

(What about Young Bear?)

Young Bear, he just had two.

(How did Striking First have four beans?)

Them sticks were given to him from Wyoming, and whoever had them had four beans.

(Well, if someone in your family ran a hand game--like your father or an uncle, or something like that--could you ever inherit those sticks?)

No. I know they buried Young Bear's with him. And I think they buried Mixed Hair's with him. That's the reason I say these hand game sticks, they got, they just make them themselves. They don't run old timers' hand games. Now if I wanted to make hand game sticks, I could make them. Get willows and fix them. Yeah. They always just make them. Them old people had their sticks a long time. There was one man that had scissortail feathers on his stick. And he had some crow feathers.

(Would there be any reason why they might choose a particular bird like scissortail or crow?)

Well, I don't know--I couldn't tell you that. Because I just seen them, you know. Now most of them, they have to use these meadowlark feathers. Little tail feathers. That's what they have. And crows. And just one person had scissortail. But Striking First, on his stick, he had mink. They were wrapped so far with mink. And they were flat--the sticks. Oh, they were pretty.

(Were they colored too?)

Red and blue. We used to all want him to run hand game because he had four beans and everybody could play, you know. When they find north side, they used to bring the other two, and there would be four playing at one time. That way. And it was interesting, I think. Four of them would play. Maybe they'd find one and keep playing and if they find another one, these other two would have to wait until these others. And if they others--both of them--