

Native emphasis committee seeking funds

By LINDA DE WITT
Native Emphasis Week Planning Committee of Alaska Methodist University is asking for contributions for their 5th Annual Native Emphasis Week which is scheduled for March 22-26, 1976.

Native Emphasis Week is a production planned and carried out entirely by students at Alaska Methodist University with some help from AMU faculty and staff members as resource persons and advisors.

Planning for this event entails at least six months of work with weekly committee meetings to coordinate all planning efforts and to decide on methods of presentation.

The purpose of this event is to present Native Alaskan Culture to the AMU and Anchorage community in order that all may have a better understanding of Native culture and to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to identify with and to express themselves in Native Alaskan culture.

In order to reflect the cultural and psychological ideals of the six major tribes of Alaska: Aleut, Tlingit, Tsimpsian, Athabascan, Haida and Eskimo peoples, a myriad of presentations will occur.

Included in this event will be: arts and crafts displays and demonstrations, Native games, guest speakers, traditional Native dancers and a Native foods dinner.

The arts and crafts display will consist of priceless artifacts and other display items on loan from the Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum, and the Visual Arts Center of Anchorage.

AMU students, members of the Anchorage community and individuals from dance groups which are invited to perform, will also display their work.

The arts and crafts demonstration will tie in directly with the displays. Demonstrators will explain and show the arts of their craft. The arts and crafts demonstration will give individuals and groups the opportunity to see how items are made and to ask questions about the process and product.

Throughout the week, guest speakers will be present in classes. All sessions will be open to the public. These guest speakers will cover topics related to all aspects of Alaska Native life. Most guest speakers will be local people to cut down on the costs. However, the dancers who have been invited to perform will also be used in this capacity.

Friday, March 26 is the "grand finale" night. All the dance groups will be performing following a dinner consisting of traditional Native foods.

Each year the AMU students attempt to bring in different

dance groups to present more variety, since this is an annual event. This year the dancers to be invited will be the Bethel Regional High School, Nightmute Dancers, Hoonah High School, Barrow University and the Marks Trail Dancers.

To date, NEW has received \$100 from Alaska Native Foundation, \$300 from National Bank of Alaska, \$400 from the Associated Students of AMU and \$200 from AMU. The estimated cost of this year's NEW is around \$10,000.

Because the cost of transportation, meals and lodging are so expensive, contributions are needed to provide these fa-

cilities so a bigger variety of talent can be presented.

There will be an admission charge at the door for each night, Monday through Thursday: Adults will be \$2, children \$1. For Friday night, the "Grand Finale" night: adults \$6 and children \$3.

Advance tickets will be sold in the first two weeks of March for the entire Native Emphasis Week: adults \$12 and children \$9.

Advance tickets can be obtained by writing to Bob Angaiak, chairman or Linda De Witt, co-chairwoman, Native Emphasis Week Planning Committee, Box 36, AMU, Anchor-

age, Alaska 99504 or call them at 272-4401, ext. 320.