



Three participants of WEIO receive UA scholarships

Three World Eskimo-Indian Olympics participants earned the opportunity to attend the University of Alaska tuition-free for two semesters.

Olympics Queen Emily Brower of Barrow, dancer Merle James Panik of Wainwright and athlete Sheila Seetomona of Anchorage were chosen to be recipients of the scholarships by committees of elders and judges familiar with their respective specialties.

Selection was based upon their participation in the WEIO, commitment to their heritage and their academic promise and performance.

University President Donald O'Dowd awarded each of them a University of Alaska tuition scholarship for two semesters to be used at the campus of their choice within the next two years.

Panik is a member of the Wainwright Dance Group which has 10 times earned first place among dance groups at the annual olympics. Seetomona is an all around athlete who participated in many events including the one-arm pull, ear pull, arm pull and high kick.

Brower, a senior at Oral Roberts University in Oklahoma, expects to use her scholarship for graduate study at the University of Alaska when she returns after graduation.