



NORTHEAST

Beto rallies voters

Congressman makes campaign stop at TCC

JW MCNAY
managing editor

U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke visited NE Campus Oct. 6 as part of a tour of local colleges to discuss his candidacy for the U.S. Senate.

O'Rourke spoke to about 300 students and community members in Center Corner about issues ranging from immigration and

global warming to criminal justice reform and health care.

Prior to his speech, he spoke to *The Collegian* about student loan debt and the reasons why he is touring colleges such as TCC.

"We have so much outstanding student loan debt in this country, right now \$1.5 trillion," the Democratic congressman from El Paso said. "It's making it that much harder for
See Beto, page 9



Daniel LeNoir/*The Collegian*

U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke speaks to students and community members in Center Corner Oct. 6 on NE Campus as part of his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

DISTRICT

'Free to be me at TCC'



Photos by Kathryn Kelman/*The Collegian*

NE financial aid associate Andee Rodriguez waves a pride flag as he marches with other TCC students, faculty and staff carrying banners and posters during the Tarrant County Pride Parade Oct. 6 in downtown Fort Worth.

Students, faculty, staff from across district march in county's Pride Parade

KATHRYN KELMAN
editor-in-chief

"Free to be me at TCC," was the chant that rang out through the streets of downtown Fort Worth as a number of students, faculty and staff from across the district marched during this year's Tarrant County Pride Parade.

TR student Alli Williams attended the parade with her girlfriend, NE student Bailey Arnold, and Williams' mother.

"It was great to see TCC involved in the parade and how the college has recognized the community on campuses too," Alli Williams said.

It was Williams' third time at Tarrant County's parade, and both she and Arnold marched in Dallas' pride parade back in September.

But for a number of other students, like NE student Owen Landregan and South student Miracle Stokes, it was their first ever pride parade.

Stokes is the president of South's Spectrum club, an advocacy group for sexual orientation and gender identity. She said she enjoyed her first pride parade and had a lot of fun with everybody from TCC.

"I love the fact that all these people are here just to have fun and communicate with each other and come together as one and tell people that we're here and we're queer," Stokes said.

As for spreading the word about TCC's acceptance, Stokes said she was proud she



Tarrant County resident Kristi, who chose not to give her name, protests after the Tarrant County Pride Parade as attendees head to the Pride Festival Oct. 6.

got to do just that.

"I love that my community allows us to just do what we do, and you really do feel free to be yourself at TCC," she said.

Stokes marched through the parade carrying a sign that read "Respect the gay or go away."

The message was felt among the crowd particularly toward the end of the parade when a handful of protesters were scattered throughout the crowd shouting Bible Scriptures through their megaphones and condemning those celebrating the LGBTQ community to hell.

Terry and Anne, who chose not to give their last names or participate in an interview, held a sign and told marchers and the pro-LGBTQ crowd that they cheered "for wickedness" and "for perversion."

Terry sported a black shirt that read, "Repeat and believe the gospel. Mark 1:15."

Also protesting the parade was a woman named Kristi, who also chose not to give her last name.

"I am here because the Bible says 'Go ye and preach the gospel to every living creature,'" she said. "Homosexuals will not go to the kingdom of heaven."

She said she was there to encourage the parents of the children in attendance to do right by them.

While protesting, Kristi said someone urinated on her foot, which she shrugged off and said: "The Bible says: 'All men will hate you on account of me.'"

Stokes said she didn't care about the protesters.

See Pride, page 12

NORTHEAST

Campus celebrates golden birthday

KATHRYN KELMAN
editor-in-chief

NE Campus is celebrating its golden anniversary this fall as the second of five campuses, and only one person remains who remembers the day the campus first opened its doors 50 years ago.

Having worked at the campus since Day One, what NE government associate professor Larry Davis remembers most is how things didn't go according to plan that first year.

"All the day classes were held in '68 fall and spring '69 down on South Campus," Davis said.

TCC's first campus, South, opened in 1967, and NE was scheduled to open for the fall semester in 1968, but when classes began the campus was still under construction. Day classes were held on South, and night classes were held on NE after the construction workers left for the day.

"All I can say is that there were rooms where the carpet had not been laid, and there were big rolls of carpet in some of the rooms where I was and so it was just unfinished," Davis said. "The inconvenience of it, I don't even really remember."

The campus opened the following academic year.

Davis will finish his 50th year as a faculty member this year, all of which he's spent teaching on NE, which he said is because TCC's Hurst campus is viewed as the "elite" campus.

See Anniversary, page 8



Kathryn Kelman/*The Collegian*

NE Campus government associate professor Larry Davis has taught on the campus since it opened in 1968.