

LAMBDA

The Carolina Gay & Lesbian Association Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 4

April 1988

CGLA FUNDING SECURE

On Sunday, April 17, the UNC Student Congress voted 5-16-2 to fund the Carolina Gay & Lesbian Association (CGLA) with \$1,779 in student fees. Although this represents a \$345 cut in the CGLA's overall budget request and a \$298 decrease in the student fees portion from last year, the cuts were due mainly to fiscal concerns rather than homophobic attitudes, as has been the case in years past.

Because of a shortage in student fees money, the Congress had to cut the requests of almost every single group, not just the CGLA. There were \$350,000 in budget requests from 34 student groups but only \$183,000 available to allocate. The money shortage was due mainly to the defeat of a student referendum in February to increase student fees by \$1.25 per semester.

CGLA's allocation was also \$124 higher than the recommendation of the Finance Committee, reflecting a reinstatement of CGLA's desire to have Lambda collated. CGLA was one of only eight groups to receive higher allocations than the Finance Committee recommendation. Four groups were also entirely defunded.

CGLA's original request from Student Congress was \$2,474, or 57% of the proposed budget of \$4,324. The actual allocation of \$1,779 is 44% of the approved budget of \$3,979.

The primary cuts in CGLA's budget came in a reduction of the speakers fees request and an increase in the CGLA's burden of fundraising and selling Lambda subscriptions.

see Funding page 3

JEFF LEVI HIGHLIGHTS AWARENESS WEEK

The Eleventh Annual Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week (and a half) at UNC was a huge success with twenty one co-sponsors, an extraordinarily high turnout, two nationally-recognized speakers, and an AIDS benefit dance. Here are some of the highlights of the week:

On Saturday, March 26, the AIDS Benefit Dance was co-sponsored by the UNITAS program and the Association of International Students. Despite very bad weather on the night of the dance, CGLA was able to raise \$160, which will be go to aid in the purchase of a boarding house for persons with AIDS (PWA's) in the Triangle area. Over \$20,000 has been raised so far for this project by local artists and AIDS activists.

Ben Shatz, director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of the National Gay Rights Advocates, spoke on March 28 at the Law

School as part of their program on AIDS & Law, presented in conjunction and cooperation with Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week. Shatz spoke on the "three P's" of AIDS: panic, profit, & politics.

Lightning Brown, a law student and long-time local gay activist, was instrumental in bringing Shatz to Carolina as well as being one of the coordinators for the AIDS & Law program.

On Wednesday, March 30, a discussion on lesbian invisibility was led by Mandy Carter of Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists and Lynn Hudson of the UNC Women's Studies Program. Several thought-provoking questions were asked by the crowd of about 30, including a healthy discussion on separatism issues in the women's community.

see Awareness page 4

SUBSCRIPTIONS
MODESTLY PRICED

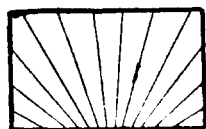
GRANT PROPOSALS SEARCH

The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights is calling for grant proposals to disburse about \$70,000 in surplus funds in the national office accounts. Grants will be awarded by the seven member Executive Committee based on criteria approved by the 65 member national Steering Committee.

"We were shocked to find that we had any surplus funds given our struggles to raise money before the October 11th march," reported Kay Ostberg, national co-chair in Washington, DC, "however, the amount of money we raised during the week of events was evidence of the overwhelming success of the March."

In order to be awarded a grant, a project must be lesbian, gay and/or AIDS related and have national or state significance. Proposals for amounts up to \$5,000 will be considered. At least one half of the recipients will be lesbians and at least one quarter of the recipients will be people of color. Preference will be given to grass roots projects, projects born of March organizing and projects working toward one or more of the March demands.

Those interested in applying for a grant should get a copy of the request for proposals. Write the March on Washington at P.O. Box 7781, Washington, DC, 20044 or call (202) 783-1828. Grant proposal must be received by June 1, 1988 to be considered.



LGHP

Post Office Box 3203
Durham, North Carolina 27705
919/683-2182
24-hour answering machine

**North Carolina Lesbian
and Gay Health Project**

Healthline Staffed Monday-Thursday

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Medical Referrals and Social Info

AIDS Information, Support
Groups, Buddy Program,
Lesbian Health, Community
Education and Support

Confidential Information and Assistance
Volunteers Always Welcome

The Carolina Gay & Lesbian
LAMBDA

Association Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 4

April 1988

The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association is an "officially recognized, semi-independent" student organization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The CGLA is funded by the democratic vote of the Student Congress and through CGLA fundraising activities.

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We welcome your comments, criticisms, and information. If you would like to be part of the staff, call the CGLA office; if no Lambda staff member is available then, we'll return your call.

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LAMBDA

Funding from page 1

CGLA members tried to explain that the increase in donations for 1987-88 had more to do with sympathy checks generated by the anti-gay referendum than with an increase in CGLA's ability to raise money. Unfortunately, this argument did not fly with the Congress and CGLA is likely to face a very difficult time in meeting fundraising obligations.

1987-88 CGLA chair Don Suggs said that he was "generally satisfied" with the outcome of the proceedings. However, he felt that some of the budgeting procedures were inadequate because of the confusion and lack of communication generated by a poorly-run Finance Committee.

As far as the tone of this year's funding debate goes, all sides agreed that the debate stuck primarily to relevant issues. Curtis Small (Dist. 5) was satisfied with what he called "the fair and impartial proceedings" of the Congress. Speaker Neil Riemann (Dist. 12) and Stephanie Ahlschwede (Dist. 14) expressed similar views.

Small, who along with Congresswoman Susan Kirshner (Dist. 7) chose to publicly "come out" in the budget hearings, thought that those opposing funding were willing to listen and have respect for differing opinions. Small was also the major force in sponsoring and passing an AIDS awareness resolution last semester.


David McNeill (Dist. 19) agreed with this assessment. McNeill, who spearheaded the effort to place CGLA funding on a student referendum and who introduced a resolution in budget hearings to entirely defund CGLA, said that he intentionally sought to steer arguments away from moral or biblical issues because they had no place in the debate. "I set out to argue my case in a professional, businesslike, and rational manner," McNeill said. McNeill felt that the debate was less emotional than in years past and that both sides were able to learn from each other.

Gene Davis (Dist. 18) definitely had the most encouraging perspective to share on the funding debate. Davis, a sophomore, quite vehemently opposed funding CGLA during last year's budget hearings based on his moral and religious beliefs. Davis reported a complete turnaround in his beliefs on compassion, tolerance, and hatred as of this

past summer.

Davis now feels that CGLA is "a needed group" on campus, based on two factors which have changed his perception. The first factor is that a good friend of his came out to him and shared with Davis his concerns, hopes and fears. The second factor is a deeply religious experience which convinced him that there was too much hate in the world, and he feels that the animosity towards gays and lesbians on the UNC campus was an example of what the Lord does not want to occur.

Davis also said that he has learned more from his change of perspective while on the Student Congress than he has learned from any class at UNC. His goal now is to break down the barriers of hatred which exist between the various groups of people on campus, whether it be racial, sexual, religious, or political in nature. He now feels that intolerance and hatred are "bad for people's psyche" and that hatred makes it harder for groups to work together.



MANBITES DOG THEATER
PRESENTS

**THE
NORMAL
HEART**

THE NORMAL HEART
by Larry Kramer

April 28-30
May 5-7
May 12-14
8:15 pm Tickets \$5

Special Preview Benefit for
the Lesbian and Gay Health Project
Wednesday April 27
8:15 pm Tickets \$25

Post-performance discussions
on April 29, May 6, May 13

Contains strong language
and themes
All profits from
THE NORMAL HEART
will go to the following
local AIDS support groups:
The Lesbian and Gay Health Project
AIDS Community Residence Association

Photographs by Deena Rae Turner

T
EARS
OF
RAGE
T
EARS
OF
GRIEF

343 West Main
at Five Points
Downtown Durham
286-2890

An exhibit of photographs
of people with AIDS and
other images from the 1987
March on Washington For
Lesbian And Gay Rights
The exhibit will run concurrently
with **The Normal Heart**

Opening Reception
Sunday, May 1st
2-5 pm

Anyone interested in participating
as a subject in a photographic
documentary of the AIDS
epidemic, please contact
Deena Turner
at 479-5139

Special thanks to Charles Bentley
and Adrienne Fox and to
Prototype, Inc.

Awareness from page 1

Several AIDS-related programs were very consciousness raising: a film about black women and the disease, a panel discussion on AIDS and minorities, a speaker on the spiritual healing of the disease, a panel on hospital administration and AIDS, and a discussion of the legal implications of the disease.

A religious forum on April 4 attracted almost 150 people as well as lots of controversy because it included on its panel of eight anti-gay representatives from three churches. The forum received mixed reviews because of the controlled nature of the debate and the blatant sexism of some of the speakers.

A film called "Not All Parents Are Straight" was presented Tuesday, April 5 with about 50 people in attendance. The film discussed lesbian and gay parenting issues and was followed by responses from three local lesbian/gay parents.

On Wednesday, April 6, Jeff Levi, executive director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force spoke at UNC for three different audiences. He first spoke on political and legal issues with AIDS to the new AIDS class being offered through the School of Public Health. Shortly thereafter, Levi spoke to the Law School on AIDS as a crisis of law.

Later in the evening, Jeff Levi was the welcomed guest to a group of approximately 50 members of CGLA. He spoke about several current issues facing gay student groups across the nation, such as anti-gay referendums and court battles for recognition and funding. Then Levi offered some insight on what was happening on both the Republican and Democratic sides of the Presidential campaign trail.

Also, Levi discussed the new Campus Project of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force which will provide a crucial network of support for lesbian and gay students. The project will provide resources and emotional and technical support to campus groups. If your student group is interested in an organization packet and the new organization newsletter Lesbian and Gay on Campus from the Campus Project, you should write to Kevin Berrill, Director, Campus and Anti-violence Projects, the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC, 20009 or phone (202) 332-6483.

All in all, the entire week was a very educational and enlightening affair for all those who attended. Approximately 900 people came to the week and a half of events, and the week is sure to be remembered as one of the classiest in CGLA's history. Thank you to all who spoke, co-sponsored, organized and came to the events!

DUBUQUE GAYS DENIED FAIR SHAKE

Lesbians, gay men, and supporters will return to the streets of Dubuque, Iowa on Saturday, April 30 for the second annual lesbian/gay pride march, following last year's event at which marchers were harassed and pelted with obscenities, epithets and eggs. Dubuque police officers took no action to intervene while anti-gay counterdemonstrators nearly turned the peaceful pride march into a riot.

"This year will be significantly different," said Ginny Lynns, a Dubuque organizer of the march. "We're inviting people from the Upper Midwest region to stand with us and show the Dubuque police and city administration that lesbians and gay men are here to stay. We call it the 'Forsythe County' march of the lesbian and gay rights movement because after racist attacks on black people in the Georgia county, thousands and thousands of people turned out for a peaceful, but powerful and empowering march."

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) enthusiastically endorses the second annual Dubuque Lesbian/Gay pride March. Privacy Project director Sue Hyde, a Salisbury, NC, native, will speak at the rally, scheduled for 1pm in Washington Park. "We urge lesbians and gay men from the surrounding states of Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin, Minnesota, as well as lesbian and gay citizens of Iowa to rebuke bigotry and prejudice and march for justice and freedom in Dubuque," said Hyde.

VAGUELY
REMINISCENT

728 NINTH ST ♦ DURHAM ♦ 286-3911 ♦ 10-5:30 Mon-Sat
♦ 11-3 Sundays

THE QUILT: STORIES FROM THE NAMES PROJECT

In 1987, a small group of volunteers set up shop in a San Francisco storefront. They posted a "wish list," containing items they desperately needed: sewing machines, needles, chairs, worktables, extra hands. Their goal was to revive the old fashioned notions of quilting and the quilting bee, and create a lasting memorial to those who have died of AIDS. The result weighs over 7 tons, covers the size of three football fields, and is the largest ongoing community arts project in the nation. It is The NAMES Project Quilt.

Now in THE QUILT: Stories From The NAMES Project (A Pocket Books Hardcover, May 11, 1988, \$22.95) the beauty and spirit of the Quilt lives on. The book is a keepsake edition in full-color photos and test of The NAMES Project Quilt, the national AIDS memorial. The QUILT is dedicated both to preserving the memory of those who have died and increasing national awareness of the disease.

Created by friends, parents, lover, siblings and co-workers, the 3' x 6' panels that make up The NAMES Project Quilt have arrived from 48 states and five foreign countries. Each panel is unique with its own meaning and memories, each celebrating a life, and love and hope of those who have made the panel. Fashioned with paint, applique, stencils, and embroidery, some contain mementos of the person's life, including clothes, photographs or locks of hair. Some are bright celebrations of fur, feathers and glitter; still others are stark and solemn, bearing only a name or initial.

THE QUILT: Stories From The NAMES Project is at the same time a visual book and moving narrative. Full-color photographs throughout highlight the panels that have become the moving and passionate memorials to those who have died of AIDS. The accompanying text captures the grief and courage symbolized by the panel makers and volunteers involved in this endeavor steeped in American tradition.

This spring The NAMES Project Quilt will travel to some 20 American cities where its message of love and remembrance will reach tens of millions and help raise funds for local support groups providing direct services to people with AIDS. The May publication of the

book coincides with the national tour to further focus attention on the NAMES Project. Profits from THE QUILT: Stories From The NAMES Project are going to the NAMES Project and will help raise funds for local support groups providing direct services to people with AIDS. THE QUILT is written by Cindy Ruskin, designed by Deborah Zeemke with photographs by Matt Herron.

NEWSNOTES ...

NEW DUKE STUDENT GROUP

ACCESS is a new peer-run organization at Duke University that deals with lesbian, gay and bisexual questions and concerns. ACCESS is a confidential counselling, support and referral service with a telephone helpline and walk-in office hours. The office, located in the Bryan Center on Duke's West Campus, behind the information desk, also contains books and pamphlets that cover areas such as AIDS, gay & lesbian services and organizations, and many issues concerning sexuality.

ACCESS is staffed by volunteers who are trained by a local psychologist specializing in homosexual and bisexual concerns. The group of volunteers, moreover, represents a cross-section of sexual preferences and University affiliations.

Hours of operation this year are Sunday through Thursday, 7-11pm. The phone number is 684-8921 and David Kim is director. Their mailing address is ACCESS, Office of Student Activities, 101-3 Bryan Center, Duke University, Durham, NC, 27706.

TORONTO PEN PALS

Would you like a lesbian or gay Canadian pen pal? The Lesbian & Gay Youth of Toronto is interested in corresponding with other groups and individuals. Their mailing address is Lesbian & Gay Youth of Toronto, c/o 519 Church St. Community Centre, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2C9.

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DOS LESBOS REDUX

Dos Lesbos returns! Lea Delaria & Kelley Edwards will be back in Chapel Hill in a brand new comedy production on Saturday, May 7, 8pm-12am. They will perform at the Community Church in Chapel Hill, 106 Purefoy Rd. Admission is \$7-\$10 sliding scale on ability to pay, or send SASE to RWP, 604 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC, 27701 or call Mandy Carter at 682-6374.

This is a benefit fundraiser for The Front Page, NC's leading statewide gay & lesbian newspaper. The benefit is sponsored by Real Women Productions and The Front Page. A dance follows the performance, BYOB, Cash Bar.

LESBIAN FESTIVAL WORKSHOP

Festival '88, sponsored by Alternative Resources of the Triad (ART), will present "The Total Woman: A Workshop For Lesbians" on Saturday, May 7 beginning at 9am at the Unitarian Church of Greensboro, 3010 Monterey Street, Greensboro. Spiritual, physical, emotional & social aspects of womyn's lives will be discussed.

Registration is \$8-\$15 sliding scale to cover costs of food and programming. The registration deadline is May 1 and you may make checks payable to ART, P.O. Box 4442, Greensboro, NC, 27404. Phone is (919) 274-2100.

NAT'L SECRETARIES' WEEK

The Durham chapter NC 9to5, North Carolina Association of Working Women, has newly formed and is planning events in honor of National Secretaries' Week, which is April 25-29. The group can be contacted at 809 Proctor St., Durham, NC, 27707. Phone is (919) 682-2069, ask for Shafeah M'Baliala.

LESBIAN WRITERS UNITE

WOMONWRITES '88, the Southeastern Lesbian Writers' Conference will be held June 1-5, 1988. For additional info send SASE to

WOMONWRITES '88, 7134 5th Ave. North, St. Petersburg, FL, 33710.

GASP! LESBIANS ON TV!

ABC television has announced that its midseason replacement series, "Private Practice," will feature a lesbian regular! The show is set in a women's clinic, and one of the nurse practitioners, Mary McGrath, "just happens to be a lesbian." Esther Shapiro, the producer of the show, says "we will deal with her orientation matter-of-factly." The character will be played by Gail Strickland. Stay Tuned!

BLACK/WHITE MEN CONVENTION

Men of All Colors Together Boston will host the 8th Annual Convention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston Jul 4-9, 1988.

The convention theme is Looking In and Reaching Out. The workshops, panels and discussions will focus on topics such as the coming out process, family relationships, partner relationships, substance abuse, and political and community involvement.

Two days of the conference will specifically focus on AIDS, especially AIDS in the minority community, AIDS & IV drug use, pediatric AIDS cases, etc.

Several individuals will give major speeches, among them Rev. Carl Bean of Los Angeles Minority AIDS project, Mel King and Boston City Councilman David Scondras.

The convention will open in Fanueil Hall on Tuesday evening July 5th at 7pm with a yet unnamed nationally known speaker.

The convention is open to the public and registration is \$70. If you want to know more write: Convention '88, P.O. Box 3119, Westport, MA, 02790.

NIGHT OF A THOUSAND GOWNS

"Night of a Thousand Gowns," a national AIDS charity ball, is back! Casino Royale! Honoring the accomplishments of Charles Ludlam and The Ridiculous Theatrical Company. The event will be held on Saturday,

April 30, 1988 at the Starlight Roof Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria.

Proceeds to benefit: The People With AIDS Coalition, The Human Rights Campaign Fund AIDS Campaign Trust, The New York Lesbian & Gay Community Services Center, & The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force.

White Tie and Court Dress. Cocktail Reception 8-10pm. Dinner 10pm. Gambling in the Casino. Dancing to The Bill Harrington Orchestra.

Coronation of the Emperor & Empress II of New York. Entertainment by Jimmy James.

Tickets: \$150 each General Admission; \$200 each for reserved table seating; Table(s) at \$2000 each (10 seats per table). Make checks payable to Night Of A Thousand Gowns. Corporate checks are welcomed. Tickets reserved after April 15th will be held at the door. For further info please call (212) 222-2999. Charitable deduction as determined by limits of law.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS
MODESTLY PRICED**

LGHP SPECIALIZES AIDS BRANCH

The Lesbian and Gay Health Project of Durham (LGHP) has redefined and specialized its AIDS support and educational services branch. The specialization will allow the branch, now to be called The AIDS Services Project (TASP), to broaden services, outreach, and support beyond and within the gay community.

The decision, though a difficult one to make, will allow LGHP to be able to maintain and fulfill its original goals and objectives - to work toward improving the availability of health care and health information to lesbians and gay men, thereby promoting better health among the gay and lesbian community. This will allow TASP, as well, to continue to grow and flourish in the coming years.


With the rights and health of gay men and lesbians still in jeopardy, and as the AIDS epidemic continues to take its toll in our communities, the Lesbian and Gay Health Project and The AIDS Services Project of LGHP will continue to look to you in the coming years for your dedication and support.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or extra energy to share with LGHP, you can reach them at the following numbers: LGHP 683-2182; TASP 688-5777.

SAFE SEX WORKSHOPS

The Lesbian & Gay Health Project (LGHP) is conducting Safe Sex and AIDS information workshops and is getting in touch with groups throughout the area to reach as many audiences as possible. If your group would be interested in this presentation, or if any individuals you know would like to host a workshop, please let LGHP know. LGHP, P.O. Box 3203, Durham, NC, 27705-1203.

Subscriptions
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P R I C E D



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Please notify us of address changes as the post office charges us for corrections. Lambda is not forwardable.

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Return to: LAMBDA/CGLA
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Univ. of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Date _____ Amt. _____ Init. _____

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Largest Gay & Lesbian Selection in Chapel Hill

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408 W. Rosemary St. Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

919-942-1740



Southern Regional Integrity Convention May 27-29 (Memorial Day weekend) in Durham.

For information or to register please write to Integrity Triangle Chapter, Post Office Box 2567, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Registration is \$30 and includes a Friday evening reception, a Saturday picnic lunch, dinner at the Carolina Ballroom and Theater on Saturday evening, and a Sunday pool party and pig-pickin'. Alcohol is not provided, however. Please return registration by May 1, 1988.

HEARING ON ANTI-GAY VIOLENCE

The Durham Human Relations Commission will hold a hearing on anti-lesbian & gay violence and discrimination in jobs, housing, and public accommodations at the Durham City Hall Council Chambers on May 10, 1988 at 7:30 pm.

What can you do? Think about your experiences. Report them even if you think "it wasn't a big deal." Consider testifying. Written or tape-recorded reports are acceptable if you want to remain anonymous. Encourage your friends to call and testify if they have been victimized. Come to the hearing. Bring your friends, gay and straight.

The Triangle Lesbian and Gay Alliance (TLGA) is taking responsibility for finding testimony for the hearings. Contact TLGA members Betsy 682-7108 or Meredith 286-0084 for more information or to report stories.

BOSTON U. ALUMNI BEGINS

The Boston University Lesbian/Gay Alliance is forming an alumni association for graduates of the University. If you meet these criteria, please contact The Boston University Lesbian/Gay Alliance, George Sherman Union Student Center #7, 775 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA, 02215.

CLASSICAL LESBIANS

"A Slice of Life," an evening of classical guitar and dance with Abigail Stage and Kami Rowan of Greensboro, NC, will be held at the Community Church of Chapel Hill, 106 Purefoy Rd. on Saturday, April 30 at 8pm. Admission is \$5 adults or \$2 children 16 and under. Tickets at door or by sending SASE to WRL, 604 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC, 27701. Volunteers needed, call Mandy Carter 682-6374.

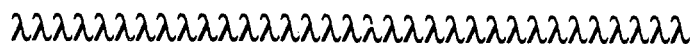


INTEGRITY CONVENTION

The Triangle Chapter of Integrity, a gay Episcopalian group, will host the 1988

This is a benefit fundraiser for the Durham-based War Resisters League (WRL). There will be light refreshments and WRL table with t-shirts, buttons, bumperstickers, etc.

LESBIAN/GAY EDUCATION CONFERENCE



The Fund For Human Dignity, Inc. (The Fund), will present The Lesbian and Gay Education Conference: "Initiatives Toward A National Education Agenda For Our Culturally Diverse Community," on Sunday, July 24, 1988 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers, Boston, MA.

The goal of the conference is to develop a network of individuals, projects and organizations working to educate various publics on gay and lesbian issues. Model community education project will be highlighted, resources shared, strategies explored and a national education agenda discussed. All presenters are asked to address the needs of the diversity of the gay community, including lesbians and gay people of color.

The Fund is the only national foundation dedicated to combatting ignorance and anti-gay bigotry through education. Established in 1974, the Fund has been educating Americans for over a decade on issues affecting gay people. Originally an affiliate of the National Gay Task Force, the Fund is today a vital independent foundation sponsoring a wide variety of programs, including a national toll-free crisisline for all lesbian and gay concerns, including AIDS (1-800-221-7044).

For more information on the work of the Fund, write to The Fund For Human Dignity, Inc., 666 Broadway, New York, NY, 10012. Phone is (212) 529-1600.

NAT'L GAY SPEAKERS BUREAU

Malcolm Boyd, celebrated gay priest and well-known author, has announced he is the first to join the newly formed National Gay Speakers Bureau (NGSB). The Los Angeles based group plans to serve as a link between gay and lesbian speakers and the many educational, political, social, and business groups seeking their talents and services.

"This is long overdue, and I'm very, very happy to see this at last," says Boyd. "The creation of the NGSB represents an important milestone for our community. It's an opportunity to share our talent and resources in an efficient manner. It's also significant as a new type of gay business." Boyd, who has enjoyed tremendous popularity as a speaker across the United States and abroad, points out

an important benefit. "The NGSB is going to make my life easier. Not only will others be able to find me, but the Bureau will let organizations know I'm available."

"I have long been troubled by the conspicuous absence--or relative invisibility--of nationally recognizable, positive gay role models," says Ken Newelt, founder of the NGSB. "We could probably count them on one hand. The Bureau will serve to support the ones we have, introduce outstanding local personalities to a national audience, and give those inside and outside our community a chance to know our very best."

Newelt is optimistic that the creation of the NGSB will lead to an increase in opportunities for gay and lesbian speakers. "While we plan to start with just a few national celebrities, we expect to field hundreds of requests in the very near future. As word spreads about our service, gay groups on campus, gay business alliances, gay social and religious organizations will be contacting us as they plan their special events and conferences. We want to hear from the leaders in our community--public servants, authors, other shakers and movers--positive role models who can help lead our national community into the nineties."

The NGSB will be inviting several others to join immediately, but Newelt declined to give any names at this time. He did, however, indicate that they were prominent in the fields of public service and the arts. "We promise to release that information as our invitations are accepted. Malcolm Boyd's enthusiasm is quite a vote of confidence, and I'm sure we're on the right track with this."

The NGSB welcomes inquiries about Malcolm Boyd's availability, or any other questions you may have about the Bureau's services. Write to the National Gay Speakers Bureau, P.O. Box 3575, Hollywood, CA, 90078. All letters will be answered promptly. If you prefer, the NGSB can respond by collect call from Los Angeles.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (Lambda) was founded in 1973 to advance the right of gay people and to educate

has also devoted considerable attention to the civil rights issues arising from AIDS, filing and then winning the very first case in the nation alleging discrimination on account of AIDS.

Lambda pursues test-case litigation in all parts of the country, and in all areas of concern to gay men and lesbians. Case by case, its efforts strip away any respectability afforded sexual orientation discrimination, bringing gay people closer to equal citizenship under the law. The organization's work ultimately benefits all Americans, for it helps to fashion a society that is truly diverse and tolerant.

Lambda, the oldest and largest legal organization of its kind in the country, is not-for-profit, tax-exempt, licensed to practice law by New York State, and involved in legal cases across the state.

Lambda has made new law throughout its history. Here are some examples:

Lambda was its own first test case. When the founders of Lambda asked New York State for recognition as a "legal assistance corporation" in 1972, a state court denied the petition, claiming that the organization was "neither benevolent nor charitable." Lambda appealed to New York's highest court, and won a reversal--and the right to exist. *In re Thom*.

In 1973, the University of New Hampshire, under pressure from Governor Meldrim Thomson to take "positive action" against "socially abhorrent activities" on campus, sought to curtail events sponsored by a newly-formed Gay Students Organization. Lambda joined with others in challenging the restrictions, and the following year a federal appeals court sitting in Boston nullified the limitations as an infringement of the students' First Amendment rights. *Gay Students Organization v. Bonner*.

Lambda played a key role in the lawsuit that led to the invalidation of New York State's consensual sodomy statute in 1980. In a landmark opinion, the state's Court of Appeals declared that the constitutional right to privacy extends to all "noncommercial, cloistered personal sexual conduct of consenting adults." *People v. Onofre*.

Lambda brought the very first case in the United States alleging illegal discrimination related to AIDS, helping to establish the principle that laws prohibiting unequal treatment against those with disabilities also

protect people with AIDS. Lambda also initiated the first such suit under the federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and won the first ruling by a federal agency finding a violation of the statute against someone with AIDS. *People v. 49 West 12 Tenants Corp.* and *Doe v. Charlotte Memorial Hospital*.

In 1986, after six years of litigation, Lambda became counsel to a Tennessee lesbian mother who was fighting to retain custody of her child. Immediately, Lambda succeeded in dismissing the long-standing challenge brought against her by the woman's own parents. *Hyde v. Parrish*.

How can you help Lambda? Write to Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012 for more information.

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TRACY CHAPMAN'S FIRST ALBUM

Since I'm a good student of feminism, I'm going to be honest with you about my biases in this article. I have been waiting for Tracy Chapman's first record since I first heard her at Sisterfire about a year ago, so there's no way I could give her album a bad review. I really think, however, that this Boston native's self-titled release on Elektra records displays some of the most exciting new talent around.

Tracy writes amazing lyrics that look critically at our society from a new perspective. For example, "Across the Lines" addresses problems of racial tension in America by looking at the looks at the wife-beating from the perspective of a sleeping next-door neighbor. This song is particularly moving, as

Tracy sings unaccompanied and really shows off her talented voice and wide range. She sings "Last night I heard the screaming/then a silence that chills my soul/I prayed that I was dreaming/When I saw the ambulance in the road."

"Mountains O' things" is one of my favorite tracks on the album and starts off the second side. This song displays Tracy's talents as a singer, a songwriter, and a musician. The music has an African-sounding percussion, sort of like some of Peter Gabriel's work with good keyboard and guitar harmony. The lyrics are written from the perspective of a poor person dreaming of being wealthy and surrounding herself with material foods until she eventually dies friendless. This song has great irony between the Third World sound of



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the rhythm and the typically materialistic American lyrics.

Entirely different musical styles can be found on some of the other tracks on this album. "For You" and "For my lover" both have the simpler, acoustic sound that characterizes her live performances. In contrast, "If not now..." has a light jazz sound with an acoustic piano and percussion. "Fast Car," her ballad about love and dreams in the ghetto, has melodic, all-American steel guitar part.

The only song that I'm a little dissatisfied with is "Talkin' bout a revolution." The lyrics are fantastic: "Don't you know/They're talkin' 'bout a revolution that sounds/like a whisper...Poor people gonna rise up/And get their share." I think this song is much better live because in the recording some of her vocal subtleties (like whispering the words "like a whisper") are drowned out by the excessive electric guitar and keyboard parts. Nevertheless, this is a very moving song, and a good piece to play in the morning when you're trying to find a good reason to get out of bed.

- Pippa Holloway

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UNUSUAL GENTLEMEN: BEFORE MATTACHINE

I dream of you silly old queen beloved
shattered suffering huddled on you kitchen
floor the tiniest bird your lips painted a
horrified gash of red you kneel on shards of
wedgewood china your man I gather he

roughs you up some breaks your pretty things
the stuff of which your songs are made
incessantly whimpered torch song prophesy

I'm haunted by your pink chintzy ghost
Pansy brother unknowing martyr - even now
- closet door unhinged I see you through
hetero-hexed eyes eyes rubbed in playground
dirt eyes which - above all - fear your magick

O forebrother even now your gilded
laughter your supple perfumed body makes
me bridle - hotly defensive You are my history
recorded in girlish whispers and my tears
speak for you still the tears I justify my
modern-male tears political tears as wet and
despised as your tears of shame I need to
claim you as a brother and I need to fossilize
you forsake you to know that I couldn't have
been like you Are you merely a product of
oppression? a bitter frightened soul
bargaining with rough trade under judy's
rainbow? speaking in code morning noon
and night gang-banged by american formica
discretion?

1949 Kinsey

who championed our very hearts to timidly
beat who bade the disciples of Freud cease
frying our very brains who bade the fairy fly
undrugged unharnessed even he who re-
searched us published us onto coffee-table
chit-chat reality did it make a difference in
your life?

Today I march chant make a nuisance of
myself I speak so clearly of our butchery of
our assembly line vivisection -- still no apology
forthcoming The sheer leaden grief of
knowing the diet of sewage force fed to you by
your country/men the heads of heads flag-
waving bleached tyrants - you didn't know
how it stank you mandatory objet d'art

O forebrother

I grit my teeth and eulogize apologize agonize
for you but I haven't been equipped to love
you I was taught to hate you through TIME
and thru LIFE thru their trench-coated lies
Your smile of pearl your campy songs your
coquettish gait your brilliant shameless-hussy
spirit - the delicacy of which I've always
dreamed our point of connection could get
me killed on the street some night - no apology
forthcoming

LAMBDA