

UNIVERSITY FOCUS

TO AIR 27 APRIL 1984

TOPIC: 36,000 year old bison
 GUESTS: GARY SELINGER, BASIL HEDRICK

THIRTY SIX THOUSAND YEARS AGO, A BISON DIED. SATURDAY, APRIL TWENTY-EIGHTH, THE BISON WILL BE ON EXHIBIT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM.

I'M JACKIE ROGERS, EDITORIAL ASSISTANT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA-FAIRBANKS PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, SUBSTITUTING FOR STEPHEN LAY, WITH THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF UNIVERSITY FOCUS.

THE BISON WAS FOUND COMPLETELY BURIED IN PERMAFROST A FEW YEARS AGO BY LOCAL GOLD MINERS. PERMAFROST PROTECTED THE REMAINS MAKING THE BISON ONE OF THE BEST PRESERVED PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS EVER FOUND.

THE FIND PROVIDED A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR SCIENTISTS, ACCORDING TO MUSEUM TECHNICIAN GARY SELINGER (SELL en ger).

CUT: incue: "The bison will..." 128
 outcue: "everybody's looking for." 134

THE SCIENTISTS ARE STILL EVALUATING THE MATERIALS THEY FOUND. BUT MUSEUM VISITORS CAN ALREADY VIEW AND ENJOY THE BISON. THE ANIMAL WAS RECONSTRUCTED BY EIRIK (ERIC) GRANQVIST (GRAN kwist), A PROFESSIONAL MUSEUM TAXIDERMIST FROM FINLAND. THE RECONSTRUCTION ITSELF REQUIRED CONSIDERABLE SCIENTIFIC STUDY.

CUT: incue: "The reconstruction was aided..." 185
 outcue: "different directions." 194

TO DOCTOR BASIL HEDRICK, MUSEUM DIRECTOR, THE BISON IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM INTEGRATES SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH WITH PUBLIC SERVICE THROUGH EDUCATION.

CUT: incue: "Many people..." 314
 outcue: "it fits in." 322

IN THIS CASE, MUCH OF THE DATA THAT WILL BE COMPILED FROM THE CONTINUING STUDIES OF THE BISON, IS ABSOLUTELY NEW SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION. IT WILL PROVIDE NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE PLEISTOCENE ERA IN ALASKA'S INTERIOR.

CUT: incue: "I think it represents..." 245
 outcue: "within Alaska." 260

IT WAS RESEARCH THAT WAS ALMOST LOST. THE FUNDING NECESSARY WASN'T AVAILABLE WHEN THE BISON WAS FIRST FOUND, AND IT HAD TO BE PUT INTO STORAGE UNTIL THE MONEY COULD BE FOUND. TIME WAS RUNNING OUT.

CUT: incue: "there were only two..." 284
outcue: "We saved it." 292

DR. BASIL HEDRICK IS DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM. GARY
SELINGER IS A TECHNICIAN WITH THE MUSEUM.

FOR THE UAF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, I'M JACKIE ROGERS.

MUSIC:

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INCUE:

OUTCUE: "FOR THE UAF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, I'M JACKIE ROGERS."