Congratulations Cass Lake/Bena Panthers!

L to R: #33 Joel Salscheider, #2 Travis Heusers, #35 Nate Salscheider, #4 Brady Fairbanks, #5 Martin Wind, #22 Dustin Stensland, #10 Jake Fuller, #23 Gordon Jackson, #14 Jeremy O’Brien, #15 Nate Howard, #12 Ben Cameron, Missing: #30, Joe Wilson

Three Northern Minnesota Bands Sign Resolution Making History
By Patsy Gordon

"One Reservation cannot stand alone, two reservations are better than one, and three reservations are better than two," commented Leech Lake elder and spiritual leader, George Goggleye, Sr.

"Think of what we could do if we all got together, there is power in groups of people," he continued with as he presented the invocation for the March 20, 2007 meeting. The meeting was a follow-up from the Economic Development Summit that was held in November of 2006 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen, Minnesota, where the Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth Bands of Ojibwe all took part in. Together, all three Bands are approximately 40,000 to 50,000 Band members strong. The Summit hosted over 400 attendees.

A collaborative agreement between the three Bands establishing an Economic Development Commission is something that has never been done before in the history of Tribes between Bands. The agreement took form in a 3-band Resolution adopting the establishment of a Commission. The White Earth and Leech Lake Bands signed the resolution at the table on the day of the meeting. Red Lake Chairman, Floyd “Buck” Jourdain, commented that any Tribal Resolution signing for the Red Lake Band had to be done on the Red Lake Reservation at

Resolution - Continued on page 6

Cass Lake Bena Panthers Take 2nd Place in State Basketball Tournament
By Patsy Gordon

I was very lucky to have front row seats for the State Basketball Tournaments as I was able to receive a media pass to take pictures and watch the games. As I watched the game from the floor, I couldn’t help but beam with pride at these young men who played their hearts out and wanted that first place trophy so bad! And I wanted them to have it too!

As heart broken as the team was at their one point loss against the Ellsworth Panthers for first place, oh, how proud they have made us! They will always be winners to us.

Congratulations to Cass Lake/Bena Panthers, Joel Salscheider, Travis Heusers, and Brady Fairbanks who all were named as the 2007 Class A Minnesota State Boys Basketball All-Tournament Team, that was presented by Wells Fargo and the Minnesota State High School League.

The team was welcomed home by an escort of police vehicles and fire trucks with their sirens blowing and their lights flashing as they paraded the team through town and back out to the High School where an adoring crowd couldn’t wait to get their hands on them.

The crowd formed a tunnel which the team and coaches walked through as they gave high fives all the way.

A feast of walleye and wild rice was enjoyed by everyone. Hugs and autographs followed as the crowd reluctantly gave up their tired, proud and beloved players.

Congratulations, guys!
Dan Ninham, Voted Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni in 2007.

In early February 2007 Dan Ninham, Middle School teacher at Bemidji Public Schools and head basketball coach of the Cass Lake-Bena High School boys basketball team was selected as one of the Bemidji State University’s Outstanding Alumni Award for 2007.

This prestigious award is given annually to graduates of BSU who have provided and demonstrated outstanding achievement, public, personal, professional and community service. This award has been given to less than 150 Alumni from a total of 25,000 BSU graduates.

Coach Ninham, an Oneida Nation tribal member, from Oneida, Wisconsin, is well known in the northern Minnesota’s Indian communities for his invaluable and numerous contributions to the development of Native American youth, health and wellness programs, events and activities over the past 20 years. He has been an active organizer, planner and participant in national and international Native American athletic games the past 15 years. He is well known in the Minnesota high school league ranks as one of the State’s outstanding high school boy’s basketball coaches whose teams are ranked annually and compete in all four classes during the year.

Ninham will receive his award on September 28, 2007 at a Banquet on the campus of Bemidji State University. The public is invited to attend. Dan and his wife Susan have three children who are high school and college age and reside in Bemidji, MN.

Coach Ninham’s current Cass Lake-Bena high school boy’s basketball team is 27-1 and played in the 2007 Boys State Basketball Tournament in Minneapolis this week as the Section 6-1A Champion where they took second place. It is Ninham’s second State Tournament appearance in three years taking third place in 2005.

Leech Lake Health Division Awarded Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Award

The Leech Lake Health Division is pleased to give public notice that we have been awarded a Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Award. This newly funded project called “New Beginnings” is designed to Promote Breast Health Education, Cultural Health Education, Screening, Patient Navigation and Service Referrals throughout the reservation.

This project is a unique program whose mission is to provide sensitive health services directed to increase the number of tribal women (ages 16-60) who practice self-exam and prevention strategies regarding breast cancer. This grant will assist us in addressing the high rate of Late Detection in our band members and therefore begin to reduce the health disparities of our women.

An essential element of this project is to start with our “young women” and provide the education, self exam training, and exam services necessary to engage them in health practices designed to positively impact their health for their life-time.

For more information regarding the services available through this grant please contact Shannon Spiller at 333-8144.

Leech Lake Tribal College President Leah Carpenter Earns PhD

On March 23, 2007, Leah J. Carpenter, President of Leech Lake Tribal College, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, “Tracking the Land: Ojibwe Land Tenure and Acquisition at Grand Portage and Leech Lake,” at the University of Arizona—the final requirement for her PhD in American Indian Studies.

Dr. Carpenter also holds Bachelor’s degrees in American Indian Studies and Political Science from Bemidji State University, and a J.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison. She joined the staff of LLTC in 2001, and has served as President since 2003.
Leech Lake Twin Cities Office Offers Services

The Leech Lake Twin Cities Offices is located at 1305 E. 24th Street, in the Phillips neighborhood in South Minneapolis. Office staff attempts to serve the enrolled members of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe by working closely with the Leech Lake Tribal Referral Office of Cass Lake, Mn., but funds are currently limited for assisting only with funerals and medical emergencies for Band members.

Twin Cities Office Staff has the capacity to refer the enrollees to other community-based organizations in and around the metro area. Twin City office staff includes an elder advocate, a mental health therapist, case manager for mental health. The Medicine Project staff consists of the program director, and van driver/program assistant, office manager and the director.

The Twin Cities Local Indian Council meets the last Tuesday of every month and meetings are held at the Indian Women's Resource Center, located at 2300 15th Avenue South from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The LIC meetings are potluck and there are always lots of people who attend.

May is designated as American Indian Month every year. (A planning committee has been formed to honor five community members at the May LIC meeting. Because our regularly scheduled May meeting would fall a day after Memorial Day weekend (May 29th) when many people are away, the May meeting date may change to the previous Tuesday, May 22nd. The date will be announced in the May issue of the Debahjimon.

Leech Lake Twin Cities Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you are in the neighborhood, please stop by and enjoy a cup of Joe.

Committee Approves Bill Moving Indian Scholarship Office Back to Bemidji

The House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee today passed legislation authored by Assistant House Majority Leader Frank Moe (DFL-Bemidji) to move the American Indian Scholarship Office back to Bemidji. The office, which until recently was based in Bemidji, is currently at Department of Education Offices in Roseville.

"Most American Indian college students come from Northern Minnesota," Moe said. "Many students have had a difficult time traveling to and locating the office. It's time to bring the office back to its correct location."

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe has unanimously endorsed Moe's legislation. If the bill becomes law, the office would be located in the Department of Higher Education and have an office on of near the Bemidji State University Campus.

"Bemidji is the most convenient place for students from White Earth, Red Lake, and Leech Lake to come and learn about the opportunities they have in higher education," Moe added.

The bill now moves on to the House K-12 Finance Division. Sen. Mary Olson of Bemidji is carrying similar legislation in the Senate.

Senate Committee Considers Leech Lake Youth Treatment Center Proposal

The Minnesota Senate's Health and Human Services Budget Division heard legislation today that would provide funding to study the viability of a youth drug and alcohol treatment center on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. The committee took testimony on the bill, Senate File 1424, and will consider including the provision in the division's final budget proposal.

"I was pleased by the committee's reception to our bill," said Sen. Mary Olson, DFL - Bemidji, the bill's chief author. "A lot of work has been done to build a strong coalition of support in our community. It is important that the state partners with us on this initiative."

Senate File 1424 would give a small appropriation to a volunteer board comprised of representatives from the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Cass County, and the Cass Lake-Bena School District. The board's responsibilities would include studying the feasibility and sustainability of the proposed treatment facility, and deciding on the scope of services the facility would offer.

The legislation also tasks the board with the important responsibility of creating a long term funding strategy for the treatment center. Board volunteers could examine public and private revenue sources, as well as potential partnerships with area nonprofits. The board would have until September of 2008 to make their final recommendations to the Legislature.

The legislation has drawn strong support from the Leech Lake Tribal Council. Several members of the tribal community testified at the committee hearing, including George Gogolle Jr., Chairman of the Leech Lake Tribal Council. "Without a facility in the community that's culturally relevant, it's very difficult for youth to have meaningful treatment," said Chairman Gogolle. "Without a local facility, youth have to travel to Cloquet or South Dakota. It is important to have family nearby and involved during this process, both for the patient and the family."

Representatives of the Cass Lake-Bena School District were also present at the hearing. Greg Ramey, Dean of Students at Cass Lake-Bena Middle School, testified in support of the legislation.

"I'm most proud of the cooperation between the school district, the tribe and the county," said Ramey. "It expresses the dire need for a local, residential, culturally sensitive treatment center in the community." Sen. Olson became a part of this effort about a year and a half ago, during a meeting at the Palace Casino. Over 400 people from across the state attended the meeting to discuss a significant increase in violent deaths that had occurred at that time.

"While I'm honored to be a

Native Youth Crisis Hotline

1-877-209-1266
Celebration of Native Arts

Please join the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Council and the Region 2 Arts Council in a Celebration of Native Arts on April 4, 2007 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, 519 Minnesota Avenue, Bemidji, Minnesota.

Come to enjoy Native American art and music and to meet the artists. There is no charge for this event. Food and beverages will be served.

The arts and legacy of Native peoples will be examined through viewing traditional and contemporary arts by Native Americans who live on the Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth Reservations. This special night will also feature Annie Humphrey, Anishinaabe singer and songwriter.

Local Anishinaabe Artists who have been awarded grants through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative, a program of the Region 2 Arts Council, which is funded by the McKnight Foundation, will exhibit their art. This will be an opportunity for grantors to meet and show appreciation to the Native Community for their commitment to the arts.

No reservations are necessary.

If you have questions please call Janet Brademan at the Headwaters School of Music & Arts 444-5606 or Terri Widman, Region 2 Arts Council, 751-5447.

Senate Committee

Continued from Page 3

small part of the effort in moving this project forward, the credit really belongs to all of those who have worked at the grassroots level to place a priority on the future of our youth,” said Sen. Olson. “I would especially like to thank Chairman Goggleye, Greg Ramey, the professionals who have volunteered so many of their hours, and especially the young people who have come forward to tell their story.”

Rep. Frank Moe, DFL - Bemidji, is carrying companion legislation in the House of Representatives. His bill, House File 1725, is awaiting a hearing in the Health and Human Services Committee.

Chippewa National Forest Looking for Campground Fee Feedback

The Chippewa National Forest is looking for feedback on a proposal to increase camping fees by two dollars a night at three Chippewa National Forest campgrounds. Any proposal for camping fee increases will be reviewed by a Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (RRAC), which was recently established to represent all national forests within the Eastern Region of the Forest Service.

The three campgrounds proposed for fee increases all provide electricity and other services:
- Stony Point (Walker area) currently $20; proposed $22/night
- On-E-Gum-e (Walker area) currently $18; proposed $20/night
- Chippewa Loop of Norway Beach Complex (Cass Lake area) currently $20; proposed $22/night

Fee increases help reflect more accurate costs of administering and maintaining high quality campgrounds, are comparative to fees at other private and public camping facilities in the area, and allow the Chippewa to continue providing amenities and improve services.

To provide feedback on this proposal, you may contact Sonja Hoie, Recreation Program Manager at 218-335-8633 before April 11th.

Burning Permit Notifications and Regulation Changes

To assist county 911 dispatch services and fire departments, the following are notification procedures and are to be a condition of some if not all burning permits:
- Beltrami County: 1-888-449-9111 or 218-751-9111
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Division of Resource Management 1-800-442-3942 or 218-335-7400
- Cass Lake Division of Natural Resources Forestry Office 218-335-6647
- Bemidji Area Division of Natural Resources Forestry Office 218-755-2890.

The Chippewa National Forest will hire 8 youth in a Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) non-residential program this summer. Four positions will be on the Marcell/Deer River Ranger District and four positions will be on the Walker Ranger District.

YCC is a summer employment program established by Public Law 93-408 for young men and women, ages 15-18, who work, learn, and earn together by doing projects that further the development and observation of the natural resources of the United States. The three objectives of the program are:
- To accomplish needed conservation work on public lands;
- To provide gainful employment for 15 to 18 year old males and females of all social, economic, ethic, and racial backgrounds;
- To develop in participating youths an understanding and appreciation of the Nation’s natural environment and heritage.

Eight youths will be employed for a period of eight weeks. Work is planned, directed and executed in such a way as to give enrollee an understanding of their tasks, its part in the overall agency management plan and environmental consideration.

In order to be eligible for the program, a young person must:
- Have attained the age of 15 by June 10, have not attained age 19 by August 4
- Be a permanent resident of the United States
- Not have participated as a YCC enrollee for more than three years in the past
- Have a Social Security number upon arrival at the Ranger District
- Have a desire to work in the outdoors and become involved in the development and maintenance of the Nation’s natural resources
- Have no history of serious criminal or other anti-social behavior that might create safety problems
- Be able to participate in the various work and training programs of the program
- Handicapped youth, who with reasonable accommodations can perform the essential functions of the program, are also eligible
- Be able to obtain parental or legal guardian consent to enroll in the program
Walker-Hackensack-Akeley American Indian students recently earned second quarter cash incentives for various achievements to include academic performance, behavioral and extra-curricular activity participation. The Northwest Indian OIC, Bemidji, MN, administers the American Indian Incentive program. This project is funded through a cooperative partnership by the Bush Foundation of St. Paul and the Blandin Foundation of Grand Rapids.

**CNF**

Continued from Page 4

- Be able to provide a medical history signed by parent or legal guardian
- Be able to provide the proper work clothing (long sleeve shirts, jeans, work boots, etc.)

In a non-residential program, an enrollee resides at home and commutes to work daily to the Marcell/Deer River Ranger District office or Walker Ranger District Office. Enrollees are transported daily by district employees to the work site.

Length of employment will be eight weeks with employment beginning on June 11th and will continue through August 3rd.

Enrollees will be paid for 40 hours of work each week, at the minimum wage rate of $6.15 per hour.

Application information can be obtained from either the Deer River Ranger District office (218-246-2123), Walker Ranger District (218-547-1044), or from a High School Counselor.

The deadline for application is April 20, 2007. Only successful applicants will be notified of selection.

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**LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT**

115 Sixth Street NW, Suite E
Cass Lake, MN  56633
218-335-3682/4418
Traffic Division

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO PROCEED BY DEFAULT**

YOU (THE DEFENDANTS LISTED BELOW) ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe intends to proceed by default on **Tuesday, April 17, 2007**, beginning at **2:00 p.m.**, in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom located at the Facility Center, upper level, with regard to the alleged violation of the Leech Lake Traffic/Conservation Code, occurring within the boundaries of the Leech Lake Reservation.

Violation of this summons is subject to proceedings for contempt of court pursuant to Tribal Code, Title 1, Part VI. The Court may find you in contempt for failure to appear at a court hearing or for failure to follow court orders.

DATED this 15th day of February, 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defendant</th>
<th>Case No.</th>
<th>Charge and Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Marie Bert</td>
<td>TR-07-12</td>
<td>No Driver's License, Motor Vehicle Insurance-Owner</td>
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<td>Dawn Marie Carlson</td>
<td>TR-07-09</td>
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<td>TR-06-185</td>
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<td><strong>Occurring On:</strong> 10/22/2006 Speeding in Excess of 20 mph Over the Limit</td>
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<td>TR-07-20</td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Insurance-Owner, Driving After Revocation</td>
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<td><strong>Occurring On:</strong> 12/30/2006</td>
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<td>Driving After Revocation</td>
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<td>Roger James Johnson</td>
<td>TR-07-13</td>
<td>Driving After Revocation</td>
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<td>Louise Marie McKennett</td>
<td>TR-07-21</td>
<td><strong>Occurring On:</strong> 11/3/2006 Driving After Revocation</td>
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<td>Jesse Eugene Seelye</td>
<td>TR-07-04</td>
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<td>Darlene Marie Wind</td>
<td>TR-06-76</td>
<td><strong>Occurring On:</strong> 5/24/2006 Failure to Show Proof of Insurance</td>
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**Hello Spring 2007! Nice to see You!**

We offer Office, Janitorial and Paper supplies. We are in our new location (the old Che We restaurant area) and welcome walk-in customers.

335-6101
Anishinabe Coalition Against Drugs and Alcohol Moves Forward
By Daniel LeClaire, Cass Lake Times
Reprinted with permission

A productive and encouraging meeting of the Anishinabe Coalition Against Drugs and Alcohol (ACADA) was held this past week with assistance and direction from Initiative Foundation representatives Dan Frank and Geri Pohlkamp.

ACADA is the group that held a visioning session at the end of October to gather residents’ ideas for eliminating the presence and the lure of drugs and alcohol in area communities. More recently it has become the core of the steering committee being established to carry out the goals of the Leech Lake weed and seed initiative.

From that October visioning session a number of outcomes emerged. Many of them - including the creation of a cultural/wellness center, local chemical dependency treatment for entire families, an increase in youth activities in each community along with alcohol and drug awareness and prevention education - fit very well with the goals as written for the weed and seed grant.

“Almost all pieces from the outcomes of the visioning session are present in the weed and seed proposal,” said Frank.

Mark Rogers, a gangs, guns and drugs investigator for the Leech Lake police whose position has been funded by the Cass Lake weed and seed initiative, agrees with others that the integral nature of individual commitment is to get a plan off the ground and make it successful.

While an organization runs on the efforts of many, Rogers said it is often one person that is the driving force behind it all. “We need to identify and empower one individual to make that succeed. Someone needs to get in there and do it.”

Two co-chairs have been identified to head the steering committee that forms the central body of this burgeoning movement. Those two are Al Fairbanks and Jim Bedeau.

Building upon the successes and the lessons of the people involved in the Cass Lake weed and seed initiative, the Leech Lake reservation weed and seed project and the members of ACADA plan to move ahead with a reservation-wide effort to meet the goals established in the aforementioned visioning sessions, regardless of federal funding. The importance of the coalition’s goals is too significant to allow one source of funding to determine the group’s existence.

“This is the most productive coalition,” said Chris Gale of the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school. “you don’t always get this luxury of building a coalition. We want to keep that going.” ACADA members plan on joining with the established Cass Lake weed and seed group, whose funding runs out at the end of this year, to learn from its experience and carry its successes into the future.

Marlene Mitchell, director of Leech Lake Housing, suggested a social meeting of the Cass Lake and Leech Lake groups.

Still, the framework of a tentative plan for the two groups to meet on April 11 with Frank and/or Pohlkamp facilitating was laid out. From there, further cooperation between the two entities seemed a beneficial and mutual outcome for everyone involved.

Resolution Continued from Page 1

the advice of the Red Lake Hereditary Chiefs. He said, “The resolution has the blessing of the Red Lake Tribal Council.”

White Earth Chairwoman, Erma Vizenor, read a letter that was sent by Norman Deschampe, President of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe offering his condolences for not being able to attend and his congratulations on this economic development endeavor. Vizenor commented, “If we unite, we are like a sleeping giant and great things will happen.”

Lenny Fineday read the resolution to the audience before the signing took place.

Obituaries

Ramona June White

Ramona June White, 78 of Cass Lake, MN died on March 15, 2007 at her home.

Funeral Services were held on March 18th, 2007 at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake. A wake began on Friday, March 16, 2007 at 3:00 pm at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake and continued until the time of service on Sunday. Interment took place at the Ryan’s Village Cemetery in Ryan’s Village, MN under the direction of the Cease Family Funeral Home of Bemidji.

She was born January 31, 1929 in Cass Lake, MN the daughter of Melvin Dick and Wally Sargent. She liked visiting with family and friends. She loved spending time with her nieces and nephews. She enjoyed music, movies, kids, puzzles, animals, 4-wheeling and traveling.

She is survived by her mother, Wally (George) Sargent-Rea of Bemidji; Special aunt, Maxine Brown of Cass Lake; Brothers, Carlos Sargent of Cass Lake, Dana Dick of Cass Lake, and aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her father Melvin, son Joseph, and grandparents.

Honorary Casket bearers were Vera Brown, Renee Sargent, Tanisha Fineday, Cassie Northbird, Jamie Chase, Elaine and Tina Gotchie, Joleen and Steve Whitefeather, Lydia Sargent, Jesse Beaulieu, Irene Mitchell, Greg Earth, Keith and Kim Morris, Mike Howard, Will St. Cyr, Erv Sargent, Carla Roberts and Sandy Houle.

Active Casket bearers were Dana Dick, Dan Gotchie, Calvin Sargent, Douglas Day, Joe Clark and Todd Smith.

Rochelle Sargent


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OxyContin Sales Ring Busted in Cass Lake

On the afternoon of March 8th, a search warrant was executed on a 1996 Chevrolet Blazer belonging to Vicky Lynn Trepanier, age 49, of Bemidji and the house at 104 Balsam Avenue NE in Cass Lake belonging to Carol Lynn Raisch, AKA Carol Blue, age 41, of Cass Lake. The searches culminated a four month long ongoing investigation by the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department Weed & Seed Unit into alleged ongoing OxyContin sales by Trepanier and Blue. During the search, OxyContin, other pills, pill cutters, other sales tools and paraphernalia were seized.

Trepanier and Blue were both arrested. The Cass County Attorney’s Office has charged Vicky Lynn Trepanier with two counts each of Controlled Substance Crime in the Fourth Degree – Sales, and Liability for the Crimes of Another. Carol Lynn Raisch, AKA Carol Blue, is charged with three counts each of the noted crimes, which allege sales of OxyContin, and are felony charges. The maximum penalty for each count is 15 years in prison and/or a $100,000 fine.

Trepanier and Blue have both been released from the Cass County Jail on $10,000 bond pending trial.

The Leech Lake Tribal Police Department was assisted during the searches and arrests by the Cass Lake Police Department, the Cass County Sheriff’s Office, and the Paul Bunyan Drug Task Force.

The LLPD Weed & Seed Unit initiated this investigation after multiple and ongoing complaints about high traffic and alleged drug sales from the residence at 104 Balsam Ave NE by area citizens.
Cass Lake Bena Panthers - 2nd Place State Basketball Champions! You have made us proud!