



Aleisha Hendry/AHN

BUILDING BLOCKS

Arena staff member Bob Corbett runs the forklift to stack blocks of ice for a massive ice sculpture for this weekend's High On Ice Winter Carnival.

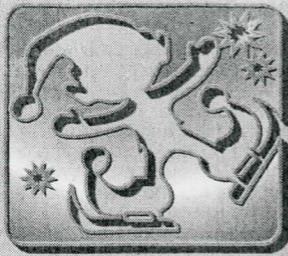


*Workshop by Bonita Kampman in Culinary Arts Pgm
at High School.*

Tessa Holloway/AHN

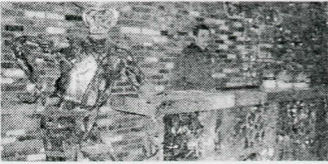
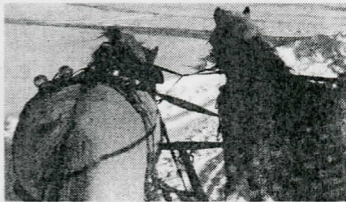
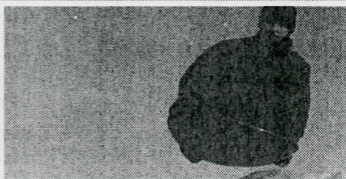
HIGHSCHOOL ON ICE

Student Gabrielle Simard eyes her piece of ice as she carefully tries to carve an octopus out of the rounded block during an ice carving workshop at North Peace Secondary School Thursday.



high on ice

January 18-20 2008



Schedule of Events:

Jan. 18 - Professional carving begins in Centennial Park!

- 1-3pm - One Block Competition
- 6-10pm - Team Competition begins
- 8pm - Comedy Night at the Lido Theatre - Live band at 10pm

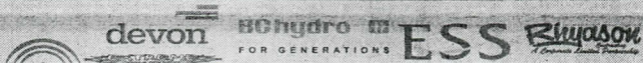
Jan. 19 - Join us for an exciting day of fun!

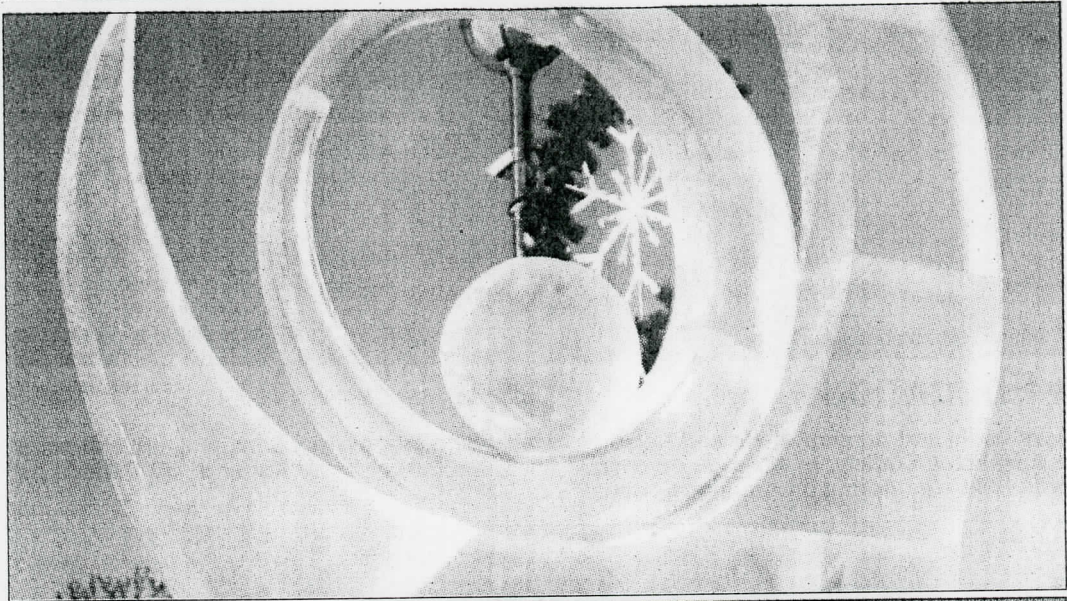
- 8am - 10pm - Professional Team Ice Carving Competition
- 8am - Dusk - Ice Fishing Derby (Inga Lake)
- 9am - 4pm - Amateur Ice Carving
- 10am - 4pm - Concessions, story telling, and more (Centennial Park)
- 10am - 2pm - Toboggan Races (Toboggan Hill)
- 10am - 2pm - Mayor's Challenge
- 11am - 3pm - Sleigh Rides (NPSS) - \$1 donation
- 8pm - Mukluk dance with live music by Flipside
- *Plus, don't miss the Mukluk Bonspiel at the Curling Club!

Jan. 20 - More family fun!

- 8am - 2pm - Profession Team Ice Carving ends
- 8am - 3pm - Ice Fishing Derby (Inga Lake)
- 9am - 3pm - Amateur Snow Carving Competition
- 9:30am - Snowmobile Poker Rally followed by Show & Shine (Centennial Park)
- 11am - 4pm - Concessions, story telling, and more (Centennial Park)
- 4pm - Award Ceremony for all Ice and Snow Carving
- 4 - 6pm - Ice sculpture viewing and celebration

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 311 OR VISIT WWW.FORTSTJOHN.CA





Aleisha Hendry/AHN

FRIGID FLAME

(Top) One of the ice sculptures depicting the northern wind at the fourth annual High on Ice competition at Centennial Park. For the finale, a Fire and Ice display had a bonfire blazing inside an ice tower. See story on A8.



Aleisha Hendry/AHN

(L-R) Second place winner Alexey Schihtov, and first place winners Takashi Ito and Junichi Nakamura, show off their medals at the awards for High On Ice on Sunday.

Carving competition winners from around the world

ALEISHA HENDRY
ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

American and Japanese sculptors took first place in the main events over the weekend at the fourth annual High On Ice B.C. Ice Carving Competition at Centennial Park.

Junichi Nakamura and Takashi Ito won the Realistic category, while Dean Murray and Chan Kitburi placed first in Abstract.

"I think the level of talent was definitely higher this year," said Murray, who along with Kitburi competed at last year's event. "We're excited about our win, especially since two weeks ago we were thinking about doing a different piece, but then we changed our minds at the last minute."

In Realistic, second place went to Alexey Schihtov for his depiction of a Canadian Mountie on horseback. Third place went to Tom Pitt for his icy Sasquatch that's looking to hitch a ride.

In Abstract, second place went to Keijiro Miyata and third went to Ilya Filimontsev, who both showed their take on northern winds. Fourth place went to Larry McFarlane for his stylized wolf howling at the moon. Fifth place went to Peter Vogelaar and Jesse Forrester for their evolution of travel in the north.

Forrester, the only local to take part in the professional event, is

"It feels pretty good, but as always, some things didn't go exactly as planned. We were hoping to maybe have accomplished some things that we didn't. Overall, for my first professional event, I'm quite pleased," said Forrester, who was also a site manager and helped with many of the commissioned pieces that can be seen around the park.

For the first time there was also a single-block challenge for the professionals. First place went to Peter Vogelaar, second to Miyata, and third to Filimontsev.

"This weekend was a fantastic competition," said lead judge Bonita Lampman. "We had some excellent sculptures displayed...all the sculptures were fantastic."

In the intermediate amateur category, Dave Diehl and Randy Jordan took first place, Sonja and Miles Butts and Julie Foster took second, and Suzon Anne Tremblay, Laurie Petrucci and Aleisha Hendry took third.

In the Mayor's Challenge, Chetwynd defended its title for the fourth year in a row, while Fort St. John took second and Taylor third.

In Sunday's snow sculpting event, Suzon Anne Tremblay, Marjolene Gauthier and Aleisha Hendry got the top nod, and Bruce Kosugi and the NEAT team took second.

All sculptures can be seen at

NEWS RELEASE

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World-Renown Ice Carving Pair Registered for City's 2008 High On Ice Festival

The City of Fort St. John in conjunction with the Fort St John Community Arts Council is excited to announce that world-renown ice carving pair, Junichi Nakamura (JOO-KNEE-CHEE NA-KA-MOO-RA) of Japan, and partner Takashi Ito, (TA-KA-SHEE EE-TO) of Victoria, BC have officially registered to compete at Fort St John's 2008 High On Ice Festival.

Fort St John's High on Ice Festival has become one of the premier winter events in Northeast BC. Set for January 17-20, 2008, the High on Ice Festival will showcase ice sculptors from around the globe as well as amateur snow & ice carving, an ice fishing derby, snow golf, sleigh rides, toboggan races, curling bonspiels and many other events that celebrate and embrace winter.

This year's professional ice carving competition features over \$15,000 in prizes, and 10 teams of international sculptors are expected to compete to out-do each other amidst the theme, "Celebrating Canada in the North".

Event organizers are thrilled that Junichi Nakamura and Takashi Ito have officially registered to attend the High On Ice Festival, which is the only National Ice Carving Association (NICA) sanctioned event in BC. Mr. Nakamura has an impressive collection of first place NICA awards from major events like Ottawa's Winterlude and Lake Louise's Ice Magic events, and Mr. Ito, in addition to his impressive ice carving abilities, is a celebrated chef at The Empress Hotel in Victoria.

For more details on the festival and registration, visit Fort St. John's website at www.fortstjohn.ca/hoi.html.



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