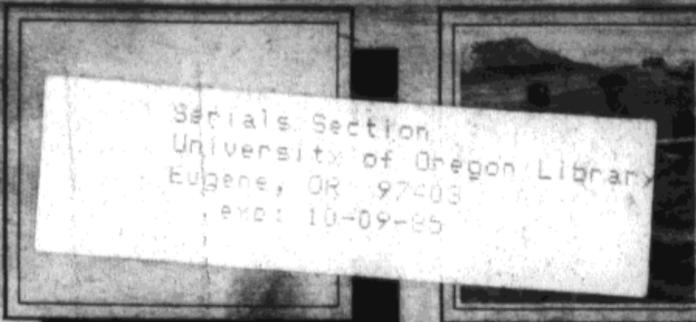




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Election '86: Vote Nov. 4

Alaskans will be choosing a new governor Nov. 4, as well as deciding a host of other races in the General Election.

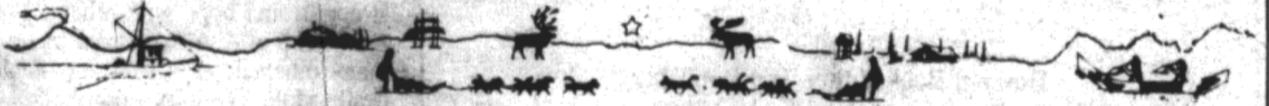
Running in the gubernatorial race are Democrat Steve Cowper, Republican Arliss Sturgulewski, Libertarian Mary O'Brannon and
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Pollsters are predicting a photo finish for gubernatorial candidates Republican Arliss Sturgulewski and Democrat Steve Cowper. The Bush vote may be a decisive factor in the Nov. 4 election. Photo by Norris Klesman

'Every village counts' Candidates court Bush voters

by Sara Townsend
for the Tundra Times

The election ballots of the 75 registered voters on Little Diomedé could decide who spends the next four years in the governor's mansion.

With local pollsters predicting a photo finish between Republican Arliss Sturgulewski and Democrat Steve Cowper when they face off Nov. 4, the gubernatorial hopefuls know that every village counts, even the smallest precinct — the Aleutian community of Nikolski with its 32 registered voters.

The Bush vote may comprise only 12 to 14 percent of the state's 290,808 registered voters, but races have been won and lost by much less. And Cowper's lead in the Bush is far from

Sheffield's near shutout in 1982. Even with polls showing Cowper the frontrunner among Natives, both camps are continuing to woo rural Alaskans. They remember four years ago when overwhelming Bush support

proved critical to Sheffield's victory over rival Tom Fink. Sheffield built an early lead, widened the gap and ended up winning 10 to 1 in Bush precincts. That was enough to offset Fink's two-thirds win

in the rest of the state. A September poll, conducted by Dittman Research Corp. and commissioned by the Native political action committee Ice Block, showed Cowper and Sturgulewski in a dead heat overall, but with Cowper leading the Bush vote 52 percent to Sturgulewski's 29 percent.

A similar telephone survey last week showed the contenders tied and the Bush now favoring Cowper 55 percent over Sturgulewski, who remained at 29 percent. Ice Block spokesman Willie Hensley predicts the race will be won by a "dribble" of votes.

In addition to leading in areas traditionally Democratic such as the Bush,

Voters to decide measures

by Pamela Cravez
for the Tundra Times

Older Alaskans after Jan. 1, 1988, may have to choose between receiving the Permanent Fund dividend check once a year and receiving a monthly check from the state.

Currently, Alaskans over 65 receive a monthly check from the state for

\$250. That check is from the Longevity Bonus Program, and after Jan. 1, 1988, the Legislature plans to stop the addition of people to the program.

The cost of the program has gone up drastically since the Supreme Court in 1984 outlawed residency requirements limiting the program to

(Continued on Page Thirteen)

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