TRAVEL

Western world breeds bizarre rituals

BY DAVID LIVINGSTON

The Grope and Flail

Go west, young Torontonian.

Located 64.3 degrees north of the equator and somewhat west of Toronto, Edmonton, jewel of the North American prairie, offers an interesting culture, as well as friendly people to meet and swell things to do.

Dr. Benny Sillin, a cultural scientist from the University of Toronto, has spent virtually years being indoctrinated into the bizarre rituals of the wild and wooly, but wonderfully wicked westerly region.

"The people of Edmonton lead a life which Torontonians could never imagine," said Dr. Sillin.

Dr. Sillin started his travel adventure by flying to Thunder Bay, where he was escorted by dog sled to the St. Paul UFO landing pad, and then bush-whacked 230 kilometres to Edmonton. After surviving the fifty-day journey. Dr. Sillin realized that the lengthy trip was worth it, as he found that Edmonton was a swell watering hole.

Dr. Sillin, who spent a year and a half in Edmonton studying the natives, said, "Edmonton is a delight. A pure delight." While the locals have only recently learned English, they have for some time converted from cannabilism and now live in permanent structures.

"We burnt down the igloo settlement many moons ago." said Edmonton's tribal leader Mr. Ookie-Ookie-Ookie-doon-da-Washington. "We were taught by a wandering missionary, before we ate him, how to build these big, strong wooden structures, and we call them condos."

Mr. Washington is an authority on this friendly, yet hostile land.

"We like people - especially



Above: Mr. Scooby-dooby-dooby-doo-bee-doo Barnaby-Jones prepares for an evening of searching for featherless chickens to wrestle. Right: Mrs. Jaaaaneee-wanie-wooboo Washington is shocked to find Mrs. Madonna-wannabewannabe-wannabe Jones drinking in the barnyard again.

the plump, odorous kind served with ketchup and onion rings."

Mr. Washington estimates that his community has existed for some time since he knew his father and his grandfather. Although known as Mr. Trivia by his peers when it comes to Edmonton, Mr. Washington had difficulty estimating the population, and took off one sock, held up both hands, and said, "I think there is this many people here."

The economy of Edmonton is supported by many diverse industries. Wife-breeding and the babytrade lead the way. Edmontonians also depend on traditional buffalo-hunting. "Besides baby-trading, I am actively involved with the search for buffaloes. I hunt buffaloes. My father hunted buffaloes, my grand-father hunted buffaloes, and my great-great grand-grand grandmother's third son's second cousin's aunt's nephew hunted buffaloes." said Ms. Madonnawanna-bewanna-bewanna-be Jones, noting she thought one had been caught once, sometime.

While in Edmonton, Dr. Sillin felt that the utmost most interesting activity he observed was the search for the clusive Edmonton

featherless chicken - to be used for featherless chicken wrestling.

Featherless chicken trainer Mr. Scooby-dooby-dooby-dooby-doo-bee-doo Barnaby- Jones says, "Featherless chicken wrestling has been very-very good to me. or so I'm told." Jones then pondered what a featherless chicken might be.

Collecting rodent pelts is another amusing pursuit of these timid yet bold peoples. "I have many lovely pelts - all in various shades of mousey brown," said native Edmontonian Jaaaan-eeewanie-wooboo Washington, wife and daughter of the tribal leader. During his stay in this primitive and advanced land, Dr. Sillin compiled a travel itinerary for Torontonians looking for a true northern, western, regional and territorial and exotic, really neat adventure.

Where to stay: Trapper Inn

Where not to stay: The Bee Trapped Inn

Where to eat: Featherless Buffalo Bar and Grill

Where to be eaten: (Cannibalism is discouraged. Try not to feed the locals.)

How to get there: Plane, dog-sled, bushwhack.

What to take: Camera, film, babies (for swapping), featherless chickens.

What not to take: Your beloved ones, your will, your self.

Season suited for travel: Spring, catch the locals during the rut.

Travel notes: Get all your shots, leave a will, pack lightly.

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