

THROUGH PRIDE Section

the american dream belongs to everyone

June 19, 1993

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Pride marches through the Carolinas

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Gays, lesbians, and their families and friends will celebrate Pride Month throughout the Carolinas with marches and rallies that have become annual events in both states. This year, these events will take on added meaning because they follow so closely the 1993 March on Washington, whose million participants made the largest civil rights march in history.

Charlotte

The 1993 Charlotte Gay/Lesbian "FAM-ILY" Reunion kicks off the pride festivities on Saturday, June 5 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Billed as "a celebration of pride," the Reunion will be held at the Van Landingham estate, 2010 The Plaza, and promises to feature entertainment, speakers, a gay/lesbian business expo, and refreshments. Participants are asked to bring a covered dish.

South Carolina

Next up is the 4th annual Gay and Lesbian

Pride March on Columbia, South Carolina on Saturday, June 19. Participants are asked to assemble at the corner of Calhoun and Assembly Streets at 11:00 a.m. for the march, which will start promptly at noon. A rally will be held on the steps of the South Carolina State House at the end of the march, and a Gala Celebration will follow the rally at Township Auditorium.

Organizers have dubbed this year's festivities as "Victory Through Pride," claiming that this title "celebrates the pride that gives gays and lesbians the strength to come out and fight for basic human rights while facing the risk of being cast out by family members, clergy, employers, landlords and society at

Speakers at this year's Rally include Crae Pridgen; the Human Rights Campaign Fund's Mandy Carter; gay veteran Kevin Campbell; Methodist minister Tom Summers, founder of Clergy and Friends United for Gay and Lesbian Rights; as well as other community leaders from throughout South Carolina. The Charlotte Gay Men's Chorus will also perform at the Rally.

Headliners for this year's Gala Celebration are Romanovsky and Phillips and includes performances by Kathy "with a K" Hartman and others. Tickets for the Gala Celebration, \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door, are available at Township Auditorium and at all SCAT outlets.

North Carolina

Rounding out Pride Month is the 8th Annual North Carolina Lesbian and Gay Pride March and Celebration in Raleigh on Saturday, June 26. The theme for this year's march and rally is "The American Dream Belongs to Everyone," which, according to NC Pride Director Jim Duley, "recognizes our continued efforts for equal rights and not special rights, to be free to pursue our goals, to build our families as we choose, and to change America's concept of community and diver-

Pride activities begin Friday night, June 25 with the Annual Dance sponsored by the

Lesbian and Gay Health Project, the details of which were not available at press time. Saturday's events begin at 10:00 a.m. with a "Hands Around the Legislature" demonstration sponsored by ACT UP/Triangle. At 11:00, marchers are asked to assemble at Moore Square Park for the March, which will begin at noon. Immediately following the March, a rally will be held, also at Moore Square Park. A cookout, sponsored by the Lesbian Avengers, is scheduled after the rally.

Speakers and entertainers at this year's rally include MCs Mandy Carter (former North Carolinain currently with HRCF) and Laurie Woolf; Linda Shealey Williams of North Carolinians Against Racist and Religious Violence; Beth Harrison and Don Jackson of NC Veterans Coalition; Lesbian Avengers; Lesbian Klezmer Band of Durham; Kid Sister; Common Womon Chorus; and Charlotte Gay Men's Chorus. Also scheduled to speak are People Living with HIV/AIDS and speakers representing lesbian/gay/bi youth and the transgender community.

