



CLASS OF 71—Members of Ron Senungetuk's seventh class at University of Alaska gathered last week to prepare for an Anchorage art show. They are (from left) Richard Seeganna of Nome,

Wilfred Olanna of Shishmarif, William Ozenná of Nome, Samuel A. Martin Jr. of Juneau and Teddy Pullock (front).

Ron Senungetuk Heads Extension Center Arts and Crafts at University

Ron Senungetuk wound up his seventh year as head of the Extension Center Native Arts and Crafts program this semester and paused to evaluate the results.

His students were packing for the Fifth Annual Juried Native Arts and Crafts exhibition to be held in Anchorage this June. The reputation of his course is so well established they get many more invitations than they can handle.

"We try and pick one show and do it well," Senungetuk explained. "We get a lot of national invitations but we're not big enough yet to do more."

They've grown considerably, however, from beginnings in 1965 when Senungetuk and four students from Nome set up shop on the University of Alaska campus with almost no funding.

Students now come from all over the state.

"We haven't any recruitment program. It's word of mouth. I get maybe five or six letters a year," the program head said. "We still have an opening or two for next fall."

"Our students aren't necessarily high school grads. We've had as low as fourth grade level and one who couldn't speak English."

It's artistic talent that's important. Once accepted, students can brush up on special English and sign up for college courses, too, if they want to round out their training.

This year 11 were enrolled on full scholarship and nine completed the session. Earlier grads are beginning to establish names for themselves as artists and some have gone to further art in the state.

Alvin Kayouktuk of Little Diomedé is assistant manager of Alaska Native Arts and Crafts in Juneau. Sylvester Ayek of King Island is working with an Upward Bound art program. Melvin Olanna is pioneering art training in sixteen native villages.

The goal of the extension center is as Senungetuk set it originally.

"To influence for even better quality. To become an effective design center where a man might do come research in Arctic de-

sign... ethnic art, if you will."

But he's no slave to tradition. Just the opposite, in fact, which makes him controversial.

Senungetuk is internationally recognized as an artist. Not an Eskimo artist but simply AN ARTIST. Though born in Wales, he got his training stateside and in Norway, then cut his own independent swath.

"I get a little bit offended when people say my work is too Norwegian. That it should be more Eskimo. They fail to recognize I should do what I want to do."

He reserves the same privilege for his students.

"They have freedom. They learn various techniques, universal art forms. I think you have to learn universal art forms to become a good native artist. They should get involved with different materials and techniques."

Claims Hinges on Month— June Crucial Month

Next month will be crucial determining the native land claims in the estimate of Edward L. Patton, president of the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Settlement could come next summer, he said, "If we all work together."

Speaking last week under sponsorship of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, Patton said federal legislation was the only solution in lifting native injunctions filed against pipeline construction.

Al Wright, Al Wright's Air Service, asked if it would be possible to build the line if natives gave a waiver. Patton's answer was no; that if Steven's Village withdrew its suit he had indication another native association would file.

"What association?" Wright asked.

Patton wouldn't name one. The pipeline builder said he did not believe his company should take a stand regarding the merits of any specific land claims legislation.

"But I believe the people of Alaska should give united and vigorous support to that bill which seems fair."

He noted Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington has proposed legislation which would guarantee pipeline right-of-way with claims settlement; but said Alyeska was against it.

"There are a block of people in Washington that just have it in for the oil industry regardless of the merits of the case. The na-

tives would lose, too, because if the bill doesn't pass we all go down together."

Queried on why most work on the line had been shut down he said, "We're only doing the things which will help get the permit."

On Sen. Ted Stevens' statement that land claims and pipeline permit were not specifically tied together, Patton answered, "Ted is entitled to his opinion. This is the opinion of some high priced lawyers, I can tell you that."

In addition to the Stevens Village Suit, an injunction has been filed by the Wilderness Society, he pointed out. This suit will go before a federal judge, and if he decides against Alyeska, the case will go to trial.

"The thing could be in court for years," Patton said.

He spoke optimistically, however, about getting a construction permit by fall.

On a possible Canadian route he said, "I really don't think that route can be realistic and I don't think we should spend a whole lot of time worrying about it."

His estimate was that a Canadian pipeline would take 12-18 months longer to build than an Alaskan line. If Alyeska could go into full operation in the summer of 1972, he predicted completion of an Alaskan line in mid-1975.

"And if we're lucky we might beat that by a little bit."

Pt. Hope Gets Five Big Whales

POINT HOPE—More mukluk for Pt. Hope! Captain Seymour Tuzrolyuke just landed his second whale and the score is one each for Joe Frankson, Teddy Frankson and Amos Lane.

The village will celebrate in early June. A flight chartered from Fairbanks especially for the event is already sold out.

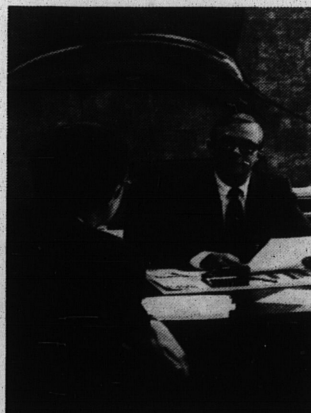
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Kivalina Teenagers ...

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perly and her parents allowed her to return home that same month.

The three other girls were equally unhappy when placed in the Fairbanks Boarding School program last fall.

"They complained that they were moved from home to home and did not get proper meals, although they finally ended up in a good home from all we can tell," reports Linn Asper, attorney in the Fairbanks Legal Services office who did legwork on the case. "Basically they were homesick."

Parents of the girls paid their \$81 return fare from Fairbanks and correspondence courses were arranged for them under the tutelage of Tom Troxell, principal grade school teacher in the village.

When Troxell was suddenly transferred the students were notified the courses would stop and the suit was filed. Parents involved are Mrs. Mildred Sage, Amos and Louise Hawley and Bob T. Hawley.

They were informed the state does not provide village courses

for out-of-school children as part of the regular education program. These are given only as a spare time activity at the discretion of the teacher.

At first attorney Cooke sought a court order for tutoring to be resumed but this was not necessary because the state agreed to reopen classes immediately.

"We want to stress that it hasn't been a dog eat dog suit," Asper said. "The state has been cooperating with us. They say, 'We think you have some good ideas but we're short of money.'"

According to Cooke's argument, under state law education must be provided for students who wish to live at home where there are more than three primary students or five secondary students at one grade level.

At this point no one is sure what the alternative to boarding school might be but if state cooperation continues it is likely some village oriented program can be worked out, Asper said.