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# Q-NOTES

MAY 1987 □ Vol. 2, No. 5

TO ADVERTISE: 704/332-3834 AFTER 6:30 P.M.

## DRUMMER!

### The Amazing Month Of May

For complete details about Drummer Week, read the ad on Pages 6 and 7.

By DON KING  
Editor

You gotta be at Charades on Friday, May 1, to see the amazed preppies and guppies (gay upwardly mobile professionals).

That's the night the Tradesmen and their guests — from Baltimore to Dallas — will trek in full leather into Charlotte's trendiest gay establishment.

The scene will symbolize May's happenings in Charlotte.

It's leather month. And anniversary month. And Miss Charlotte month.

The Tradesmen combine the two — leather and anniversaries — May 1-3 when they celebrate their first year.

Two weekends later comes Drummer Week, a host of activities climaxing with Carolina Drummer '87 on Saturday, May 16.

Meanwhile, Oleen's, The Scorpio and Charades hold anniversaries of their own. And The Scorpio hosts the Miss Charlotte Contest the night after Carolina Drummer. (For details, see each bar's ads elsewhere in Q-Notes.)

Party-out is May's name of the game.

Much of the Tradesmen's weekend will be private — unless you've already registered. Do, however, catch their special show, including the gender-bending comedians Cheap Trade, on Saturday afternoon, May 2. It's open to the gay public, space permitting in the Scorpio's VIP Lounge.

Now about all the Drummer activities: everything is open to anybody gay who wants to attend.

"No, you don't have to wear leather," shouted QCQ Drummer committee chair Robert Sheets, "to come to Drummer or any part of the week. The only thing you need is the mindset for a helluva good time."

The good times start at midweek. But the big deal is, of course, Saturday, May 16.

Female impersonators have been working for two months on production numbers for Carolina Drummer '87. The

If you read the issue of *The Advocate* that reached subscribers in late April, you know the importance of the leather community to gay men and lesbians.

*Drummer Week* is a celebration of that leather culture, and a major fund-raising endeavor for QCQ.

Art by Kevin Kennedy



Charlotte Lambda Chorale has been practicing for part of it. Volunteers have lined up sound equipment and organized everything from city flags on tables to motel room reservations. The Tradesmen will usher. And contestants will represent Atlanta, Nashville, Asheville, Raleigh and who knows where else.

Contestants will come prepared for knock-out fantasies, speeches and leather wardrobe presentations they hope will land them in the national Mr. Drummer finals in San Francisco this summer. And some of the top names in the leather culture will be here, including Scott Tucker, Mr. International Leather; and Jim Ed Thompson, the associate editor of *Drummer* magazine who was Mr. San Francisco Leather '86,

third runner-up in Mr. International Leather '86, and appears in films with his partner.

Tucker and Thompson, who will address the audience, are judges along with the editors of *Etc.* magazine and *The Front Page*, and three other men.

Later that night comes another big bash. Starting at 1 a.m. in the morning at a very secret location (because there are only like 300 tickets to be sold, you see, and nobody wants a frustrated crowd at the door trying to get in) will be the ManDance/DrummerBoy Contest with The Scorpio's Doug Neems and Ed Kirkland staffing sound and lights imported from Atlanta. It will be dance time — and DrummerBoy time.

DrummerBoy, you see, is sort of an

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## Asheville Watching Violence

Special To Q-Notes

ASHEVILLE — Asheville's gay/lesbian group CLOSER has started monitoring incidents of violence and harassment. The new Human Rights Watch is the result of these:

■ Two people were attacked outside of the gay club Trax by a man wearing a ski mask. The two drove off the attacker and suffered minimal injury.

■ Tires were slashed in a parking lot used by Trax patrons.

■ There were reports of a police officer verbally harassing a gay man about his sexuality.

The Human Rights Watch adopted these goals:

1) To document violence and discrimination against people perceived as lesbian or gay.  
2) To support victims of homophobic violence

and discrimination.

3) To suggest ways to deal with homophobic violence and discrimination.

4) To inform Asheville's gay and lesbian community of local human rights problems and progress.

CLOSER invited Asheville-area gay and lesbian citizens who have suffered discrimination or violence — or people knowing someone else who has been victimized — to write the Human Rights Watch, c/o CLOSER, P.O. Box 2911, Asheville, N.C. 28802; or call Don or Joan Marshall at All Souls Episcopal Church, 274-2681.

■■■

CLOSER is an acronym for Community Liaison Organization for Support, Education and Reform.



"She" won first place and \$99.50 in QCQ's Camp for Cash Night at Charades on April 23. More pictures, Page 8.

## Drum Sticks

### \$25,000 In Fireworks!

Charlotte's having a \$25,000 fireworks show during Drummer Week.

Get your seat on Stevens' upstairs porch on Thursday, May 14, enjoy dinner, kick your legs up with a drink and you'll have a great view of the fireworks that will shoot off the former Arnold Palmer Cadillac property on South Tryon Street at about 9:15 p.m.

Actually, it's part of the World 600 Festival.

The Parade of Lights begins downtown at 8 p.m.; the fireworks follow. Stevens will be great grandstand seating for oohing and aahing when the blockbusters hit. As the crowd files, Stevens is about an eighth of a mile from the old Cadillac dealership.

You'll still have time after the starbursts to rush over to Charades for the Leather Fashion Show & Roast of Butch Stevenson, Mr. Carolina Drummer '86.

### 'Tough Customers' Photos

*Drummer* magazine has agreed to consider publishing "tough customer" photos taken at the Brass Rail during Drummer Week.

QCQ will arrange photography for those who want it for Friday, May 15, at the bar during the Drummer Welcome Party.

"Tough customer" layouts are among *Drummer's* popular features. Typically, the magazine publishes six or more per page, all with captions and some with an optional code for contacting the person pictured. A recent issue featured Texans.

Those accepted from the Brass Rail would likely be published July or August.

### Leather, Books For Sale

SM Leathers of Baltimore and White Rabbit Books of Greensboro will be selling merchandise in Charlotte during Drummer Week.

White Rabbit will display and sell at the Scorpio on Friday night, May 15, and at the official Drummer motel on Saturday, May 16, from noon to 6:30 p.m.

SM, which makes its first Charlotte appearance during Tradesmen's anniversary weekend May 1-3, returns to Charlotte May 13 for five sessions: May 13 at Scorpio, May 14 at Charades where SM will coordinate the leather fashion show, May 15 at the Brass Rail, May 16 at Park Center, and May 17 at Scorpio during the Miss Charlotte Pageant.