

27 graduate from ABE high school course

A corner and the ceiling of the Ruby School gym were cluttered with wires, spotlights, speakers, cameras and other equipment last March 13. These belonged to Randy Havens from the Video Center in Fairbanks. What was it all about? Another GED graduation in the Interior of Alaska. (Nulato had 28 GED graduates in April, 1980.) This year, graduates were flown in from four villages: Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia and Galena. The other villages that participated in the Adult Learning Program were Kaltag (with six graduates) and Ruby.

Because some GED tests are taken a week or two prior to graduation and do not get processed in Juneau on time, the GED diplomas issued from the Department of Education are sent later to each one who has attained a minimum score of 35 in each test and a total of 225.

A Baccalaureate Service took place in the Catholic Church in

Ruby with Father Brunner officiating. Of the 27 graduates only 15 attended the Commencement Exercises. Sam Demientieff of the Interior Village Association gave out the awards to the graduates, to the Trainee-Instructors and to some of the participants. Morris Thompson, former AFN president, was the guest speaker. Bob Hawkins from Dena Aka Corp. presented the certificates. Sister Jeannette LaRose, SSA, from Nulato was the M.C. Ruby hospitality graced the evening with a delicious covered dish.

The Adult Education Program for the six villages is centered in Nulato learning center. Anyone from any village is always welcome to come to study, to browse, to listen to tapes or records or to use the electronic learning machines. The ABE (Adult Basic Education) program, until now has been CETA funded. A proposal is being submitted for state funds to help



The GED graduating class ranges in age from 16 to 35.

the program continue in the fall.

Sister Jeannette, who has been directing the ABE/GED program for three years, is grooming Clara Peters from Nulato to take on the role of di-

rector. Clara has been a Trainee-Instructor and is actually the Secretary for the Summer Program. She will become a member of the AAEA (Alaska Adult Education Association) and will attend their conferences and

meetings in order to learn what is happening in the world of Adult Education outside the Yukon-Koyukuk area and to share with others the good things happening in the Interior.

Clara along with several other Trainee-Instructors is interested in pursuing an AA degree in Adult Education.

The following people received a special certificate from Dena Aka Corporation certifying they had completed the five required GED tests: Walter Agnes, Anna Attla, Veronica Baron, Agnes Dayton, Oscar Dayton, Liza Demoski, Thecla Esmailka, Kenneth Harding, Dale Honea, Clara Honea, Margaret Ann John, Anna Madros, Renee Wiseman, Edgar Madros, Franklin Madros, Martha Nelson, Isabelle Nollner, Pauline Nollner, Mary J. Peters, Percy Wholecheese, Debbie Peters, Geraldine Semaken, Darlene Semaken, Daryl Thurmond, Gilbert Vent, Gordon Vent, Harriet Vent.