

Lesbian Lunches provide community and 'safe space' for women

By Maria DiGiano
Staff Writer

Three young women sit on an old, plaid couch, discussing what is going on in their lives over food imported from Lenoir.

Every Friday, these three women and others meet for lunch in the Student Union to chat and chow. What separates these lunches from most other lunchtime gatherings on campus is that these women are lesbians.

"It is a time to get together and share our concerns and form a sense of com-

munity," said one junior who wished to remain anonymous.

Pippa Holloway, former co-chairwoman of the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association, now called Bisexuals, Gay Men, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity, started Lesbian Lunches in the mid-1980s when the Carolina Gay Association was in the process of changing its name to the CGLA.

"A lot of women feel very alienated in the group," said Kathy Staley, co-chairwoman of B-GLAD. "(Lesbian Lunches) was a way to have a women-safe space."

Since their inception, the lunches have been informal get-togethers for women who didn't feel comfortable at the big CGLA meetings.

"There is nothing official about it at all," said another junior, who also wished to remain anonymous. "Basically, you just show up and bring your lunch."

Although there has been talk of bringing speakers or choosing topics to discuss at meetings, most participants like the informal atmosphere of the lunches.

"We're there to get everything off our chest and talk with people who know where we are coming from,"

Staley said.

For many lesbians on campus, the lunches give them a sense of community. "I think it is important for (lesbian) non-B-GLAD members to come and find other lesbians on campus, which makes you feel real good," said one senior who did not want to be identified.

The group stresses the fact that you don't have to be "out," or publicly gay, to attend.

"It is not a bunch of bulldogs sitting around talking about 'in' things," the senior said. "There is no lesbian talk or lesbian things. Just people, friendly cam-

pus people."

Despite the relaxed and open atmosphere, many lesbians still are apprehensive about attending the lunches.

"I was as intimidated as fuck to go," the senior said. "But we're not scary." People must overcome stereotypes to overcome their fear of lesbians, Staley said. "People need to realize that we are not superdykes. We are just regular people, in your classes or from your hometown."

Low attendance is partially due to a lack of publicity, participants said. "If more people found out about it, then

more people would come," the first junior said.

Posters advertising the lunches are often torn down or covered up within one to two days of posting, Staley said.

This year, Lesbian Lunches has a core group of four or five women made up of B-GLAD members and others. In the past, it has had as many as 20 participants.

So far, Lesbian Lunches has been a success for those involved. The first junior said, "It opened up my whole world, and I made a lot of really great friends."

'Prelude to a Kiss' an adventure story of true love, heart and soul searching

By Mondy Lamb
Senior Writer

"If you can't believe your eyes, trust your heart," proclaimed an ad line for the movie version of "Prelude to a Kiss."

The themes writer Craig Lucas chose for the play, which inspired the film, are as deep as they come: true love, attrac-

tion to someone's soul and mind, and trusting your heart — not easily conquerable topics.

Beginning Halloween night, PlayMakers Repertory Company will present Lucas' original production of "Prelude to a Kiss." Lucas, whose other writings include the plays "Reckless" and "Blue Window" and the screenplay

for "Longtime Companion," first produced "Prelude" in California in 1988.

In 1990, the play moved to an off-Broadway production that received an Obie Award and a Tony Award nomination for best new play before moving to the big screen, where Alec Baldwin reprised his theater role opposite Meg Ryan.

In the play, Rita and Peter are a young couple in love. At their wedding, a strange old man makes an appearance and kisses the beautiful young bride. Afterward, Rita is not quite the same. On their honeymoon, Peter notices changes in his new wife. She sleeps soundly; Rita was an insomniac. She doesn't drink; Rita loved Dewars. Rita was scared of the world; now she wants to have a baby.

To test the merits of true love, Lucas throws his audience this dilemma: Rita and the strange old man somehow exchanged souls. And now the soul that Peter loves is in the body of a sickly old man.

"In working with this play, I get drawn again and again to the marriage vows," said Ray Dooley, director of the PlayMakers production. "When we promise to love someone, 'for better or worse,' what does that mean?"

Lucas' writing is reminiscent of fairy tales like "The Frog Prince" or "Beauty and the Beast" — any allegory in which someone's soul is more important than pretty packaging.

But Lucas throws in a few more snags — what if your frog is dying? And if you originally had seen your frog

Cleanscape sponsors G'litter Day

By Nathan Bishop
Staff Writer

In an attempt to make Chapel Hill roads "g'litter," a local environmental group will sponsor G'litter Day Saturday.

Cleanscape, a volunteer group committed to creating a clean environment, is sponsoring the 14th semiannual G'litter Day to eliminate roadside litter.

Cleanup volunteers have been asked to meet at 9 a.m. in the Village Plaza parking lot on the corner of East Franklin Street and Elliot Road.

Irene Briggaman, a Cleanscape board member, said volunteers would direct their cleanup efforts to the most littered

areas of town.

"This year's cleanup will target chronic litter areas that other members of Cleanscape have noticed while jogging or biking," Briggaman said.

Briggaman said she expected about 100 people to turn out for G'litter Day, adding that several community groups had expressed interest in participating in the roadside cleanup.

G'litter Day is the brainchild of former University Professor Fran DiGiano and Cleanscape board member Margie Hachten.

Hachten and DiGiano founded G'litter Day as an attempt to restore Chapel Hill's natural beauty.

"I moved to Chapel Hill and fell in

love with the town," Hachten said. "However, some of the natural beauty was spoiled by all of the roadside litter."

Hachten contacted DiGiano after she saw a letter to a newspaper he wrote complaining about roadside litter.

"We got together to find a way to alleviate the problem," Hachten said. "The result was the first G'litter Day."

Hachten said the mayor, the town council and the public works department had been very cooperative.

Briggaman said the town had allotted \$1,000 for G'litter Day.

Members of several community groups have signed on to help, including Amnesty International, the Chapel Hill Housing Contingency, the Franklin Street Teen Center and the Grey Culbreth Middle School Garbology Club, she said.

"We've also been recruiting corporate involvement through the chamber of commerce," Briggaman said.

Wellspring Grocery will provide volunteers with complimentary refreshments. Safety vests, gloves and trash bags also will be provided.

Volunteers are asked to wear appropriate clothing and footwear to the event, which is scheduled to end at noon. The Chapel Hill Department of Public Works will pick up the trash bags at the conclusion of the event.

This fall's G'litter Day has been dedicated to the memory of former Cleanscape member Joanne Hoehne, who died this summer. Hoehne was committed to creating a litter-free environment.

Tipoff

the future it will fall on a school night, interfering with players' academic needs, he said.

"Since this was basically a wasted night for practice, we thought it would be okay," Hanners said. "But Coach (Dean Smith) would never keep them up this late regularly."

Short performances by the UNC cheerleaders and the Marching Tar Heels, a 10-minute highlight film covering the men's team and the introduction of the women's basketball players will kick off the program, Hanners said.

Around 11:30 p.m., UNC sports announcer Woody Durham will introduce the men's team, and senior captains George Lynch, Henrik Rodl, Matt Wenstrom and Scott Cherry will address the crowd.

Thornton said the team's lack of practice time before Saturday might make the event more exciting for students.

"Since the players don't know the system, we should see more individual skills," he said. "It should be more fun to watch the players."

Two students also will have the opportunity to win two season tickets each to UNC men's basketball home games

in a CAA drawing. "They're not going to be lower deck, but they'll be decent seats," Thornton said.

UNC joins the University of Kentucky, Syracuse University, the University of Kansas and ACC rival Maryland in holding a "midnight madness" practice.

TAR HEEL SPORTS SHORTS

TOMORROW

Field Hockey	Volleyball
vs.	vs.
Virginia	Georgia Tech
1:00 PM • Navy Field	6:00 PM • Carmichael Aud
Carolina Students with ID Admitted FREE	Hardee's

whether faulty sockets ignited the fire but added that the department would complete an investigation this week.

"First, we try to eliminate all known causes—cooking, TV, electrical cords," Robertson said. "Then we look at accidental means, such as smoking."

Robertson said he couldn't estimate damages and added that there was no evidence of arson.

The two apartments bordering the one where the fire began might have experienced some smoke damage, Robertson said, but the fire was contained before it could spread.

Keita Marshall, a girl who lives next to the apartment that caught on fire, said she was in bed when it began. "I was in my bedroom when my Momma started hollering," Marshall said. "She said, 'Hurry up — the house is on fire.' I thought we were going to die."

blaze.

Curtis Singleton, a Ridgefield resident, said about five fires had occurred in the past two years. Several residents speculated that the complex's poor construction was to blame for the fire.

Laura Harrison, a Ridgefield resident, said smoke detectors never went off. "I think it's housing's fault," said Ridgefield resident Rachel Davis. "It's probably bad construction or sockets."

Harrison said she suspected faulty sockets were the cause of the fire. Several residents complained recently to management that sockets had been releasing sparks, she said.

But Eliza Harrison, a Ridgefield resident, said new sockets were installed Wednesday in the apartment where the fire broke out.

Public Information Fire Marshall Joe Robertson said he could not confirm

Carolina Pride's

"NIGHTMARE ON FRANKLIN STREET"

SPOOKTACULAR SALE

Everything

25%-40% OFF

3 DAYS ONLY

OCT. 29, 30, 31

Carolina Pride
151 E. Franklin St.
919-942-0127



get."

Meadows said the interest in third parties has been low in the general public because people are used to only two choices in politics. "It's human nature to want to stay with the choices that have always been there."

Perot might help the third-party image, Meadows said. "The system needs to be opened up," she said. "That's one function that Ross Perot's party is doing, and hopefully, it will motivate more of this type of action."

SNAP hopes to do several activities this year to make the New Alliance Party and its ideas better known to the public, Toth said.

The student-led organization's plans include holding fund-raisers, bringing Fulani to campus to speak, setting up an

Carolina Students

Voting for the 1992 Exxon ACC Supreme Team will end on Sunday, November 1st. This year's ballot includes Tar Heel standouts **Natrone Means, Corey Holliday, Randall Parsons, and Tommy Thigpen**, just to name a few. Ballots can be picked up and turned in at **Tar Heel Textbooks** on Franklin Street. Be sure to cast your votes this week for your favorite Carolina stars.



Good Luck, UNC Women's Soccer Team!

After this weekend's ACC Tournament, come down to Spring Garden and enjoy burgers, sandwiches, salads, and America's finest amber lager!

A Good Deal & A Good Deal More!

111 E. MAIN ST., CARRBORO, NC • 929-2708