



Alaska Aces defenseman Louis Mass and right wing Mike Scott (back row, center) take a break from signing autographs to pose for photos on Monday March 7, 2005 with Dillingham hockey players. The two Aces professional hockey players visited the town that is better known for canned salmon than hockey to talk with students about the importance of reading and getting an education. The trip was sponsored by ACE air cargo. Photo credit: Courtesy of ACE air cargo.

Dillingham hockey dad Mark Lisac quickly got the schools, Boys and Girls Club and Chamber of Commerce involved and the afternoon hockey clinic grew into a full day of meetings with students to read and talk about goals and the importance of education. Ironically, unseasonably warm weather melted Dillingham's ice rink so that the original hockey clinic never happened.

The Ace's Dillingham schedule included:

- Elementary school assembly of 100-plus k-to-2 graders in gym
- Elementary school: Assembly of 100-plus 3-to-5 graders in gym
- Lunch with dozen high school students and faculty at alternative school
- Read in kindergarten and first grade classrooms
- High school assembly of 150+ ninth-12th graders in gym
- Middle school assembly of 150+ sixth-eighth graders in gym
- Hang out with 25+ students at Dillingham Boys and Girls Club
- Hockey clinic-turned Chamber-of-Commerce-sponsored BBQ and autograph session with approximately 75 children and parents at skating rink

Throughout the day Scott and Mass distributed 500 photo-stickers of the team, plus dozens of pucks, water bottles, t-shirts and other hockey gear to students and the hockey league. They also signed hundreds of autographs and did their best to make sure that everybody involved with the visit had an outstanding time.

The only disappointment of the trip was the ice condition. Recent warm weather melted the rink so that it looked more like an Anchorage parking lot than a hockey rink and on-ice drills and demonstrations were impossible. Fortunately, the Chamber of Commerce had plenty of hot dogs and burgers on the grill and the clinic quickly morphed into a picnic that had everybody from young children to seniors enjoying the sunshine and the company of out-of-town celebrities.

The visit was sponsored by Anchorage-based ACE air cargo. Director of Sales and Customer Services Todd Wallace, who traveled to Dillingham with the Aces players, said the trip was great for everybody involved.

"Louis and Mike got to experience rural Alaska, and Dillingham students heard valuable messages about the importance of education and setting and working toward goals in life. We definitely want to do something like this again," said Wallace.

Q.C. Update

by Curtis Millard, Director of Quality Control

Don Bowman and I again went to Las Vegas for the annual AS3 "Aviation Week" convention and trade show. Although the seminar programs were fewer, they were scheduled for longer time periods than previously. As always, there were things to be learned.

ACE has received FAA approval for "in house" transponder certification on the Beech fleet. The convenience this authorization provides has been eagerly anticipated. At the time we received certification, Gerald Cederquist, Jr. had already received acceptable On the Job Training (OJT) in transponder certification from other Avionics shops and will now be utilized to provide OJT to other ACE mechanics.

Our Cessna in Bethel is undergoing Capstone system upgrade as a gift from the FAA's Capstone Project. The work is planned for completion over a scheduled non-flying weekend.

Flight OPS Brief

by Mike Murphy, Director of Flight Operations

Congratulations to Kai Kaliszewski on his successful upgrade to BE1900 Captain. Nice job.

We would also like to welcome aboard Magnus Nilsson, Birgitte Holmgaard, Kristen Schultz and Jason Ball into the BE1900 program as well as Damian Miller into the C-207 Program. They have passed all of the training and checkrides and are online. Congratulations!

Paul Moore is scheduled to go to Haiti for his two week deployment with the National Guard. We wish him well.

We met with Mike Pannone and Don Simonds of the Medallion Foundation. We discussed the requirements for meeting the PCATD Star. We hope to have this up and running in the next couple of months. Thank for the help guys!

I would like to thank our flight crews for stepping up to the plate and helping with all the extra charters and reroutes. Keep up the good and safe work environment.