

Browning Cops Indian Tourney; Dancers, Queen and Court Add Color to Contest



Ramona Soto, left, shows elation when Viola James, 1959 Tourney Queen, presents her with bouquet of red roses, symbolic of being crowned Queen.

A glittering array of talent was seen at the 1960 National All-Indian Basketball Tournament, held in Chiloquin March 16-19 under the sponsorship of the Klamath Reservation Jaycees. A high calibre of ballplaying as well as Indian dancing was witnessed.

The customary 12 teams were entered in the tourney, primarily representing 11 tribes from 8 states. The Klamath All-Nations All-Stars and the Chiloquin Thunderbirds were the local entrants. The Warm Springs Magpies, winners of the elimination tourney, represented the Warm Springs tribe. From Washington came the Toppenish Papooses (Yakimas) and the LaConner Athletic Club (Swinomish). Lapwai, representing the Nez Perce tribe, was the sole entrant from Idaho. The Crows and Blackfeet of Montana were represented by Lodge Grass and Browning respectively. Ogalalla Sioux from Pine Ridge, S. D., came the greatest distance to compete and the Arapahoes came no short ways from St. Stephen's, Wyoming. From down south came the Paiutes of Reno, Nevada, and the Navajos of Window Rock, Ariz.

After a hard-fought 4 days of basketball, the Blackfeet of Browning emerged victorious, topping Lodge Grass 55 to 49 in the finals and preventing the latter team from gaining a third consecutive win and permanent possession of the traveling trophy. The Blackfeet earned a beautiful set of jackets as champs. Warm Springs copped third place with an 88 to 80 win

over Pine Ridge, Toppenish took fourth 66 to 64 over Window Rock, and Klamath all-Nations wound up fifth by beating Lapwai in overtime, 75 to 70. These 5 winners will be seeded automatically for the 1961 show. The seven clubs not placing were still highly appreciated for their ballplaying efforts and St. Stephen's was awarded the sportmanship trophy for their gentlemanly conduct. The all-star team was as follows: Larry Pretty Weasel and Owen Old Crow (Lodge Grass); Murray Harwood and Floyd Crossguns (Browning); Norman Crazy Thunder and Marvin LeBeau (Pine Ridge); John McCutcheon (Klamath all-Nations); Bob Tom and Tom Estimo (Warm Springs); Tom Arviso (Window Rock). Murray Harwood won the Most Valuable Player award.

Contributing excitement and color to the whole event were the Indian dancers and the Queen and her court.

A wide variety of dances could be seen during the 4 evenings. A highly-talented group from Warm Springs, including Darold George, Levi Kennedy, Elen Suppah, Nancy Queahpma, Sammy Colwash, and Teny Green performed such dances as the owl dance, war dance, rabbit dance, feather dance, skip dance, and scalp dance. In addition, Miss Green, a mere 5-year old, performed the butterfly dance individually and Levi Kennedy did a solo hoop dance.

Levi Fasthorse, an Ogalalla Sioux, also proved a versatile

Indian Arts Festival Slated For June; Scholarship Fund To Be Established

The Indian Festival of Arts, a non-profit corporation designed to help encourage and develop Indian talent was recently organized in La Grande.

Behind this drive to create a scholarship fund which will be used to cultivate Indian talent in the field of art and literature is Gladys Bibee Price, whose booklet NUN MIP NI SHEEK was especially written for the 1959 National Indian Encampment in Pendleton.

dancer, doing the war dance on several occasions, and the Ribbon dance and the Sioux Stomp. Other dancers included Jopey Goggels and Charles Oldman, (Arapahoes), Gordon Frazer (Paiute), Dan Scott (Warm Springs), Henry Cole (Klamath), and Tony Shoulderblade (Cheyenne). Doing much of the singing for the dancers was Jesse Oldman. Prizes awarded by the Jaycees to the dancers were:

1st Prize \$75.00 Charles Oldman
2nd Prize \$50.00 Levi Fasthorse
3rd Prize \$25.00 Dan Scott

The \$25.00 award for best costume, donated by Rodger's Chevron Service, went to Nancy Queahpma.

The enactment of "Running Bear", put on by the Chiloquin High School Pantherettes on Friday evening, was also very entertaining.

Jane Jackson, Rose Nealy, and Ramona Soto, all Klamath tribal members, were the entrants in the queen contest. After a spirited and close contest Ramona was crowned queen, on the first night of the tourney, and received a beautiful Hallmark wrist watch, donated by the William Wampler Logging Co. In the ticket sales competition Princess Jane came out ahead and received a \$25.00 award. Princess Rose, 2nd in ticket sales, received a camera outfit, and Queen Ramona, coming in 3rd, was awarded several cartons of King-Size Coca Cola. All the ticket sales prizes were donated by the Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Klamath Falls.

To the immense enjoyment of the Saturday night throng, the royal court performed a Queen's dance. Later in the evening, as a finale to the Indian dancing, Queen Ramona assisted Levi Fasthorse in the Peace Pipe Dance, a dance steeped in Sioux tradition.

Capacity crowds were on hand the first 3 nights and the spectators overflowed onto the floor the final night. General chairman of the whopping affair was Robert Doak of the Reservation Jaycees.

A large quantity of the booklets was unsold during the encampment, and according to Gladys Price, "In an effort to find a constructive use for them, we have come up with the idea of offering awards to American Indians for their best efforts in the various arts, if we can sell the booklets to set up the award fund."

During June 23 to June 30, 1960, a festival will be held at Eastern Oregon College exhibiting the artistic and literary talents of the Indian people. The amount in the award fund will be announced at that time.

Dr. Frank Bennett of Eastern Oregon College states that his college will sponsor an outstanding American Indian artist during the festival.

The success of the program depends to a large extent upon the sale of the booklets. However a number of Indian artists who have already gained recognition in their fields have pledged themselves to assist in the development of new talent. George M. Cochran, a Cherokee portrait artist, for instance, has pledged fifty per cent of his profits from the sale of his prints of original portraits to the award fund.

The Klamath Reservation Jaycees cooperated in the sale of the booklets during the All Indian Invitational Basketball Tournament. The Booklets are now on sale at the Education Office in Chiloquin.

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sponded to the request for help in the sale of tickets in the Klamath Falls area. Members of the Herald and News staff, churches, Toastmistress clubs, as well as other individuals pitched in to promote the show and help sell tickets. The U. S. Bank had a window display promoting the show and J. C. Penny's set aside a booth in the store the Saturday before the show where several members of the cast in costume sat with interested non-Indians of Klamath Falls to sell tickets.

After the show, the members of the cast were hosted by the people of Klamath Falls to a get-together at the Y.M.C.A.

It has been reported that the Reservation Discussion Group has been invited to stage the show at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls during the latter part of April. The proceeds for this coming show, it has been tentatively reported, will be shared with Kingsley Field by the Discussion group for recreational purposes.