

Krambeer hopes to span district's diversity

As the House's newest representative, Rich Krambeer said he has his work cut out for him.

"There's an incredible cross section in our district," said the 44-year-old Brooklyn Park attorney. "I need to balance the needs and interests of very diverse backgrounds."

Krambeer, an Independent-Republican, won the special election for District 47A which was vacated when DFL Rep. Linda Scheid resigned.

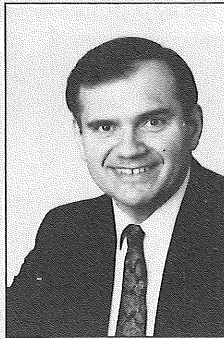
Krambeer received 53.1 percent of the votes in his race to DFLer Darlene Luther's 46.9 percent. The final vote was 2,043 to 1,805.

Krambeer is the third Independent-Republican to win a special election for the House of Representatives since the 1990 general election. Two of those seats had been held by DFLers.

District 47A in northern Hennepin County ranges from people in government-subsidized housing to people living in fairly affluent neighborhoods. A high proportion of the district's housing units are rentals.

Krambeer said that he hopes to assist in finding a reasonable way to deal with the current \$340 million deficit, "emphasizing cutting spending as opposed to raising taxes."

But top priority, he said, should be



Rich Krambeer

District 47A

Age: 44

Home: Brooklyn Park

Occupation: Attorney

District traits: District 47A has 10 precincts in southwest Brooklyn Park, and one each in Brooklyn Center and New Hope. The district voted for Paul Wellstone over Rudy Boschwitz by a 52.8-to-47.2 percent margin in the 1990 U.S. Senate election.

given to keeping public education strong in Minnesota. "Right now we have to take a look at what we've got in programs and be selective," said Krambeer. "I would want to see minimal, if any, cuts in education spending right now. But that doesn't mean we can't evaluate programs."

Krambeer said that the residents in his district are concerned about crime as well as the effect of a heavy concentration of multiple housing on property values of single family residences.

He favors limited terms for legislators and state-wide office holders. He also said he believes that legislative changes in the state health care system should "encourage health care providers to be as cost-effective as possible in providing their services."

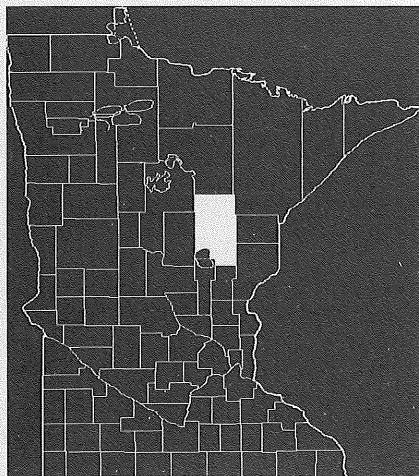
Krambeer said that part of his sensitivity to the needs of single parent families is drawn from personal experience.

Krambeer came from a single parent family, and lived on St. Paul's Aurora Avenue until the eighth grade. He graduated from the College of St. Thomas and the University of Minnesota Law School, and served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

He was city attorney for Harmony while working for a private law firm, and was executive director of Legal Assistance of Dakota County. He has worked as an attorney with the Henningson & Snoxell law firm in Brooklyn Center for seven years.

Krambeer and his wife Marilyn have six children ranging in age from 2-1/2 to 17.

Do you know?



Aitkin County, established May 23, 1857, was named in honor of a Scottish fur trader, William Alexander Aitkin.

In 1802, at the age of just 17, Aitkin came to the Northwest with his employer, a trader named John Drew.

He later married into an influential Ojibwe family, and was soon a prominent trader in his own right. His success continued, and he rose to become head of the Fond du Lac department of the American Fur Company.

The company headquarters were at Sandy Lake in present-day Aitkin County. But he later established a trading post opposite the mouth of the Swan River on the east bank of the Mississippi in Morrison County.

It was there where Aitkin was buried when he died in September of 1851.

For the first 15 years of its existence, the county was misspelled as Aiken. It was eventually corrected by the Legislature in 1872.