

Nondalton Sports New Village General Store

Nondalton, an Athabascan Indian village, located on Lake Clark, 20 miles north of Iliamna has its own general store.

After nearly a year in the planning stage, the store, organized as a cooperative, started off with a bang on Feb. 9, ringing in \$1,600 in sales its first day.

Community Enterprise Development Corp. of Alaska (CEDC) coordinated and financed the village self-help grocery effort through a loan to the Nondalton Knichek Cooperative for \$40,000.

A C46 and DC6 aircraft were used to transport 16,000 pounds of groceries and 12,000 pounds of building materials to Iliamna where they were ferried by snow machine and light aircraft to the village site.

Hand work and cooperation proved to be the cornerstone for villagers and government agencies alike. Nicholia Kershkoff and Bill Trefon of Nondalton acted as foreman and chief electrician for the project.

Jerry Felton, Del Birmingham, Tom Craig and John Terrel, staff members of CEDC, assisted the village for two weeks in the remodeling and merchandising of the store.

The Bristol Bay Native Corp. and the Alaska Department of

Community and Regional Affairs also assisted the grocery co-operative; as well as State Rep. Hugh Malone who coordinated the purchasing of electrical power from the State-Operated School System.

The word "Knichek" in Athabascan means cheaper. This the co-op has done by reducing overall food prices by nearly 50 per cent. Selection and cost were the prime reasons for opening the largest village grocery store in the Bristol Bay region.

So if you are ever in the area, stop in and shop, at the biggest little supermarket in Bristol Bay, the Nondalton Knichek Co-op Store.