

## First senate meeting is orientation session

By ED ALANIS  
Staff Writer

The newly elected 1984-85 Student Senate held its first meeting Wednesday night. But the meeting mainly served as an orientation session, no business was transacted.

Next year's Student Body President David Alders addressed the group and encouraged each senator to work to make a positive change in the environment of Texas A&M.

Alders also announced that he would be appointing a special student body president advisory council. The council will consist of 10 members, who are involved in various organizations throughout the campus, he said.

"These students will not necessarily share my opinions," Alders said, "but rather they will serve to hold me accountable for the goals I have set out to accomplish."

Alders also will appoint a special assistant to the student body president.

One of the first tasks of the new senators will be to choose a Student Government committee to serve on. Also, at the April 25 Student Senate meeting, the senators will elect the speaker of the senate and the speaker pro tem.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Tom Urban said the main goal of his committee next year will be to fight to preserve the senior final exam exemption policy. The committee also will work to increase library hours and

computer lab hours, Urban said.

The main goal of the Student Senate Finance Committee next year will be to work at increasing student input into the allocation of the University Center fees. Mike Kelley, the new vice president of that committee, said it will work in particular on the administration of the newly established University Center Reserve Fund.

The Student Services Committee will continue its work to establish outdoor study areas around the campus and to have large maps of the campus placed in some of the main buildings. Michael Mulcahy is the vice president of that committee.

## School prayer debate clouded by confusion

By JILL GOLDEN  
Reporter

Confusion was the key ingredient in the final debate of the semester sponsored by the Texas A&M Debate Team Wednesday night.

The confusion was the difficulty both sides had in defining organized school prayer. As a result, by the end of the debate most people in the overcrowded room agreed with each other.

The pro side headed by Timothy Riehl, a junior business analysis major from Los Angeles, defined organized prayer as the right of a group to voluntarily gather in school, specifically during a break or lunch, to pray together.

The con side headed by David Dick, a sophomore finance and accounting major from San Antonio, defined organized prayer as a specific prayer time set aside when all must participate.

Dick was hissed at for saying organized prayer was a prayer of the tongue, not the heart. Dick counter attacked saying meaningless repetition would not be heard by God and added that was what organized prayer would be.

Riehl said the right to prayer is constitutionally protected. He added that public schools are models of society and should include prayer to develop children morally and spiritually.

Riehl's final point in favor of organized school prayer was that a person's commitment to religion should not be denied in any area of life — including school.

Dick said organized prayer was not voluntary and could result in brainwashing.

When the debate was opened to the audience, a con audience member clarified the somewhat subdued debate by saying the cons agreed with the pros that individuals should be allowed to voluntarily gather at school to pray. Both sides cheered.

The voice vote at the end was close but the counted vote pushed the pros ahead by a large margin.

## Parmer criticizes Kubiak for refusing TV debate

By KATHLEEN WEST  
Reporter

Sixth congressional district candidate Hugh Parmer, Wednesday, said he will carry an empty chair with "Dan?" written on the back for the next three weeks prior to the Democratic party's May 5 primary. He said the chair will represent opponent Dan Kubiak's refusal to debate him.

"This empty chair has to represent my opponent Dan Kubiak because I can't get him to meet me in a televised debate of issues that are of importance to the people of the sixth congressional district," Parmer said.

He said he wanted a chance to compare his own record as a senator to Kubiak's record as a state representative. Parmer criticized Kubiak's consumer voting record calling it one of the worst in the history of the Texas House of Representatives.

"When you put my record against Kubiak's record," Parmer said, "you have a case where I have supported the public interest and Kubiak voted with the special interests."

Parmer said debates serve a public interest because they let people see the candidates and hear their stands on issues. He said Kubiak's refusal to debate is serving his own political interests, not the public interest.

"On a face to face basis it's hard to fool a TV camera. If you've got three or four hours and you have all your press people writing your response you can come up with some pretty clever ideas," Parmer said.

"When you're face to face, then I think the truth comes through," he said.

Kubiak, in an earlier press release, said Parmer is trailing far behind in the polls.

"I have no intention of participating in diversionary tactics in order to seek media attention," Kubiak said.

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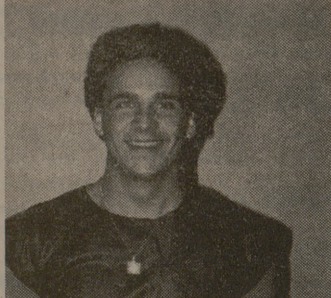
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# Who Will The Winners Be?



George Cosentin  
Dancer



Jonnie Garci-Codoy  
Vocalist/Planist



Susan Jennings  
Saxophonist



Jeff Paine & Scott Polk  
Comedians



Chiufang Huang  
Dancer



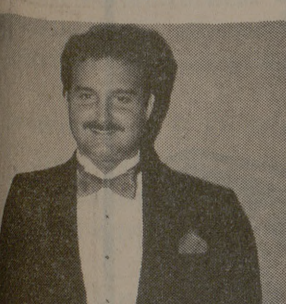
Ken Golden  
Vocalist



Major Domo  
Band



Pam Weems  
Dancer



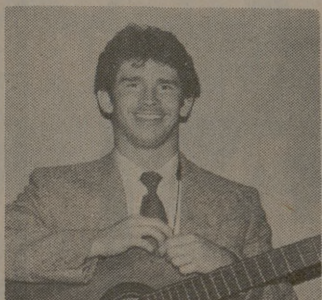
Jeff Wright  
Planist



Carrie McElroy  
and  
Sherrie Wilkenson  
Dancers



Cynthia Clegg  
Dancer



David White  
Vocalist/Guitarist

**MSC VARIETY SHOW**

**Friday, April 13 7:00 p.m.**

**Rudder Auditorium**

Tickets: MSC Box Office : 845-1234

Students: \$3.00 Non-students \$3.50