Nishnawbe News ends; new publication to come

by David Schneider Staff Writer

The Nishnawbe News is no longer in existence at NMU, but the people who were involved with it are hoping to put out a new publication.

"We receive no money from the student fund or the state. Our only income was

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from subscriptions and grants," said James Carter, advisor to the Nishnawbe News. "The revenues coming in weren't enough to keep the paper going so we had to close down."

Carter isn't sure where they will go from here, but they do have a grant to try to set up a small publication. "We are considering changing the format and the content of the paper. One possibility is a type of Indian quarterly in journal form, containing opinion, thought and research articles," Carter said.

The Nishnawbe News had been published since June of 1971 and Carter felt it would be a shame to see it die. "It was a highly respected publication, not only in this area but throughout the country and Canada as well. The Nishnawbe News was one of three major Indian publications in the country. It was well read and, in fact, we had some readers in England who have sent grants to us." Carter said.

According to Nancie Hatch, director of the American Indian program, the space in the basement of Lee Hall where the paper was printed will continue to be used as a meeting and study center for the Indian community at NMU.







Business Development Meet Set

Former 'News' Staffer NMU Senior Accountant



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Shown above is the front page of the last publication of the Nishnawbe News. The publication was ended because of insufficient revenues.

GREAT LAKES INDIAN PUBLICATION TO CHANGE FORMAT

MARQUETTE, Mich. -- The Nishnawbe News, a major American Indian newspaper serving the Great Lakes region in the United States and Canada, will change its format to become a periodic journal of Native American thought, studies and opinion.

"The general media has greatly improved its coverage of American
Indian news in recent years, and many areas with sizeable Indian populations
now have their own local newspapers," says Nancie Hatch, director
of American Indian Programs at Northern Michigan University.

She noted that when the Nishnawbe News was established by Indian students at NMU in 1971, there was much less coverage of Indian news in the general media, and fewer publications serving localized Indian populations.

Although its primary focus has been the Great Lakes area, the newspaper has circulated throughout the United States, carrying news, features, and educational articles.

"The Nishnawbe News has served the Indian community in the role of a newspaper, and Indian students in journalism and graphics training," Hatch said.

The paper was founded in response to a need voiced by Indian leaders throughout the region as having a top priority, Hatch said.

"We think it's time for a transition to provide Indian people with a vehicle for in-depth articles on the broad range of developments, concerns and problems they face today," she added.

Publication of the newspaper is being suspended during the transition period, she said.

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COMMUNICATIONS

MEMORANDUM

October 6, 1983

To: Paul Suomi

From: Jim Carter

RE: North Wind article

The North Wind article on the future of the Nishnawbe News is premature and somewhat inaccurate. We asked the paper's reporters to hold off publishing the story until a final decision has been made. Nancie Hatch, Indian students and I have been discussing the future of the paper for several weeks and we have a meeting scheduled next week to take up the matter further.

The paper has not been permanently closed. Financial support is only one of the factors bearing on the present situation. A change of need within the Indian community is one of the major factors being considered.

We have not received a grant to launch a new publication.

This morning I had a very agreeable conversation with Managing Editor of the North Wind, Paul Meyer. He indicated the paper would develop an in-depth story as soon as a decision on its future is reached, and expressed his regret an article had been published somewhat "jumping the gun."

cc: President Appleberry
Matt Surrell
Nancie Hatch
Paul Meyer
Norman Hefke

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