprint
11:40 a.m. Juvenile Female	800 m Sprint
Juvenile Male	800 m Sprint
12:20 p.m. Junior Female	1500 m Sprint
Junior Male	1500 m Sprint
3 p.m. Mixed Ages	4x400 m Relay

## Speedskating

Soldotna Sports Center, Soldotna

7 a.m. All	500 Meters
------------	------------

## Table Tennis

Redoubt Elementary, Soldotna

10 a.m. Juvenile Male	Singles Events
10:30 a.m. Juvenile Female	Singles Events
11 a.m. Junior Male	Singles Events
11:30 a.m. Junior Female	Singles Events
1 p.m. Juvenile Male	Singles Events
1:30 p.m. Juvenile Female	Singles Events
2 p.m. Junior Male	Singles Events
2:30 p.m. Junior Female	Singles Events
3 p.m. Juvenile Male	Singles Events
3:30 p.m. Juvenile Female	Singles Events
4 p.m. Junior Male	Singles Events
4:30 p.m. Junior Female	Singles Events

## Volleyball

Skyview High School, Soldotna

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

## Wrestling

Kenai Recreation Center, Kenai

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Team Competition	NWT vs. Alberta
Team Competition	Yukon vs. Alaska
Team Competition	Alaska vs. Nunavut
Team Competition	NWT vs. Yukon
Team Competition	Nunavut vs. Alberta



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# VENUE MAP

KENAI PENINSULA 2006 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

Cultural Events  
Dene Games  
Gymnastics  
Hockey  
Inuit Games  
Speedskating  
Visual Arts  
Wrestling

KENAI ATHLETE VILLAGE

SOLDOTNA ATHLETE VILLAGE

SKYVIEW ATHLETE VILLAGE

Biathlon Ski  
Biathlon Snowshoe  
Cross Country Skiing  
Snowshoeing  
Volleyball

Badminton  
Basketball  
Cultural Events  
Dog Mushing  
Figure Skating  
Hockey  
Indoor Soccer  
Snowshoeing  
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Alpine Skiing  
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GIRDWOOD

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Cultural Events

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# Website brings the world to the Games

By JANICE HIGH  
Ulu News

Not everyone who is interested in the Arctic Winter Games can attend in person, but that doesn't mean they can't be part of the experience. The Games website ([www.awg2006.org](http://www.awg2006.org)) offers a window to the action.

It's clear that people all over the world are taking advantage of the opportunity.

By 11 a.m., March 5, the site had received more than 1,200 hits, according to Tim Jordan, Games Information Technology coordinator. Most of the site visits come from countries that have participants in the Games.

"But we are also getting hits from places like China and Korea," said Jordan.

Once the actual competitions begin, Jordan expects the site will receive very heavy use. During the 2004 Games in Wood Buffalo, Alberta, the computer system was not sophisticated enough to handle the load. That won't be a problem this time, said Jordan, since the website is

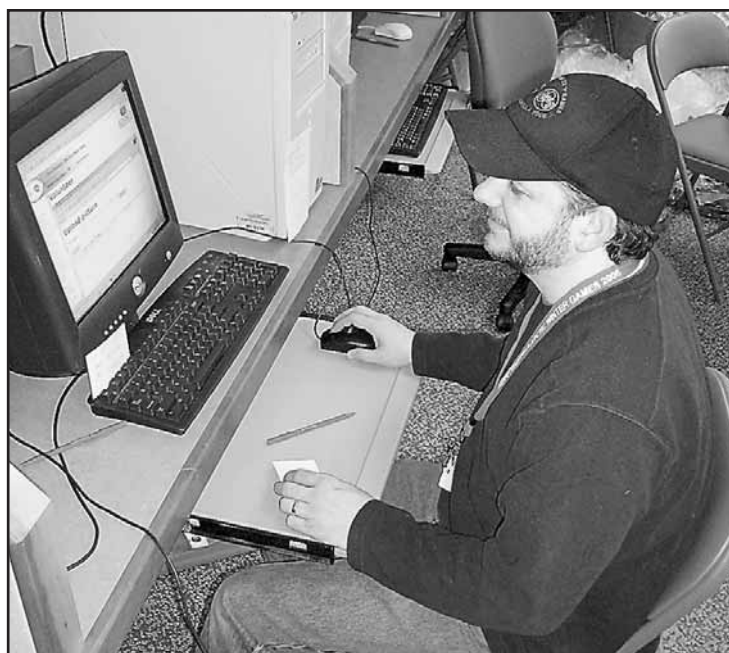


Photo By Janice High

## Tim Jordan checking out the 2006 Arctic Winter Games website

linked to the high-tech Kenai Peninsula Borough system.

Jordan said the site, which already provides detailed information on the Games and the competitors, will also post

updated scores and medal counts, as well as weather reports.

"In a couple of days we'll also have a photo gallery for people to access," said Jordan.

# Peninsula athletes small in number, mighty in spirit

By BRIAN KEITH  
Ulu News

Athletes from the Kenai Peninsula generally compose a small percentage of representative Alaskan players. Only a small handful from the Kenai Peninsula competed in the 2002 and 2004 winter games; however, Peninsula residents have been ardent and enthusiastic competitors nonetheless.

2006 is the first time the Kenai Peninsula has been honored by hosting the games. The games are a very special experience for

all young athletes, but it's always even more special for the hosting team.

Mindy Cason was a gold medalist in volleyball at the 2002 Arctic Winter Games that were co-hosted in Nuuk, Greenland and Iqaluit, Nunavut. Being from Nikiski, she was one of the few Peninsula residents to make the team and the chance to participate impacted her in a very special way:

"I wasn't sure if I was going to play in college or not, so for a high school senior it was possibly my last chance to play com-

petitively. But it was so cool, cool for the athletes because they all had so much enthusiasm for each other, we all made friends."

And how does she feel about the games taking place not far from her hometown?

"I just think it's really cool for the athletes, because when we went to Greenland it was like the athletes ruled. I remember people we met would always come to our games and show support for each other. So that's what I'm going to do; try and make as many sports as I can, especially the volleyball."

# Winter Games for the Motivationally Challenged

By JACQUELINE MICHELS  
Ulu News

**Couch Potato Chip Toss:** This game can be played as an individual or a group sport. There are no official rules; however, bonus points can be earned if participants demonstrate the ability to catch chips in mid-air.

**Power Nap Relays:** Object: To see how many naps contestants can fit in over the course of the winter season.

**No-Shoe Sprint:** This chilling sport dates back as far as any Arctic inhabitant can recall. This winter-sport is based on the tradition of being tired of gearing up for the great outdoors. How to Play: Run out to retrieve fire-

wood, the daily paper or fetch fresh water for the sauna (also known as a sweat lodge or bunya among other things...depending on the cultural word) with only slippers or wool sox on your feet.

**I-Did-A-Run:** A favorite cabin fever reliever. The I-Did-A-Run requires contestants to use a motorized vehicle or sled dog team to take a need-less trip to town in order to break up the monotony of winter living. She/He with the most receipts wins.

**Procrastination Grand Championship:** This event has been canceled due to lack of participation. Officials plan to reschedule the competition for next year.

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# International media converge on Kenai Peninsula for Games; volunteers to light cauldron

By RHONDA LARSON  
Ulu News

More than 200 local, regional and international media covering the Arctic Winter Games gathered on Sunday for a brunch and briefing at the Challenger Learning Center of Alaska, which will be known as "The Coca-Cola Media Center" during the Games.

After enjoying a meal of Alaska-raised and caught foods, Merrill Sikorski, Advertising, Broadcast & Media chairman, welcomed the representatives and told them, "What you have tasted is what the athletes will be eating." After a hearty round of applause, Sikorski spoke about the Games being a cultural and athletic interchange, as well as an opportunity for new friendships to form.

Tim Dillon, general manager of the Games, reinforced the importance of all the volunteers that help to make the Games happen. "There has been a vol-



Photo By Robert Bell

Kenaitze culture bearer, Bunny Swan-Geese, singing *We Are One* at the media brunch



Photo By Robert Bell

## Ice Sculpture replica of the media pin was on display at the media representative brunch on Sunday

unteer of the month during the planning stages of the games," and he announced it would be those volunteers passing the torch that lights the cauldron.

During the briefing, Dillon emphasized that anyone could call him with a problem or question and he would answer. He received two phone calls while speaking, asking them to call back shortly. A media representative suggested he turn his phone off, and he responded "No, because as I promised, I will always take your phone calls."

"Anyone you speak to will have lots of stories to tell," stressed Host Society president, Dale Bagley. Everyone laughed when he added "and by the way I have some pins to trade."

Included in the media packet was the official pin, a carved wooden camera from Uncle Lloyd's in Sterling. Local artist Scott Hansen carved the pin and an ice sculpture of the pin was a centerpiece at the brunch. A contribution by The

Anchorage Daily News helped make the pins possible.

Wendell Shiffler, AWG International Committee vice president, spoke about the Hodgson Trophy that the media will contribute votes towards. The award will be presented to the contingent that demonstrates the most sportsmanlike behavior during the Games. A ballot and voting guidelines were included in the media packet. The trophy is a large Narwhale tusk that cannot be moved and is kept in Whitehorse, Yukon, for safe-keeping. A framed photograph is given to the most deserving contingent, and a pin replica to each athlete.

Kenaitze Indian Tribe culture bearer Bunny Swan-Geese closed the brunch with her original song *We are One*, "one" in terms of purpose and community for the Games. "We all need to work together and help each other. Say hello, be kind, and be polite," she reminded the media representatives.



Photo By Robert Bell

Sergey Pikalov, Russian cameraman, taping the media briefing

## Massive media gathering

By ROBERT BELL  
Ulu News

More than 200 media professionals, including representatives from the Russian Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, were on hand at the media brunch Sunday to learn more about the Arctic Winter Games and how they might cover them.

When asked what the people at home would want to see of the games, "I think those people would like to see the emotions of the children and the way they behave," said reporter Igor Kornelyuk. "And of course they want to see their way of life. I want to see real sports, real emotion, win or lose," he said

through interpreter, Olga Belozerova.

Accompanying Kornelyuk, was cameraman, Sergey Pikalov. He is enjoying his stay by admiring the natural beauty of the Kenai Peninsula. "I am very glad I am here, and the thing I like very much is the nature. The wilderness here, and in Russia are very much alike," said Pikalov, through Belozerova.

Belozerova has yet to meet another interpreter and expects to be very busy interpreting for her group, "I'm going to be very, very busy, not only with media people but with athletes and coaches. I have to be there all the time, traveling from one place to another," she said.

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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](mailto:mvinson@borough.kenai.ak.us).



Photo By Akin Franciscone

Nunavut girls practice Sunday at Homer ice rink. Curling opening ceremonies will take place at 2:30 p.m. today. Matches include Alberta vs. Northwest Territories and Alaska vs. Yukon in the junior male competition will follow and Alberta vs. Yukon and Northwest Territories vs. Nunavut in the junior female.

# We're not the only ones flying on the Peninsula.

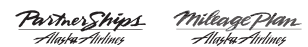


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Monday, March 6, 2006



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