

# NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

## Sharon Bottoms Can't Have Custody Yet

RICHMOND, VA — The Virginia Supreme Court has ruled that Sharon Bottoms, the lesbian mom whose mother has been fighting to get legal custody of her daughter's son, cannot have custody of the boy while the case is on appeal. A lower court awarded Kay Bottoms custody of Tyler, age three, and declared Sharon an "unfit mother" because of her sexual orientation. Earlier this year a state appeals court overturned that decision and awarded custody to Sharon, but Kay Bottoms appealed that ruling to the state supreme court which is now considering the case.

## HRCF Organized "Gaytor" Fund-Raisers

GAINESVILLE, FL — Backed by the Washington, D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign Fund's Federal Advocacy Network, activists in North Florida's Alachua County are organizing "Gaytor" football parties to help raise funds to fight a proposed anti-gay ballot measure that will come before voters this November. The "Gaytor" parties will be aimed at alumni of the top-ranked University of Florida during three of the school's games in October when the university football team plays Louisiana State University (Oct. 8), Auburn University (Oct. 15), and the University of Georgia (Oct. 29). For information about the "Gaytor" parties contact Phil Attey of the HRCF at (202) 628-4160.

## CDC to Open Women's Health Issue

ATLANTA, GA — The federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention is in the process of setting up an Office of Women's Health that will work to make certain government-backed health projects and research address women's health concerns. When the new office opens, it will focus on a number of health research issues, including birth control, breast cancer and HIV infection.

## Gay Pride Statue Returns to Stanford

STANFORD, CA — The gay pride statue that was damaged earlier this year has been reinstalled at its original location on the campus at Stanford University. The white bronze sculpture by artist George Segal depicts gay male and lesbian couples. Six Stanford athletes face charges in the May 16 attack during which the statue was splattered with paint and battered with a nearby bench. A spokesperson for the Stanford Museum said the students accused of the attack have agreed to pay for its restoration. One side effect of the attack has been that the county prosecutor is seeking changes in the state's hate crimes laws to allow prosecutions when threats or violence are aimed at a group. Currently state laws only permit hate crimes prosecutions when an attack is made directly against an individual or his or her property. As a result, in the attack on the publicly owned statue, no hate crime charges were brought against any of the students.

## U.S. Troops Should Say 'No' to Sex in Haiti

WASHINGTON, DC — The Defense Department has warned U.S. military personnel sent to Haiti "not to come into contact with blood or other body fluids" of Haitians while in the country. According to

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# PRISCILLA! p. 11

## The Front Page

Vol. 15, No. 18

September 30, 1994

Serving gay men and lesbians in the Carolinas since 1979



# Pride PAC Endorses 42

The NC Pride PAC for Lesbian and Gay Equality has endorsed a record 42 candidates in the November 8 general election, including Raleigh attorney Jim Fuller's bid for a seat on the NC Supreme Court.

Fuller was the only state-wide candidate endorsed by the group, which concentrates on state, rather than federal elections. Forty-one candidates for the General Assembly were endorsed, 14 for the Senate and 27 for the House. All 50 Senate seats and all 120 House seats are up for election.

Pride PAC is using a new rating system for candidates, with three levels of support—endorsed, recommended or preferred. Endorsed candidates returned a survey to Pride PAC with favorable responses on a variety of issues of importance to the group. Issues include Recommended candidates did not score as well as endorsed candidates, but support a revision of the state's "crime against nature" (CAN) law, Pride PAC's key issue. Recommended candidates also include incumbents who did not return a survey but have received support from Pride PAC in the past or have good voting records on issues of importance to the group.

Preferred candidates are those judged to be clearly better than their opponent(s).

Derek Livingston, Executive Director of Pride PAC, told *The Front Page* that the group considered four issues in addition to revision of the CAN law: Adding sexual orientation to the state's "hate crimes" law; legislation enabling local governments to pass pro-gay ordinances; continuation of informed consent for HIV testing; and increased funding for HIV/AIDS education in schools.

Livingston said the group also considered the composition of the district, the candidate's history of supporting or opposing pro-gay legislation, and the views of opposition candidates.

While Pride PAC considers of the races to be important, Livingston identified several that the group believes are crucial, including one-term incumbent Democratic Senator Linda Gunter's re-election bid in District 36 (Wake); Representative Karen Gottovi's race in District 13 (New Hanover); and Dot Kendall Kearns effort to win an open Senate seat in District 32 (Guilford).

When asked about lack of Republican candidates on the list (only three are endorsed), Livingston stated that many did not return surveys. He added that he hoped Republicans would realize that revision of the CAN law is "a true Republican issue; it's a privacy issue, and true members of the party of Lincoln, rather than the party of Robertson and Buchanan, should realize that."

Pride PAC plans to donate over \$6,000 to

## Endorsements, p. 6

candidates supported by the group, and to help find volunteers for the campaigns of candidates it supports. Person interested in donating time or

money should call the group at (919) 829-0343.

A full list of the candidates the group supports is on page 6, including the candidate's name, political party, district number, support level (E-endorsed, R-recommended, P-preferred) and counties in the district. When more than one candidate is supported in the same district, this indicates a multi-member district.

# Our Own Place Moves

By Beth Harrison

When Our Own Place opened its doors for the first time in November 1989, it joined the ranks of only a half-dozen lesbian-only community centers in the country. Since then, the center—affectionately referred to as OOP by its members—has gone through periods of growth and of struggle, but has consistently managed to keep its doors at 1411 Watts St. in Durham open. Soon though, those doors will close and OOP will move to its new digs in the basement of the Professional Building at the corner of Club Ave. and Broad St. in Durham. There OOP will share space with the newly-formed Center for Nonwhite Lesbians, opening new doors and, members of both groups hope, a new era in the centers' evolution.

The move, planned for October 15, was eased by the offer of the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians to help with rent, but was necessitated by the difficulty OOP was having in covering costs at its Watts St. location. The rented building offered a number of rooms to house various events and programs, as well as the Book Exchange and *The Newsletter*, but was forcing OOP to live beyond its means, according to Treasurer Wendy Michener.

"Traditionally, we supported ourselves by holding women's dances, but people just aren't showing up the way the used to," Michener told *The Front Page*. "When we first sponsored these dances it was like, 'This is it, if you want to see others lesbians you go to the dances.'"

But recent dances OOP has sponsored have ended up losing money. Last year's Halloween and New Year's dances were poorly attended, as was this year's Spring Fling and Pride Dance.

"The effect was that we had to deal with a couple thousand dollars we'd planned on that weren't there, and also with money we'd lost because we didn't even cover costs on the dances," Michener said.

## Center for Nonwhite Lesbians Forms

Janice Vaughn, the founder of Cedar Chest, an African-American social club for lesbians, has announced the formation of the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians, a resource center for and about nonwhite lesbians.

The Center, based in Durham, will provide printed materials, discussion groups, social activities, and local and national information about nonwhite lesbian ethnic groups. Co-founded by Vaughn and Wanda Floyd, the Center will share space with Our Own Place in the basement of the Professional Building, at the corner of Club and Broad, in Durham.

"There is a strong need in our community for a safe place where nonwhite lesbians can gather to meet one another and learn more about ourselves," Vaughn said. "We are now opening the doors or opportunity for this to happen."

The Center's resource information will be available for all lesbians to use, but most discussion group sessions will be restricted to nonwhite lesbians only. Vaughn said, "It is rare that nonwhite lesbians get the opportunity to discuss needs specific to them. This sacred bonding is crucial to our self-esteem as women."

*The Center for Nonwhite Lesbians will open in mid-October. For information, write to: CNL, P.O. Box 61991, Durham, NC, 27715-1991.*

Lucy Harris, who served as OOP's first and only paid executive director from September 1990 to March 1991, agreed with the changing nature of community dances.

"We used to only have these dances and these kinds of events where we could get together."

continued on page 32



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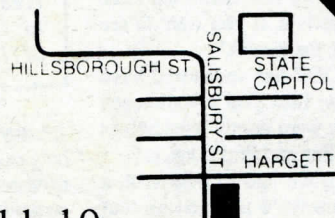
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# Woman With the Midas Touch

By Catherine McKenzie

Barbara Grier has reason to be happy. Co-founder of the world's largest and most successful lesbian publishing company, The Naiad Press Inc., Barbara has a 'stable' of talented, best-selling authors. Of all of the women who are published by Naiad, however, none is more widely read than Katherine Forrest. In the words of Barbara Grier, "Everything Katherine touches turns to gold."

There is no denying that Forrest is an extraordinary lesbian literary force. Ten years after its release, her first novel *Curious Wine* came in at No. 4 of 200 on Naiad's 1993 Best-Seller List. Of the three books ahead of it, two had the Forrest-touch. At No. 3 was her four-year-old, Lambda Award-winning Kate Delafield mystery, *Murder By Tradition* (Forrest's other Lambda winner was *The Beverly Malibu* which came in at 23 on the list) and at No. 2 was *The Erotic Naiad*, a book which Forrest edited in collaboration with Barbara Grier.

For her fans, the wait for her ninth book ended this past Spring.

"The new novel is titled *Flashpoint*. Did you want me to talk about it?" Forrest asked from her home in San Francisco. "I'd love you to talk about it," I replied.

"Okay. Well, (laughs) it's easier for me to talk about someone else's books than my own. I could tell you what my objective was in the book. I don't know how well I succeeded, but I wanted to write a novel that would be reflective of lesbian and gay lives in the latter half of this century, to give some suggestion of the distance that we've traveled in terms of coming from the '50s into the '90s."

"The novel basically concerns seven people but I've worked it from the point of view of four [of them]—one gay man and three lesbians. They all revolve around the central character whose name is Donnelly. The characters are of different ages and different backgrounds and obviously have different life experiences. They are called together for a weekend where a critical decision is going to be announced in my state of California. It turns out that that particular political event, which is sort of the flash point of the novel, was one of the catalytic events that really brought us together as a community and drew us into activist politics."

Forrest agrees with the suggestion that *Flashpoint* is a fictionalized attempt to document gay and lesbian history. She's quick to point out though that she hopes she has achieved this "rather painlessly for the reader."

"I truly do write to entertain. I've always been that sort of writer and it's what I hope I will continue to be. I think that an awful lot of young people today don't have, because they have no means of having, a kind of general sense of our history. And it's certainly been a brilliant history in these past few years."

"To me, the gay and lesbian community — and I'm speaking worldwide, not only in America — we've gone through three phases in the last three decades. I think that the 1970s was the decade of pride, the '80s was the decade of anger and rage, and the 1990s will be our decade of courage."

"I think that the great unfinished business of our community is to come out, to let everyone worldwide see our faces, see something beyond the activists which is the way that most of the straight world does see us, and to see the huge panorama of who we are. That really is the next phase. To some degree that's what the book is about as well. I think that if there is a watchword for gays and lesbians, then that word is definitely courage, because that is what it takes for us to live our lives with things the way they are."

Feeling that she had left her Kate Delafield series "in a reasonably good position," Forrest wanted to move onto something else. "I wanted to draw from my experiences as a lesbian and just explore some of those themes." *Flashpoint* is the result. Many will find that while it retains Forrest's unmistakable style, it is also completely different from everything else she has ever written. Then again, she does have a talent for changing genres — with romance, mystery, and science fiction novels already to her credit.

She may be the best-selling and most popular lesbian author in the world, but Forrest says she has never really considered herself to be a terribly prolific or fast. This, coupled with the "sheer breadth and ambition of this book" and "simple exhaustion," are the reasons it took so long for *Flashpoint* to be completed.

While Forrest worked on her new book and as an editor for Naiad Press, one of her earlier novels was undergoing a metamorphosis into script form. Filming on *Murder at the Nightwood Bar*, the second in her Kate Delafield series, began in May. It is a project over which Forrest has kept a watchful eye.

"Casting is still ongoing, although the two leads have been filled. Mary Louise Parker (*Fried Green Tomatoes*) will be playing Kate Delafield and Tom Arnold, who is Roseanne Arnold's husband, will be playing detective Ed Taylor. There is one other major role to be cast and that's Andrea Ross, Kate's love interest. There are four actresses under consideration and I expect that a decision will be made on that just about any day now."

To give the film as much authenticity as possible, Forrest says director Tim Hunter (*The River's Edge*) intends to case "out" lesbian actresses in all of the remaining roles.

From the very start, he [Tim Hunter] has wanted to maintain faithfulness to the book. What a lot of people don't understand is that there are always things that are in the book that simply do not work on film. So there certainly will be adjustments to the storyline. I think it would be unfair really to expect anything else. My bottom line concern — and I told Tim this from the very start — is that the integrity of the character [Kate Delafield] remain intact. You know that we, all of us, are just desperately hungry for this sort of a lesbian portrait on the screen."

Her awareness of the "hunger" lesbians have for characters who accurately reflect their lives, is one of the predominant reasons for Forrest's success as a novelist. Another factor is her



Katherine Forrest will be appearing at the following local bookstores during the month of October: on Wednesday, October 12, at Blue Stocking Books in **Columbia**; on Thursday, October 13, at White Rabbit Books in **Charlotte**; on Friday, October 14, at White Rabbit Books in **Greensboro**; and on Saturday, October 15, at White Rabbit Books in **Raleigh**. All of these appearances are scheduled for 7 p.m. On Sunday, October 16, she'll be at Phoenix Rising West in **Roanoke**; on Tuesday, October 18, at Phoenix Rising East in **Norfolk**. Both of these appearances are scheduled from 4-5:30 p.m. Also on Tuesday, October 18, Forrest will be at Bad Habits, Etc. in **Norfolk**, from 7-8:30 p.m. On Wednesday, October 19, she will be at Out Right Books in **Virginia Beach**; on Thursday, October 20, at Phoenix Rising in **Richmond**; and on Friday, October 21, at Purple Moon in **Fredericksburg**. These appearances are scheduled for 7-9 p.m.

commitment to being true to her lesbian readers.

"It was very clear to me, right from the beginning, that I was writing for my community. I have never had any interest in reaching the 'mainstream audience' or writing a 'crossover' book. Heterosexual people do read the novels and I think that's fine. I also think more and more heterosexual people will be coming to our literature, because it's the most dynamic literature in the world right now."

"When I started to write, I was just as hungry to read lesbian fiction as anybody else in the community. I wrote the kind of books I wanted to read and I felt that a lot of women would feel as I

did. Certainly that was the genesis for *Curious Wine*, because up to that point I had never read a book that satisfied me in terms of conveying the passion and the beauty of our love and of how very beautiful women are together. That was, very simply, what I wanted to do in that book, and it continues to be my most popular novel. So I was right in thinking that a lot of women would agree with me that we did need a book like that. It just seems incredible that the book is only 10 years old but it was really quite ground-breaking in its time."

Forrest is also aware that her books can have a dramatic effect on the way lesbians view

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# Carolina Clips

## UNC May Get \$170,000 For Gay Studies

CHAPEL HILL, NC—The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has received a bequest of \$170,000 from a graduate who died last year.

Charles Nelson Williamson, a 1968 graduate of the medical school, left the money to the university in his will. Williamson died in 1992 in San Francisco, where he had practiced medicine. The university was unaware of the bequest until recently, however, because of legal complications.

Williamson specified in his will that the money be used "to encourage gay and lesbian studies on campus," according to *The Daily Tar Heel* (9/1/94). But university officials must first meet with the executor of Williamson's estate to gain approval for plans to offer gay studies courses. Officials hope to receive the money in December of this year, if all goes well.

Laurence Gilbert, associate vice chancellor for

academic affairs told *The Daily Tar Heel* that university officials wanted student's opinions on gay studies courses and had therefore waited for students to come back to school last month before making definite plans.

Cecil Wooten, faculty advisor to Bisexuals, Gay men, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity (B-GLAD), a student group, has met with students and university officials to draw up a plan acceptable to the executor. The proposal will include classes and lectures, as well as funds for B-GLAD, but most of the money will be used for gay studies courses, most likely in the English, history, and psychology departments. Currently, the university offers only one gay studies course.

## Residents Continue Fighting Proposed AIDS House

GREENVILLE, SC — A Greenville city board has placed another obstacle in front of a group

home for people with AIDS and other terminal illnesses hoping to open in a city neighborhood.

The Greenville Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeal changed the classification of Stephen's House from a multi-family dwelling to a convalescent home Sept. 22.

The new classification will require Project Care to reapply to the board before opening, chairman Neil Rabon said.

Zoning Administrator Kim Jones originally ruled the home was a multi-family dwelling, and could open in a Greenville historic district.

Attorney Robbie Childs argued for the changed classification.

"This has nothing to do with whether the people there have HIV/AIDS or cancer," Childs said. "It has to do with the planned use for the premises."

Rabon said the ruling doesn't mean Project Care will not be allowed to move in.

Project Care President Joey Hudson said the ruling will not affect the scheduled October opening of Stephen's House.

"We're not on hold," Hudson said. "We're going to continue with our plans."

Project Care Director Judith Ewing said the city residents' fight against Stephen's House is very frustrating.

## The Front Page

"There is not one member of the gay community who hasn't benefited positively from the changes over the last thirty years. Yet we still hear, 'I don't like the gay community here very much.' To which we must respond, 'But my dear you are the gay community!'"

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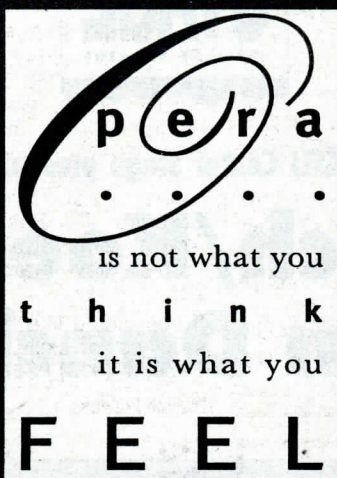
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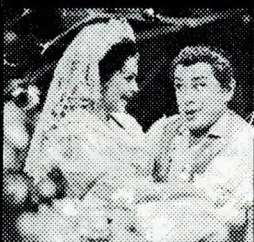


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"I've seen so many people die in isolation," she said. "I don't want people dying like that."

### Discrimination Lawsuit Dropped

DURHAM, NC—A lawsuit filed by a straight man who claims he was sexually harassed by a lesbian supervisor has been dismissed by a federal court.

According to a report in the *Durham Herald-Sun*, (9/10/94) Larry Wayne Williams, 43, had filed suit against his former employer, the Durham Hilton, as well as his former boss. Williams claimed he was fired in June, 1993 from his job as a banquet captain at the hotel because he is a heterosexual.

In the suit, Williams contended that his former supervisor was "a devout gay rights activist," who tried to block a promotion he wanted in favor of a woman who also wanted the job. He asked for \$15,000 in back wages, \$25,000 for emotional distress, \$50,000 for public embarrassment and \$500,000 in punitive damages.

But a federal magistrate recommended that the suit be dismissed because it was frivolous, and, after Williams failed to contest the recommendation, the case was formally dismissed by U.S. District Judge Frank Bullock, Jr.

### Sexual Orientation Added to Grievance Policy

CHAPEL HILL, NC—The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has added sexual orientation to its student grievance policy.

A Policy Statement on Sexual Orientation has been added to the Student Grievance Committee's guide to grievance procedures, according to *The Daily Tar Heel* (9/20/94).

The university's policy is that any student who feels he or she has been discriminated or harassed by any employee first files a complaint with the department head, dean or administrative official who is in a position to resolve the situation. If no action is taken, or the student is not satisfied with the results of the complaint, he or she can file a complaint with the Grievance Committee.

The Committee is composed of three faculty members and three staff members appointed by

the chancellor, as well as four student government members.

### Eighth "Triangle Miles Against AIDS" To Be Held

DURHAM—The eighth annual "Triangle Miles Against AIDS" Bike-A-Thon will be held on Saturday, October 15, at the Sheraton Imperial in Research Triangle Park. Step-off will be at 10 a.m.

The biking, running, walking, skating, and wheelchair event is held every year to raise funds for The AIDS Service Project. All money raised by participants goes directly toward providing assistance to people living with AIDS to help cover the cost of food, rent, utilities and other bills, and medical expenses.

This year, for the first time in the Bike-A-Thon's history, every dollar raised by participants will be matched by a corporate sponsor. GE Capital Mortgage has agreed to match the pledges raised by event participants, which Bike-A-Thon organizer Wanda Floyd believes will have a substantial impact on the event's success.

"We're hoping that because GE Capital is willing to match the funds the participants raise, that we'll get more participants," Floyd said. "This year, for every dollar they raise, they'll know it will be doubled."

Participants will have a choice of biking a 15-mile route through RTP, running for five miles, or using the four-mile fitness trail for walking, rollerblading, or wheelchairs. Every participant will receive a "Triangle Miles Against AIDS" T-shirt, free lunch provided by the Sheraton Imperial, and rubdowns compliments of local massage therapists who will be donating their time to the fundraiser.

All participants will also be entered into a post-Bike-A-Thon drawing for prizes such as bike helmets, dinners at area restaurants, and gift certificates at local stores. The person who raises the most pledges will also receive a prize worth at least \$250.

Along with GE Capital Mortgage and the Sheraton Imperial, the event's sponsors include Bread 'n Butter; Legends; Tom Blackburn, Ph.D.; Alphagraphics; the *Independent Weekly*; and Bull

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## Award Winning Filmmakers Take You On An Erotic Journey To Where Few Have Ever Gone.

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Virginia Foxx (R-12)—E (Alleghany, Ashe, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Watauga and part of Guilford)  
Jeanne Lucas (D-13)—E (Durham, Granville and parts of Person and Wake)  
Wib Gulley (D-13)—E (Durham, Granville, and parts of Person and Wake)  
Ruth Cook (D-14)—E (parts of Johnston and Wake)  
J.K. Sherron (D-14)—R (parts of Johnston and Wake)  
Fred Hobbs (D-16)—E (Chatham, Moore, Orange and parts of Lee and Randolph)  
E. Mack Conrad (D-19)—P (parts of Guilford and Forsyth)  
Donovan R. Kirby (D-27)—E (Alexander, Avery, Caldwell, Mitchell, Wilkes, Yadkin and part of Burke)  
James Owen Rose (D-27)—E (Alexander, Avery, Caldwell, Mitchell, Wilkes, Yadkin and part of Burke)  
Bill Martin (D-31)—E (part of Guilford)  
Dot Kendall Kearns (D-32)—E (part of Guilford)  
Linda Gunter (D-36)—E (part of Wake)  
Leslie Winner (D-40)—E (part of Mecklenburg)

### State House:

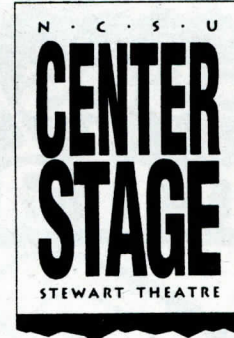
Karen Gottovi (D-13)—E (part of New Hanover)  
Clyde J. Rhyne (D-19)—E (Harnett, Lee and part of Sampson)  
Paul Luebke (D-23)—E (part of Durham)

H.M. "Mickey" Michaux (D-23)—R (part of Durham)  
Joe Hackney (D-24)—E (parts of Orange and Chatham)  
Anne Barnes (D-24)—R (parts of Orange and Chatham)  
Bertha Holt (D-25)—R (Alamance, Caswell, and parts of Orange and Rockingham)  
Alma Adams (D-26)—E (part of Guilford)  
A. Neal Smith (D-35)—E (part of Rowan)  
Edith Lutz (D-48)—R (Cleveland, Rutherford, and parts of Gaston and Polk)  
Dorie Giezantanner (D-51)—P (part of Buncombe)  
Liston B. Ramsey (D-52)—E (Graham, Haywood, Madison, Swain and part of Jackson)  
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Beverly Earle (D-60)—E (part of Mecklenburg)  
Brad Miller (D-61)—E (part of Wake)  
Andy Penry (D-62)—E (part of Wake)  
Bob Hensley (D-64)—E (part of Wake)  
Larry Wayne Womble (D-66)—E (part of Wake)  
Warren Oldham (D-67)—E (part of Forsyth)  
Bill Ives (R-68)—E (Transylvania, and parts of Buncombe and Henderson)  
Joseph Alexander (R-78)—E (parts of Granville, Vance and Warren)  
Frances Cummings (D-87)—E (parts of Hoke, Robeson, and Scotland)  
Mary L. Jarell (D-89)—E (part of Guilford)  
Maggie Jeffus (D-89)—E (part of Guilford)  
Erin Kuczmarski (D-92)—P (parts of Wake and Durham)  
Billy Joye (D-93)—E (parts of Gaston and Mecklenburg)  
Jerry Braswell (D-97)—E (parts of Duplin, Sampson and Wayne)



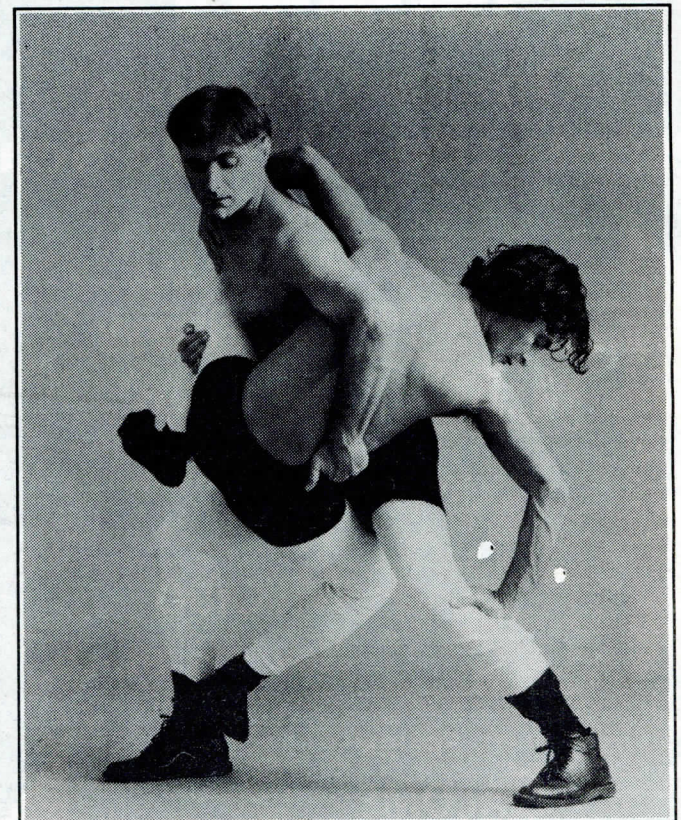
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# Forrest's *Flashpoint*

Review by Erin Blackwell

Flash point is the temperature at which an inflammable material will flash in air. For Katherine V. Forrest, the California lesbian and gay community flashed in air on September 29, 1991, the day Governor Pete Wilson announced his veto of Assembly Bill 101, which would have outlawed job discrimination against homosexuals.

With a precision worthy of Agatha Christie, Forrest's *Flashpoint* assembles a cast of characters in a remote cabin in the San Bernadino mountains. They're there because the book's catalytic central character, Donnelly, has asked them to come. They're there because this gay activist once raised their political consciousness and they either were, or still are, in love with her. While they wait by the radio for Wilson to betray their community, hoping in their liberal hearts he won't, they can't help thinking about their gay lives in, out, and around the closet.

This ambitious novel weaves together the stories of old butch Pat Decker, thirtysomething gold pro Averill Calder Harmon, upwardly mobile Chicana Querida Quemada and gay publisher Bradley Jones. Pat's single, Averill's got a girlfriend, Querida is Donnelly's current squeeze, and Bradley's got a black boyfriend. Between them, they represent a range of homosexual experience.

Perhaps, because they're the oldest, Pat and Bradley's stories of furtive sex and lost

professional battles are the most grotesque, painful and unforgivable. Beyond the guilt felt by the individual characters about the false choices forced on them by homophobia, external or internalized, the book's condemnation of the closet is clear. As Donnelly puts it, "The closet suffocates everybody in it. The closet is death."

The only real cure for the closet, according to Donnelly, is gay rights. And since Wilson is vetoing AB 101, this charismatic woman is asking those nearest and dearest to her to seize those rights by coming out, regardless of the professional or personal cost. Guess who refuses?

The static nature of the exposition by which each character presents her/his life story for the reader's perusal is eventually transformed into emotional momentum by the sheer weight of the injustice done to these people's lives by anti-gay discrimination. Forrest's equation is clear: the condensed mass misery of lives in the closet can and will blossom into the overwhelming outpouring of creative energy called gay and lesbian pride.

This isn't just wishful thinking; it's the inevitable result of applying the concept of civil rights to lesbians and gays. There aren't special rights; that's the American way. Forrest's earnest integrity informs every sentence. If only Jesse Helms could read.

This review originally appeared in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

## Woman With the Midas Touch

Continued from page 3

themselves. She takes this responsibility very seriously, particularly as she still remembers the initial impact of her own initial foray into lesbian literature.

"I will never forget the first time that someone told me that *Curious Wine* was the first lesbian novel that they had ever read, because the first lesbian novel I read was *The Well of Loneliness*. I felt like cheering, because I think *Curious Wine* is about 180 degrees away from *The Well of Loneliness* in terms of what it had to say about our relationships. I'm happy I write the sort of life-affirming books that I do write. I think and hope that if there is an underlying theme to my books it is pride in ourselves and [the message] that we are a strong, noble and very courageous people.

"I have a strong sense that I should use my voice for something important or something significant. I feel a real sense of obligation to the community, a great deal of pride, and incredibly lucky that I have come along at a kind of golden age in literary terms. If I had to actually name the most wonderful part of it, I think it's been the opportunity to travel and meet so many people from the community. [Having done that] I know that my pride in who we are is very well-founded. I think we're an extraordinary group of people and every time I do any traveling, when I have a book out, I'm constantly reminded of that. It's very energizing. I wish more lesbians could have the overview that I do and have met the people I've met."

As a supervising editor with Naiad, Forrest is now fostering the talents of other lesbian writers. This is a role which serves a dual purpose for her.

"Part of the conflict of being a writer [is that] I have never gotten over my hunger for lesbian literature. I'm still as hungry as anyone else for our books and we're not going to have the books unless we have the writers. Editing is very important to me [because] I can pass along a lot of the craft elements that it took me forever to learn.

Learning to write is like learning to be a brain surgeon. It isn't something anybody can learn very quickly. To work with another professional, particularly someone who can communicate some of the elements of craft, can help a lot. It's something that I think I do well and occasionally I get a really terrific novel to work on. I mean, they're all different, but I'm talking about 'terrific.' My editing pride and joy still remains *Memory Board* by Jane Rule which I think is the best novel of the 1980s. I would love to work on the best lesbian novel of the 1990s at some point."

With nine books in print, a movie in production and her continuing role as an editor with Naiad, when I ask Forrest about her future plans, her initial response was hardly surprising: "Not to work quite as hard as I have been," she answered laughing.

More seriously, she added, "I simply want to continue doing what I've been doing. My next book will be another Kate Delafield and I have all kinds of ideas. I just wish that the days were longer. It's really very, very exciting to be a writer in this day and age. You know the community has changed a lot and I've changed a lot, too. To allude to one of your earlier questions, when you say that my work has influenced people's lives, well my community has influenced my life. It's really worked both ways. The whole gay rights movement, on the world scene, has been most extraordinary to witness. Growing up in the dark ages of the 50s and 60s, it's something I never dreamed I would see... and to see it happen worldwide, to know that what happens in America has got its equivalent in Australia, in Russia, in Europe... what can you say other than we are an amazing people."

Katherine Forrest may view we, the collective, as amazing but there is no denying that she is one of the cream of the crop. Fortunately for us, while she may be the woman with the Midas touch, we are definitely the ones who profit from her handy-work.

This interview was originally published in *Queensland Pride*, Brisbane, Australia, in April 1994.

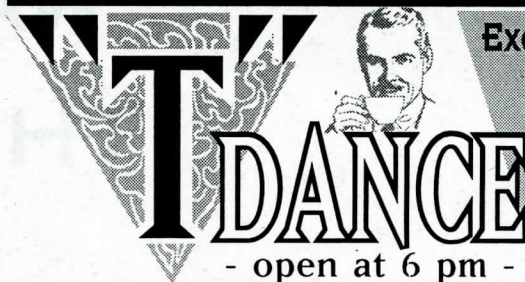
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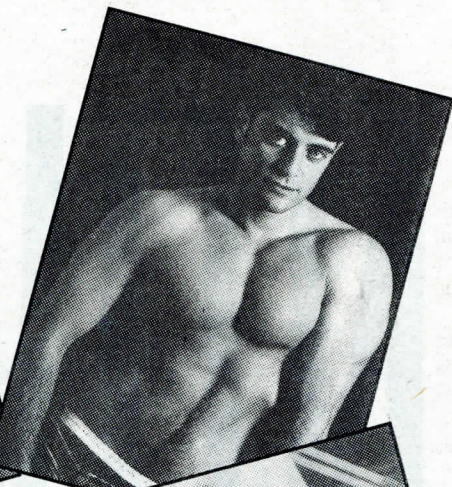
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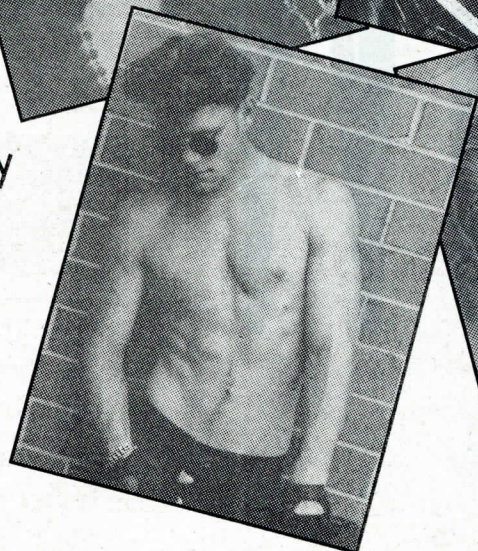
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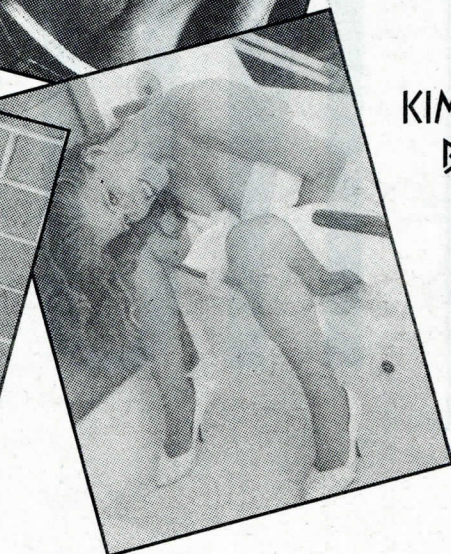
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# Dragging the Truth from *Priscilla's* Creator

By Steve Warren

"Are you gay?"

A simple question, one not asked often enough of people pocketing large shares of our entertainment dollars. It seems fair to ask it of Stephan Elliott, who wrote and directed *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, in which three drag queens, one of them a transsexual, trek across Australia in a broken-down bus, bitching and lip-synching all the way.

His answer makes me glad I've waited to ask until after enjoying his film and half an hour to interview time.

Earlier, Elliott takes about tolerance in his native Australia, the fun of making *Priscilla* and his surprise at the enthusiastic audience response it received in its first three public showings, at the San Francisco, Cannes and Seattle film festivals. He takes a half-sympathetic, half-confrontational

numbers people." The folks at Latent Image Productions got Elliott's number when he showed them he could make two shorts in three days.

His first feature, *Frauds*, starring Phil Collins, was shown in competition at Cannes last year. He calls it a "black-comic, surrealistic musical [that] probably went a little too far... Unfortunately, it went directly to video in this country."

Still, *Frauds* earned Elliott the go-ahead to make *Priscilla*, which he says he "churned out in about ten days" enroute to Cannes and rewritten only slightly based on the actors' input during rehearsals.

The characters, Elliott says, were based on real people. Cyndi Pastel, who inspired Tick/Mitzi, played by Hugo Weaving, went to Cannes with the filmmaker, bringing along his six-year-old son and turning more than a few heads. Tick's son in the film is played by a nine-year-old who, Elliott says, "had a ball" making it.



Felicia/Adam (Guy Pearce, left) and Mitzi/Tick (Hugo Weaving, right) evoke the adage that yes, "good taste is timeless" in *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.

## Stephan Elliott is Hollywood's flavor of the month, and he knows it.

approach to charges that the film is misogynist and doesn't do enough to advance the gay political agenda.

Now 30 (but he probably still gets carded), Elliott is Hollywood's flavor of the month, and he knows it. "They want me desperately," he says as if seeking protection. "Offers are pouring in. But they want me to do their scripts their way... American movies are so boring and safe. They say they want me because I'm fresh and original and quirky, but then they won't let me be fresh and original and quirky."

Having grown up making super-8 movies, Elliott rose quickly through the ranks. "It's strange," he says, "for a first assistant director to move right up to director, because they're usually

This quirky family — the boy's mother came out as a lesbian while Tick moved away to explore his own gayness — presented several writing challenges. Elliott decided the reunion with his child would be too easy for Tick if it were a girl instead of a boy, and that making the mother a lesbian would show how totally accepting and open-minded the boy was.

Another child in the film created other problems. In a wonderful flashback to the childhood of Adam/Felicia (Guy Pearce), the other transvestite, he's almost molested by his uncle. Gramercy Pictures wanted to cut the scene when they bought the American distribution rights, Elliott says. "They said, 'You can't show

continued on page 26

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## The Adventures of Priscilla

If Boy George was right about America knowing a good drag queen when it sees one, wait 'til it sees the three in *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*! As for gay audiences, I don't care how butch you are, your mascara will run from laughing until you cry!

Technically, only Mitzi/Tick (Hugo Weaving) and Felicia/Adam (Guy Pearce) are drag queens; Bernadette (Terence Stamp) is a woman, but did drag prior to having gender reassignment surgery. After a potential husband is asphyxiated by peroxide fumes, Bernadette agrees to dance down memory lane when her friends get an out-of-town engagement.

Their town is Sydney. The gig is in Alice Springs, in the center of Australia, and the land in between — well, no wonder producer Al Clark calls the film "Florence of Arabia!" Thousands of miles of nothing, punctuated by an occasional redneck settlement.

Stamp has the most difficult role, because femininity is no longer a game to Bernadette; he never makes a false move. Tick is more complex than he appears at first, as he reveals he has a wife and son in Alice Springs. Adam is the youngest and queerest of the trio and know how to get money from his wealthy mother, so he has nothing to worry about. He just goes looking for trouble until he finds him.

Priscilla is the used bus that takes them on their journey. At first you'll wonder why the three of them need such a large vehicle, but by the end you'll wonder how they could have crammed all their fabulous wardrobe onto that tiny bus.

Truly a cross-cultural experience, *Priscilla* is loaded with bitchy drag-queen dialogue. Gays will relate to it, straights will love it. Sometimes the talk gets downright evil, but it's always funny. When Adam says he wants to "climb King's Canyon as a queen," Bernadette replies, "Just

what this country needs: a cock in a frock on a rock."

Maybe *Priscilla* will bring us closer to the day when I can review a gay film without considering is political implications, but that's still a long way off. Though its humor is more cutting and cutting edge, *Priscilla* doesn't go beyond *La Cage Aux Folles* in showing gay characters without compromise.

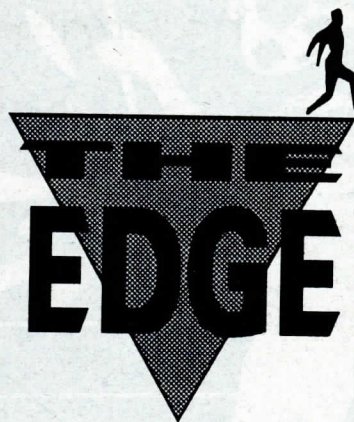
This film doesn't challenge the prevailing wisdom that gay sex makes audiences nervous. Giving a transsexual a sex life (offscreen) may be progressive, but that's still technically hetero sex. The only person we know of Tick having had sex with is his wife (Sarah Chadwick), and the only person Felicia comes close to having sex with is a cracker who tries to rape him.

The last is one of two major instances of homophobia in the film, both of them shockingly portrayed to ensure audience sympathy is on the side of the drag queens. Other things work against our expectations to provide positive surprises. A flashback to Adam/Felicia's childhood, for instance, begins a cliched how-I-became-queer moment but takes off in a different direction. When Tick's wife and son (Mark Holmes) proves to be incredibly cool, it sets up a happy ending with room for a sequel. But *La Cage* had those things too.

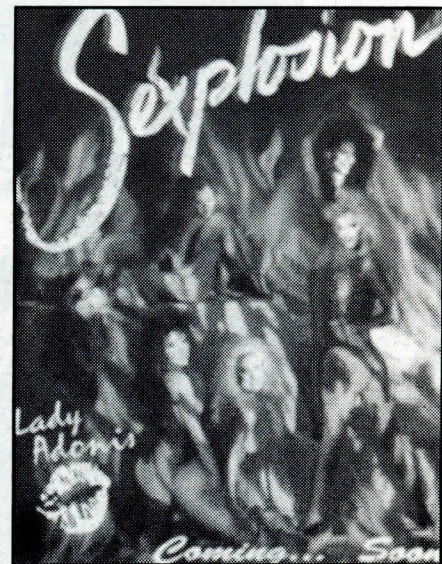
Still, we need terrific entertainment, and writer-director Stephan Elliott provides that in spades. *Priscilla* is more gay-positive than the 90-some percent of movies that ignore us completely or put us down. It returns glamour to the screen as only drag queens can do — outrageously and preposterously.

Any night you decide to see *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* will be a "nice night for it."

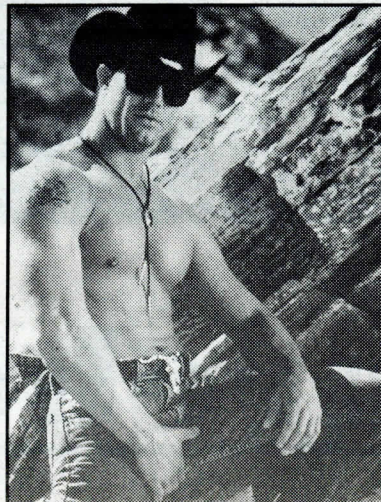
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## AIDS UPDATE

## FDA Debates Accelerated Drug Approval

WASHINGTON — Three years after the FDA eased its procedures for approving new medicines to fight the AIDS epidemic, the agency held two days of meetings to evaluate the streamlined procedures. A report by the FDA Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee appeared to suggest that in fact drug companies need to have well-planned confirmation clinical trials under way before the government should agree to speed up the approval process. Many AIDS activists now agree that the new accelerated policy isn't working because testing may not be adequate and it is difficult to evaluate whether the drugs even work. Many others, however, expressed concerns that the years of work that led to speeding up the procedures could be undone and have suggested that the accelerated approval procedures be kept in place, but that the FDA should force the drug firms to conduct proper follow-up studies.

## Growing Racial Discrepancies in AIDS

ATLANTA — The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported that black women are almost 15 times more likely than white women to develop AIDS, and that black men are 5 times more likely than white men to have the disease. The agency said that 55 percent of the 106,949 reported cases of AIDS in the U.S. in 1993 were among racial and ethnic minorities. Overall, 162 black men and women developed AIDS per 100,000 population; for Hispanics the number was 90; whites were 3rd with 30 cases per 100,000 people; American Indians-Eskimos ranked next with 24 cases per 100,000.

## Risk Factors Shifting for Inner City Women

NEW YORK — A study published in the *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* suggests that sexual transmission may be replacing IV drug use as the primary mode of transmission among women in inner cities. The study, conducted at the Harlem Hospital Center, found that only 21 percent of infected women who gave birth at the facility in 1989 reported IV drug use compared with 61 percent of all HIV-positive women throughout greater New York City between 1981 to 1993.

## Woman-to-Woman HIV Transmission Study

CHICAGO — A study that interviewed

continued on next page



# Friend To Friend

## Lawsuit May Take Years

It matters little to Dale Drye that he may be able to make hundreds of thousands of dollars from the drug companies that gave him AIDS.

Drye, who has hemophilia and unknowingly injected a blood-clotting medicine tainted with HIV in the early 1980s, isn't sure he'll be around to collect.

A class-action lawsuit, filed last week on behalf of Drye and the 10,000 other Americans with hemophilia and AIDS, could take years to bring to trial or settle with the four companies that made contaminated clotting concentrate.

By then, Drye fears, "we'll basically all be dead."

More than 3,000 hemophiliacs have lost the fight with HIV. Some 600 hemophiliacs live in North Carolina, which has more people with hemophilia than any other state, *The Salisbury Post* reported.

The lawsuit includes the families of those who have died. And if others die before the case concludes, their parents, spouses and children will receive any money awarded.

Drye, 24, of Rockwell was hospitalized in Winston-Salem on Aug. 10, when a staph infection and adult respiratory distress syndrome nearly killed him.

While not causing the illnesses, AIDS and hemophilia made them more serious and the recovery much harder.

"The drug companies knew a long time before they admitted it that there was a danger of infection," he said, "but they didn't do anything."

Blood plasma, which was used to make the clotting concentrate for hemophiliacs, can transmit viruses. Among those it transmitted were hepatitis and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Since then, many people with hemophilia have sued companies that made the contaminated clotting concentrate, but few have won. However, the industry has paid millions to settle out of court.

Several high-ranking hematologists support the companies' claim that contamination of their product was no one's fault. HIV infections happened before anyone knew the blood supply was unsafe, defense attorneys argue.

Last month in Chicago, a judge ruled the Committee of Ten Thousand — named for those

with hemophilia and HIV — could bring a class-action lawsuit against the four companies and the National Hemophilia Foundation. The lawsuit alleges the drug companies and nonprofit foundation encouraged use of clotting concentrates even after the government warned them against it.

The foundation has declined comment on the lawsuit.

The class action could bring some relief after years of suffering, said Jonathan Wadleigh, lead

plaintiff and co-founder of the committee.

"What people and families with hemophilia and HIV can get out of this lawsuit is the knowledge that these companies must pay the price for what they did," Wadleigh said from his Boston office. "They could receive financial compensation in the hundreds of thousands."

But the lawsuit also marks an important step for people with hemophilia who didn't contract AIDS, said Wadleigh, who has both.

continued on next page

## New HIV Test May Prove Helpful in Battling AIDS

A new HIV test developed by a Reasearch Triangle Park firm has improved the ability to track the spread of the virus through the body by allowing doctors to tell how much of the virus a patient is carrying.

Scientists at Roche Biomedical Laboratories have used a sort of "genetic photocopier" to record data that may help researchers test new drugs and treatments. It may also help scientists figure out which treatments are best at slowing the spread of the disease.

"This is going to significantly impact the development process of new HIV drugs," Dr. Bruce McCreedy, the company's director of infectious diseases and clinical trials, told the *Raleigh News and Observer* (9/28/94). "It is a very powerful new tool that physicians can use to better understand the disease process in each patient and tailor the therapy for that patient."

The test became available in April and is one of two methods for measuring a patient's "viral load"—the amount of genetic material from HIV in the blood plasma, according to the *News & Observer*. The other test was developed by Chiron Corp, which is located in California.

The two tests have captured the attention of AIDS researchers.

"It is possible, and I think probable, that these tools may be able to predict more accurately

which treatments will be most effective in managing HIV infection," said Dr. James Rooney, associate director of the infectious diseases department at RTP's Burroughs Wellcome Co. The British drug company discovered AZT, the first treatment for combatting HIV.

The standard blood tests now used to detect HIV is reliable but may not detect antibodies until several months after the virus has invaded the body. It also does not work for the newborn babies of HIV-positive parents.

The Roche test has been able to detect the virus before antibodies appear, McCreedy said.

The new Roche test uses a process that allows scientists to copy and amplify tiny strips of DNA or RNA, the building-block molecules that transmit genetic information, to hunt for the genetic material that makes up HIV and other viruses.

Early studies have shown the amount of genetic information in the blood increases as HIV spreads.

Roche Biomedical Laboratories is a subsidiary of Hoffman-La Roche Inc. Another subsidiary, Roche Molecular Systems, is in the early stages of developing a test kit allowing doctors and researchers to use the new technology. The test is now only available as a paid service through the company.

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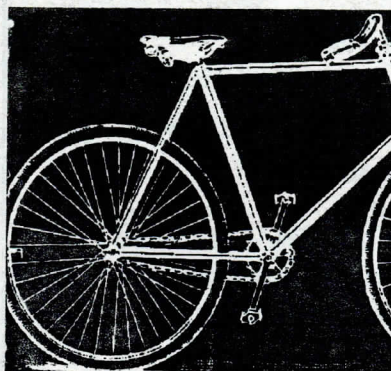
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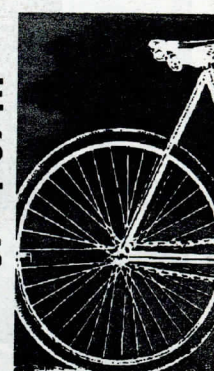
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**AIDS Update**

Continued from previous page

some 1,122 women with HIV or AIDS between 1990 and 1993 and reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that 61 of the women had had sex with other women during the past 5 years and that 55 of these women had had sex with men during the same period. Interviews showed that 17 of this group of women said they also used IV drugs, 33 had had a history of sexually transmitted disease, and 31 had exchanged sex for money or drugs. Of the 10 women who said they had had sex only with women during the period, eight also reported using IV drugs as well. The study suggests that female-to-female sexual transmission of HIV is indeed a possibility.

**New Approach in Alternatives in Battling AIDS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Frustrated after a decade of HIV/AIDS research that has made such limited progress in battling the epidemic, the federal government has committed \$25 million into the investigation of alternatives to drug therapy for the treatment of the illness. The funding will be split among the New England Medical Center, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Michigan, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Stanford University, and the University of California at San Diego. National Institutes of Health officials said in announcing the funding shift that more money is expected to be approved for the studies in 1995. Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Anthony Fauci, said, "This effort is crucial because currently available anti-HIV drugs only partially and temporarily suppress replication of the virus, and their use is hampered by toxicity and drug resistance."

**Partially Effective Vaccine Could Help Spread AIDS**  
SAN FRANCISCO — Researchers at the University of California at Berkeley and Oxford

University reported in the journal *Science* that a vaccine for HIV could do more harm than good unless it is very powerful. The authors found that only a slight increase in high-risk sexual behavior would eliminate any protections offered by a less-than-perfect vaccine. The scientists found, using a simulation of variables, that if one HIV-positive individual infected just two other people during his lifetime, sexually risky behavior would have to increase only slightly to make eradication of the virus impossible with a vaccine that had less than a 60 percent effectiveness. The epidemic, they said, would continue to spread even if every person at risk was vaccinated in a given locale. In fact, the researchers said, if risky behavior increased because of massive vaccinations, an only partially effective vaccine would have the reverse effect and actually make the epidemic more severe and widespread.

**Scientists Say Water May Be a Source of Dangerous Infections for AIDS Patients.**

LEBANON, NH — Dr. C. Fordham von Reyn, an associate professor of medicine and director of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center's infectious disease division, has reported a possible means of exposure to mycobacterium avium complex, one of the most common serious infections among people with AIDS. The infection may be passed through drinking water, including the water systems at the hospitals where AIDS patients are being treated. Using DNA matching, von Reyn and his colleagues checked the mycobacterium infections of 36 patients in the New Hampshire and Boston region with the water systems in the homes and at the hospitals where they were receiving treatment. In 14 percent of the cases, the scientists found that the hot water systems at the patients' hospitals seemed to be the source of the infection. The researchers were not sure exactly how the patients may have been infected through hospital water systems.

**Lawsuit May Take Years**

Continued from previous page

"They can expect safer products in the future," he said. "The federal government still isn't doing everything they can do to protect the blood supply."

That won't help Drye. Complications from his recent illnesses blurred the vision in his left eye and left him unable to walk. Doctors hope time will clear his sight, but they warned Drye he could spend the rest of his life using crutches or a wheelchair. He came home Sept. 18, but now faces weeks of follow-up care and physical therapy.

"If I sit and actually think about it, which I try not to do, it does get me mad. But I don't see putting a lot of energy into getting mad," he said. "It's not worth it."

**Carolina Clips**Continued from page 5  
City Bikes.

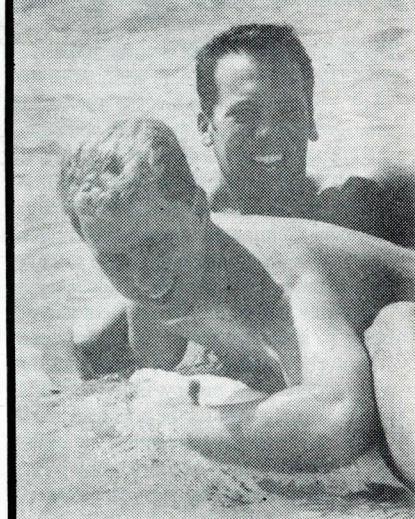
Participants must collect a minimum of \$100 in pledges, but will have until December 1 both to sign up pledgees and to collect the money.

To register for the Bike-A-Thon, call TASP at (919) 286-7475. A registration packet will be sent to you, along with information about the event and about collecting pledges. On-site registration is another option; just arrive at the Sheraton Imperial by 9 a.m. on October 15. Before October 15, people can register for \$15; the on-site registration fee is \$18.

"I would really encourage anyone who has the opportunity to come out to RTP on the 15th and participate," Floyd said.

"This is one of the very few events held in the Triangle area every year that generates funds that go directly to people living with AIDS. So it's a great way to get involved in the community, to help out other people, and to have a great time, all rolled into one."

—Beth Harrison

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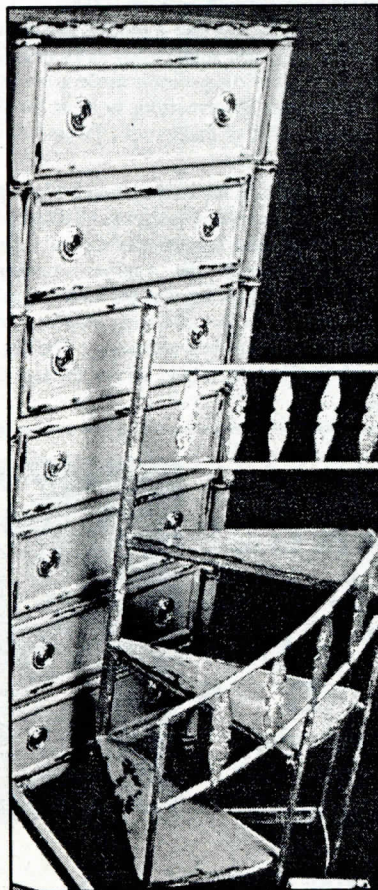
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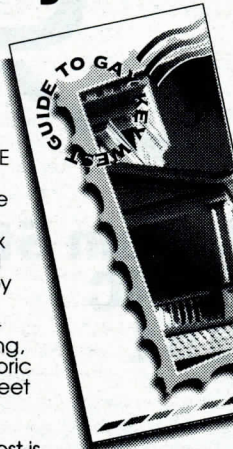
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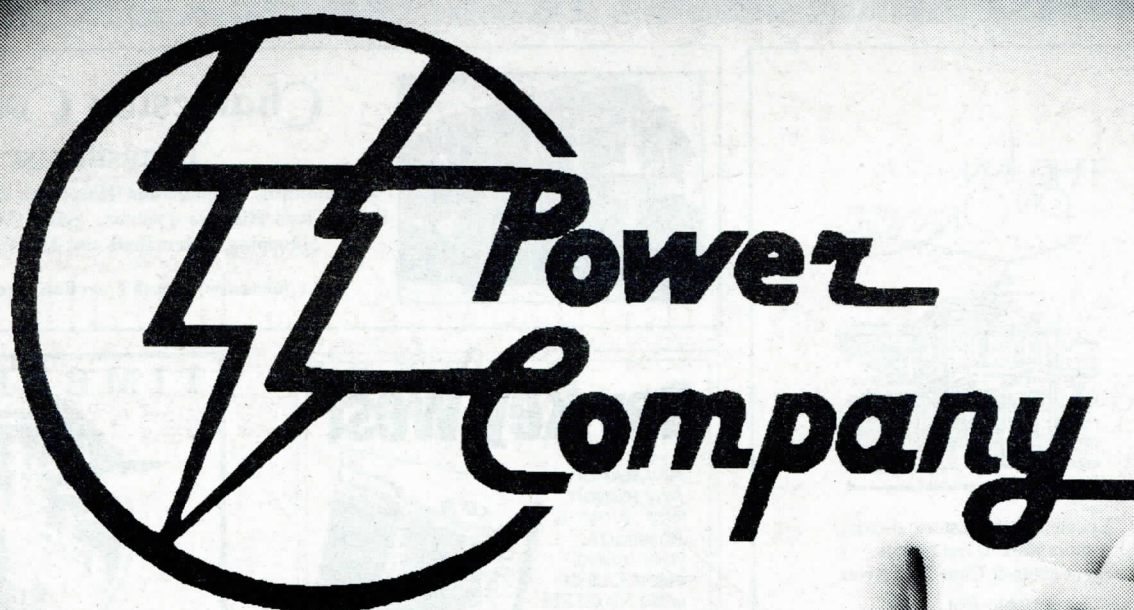
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# OUT in the WORLD

## A Calendar for the Carolinas

A calendar listing costs nothing and can attract valuable attention for your organization's activities. Announcements for the next issue need to be on our desk at The Front Page by Friday, October 7. Send details (date, name of event, time, place, sponsor, admission fee, and phone number for information) to Calendar Editor, P.O. Box 27928, Raleigh, NC 27611. Thanks!

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

• **FALL FROLIC AND HARVEST FESTIVAL**, today through Sunday, October 9 at Short Mountain Sanctuary in Liberty, TN. Registration is \$25-75 (sliding scale), plus \$8 a day for food, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Transportation is available from the Murfreesboro bus station (\$15) and the Nashville airport (\$25). For more information, write to: SMS, Rt. 1, Box 84-A, Liberty, TN 37095.

• **ATLANTIC STAMPEDE '94**, sponsored by the Atlantic States Gay Rodeo Association (ASGRA), today through Sunday in Washington, DC. Events include the Stampede Jamboree (Friday night), rodeo (Saturday and Sunday) and the Harvest Moon Ball (Saturday night). Weekend package is \$35; tickets for individual events are also available. For more information, call (202) 298-0928.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

• **YARD SALE**, to benefit Our Own Place Lesbian Center, today from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. at OOP in Durham. Deliver donations between September 23 and 30, or call for pick up. For more information, call (919) 286-7709.

• **"OPENING DOORS: Understanding Issues of Sexual Orientation in the School Community,"** a day-long conference sponsored by the Chapel Hill High School Gay-Straight Alliance and community organizations, will be held today from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the Hanes Cultural Arts Auditorium at Chapel Hill High School. Pre-registration fees are \$3-\$15; \$10-20 at the door (sliding scale). For more information, call David Bruton or Donna Wyatt at (919) 929-2106.

• **NCCOGL OPEN HOUSE:** The NC Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality will hold an open house tonight from 6-8 p.m. at its new office, 1200 Broad St. (corner of Broad and Club), ground floor suite, in Durham. Suggested donation is \$5-7. For more information, call

(919) 286-1378.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

• **COMPASSIONATE LIVING FAIR**, featuring exhibits by many progressive groups in the Triangle area, vegetarian food vendors, and a sound stage with local music, will be held today from 1-7 p.m. on Harris Field on the NC State University campus in Raleigh. Cost for participants is \$15 for non-profits, \$25 for merchants and food vendors. For more information, call Janet at (919) 834-9398 or Liz at (919) 319-1067.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

• **LEARNING THE SIGNS OF BREAST CANCER**, a free presentation of the American Cancer Society, tonight from 7-8 p.m. at the Women's Center, 210 Henderson St. in Chapel Hill. For more information, call (919) 968-4610.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

• **WOMEN'S RIVER FESTIVAL** today through Sunday in Farmville, VA. Camping, drumming, workshops, hiking and river games, Ubaka workshop and performance. For more information, write: Of the Woods, P.O. box 758, Farmville, VA 23901.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

• **SECOND SATURDAY FALL GALA**, hosted by the Collections Library, tonight at 226 Baldwin Ave. in Charlotte. Food and musical entertainment will be provided. For more information, call (704) 333-7335.

• **HAYRIDE**, sponsored by Queen City Friends, a lesbian social group, tonight from 7:30-11 p.m. at Carrigan Farms in Mooresville. A bonfire and dinner will follow the hayride. Tickets are \$7 per person, and must be purchased by September 30. Write to: QCF, P.O. Box 410211, Charlotte, NC 28241.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

• **NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY.** For more information, call (800) 866-6263.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

• **CREACH/KOESTER: MEN DANCING**, will be presented tonight at 8 p.m. at the Stewart Theater on the campus of NC State University in Raleigh. The five-per-

# Out There II

"I happen to think homosexuals are very funny," says Amanda Bearse, host of *Out There II*. "When you grow up in an oppressive situation, with a built-in discrimination, one of the best ways to survive is to laugh."

Bearse, best known as Marcy Rhodes D'Arcy on Fox's *Married With Children*, is the only openly gay actor in prime time television. She is characteristically perky — though more earnest than funny — as the host of *Out There II*, the second annual gay comedy special airing on Comedy Central on October 11, National Coming Out Day. In contrast to last year's host, serious dyke Lea Delaria, Bearse seems a less threatening presence, and brief clips featuring Cybil Shepard, Patrick Stewart, and Whoopi Goldberg will provide additional comfort to unknowing straights who tune in accidentally.

"When they asked me to host the show, I was flattered," says Bearse. "I was aware of the first one and the success it had for the gay community and the straight audience that found its way to the show, and I understand that's what my presence lends to this event, gathering as many people to see this lineup of gay talent. And the more people we can get to be aware of who we are and how we do our jobs, the better."

A couple of veteran gay comics give typically strong performances on the program. Lesbian comic Kate Clinton opens the show describing how she straightens up the house for parental visits. And Frank Maya lends a distinctly New York tone to the show, chiding San Francisco for being too gay — "like visiting the gay pavilion at Disneyland."

Newer faces include Toronto's Elvira Kurt, explaining her identity as neither butch nor femme, but an in-between place she calls "fella-girly." Mark Davis is loud, in-your-face, and wound tighter than ever in a superb performance. John McGivern slows the pace down with an excerpt from his show "Midwest Side Story," in a style closer to a monologue than a stand-up routine, McGivern reminisces about his Barbie

son dance company inherently addresses issues of gender and intimacy which exist in men dancing and all human contact. \$18 reserved tickets, \$14 general admis-



Amanda Bearse, star of *Married With Children*

Dream House, his fascination with boxing, and his brief stint as a cheerleader. And perhaps the best moment comes from the young Scott Silverman, who recalls a man who approached him after a performance: "One guy said to me, 'I'm straight, but I've had a homosexual experience.' I said, 'Oh really? What did you do? Buy a pair of shoes and a belt that matched?'"

The show, taped over Stonewall weekend at Caroline's Comedy Club in New York City, holds together quite well, although Bearse's closing is a bit overdone. Her comments about acceptance are welcome, but they seem like preaching to the converted coming at the end of a gay special. And her comments about diversity ring hollow after featuring an all-white cast and audience. Still, the sequel is just as good as the original — laughably good.

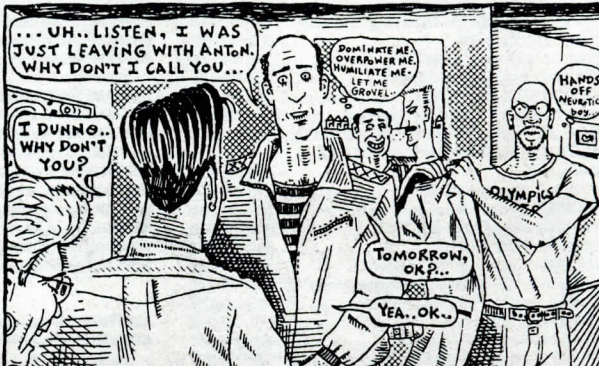
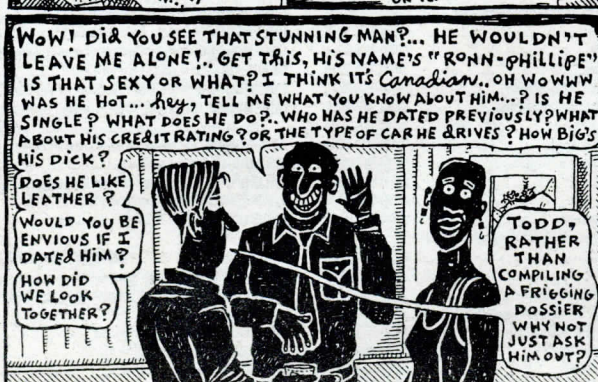
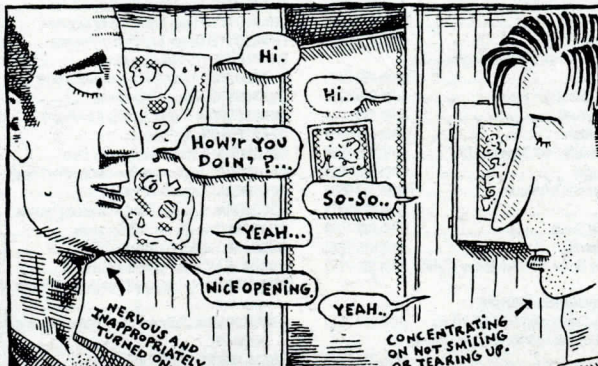
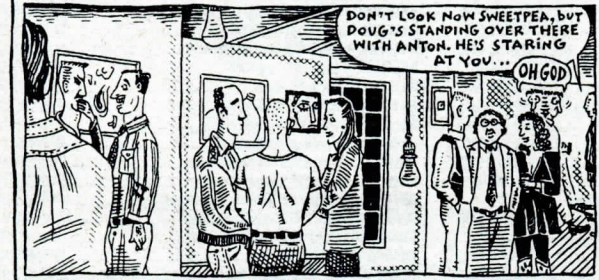
—Wayne Hoffman

sion. A pre-show discussion hosted by dance writer Linda Belans is free with ticket purchase, but reservation. continued

## THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

... by Eric Orner.

CHARLOTTE DRAGS ETHAN, WHO HASN'T GOTTEN OUT MUCH LATELY, TO A GALLERY OPENING FUNDRAISER FOR HOSPICE.





# COMMUNITY RESOURCE DIRECTORY

If your non-profit group would like to be listed in the Community Resource Directory, please send your name, description of group or service, along with a verifiable phone number to: *The Front Page*, Community Resource Directory, PO Box 27928, Raleigh, NC 27611. Changes or corrections should be sent to the same address. This page has been compiled by the staff as a service to the readers of *The Front Page*.

## HOTLINES/SWITCHBOARDS/CRISISLINES

<b>NATIONAL:</b> National AIDS Hotline (24 hrs.)	(800) 342-2437
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Gay/Lesbian Information Line	(704) 253-2971
<b>BURLINGTON:</b> Alamance Gay And Lesbian Alliance	(910) 578-9441
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Orange County Rape Crisis Hotline (24 hrs.)	(919) 967-7273
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Gay/Lesbian Switchboard (6:30-10:30 p.m.)	(704) 535-6277
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Gay/Lesbian Youth Hotline	(704) 362-4408
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Metrolina AIDS Project	(704) 333-2437/(800) 289-2437
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> Hotline (24 hr. crisisline)	(803) 744-4357
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement	(803) 771-7713
<b>DURHAM:</b> Helpline (24 hr. crisisline)	(919) 683-8628
<b>DURHAM:</b> Lesbian and Gay Health Project Helpline (6-9:30 p.m.)	(919) 286-4107
<b>FAYETTEVILLE:</b> Contact (24 hr. crisisline)	(910) 485-4134
<b>GOLDSBORO:</b> Hotline (24 hr. crisisline)	(919) 735-4357
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Alternative Resources of the Triad Hotline (7-10 p.m.)	(910) 274-2100
<b>GREENVILLE, SC:</b> The Switchboard	(803) 422-1645
<b>MYRTLE BEACH:</b> G/L Hotline of the Grand Strand	(803) 946-1575
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> Gay Men's Health Crisis	(212) 807-6655
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Helpline (24 hr. crisisline)	(919) 828-4300
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Gay/Lesbian Helpline	(919) 821-0055
<b>ROANOKE RAPIDS:</b> Crisisline (24 hrs.)	(919) 537-2909
<b>SALISBURY:</b> Dial Help (5-8 p.m. weekdays; all day weekends)	(704) 636-9222
<b>STATESVILLE:</b> Counseling Center of Iredell (24 hrs.)	(704) 872-7638
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA)	(202) 898-0414
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> GROW Switchboard (6-10 p.m.)	(910) 675-9222
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> Crisisline (24 hrs.)	(910) 392-7408
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Alternative Resources of the Triad	(910) 748-0031
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Contact (24 hrs.)	(910) 722-5153

## DOCUMENTATION PROJECTS

To report instances of anti-gay crimes, discrimination or harassment, call one of the following numbers:

<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> SALGA Documentation Project	(704) 253-1656
<b>BURLINGTON:</b> AGALA Documentation Project	(910) 578-5441
<b>DURHAM:</b> NC Lesbian and Gay Health Project	(919) 286-4107
Toll Free Statewide	(800) 625-4470
<b>DURHAM:</b> NC Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality	(919) 286-1378
<b>DURHAM:</b> North Carolinians Against Racist and Religious Violence	(919) 688-5965
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> ART Hotline	(910) 274-2100
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Gay and Lesbian Helpline	(919) 821-0055
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> GROW Switchboard	(910) 675-9222

## AIDS SERVICES/HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS

<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Western NC AIDS Project	(704) 252-7489/(800) 346-3731
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Western NC HIV/AIDS Consortium	(704) 254-0752
<b>BOONE:</b> Mountain AIDS Support Council	(704) 265-4494
<b>BURLINGTON:</b> Alamance CARES	(910) 570-5325
<b>CARTHAGE:</b> South Central HIV CARE Consortium	(910) 947-3300
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> UNC Infectious Disease Clinic	(919) 966-7198
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> AIDS Services Agency of Orange County	(919) 967-0009
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Metrolina AIDS Project	(704) 333-1435
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Regional HIV/AIDS Consortium	(704) 371-6342
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Brothers Foundation	(704) 358-0411
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> NAMES Project	(704) 376-2637
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Project Outreach	(704) 332-9034
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Carolina PWAs	(704) 544-1297
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> The Refuge	(704) 372-5499
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> Low Country AIDS Services	(803) 577-2437
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> AIDS Benefit Foundation	(803) 254-4694
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (PALSS)	(803) 779-7257
<b>DURHAM:</b> Project StraightTalk	(919) 560-7600
<b>DURHAM:</b> Duke Infectious Disease Clinic	(919) 684-5260
<b>DURHAM:</b> Lesbian and Gay Health Project	(919) 286-4107
<b>DURHAM:</b> The AIDS Services Project	(919) 286-7475
<b>DURHAM:</b> Piedmont HIV Health CARE Consortium	(919) 286-5595
<b>DURHAM:</b> AIDS Community Residence Association (ACRA)	(919) 479-4834
<b>ELIZABETH CITY:</b> HIV Health CARE Consortium of the Albemarle	(919) 338-4353
<b>FAYETTEVILLE:</b> Dogwood HIV Consortium	(910) 486-8275
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Alternative Resources of the Triad (ART)	(910) 274-2100
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Triad Health Project	(910) 275-1654
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> NAMES Project	(910) 316-0013
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Eastern Triad HIV Consortium	(910) 275-8333
<b>GREENVILLE:</b> Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PICASO)	(919) 830-1660
<b>GREENVILLE:</b> Eastern NC HIV/AIDS Consortium	(919) 830-6165
<b>GREENVILLE (SC):</b> AID Upstate	(803) 233-8842
<b>GREENVILLE (SC):</b> AIDS CARE Team	(803) 269-0497
<b>HAYESVILLE:</b> Nantahala AIDS Consortium	(704) 389-8052
<b>HICKORY:</b> AIDS Leadership Foothill Alliance (ALFA)	(704) 473-1447/(800) 473-1447
<b>HICKORY:</b> Ryan White Foothills Consortium	(704) 322-1447
<b>HIGH POINT:</b> Triad Health Project	(910) 884-4116
<b>JACKSON:</b> Five Area HIV Consortium Team	(919) 534-5841
<b>JACKSONVILLE:</b> Coastal Carolina HIV CARE Consortium	(910) 347-7941
<b>MYRTLE BEACH:</b> D&R, Inc. (assists homeless PWAs)	(803) 946-3013
<b>MYRTLE BEACH:</b> CARE Team	(803) 626-7590
<b>MYRTLE BEACH:</b> USA, Inc.	(803) 626-5040
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> AmFAR	(212) 682-7470
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> Gay Men's Health Crisis	(212) 807-6664
<b>RALEIGH:</b> AIDS Service Agency of Wake County	(919) 834-2437
<b>ROCKY MOUNT:</b> Edgecombe-Nash-Wilson HIV Consortium	
<b>RUTHERFORDTON:</b> Greater Rutherford AIDS Support Program (GRASP)	(704) 287-0805
<b>SALISBURY:</b> Rowan County AIDS Task Force	(704) 637-8787
<b>SAN FRANCISCO:</b> Project Inform	(800) 822-7422
<b>SPARTANBURG:</b> PALSS/AIDS Support Network	(803) 587-0844
<b>WILLIAMSTON:</b> Down East HIV/AIDS Consortium	(919) 792-7811
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> GROW HIV Resources Project	(910) 675-9222
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> AIDS Task Force	(910) 723-5031
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Northwest HIV CARE Consortium	(910) 721-9332

## POLITICAL/EDUCATIONAL/PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Southern Appalachian Lesbian/Gay Alliance (SALGA)	(704) 645-5908
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> C.L.O.S.E.R.	(704) 277-7815
<b>ATLANTA:</b> Southern Outlook Fund (Fund for Southern Communities)	(404) 577-3178
<b>BURLINGTON:</b> Alamance Gay and Lesbian Alliance (AGALA)	(910) 578-5441
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Lawyers of NC	(919) 929-4984
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> NC NOW	(919) 933-1675
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Lesbian and Gay Democrats	(919) 929-4053
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Orange Lesbian and Gay Alliance (OLGA)	(919) 932-5817
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Many Voices, One Community	(919) 942-2939
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> National Gay/Lesbian Journalists Association	(919) 968-1957
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Collection Library	(704) 333-7335
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Charlotte Business Guild	(704) 579-5520
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> National Gay/Lesbian Journalists Association	(919) 968-1957
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> G/L Faculty Group	(704) 573-1058
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Charlotte Gay Political Action League (CGPAL)	(704) 342-0808
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> Lowcountry Gay and Lesbian Alliance (LGLA)	(803) 720-8088
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> Voters United for Informed Choice in Elections (VOICE)	(803) 571-1804
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> SC Gay and Lesbian Business Guild	(803) 771-7713
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> SC Gay and Lesbian Business Guild (GLPM)	(803) 771-7713
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> National Association of Social Workers Lesbian and Gay Task Force	(803) 771-7713
<b>DURHAM:</b> The Menshi Project	(919) 479-0136
<b>DURHAM:</b> NC Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality (NCCGLE)	(919) 286-1378
<b>DURHAM:</b> NC Veterans Coalition	(919) 596-6779
<b>DURHAM:</b> Gay and Lesbian Archives	(919) 660-5828
<b>FAYETTEVILLE:</b> Lambda Association	(910) 497-4577
<b>GREENVILLE (SC):</b> Voters United for Equality	(803) 843-1070
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Triad Business and Professional Guild	(910) 431-8233
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)	(202) 807-1700
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund	(212) 995-8585
<b>NEW YORK CITY:</b> OUT Fund	(212) 529-5300
<b>RALEIGH:</b> NC Pride PAC For Gay and Lesbian Equality	(919) 829-0343
<b>RALEIGH:</b> HRCF Federal Advocacy Network, District 4	(919) 821-5995
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Triangle Business and Professional Guild	(919) 831-8609
<b>RALEIGH:</b> NC Civil Liberties Union	(919) 834-3390
<b>RALEIGH:</b> People For the American Way	(919) 833-1222
<b>RALEIGH:</b> NC Human Rights Fund	(919) 821-0055
<b>RALEIGH:</b> G/L Returned Peace Corp Vets	(919) 821-7095
<b>RTP:</b> ACT UP/Triangle	(919) 990-1197
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF)	(202) 628-4160
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International	(202) 583-8029
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF)	(202) 332-6483
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund	(202) 842-8679
<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b> Gay and Lesbian Americans	(202) 467-4297
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> GROW (Gay Resources of Wilmington)	(910) 675-9222
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Forsyth Gay and Lesbian Alliance, Inc.	(910) 725-9338
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual History Project	(910) 777-0675

## WOMEN'S RESOURCES

<b>AIKEN:</b> Last Sunday	(803) 649-1869
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Women Outdoors	(704) 254-6873
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Orange County Women's Center	(919) 968-4610
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Orange County Rape Crisis Center	(919) 967-7273
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Rainbow Rec	(919) 929-2736
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Women's Voices	(919) 967-0669
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Lesbians over 40	(704) 573-1058
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> WOW	(704) 483-0951
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Queen City Friends	(704) 542-8718
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Third Wheels (single women's group)	(704) 335-1441
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Lesbian Reading Group	(704) 535-6965
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Les Ms	(803) 929-0114
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Video Night	(803) 929-0114
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Virago	(803) 256-9090
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Lecture Series	(803) 929-0114
<b>DURHAM:</b> The Newsletter	(919) 490-6112
<b>DURHAM:</b> Rape Crisis Center	(919) 286-4546
<b>DURHAM:</b> Our Own Place (Lesbian Center)	(919) 688-0223
<b>DURHAM:</b> Lesbian Health Clinic	(919) 286-4107
<b>DURHAM:</b> Lesbian Avengers	(919) 220-8301
<b>DURHAM:</b> Southern Exposure (women's professional business network)	(919) 490-8489
<b>DURHAM:</b> Third Wednesday Discussion Group	(919) 688-0223
<b>DURHAM:</b> Women Over 30 Potluck	(919) 490-1284
<b>DURHAM:</b> Duke Women's Center	(919) 684-3897
<b>DURHAM:</b> Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC)	(919) 956-8858
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Women's Rugby	(910) 226-0829
<b>HILLSBOROUGH:</b> Country Women's Potluck	(919) 732-9633
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Women's Center	(919) 829-3711
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Raleigh Area Social Group	(919) 828-1948
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> Lesbian Concerns	(910) 675-9222
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Lesbians Up for New Adventure (LUNA)	(910) 591-7752

## RELIGIOUS GROUPS

<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Gay and Lesbian Community/AIDS Ministries	(704) 277-7815
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Asheville Religious Network for Gay and Lesbian Equality (ARNGLE)	(704) 277-7815
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Hosanna Christian Community Ministries	(704) 259-5286
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> MCC	(704) 259-3055
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Unitarian Church	(704) 254-6001
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Baha'i Fellowship	(704) 274-3715
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> American Baptists Concerned	(919) 967-0870
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Jewish Gay/Lesbians/Bisexuals	(919) 942-4057
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Unity Center of Peace	(919) 968-1854
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Binkley Baptist Church	(919) 942-4964
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Community Unitarian Church	(919) 942-2050
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> MCC/Charlotte	(704) 563-5810
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> New Life MCC	(704) 343-9070
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Lutherans Concerned	(704) 366-9416
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Charlotte Interfaith Network for Gay and Lesbian Equality (CINGLE)	(704) 531-0972
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> MCC	(803) 747-6736
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> New Hope Christian Church	(803) 738-0718
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Unitarian Church Common Threads (G/L Group)	(803) 799-0845
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> St. Jude's Community Church	(803) 254-9136
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Community Fellowship MCC	(803) 256-2154
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Lutherans Concerned	(803) 738-1899
<b>DURHAM:</b> Pink Triangles Interweave (Unitarian)	(919) 489-2575
<b>DURHAM:</b> Eno River Unitarian Church	(919) 489-2575

<b>DURHAM:</b> Lesbian/Gay Shabbat	(919) 286-7801
<b>DURHAM:</b> Dignity/Triangle	(919) 489-2560
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> St. Mary's MCC	(910) 272-1606
<b>GREENVILLE, SC:</b> MCC of Greenville	(803) 233-0919
<b>HICKORY:</b> MCC	(704) 324-1960
<b>HILLSBOROUGH:</b> Unitarian Church	(919) 732-5459
<b>KERNERSVILLE:</b> Amazing Grace Christian Church	(919) 996-7466
<b>MYRTLE BEACH:</b> MCC	(803) 448-9341
<b>RALEIGH:</b> St. John's MCC	(919) 834-2611
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Pullen Memorial Baptist	(919) 828-0897
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Integrity/Triangle	(919) 571-1792
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Raleigh Religious Network for Gay and Lesbian Equality (RRNGLE)	(919) 783-7968
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Lutherans Concerned/Triangle	(919) 387-0824
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Unitarian Church	(919) 781-7635
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Affirmation (United Methodists)	(919) 851-5880
<b>SPARTANBURG:</b> Unitarian Church	(803) 585-9230
<b>SPRING HOPE:</b> Kinship (Seventh Day Adventists)	(919) 478-7175
<b>SWANNANOVA:</b> Western NC Religious Network for Gay and Lesbian Equality	(704) 298-8805
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> St. Jude's MCC	(910) 675-9222
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> Unity Christ Church	(910) 763-5155
<b>WILSON:</b> NC Gay and Lesbian Affirming Disciples (GLAD) (Disciples of Christ)	(919) 291-7370
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Interweave (Unitarian G/L group)	(910) 723-7633
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Affirmation (United Methodists)	(910) 922-1777
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> Piedmont Religious Network for Gay and Lesbian Equality (PRNGLE)	(910) 766-9501

## STUDENT/YOUTH/UNIVERSITY GROUPS

<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> OutFit (G/L/B Youth)	(704) 277-7815
<b>BOONE:</b> Sexual Awareness Group at Appalachian	(704) 265-2636
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Bisexuals, Gay Men, Lesbians and Allies United for Diversity (BGLAD) (UNC-CH)	(919) 962-4401
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Time Out (G/L/B Youth)	(704) 377-3399
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Students Allied for Orientational Equality (SAFOE) (UNC)	(704) 568-5587
<b>CLEMSON:</b> Lambda Society	(803) 654-0354
<b>DAVIDSON:</b> Davidson College Friends of Lesbians and Gays	(704) 892-2145
<b>DURHAM:</b> Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues (Duke Law School)	(919) 419-1011
<b>DURHAM:</b> Divinity Students for Gay/Lesbian Concerns (Duke)	(919) 286-6677
<b>DURHAM:</b> Osayimwese (African-Americans on campus)	(919) 688-8921
<b>DURHAM:</b> Duke Dignity (LGB Christians)	(919) 684-2909
<b>DURHAM:</b> Graduate and Professional Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance (Duke)	(919) 419-6158
<b>DURHAM:</b> Divinity Students for Gay/Lesbian Concerns	(919) 286-6677
<b>DURHAM:</b> Outright (G/L/B Youth)	(919) 286-2396/(800) 879-2300
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> G.L.A.S.S. (G/L/B Youth)	(910) 274-2100
<b>RALEIGH:</b> A Safer Place Youth Network (ASPYN)	(919) 851-9544
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Lesbian and Gay Student Union (NC State U.)	(919) 828-5056
<b>DURHAM:</b> Delta Lambda Phi	(919) 490-6223
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> UNCW Gay/Lesbian Association	(910) 675-9222

## SOCIAL GROUPS

SOCIAL GROUPS	
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Alternative Lifestyles Families United Network (ALFUNK).....	(704) 254-2485
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Southern Country.....	(704) 258-2637
<b>ASHEVILLE:</b> Gay Men's Chorus.....	(704) 254-9806
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Men of All Colors Together/Triangle.....	(919) 942-0365
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> G/L/B Over 35.....	(919) 682-0934
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> Grape Myrtle Festival.....	(919) 942-4249
<b>CHAPEL HILL:</b> "The Quest" (discussion group).....	(919) 968-1854
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Men of All Colors Together.....	(704) 537-2309
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Tradesmen Levi/Leather Club.....	(704) 399-8413
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Club Med (G/L health care workers).....	(704) 563-7716
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> G/L UNC/Chapel Hill Alumni.....	(704) 786-8473
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Queer Conversations.....	(704) 332-7473
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Textual Deviants (literary discussion group).....	(704) 527-1438
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Charlotte Gay and Lesbian Film Series.....	(704) 334-5089
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Lambda Car Club International/Carolinas Region.....	(704) 334-8284
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Carolina Bear Lodge.....	(704) 567-6264
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Adventures.....	(704) 596-4500
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Gay Men's Chorus.....	(704) 536-3967
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Prime Timers (Older gay men).....	(704) 374-1099
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Queen City Rollers Bowling.....	(704) 545-0801
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Southern Country.....	(704) 543-0068
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> One Voice Community Chorus.....	(704) 545-0801
<b>CHARLOTTE:</b> Men of Color United.....	(704) 332-7196
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> Trident Knights (Levi/Leather Club).....	(803) 769-2094
<b>CHARLESTON:</b> 40+ Club.....	(803) 763-9666
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Brigade Levi/Leather Club.....	(803) 256-4022
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Lesbian and Gay Community Center.....	(704) 771-7713
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Saturday Mornings Out.....	(803) 799-0845
<b>COLUMBIA:</b> Southern Comfort Bowling League.....	(803) 796-6300
<b>DURHAM:</b> Triangle Art and Company.....	(919) 687-6913
<b>DURHAM:</b> English Country Dancing.....	(919) 683-9672
<b>DURHAM:</b> NC Pride Marching Band.....	(919) 286-5123
<b>DURHAM:</b> Umoja (gays and lesbians of African-American descent).....	(919) 220-6738
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Girth and Mirth (large men and their admirers).....	(910) 274-2100
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Firehouse Society.....	(910) 274-2100
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Men of All Colors Together.....	(910) 274-2100
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Bicycle Boyz From Hell.....	(910) 299-9683
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Tarheel Outdoor Sports Fellowship (TOSF).....	(910) 299-9683
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Tarheel Leather Club.....	(910) 272-6307
<b>GREENSBORO:</b> Wilderness Network of the Carolinas.....	(910) 622-3776
<b>GREENVILLE:</b> Greenville Area Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Community.....	(919) 355-2999/(919) 321-1689
<b>IRACKSONVILLE:</b> Onslow Area Society in Service (OASIS).....	(910) 675-9222
<b>MOREHEAD CITY:</b> Our Gang.....	(910) 240-1914
<b>RALEIGH:</b> Kings and Queens Bowling League.....	(919) 832-3747
<b>WILMINGTON:</b> Menomare Levi/Leather Club.....	(910) 675-9222
<b>WINSTON-SALEM:</b> H.E.A.R.T.S.....	(910) 766-0150



## Dykes To Watch Out For



tions must be made. For more information, call (919) 515-1100.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at 7 p.m. at Blue Stocking Books, 829 Gervais St. in Columbia. For more information, call (803) 788-5561.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at White Rabbit Books in Charlotte today (314 Rensselaer Dr.), at 7 p.m. For more information, call (704) 377-4067.

• *SOUND AND BEAUTY*, two short plays by David Henry Hwang, and directed by Mary Ruth, will be performed tonight by Echo Stage at Man bites Dog Theater, corner of Club Blvd. and N. Roxboro Rd. in Durham. The two plays, *The Sound of A Voice* and *The House of Sleeping Beauties*, are grounded in the Japanese heritage, supplemented by contemporary perception. Other performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, and October 20-22, all at 8 p.m. There will be one Sunday matinee, October 23 at 3:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for all performances, and advance reservations are strongly encouraged. For more information, call (919) 220-6779.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

• *DARK RAPTURE*, written by Eric Overmyer and directed by Jeffery West, will be presented tonight and tomorrow at 8 p.m. at Gallery II, second floor of Artspace, 201 E. Davie St. in Raleigh. Additional performances will be held October 21-22, and 27-29, all at 8 p.m. and October 23 and 30 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for senior citizens, students and groups of ten or more. For more information, call (919) 832-9607.

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at White Rabbit Books in Greensboro today (1833 Spring Garden St.), at 7 p.m. For more information, call (910) 272-7604.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

• ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE: AN EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, sponsored by the NC Pride PAC for Gay and Lesbian Equality, will be held today from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Bur-Mil Club in Greensboro. The workshop is designed to teach lesbians and gay men about the General Assembly, lobbying as a constituent, mobilizing in their communities and building bridges to other

## Organizing For Change

The North Carolina Pride PAC for Gay and Lesbian Equality will hold a one-day conference this month to help gay men and lesbians learn to participate more fully in the political process.

"Organizing for Change: An Educational Workshop on the Legislative Political Process," will be held on Saturday, October 15 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Bur-Mil Club in Greensboro. The workshop is designed to teach lesbians, gay men and bisexuals about the NC General Assembly, lobbying as a constituent, mobilizing local communities around gay and lesbian issues, and building bridges to supporting communities. The workshop will also include a discussion of strategies to amend the state's "crime against nature" law.

"Organizing for Change" is part of Pride PAC's Pride ACT (Active Constituents Talk) Network. The Network is a new program designed to involve activists at the community level in the political process. Participants in the Network have been registering voters and preparing to work in campaigns of Pride PAC-endorsed candidates for the General Assembly.

The workshop is open to everyone and the cost is \$5, which includes lunch. To register, or for more information, call (919) 829-0343.

groups. Cost of the workshop is \$5, which includes lunch. For more information, call (919) 829-0343.

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at White Rabbit Books in Raleigh today (309 W. Martin St.), at 7 p.m. For more information, call (919) 856-1429.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at Phoenix Rising West in Roanoke today (26 Kirk Ave., SW), from 4-6 p.m. For more information, call (703) 485-6886.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at Phoenix Rising East in Norfolk today (808 Spotswood Ave.), from 4-6 p.m. For more information, call (804) 622-3701. She will also be signing today at Bad Habits, Etc. (6123 Sewells Point Rd.), from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (804) 722-6251.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at Out Right Books in Virginia Beach today (485 S. Independence Blvd., Suite 110), from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (804) 722-6251.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at Phoenix Rising in Richmond today (19 N. Belmont Ave.), from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (804) 355-7939.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

• LAVENDER LAW IV, the fourth biennial conference of the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association, today through Sunday in Portland, OR. For more information, call (202) 389-0161.  
• SERVICE OF HEALING AND RECONCILIATION, sponsored by Lutherans Concerned, tonight at 7:30 p.m. at 728 Pickens St. on the USC campus in Columbia. For more information, call (803) 738-1899.  
• KATHERINE FORREST, author of *Curious Wine* and *Flashpoint*, an editor for Naiad Press and winner of two Lambda Literary Awards, will sign copies of her books at Purple Moon in Fredericksburg today (810 Caroline St.), from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (703) 372-9885.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

• WOMEN'S RUGBY MATCH, Eno River v. NoVa. For time and place of the match, call Mary at (910) 226-0829.  
• CAPOEIRA PERFORMANCE by Edna Lima-Loeber, first female master of Capoeira worldwide and Karate Hall of Fame Competitor of the Year, tonight at 8 p.m. at Binkley Baptist Fellowship Hall, 1712 Willow Dr. in Chapel Hill. Sponsored by the Southern Women's

Martial Artist Network, this benefit performance also features persussionist Beverly Botsford plus local women martial artists and drummers. Tickets are \$9-14 advance purchase, \$10-15 at the door. For more information, call (919) 286-7582.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

1994 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL BISEXUAL CONFERENCE, today through Sunday at Camp Chestnut Ridge in Efland. Hosted by the NC Bisexual Network (BiNET), the conference will focus on a wide variety of issues affecting the bisexual community. Registration is \$80. Persons with limited income may apply for reduced registration. For more information, call the conference hotline at (919) 834-4494.

• HALLOWEEN DANCE, sponsored by WOW, a lesbian social group, tonight from 9:30 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Charlotte. For more information, call (704) 483-0951.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

• HALLOWEEN PARTY, "A Night at the Circus," sponsored by the Lowcountry Gay and Lesbian Alliance (LGLA) tonight from 8-11:30 p.m. at Gage Hall, 4 Archdale St. in Charleston. \$5 suggested donation. For more information, call (803) 720-8088.  
• HALLOWEEN DANCE, sponsored by the Triad Business and Professional Guild, tonight from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. Tickets are \$25 for members, \$30 for others. For more information, call (910) 431-8233.

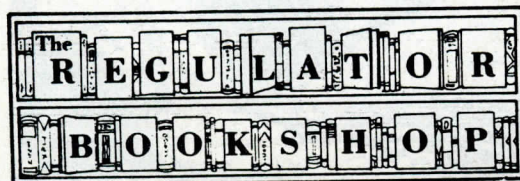
## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

• SUSANNE WESTENHOFER, nationally known lesbian comic, will be performing at 8 p.m. at Brendle Recital Hall on the campus of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Proceeds benefit the Lesbian Breast Cancer Project of the NC Lesbian and Gay Health Project. For more information, call (910) 722-3676.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The Regulator Bookshop in Durham begins its "First Tuesday" Poetry Series on October 4 with Kate Daniels and Michael Chitwood. Readings will be held every first Tuesday from 7-8 p.m., and the authors will be available to sign books after the readings. The Regulator is located at 720 Ninth Street. For more information, call (919) 286-2700.  
• The Ladyslipper Holiday Extravaganza is looking for creative artists for its annual sale. For more information, call (919) 932-3209.

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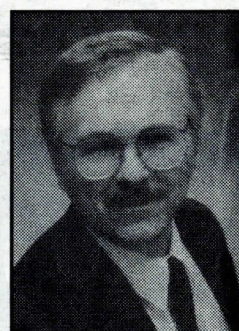
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# UN Suspends ILGA

by Rex Wockner

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) suspended the groundbreaking, year-old consultative status of the International Lesbian and Gay Association September 16 after research by U.S. officials revealed that ILGA still has one pedophile organization among its 300-plus member groups.

ILGA, a 16-year-old association of gay-rights organizations from around the world, thought it had expelled its only three pedophile member groups during its July annual conference in New York and did not know the true nature of the Munich, Germany, group Vereinluer Sexuelle Gleichberechtigung (VSG) until told of it by U.S. officials the day of the suspension, ILGA Secretary General Hans Hjerpekkon of Norway and U.S. ILGA leader Julie Dorf told *The Front Page* September 19.

ILGA's ECOSOC status had been targeted by the U.S. and the U.N. since last October when the anti-gay magazine *The Lambda Report* revealed that the North American Man/Boy Love Association was then an ILGA member and the U.S. Congress, led by Sen. Jesse Helms, responded by mandating a cutoff of \$118 million in U.S. funding of several international organizations, including the U.N., unless they proved they had not granted "any official status, accreditation, or recognition to any organization which promotes, condones, or seeks the legalization of pedophilia, or which includes as a subsidiary or member any such organization."

In response — and following great controversy — ILGA members voted 214-30 at the New York conference to expel NAMBLA and the two other

pedophile organizations they knew about. ILGA leaders and many members said they felt manipulated by U.S. politicians and were worried that other minorities within ILGA, such as sadomasochists, could be targeted next, but nonetheless said removing boy-lovers was a lesser evil than losing the unprecedented and hard-won U.N. status.

In announcing the suspension, the U.N. said ILGA can regain its consultative status if it expels VSG and proves to the U.N. Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations that no other ILGA member group condones pedophilia. Hjerpekkon and Dorf said the ILGA Secretariats Committee may be able to expel VSG without waiting for next summer's annual conference because this year's conference passed a resolution stating, "Groups or associations whose main objective is to promote or support pedophilia are not compatible with the future development of ILGA." Proving that no other member group condones pedophilia could be more complicated given the communications problems of an understaffed global organization and the fact that

**"After a year of our working in good faith, to have this pulled on us was shocking."**

some member groups have no written policy on the matter.

Dorf, executive director of the San Francisco-based International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission and a member of the ILGA Secretariats Committee, said September 19 that ILGA was "furious and outraged" that the U.S. did not tell the association what it had learned about VSG until the very day the U.N. moved to suspend ILGA.

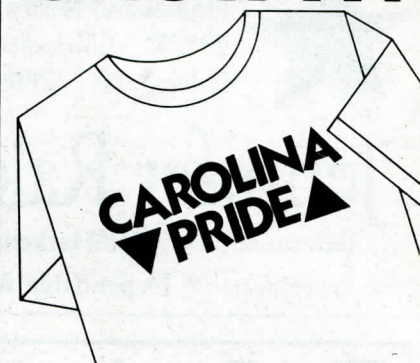
"After a year of our working in good faith, to have this pulled on us was shocking," she said.

"My position," Secretary General Hjerpekkon added by phone from Norway, "is that the U.S. government is positioning itself for the November elections. Haiti is part of that and we're one small part of that. Instead of working with us in good faith, they chose not to give the issue of our membership a battle in these final weeks before the elections."

ILGA achieved consultative status in ECOSOC in July 1993, which allowed it to observe meetings and conferences and present papers to U.N. human-rights bodies. It was the only gay organization with U.N. status.

After *The Lambda Report* story broke, the U.S. mission to the U.N. said it never would have supported ILGA's U.N. membership if it had known about NAMBLA, and began moves to revoke ILGA's status. ILGA persuaded the U.S. to hold off until ILGA's annual convention, since the ILGA constitution required a vote by the entire membership to remove a member organization. In the intervening time, the Helms measure sailed through Congress, upping the stakes in the matter for the U.N. and the U.S.

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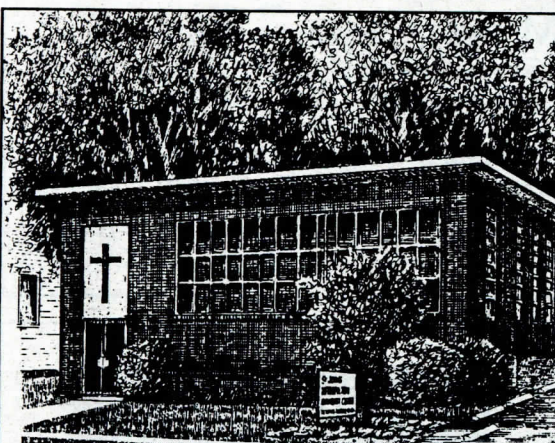
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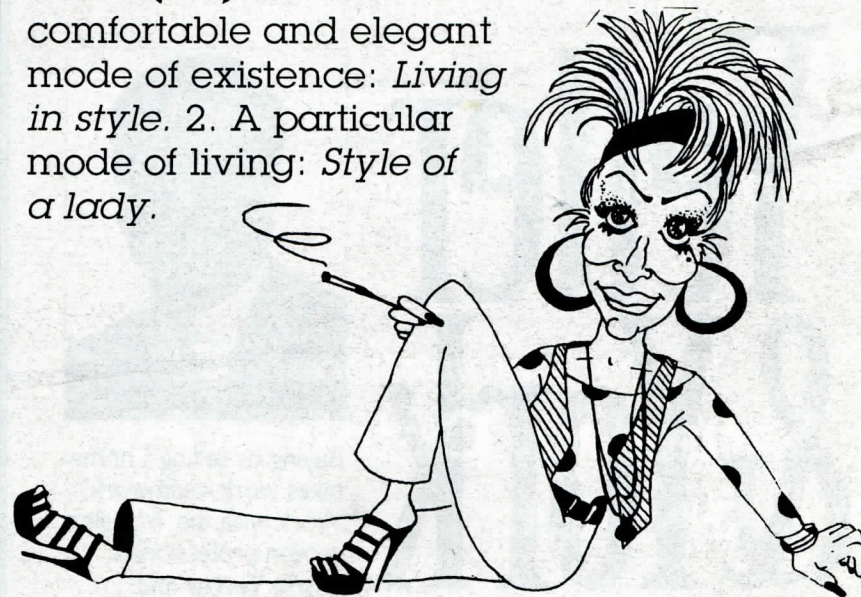
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## Dragging the Truth from Priscilla's Creator

Continued from page 11

that.' I said, 'But it's got a punchline.' I really dug in my nails in over this one."

Amblin/Universal is making an American three-drag-queens-on-the-road movie, *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*, to open next year. They're probably afraid *Priscilla* will be to their film what *Tombstone* was to *Wyatt Earp*, because Elliott says they "summoned a print a few weeks ago."

Having read the script to *Wong Foo*, he maintains they're "quite different films. The gag in theirs is that people think the men are real women. They can't make that mistake with ours." Elliott's characters represent a new wave of drag queens that's come along in the last few years: "They don't do Shirley Bassey and Barbara Streisand anymore. Even the drag queens got tired of the old way and became more extreme. They had to. The woman they were trying to impersonate had disappeared."

Finding his stars was no easy task. Elliott talks as if he wanted straight actors all along ("I wanted to really surprise the audience by casting people no one would suspect"), but later admits his initial call was for real drag queens. "None of them showed up," he says, "except for one, who threw up on the casting couch. Two days into the casting we knew this wouldn't work."

Instead he went in the other direction, casting Peace, a macho Aussie TV heartthrob, and Weaving, who had hetero roles in *Proof* and *Frauds*. For the transsexual Bernadette, Elliott says, "we drew up a list. I asked, 'Who is one of the better-looking heterosexual icons?' 'Terence Stamp, who wound up in the part, was 'way down on the list because I thought, no way would he ever do this.'"

Elliott says he was attracted to Stamp by "that stillness. He's got those eyes. When he's not talking and he just looks at you... But underneath it all he's this big, sloppy puppy. Here we have a man who's been taking women's clothes off for years, and now he has to put them on."

"I chose three actors who absolutely threw themselves into it," the filmmaker goes on. "I could see in the screen tests that most actors were too frightened of what people would think, and they held back. The moment I smelled fear, that was it."

In the film, the drag queens evoke a variety of responses from residents of the rural towns they pass through. In reality, people paid less attention. "The country's grown," Elliott says. "They didn't care. They didn't give a toss out there." As for Sydney, where the journey begins, he calls it "an incredibly cosmopolitan, tolerant city. You can do anything in Sydney."



Stephan Elliott

Photo by Steve Warren

Stamp, who says he hadn't been to Sydney in 20 years before starting the film, confirms this: "One of the things that make Sydney so wonderful is their total acceptance of their third-sex community."

Initial audience reactions to *Priscilla* surprised Elliott, who says he knew people would be entertained by the comedy but didn't expect them to be moved by the tender moments. "I went out to shock them, and people are genuinely loving it!"

He had a dual surprise at the San Francisco International Film Festival. "The crowd was insane!" he reports. "They gave the picture a standing ovation." but then, at a Q&A session, "militant gay groups started in on me. They said there was not enough about this issue, not enough about AIDS... I told them, if you want to see that movie, you make it. I made the one I wanted to make."

"The gay movement has suddenly become very powerful and their agenda is being shoved down

people's throats," Elliott says. "I believe in it, I believe it's gonna happen, but not overnight. This kiss on *Melrose Place* will happen, but not this year. You can't change people that fast. I made a deliberate effort to take it slow, to make a picture that could reach a huge audience. It I'd made it their [the activists'] way, it would have been shoved into art houses and only queens would have seen it."

Aside from Tick's lesbian wife, there are only two female roles of any significance in *Priscilla*. One is a mail-order bride brought over from the Philippines ("They do exist," Elliott defends), the other a butch broad who gets into a drinking contest with Bernadette ("...just a sight gag; it could have been anyone, but I thought a woman would be more interesting.").

Asked why there are no "normal women" in his film Elliott responds, "Most of the gay men I know are misogynistic. They have very little contact with women."

It's obvious that *Priscilla* had considerable gay

input, but only one person involved is acknowledged to be gay; Elliott calls him "the only practicing drag queen" on the picture. That is Strykermeyer, a founding member of the new wave drag troupe The Scary Fairies Show, who is credited as hair and make-up artist and Executive Drag Consultant. Because of his lifestyle, Elliott says, "daylight hours were impossible for him."

But what about Stephan Elliott, who knows gay people well enough to portray them accurately on screen and expresses a belief in the "gay agenda," even if he's less impatient than some of us about seeing it realized?

"Are you gay?" I ask him point-blank.

"I don't know," he says, looking me in the eye; "and I don't particularly care. There's a bit of Hugo Weaving's [bisexual] character floating around in me..."

I suspect the answer might have been different if I'd met Elliott in Australia a year or two ago, before those Hollywood offers started pouring in.

In *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, Stephan Elliott shows that he wants to entertain, not make bold statements. And that's his right. But somewhere there has to be someone with his ability to entertain, who will also make those bold statements for us. They must be made.

**"Even the drag queens got tired of the old way and became more extreme."**

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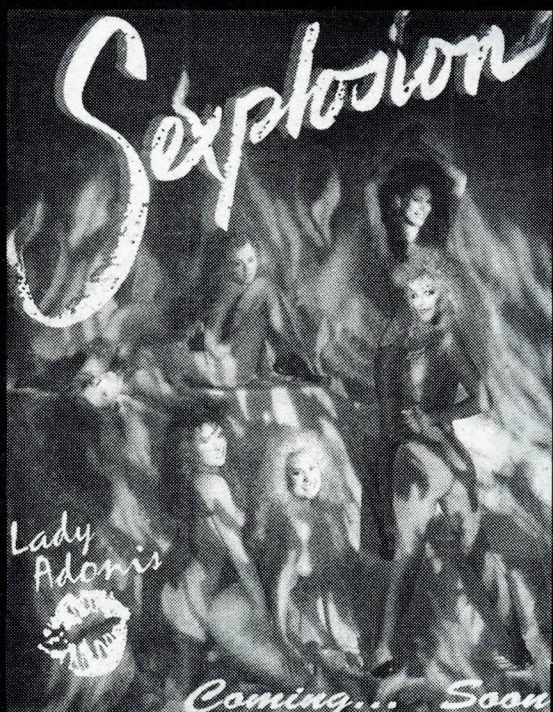
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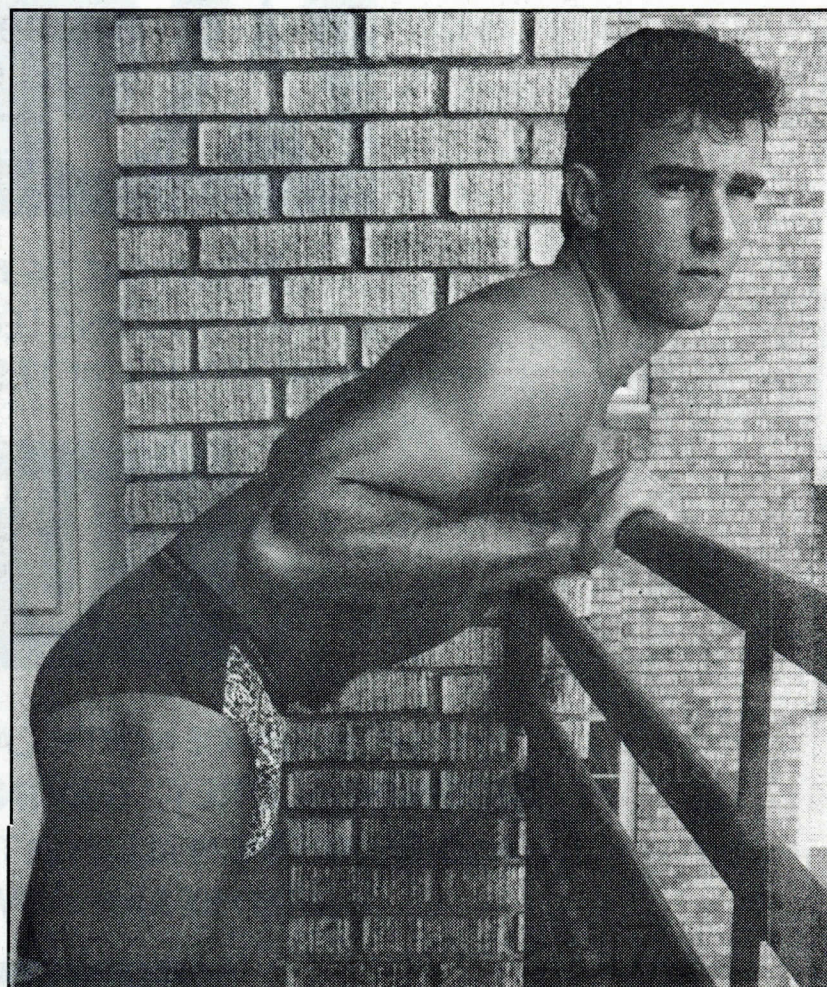


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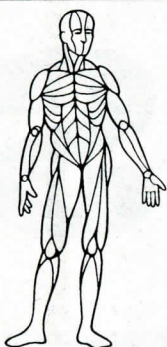


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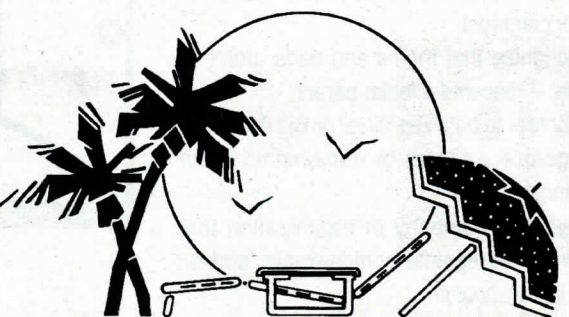
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# The Religious Right's Move Into National Politics

*Analysis by Keith Clark*

While the religious right has been slowly making inroads in state Republican parties and at local electoral posts from coast to coast for several years, it has been clear for some time that Pat Robertson and his Christian Coalition have had their sights on higher office and wider dominance of the national GOP. At the group's annual convention in mid-September, it has become clear how close Robertson and his allies are to achieving that goal.

Conservative Christians, for example, played a major role in the selection of Oliver North as the Republican Senate nominee from Virginia, a race that now looks like a dead heat for the retired Marine colonel convicted of lying to the same legislative body where he is now seeking a seat. And although he lost by a 2-to-1 margin in the Minnesota Republican gubernatorial primary on Sept. 13, anti-gay fundamentalist candidate Allen Quist made history of a sort by becoming the first Christian right gubernatorial candidate to run with a major party's endorsement.

In two other statewide races around the country, former Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft is running for a seat in the U.S. Senate, and in South Carolina, David Beasley is running for his state's governorship. While neither Ashcroft nor Beasley is publicly hawking an overtly Christian right platform, both have rock-ribbed Christian Coalition backing.

The Christian Coalition's growing influence within the GOP was also clear from the number of prospective 1996 GOP presidential candidates who showed up to woo the organization's million-plus membership — from former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp and Senator Phil Gramm to

ex-Vice President Dan Quayle.

While the religious right has until recently focused on winning fairly limited public offices on local boards, the shift recently has been into a higher level of politics — at both the electoral level and within the GOP hierarchy. In the state Republican Party in California, for example, Dr. Stanley Monteith, one of the "AIDS experts" who appeared in the virulently anti-gay Robertson propaganda video "The Gay Agenda," now chairs the GOP's health and human services committee.

The stirrings of the religious right to greater and greater clout in public policy issues — beyond winning seats on local school boards — was also clear from the rhetoric at the Christian Coalition's convention. Robertson said that the organization is becoming "one of the most powerful political forces that's ever been in the history of American." And Ralph Reed, the coalition's executive director, told the convention-goers, "Our goal in the next two months is to see the largest turnout of evangelical and pro-family Roman Catholic voters in the history of this country," charging that the Clinton administration's policy on gays "hasn't been friendly to either families or family values."

Even fairly moderate Republicans sometimes find themselves cozying up to the far-right fringe. Arch-homophobe and discredited psychologist Paul Cameron of the Family Research Institute wrote to his supporters recently, "We've been busy since last you heard from us. [Gov. Pete] Wilson's office called for help on the gay marriage issue. The California Governor's office asked FRI for research and theory against homosexual marriage."

continued on page 31

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Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund  
Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC)  
Hopeline  
Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF)  
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Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund  
Lesbian & Gay Health Project (LGHP)  
The NAMES Project  
National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA)  
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF)  
NC Pride PAC  
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG)  
People For The American Way  
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If you'd like to know how to get in touch with any of these organizations, call us at 919-755-9599.





# Closets Are For Clothes

**Take your next step! Coming out is one of the most empowering acts for any gay man, lesbian, or bisexual person. By coming out, gay people serve to inspire, educate and inform gay and non-gay Americans by presenting the true diversity of the gay community. It is up to us to let the world know the truth about who we are. Below are some suggestions for taking your next step!**

- Take a lover/partner home for the holidays.
- Come out to your family — parents, grandparent, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, and/or children.
- Circulate a petition in your office in support of a gay/lesbian anti-discrimination law initiative.
- Put your lover's photo on your desk at work.
- Consider leaving your gay and lesbian books out on the shelves when mom visits.
- Move your favorite fantasy man/woman poster to a prominent place in your house.
- Go to your local jeweler with your lover to shop for matching rings — or earrings!
- Stop lying to your fraternity brother about all the women you've had.
- Register your china pattern when you and your partner make a commitment.

- Send flowers to someone and don't use initials on the card.
- Acknowledge that "those roses" are not from your mother.
- Send a friend a copy of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* or Florence King's *Confessions of a Failed Southern Lady* and offer to talk about it when they've finished.
- Call a radio talk show and introduce a gay/lesbian topic.
- Tell a friend you are going climbing with a gay hiking club.
- Read *The Front Page* on the bus or in a restaurant without hiding the headlines.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper commenting on their coverage (or lack of coverage) of the gay community.
- Contact your local university and offer to answer questions for the Human Sexuality class.
- Call him a him and her a her when talking about your love life.
- Write a letter to your Senator or Representative in support of lesbian/gay rights.
- Take a non-gay friend to a lesbian/gay event.
- Show up at a gay organization's meeting instead of promising that you'll do it "someday."
- Invite your straight and gay friends to the same party.

- Hold hands publicly.
- Have both your names on your magazine subscriptions.
- Check into a hotel under Mr. and Mr. or Ms. and Ms.
- Speak the truth when asked, "So are you engaged yet?"
- Tell three people "who would never suspect a thing" that you are gay.
- Visit a basically straight bookstore that sells lesbian/gay titles and openly browse.
- Include your gay family in traditional family or religious functions.
- Come out to your landlord, neighbors and co-workers.
- Be affectionate with your lover or partner upon arrival or departure at the airport.
- Put a rainbow bumper sticker on your car, and wave back when somebody honks.
- Confront your co-workers about a bigoted joke or comment.
- Recognize that moms and dads aren't all straight — become a foster parent.
- Volunteer to be a Big Sister or Big Brother.
- Organize a march or demonstration for lesbian/gay rights.
- Boycott a company or organization that discriminates against homosexuals, and *let them know about it!*
- Offer *your* opinion when the conversation turns to gay men or lesbians during the office break.

- Take a date to a romantic restaurant — and *be romantic*
- Call a gay and lesbian hotline or service organization and volunteer.
- Tell a gay or lesbian group *not* to keep your name confidential.
- Tell your mail carrier what the initials HRCF or NCCGLE stand for on your mail.
- Choose to resolve any personal issues that interfere with your accepting and loving yourself as a gay man or lesbian.



OCTOBER 11

**An educational project of the  
Human Rights Campaign Fund  
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# National Coming Out Day

## Tuesday, October 11



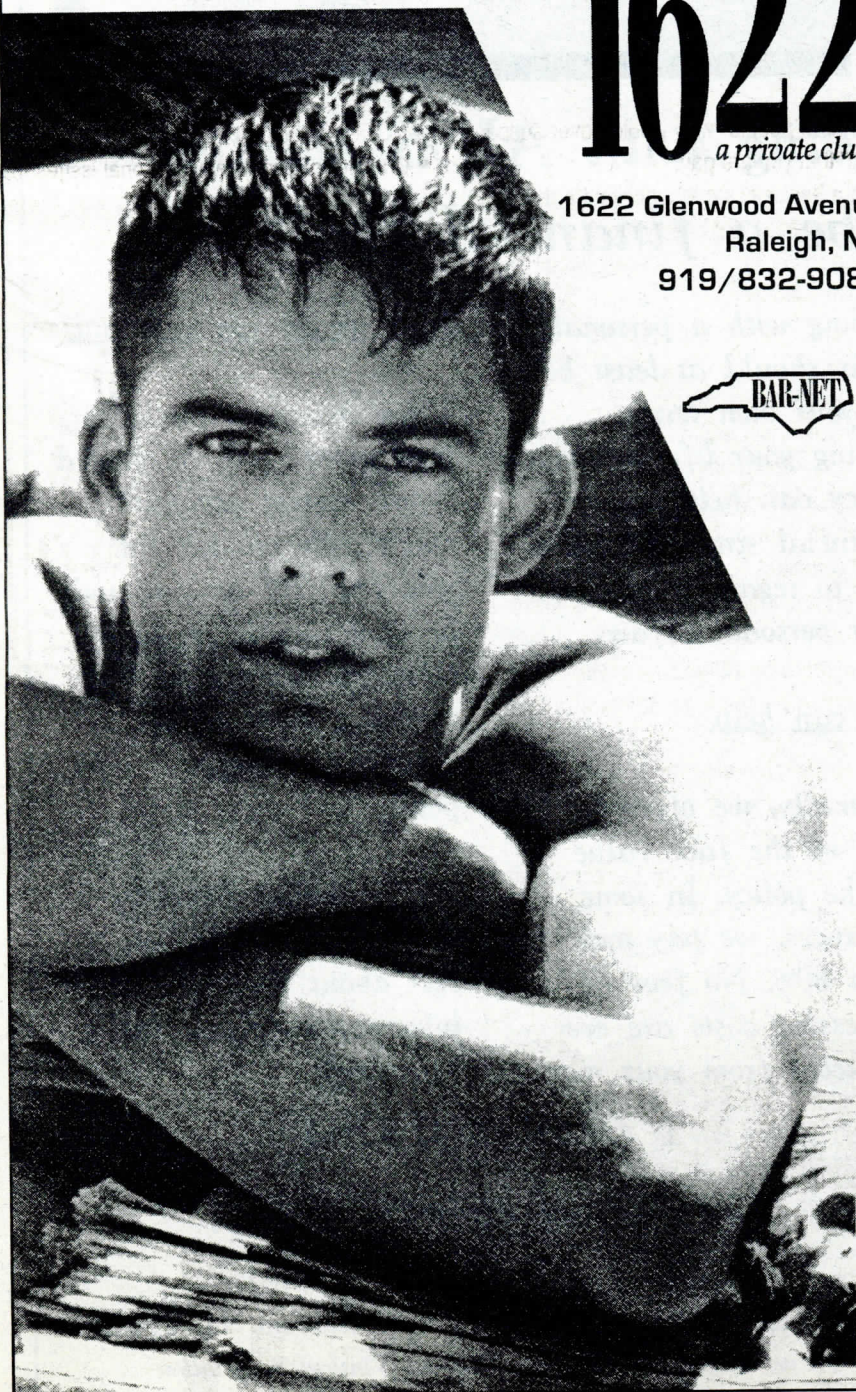
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Continued from page 29

Wilson, who supports a woman's right to abortion and is generally viewed as a moderate Republican, recently vetoed a statewide domestic partner bill. His office would neither confirm nor deny that it had contacted Cameron's group about the legislation.

By far the boldest statement of the religious right's quest for greater and greater power, however, came from Randal Terry, leader of the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue, who last year told his fundamentalist followers, "I want you to just let a wave of intolerance wash over you.... I want you to let a wave of hatred wash over you. Yes, hate is good.... Our goal is a Christian nation. We have a biblical duty, we are called by God, to conquer this country. We don't want equal time. We don't want pluralism."

Gay Republicans nationally have recognized the danger the religious right's rising dominance and control of the GOP poses, although some Republican activists says it may take another disastrous presidential loss to drive the point home to rank-and-file party stalwarts.

GOP pollster Frank Luntz recently reported at a closed meeting of House Republicans how far afield ordinary voters see the GOP as it increasingly comes under the sway of the religious right's social agenda. "Americans think politicians in general, and Republicans in particular, are out of touch," he said. Luntz told the legislators that voters "need a vision for the future," but that to many Americans "the Republican Party of today has no vision for tomorrow."

With the near-complete dominance by Robertson's Christian Coalition in the GOP and far-right functionaries like Monteith in the party's offices from coast to coast, some moderate Republicans like Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Kansas Sen. Nancy Kassebaum have become alarmed at the sweep of their party by the religious right's agenda too.

"If we let this thing continue to percolate without attacking it head-on," Specter said recently, "we will assure President Clinton's re-election."

Kassebaum shares Specter's assessment, noting that the religious right "has taken over a lot in Kansas, including my own county organization."

This is nothing new to activists in the gay oriented Log Cabin clubs around the country. But Frank Ricchiazzi, an assistant director at the California Department of Motor Vehicles and one of the state's best-known gay Log Cabin Republicans, has little sympathy for the sudden awakening of mainstream politicians like Kassebaum and Specter to the problem and says much of the trouble comes from a failure of party leaders like them to counter far-right inroads.

"We're waiting for leadership," Ricchiazzi said,

"but they're turning around and saying, No, we're waiting for the followers. If you're always afraid of the wackos, it ain't gonna work."

Rich Tafel, national president of the Federation of Log Cabin Clubs in Washington, D.C., points to the election of more gay-positive Republicans, such as Massachusetts Gov. William Weld, Minnesota Gov. Arne Carlson, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, — almost in spite of religious right-controlled Republican Party machinery — as a key in ultimately discrediting the viability of the religious right's agenda.

"The only way it's going to change is if somebody can make the argument to pragmatic Republicans that it just doesn't work, and here I can show you race after race after race," Tafel said. "The reality is that these people [Republicans backed by the religious right] aren't winning elections, and pragmatic, self-interested Republicans who want to get elected are going to find themselves more and more running against the party — like Carlson did and like Weld when he first ran and like Riordan and Giuliani did."

### Gays and Lesbians From Across the Country Help to Elect Robb

Gay men and lesbians across the country are working to re-elect Sen. Charles S. Robb (D-VA), whom they regard as a leader with the courage to condemn discrimination against gays despite the obvious political risks.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund has made Robb's campaign against Republican nominee Oliver North one of its top priorities.

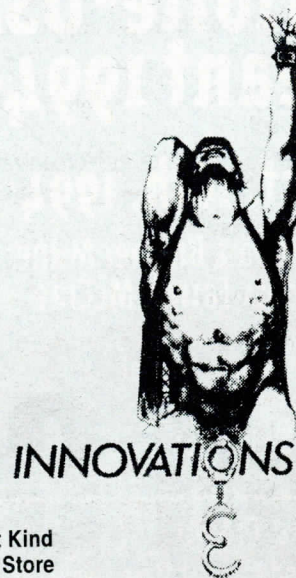
"The radical right views Chuck Robb's convictions on lesbian and gay equality as a weakness, and will attempt to use this against him to defeat him," executive director Tim McFeeley wrote members. "We need to prove that Chuck Robb can beat the radical right this year in Virginia."

The fund has contributed the maximum allowable \$10,000 and several members of the fund have held private fund-raisers for Robb, McFeeley said.

David Mixner, a gay-rights activist from California, mailed an appeal to several thousand people nationwide soliciting contributions for Robb.

At Richmond's annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade earlier this month, some participants said they were motivated as much by support for Robb as they were by opposition to North.

Robb, a Marine company commander in Vietnam, has spoken out for efforts to include gays in the military, provided they don't engage in behavior that is disruptive or bad for morale.



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**Our Own Place Moves**

Continued from page 1

Harris said. "But then over the last ten years our community has changed. Now we have families and partners and our own social circles. We have jobs where we can be out, and after work, we like to go home and watch TV. If we want to go out there are bars and concerts and movies and we don't have to just go to community dances and community centers anymore."

As owner of Blue Moon Productions, a local company that has brought Holly Near, The Flirtations, and Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie (among others) to the Triangle, Harris says the changes are broad-reaching, but concedes that for a community center like OOP the results could be disastrous. "OOP is going from month to month trying to make ends meet. The changing nature of the Triangle lesbian community has made that even tougher. Hopefully, this move will make a positive difference."

One step toward that positive outcome OOP's board members took at their September 23 meeting was to agree to the move to the Professional Building. The lower rent will allow OOP to "live within its pocketbook," according to Michener, and the one year lease allows members time to look for another, permanent location without so much pressure. The large open space will accommodate live entertainment "in a setting more like an auditorium so everyone can see," Michener said, and the new space will also allow plenty of room for the Book Exchange and *The Newsletter*, as well as office space for the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians.

Another thing Michener hopes will come from the move is the opportunity for increased contact between OOP and other lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender organizations. Also located in the Professional Building's basement are the offices of the NC Lesbian and Gay Health Project, the NC Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality, the Triangle AIDS Service Project, and the OutRight! youth group. Michener sees the proximity to other

organizations as a chance for OOP to network and connect more with the community across the state.

The commitment to work with the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians is also a significant advantage of the move, according to Loretta DeLoggio, an OOP board member and a contributor to *The Newsletter*. In the September issue, DeLoggio wrote, "From OOP's earliest days, the members bemoaned the lack of diversity in the group; now we have been offered our chance for diversity on a silver platter."

Janice Vaughn, co-founder of the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians with Wanda Floyd, will serve on OOP's board and will have an active role in shaping OOP's programming and policies.

Michener said that, to her knowledge, the entire OOP membership was enthusiastic about the cooperative effort. "We're very pleased and excited to be working with the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians. It seems like it will be a very mutually beneficial arrangement."

One aspect of the joint effort is evident in grant proposals OOP recently submitted to several agencies throughout the United States to start an internship program at the center. Along with interns to work on fundraising and "arts and entertainment" programming, OOP board members proposed intern positions to coordinate minority and college outreach, and to focus on health and education in a way that would increase OOP's active networking role.

As Michener lists the advantages of the move—affordable rent, security building, space enough for everything including the pool table—she admits that she expects the debate about keeping OOP as women-only space to heat up in the future.

"One aspect of being this close to organizations like LGHP and NCCGLE is being able to let them use our space for meetings and things. But then we have to decide what to do about our current women-only policy. So far the debate's mostly been theoretical, but more and more we've been talking about letting mixed groups use OOP space



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for their events. Maybe there'll be mixed-group times and women-only times."

She adds, "There is something really positive to be gained from gathering as women and honoring and respecting women-only space. It's not a negative, I-hate-men thing. It's a very positive thing. After all, there are times to be separate and times to be together and I think we naturally flow from one to the other. For some separatism is where they'll be for their whole lives. But for many, when you've gone to one extreme or the other, I think you tend to go back toward the middle. That seems to be a human condition, not just a gay condition."

"But there are some women who are total separatists who want nothing to do with men. So I think this issue will come up. All voices are presently being heard at OOP."

Despite the changes, real and potential, OOP continues to be a chem-free, smoke-free space, though beer is occasionally allowed and women can step out onto the porch for a smoke. The new space is also wheelchair accessible via a ramp from the parking lot to the back door and an elevator down to the basement. The regular hours will continue to be Friday and Saturday nights, though members are often in during the day. And OOP and the Center for Nonwhite Lesbians will continue to use *The Newsletter* to get the word out about special events and programs.

Michener says she's excited about the move and the potential for OOP's next year. "We're really looking forward to returning to the vitality and the energy OOP enjoyed during the time when Lucy Harris was executive director. There was so much going on then."

"We've sustained for five years, which is a really great thing. But we want to go beyond the struggle of making it from hand to mouth."

"We're ready to start the positive, upward spiral."

Membership in OOP is \$52/year, which can be

paid \$13/quarterly or \$26/semi-annually. For more information about membership or OOP programming and events, call (919) 688-0223 or write to: OOP, P.O. Box 11732, Durham, NC, 27703.

#### National News Update

Continued from page 1

the Pentagon, some 70 percent of all prostitutes in Haiti's larger cities are infected with HIV, and between six percent and eight percent of the other young adults in the country are infected as well. A drawing in a government-issued manual issued to U.S. troops depicts a "healthy U.S. soldier" who "says no to sex" in Haiti.

#### NGLTF Misrepresented by Impostor in Florida

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force has issued a warning that an individual, identifying himself as William Joshua Mahem, is misrepresenting himself to gay rights groups in Florida as being a staff person with the Washington, D.C.-based gay rights group. According to a press statement from the group, Mahem has reportedly solicited money from at least one organization in Florida, and NGLTF has issued a warning about the unknown individual, urging anyone with information about him to contact Peri Jude Radecic at the Task Force at 202-332-6483, ext. 3302.

#### Sony Mixes Gay Billboard

NEW YORK, NY — The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has reported that Sony, owner of the giant Sony Video 1 billboard in New York's Times Square has refused to take two pro-gay, anti-violence public service spots by video artist Edgar Barends. The ads denounce violence and promote the acceptance of gay relationships with alternative pictures of two men -

first fighting, then kissing. Barends says Sony told him the billboard ads where "too controversial."

#### Activists to Rally in Nebraska

LINCOLN, NE — Gay rights activists and supporters have announced a rally and candlelight vigil at the state Capitol to draw attention to anti-gay hate crimes. The rally is slated for Monday, Oct. 10, from 6-8 p.m. and is sponsored by Equality Before the Law. For further information call: (402) 477-3336

#### Man With AIDS Settles With Texas Dentist

WASHINGTON, DC — The U.S. Justice Department has ordered the Castle Dental Center in Houston to pay a man with AIDS \$100,000 for violating the Americans with Disabilities Act because it refused to continue to treat the man because of his disease.

#### Minorities Urge Action in Battling AIDS

WASHINGTON, DC — Wrapping up a four-day meeting on the AIDS epidemic sponsored by the U.S. Health & Human Services Dept., leaders of AIDS advocacy groups urged the government to earmark more federal funds, services and educational efforts aimed at people of color and other minority groups. About 55 percent of new AIDS cases in the U.S. in 1993 were among racial and ethnic minorities, although they represent only 26 percent of the nation's population. But Cornelius Baker of the National Assn. of People with AIDS told the meeting that despite this growing disparity, clinical trials often fail to include black or Hispanic subjects and that Spanish-language education materials are badly needed.

#### Idaho Leaders Oppose Anti-Gay Measure

BOISE, ID — In the growing line-up of

prominent Idaho residents who are publicly opposing Proposition One, the statewide anti-gay ballot initiative, the No On One Coalition has announced some of the names of members of its honorary advisory board. Among the board are: state Rep. Jesse Berain, Randy Ambuehl, president of the state AFL-CIO, Boise businessman Arthur Oppenheimer, manufacturer Walt Minnick, and Judy Hyatt, president of the Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Education Assn. Minnick, who is president of TJ International, told the *Idaho Statesman*, "I and a lot of other businesses believe it's wrong to discriminate, whether it's on the basis of race, gender or anything else unrelated to a person's capacity to do a job. I also think it's bad for the image of Idaho and for businesses associated with Idaho. I think it will be a black eye for Idaho."

#### Attorney General Accused of Lying About Payment

DENVER, CO — The Colorado Attorney General's office has told the Denver gay newspaper *OutFront* that it had paid Dr. Paul Cameron, who was expelled from the American Psychological Assn. in 1983 for misrepresenting research data about homosexuals, more than \$10,000 as an expert witness in the state's attempt to defend the legality of Amendment 2, an anti-gay measure approved by voters in 1992.

But according to Equality Colorado, a state group that successfully challenged the constitutionality of the initiative, the Attorney General's office actually paid Cameron more than \$15,000 even though the controversial psychologist never testified in the court case after his status as an expert witness.

Sue Anderson, director of Equality Colorado, said Colorado Attorney General Gail Norton was "playing games" with the state's taxpayers and that Norton had "lied" to *OutFront* about the amount of money paid to Cameron.

continued on next page

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**National News Update**

Continued from preceding page

"[S]he paid more than \$15,000 for help in the Amendment 2 trial to Paul Cameron, a man who has been stripped of all his credentials and credibility and has even been accused of 'fraud' by a Federal judge," Anderson said.

**Education Campaigns Aimed at Gays Underfunded**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — Associate Prof. Ron Stall of the University of California's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies says a study of recent AIDS statistics and state funding indicates that education efforts aimed at gay men in California are getting the short end of the AIDS funding stick. According to Stall, during the first few years of the 1990s, gay men made up nearly 85 percent of all deaths resulting from AIDS, yet prevention and safe-sex funding aimed at gays amounted to only about eight percent of the state's funding efforts. Stall said that despite significant sexual behavior changes among gay men in California during the 1980s, the efforts to continue and reinforce safe-sex messages aimed at gays should not be abandoned.

**Lesbian Settles Suit with Dallas Police**

DALLAS, TX — Mica England, who was rejected by the Dallas police department because she told them she is a lesbian, has settled a lawsuit against the city. As a result of England's suit, the Dallas police department has since changed its policies and stopped asking applicants questions about their personal sexual behavior. England, 30, received \$73,000 in the settlement.

**AIDS Bias Award Upheld in D.C.**

WASHINGTON, DC — The D.C. Court of Appeals has upheld a lower court ruling against the Joel Truitt Management Company for discrimination against Jay Condren, who has AIDS. The 1993 ruling ordered the property management firm to pay Condren \$35,000

because the company refused to make necessary repairs on the man's apartment because of his illness. A note from the firm to Condren said repair workers were afraid to go into his apartment to make the repairs and that the firm wanted a health certificate assuring it that there was no health risk before sending workers into the apartment.

**Conviction in Murder of Gay Priest**

NAPA, CA — A jury has found James Jennings, 23, guilty of 2nd-degree murder in the 1993 stabbing death of the Rev. Ronald Maupin, a 47-year-old chaplain at a local Catholic hospital. According to prosecutors, Maupin and Jennings met at a gay bar in nearby San Francisco, and the priest offered to drive Jennings back to his home in Napa to smoke some marijuana together. Jennings testified during the trial that he agreed to let Maupin perform oral sex on him, but said he balked at Maupin's suggestion that they also have anal sex. According to the attorney representing Jennings, the man "exploded ... in a crime of passion." But the prosecutor portrayed Jennings as a coldblooded killer who knew exactly what he was doing when he used a kitchen knife to stab Maupin six times in the chest. Jennings is scheduled to be sentenced on Nov. 1. Jennings had been paroled only four months before Maupin's death after serving six years at the California Youth Authority for a string of robberies.

**Four Lesbian & Gay Candidates Win Primary Races**

WASHINGTON, DC — Karen Burstein, the first openly lesbian candidate to run for election on a major party ticket in New York State, won the Democratic primary race for the Attorney General's office, defeating three other Democrats, including incumbent G. Oliver Koppell. She now goes on to the November election against Republican Dennis Vacco.

In Rhode Island, Democrats snubbed the party's endorsed candidate and voted instead to put

openly gay incumbent William P. Fitzpatrick on the November ballot where he will run unopposed, virtually assuring his re-election. Fitzpatrick was not open about his sexual orientation when he was first elected, and after he came out in a newspaper interview, many political opponents charged he had been dishonest with voters and that he would face a difficult time getting re-elected.

Phoenix businessman Ken Cheuvront won the Democratic primary for Arizona State House of Representatives in a heavily Democratic district in central Phoenix with a significant number of gays and lesbians.

In another Arizona race, Denise Heap, an openly lesbian candidate, also won the Democratic primary for a state house bid in November to represent a Phoenix suburban area dominated by the Republican Party.

**Bork & Meese Join Anti-Gay Legal Battle**

CINCINNATI, OH — According to a report in the *Cincinnati Post*, failed Supreme Court nominee Judge Robert Bork and ex-Attorney General Edwin Meese have joined activists who are fighting in court to reinstate a voter-approved anti-gay measure that was earlier this year ruled unconstitutional. Bork, whose conservative judicial views led to an outpouring of opposition to his Supreme Court nomination, will serve as co-counsel for the group Equal Rights Not Special Rights, the backers of the anti-gay measure. The group is now appealing the court ruling that has blocked the initiative, the paper reported.

**Anti-Gay Candidate Loses Gubernatorial Primary**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — Allen Quist, an arch-conservative, fundamentalist-backed candidate in the Republican gubernatorial primary was soundly defeated by a 2-to-1 margin by incumbent Gov. Arne Carlson. Quist succeeded in keeping Carlson from getting the state party endorsement and persuaded the state GOP to back him instead, but

he could not convince Republican voters to endorse his anti-abortion, anti-gay stands.

**Tennis Tour Helping Pediatric AIDS Foundation**

HILTON HEAD, SC — The highly acclaimed Champions Tour, the first men's tennis tournament for men over 35 years of age, has always helped raise funds for national and local charities wherever it plays. But when the tournament opens in Hilton Head, S.C., Oct. 4-9, in addition to benefitting the Cultural Arts Council of Hilton Head Island, it will also be working closely with the Pediatric AIDS Foundation based in Los Angeles, one of the Champions Tour's favorite charities.

**Fla. City OKs Gay Rights Protections**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL — The West Palm Beach City Commission voted 4-1 to pass a measure barring discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations because of race, religion, color, or sexual orientation. The measure faced bitter opposition by local anti-gay Christian foes who said the measure would encourage immorality.

**Opening of Gay Center at Colorado Univ. Delayed**

BOULDER, CO — According to the *Colorado Daily*, a planned gay center that had been slated to open at the University of Colorado this past summer is not expected to open now before January 1995 and is still some \$10,000 short of funds. The university, which had initially promised to give \$60,000 to the center, withdrew its pledge under pressure by regents of the school, forcing backers of the center to come up with private funds for the center. Joanne Arnold, who heads the Chancellor's Standing Committee on Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Issues which is directing the opening of the center, told the paper that some \$20,000 should be raised by the end of September. An anonymous private donor has pledged to match \$30,000 of center funds raised privately.

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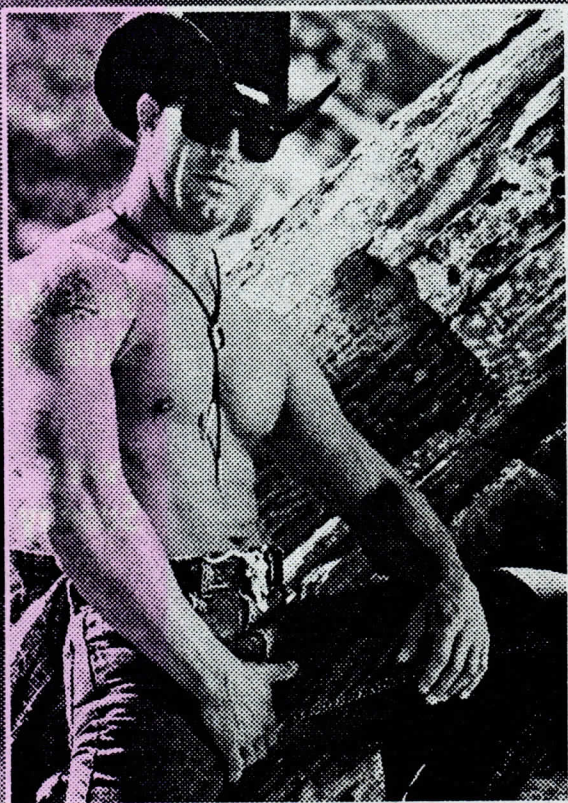
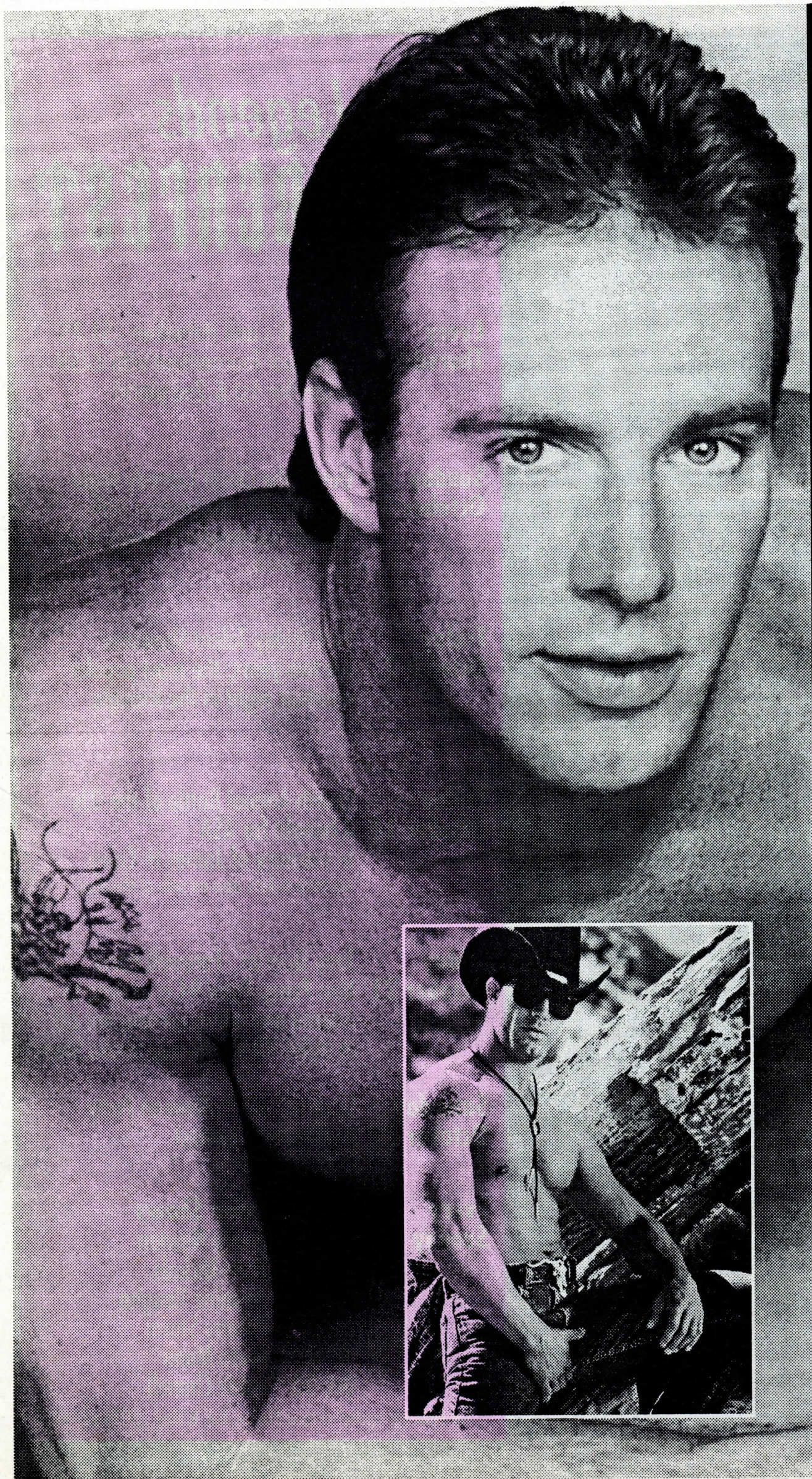
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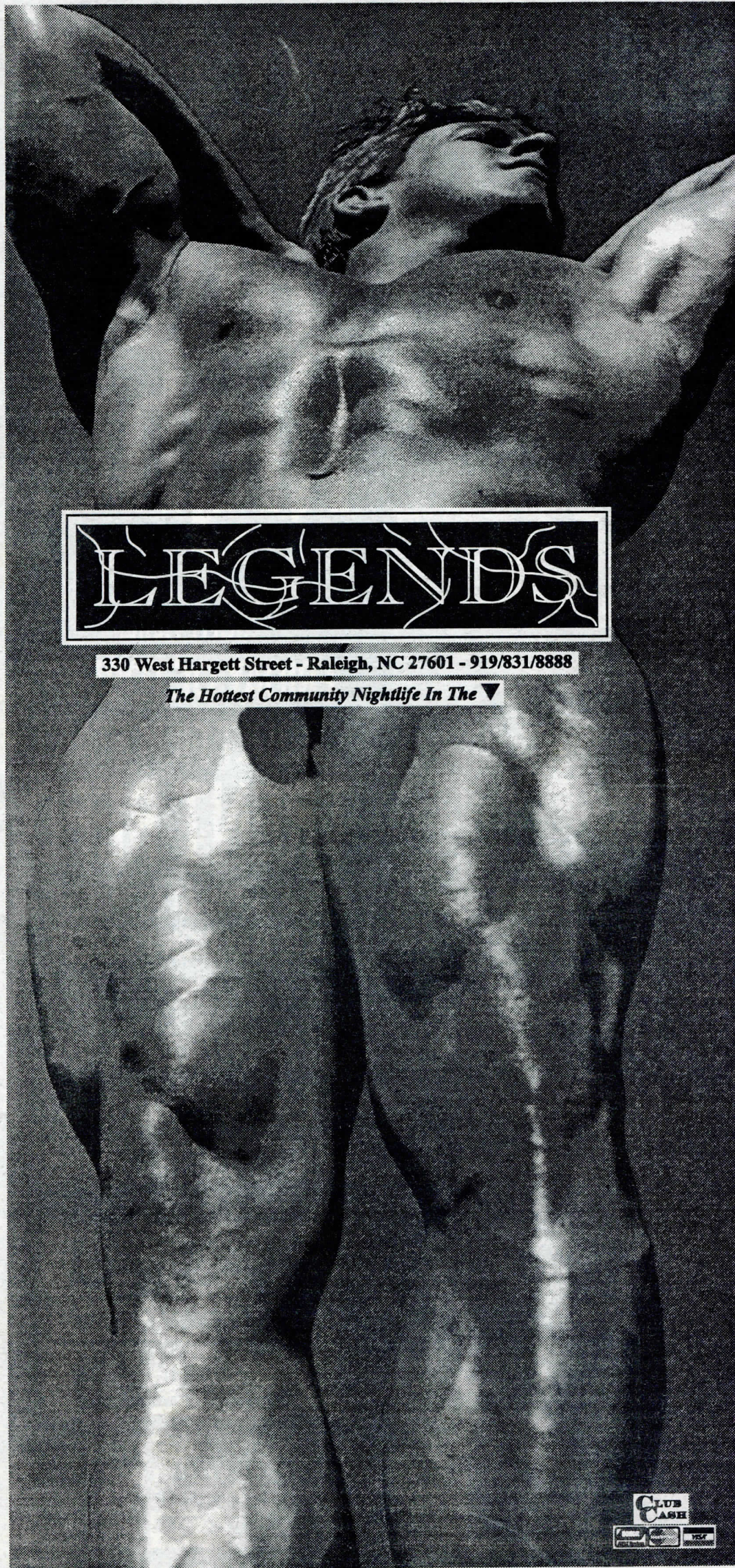
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