

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

SERVING WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY

ASHEVILLE PRIDE A SUCCESS

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Asheville-In spite of early setbacks and threats of rain over 4000 gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their supporters turned out to march, in The North Carolina Pride '98 Celebration held in Asheville June 5-7.

The event kicked off on Friday evening with a reception at the Radisson Hotel which was followed by performances by Deian McBryde and The Derivative Duo at The Diana Wortham Theater. In addition, Bob Smith, MC for the Pride '98 Rally held a booksigning at Malaprops.

The Friday evening events were closed with a Stonewall Vigil held in memory

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Dan and Joan Marshall NC Pride '98 Grand Marshalls



PFLAG Parents

COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF PWA'S

Washington, DC (June 25, 21998) - Today, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association (NLGHA) praised the Supreme Court ruling that a woman with HIV infection is protected against discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Court, by a 5 to 4 margin, gave every indication that all people with HIV infection are protected under the ADA.

"This is truly a landmark decision in our fight to prohibit discrimination of patients by their health care providers because of their HIV status," said

Beverly Saunders Biddle, Executive Director of NLGHA. "Every major association of medical and other health care professionals agree that it is safe to treat patients who are HIV positive so long as universal precautions are observed."

The Court's ruling has significant implications for people with HIV/AIDS and for all people with disabilities. The Court affirmed that an individual with asymptomatic HIV infection meets the required legal definition of having a physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

CO-CHAIR'S CORNER

BY NANCY BAKER



Co-Chairs for Pride '98 Nancy Baker and Jessica Britton

Hello from the Co-Chairs of Pride '98. Yes, we made it and it was wonderful. I would like to thank all of the beautiful people that came and showed the world that we are a proud people.

During the months before that weekend, I must say that I lost some of my focus as to what, why and for whom I was doing all this work. Some times my anger came out at LOC meetings, at home, and on the phone. My gracious partner stood beside me and gave me the support to go forward with this great task that I chose to undertake. Our lives were put on hold for a year, my work went under the table, and my family had to take a back seat to the many hours of phone calls, worrying over money, making sure that all plans were in place for so

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