

GAZE

GAZE is published monthly by and for the Memphis Lesbian/Gay Community. And it's FREE!

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Memphis, Tennessee

January, 1980

Campaign '80

Brown Courts Gay Vote

Appearing at a November 27 fundraising event at Washington, D.C.'s Gay disco, the Pier, California Governor Jerry Brown openly appealed for Gay votes and pledged support for Gay rights. Brown, who is running behind both President Carter and Senator Edward Kennedy in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination, spoke before an enthusiastic crowd of over 500.

The disco event called "Gay Vote USA" was held for the benefit of the Convention Project whose goal is to include a Gay rights plank in the platforms of both major parties in 1980. Both Carter and Kennedy were represented at the affair. Carter sent a White House aide and Kennedy sent a letter urging Gay civil rights legislation.

Brown, who has often stressed Gay rights in his California campaigns told the crowd, "I've sent neither a letter nor a representative, but have come here to be your comrade in arms." While agreeing that Carter and Kennedy have come

out for Gay rights, Brown said he has done more on the issue: pledging to appoint Gays to federal jobs, issuing an executive order in April banning anti-Gay discrimination in California, and in September becoming the first governor ever to appoint an openly Gay judge.

About \$2000 was raised during the evening, but more important was the nation-wide publicity the Gay

political community achieved. It brought to the surface the fact that the Gay community has begun organizing on a political front. Even Gay leaders who do not see Brown as a viable presidential candidate do see benefit in his making Gay rights a national campaign issue.

The choice of Brown as speaker at the rally grows from his pro-Gay actions earlier this year. According to Tom Bastow, national co-director of the Convention Project, "Many Gay people think it is tremendously important to reward people who openly befriend them and to keep in the race anyone who pushes for Gay rights."

In return for Brown's appearance, local activists raised almost \$5000 for his presidential campaign at a smaller private party following the disco benefit.

Gays Still Barred From Entering U.S.

The 27-year-old Immigration and Nationality Act barring the entry of Gays into the United States will continue to be enforced despite modern medical findings that homosexuality is not a mental illness.

The U.S. Justice Department has ruled that the provision must be enforced until such time as the law may be changed by Congress. The

Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will enforce this law without the cooperation of the Public Health Service, who announced in August that it would no longer medically examine suspected homosexuals referred to it by the INS. This decision leaves to immigration officials the determination of which immigrants are or are not Gay.

The ruling reverses a recent "relaxing" in enforcement of the controversial law. The INS must, according to Assistant Attorney General John M. Harmon, fulfill its role in enforcing the law.

"Homosexuals" Triggers Moderate Response

ABC-TV finally aired its long delayed "Homosexuals" on December 18, shown in the Memphis area on WHBQ-TV, Channel 13.

WHBQ's program director, Bob Lewis, reported that 52 callers complained about the show and only 2 callers favored it. It was a "moderate evening," Lewis said, in terms of responses received; some controversial shows trigger twice the number of callers as "Homosexuals."

Lewis decided to air the show locally, considering the station's responsibility to the community, after previewing it and feeling that "it was an explanation that took no sides" and "was not an advocacy one way or another." Lewis said that he is "responsible to the taste of the community," and he noted that some people automatically assume an advocacy on behalf of the station by its airing of the program. WHBQ, he says, programs and then sells what they have rather than considering only those programs that will be economically feasible, noting that no commercial ad time was purchased during the airing of "Homosexuals."

Lewis' secretary, Martha Walters, said that no reasons were given for objections to the show by callers

(cont. on page 7)

Gay Carolers Rejected

A group of Christmas carolers from TGCHR Memphis were turned away by the Home for Incurables in Memphis because they "might offend" some residents and the "Queen's Daughters," a group that does charitable work for the Home.

Rec. Director Debbie Jones of the Home for Incurables was initially enthusiastic about the carolers, according to a TGCHR (Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights) spokesperson. While Jones was making posters announcing the group's appearance at the Home, other

officials brought to her attention that Gay carolers would be offensive. Jones then contacted TGCHR asking that the carolers appear under a false name, which, according to TGCHR, would be "bending our principles."

Jones was understanding of TGCHR's position, expressed regret that the carolers could not appear and apologized for "people laughing in the background" during the telephone conversation with TGCHR. Other facilities contacted by TGCHR were either "booked up" with other carolers or had "no facility" in which they might perform.

Letter To The Editor



wanted to tell you I really enjoyed reading your "gay" holiday issue. It was enchanting.

There has, incidentally, been a run on Gay bob dolls this season. They may want to advertise with you next season.

My only complaint is that ever since your paper reached the North Pole, all my little elves and fairies have absconded to Memphis. Please send them back.



Santa

Gazing

Let Sleeping Giants Wake!

Well it's finally over. The miserable, non-descript decade of the seventies has merely slept itself to death. But all was not washed away while the mighty Mississippi just kept rolling along—at least not in the Memphis Gay community.

The 1970's saw the real beginning of the Gay liberation movement in the U.S. We peered through our coat hangers in Memphis to see Gays doing great and wonderful things in San Francisco, New York and New Orleans. We watched in awe as Gays organized in Atlanta, Denver and Houston. We marveled at Washington, Seattle and Boston. We cautiously observed as even our sister city of Nashville formed the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights in 1977.

We were sleepy, but not asleep. In 1975, the Metropolitan Community Church of Memphis was born. It was followed by the Sexuality and Lesbianism Task Force of NOW, who organized the Memphis Gay

Switchboard. We saw the adventurous, though short-lived, publication of Memphis' first Gay newspaper, *Gaiety*.

We survived the disbanding of the Sexuality and Lesbianism Task Force, the folding of *Gaiety*, the near demise of the Gay Switchboard and even Anita Bryant's juicy crusade; we have emerged far better for all of it. Then in March of 1979, a curious thing happened. *Memphis* magazine published a now-notorious article entitled "Name Withheld, In Search of the Memphis Gay Community." The negative tone of this article awakened and angered thousands of Memphis Lesbians and Gay men. This "Anita Bryant Effect" led to the creation of the Memphis Gay Activists, the Memphis Chapter of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights, the Memphis Gay Speakers Bureau, an MSU Gay awareness group, a Gay men's support group, the re-organization of the Memphis Gay Switchboard and

GAZE. Whew! We've seen, too, a significant increase in the number of Gay bars in Memphis and the creation of a coffeehouse that features "Lambda Night" every Tuesday.

Already active at this time were the Southeastern Lesbian Network, the Women's Crisis Loan Service, numerous social clubs and WEVI's "Gay Alternative" radio show.

Suddenly our nearby sister cities are looking at us in awe. Houston and Atlanta are wondering what's come over us. And, lo and behold, there are even whispers about us in New York and San Francisco.

And thus we enter the 1980's. The sleeping giant is awake. Our governor, our congresspeople, our mayor, and our city council members not only know we are here, they know that we vote. They know that we are a viable force in the economy of Tennessee's largest city. No longer are we moving to other cities in search of a better way of life.

1980, we are eager. We are enthusiastic. We are ready. The seeds have been planted and the harvest is long overdue in the fertile "city of potential." When *Memphis* magazine decides to do another article about the Memphis Gay community, they'll have no trouble finding us. We're right here where we belong.

A Look At Self-Oppression

We are taught to hate the concept of homosexuality long before we are forced to recognize our own sexual orientation. Through a subtle indoctrination process, we are taught from Day One to literally hate ourselves.

Why? Fear? Most of us were reared in heterosexual households by heterosexual parents who were scared silly by the very thought of homosexuality. Our parents, for the most part, were reared by similar parents whose understanding of life was based strictly on religious condemnation of sex.

Aside from the fact that we fear those things we don't understand (and how many heterosexuals understand homosexuality?), we live in a society that worships the Bible. These Bible-worshippers insist upon citing homosexuality as the reason for the destruction of Sodom. The Bible, however, specifically cites worship of false idols as the reason for Sodom's demise, but the Bible-worshippers tend to overlook that aspect of the Sodom story in favor of the infamous "To Know." "To Know" is what the "men" who gathered around Lot's house wanted to do with the two "angels" who had come to visit Lot.

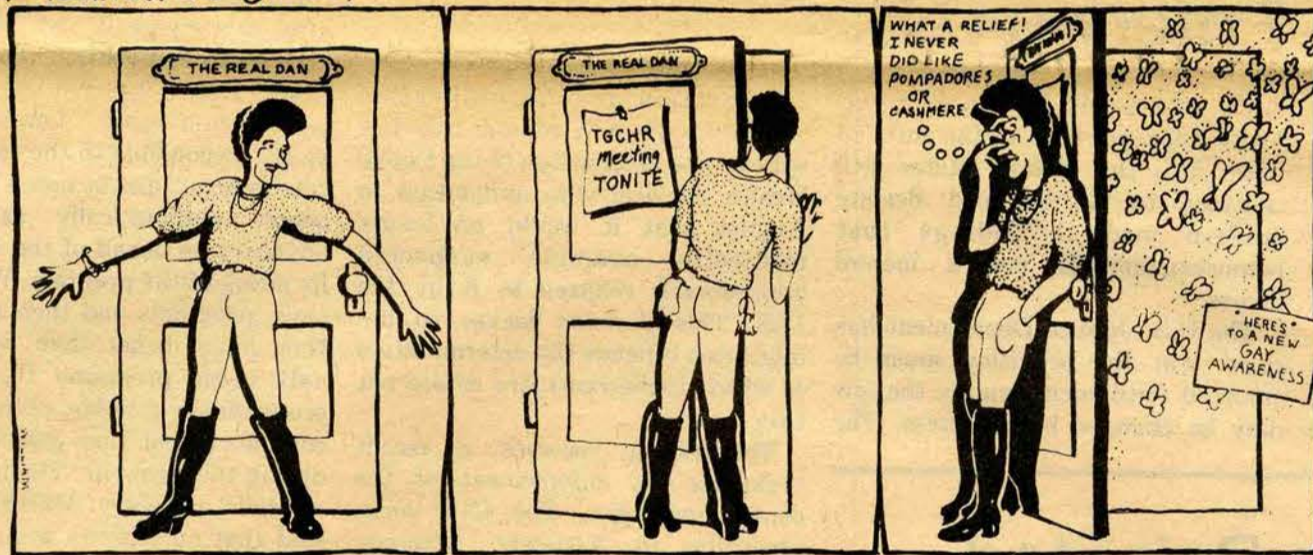
"To Know" has come to mean "to have homosexual relations with" (and is, in fact, actually translated thus in some newer versions of the Bible). The actual Hebrew word that has been so interpreted is *Yadha*. It means "to know about" or "to discover." In other words, the people gathered around Lot's house in order to find out what the angels were doing there, not to engage in (pardon my choice of words) sodomy.

We live in a society that considers sex dirty and Gay sex somewhat beyond filthy, and as long as society sees it that way, we have little chance of rising above subhuman status. Because we grow up learning what our society teaches us, we have difficulty "unlearning" these concepts—however unfounded they may be.

Queer, faggot, dyke, fairy, lez, queen, homo . . . are we ready to overcome these words? Are we ready to realize that these words do not mean Gay or Lesbian? These words do not reflect us; they reflect a prejudice, a fear of a society in search of a scapegoat.

Are we worth the fight? Society tells us that we aren't. Common sense tells us that we are. We can no longer wait for society to change its attitudes about us. It won't. The old sociological adage is sociological fact; those who aren't part of the solution are part of the problem.

*R*Dandora's Closet



Memphis - The 70's

Late 1979

The progressive + positive 80's

GAZE

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Anti-Gay Bill Introduced in Senate

A broad-based bill containing several anti-Gay measures has recently been introduced in the U.S. Senate, reports the *Advocate*.

Labeled the Family Protection Act of 1979 (S1808), the bill contains a total of 38 provisions dealing with such matters as prayer in schools and the mixing of the sexes in sports. The following specifically anti-Gay measures are included: 1) No federal funds for legal services for homosexuals; 2) No "special" civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men; and 3) No federal funds for any organization that presents

homosexuality as a positive lifestyle.

Gay leaders in Washington are cautiously watching the bill but do not believe it has much of a future once on the floor. They are concerned, however, that some conservative senators may tack similar anti-Gay measures onto more successful bills before the Senate.

On a more positive note, a bill guaranteeing civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men is scheduled to be introduced soon in the Senate by Massachusetts Democrat Paul Tsongas.



Why the Lambda?

What is so significant about the Lambda? How and why has it become a symbol of Gay rights?

Lambda is the eleventh lower-case letter of the Greek alphabet, the front runner of our letter "L". It was originally a picture symbol for the scales often carried by the figure of Justice. Due to the influence of Greek philosophy, the lambda, with the small hook added to its base to indicate that some form of action was necessary to bring about a state of equilibrium and that constant action was needed to maintain that

state, finally emerged as it appears today.

The ancient Spartans adopted the lambda as a symbol of unity and wore it as a logo on their shields. It signified the special balance they felt must exist between an individual and the State. They believed that the demands of society should never interfere with each person's right to be totally free and that each person must be bound to society only by individual choice. The Spartans also recognized that only through a common bond could they hope to

preserve their freedom and equality.

Viewing the overall shape of the lambda as suggestive of a flame, the Romans used it as a symbol for "lamps," their Latin word for torch. Because of its connection with the torch, scientists today have chosen the lambda as a symbol for the wavelength of light to set up an equation.

With its historical associations, the lambda has become the recognized international symbol for Gay rights. Previously symbolizing justice; balance and reconciliation of

opposites; unity and the relationship of man to society; freedom, equality and independence of the individual; and light, the lambda is a fitting symbol for the Gay rights movement.

After the Stonewall riot of 1969, the lambda was selected as a Gay symbol. It was adopted by the Gay Activists Alliance of New York in early 1970, in an effort to create an easily recognized symbol to foster group identity and unity. In December of 1974, the First International Gay Rights Congress (Edinburgh, Scotland) adopted the lambda as the international Gay rights symbol.

As a symbol of freedom for Gay people, the lambda has come to represent the "light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance" and promises hope of a new future.

Today the lambda is recognized worldwide as a symbol for Gay rights, sexual liberation, justice and enlightenment, and a needed balance in acceptance of differences by and within all humanity.

Lesbians And Gays Are You Really Free?

1. Do you walk on Memphis streets holding hands with the one you love?
2. Do you kiss the one you love "goodbye" in public?
3. Do you and your lover select jewelry (a ring, perhaps) together in a public jewelry store?
4. Do you read *GAZE* in public?
5. Do you keep a photo of your lover on your desk at work?
6. Do you discuss what you did (honestly) Saturday night with co-workers on Monday morning?
7. Do you discuss your social life with parents, relatives, straight friends?
8. Do you feel as comfortable buying Gay literature in bookstores or newstands as you would buying straight literature?
9. Do you openly wear Gay logo T-shirts (other than to Gay establishments)?
10. Do you tell people the real reason you are not "married"?
11. If participating in or observing a Gay rights or Freedom Day march in another city, do you feel defensive when a TV camera pans the crowd?
12. Do you speak up when other people make derisive comments about Gay people?

many of us. We suffer from them nevertheless.

Are we so accustomed to a restricted lifestyle that freedom means nothing more than "going out" when we choose?

If you answered "no" to even one of the above questions, you do not enjoy the comparable freedoms that you would if you were heterosexual. These restrictions and countless others, because we are so accustomed to them, rarely occur to

What's The Story, Ann?



In a recent interview with *Ladies Home Journal*, Ann Landers says homosexuals make "some of the best school teachers I know." Landers also told the *Journal* that she gets thousands of letters from parents shocked to learn that their children are Gay.

"I tell them," "This isn't the end of the world," she said. "Gays enjoy their lives and most wouldn't be anything else. You've got to change your thinking about it—others ask me if I think Gays

should be permitted to teach school.

"You're darn right. Some of the best schoolteachers I know are Gay."

In a recent column, however, Landers answers a letter from an open Lesbian by saying that most people do not consider homosexuality "normal or healthy" and that due to the volume of mail she receives from unhappy homosexuals, Landers does not consider homosexuality "normal or healthy."

The Meeting Place Of Midtown

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To The Finest People

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HOTLINE

Provides Info, Counseling



"Besides giving information and referrals, the Memphis Gay Switchboard offers the chance to talk to another Gay person about what it's like to be Gay," says volunteer Ric Sullivan.

Ric feels that the anonymity of the Switchboard is an asset. "For some callers, the stranger on the phone is the only person they can open up to. Unable to turn to family or friends to help them sort out their feelings, they can feel more comfortable talking to an anonymous volunteer."

Gays often feel they are alone with their feelings and problems. Reducing "the alienation of people from themselves" is one of the functions of the Switchboard, ac-

ording to volunteer Gwen Demeter. Gwen was involved with initial Switchboard training sessions when the organization was founded by the Sexuality and Lesbianism Task Force of the Memphis NOW chapter in 1975. The Switchboard presently operates independently, though it shares resources with the Memphis chapter of TGCHR.

During a recent training session, John Russotto, clinical social worker with the University of Tennessee Hospital, emphasized the volunteer's function as a "peer counselor." The idea is not to provide therapy by phone. Helping the caller identify what is going on in his life at the present is crucial. Only then can

potential options be realized and referrals made to get the callers to the appropriate place.

Volunteer Kevin Toney emphasizes the need to help these callers realize that they can have faith in themselves. Many become regular callers, frequently preferring the same volunteer. Kevin feels that "one of the rewarding things is to see progress in the constant callers." After hours of talking to one caller, discussing the same topics and problems repeatedly, gradually "positive things started to happen," reported Kevin.

The majority of calls received by the Switchboard, however, involve requests for information, generally "how to meet other Gay people or where the bars are," according to Ric. Kevin, who travels extensively, feels that providing this type of information is very beneficial, especially to people in town for a night or so.

Besides bar referrals, the Switchboard can put people in touch with various political and religious organizations, social groups, restaurants, and Gay support groups. A variety of psychological, medical, legal and financial referrals are also available.

The Switchboard operates nightly from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. and, both Ric and Kevin emphasize, is funded entirely by donations from the Gay community. Listed in the phone directory under "Gay," the Memphis Gay Switchboard is presently the only Gay information and crisis hotline in Tennessee.

As one recent caller seeking legal referrals stated, "It's good to know we have something like this to turn to."

Discharges May Still Be Upgraded

As of January 1, 1980, military personnel who received an administrative discharge for homosexuality more than 15 years ago may still file papers in Washington, D.C. before the Board of Corrections of Military Records.

Public Law 95-126 (1977) declared all less than honorable discharges in all past wars subject to review until January 1, 1980. This law directly affected all personnel who had been discharged for homosexuality.

The Gay Community Services Center of Los Angeles recommends all individuals still eligible to file papers with the Board of Corrections to see an attorney or a veterans counselor and avoid the "do-it-yourself" approach. The legal office of the Gay Community Services Center (1213 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood, CA 90038) offers free legal counseling Monday through Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. For more detailed information write to the above address or call the legal office of GCSC or the military attorney at (213) 464-4700 extension 246.

Medical Notes

Treatment of Crabs

In recent years there has been a steady increase in the incidence of infestation with *Phthirus pubis* (commonly called "crabs"), a sexually transmitted louse. Non-prescription liquid "Rid" was recently compared for efficacy and safety with prescription-only "Kwell." Thirty adult men and women with *P. Pubis* infestation were assigned randomly to treatment with either one or the other preparations. A single ten-minute application of "Rid" produced the same results as a twelve-hour treatment with "Kwell." Both preparations produced total eradication of adult lice and nymphs, cessation of itching, and no side effects.

WEVL Features "Gay Alternative"

WEVL-FM 90.3 airs on Sundays at 3 p.m. the only regular Gay radio show in Memphis.

"The Gay Alternative" is an hour-long music, discussion, call-in show that has been a part of "community

radio" WEVL for three years. WEVL stresses that "anyone with a valid idea or interesting information should have access to the airwaves." "The Gay Alternative" is on the air, according to station manager Susan

Littlefield, because we think "it is important that someone do it." Also, Susan feels Gays need a voice, and WEVL "tries to do programs that help different people understand other different people."

Most response, Susan comments, is to shows of a more controversial nature. Shows about drag queens, coming out, and dealing with parents received comment, but one program about loneliness received an unusual amount of response from all types of people. Audience response, however, does not determine the life or death of any WEVL show.

Some other shows of special interest have been about the displaced feelings of Gays living in small towns and their subsequent flight to the city, and a phone-in show from the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in October. Due to the recent flood of activity in the Memphis Gay community, many recent programs have concentrated on local items of interest.

Disc Jockeys who do "The Gay Alternative" and station WEVL welcome community input and ideas. Both monetary donations and donations of time and talent are welcomed to help further the station and its ideas.



1980 Sportswear To Look "Sexy"

The sport is back in men's sportswear, fast spirited, action-packed apparel that is pure energy and electricity. From "new wave" to "high tech" the male of the 80's plunges forward to become more closet conscious.

Hard-hat chic is rewriting the work ethic, directing attention from toil to play. Hard-hat chic is "high tech," an expression born of the times. "High tech" is pipes and girders, iron works, cities and bridges, industrial colors and chrome. It is not sinister, soft, round or subtle. It's roots are the work area, reinterpreted for home and casual use.

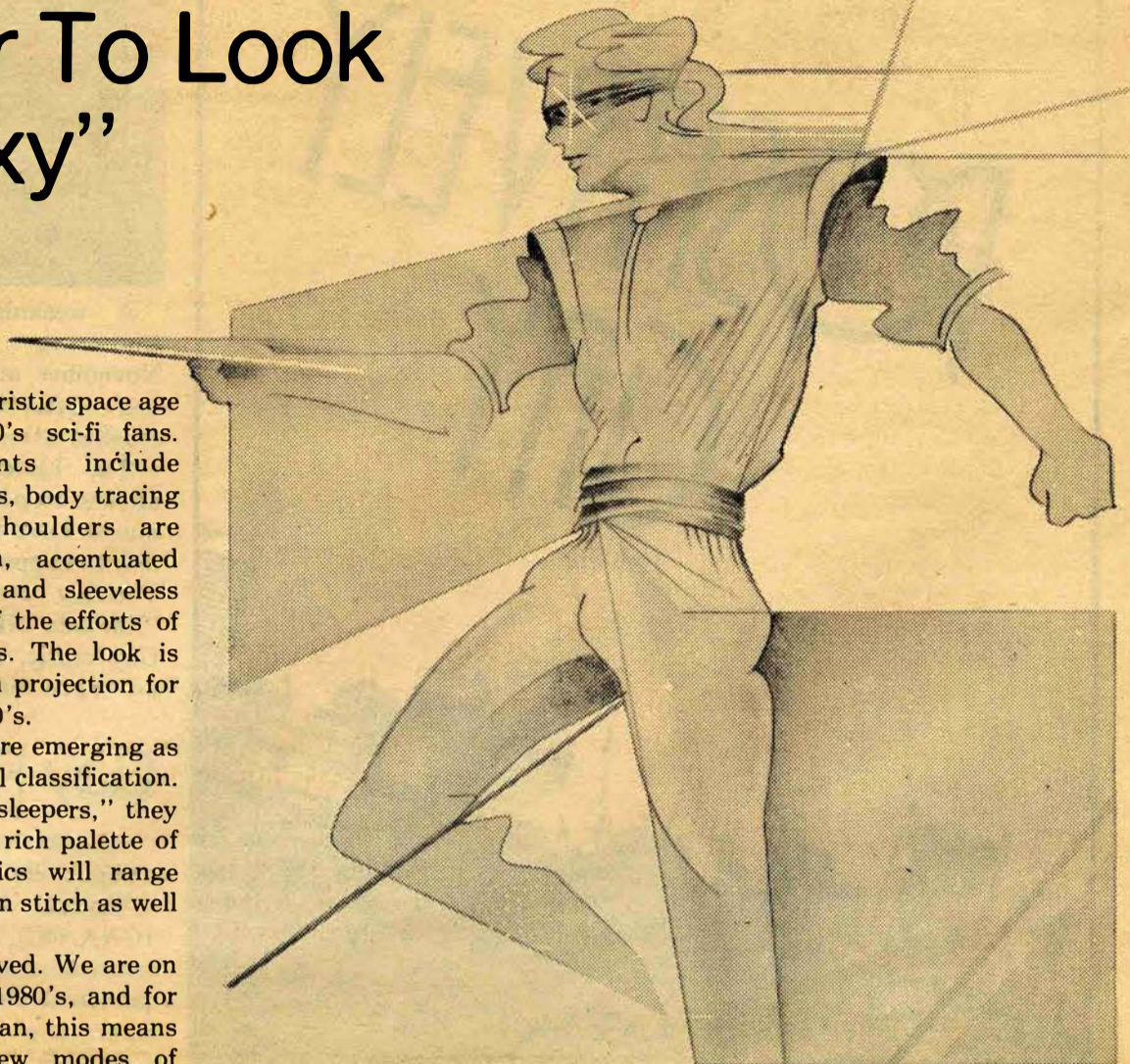
Hard-hat chic isn't new, but it is hot. Details make the difference. Functional treatments such as grommets, snaps, hammer loops, ruler pockets and exposed zippers identify the look. Hard-hat chic works. And better yet, it pays overtime.

Evolving from its punk roots "new wave" changed its emphasis from

early 60's rock to futuristic space age looks familiar to 50's sci-fi fans. Fashion treatments include exaggerated shoulders, body tracing and geometrics. Shoulders are demanding attention, accentuated by new cap sleeves and sleeveless models that show off the efforts of the exercise-conscious. The look is muscular and sexy; a projection for the active-oriented 80's.

Summer sweaters are emerging as an important seasonal classification. Possibly the "spring sleepers," they will be available in a rich palette of snappy colors. Fabrics will range from pebble to popcorn stitch as well as ventilated crochet.

The future has arrived. We are on the threshold of the 1980's, and for the fashion-minded man, this means time to consider new modes of dress—clothes that reflect that we live in the last quarter of the 20th century, not the first. ●



Metropolitan Community Church

Determined To Survive . . .

MCC-Memphis celebrated its 4th anniversary on December 15 at the MCC Chapel, 2035 Central, with "A Concert of Sacred Music" performed by visiting and local artists. MCC-Nashville Pastor Gil Lincoln, representing the Board of Elders of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches,

MCC Celebrates

The Metropolitan Community Church of Nashville celebrated the holidays with a December 8 potluck dinner, followed by friendly games of pass-the-apple and charades, dancing, and conversation by the fireplace of a suburban apartment clubhouse. Among those attending were several members of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights from Memphis and Knoxville who were in Nashville for a steering committee meeting of the statewide organization. ●

delivered the sermon at the Sunday Night Celebration of December 16: "You are here...and you have been here...and you are not going away....Look ahead to a life of living and loving...God is of helpfulness and encouragement."

On December 14, 1975, a group of men and wimmin met under the guidance of Charlene Taylor and Wimpy Wade for the first meeting of MCC-Memphis. It was a time of discussion and probing to see if MCC would fulfill a spiritual gap within the Gay community. On December 20, 1975, Atlanta's Rev. Jim Dykas (formerly Snow) consecrated Communion for the first official worship service of MCC-Memphis.

From then on MCC-Memphis was on the way. But the way was, and never has been easy. After a year of worshipping in Mr. Wade's home, it became necessary to move to a larger facility. MCC moved in October of 1976 to a facility shared by *Gaiety* newspaper until *Gaiety's* lease expired several months later. MCC moved to its present location in 1977. ●

Rev. Charlene Taylor says that the roots of MCC-Memphis are down and the church is growing. "This year," Rev. Taylor says, "we celebrate 4 years of becoming a People. And we have survived. One of the characteristics of MCC'ers is

being people of determination and survival. If we were ever to allow ourselves the comfort of believing all the things that our critics say of us (both Gay and non-Gay) we would have to dig a hole and bury ourselves." ●

Something Good
Something Wonderful!



PRAY
WITH
GAYS

Metropolitan Community Church

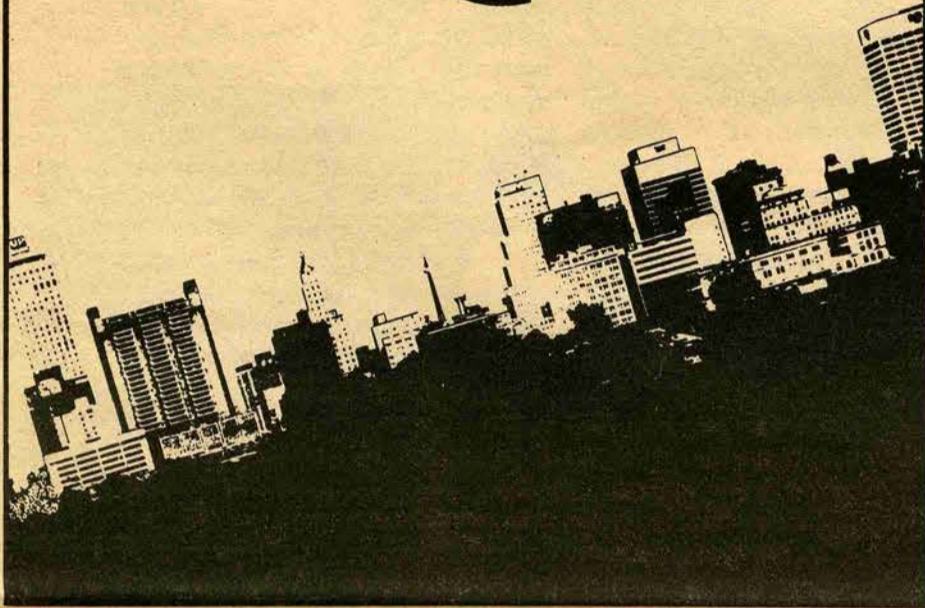
2035 Central Avenue
358-LIFE • 358-5433

Sunday 6:45 p.m.

Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature. old things are passed away. behold all things are become new.

II Corinthians 5:17

POSITIVELY GAY



The Tennessee Gay Coalition For Human Rights

**You don't have
to be "out" to be in!**

See our classified ad in this issue of *GAZE*

"People Place" Has Open Musical Setting



A weeknight coffeehouse, The Listening Room, opened in November at 1955 Poplar Avenue and features an intimate, open musical atmosphere.

The Listening Room welcomes anyone to perform or enjoy the live music, have free coffee and hot tea, and to support the informal setting. Tuesday evenings will be called "Lambda Night" and will feature Gay music, literature and poetry in an "open mike" format.

The Listening Room is a "people place" for both straights and Gays looking for a change of pace. No alcohol is served in the small, cozy, candle-lit room. All entertainers are volunteers who tend to sit on the floor or in chairs in the audience rather than onstage. To become a part of this spontaneous creativity, just dust off your guitar and clear your throat. Call Dorothy or Suzy at 276-7919 for more information or if you need musical instruments. ●

Gay Posters To Ride D.C. Buses

Thanks to U.S. District Court Judge John Pratt, the Gay Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. (GAA/DC), will be able to place consciousness-raising advertising posters in the more than 1,850 buses operating in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Judge Pratt ruled July 5 that the WMATA's refusal to accept such a proposed ad because it was thought to be "objectionable to a substantial segment of the community" violated the First Amendment free-speech rights of the members of GAA/DC.

Judge Pratt accepted the argument of the group's attorney, Leonard Graff, of the Media Access Project, a consumer-interest law firm in Washington, that the WMATA's history of accepting other controversial ads concerning various social and political issues had made its advertising space a "public forum" from which a legally constituted group such as GAA/DC could not be arbitrarily excluded.

The ad produced by GAA/DC and rejected by the WMATA depicted a

variety of "clearly very happy, joyous, exuberant people" (in the words of Washington activist Dr. Frank Kameny) together with the slogan "Someone in your life is gay."

Judge Pratt's decision has already had happy consequences elsewhere (his opinion stands as the last word in the matter because the WMATA let the deadline for an appeal go by without filing one). When New York City's Gay Switchboard submitted a proposed bus poster for a campaign this fall to the New York Transit Authority, the group was specifically told that the Washington precedent determined a favorable decision. ●

Wimmin's Conference Scheduled

The Southeastern Women's Studies Association has scheduled its 4th annual conference for March 21-23 on the campus of Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

Over 28 workshops and caucuses are planned. Participants also will hear music and poetry and meet and exchange ideas with other feminist educators from across the South.

The Southeastern Women's Studies Association states its purpose is "to provide and encourage non-sexist, non-racist feminist education in all areas—the classroom, community groups, the media, the church and the workplace," and bills itself as "the educational arm" of the wimmin's movement. For additional information contact Betsy Brinson, ACLU Southern Women's Rights Project, 1001 E. Main St., Suite 710, Richmond, Virginia 23219. ●

ACLU Director To Speak

Holly Peters, executive director of the Tennessee ACLU, will speak about the legal rights of Gays at the January 21 meeting of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights, 7:30 p.m. at the main branch library, Peabody at McLean, Meeting Room B.

Holly will discuss laws affecting Gay men and Lesbians at the federal, state, and local levels before opening the floor to questions from the audience. The public is invited. ●

Romney Says ERA Attracts "Moral Perverts"

In a recent interview George Romney was quoted saying the equal rights movement had attracted "moral perverts" who wanted to destroy the family unit which the Mormon Church holds most dearly. In an interview in the *Detroit News*, the 72-year-old former Michigan governor and retired president of American Motors said, "At an international wimmin's year meeting, Lesbians and the homosexuals and the moral perverts (cited) this as a means for eliminating any basis for moral

criticism." He said the ERA would be less objectionable if it was not intended to support "perverted and improper sexual conduct" and if it didn't eliminate "needed protection against the abuse of wimmin."

He also supported the excommunication early in December of Sonia Johnson, an ERA supporter. Mormon officials have stated that Johnson was excommunicated for her opposition to the church and its leadership while she campaigned for the ERA.

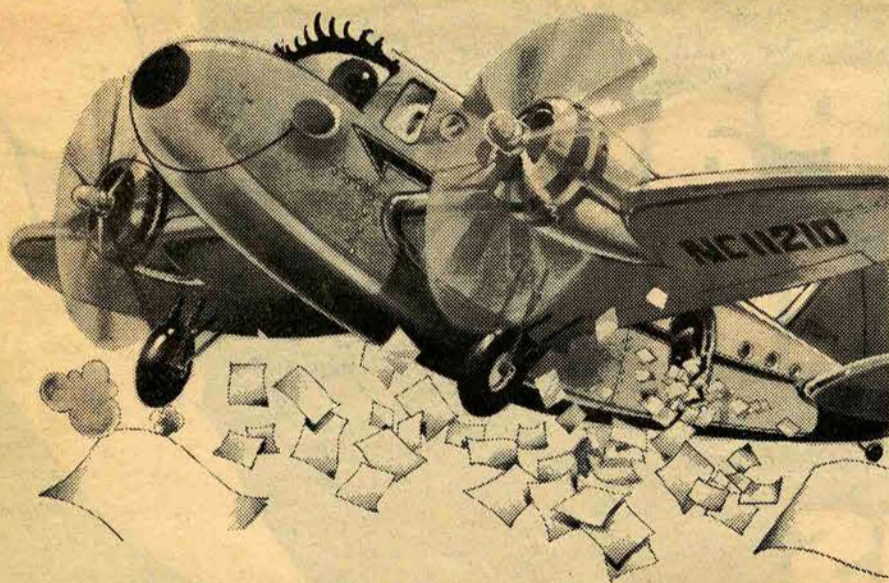
"Homosexuals"

(cont. from page 1)

except "the title and the content." A receptionist for WHBQ reported that most calls seemed to be random and not indicative of an organized opposition. She noted, too, that those pleased with a controversial show usually hesitate to call, but "some callers" said the show was well done and wanted to write to ABC-TV about it.

Various local Gay groups reported general satisfaction that WHBQ opted to air the show, but some displeasure that the show represented Gay people in a somewhat stereotypically negative aspect. Those wishing to express opinions about "Homosexuals" may write to ABC News, 7 W. 66th St., New York, NY 10023.

WE'LL DROP IT!



at your front door.

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Gay Memphis

BUDDY'S, bar & restaurant, 2258 Young, 276-6827.

CLUB PEACHES, bar, 112 Jackson, 529-8166

FRONT PAGE, bar, 267 S. Cleveland, 726-9813

GAY ALTERNATIVE, radio show, WEVL-FM 90.3, Sundays, 3 p.m.

GAYGUIDE MEMPHIS, directory, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

GAY MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, c/o TGCHR, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103

GAZE, newspaper, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103

• GEORGE'S, bar, clothing and toy stores, game room, and movies, 600 Marshall, 526-1038

INNER MAN, personal development group for all people, Virginia Hornsbuckle, 346-1998.

JOHNNIE'S, bar, 92 N. Avalon, 725-0119

• LISTENING ROOM, coffeehouse, "Lambda Night" Tuesdays, 1955 Poplar, 276-7919.

MARSHALL AVE. EMPORIUM, available for private parties only, 526-1038

MEMPHIS GAY ACTIVISTS, 1738 Morlye Pl. 2, Memphis 38111, 744-4453

MEMPHIS GAY SPEAKERS BUREAU, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103

MEMPHIS GAY SWITCHBOARD, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103 726-GAYY

• MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY GAY AWARENESS GROUP, Call 726-4299

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF MEMPHIS, 2035 Central, 358-5433

PHASE III, bar, 257 S. Cleveland, 726-9813

PSYCH-OUT, bar, 76 N. Cleveland, 725-9842

SHARON'S, bar, 1474 Madison, 278-9021

SOUTHEASTERN LESBIAN NETWORK, Box 41132, Memphis 38104, 382-3849.

TENNESSEE GAY COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103

TOWNHOUSE, bar, 603 Monroe, 523-9912

WOMEN'S CRISIS LOAN SERVICE, 10561 Hwy. 64, Arlington, TN 38002, 382-3849

Coming Up!

TENNESSEE GAY COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS—Holly Peters, TN ACLU Director will speak about Gay legal rights. Mon., Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m., Main Library Meeting Room B, Peabody at McLean. Public is invited.

TGCHR STATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING—Nashville, Sat., Jan. 19, 9 a.m. Contact Warehouse 28 for location.

MSU GAY AWARENESS GROUP—Second semester organizational meeting, Wed., Jan. 30, Scates Hall, Room 209-B, 4 p.m.

Classifieds

Rates for classified ads are 20 cents/word, \$3 minimum. Phone numbers count 2 words—zip codes free. Deadline for ads is 28th of month preceding issue date. Payment must accompany ads; make checks payable to TGCHR, Memphis, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

MSU GAYS! Austin Peay set the precedent! Students, faculty interested in forming political group call Ric, 744-4453, nights.

WANTED! Gay/Lesbian doctors, lawyers, clergy, teachers, others for confid. interviews for series on Gay professionals. Anonymity assured. **GAZE**, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

PERSONS INTERESTED in gay music or forming gay musical group please call Charlie at 276-7649.

HANDICAPPED GAYS interested in forming nationwide organization. Write Henry White, 3150 Johnson Rd., A-5, Steubenville, Ohio 43952.

THE TENNESSEE GAY Coalition for Human Rights solicits interest in forming these organizations: Gay Teachers; Parents and Friends of Gays; Wimmin's Support Group; Married Gays Support Group. TGCHR, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

WANTED: Specific examples of discrimination based on sexual orientation, race, sex, religion, etc. Confidential. **GAZE**, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

JOIN US! The Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights invites all Lesbians and Gay men to join in the future of Gay Memphis. Meetings regularly at Meeting Rm. B, Main Library, Peabody at McLean, 7:30 p.m., 1st and 3rd Mondays.

LOOKING FOR STIMULATING conversation and fellowship in an informal setting? Memphis Gay Men's Support Group—Call Gay Switchboard: 726-4299.

NEED ARTWORK? Top Graphic designer/illustrator, looking for free-lance. After 5 call: 725-4277.

MEMPHIS GAY SWITCHBOARD needs volunteers to work phone 2 to 4 nights per mo. Call 726-GAYY.

DIGNITY: a national organization of GAY Catholics. Let's form a Memphis chapter. Write: P.O. Box 12856, Memphis, TN 38112.

MEMPHIS GAY SPEAKERS Bureau has speakers for your group, classroom, organization. Write MGSB, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

LESBIAN/GAY MEN Coffeehouse. Anyone interested in performing or work in organizing call Randy Esslinger 743-5501.

Don't Throw Us Away!

When you've read **GAZE**, pass it on to a friend. Then send us your comments and letters. **GAZE**, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

Gay Directory For Memphis

GayGuide Memphis, a directory of Gay/Lesbian-oriented business and services, is now being compiled, with plans to distribute the first issue in April.

The directory will serve as a comprehensive guide for Gay men and Lesbians visiting or living in the Memphis area to locate entertainment establishments; information and referral assistance; services, social, political and religious organizations; medical, dental, and legal professionals; and other businesses that are classified as Gay-owned, Gay-oriented, or Gay-supportive.

GayGuide Memphis will be printed twice yearly and will be available at various locations

convenient to the Gay/Lesbian community. Distribution will be free and there will be no charge for listings. Printing costs will be financed by donations and ad-

vertising.

Assistance is welcomed from Lesbians and Gay men in the Memphis area to help identify businesses, individuals and

organizations that might wish to be listed in the directory. Information should be sent to *GayGuide Memphis*, TGCHR, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103. •

Gays Try To Stop "Cruising"

Gay groups nationwide are protesting the movie "Cruising." This movie, which has been in production for some time, has been labeled "very damaging" by the National Gay Task Force.

"Cruising" involves a Gay psychopathic murderer who finds his victims in New York's leather bars, seduces and brutally murders them. The movie contains numerous stabbing scenes and episodes in

which the murderer dismembers his victims.

The NGTF has issued a statement that the film "will cause immeasurable damage to Gay people by inciting homophobes to commit acts of violence against Gay men, by reinforcing stereotypes of Gays as violent and sex-obsessed, and by creating a negative climate for passage of Gay-rights legislation." Gay activist groups in New York,

though causing some delays in filming, were unable to halt production of the movie.

The NGTF and the Campaign Against The Movie "Cruising" are urging local groups to boycott the film when it is shown in the Memphis area. According to local activists, phone calls protesting the movie to theaters that air it could shorten the duration of "Cruising" in Memphis. •

