

Aleut U-A Senior Wins AAIA Grant

"My wife found out about the scholarship before I did and she was pretty happy about it," said Perry Adkison.

Asked whether he was happy about getting it, he said with a audible sigh, "Oh yeah!"

On April 8 the Executive Committee of the Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc., of New York, voted to grant to the University of Alaska and the University of Oklahoma, respectively, \$1,000 Sequoyah Scholarships for the 1965-66 academic year.

The scholarships are merit awards to be given to a deserving Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut students in their senior year.

Last Wednesday, Betty Watson, Dean of Women at the University of Alaska, met with the scholarship committee. The scholarship offer was approved and confirmed.

"We didn't have to look too far for a recipient of the scholarship," said Betty Watson. "We think Perry Adkison is most deserving of it."

Perry's cumulative grade average in his studies at the University has been 3.11. He has been on the honor roll for the past two semesters and it has been quite an achievement. It requires 3.5 average to be listed.

Perry is of Aleut extraction and he was born at Dillingham, a fishing community on the Nushagak Bay. His parents, Mike and Ella Adkison, live there. His father operates a fish tender.

Perry and his wife, Norma, both 26, have two boys. The oldest boy

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Scholarship . . .

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is three years old. Perry met Norma four years ago at Dillingham. She had been working at a tourist camp at Wood River Lakes. She came from Selah, Washington.

Perry Adkison has found it rather difficult, at times to stay in school because of expenses. He works as a fisherman during the season.

"It's always uncertain what my income will be during the fishing season and this scholarship is certainly going to help me come back to school next year. I know now that I will come back," Perry said. "One really good thing about the scholarship is that it doesn't have strings attached. Some of them require you to do specific studies, sometimes causing conflicts."

Since Perry has just entered his senior year, he will graduate before the regular graduation exercises in May of 1966. His major is education. Would he leave Alaska to teach?

"No. I definitely expect to teach in Alaska," he answered. "I have been here all my life and I want to stay here."

Perry obviously couldn't get over how he found out about the scholarship.

"Betty Watson called and told me she wanted to see me and I didn't know why," he said. "She told me about the scholarship when I went to her office. It was certainly a big surprise."

Dr. Sylvia Ciernick, Director of University Relations, and Dean Watson were warmly appreciative of the AAIA's Sequoyak Scholarship for Perry Adkison. Both of them agreed that a scholarship of this type would serve as a fine incentive, especially for senior students.

Perry and his wife live in the city at 131 Chase Drive.