

# 'Liz' Bides Time to Go to University

By AGNES PETE

Some people say that it is best to go to college right after graduation from high school. Elizabeth Lake, born in Akiak, Alaska on the Kuskokwim River didn't.

"Liz," as all her friends call her, is presently a senior majoring in elementary education at the University of Alaska.

Upon graduation from Akiak Village School, she attended high school in Mt. Edgecumbe. With that out of the way, she decided learning how to be a seamstress would be fun. So, she went to Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas for two years.

She never really put her knowledge of sewing to use, except for herself. She worked as a clerk-typist or secretary in Juneau and Bethel for two years.

"I didn't think I wanted to be a secretary all my life, so I went to college in the spring of 1971," Liz says. After all these years she hopes to graduate in May "if everything goes all right."

She thinks "a person doesn't have to go to college right after high school. Working, experiencing life and maturing helped me study better in college.

"I find college life very rewarding. If that is one's desire, then it can be accomplished with hard work.

"In my first two years, I felt like quitting college because I didn't think I could finish. Now, that I am in my last year, I figure it was worth it.

"Once I learned how to study, it was easy. By studying hard, I



ELIZABETH LAKE

was able to get an 'A' or 'B'. For a difficult course, I was lucky to get a 'C'.

"My advice to prospective and present college students is to continue college and try to finish. If you are discouraged, finish up the semester, and take a break. Be sure to come back, though!"

Liz's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lake of Akiak, are looking forward to the day when she teaches children in the Bethel area.

In their time, a sixth grade education was often the highest grade they could attend. Liz, a senior in college, has gone beyond their farthest dreams.