

Health Career Girls

Seven young Alaska Native women from AFN's Health Career Club mixed fun with their learning experiences. The whole group planned a field trip to Fairbanks to coincide with the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics.

They held bake sales to raise money for their trip. Some of their traveling expenses were picked up by the Health Career Development Program.

Nancy Jackson, Savoonga; Shirley Kakaruk, JoAnn Geffe, Carla Dolchok, Kathy Kakaruk, and Shirlee Hansen of Anchorage; and Lynette Morena, Sitka; toured and visited the University

of Alaska campus and its WAMI (Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) Medical Extension Experiment.

Under the Alaska portion of the WAMI experiment, students are registered concurrently at the U of A and the University of Washington School of Medicine is a prerequisite.

Students may obtain their pre-med training at any university, including the U of A. During the last year of pre-med training, the student applies for admission to the U of W School of Medicine.

Dr. Wayne Meyers, Director of the WAMI program, escorted the women around the Arctic Research Laboratory facilities while explaining and showing them some of the experiments they are presently doing.

The young ladies also toured the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital facilities. Moses Friendly, of Quinhagak, and Nancy Brelsford, of Anchorage, acted as chaperones.

Their evenings were taken up by attending all three nights of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics. It was an experience they are not likely to forget for a long time.

As one of the young ladies said, "the summer program is very interesting. We got to learn stuff we didn't know. I hope we have the program next year so that other girls can learn stuff like us." Another said, "Going to Fairbanks was great! What I liked was everything and the place is much different than Anchorage — smaller, less traffic."

To all, this trip was worth going to — mixing learning with fun.