

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Asheville Gay and Lesbian Information Line:
253-2971

To report discrimination or violence:
SALGA Documentation Project:
253-1656
U. S. Dept. Of Justice toll-free:
1-800-457-HATE

Asheville, NC

Serving the WNC Gay/Lesbian Community

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"The NC Senate race is one of the most important Senate races in the country in the last 20 to 30 years. It is a very clear clash of style, approach, and priorities, and will tell more about the voting public and its attitudes than most other elections. To some extent it will serve as a reflection of the south."--Dr. Bill Sabo, Associate Prof. of Political Science at UNCA

"United we stand," and what better way to stand united than to get 100% of our community voting on November 6 for Harvey Gantt for U.S. Senate! We, the gay men and lesbians of North Carolina, are the envy of our brothers and sisters throughout this nation, because only we can have the pleasure of voting out the #1 enemy of gay/lesbian America: JESSE HELMS.

If you are ill or physically limited, or will be out of town on November 6, you may vote absentee. How to vote absentee:

- "One-stop" method: Go to your County Board of Elections office between 8:30 AM and 5 PM from now through November 2, fill out the application and vote right then.

- Write your reason for not being able to vote at your polling place (only illness, physically limited, and absence are valid excuses), sign it, write the address to which the absentee ballot should be sent, and mail it to: Board of Elections, Your County, NC, ZIP. This must be received by October 30.

- Send a "near relative" (parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, spouse, or legal guardian) to the County Board of Elections to fill out an application for you. Deadline for this is October 30.

If your polling place is inaccessible to you, you may vote from your car or may call the Board of Elections and ask for reassignment to an accessible polling place. To find the phone number of your County Board of Elections, look in the phone book under the county name, and then "Board of Elections."

Remember when voting that you do not have to vote for someone in each race. For example, if you knew only that you wanted to vote for Harvey Gantt, and knew nothing about the other races, you could vote for Gantt, and for no one else. You may want to check November's GreenLine for voting suggestions of over 80 environmentally and socially conscious leaders in WNC.

Gantt headquarters will need hundreds of volunteers in the last few days. Even if you haven't participated before, this is a great way to contribute to gay and lesbian civil rights, and a great place to come out. Think about taking November 6 off to help. Gantt headquarters: 251-2884.

Finally, if you're voting at the polls, take along a neighbor; or if you need a ride, call Democratic (or Republican!) headquarters. ▽



"Defeat Helms" bumper sticker spotted on rickshaw in Thailand! Photo by David Beebe.

UNCA Student Wins Harassment Case

by Cynthia Janes

CLOSER member Marlon Garren won a September 23 UNCA Student Court case in which he charged another UNCA student with harassment.

Marlon said that in the second semester of last year, a UNCA student, whom we shall call Rick (not his real name), frequently yelled anti-gay, often extremely crude comments from his dormitory window at Marlon's. His residence hall was adjacent to Marlon's. Rick would also make comments in the lunch room when Marlon walked by his table. Sometimes Marlon would look Rick's way, but never said anything in return.

"Rick's comments began again this semester," Marlon said. "The first time was September 4. As I walked by the dorm Rick yelled out the window, 'You're going to get AIDS, queer!'" Over the next week or so, Marlon said, Rick repeated similar, often even more offensive, things. "One night in late September, I was outside talking with two of my friends. Rick and one or two others were in Rick's room, and, while looking down towards the sidewalk where

I was standing, Rick made loud sounds as if he and his friend(s) were engaging in gay sex." Marlon reported the incident, and his friends agreed to serve as witnesses. The case went to Student Court in late September.

Rick was found guilty of having violated Section 27 of the UNCA Judicial Code for Students: "It shall be unlawful for any student to taunt, challenge or provoke any student or university official; subject another to offensive touching; make repeated communications in repeatedly coarse language; or engage in any other coarse or alarming conduct serving no legitimate purpose," UNCA Student Handbook, 1990-91, p.30.

Rick was given an assignment that was designed to be educational. "UNCA is a university, not a disciplinary institution," Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Eric Iovacchini told *Community Connections*. "The students in the court wanted [Rick] to look at what he did and to learn from it. They wanted him to learn from his mistakes." Rick was required to look into the subject of anti-

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