



OJIBWE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Fond du Lac Reservation
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Volume 1, Number 6 * March - April 1992

STUDENTS ATTEND 1992 MINNESOTA FORESTRY FAIR

by Richelle Mullen

On April 30, about fifty-five students and six staff and one parent from Fond du Lac Ojibwe School went to Minneapolis for a science fair. Those who made a science project were the high school students who got to participate in the experience. All together there were about two full bus loads of kids from the high school along with those from the elementary school.

When we got there, there were a lot of kids from different schools and places. It was very warm that day; I wish I had worn cooler clothing.

There were twenty-eight learning tents, two large entertainment tents and three special exhibits. They also had an information booth and a place to store lunches. One other thing they had was a gift shop in the building they called the Arboretum.

As soon as we got there, we went and sat in the area provided for eating, and we ate. After we finished we had groups we picked and we were to stay with them throughout the day. My group was made up of Taire Fox, Julie Skinaway, Jerry Reynolds and me. We went walking around to look at many things including the exhibits. Our group actually didn't go in any of the learning groups but we did go to one of the entertainment tents. There, we saw a lady dressed as a tree. She picked people out of the crowd to stand up on stage and be a part of the tree. When we first got there we saw my dad, Dick Diver, standing up there. But then after a while Jerry and I were picked and were named Chloro and Phyll for chlorophyll. It was pretty fun and I'm sure that all the kids learned from the little show. There was also a hiking trail to use.

At 2:00 p.m. we left and we were on our way back home. I'm also sure that our little groups learned from the fair. I did. I also thank our science teacher, Andrea, for taking the time to do this with us.

PRINCIPAL VIEWPOINT

by Michael Rabideaux

As another school year draws nearer and nearer to an end, I'd like to ask all parents and guardians for their support in making sure that all students attend the final days of school. Not surprisingly, our absence problems really begin with students in grades 9 and continue on through to grade 12. Students in the elementary and grades 7 and 8 generally have good attendance. One of the major reasons students miss so much school when they get older is that they don't see school as very important for any variety of reasons. School for many is simply a place to spend containment time. Well, we are trying to change our school to become more than just a place to contain students. We want to offer students a relevant education, something they can take and use in their life for whatever purpose or personal goals they have in mind. But if students continue to demonstrate poor attendance, they will greatly affect all of our efforts.

There have been and will continue to be a number of field trip activities planned, involving both elementary and secondary aged students. I want to remind all students and parents/guardians that students must obtain the proper permission slips in order to attend these functions. Students are also reminded that all school activities [especially field trips] are school functions, and students must follow the school's discipline handbook's rules.

There are a number of curriculum changes planned for next year that will greatly alter the type of education we offer. First, we plan to incorporate and offer more of a

technical, careers-orientated curriculum to juniors and seniors. All this means is that material studied will be tied directly to the business community, and students will get an excellent opportunity to sample any number of possible careers - we will work cooperatively with the community to bring in business people to do more jobs "awareness" education. We need to direct our students into technical fields, and one excellent method of doing so would be to bring the job experiences to the students.

We plan to concentrate and teach the Ojibwe Language to students in the elementary grades [grades K through 6] with our heaviest emphasis in grades K through 3, a group which will become the focus of a three [3] year study to determine if our language can be restored. Students in grades 7 through 12 still have the opportunity to learn the Ojibwe Language, and our telecommunications class will provide them with that option. The balance of Ojibwe Education will be integrated in our curriculum, and offer the students a wide variety of choices. For instance, our social studies course will offer a number classes

dealing with contemporary Indian issues involving treaty rights, land use, and government policies.

We have much work to complete, and we would like to hear comments from the community regarding our new educational focus. If you have a skill, a trade, a talent, that you feel would benefit the school and our students, please don't hesitate to call us. We also need parent/guardian volunteers for reading and math skills courses. Storytellers and problem-solvers are always welcome. Please get

**STUDENT
AWARDS
DAYS**

Elementary
Thursday
May 21 - 1:30 p.m.

Secondary
Friday
May 22 - 1:30 p.m.

In the gymnasium
All parents and or guardians
welcomed
Refreshments following

involved with education; it's a great place to meet people and a great place to make a positive difference in someone's life!

PROSPECTIVE GRADUATES 1992

With only days left before the final hours of the school year, prospective graduates check with instructors and counselors to be sure all requirements have been completed. Mel Diver, Spud Fairbanks, Toni Fox, Dave Gitzen, Kris King and Tom Olson are counting the days and the credits. Thursday, June fourth will record their accuracy. Good luck to all of you! -Editor

MATH CONTEST by Brian Evans

On Tuesday, April 21, I took six students to Mankato for a math contest. Mel Diver, Dave Gitzen, Kris King, Toni Fox, Opitchee Aubid and Tom Olson were the contestants. They enjoyed an evening of fun and relaxation in the Holiday Inn's pool and whirlpool as a reward for their excellent studying and preparation for the event. After a late, late pizza, they went to their rooms

for the night to dream of the upcoming challenge. The next morning's opportunity consisted of thirty very difficult advanced math problem. They all did well, but Mel and Dave "did us proud" by scoring the highest for our school.

After the final calculations we stopped by the Mankato Mall where all the students got tired. The mall was so large that most slept on the way home. All in all, we had a good time and a wonderful adventure.

GREETINGS FROM ELEMENTARY CHAPTER II by Lisa Pincombe

I can't believe the year is already coming to an end. It has really flown by this year!

Jack North worked in my room as a long-term substitute while I was on maternity leave January through March. He did a wonderful job filling in, as the students learned a lot and enjoyed working with him. I really enjoyed my break and my time with my adorable son,

Kaleb Peter Pincombe.

When I returned on April 6, I was actually glad to be back and working with the students again.

For some who are unsure exactly what Chapter I is, I will try to explain what goes on in my room. I work with students in grades Kindergarten through 6 who need reinforcement of skills. I work with groups of two to four students at a time on mathematics and language arts. We read a lot of books, write a lot of stories, play games, work on the computer, and use a lot of hands-on manipulatives. Sometimes we even eat our

manipulatives! Currently I have a math group of two 5th and 6th grade boys, Alex Beaulieu and Pat Defoe, and we are working on fractions. We used the twelve parts of a Hershey chocolate bar to compare equal parts. At the end of our fraction unit, we will order out for pizza and eat those fractional parts too! Hopefully we'll have room to eat $\frac{7}{8}$ of the pizza, or at least $\frac{2}{3}$.

We began a program recently that allows students and their parents to check out portable computers to use at their

**The Senior Class
of
Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
announces its
Commencement Exercises
Thursday evening,
June fourth

Nineteen hundred ninety-two
six-thirty o'clock
Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
Gymnasium

Class Colors
Royal Blue and Gold**

homes for one or two weeks. The students and their parents seem to love the program.

Well, that's all for now, except this quotation:

"Reading, like playing a musical instrument, is not something that is mastered once and for all at a certain age. Rather, it is a skill that continues to improve through practice."

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

SCIENCE FAIR GREAT SUCCESS

by David Kenttala

The science fair held in the math and science and communications rooms was a sight to see. A variety of research projects were developed by a good number of students; projects which they chose and developed. Their displays explaining a purpose or function were set up for all to view and for judges to judge.

First place was a tie between the team of Jay Smith and Peter Diver [demonstrating how to snare a rabbit] and the team of Erin Cash and Kristina Defoe [taste bud discrimination]. Second place was earned by the team of Chandra Mullen and Opitchee Aubid [dyed quills] with third place awarded to the team of Taire Fox and Richelle Mullen [common household cleaner bases and their acidity]. The reward for all participants was a trip to the science fair and lunch out.

TWO VIEWS OF CAREER FAIR

Becky Reynolds - 11th grade

This year there was a career day for students in 10th - 12th grade. Fourteen students and four staff attended the event hosted by Chief Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in Cass Lake. I thought the day was just like a Johnson O'Malley gathering. We went around and gathered information about

colleges from other places. Some schools with booths there were U.M.D., St. Scholastica and many others from around our state.

Students were also able to enjoy lunch while there and near the end of the day the Red Lake High School put on a show for everyone in attendance. Their program was about the Indian Reservation and the drugs on the reservation that are killing our people. Ways were also presented to help get drugs off our reservations. There were many dancers of all ages. I thought it was quite interesting. I'm really glad that I went. We have Barb Welna to thank for setting up the day for us.

Kristina Defoe - 8th grade

On April 28, 1992 a career fair was held at the Bug School. The "fair" was a workshop that had tables set up all over the school's gymnasium. The tables had information and pamphlets about college or about getting a job during the summer. If a person was interested, they would go to the table and talk to the people giving out information about school or career options.

As I walked by, I was thinking, "This really has no effect on me at this time, because I am not thinking about my career in the eighth grade." [I was there on special assignment to write about this for the school newsletter.]

When I walked by one particular table, this guy says to me, "You look like you want to become a nurse when you graduate from high school."

I quickly replied, "No that is not what I would like to do for a career.." So I walked away and went outside.

Shortly after that, I met up with my cousin, Lenora. I asked her if she wanted to go back inside of the gym and go look around again. She agreed, so we went back into the gym. We walked by this table with pamphlets about cosmetology. A woman said to us, "You look like you would be interested in becoming a cosmetologist."

We looked at each other with a smile and shook our heads, "No."

By this time it had gotten boring in the gym, so Lenora started showing me around the school. We went into the other gym and watched the basketball games that were

going on. That also got pretty boring so we just walked around the school grounds.

At one o'clock the "Young Dreams Dance Troop" from Red Lake was there. They were going to perform for the people attending the career fair. We were able to watch about half of it, then we had to load on the bus and head back to Fond du Lac Ojibwe School.

Some of the students who took the trip were Chandra Mullen, Naomi Northrup, Mel Diver, Becky Reynolds, Julie Skinaway, Emma Skinaway, Amy Wise, John Aubid, Mark Bird, Eric Gahbow, Shayne Thompson, Cheyenne Thompson, Ira Aubid and the writer. Chaperones were Mariys Kilen, Brian Evans and John Mundell.

I had a good time and enjoyed the performance as well.

CAREER COUNSELOR COMMENTS

by Barb Welna

With only a few weeks left, the school year is quickly coming to an end! This causes all of us to think about things that still need doing and things that we will be doing differently next year. Students give pause to rejoice over work well done and things which will bear repeating in summer school. The staff is busy planning for newly structured courses and exciting changes from this year. We parents find ourselves challenged too, to examine how the year has gone and how we could have done things differently. I'd like to share the following "Parent Report Card" with you because I think it has some helpful ideas about how we parents can work with the school and our children to maximize their successes.

THE PARENT REPORT CARD

Involvement with your child's school and other activities is the key to many of your child's successes. Your child's academic success is rated in his or her report card. How do you rate? [Mom and Dad should take this test separately. Each parent's part is important!]

1. I have spoken with my child's teachers this year.
2. I normally speak with my child's teachers several times a year.
3. I attend "Back to School" nights.
4. I am an active participant in the PTA or equivalent parent association
5. I attend athletic or other special events that are important to my child's school and my child.
6. I know my child's friends and invite them to my home.
7. I know the parents of my children's friends and talk to them about our children's activities, events, and plans.
8. I often participate with my child in social activities that include other families and a variety of ages.
9. I chaperone my child's parties.
10. I know or meet the chaperones at the parties my child attends.
11. If my child's school needs a chaperone for a field trip or party, I will volunteer.
12. My child and I attend weekly religious services together.

Scoring:

9-12 Yes: You are a fabulous parent and on the road to developing a healthy family.

5-8 Yes: You are on the right road, but there are potholes ahead! A little more investment could pay big dividends for your child.

0-4 Yes: You are on a hazardous journey. Don't blame others! Now is a good time to get involved.

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I have sent out letters to parents of next year's seniors asking them to contact me to set up conferences in the next two weeks. I'd like to invite any interested parents to do the same at any time you would like to help me provide better services to your children. Thanks!

PETER DUFAULT DAY OBSERVED

Education Department

On May 5, 1980 a resolution was passed by the Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee declaring May 9 as Peter DuFault Memorial Day. this day is observed each year in recognition of the contributions and years of service exhibited by this late Fond du Lac enrollee. Pete's many years of service to the reservation included, but were not limited to, serving as Secretary Treasurer for the Fond du Lac Business Committee from 1952 until the time of his death in 1978. During those years Mr. DuFault also served on the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee as Secretary Treasurer, Vice Chairman and Chairman. He is remembered as an active Fond du Lac member whose work reflected is desire to see Fond du Lac Reservation thrive.

In celebration of memory of Mr. DuFault, employees of the reservation gathered for lunch on the grounds of the Fond du Lac Ojibwe School on Thursday, May 7. The annual school pow wow was then held in the school gymnasium through the afternoon and evening hours. A feast was provided and served by the faculty and staff of the school. In further commemoration, no school was held Friday, May 8.



FROG PLANTATION

by Dale Hovis, Roger DuFault and Kathy Hatcher with support from Darrel Shabalash, Jason Petite and Brian Shabaiash

For the past two weeks we have been looking and finding frog eggs. The eggs are beginning to hatch into tadpoles. We hope to see the tadpoles turn into adult frogs. Everyone is going to write a story about their own frog egg adventure. Shareholders in this project include Dale Hovis, grade 4, Roger Dufault, grade 1, Jaris Paro, grade 1, Tyrell Diver, 6th grade, and Jason Petite, 8th grade.

This year the Special Ed classes have been to the Lake Superior Zoo, Monte Lac [everyone has learned to cross-country ski], Forestry Fair, Festival of Nations, gone on a twelve-mile nature hike, competed against math classes. Darrell Shabaiash learned to ski and bowl. Tyrell Diver took first place for elementary science fair.

The future holds: possible camping, Jeno's Pizza, Duluth Airport, and Vista King.



LETTER OF THANKS:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
May 5, 1992

Andrea Pokryzwinski
Ojibwe School
105 University Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Andrea:

Thanks for your interest and support with the St. Louis River Watch program. This letter is to confirm that Trinity Theatre will perform at the Ojibwe School on May 13th, 1992 at 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. This performance comes to you courtesy of the St. Louis River Watch program and is of no cost to your school. Trinity Theatre prefers to perform in a gym or open space, or in an auditorium. I will call you in the near future to confirm where the performance will be held.

Again, I appreciate your support and look forward to meeting you and the students of the Ojibwe School.

Sincerely,

Jill Jacoby, Coordinator
St. Louis River Watch





From Grandpa
Blake to his eldest
GRANDSON

May 2, 1992

Hello, hello!

What a beautiful day it has been today and yesterday in the northland! Yesterday the temperature was 82 degrees in Cloquet. It is not quite that warm today and very windy but it has been a nice day anyway.

Yesterday I rode on the school bus with 32 students and five teachers to St. Paul. We visited the Civic Center and attended an event called, "The Festival of Nations." We left from the school about 8:00 in the morning. The bus trip took about two and one half hours each way. We were in the Civic Center for about three hours. There were music and dance shows from many different cultures. There were cultural craft booths and a huge bazaar where you could buy things from many different parts of the world. [Korea, Japan, Philippines, Kenya, Peru, Germany, France, Austria, China, Russia, The Ukraine, Holland, Thailand, Vietnam, and many others including Norway, Sweden, Finland, Scotland, England and Ireland and some Native American tribes.] I bought Grandma Edna a carrying bag made of sisal hemp fiber from Kenya and I bought myself a carved wooden flute from The Ukraine. I also sampled foods from a few different places; there were food booths from as many nations as I mentioned and probably even more. There were several thousand students there from all over

Minnesota and Wisconsin [6th grade through 12th grade] - all walking around from booth to booth and display to display and from show to show -- what a bunch of **NOISE!** [I enjoyed myself anyway and since I took a little snooze on the bus both going and returning I didn't get too tired. About seven o'clock in the evening, after we got home about 5:30, I dozed off on the couch while watching Tom Brokaw talk about the trouble in Los Angeles.

Good Afternoon for today -- see you again next week [by letter, of course].

Love to all of you there!

Grandpa Bill

*There are two things you can give to
your child:
one is roots;
the other is wings.*

FIRE RESPONSE DEMONSTRATION by Kristina Defoe

On April 15, 1992 the Fond-du-Lac Ojibwe School had some visitors. The people who had come to our school were personnel from the fire department.

When the elementary students had the chance to listen to them talk, they also had the chance to see Smokey the Bear. They were told what to do in case of a fire situation. Some of the things that were discussed were the "stop, drop, and roll" technique.

After they talked with the elementary students, the high school students had the opportunity to listen to them speak. We were asked to step outside and watch a "fire situation." They lit up some flares and placed them on several parts of the lawn and nearby brush areas. Russ Northrup, one of the fire fighters instructing us, told us what was to be expected. Then Dan Hertle, from the DNR, called the fire

department. About three minutes later, the little truck responded to the call.

Two people climbed out of the truck and they started getting their equipment on. They had a little backpack that contained all sorts of weird stuff. But they got right to the little flames and put them out. The main officer [Dan Hertle] talked to us for awhile and soon the Cloquet Fire Department showed up. They guys in the truck were going to talk to us. But while we were listening to the fireman speak, Cloquet Fire Department had to respond to a real emergency call from Potlatch.

The session ended and most of the students went back into our school building. Naomi Northrup and I were fortunate to be allowed to stay outside longer and watch another demonstration by her father. Russ showed us how the piece of equipment worked and what its purpose was. Naomi tried on one of the backpacks. She didn't seem to mind at all.

[Maybe she has a job future in mind. ed.]

**CLOSE UP TRIP
TO WASHINGTON D.C.
by Mary Cane**

The writer and three lucky grade ten students: Angel Suttin, Cheyenne Thompson and John Aubid started their week long adventure very early on Sunday, March 21. From the Duluth airport they began a week long adventure attending the Close Up Program tour to Washington D.C.

The first stop was Georgetown where students and sponsors from across the nation were hosted by the Marriott Key Bridge Hotel. Sunday evening everyone attended a welcome reception and students were assigned groups and buses for the week.

Seminars, debates, workshops and tours filled the time from mornings to nights. Tuesday was Capital Hill Day; we met with Representative James Oberstar's aide, Senator Paul Wellstone and Senator Dave Durenberger. We asked


each of the three for a new school. No promises were made.

Thursday night we had dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe and went to Ford's Theater next door for a play about a teacher named "Conrack." Everyone seemed to enjoy the presentation; the music and dancing were great.

Friday was a free day; fun was had by all. Students did a lot of "metro-hopping," souvenir shopping, and visiting places they hadn't yet seen. Friday night we had a banquet and from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. students danced their hearts out to D. J. played tunes. Early wake up call brought everyone back to reality for a 9:00 a.m. departure for home.

Participants sharing these experiences with our students made up an impressive list. Those who stayed with us in the Marriott Key Bridge Hotel included conferees from Arizona, Bolivia, Cairo, California, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Utah. Talk about a diverse group of people! An opportunity of a life time. This was still another memorable trip the Washington, D.C. Hopefully there will be many more such trips to come.

A mitgwech goes to all the people that helped to make our trip a huge success!

	HOT NUMBERS
EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION	
	879-8241
OJIBWE SCHOOL	879-4593



Origins and Relatives

from:

A Life of George Bent written from his letters

Indian tribes are grouped by ethnologists in linguistic families or stocks, each stock composed of a number of tribes speaking dialects of the same language. . . The Cheyennes belong to the great group of tribes speaking the Algonquian language, in which stock are included the Algonkins, Cheyennes, Arapahos, Crees, Chippewas or Ojibwas, Blackfeet, Atsinas, Missisangis, Micmacs, Ottawas, Penobscots, Sacs and Foxes, Potawatomis, Piankashaws, Michigameas, Peorias, Narragansets, Powahatans, Mohegans, Delawares, Shawnees, and a great many other tribes, occupying in early times a vast territory extending from the Rocky Mountains to Newfoundland and from the Churchill River of Hudson Bay to Pamlico sound. -- pp. 3,4

by George E. Hyde, edited by Savoie Lottinville
University of Oklahoma Press: Norman - 1968



**If you can't be a pine
on top of a hill,
Be a scrub in the valley,
but be**

**The best little scrub by
the side of the rill,
Be a bush if you can't
be a tree.**

**If you can't be a
highway, then just be a
trail.**

**If you can't be a sun, be
a star.**

**It isn't by size that you
win or fail.**

**Be the best of whatever
you are.**

--Douglas Malloch



TRADITIONAL MATTERS

from: *Indian Givers*, by Jack Weatherford

In the marshy ponds that dot the terrain of Minnesota and Wisconsin, the Indians for centuries gathered a water-grown grain which the whites later called "wild rice", even though it is not an Old World rice. Despite the emphasis on "wild", the plant grew under human care, for during the harvesting the Ojibwa farmers dispersed the seed for the next year's crop. The Ojibwas also introduced wild rice into ponds where it had not grown. In this way they spread the plant into new areas, but they also controlled the type of plant grown in ponds by selecting for particular characteristics preferred by various groups of Ojibwas. Thus lakes and ponds became associated with particular types of wild rice.



Unlike regular rice, which grows in semitropical areas, wild rice thrives in the coldest parts of the northern great plains. It grows after passing the winter in lakes that freeze for four or more months each year. This unusual crop has become popular as a luxury food, and cooks often mix it with white rices to accompany gourmet dishes. The full food potential of the plant is yet to be explored. Just as the potato was eaten only by the rich for the first two hundred years after its introduction to Europe and only later became a staple for common people, perhaps one day wild rice may find its role in the feeding of large populations in cold swampy areas such as the Siberian tundra which have shown little agricultural potential thus far. - pp.76,77

cited from *Indian Givers*, by Jack Weatherford, Crown Publishers, Inc., New York, 1988.



**CALIFORNIA ACHIEVEMENT TESTS
ADMINISTERED May 4-7**

Designed to measure personal student academic progress, these achievement tests provide information to the students themselves, to school officials and ultimately to the government bodies providing funding. The areas tested

include reading comprehension, language mechanics and usage, mathematics comprehension and applications skills, social studies, and personal study skills.

DULUTH NEWS TRIBUNE TRIP

In response to the personal invitation of Robert W. Jodon, Editor, Monday, May 18, Fond du Lac Ojibwe School journalism students are scheduled to visit the printing facility and offices of the *Duluth News Tribune*. This trip will provide students another opportunity to consider career opportunities available in the field. In addition to writing articles, journalism offers options in advertising, photography, computer graphics applications, circulation and distribution, press operation, as well as management and supervision and the influencing of public opinion.

Fond du Lac student, Toni Fox, has recently been informed of her summer position at the *News Tribune*. Both work positions and scholarships for further training are periodically available to students with interests related to the aspects of journalism noted above. For further information contact either Bill Blake, instructor or Barb Welna, careers counselor

postage
required

**OJIBWE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

105 University Road
Cloquet, Minnesota - 55720