

American Indian Dance Theatre to Perform

You won't want to miss the performance of the American Indian Dance Theatre (AIDT) at Chinook Winds on May 25 and 26.

AIDT was originally formed in May 1987, when more than 20 Native American dancers, singers, and drummers representing a variety of North American tribes gathered in Colorado Springs to begin rehearsals with a revolutionary new theatrical dance company. Formed to fill a void in the dance world, the company provides Native Americans with a chance to share their heritage and culture with the world.

Since its formation, AIDT has received strong support from members of the American Indian community, who have applauded the company's goal of preserving an important part of the culture and traditions of Native American people.

AIDT has exceeded all expectations in becoming the first company to successfully present traditional Native American dances in a theatrical setting without sacrificing the basic integrity and meaning of the dances.

"During each performance, audiences experience many styles of American Indian dancing," says director Geiogamah. "All our dances are traditional and authentic, but have been staged as theatrical pieces. In making this transition, however, we have been careful not to alter the basic structure of any of the dances."

Each season, AIDT adds new pieces to its repertoire. In recent years, dance



suites from the Pacific Northwest, the eastern woodlands, and the southwest pueblos have been incorporated into the company's program. In each case, the new dances were added with the approval of tribal leaders.

"Whenever we add a new tribal piece, we first make sure that there are no religious restrictions to performing that dance in public," says Geiogamah, who is an adjunct professor in the Native American Studies Department at UCLA. "We then invite members of the tribe to advise us on regalia and music. In some cases, a tribal leader or elder will teach the dance to our cast."

Don't miss your chance to see this sensational performance on May 25 and 26. The show is at 8 p.m. on May 25 and at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. on May 26. Tickets are \$10 and \$15, depending on seat location.

Bodybuilding and Fitness Championships

More than 100 competitors will take part in the NPC Ironman Naturally Bodybuilding and Women's Fitness Competition on May 19 in the showroom at Chinook Winds Casino & Convention Center. The fifth annual competition includes bodybuilders from Montana, Idaho, California, Washington, and Oregon.

"Natural bodybuilding" means that contestants taking part in this

competition do not tolerate steroid use. This stipulation is taken so seriously that each contestant must sign a waiver consenting to take a polygraph test to establish that they have not been using drug-enhancing steroids to help them "beef up."

Sanctioned by the National Physique Committee (NPC), this one-day event can be enjoyed by the entire family. Although the night performance, which runs from



Team members gather following the awards ceremony. Back row, l to r - Player/Coach Bristo Bayya, Manuel Bayya, Doug Colton, Marcus Butler, Jerry Howell (holding jacket), Brandon Case, and Greg Leno. Front row, l to r - Coach Leon Metcalf, Jason Howell, Wazzy Case, Brett Lane, and Willie Metcalf. Members of the team not in attendance include Mike Cauritan and Mark Wheeling.

Men's Softball Team Inducted into the USSSA Hall of Fame

On April 7, the USSSA (United States Specialty Sports Association) Native American 2000 World Champion Men's Softball Team, "Chinook Winds Warriors," was inducted into the USSSA Softball Hall of Fame. The awards ceremony took place in Salem, Ore., at the Wittenburg Inn with approximately 200 people attending.

The Warriors won the 2000 Native American World Softball Championships in September at Wallace Marine Park in Salem. Ten team members belong to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and three players are Grande Ronde Tribal members

The team played seven games during the two-day tournament, losing

two games and competing for the championship against the Karuk team from Springfield, Ore. They won in the second championship game by rallying for 10 runs in the last inning, with Mark Wheeling hitting a grand slam.

Wheeling was selected as MVP and Doug Colton was named the Most Outstanding Offensive Player. Willie Metcalf, Brett Lane, Wazzy Case, and Mike Cauritan were selected as members of the All-Native American World Team.

Teams from Arizona, Oklahoma, Florida, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada competed for the championship.

Three sets of fathers and sons are on the team, all Siletz Tribal members: Leon Metcalf and son Willie; Wazzy Case and son Brandon; and Jerry Howell and son Jason. Also from the Siletz Tribe are Marcus Butler, Bristo Bayya, Bret Lane, Manuel Bayya, and long-time Siletz resident Mark Wheeling. From the Grand Ronde Tribe are Greg Leno, Doug Colton, and Mike Cauritan. Coaches were Bristo Bayya and Leon Metcalf.