

T-H President Jackson Openly Backs Guess

WRANGELL — Tlingit and Haida President Clarence Jackson of Kake openly endorsed Democrat Gene Guess, candidate for the U.S. Senate and urged his people to get involved in politics.

Winding up a two-day convention, Jackson, speaking at the Saturday banquet said, "If it takes electing Gene Guess to the U.S. Senate, let's elect Gene Guess." The Guess endorsement drew an enthusiastic applause from the approximately 100 persons in attendance.

Campaign buttons for Guess and (Nick) Begich were evident although no political candidates were invited to speak.

"I believe that Central Council should be involved politically also. We are a non-profit organization, but we are also representing almost 20,000 Tlingits and Haidas. Those are important votes in our state.

"I believe that we should have a committee that will deal with the politics and legislation in this state. I, therefore, believe that that committee should be comprised of both Alaska Native Brotherhood and Tlingit-Haida.

"I know that we realize that there is much power in our vote. But let me point out that we are not voting together and that we must make some decisions in the area of political candidates and political issues. Let us become vocal on issues that concern not only Tlingit and Haida people but on issues that concern the State of Alaska. Let us have a voice in the progress in the State of Alaska and a hand by learning to control our Indian votes."