



# OJIBWE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Fond du Lac Reservation  
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Volume 1, Number 2

## FIVE + SIX = "HEAVEN?"

OCTOBER--NOVEMBER - 1991

by Christine Dickinson

I feel fortunate this year to have a classroom full of friendly, bright and very well behaved students! This split class of fifth and sixth grade kids is one of the best groups of students with whom I have ever had the pleasure of working.

The first quarter of the year was a time of making new friends and really getting settled into the daily rhythm of school at Fond du Lac.

Several of last year's students returned for the new year. We also have many new faces among us. In the fifth grade class the new students are Rachel Reynolds, Roxanne Woundedeye, Dave LaFave and Pat Defoe. Students new to the sixth grade are Alex Beaulieu and a set of twin sisters. Their names are Chanina and Corena Whitecloud. Chanina is the eldest by one minute. Naomi White recently transferred to a Duluth public school for reasons unknown. Janelle Petite, one of FDL's original elementary students, left us temporarily but, to the delight of her teacher and classmates, has returned. On the first day of school the kids were met with many changes in their classroom environment. They discovered new equipment, fixtures and even some colorful paint splashed here and there. The custodians deserve to be recognized for all the work they put into making our classroom attractive, comfortable and safe. Miigwetch!

Mona Thompson is once again back in the classroom and wherever else she is needed. Of

course she is working as hard as ever. she is a tremendous help to me and all the kids love her!

The day to day routine of the classroom involves so many activities besides the standard curriculum. We also have many special activities in the works. The days go by so quickly that before we know it, it is Friday afternoon again and another week is over.

Some of our special activities this year include bead work, specific goals for meeting very basic Ojibwe language proficiencies and numerous arts and craft projects. These projects may also be tied in with the high school peer-teaching project.

Project D.A.R.E. [Drug Abuse Resistance Education] is already going strong. Carlton County Deputy Sheriff Randy Flynn is a terrific teacher and we have a fun time learning with him.

It can be a struggle to find the time to get to everything but I feel that these special activities help to make school all the more exciting for the students and for the teachers.

The Ojibwe, art and physical education specialists play important roles in the course of our days. The kids look forward to these classes. Keep up the good work Panji, Dale and Joe! The students appreciate the time and effort you make available to them. Marlys also does an excellent job of teaching library skills and guiding students toward appropriate literature for their own pleasure each Wednesday.

We have a very interesting mixture of personalities in our classroom. Because of this each day is different and the unexpected often happens. Best-friend relationships change frequently and sometimes a little romance is in the air. These puppy-love relationships quickly begin and just as quickly lend. I have a hard time keeping up with the latest news in the romance department.

I am looking forward to the rest of this school year with this special group of students. We have so many things yet to do and so many more things to discover.

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**PLAN AHEAD FOR FAMILY FUN**  
 Christmas Break - December 23 -  
 January 5

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## NEWSLINE

### Harmful Behaviors Discussed

On Wednesday, August 28, Ed Barkos, Carlton County Social Services, Addressed Ojibwe School staff on the topic of obsessive-compulsive behaviors.

Barkos explored many characteristics which are common among victims who demonstrate addictive personalities. He outline the addictive process as one which contained **five stages**: [1] **Progressive** [where new behavior builds on prior experiences]; [2] **Out of Control** [victim fails to control behavior]; [3] **Mood Change** [activity directly affects victim]; [4] **Acting Out** [actual process of becoming engaged in activity]; and [5] **Intensity** [victim, aroused by a stimulus, continues to focus more and more upon the

activity even though they may have stopped doing the activity].

### University of Minnesota President Visits

Wednesday, October 30 provided a special visitor. Nils Hasselmo and members of his staff made a special to tour our school and Fond du Lac Community College: "Minnesota's First Tribal College." He stopped at both schools to meet students, staff and administrative personnel. While at Fond du Lac Ojibwe he made stops in each classroom where elementary children made gift presentations to him and honored him with other offerings of their work and enthusiasm. On his way to the secondary classrooms he made an extended stop in the cafeteria. Gifts of food were exceeded only by the outstanding honor drum song provided by our own Little Otter Singers. As he briefly popped into each secondary classroom he was able to see students and staff in action in the busy context of decorations, discussions and diligent attention to duties. With the Channel Three television camera crew in hot pursuit Dr. Hasselmo moved on to his next stops: Fond du Lac Gaming Casino and lunch with Fond du Lac Elders.

### Assistant Principal Marlys Kilen attends conferences.

On October 22, Marlys attended a special teleconference in Duluth presented by PROJECT EDUCATION, a ten year commitment by Public Broadcasting System to bring together community partners in collaboration for achieving President Bush's "Education 2000" goals. This meeting was followed by a two hour public meeting focusing on Outcome Based Education. [editor: OBE is a matter of considerable discussion throughout the state and in the staff meetings of Fond du Lac Ojibwe School.]

### Rhythm in Shoes Comes to Fond du Lac by Mike Rabideaux and Reuben Aubid

The presentation was given to grades four and five. They came to sing songs and helped students learn about different kinds of dance arts. Rhythm in Shoes is a nation wide art entertainment act. The show consists of twelve artists, but four artists showed up: Rick Good, actual composer, Jonathan, playing bass, Clayton playing the fiddle and Malcom, playing the "jews' harp" All part of the larger dance group, Rhythm in Shoes is here for the artists in residence program. From Ohio,

they are funded by the USX Foundation to bring artists to smaller communities. The group has been with the organization for five years. Before this, they existed under another name. The twelve member company combines live music with a wide variety of dance, traditional dances such as clogging, step dancing and tap. The company has toured its award-winning program across the country and performed in Japan last year. Rhythm in shoes represents the State of Ohio in the arts 2000 international exchange. They like to share informal performances, workshops and conversation with the community members where it visits. Bringing high-quality arts events to audiences which normally have little exposure to the arts. Each member learns from different styles of composition, grammar and dance brought by themselves to music.



### Fond du Lac Football Team Breaks School Record

by Toni Fox

The 1991 FDL football team has recently enjoyed its first winning season in the Ojibwe school's eleven year history. The OGICHIDA finished the season four and three defeating the varsity team of Chief Bug School 26-22. The game was played October 11 at the Washington School field in Cloquet. The game could have easily belonged to Chief Bug had it not been for the excellent play late in the contest by Peter Diver, Tom Olson and Mike Peacock.

"Senior Dave Gitzen really took command when he needed to," commented Coach Curran after the event. "I am so proud of these guys!" he added.

When asked what was the key to all the success FDL had this season, Coach Curran stated that it was total team effort. "We really had no star, but rather an entire team of solid, hard hitting, and above all, smart players. We had talent at every position; there was not one area where we could really say we were lacking. Also, we were very fortunate to avoid any major injuries the entire season. That's always a good thing!"

### F.D.L. GIRLS' OGICHIDA'S NEW SEASON

by Rebecca Reynolds

The Fond du Lac Ojibwe School girl's basketball practice started November 8, with sessions scheduled from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Tuesday's and Wednesday's practices are scheduled 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## The Ojibwe School Newsletter

is a monthly publication of the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation Ojibwe School, Dr. Thomas Peacock, Superintendent; Michael Rabideaux, Principal; Bill Blake, Editor.

### SPORTS SCHEDULES

#### December

- 3 - GBB at Floodwood 6:00
- 9 - GBB at Grand Marais 5:45
- 12 - BBB/GBB at White Earth
- 17 - BBB Wrenshall 6:00
- 18 - GBB at Red Lake tourney
- 19 - GBB at Two Harbors 5:45
- 19 - BBB at Bug School tourney

This year's returning players are as follows: Melody Diver, returning as a senior, who scored her 1,000th point last year playing against Wrenshall. Also returning as a senior is Shannon Mullen. Returning as juniors are Chandra Mullen, Angel Suttan, and Rebecca Reynolds. Richelle Mullen and Shawna LaPointe are returning as sophomores.

We asked Head Coach Dale Sautbine what he thought about this year's team. He replied, "I feel we should have a successful season this year with all but one player returning." He also believes the girls can improve upon last year's record of 12-4, but it will take total commitment. Prospects are good because the team has been together for three to four years and each player seems to be comfortable with her position on the team. Sautbine also believes that spending time on the passing game should take some of the pressure off the point guard and all assist total team involvement.

Assistant Coach Frances Wabaunsee stated, "The team looks to be a strong team with lots of seasoned players, and the A team will do better than before." When asked what she thought about the future A team she replied, I feel the B team players will have to show a lot of skill and ability to top the current A team's experience. The B team will need to work on the basics and try to get more experience under their belts.

From what the coaches have to say, it seems they have a lot of confidence in their players this year, but still recognize the need for hard work and serious commitment. The home opener will be held against the Floodwood Polar Bears at 6:00 p.m. on December 3, 1991.

We hope our F.D.L. girls do their best this year and GOOD LUCK to the players and the coaches in this year's basketball season!



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**PUBLIC MEETING TO VOICE  
OPINIONS  
about the need for a new school:**

December 2, 1991, 6:30 p.m. in the  
school cafeteria

All interested persons are urged to  
attend. Refreshments will be served.

- Kathy Peil



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

What will it take to get a new school on this reservation? Since I've been this school board that question always come to mind. When my two eldest children attended this school it has been something we've patiently waited to see happen. Now - several years later, with new effective school administration, a stronger school board, I'm asking that same question again after being denied a new school again by the B.I.A. Our solution now is to look to our tribal leaders for financial support to finance a new school ourselves. With their help, with financial backing from bingo and casino money, I'm confident our superintendent and administration can make financial arrangements to finance a new school.

One of our improvements since our superintendent, Dr. Peacock, came to this school is the budget. Our bills are approved and paid on time each month, our load for the emergency repair on the northern part of the school is now paid up. That loan itself was \$150,000, and it was paid up in one year's time! We take pride in our revolving bus plan - we are purchasing at least two \$50,000 buses per year. These are some of the changes that have taken place in the past several years, we are growing, our expectations are higher, we have very effective staff that are "dedicated to making a difference!" We have approximately 300 children in Head Start, elementary and high school. We could have more vocational students and P.A.C.T. children also. I feel we could grow even more -- we have a limited enrollment as is, due to lack of space.

Many of us, as Indian people, come from a long line of "dysfunctional" growth experiences. We grew up in poverty, chemical and alcohol dependency, abuse, neglect and developed low

self-esteem with the prejudices we also faced. We have to be concerned as parents, community members, education, administration, community and social service and tribal leaders about the future these children. We need to break that "chain of dysfunction" so we don't carry it on into future generations. We have to learn by mistakes; learn from them and make a change. Just because we lived with these problems doesn't mean we have to accept it as a way of life. We can change and take pride in ourselves. Many children don't have that parent support yet. They are the ones that fall through the cracks. This is why a new facility for the Fond du Lac Ojibwe School is vital. We have a good administration that is effective, we have caring and dedicated staff and to some children our school can "make a difference." Children are our business and they should be our main priority.

We need to provide a positive atmosphere for learning because our children are our future. We need to build their self-esteem, have higher expectations, help them with their needs but not enable them, encourage them to take pride in themselves to want to be the best they can be.

I believe that Fond du Lac Ojibwe School can be a vital center core for the Reservation as a whole. We can take pride in ourselves to provide the best education we can for our Indian children, so they can break that chain and hold their heads high. This is why a new facility is so important to me.

Sincerely,

Patti Goward



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Happy Birthday to the November  
Birthdays in Head Start:

### HELLO FROM HEAD START!

The holidays are approaching fast and there are many activities planned for the Head Start children and families. We will be sending out a calendar of events as soon as they get back from the printers.

Please remember to dress your children according to the weather. We see some of the children coming to school without hats, gloves, or boots. If you need winter wear for your child call the Head Start office and we have a list of organizations that will help you out with winter clothing.

Also remember that Head Start has a cold weather policy. Although the busses will be running during cold weather, the Parent Policy Committee and Head Start Staff strongly recommend that you keep your child home when the ACTUAL temperature reaches 15 degrees below zero or colder. It takes only seconds for exposed skin to freeze at this temperature, and the safety of the children is our top priority.

-Mary Ann and the Whole Head Start Staff

Evan Tiessen	November 3, 1987
Sophie Tibbetts	November 18, 1986
Gilbert Strand	November 25, 1986
Morningstar Shabaiash	November 3, 1986
Justin Rivera	November 11, 1986
Savanna Pequette	November 29, 1987
Denny Martin	November 5, 1987
Dominic Diver	November 28, 1986
Cortney DeFoe	November 16, 1987
Joseph Carter	November 9, 1987

### GOT A QUESTION ?



## HOT NUMBERS

EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

879-0241

OJIBWAY SCHOOL

879-4593



# NEW HORIZONS

**EPA/OJIBWE SCHOOL**  
 Cooperative Educational Science Programs

by Andrea Pokrzywinski

What is the Environmental Protection Agency and what does it do? At least part of the answer will come from a program approved this year as part of the science program at Fond du Lac Ojibwe School. K-12 children are to be the focus of visits during the school from EPA scientists who will share information on current science issues. The program objective is to increase awareness and interest in science and environmental careers . High school interns and Stay-In-School applicants will be identified and have opportunities to think about pursuing science-related fields in their educational and career endeavors.

Forty-five minute classroom programs in current science related areas will be presented K-12 students. The programs will consist of topic introduction, handouts, and the program presentation itself. Time for questions and answer opportunities will be provided for the students and/or teachers.

Personnel involved in the program will include volunteer scientists who will cooperatively prepare a program with the assistance of Andrea Pokrzywinski, science teacher in the secondary division of Fond du Lac Ojibwe School. She will work with the EPA in scheduling program presentations, providing guidance in content and information required by the scientists in program preparation, and applicability to the particular age groups. The EPA Human Resources Office will provide scientists and science teacher typing and

visual preparation and scheduling of education programs. They will also secure approval of management and supervisory staff for the research staff support while overseeing and coordinating the program and program related information. [to be continued next issue, ed.]

## OUTCOME BASED EDUCATION

The State Board of Education in 1990, determined that graduation requirements should be based on demonstrated achievement learner outcomes instead of completing courses and credits based on time. Education must be designed to insure that each individual student is prepared to succeed in life.

In order to help individuals prepare their paths to success in tomorrow's society, personal learning plans will be developed and implemented. Likely conditions that individuals face in the future include:

- Globalization of United States
- Maturation of U.S. society
- Challenging economic changes
- Demands of a multicultural society
- Diversification of political power
- Greater options for individuals
- Rebirth of social problem solving
- Increased need for technological literacy
- Increased demand on natural resources

According to the 1985 Minnesota Legislature's mission statement for education:

"The purpose of public education is to help individuals acquire knowledge, skills and positive attitudes toward self and others that will enable them to solve problems, think creatively, continue learning, and develop maximum potential for leading productive fulfilling lives in a complex and changing society."

The goal of Minnesota education is to prepare learners of all ages to become explorers, risk-takers, and cooperatively engaged thinkers and to function successfully in an international, interdependent society. In order to help individuals achieve this goal, the following graduation outcomes are proposed:

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE. . .