

## FAS expands

CALGARY (CUP) - It's going to be an all out effort for the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) as the provincial student organization embarks on an expansion program that will triple fees and boost staff up to five from the current one by the fall of 1978.

Delegates representing 11 of FAS' 12 members charted an ambitious 15-month program that calls for membership referenda at Alberta's 19 post-secondary institutions at its semi-annual conference March 17-21.

The conference resolved to hike fees to \$150 per student from \$50 and make membership in the 17-month old organization contingent on a vote by students rather than the current affiliation by student council approval.

FAS will continue to operate on its \$22,000 budget through the 1977/78 academic year and will likely hire a fieldworker for four months to aid its executive secretary, the sole paid employee.

"It's unfortunate that so much of our time is going to have to be taken up by expansion," one executive member said, "but if we ever want the federation to effectively represent Alberta students it's a step we have to take."

"There is just too much work

for one person to do," current office staffer Brian Mason said.

With a projected budget of \$73,000 by October, 1978, FAS will hire five staff: an executive secretary, two researchers, and two fieldworkers.

The only opposition to the expansion came from U of A delegates who were at odds with the expansion's price tag.

FAS, represents about 40,000 of Alberta's 50,000 post-secondary students.

### Don Juan a lie?

SAN FRANCISCO (ZNS-CUP) — Did Don Juan really exist or was the Yaqui sorcerer, star of four best-selling books by Carlos Castaneda, just a product of the author's fertile imagination?

Richard de Mille presents a study of Castaneda's four books in the current *High Times* magazine, and concludes that Don Juan is an elaborately conceived and highly profitable hoax.

De Mille uncovers glaring contradictions in the sequence and chronology of the four works. He claims that, while Castaneda's books were supposedly the basis for his doctorate, no supporting evidence of the dialogues with Don Juan has ever been produced, either in the form of notes or tape recordings.



Anne Anderson discusses the Cree language.

## Native ed. needed

by Mary MacDonald

"Native people should make a great effort to be educated. There will be a time when there will be no welfare. They will have to do something themselves. They must write and read their own language and also learn the white man's ways."

So says Anne Anderson, president of Cree Productions, a one-person Company now giving Cree language and culture instruction which includes classes at Grant MacEwan College.

"I'm proud to show off my language to a white man, but a lot of Cree people are afraid to speak it. They're being ashamed of their race — the Indian people should both speak and write their language."

Her classes at the college have a majority of white students, says Anderson, which leads her to feel whites are actually preserving the language in the absence of a large number of native speakers.

One of the factors in the low native enrollment may be a lack of self-confidence. Anderson says her Cree mother made their entire family proud of their heritage, so they were able to face the world. Not all, though are so fortunate.

"The Indian lacks self-confidence and often needs someone to give him a push," she

says, "In addition, one of the problems is coping with a new environment."

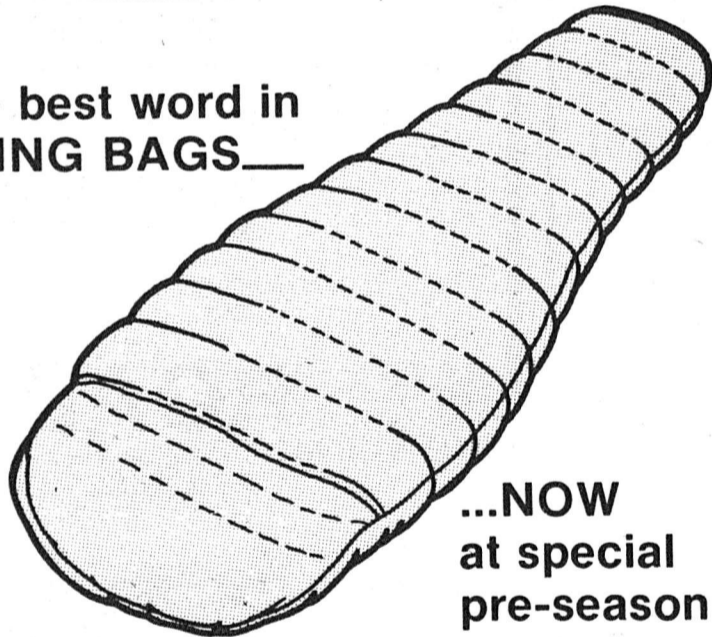
Anderson's personal approach to Cree maintains the culture and language are inseparable. To best study the language, she uses a primitive symbol chart. There is now a high demand for Cree courses — ideally, she says, a native speaker should teach the language — but teachers are often not to be found.

In a regular school system, the native student not only finds himself cooped up in a different environment, says Anderson, he is also expected to talk about the white man's ways which he may not fully understand. Often if a native child does not speak English well, the teacher concludes there is something wrong with him, says Anderson.

"Teachers should be made aware that the child is not retarded. He is born with 15 throat sounds and may never get the full 26. In particular the 'sh' sound is very difficult for Crees to master."

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