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An Act Of The Imagination

By Bernard Slade

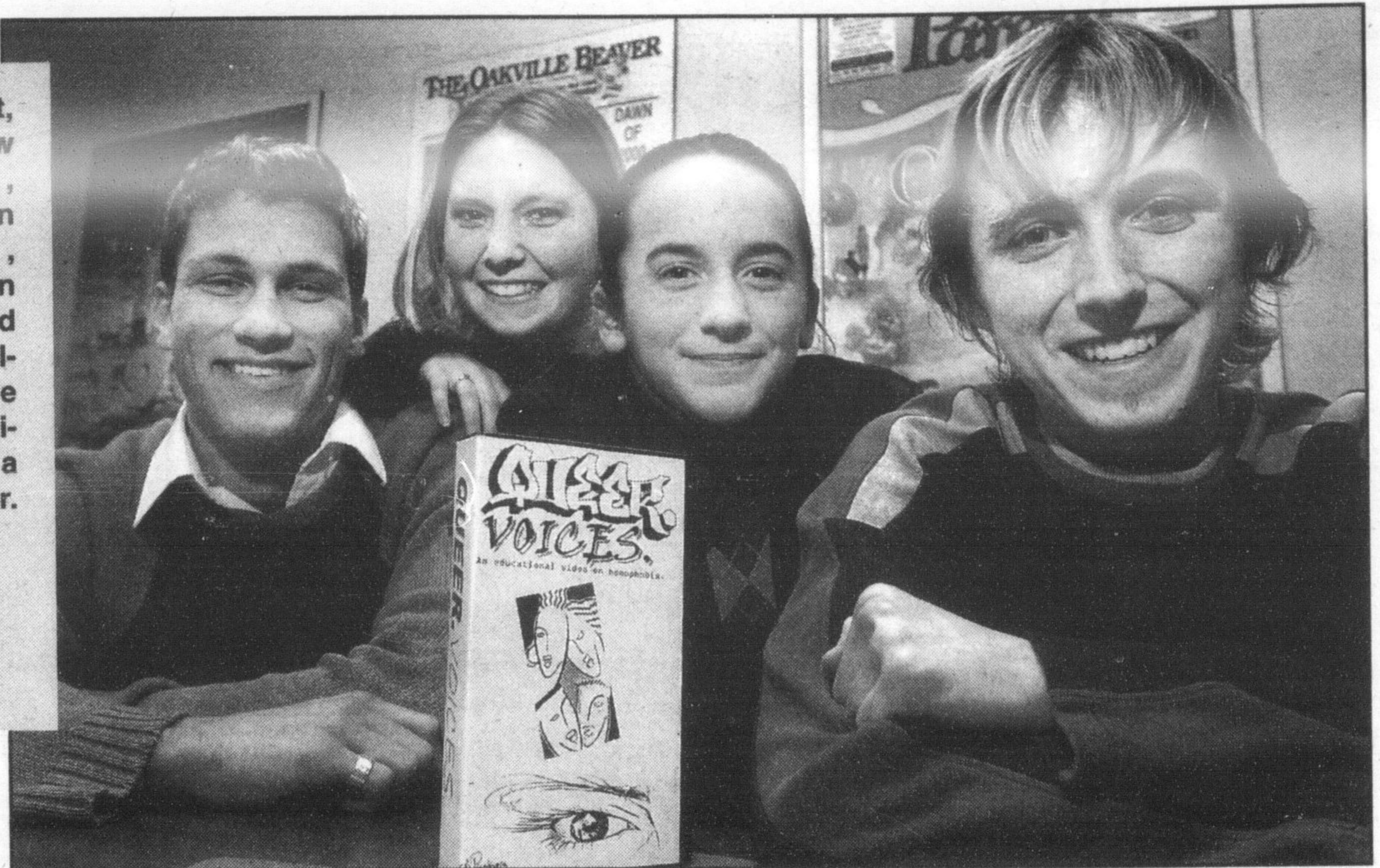
Directed by Sharon Beddoes

February 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 2002
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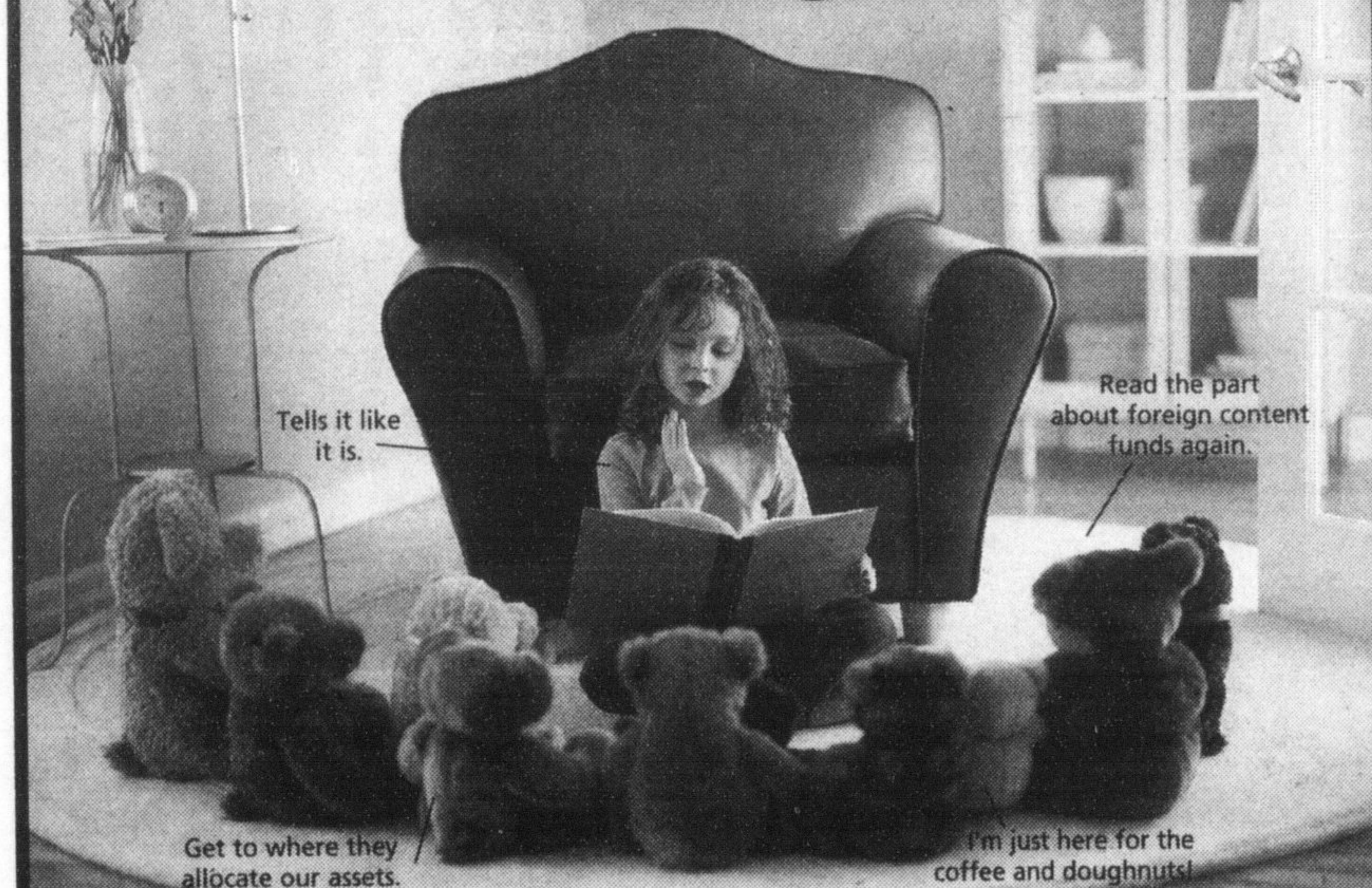
From left, Andrew Punkris, Shannon Beaton, Shelynn Gervais and Colin Nash celebrate the release of anti-homophobia video *Queer. Voices.*

Photo by RIZIERO VERTOLLI



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New anti-homophobia video meant to grab your attention

By HOWARD MOZEL
Special to *The Champion*

'Queer. Voices', a stark and sometimes disturbing video on homophobia, proves that sticks and stones may break your bones, but words can indeed hurt you.

The video — created by the Halton Anti-Homophobia Committee — is an educational initiative intended for a wide variety of audiences that's currently

being shown in Halton high schools from both boards and at anti-violence conferences.

The deceptively simple production features a black background over which words are flashed — some ugly, and others that help erode myths about homosexuality.

The former terms (faggot, dyke, etc.) aren't merely passive collections of letters or sounds that rattle around the ears, but instead assume

the power of psychological body blows.

An original score courtesy of Imagine Sound Studios underlines the mood of the poignant vignettes that were supplied by the voices of committee members and area students eager to lend a hand.

Fortunately, the video counters all the rancor with important facts about homosexuality and ends with

• see VIDEO on page 17

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