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Candidates explain goals as student body president

By **KAYE PAHMEIER**
Reporter

Candidates for student body president agreed that policies regarding final exams for seniors and communication between Student Government and the student body are the primary issues in the upcoming Student Government elections.

The five hopefuls presented their views at a "meet the candidates night" sponsored by Off-Campus Aggies at its meeting Wednesday night.

The candidates for student

body president are David Alders, Diane Baumbach, Grant Swartzwelder, Jay Holland and Keith Carmichael.

Alders said that if students want to continue participating in graduation and receive their diplomas before the semester is over, the current finals system should be continued. The rest of the candidates agreed.

Alders also said the resources and facilities in the University library need to be expanded in order to increase Texas A&M's academic well-being.

Communication between

Student Government and the student body in order to attain student in-put in decision making was Baumbach's main issue.

"Without communication, Student Government cannot effectively represent the student body," she said.

Swartzwelder stated his objectives for office as increasing information on academic and financial needs, monitoring the use of student service fees and improving student-faculty advising.

Opening up what Holland called the closed system of Student Government for more individuals to participate and increasing publicity of those positions are his main issues in the campaign. Increasing campus safety is another prime concern of Holland, he said.

Carmichael referred to student body president as coordinator to 36,000 and advocated an open-policy between the student and the president.

He also said he would form a committee of student organization representatives to identify problems and take action on them.

A proposal to increase student service fee by \$10 the current \$10 in the next year was presented to OCA for its support.

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Officials criticized for new waste sites

United Press International

TULIA — Panhandle residents Wednesday scolded federal energy officials for ignoring farmers' needs when discussing proposed high-level nuclear waste sites.

"The department (of energy) has studiously refused to work with people," Don Hancock of an Albuquerque, N.M., consulting firm told Department of Energy officials.

Two 9-square-mile locations in Swisher and Deaf Smith Counties are among nine sites in six states being studied as possible repositories for storing radioactive waste from commercial nuclear power plants.

DOE officials meeting with residents in Tulia and at Hereford were criticized for giving the public short notice of the meetings.

"We are getting a little irate to have to come in the middle of the afternoon and to have to shut down our tractors," Tulia landowner Glenna Crooks said.

"We are being told different stories at every one of these meetings," Mrs. Crooks said. "We are not getting any truthful answers from people representing DOE."

She is a former chairwoman of Serious Texans Against Nuclear Dumping, or STAND, a Tulia-based group opposing the DOE's plans.

The depository is slated to begin operation in 1998. DOE spokesman Theodore Taylor apologized for the peo-

ple's inconvenience. At the Tulia meeting, Taylor and Tulia residents raised their voices toward one another.

Taylor said socio-economic factors had not yet been entered in official study of sites. Taylor announced Tuesday the West Texas sites had been narrowed from hundreds of miles to 9-square miles.

On questioning Taylor about the rights of water users, Homicid Summey said he was charged with the safety of putting wastes under the Ogallala Aquifer.

"You don't think we need to qualify condition regarding the rights of water users," he said, checking the nine proposed sites, Taylor said.

He said DOE planned to collect about 80 acres on which to place the wastes would be stashed in salt beds some 20 feet below the surface of earth, he said, and energy officials would arrange five-year leases for the rest of the square mile area.

Taylor said farmers would continue using the land. DOE would be responsible for protecting the total area, said some mineral leases on land would be terminated if either of the two Texas locations are selected.

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