

# Gotham Kicks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The deficit of queer social venues in Chapel Hill and the surrounding area was astonishing. If you wanted to go out dancing, you either drove to Raleigh or Greensboro. Who wants to spend the 30 minutes to an hour driving just for a night out? Glenn Grossman recognized this need and decided to try and do something about it. He met with the owners of Gotham and together they planned Insomnia.

Insomnia has brought much-needed relief to queers in search of excitement on Friday nights. The house music is non-stop, with favorite classics as well as current chart-toppers. The beat is always high for non-stop dancing. If dancing isn't your thing, you can take in the crowd from the bar or its newly renovated balcony. Many people come to catch up with old friends, meet new people and socialize a little, but the music and the dancing never stop. Insomnia boasts another unique feature: a portion of all proceeds generated on Friday nights are donated to local GLBT groups. Past recipients of donations include UNC's Queer Network for Change, Carolina Alternative Meetings of Professional and Graduate Students, NC Pride, the Lesbian Health Resource Center, Equality NC, Ruby Slipper, and many others.

Stop wondering what to do on a Friday night and come on out to Insomnia. Chapel Hill finally has a place for us like-minded people to get together, dance, and have a great time.

Club Gotham is located at 306h W. Franklin St. in Chapel Hill. The entrance to Club Gotham is facing Rosemary Street.

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# Scouting in America

BY SARAH W. STOKES

When the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Boy Scouts of America, supporting the organization's policy which excludes from membership leaders or boys who identify as other than heterosexual, many questions were raised about the rights of private organizations, especially those which receive funding from public sources. In a 5-4 vote, the Supreme Court proclaimed that the Boy Scouts' policy precedes even the nondiscrimination policy of the state of New Jersey, which includes sexual orientation as a protected class.

"The Boy Scouts asserts that homosexual conduct is inconsistent with the values it seeks to instill," Rehnquist wrote in the majority decision, in a presumed defense of the First Amendment rights of the organization. However, in the past, the Court has struck down policies held by similar organizations that it has considered discriminatory - for instance, the exclusion by the Jaycees of women. Claiming that it is imperative for the Court not to be swayed by personal

opinions of whether or not the Boy Scouts' teaching is right or wrong, Chief Justice William Rehnquist and the other justices in the majority handed down their decision that the inclusion of gay members in the organization would pose too great a threat to the organization's freedom of expression.



The Scouts' designation as an "expressive organization" enables them to, in effect, carry on a tradition of blatant discrimination, but there is question as to whether this victory for the Boy Scouts is anything more than Pyrrhic. The organization will likely

have consequences to face for this very public proclamation of its decades old policy. The issue of funding from public sources such as the United Way, the use of public buildings and lands and decreases in the number of parents willing to enroll their sons in the organization are hot topics of conversation among those interested in the decision. Several public school districts have already enacted policies barring Boy Scout troops from meeting in public school buildings. Local United Way

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6