Election was 'realization of dream' for Krinkie

Rep. Philip Krinkie (IR-Shoreview) got his first taste of politics back in 1975 when he worked as an intern for the House.

Since then, he has mounted two unsuccessful campaigns to become a member of the House. So when he defeated Marc Asch in the November election for the open District 53A seat, Krinkie says it was "a realization of a dream."

"It's still hard to believe," he adds. "It's going to take me awhile to settle in . . . I am very glad to be here and I hope that I can do a good job representing the people of my district and focus on the truly important issues of state government."

One issue of importance to Krinkie that he feels directly affects his district is property taxes. He says the suburbs pay a disproportionate share of property taxes and feels the three-tiered property tax system in Minnesota should be more equitable.

Krinkie says one solution would be to eliminate the highest property tax tier the one targeted for homes over \$110,000 in value — and tax homes on just two levels.



Philip B. Krinkie

District 53A

Age: 41

Home: Shoreview

Occupation: Business owner

District traits: 53A includes the northern part of Ramsey County and several north suburban communities. Residents are mainly middle to upper-middle class. The district voted for the Bush-Quayle ticket over Dukakis-Bentsen by a 55.1-to-44.9 percent margin.

Krinkie says he also intends to be active in business climate issues — a topic that Krinkie knows firsthand and one that is high on the agenda for many of his constituents in northern Ramsey

Krinkie is the president of the Snelling Co., a heating and air conditioning business his father established in the 1930s.

"Workers' compensation is a major concern," he says. "Hopefully, we will be able to hold the consensus of opinion between the House and Senate and get legislation to the governor's desk before too long. It is an important economic tool that will help foster job growth."

Concerning other issues, Krinkie says he hopes some good will come of the current budget crisis by focusing attention on health care, education, and energy conservation. The crisis, he adds, could lead to innovative breakthroughs to help address these problems.

Krinkie describes his legislative approach as "... a catalyst and an innovator but I don't necessarily feel I have to be the lone soldier."

"I don't think individual egos should get in the way of good legislation. I hope I don't fall into the trap of trying to justify my existence by passing legislation."



Making muskies isn't cheap, no matter if a state fish hatchery does the work or if the job is given to a private hatchery. It could cost as much as \$10.95 in a state hatchery, or \$9.54 in a private hatchery, to raise one tiger muskellunge, says a fish hatchery cost comparison study released in October by the Department of Natural Resources. The study found that, in some cases, the DNR can grow fish for release in Minnesota lakes cheaper than private hatcheries could, but in some cases it can't. Cases in point: the DNR can raise a chinook salmon for about a nickel, but it would cost a private hatchery 48 cents; a brown trout fingerling can be grown by a private hatchery for as little as 4 cents, but the cheapest the DNR could do it would be for 28 cents.



A total of 39 people perished in

Minnesota fires during 1990, down from 90 deaths the previous year, says Tom Brace, the state fire marshal. He told members of the Governmental Operations Committee Feb. 20 that 25 of these deaths came in single family dwellings. In his testimony, Brace also noted a fire occurs every 2.7 hours in Greater Minnesota, and every 2.4 hours in the metropolitan area.

Feb. 20, 1855

On this day, Stearns County was established and mistakenly named after Charles Thomas Stearns. The county was supposed to be named after Isaac Ingalls Stevens, but a clerical error caused it to be named after Stearns. The Legislature decided Stearns was worthy of the honor and another county was later named after Stevens.