



NCAI Queen candidates in their traditional attire line up for view at the recent National Congress of American Indians convention.

## Alaska women win talent, congeniality prizes

The new Miss NCAI almost didn't enter the contest which she eventually won.

Mary Kim Titla, a full-blood Apache from San Carlos, California, said that she was planning on attending the NCAI convention in Anchorage but only decided to enter the Miss NCAI contest two weeks before arriving.

Two Alaskan women also were chosen for honors in the pageant.

Dora Brower from Barrow

was named Miss Congeniality and awarded \$400. Miss Brower also was named Miss Congeniality during the Miss World Eskimo Indian Olympics competition.

Google Glazier, who was named Miss WEIO, was named talent winner for her talent — beadwork. Miss Glazier became proficient at traditional Athabaskan beadwork when taught by her mother, grandmother and other women in her tribe. Her moosehide dress and headpiece all had many beautiful examples of Indian beadwork that she did herself. She was awarded a \$500 scholarship and a jade pin.

Second runner-up was Vivian Juan, from the Papago Tribe. First runner-up was Trudi Clements, Miss Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

A descendant of Chief Black Water, Miss Titla is a member of the clan Ten al zha ae which means power of the wind and rain. Her last name means lightning.

Miss Titla is attending the University of Oklahoma and working toward a Bachelor of Arts in journalism. She said she hopes to start a newspaper on her reservation which has none.

She said her goals as Miss NCAI are simple. "I want to be myself and learn what I can."

She said she hopes to encourage the cause of tribal young people and encourage them to fulfill their destiny.

She says she always has stressed the importance of education and feels that Native people should become involved in the media while continuing to be strong in traditional tribal arts.

"It helps the tribe to keep culturally strong. The language is dying out. We celebrate and do our ceremonies every year. We are strong in that area."

As Miss NCAI she received a \$2,000 scholarship plus a jade and ivory plaque along with a two-day trip to Washington D.C. or New York City and several other gifts from other contest candidates for Miss NCAI and other tribes.