

SCR

36

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Date received _____

Bill Number _____ Title _____

Fiscal Position	Date requested	From	Amount	Date Rec'd
Note Paper				Note Paper

CONTACTS

Backup list

Frank Bickford

memo SCR 34

HEARING INFORMATION

NOTES:

FINAL ACTION _____ DATE _____

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Alaskans sign up for first Great Land Games

The Juneau Empire

Several hundred Alaskans have responded to recruiting efforts of organizers of the first Great Land Games, set for April in Anchorage, executive director Gail Ryan said.

Several prominent Alaska athletes have been chosen to organize archery and body building competition at the games, two of more than 20 amateur sports that will be held at various locations in Anchorage throughout April.

Game sponsors are inviting persons of all ages throughout Alaska to participate in the games which, in addition to archery and body building include arm wrestling, basketball, bowling, boxing, cycling, figure skating, hockey, soccer, swimming and diving, weightlifting, wrestling, handball, judo, racketball, pistol-rifery and gymnastics.

Statewide recruiting efforts began last week. Sponsors are striving to enlist 6,000 Alaskans by

the end of March.

Shirley Ann Whitmore, Alaska's premier woman body builder, will organize body building competition, Ryan said. She is the reigning Ms. Anchorage Most Muscular Female champion and finished second last year in Ms. Alaska competition, middle weight division.

Skip Sledge and Steven Renz will head up archery events, which will be conducted according to Olympic rules.

Sledge, a 12-time state indoor and outdoor archery champion, writes for several archery publications and is current state director of the National Field Archery Association (NFAA).

Renz has become a top archer just three years after entering the sport. He won the NFAA state outdoor championship in 1982 and 1983 and the NFAA indoor championship in 1982.

For entry forms and more information, call Ryan at 278-2626.

"Great Land Games" Juneau Empire
News article

Sports Saturday

Anchorage Daily News

Saturday, December 24, 1983

Alaska sports festival scheduled for April

By DOYLE WOODY
Daily News reporter

Alaska's first Great Land Games, an amateur sports festival made up of at least 20 events aimed at recreational athletes, will debut in Anchorage in April.

Anchorage businessman Bill McConkey announced the ambitious plan Friday and said he hopes to see from 5,000 to 6,000 people participate in about 20 separate sporting events scheduled for the Games.

"The theory of the Games is everybody can be a champion and should be a champion," McConkey said. "The whole philosophy is participation — if you participate, you're a champion."

McConkey said that after high school and college there is little chance for athletes to compete against their peers. Based on that premise, McConkey and others decided to create the Games, which he calls a "sports-for-all festival."

McConkey said an affiliation with the national Amateur Athletic Union will also allow young athletes to use the Games as a qualifier for the national Junior Olympics.

This year's Games will take place throughout April, the majority in the last week of the month. The equestrian competition, however, will be in September.

Events will take place in various Anchorage facilities, including the University of Alaska-Anchorage Sports Center, both Anchorage military sites and local junior high and high schools.

But McConkey said he would like to see the Games compressed into one week in 1985.

McConkey is one of the founders and directors of Great Land Games, Inc., a non-profit organization established in hopes of bringing major amateur national and international athletic events to Alaska, in conjunction with AAU.

The new organization includes McConkey's wife, Sandy; former Anchorage Mayor George Sullivan; businessman Bob Uchitel; Gail Ryan, executive director of the Games; Bill Mehner; and Dick Angel.

McConkey said he estimates the Games will cost about \$50,000. He said he and the other members of GLG, Inc. will try to drum up financial support for the Games.

The toughest obstacle ahead of GLG, Inc. will be informing people about the Games, McConkey said.

"The big push will be recruiting people," McConkey said. "Anywhere we can find two people standing still, we're going to make them listen to us."

He said local community clubs, existing sports organizations and word of mouth will be used to promote participation in the Games.

McConkey said that when he originally proposed the idea for the Games to various people, "you could see the sparkle in their eyes."

The organizational headache of such a large undertaking won't really be that bad, McConkey said, because people already involved in local sports will be recruited to organize individual sports in the Games.

Ultimately, McConkey would like to see Anchorage become a major amateur sports town.

"Because of our air crossroads, we have a great opportunity to bring international amateur competition to Alaska," McConkey said. "It would be great for international understanding and letting people know about Alaska."

Glenn Cunningham, former world record holder in the mile and Olympic silver medalist, will be the featured

speaker at a "Breakfast of Champions" fundraising banquet to be held at the Anchorage Sheraton Jan. 20.

Cunningham also won the AAU Sullivan Award, which annually goes to the nation's finest amateur athlete. Tickets for the breakfast, which will be a bowl of Wheaties cereal, are \$50.

Cunningham's story is a courageous and inspiring one. As a youth in Kansas he was burned in a schoolhouse fire. Doctors told Cunningham he would never walk again. But Cunningham's father tied his hands together, forcing him to follow a horse. He learned to walk, then run.

Cunningham now runs a boys home in Arkansas and has 38 adopted children living with him, McConkey said.

For more information, call Gail Ryan or McConkey at 278-2626.

Anchorage Daily News 12/24/83
Sports Article & Advertisement (etc)



"...They shall mount up with wings as eagles:
they shall run and not be weary:
and they shall walk and not faint."

Glenn Cunningham

The world of sports has heard and seen some great legends develop, but for sheer determination and courage the story of Glenn Cunningham stands alone.

The Glenn Cunningham story began in February, 1916, when at eight years of age he was severely burned in a school fire. Doctors first thought he would lose his legs, and then were sure he would never walk again. His older brother, also involved in the fire, died as a result of his burns.

But Glenn's inner spirit, the loving help of his mother, and the hard-nosed "never quit" philosophy of his father worked a miracle. Glenn not only walked again, he became the outstanding runner of his time. In fact, he was selected as Madison Square Garden's "Outstanding Track Performer of the Century". In an 8 year span (1933-1940) he raced in 31 Garden 1500 meter races and won 21 of them. In these distances he set 6 world records and posted another for 1000 yards. He became known - world wide - as The Miracle Miler. In 1933, he was awarded the AAU-Sullivan Award as America's Outstanding Amateur Athlete.

In 1936, he won a silver medal in the Berlin Olympics.

He was the:

NCAA	outdoor	one mile	Champion	1932, 1933
AAU	outdoor	one mile	Champion	1933, 1935 - 1938
AAU	indoor	one mile	Champion	1934, 1935, 1938, 1939

At the finish of his track career, Glenn and his wife, Ruth, established the Cunningham Youth Ranch where they have ministered to over 9,000 young people.

It is appropriate that Glenn Cunningham, an inspiration to all people, is credited with making the mile the glamour event in track and field. It is also appropriate that he has been made National Chairman of the AAU-Masters Program - and - has agreed to come to Alaska to help us kick off our Great Land Games.

•••ANNOUNCING•••



"The Great Land Games" Brochure

* * * ANNOUNCING * * *

THE GREAT LAND GAMES

During the month of April, 1984, a sports festival in the Olympic tradition for Alaska's athletes will be held in Anchorage. The official name, "The Great Land Games", has been chosen. These games are designed to encourage athletes to improve their physical and competitive skills and have a good time. It is to be an annual event aimed at those of all ages* who are interested in physical fitness and friendly competition. Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to champions in the following sports: Archery, arm wrestling, basketball, bowling, boxing, body building, cycling, figure skating, gymnastics, handball, hockey, judo, pistol/riflery, trap/skeet, racquetball, soccer, swimming/diving, table tennis/tennis, track/field, volleyball, weightlifting, and wrestling.

* Team sports will be divided into 10 year age groups.

Individual sports will be divided into 5 year age groups.

Everyone has an opportunity to participate with members of their age group.

Anchorage, Alaska - International Amateur Sports

The 1984 Great Land Games, a participatory celebration - a sports Festival for all Alaskans - of all ages - is only part of the program of The Great Land Games, Inc.

Great Land Games plan to bring a series of national and international amateur athletic competitions to Alaska. Alaska's international cross roads location offers us the opportunity to bring the world's finest amateur athletes to Alaska.

We believe national and international amateur athletics offers an excellent way to help tell Alaska's story to the Nation and the World.

The Great Land Games program is associated with the AAU-Masters and AAU-Jr. Olympics programs. Material on those programs is also enclosed. The younger athletes competing in the Jr. Olympic sports are eligible to go to the National Jr. Olympics championships. Beginning in 1985, the athletes over 19 will have the same opportunities.

We believe we can recruit 5000 to 6000 active Alaskan athletes into these programs.

Grants, Sponsors, Donations

We need your help!

Annual Sponsorship

An annual sponsorship of the Great Land Games is available for \$5000.00. A sponsor of Great Land Games receives the right to use The Great Land Games and the Logo in advertising and marketing for an entire year. Sponsor names will appear in all Great Land Games literature and print advertising and in a portion of any electronic advertising that Great Land Games may place. For \$10,000 no other sponsor will be allowed in your particular industry; i.e. fast foods, airlines, etc. No more than 30 annual sponsors will be accepted.

Project and Event Sponsors

Any special project and/or event may be individually sponsored. A basketball tournament, a breakfast, a specific promotional program, all may be individually sponsored. Individual events, on a first come first serve basis, may be sponsored during the annual Great Land Games Sport Festival. Project and event sponsors will realize the right to advertise and promote their sponsorship of that event for the six months prior to and during that event. Project and event sponsors are available for \$2500.00.

Donations

We also need and will accept donations of any amount at any time.

AAU-Alaska

All donations and sponsorship to the Great Land Games - AAU-Alaska are tax deductible either as a contribution or business expense.

An annual operating budget follows on the next page.

Great Land Games, Inc.

Great Land Games, Inc., is a non-profit corporation in association with AAU-Alaska.

The AAU president in Alaska is Millie Mucha; the Jr. Olympic chairman is Gail Ryan; The Masters chairman is Bill McConkey.

The Board of Directors of The Great Land Games consists of:

Honorable George Sullivan

William Mehner

Robert Uchitel

Richard Angell

William McConkey

Sandra McConkey

Gail Ryan

Louis Overstreet

Jeffrey Macktaz

Great Land Games, Inc. may be reached at the following address:

Great Land Games, Inc.
c/o The 4800 Corporation
203-A West 15th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907-278-2626

Contact: Gail Ryan or Bill McConkey

Great Land Games, Inc.
A Non-profit Corporation
Annual operating budget

I. Directorate

Executive Director: \$3000 per month X 12 months	\$ 36,000.00
Part-time secretarial \$500 X 12	6,000.00
Office, phones, furniture, copying -	<u>12,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 54,000.00

II. Promotion of Participation and Advertising of Events

Annual Budget	\$ 40,000.00
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III. General Competition Expenses

* Awards, trophies, medals	\$ 15,000.00
* Facilities, rental and cleanup	20,000.00
* Assistant - logistics - \$1500 X 12	<u>18,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 53,000.00

Sub total	\$147,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	\$150,000.00

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER:

2/10/84

Date 2/28/84

Mr. President

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS considered SCR 36

relating to "The Great Land Games Month."

and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for _____
- new title
- same title and recommends _____
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" [] NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Chairman recommendation