

Native State Trooper L. Schuerch, Olympics Native Pageant Judge



LORENZ O. SCHUERCH



HEADS ARTS AND CRAFTS—Sylvester Ayek is now the head of the Neuvanavik-Hoonda Kahit, a cooperative of arts and crafts at 411 West 4th Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska.

A young Eskimo, originally from Kiana and now living in Fairbanks, recently distinguished himself as a judge of queen contestants and a champion muktuk-eater during the 1969 World Eskimo Olympics.

Lorenz O. Schuerch, 25, making his mark by downing his muktuk in 16 seconds, explained how he achieved such speed. "I never chew," he said.

Lorry is also receiving recognition as an Alaska State Trooper. His year of probation with the Troopers ended this month. He is a 1963 graduate of Mt. Edgecumbe High School. Upon graduation, he went to work as a miner for the Kennecott Corporation at Bornite.

In 1965, Lorry returned to school at the University of Alaska for a year's training in mining technology. He then went back to Bornite.

In April of 1968, Lorry decided he did not want to remain a miner. "The working conditions were rough," he said. "Working at Bornite, and having my family at Kiana, was not working out too well," he added.

Lorry explained that he decided to become a Trooper after talking with State Trooper Bob Boatright, of Kotzebue. Boatright sent him his application for the Alaska State Trooper's Academy, at Sitka, and he was accepted.

Lorry, and his wife Lydia, have three children, ranging in age from two to four years. When asked how he met his wife, Lorry said, "I don't remember. She was from Norvik and I was in Kiana. The two villages are close and we grew up together."

Enjoying traveling on the job to the villages, Lorry says that he would like to learn how to fly. With a grand total of 8 hours and 35 minutes of flying time, Lorry said, "I would like to get my time in. It is the best way to get around."

In view of his successes to date, it can be expected that it won't be too long before Lorry will be cruising at 5,000 feet.