

KICY Call Letter

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Toll- Free: 1-800-478-5429 e-mail: office@kicy.org web page: www.kicy.org April, 2004

Manager's Mic

Our greatest challenge arrives with the first dog team into Nome each year. The Iditarod is big enough. But there's more, much more. At one time we had two different basketball tournaments broadcasting concurrently on the two radio stations. The Bering Strait School District tournament was featured on KICY-AM while the Nome Regional Tournament, to which Nome Schools was host, aired on ICY 100.3 FM. This year we also added coverage of the Nome-



Dennis Weidler

Golovin snowmachine race. As new Ham operators, we were asked to help with race communications as well. This is all happening as we broadcast ongoing Iditarod coverage. It seems we all came down with a cold-like illness none of us can shake. There was also a Norovirus alert. This nasty intestinal flu-like bug was latching on to dog teams and making its way into each village up and down Norton Sound. That keeps things interesting.

We've been covering the Lutheran Conference by broadcasting and recording their evening worship services. Fortunately, this year's conference was held in Nome. Neil Peterson traveled to Eagle River to broadcast the services of our ECCAK State Conference too. ■



Musher Ellie Claus visits us in the studio.

Youngest Iditarod Musher Visits KICY.

Even with the round-the-clock activity, Iditarod is an exhilarating time. Third place winner Kjetil Backen from Norway arrived in Nome after his 1,100 mile trip with no place to stay so Andrei and Ellen opened the Yellow House to Kjetil, his wife and a dog handler. Candace and I housed the Smyths including two brother mushers, Ramey and Cim, their younger brother Malloreay and dad, Bud. It was gratifying to have an Alaskan, Mitch Seavey, actually win this year's sled dog race.

The youngest musher to ever compete in the Iditarod's 32 year history is Ellie Claus, another Alaskan native who is home schooled at the family's lodge in Chitina, in the Wrangell/St. Elias mountains. She received her first Husky puppies when she was nine years old. The rest, as they say, is history.

Much has been written about Ellie including a feature in Focus on the

Family's teen magazine, the Covenant Church web site and many other publications. Her grandparents are John and Eleanor Claus of First Covenant in Anchorage.

We had a chance to sit down in the studio and talk with Ellie about the race and about her faith. The interview is available as an MP3 audio file download from www.kicy.org/kicyprog.htm.

Ellie spoke candidly how she drew on her faith to deal with the endless hours on the trail and ultimately put her dog team in God's care. We were honored to share her story. ■

A Prayer Request.

The final phase of the KICY masterplan to rebuild the studios and refit the broadcast operation is here.

Our new Capital Campaign is called **Blanket Nome**, to improve our FM signal throughout the greater Nome area.

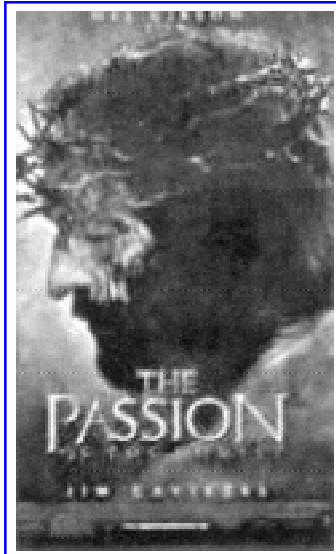
KICY Gives *The Passion* to Nome.

Over a year ago, the media fury regarding Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* was already well underway. I first heard of it on Moody Broadcasting's *Prime Time America*, which we carry weekdays from 1 to 2:30 PM. I remember the reviewer wasn't sure if a film with subtitles, spoken in the original languages, would work with today's movie-going audience.

While at the Midwinter Conference in February news of the release of the film was on every channel. I began to pray about how we could best use the film as an outreach to our neighbors in Nome.

It's no coincidence that also a year ago, Nome saw the opening of the first movie theatre in many decades. The answer came back very clearly. As many in Nome who are able to see *The Passion* should be able to see it, at no cost.

I returned to Nome and immediately contacted the theatre owner



and the Nome Ministerial Association outlining what I would like to do. KICY would rent the theatre and open the doors to the public for one showing. The Ministerial Association would be on hand both before and after the film to answer questions or simply minister to those who seek it.

Both parties were enthusiastic. Now,

God's timing is perfect so it should come as no surprise that *The Passion* would be playing in Nome during Holy Week. KICY secured a special showing on Good Friday at 4:00 PM! All along, this was exactly the day I had hoped to share this film with as many as possible.

We began promoting the free showing on Friday, April 2nd on both radio stations and by that Sunday over 100 calls were received by the theatre (which holds only 110). It was, quite literally, the talk of the town.

It is such a joy to be able to see crowds standing in line in Nome to witness the account of *The Passion of The Christ*. ■

A Prayer Request. *For each of our staff members.*

Greg 'Bo' Bowman

Matthew Lundgren

Sarah Luther

Mitchell Nash

Neil Peterson

April A.J. Pugh

Greg Pugh

Brenda Ratzlaff

Greg Ratzlaff

Jamie Saghafi

Andrei Sarazov

Ellen Sarazov

Candace Weidler

Dennis Weidler

Frances Whitmore

Julie Yoder

Please add Josh and Lydia Rogers to your staff prayers.

Looking to Organize a Summer Work Team in Nome and KICY?

Check our website at www.kicy.org/vollist

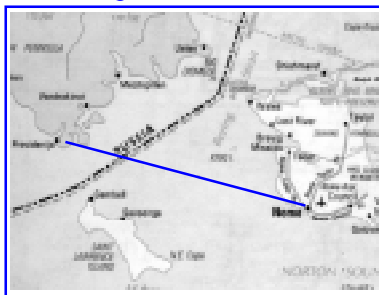
for a current listing of volunteer teams.

Or, call toll-free 1-800-478-5429

Russian CareForce Program Officially Launched.

When we first began our 50,000 watt directional broadcasts into Russia each evening, I prayed how to most effectively reach our neighbors across the Bering Strait. I knew from the telephone response that one of our biggest programs targeting western Alaska was CareForce, our prayer request show which airs daily at 9:00 AM. My goal was to have a Russian version of the CareForce Program in which we could include specific, local requests of our listeners and churches in The Russian Far East.

About six weeks ago, the dream was realized as we established



telephone contact with Pastor Larissa Pokhilko of Provideniya. We set up a special phone account and established a schedule to record

her program early in the day. As it turns out, the phone traffic builds during the day and the lines become quite noisy between Nome and Russia. That means she has to get up at 5:00 AM to be ready to record her program.

Within a few weeks of the launch of her weekly program, the Baptist Pastor in Provideniya contacted Pastor Pokhilko and asked how he could become involved in this unique telephone, prayer request ministry. What a blessing!

Yes, KICY has many listeners among Pastor Pokhilko's community and throughout the Russian Far East. Please pray for the continued encouragement and participation in this Russian CareForce Program. ■

Another Salmon Fundraising Dinner added in Arvada, Colorado on August 4.

Memorials

In March we received memorials in the name of:

Roger Lee
Florence Ulrich
Henry Johanson
Darla Nelson
Tom Dotomain

Thank you for remembering a loved one through a gift to our mission.

PLEASE NOTE!

-March Income-
\$21,487.54

Includes Sales & Programs but not designated funds.

-March Budget-
\$29,935.00

Thank you for your prayer and financial support.



Arctic Broadcasting Association is an affiliated corporation of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Capital Campaign Update.

The KICY Capital Campaign is dedicated to rebuilding our FM transmission system from the Antenna to the Processor. The most important part of this project is to raise our FM antenna to twice the current height. This will give us a considerably better signal. Even Nome is seeing a growth towards the suburbs such as Dexter and Banner Creek. Downtown businesses are also having difficulty receiving our current 84 watt signal.

\$60,000

\$50,000

\$40,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$10,000



Making Way for the New FM Tower.

Phase Three of the KICY remodeling and updating project is under way. During the last week on March, the old, unused satellite dish was dismantled to make way for the new 100 foot tower. We hope to be able to use the one piling, and add three more, to give our new tower a stable platform. While the ground is permafrost, the satellite dish has not moved since it was erected. We have it on good authority that it "wasn't going anywhere".

The new tower will give us twice the height we have now. We are also asking the FCC to allow us to increase our power to 1,000 watts.

We hope to raise \$60,000 which will complete the project. Included in that cost estimate are the tower, transmitter, antenna, processor and monitor. We are

calling this the *Blanket Nome* Capital Campaign. From the phone calls we received we discovered that with our current 84 watts there are businesses in downtown Nome, literally under

the shadow of our current tower, which can't receive ICY 100.3 FM. This will solve that problem. The FM represents a largely (until recently) untapped and wildly growing audience.

Contemporary Christian music, the nation's fastest growing music category, has a huge following in Nome. With your help we'll bring the Word into homes and offices throughout greater Nome. ■



*The old satellite dish rests on a trailer in the snow.
The tower to be replaced can be seen standing
behind the building on the left.*

Non Profit Rate
U S Postage
PAID
Permit #88
Fairbanks, Alaska

KICY
AM-850 & ICY 100.3 FM
P.O. Box 820
Nome, Alaska 99762