

Woody, Reva Morrison Graduate from University of Minnesota



ALASKANS GRADUATE AT UMM — Woody and Reva Morrison are the first Alaskans to ever graduate from the University of Minnesota. Woody carried a double major in economics and

sociology and Reva majored in political science. Reva made Dean's list twice with a high grade average. Shown with them is their young daughter Erika.

The first Alaskan Indian students to graduate from the University of Minnesota will officially receive their degrees this June from a coordinate college of the 'U', 150 miles northwest of Minneapolis.

Woody and Reva Morrison, husband and wife, are also the

first from their Alaskan villages to graduate from college. They have attended the University of Minnesota, Morris for one year.

A combination of heavy course loads, some previous work at a number of colleges and what Woody terms "determination" has made graduation

possible.

Woody Morrison is a member of the Haida tribe at Hydaburg on Prince of Wales Island and Reva is a member of the Athabaskan tribe at Shageluk, a village of 150 on the lower Yukon River.

Reva is a former member of the (Alaskan) State Central Democratic Committee, was Miss Bethel in 1967 and was also a

Miss Alaska Contestant. Both Woody and Reva graduated from Mount Edgecumbe BIA boarding school in Alaska.

Woody served two years in the Atlantic squadron of the U.S. Navy. They have one child, and are expecting another in the Fall.

Woody and Reva will actually be graduating from the University of Minnesota, Morris "in absentia" since they will be home in Alaska for a short visit when the diplomas are distributed in mid-June.

Current plans call for Woody to attend law school this summer at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, where he will major in Indian law.

He hopes to be admitted to Harvard Business School in the Fall. While at UMM Woody mastered a double major in economics and sociology, while Reva was a political science major.

Reva made the Dean's List two consecutive quarters with a high grade point average.

While at UMM Woody was co-chairman of the Minority Student Program Advisory Committee and has been active in the development of programs for students from a variety of Minorities. His current research is in public finance dealing with taxation and regulation.

As a result of this research,

both Woody and Reva are very much opposed to the Alaska oil pipeline because "the taxpayers will realize no price benefits from the pipeline".

The University of Minnesota, Morris was originally the site of a mission school for Indian children, later a federal government Indian school and then an agricultural high school operated by the University of Minnesota.

Established in 1960, UMM is a four year liberal arts college of the University. It is one of very few colleges offering free tuition for all American Indian students. It has an enrollment of 1700 students.

In the midst of moving preparations, both Woody and Reva stopped long enough to say that they both "highly recommend" the University of Minnesota, Morris to other Indian students.