

## Sun, wind, thunder, lightening, rain, hail, Girl Scouts accept the challenge

By Heather Wright  
Midnight Sun reporter

What about the weather? The wind was nuts! I have heard many numbers, but one non-expert Girl Scout said she thought the wind speed was between thirty and forty miles per hour!

About the rain. Oh that rain was intense. The weather report said on and off sprinkles throughout the night. But we shouldn't see a repeat Saturday night. Wally Younker, a meteorologist, says, "Generally speaking, for the Palmer area you don't have thunder and lightning two nights in a row!"

I agree and I think it's extremely rare!

Wally explained the change from the beginning hot days. "The Susitna valley heated up like a frying pan. It sucked up moist Marine Air that cut off the wind and brought the rain," he explained.

I have a sunburn from Thursday and it's just healing. When sunburns heal they itch. I am taking the time to tell you DON'T SCRATCH!!!! For one thing, scratching tears the skin and hurts even more. And scratching makes it itch even more! I suggest aloe vera or some other moisturizing cream. Other than that you just have to tough it out.

That's the hot and cold of it. See you in two years!!!



**"I'm a little raincoat, short and stout. Here is the hole that I look out."**

*Future Junior, Natasha, smiles from under her makeshift rain gear after Saturday's torrential thunder and lightening storm.*

### Wait! Don't forget to check out!

By Lauren Bryant  
Midnight Sun Reporter

When you wake up this morning, the first thing you may want to do is pack up and go home. But before you go, you need to fold up your tents, load all your things into a vehicle, and clean up your campsite.

You also need to checkout with the security office before you head home. After you clean up your campsite, someone from core staff will make sure that it is clean and that there is

no trash around your campsite. When you get to the security office, someone there will give you your health forms back and the patches you have earned while at Encampment, including the challenge patch if you chose to complete that.

After you have checked out and have been told that your campsite is clean enough, you may go home. When you get home, I strongly recommend that you take a very long bubble bath and a nap in your big cozy bed.

### Thank you! Thank you! Thank you

For over 18 months, this group of volunteers met monthly with Camp director, Marianne Kerr, and more to bring you Encampment 2003. They wrote and published registration packets, web pages and

patches. They took t-shirt orders, pizza orders, and photo orders. They lined up presenters, handled logistics, created crafts for the craft cache, budgeted, previewed karaoke, trained and

*(continued on back)*

### Tiki Tina takes a bow

By Tabitha Chartraw and Rachel Voehl  
Midnight Sun reporter

Thank you, all you Girl Scouts for looking for Tiki Tina. It has been fun having you girls look for me and having fun. Tiki Tina would like to say a few words saying bye.



*Hey! It's been fun  
Hanging out with you girls in the sun  
Even though the weather has been kinda weird  
At least we all didn't fear  
Together we are Girl Scouts  
Through the thick and thin  
Hope to see you next time  
Because girls always win!!!!*

*Editors note: This is not a riddle. Do not look for her. She is packed away. Camp is over. There are no more prizes. We're finished. Bye.*

# Belly dancers 'break' the dress code

By Jessica Beck  
Midnight Sun reporter

Floaty Middle Eastern music carries us away from the rain and through the doors of Hoskins Exhibits. There we are entranced into an atmosphere of jingling bangles, sliding feet and swaying hips. We have entered the world of belly dancing.

Belly dancing has been around for hundreds of years. This Encampment, it was taught as a class by presenters Malika (a.k.a. Molly Thompson), Mariam, and Saudi. These ladies have been belly dancing for 5-20 years each.

Each woman was lured into this activity through several

ways, from living in Israel to a love of ethnic dance to the flexibility it gives you. "It's a celebration of being a woman," says Malika.

At the beginning of the class, girls approached this new way of dance with caution and raised eyebrows, but at the end, some of these same girls asked where they could learn more.

There are several dance studios throughout Anchorage and the Valley. There will also be a Fine Arts Academy presentation, "Alaska Meets the Nile" on June 28 at Mirror Lake Middle School. Tickets cost \$12. Call 694-8909 for more information.



Belly dancers Malika, Mariam and Saudi shimmy to the beat at the belly dancing session Saturday.

## Guess what just popped out of the hat

By Emily Kovarik  
Midnight sun reporter

Heather Benz in the spotlight! Abbra Cadabra! Heather will show you how to put the look of awe on people's faces with her card tricks. She is a 15-year-old presenter from troop 800.

Heather has been practicing her tricks for four years. She learned how to dazzle people with cards and other cool tricks at Polaris Elementary in the sixth grade. She has been in Girl

Scouts for 10 years.

Heather has had many jobs so far at this year's encampment. She has run the magician stand at the Raven Hall and she also helps host the karaoke show every night.

Presenters spend a lot of time planning and teaching all of their subjects. "I like presenting, but I'd rather be actually doing the stuff," says Heather.

So when you see some presenters, remember to thank them for their time and effort!

## Mmmm I want to li-ing-ger....

By Cari Jamieson  
Midnight Sun reporter

Yes-Encampment's almost over. Time to pack up (wet) tents and eat the last of the chocolate bars and marshmallows. Leaders are trying to tell their girls NOT to climb on the pile of sleeping bags that have been pulled out of tents, and the girls, well, are climbing on the pile of sleeping bags that have

been pulled out of tents.

Everyone's tired and everyone wants to go home to take a shower! Leaders have some of their own comments to add after a fun-filled Encampment. "My feet will love me when they get home," says Tina, a leader from Troop 355.

Obviously, walking all around camp for four days has taken its toll. Berta, a mom from Troop 192, has a different view.

### The Midnight Sun sets until 2005

Hey Girl Scouts! It's been fun writing stories about you and what's been going on around the camp. Now it is time to leave. We hope you liked the newspaper. Make sure you visit the council web site and select the Encampment page to print out more copies for your folks and friends. Good-bye from the press corps Cadettes.

Jessica Beck, Lauren Bryant, Tabitha Chartraw, Emily Kovarik, Cari Jamieson, Rachel Voehl, Heather Wright, Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze, adviser

### Thank you! Thank you! Thank you

coordinated the CORE staff, planned menus, shopped for food and supplies, cooked for hundreds, organized recycling, sponsored the newsletter, answered questions, staffed the camp, confirmed registrations, stuffed packets, and mailed packets. And they did all this BEFORE Encampment started. They were always on call during Encampment, staffing the

TLC, craft cache, concessions, and camp office. Many of them sacrificing time with their troops to make it all work. They did this all because they believe in Girl Scouting and this Encampment. We thank them for their dedication as volunteers and Girl Scouts.

These are the members of the organizing committee: Dorene Anderson, Barb Ashton, Janice Baber, Ellen Budahl, Shannon Hall, Shari Henkelman, Teri Hudgins, Sharon Jaeger, Marianne Kerr, Keri Knight, Roxie Knight, Jan Konkler, Cindy Littell, Chris Lovett, Kari Lovett, Margaret Nicolai, Mickie Pascar, Kelly Poston, Shannon Royster, Margaret Sharpe, Marilyn Stubblefield, and Gretchen Wehmhoff.

"I love it. I'm having fun, can't wait till the next one." Hopefully, everyone that came out this year feels the same way.

It's been fun, from the major changes in the weather to the hayrides and swapping. First timers will hopefully come back next time, and the girls who won't be back next year will have another memory of an awesome Encampment.

See you in  
two years!