

RAHI prepares rural students for college

Forty-seven honor students from rural villages as far distant as Akutan, Hydaburg, and Kaktovik will leave for Fairbanks on the first of July to gather for six rigorous weeks of college preparation at the University of Alaska campus in Fairbanks. The students were selected from a pool of over ninety applicants for the third summer session of the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI), a program designed to introduce top students from Alaska's small high schools to living and learning in an urban college setting.

Students were selected for their high grades, involvement in school and community activities, good character, and serious interest in earning a college degree.

The average high school grade point average of the students chosen to attend RAHI this summer is 3.4 (B+). Most RAHI students are also leaders in student council, team sports, and activities such as close-Up, Future Problem Solving, and gifted-and-talented programs offered at their schools.

RAHI was created in 1982 at the initiative of the Alaska Federation of Natives, then headed by Sam Kito, who worked with UAF's Dennis Demmert and Chancellor Pat O'Rourke to put together a plan for increasing the number of Native Alaskans earning bachelor's degrees in such areas as resource management, engineering, business and education. There is a high demand for Alaskans qualified to hold professional and managerial jobs in Native companies and rural in-

stitutions, but still very few Natives with the required professional training. RAHI combines early exposure to college learning with special advisement and new, more relevant courses once in college, as well as assistance finding summer employment and placement after college.

Once on campus, RAHI students will enter a full-time academic program taught by University faculty and village high school teachers. The curriculum focuses on issues that affect rural Alaska, such as ANCSA and economic development, while strengthening basics such as math, writing, and study skills. At the same time, the dormitory counseling staff composed of rural Native undergraduates help students examine their personal goals and commitments to college and to other rural and Native people. Those who complete the summer program can return home for their senior year in high school, knowing they will be accepted at UAF and what they each need to do to improve their preparation before starting college.

The following students will be traveling to Fairbanks July first:

Kim Borkowski, St. Mary's Catholic High School, St. Mary's
Wayne Allen Buckles, Jr., Chefnak Chaputnguak High School, Chefnak

Mary J. Carl, Nelso Island High School, Toksook Bay

Sam Chanar, Nelson Island High School, Toksook Bay

Marie Betsy Culbertson, Mead River School, Atkasuk

Jacob Damain, Alakanuk High School, Alakanuk

Sharon B. Demantle, Tulkisar-mute Yupik School, Tuluksak

Terry D. Don, Nunivaarmiut High School, Mekoryuk

Theresa, M. Douglas, Ambler Ikiaqtigq, Ambler

Elsie Francis, St. Mary's Catholic High School, St. Mary's

Wassillie J. Frank, Lewis Angapak Memorial High School, Tuntutuliak

Esther Friday, Chevak High School, Chevak

Minnie Dora Guy, Kwethluk High School, Kwethluk

Gertrude Heckman, Pilot Station High School, Pilot Station

Thomas Henry, Stebbins High School, Stebbins

Fred Jones, Selawik High School, Selawik

Phillip Kairaiuak, Chaputnguak High School, Chefnak

Roberta Karmun, Deering High School, Deering

Renee Kauffman, St. Paul Island High School, St. Paul

Adeline M. Kawagley, Arlicaq High School, Akiak

Carla Marie Kelliher, Nome-Beltz H.S., Nome

Joy Kristiansen, Savoonga High School, Savoonga

Dick B. Kugzruk, James C. Isabell Memorial High School, Teller

Jimmy Larson, ZJW Memorial High School, Oscarville

Brian Floyd Abraham, Togiak School, Togiak

Carol Jean Akelkok, Koliganek High School, Koliganek

Allen Alirkar, Nelson Island High School, Toksook Bay

Marilyn Alstrom, Alakanuk H.S., Alakanuk

Abraham Andrew, L.A.M. High School, Tuntutuliak

Jananna D. Andrews, St. Mary's Catholic High School, Tuntutuliak

Peri Bereskin, Akutan High School, Akutan

Rena T. Mathias, Chevak High School, Chevak

Tracy Nix, Hydaburg High School, Hydaburg

Sandra Lynn Olin, Shishmaref High School, Shishmaref

Darlene R. Otten, Anthony Andrews High School, St. Michael

Sharla Pate, Nome-Beltz Jr./Sr. H.S., Nome

Mae Anne Pitka, Russian Mission High School, Russian Mission

Brian Jr. Rookok, Savoonga High School, Savoonga

Laura L. Saunders, Kaltag High School, Kaltag

Janet Simmonds, Nuiqsut High School, Nuiqsut

Beverly Jane Simon, Nulato School, Nulato

Carla Sims, Kaveolook High School, Kaktovik

Michael C. Swetzof, Dick H. Bower Community School, Atka

Mary Tunguing, Koliganek High School, Koliganek

Debbie L. Vent, Lathrop High School, Huslia

Suzanne von Scheele, Port Lions High School, Port Lions

Cheryl Wahl, Dillingham High School, Dillingham