

The Front Page

Vol. 3, No. 19 November 9-22, 1982

Historian Boswell Comes to Greensboro.

Dr. John Eastburn Boswell, Professor of History at Yale University and author of *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, will speak on "Homosexuality in Historical Perspective" at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. To be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 7 in the Cone Ballroom of the Harriet Elliott University Center of UNC-G, the lecture is sponsored by the UNC-G History Club, the UNC-G Department of History, and the UNC-G Campus Ministries. The public is invited to attend at no charge.

Boswell holds his doctorate in History, which he received in 1975, from Harvard University. He received his M.A. in History there in 1971 and received his A.B. in History from the College of William and Mary.

His book, *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, was awarded the American Book Award in History in 1981. The book also received the Melcher Award in 1981. *Christianity* was selected by the *New York Times Book Review* as one of the eleven best books of 1981.

Boswell is also author of *The Royal Treasure; Muslim Communities under the Crown of Aragon in the Fourteenth Century*, "The Economic Development of Barcelona," and "The Council of Gerona of 517."

A member of Yale University's History Department faculty since 1975, Boswell received the William Clyde DeVane Medal for Teaching and Scholarship in 1982. He received a professional grant from the American Philosophical Society in 1978, A.

Whitney Griswold Fund awards in 1978 and 1981, and a Mörse Fellowship in 1980-81.

As a graduate student, Boswell was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, a Graduate Prize Fellow of Harvard for four years, and a Travelling Fellow of Harvard for one year. He declined a Draper Fellowship (two years of study in England) and a Fulbright Fellowship (to Spain) as well as a Dumbarton Oaks Junior Fellowship.

As an undergraduate, Boswell was a National Merit Scholar, Outstanding Graduate in History, a member of Phi Eta Sigma (honorary scholastic fraternity), Pi Delta Epsilon (honorary journalism fraternity), Eta Sigma Phi (honorary classics fraternity), and Phi Beta Kappa.

Boswell speaks twelve languages: Spanish, Catalan, French, German, Portuguese,

Italian, Latin, Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, Provençal, and Old Icelandic. He also knows some Persian.

He is currently working on *The Abandonment of Children in Ancient and Medieval Europe; The Three Religions of Medieval Spain; "Expositio and Oblato: Child Care and the Religious Life in the Early Middle Ages"; "Conversions to Judaism in the High and Later Middle Ages";* and several other articles including "Ancient concepts of Sexual Orientation." He is also working on French and Italian editions of *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*.

For more information about Boswell's talk, contact The Reverend Joe Flora, Presbyterian Campus Minister at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro at (919) 379-5130.

Musician/Activist Charlie Murphy Comes To Durham. . .

Musicians Charlie Murphy and Jamie Sieber will present "Living in a Time of Thunder," on Tuesday, November 16 in Durham, at the Club Cameo (1103 West Chapel Hill St., Durham). Admission will be \$4. The Seattle-based musicians are on a nationwide tour to promote Murphy's recent LP *Catch the Fire*.

Charlie Murphy was last seen in the Triangle several years ago when the Southeastern Gay Conference was last held in Chapel Hill. His work has previously been heard on another album called *Walls to Roses*.

The national gay *Advocate* called Murphy a "latter-day troubador" with a "rocking rhythm reminiscent of some of Pete Seeger's songs."

In an interview with John Zeh of *Gay Community News*, Murphy explained that "the focus of my music is connecting the oppression of gay people and my own to the oppression of women, people of color, old and young people and doing that by being a very out and sissy man. It's real important to present the image of a gay person on stage and in life singing and talking about black prisoners, chicanos, United Farm Workers, nuclear power, all different issues."

Through music, he said, "You can hold out a vision of what we could move toward. We



Jamie Sieber and Charlie Murphy

need to sing songs which express our experiences now, the problems we all face, and lend solidarity to struggles against them, but also try and hold out a vision of where we want to move toward. Unless we do that, we won't get there."

"The system," he said, "is not going to fight for our rights. We have to do it for ourselves. I want a planet (free of nuclear disaster) I can be gay on."

Ms. Sieber began playing cello when she was seven, learning both orchestral and solo

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LETTERS

Dear Editor:

Last February the Durham Theatre Guild presented *The Boys in the Band* directed by Linda Wright; the response was so enthusiastic that we are encouraged to do another play with homosexual characters, this time Frank Marcus's *The Killing of Sister George*, direct by Yours Truly. Though the play is again scheduled for February (18-20 & 25-27; auditions will be held 17 & 18 of January), we would like to start early by announcing a contest for the poster design. We will pay for materials and will have the finished product printed; you keep the original and have the pleasure of seeing your work plastered all over Durham and Chapel Hill. Winners will be decided by 1 February. For more information about format and the necessary printing that must appear, contact me in writing at 1414 Dollar Avenue, Durham, N.C. 27701, or by phone at (919) 682-5106. Come on you budding graphics designers and artists!

Yours truly,
John G. Younger
Durham, N.C.

To The Editor:

I could not help but notice the recent letter reprinted in the *Front Page* from the major dailys which was signed by the conservative Republican who signed his name "Joe." I want to reach out to Joe and let him know that "He is not alone." I cast my first vote for Barry Goldwater in 1964, and have done campaign work for President Reagan, and been prominent in conservative Republican circles. There are many closeted Gay people in the Republican Party, perhaps more than are in the Democratic Party. So, "Joe" is not that unusual in being Gay and Republican.

HOWEVER, even though I am a strong Republican, still I cannot condone what my Party has been doing since 1980: embracing the Moral Majority. The people in this country really vote according to economic issues. In 1980 they voted Republican to help end inflation. In 1982 they will vote Democratic to lower unemployment. BUT, the press, in 1980 interpreted the vote as a victory for the Moral Majority. This year they must be shown that votes are being cast against the Moral Majority and for the Democrats.

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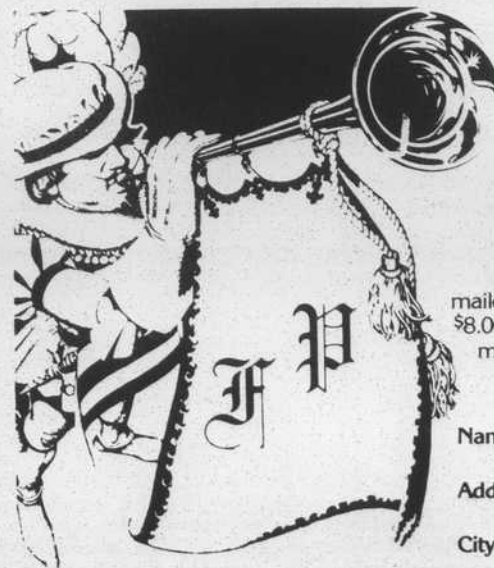
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