

Don't forget to register to vote!

north & south CAROLINA



Notes

noted . notable . noteworthy GLBT issues

VOLUME 18 . ISSUE 22

SINCE 1986

¡Para Todos!
Reconocimiento de la unión
de la demanda de los gays

12



21

'Party Monster' on DVD

WWW.Q-NOTES.COM

MARCH 13 . 2004



Audiophile:
Pepper Mashay
on music & politics

29



Big Screen:
Charlize Theron grabs
Oscar for 'Monster'

31

Gay marriage
developments around
the country

18

Schwarzenegger
supports gay marriage

15

**North & South
Carolina**

North Carolina:
New gay church forming
in Hickory

08

South Carolina:
USC gay student
elected school president

09

ONLINE
Q.POLL
www.q-notes.com

Do you expect either of
the Carolinas will have
same-sex marriage in the
next 5-10 years?

. Yes . No

Q.POLL RESULTS:

The man who would be president: John Kerry

Massachusetts senator turned presidential contender has a background that shows he supports equality for all

by David Stout
Q-Notes staff

Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) has weathered the arduous primary process to emerge as the Democratic presidential nominee — but who is he and how will he be a good candidate for the LGBT community?

By now most of us know his stand on same-sex marriage: He doesn't support it, but does support civil unions and insists he'll allow gay and lesbian couples all of the 1,049 benefits afforded to heterosexual couples.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, Kerry has earned a 100 percent rating from the organization every year since 1995. Here's a sampling of his positions:

- One of his first acts as U.S. Senator was to introduce a bill outlawing workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. He supports passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and has adopted a non-discrimination policy for his congressional offices that includes both sexual orientation and gender identity.
- He is an original co-sponsor of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would extend federal jurisdiction to prosecute violent hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation.
- He supports the Permanent Partners

Immigration Act, which would allow American citizens to sponsor their same-sex partners for immigration into the country.

- He supports gays and lesbians having the same rights to adopt children as heterosexuals.
- He opposes "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and was one of the few senators to testify against it before the Senate Armed Services Committee.
- He co-sponsored the first Ryan White CARE Act, the largest-ever federal appropriation for treating individuals with HIV/AIDS. He sponsored the Vaccines for the New Millennium Act, aimed at boosting funding for an international non-profit group dedicated to developing an HIV vaccine. He introduced the U.S. Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria Act, which increased the U.S. government's funding of international HIV/AIDS efforts.
- He was one of just 14 senators to oppose the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in 1996 — and the only one who was up for reelection that year.



Sen. John Kerry (seen here with wife Teresa Heinz): Will he unseat President Bush and offer some sense of equality for U.S. gays?

Family man

Twice-married Kerry is a 60-year-old father of two daughters, an active Catholic, a Yale University graduate and a decorated veteran who helped to found Vietnam Veterans Against the War after his own tour of duty. He holds a degree from Boston College Law School and he served as a top prosecutor with the Middlesex

*see **KERRY** on 11

Charlotte gay center director to resign

Dan Kirsch will leave his position this summer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — After just over a year in his role as the first executive director for Charlotte's Lesbian & Gay Community Center (CLGCC), Dan Kirsch has announced he will resign.



Charlotte center director Dan Kirsch will leave his position this summer to 'pursue other ventures.'

"Dan came on board two years ago when we identified space for The Center," said Candice Whiteside, chair of the Board of Trustees for CLGCC. "[His] interest has always been in doing startup projects. We are extraordinarily grateful for his tremendous energy and vision in our beginning phase. We have successfully opened and operated a thriving and remarkable center.

According to Whiteside, Kirsch has indicated that he plans to pursue other ventures that will allow him to focus on his passion for building projects from the ground up.

Over the past decade Kirsch's creative efforts have been evident in a variety of projects. In the early '90s he co-founded One Voice Chorus and later even served a brief stint as editor for Q-Notes. In 1994 Kirsch was co-chair of the North Carolina Pride Celebration (held in Charlotte in June of that year). Out of that event he helped create OutCharlotte and was the festival's executive

see **JUMP** on 6

Gay protesters arrested in Asheville

'Sanctity of Marriage' rally draws 200 picketers to mountain town

by Elizabeth Kirwin

ASHEVILLE, N.C. — A skirmish that developed in relation to a rally designed to show support for the Federal Marriage Amendment in the western North Carolina Mountain town of Asheville ended in the arrest of 11 gay protesters Mar. 6.

Around 500 or so people showed up for the "Sanctity of Marriage" rally — with about 200 of them present in protest.

The protest to the rally began as an effort to offer a non-violent alternative voice to the anti-gay religious rhetoric that was being bandied about at the City-County Plaza.

Supporters and foes alike listened as Reverend Jimmy Dykes of North Asheville see **ASHEVILLE** on 4



Asheville police arrest a gay protestor at a rally supporting the Federal Marriage Amendment Mar. 6.