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So quite logically it prefers the social and moral arguments to the legal.

"There is a fine balance between pride in one's Indianness and way of life," the report says, "and encouragement of inward-looking xenophobia which could lead to an undesirable alienation of a minority group from the main society." It added that scattered throughout the Brotherhood's paper was "a bow in the direction of Jean-Jacques Rousseau's concept of the noble savage, and it would be unfortunate if the Yukon Native Brotherhood paid much more than lip service to it." A more than superficial analysis of the "noble savage" argument would involve consideration of aboriginal rights, something the federal government badly wants to avoid.

However, one problem was foreseen concerning the retention of hunting, fishing, and trapping rights by Yukon natives. "It will be hard to convince Indians who regard themselves as natural ecologists that majority societal needs must have

priority," the report says. It suggests making the concession of some specific areas for Indian hunting and fishing, and giving Indians a portion of big game hunting licenses, since this was a subject "particularly galling to Indians."

The native people have maintained that their "natural ecology" stems from the fact that since they are working the land they would be foolish to abuse it.

The Indian Affairs analysis also feared giving Yukon natives any controls or substantial royalties from mineral development. "It would not serve the best long-term interests of the Indians if concessions awarded them today should involve them tomorrow in bitter controversies with the majority society, whose needs for scarce resources were jeopardized by terms of a rigid settlement," it says. However, native spokesmen note that their people form a majority in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, and that if that area were a province, native people would form the government with rights to the mineral resources.

Also hinted in the report was the rationale behind the government providing conservatively-minded native organizations with the funds to research and present claims. (The government has provided funds to some native organizations to research their position in the land claims and treaty disputes.) Indians must feel that there was no lack of resources leading to "acceptance of a settlement less equitable than might otherwise have been the case. Justice must be seen to be done", the report said. The government has tried to imply that there is equal strength on both sides of the bargaining table, but it financially supports those bargaining agents it agrees with.

No startling new facts

The recently released secret documents do not make known many startling new facts. But they do provide an important overview of the federal government's manner of handling native demands for their rights. They also show that the cabinet very much wants to keep the native claims out of court so any negotiations that take place can be on the government's terms.



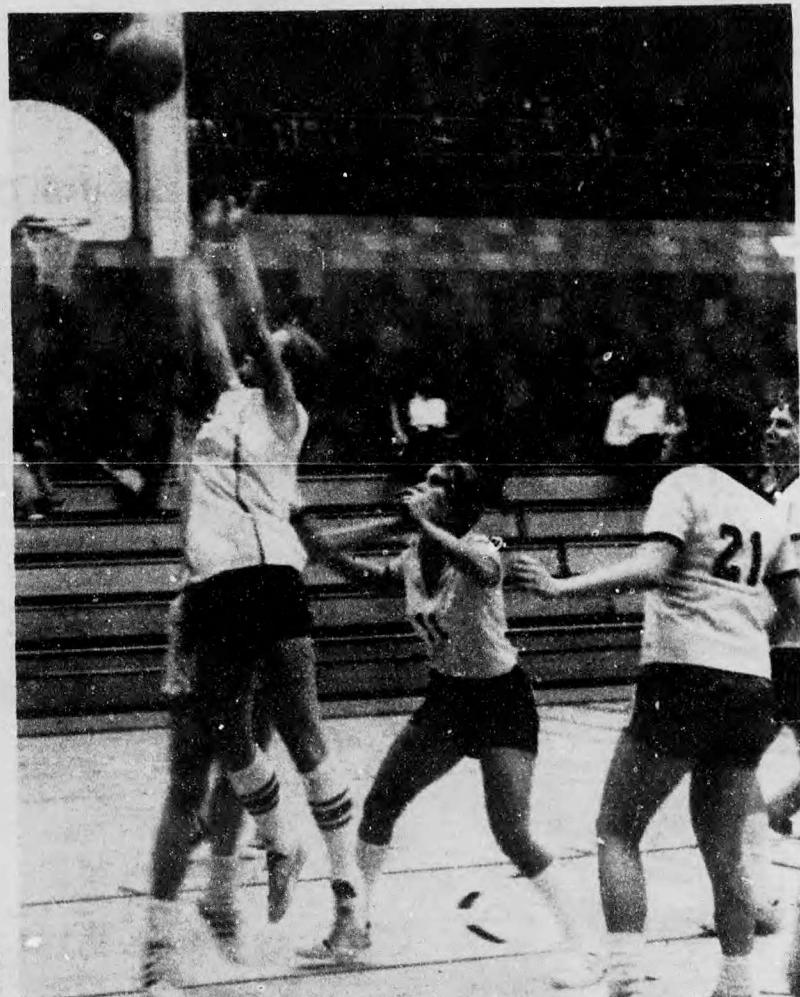
Action taken during men's Inter-Class Hockey League game in which Engineering 3 beat Business 3 by the score of 5 to 4.

Photo by Ron Ward



Inter-Class Volleyball league games are played on Tuesday nights, and this is a typical game. The teams from physical education are dominating the league standings.

Photo by Ron Ward



Action taken during last weekend's AIAA invitational tournament games between the UNB Red Bloomers and their competition. Due to lack of team writer, sorry, no story!

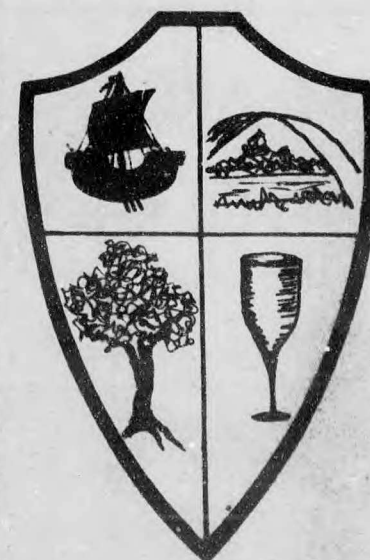
Photo by Ron Ward



The photo was taken during an Inter-Residence Hockey League game played at the Lady Beaverbrook Rink. The "animals" of Aitken somehow are in first place in the league standings.

Photo by Ron Ward

More sport pictures, stories, and summaries on pages 29, 30 and 31.



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