

Selawik News

— *by Darlene Skin*

The biggest news in Selawik this week is that Selawik High School Junior, Ben Foxglove Jr., has received one of Alaska's William Randolph Hearst Student Leadership awards. Ben will travel to Washington, D.C. the first week in February to attend this nationwide leadership conference for high school students. He will visit Congress, the White House and meet famous people and see national monuments. Alaska's other participant is a senior from Anchorage. The scholarship leadership award includes \$1,000 scholarship to be used for college.

Ben Foxglove Jr. is probably the first Alaska Native to receive this award, but we in Selawik know it is well deserved on the basis of his leadership in our high school. Last year Ben was

student body president and captain of the basketball team. This
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BEN FOXGLOVE, JR.

Selawik. . .

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year he is class president and co-captain of the Selawik Wolves. But his most unique leadership position is that of president of the Northern Lights Restaurant Corporation, a non-profit corporation owned and operated by the students of Selawik High School. He has held that position for two years.

In February when Ben travels to Washington and meets the 100 other youth leaders from all over the states, he may well meet some who have heard of the Northern Lights Restaurant, which indeed sells ice cream to Eskimos at 30 below. The nationwide publicity the Northern Lights has had is due to Tundra Times reporter Marge Bauman who put our story on national newspaper and television coverage. We are very proud to be known all over the United States, and we are proud of Ben who will represent Alaska's youth leadership in Washington.

We in Selawik also take pride in our 95-member high school, which we expect to hit the 100 enrollment mark after Christmas. We have accomplished many things in two years of existence as a high school. Our basketball team, the Selawik Wolves, just returned from their first official games with another high school where they were defeated by the Kotzebue Husky Pup JV team 51-19 and the second night gave the Pups a run for their money keeping ahead in the first half and losing 43-31 in that game.

Coach Ken Kristenson considers his ball team did an admirable job since they had never before played ball on a real gymnasium and do all their practicing running the halls at Selawik School and shooting baskets at a wastebasket held by a student in a classroom. They have a small outdoor court but it is too cold to practice outside now. Everyone in Selawik is anxiously awaiting the building of the new Selawik High School gym due for completion next winter.

Here in Selawik the excitement of Christmas is high among the school children—parties, presents, a program at church, a big Christmas feast, a week of snow machine and dog races and nights of Eskimo games will celebrate the winter solstice and the Christmas season here on the Arctic Circle. Many visitors will be coming from other places because Selawik is "a real fun place to be for Christmas." Happy New Year to all the readers of Tundra Times, and I'll be sending you more news from Selawik in the new year.