

Lockwood named student of year

by Holly F. Reimer

Tundra Times reporter

Bartlett High School senior Rose Lockwood was named Student of the Year during the 1990 Native Youth

Leadership Conference held in Anchorage recently.

This was the second year in NYLC's nine-year history in which students have been recognized with this award.

Lockwood, 17, was nominated by her school counselor. She has been living on her own since last August and works part-time at Southcentral Foun-

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dation while attending high school in the mornings.

Her aspirations for the future lie in the area of helping Alaska's Native population in some way, she said.

Her job at Southcentral Foundation is running a puppet theater to teach grade school children about nutrition.

Although Lockwood said being student of the year has just now finally hit her, she's keeping her cool.

"In the beginning my school counselor nominated me. I wrote my biography, turned it in and didn't expect to win student of the year. I was very surprised," she said.

Lockwood said the reason why she didn't think she was going to win was because there were so many other qualified students. But the judges obviously saw qualities in her that she didn't realize she had.

"I told how I moved from a small village to the city and what I had accomplished. And I told them how I go to school in the morning and work in the afternoon," she explained.

Some of the criteria which judges looked for while examining students' biographies included demonstrating leadership qualities that display and promote an understanding and appreciation of one's culture and heritage; a positive and active leadership role in school; above average academic standing; and displaying and encouraging positive values.

Panu Walls, NYLP coordinator at the Johnson O'Malley program at the Cook Inlet Tribal Council in Anchorage, said Lockwood was a good example of what the student of the year should be.

"Based on the criteria, she has good grades and shows great leadership qualities," Walls said.

"Rose is a very good role model. She has a responsible job and her attitude in general is positive. She is very respectful toward elders, and she is very considerate toward others," Walls explained.

On top of just positive personal characteristics, Walls noted Lockwood's involvement and leadership abilities within her school's Cultural Club as well as other cultural activities outside the school.

Lockwood is a member of the Greatland Dancers and has recently become involved with the Native Youth Olympics.

Lockwood is also chairperson of the NYLC's scholarship committee,

where youth do fund raising so three students can receive \$200 scholarships each year.

Most recently Lockwood attended the Inuit Circumpolar Conference for youths to discuss Native problems in Canada.

For ICC, Lockwood will help raise more than \$10,000 to help other Alaska Native youth pay their way to the conference next year.

Lockwood's involvement with the ICC organization made her realize that youth should be treated more like "people" instead of just "kids," she explained. "Youth have to improve themselves by helping each other."

Each year the NYLC is attended by students statewide, and according to Walls, the conference is getting bigger every year.