

# DAILY SKIFF

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## PROPOSITION 2

### Panel to discuss same-sex marriage

#### Brite Divinity to host debate on Proposition 2

By JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF  
Staff Reporter

Early voting for the Texas State elections has begun, and Brite Divinity School is hosting a discussion panel today to debate and inform students, faculty, staff and members of the public about the proposed amendment, Proposition 2.

The state law prohibits the issuance of a marriage license for the marriage of persons of the same sex, according to Texas Online.

In 2003, the Texas Legis-

#### EXTRA INFO

- What: Professors from TCU and Brite Divinity School will address the upcoming Marriage Amendment to the Texas State Constitution during a panel discussion.
- When: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. today
- Where: The Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge

lature passed the Defense of Marriage Act that states: "Same-sex marriage or civil union is contrary to the public policy of this state and is void in this state."

"So what this amendment does is take something that is already covered by statute law and embed it into the Bill of Rights of our state constitution," said Bayliss Camp, an

assistant professor of sociology.

Camp and Stephen Sprinkle, an associate professor of practical theology at Brite, created a panel that will discuss Proposition 2.

"Supporters of the new amendment are being redundant," said Sprinkle, director of field education and supervised ministry. "The amendment is born out of fear of someone different."

Brite has not taken a position on the marriage amendment, but the school supports the panel discussion, Sprinkle said.

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### Gay marriage amendment nears vote, stirs disputes

#### New law to ban same-sex unions

By JANELLE STECKLEIN  
Staff Reporter

The fate of a controversial new amendment that could legally define marriage in Texas will be decided Nov. 8 in state elections.

"Not only is it defining marriage, but it's also foreclosing the possibility that there could ever be any legal recognition of gay and lesbian relationships," said Bayliss Camp, assistant professor of sociology.

The bill, proposed by Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, which swept through the Texas House 101-29 and the Sen-

#### SERIES: PART 1 OF 2

Watch for the rest of the story in tomorrow's Skiff.

ate 21-8, is now in the hands of the Texas voters. If passed, Texas would be among more than a dozen states to adopt a similar proposition into its constitution.

Camp said the widest margin of victory for a similar amendment was in Missouri, and the narrowest was in Oregon.

In Texas, however, the vote has generated a heated debate between outspoken supporters – including religious organizations and most recently the Ku Klux Klan – and critics, who also

#### EXTRA INFO

##### Proposition 2 wording:

"The constitutional amendment providing that marriage in this state consists only of the union of one man and one woman and prohibiting this state or a political subdivision of this state from creating or recognizing any legal status identical or similar to marriage."

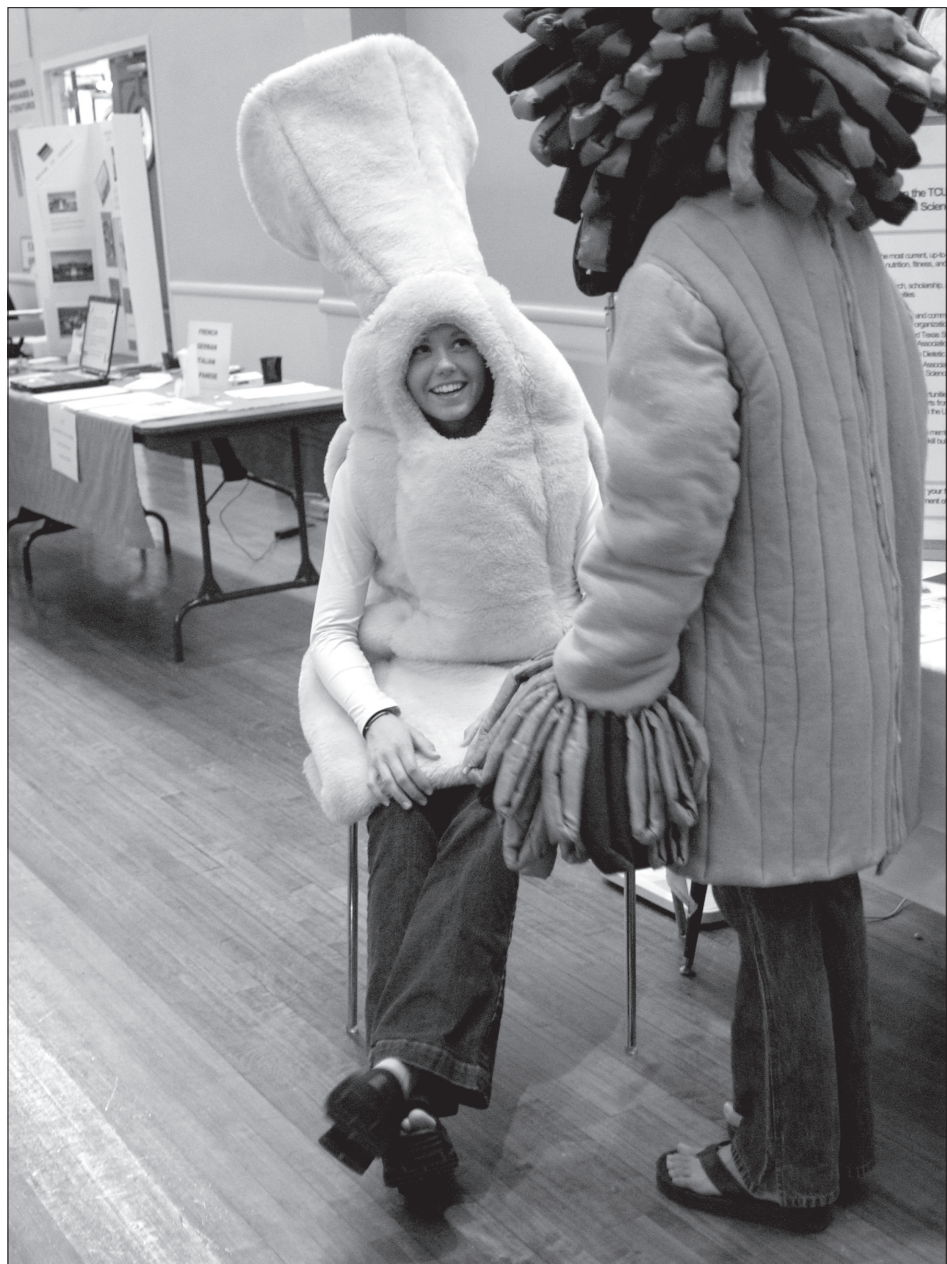
include religious organizations and groups focusing on gay rights.

Some critics wonder why Texas needs to adopt a definition of marriage into its constitution.

In 2003, legislators passed the Defense of Marriage Act, which already bans gay marriage in Texas.

more on VOTE, page 4

## VEGGING OUT



Emily Goodson / Photo Editor

Junior coordinated dietetics majors Rachael Heim and Jennifer Stervinou talk Wednesday at the major/minor fair in the Brown-Lupton Student Center Ballroom. Heim and Stervinou dressed as a banana and a broccoli spear, respectively, to promote the nutrition department.

## SGA candidates face off in debate

### Students get chance to hear, learn platforms

By AMY WILLEY  
Staff Reporter

If you are uncertain whom to vote for Student Government Association president, today is your chance to find out information about the five candidates in a presidential debate hosted by SGA President David Watson.

The debate will be at noon today in the Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge.

Watson said the debate would be similar to the 2004 U.S. presidential debate between George W. Bush and John Kerry.

All the candidates will be behind a designated podium and Watson will serve as moderator. He will ask the questions, put a time limit on the candidates' responses, designate which candidate will speak first and ask candidates for rebuttals when appropriate.

Watson said some of the questions he will ask come from his experience as president and specific questions on the candidates' goals and leadership style.

#### EXTRA INFO

- What: The Student Government Association presidential debate
- When: Noon today
- Where: Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge

Presidential candidate Glendon Richards, a senior radio-TV-film major, said some of the questions Watson will ask are from e-mails from representatives of the House of Representatives and the student body.

The major issues, Watson said, will depend on what the candidates

more on SGA, page 2

## Students serve NAACP statewide

### Officers plan to unite other chapters, goals

By CAITLYN TOMASIK  
Staff Reporter

Four members of the TCU chapter of the NAACP have been elected officers on the state executive board for the youth division of organization.

Erica Parker, Allison Robinson, Brittany Conley and Dominique Akins will not only be serving TCU students as representatives for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on campus, but they will also be leading students across the state for the next two years, officers said.

The four TCU students are part

of a seven-member state board.

Parker, TCU chapter president, and Robinson, vice president, will continue to hold their respective titles on the state executive board. Conley will serve as second vice president, and Akins will serve as assistant treasurer.

Elections were held at the annual state conference in early October.

"I planned on running," Parker said. "When we were there, there were a couple spots open."

Parker said she nominated Robinson, Conley and Akins on the floor of the conference. They were each elected by delegates in attendance.

Traditionally, members interested in running for office must be nominated for their position and submit

a letter of intent to run prior to the convention, said Parker, a senior secondary education major.

Parker said she intended to run for president, and a lack of nominees for other offices inspired her to nominate three fellow TCU chapter members for the available positions.

Conley, a junior radio-TV-film major, said she had been interested in holding an office in the future but hadn't been prepared to run at the time of the convention.

"I had to give a speech on the spot," Conley said.

Akins, a freshman business and psychology major, said she and her fellow executive members will be utilizing their new positions

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## SGA justice resigns; replacement sworn in Tuesday

### Student chosen for experience, president says

By AMY WILLEY  
Staff Reporter

The new justice on the Judicial Board of the Student Government Association said Wednesday that he will bring sound judgment in interpreting the Constitution, the Student Body

Code and other documents.

The vacant spot on the Judicial Board was filled Tuesday night when Taylor Allen, a sophomore entrepreneurial management major, was sworn in by Chief Justice Jared Heathman.

"It's always been something I've been interested in participating in," Allen said. "I felt I could be useful for SGA in the Judicial Board."

All the justices are picked

by the SGA president, Heathman said.

SGA President David Watson said he picked Allen because he would be "around for a while" and because of his experience: He has been in the House of Representatives, he has sat on the Activities Funding Board and he has dealt with disciplinary issues in his fraternity.

"He sets up the Judicial Board for longevity," Watson said.

"Overall, the Judicial Board is full with diverse personalities, and I'm sure Taylor will add a unique perspective to the group."

Jared Heathman  
Chief justice

The vacant spot on the Judicial Board was a result of Justice Neal Jackson resigning.

"I resigned my position of justice in order to pursue president," Jackson said. "But once I realized it wasn't the best decision, I dropped out of the race."

Allen said his first reaction to Jackson's resignation was that he saw an opportunity to fill the spot.

Heathman said he looks for-

ward to working with Allen.

"Overall, the Judicial Board is full with diverse personalities, and I'm sure Taylor will add a unique perspective to the group," Heathman said. "I look forward to working with him."

#### ONLINE EXTRAS

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