

CANDIDATES AROUND ALASKA TOSS HATS

With primary elections for state and federal offices less than five months away, candidates around Alaska are tossing their hats in the ring to gear up for one of the most important elections in the state's history.

Beginning construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, decision on a gas pipeline, settlement of the Native land claims, formation of the Native corporations and nearing federal action to withdraw 83 million Alaskan acres combine to make 1974 the start of a new era in Alaska.

At stake are the vital governor's and lieutenant governor's seats, one U.S. seat, the state's only U.S. House of Representatives post and numerous Senate and House seats on the state level.

Following are thumbnail sketches of some of the candidates who have already announced their decisions to run:

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Mitch Demientieff Hurls Hat

Mitch Demientieff, 21, former president of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, has filed for the Democratic nomination as a candidate for the House of Representatives, District 19.

Demientieff headed TCC in 1973-74 and is making his first run for state office. The Nenana resident, known for his subsistence life style, is concerned about education, justice and

ation of Natives.

Demientieff served one year as a Nenana city councilman and two years as village chief. He is also chairman of the board of directors for the Nenana Village Corporation.



Mitch Demientieff

... his first state race.

communications, especially in Alaska's rural villages.

The cutback in the State-Operated Schools' budget has hurt rural education, said the candidate. He was also disappointed that the state legislature failed to increase the boarding home appropriation for 1974-75, as requested by TCC.

Demientieff would also like to see the end to the "speculation" that develops among a village's residents when state troopers suddenly arrive without prior notice. "I think a contact person should be appointed by the State Police in each village so that someone local will know what is happening when troopers arrive," he said.

Demientieff intends to attend the justice conference slated June 10-12 at Minto.

The candidate is a graduate of Nenana High School and attend the University of Alaska. He currently serves on the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights and previously was chairman of the human resources committee of the Alaska Feder-