

# Graduates told to use qualities of past for future lives

Members of the 1981 graduating class at Kotzebue High School were told that they would need the qualities of their Inupiat parents and grandparents: humor, cooperation, sharing, common sense and humility to make their way in today's society.

Willie Hensley, president of the NANA Development Corp., delivered that advice to the graduating class during ceremonies last week in Kotzebue.

"For those of us in NANA, we hope that the students, the graduates, will keep the spirit and come back and help to manage the land and resources of the people.

All but 10 of the 36 graduates have plans to further their formal education outside in the Northwest Arctic School District region while a few of the rest plan to leave the region to seek work.

"You can be anywhere, said Hensley. "But we want you to be with us, at least in spirit. Your people at home need you, and you need them.... and we all pray that you will not be educated to abandon those you love in pursuit of economic success."

Hensley compared survival in the political and economic world with the similar qualities needed by his forefathers, for 10,000 years of survival in the harshest climate on earth.

"Survival in the business world and the political world requires a knowledge of the environment that you are working in. You have to know your targets. You have to know the strengths and weaknesses of your competition. You have to have some intuition. You have to have some will power. And you have to have some knowledge of your own limits. And these are things that people had to know in this environment throughout the top of the world," he said.

Hensley said that "many of us must begin to re-educate ourselves in the Inupiat way," although maintaining the Inupiat identity does not mean sacrificing the modern way of life, he said.

"It is not necessary to lose your identity to learn technology and skills," said Hensley. "But the world beyond Kotzebue High School is not going to fall into your lap... and using the excuse that you are in Inupiat is not going to carry you anywhere, either. If you are going to survive both today and tomorrow, it will take the same



**Salutorian Allen Jessup**

qualities of our parents, of our grandparents; that is, it will take humor, cooperation, sharing, common sense, and humility.

"If you use these qualities to back up the brains we all know you have, we guarantee that (School Superintendent) George White, (NANA Regional President) John Schaeffer, and (Mauneluk Association President) Marie Schwind will give you a job when you get back," Hensley concluded.

Northwest Arctic School District graduates are:

## **Kotzebue High School**

Alfred Allen, Michael Baker, Madeline Barger, Delbert Booth, Mary Davidovics, Elvin Downey, Beverly Ferriera, Michael Gallahorn, Leo Elmer Greene, Roberta Ann Gregg, Burton Haviland, Jr., Ethel Hensley, Grant Hildreth, Stephan Ivanoff, Allen Jessup, Jason Jessup, Bernadette Joule, Craig Biesemeier, Anthony McCafferty, Andy McCarty, Kevin McKinley, Ingram Melton, Jr., Patricia Norton, Charlie Reich, Jr., Richard Reuben, Susan Schaeffer, Antoniette Michelle Sheldon, Max Shellabarger, Lorie Gay Short, Ronald Smith, Gertrude Viveiros, Lenora M. Ward, Walter Scott Whalin, Kenneth Gallahorn, and Billy Henry.

## **Ambler**

Beulah Black, Effie Cleveland, Harry Douglas, Amelia Downey, Henry Wilson, Hors Field, and Carlyn Griest.

## **Suckland**

Johnson Stalker, Jr., Grace Stalker, Tim Gavin, and Evans Thomas, Jr.

## **Kiana**

Karen Westlake, Glenn Westlake, Lucy Jensen, Lorina Smith, Rollyn Jackson, and Fred Atoruk.

## **Noatak students graduating from Kiana H.S.**

Joseph Luther, Michael Adams, Velma Booth, Woodrow Wilson, Jr., and Connie Walton.

## **Kivalina**

Millie Adams, Theresa Barr, Leslie Burns, Stanley Hawley, Warren Hawley, and Hilda Swan.

## **Noorvik**

Johnny Jackson, Wanda Jack-

son, Alice Melton, Patsy Melton, Rose Newlin, Darrel Sheldon, Merna Sheldon and Kenny Wells.

## **Selawik**

Raymond Ballot, Bob Foster, Patrick Foster, Marty Jones, Barney Pete, Wesley Pete, Brain Ramoth, Clyde Ramoth, Johnny Ramoth, Luz Starbuck, and Tillie Tucker.

## **Shungnak**

Homer Cleveland and Hanna Cleveland.

Shungnak Advisory School Board Chairman Levi Cleveland was awarded an Honorary High School Diploma by the school district.



**WILLIE HENSLEY**

Photo By J.C. Creed