Health center director suspended six weeks

ININDIAN ISLAND — A widening rift between the tribal governor and health center director exploded recently with the suspension of the director, her administrative assistant, and probation status for three other health center employees.

Gov. Wilfred Pehrson and the Penobscot tribal council suspended Dr. Eunice Baumann-Nelson, head of Penobscot Health and Social Services, and Denise Mitchell, her assistant, until June 12. Placed on probation for three months were tribal nurse Ruth Davis, who has ejected to resign, records clerk Maynard Krieder, and pediatric nurse practitioner Phoebe Gray.

In the future, housing will be built through conventional contracts with a developer, the official said.

Housing accounts deeply in debt

INDIAN TOWNSHIP and PLEASANT POINT — The two Passamaquoddy reservations are each more than a half million dollars in the red. Wabanaki Alliance has learned.

Pleasant Point’s tribal housing authority fell short by ten units of a planned 40 unit development. Each unit costs about $70,000.

Indian Township cooperatively has cost overruns totaling about $500,000. The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), has tentatively agreed to pay $200,000 of the overruns, on the basis that the percentage was not the fault of tribal officials.

The Township has painstakingly reconstructed its bookkeeping and accounts for housing, to ensure that HUD would continue its relationship with the tribe.

FIRST CATCH OF SPRING — These guys wasted no time in breaking out their fishing gear and trying their skills on the bass at Indian Township. Pictured from the left are Dale Newell, Dennis Tomah, Joshua Lake (holding onto his hat with one hand and fishing pole with the other), Ryan Gabriel, and Jay Malec.

Lack of legal jurisdiction leaves tribes unprotected

WASHINGTON — At Pleasant Point, the tribal governor was patrolling the reservation himself, after most of his police department either resigned in frustration, or were fired.

At Indian Township, the hands of law enforcement officers were “tied,” by the lack of legal jurisdiction over lesser crimes.

What is plaguing the two Passamaquoddy reservations is the result of the Sockabasin-Dana case last summer, in which Maine’s supreme court found Indian lands are not subject to state jurisdiction. For major crimes, federal authorities have jurisdiction, but there is as yet no mechanism to handle minor offenses.

WHAT SAID READING ISN’T FUN — Especially when you’re learning your native language. Jacinta Altvater, 8, (left) and Renee Altvater, 7, enjoy a Passamaquoddy legend about the tricky “Espons,” the raccoon.

Governor rebuts his critics

by BILL O’NEILL

PLEASANT POINT — Tribal Gov. Robert Newell has publicly defended his record here, in the wake of several articles in which tribal members criticized his administration.

At one point, friction with Newell became so great that a petition was proposed seeking removal of the governor. It was circulated after several tribal members urged petitioners give Newell an opportunity to improve.

“If really saddens me that I have to do this,” Newell said. “I think this is something that internal. It bothers me to have to rebut this publicly.”

Commenting on tribal members’ objections to the number of federal programs on the reservation and their frequent failures Newell said, “I agree there are a lot of failures, but there have been a lot of success stories, too. These federal programs didn’t work here, we had to go out and get them to develop talents. You have to consider the development of Indian people in the last decade.” The primary purpose of these federal programs has been to provide employment and training, he said.

Reservation housing has been the largest source of employment at Pleasant Point, and has also proved to be the greatest liability, with cost overruns plunging the reservation into debt and causing the layoff of most of the construction crew.
editorials

Accountability

Pleasant Point tribal council and governor Robert Newell have come under fire recently for allegedly failing to keep tribal members informed of decisions being made on their behalf. They have been accused of not being available to answer questions people have about tribal concerns and programs.

Governor Newell, in a rebuttal to his critics (printed elsewhere in this issue) said he regrets having to go public with his comments. It is this very attitude of secrecy that prompted critics to consider a petition for his removal.

At this point drafters of that petition have suspended it, waiting to see if governor and council will become more responsive to their needs. We feel the governor's facing them publicly is a step in the right direction.

Loggerheads

Unity, harmony, working together. These are easy words to mouth, but much harder to put into practice. Indian culture has the reputation of teaching calm, effective interaction. This does not mean peace always prevails.

War has broken out between the Governor's office at Indian Island, and the Penobscot Health and Social Services Department. The apparent feud between Gov. Wilfred Pehrson and Dr. Eunice Baumann-Nelson may at its core be no more than a personality conflict. We're not taking sides, but we hope the adversary factions can resolve their differences.

Nobody should allow disruption of medical and social services to tribal members. However, this on-going flap between the health clinic and tribal government has already jeopardized services.

We don't know whether suspending the clinic director and her assistant was a vindictive action or a legitimate way on getting the clinic staff to work together. The clinic's performance continues to be suspect.

The clinic staff has vowed to stick together, and a grievance will be filed. We don't know if there is merit to the Governor and council's complaints about the director and staff. He chose not to disclose the matter to the press.

Whatever the complaints, to demoralize the entire staff of the health center seems unwarranted. All parties should seek to remedy the situation immediately.

Fiddleheads

Politics, the sagging economy, getting older and other ponderous problems, what do they matter when measured against the fabled fiddlehead?

Fiddleheading time has come again to Maine, and the old Indian tradition (long ago adopted by the white man) flourishes. While other customs may languish, the quest of these multilayered ferns continues unabated.

In some cases, money is a motive, although nobody has made their fortune picking the little green fiddles, which require hours of picking to fill a bushel sack. It's old fashioned backbreaking toil, the kind your grandfather would say is "good for you." Of course, old pros know that if you wet down your fiddleheads, they weigh just a tad more...

Most fiddleheaders, however, pick for the love of it. They love the outing, the picking, and the eating. Add butter, a little salt pork maybe, and fry. Or steam. The aroma awakens the fiddlehead appetite that lays dormant all winter. Spring is here, the river recedes from its banks, and those cheerful green leprechauns poke their heads up through the mud, branches and last year's leaves.

Heading out at dawn by canoe is the best way to stalk the elusive fiddlehead. The sweet fern is a little sonnet, a May minuet. Behold the fiddlehead.
To the editor:

I am writing this letter to you in appreciation for the months you have sent me the Wabanaki News.

Although my heritage is not of the Indians of Maine, my interest is high in the folklore of all the Indian tribes. I am Cherokee and have a proud heritage as you well know. My father was born in Gatlin Rouge, La., as were brothers (2) and one sister. He was brought up as best he could be by his people. When but a young boy he and his father and mother and brothers migrated to Louisville, Ky. Here his father learned to make bricks and eventually had his own brickyard. My father got some education (formal) in Louisville and eventually left home to go to work selling surgical supplies for American Surgical Supply Co.

He came to Maine to his travels and worked in Portland. Afternoon Me., he met my mother, a high school student about to graduate, class of 1919 and they, after a lengthy courtship by today's standards married on New Year's Eve 1919. I made my advent Sept. 13, 1920. With favor upon me I may have inherited longevity also.

I submit this letter to you in respect for your association and the media and hope that success in the future will enable us to continue to publish Wabanaki Alliance.

Richard H. McKinney

Priceless

To the editor:

I have been receiving Wabanaki Alliance since it has started and I enjoy it very much, this is the only way I can hear what is going on at the reservations and I live only 35 miles from one of them, so please keep sending.

Geraldine Tomah Oliver

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The goings-on

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Will Wabanaki Indians share Black Hills fate?

by Freeman A. Morse

"Whatever befalls the earth befalls the people of the earth. Humans did not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand and branch. To do to the web we do to ourselves . . . tribe follows strand in the web. Whatever we do to the earth may be distant, but it will surely come, for we cannot escape the common destiny. We may be family after all. We will surely feel the sting of earth's rebulful of their ways."

In my opinion the "status quo" has always been the rich letting the poor live in squatter and die so the rich can get richer. Today, however, the scene is changing, the poor are still suffering to serve the rich and rich still want more. But, the "more" that they want will be the downfall of us all. Yesterday's hardships of coal mining, field work and factory labor are a drop in the bucket compared to the dangers of radioactive and industrial wastes. When the pollution level reaches a certain height there will be torn back for poor and rich alike. Radiation in the air will not be contained like coal dust. Even the big white house on the hill is subject to air pollution just like the rest of us.

Change is the natural process. If we are not to die out as a species we must change and stop killing ourselves. If we don't, the earth will make the change for us and destroy all us. If this is to be, for one hope it comes soon, so the rest of the plant and animal life might have a chance to start again.

We must first identify the enemy correctly. The enemy of the Indian is not the white man, the enemy of the white man is the Indian.

Greed, apathy and unwillingness to give a little now to reap a lot later are our real enemies. Everywhere around us we see examples of people working unnecessarily dangerous jobs because they simply need the money.

Let us realize that it is the greedy, money and power hungry people that are the enemy of us all. The idea that any one person is responsible for our troubles is ridiculous. Nuclear and industrial waste dangers are not a scare or a myth. They tell us the pedestal sprayed on our woods are not harmful to man. That's the same story they told about "Agent Orange" to our soldiers in Viet Nam.

Truthfully, if we sit back and do nothing when we are aware of the severity of the problems that face us, then we, yes we, are our own worst enemies.

Navajo Nation opposes federal relocation scheme

WINDOW ROCK, Arizona - Indian health officials have warned the federal government that evasion of thousands of Navajo who live in their territory presents a clear and present threat to the mental and physical health of the people. According to a press release from Navajo tribal government:

Dr. Martin Topper, an anthropologist with the mental health branch of Indian Health Service (IHS), said studies show 6,000 Navajo men, and women and children face depression according to "an unusually high evidence" of serious mental and emotional health problems. He said the Navajos will significantly add to their stress, the press release stated.

Topper and Navajo leaders are warning that the reservation is being ignored and that a land dispute with the Hopi Indians is using government mental health facilities on the Navajo reservation. He said depression among potential "relocatees" is three times the average for the rest of the Navajo tribal leaders and others working on the reservation are worried that the congressionally mandated eviction will destroy the cultural fabric that ties the Navajos together as a people, a tribal spokesman said.

Navajo tribal Chairman Peter Macdonald, who has been fighting the relocation plan from the beginning, urged Congress not to proceed with legislation to "militate" in human mandate, particularly in view of these medical reports. The Navajo people are sick at heart because they cannot understand why Congress and the federal government would want this to happen," he said.

Anti-nuclear rally includes Indians

WASHINGTON - A massive demonstration against use and development of nuclear power in this country took place here April 28, and a number of tribes were represented. Upholding Indian treaty was one plank of the "anti-nuke" platform at the rally, that included groups such as Black Hills Alliance of South Dakota (a coalition of Indians and non-Indians). Several Powwows from Indian Island attended, including Lorraine Buyard, Martin Ne叩m and others. Folk singer Pete Seeger was among performers. A longtime anti-nuclear activist.

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE — Pleasant Point youngsters Timmy Moore [left] and Scooby Stanley spend the afternoon perfecting an ancient skill.
In support of claims proposal

by William C. Bullock, Jr.

I would like to follow the same comments supporting the ratification by our State House of Representatives and Senate of the proposed land claims settlement.

The original tentative settlement, agreed upon several years ago called for a financial payment of approximately $60 million from the federal government or approximately $112 an acre. The current package of $80 million works out to $112 an acre cost in the neighborhood of approximately $62 an acre. The federal government got us into this can of worms and their responsibility to get us out. Unlike the western states we have never received any federal funds for our Indian people from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and I think you have part of the $80 million from the federal government as funds justly due our state for reimbursements for Indian people from the Bureau of Indian Affairs over this period of time. Is $80 million such a substantial sum for a federal government with a budget approaching $1 trillion dollars to pay a state with one of the lowest per capita family incomes in the nation to prevent it from suffering the dire economic consequences of a long and protracted court action or the possibility again of our state and its political subdivisions not having access to the debt markets or people not being able to buy and sell real estate.

While I am familiar with the state's case, which does appear to be a strong one, with a tremendous amount of historical background and convincing legal doctrines prepared by our attorney general's staff over the last decade, the facts are: we have yet to win in any preliminary opinions in the courts. The facts and uncertainties of a protracted court trial, to me, are just not worth the risk.

The opponents to the settlement argue that the $92 million Indian claims pending in Congress will likely result in congressional action abolishing aboriginal rights of the American natives. This, to me, is a ridiculous argument and wishful thinking. Can you imagine the effects on the foreign policy of our country which has continued to expand the subject of human rights as one of our most important policies?

Lastly, there is concern regarding the jurisdictional questions of land on Indian lands. In this regard, the proposed settlement worked out by Attorney General Cohen will give us state much greater control and jurisdiction than any other Indian state in the country over our Indian people.

In order for our state to prosper in the '80s, it is imperative that we get this land claims settlement approved and funded as soon and as expediently as possible.

Editor's note: Mr. Bullock is president of Penobscot Health and Social Services, Inc. His comments are excerpted from a speech last March. According to Merrill bank officials, their decision is funded through federal Indian Health Services.

The conflict over who has final authority in the health center continues to be unresolved. Pascack reported that he is Baumann-Nelson's superior, and she is his employee. Dr. Baumann-Nelson allows the personnel department to make all decisions.

One source close to the clinic's director said, "It's politics.

Another source commented, 'I can't believe they did this. It was not done according to the policy and procedures of the health and social services department, which is funded through federal Indian Health Services.'

Many observers were surprised that Gray, Kreider, and Davis were placed on probation. Various undisclosed complaints were lodged, but health center sources conceded that the source of the complaints was the clinic's handling of personnel matters.

Kreider acknowledged that he spoke out critically at a meeting. "The real thrust of it (the council action) was at Dr. Thomas Krieder and was primarily responsible for the firing of talent on the reservation and pre­dominantly being absent from his job and not denying that he or council circumvents the personnel department in hiring and firing employees..." Short-cuts through the only avenue for FIITA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) projects, when we need to fill a slot in the program, it is a common practice for monies to be shifted from a healthy program in support of a more critical one that needs the money.'

Newell hired bureaucrats to replace Paul W. Buckwalter who resigned earlier this year.

(Continued from page 1)

Governor responds to his critics

Bruce Francis, left, head of Passamaquoddy Forestry Department, battles a brush fire with forester Russell Royl, at Indian Township. The blaze was quickly extinguished. The tribal fire engine was unable to assist due to mechanical problems.

Critics have accused Newell of frequently being absent from his job and not being there to deal with questions and problems tribal members have. While not denying his absences, Newell said the Office of the Governor was not notified of it. In the beginning of the job, (Governor) I worked so hard that I got emotionally and physically sick," he said, "I finally had to take a week off. When I came back, there were so many people in my office with so many problems that I had left again. I have worked hard all my life for the tribe."

Newell said in the last week he has been working both night and day. Because of recent foreclosures and resignations on the police force, he said he had to put the reservation at night. "It's lonely work and that's the way I feel—alone. I am virtually useless. My critics are welcome to come help.'
Yellowquill case upheld Jay Treaty

Two years ago a significant U.S. court ruling on an appeal by an Indian woman supported the 1794 Jay Treaty that protects Indians from deportation, among other things.

The case of Jolene Yellowquill involved a charge of possession of heroin in Texas. The courts tried to deport Yellowquill to Canada, where she was born, but an appeal through lawyer Lawrence Aschenbrenner brought a ruling that she was "not subject to deportation on any ground." Deportation proceedings against Yellowquill started Nov. 4, 1977, were terminated.

**Yellowquill Reserve, New Brunswick**

"How do you feel if your two sons are facing deportation to another country?" That's what Wabanaki Alliance asked Raymond Sockabasin, father of Larry and Raymond Sockabasin, who face deportation to the U.S., where they were born at Indian Township.

Nicholas, father of ray, said bluntly, "I can't understand it. They want to deport my boys, but they won't give them bail." He was referring to Larry, who has the nickname "Muscules," and who is currently held in jail. Larry was advised by his lawyer to refuse parole if deportation was a condition of it.

Nicholas said he told the court he would stand up and be counted. "If I must stand up, I must stand up for my son," he said. "I must stand up and be counted."

So sang several young Maliseet Indians — "Immigration, Immigration won't you come to a man with a problem?" — opposite Fort Fairfield, Maine.

**Three nations of power**

land trust knowing all looking for a "shina" the strength of teaching if you use power wrong put it to use on the past with the strength we get no "prob," just a job

**A father muses on his sons' predicament**

"The United States has taken a different view of Jay Treaty rights. Generally, American officials have tended to want an acknowledgement of the Jay Treaty rights of North American Indians," explained Nicholas. "Protestors firmly believe that deportation was not warranted as the charges laid under the criminal code of Canada were of a minor nature. Under no circumstances will the protestors protest or demonstrate on behalf of criminals with serious offenses.

"Therefore, the main issues of the protest are the imprisoned Indians having their Jay Treaty rights of all North American Indians," Nicholas said.

In an interview at his father's house, where he is staying, Raymond Sockabasin said, "Everyone tells us that we're Indians and they can't deport us. The courts tried to deport him, along with Larry, charged with destruction of property.

The Sockabasins would apparently be better off in the States. The U.S. has ratified the Jay Treaty, but as historian James Wherry of Houlton pointed out in an article in the January 1980 Wabanaki Alliance, the Canadian government's response to the question of Jay Treaty rights is still unresolved. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in 1956 that Article III of the Jay Treaty and Article IX of the Treaty of Ghent, which would protect Indians under the Treaty after the War of 1812, are not applicable in Canada, since Canadian Legislation has not been passed to implement or sanction the provisions of the Treaty.

This view of Canadian law makes Indians subject to the provisions of the Immigration Act and Regulations in the same manner as all other persons wishing to enter Canada.

**Yellowquill Reserve, New Brunswick**

Larry and Raymond Sockabasin are the cause of the border demonstration near Fort Fairfield, Maine, and subsequent protest marches at Houlton and Caribou crossings. They were born in Indian Township Passamaquoddy reservation. Raymond is wanted in Canada on charges of assault on a police officer, and possession of liquor; for this, Canadian authorities want to deport him, along with Larry, charged with destruction of property.

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In an interview at his father's house, where he is staying, Raymond Sockabasin said, "Everyone tells us that we're Indians and they can't deport us. The courts tried to deport him, along with Larry, charged with destruction of property. It was only for 20 pints of beer. It's about time somebody spoke up, my son, and my brother, it's for all the Indians of the U.S. and Canada," Sockabasin said.

Sockabasin had already served a jail sentence and bailed $100, prior to the deportation order. "A lot of people feel there's harassment from the RCMP Royal Canadian Mounted Police reserve ..., the RCMP said I was the only one they knew in the crowd," Sockabasin said, adding that he had to use physical force, but that he was only trying to defend himself, ... up here at the customs station, I was pulled out of the car (Nov. 29, 1979)," he said.

Sockabasin said the RCMP constantly reminded him of when a policeman was hit with a rock a few years ago. Nowadays, the officer is Sockabasin's brother-in-law. (Continued on next page)
(Continued from previous page)

A reporter for CBC asked Sockabasin if he had been drinking when stopped by police. Sockabasin hesitated, then said he had quit a couple of months previous. Sockabasin was under careful security of Indian friends, and the interview was guarded. However, BOMP apparently agreed to enter the reserve in search of Sockabasin.

For a week and one half, Maliseets supporting the Sockabasin brothers blockaded the road into Tobique Reserve, allowing Indian persons access. Later last month, the blockade was lifted, but a group of Indians continued to camp in a hastily built lean-to beside their homemade gate.

Paul said he favors nonviolence: "We want to be very diplomatic about this." But "we have several warriors among us," he warned.

According to Nicholas, part of the problem of Indian rights and the deportation order is Tobique Reserve Chief George Francis, who is reportedly often away in Ottawa. "When he gets a program, he hires all his relatives, and it's pure hell for non-supporters," said Nicholas, who himself worked for awhile with Indian Affairs in Ottawa, and is a tribal councilor. The reserve is reportedly $170,000 in debt, and may not wish to antagonize the Canadian government, source said.

Francis has taken no stand on the deportation, and neither has the tribal council. Nicholas, in frustration, said he has appealed to Lloyd Axworthy, minister of Immigration, "to investigate and cancel the deportation order."

A letter to Graydon Nicholas, chairman of Union of New Brunswick Indians, had produced no results, Wayne Nicholas said. Despite a request for immediate intervention and negotiation with the ministers of Immigration, Citizenship and Indian Affairs (the assistant to the Indian Affairs minister is himself an Indian),

Eva Saulis, 59, aunt to Larry and Raymond Sockabasin, said "we're going to keep fighting. When there's injustice for any people, men or women, we speak out. "They call us radicals ... small-minded women. That's what George (Francis, band chief) called us. You're not free to speak out," Saulis said. She and her niece organized an Indian women's march on Ottawa last summer.

Bernard Sappier, the only tribal council member to participate in the demonstration, commented, "we'd like to have more people involved in this, because it's very important for us and our children."

Sappier worked 10 years at Indian Township (Maine), and is married to the former Edith Sockabasin of that reservation. He said the Tobique Reserve of 700 people (35-50 of whom are "non-status" Indians), have serious housing and educational problems. People are depressed.

Tom Paul, a Micmac writer, comments: "To be a citizen is to be an alien of another country, or to be of European ancestry. We, the native people are a sovereign nation; we should not be classified as citizens, and not as Canadians or Americans."

"To be classified as citizens is to be subject to the Queen of England, therefore as a citizen, a native person is vulnerable to the constitution, and therefore will be subject to deportation and genocide."

"The formula to solve this," Paul writes bitterly, "is to obliterate the word 'citizen' and change it to 'superseding sovereign nation' ."

Nicholas and others want the Indian Act in Canada revised, with Jay Treaty rights recognized as they are in the U.S., so that "nothing in the future like this will happen again." The Indian Act was last amended in 1952; it was revised in 1972; National Indian Brotherhood, a Canadian organization, has been studying border crossing status since 1972, but has made no major proposals for change.

On the picket line, Maliseets walk back and forth over the Maine-Canadian border near Fort Fairfield.
**Reservations face jurisdictional void**

(Continued from page 1)

Passamaquoddies at the Township that there is no way state jurisdiction could be administered under state laws and by state law enforcement authorities on either reservation. The withdrawal of these services has left a void in the law and order program in the two areas and could have serious effect on the safety of their residents...

In Indian Township police officer Danny Nicholas — the only officer with a new job, the tribal commission — said: “The officers, they're all shook up about it. What's the sense of working?”

Skibine said "this may always get out of CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) court if it wants us.” He also said that as soon as Pleasant Point’s court is in operation, it could handle Indian Township cases.

Penobscots at Indian Island held their first session of tribal court Dec. 13, 1979.

**Obituaries**

**Indian boy drowns**

ORNEVILLE — Three-year-old Willie Pearl, son of Passamaquoddy Indian Catherine Treuer Pearl, and Willie Pearl Sr., lost his life in the waters of a stream on May 6.

The father has a heart condition and is disabled, the mother is unemployed. Donations to help meet expenses for the Penobscot Nation at Indian Island has Central Maine Indian Association, 95 Main St., Rockland.


**Tribal group backs land claims**

BANGOR — A unanimous resolution was passed this month supporting negotiated settlement of the Penobscot-Passamaquoddy land claims, at, a three-day meeting of United South and East Tribes (USET).

The proposed 300,000-acre settlement with an $81.5 million price tag — has been approved by the Maine Legislature and is currently pending before Congress. The Penobscot’s lawyer, U.S. Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, in the office of Secretary of State, may or may not affect the Congressional delegation’s advocacy of the claims package. Maine’s replacement, federal Judge George Mitchell of Bangor, was not seen by tribal leaders as exerting any major shift.

Mitchell as senator is expected to support the negotiated settlement.

Meanwhile, state Sen. Andrew Redmond of Madison is circulating a petition opposing the claims settlement. The tribe originally sought 123 million acres through tribal lawyer Thomas Tureen. In other USET action, the Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Tribe was formally admitted as members of the group.

**Two Pleasant Point seniors visit Capitol**

PLEASANT POINT — Molly Newell and Esther Wyerlow were among twenty-three graduating seniors of USET Memorial High School taking part in a tour of historic attractions in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and New York.

U.S. History was the theme of the trip, which featured visits to the Washington Monument, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials in D.C., Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, and the Statue of Liberty in New York.

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ASK FOR JOB CORPS RECRUITMENT.
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By Dr. Normand Laberge

PLEASANT POINT — Just as a thermal electric plant relies on coal or oil for a fuel source, a tidal project similarly depends on the naturally occurring tides for its source of potential energy.

However, a tidal project does not have to purchase its fuel (tidal waters), where as a thermal plant’s cost of operation is substantially comprised of fuel expenditures. This basic difference between a renewable energy resource and a limited-supply resource has far-reaching impacts on project economics when analyzed over their respective lifetimes. This topic will be discussed for the Half-Moon Cove tidal project in terms of inflation, with regards to the rapidly rising cost of conventional power plant construction.

For these and other reasons, it is felt that a tidal project has its place in the regional energy network as both a hedge against inflation and to provide electrical self-sufficiency.

The two hypothetical plants previously mentioned will be used to explain the impacts of inflation on the resultant cost of electricity. It should be remembered that a project’s financing charge will remain constant throughout the debt period, regardless of any changing economic conditions; however, both the cost of operation and maintenance and the fuel cost will be directly affected by the inflation rate.

For the case of oil-fired plants, the fuel cost might increase at a rate faster than inflation due to post-political factors and to the continued efforts of increasing demand and decreasing supply. Assuming that inflation will increase at 6% per year, it can be shown that the production cost from the tidal project would be less than that of oil-fired electricity (6.89c/kwh versus 6.07c/kwh) after only ten years.

It has also been shown that economic prospects in the near term and also serve to level the cost of the electrical mix.

The expected physical lifetime of a tidal project can be safely estimated at 50 years and optimistically planned for up to 100 years. By comparison, a regularly used oil-fired plant is expected to function from 30 to 40 years. This difference in operating time also serves to enhance the long-term benefits of a tidal project since two oil-fired plants would be required to replace one tidal power project. The second oil-fired plant would cost much more than the original plant due to the impact of inflation on the construction cost.

This comparison is valid for nuclear and coal power plants but to a lesser degree since a tidal project has a lower plant factor, i.e., in operation for a shorter period of time.

The arguments that have been used in this analysis are particularly relevant today in light of: (1) the on-going debate over the desirability of nuclear power; (2) uncertain fossil fuel supplies; (3) the forecasted inflation reflected by the fuel adjustment charge on your electrical bill as well as a decrease in the amount of disposable income; and (4) the recent emphasis on the development of renewable energy resources.

The proposed Half-Moon Cove project, due to its size, will not have a significant impact on the electrical mix for the State of Maine, but since the plant would supply power from a decentralized and regional source. It should also be noted that ancillary, or indirect benefits have been excluded from this qualitative economic analysis. Based solely on the power production potential, the project’s economics are competitive with conventional sources when averaged over a ten year period. In the future, it has also been shown that economic prospects for tidal power development increase quite dramatically when taken over a thirty year period.

When the Half-Moon Cove tidal project is constructed it would re-establish a milestone in Washington County’s role as an energy producer. Several hydroelectric stations previously serviced the area until the mid 1960s, when the last plant was decommissioned. Today, the residential users of electricity in Washington County have only two diesel plants producing power in the region.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Dr. Laberge is coordinating a planned tidal power which will be started on a tidal project at Half-Moon Cove, at the Passamaquoddy reservation.

Seven tribes sue pipeline

Seven Indian tribes have filed suit in Federal court in Seattle in an attempt to block construction of the Northern Tier Pipeline.

The tribes claim the construction of the pipeline would “pose an imminent threat of serious and irreparable harm.” They charged that Federal officials who approved the pipeline failed to assess and disclose serious impacts on their communities. “This failure to assess and disclose is executed by a failure to involve tribal governments in the review and decision making process,” they listed dangers to salmon, steelhead and other treaty fishing resources. The pipeline would run under Puget Sound and cross several streams in the Indian area.

The seven tribes are the Skokomish, Tulalip, Stillaguamish, Upper Skagit, and the Port Gamble and Lower Elwha Bands of the Klallam Indians.

Five take gun safety course

INDIAN TOWNSHIP — Five Passamaquoddy completed the Gun Safety Course at the WUVTV (Washington County Vocational Technical Institute) in Calais. The instructor was Dick Parker. Sonja Dero of Indian Township taught Roger Sockabasin, Dino LaCoote, William Lola Tune-ups LOVE’S AMOOG

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Track team holds first race

by Kathy Tomah

Area Reporter

INDIAN TOWNSHIP — The Rev. Joseph Laughlin helped George Sabattus initiate a cross-country track race recently.

Sabattus, 20, is trying to organize a track team. The race took place at Peter Dana Point so the community would see the runners in hopes that they would encourage them and also support this sport. There were sixteen contestants: Lewey Dana, Danny Lola, Dale Dana, Joseph Socobasin, Roger Sockabasin, Dickie Sabattus, Wade Lola and Gregory Lola. [Kathy Tomah Photo]

Joseph Laughlin helped George Sabattus initiate a cross-country track race recently. [Kathy Tomah Photo]

Richard Stevens was the first runner to complete the race and won first place in the seventeen year old and up group. Lewey Dana came in first in the 15-16 age group; Clay Levesque in the 13-14 year old age group and Billy Nicholas in the 10-12 age group.

St. Ann’s Church is sponsoring the track team and Father Joe hopes that the community will help out.

Governors show interest in paper

ORONO — A resolution to assist in seeking funds for Wabanaki Alliance newspaper was unanimously approved by Tribal Governors Inc. (TG1), at a meeting here this month.

The newspaper’s search for funds continues. There is a great need for the TG1 members to support the newspaper. [Kathy Tomah Photo]

The newspaper has an annual budget of $40,000 to project.

Richard Stevens of Indian Township wins a race held in conjunction with organizing of a new track team at the Passamaquoddy reservation. Stevens won the age 17 and up category. [Kathy Tomah Photo]
MITA director quits post

INDIAN ISLAND - After nearly half a century in the nursing profession, Ruth Davis, MITA tribal nurse, is retiring.

Her otherwise unblemished career is clouded at the end by being placed on probation along with other health center employees, by Gov. William P. Nelson, who alleges mismanagement. Many believe the Governor's actions indicate the部落 nurses have no one to blame but themselves.

"I'm 66 and I think it's about time to make a decision to retire," Davis said. "The problem is, I'm married 43 years to retired machinist and toolmaker Forrest Davis. But, she said, she "retired to come home, but stayed around to teach my children how to cook."

She retires May 16, as the nurse who oversaw the opening of the new clinic and its varied programs.

"I hereby submit my resignation as Tribal Nurse and Medical Administrator to be effective, May 16, 1980."

Departments of personnel and other health care centers.

"I believe the Governor's actions indicate the部落 nurses have no one to blame but themselves."

With her characteristic good humor, Davis said she "retired to come home, but I've got involved." She retired to the Pembroke reservation in 1972, after living in southern Maine and Massachusetts. She worked briefly for Wabanaki Corporation before joining the Tribe.

"I am very pleased about the improvement and the successes they've needed for a long time. When I first graduated (at Mercy Hospital in Portland) I wanted to come back here and do it all," Davis said. "She came home for one year, but time wore hard on her island, and she left for work-off reservation."

"It's a long time since I've had a lot of time to slow down," Davis said, who has been married 35 years to retired machinist and toolmaker Forrest Davis. But, she said, eyes twinkling, "there's a lot of people around here that still know my telephone number."

BANGOR - "I never was a man who claims to be Michael, wanted as a fugitive from justice in California, has been transferred to Federal District Court here, at request of counsel,"

Michelangelo Giovanni Benete, alias Michael Bennett, Red California where he was convicted of murder, lived a fugitive life in several areas.

Pomeroy said a transfer is under consideration, but no additional funds will be forthcoming until two transportation grants are received.

"It's up to them to make a decision. It's their program, and their transportation," Pomeroy said.

WITH her characteristic good humor, Davis said she "retired to come home, but I've got involved." She retired to the Pembroke reservation in 1972, after living in southern Maine and Massachusetts. She worked briefly for Wabanaki Corporation before joining the Tribe.

Indian Island, "Indian territory" that is not state jurisdiction, because the crime was committed on a reservation.

DeSanctis referred to the landmark Sock-set of Maine Supreme Court which established the tribe's jurisdiction on the present site of the tribal community building. She and her brother sold the land to the tribe, and their house burned, and pine trees were lost in the fire. Her father was Mitchell (Old Mitch) Attean, her mother, the former Mary Louise Ranco, was raised on Olamon Island and made baskets. Her grand mother was Domskin Polis.

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CUDDLY KIDS — In this circa 1900 photo, Maliseet youngsters are, left to right, Frank John=Wooch-keen. [Original in the possession of Waneta Deveau, Bangor, Maine]  

Island man given work detail by tribal court  

INDIAN ISLAND — The Penobscot tribal court found Sebastian C. Francis, Jr., Indian Island, guilty of criminal mischief, March 14, and sentenced him to a three-day work detail. Francis was also ordered to pay $50 restitution for damaging a radio antenna on a tribal police cruiser. A charge of obstructing government administration will be dropped if the other conditions are met.

In other recent court action, James Neptune of Bangor, charged with littering, Feb. 9, failed to appear, and a warrant for his arrest was issued. The warrant applies only to Indian Island.

John Banks, charged with speeding, March 24, 30 mph in a 20 mph zone, signed a waiver and was fined $10. Laura Massey received the same fine, for the same offense, same date.

Bevan Baumann was fined $15 for passing a stop sign, April 18.

Rick Fields, charged with illegal possession of alcohol, has requested a trial May 14, for the offense alleged April 13. Jerry Parulis of Indian Island will serve as public defender.

In Penobscot Nation vs. Susie Neptune, in which parking as so to obstruct was alleged Jan. 27, Neptune was found innocent. James Sapier was found innocent of the same offense, alleged Jan. 20.

In a “test case,” Alice Francis was found innocent of operating under the influence of liquor; for lack of jurisdiction, according to tribal Judge Andrew Moad. The offense was alleged Aug. 25, 1979, prior to establishment of tribal jurisdiction on Indian Island. Also found innocent, for offenses alleged Aug. 25, 1979, were Elise Francis and Janet Altavera, both charged with one count each of assault and criminal mischief.

Philip Guimond, charged with speeding in a school zone and operating after suspension, has appealed a $100 fine to the tribal law court. The speeding charge refers to a Jan. 22 incident, the suspension charge, Feb. 16. Guimond was found innocent of another operating after suspension charge, alleged Jan. 22.

Carl Mitchell has appealed a $25 fine for passing a stop sign, Feb. 17.

The tribal court has distributed 70 questionnaires for a jury drawing, June 11. A random 25 names will be selected. Any off-reservation tribal members interested in serving as jurors should contact court clerk Dorschy Foster.

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Track team winners

BANGOR — Three members of the Andrew Sockalexis Track Team from Indian Island took trophies in a 10 kilometer race this month.

Penobscot youngsters Jamie Knapp, Chris Ranco and Greta Neptune placed in the race. Knapp was second in the age 12 and under category, with a time of 48:48.

Karen, son of team coach Mike Ranco, came in third after Knapp, with a 51:39 time. Neptune, alone in girls’ 12 and under, won first place in 60:32.

Jeanette LaPlante, a Penobscot from Old Town, won first place in the under-40 bracket, with a time of 49:31. She is a board member of this newspaper. Editor Steve Cartwright didn’t win anything in the 20-29 category. His time was 41:58.

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