

**News Notes** . BRIAN M. MYER

**Carolina**

**Moms pleased with Jesse "apology"**

RALEIGH, NC — Two mothers, who founded an anti-Helms group after their sons died of AIDS, are happy about Helms' alleged apology. "Of course, I'm thrilled," said Patsy Clarke, co-founder of Mothers Against Jesse in Congress. "I really never thought I would live to see the day. I'm particularly grateful that he would say he's ashamed." Clarke and Eloise Vaughn founded their anti-Helms group in 1996. Clarke's son, Mark, died of AIDS in 1994, and Vaughn's son, also named Mark, died of the virus in 1990.

*Ed. Note: Helms never said he was ashamed of his horrific record on behalf of AIDS and homosexuals in the US.*

**Tipper Gore Cary-ed away**

CARY, NC — The military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Harass, Don't Pursue" policy isn't working, according to Tipper Gore. "I have a better solution," said the wife of former VP Al Gore, addressing the Black Tie Gala of the NC-HRC, "Let's rip it up." Keynote speaker, Tipper Gore, said "true family values" include all families. She spoke in support of federal hate-crime legislation; the Employment Non-Discrimination Act; and equal parental rights of for both partners, not just the biological mother or father.

**National**

**Massachusetts Anti-Sodomy Law Upheld**

BOSTON, MA — Massachusetts' highest court has upheld two anti-sodomy laws but limited enforcement to cases when specific sex acts occurred in public or weren't consensual. Gay activists said the Supreme Judicial Court ruling clarified for the first time that anti-sodomy laws don't apply to private, consensual sex. "It really takes all the sting out of these laws" and puts the burden on the state to prove that the conduct was public, said Jennifer Levi, an attorney for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, which brought the case. With no active case to base their ruling on, the court refused to rule on the laws' constitutionality.

**Teen requests special prosecutor**

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO — Calvin

Lee, representing 17-year-old Kyle Skyock — who alleges he was beaten because he is gay — requested a special prosecutor. Skyock, who had earlier been drinking with friends, was found along a road with a fractured skull, broken ribs and contusions. The doctor who treated him believed he was assaulted, but a forensic pathologist ruled that Skyock's injuries were the result of a fall. A woman informed Lee that two nights later she heard one of the boys say he tried to fight Skyock and then chased him. "The boy referred to Kyle as a 'faggot,'" she said. Michael Brewer, of the Colorado Legal Initiatives Project, filed a civil rights suit also.

**Sex uneducated bill defeated**

RICHMOND, VA — First, in an 88-16 vote, Lawmakers in the Virginia's House of Delegates approved *House Bill 88* — limiting what guidance counselors, school nurses, and educators certified to teach Family Life Education courses could mention regarding illegal "crimes against nature" (i.e. sodomy: oral or anal sex with same or opposite sex partners). Next, the 15-member Senate Education & Health Committee voted 7-7 on the bill, with Democrats opposing it and Republicans favoring it. Then, Sen. John J. Chichester, a Republican, determined the bill's fate by abstaining from the vote. One senator said those who opposed the bill owe Chichester

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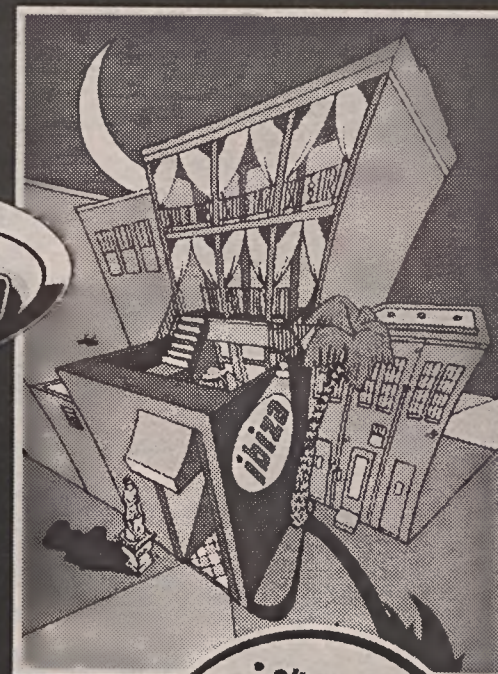


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18 & UP

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18 & UP

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