

# Pickett named 1988 Alaska Sportsperson of the Year

Carol Pickett, who won six gold medals and two bronze medals at the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics last summer, was named 1988 Alaska Sportsperson of the Year recently at the Anchorage Downtown Rotary meeting in the Hotel Captain Cook.

Pickett was chosen from among six finalists who had won their individual categories. Pickett, representing the Interior/Southwest region, also was named Best Amateur Sportsperson of the Year.

In receiving the Denali Award, Pickett thanked her family and friends for all their support. She also stressed the importance of helping young athletes train for the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics and other similar events through statewide programs and workshops.

At the 1988 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, Pickett won gold medals in the 1-foot high kick, 2-foot high kick, drop and bomb, broad jump, toe kick and greased pole walk. She won bronze medals for the knuckle hop and the ear pull. She went on to win four gold medals in the Kitikmeot Northern

Games at Copper Mine's Northwest Territory.

This is Pickett's 10th year of competition. She still holds the traditional 1-foot high kick record at 6 ft. 10 inches. Pickett has also been active in coaching young people through school programs and workshops around the state.

Pickett accepted the Denali Award from Bill McKay, Alaska Airlines regional vice president, and Jerry Grilly, publisher of the Anchorage Daily News, two of the sponsors of the 1988 Alaska Sportsperson of the Year program. Other sponsors are the Alaska Newspaper Association, KIMO-TV and KENI Radio.

Other finalists include: Best Youth Person, Sara Fallico of Anchorage; Best High School Sportsperson, D'Anna Dorris of Anchorage; Best College Sportsperson, Leisa Wissler of Wasilla; Best Professional Sportsperson, Susan Butcher of Manley; Best Coach, Steven Shin of Barrow; and Best Team, the University of Alaska Anchorage Men's Basketball team.



Photo by David Predeger

*Carol Pickett receives the 1988 Alaska Sportsperson of the Year award from Bill McKay, left, Alaska Airlines regional vice president, and Jerry Grilly, publisher of the Anchorage Daily News, two of the sponsors of the program. Pickett won six gold medals and two bronze medals at the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics last summer.*