

Artwork Sought

With this issue, Lambda is expanding its format to include literary and art works by members of the UNC lesbian and gay community. We are looking primarily for poetry, prose, and artwork of lesbian and gay-related themes, though that is not necessary for publication. Try to keep space limitations in mind. Only line drawings can be reproduced; our printing is by mimeograph using an electro-stencil. Work should be typed double space and can be submitted either to Lambda Literary Coordinator or delivered to the CGA office. Please include a return address if you would like the originals returned, and also indicate how your name should appear if your work is printed. I staff the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4; if you have questions or suggestions for the column, please feel free to stop by or call.

-Joseph E. Carter

"The Beacon"

Nighttime
on the river--
watching
the flashing beacon
(my lover's
philosophy)
splitting the midnight
sky--
warning the mariners
of dangers--
warning me that he is
drifting
away from me!

-Joseph E. Carter

**A COUNTRY JOURNAL
FOR GAY MEN EVERYWHERE**



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Pageant (continued from page 1)

Protesters outside the pageant, who numbered 250 instead of the predicted 5,000, sang hymns and carried signs saying, "Gay is not good" and "Christians for Moral Decency."

Ms. Eletha Pratt of Charlotte told the reporters she thought the pageant was sacrilegious, "God made male and female, this is against God's will... This abomination is a crime against nature."

Despite the protest and presence of cameras, the audience inside the auditorium clapped and cheered exuberantly throughout the contest, according to The Charlotte Observer. In a Monday article, the paper ran portions of an interview with Michael Bonner, pageant organizer and president of Norma Kristie of St. Louis, which sponsored this year's event. Bonner said Charlotte was chosen because, "Female impersonation is popular on the East Coast, and the city is centrally located." Explaining that female impersonation is an "art form," Bonner went on to tell the reporters that the five judges looked for other qualities than the ability to look like a woman: "modeling, poise, makeup, clothing, talent, and intelligence."

Without a trace of irony, the Observer compared the pageant with the Miss America pageant, "In some ways, Saturday night's pageant had the look and flavor of the Miss America pageant held annually in Atlantic City. Before the show, the contestants sat in front of dressing room mirrors, put on lipstick and eye shadow, and talked about who might win. At the show's opening, they paraded one at a time along a ramp extending into the audience. And the contestants took their chances of winning the pageant very seriously." The article concluded with interviews of Miss Gay Texas, Jerry Faulkner, a 24-year-old insurance salesman, and Miss Gay Oklahoma, Joe Angel.

Although the pageant's contestants insisted that the protesters had nothing to worry about, apparently the pageant's organizers thought they did; Bonner hired 17 off duty police officers for security, and Charlotte police assigned nine officers to the auditorium. The Charlotte police reported no problems during the four-hour pageant.

quotes

"Gay men and women are an often abused group in our culture. This abuse is born of ignorance and misunderstanding. Those of us who are committed to human dignity have an obligation to do all that we can to put an end to it."

-Margaret Mead