

GOP's Riverboat Pilot Wins Alaskan Election

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Republican State Sen. Don Young, a former schoolteacher, construction worker and riverboat pilot, apparently has scratched out a narrow victory in his second bid in four months for Alaska's lone congressional seat.

Young, 39, opposed former Democratic State Chairman Emil Notti of Anchorage, the first Alaska native to become his party's nominee for national office.

With 81 per cent of the state's 433 precincts reported Wednesday, Young, who comes from Fort Yukon in Alaska's northern reaches, had polled 31,593 votes to Notti's 28,287 in the special election called to fill the seat left vacant by the death of Democrat Nick Begich.

About 2,500 absentee ballots remain to be counted later this week. In addition the ballots outstanding in outlying precincts are believed to amount to no more than 1,200 votes.

Young, though declining to



Don Young

formally declare victory, said he planned to resign from his State Senate seat this week and hoped to arrive in Washington, D. C., Friday in time to testify on hearings about the controversial trans-Alaska pipeline.

Notti refused early Wednesday to concede and maintained that the absentee ballots and votes still outstanding would

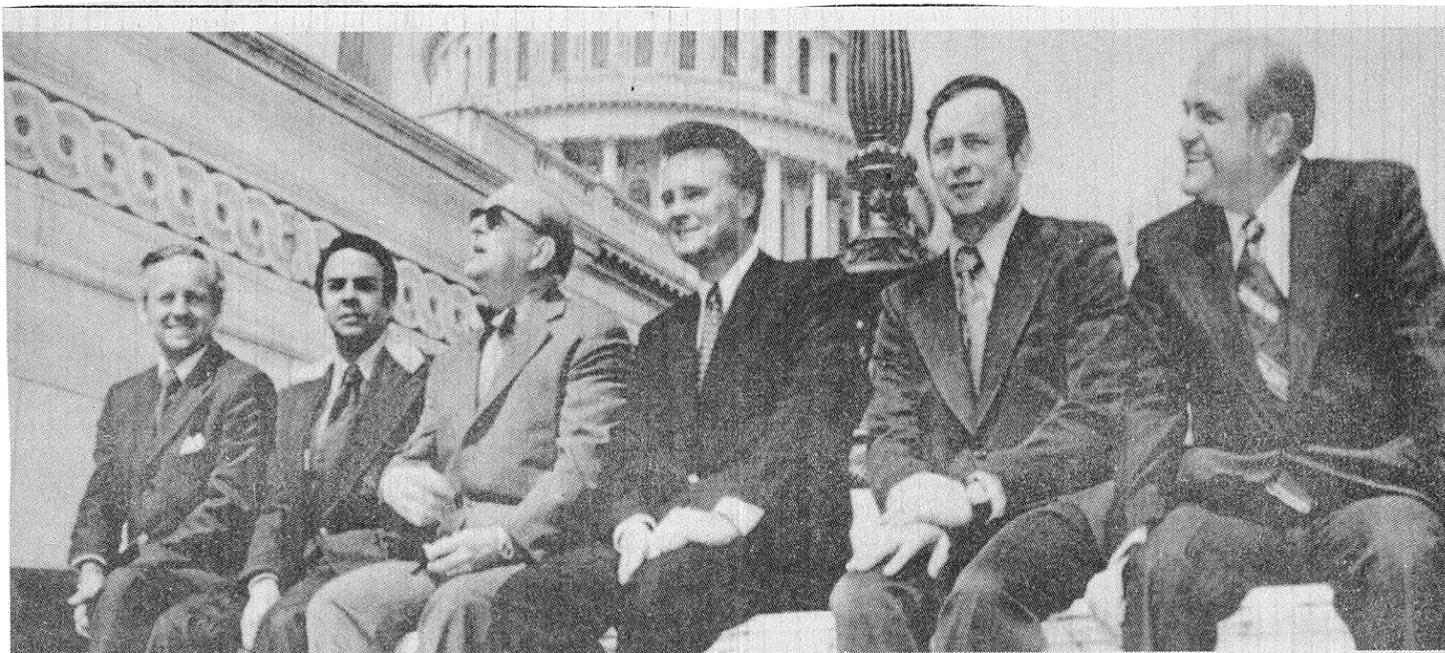
swing the margin in his favor.

Young first ran for the House last November, seemingly a party sacrifice to the late Begich, a highly popular congressman and prime mover of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Young, though, picked up 45 per cent of the vote to bolster his standing in the party and the state.

On Oct. 16, Begich, along with former House Majority Leader Hale Boggs of Louisiana and two other persons disappeared on a campaign flight from Anchorage to Juneau. The missing Begich remained the Democratic candidate.

Young amassed wide margins in Anchorage and Fairbanks, the state's two largest cities, and managed a nearly even split in traditionally Democratic southeastern Alaska.

Young began his political career by being elected to Fort Yukon's City Council. He went on to be elected mayor and was twice elected to the Statehouse. He was halfway through a State Senate term.



IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG AND BASK IN THE SUN

All six of these congressmen are named Young, Alaska's Don Young among them. The Young "family" got together to pose for this picture outside the nation's Capitol. From left are Rep. Samuel H. Young, R-Ill.; Rep. Andrew Young, D-Ga.; Rep.

John Young, D-Tex.; Rep. C. W. Bill Young, R-Fla.; Rep. Don Young, Alaska; and Rep. Edward L. Young, R-S.C. The Republican Youngs outnumber the Democrat Youngs six to two. Related stories Page 14. (AP Wirephoto)