

LAMBDA

Carolina Gay Association Newsletter

Volume 10, Number 3

March 1984

NCSU Hosts Statewide Conference March 30 - April 1

The second annual North Carolina Gay/Lesbian Conference will be held on the campus of N.C. State University March 30 - April 1. Organizers are planning for lesbian comedienne and musician Robin Tyler for a Saturday night concert and former U.S. Representative Robert Baumann (R-Md) as keynote speaker.

The conference theme is "Networking for Community Support," and organizers have planned speakers and workshops to explore how to make the lesbian and gay communities in the state more cohesive as well as ways to achieve support from and alliances with the larger community.

Baumann represented a conservative district in Maryland's eastern shore area until he lost his bid for reelection in 1980. The previous summer Baumann was accused of homosexual encounters; he later admitted homosexual tendencies. He is generally recognized as a conservative on fiscal and foreign affairs and military matters, as well as on social issues.

Baumann maintains close ties with Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC). He recently appeared on ABC's "20/20" program and will appear in May at a New York Parents of Gays conference.

Tyler, from Los Angeles, has performed and lectured throughout the country and has been hailed as a relevant, outrageous and uproariously funny comic. Of one of her performances, the New Orleans Times-Picayune, said, "She ripped into most of our exploitative cultural myths; racism, sexism, organized religion, politics and covered numerous other bases. Finally a woman had used humor as a political tool, and through satire, a weapon."

Planning is still underway for a variety of workshop topics for the weekend. Currently proposed topics include political organizing, AIDS and other health issues, re-evaluation counseling, transcendental sex, operation of crisis counseling, gay publishing, gay parents, and parents of gays.

Workshop leaders will include gay historian John D'Emilio, author of Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities and professor of history at UNC-Greensboro, and Tom Chorlton, executive director of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs. Larry Bush, author of the Bush Report, a monthly briefing on gay (see NC CONFERENCE, p. 2)

BWMT's Co-chair Speaks in Chapel Hill

Melvin Ross, co-chair of Black and White Men Together-Atlanta, will be CGA's guest on Monday, Feb. 27. Ross will speak on the topic "Building Coalition: the Gay Community and Beyond."

Ross is a veteran gay activist and is a member of the Atlanta Mayor's Advisory Task Force and of the Atlanta Police Advisory Task Force. He is also part of the speakers bureau of AIDS/Atlanta.

In addition he serves on the executive board of Gay Pride, the organizing committee for Atlanta's annual celebration.

The Feb. 27 event will be held at 5:00pm in Room 103 of Bingham Hall. [It was previously scheduled to be in the Carolina Union.] The speech is of course free and open to the public.

Student Government Passes Anti-discrimination Resolution

The UNC-CH student government (Campus Governing Council) approved a resolution on Feb. 1, calling for a prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation by University recognized student groups. But no further action has been taken on the resolution since passage.

The resolution calls upon the Office of Student Affairs to "amend their Anti-Discrimination policy to require that recognized organizations include sexual orientation in their Anti-Discrimination charters."

Carol Solow (District 2-graduate) authored the resolution and along with co-sponsors Alan Rosen, Bill Barlow, and (see RESOLUTION, p. 3)


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(NC CONFERENCE, from p. 1)

political issues, and reporter for The Advocate, The Washington Blade, and the New York Native, will also attend the weekend gathering.

One workshop will be a panel discussion of why lesbians and gay men often do not work together and ways to facilitate more cooperative efforts.

Lesbian and gay vendors will have displays during registration and early Saturday afternoon.

The Conference is being hosted by the NC State Gay & Lesbian Community, one of two groups on the campus. Concern has been expressed as to whether recent controversy surrounding the split of the now defunct State Gay Community will hamper Conference arrangements. The State Gay & Lesbian Community has received its charter from the University and has made arrangements for facilities for the Conference at no cost. They are also helping with arrangements for food, housing, and campus transportation.

Concern has also been expressed about security measures. Some gay people have been harassed on the NCSU campus, and a lesbian/gay book display was trashed at a campus gay awareness week. Conference planners have arranged for campus security officers to be present when vendors are open for business and at the main public events. In addition, the campus security office is near the Conference site.

Preregistration fee for the Conference is \$20 (\$10 for students with current ID). The fee covers the lectures, workshops, a luncheon, and Tyler's concert. Registration at the door will be \$25 (\$15 for students). Tickets will also be sold separately for Tyler's concert.

Discounts are available to groups sending in advance registration. Groups sending 5 or more members can discount \$2 from each member's fee, and groups of 10 or more may discount \$5 per registration.

Registration forms are available from CGA, or write:

NCGLC
3545 Mayfair Street
Durham, NC 27707

Southeast Conference Meets in Birmingham

The ninth annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held April 12-15, in Birmingham, Alabama, at the Holiday Inn-Medical Center. Billed as "Celebration '84: Pulling Together and Reaching Out," the conference is expected to attract between 400 and 600 attendees from throughout the Southeast.

Speakers for the four-day gathering include Abby Rubinfeld, managing attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Virginia Appuzzo, director of the National Gay Task Force.

In addition, Mike Rutherford, executive director of the Gay Press Association, will present an exhibit and workshop on the ways media affect gay people.

Other special events for the weekend include a Friday night dance with the women's rock band from Birmingham, "Marathon," a concert on Saturday night by Meg Christian, a banquet featuring Tom Chorlton of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, and a softball event and dinner sponsored by the Magic City Athletic Association.

Organizers say they chose the theme of "pulling together and reaching out" because they see the need for gay men and lesbians in the Southeast to work more closely with each other and to build alliances and coalitions with supportive people in the greater community.

They have scheduled workshops on a vast range of topics and say they have received enthusiastic support from national lesbian and gay figures as well as Birmingham activists. Workshop facilitators will include Patricia Todd from the National Organization of Women's national office, Barbara Greer of NAIAD Press, and Tanyan Corman, field director of the Gay Rights National Lobby. Topics to be addressed include health care, womyn/women issues, AIDS, theatre, political organizing, publications, racism, and religious issues.

Time has also been set aside for film and video events, exhibits, and professional and political caucuses.

Preregistration fee for the conference is \$25, and includes admission to the Friday evening dance and to Meg Christian's concert on Saturday night. Organizers will assist preregistrants in finding hotel accommodations or housing with local residents.

The CGA will sponsor a van to Birmingham, with riders sharing the mileage fee. Call the CGA office at 962-4401 to sign up.

Conference preregistration forms are available at the CGA office. Obtain one in person, send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope, or write to Conference organizers at:

Celebration '84
c/o Lambda, Inc.
P.O. Box 73962

Birmingham, AL 35253 (205) 251-0682

(RESOLUTION, from p. 1)

Steve Reinhard, first presented the resolution to the Student Affairs Committee of the CGC.

Solow, a member of the SEEDS party, says the legality of the proposed resolution was questioned in light of North Carolina's "crime against nature" law. But the Committee unanimously passed the resolution and sent it to the full CGC.

The item appeared near the end of the Council's agenda. One representative asked if discrimination is a problem in campus organizations. No CGA members were present to support the resolution, and discussion ended after Rosen point out that 10% of the student population at Carolina is homosexual.

In a roll call vote, the lone dissenter to passage was Patricia Wallace (District 16).

If the Office of Student Affairs adds sexual orientation to its anti-discrimination policy, lesbian and gay students will have recourse for action when they are discouraged from joining campus honorary societies as well as fraternities and sororities. During a past CGA meeting on legal issues, a sorority member told how she was asked to "resign quietly" after rumors surfaced that she was lesbian. CGA members are also often reluctant to get involved in public events and activities for fear of repercussions from their academic scholarship sponsors, especially the Morehead Foundation.

-Lee Mullis

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(Davis Library opened Feb. 17, 1984, as Wilson Library closed for renovations.)



LAMBDA

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Carolina Gay Association Newsletter

Boy Scouts Rebuffed Again

Sacramento, CA--The California State Supreme Court has unanimously ruled that the Boy Scouts of America cannot, on the grounds of sexuality only, ban homosexuals from its organization, according to the Bay Area Reporter. The Mount Diablo Council of the Boy Scouts had sought a review of an Oct. 3 Court of Appeals ruling, which the court upheld.

In the previous ruling, a lawsuit filed by former Eagle Scout Tim Curran was reinstated. The latest court ruling clears the way for Curran to proceed with his suit against the Boy Scouts. Curran was expelled because he is gay and seeks reinstatement in his Berkeley troop. The Boy Scouts must now show that Curran's membership can be revoked on grounds other than his homosexuality.

Curran said, "They would have to prove that I wouldn't be a good leader, but they've already indicated the opposite by passing me as an Eagle Scout.

-from Gay Community News, 01/28/84

Women's Coffeehouse Reorganizes

The announcement began:

How would you like to attend a warm cozy gathering of women for a monthly party in an atmosphere of old fashioned gaiety and merriment? Share talents, ideas, reading lists, meet new people, buy and/or sell woman-made crafts, advertise your business or service, and generally make merry with women friends! It's guaranteed to be the social event of every month, and we personally invite you to belong to our growing family.

Re-organizers of the Raleigh Women's Coffeehouse thus invite area women to help them get this area institution back on its feet.

The Coffeehouse has been active for about six years, providing space for twice-monthly gatherings for films, workshops, concerts, visiting artists, and other entertainment. But in recent months, the Coffeehouse has been "run" by a dwindling group of devoted women.

A core group has made plans to revital-

ize and renovate it. They have announced a change to a once a month format as a way of conserving volunteer energy and finances. And they want to move toward a more social focus--"a monthly party where women can socialize around a scheduled event."

During January through March, the Coffeehouse is sponsoring a "Winter Film Festival." Doors open at 7:30pm the third Friday of each month, at the Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 3313 Wade Avenue, Raleigh.

Organizers have also begun a fundraising and membership drive to finance renovation of the space and to provide comfortable furniture. Women contributing \$12 will be given a "matronage" card which entitles the member to reduced admission at the door.

To join or to contribute, send a check for \$12 or more, drawn to A. Pierce, to:
Women's Coffeehouse
P.O. Box 33003
Raleigh, NC 27606 or call 556-4673.

There's a new bar in Chapel Hill . . . the bar & cafe at a southern season!

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a southern season

Eastgate in Chapel Hill/929-7133

Parents of Gays Come Out

"Mom, Dad, I have to talk to you--about something important." You begin your well-rehearsed speech, something you've been planning for perhaps a very long time. The actual presentation, with your parents before you, feels quite different than how it went in front of the mirror. The words come more slowly, or in a flurry, and may not be at all the ones you had chosen for this final, ultimate, terrifying delivery. It doesn't feel at all like it did when you told your close trusted friends. These are your parents, for God's sake, the people who have loved you and cared for you all your life, the ones who have sacrificed for you, disciplined you, wanted you, and to some degree lived through you. Your desire to please them and to become the person they've dreamed of you becoming is second only to your wish to live your life according to your most intimate feelings.

You finally get it out--"I'm gay"--and tensely wait for their reaction.

* * * * *

Many gays never experience this confrontation. In recent years, however, more and more of us have opted to tell our parents about our sexual orientation and lifestyles. For some, this action has had negative and perhaps permanent effects:

You're not our child. We didn't bring you up to be faggot! I'll not have a queer in my house. Get out!

Are you sure? You can change. We'll send you to the best doctors. They'll cure you.

We want you to live a happy life, and experience the joy of having children of your own. Just try dating some boys. Don't break our hearts.

For others, the result has been a (gradual) partial or full acceptance by parents. It was from this striving for an understanding of their children's homosexuality that Parents of Gays was formed

These concerned parents formed a support group to understand just what homosexuality is, to enlighten themselves and others on just how all aspects of society can affect them and their children and to guide each other in dealing with this knowledge, which may have suddenly turned their worlds upside down.

* * * * *

Two such concerned parents from Raleigh Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (Parents FLAG) recently spoke at a CGA meeting. The couple discussed how they felt when their son came out to them.

"We were devastated, because of our fear for his lifetime unhappiness and loneliness. We knew nothing about homosexuality, and it was frightening," they said. It was quite clear to those present that the devastation and eventual acceptance these parents spoke of was due to their love and concern for their son's well-being.

Throughout their introductory talk and the question-and-answer period, this mother and father were open and candid, giving answers when they had them and admitting when they had none. The fact of their willingness to come and share was evidence of their sincerity and warmth.

* * * * *

To help those of us who have not come out to our families and who may be thinking of doing so, our guests distributed some literature about the group's goals and beliefs and about how to tell your parents.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays recognizes and believes that gays are demographically indistinguishable from the general population--they come from and are part of every region of the world, all religions and ethnic groups, and all social and economic levels. They believe that gay people are healthy, naturally homosexual, moral and are part of the family. These parents love their children.

-Ron

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1. A lot depends on how you feel about being gay. If you're comfortable with being gay, that help.
 2. Choose a time to tell when things are going well for you and your parents, when a certain amount of calm prevails.
 3. You may want to tell only your mother or your father (depending on your particular relationship with either).
 4. Lead into the telling, if you can, with an expression of your love and concern for your parents.
 5. Be prepared for the likelihood that the news will upset and hurt your parents, and that one or both of them may lash out at you. Try not to respond defensively or angrily, but "allow" them this initial reaction.
 6. Tell them: "You loved me before you knew this. I'm the same person I was then, and I hope you still love me."
 7. Keep the lines of communication open, and remember that your parents are having to change their concept of you and your life--and that they probably don't have an accurate picture or any understanding of what homosexuality is.
 8. Research and acquaint yourself with books and special resource materials on the subject of homosexuality. Make these available to your parents.
 9. If they cannot deal with the subject rationally, don't force the issue -- but if your parents are willing to meet your friends, make sure they have the chance to do so.
- Remember that the decision to come out is yours. You decide when, where, how, and to whom you wish to come out. Never let yourself be pressured into coming out before you are ready.
 - No matter what one's life situation may be, for nearly everyone there are at least a few individuals to whom one might come out with positive effects. Such decisions require careful consideration and do involve risks. Usually there are very real benefits in terms of improved communication, deepened mutual understanding, more honest personal relationships, relief from painful fears of eventual rejection, and a very real contribution to educational dialogue with non-gay persons about our lives.

Whatever you decide to do (or not to do), good luck! Our parents and friends want to love us. We only have to help.

For more information about coming out or Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, visit or call the CGA office. The Raleigh chapter of Parents FLAG meets at 7:30pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Raleigh Unitarian Fellowship. If a parent or someone else would like for one of their members to call, they will be glad to do so.

Raleigh Parents FLAG
c/o Unitarian Fellowship
3313 Wade Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27607

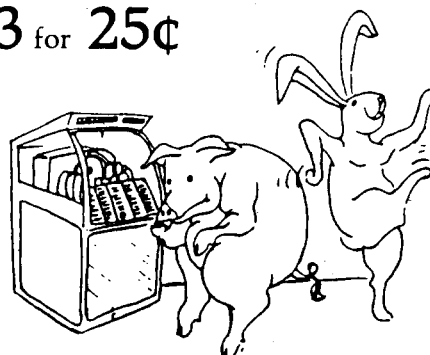
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Life in the South

Chapel Hill, NC--A local bi-weekly newspaper, The Landmark, published by conservative Chatham County businessman Bob Windsor, has attained local notoriety for "reporting" petty corruption in University matters and grand schemes (allegedly involving the FBI) to prevent gubernatorial candidate Jimmy Green from running for office.

The Landmark has recently taken on the subject of homosexuality and the reported contributions by gays and lesbians to the campaign of Governor Jim Hunt for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Jesse Helms.

Windsor stated that three Christian organizations on the University campus contacted him to compliment him on the original article and that there have been several requests for permission to reprint the article. Reaction from gay and lesbian quarters has also followed. Several people called Windsor to discuss the article and to state that they would call his advertisers for a boycott of their stores.

According to Windsor, "One advertiser told me he told them to go to hell and he would advertise where he wanted and would not be black-mailed. Now you see what these people really are. Anyone who does not agree with their perverted lifestyle will be punished." Chapel Hill and Carrboro businesses which advertised in the Jan. 19 and Feb. 2, 1984, issues include Glenn Lennox Pharmacy, Chapel Hill Tire Co., Chapel Hill Insurance Agency., University Opticians, F&F Automotive, Village Craftsmen Furniture, Flowers by Hackney, FCX Farm & Garden, Cliff's Meat Market, and Pascal & Associates.

Windsor also discussed these issues with two students at the University: "Saturday, a week ago, when the candidates for office met with the college Young Democrats on campus I was confronted in the student union building by a couple of little boys, one of whom admitted he was a fag and the other who did not. They objected to my calling them a fag. I told him that in the real world that is what they are called along with many other terms like pervert, deiate [sic], pansy, queer and bulldyke for the ladies" (Feb.2).

Some misunderstandings about the contents of Windsor's first article led him to clarify his own position on Jim Hunt's sexual preferences: "I had one friend talk to me and thought I had made the insinuation that Jim Hunt was a fag himself. No such insinuation was intended and a rereading of the article bore that out. Why Jim Hunt is so macho that he turns me on a little bit. My God what have I said. If you watch him close you will find out that he walks like a short John Wayne.... I do not doubt his manhood. I know that he is a good family man with fine offspring. I just think he is a

weak man who is blinded by his own ambition and whose principles change with the wind" (Jan.19). Jim Hunt's weakness in Windsor's eyes was accepting campaign contributions from gays and supporting a gay rights statement in the Democratic party platform.

Windsor himself, however, admits to accepting money from and employing homosexuals: "Sex is not generally my beat and what people do is between them, the law, and the Lord. The [gay] person who worked for me did the work required and was paid the wage agreed upon. I have rented buildings [the former Loft, on the highway to Pittsboro] to people who were gay. So long as they paid the rent and met the obligations under the terms of the lease their personal life was no concern of mine. I just simply think being a homo is a sin and know it is a crime and I do not condone it. I do not want to see those people in jobs where they may prey on little children or others" (Feb. 2). The differences between making money by owning a building used as a lesbian bar and accepting campaign contributions is not explained.



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Besides attacking Hunt's acceptance of campaign contributions from gays, Windsor also attacks the Carolina Gay Association's office and partial financial support from student government: "By the way, all you taxpayers and parents of students at UNC in Chapel Hill. The required student fees that you and your children must pay has a part of it used to support a private office in the Student Union Building on this Campus and on the first floor, at that, as well as a large cash contribution used to promote the perverted lifestyle of the faggots. One way to reduce the high cost of education is to stop supporting on state property and out of student fees this sinful and criminal activity. I will bet you did not know about that. Legislature take notice. Parents and students call and complain to the candidates for office from the top to the bottom and send a letter to the board of trustees of the University of North (see LIFE, p. 8)

(LIFE, from p. 7)

Carolina in Chapel Hill and complain if you don't like it. There would be no better time than now. You will be heard. You could not get a politician in North Carolina on a bet to publicly support this use of student fees for this sinful and criminal activity" (Jan. 19). Windsor requests his sympathizers to pressure state politicians to discontinue the use of student funds for the Association.

For the record, the CGA office is public; it's on the second floor; and the cash contribution (\$778 in 1983-84) is 0.3% of total student fees allocated to organizations. All expenditures from student fees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are decided by the student government itself in their spring budget proceedings.

-Bill

"Show Our Strength — 1984"

Washington, DC--Vic Basile, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, announced today that the HRCF Board of Directors has approved plans for a major fundraising campaign designed to enlist at least 10,000 new supporters and contributors to the national gay PAC. The campaign will be entitled "Show Our Strength--1984" or S.O.S.-'84.

"Most of our fundraising to date has been focused on six or seven major cities," Basile explained. "This campaign will be an effort to establish HRCF volunteer groups in at least 100 additional cities and towns across the country, where there is an active gay community," he added. Volunteers in each city will work to identify prospects who will be asked to make a contribution of \$19.84 to HRCF, and who will be added to the growing list of HRCF supporters and contributors.

"This is a grassroots campaign," said Kerry Woodward, HRCF co-chair. "Many people cannot afford to attend expensive dinner parties and make contributions of \$100 or more. This campaign is designed to reach them, with a contribution that is significant but within their incomes."

Basile noted that the S.O.S.-'84 campaign will augment other fundraising efforts being carried out by HRCF, such as city committee fundraising campaigns in major metropolitan areas like Boston, New York, Washington, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas and Houston. In addition, HRCF will continue its direct mail fundraising program and efforts to identify major donors.

Financial reports filed with the Federal Elections Commission for 1983 show that the Fund had a balance of approximately \$16,000 at the outset of 1983, raised about \$321,000 in 1983, disbursed \$324,000, and ended the year with a surplus of about \$13,000.

"Traditionally PACs have a difficult time raising money in off-election years," Basile noted. Last year HRCF concentrated on organizing fundraising efforts in major cities, building up our list of contributors through direct mail prospecting, and bringing our computer operation in-house which will in the long run save thousands of dollars. We kept disbursements to candidates in 1983 to a minimum and focused our efforts on getting ready for 1984."

"By next November, HRCF will raise and disburse thousands of dollars to Congressional candidates who support gay and lesbian rights, and who share our concerns about increased funding for AIDS research and treatment and unfair, discriminatory immigration laws. None of this would be possible without the tremendous support and contributions from thousands of people across the country who understand what HRCF is all about.

Persons interested in working on S.O.S.-'84, or in other activities of the Fund should contact:

Vic Basile
HRCF Executive Director
P.O. Box 1396
Washington, DC 20013

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and

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*Gay Law Students Association
Stanford Law School
Crown Quadrangle
Stanford, CA 94305*

Queers, Quips and Quotes

"The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life flow no longer into our souls.... Every truth we see is ours to give the world, not to keep to ourselves alone, for in doing so we cheat humanity out of their rights and check our own development."

-Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Film Review

Altman's *Streamers*

When you look at a painting, what you see is as much what's inside you as what is there on the canvas. It's even a more revealing show of identity than looking at a mirror, which can only show externals. When we look at art and see, little or big parts of our guts surface like koi feeding in a Japanese garden pool.

Streamers brings this home in a hard way; for some the movie is peripherally about Vietnam and centrally about issues of war and its personal significance; for others the film illustrates the tragic differences between classes in American society and the false feeling that one class can understand another. But the film centers on homosexuality for me, and it's because I'm a homosexual male. Any person who is not will find a large part of the film's richness elusive and annoying.

The central quartet of characters is an essay in contrasts: Richie (Mitchell Lichtenstein) is a pretty white boy from New York City who grew up with the haves; he has a quick wit and can be cynical, but he is still vulnerable--and that matters. Billy (Matthew Modine) is superficially as all-American as Richie is a faggot. He set the record for the mile in high school, is tall and handsome in a farm-boy way, he's intelligent, he wears a red letter jacket. But neither character is a stereotype; both actors make the characters transcend the outward banality of the types themselves. Billy's best friend is the affable Roger (David Alan Grier), a handsome intelligent black man wedged between the races. That wedge comes undone for all the characters when Carlyle (Michael Wright) completes the quartet. From a lower class black family, no father, no education, Carlyle's presence points out and pulls out the racial, class-oriented, and sexual incongruities of Roger's relationship with Billy, Billy's relationship with Richie, and Richie's relationship with Billy and Roger.

"...Living, breathing presences that you can't ignore whether you like them or not."
-Godfrey Cheshire

The quartet's acting, supplemented by two time-worn war veterans, is superlative. As Godfrey Cheshire pointed out in a very positive review in the *Spectator* (Jan. 19-26, 1984), "Few viewers will be able to watch it casually, abstractedly... Altman doesn't achieve this effect by making his characters sympathetic, he does it by making them palpable. Living, breathing presences that you can't ignore whether you like them or not." These six presences are so vital that the jurors at

the Venice Film Festival made the unprecedented move of splitting the Best Actor award among the six actors.

There's no way to discuss why this is a vital movie without revealing the plot. I'll do this even though Altman said, "To synopsise *Streamers* is not impossible, but I think it is inadvisable." Advice aside, here I go. If you haven't seen the movie, and don't want to know part of the story, stop here.

Essentially *Streamers* is a tragic love story, complete with a twisted triangle of sorts: Richie has fallen in love with Billy, who has finally realized that Richie isn't kidding with all his passes. Roger knows that Billy is gay, and he doesn't want to know. The film's opening

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814 Dixie Trail
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834-2611

third deals with some of the complications of these problems. Carlyle enters, reads Billy's story immediately, and assumes that Richie is Billy's boy. Later he figures that Billy and Roger share Richie's attentions. The story climaxes when Richie asks Billy and Roger to leave the barracks so he and Carlyle can have sex; they refuse to leave, an argument results, and Carlyle stabs Billy. You may not feel much sympathy for Billy or Richie from this bare sketch, but the movie hurts before the climax, during, and afterwards.

. . . Richie's desperation becomes our own, resonantly recalling our own past in similar situations.

Richie's struggles with Billy are painful thrusts in places we want to forget. He's too stereotypic (broken home, sharp repartee, baby powder), but his helplessness and stupidity in the face of his love (see *STREAMERS*, p. 10)

Task Force Challenges Sodomy Laws

On November 20, 1983, representatives of all of the existing gay/lesbian legal organizations, the American Civil Liberties Union national staff, various ACLU affiliates, and attorneys involved in pending sodomy law challenge litigation met at the ACLU national headquarters in New York City to begin the process of developing a coordinated national strategy to challenge the sodomy laws in the remaining non-reformed jurisdictions and to express their commitment to fighting anti-gay discrimination in general.

The group agreed that it would not adopt any formal organizational structure, but would continue to meet together to develop strategy and to plan for its implementation in a cooperative effort. The group will unofficially call itself the "Ad Hoc Task Force to Challenge Sodomy Laws," and will initially focus on such challenges while anticipating future cooperative efforts that emphasize other aspects of the struggle for gay/lesbian civil rights.

The Ad Hoc Task Force agreed that it was the recommendation of all of the involved organizations and individuals that no further civil challenges to sodomy laws be filed pending the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of New York v. Uplinger.

However, pending that decision, the Ad Hoc Task Force will proceed with preparations to go forward with such challenges that arise in the criminal context. To implement those plans, the Ad Hoc Task

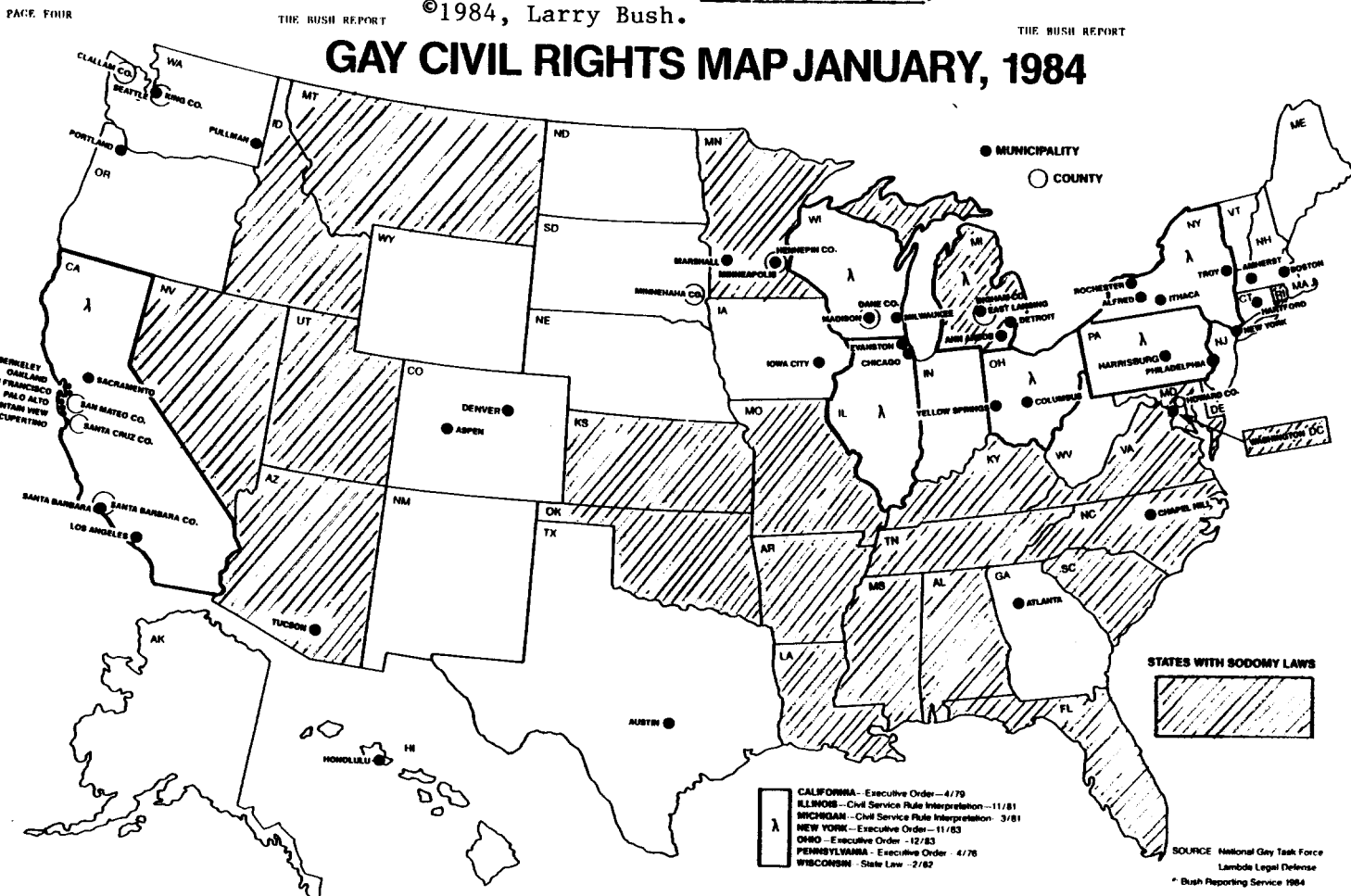
Force will work to publicize its efforts so that it can identify or be advised of criminal challenges as they arise anywhere in the country, and will solicit suggestions from interested ACLU affiliates, gay/lesbian organizations, or other groups in the remaining non-reformed states for affirmative challenges to the laws in their states. The Ad Hoc Task Force will also initiate efforts to target particular states in which successful challenges might be mounted, and will begin the development of a central directory of information and resources to use in such challenges.

The Ad Hoc Task Force will house its central directory of information and resources at the ACLU national headquarters in New York City. The directory will include lists of experts available to testify in such cases (dealing with health issues such as AIDS, with psychiatric issues, with sociological issues on homosexuality in general), existing briefs and/or legal memoranda dealing with sodomy law challenges, and memos prepared for the November 20 conference which analyze the statutes of each remaining non-reformed jurisdiction.

Persons or organizations desiring such information or briefs should contact either Loren Siegel of the ACLU or Abby Rubenfeld of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund:

132 West 43rd Street
New York, NY 10036

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Recurring Events

- Chapel Hill Lesbian Potluck: third Saturday of each month at 6:30pm. Call 929-2546 for info.
- Dignity--Triangle: Gay Catholics and their friends meet every Sunday evening at 7. Call 829-9077 for details.
- Gay AA: meets every Saturday at 8pm at MCC, corner of Wade Avenue and Dixie Trail, Raleigh.
- Gay Men's Folk Dancing: meets every other Friday at the Ark on Duke University's East Campus. Call Jeff or David at 929-9769 (CH) or Carl or Alan at 569-4511 (Durham).
- Gay Support Group: meets every Tuesday night in Minister's Study of the Unitarian Church, 3313 Wade Avenue, Raleigh. Call 834-3302 for details.
- Metropolitan Community Church: Worship services each Sunday in church at corner of Wade Avenue and Dixie Trail, Raleigh, 3:00pm.
Bible Study--Tuesdays, 7:30pm
Prayer and Praise--Wednesdays, 7:15pm
Volleyball--Wednesdays, 8pm, at Jaycee Park on Wade Avenue.
Non-religious Rap Time--Thurs., 8pm
- Parents of Gays: meets third Thursday of each month at Unitarian Church, 3313 Wade Avenue, Raleigh, 7:30pm. Call 834-3302 for details.
- Over Thirties Potluck for Lesbian/Gay Women: last Saturday of each month. Call 477-5726 (Durham) or 933-0036 (CH)
- Raleigh NOW: meets first Tuesday of each month at Athens Drive High School, Room 142. Call Joy Osborne at 832-3660 for info.
- Triangle Area Gay Scientists: meets second Saturday of each month. Call Dan at 929-4997 for info.
- Women's Choir: meets every Sunday at 4:30pm. Call Barb at 489-1358 for information.
- Women for Sobriety: meets every Tuesday at Presbyterian Student Center, Henderson Street, Chapel Hill. Call 929-0471 for more information.

February

- 22 CGA program meeting, "Why you should be involved in local politics." 7:30pm, Carolina Union.
- 27 Melvin Ross speaks to CGA (see article). 5pm, 103 Bingham Hall.

Calendar

- 27 LAMBDA meeting, for new as well as old staff. 7:30pm, 207-B Carolina Union.
- 29 "Record Hop with Leap Year Oldies but Goodies." Sponsored by NC State's Gay & Lesbian Association (GALA). Student Ctr. Pack House, 9pm.

March

- MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
(for a listing of the events for Women's History Month, write Ladyslipper, Inc., PO Box 3124, Durham, NC 27705)
- 3 NC Gay & Lesbian Conference planning meeting. 2:00pm in Greensboro. Call Lee at 942-3802 for location.
- 5 "History of the 2nd Wave of Feminism," lecture by Debbie Swanner. 7pm, Durham Public Lib. Auditorium.
- 8 Int'l Women's Day Noontime Vigil Durham Main Post Office.
- 9 Elizabeth Cotten and Sweet Honey in the Rock concert. Weaver Aud., Durham Senior High Sch. 8:00pm. Tickets \$7
- 13 "Woody Guthrie's America" featuring Holly Near & Odetta. PBS tv. 9pm.
- 14 Holly Near in Concert. Memorial Hall, UNC-CH. Tickets: \$10 & \$8, reserved seating. Call 683-1570 for info.
- 30 NC Gay & Lesbian Conference, on campus of NC State University (see article).
6:00pm: Registration & vendor displays
Workshop period
Coffeehouse
- 31 (NC Conference continues)
8:30am: Registration
9:45 Workshop period
11:30 Keynote speaker & lunch
1:30 Workshops
7:30 Robin Tyler concert
9:00 Dance
- 31 Jeanine Normand & Orchestra, women's music concert. Music Rm., West Duke Bldg. Duke Univ. East Campus. 8pm.

April

- 1 (NC Conference continues)
9:30am: Ecumenical religious service
10:40 Caucuses
1:00pm Picnic
- 1 NC Lesbian & Gay Democrats annual meeting. 11:30am, campus of NC State Univ. (ask at Conference registration desk for location).
- 2-6 Gay Awareness Week, UNC-CH.

Stepping Aside

One of CGA's problems has always been a lack of continuity and a resulting failure to pass along critical skills and knowledge to the next crew, which then wastes valuable time and energy rediscovering what works and what doesn't. This haphazard method of succession is not unique to CGA; many University groups face this problem.

Oddly enough Lambda, as CGA's newsletter, has not fared as badly as CGA itself because certain skills and information have been passed along. Lee is the latest link in this sharing, and his strenuous exertions of time, talent, and energy have been largely responsible for what we've been able to do in the last three years.

But both Lee and myself are stepping aside, and we need a new production coordinator and a new editor. We've announced this at two called meetings, and now we're going public. Our fond hope is that the next two issues will be put out by a new production coordinator and a new editor, with the help of Lee and myself. Lee will describe his job later; I'd like to say a little about mine.

The new editor needs to have a vision of what Lambda should be. Mine was that it should be as professional as possible, which eventually brought about a major change. Last year we ran out of money after the second issue. I decided that we should try to find enough advertising to completely pay for the next two issues. But if we were going to have advertising, the newsletter had to look better, so we converted from smudged mimeograph to offset printing. All of a sudden Lambda looked wonderful; although initially we had thought of advertising as only the solution to a monetary crisis, reader response has been strongly favorable. Student government agreed and funded 50% of Lambda's budget for this year. They did not cut our part of the budget at all, and CGA ended up with its largest budget to date.

You can't just have a glossy apple however; it's got to taste. Professionalism applies to quality and originality of material also. Besides the pat on the back of having articles reprinted in state and national gay magazines over the past two years, some of the articles have been notable local successes ("Three Freshmen," for example). Even though I would not like for my vision to be entirely replaced, you need your own vision -- plus the ability to encourage fellow staff, ignore impossible SAFO and student government bureaucracy when necessary, and coax and plead with reluctant printers. One thing is not necessary: high visibility. You can be as discreet as you want to be; if you've got a wonderful production coordinator, you can even be a closet editor.

The year before I became editor (1981-82), nobody cared enough about Lambda to make it a success. The vision and the energy were missing. It can happen again; a little apathy now could really hurt, especially with advertisers. Don't let that happen. Being editor is being given the chance to do something that matters, the chance to make the campus a little better.

-Bill

WANTED: Versatile, well-rounded, skilled persons Friday for newsletter production for unique (queer?) organization. Must be compulsive and meticulous, have some free time, and enjoy sniffing rubber cement. Should also be a computer head (IBM-PC, running Peachtext's file manager). Must be conversant with lesbian typographers, word processor operators on caffeine, harried printers, disorganized Postal Service employees, and budding journalists. Budget writing and business correspondence skills also helpful. Varied duties demand diplomacy, assertiveness, patience, perseverance, an eye for detail and a steady hand with an exacto knife. Persons should be able to maintain calm when articles are still being written during layout and when helpers get punchy and tell bad jokes after extended session with rubber cement.

These generalists will be entering an exciting field; job is never routine! Salary is comparable to other all-volunteer organizations (zilch!), and in fact your pocket money may be solicited at times.

Your product will be seen by 800 readers, including your fellow students, your elected student representatives, your town's elected officials, and subscribers from Cullowhee to Manteo. You will be a tool for eradicating misinformation and prejudice about lesbians and gay men. And you'll feel pride that you are creating community and culture.

Apply in person on Monday, February 27, 7:30pm, in the CGA office, 207-B Carolina Union.

-Lee

Regional Health Conference

People interested in lesbian and gay health care will gather in Atlanta in April for the first Southeastern Lesbian/Gay Health Conference. Sponsored by the National Gay Health Education Foundation, this first regional conference will be held on April 20 and 21, at the Woodruff Medical Center of Emory University.

The gathering is expected to draw 300 or more health care providers, including physicians, nurses, social workers, psychologists, alcohol and drug specialists, physicians' assistants, dentists, public health workers, and health care advocates.

The goals of the conference are to identify health care needs of the gay and lesbian community, explore options for meeting these needs, and provide a forum for networking, professional development, and support among lesbian and gay health care providers.

The conference will present speakers recognized as experts in aspects of lesbian/gay health care. The keynote speaker will be Lawrence (Bopper) Deyton, M.P.H., former assistant to the Surgeon General and convener of the Gay Public Health Workers caucus of the American Public Health Association. He will focus on changes in perspectives in gay health care since the emergence of the AIDS epidemic and future considerations for practice and research during the next 25 years.

Conference organizer Caitlin Ryan says that four workshop periods have been scheduled, with a total of more than 20 workshops, focusing on such topics as lesbian/gay issues of substance abuse, AIDS, lesbian health concerns, psychotherapy with lesbian/gay clients, health care concerns of lesbians and gay men of color, aging, and professional development.

In addition representatives from the Centers for Disease Control, as well as local physicians, psychologists, social workers, and nurses will present a series of workshops on the medical and psycho-social aspects of AIDS.

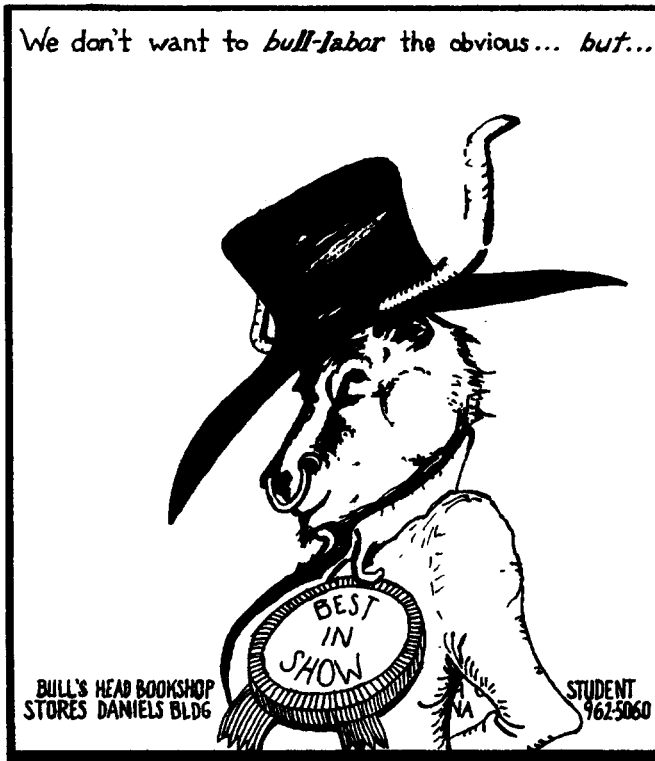
Organizers hope to offer continuing education credit for nurses, physicians' assistants, physicians, and psychologists attending the sessions.

The North Carolina Lesbian and Gay Health Project is a co-sponsor of the event and will be conducting workshops on needs assessment (survey design, implementation and analysis), establishment of a health project (how men and women work together, funding, administration) using the NC Project as a model, and the social and political issues of AIDS.

People wishing to attend the conference may be able to pool transportation with local Health Project workers. Contact David at 929-9769, or write:

NC Lesbian and Gay Health Project
P.O. Box 11013
Durham, NC 27703

Preregistration for the conference (before March 15) is \$25 and \$15 for students. Registration forms are available in the CGA office, or send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



Lambda is available by mail. Complete the form below and send it, along with \$3 or more, to the address below. Checks can be drawn to Lambda or to CGA. In return, we'll place your name on our confidential mailing list and send you each issue, discreetly folded and in a plain envelope, for the academic year.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

MOVING???

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES; THE USPS DOES NOT FORWARD US.

Mail to: Lambda/CGA
Box 39 Carolina Union 065A
UNC-CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Lambda Meeting
for old and new staff
Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
207-B Carolina Union