



FUEL SHORTAGE PREDICTED



YUPIK NIGHT — Chevak Dancers perform during the recent 2nd Annual Festival of Alaska Native Arts at UA, Fairbanks. — TOM HILLIS Photo

New Village Homes May Cause Greater Fuel Consumption

By DONN LISTON
Alaska Native Foundation

Anchorage—While new Native housing appears to be on its way, rural fuel suppliers are wondering whether the 491-500 proposed units will create even more of a fuel shortage than already exists throughout much of rural Alaska.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' North Star III ship will bring the first of the housing to Alaska April 15, along with ships of Northland Marine company. New oil storage tanks are also expected to be transported to Alaska via the North Star.

"If they deliver those homes up there to some of the ice locked communities proposed, there's going to be fuel shortages," explained Don Dorsey, general manager for Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association (ANICA). "BIA says it's providing fuel enough for the construction, and that the new houses won't take as much fuel as other buildings in the communities, but that isn't going to be enough."

ANICA is a completely Native-owned purchasing cooperative providing merchandise for community stores through group buying. It was established in 1947 under the direction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to serve as an independent purchasing and shipping operation. Since it began operation in 1948, with five member villages in the Norton Sound area, it has grown to have 26 members and 40 associate members. Together with Standard Oil Company of California (SOCAL), ANICA has provided

technical assistance and financing for an estimated 1.3 million gallons of fuel storage in rural communities.

The housing is being provided under a special proposal developed in Washington D.C. between the BIA, Indian Health Service, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with money left over from the old AFN Housing program. The AFN program was not possible because of certain restrictions for use of federal housing monies. Those restrictions have been circumvented through the joint agreement of the three federal agencies.

Dorsey said he expected a definite fuel shortage to occur in the villages of Gambell and Savoonga, which are expected to receive over 30 units of the housing each, before next year. He said the shortage would come because construction during the winter would necessitate heating the buildings for interior work, but the community stores can't supply more than the normal amount of fuel.

"As you increase the number of heated homes in a village, and the people get used to the convenience of having a warm home, shortages are going to

(Continued on Page 6)

TT Editor at News Workshops in Barrow and Nome

FAIRBANKS — Two Fairbanks newspaper editors and a University of Alaska, Fairbanks, journalism professor are traveling to Point Barrow and Nome this week to conduct two-day news writing seminars for Alaska natives. A third seminar will be held in Fairbanks April 29-30.

"Tundra Times" editor Howard Rock, "Fairbanks Daily News-Miner" night editor Kim Elton and Prof. B.G. Olson are conducting the seminars in Point Barrow on April 14-15 and Nome on April 17-18.

In Fairbanks they will be joined by "All Alaska Weekly" editor

Tom Snapp and by Professors Jimmy Bedford, Charles Keim and John Ullmann of the UA journalism department.

The program is sponsored by a grant under Title I of the Higher Education Act from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare according to Dr. Charles Lafferty, dean of continuing education and summer sessions at the university.

About 30 Eskimos and Athabascans from 24 villages are participating in the sessions, Lafferty said. They are instructed in skills to help them be better correspondents reporting village

news to magazines and newspapers in the state. The group in each location is expected to be small enough to afford individualized attention for each student.

Instruction includes how to identify newsworthy material; writing of news stories, columns and features while retaining local flavor and color; how to submit material for publication; where to submit it; and photography.

Olson is coordinating the teaching team, while Dr. Mildred Matthews, associate dean of continuing education, is coordinating the total project.

Journalism Majors Gain Experience on Paper

In 1966, the Editor of Tundra Times, Howard Rock, wrote an editorial, stating that he needed a vacation after working for three straight years without one. He suggested that maybe a few journalism students could do the job while he was gone.

Well, Jimmy Bedford, Journalism Department Head at UA, took Howard up on it and has been on the Board of Directors ever since. Every so often he is able to count on an individual or a

few students to show up at the Tundra Times to finish off a paper.

Well, this is one issue that this has happened, and the reason the paper has come out late. If lay-out is not in the order you are accustomed to, it may be that the students did it.

By finishing up the paper, the students involved have learned that it takes a lot of work to put out a paper weekly, and single-handedly with only the

editor at work with the help of his secretary. We take this time to give a tribute to Howard Rock, who has been the editor of TT for almost 13 years, for the fine job he has done, and the dedication to the job.

The paper has come a long way, and though Howard isn't exactly on vacation (see related story), he can depend on journalism students to finish the paper up, even if they come out a day late.

Students View Quality of College Education

By JEFF RICHARDSON
and JENNIFER ORTIZ

"We just have a lot of catching up to do."

"Villages need people who are fairly educated."

"I thought I'd never make it to college; all we needed was confidence in our selves that we could do it."

These are some of the feelings expressed by Native students at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. Their remarks are significant in light of a study published by the UA's Institute of Social, Economic and

Government Research (ISEGR) late in 1974. The study draws several major conclusions about Native students in post-high school education:

— The typical Native college student before 1960 was commonly educated in white schools in urban areas. By 1971, most Natives attending college had been born and educated in the rural areas of the state.

— The number of Alaska Natives entering Alaskan colleges increased four times from 1963-72; the number succeeding in college increased five times:

— Native first-time students at

the University of Alaska during 1971-72 succeeded at about half the success rate of non-Native students.

"Success" is based on how well a student performs while in college, not whether or not he graduates.

While the report cites steady and sometimes dramatic progress in Native college success, it suggests a problem still exists, a fact confirmed by Native student interviews.

"While more Natives are receiving degrees, however, the number is still much too low to

(Continued on Page 6)

Health Schools May Close

If Funding Cannot Be Found

By CAROLE WRIGHT

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The only two schools offering Indian people a masters degree in Public Health Administration (MPH) may have to close their doors if sufficient funding cannot be located for the schools to continue. In addition, 12 students will be left stranded with another year of study and 10 more will lose their scholarship assistance from a MPH program.

The schools, located at the University of California at Berkeley and the Oklahoma University at Oklahoma City, were started in 1971 with a three-year grant from the now defunct Office of Economic Opportunity.

The OEO grant was channeled through the Indian Health Service (IHS) to establish the MPH programs which recruit and educate Indians (bachelors degree required) in administration for

the health service fields.

Robert L. Hunter (Washo-Paiute), chairman of the Indian Advisory Board of the MPH programs, leveled a charge at IHS in an April 3 letter to Sen. Robert Byrd (D-Va.)—chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Insular Affairs in which he stated:

"As recently as December, 1974 we were informed by the Director of Indian Health Service (Emery A. Johnson) 'that funds would be coming down for the program' and by implication, the money would be coming through them. After repeated inquiries, it is only in March that we have discovered that there will be no funds for FY1976."

According to Joe Exendine, IHS spokesman, "We are not in the business of funding these types of programs. Congress has not given us that authority." However he

(Continued on Page 6)