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news notes

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Q-Notes Staff

Carolinas Gay club does good deed

MYRTLE BEACH, SC—When Hurricane Bonnie recently struck the Myrtle Beach area, most everyone lost power and phone service. But Metropolis withstood the winds and suffered little damage even though several trees and signs hit the building. In the parking garage out front, the Police and National Guard set up a command post. Several news stations used the club as their headquarters. Metropolis never lost power. Metropolis Manager Sharon Brown's hospitality represented the gay community well with law enforcement officers and the media.

Falsely Faircloth

RALEIGH, NC—One of Senator Lauch Faircloth's (R-NC) television ads is quite misleading. The voice-over on the ad asks, "Who introduced the law creating the stamp to stamp out cancer?" and answers, "Our common sense senator, Lauch Faircloth." The bill to help raise money for breast cancer research through a 40-cent stamp was actually introduced by Senator Dianne Feinstein. Faircloth signed on as a co-sponsor two months after its introduction. Faircloth did add an amendment to a Senate budget bill that would have created a 33-cent stamp with one penny per stamp going to breast cancer research. The House amended the bill to allow the post office to charge as much as 40¢. While Faircloth did support the bill and work for its passage, the bill was not his idea, nor did he "introduce" it as that term is commonly understood. The ad omits his poor overall voting record on appropriations for breast cancer research.

PAC action

RALEIGH, NC—Rose White has joined NC Pride PAC (Political Action Committee) as the Fall 1998 Electoral Organizer. White is a student on leave from Guilford College in

Greensboro where she worked with the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program. She is also a graduate of the Grass Roots Organizing Weekends program sponsored by NC Lambda Youth Network. As Electoral Organizer, she will be working to increase volunteer participation and Pride PAC visibility in the fall elections.

National A slap on the wrist

GAINESVILLE, FL—Two University of Florida students who, according to court records, attacked Raymond Long while calling him a "faggot" got off with one-year probation with 50 community service hours. Ali Kakar, 21, and his brother Bismillah, 20, must also pay \$1371 to cover Long's medical expenses. If the two men complete the probation and pay the restitution, the charges will be erased from their records, according to the plea bargain. The charge was reduced to misdemeanor battery, even though Florida's hate crime law states any misdemeanor crime committed based upon prejudice will be treated as a felony. Long will file a civil lawsuit against both defendants.

AIDS educator charged

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NJ—An AIDS-prevention educator has been accused of showing an explicit videotape of gay sex to seven teen-agers in a Cape May County youth shelter. Keith Carson, an employee of the South Jersey AIDS Alliance, was indicted on charges of distributing obscenity to minors. Carson's lawyer said the charges represent a misuse of power and threaten safe-sex education efforts throughout the nation. Cape May County Prosecutor Stephen Moore said the video was "clearly inappropriate for educational purposes for young teens." The video was produced by the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City, Moore said, and its cover contains a disclaimer stating it should be viewed by adults only. The teens who viewed the video were between 15 and 17, according to the indictment. Portions of the 25-minute video feature gays engaging in anal and oral sex, and is punctuated with messages urging viewers to use condoms and other methods to prohibit transmission of HIV. If convicted, he faces up to 18 months in prison.

Rise in assaults

NEW YORK, NY—From August 31 through September 3, the Big Apple has seen five anti-gay attacks, four of them in Greenwich Village, the heart of New York's gay community. That brings the number of such assaults to 72 this year; there were 40 last year at this time. Police have made arrests in only one case. They suspect three men are responsible for two assaults in the Village and a group of six men for another attack there. The fifth attack occurred in Brooklyn. All the victims were men who were taunted with anti-gay remarks and then either threatened or assaulted by other men; one was stabbed in the arm. Police are calling the incidents possible bias crimes because all were attacked by people who thought the victims were homosexuals. Police Commissioner Howard Safir had assigned 15 extra uniformed and plainclothes officers to patrol Greenwich Village in the wake of three murders there last month. Six more officers have since been added.

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The Art of Meeting Women

A Guide for Gay Women

How to Meet the Women You Want to Meet
Rhona Sacks

"Definitive Resource On How To Meet Other Lesbians." — BLADE

"Excellent Guide For Lesbian Life." — GAY AND LESBIAN TIMES

"The Bible For Those Seeking Companionship." — BETWEEN THE LINES

"Simply Brilliant; A Very Important Asset To All Lesbians." — QUEER NEWS

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