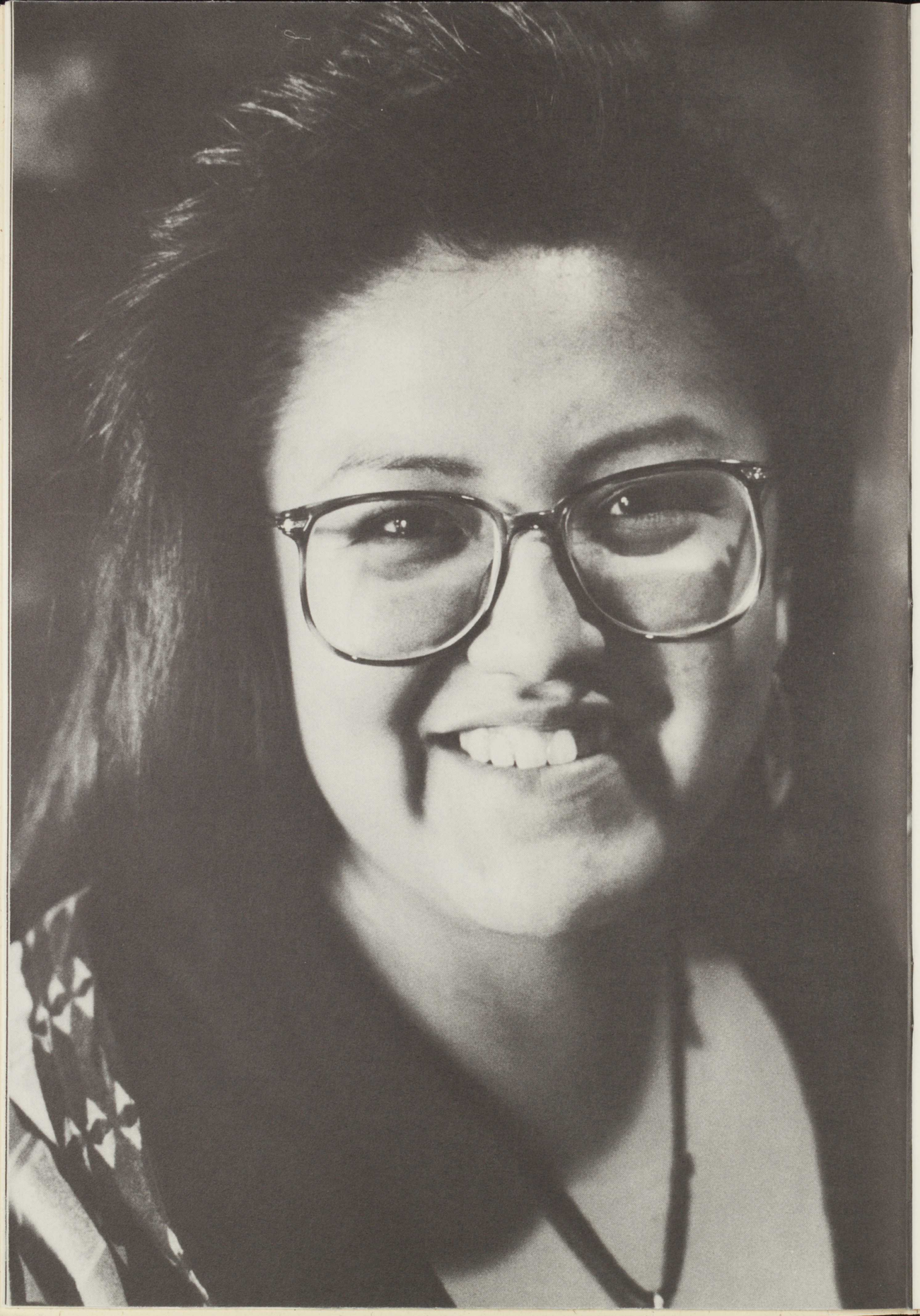

# The Year In Review

*"We must continue throughout our lives to do what we conceive to be good. If we have corn and meat, and know of a family that has none, we divide with them. If we have more blankets than are sufficient, and others have not enough, we must give to them that want."*

*Black Hawk, Sauk (1767-1838)*

*Left, Lelani Chapman, student at Standing Rock College*

In 1993, the American Indian College Fund made a number of gains in achieving its mission of providing financial assistance to its member colleges and increasing public awareness of the work of the Indian colleges.

## Scholarship Aid for Students

The Fund distributed more than $800,000 to 27 colleges for student scholarship aid, an increase of nearly $300,000 over 1992. This money was awarded by the colleges to nearly 1,500 students for much-needed assistance in continuing their studies.

Indian-college students are the poorest in the nation. A recent survey of our member colleges showed that 85 percent of the students live in poverty, and 65 percent have children to care for. For these students, scholarship assistance from the American Indian College Fund is often essential to their ability to remain in school. It helps cover tuition, buys books and sometimes even makes it possible to travel to school from distant corners of the reservation.

Last year, the Fund was further able to help students in crisis by establishing an emergency assistance program for women, who comprise the majority of Indian-college students and are often single heads-of-household. With underwriting from the Avon Products Foundation, the program made $15,000 available to the colleges to distribute to students for such dire necessities as medical care, heating fuel, food and emergency daycare. We hope to add to this important program every year.

One student assisted last year by the emergency assistance program was Sharon Quiver, who's studying marketing at Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Sharon is a quadriplegic, whose Social Security income and federal student grants weren't enough to cover both her school and medical expenses. The emergency assistance program helped her pay for the home care she needed to meet such basic tasks as getting dressed in the morning and ready for bed at night.