

# Astronaut: church/tech agree

By DEENA ELLIOTT  
Reporter

Religious convictions and beliefs are not necessarily in conflict with science, NASA astronaut Don Leslie Lind, said Friday during his presentation on science and religion.

Sponsored by the local Latter Day Saints Student Association, Lind, who has a doctorate in high energy nuclear physics, said his scientific education and his Mormon beliefs "are completely compatible."

He said the three arguments illustrating the incompatibility of science and religion often presented to him were: science is on a physical level and religion is on an intangible level; science can be proven through experimentation and religion cannot; and religion is based completely on faith, but science is fact.

Lind said the separation of the "material world" of science and the "intangible world" of religion has an overlap that these arguments don't recognize. For each argument, he showed how science and religion have reciprocal traits.

Lind said scientists believed in a magnetic field they have never seen, similar to the fact that people believe in a God they have never seen.

The second argument stated the use of experiments to prove fact was unavailable to religion. Lind said "if Christianity produces good people, that would prove something must be fundamentally true" in the verse from the Bible "by their fruits ye shall know them." He said experimentation with other beliefs could be proven by people willing to try them.

The third argument stated religions had to accept things on faith while science did not. Lind said scientists in the laboratory groping for physical principles believe in those unproven possibilities until they are proven,



Astronaut Don Lind answers questions after his talk Saturday night in Rudder Tower.

Photo by DAVID LEYENDECKER

much like faith in the church. Lind said neither science nor religion has discovered all truths. "Neither field knows enough to have a good argument," he said. Scientific accomplishments

were discovered with the direction of the Lord, Lind said, and people should not try to ignore science. One without the other would leave him a lesser person because "both in their separate ways are essential," he said.

Lind said he has seen enough people have to reconsider their religious beliefs when they start pursuing a higher education that he felt awareness of the compatibility of science and religion was important.

# 1984 Gospelfest not just a concert

By KIM TREESE  
Reporter

Mistress of Ceremonies Cheryl Richardson predicted that Gospelfest '84 would be more than a concert; it would be an experience. It was.

Sponsored by the Texas A&M Voices of Praise Choir, a subcommittee of MSC Black Awareness, Gospelfest attracted a large crowd to Rudder Theatre Saturday night.

The musical extravaganza highlighted university and college gospel choirs from all over the state of Texas. Seven choirs were featured in the program, but it was the people in the audience who stole the show.

They clapped their hands and stomped their feet and sang along with the choirs. In short, they enjoyed themselves.

The musicians had a good time too. All of the choirs were warmly welcomed, and all of them lived up to that welcome. They encouraged the audience to participate in the program, making it an intense emotional experience.

Some of the best choirs were the Texas A&M Voices of Praise Choir, the Baptist Student Movement Choir of Prairie View A&M University and the Interdenominational Youth Choir of Nacogdoches. The choirs kept the audience on its feet.

The Sweet Spirit Gospel Choir from the University of Houston Downtown was the smallest group to perform but got the audience so involved with the music that after they left the stage the audience continued to sing.

# Contadorans revise U.S. allies' peace plan

United Press International

PANAMA CITY, Panama — Deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group met for two days to draw up a response to proposed revisions to the peace plan made by U.S. allies in Central America, sources said Sunday.

The officials from Venezuela, Mexico, Panama and Colombia met in Panama City Friday and Saturday in a hurriedly scheduled meeting.

At the meeting, the ministers discussed revisions made to the original Contadora peace plan by U.S. allies in Central America, sources close to the meeting said.

In October, the foreign ministers from El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica and the deputy foreign minister of Guatemala met in Tegucigalpa and proposed revisions that

would offer stronger guarantees the draft treaty's call for the removal of foreign military advisers, military bases and weapon buildups in Central America.

Washington had declared earlier that it did not support the proposed draft treaty, drawn up Sept. 7.

U.S. officials said the document written did not contain the necessary guarantees that all foreign countries would withdraw their military and advisers from the area.

Without naming Nicaragua, Washington feared that Cuba would not take home all its advisers or end the sending of arms.

Nicaragua surprised Washington days before by announcing it would sign the treaty.

# Ticket splitters may decide heated Senate race

United Press International

With polls showing President Reagan leading Walter Mondale by up to 30 points, ticket splitters may decide the crucial race for retiring Republican Sen. John Tower's seat in Tuesday's election.

Political experts have labeled the race between Boll Weevil Democrat-turned-Republican Phil Gramm and Democrat Lloyd Doggett one of the meanest in Texas politics. It is also one of the most expensive, costing the two more than \$13 million.

That is because Tuesday's outcome will do more than determine a successor to Tower. It will help decide whether the Republicans hold their 10-seat majority in the Senate

and whether the Texas GOP can retain more than one statewide office.

An ABC-Washington Post poll released Saturday night indicated Republican Phil Gramm had a 53-40 lead over Lloyd Doggett in the race for retiring Sen. John Tower's seat. The poll had a 4 percent margin of error in either direction.

Other polls showed Gramm ahead of the 11-year veteran of the Texas Senate by 8 to 24 points.

Former Texas Republican Gov. Bill Clements, who attributed his gubernatorial victory in 1978 to ticket splitting, last week estimated ticket splitters make up 33 to 40 percent of Texas voters.

Clements said Reagan needs to

win 55-56 percent of the vote in order to ensure Gramm's coattail victory.

Pollster Lance Tarrance of Houston, who is working for Reagan-Gramm, said his sampling of 1,000 Texans indicates ticket splitters Tuesday will vote for Reagan and Gramm, then switch back to the Democrats in other races.

Tarrance said 36 percent of those questioned intend to vote a straight Republican ticket, 23 percent planned to vote a straight Democratic ticket and 35 percent said they would split their votes Tuesday.

Of those, 76 percent said they will vote for Reagan and 58 percent said they would also vote for Gramm.

The ABC-Washington Post poll showed Reagan ahead of Mondale by 18 percentage points, 57-39, based on interviews with 386 Texas voters. The Texas figures were identical to the national average in that poll based on interviews with 8,969 of the 12,000 voters surveyed a month ago.

George Christian, an Austin, Texas, political analyst and former press secretary to President Lyndon Johnson, said the Doggett-Gramm race resembled "an alley cat fight."

Christian said Doggett's chances depended on his ability to disassociate himself from Mondale.

"Doggett has to, because the Mondale race down here is virtually

over," Christian said.

Despite the polls, Christian predicted the Senate race would be close.

Meanwhile, Doggett and his supporters claimed the polls underestimate turnout in predominantly Democratic minority and low income areas.

And they cited a front page article in the Oct. 26 Wall Street Journal that reported President Nixon recently predicted "two possible upsets by Senate candidates: Democrat Doggett in Texas and Republican Ray Shamie in Massachusetts."

In the final days of the campaign, Gramm repeatedly reminded voters that he authored Reagan's 1981

budget cuts in Congress and appealed to them to help in his goal of "seeing the president's program through to a successful conclusion."

Doggett spent the final days of the campaign labeling his opponent an extremist who was rated the most conservative congressman in 1981 by the National Journal.

Both Democrats and Republicans were counting on new voters as their best chance of delivering the seat for their candidate.

In other races, polls for both parties showed Dan Kubiak leading in his efforts to beat Republican Jim Barton and return Gramm's 6th district seat to the Democratic column.

## A&M Student Leaders Speak Out

We, the following student leaders at Texas A&M University, would like to thank State Representative Neeley Lewis for his service to Texas A&M and Brazos County. Neeley Lewis stood up for Texas A&M during the special session this summer when he fought an ill-conceived tuition increase and we know he will continue to work for us. All students can thank Neeley Lewis for keeping Aggies' interests at heart. We know that he is a tight-fisted conservative who has earned our vote. We urge all Texas A&M students to join us in voting for Neeley Lewis for State Representative.

- Pat Wood
- Mike Cook
- David Klosterboer
- Mike Kelley
- Wayne Roberts
- Steve Lord
- Denis Davis
- Melissa Romine
- Eric Thode
- Johnny Hatch
- Kimberly James
- Jay T. Hutchens

- Mary Lou Mauro
- Jerry Rosiek
- Mark Monroe
- Laurie Johnson
- Steve Griner
- Tom Urban
- David McAlpin
- Martha Bellens
- Jim Schicker
- Weydan Flax
- Cindy Green

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Paid for by the Neeley Lewis Campaign, Stuart F. Lewis, Treasurer  
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