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Brit comic duo takes U.S. by storm

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GLAAD names Neil Giuliano new president

MTV seeking same-sex couples

Coldwell Banker employee fired because he's gay

CNN's Jason Bellini goes to LOGO

#### North and South Carolina

North Carolina: Monte St. James wins Mr. Gay USA in Hickory

South Carolina: South Caronna.

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#### ONLINE Q. POLL www.q-notes.com

Do you think the U.S. should withdraw from fraq? . yes . no

Next Issue: N.C. Gay Pride

# Homophobic Jamaican dancehall artists returning to North Carolina stages

Capleton and Sizzla performing in Charlotte and Raleigh

by David Moore Q-Notes staff

CHARLOTTE — Despite a protest last Oct.



Capleton and Sizzla will take to the stages of Raleigh and Charlotte — despite protests by LGBT rights groups last year.

of his performances world wide because of his anti-gay lyrics — the venue has booked the performer for a Sept. 14 show. He'll follow up that appearance with another at Raleigh's Lincoln Theatre Sept. 15.

What's more, the equally homophobic Jamiacan artist Sizzla will follow Capleton in both venues Sept. 28 and 29.

Capleton's lyrics have suggested gays be hanged, drowned, burned or shot. Among

his songs is one with the Jamaicandialect lyrics, "Bun Out Di Chi Chi," which translates to "burn out the gay man."

In an interview with the Santa Cruz Sentinel Capleton said he is not advocating violence against gays but said that he believes homosexuality is "against humanity. It's against your mother, it's against your father, it's against yourself." In using the word fire, he claims he is referring to a spiritual fire.

In an interview with the BBC last November, Sizzla refused to apologize for his lyrics advocating violence against gay men, despite his U.K. tour being cancelled after protests.

'They can't ask me to apologize," he told BBC radio station 1Xtra. "They've got to apologize to God because they break

One of his most controversial songs, "Pump Up," contains the Jamaican patois lyrics "fire fi di man dem weh go ride man behind," Translated to English it means "burn the men who have sex with men."

The movement against Capleton, Sizzla and other reggae dancehall performers like

Beenie Man and Buju Banton, all who have violently anti-gay lyrics in their songs, took root in England with a group known as Outrage. British gay rights leader Peter Tatchell spearheaded the movement successfully throughout Europe and prompted LGBT activists in the U.S. to take action.

Last September Tatchell was under 24hour police protection following numerous death threats for his actions.

Police believed that a violent gang of Jamaicans known as the Yardies — who are responsible for a string of murders in London had been hired to kill Tatchell.

Tatchell confirmed he had received 20 death threats in the street, on the telephone and by email. According to 365gay.com, one email sent to Outrage warned Tatchell, "If you go to protest at any large rasta-based festivals you may not leave standing."

A message posted on one dancehall reggae website by a man calling himself Killarock says: "Where are the shottas (gunmen) over in England, I bet if the shottas dem kill a few a dem they will calm down, cause right now England battyman dem ago start a world movement."

Indeed, a world movement against antigay hate speech has ensued, despite attemps by Outrage to mediate an agreement by the musicians to discontinue anti-gay references in future recordings and cease performance of the previously recorded material.

Recent cancellations across Europe con-

tinu to cost artists like Capleton and others untold amounts of lost ticket revenue.

### Controversy surrounds 'Hearts on Fire' conference

Gay and lesbian Methodists urged to attend welcoming conference by Neill Caldwell



LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C. — The Lake Junaluska United Methodist retreat center has found itself in the center of a storm of controversy over rental of its facilities by the Reconciling Ministries Network, which advocates full participation in the church by people of all sexual orientations.

Email and official statements have passed back and forth in recent weeks and church-related blogs and internet forums are buzzing about the gathering. Several hundred participants are expected for the "Hearts on Fire" event Sept. 2-5 at Lake Junaluska, a Southeastern Jurisdiction ministry about 30 miles west of Asheville.

"SEJAC does not approve of or disapprove of the 'Hearts on Fire' conference program, said Jimmy L. Carr, executive director of Lake Junaluska Conference and

Retreat Center. "The participants in the event see CONTROVERSY on 4

## HRC picks new co-chairs for dinner

Jay Biles, Jennifer Garner tapped for 2006 HRC Carolinas Dinner

by Bert Woodard

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Jay Biles, a human resources business partner with Wachovia
Corp., and Jennifer Garner, the
associate vice president for
Injurcity Advancement at University Advancement at





Queens University of Charlotte, have been named co-chairs of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) 2006 Carolinas Dinner.

The annual dinner will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center on Feb. 26, 2006. Last year's HRC Carolinas Dinner drew a record crowd of 1,300-plus, earning the national dinner HRC Dinner of the Year distinction.

Biles manages human resources for the sales division of Evergreen Investments, a subsidiary of Wachovia. Prior to this current role, he worked in a centralized area within Human Resources designing see NEW on 21