

# New Miss WEIO selected

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One of the prerequisites for being Miss World Eskimo Indian Olympics is knowledge of Native culture and the 1981 Miss WEIO, Emma "Googie" Glazier of Northway was an obvious winner in a category with many good entries.

Googie, an 18-year-old Athabaskan Indian from Northway, has lived on her mother's Native allotment all her life and there has learned many of the ways necessary to participate in a subsistence way of life.

Googie, whose name is a play on the word "Googa" which means Baby in Athabaskan, also has worked in beadwork since she was eight-years-old.

She was chosen Miss WEIO last Friday night over six other women.

First runner-up and the woman who will serve as Miss WEIO if Googie is unable to, is Gloria Pushruk, Miss Cook Inlet Native Association, from Anchorage. Her parents are Simon and Helen Pushruk of Anchorage.

Second runner-up and the woman voted Miss Congeniality by the other contestants was Dora Brower of Barrow.

Miss Brower is the daughter of Arnold and Emily Brower of Barrow. Her parents were at fishing camp when the news of their daughter was named.

Googie just graduated from Walter Northway High School and plans to attend the University of Alaska at Fairbanks in the fall. She says she plans to study business administration so that she can return to her village after graduation and help her Native corporation in business affairs.

Googie's mother, Kouey, taught her to sew at age seven, says Googie. She says her five sisters and three brothers named her Googie because she was the baby of the family.

No longer a baby, Googie is now greatly interested in the cultural ways of her people. She did much of the work on her traditional tanned and smoked moosehide parka. She trimmed it with beautiful bead designs and also beaded her own hair ties and ornaments.

During the final competition, Googie was asked the question, "Why do you feel it is important



Miss World Eskimo-Indian Olympics Googie Glazier.

your culture be preserved." She replied that "My culture is my everyday life... the way I've been living. The way we've kept alive by living side by side with nature."

She has been teaching her niece the difficult and beautiful techniques of beadwork and has been active for the last three years in the Northway Dancers, the village's dance team that won first place at the Olympics for Indian dancing last year and third this year.

She says that if she could tell younger girls in her village anything it is that "they should believe in themselves and what they are doing. They should set goals and really work hard for

them."

To her Elders, she would say "You are a very important part of our culture. Through our Elders we learn about the old ways. Without our Elders, who would teach us? Our ways would be lost. I really respect all of them."

Googie will be entered in the National Congress of American Indians Queen competition when the NCAI holds its annual convention in Anchorage.

Other contestants entered in the Miss WEIO competition were Phyllis Iknokinok, Miss Arctic Native Brotherhood; Ethel Hensley, Miss Arctic Circle; Phyllis Carroll, Miss Circle; and Mildred Chase, Miss Kuskokwim Delta.