

Sheffield Seeks Re-Election

"finds other Candidates wanting..."

Governor Bill Sheffield has announced that he will seek a second term as Alaska's fifth governor. Sheffield announced his intention to run while addressing several hundred students at Clark Junior High School in Anchorage on April 9. The Democratic governor's announcement ended months of speculation over whether or not he would seek re-election after the Alaska state Senate considered impeachment hearings against him last year. The Senate found no evidence that Sheffield had committed an impeachable offense for his role in the awarding of a Fairbanks State office lease.

Sheffield spoke to the Clark Junior High student body about goals and accomplishments of his first administration.

"In the past three years, Alaska has made amazing progress," he said. "Even though we have more people and less money, we're doing more with less. Government is running

right. And even though oil and gas still dominate the economy, we've expanded our opportunities in all our industries with 30,000 new jobs."

"Those were two of my goals when I ran for governor — good money management and economic expansion. After three years in this office, we're reaching those goals — and surpassing them," he said.

Sheffield said Alaska's economic base will remain strong into the 1990s because of progress made the last three years in international trade markets, increased development of mineral timber and fish resources and aggressive policies promoting tourism.

But, he added, Alaska's focus on economic diversification need not and must not translate into reduced human services. His concern for the future of those services and the people who rely on them, especially in the face of declining oil revenues, was a key factor in his decision to run for re-election.

"A wealthy society reaches out to

those people because we can afford to. A just society reaches out because we can't afford not to... Now, more than ever, we must make sure our financial problems don't blind us to the needs of our people," he said. Citing his administration's support for working mothers, child protection and domestic violence, public safety and aid to older Alaskans, Sheffield said he looked at other candidates and found them wanting.

"When the going gets tough, and the money gets short, will these people stand up for working mothers? For economic equity? for clean air and clean water? Do those candidates have the foresight to save money for the future and more important, do they have a record of that? Will they put people before politics? Have they talked to the people and seen what the needs are?" Sheffield asked.

"I can't count on anyone else to stick to the human goals and human priorities I've brought to the Gover-



Candidate for Governor Bill Sheffield

nor's office. That's why I plan to spend another four years as governor of Alaska."

Jim Benedetto is in Washington D.C.