

GSB approves Thompson as supreme court justice

by **CURT STAMP**

Asst. News Editor

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4/22/88

For the second time this year controversy arose over the seating of an associate justice to the Government of the Student Body Supreme Court.

However, at Wednesday night's meeting the debate was brief and the nominee in question was readily seated on the court.

The debate focused on the nomination of Gay/Lesbian Student Outreach President Heather Thompson.

Those opposing Thompson's nomination argued that her involvement and outspokenness during the current debate over an initiative that would limit funding of special interest groups, including GLSO, would be a con-

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flict of interest if the initiative were brought before a court on which she was sitting.

Sen. Brad Felger, RCA, said, "This is a severe conflict of interest. It seems to me that the court is being stacked for the purpose of hearing the initiative case."

Sen. Amy Underberg, RCA, argued that Thompson's past involvement could be an asset to the court. "I think it would be better to have Heather on the court because she is informed about the issue."

Felger compared the seating measure to a previous bill that attempted to seat ISU Socialist Collective Treasurer Bill Benjamin. That case resulted in the defeat of the seating of Benjamin as a result of his ideology.

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Chief justice pleased with vote

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The two sure-shot offensive linemen are Gruber and Cadigan, followed by a group that includes Eric Moore of Indiana, John Elliott of Michigan, Randall McDaniel of Arizona State and Gerald Perry of Southern.

Sen. Mary Richards, OCC, said, "This cannot be compared to Bill's nomination; he was opposed because he was a Socialist. Why don't you (Felger) come out and

say you are homophobic and that's why you have problems with this nomination?"

Felger responded that he was not homophobic.

Thompson said she was "shocked" and felt the process was "mildly painless."

"I am quite honored and I appreciate the support I have gotten from the GSB Senate, especially those who spoke on my behalf," she said.

Chief Justice of the GSB Supreme Court Ratsmay Saythongphet was also pleased with the actions of the senate.

"There is no need to worry about Heather sitting on a case concerning the initiative because she has already said she will not sit on that case — it is a clear conflict of interest," Saythongphet said.

"She also won't be GLSO president next year."