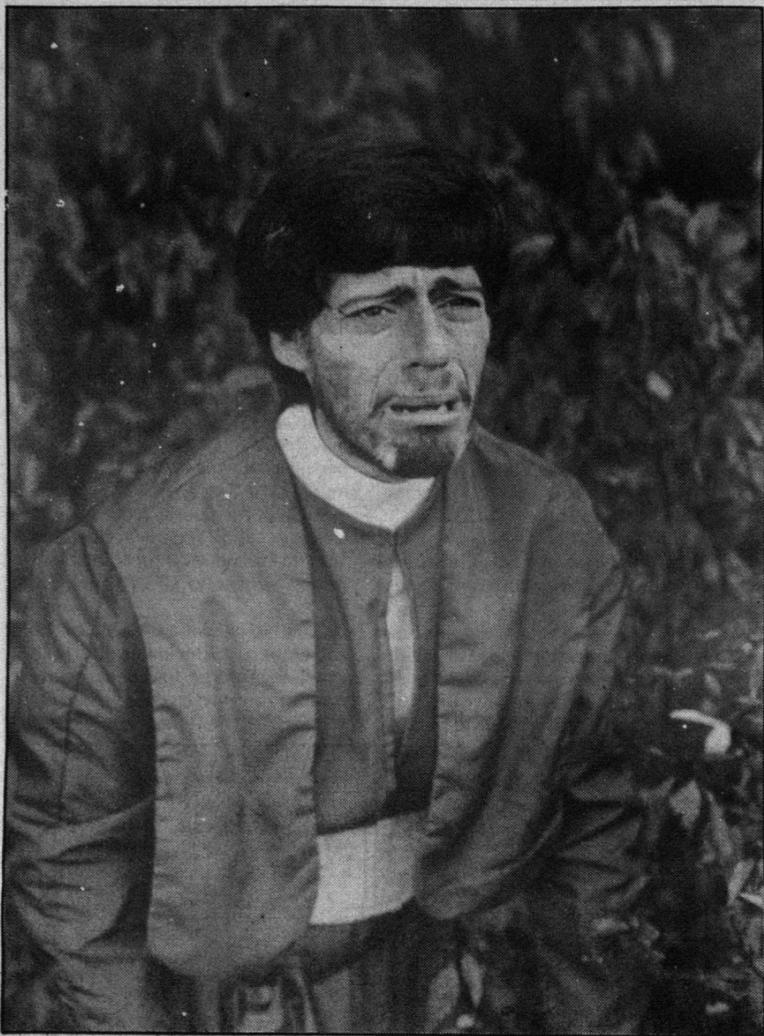
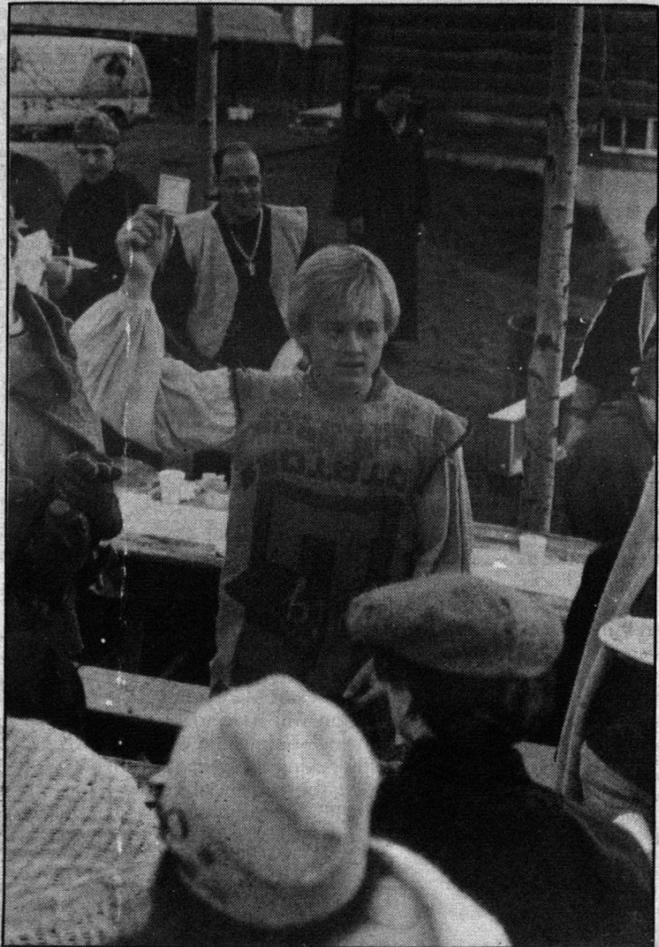


Dreamquest



U of A drama student Sean Smith as Mad Peter the hermit



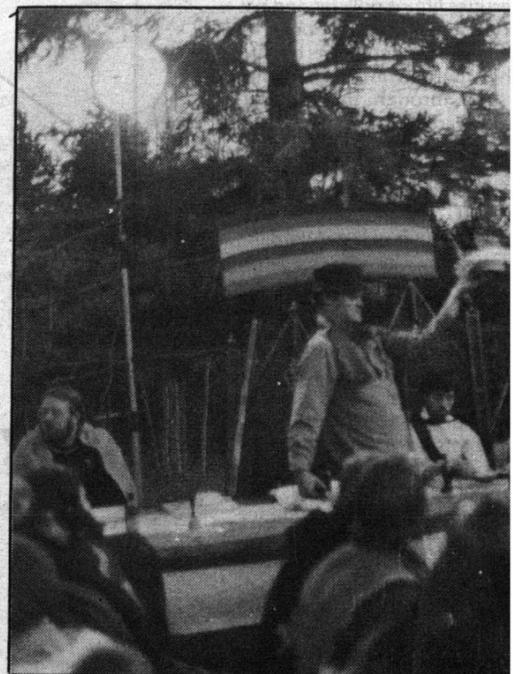
Players bidding for spells



The Phantom Rider looks for victims



A player rolls dice to the death with a werewolf



A pig's head is displayed at the feast

For most Edmontonians, the last weekend passed by as unremarkably as all fall weekends tend to do, with most people spending their time putting lawn furniture in the garage, or washing the car.

For a few of us, however, the weekend proved to be one of the most memorable in years. We were the hardy people that braved the fall weather to take part in Dreamquest '84, the live role-playing game that has been advertised all over town in the past months.

Most of the adventurers were bused out on Friday night to get the game off to an organized start in the morning. They had the opportunity to make allies Friday night and familiarize themselves with the grounds.

For the photographer and myself, the adventures actually began Friday night on the way out. We had been provided with a map to find the gamesite, but after the first two hours of driving through farmers' fields we decided to ignore the directions and, more through luck than anything else, we

eventually found the lodge, a hidden cross-country skiing resort by the North Saskatchewan River east of Edmonton.

Once there, my initial scepticism about the venture quickly disappeared. Expecting to find a group of high school Dungeons and Dragons experts, I was surprised at the diversity of the participants. There was no dominant age group, and I talked to corporate lawyers, teachers and school children and construction workers. Some groups had come from as far away as Regina to take part. One of the organizers that I spoke to felt that the game was more appealing to various groups because of the non-violent slant to the concept, and he felt that the high female turnout was caused by the high powers that had been created for the female role-players. The groups were up far into the night, carousing and laying their plans, and inside the lodge, we were treated to performances by actors, minstrels, and storytellers.

Our wake-up call came at 6:00 in the morning and after breakfast we hurried over