

Electorate has spoken

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What the voters of this state wish in the way of issues and candidates has been made abundantly clear. Although the Democratic Party's candidate for governor has not been decided at this time, the Republican Party has overwhelmingly chosen its man.

Much arm-chair, Monday-morning quarterbacking is bound to ensue by political "experts" as to the results of this primary election. There will be reasons aplenty for this candidate's upset and that candidate's victory.

But the fundamental question is this: Was your personal choice selected to compete in November? And, if not, why not? Did you do anything to help your candidates get elected? Did you vote? And if you voted, were your convictions strong enough to try to convince other people of your choices?

Further, have you tried to persuade people outside of your own party or your own community or even your own race of your convictions? And if they are of the same mind as you for a particular candidate or candidates, are you willing to join with them to strengthen both of your chances?

What is apparent for November's election is that there is a much more defined and clearer choice between candidates than there has been in a long, long time. And the political party of any candidate is not nearly so important as the candidate himself.

In the last Legislature, our rural-based lawmakers were able to wield substantial power by uniting in common purpose. We feel that the same can happen if, with organization and hard work, the varied and distinctive voters of Alaska can unite behind one candidate.

Is your candidate for subsistence? Then help to organize people who support subsistence, both Native and non-Native.

Is your candidate for labor? Then do all you can to inform your union friends of that fact.

Is your candidate for Equal Rights Amendment? Then there is a substantial base of women, deeply involved, who can help you help your candidate.

Is your candidate for or against the Capital move? Either way there are people who will commit themselves in time, money and hard work to bring that fact forth to the public.

And lastly, is your candidate a Democrat or Republican? In either case there is a broad base of supporters you should join with to help your candidate, so that when the results are determined in the first week in November, through your efforts and the efforts of those you have united with, the candidate of your choice will have been elected to whichever office, from state representative up to the governorship itself.

And that, in the final analysis, is the principal reason for the electoral system's existence and its historical strength.



Founded in 1962 by HOWARD ROCK