

News from Grayling:

New Teachers size up Grayling and Grayling sizes up new teachers

Three teachers, new to Grayling, Kris Minelga, Mark Leamy and Beth Hughes, arrived at the beginning of the school year to add their particular specialities to the educational curriculum of the high school and the Grayling Day School.

Kris has taken on the position of principal/teacher at the Iditarod High School. She is originally from Olympia, Washington and graduated from Seattle Pa-

cific College. After graduation she worked for Nordstrom for two years. She later substituted in the Anchorage School District and taught summer school at McLaughlin Youth Center in Anchorage. At present, and in addition to her duties as principal, she teaches math, science, arts and crafts, guitar, home economics, photography and computers.

Kris had this to say about

Grayling: "Grayling is one of the most beautiful villages I have seen. The community has been very supportive of our efforts. Many individuals have extended warm-hearted help and encouragement. The students are attentive. They work hard on their assigned tasks. I am looking forward to an exciting and successful year."

Mark Leamy, the other half of the Iditarod High

School teaching staff, comes from Redondo Beach California. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts and majored in English. Mark came to Alaska in 1973 and worked for a time with the Flying Tiger Airlines in Cold Bay, Alaska as a bartender and cargo handler. From 1973 to 1975 he was employed by the King Cove School at King Cove, Alaska and taught 7th through 12 grades Language arts and journalism. Before arriving in Grayling, he taught for the Fairbanks School District where he substituted while taking courses at the University of Alaska.

Mark's duties at Grayling will include teaching English, American History, government, P.E., and typing. He stated that he was looking forward to moving into the new high school, now under construction, and getting a more diversified athletic program set up. Hopefully, the program will include basketball, volleyball and possibly wrestling, as team sports. He also hopes to incorporate badminton, weight lifting, gymnastics, floor hockey and cross-country skiing into the athletic program.

On Grayling, Mark commented: "This is the most

(Continued on Page Twelve)

● News from Grayling

(Continued from Page Seven)

picturesque place I have lived and I'm looking forward to exploring around a little bit once sno-go weather arrives." He added, "I'm really pleased with the students attitude toward school as well as with the level of their academic skills. With the completion of the new school, we should be able to offer a first rate secondary program in Grayling."

Beth Hughes, the newest addition to our BIA staff, hails from West Palm Beach, Florida. She graduated from the University of Florida, Gainesville. Beth is teaching the 1st, 2nd, and third grades. This is her first teaching assignment. Beth had visited Alaska on one other occasion, and after her graduation from the University of Florida, she and her husband, Lance, decided to move to Alaska. About Grayling, she says it is, "unique" and she hopes to stay here until she retires.

The students and residents of Grayling have much to look forward to this year with the addition of these well-qualified and personable teachers to our educational staff. Welcome!

— Mattie Pat Shaw