

CGA pushes awareness

By **LYNDA WOLF**
Staff Writer

The Carolina Gay Association is sponsoring Gay Awareness Week beginning Monday. Workshops, open discussions and social functions are all part of the annual event to help people who are coming out and to help increase the general population's awareness about homosexuality, the CGA has announced.

The CGA is starting off the week with a coming-out workshop on Monday, March 21. A speaker from the Human Potential Movement will highlight the workshop, said a CGA representative. All films previously scheduled for the week have been canceled, the CGA said.

Tuesday evening's theme is "Where to Go, What to Do: Gay Life in the Triangle." Among the speakers and representatives slated to appear are the Metropolitan Community Church, the State Gay Coalition, Dignity, Parents of Gays and many more.

Wednesday's discussion, "Spirituality and Homosexuality," will center around problems in reconciling the two issues. Representatives from the Metropolitan Com-

munity Church of Raleigh and a local clergyman will lead the discussion.

"Being Gay, Being Sane," is the theme of Thursday evening's activities. Psychiatrist Thomas Sherratt and clinical social worker Maureen Malone will discuss the emotional and psychological problems lesbians and gay men face and mental health resources in our area.

Each day's program begins at 7:30 p.m., except for Monday's program which begins at 7:00 p.m., the CGA representative said. Refreshments and a social hour are scheduled each night at 9:30 p.m. The Union desk will provide information on meeting locations, the representative said.

Blue Jeans Day will close the week again this year. On Friday, March 25, the Carolina Gay Association asks that all gay men and lesbians and everyone who supports the gay rights movement wear blue jeans as an acknowledgement of their lifestyle or their support. The goal of Blue Jeans Day is to make the general population more aware of the pressure which society places on gays, the CGA said.

More information on the week's events is available from the CGA in Suite D of the Carolina Union.

Local bus fares could increase

By **PETE AUSTIN**
Staff Writer

Bus fares for the Chapel Hill Transit system may go up next year if federal funds fall short of the expected mark, Alan Tobias, administrative assistant to the transportation director, told the Chapel Hill Transportation Board Tuesday night.

Presently, fares, federal funds and Chapel Hill funds each account for about one-third of the operating budget for the system, Tobias said.

"Right now, we expect no decrease in federal funds," he said. But in case there is a shortfall, Tobias said he wanted the board to know of the necessity of an increase.

The Town Council approved a rate increase, beginning July 16, 1982, as part of last year's fiscal budget, Tobias said.

The approved hike raised box fares from 40 cents for all rides to 40 cents for normal hour rides and 50 cents for peak hour rides, he said.

The cost of a student bus pass went up from \$95 to \$112, he said.

Transportation Director Bob Godding presented several possible single-ride rate increases, all of which included a flat 20 percent increase in the pass rate.

If only the pass rate was increased, he said, ridership would drop by an estimated 5 percent.

If ridership fell off by as much as 10 percent, revenues would be \$633,016, he said. However, if the Town Council raised the

single-ride fare by 10 cents to 50 cents and 60 cents, revenues could be as much as \$720,291, he said.

In a random survey, conducted by the transportation staff, 40 percent of the 225 respondents answered that the bus pass cost was too high.

About 30 percent of the respondents said that they thought the cost of the entire transit system was too high.

"No transit is entirely self-sufficient," council member R.D. Smith said.

The budget for next fiscal year is scheduled to come before the council May 9, by which date the decision on the bus fare will have been made.

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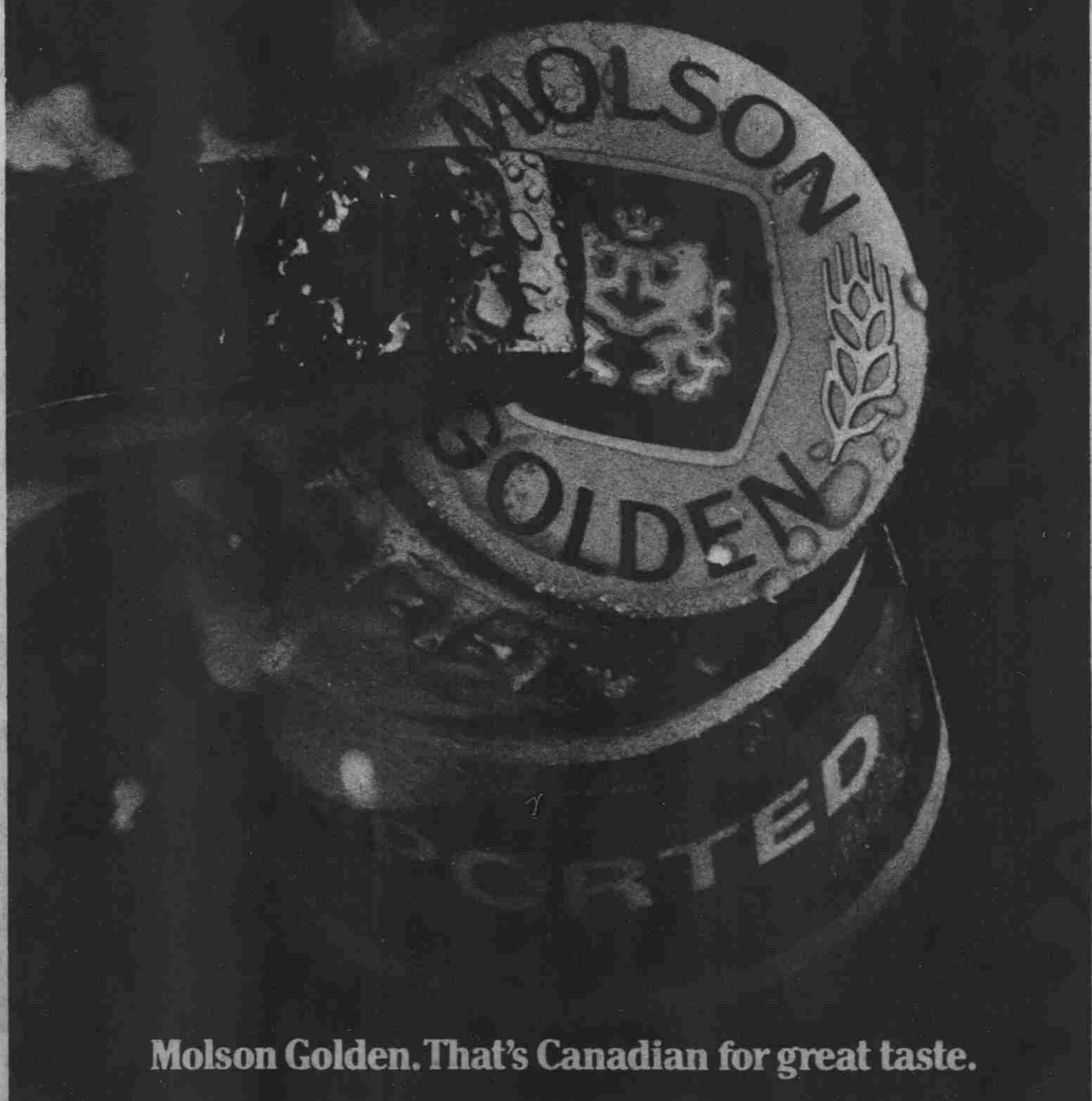
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