

# Bigjim to Pursue Law Degree

Frederick S. Bigjim, Special Assistant on Higher Education to NSB Mayor Eben Hopson, was granted admission to Western State University College of Law at Orange County in California. Mr. Bigjim will leave to commence his studies in August.

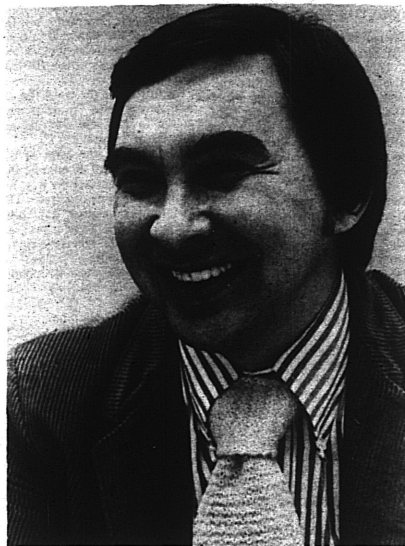
"The need for Native Alaskans

with a legal background prompted me to pursue this course of study rather than obtain my Ph.D. in Education," he explained. "Because of the Land Claims Settlement Act which created 220 village corporations and 13 regional corporations, there has been a lack of attor-

neys capable of handling cases who are personally involved with the cultural history and needs of today's Alaskans."

Mr. Bigjim is the son of Inez Kungasuk of Nome, Alaska. He attended Nome High School and went on to receive his B. Ed. degree from the University of Alaska in Anchorage and, later, his Masters in Education and a Certificate of Advanced Study Diploma from Harvard University in Cambridge.

For the past 18 months he has been working for the North Slope Borough drafting ordinances and policies related to the transfer of Inupiat University of the Arctic from private to public status under the aegis of the North Slope Borough. He has also represented Mayor Hopson in several national meetings involving the higher education



**Frederick S. Bigjim**

issues of Native Americans. Through his involvement, Native Americans nationally have become more aware of the efforts of the North Slope Borough in advancing the cause of higher education on America's Arctic Slope.