

A VOICE FROM THE EAST

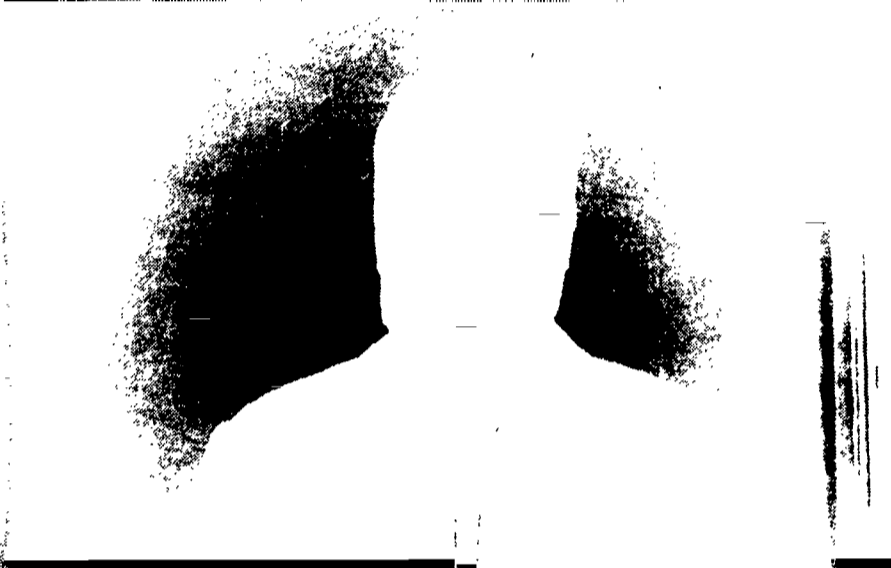
Volume 14#16

April 26, 1996

MAY 96
AKWESASNE LIBRARY CULTURAL CENTER
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**Grand Chief Roundpoint
on Education**

**Mohawk Students Are
"Racing Against Drugs"**



Pictured: MCA Grand Chief Russell Roundpoint

Akwesasne -- During the Racing Against Drugs event at the Onowarakowa Arena, Indian Time had the opportunity to talk with the Grand Chief about the education crisis facing Canadian Mohawk students.

Roundpoint said he held discussions with his Council and they agreed to negotiate with Indian

Affairs to secure funding for the tuition children are going to be required to pay if they attend school in the Salmon River School District in the fall of 1996.

"I've had negotiations with Kathy Hill and Audrey Doerr regarding our school situation on

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Pictured front row: Cheyenne Sunday, Chris Lazore, Isaac Mc Donald, Thomas Square. Back row: Romaine Mitchell, Principal TsiSnaihne School and Unknown Bear.

Kawenoke -- Several local agencies and businesses banded together to coordinate "Racing Against Drugs" for the area school children on Wednesday, April 24, 1996 at the Onowarakowa Arena on Cornwall Island.

Students from the Akwesasne Mohawk School on Cornwall

Island, TsiSnaihne and Kanatakon, the Akwesasne Freedom School and St. Regis Mohawk School in Hogansburg, from grades three through eight attended.

Activities for the event included several "pit stops" at various displays where children received

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**Locals To Face Federal Smuggling And
Money Laundering Charges**

by Doug Buchanan

SYRACUSE -- The United States government filed charges on Monday against six St. Regis Mohawks and one Florida man following a two-year investigation into a \$6.8 million liquor smuggling operation, according to U.S. District Attorney Thomas Maroney.

A nine-page indictment, handed down by a Federal Grand Jury in Syracuse, alleges that the accused purchased liquor in the U.S. and after transporting it to Akwesasne, smuggled it into Canada, where it was sold on the black market as part of a scheme to defraud the Canadian government of tax revenue.

While the indictment claims that there were other individuals

"both known and unknown to the Grand Jury" involved in the smuggling and money laundering scheme, the following seven people have officially been charged so far: Wayne Stehlin, 42, Helena Road, Hogansburg; Lyle David Pierce III (aka "Joe Martin, aka "Joe Boy), age 29, Cornwall Island, Carl Tarbell, 49, Racquette Point Rd., Hogansburg; Patricia Tarbell, 45, of Racquette Point Road, Hogansburg; Arthur C. Tarbell, State Rd., Hogansburg, Regina Pierce, 30, Buckshot Rd., Rooseveltown; and Robert Trapilo, 46, of Islamorada, Florida.

If convicted, each defendant faces up to twenty years in prison and a \$500,000. fine.

Additionally, any property linked to the smuggling ring, "wherever located and in whatever names held," is subject to forfeiture to the U.S. government, according to the indictment.

Six of the accused have posted bonds and been released from custody to await their court dates, while an arrest warrant has been issued for Regina Pierce who remains at large.

The indictment follows a two-year investigation handled jointly by the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Customs Service, the U.S. Border Patrol, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Further details of the smuggling scheme are described in the

indictment as follows:

* Beginning March 1994, Wayne Stehlin and Robert Trapilo began ordering liquor under the name of Windsail Trading. They then formed a corporation under the name of BLSH Trading. Soon after, Trapilo opened an account in the name of BLSH Trading at the Marine Midland Bank in Massena.

* Once the liquor was transported to Akwesasne from St. Louis and Chicago, Carl and Patricia Tarbell and Wayne Stehlin, "aided and abetted by others unknown to the Grand Jury," accepted delivery of the liquor at Akwesasne and were involved in smuggling it across the border into Canada.

* After the liquor had been sold

see Federal Charges on pg. 9

