

The Front Page

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Armistead Maupin Appears in Triangle October 4-6

Armistead Maupin, author of the popular *Tales of the City* series, will be in the Triangle October 4-6 to promote the latest volume (number four), *Babycakes*.

On Thursday, October 4, Maupin will spend the day at Duke University. An autographing party in celebration of *Babycakes* will be held in the Gothic Bookshop from noon to 2pm. In the afternoon, he will be attending a short story writing class and meeting with public policy sciences students.

A representative from the Gothic said that it probably would be possible for visitors to sit in on the short story writing class.

That evening there will be another party for Maupin, this one to benefit the North Carolina Human Rights Fund. From 6 to 9pm at Glenwood Park (1622 Glenwood Avenue) in Raleigh, there will be cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. Copies of *Babycakes* will be on sale and a donation to NCHRF will be collected at the door.

On Friday, October 5, Maupin will be at the two Intimate Bookshops: from 2:30-4:00pm in the store at University Mall, and from 6:30-8:00 in the store on Franklin Street.

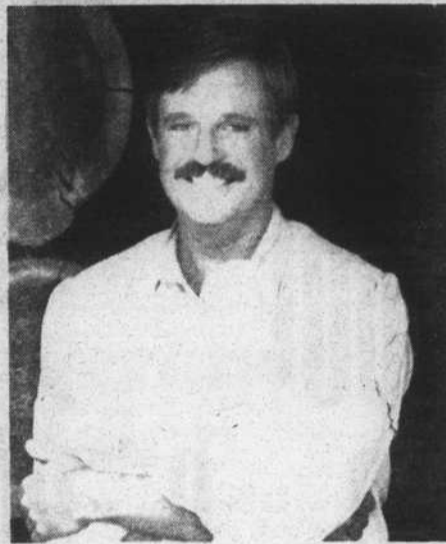
On Saturday, October 6, Maupin will be at D.J.'s Book and News on Hillsborough Street (across from NCSU) from 12:30 to 2:30pm.

For those of you who came in late, and missed previous coverage of Maupin's background (in exhausting detail), here are the highlights:

Born in Washington, D.C., Maupin was raised in Raleigh, N.C., and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill. He served as a communications officer in the Navy and in 1971 received a Presidential Commendation for being one of ten Vietnam veterans who returned to Indochina to build houses for disabled Vietnamese veterans.

Returning to the U.S., he worked as a reporter for the Charleston (S.C.) *News and Courier*. In 1971, he moved to San Francisco to work for the Associated Press.

After leaving AP, he worked a series of jobs including mailboy, clergyman's assistant, publicity writer for the San Francisco Opera, and associate editor of the *Pacific Sun*. There, he created and first wrote a weekly serial,



Armistead Maupin

which was subsequently taken over by Cyra McFadden who turned her chapters into a best-selling book.

Maupin began *Tales of the City* in 1976, as a serial in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. In 1978, Harper & Row brought the serial together in a novel of the same name. It was followed in 1980 by *More Tales of the City*, and in 1982 by *Further Tales of the City*. With the current publication of *Babycakes*, Maupin remains the only serialist in America whose stories appear regularly in a daily newspaper.

At present, Maupin is a contributing editor to Andy Warhol's *Interview Magazine*. Home Box Office has purchased the rights to *Tales of the City*.



"Our Place" Bookstore in Raleigh burns. See story, page 12.

Helms Continues 'Gay Rights' Campaign

In the second debate between U. S. Senator Jesse Helms and his Democratic challenger, Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., Helms referred by name to several persons active in the gay civil rights movement. During his opening statement in the September 9 debate Helms said, "And, yes, let's talk about fund raising. The labor union bosses supporting Governor Hunt. Not to mention people like Lightning Brown and Joe Herzenberg and Virginia Apuzzo."

Helms did not identify the people he named. Brown and Herzenberg are both from Chapel Hill and active in the Democratic Party. They helped found Gay and Lesbian Democrats of North Carolina in 1983. Apuzzo is the current executive director of the National Gay Task Force.

Meanwhile, a group calling itself "Pastors for Helms" has announced its opposition to making homosexuals a "legitimate minority." The group of some 220 ministers held a news conference in Greensboro September 5 to announce a planned television campaign on behalf of Helms.

The group's spokesman, the Rev. Steve Sells, said that Gov. Jim Hunt supports "special privileges for homosexuals." Asked at the news conference what he meant by "special privileges," Sells replied, "Jim Hunt and Walter Mondale have in the past gone on record as promoting a collective type of right for homosexuals to the point of making them a legitimate minority that has nothing to do with personal rights."

Hunt's campaign spokesman, Will Marshall, said in reply that the Helms campaign is apparently continuing its "smear campaign."

"Helms is engaging in personal attacks and saying nothing positive about what he wants to do to help the people of North Carolina," Marshall said.

The increasing involvement of religious leaders in New Right politics has led some

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THE NEWS

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