

Dewey Skan Jr. of Klawock picked for RurAL CAP

Dewey Skan Jr. of Klawock was elected president of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP), inc. at the board's annual meeting in early December. Skan, who has served on the RurAL CAP board since 1988, is a former board president.

The board also elected Stanton Katchatag, of Unalakleet, to serve a second term as vice president. Myra J. Olsen, of Egegik, was chosen secretary/treasurer.

Skan serves on various boards in the state including the Rural Sanitation Task Force and the governor's transition team for rural economic development. He is grand treasurer for the Alaska Native Brotherhood, has served four terms as deputy mayor in Klawock and is the former president of the Klawock IRA. Skan is the current chair of the Rural Alaska Participation Conference, which will be held in Juneau this spring.

Katchatag sits on several boards in-

cluding Kawerak, Inc. and Norton Sound Health Corporation. He is also a Bering Straits area delegate for the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and is president of the IRA in Unalakleet. Stanton has been active in his community as a PTA member and a scoutmaster. Before he retired, he served as a cannery worker union delegate in Bristol Bay and worked on the North Slope as a union carpenter steward.

Olsen is the immediate past president

of the RurAL CAP Board of Directors. She holds a limited-entry fishing permit and serves as the vice president of the Bristol Bay Area Native Association and is chair of the Bristol Bay Marine Mammal Council. She is also active in subsistence groups such as the Rural Alaska Resources Association and the Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee for the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game. She also serves as president of the Egegik Village Council.

Local Native science group and members lauded

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) of the University of Alaska Fairbanks earned the 1996 Stelvio J. Zanin Distinguished Chapter Award at the 18th Annual AISES National Conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah, Nov. 14-17. As part of the Chapter of the Year award, UAF received \$1,000 and a printer from Hewlett Packard.

AISES was established in 1977 as a nationwide non-profit organization to increase the number of Alaska Native/American Indian college students graduating with degrees in engineering, math, natural sciences, medicine, computer science and education with an emphasis on math or science. The underlying goal is to stress the importance of both education and culture for all Native Americans,

guided by a council of elders.

This marks the second time in three years that the UAF AISES chapter has received this nationally competitive award. UAF received the 1994 Distinguished Chapter Award and received runner-up honors in 1995.

In addition, two members received individual recognition at this year's national conference: Shay Huntington McEwan, a mechanical engineering senior from Galena, and Shannon Curtis, a sophomore in biology from Kotzebue, received A.T. Anderson Scholarships.

UAF chapter president Mark Blair, an anthropology graduate student from Kotzebue and Detroit, was re-elected Alternate Representative for AISES Region I, repre-

sending Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Western Canada.

Blair and McEwan attended the conference along with: Sasha Atuk, a mechanical engineering junior from Nome/Fairbanks; John Henry, a biochemistry junior from Stebbins; Jason Huffman, a biochemistry junior from Huslia; Kim Ivie, an education senior from Chevak and Fairbanks; Carleen Jack, a wildlife biology/fisheries freshman from Stebbins; Patience Merculief, an international business/Japanese studies senior from St. Paul Island; Mike Orr, a resource economics senior from Tununak; and Stefan Rearden, a petroleum engineering junior from Bethel.

Several contributors made it possible

for these student to attend the 1996 national AISES conference:

Ray & Carol Barnhardt, Lisa Buttrey-Thomas, Gary Gislason, Lorena Hegdal, Sue McHenry, Dorothy Pender, John & Terry Reichardt, Jane Weber, John & Fran Zarling, AKDOT Technology Transfer, Doyon Foundation, Piquini Management Corporation, Koniag Inc., UAF Institute of Marine Science, IBM, and the Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

UAF's AISES chapter meets every other Thursday during the school year, hosting several activities and speakers from various fields. In March 1997, the chapter will host the Region I conference, which will include several presenters, a career fair and sessions for high school students.

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