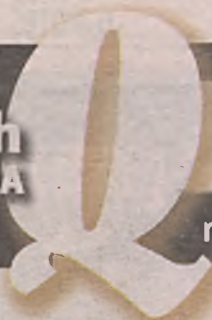


north
& south
CAROLINA



Notes

noted . notable . noteworthy GLBT issues

VOLUME 19 . ISSUE 5

SINCE 1986

WWW.Q-NOTES.COM

JULY 17 . 2004

kd lang talks about
her concert tour in
Q-Living



25



On the Air:
Graham Norton comes
to Comedy Central

28



Another gay victim
of a Chicago
serial killer?

04

Pentagon ignores
gay harassment

15

Presbyterians reject
gay clergy

19

Take part in the gay
and lesbian census

22

North and South Carolina

North Carolina:
Duke ends pact with YMCA
over domestic partners

09

South Carolina:
S.C. House Candidate
Charlie Smith endorsed
by Howard Dean

11

ONLINE
Q.POLL
www.q-notes.com

If the Federal Marriage
Amendment is passed
would you consider
leaving the United States?

. Yes . No

Q.POLL RESULTS: 28

N.C. anti-gay marriage amendment fails

GOP leaders two signatures short
of forcing vote

by D. Miller

RALEIGH, N.C. — Apparently failing in the same footsteps as a similar bill in South Carolina, North Carolina's anti-gay marriage bill is stuck in committee, making it virtually impossible for it to become an issue for voters this November.

Senate Republicans said June 29 they are two signatures short of forcing a vote on whether to send the bill to the Senate floor. GOP leaders, unhappy that their proposal is stuck in committee, had announced earlier in June they would circulate a petition seeking to remove the bill from the panel and bring to a floor vote whether it should be debated by the full Senate.

Thirty signatures are needed to force a majority-rules vote on a bill discharge motion. Senate Minority Leader Jim Forrester (R-Gaston) has 28 signatures — all 23 Republicans and five Democrats. Fortunately for the state's rather sizable LGBT population, Democrats hold more than half of the 50 Senate seats — 27 to be exact.

According to a story carried by the *Raleigh News and Observer*, Forrester has apparently accepted defeat over the issue.

"I don't think there's any more that we

can do," he said in an interview.

Earlier, during committee hearings on the measure, Forrester said the amendment was needed to curtail "activist judges" from legalizing same-sex marriage.

"The gay and lesbian communities are trying to get us to condone their behavior," Forrester said. "I'm not against gays and lesbians. They're nice people. I just don't think they should be allowed to marry."

Forrester and other Republicans invited all N.C. Democratic representatives to sign the petition. With this year's legislative session winding down, Forrester set June 29 as the deadline for senators to sign up.

GOP senators "gave them every opportunity to help prevent the destruction of the institution of marriage," he said.

The bill would have placed a referendum on the Nov. 2 ballot asking voters whether



An effort to force a vote on an anti-gay marriage bill spearheaded by Senate Minority Leader Jim Forrester (R-Gaston) has failed.



they want the state constitution to spell out that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

Senate leader Marc Basnight (D-Dare) has said he sees no need for an amendment, given that current law clearly prohibits same-sex marriages.

The Democrats who signed the petition are Sens. Walter Dalton of Rutherford

see NC on 12

S.C. gay man files lawsuit against Foot Locker

Was harassed at two stores then fired, despite
anti-discrimination policy

by Lisa Hardaway

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Lambda Legal has filed a lawsuit in state court against Foot Locker, Inc., on behalf of a former employee who was subjected to severe anti-gay harassment by co-workers and supervisors — at two different store locations and in front of customers — and ultimately fired.



In a suit filed by Lambda Legal, Kevin Dunbar asserts that Foot Locker harassed and then fired him because he is gay.

"Kevin Dunbar was subjected to a nightmarish workplace and then fired because he is gay," said Greg Nevins, senior staff attorney in Lambda Legal's Atlanta-based Southern Regional Office, who is handling the case. "Foot Locker could have addressed this problem, as it clearly promises employees in its policies, but instead chose to ignore it and make it worse. Our client followed

see FOOT on 10

Kerry-Edwards ticket most gay-supportive in American history

LGBT activists and organizations hail Kerry's decision

by Donald Miller

WASHINGTON, D.C. — John Kerry's pick for this running mate, North Carolina senator and former presidential hopeful John Edwards, has a record of strong support for key issues important to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) analyzed Sen. Edwards' positions on 13 key issues important to LGBT people and found that he was supportive in nine categories, his positions were unclear in three others. However, while Edwards is against a *Federal Marriage Amendment*, he does not support extending equal marriage rights to same sex couples.

"John Kerry and John Edwards make up the most gay-supportive national ticket in see GAY on 12



John Kerry (left) with John Edwards