

BOOK REVIEW

Facts about Alaska published

If you like to think of Hawaii or, heaven forbid, California as the country's far west state, look at the map again, says *Facts About Alaska*, a new book being released this month by Alaska Northwest Publishing Company.

In fact, one way of reckoning the globe places both far east and far west corners of the United States within the borders of its largest, and, of course, northernmost state.

The two points are only a short distance apart where the 180th meridian, dividing line between east and west latitudes, intersects Alaska toward the outer reaches of the Aleutian Chain.

But few of the superlatives in *Facts About Alaska* are tricks of perception. Longest, biggest, tallest—many by any measure are part of Alaska's book of records. "All in a day's work," for instance, means one thing in Hoboken but something else again to the town of Barrow, where the longest day of the

year begins on May 10 and doesn't end until the sun drops below the horizon. . . August 2.

"It's called the Great Land for a reason," says publisher Robert A. Henning. "And, admittedly, we didn't get all of its records in this first volume. We went to press with at least a thousand and one facts about Alaska and we hope they will be the catalyst for a more complete almanac in the future."

Intended as a quick reference for travelers, residents and the just plain curious, *Facts About Alaska* includes much more than record-setting information. Populations and zip codes of communities, the state's newspapers and subscription rates, costs of living, geography and typical weather are a few of the A to Z items.

The softbound almanac, \$2.95, is sold at many book outlets or by the publisher, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage, Alaska 99509.