

Inside:

Gorham.....	p. 14, 15, 38
Concord.....	p. 14, 15, 16
Shelburne.....	p. 15
Berlin.....	p. 16, 38
Lincoln.....	p. 16

Gregg has to eat his words on taxes p. 14
 Welfare offices see results of hard times p. 15

Trek for Life:

Dog team sleds for Kidney Foundation

By LINDA LAPLANTE
 Special to the Sun-Journal

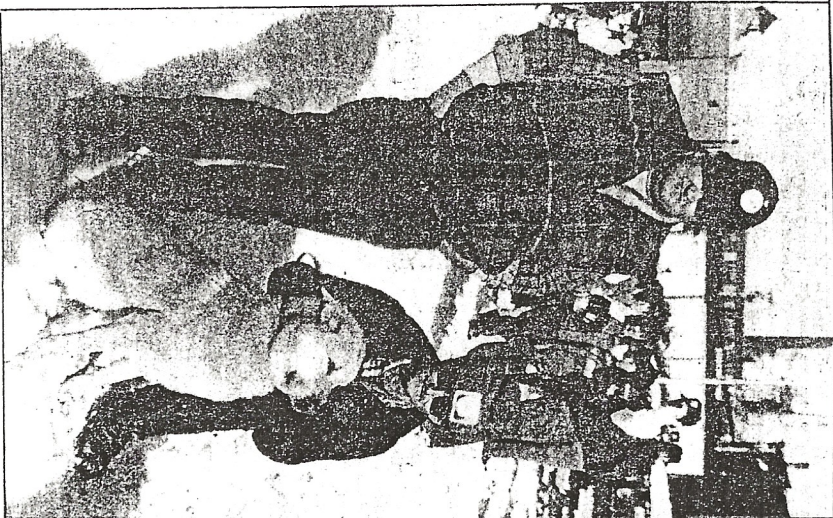
BERLIN, N.H. — On Wednesday afternoon, Berlin was visited with a "first" of the "Trek for Life" as Harry Gray and his Chinook sled dog team came to the North Country. The visit was part of a public education program for the National Kidney Foundation of New Hampshire and the New Hampshire Organ Donors Program. The event was sponsored locally through the efforts of the Berlin Recreation Department, the Police Department and the Rotary Club.

Laurie MacIvor, executive director of the National Kidney Foundation of New Hampshire, said that Gray had originally approached the Kidney Foundation with the idea, as he intended to embark on his "Trek for Life." She said that he wanted to raise public awareness of the need for organ donation and his message is "the gift of life."

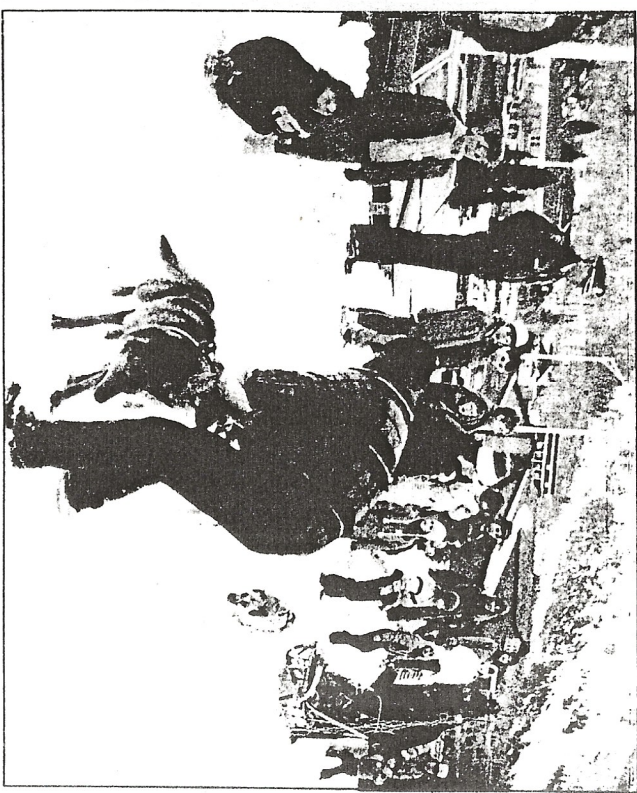
Ms. MacIvor also commented that the trip so far had been very successful and praised the local efforts in both Berlin and Milan. "Everybody got into it," she said, adding, "it's wonderful."

A friend of Gray, Harry Ames, noted that one of the reasons that Gray started to "Trek for Life" was because of Ames' need for a kidney transplant two years ago. He said that a month after the original trek he had received a transplant. "Traveling with Gray," Ames said, "we're out here to say we care."

As part of the ceremonies held at the HomeBank Park in Berlin on Wednesday, which included over 100 spectators turning out for the event, Gray was presented a plaque by "Hinky" Rodrigue of James River Corporation. The plaque noted thanks to Gray for his "commitment



LINDA LAPLANTE photos
 Harry Ames (standing) is one of the persons who has benefited from the work of Harry Gray and his Chinook dog sled demonstrations to benefit the Kidney Foundation. Seen with Gray is one of his Dinhook sled dogs named Muskeg.



Harry Gray and his sled dog team get ready to roll as they demonstrate their dog sledding in the HomeBank Park in Berlin on Wednesday.

to organ donor education and his efforts to preserve the Chinook sled dog from extinction." Gray, who is from Waldoboro, Maine, will lead his team of Chinook dogs, the world's rarest breed, a distance of 300 miles from Greenville, Maine, to Wonalancet, New Hampshire, which is the birthplace of the dogs. The team will compete in the Sandwich North 60 Race in Sandwich, N.H., on Feb. 24. The "Trek for Life" passes through Dover, Foxcroft, Newport, Skowhegan, Wilton and Andover, Maine, and then to Milan, Berlin, Conway, Silver Lake, West Ossipee and Wonalancet, New Hampshire.