

New year means new opportunities

Dear Wrangell High School students,

The same things that have been greeting you in school for years past greet you again — lockers, pencils, teachers, books, tardy slips. And yet there is somethings new — new people, new classes, new friends — a new chance to define yourself among your peers and family as well as in school.

Some say that high school is irrelevant and meaningless; that it doesn't prepare you for the "real world." But high school is people, getting along, constant contact and constant pressure. You have to learn to relate with people every day — in class, on a team, on a committee, in an organization. This chance to learn about people and yourself is one of the most important things Wrangell High can offer.

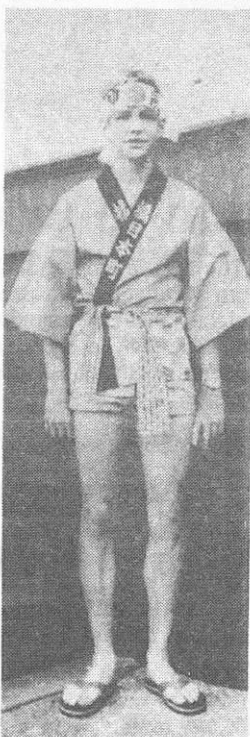
This is not to say that high school will provide you with all the answers — far from it. In fact, you will probably leave here with more questions unanswered than you have now. What you should have are the tools to help you answer those questions.

Long after you have left Wrangell High, the knowledge, skills, and social interaction acquired here will be an important part of you.

Wear the Red and White colors with pride, represent your school and community to the best of your ability, and have a great year!

A summer in Japan: When in Japan, do as the Japanese, and that is certainly what 17-year-old Miles Brown did during the summer.

Miles applied to participate in a Japan-U.S. Senate student exchange program, and after a teleconference interview, he was chosen to represent Alaska.



Miles Brown

The Japan-U.S. Senate exchange is sponsored entirely by the Japanese Government. Applications are sent to high schools across the United States. The applications are then researched and narrowed down to 12 applicants in each state. A conference call is made to each applicant, and after a series of questioning by seven interviewers, two students are chosen. This elimination process is done in every state until there are 100 students.

Miles left on June 12 for Washington, D.C., where he met up with the other exchange students. Although his stay of five days was short, he said, he learned enough information that helped him through the rest of the trip. After an orientation, each student was given a "crash course" on Japanese culture, history and language.

June 16 came around and Miles headed overseas. He stayed in Okazaki, a city of about 300,000, southwest of Tokyo. He was housed with the

Iwasaki family. He called his host-father Otoson and his host-mother Okason. His host-brother was Takaya, also 17.

"Takaya knew the most English out of the whole family," Miles said. "Otoson knew very little, and Okason knew none at all."

While Miles was in Okazaki, he attended a public school

CLASS ACTS

By Nadra Angerman



along with 1,400 Japanese students. Miles attended classes like English grammar, English Reader, algebra, geometry, Japanese Classic, Japanese history and language. In his spare time, he played basketball with his school's basketball club.

Miles discovered some things were different for Japanese students. "Most every student rides a bike to school. There are no buses," he said. "Once at school everyone wears slippers."

But not everything was different. "Like in America, McDonald's and Baskin-Robbins are popular hang-outs," Miles said.

Asked if he wanted to return to Japan, Miles gave an emphatic yes as a reply. Until he gets that opportunity, he will be doing as the Americans do — in America.



Hanna Hall



Jeremy Maxand

Class Acts correspondents: This year Class Acts is going to inform you on the happenings of the school system. I will be collecting and composing items submitted for the column, but unlike years before there will be two new correspondents. They will be sixth-grader Hanna Hall and seventh-grader Jeremy Maxand.

I have known these two students for quite some time, and I am excited to begin working with them. Hanna and Jeremy's duties will be to keep me posted on what's happening in the elementary and junior high schools, and as the year progresses they will get the experience of writing their own items for the column.

Don't forget — items may be submitted to the Wrangell Sentinel, Hanna, Jeremy or me any time throughout the 1986-87 school year. We will appreciate your support, and don't miss the next Class Acts Issue!

☐ **Class Acts**, by Wrangell High senior Nadra Angerman, is a twice-monthly column about Wrangell school activities and students' achievements. If you want to submit an item, contact Angerman or pick up a Class Acts form at either school or at the Sentinel.