

NAICA Convention

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - Over 200 Indian ranchers and their families registered for the 3rd Annual Convention of the National American Indian Cattlemen's Assn. (NAICA) here last week, joining thousands of Native Americans already in town for the first All-Indian National Finals Rodeo and Pow Wow.

John "Buzz" Fredericks of Halliday, N.D. was overwhelmingly re-elected president of the association. Joining him on the executive committee are Anthony Largo of Hemet, Calif. vice president; Louis Twiss of Pine Ridge, S.D., secretary; and Joe D. Bates of Okla. City, Okla., re-elected treasurer.

Newly elected directors are Ed Peters of Laguna, N.M.

cattle programs on Indian lands, and is a strong backer of NAICA, which he signified by presenting Fredericks with an ornate turquoise-inlaid silver bolo tie, with leather strings, made by Mescalero craftsmen.

Another highlight of the convention was an address by Jake Whitecrow of Miami, Okla., a leading Indian rancher, rodeo announcer and member of the Indian Policy Review Commission. The Commission, made up of six members of Congress and five Indians, is chaired by Sen. James Aboureszk of South Dakota, and is charged with presenting a plan for re-structuring the Bureau of Indian Affairs and reviewing all federal policies relating to Indians.

Whitecrow pointed out that he is the only Commission member from west of the Mississippi River, and since a vast majority of Indians live west of the river, Indians have a real battle on their hands to make Commission recommendations meet their true needs.

Whitecrow, who also led an impressive opening at each rodeo performance made up of native pageantry, song and prayer, called for the government to meet the responsibilities they assumed for themselves in treaties, but "to give assistance to Native Americans in such a way that Indians learn to do for themselves, and not as a large welfare project."

Byron Bayers of Twin Bridges, Mont., president of the American Hereford Assn. who sponsored the main convention luncheon, said "we are proud that the vast majority of Indian-owned cattle are

Herefords, and want to do whatever we can to build this industry. We salute the National American Indian Cattlemen's Assn. for a job well done and look forward to working with them in the future."

Bayers was presented a beaded native bolo tie by Fredericks "as a symbol of our mutual friendship." Similarly honored were Gordon Evans of the Business

development Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C., Bob Powell and Marilyn Mignery, Extension agents for the Southern Pueblos Agency from New Mexico State University, were presented special commemorative plaques "for long and distinguished service to NAICA from its early days."

Other speakers included Dr. Robert Coppersmith of New Mexico State University, Mayor Ted Wilson of Salt Lake City and Governor Calvin Rampton of Utah.

An "Indian Cattlemen's Princess" is selected each year by NAICA to represent the association in Indian parades and rodeo grand entries.

Selected for 1976 is Dee Cooley, 23, who ranches with her parents near Busby, Mont. A member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Miss Cooley is an accomplished veterinary technician, who doctors most of the animals on ranches in the area.

The princess is secretary of the Northern Cheyenne Livestock Assn. She is proud of her native heritage, making star quilts and tanning her own

of the seven first-ever World Indian Rodeo Champions were from the Navajo Nation.

At the concluding Saturday evening performance, rodeo announcer Jay Harwood asked those from the Navajo Nation in the crowd that came to support their cowboys to stand, over half of the crowd of 7,000 were on their feet.

All Indian National finals Rodeo Champions are: All Around Champion: Lyle Cochran, Blackfeet from Dodson, Mont.; Saddle bronc-riding Champion: Archie Bicienti, Navajo, Crownpoint, N.M.; Bareback Bronc-riding Champion: Wilbur Murphy, Navajo, Ft. Wingate, N.M.; Bull Riding Champion: Devin Fox, Blood, Cardston, Alberta, Canada; Calf Roping Champion: Gary Not Afraid, Crow, Lodge Grass, Mont.; Team Roping Champions: Lyle Cochran and Sam Bird, Blackfeet, Browning, Mont.; Steer Wrestling Champion: Jan Killough, Peoria, Blue Jacket, Okla.; Barrel Racing Champion: Carol Jackson, Navajo, Window Rock, Ariz.

The Pow Wow had over 2,000 Indian participants in the festival of native dance and song, and was "universally-acclaimed as one of the largest and most artistic ever," according to leading Pow Wow Judge Perry Horse, Oklahoma, who placed the winners.

Categories and winners of the 3rd Annual Convention Pow Wow: Little Birds Dance - 1st: Sally Eagle Road, Sioux, Mission, S.D.; 2nd: Danielle Macy, Warm Springs, Ore.; Antonita Yellow Boy, Sioux, Oglala, S.D.

Little Boys War Dance - 1st: Randy Totus, Arapaho, Ethete, Wyo.; 2nd: Levi Walsey, Warm Springs, Ore.; 3rd: Lee Halowa, Navajo, N.M.

Girls Shawl Dance - 1st: Roxanne White, Arapaho, Ethete, Wyo.; 2nd: Celia Walsey, Yakima, Yakima, Wash.; 3rd: Cheryl Shuey, Shoshone Bannock, Ft. Hall, Idaho.

Junior Boys War Dance - 1st: Tony Brown, Sioux, Ronan, Mont.; 2nd: Pete Moore, Jr., Pawnee, Pawnee, Okla.; 3rd: Joseph Good Eagle, Blackfeet, Alberta, Canada.

Womens Shawl Dance - 1st: Cheryl Emhoolah, Kiowa, Northglenn, Colo.; Three-way tie for 2nd and 3rd: Shirley Waterhouse, Shoshone-Bannock, Ft. Hall, Idaho; Mary Buck Elk Thunder, Sioux, Cherry Creek, X.D.; and Leeta Wolfblack, Provo, Utah.

Womens Traditional Dance - 1st: Tomasine Moore, Osage, Fairfax, Okla.; Tie for 2nd and 3rd: Rachel Goggles, Arapaho, Ethete, Wyo.; and Denise Lajimodiere, Chippewa-Cree, Denver, Colo.

Men's Southern Traditional Straight War Dance - 1st: Vernon Harragarra, Otoe, Albuquerque, N.M.; 2nd: Chief Prairie Chief, Salt Lake City, Utah; Two-way tie for 3rd: Richard Small, Northern Cheyenne, Billings, Mont.; and Dominic Tah-Bone, Kiowa, Boulder, Colo.

Men's Northern Traditional - Straight War Dance - 1st: Pete Moore, Pawnee-Otoe,

Pawnee, Okla.; Walter Old Elk, Crow, Crow Agency, Mont.; 3rd: Clinton Houtz, Shoshone-Bannock, Ft. Hall, Idaho.

Hoop Dance - 1st: Darrell Poie, Dulce, N.M.; 2nd: Tony Brown, Sioux Ronan, Mont.; 3rd: Ron Walsey, Yakima, Yakima, Wash.

Men's Fancy War Dance - 1st: Norman New Rider, Pawnee-Otoe, Pawnee, Okla.; 2nd: Nathan Thompson, Sioux Sisseton, S.D.; 3rd: Sonny Shakespear, Arapaho, Santa Fe, N.M.; 4th: Lionel Boyer, Shoshone-Bannock, Ft. Hall, Idaho.



HEREFORD CALF

and Leonard Mountain Chief of Heart Butte, Mont. Re-elected as directors were Fred Smith of Hollywood, Fla., John Tallchief of Fairfax, Okla., and Twiss.

A highlight of the convention was the inspirational address by Wendell Chino, president of the National Tribal Chairmen's Assn. and president of the Mescalero Apache Tribe of Mescalero, N.M.

A noted orator and Indian statesman, Chino told the delegates "the things that hold us together are greater than the things that tear us apart," and told the assembled Native Americans "we must overcome traditional tribal rivalries to make progress for all Indian people."

Chino continues "for too long we have allowed outsiders to make our decisions for us, and its time for Indians themselves to take a leadership role in their own affairs."

Chino called for a new spirit of brotherhood "not just for Indian people, but people period."

Chino leads a tribe with one of the most successful




HEREFORD HEIFER

deer hides, learning to make moccasins and do bead work.

Rounding out the week's activities was the Rodeo, which drew over 15,000 to five Salt Palace performances, and made a substantial profit, to make it an annual event. Four



STUDENTS IN the Thursday evening beadwork class work intently on their projects to the sound of Indian music. The ladies are learning to bead with the help of instructor Geraldine Jim. Class is sponsored by the Alcohol Abuse Center. Photo by Cynthia Stowell



Spilay Tymoo

(COYOTE NEWS)

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