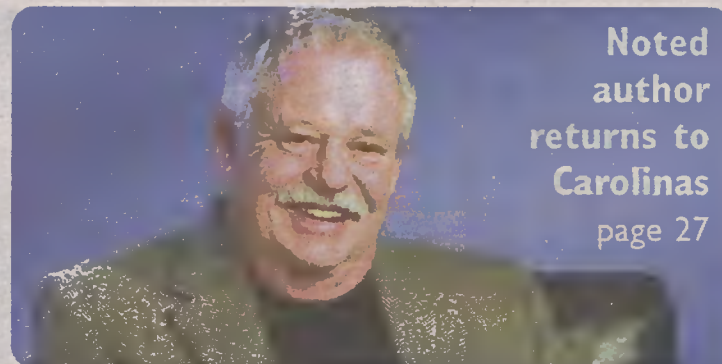


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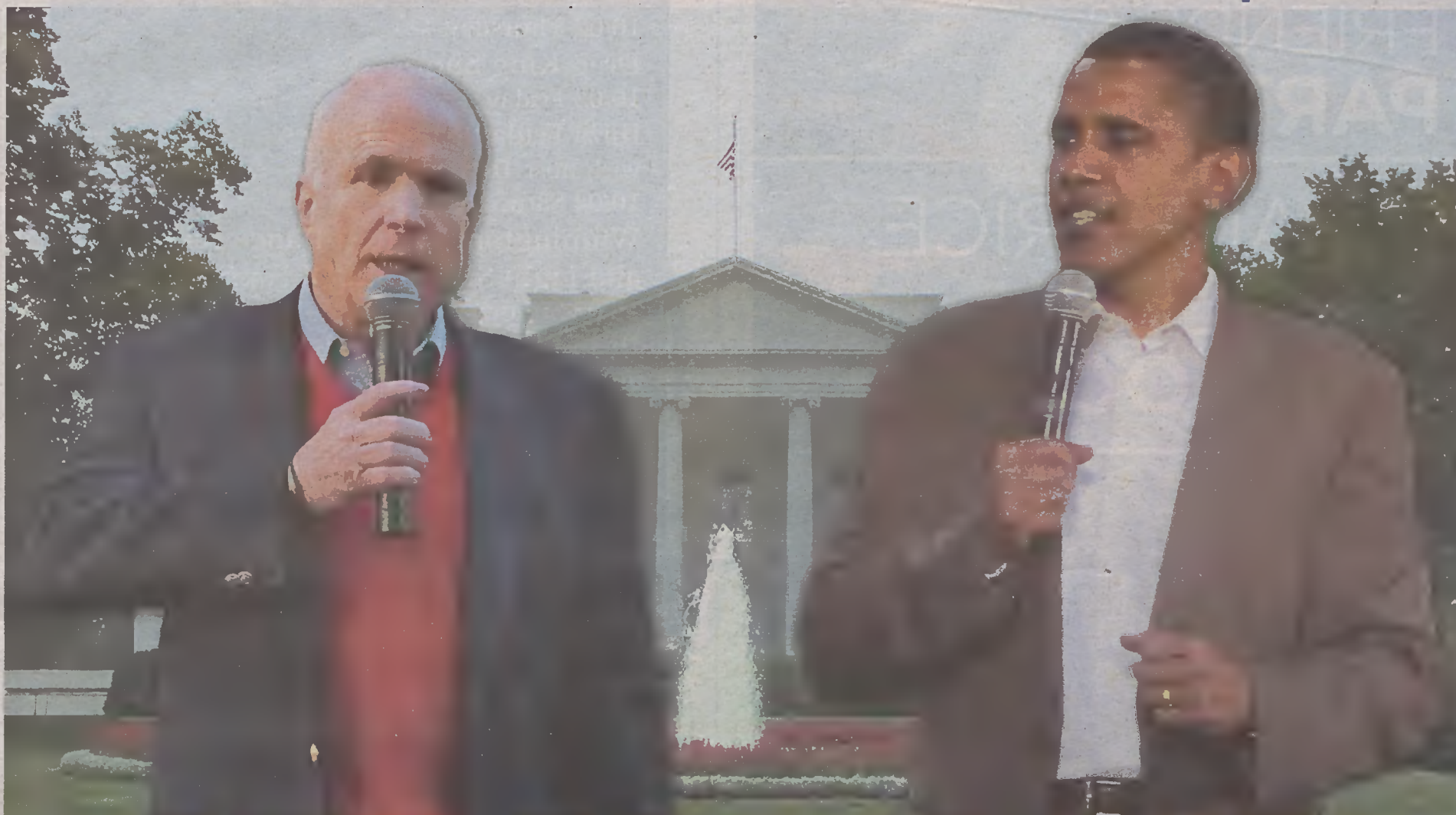
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DOWN TO THE WIRE

LGBT voters must make their election decisions as November quickly approaches

by Matt Comer . Q-Notes staff

With less than a month to go before the Nov. 4 general election, voters across America are making their final choices on which boxes they'll check when they head into the polls.

A plethora of issues are on the minds of Americans: the mortgage crisis and ensuing

economic turmoil, terrorism and national security, foreign policy, the continuing HIV/AIDS epidemic, healthcare reform, Social Security, climate change, the continuing military conflict and occupation in Iraq, immigration, civil liberties and civil rights.

For LGBT Americans, the stakes couldn't

be any higher. With marriage equality on the hot seat in California and constitutional amendments on the ballots in three other states, LGBT community members and activists are hitting the streets to pump up a vote they hope will turn their way on Nov. 4.

see **Election** on 22

Register to vote!

In order to cast your ballot in North Carolina, you must register to vote on or before Oct. 10. If you forget, early voting sites across the state offer same-day voter registration. The deadline for voter registration in South Carolina was Oct. 4.

info: www.sboe.state.nc.us . www.scvotes.org

On air

New season gay TV characters page 35



Keep living

Jennifer Hudson's spotlight still shining page 8



Pride re-cap

SC has biggest fest ever page 21

