

Journey into the Scorching Hole

By MITCH SHORES
Staff Writer

Picture this: It is Sunday night, and it's the only night that you have ever had all your work done (or in my case, maybe you didn't).

Anyway, you get really bored and you are just itching to go out and have some fun. Well, climb on in the Big White Cam, 'cause we're goin' for a ride.

It was two Sundays ago around 11:00 p.m. I was getting all ready to go out to a queer bar in Charlotte, and I was psyched! It was not my first time going, and certainly not my last. It was a little tradition I had started my freshman year which had stuck with me — I was going to the Scorching Hole (better known as Scorpio to those one-time-gay-bargoers).

You see, Sunday night is truly the night to go to Scorpio if you want to have some fun, because that is when you can see the faces of all the good girls like Tiffany Storm, Tracy Morgan ("The Sex Kitten of the South"), Kerry Nichols, and Boom Boom LaTour. These girls are the stars of the

Sunday night drag show at Scorpio.

The night that I went happened to be the night before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and the place was packed. I was accompanied by one of my gay friends who lives in Charlotte and some kids from our hometown (Mayberry, or Mt. Airy). They had been dying to experience our side of the fence so we told them to come on down. Well, they had a treat waiting for them when we arrived.

The shows normally do not start until midnight, so we made a lap around the place and joined the mass on the dance floor to bump and grind. We danced and had a good time until about 12:15, because the shows never start on time.

We heard the show music starting up, and we herded our friends to the side so we could get a good seat. At that point, the night only got better and better.

The show started unlike most. Usually Miss Brooklyn Dior emcees and cracks on everybody, but tonight there was a treat for everybody. Miss Brooklyn herself was in the show. Out came the black goddess herself with a puppet. She was all dolled up in a Cher outfit, and that little puppet

was a replica of Sonny Bono. Well, they did the little "I Got You Babe" number that was hilarious, and after Sunny managed some obscene gestures with the help of Miss Brooklyn, the show pressed on.

The next act to follow was hideous, but a good laugh, no doubt. Now, I have always wanted to be a surgeon of some type, but when that ugly thang came out, I knew I was destined to be a plastic surgeon. We just laughed at her 'cause she was ugly!!!

But after that, the show was impressive. There was one drag queen who came out and shocked the to come out and play, and our friends' mouths dropped to the floor.

They all turned to me and said, "How did he get those?" I explained to them that many drag queens either have some implants or they are on hormone treatments to get their feminine garden growing. So we dealt with that and the show continued.

The show proceeded with an impersonation of Tina Turner. Now, that was impressive! The lady who did that act was amazing. She had every

move down to an art. And to top that off, we had The Three Black Queens come out and do the Supremes.

There was a big line of people waiting to tip those girls, and I can tell you they made some good money that night. They toy with the audience and tell them that the tips are their lunch money, but I would be buying a whole lot more than a 59-cent cheeseburger at Burger King with the assload of money they get shoved down their cleavage every night. Lunch money, my ass!

Well the show ended, and it was indeed a night to remember. It provoked a lot of conversation and questions from our friends, but it is something you all should experience.

If you have never been to Scorpio, you should go. You will have a great time just dancing and being with your friends. You might even see something your mother warned you about as a kid, but that will never stop me from going.

If a little group of Chi Omegas from UNCC can make it, you can, too. The Big White Cam (the gay Vamanos Van) will leave most every Sunday night and take you for no fee at all.

FLAG Fashion Show arouses Chambers Gallery

"skinfest" holds nothing sacred — and rightfully so

By WESLEY H. GOLDSBERRY
Arts & Living Editor

The Chambers Gallery received its annual feast of fashion and eroticism this weekend.

The 4th Annual FLAG (Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Fashion Show did not fail to disappoint its standing-room-only crowd Saturday night. An estimated 450 people attended this year's installment, with spectators continuing to fill in the Gallery's cracks until the haven of glitter, glamour, and painted torsos was bursting at the seams. FLAG co-president Irene Middleton was thrilled with the overwhelming turnout at the event, which brought FLAG an estimated \$1,250 in sponsorships.

Manning the microphones for the evening were co-emcees Josh Gaffga and Iva Taylor, who arrived for the occasion dressed to the nines.

The evening's opening act featured a seven-

member troupe representing the Seven Deadly Sins, among which included gluttony, vanity, lust, avarice, greed, sloth, and wrath. Maggie Avery's portrayal of "lust" involved the swift removal of a tiger skin pattern dress revealing an array of lacy black lingerie, flooring several front-row audience members. "From my own personal tour of duty as 'sloth,' I must attest that participating in the event can give a prime adrenaline rush, suitable even for those not accustomed to exhibitionism or 'dressing out.'" The fashion show is as much fun for the participants as it can be for the audience.

Amongst the near-70 student models, those modeling the least amount of clothing seemed to gain the most campus attention. Several women took to the circular runway with a mere layer of paint separating their "au naturel" selves from the crowd's collective eyes. Particularly memorable were the so-called "Blue

People" (Buster Burk, Annie Carr, Anna Judy, and Jeremy Tarr), whose stage act was accompanied by the creation and distribution of several blue art sculptures across campus, affectionately known as "those blue things."

"So that's what those things were," Davidson realizes. "The group aimed to show that, like the inert blue sculptures, the human body is but a material art form, as well. Although the brave foursome appeared to have painted themselves blue from head to toe, they may have missed some spots, according to a few audience members."

Another act that helped rock the stage down to its plywood foundation was put on by Davidson's own student health advisors (Mitch Shores, Lindsey Meyers, Eric Borgstrom, and Amy Marks), accompanied by an enthusiastic Georgia Ringle. The quintet pranced rambunctiously about the runway, heaving hand-

ful after handful of latex condoms into the electrified crowd.

This year's fashion show included a jazz interlude performed by Chad Diamond on "upright" bass and Derek Kverno on saxophone.

While last year's FLAG extravaganza tipped the clocks at two and a half hours long, this year's show, expected to eclipse the two-hour mark, was much shorter, lasting less than 90 minutes. Unlike last year's show, Saturday's event was devoid of the band performance and professional drag queen appearances which contributed to last year's show's enormous length. Said queens had been scheduled to appear on Saturday, but canceled their visit on Friday.

The 1997-98 FLAG Fashion Show was an indisputable success. If the event's notoriety and attendance continue to grow, and they should, they'll be lined up out the door at sundown to get front row seats.

"Great Expectations" less than expected

By WILSON BUNTIN
Staff Writer

Avoid the temptation; don't waste your time on "Great Expectations."

I was at the movies a couple of weeks ago and saw a great preview for "Great Expectations." You have charming Ethan Hawke, beautiful Gwyneth Paltrow, Bobby DeNiro, and a famous literary classic all wrapped in one. How could you go wrong?

Well folks, they took a wrong turn and never looked back. I have never read Charles Dickens's book, so I was not able to get involved in the whole "the book was better than the movie" argument, which, as it turned out, would not have been a problem anyway.

The movie is set largely present-day Florida, where we watch Finn (Ethan Hawke) grow up. He has a pretty depressing life because a) he has no parents and b) he lives with his very unexciting uncle and troubled sister.

If things were not bad enough, he has a pretty weird run-in with an escaped convict (Robert DeNiro), and yes, the hits just keep on coming, as he mysteriously falls in love with Estelle (Gwyneth Paltrow), whom he visits at her cra-

zier-than-hell aunt's house (Anne Bancroft). And you think you have it bad!

Sounds sort of strange? Well, it's not only strange, but painful to sit through. As I was watching the movie, I could not put my finger on exactly what bothered me about this movie so much. After several hours of digesting, I figured it out. My conclusions: The movie script was poorly written.

On top of this, the movie did not flow very well, and it even seemed at times that the director was rushing through scenes without really thinking or caring about how they connected to one another. Other than Hawke's and Paltrow's pretty faces, beneath the skin this movie was extremely hollow, lacking any love, passion, excitement, or suspense.

For those of you who are dying to see this movie in spite of my merciless criticism, I'll give you a small morsel of a reason to go. The movie was at times very visually interesting, with the director exploring different angles and capturing the delicate landscape of southern Florida — and, later, the bustle of life in New York — very skillfully. But that's as far as the praise goes on this one.

Grade: C-/D+

SEMESTER LOOKING LIKE IT WAS BUILT BY THE
WHITE STAR LINE?

BEST INTENTIONS HIT AN ICEBERG OF
DISORGANIZATION?

TITANIC PROBLEMS WITH PROCRASTINATION
GIVING YOU THAT SINKING FEELING?!

Time Management/Procrastination
Workshop Series

WHEN: 3 Wednesdays - Feb. 4, 11, & 25, at 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: New Residence Life Conference Room
- Belk Basement

DR. STATON of the STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER will address: common traps in which efforts to avoid procrastination actually cause it; the FREEDOM of using scheduling; finding what best motivates you, personally; tips on GETTING STARTED; special issues about getting papers written on time (without 'ALL-NIGHTERS'); et cetera!! Emphasis on making something HAPPEN!

Free.

Class Limited to 20.
Call x-2451

YOU CAN DO THIS! CALL NOW!