## Sen. Willie Hensley Requests UA to Help Fund Imuruk Project

State Sen. Willie Hensley has requested University of Alaska fund the Imuruk Basin Project being undertaken by Laurel Bland to preserve the history of that Arctic region.

The study was originally to be funded in the Alaska Metho-

be funded in the Alaska Methodist University appropriation but a line item directing this was inadvertently left out of the Legislative budget.

In a letter to Dr. William Wood, president of U of A, dated June 26, Hensley wrote: "You will recall during the Board of Regents meeting I made a point that the University should engage in research activishould engage in research activi-ties that insure to benefit of Alaskans and I felt that the Unireaskans and I felt that the University had virtually ignored the study of subjects in its own back yard that needed serious research.

"I feel that the Imuruk Basin Project has substantial support in the Eskimo community and among those who realize how insufficient our knowledge as of

Eskimo history and prehistory.
"It seems to me that there should be adequate funds in the

## \* \* \* \* \* Pt. Hope Presents Baleen to Oquilluk For Imuruk Project

POINT HOPE—The Tigaramuit, People of Point Hope, have presented William Oquilluk, Kauwerak Eskimo, with baleen needed to construct special items of the Eagle-Wolf Messenger Feast that he is trying to pre-

Oquilluk was born in Pt.Hope. oquilluk was born in Pt. Hope. in 1896. His grandfather, Etorinia, worked at the old whaling station and his family stayed with him. When William was about seven years old the family returned to Imuruk Basin to

ily returned to Imuruk Basin to the now abandoned village of Mary's Igloo.

Research in preparation for the publication of the history of the Kauweramuit required Oquilluk's return to Pt. Hope after a 70 year absence. He visited during the Whale Festival and renewed many old friendships. friendships.

friendships.

First to greet him was Jimmy Killigivuk, then William and Jimmy's sister, Nanny Ooyahtoana. Oquilluk visited Mrs. Ooyahtoana's sod house which was walls and floors made from the planks of old whaling ships.

Later, with the friends of his boyhood, he sat in the shelter of upturned whale boats and sang songs they knew in their youth. Each of the whaling crews gave him a generous gift of muktuk.

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University budget to fund the project. When the Senate Fiproject. When the Senate Finance Committee agreed to request the \$40,000, the committee had just provided added funds for cash flow purposes from which the \$40,000 is to be

"In as much as the free conference committee increased your budget substantially, there is no question that there is money in your budget for this project."

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