



Barbara Jordan

"What the people want is very simple — an America as good as its promise."

... Barbara Jordan

FEBRUARY 1
BLACK
AIDS AWARENESS
DAY

FEBRUARY 14
V-DAY:
STOP VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN

Charlotte Gay Swim
Club makes waves

4



"An Evening With Tammy
Faye" • Feb. 22 for MAP

7

¡Para Todos!

11

Bob Smith jokes around at
Oasis in Raleigh

29

South Carolina

Building coalitions
beyond "our issues"

25

ONLINE
Q.POLL
www.q-notes.com

Are racially-mixed couples
more accepted in the
LGBT community?

. Absolutely . Somewhat
. Hardly . Not at all

The Civil Righteousness story of Quinton Baker

An openly gay African American native son
helped bring justice home in the 60s

by Chris McGinnis

Everyone in American society has some knowledge of the Black Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Only recently, however, have historians begun to recognize and examine the important role GLBT people played in the struggle for Black Civil Liberties. Many of these activists, or people who knew them, are alive today — giving us a chance to fully document and explore this crucial facet of American history.

Gay leaders in the struggle

One of the most famous openly gay leaders of the Black Civil Rights movement, Bayard Rustin, was recently given the full recognition in a PBS documentary, *Brother/Outsider*. Rustin was an advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King and the principle organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, where MLK delivered his stirring, "I have a dream" speech.

North Carolina also has great African American civil rights leaders who, like Rustin, are

homosexual. Among them, Quinton Baker, North Carolina native, civil rights advocate and leader in Durham, Chapel Hill and Raleigh in the 1960s. This is the path of an African American activist. A gay man from the segregated South, who marched with Martin into black civil rights history — who returned home to "keep the dream alive."

Quinton Baker, born August 21, 1942 in Greenville, NC was the child of laborer parents. His own early jobs included shining shoes and



1964 . Outside Hillsborough court house.
L-R: civil rights activists Pat Cusick,
Quinton Baker, and John Dunne

photo courtesy of NC Collection, UNC Chapel Hill.



occasionally working in the tobacco fields, he detested.

[Jim Crow laws barred African Americans from access to employment as well as public places such as restaurants, hotels, and other facilities. In the South especially, Blacks lived in fear of racially motivated violence.]

In the segregated South under Jim Crow, Baker attended C.M. Eppes High school where he continually witnessed injustice and discrimination in the community at large. He knew he had to do something. "I always resented not being able to do things, or being

see **QUINTON** on 18

Rolling Stone magazine gathers more than moss as it rolls over on gay men

Rolling Stone's sensationalistic article about "bug chasers" has caught flak for flagrant inaccuracy and misquotes

Since its publication earlier this week, *Rolling Stone's* February 6 article by Gregory Freeman entitled "In Search of Death" has drawn fire for its inaccurate, sensationalistic portrayal of a phenomenon known as "bug chasing."

Newsweek, *Salon.com* and others have critically reviewed the article — which examines the lives of two men who have actively sought HIV infection and speculates on the scope of the problem — after the primary medical sources quoted by Freeman disputed quotes attributed to them.

Among the inaccuracies:

- **Dr. Bob Cabaj**, director of behavioral-health services for San Francisco County, has asserted in *Newsweek* and to GLAAD directly that the statements attributed to him on infection rates (that at least 25 percent of all newly infected gay men are seeking the virus) are "totally false. I never said that. And when the fact checker called me and asked me if I said that, I said no. I said no. This is unbelievable."

- **Dr. Marshall Forstein**, the medical director of mental health and addiction services at Fenway Community Health in Boston, was quoted in the *Rolling Stone* story as saying that "'bug chasers' are seen regularly in the Fenway health system,

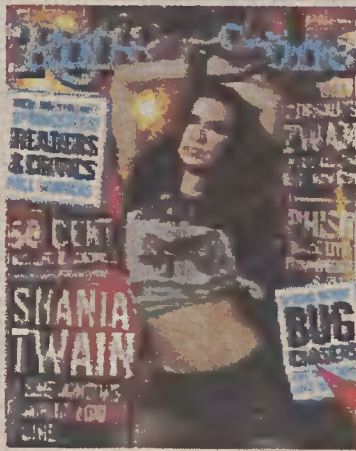
and the phenomenon is growing." In *Newsweek's* article, Forstein says that quote "is entirely a fabrication" and that "I said, 'We have seen a few cases, but we have no idea how common this is.'"

- **Andrew Sullivan's** *Salon.com* article refutes the reported size of this "epidemic" by stating: "Anyone with the faintest knowledge of the HIV epidemic knows that men who have sex with men make up a declining number of this group — now 42 percent, according to the CDC. So even if you buy the bizarre 25 percent figure, you don't end up with 10,000, you end up with 4,200. I mention this not because 4,200 is somehow more credible. No one, I repeat, no one, has any solid evidence for either figure."

- **Shana Naomi Krochmal** of the STOP AIDS Project in San Francisco says her entire conversation with Gregory Freeman was off the record and that her quotes were never intended for inclusion in the article. She posted commentary regarding her interactions with Freeman on www.poynter.org

Ed Needham, *Rolling Stone's* editor, contends the story is accurate and the sources confirmed their quotes with the magazine's fact checker.

see **ACTION!** on 22



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Cleric urges partners to apply to marry

MCC founder, Rev. Troy Pery and partner will apply for marriage license on Valentine's Day

LOS ANGELES — When the Los Angeles courthouse opens at 9:00 am On Friday, February 14 — Valentine's Day — long-time activist Rev. Troy Pery and his partner Phillip Ray DeBleck will be standing in line.

They plan to apply for a license to marry.

"And I'm encouraging thousands of gay and lesbian couples to do the same," said Pery, whose churches perform more than 6,000 same sex weddings each year. "It's time for equality. It's time for the US to catch up with Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany, France and other countries according marriage rights to LGBT couples.

"Imagine the power unleashed as thousands of LGBT couples apply for marriage licenses on the same day," said Pery.

- Go to your courthouse or municipal office on Feb. 14 and apply for a marriage license.
 - Ask local media to include it in their Valentine's Day news coverage.
 - Invite friends, family and LGBT organizations
- "For me it's not a religious issue, it's a legal issue. It's a matter of equality and simple justice. "Before my life is over, I want to legally marry my wonderful partner Phillip."

info: Metropolitan Community Churches
info@MCCchurch.org . www.MCCchurch.org