

Alaska student wins \$20,000 Sohio scholarship

ANCHORAGE--Sohio Alaska Petroleum Company announced today that Thomas Merculief of E. L. Bartlett Elementary/High School, Tyonek, Alaska, is the winner of a four-year, \$16,000 Sohio-Commissioner's Scholarship. Alaska's Commissioner of Education, Harold Raynolds, selected Merculief from among the 25 winners of the Sohio-Principals' Scholarship program.

The \$16,000 Sohio-Commissioner's Scholarship was awarded in addition to the \$4,000 Merculief won in the Sohio-Principals' Scholarship Program, for a four-year total of \$20,000 in scholarship money.

In the Sohio-Principals' Scholarship Program, 25 graduating seniors from 25 Alaska schools, were each awarded a four-year, \$4,000 scholarship.

Both the Commissioner's and Principals' Scholarships may be used at any accredited post-secondary institution for the vocational or degree program of the student's choice.

Those awarded Sohio-Principals' Scholarships are the following, listed with their

STUDENT	SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL
Thomas Allison	Susitna Valley High	Jean Kalish
Karen Anderson	Seward High	G. Gregory Moo
Lillian Aukongak	Martin L. Olson	Blaine Ackley
Kirk Suksdorf Bailey	Soldotna High	James A. Strandle
Tanya Barnebey	Fairbanks Alternative High	Michael Thibodeau
Merrienne Bowerman	Nenapa City Public Schools	Kenneth Satre
Brenda K. Bruce	Haines High	Gary Matthews
Julie C. Dennison	Wasilla High	Peter H. Burchell
Maura Ganz	S.A.V.E. I High (Anchorage)	Jerry H. Strauss
Linda Gelinas	North Pole High	Terry Marquette
Michelle A. Hewitt	Dimond High (Anchorage)	Robert M. Peck
Margaret Kewan	Port Lions High	Bill Biehl
Annette S. Larson	King Cove High	James O. Fredrickson
Rachel Maxie	Z.J. Williams School (Napaskiak)	Gary Baldwin
Michelle Diane May	Newhalen School (Iliamna)	Dr. Vince Barry
Thomas Merculief	E.L. Bartlett/Elem/High (Tyonek)	Clifford D. Koivist
Mishelle Nance	Austin E. Lathrop High-(Fairbanks)	William N. Brannian
Gayle Jean Neff	Ketchikan High	Karen Hines
Andrea M. Ortiz	West Anchorage	Howard Hosken
Kiply Fawn Prescott	Wrangell High	Richard G. Barton
Denise Reynolds	Bristol Bay Cons. High (Naknek)	John A. Davis
Billy Smith	Dillingham High	William J. Allard
Melvin Tamondong	Kodiak High	Edwin E. Westlund
Camilla D. Thomas	East Anchorage	Robert McCormick
Kimberly Weston	Nunivarmiut Schools (Mekoryuk).	K. Michael Beach

schools and selecting principals:

The Sohio Scholarship Program, which has been conducted in Alaska over the past six years, underwent a major revision this year with the resulting new program being seen as more responsive to student needs.

The new scholarship program was developed in cooperation with the Commission of Education and the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals (AASSP). The AASSP, through its Board of Directors, is also instrumental in the administration of the program. The Board of AASSP represents all of Alaska's school districts.

In making their scholarship award decisions, principals, the AASSP Board and the Commissioner of Education used the following, non-weighted criteria: academic achievement, leadership potential, community/school involvement and financial need.

When the program is fully implemented four years from now, Sohio will be awarding \$116,000 each year in new and continuing scholarships to 100 Alaskan students.



Thomas Merculief, 1985 graduate of E.L. Bartlett Elementary/High School in Tyonek, receives congratulations from Sohio, Public Affairs Associate Caroline Dowling.