

# ARTTC Is Unique

By DOUG BROWN  
Noorvik, Alaska

**NOORVIK** — The Alaska Rural Teacher Training Corps, (ARTTC) is a unique program. Rather than have students go to the classroom in their last year to be involved in the classroom, ARTTC corpsmen work in classrooms — four years from the time they are freshman to their senior year.

ARTTC was formed because the universities were looking for a better way to educate teachers going into rural villages. A typical view of a typical ARTTC team may be viewed in Noorvik.

The team meets at least three times a week to work on course-work, sent from U of A and AMU previous homework assignments are discussed, if the need arises, then handed in to the team leader, Dr. Mike Cline, to be sent in to the university professors.

The team members Lulu Nazuruk, Eileen Maclean, Gordon and Ruth Newlin and Don work in the classrooms with cooperating teachers.

These individuals and team leader are active in school and community activities. This year Eileen has taught home economics to the ninth grade girls and is also a member of the advisory school board. She is in the junior level.

Lulu has gotten the Noorvik community library going. She has finished her student teaching and will graduate this August and she hopes to teach here in Noorvik.

Gordon, a sophomore, assisted the Head Start director to get the Head Start going this year and is currently working in the classroom of Dottie Cline teaching spelling.

Ruth is a freshman. She is in the classroom teaching reading to fourth graders. She is doing a great job at it.

Last, but not least, is Don, he coached the elementary basketball team to a 5-3 record. He is also the ARTTC team representative to the ARTTC panel and is on the high school planning committee.

The team is involved in many community affairs. He is a sophomore.

Our team leader, Dr. Mike Cline, assists in the course work, teaches courses himself, and helps out in the classroom and is the chairman of the high school planning committee.

There was a proposed expansion for ARTTC next fall but this may not be possible because of lack of funding from legislature. Words can't express my feelings if for lack of funding.

The ARTTC program is destroyed. Since I've been in the program I've learned many things such as different types of classroom approaches, planning of schedules, developing your own style of teaching, working out curriculum for students, ordering books, things that are essential to teaching in the bush.

I also had the opportunity to coach the Noorvik Warriors, an elementary basketball team here in Noorvik to second place in

the Kotzebue tournament.

The college courses I'm taking on site enable me to further my academic education while doing things in the school and the community. I get along fine in school and the community. I'm bilingual, speak my Native language and English, which is an advantage over incoming teachers from the Outside. I know my culture, the people, our way of life and I'm happy to be part of it.