

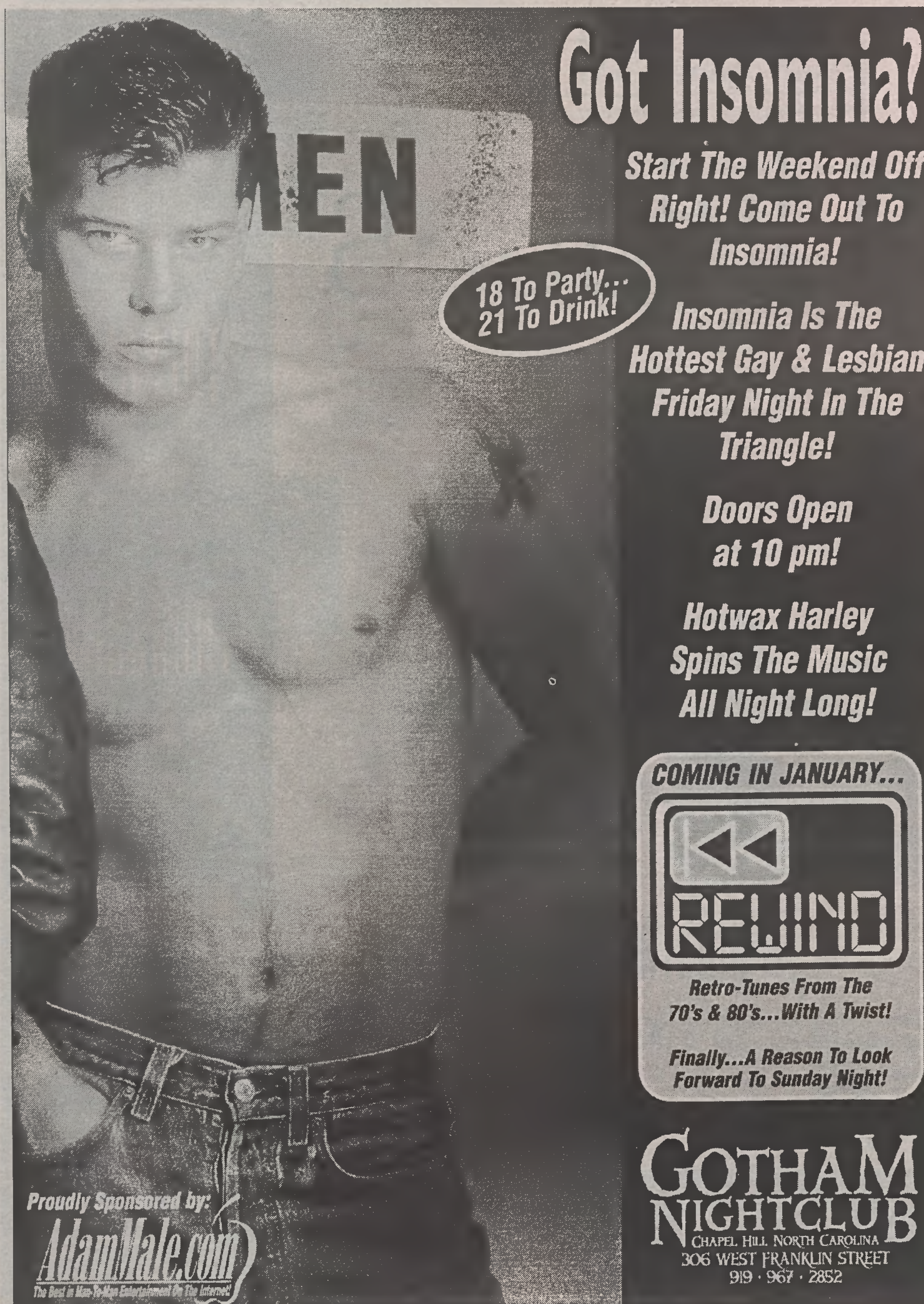


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Letters

Continued from page 6

vious that I'll have to. So much for tolerance and diversity. But then I wonder, why should I go elsewhere if I like the place? It's also obvious that the Brass Rail can manage and thrive without black patrons.

I say to that "...and Charlotte can probably manage and thrive without the Brass Rail, or America can probably manage and thrive without open gays and lesbians, or the world can probably manage and thrive without countries like Mexico or Yugoslavia, or... You get my drift.

Would it be fair to tell all my friends not to go there? Am I mistaken? Any comments are welcomed at www.jax@aol.com.

— Wendell W. Wilson
Former Secretary
Jacksonville Gay Pride Committee
Jacksonville, FL

[Editor's note: As of press time, no response to this letter has been received from The Brass Rail.]

An open letter to South Carolina's GLBT communities

Dear Friends:

We are writing you to ask for your help in keeping our Community Center open. Here in South Carolina, we have one of the few gay and lesbian community centers in the South, located at 1008 Woodrow Street in Columbia. But we need your help. It takes both volunteer time and donations to keep our Center open.

One recent weekend at the Center suggests the many ways our Center serves our community. While a group of volunteers planted pansies in the front flower beds one Saturday morning, two people staffed the phones inside the Center, answering questions about local resources and making referrals. A lesbian facing discharge from the military stopped by to seek advice and a referral for counseling. A volunteer from the United Way on her way to a sex education forum for teens stopped by the Center to ask for safe sex information, pamphlets, and condoms, which we were able to provide. A graduate student from a local university asked to use the library, since we have many GLBT resources unavailable in other area or university libraries. The board of a gay and lesbian organization met for lunch in our conference room. A lesbian couple who had just moved to town stopped by in the afternoon to ask about community-friendly businesses. And on Sunday afternoon the local gay and lesbian youth group held their regular meeting at the Center.

Our Center serves our community in many ways-but only with your help! Your donation will make a tremendous difference.

A gift of just \$5 from 12 people would pay for our post office box for one year. A gift of just \$10 from 16 people would pay for the utilities, water, and phone for one month. A gift of \$20 from 32 people would pay the mortgage on the Center for one month. A gift of \$50 from everyone on our mailing list would pay our mortgage for more than a year.

Please consider making a donation to the Center.

Make your check to the Carolina Rainbow Family Coalition and your gift will be tax-deductible. Send your donation to: Carolina Rainbow Family Coalition, PO Box 12648, Columbia SC 29211 Thank you for your support! If you have any questions, please contact us at 803-771-7713. ▼

— Harriet Hancock
President

SC GL Pride Movement and the
Carolina Rainbow Family Coalition

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