



**NUMBER 21, Emmitt Peters of Ruby, starting the Iditarod Trail Race at Mulcahy Park in Anchorage. Emmitt has been leading into several checkpoints and figures to finish close to the top in Nome.**

— Photo By Mitch Demientieff

## ***Iditarod Update:***

### **Mushers on Yukon**

**GRAYLING** — As of 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, four Iditarod mushers have left the checkpoint at Grayling. Don Honea of Ruby was the first musher out at 7:49 this morning and was followed by Sonny Lindener, Joe May and Dr. Terry Adkins. Still reported in Grayling were Emmitt Peters, Jerry Riley, Howard Albert and Rick Swenson. The mushers will be heading north on the Yukon River to Blackburn and then Kaltag. From Kaltag they will be heading across country to Unalakleet.

Grayling is 644 miles from Anchorage and approximately two-thirds of the way to Nome. Former champions Emmitt Peters and Rick Swenson have followed closely behind the leaders all the way. They have been quoted repeatedly predicting that one or the other will be the 1979 Champion.

All the mushers have been reported to have taken their mandatory 24-hour layover and two scratches have been reported. The scratched mushers were Mark Couch of Palmer who scratched at Rainey Pass and Kelly Wales of Fairbanks who scratched at McGrath.