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## Second Major Gay Victory In Less Than A Month Senate Rejects Homophobic Amendment

Washington, DC — In a major victory for the Lesbian and Gay community, an anti-Gay amendment offered by Senator William Armstrong (R-CO) went down to defeat in March. The victory represents the second time in less than a month that the Senate sided with the Gay and Lesbian community on a critical vote.

In February, Senator Jesse Helms' (R-NC) effort to attach anti-Gay language to the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act was resoundingly defeated. In the March 1 vote, the Senate rejected the Armstrong amendment, which would have allowed organizations in the District of Columbia to bar any Lesbian or Gay man from serving as a "role model, mentor, or companion to any minor."

Armstrong sought to weaken the strong protections for Lesbians and Gays included in the Washington, DC Human Rights Ordinance. He said that the law is being used to "force Big Brothers and other similar organizations to admit homosexuals into their program as counselors and role models." Armstrong stated that the District of Columbia "should not be able to impose a requirement that these organizations accept people who have not historically been deemed suitable for that kind of work."

The amendment, however, was drafted broadly and would have applied to all institutions that serve children in Washington. For example, Lesbians and Gays could have been fired from schools, refused positions in volunteer organizations, and prohibited from treating young patients in hospitals.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), working closely with

the lobbyists from the Human Rights Campaign Fund, devised the strategy and led the floor fight that defeated the Armstrong amendment. Kennedy offered alternative language that would allow organizations to deny positions to heterosexuals, Gays and bisexuals who have been charged or convicted of sexual offenses with minors.

The critical vote came on an Armstrong move to table the Kennedy substitute amendment. The Senate rejected Armstrong's attempt 50 to 47. It then went on to adopt the Kennedy language.

"What Senator Kennedy did was shift the issues from one of attacking Gay people who work with youngsters to an issue of protecting children from any kind of sexual molestation, straight or Gay. Senator Kennedy struck a blow against the anti-Gay bigotry of the Armstrong amendment," said Stephen Smith, legislative director of the Campaign Fund.

"The Senate rejected the obviously false notion that Lesbians and Gays can not be appropriate role models or that we pose a threat to children," said Smith. "Once again, Senator Kennedy has taken the lead in fighting the bigotry we face on Capitol Hill. He was a strong and effective champion."

The amendments arose on a Kennedy bill to encourage national volunteer service. There was nothing in the bill specifically directed to Lesbians and Gays or to the District of Columbia. Armstrong offered his amendment because the District's Big Brothers/Big Sisters program recently has been pressured into complying with the local Lesbian and Gay civil rights law.

## Organizations to Boycott International AIDS Conference

Washington, DC — The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will boycott the Sixth International Conference on AIDS because of the U.S. Government's discriminatory AIDS and Gay and Lesbian immigration and visitation policies.

In addition, NGLTF is calling on its more than 17,000 members nationwide, as well as other Gay and Lesbian organizations and individuals, to boycott the conference, scheduled for this June 20-24 in San Francisco, CA. NGLTF is encouraging activists to continue pressuring the government to repeal the policies.

NGLTF is the first reported national U.S. Gay and Lesbian civil rights organization to boycott the conference. The Task Force joins more than 35 national and international organizations that have chosen not to participate in the gathering, including the National Association of People With AIDS, the International League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Canadian AIDS Society, Shanti Project, and the Names Project International AIDS Memorial Quilt.

NGLTF's decision to boycott the conference was made by its board of directors at the Nashville, TN, board meeting on March 18. NGLTF leaders said the group would rescind its boycott only if travel restrictions on people with AIDS and Gays and Lesbians are lifted.

"We believe the U.S. Government policy of denying entry to Gay men and Lesbians and people with AIDS and HIV is morally reprehensible," said veteran NGLTF board member Rick Rudy. Rudy, an openly Gay person with AIDS, is also president of the Bay Area-based

High Tech Gays, which is strongly considering joining the boycott. "We do not feel the conference can accomplish its tasks if those most concerned are prohibited from attending."

Under current law, any per-

son testing HIV-positive may be excluded from the U.S., including tourists, refugees, people seeking asylum and legalization, students, persons with special visas to teach or

*Continued on page 11*

## Mr. Leather Tennessee Contest to be Held on Beale St.



Master of Ceremonies Michael Pereyra, Mr. International Leather 1988. *Story on page 6*

## Site Being Sought for Display of Quilt

A Chapter of the NAMES Project, producers of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, is being formed in Memphis, according to Gary Wilderson.

Wilkerson, along with other AIDS activists, have filed the first paperwork in what will be a four month process leading to acceptance.

Concurrently, the Memphis AIDS Coalition and the Aid to End AIDS Committee are researching possible sites for a fall display of the quilt. "The area needs to be at least the size of a good-sized gymnasium,"

said Allen Cook, ATEAC board member. Cook noted that any display site must be approved by the NAMES Project before they will allow the quilt to be shown.

Because the quilt is not primarily used for fund-raising and no admission is charged, display sites must be free or low-cost, eliminating places like the Cook Convention Center, the Coliseum, and Agri-Center International. In addition, plans call for a three or four day display. Anyone with suggestions should contact ATEAC.

# Gazing

## Andy Rooney: The Story Behind the Story

by Karin Schwartz, Deputy Director for Public Affairs, GLAAD/NY

The media storm created by Andy Rooney's suspension and subsequent reinstatement has subsided. Yet, for all the column inches devoted to the story, most people are still in the dark as to what really happened. It would be naive to believe that the national media, which is itself biased against Lesbians and Gaymen, would cover fairly a story about a media personality's homophobia. In fact, the media, with few exceptions, became interested in the Gay

angle to the story only after Rooney, in typical homophobe style, accused the Gay community of hatching a conspiracy to "get" him (a theory which much of the media swallowed hook, line, and sinker).

The story began in October of last year, when Rooney stated in his nationally syndicated column that he felt the same way about homosexuals that he feels about cigarette smokers: he "wouldn't want to spend much time in a small room with one." Then, in December, he stated on national television during a CBS special that "homosexual unions," like drugs, alcohol, and cigarette smoking, lead to "premature death."

These two incidents prompted the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) to write to CBS News president David Burke requesting a meeting to discuss the broadcast, and to begin a letter-writing campaign involving GLAAD chapters nationwide. Rooney received a copy of GLAAD's letter, but chose not to respond to it; instead, he sent a now legendary letter to the *Advocate*. The letter was supposed to be an apology, but contained statements that were more anti-Gay and more incendiary than any that had preceded it. *Advocate* reporter Chris Bull followed up with a phone interview, in which Rooney is alleged to have made an extremely racist statement, which he denies.

GLAAD met twice with CBS News top brass — first in late January, and then in February. Just two days before Rooney's suspension was announced, CBS News president David Burke agreed to distribute GLAAD's 60 page media guide to all CBS staff, and to invite GLAAD to conduct sensitivity training with CBS News executive producers. Reasonably satisfied with this agreement, we still pressed for an on-air apology, or equal time, but did not push for suspension.

Two days later, after the allegation of racism surfaced, Rooney was suspended. CBS

privately told GLAAD the action was motivated by the cumulative effects of racism and homophobia. Publicly, they wouldn't specify. The real story, it appears, is that Rooney was suspended for those reasons and for insubordination — for sending a letter to the *Advocate* that his higher-ups told him not to send.

Rooney was reinstated from his suspension two months early, amid public pressure to bring him back and a ratings drop at 60 Minutes. His "return statement" focused overwhelmingly on the charges of racism. He apologized — sort of — for making the life of homosexuals "a little harder."

An interesting point is that, while GLAAD fielded about twenty calls from the media when Rooney was suspended, we fielded over fifty when he was reinstated. Some might interpret this to mean that Rooney was suspended for racism and reinstated for homophobia. We think it means that the media is more comfortable covering the Gay and Lesbian community when we're down — when it appears that we're losing.

There are a number of other, general principles that can be extracted from this experience. Here are a few:

1.) The media does not treat Gays and Lesbians as authorities on our own issues or Gay and Lesbian organizations as credible civil rights groups. It's as if they believe that we are too close to our own issues to be objective. Consider, for a moment, how many times the NAACP was mentioned by name in the media over the incident (many), compared to how many times GLAAD was mentioned (few). Or how many columns you've seen debating the merits of the suspension that were written by columnists who never called up GLAAD to verify the media's reporting of our role. Even CBS News president David Burke's statement, issued after Rooney was reinstated, mentioned the NAACP by name, and referred to meeting with unnamed Gay and Lesbian organizations. In fact, GLAAD was the only organization he met with — Gay or otherwise, so why didn't he refer to us by name?

2.) The media unquestioningly buys into the same stereotypes about us that many bigots do. Consider for a moment the amount of investigative journalism that went into examining *Advocate* reporter

Chris Bull's history for evidence of prior misconduct. Why didn't we see that same effort expended delving into Rooney's past for evidence of similar homophobia and racist statements? It's there — GLAAD found it — so why didn't a nation full of journalists? The answer is because, as the publisher of the *Advocate* put it in a recent *Washington Post* column, Gay journalists — and Gay people — are always suspect.

3.) What we consider to be neutral, unbiased reporting on our issues, the media considers to be advocacy. It's as if they don't think they can be fair to us without appearing pro-Gay. So they bash us, or stay silent. The *New York Times*, and for the most part, *The Washington Post* were the two notable exceptions this time around. Yet even the *Times* made no bones about referring directly to Rooney's "racism" at the same time that it repeatedly referred to "comments that the Gay community found offensive."

These are some of the issues that underlie the media's inadequate reporting on the issue. And, to the extent that the media is a powerful shaper of national opinion, they are also at the root of why our society permits a television personality like Andy Rooney to make a homophobic statement in the first place.

Many Americans probably agree with much of what Rooney said about Gays and some probably agree with Rooney's alleged statements about African Americans. But while most people know better than to admit publicly to racism, they are much less reluctant to own up to being bigoted against Gays and Lesbians. The public pressure to keep your homophobia to yourself just isn't there.

What is true of people is also true of the media. The media self-censors overt racism and anti-semitism — so it rarely gets on the air in the first place. When we ask for equal treatment we're accused of being censors. But what we're really doing is trying to increase the media's sensitivity so they don't print or broadcast outrageous things about us in the first place. And, if homophobic statements do slip by, we want our requests for rebuttal time taken seriously.

So, what do we do about all this? Well, some of this you've probably heard before. First and foremost, Gays and Lesbians have to come out of the closet and be counted. It is too easy for the media to cover our community only as a handful of staffers

of Gay and Lesbian organizations.

Second, people need to support the established Gay and Lesbian organizations — not just with money, although that is crucial — but with letters when we initiate campaigns. Letterwriting campaigns enhance our credibility tremendously. CBS agreed to meet with GLAAD only after we had generated some media and several hundred letters from individuals concerned about Rooney's homophobia.

Third, we have to try to get debate going on the opinion pages of the nation's media on Gay and Lesbian issues. We have to contact columnists and persuade them that our issues have an impact on all society. While we don't necessarily have to agree with everything that is written about us, we have to do all we can to ensure that our arguments are at least presented. This includes, but should not be restricted to, writing Letters to the Editor.

Fourth, we have to work to make the newsroom a safe place for openly Gay and Lesbian reporters. Now that he has been reinstated, Andy Rooney has his voice back in the the media; given his nationally syndicated column, many would say he never lost it. Yet Gays and Lesbians never had a voice in the media; there are no Gay and Lesbian anchorpeople, for example, and no openly Lesbian or Gay syndicated columnists. Additionally, liberal columnists overwhelmingly ignore our issues, providing no balance to Patrick Buchanan and his ilk. (A bright note: partly as a result of the Rooney affair, the *San Francisco Chronicle* recently agreed to publish a bi-weekly column written by the GLAAD/San Francisco Area chapter).

Lastly, we have to acknowledge our victories when we have them. Rooney may be back on the air, but we are not back at square one. Rooney's statements last week, and then on 60 Minutes, sent a message to the general public that people can be educated and can learn to confront their own homophobia. And now many million Americans know something they didn't know before: that there is a national Gay and Lesbian organization devoted to making sure that Gays and Lesbians are treated with dignity and respect in the nation's media. If you defame us, prepare to face the consequences.



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## Iowa Supreme Court Rules In Favor of Gay Father

In an important ruling, the Iowa Supreme Court has rejected a trial court's order that a Gay father was restricted to visitation with his children only so long as "no unrelated adult" is present. In lifting the restriction, the court stated that "[t]his unusual provision was obviously imposed on account of Michael's homosexual lifestyle."

The case, *Walsh v. Walsh*, involved a Gay father's efforts to retain visitation with his two children upon the dissolution of his marriage. Though his former wife conceded that Michael Walsh is a good and loving father who should have frequent visitation, she claimed to be concerned for the children because of Michael's "Gay lifestyle." In a ruling that was clearly intended to keep Michael's children away from his current partner with whom he lives, the trial court imposed the much more sweeping restriction that no unrelated adult be present when Michael sees his children.

To assist the Iowa Supreme Court in its deliberations, two national Lesbian and Gay legal organizations, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, based in New York, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights, based in San Francisco, filed a joint friend of the court brief arguing that the trial court harshly penalized Mr. Walsh simply because he is Gay and lives with his partner. The two groups urged the Supreme Court to overturn the lower court's restriction and treat the father like any other parent entitled under Iowa law to liberal visitation unless specific harm to the children is proven. The Court issued its decision on Feb. 21.

"In rejecting the restriction, the court seemed to recognize that children who spend time with Gay parents and their partners are no more "exposed" to their "private sex-life" than they would be to that of a non-Gay couple," stated Evan Wolfson, Lambda Staff Attorney. "Being Gay is not just about sex."

"Though the court dealt only with the visitation restrictions, the court's implicit recognition that a parent's sexual orientation is not a relevant factor in a visitation case should offer some assurance to Lesbian and Gay parents in Iowa," said Roberta Achtenberg, Executive Director of NCLR. "This is in line with the growing number of cases in other states."

Courts as diverse as South Carolina, Alaska, California, and New Jersey have acknowledged that Gay or Lesbian parents have a right to custody and visitation. The trend is clearly in favor of Gay parents. However, it is still not unusual for trial courts to impose restrictions that the children not be exposed to other Lesbians or Gay men. Courts have prevented Lesbian and Gay parents from having overnight visitation when a lover or partner is present and from bringing the children to Gay events. In extreme cases, courts withheld custody or visitation until the Lesbian or Gay partner moves out of the family home, stating their concern about the children being exposed to a Gay lifestyle.

"Clearly, these kinds of restrictions cruelly punish Lesbian and Gay parents by making them choose between their domestic partner and their children," according to Paula Ettelbrick, Lambda's Legal Direc-

tor. "Both Lambda and NCLR are committed to fighting these ludicrous restrictions on the lives of Gay and Lesbian families."



## Gay PAC Expects to Contribute Over \$500,000 in '90 Elections

Washington, DC — The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the largest Lesbian and Gay political organization in the country, will contribute over \$500,000 to candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate in the 1990 elections. Contributions at this level will place the Campaign Fund among the largest political action committees (PACs) in the United States.

"Our ability to make significant contributions to candidates helps maximize the influence of Lesbian and Gay Americans in key congressional races all around the country," said Tim McFeeley, the Campaign

Fund's executive director. "We will fight for our health and our rights by electing our friends and defeating our enemies."

Up to this time in the current election cycle, the Campaign Fund has given over \$121,000 to 46 candidates and incumbents and five other PACs all over the country. Notable contributions include Senator Paul Simon (D-IL), \$5,000; Congressman Sid Yates (D-IL), \$5,000; Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA), \$5,000; Oregon Democratic challenger Mike Kopetski, \$2,500; and Congressman John Miller (R-WA), \$2,500.

PACs are regulated by the Federal Election Commission

and are permitted by law to contribute up to \$5,000 per election. A PAC may contribute up to \$10,000 to candidates who run in a primary and a general election.

"Lesbians and Gay Americans are committed to making a difference through the electoral process. Their generosity has allowed the Campaign Fund to make strategic, early contributions for the 1990 elections," said McFeeley. "We have gone a long way in countering pernicious influence of our extreme right-wing opponents. On Capitol Hill, the Lesbian and Gay community has become a force to be reckoned with."

## NJ State Police Stop Restroom Activities

New York — Following massive publicity in both the Gay and non-Gay news media of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's criticism of New Jersey Police abuses, the newly-appointed Police Superintendent, Col. Justin J. Dintino, announced the termination of the undercover operation at the Vince Lombardi Service Area. The operation led to the entrapment and arrest of hundreds of men on "lewdness" charges. Dintino agreed with Lambda that "It's kind of repulsive...that the state police should be involved in undercover activity to arrest people for [allegedly] lewd behavior." He announced that only uniformed troopers

would be assigned to patrol where necessary.

Lambda led a coalition of Gay and civil rights activists and groups protesting the undercover operation, in which teams of plain-clothed officers, who were paid overtime, were stationed in the restroom, engaged in flirtatious behavior, pretended to masturbate, and arrested men who indicated any reciprocal interest. The expensive operation took place over the last three years, and resulted in hundreds of arrests. Most people were too intimidated or embarrassed to fight the charges.

While extremely pleased with the new administration's repudiation of undercover entrap-

ment techniques, Lambda staff attorney Evan Wolfson, who is coordinating coalition actions, said that the State Police needed to take additional steps. "Although the operation at Vince Lombardi was one of the worst, it was not unique," Wolfson remarked. "We have received complaints about similar police activities in such localities as Bloomfield, Montavale, and Sayreville, to name just a few." Wolfson also noted complaints of local police abuses against Gay people in parks, bars, and even bookstores, and called upon the Florio administration to end all undercover entrapment of Gay people throughout New Jersey.

## Health Bill Protecting Lesbians Given High Priority

Washington, D.C. — The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) will give women's cancer legislation a high priority on its advocacy agenda, Executive Director Tim McFeeley has announced.

"Far too many Lesbians are losing their lives to cancer and we need to make a concerted effort to protect their lives," McFeeley stated. He announced that Kathleen Stoll, Lesbian Issues and Outreach Director for HRCF, will spearhead the effort to increase government

funding for preventive health services and education about breast, uterine and ovarian cancer.

"Health issues are at the top of HRCF's political agenda. In 1989, there was an estimated 43,000 deaths due to breast cancer, 6,000 deaths due to cervical cancer, 4,000 deaths due to cancer of the endometrium and 12,000 deaths due to ovarian cancer. These statistics cannot go ignored," McFeeley said.

Stoll explained why cancer

is on the Lesbian issues agenda, "Women who have never had children are at greater risk for these forms of cancer, known as gynecological cancers. If proper screening and follow-up services for gynecological cancers were available, Lesbian lives would be saved daily."

HRCF will be working with Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) to build support in Congress for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990, introduced by Waxman on March 8.

*This Month at*

**GayRap**

*Monday, April 16, 7 PM*

**Gay Switchboard Training**

*Provide a service to the Gay Community from the privacy of your own home.*

*Become a Gay Switchboard Volunteer.*

Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center  
1291 Madison

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**GEORGE'S**

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**In Preparation for Memphis in May  
George's Proudly Announces  
A New Schedule of Events**

**Saturdays**

**The Beer Bust is Back!**

\$5 Gets you a Beer Bust or  
First Beer Free til 11:00

Come See Our Show — The Best in Memphis

**Sundays**

Billie Jo Casino Show

\$3 Beer Bust — 8 - Midnight

**Tuesdays**

Alternative Music For An Alternative Lifestyle

\$3 Beer Bust — 8 - Midnight

**Wednesdays**

PWA Night

All Cover Charges Go To AIDS Patient Care

\$2 Cover - \$1 Optional Beer Bust

75¢ Longneck, \$1 Beverage Specials All Night

**Thursdays**

Talent Night & The Best in Male Burlesque

75¢ Longnecks - \$1 Shooters

**Fridays**

Russian Holiday

\$5 Cover (\$3 if you wear red)

\$1.00 night

## AIDS Auction Benefits PWA's

The 1990 ATEAC Auction for AIDS has come and gone exceeding its goal and leaving about 75 volunteers exhausted. Over 200 items were donated by local businesses grossing over \$23,000. The Auction's net proceeds will benefit the agency's patient assistance fund. This figure represents a 65% increase over last year's Auction.

Items ranged from antiques and artwork, to plants and personal services. Bids ranged from a few dollars to hundreds of dollars per item.

Approximately 400 people attended the five-hour auction held at the Memphis Hilton Inn. Silent auction bidding began at 6:30 and the live auction began at 7:30. Led by professional auctioneer Don Smith, celebrity auctioneers included Joyce Cobb, Channel 3's Susan Browning, WDIA's Maxine Todd, and Channel 5's Nancy Hart and a surprise appearance by anchorperson Kim Hindrew. Smith kept the auction bidding going aided by a group of almost a dozen spotters among the audience.

Prior to the Auction, the audience was entertained by the Memphis Lambda Men's Chorus, led by Don Griesheimer,

and pianist Johnny Arnold.

A group of over 50 volunteers labored for weeks creating a Caribbean theme to the decorations. They were assisted by donations from Hicks Convention Services and Inflation Unlimited.

According to Edward Greene who, with his wife Beverly, led the Corporate and Donations committees, "Getting donations was much easier this year because people know ATEAC now. We don't have to explain who we are and what we want... they were ready to give."

Mark Whitehead, who has chaired the Auction from its inception in 1987, was assisted by Co-chair Steve Solomon.

According to Rebecca Locke, board member of ATEAC, outlay for PWA financial assistance is running between \$3000 and \$4500 a month. At that rate, the proceeds should last about six months necessitating other fundraising events throughout the year. In its last financial report, ATEAC showed that it has dispersed approximately \$24,000 in assistance during its current fiscal year—about \$9000 more than was received in assistance fund donations.

## Gay & Lesbian Pride Week Committee

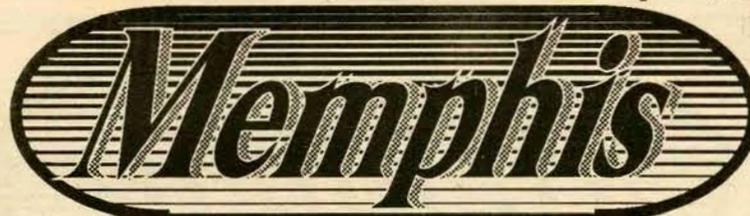
The 1990 Gay & Lesbian Pride Week Committee will hold its next meeting Saturday, April 21 from 3-5 PM at the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center at 1291 Madison.

Co-directors of this year's Pride Committee are Nan Lemmons and John Prowett. There are eight days of events being planned. Get involved and be part of the 21st Anniversary of Stonewall and Gay and Lesbian Pride.

## Gay Pride Logo Contest

The 1990 Gay & Lesbian Pride Week Committee is sponsoring a logo contest for this year's Pride Week. The logo will be used on buttons, posters, and booklets this year. The winner of this year's contest will be introduced at the kick-off party Sunday June 17 at the Community Center. Besides getting a button and name in print, the winner will receive two tickets to this year's Gay Pride River Ride.

Contestants may drop off their logo ideas at the Community Center or mail them to:



Pride Committee, c/o MGLCC, 1291 Madison, Memphis, TN 38104.

## BASIC Meditation Offered

by Wil Wright

BASIC Meditation is Basic Alternative States In Consciousness.

The MGLCC is graciously offering space and time for dialogue and the initiation of techniques. Starting soon, on most Sundays from 7-9 PM, we'll be conducting direct dialogue on the oldest, simplest, and absolute techniques. The group will be open for discussions and will attempt to answer all questions.

Even though this experience of techniques can bring on an upheaval of feelings to the mind, body, and soul, we are not teaching a religion or cult. This is a simple experience to be practiced alone and to share with

## A Review

## Battle Scars: Flawed But Not Forgotten

Review by Allen Cook

While *Battle Scars* may have provided an insight into the "Leather lifestyle", it was at best a flawed representation. As a first effort by a fledgling theatrical troupe, it was good. However, the story had, in this reviewer's opinion, holes big enough to drive Mack trucks through.

The plot, simply, is this. August and Drey are lovers of the leather persuasion. Ben is August's friend whom Drey cannot stand — too nelly. But Ben is interested in trying out the "Leather lifestyle" much to the chagrin of August who fears for Ben's safety should he find someone too rough. Ben and August conspire to have Drey be Ben's first leather experience (Ben has the hots for Drey's bod).

To make a long story short, Drey's former lover was accidentally killed when Drey put him in a trash bag and set him out with the garbage, apparently one of their routine fantasy act-outs. Police ruled it suicide, but how one can tie oneself into a trash bag is a real mystery.

friends. It can be used as a means to form yet another bond in the community.

For more information, call the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 276-4651 on weekends.

## 'Parade of Stars' to Benefit Pride Week

The Memphis Gay Pride Committee will present a benefit show Sunday, April 8 produced by B.J. Hefner. According to organizers the show will "bring back the stars of yesterday to entertain today to help with our tomorrows." The show will be a fundraiser for this year's Gay & Lesbian Pride Week events.

The show will be held at WKRB, 1528 Madison. The doors will open at 7:00 PM with the show starting at 8:00. Cover charge will be \$2.00 per person.

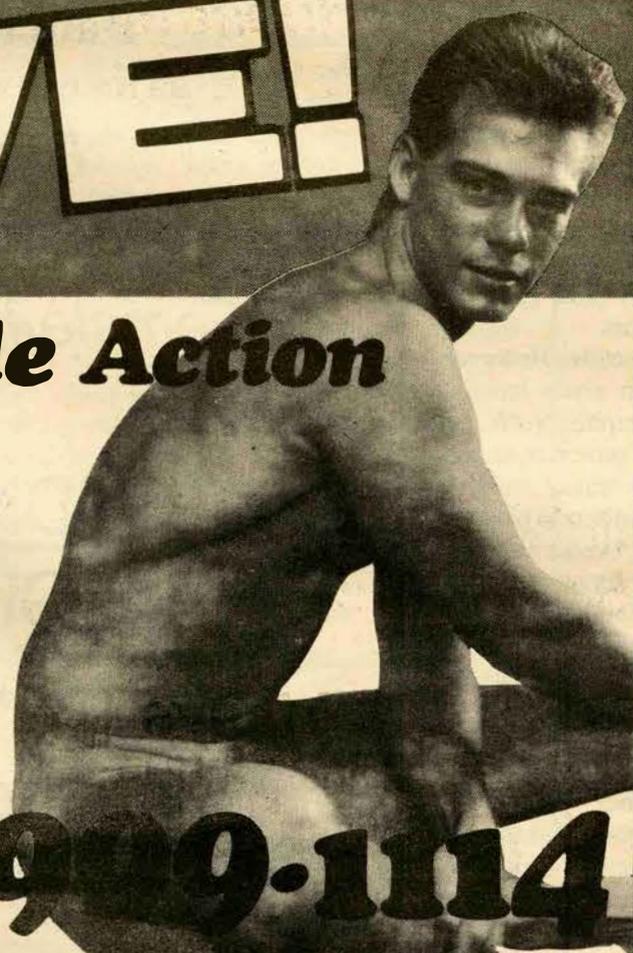
# LIVE!

## Nationwide Action FOR MEN ONLY

NO CREDIT CARD REQUIRED

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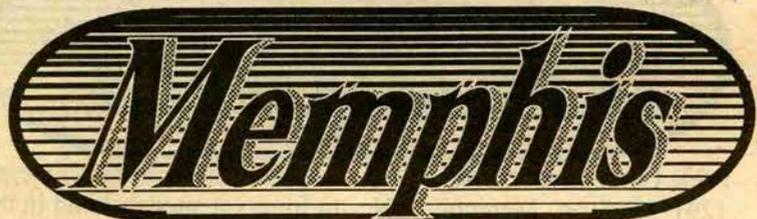


August never tells Drey of the plan, but events conspire to put Ben and Drey together while August is out of town. One thing leads to another and a drunken Drey rapes Ben and packs him up in a Glad bag. August returns to find a near-dead Ben and confronts Drey.

Up to this point, we can use dramatic license to dismiss some of the more tenuous points of the plot. But willing suspension of disbelief can only go so far. We are now expected to believe that Ben was a secret tearoom lover of Drey's former lover, and that August (a nickname given by Drey to commemorate the month they met) has had his name legally changed during the time he and Drey have been lovers, without Drey EVER knowing what August's real name was, AND that yet a second person is killed without so much as a police inquiry. *Days of Our Lives* has nothing on this tale.

Despite the obvious flaws of the script, we were enthusiastic about the characterizations. Vance Reger as Drey was ex-

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## Leather Memphis To Take Over Beale St.

A unique weekend will take Gay Memphis, specifically Leather Memphis, out of Midtown and onto Beale April 6, 7, and 8. The Studio, an entertainment facility located at Beale and Fourth, will be the site of the Mr. Leather Tennessee contest. Events relating to the contest will fill the entire weekend. Capacity of the Studio is around 500 and contest promoters are expecting capacity participation.

This will be a first appearance in Memphis by a current International Mr. Leather titleholder, Guy Baldwin. He will sit on a panel of judges consisting also of Dave Rhodes, publisher and editor of *The Leather Journal*; Dustin Logan, Mr. Great Plains Drummer 1989 (and the *Leather Journal's* Man of the Year for 1990); Patrick Toner, Mr. International Leather 1986; Cirby, nationally known erotic artist; and Alan Selby, owner of Mr. S products, one of the largest Leather businesses on the west coast. Also appearing will be Chuck Higgins, Mr. Southeast Leather 1990; Doug Coulton, Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer 1989; and emcees Mr. Marcus, celebrity columnist for the Bay Area Reporter; and Michael Pereyra, International Mr. Leather 1988.

The Pipeline, local sponsor, will host the Friday evening registration and presentation of the contestants. Participants can breakfast at the Pipeline Saturday morning and attend a special Leather Market on the patio that afternoon. Participants in the market will be Tazio Men-Leather out of Atlanta, Warlords Leather also out of Atlanta, Second Skin out of New Orleans and several more leathersmiths from the region. *Titleholder II*, an exhibition of the works of Cirby, will take place at the same time.

Saturday evening the event will move to the Studio with dinner from 7:30 until 8:30 for all participants. Tickets are also available at the door for Saturday events only. The show and contest will begin at 9 PM with categories in Leather Image, Jockstrap, Attitude and Personality. Seven to eight contestants are expected, and entertainment will be provided by contemporary duo Born Divas and country singer J. T. Fredericks.

Born Divas are familiar to New Orleans and west coast audiences, their style is high energy contemporary and their presence is of the "two tons of fun" variety. J. T. Fredericks tours the Gay rodeo circuit regularly and has also appeared on both coasts. Disco dancing will follow the contest and a shuttle bus will be available between downtown and midtown.

Sunday evening will see participants return to the Studio for a dance and show featuring a guest DJ and another performance by Born Divas.

This is the first event of this scale to be produced in the Mid-South. Co-sponsors are the Pipeline and Drum Production of Nashville. Les Robinson, organizer of the contest, brings many such events worth of experience to Memphis and has promised an unforgettable weekend.

The winner will receive \$500 in cash and airfare to the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago. He will pose for a portrait by Cirby and take home several other sponsorship awards from the various contributors to the contest. First and second alternates will each receive a medallion and a \$50 cash prize. All judges will be from outside of the area so each contestant will have to measure up to national standards. Specifically, the two major sponsors will not be involved in any of the judging.

### NOW "Pledges A Picket"

Memphis NOW will sponsor a "Pledge A Picket" fundraising drive in response to recent protests at the Center for Reproductive Health.

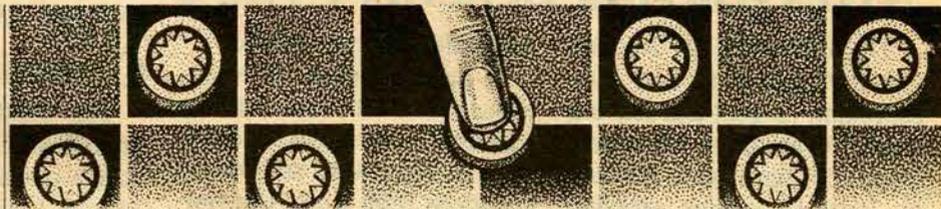
Each Saturday, 30 to 125 picketers have descended on the clinic, harassing patients and requiring loyal pro-choicers to arrive at 6:00 AM to preserve access to the door. Clinic escorts have been necessary until all patients have completed their appointments and have been escorted safely to their cars.

In all, not a pretty picture. However, in the spirit of "When given lemons, make lemonade," Memphis NOW has given these misguided protesters a purpose for having demonstrated.

NOW is asking supporters to pledge a penny, a nickel, maybe even a dime, for each protester that arrives on any given Saturday or group of Saturdays.

The wonderful part of this is that the fanatic anti-choicers that make a mockery of constitutional freedoms will be directly responsible for funding a "justice fund" for the abortions of indigent women—something our government does not provide. A portion of the money raised will also be used in support of other NOW activities aimed at making the world a friendlier place toward women—something the protesters are obviously opposed to and in a few weeks we can thank them for their help in raising money for us.

—The NOW Newsletter



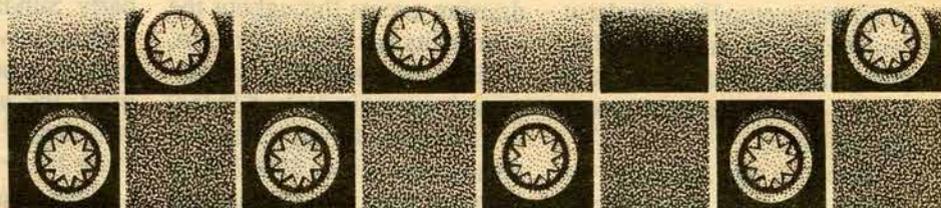
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Don't miss the *Ultimate Bitch*, Mr. Charlie Brown, direct from Atlanta, May 11 & 12.

## MGLCC Update

by Ken Horton

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center is continuing to be a popular meeting place for same-sex oriented groups, and is a great place to come and enjoy an evening meeting new people. The group of volunteers who administer the center is growing, and efforts to obtain "a little from a lot of us" are succeeding.

As president of the Center, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the MysticKrewe of Aphrodite and to Sharon Wray and her staff for the fundraiser which was held at WKRB on February 25, and to the cast of the Lollipop Guild for their donation of one night's proceeds (\$400) of their recent play *Battle Scars*. This wonderful spirit of cooperation will keep the Center functioning. Aphrodite is now the largest single donor to the Center and we hope it is serving their wonderful charitable efforts.

A brief list of the events at the Center can be found in the calendar elsewhere in this newspaper. I will describe them here.

The Memphis Lambda Men's Chorus (generally known as the Gay Men's Chorus) rehearses from 7:30 to 9:00 every Tuesday night. This group is led by Don Griesheimer and is growing by leaps and bounds. They most recently sang at the ATEAC Auction at the Hilton Inn on March 24. Anyone interested can join by coming to the Center on Tuesdays.

The Memphis Gay Coalition sponsors GayRap on the third Monday of every month (except June and December) led by various people or groups with a subject of interest for our community. This starts at 7:00 PM and refreshments are served. There is no limit to the length of these discussions with time after to socialize and get to know each other. This is a great way to meet people and to use your debating and conversational skills.

The largest event of the month is the Third Friday Night Coffee House which gets underway every third Friday at 8:00. If you have not been to one of these coffee nights, the loss is yours. An interesting array of poets, story-tellers, and musicians holds the audience captivated for several hours while delicious hors d'oeuvres are available in the kitchen area. A finer group of talent could not be found in any night spot in Memphis, all for a small donation at the door. The

donation is then given to a worthy non-profit group of the sponsor's choice.

On the last Sunday of February, one of the most needed groups in Memphis met — Gay and Lesbian Parents. This group was an instant success, providing a forum for those of us with children, to exchange ideas and help with all of the problems related to being Gay or Lesbian and having children. For more information on this group, call or come by the Center, or call 725-5230. We hope that this becomes a monthly event.

A new monthly Center-sponsored event is the first Saturday of the month potluck dinner which starts at 7:00. Non-alcoholic beverages are available and our first potluck was a big success with lots of social discourse going on in our relaxed, living room-like setting. The Center also sponsors video nights on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at 8:00, and Western dance lessons on the first and fourth Thursdays of every month from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Everyone is welcome and, like everything at the Center, the functions are free, although some groups may ask for a donation to offset the cost of the event.

The Center will also begin offering meditation-relaxation session beginning on Sunday nights from 7-9 PM.

The Center offers its space for any group which would like to use it provided they agree to abide by the rules and meet first with the board for approval. Board meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 AM.

There are several more happenings which will be taking place at the Center once all of the details are worked out.

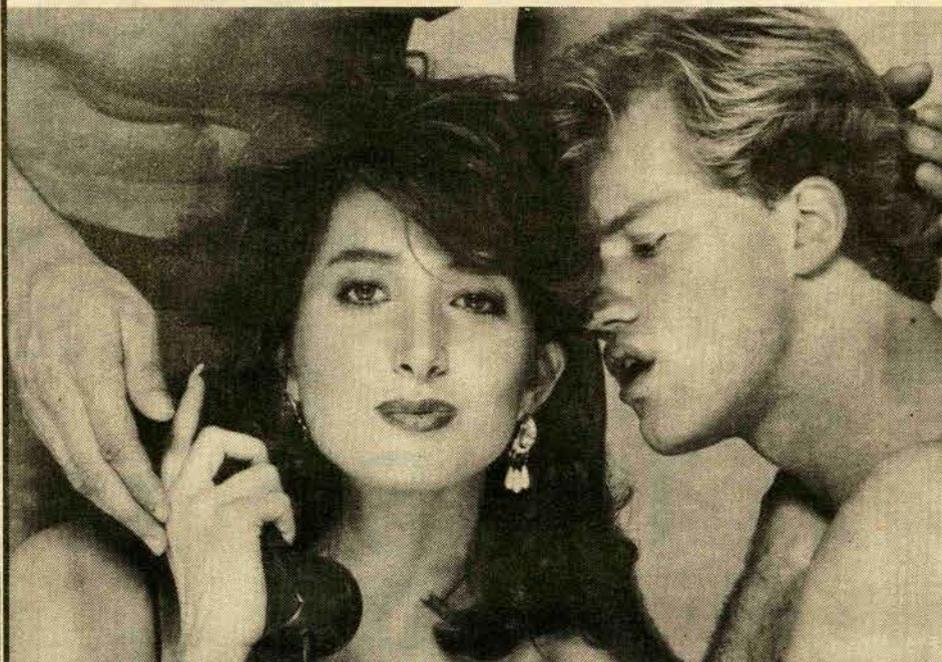
The Center's regular opening hours (subject to volunteer staffing) are 7 PM to midnight on Fridays, 10 AM to midnight on Saturdays, and 2-7 PM on Sundays. Some groups and events are scheduled during these hours, but that is the best time to come by for a visit or look at the bulletin board.

The Center is still short of its 365 days of support which we are asking from the community at \$35.00 per day, our operating cost. We can use more volunteers to staff the Center for two or three hours at a time. Also needed are a television with a large screen, a piano, more books for the library (especially Gay and Lesbian oriented ones), and volunteer librarians to organize the books.

Hope to see you soon.

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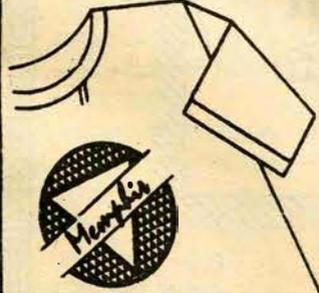
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**NO COVER - BYOB**

**Breakfast Club**  
**3:39 AM Sunday Morning**  
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### Show Your Pride!



The Memphis Gay Coalition is offering these limited edition Gay Pride T-shirts for only \$8 (\$7 for members of MGC). Silk screened in purple with a pink triangle, these 100% cotton T-shirts will make the perfect gift — or buy several for yourself! They can be purchased at any MGC or GayRap meeting or by mail (add \$2.00 to cover postage and handling). Sizes M, L & XL.

**MGC**  
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**Memphis, TN 38173-0038**  
Also Available at the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison Avenue

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Nights*

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Egypt and \$500 Cash. Call (901) 526-1086 for Details.**

## Dept. Store Yields on Lovers' Discount

Washington, DC—Gaysales clerk Duane Rinde never imagined that shopping would become such a civil rights issue.

Last December, Rinde, 24, an employee of Woodward and Lothrop applied for a spouse discount card for his lover, Robert Tier. The card, given to married heterosexual couples, grants spouses discounts on merchandise purchased at the huge department store's outlets in the DC area and elsewhere.

W&L, however, refused his request based on marital status—setting off a confrontation with local Gay activists that has shaken the retail giant and resulted in dramatic changes to the store's employee practices.

Rinde, employed at W&L since last September, filed a union grievance against the store and charges that W&L violated DC and Montgomery County, MD, anti-discrimination laws.

Following negotiations with Gay organizations, Woodward and Lothrop agreed to grant discount cards to the partners of both Gay and non-Gay employees, add "sexual orientation" and "marital status" to its Equal Opportunity policy, and said it would advocate for similar benefits elsewhere in the retail industry.

## Western Union Loses \$350,000 Gay Account

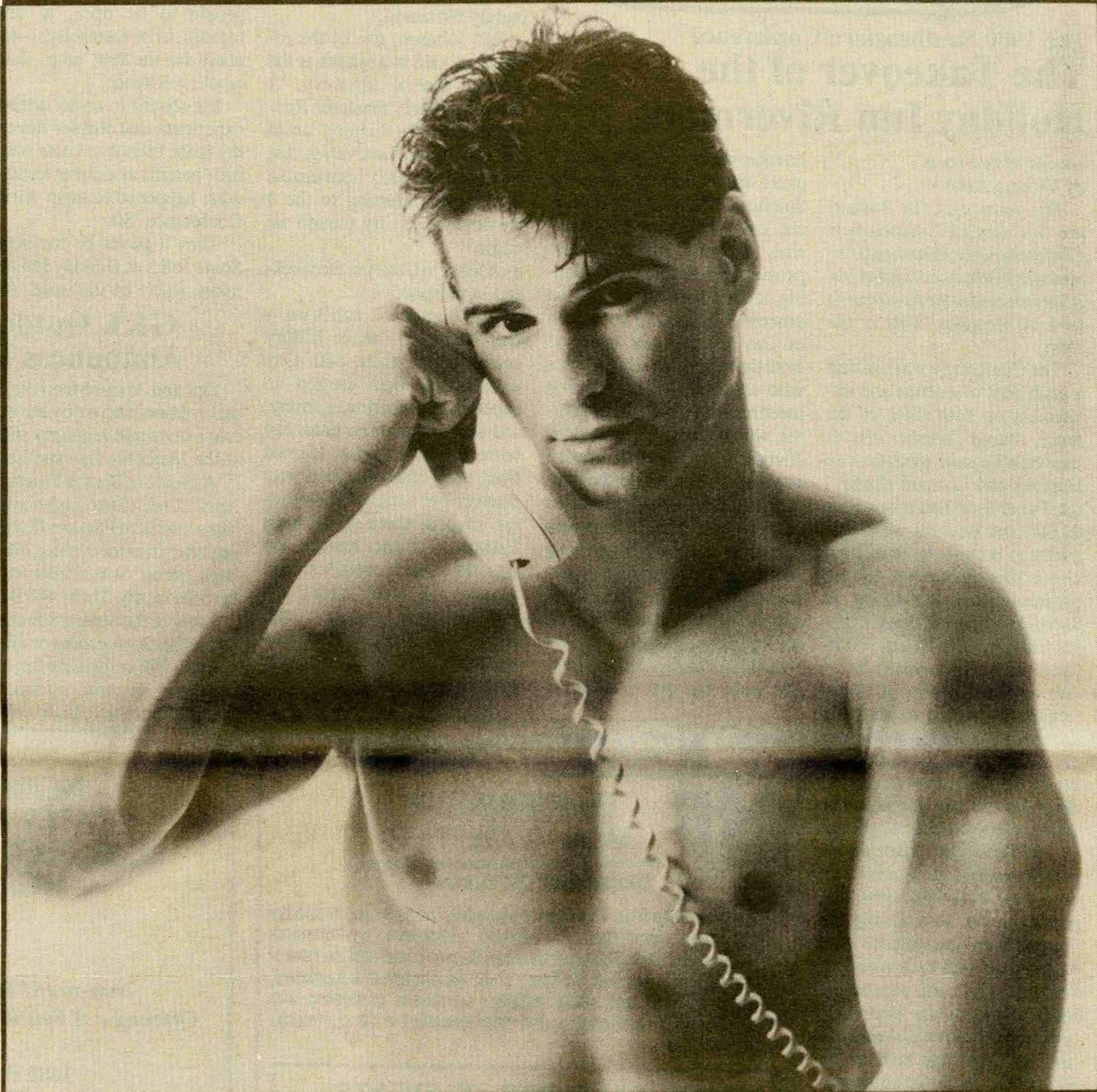
The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest Lesbian and Gay PAC, will no longer use Western Union to deliver "Speak Out" constituent messages to Capitol Hill, a decision that will cost the communications firm \$350,000 this year.

In addition, NRCF will encourage other organizations to reexamine their business relationship with Western Union.

According to Tim McFeeley, executive director of HRCF, stated that the decision "is based on the company's continued efforts to overturn the 12-year-old San Francisco ordinance protecting Lesbians and Gays from discrimination."

Western Union is challenging the constitutionality of the San Francisco ordinance as part of a legal battle which began last year. Armand Ertag, a Western Union employee in San Francisco, sought damages

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against the company for harassment and intimidation he experienced at work. Rather than address the specific allegations in Mr. Ertag's suit, Western Union has sought to have the

Gay rights ordinance overturned.

Steve Endean, director of the Campaign Fund's Field Division, also indicated the group will discontinue its use of West-

ern Union 800 number hotlines. These services allowed Campaign Fund supporters to call in their messages to members of Congress.

"Western Union has proved that it is not the best way to send constituent mail, it is the best way to send bigotry," said Endean.

# Memphis Memoirs

## The 1980 Southeastern Conference The Takeover of the Holiday Inn Rivermont

Second of two parts  
by Vincent Astor

Ten years ago this August, the 5th annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay men was held at the Holiday Inn Rivermont (now the Rivermark) here in Memphis. This is the story.

The Conference was causing a great deal of interest and excitement on both sides of the fence. Marge Thrasher was to interview keynote speakers Lea Hopkins and Leonard Matlovich. Fundraisers had raised over \$3,000 and Baptists were preparing to protest. As time grew closer the elation felt by the organizers was registering as nervousness by the hotel owners. Holiday Inns threatened to cancel the event three days prior due to their reports of bomb threats. They tried to bluff the committee into purchasing exorbitant liability insurance which the committee refused to do citing the fact that no other group had been obliged to do so.

One Reverend Charles Britt had announced the Conference on a local radio talk show, had printed posters announcing the "homosexual convention" and his planned "anti-sodomite convention rally", and alerted the local media to the events. A press conference with two keynote speakers was held in the Rivermont lobby as an exception to the "camera bar" covering the rest of the Conference. In essence, the smearing of the Conference and its participants backfired into some of the most widespread publicity the Gay rights movement had ever had in the area.

It must be said that the staff of the hotel itself, except for a flagrant refusal to post the Conference on the exterior sign, were professional and helpful in every way, including security. One minor incident during the Friday night dance was handled smoothly by Conference marshals and hotel security (two non-Gay men crashed the dance and intimidated several women, they were removed).

The opening day of the Con-

ference saw nearly 800 participants arrive from all over the Southeast. This writer was present, and functioning as a Marshal, directing attendees, dispensing information and making lots of new friends in the process. I began my collection of Gay buttons that weekend from the numerous salespersons who attended. It was my first meeting with the Radical Faeries, who were to become close friends. I still have the gown I wore to the dance, and the marshal's armband which went over it. I was one of those who consented to be photographed by the news cameras during Leonard Matlovich's speech. I watched the Fundamentalists try to disrupt and protest, and saw them leave disappointed. I sat in the lobby bar that evening, in

drag, having cocktails with some friends. Hotel security removed a rather drunken member of a wedding reception who had been playing twenty questions with me. I was the guest in the hotel and security felt I was being unduly harrassed.

Bill Johnson, one of the organizers, said in a speech at the closing general assembly, "I wish to publicly thank the Reverend Britt for helping us to achieve the media coverage that we have previously been unable to achieve (referring to the 4 previous SECs) try though we might."

A letter to *Gaze* put the weekend in perspective:

"On August 1, 2, and 3, we—Gay Memphis—made history again. More than 600 Gay women and men created an experience of sharing, learning, and unifying that few cities can witness. Participants learned from each other, laughed with some of our national Gay leaders, savored some of the most Lesbian of music, danced and saw themselves demonstrated against. All local media, the national wire services, and newspapers from San Francisco to Miami to New York carried what was probably their first

Gay Memphis story.

To say the Conference was "successful" is like calling a tornado swirling toward you "scary."

It's difficult to describe an event that allowed so many people to be open, to drop façades, to be themselves—and many for the first time—for a whole weekend.

It's absurd to try to label an experience that enabled three of my close friends to come out to their parents as a direct result of what happened to them during Conference '80.

They'll never be the same. Some folks at Holiday Inn certainly won't be the same. And

Gay Memphis keeps changing before our eyes."

Ironically, this person could not sign his name. I would dearly love to know who it was.

Personally, I can only equivocate the immense rush I felt throughout that entire weekend to being "born again." It was that weekend that I ceased to care who knew I was Gay. It didn't solve all of my problems, but it did give me a sense of pride which was overwhelming, and a sense of belonging. Everyone should have a chance to get this feeling, it makes the endless struggle worthwhile, it makes you believe that there will be an end.

## G&L Outdoor Organization Announces Upcoming Events

Out and About Memphis, Memphis' new organization for men and women who enjoy the outdoors, announced details of its first two events and regularly scheduled activities at a recent meeting at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

A picnic at Shelby Forest State Park will begin at 1 PM Sunday April 22nd. (Take highway 51 north towards Millington, follow signs, picnic at Pavilion #2, call for specifics.) The park offers many opportunities for cycling, hiking, swimming, relaxation, and horseback riding. Soft drinks will be provided, but please pack your favorite lunch. There will be no charge for any of these activities.

Later in the Spring/Summer, a regular Saturday morning fun run and a Sunday morning or afternoon bicycle ride are planned. Both of these will emphasize fun rather than speed or distance. If you are interested in more information about these events or Out and About Memphis, please call either 276-0275 or 274-1847.



### BWMT *memphis*

## BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER

An Interracial Gay Organization for All People

### Statement of Purpose

Black and White Men Together of Memphis, Inc. is a Gay interracial organization committed to fostering supportive environments wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. To these ends, we engage in educational, political, cultural, and social activities as means of dealing with racism, sexism, homophobia, and other inequities in our community and in our lives.

### APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, April 8** - Board meeting, Ed's  
1:30 pm

**Saturday, April 14** - Memphis in May/BWMT  
Anniversary planning Committee,  
Irwin's 5 PM

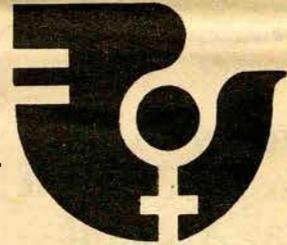
**Monday, April 16** - CR discussion group,  
Irwin's, 7:30 pm

**Monday, April 23** - Monthly Meeting,  
Main Library, 7:30 pm

**Saturday, April 28** - Spring Garden Fling  
Party, Ed's, 8:00 pm

For details and a copy of our newsletter: Call Ed (452-5894), Irwin (726-1461) or write BWMT/Memphis, P.O. Box 41773, Memphis, TN 38174-1773

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## Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center

**1291 Madison Avenue**

**Hours: Friday 7:00 PM to 12:00 AM  
Saturday 10:00 AM to Midnight  
Sunday 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**Some Exceptions - Call 276-4651**

- Video Nights: Second & Fourth Thursdays  
8:00 Gay and Lesbian Subjects. Call 276-4651
- Dance Lessons: First & Third Thursdays 7:30
- Center Potluck - First Saturday 7:00 PM

For Volunteer Staffing Opportunities Call 276-4651

**Monthly Meetings, Third Saturday 11:30 AM  
All Welcome**

# Boycott

Continued from page 1

conduct research, as well as persons who have lived legally in the U.S. as students, laborers, or permanent residents and are now seeking naturalization as citizens.

Individuals coming from outside the U.S. can be denied temporary admission or detained at the border, which has occurred in Minneapolis, MN and other locations.

HIV was added to the list of restricted communicable diseases including tuberculosis, syphilis, and gonorrhea, by an amendment offered by Sen. Jesse Helms to the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1987.

Waivers for some individuals with AIDS or HIV may be granted for limited or restricted entry into the U.S. Following considerable media criticism and pressure from AIDS and other groups, the Immigration and Naturalization Service in January announced it would stop marking passports of those with HIV infection who are granted waivers to enter the country.

"NGLTF condemns any prohibitions on immigration, visitation, and naturalization of HIV-infected persons as well as restrictions on Lesbians and Gay men," said Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF executive director. "AIDS is

not imported into the U.S. There must be no travel restrictions on foreigners with AIDS or HIV or on Gay men and Lesbians."

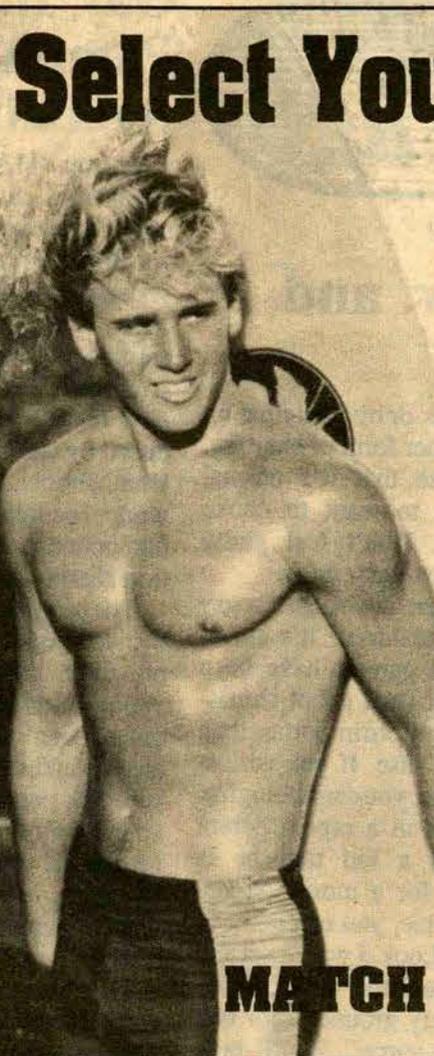
The U.S. has more than 121,000 cases of AIDS, by far the greatest number of reported cases of any country in the world.

Vaid pointed out that the World Health Organization, the Presidential Commission on the HIV epidemic, the National AIDS Commission and other groups have rejected restrictions on HIV positive persons as unnecessary, counter-productive, and a waste of resources.

Organizers of the International Conference of AIDS say the conference stands to lose several thousand participants if the current immigration policies are enforced. President George Bush has declined an invitation to speak at the gathering, which is traditionally opened by the head of the state of the host country.

In addition to fighting discriminatory AIDS policies, NGLTF is involved in lobbying for passage of the legislation that would repeal anti-Gay and Lesbian immigration laws. A bill offered by openly Gay Representative Barney Frank would change existing law that prohibits foreigners from visiting or applying for permanent residence in the U.S. based on their sexual orientation.

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- Social Gatherings • Counseling

A fun place to get to know God and others

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.

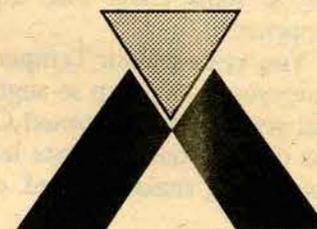
Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Call for more information

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Make A Small Investment In Your Future  
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# The Help Page

## Stress Management — Arguments, Temper, and Special Occasions

by Becky Caperton, M.S.

Last month in my stress management series, we reviewed some ways to handle typical, everyday situations and ways to make quick recoveries from them. This time, we're going to take a look at arguments that occur in a relationship, losing your temper, and dealing with special occasions or holidays and the general let-down that occurs following them.

**Relationship Spats:** If a fight with your significant other ruffles your feathers for a whole day, you may want to learn some strategies for smoothing things out more quickly.

I can really be affected by relationship spats. One thing that helps me is just realizing that it's going to happen every so often. You can't have your happiness totally dependent on whether you and your lover are getting along that day and you can't judge a relationship by it either.

It's important to make plans for solving the problem. It is very disturbing to leave a problem unsettled. Propose a strategy and make a date to discuss it later. That way, it's easier to get on with your day and helps to diffuse your anger. You might want to plan to do something special when you get home to make up. That's a more positive way to think about what has happened.

**You've Lost Your Temper:** Have you ever gotten so angry that you've felt dangerous? Or has one of your outbursts left you feeling shaken, scared, or guilty?

First off, step back. Instead of trying to justify your anger, take steps to reduce it. Don't act on your anger. Instead, sit down, take deep breaths, and try to relax. Most people find that, when involved in an argument, if they can get out of the same room for 15 minutes, they're o.k. They just need that time to pull back and calm themselves.

It's a good idea to discharge the energy physically by taking

a brisk walk or by participating in some other form of exercise. And realize that it's normal sometimes to want to choke somebody. Don't feel guilty about it, just don't do it.

And what if you get angry with your children? It's unfortunate that parents have been fed all that stuff about consistency being more important than everything else. If you've lost your temper, you can apologize. Sometimes in a rage a parent might tell a kid that he is grounded for a month. If it's unreasonable, you can go back and say, "Look, I was upset and angry. I said the wrong thing. You're only grounded for two days. I'm sorry." You'll both feel better.

**Special Occasions and/or Holidays:** We plan so much, expect so much, and sometimes those special occasions don't live up to our fantasies. The result: the Blues.

It's important to realize how understandable it is that you wouldn't feel disappointed. You don't want to cover it up with Pollyanna-ish statements. But it's also important to put it into perspective.

You can do things to be good to yourself to reduce the disappointment. Try doing a couple of little things that are fun. Sometimes people punish themselves after a disappointment and don't do anything.

It's great to get excited. But, with any expectations, you've got to keep in mind that you can't count on things always working out. You don't want to go to the other extreme though, where you never get excited about anything. The healthiest people seem to be able to find some balance of realistic expectations, keeping in mind that things don't always go the way you want.

Next month, for the last of the stress management series, I'm going to talk about how to relax better and offer some simple steps and exercises for relaxation.

## Gay Youth Pamphlets Available

Boston, MA — A unique affirmative, and much-needed series of pamphlets for young people who are questioning their sexual orientation is now available. The two pamphlets entitled, *I Think I Might Be A Lesbian/I think I Might Be Gay... Now What Do I Do?* were produced by the Campaign to End Homophobia, a national network of people who work to end homophobia through information sharing and education.

The pamphlets were designed by two sexuality teachers based on their conversations with young Lesbians and Gay men; quotes from the young people are sprinkled throughout the text. The peer education aspect is certainly one of the leading factors in the success of the project.

The pamphlets are boldly honest.

"... I told (my friends) I was not different now than I was five minutes before I told them, except that now I wasn't keeping a big secret from them." — Terry, age 16

"... When I first met another Gay person, it was incredible, refreshing, reassuring, touching awesome, and wonderful." — James, age 17.

For more information on the Campaign to End Homophobia, or for copies of the pamphlets, contact Cooper Thompson at (617) 868-8280.

## AIDS Drug Trials Need Volunteers

As you may know, the National Institutes for Health has provided national and international leadership in the fight against AIDS. Much of this effort depends on the availability of volunteers for studies. It is important that volunteers be recruited for inpatient and outpatient studies of new drugs and vaccines.

In order to make information about the studies more readily available to health care providers and prospective patients in the community, NIAD/NIH now has an 800 number — 1-800-AIDS-NIH — (1-800 243-7644). A staff member will be available to answer questions for callers Monday through Friday, from noon to 3:00 PM Eastern time. Those calling at any other hour may leave their

names and telephone numbers and the calls will be returned as soon as possible. Callers may be assured of complete confidentiality.

If a patient is accepted for a protocol and enrolls in the study, all subsequent travel expenses are paid by NIH. In addition, all medicine provided at NIH is free..



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## Scars

Continued from page 5

traordinarily butch and evoked a sense of Elliot Gould in his acting style. Doesn't look bad in just a jockstrap either. Author Dennis Smith was excellent as the effeminate Ben who was at times campy, but altogether believable as an indignant rape victim. Matthew Presley provided the meeting ground between the two in that he was neither stereotypically nelly nor overwhelmingly butch.

Our own Lady A, Vincent Astor, did a fine job of directing a difficult piece. While we wish he had tightened the play up a

bit (ran a good half hour longer than what we felt was necessary), there were fine moments here. The rape scene, which could have gotten melodramatic, was gripping as we watched Drey metamorphose from a friendly teddy bear to a snarling grizzly, and Ben change from a teasing coquette to a terrified victim.

Despite its flaws, it's a play worth seeing, if only to satisfy your curiosity about leather and its implications. Congrats to the Lollipop Guild, the cast and crew. We look forward to their next effort.

Marie Antoinette? Whoever mentioned that in reference to moi has a long memory, that was in 1975. But, after all, Memphis in May is looming, ne c'est pas?

**Thesbian Delights Department.**

We won't bore you with an Oscar length speech of thanks, but will own that we were generally pleased with the performance and behaviour of our dear cast and crew of *Battle Scars*. We hope everyone who saw it enjoyed it. We also realize that Gay and Lesbian people in Memphis will support theatrical pursuits of specific interest. That is why the *Lollipop Guild* was formed. We do promise that the next effort we direct will not be a drama. We have indeed come a long way when the local media (i.e. the *Commercial Appeal* and *Memphis Flyer*) will not only note, but take an interest in a local Gay playwright and the first production of his first effort.

**Woman on the Street Department**

Well, this woman has been either busy or tired (watch it, Helen) for the past month or so, if anyone got left out, the phone works both ways, toots.

We are given to understand that there are some early organizational efforts going on to rejuvenate the Gay and Lesbian Student Group at Memphis State. We wish you all our best.

Do y'all realize that Aphrodite is celebrating a major anniversary this year? More soon.

We also are elated that they have changed the sign at OOPS to read the name of the bar instead of a defunct restaurant, it makes giving Switchboard directions so much easier.

WKRK will be host to a Gay Pride Week benefit on April 8, Connie, Lisa and Kim from Little Rock on the 15th and Billie Jo Casino in a one-woman show on the 29th. This was not listed as the awards show that we are never to miss again, so if it is, don't blame us for not being a mindreader. Expect the unusual especially from the *Parade of Stars Gay Pride Benefit*, produced by B. J. Hefner.

Tommy Stewart is cruel, as well as being a tease (well, we all knew that). He knows that we do not like vague (don't tell yet, Miss) rumours. Just when will we know about the square footage, dearie?

If you want to be in on a first, check out the Mr. Leather

Tennessee contest this week-end. It will take place at the Studio on Beale and Fourth. This may be a chance to give the usual het party goers on Beale a glimpse of just how many of us there are, that is, if you're man or woman enough. Of course, we'll attend. There are men present aren't there? And enough Leather titleholders to even choke.....

As well as being in the thick of the Mr. Leather Tennessee contest, the Pipeline will be waxing festive on Easter week-end. Bunny Tail Night? Cotton tail or melon tail or sad tale or fairy tale? The mind cannot count the possibilities. Also, the pool team has done it again. Taste prevents us from using the exact wording that was given to us after the recent victory over WKRK, we find gloating to be just a bit over the line.

We also understand that the

Wagettes will stage another benefit at J-Wag's on Saturday, April 14.

Oh yes, it was again fun to be a small part of the ATEAC Auction and to assist in the raising of over \$21,000 for PWA services.

We also understand that a local chapter of the Names Project is being organized. Best of luck and we hope to see the Quilt here in the fall.

Reflections is touting the ultimate bitch, Mr. Charlie Brown from Atlanta, for a May engagement. J-Wag's is opening a 24 hour dance floor. Dancing at J-Wag's may be new but a bitch at Reflections is not (no, not you, Summer).

Sigh. Some faggot is calling the fire department on Gay bars again. We thought that went out when the Front Page closed and George's moved to Marshall St. However, it would be well ad-



vised for avarice not to get in the way of safety in crowded rooms. Let's all be careful, we don't want any Coconut Groves in Shelby County.

Gay Pride Week is also promising to be very busy this year, with the 10th annual Gay River Ride and a whole week's worth of events being planned by a new Gay Pride Week Committee. GayFest IV will return to Mud Island the day after the boat, with food, volleyball, and live entertainment.

A Positive Atmosphere will hold another function this month. See the calendar for times.

The next GayRap will be a discussion and training session for the Memphis Gay Switchboard, the oldest Gay service in Memphis. By the way, have you caught their classified in the *Memphis Flyer*?

Gotta paint for the Leather do.  
Ta, ta,  
Lady A.

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# Cinema

## Common Threads Wins Best Documentary Oscar

San Francisco— *Common Threads: Stories From the Quilt*, the critically acclaimed film about the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, has won the Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary.

"We are very pleased that *Common Threads* has received the Oscar and very grateful to Rob Epstein, Jeffrey Friedman, and Bill Couturie for their vision and artistry. They have created a compelling film to help recount the Quilt's message of support and compassion for people with AIDS," said David Lemos, newly appointed

executive director of the NAMES Project. "We also owe a great deal of thanks to the Home Box Office network. HBO made it possible for *Common Threads* to be created and distributed as a fund raiser for us; all profits benefit the NAMES Project. So not only does the film introduce the Quilt to an audience of millions, but it also raises money for the Project to continue its work, educating, comforting, and opening people's hearts and minds to the reality of the AIDS epidemic."

*Common Threads* is a portrait of the first decade of the

AIDS epidemic in America. Through the Quilt, the film introduces five individuals who have died of AIDS; from an 11-year-old-suburban boy to a Gay Olympic athlete to an inner-city IV-drug user. Their lives before and after AIDS are recreated using home movies, photos, and the recollections of friends, lovers, and families. The film is narrated by Dustin Hoffman, and Bobby McFerrin composed and performs the original score.

*Common Threads* originally aired on HBO in October 1989 and was recently awarded the George Foster Peabody Award, the prestigious broadcast-industry award. The film will soon be available on videotape and is available from the NAMES Project.

The film was directed by Academy Award winner Rob Epstein (*The Times of Harvey Milk*) and Jeffrey Friedman (*Faces of the Enemy*), and produced by Epstein, Friedman, and Bill Couturie (*Dear America*

*Letter Home From Vietnam*).

The NAMES Project Foundation, sponsor of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, was established in June of 1987 as a response by Lesbians and Gay men and their friends, to the devastation of

their community by AIDS.

Local efforts to launch a Memphis NAMES Project chapter began this month. Efforts are being made to bring a portion of the Quilt to Memphis this fall.

## Gay Switchboard 324-GAYS

7:30 - 11 Nightly

Information

Referrals

Counseling

Volunteers are needed to staff the Gay Switchboard. Switchboard training is scheduled for Monday, April 16 at 7:00 at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center. If you can spare one evening a month in the comfort of your own home - we can use your help. Call us at 454-1411 for more information.

(This is not a dating service or a phone sex line.)



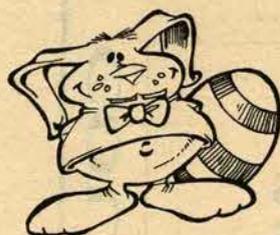
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# Classifieds

**RATES FOR CLASSIFIEDS:** Personal, non-commercial ads FREE. Limit of 30 words (including address or phone number) and a \$2.00 charge for the use of our P.O. Box. Please specify if you want to use our P.O. Box. Commercial ads are charged at the rate of 20¢ per word, \$3.00 minimum. Phone numbers and zip codes are free. \$2.00 additional charge for the use of our P.O. Box. Deadline for ads is the 15th of each month. Send to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

**Beware of Inmate Scams** - It is unfortunate, but some prisoners will take advantage of Gay pen pals. Gaze does not make a judgement regarding inmate ads, but feels compelled to warn its readers of potential problems. Proceed with caution.

**GAY WRESTLING CONTACTS.** Fun/hot action! Nationwide adlistings. Infopixpak \$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

**HAIRY MEN/ADMIRERS.** Bears/Trappers! Nationwide uncensored adlistings. Infopixpak \$3.00: MAN-HAIR, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

GBM, mature & educated, want to meet GWMs for friendship and companionship— possible lover if we are compatible. I am honest, sincere, trustworthy, and very serious about this ad. I have a wide variety of interests and enjoy quiet evenings at home. Write: Occupant, P.O. Box 22871, Memphis, TN 38122.

GWM, 25, br/bl, 6', 180#, straight-acting, sensitive profes-

sional, finally coming out, seeks GWM, 22-28 who will be patient with a "newcomer", for friendship/relationship. Not into Gay bars, but tired of isolation. Discreet, sincere, caring, and desire same. Reply to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 613291, Memphis, TN 38101-3291. Take a chance. I did.

Attractive GWM, 34, 5'11", 180#, brn/brn, hunky, hairy, very straight-appearing country boy. Like C&W, outdoors, homelife, and other varied interests. Seeks GWM, 26-38. No fats, no fems, no drugs. Lasting opportunities for the right man. Contact Travis (601) 895-4197.

WM, 52, early retired, looking for friend, 21-35 for weekday activities. Love having lunch, shopping, walking, and spending quality time. Tell me about your likes. Don, c/o P.O. Box 2301, Memphis, TN 38175.

GWM, 5'9", 158#, br/bl, early 40's, sincere, caring, dependable. Seeks GWM, 21-39, for movies, travel, dinners, good

conversation, good times, friendship/1:1 relationship. Reply to: Box 38185, Memphis, TN 38183.

Attractive GWM, mid-20's, seeks 2 attractive, in shape, endowed tops for hot 3-way action. Let me service both of you. Send explicit replies to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 12223, Memphis, TN 38182-9997. Photos a plus.

Young hunk, 19-32 yrs wanted in Jonesboro area. Safe sex and fun. Will pay to play. No fems. Clean cut college type. Burl Thurman, 1708 Henry Street, Jonesboro, AR 72401.

Bisexual MWM, 50 (looks 35), seeking bisexual or Gay males, white or black, 18-23, and TV's/TS's or She-males. Object - **To Boldly Go Where I Have Never Been Before.** Reply to Boxholder, Box 281101, Memphis, TN 38168.

**Oil Portraits by local artist from photo or sitting. Call 452-9818 for details.**

Dear Gary C.— You never cease to amaze me. Glad you are happy and healthy and we have shown our true colors. Be careful — I love you. — Your uncle Jimmy.

GWM, 48, 5'6", 145#, recently come out. Dislike the bar scene. Neat, discreet, home-oriented, sincere, professional enjoys music, movies, walking, and simple life style. Seeks someone who finds these qualities desirable. Call: David, (901) 452-0596 after 6 PM.

GBM seeks living arrangement (in Memphis) from 5/14/90 - 1/14/91. Non-smoker, no drugs, student intern, 22 in a relationship presently. Write: 2599 Kantz Dr. J-11, Fayetteville, AR 72703, or call (501) 444-8032.

**Gay XXX Phone Fantasies!** Over 200 choices, Gay male or Lesbian, all scenes. 5 full-play stories only \$9.95. Use Visa/MasterCard/AmEx. Call (303) 595-0051.

## April 1990 Gay Community Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					• April Gaze Due out • Bowling League, 9:15 <b>6</b>	• MGLCC Pot Luck, 7 PM <b>7</b>
• BWMT Board Meeting, 1:30 PM <b>8</b> • Aphrodite Benefit for Gay Pride Committee, WKRB, 8PM	<b>9</b>	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC <b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	• Video Night, MGLCC, 8 PM <b>12</b>	• Bowling League, 9:15 <b>13</b>	• Memphis In May /BWMT Anniversary Planning Committee, 5 PM • Wagettes Benefit, J-Wags <b>14</b>
• Connie, Lisa & Kim, WKRB <b>15</b>	• GayRap/Switchboard Meeting, MGLCC, 7 PM • BWMT CR, 7:30 PM <b>16</b>	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC <b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	• Western Dance Lessons, MGLCC, 7:30-9 PM <b>19</b>	• Gaze Advertising & Copy Deadline for May • Coffee House, MGLCC, 8 PM • Bowling League, 9:15 <b>20</b>	• MGLCC monthly Meeting, 11:30 AM • A Positive Atmosphere, MGLCC, 7-12 <b>21</b>
• Out & About Memphis Picnic, Shelby Forest, 1 pm • Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9pm <b>22</b>	• BWMT Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Main Library <b>23</b>	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC <b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	• Video Night, MGLCC, 8 PM <b>26</b>	• Bowling League, 9:15 <b>27</b>	• BWMT Spring Garden Fling Party, 8 PM <b>28</b>
• Gay & Lesbian Parents, MGLCC, 2:30-5pm • Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9pm <b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC <b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	• Western Dance Lessons, MGLCC, 7:30-9 PM <b>3</b>	• May Gaze Due Out • Bowling League, 9:15 <b>4</b>	• MGLCC Pot Luck, 7 PM <b>5</b>

Black male, 28 years of age looking for a Black or white roommate who is clean, doesn't take drugs or drink heavily. The person needs to have his own apartment or house and own a car. He should stay no more than 1 to 8 miles from Rice College. I'm clean, healthy, and looking for a friend to stay with while in college. If interested, send your address along with directions and telephone number. Send a list of things you like to do along with fully dressed photo of yourself. This will help me in my choice. Thanks. Send

to: Louis. P.O. Box 356, Covington, TN 38019.

Black male, 28, healthy, future college student looking for a Black or white employer to work for. If you have anything around your home or business that needs to be done, please contact me at: P.O. Box 356, Covington, TN 38019. If you can use me, please write me. I'm Louis. Please send telephone number. I aim to please.

Spanish civil servant, passive & Maso, 42/1m77/68 KG; seeks

correspondence and diverse exchanges with men aged 25-50. My hobbies and interests: friendship, nature, art, music, piano, violin, poliphony, concerts, theater, opera, painting, literature, photography, travel, sports, S&M, black leather, boots, jeans, uniforms, collecting stamps, coins, postcards and all type of photos of friends. I speak only Spanish but intend to study English this autumn. Phone: 34-85-870711, 9 PM at 11 pm time of Spain. Write to Mr. Melquiades Alvarez Hevia, Apartado De Correos 37, E-33430 Candas, Asturias, Spain.

# Classifieds

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# Information & Services

The Information and Services directory is printed as a public service and its listings are free. Agencies and businesses listed herein have requested to be listed but have not been charged.

## RESTAURANTS & BARS

- Apartment:** 343 Madison - 525-9491.  
**Barbara's:** 1474 Madison - 278-4313.  
**Chaps:** 111 N. Claybrook - 722-8963.  
**George's (GDI on the River):** 287 S. Front Street - 526-1038.  
**J-Wags:** 1268 Madison - 725-1909  
**Oops:** 1349 Autumn - 272-1634  
**Pipeline:** 1382 Poplar - 726-5263.  
**Reflections:** 92 North Avalon - 272-1525.  
**WKRB in Memphis:** 1528 Madison - 278-9321.

## ORGANIZATIONS

- Aid to End AIDS Committee (ATEAC):** AIDS Service Organization - Box 40389, Memphis 38174-0389 - 458-AIDS, or 272-0855.  
**Agape New Life Church:** Worship Sundays at 11:00 AM and Wednesdays at 7:30 PM - 327-4145.  
**American Gay Atheists (AGA) Memphis:** Box 41371, Memphis 38174-1371.  
**Black & White Men Together (BWMT):** Box 41773, Memphis 38174 - 452-5894, or 726-1461.  
**Brothers & Sisters Bowling**

- League:** 1161 Poplar Ave #15, Memphis 38105.  
**Colors:** Box 1921, Memphis 38101.  
**Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition, Inc. of Memphis:** Box 40982, Memphis 38174-0982.  
**Gay Women's Social Group:** Lee, 327-6165.  
**Into The Light (Women's AA):** Meets Sundays at noon, Thursdays at 8 PM at Memphis Lambda Center.  
**Kinship:** Seventh Day Adventist Gay religious group - Box 171135, Memphis 38187-1135 - 754-6160.  
**Memphis Center for Reproductive Health:** 1462 Poplar Ave, Memphis 38104 - 274-3550.  
**Memphis Gay Coalition (MGC):** Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038 - 324-GAYS.  
**Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC):** 1291 Madison, Memphis 38104, Mailing address: Box 40231, Memphis 38174-0231 - 276-4651.  
**Memphis Lambda Center:** Meeting place for 12-step recovery programs - 241 N. Cleveland (above United Paint Store), Memphis - 276-7379.  
**Minority Prison Project (MPP):** For information: John Prowett, c/o MGLCC - 276-4651 (leave a message).  
**Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite:** Box 41822, Memphis 38174-1822.  
**National Organization for Women (NOW):** Box 40982, Memphis 38104 - 452-6983.

- Outand About Memphis:** Tom - 274-1847, Dale - 276-0275.  
**Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (P-FLAG):** Box 172031, Memphis 38187-2031 - 761-1444.  
**Phoenix (Gay AA):** 272-9549, 276-7379, or 454-1414.  
**Positive Mental Attitude Association, Inc:** 28 N. Claybrook, Suite 1, Memphis 38104 - 276-PMAA.  
**Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Gay Alliance (T-GALA):** Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202.  
**Transsexuals in Prison (TIP):** For information: John Prowett, c/o MGLCC - 276-4651 (leave a message).  
**Tsarus:** Leather-Levi club - Box 41082, Memphis 38174-1082.  
**Wings:** Leather-Levi club - Box 41784, Memphis 38174-1784.  
**Women of Leather:** 181 N. Willett, Memphis 38104 - 278-9321

## HELPLINES

- AIDSSwitchboard:** 458-AIDS - 3:30-11pm.  
**Gay Switchboard:** 324-GAYS - 7:30-11pm.  
**LINC:** 725-8895.  
**Narcotics Anonymous:** 276-LIVE.  
**Rape Crisis:** 528-2161.  
**Suicide & Crisis Intervention:** 274-7477.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Counseling**  
**Becky Caperton, MS:** Counseling - 327-9758.  
**Beth Causey, M.Div.:** Pastoral

- counseling - 454-0108.  
**Kim A. Moss MS:** Midtown Counseling Service, 1835 Union, Suite 101, Memphis 38104 - (901) 726-4586.  
**Carole Taylor, MS:** Counseling - 458-7098.  
**Northeast Mental Health Center:** 382-3880.

## Legal

- Wayne C. Gulledge, Attorney**  
At Law: 208 S. Heard Street, Senatobia, MS 38668 - (601) 562-8738.  
**Susan Mackenzie, Attorney At Law:** 100 N. Main, Suite 3310, Memphis 38103 - (901) 525-0417.  
**Massage**  
**"Just the Right Touch":** Non-sexual Swedish/sports massage - 377-7701.  
**"A Touch Of Relaxation":** Therapeutic massage by appointment, Ms. Bernie Gwyn - 522-1482 or 522-7054.

## Carpet Care

- Lee's Carpet Care:** Commercial - Residential, 24-hr. service, free estimates - 327-6165.  
**Audio/Video**  
**Correct Cable Connection:** Audio/video connections and wiring, 375-1570.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Airport Bookmart:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. - 345-0657.  
**Cherokee Adult Book Store:** 2947 Lamar - 744-7494.  
**Fantasy World:** 1814 Winchester - 346-2086.  
**Economy Interiors:** Antiques - 1466 Madison - 725-9222.  
**Getwell Book Mart:** 1275

Getwell - 454-7765.

**Getwell Adult Book Store:** 1617 Getwell - 745-9054.  
**Paris Adult Entertainment Center:** 2432 Summer - 323-2665.

GAZE IS ALSO DISTRIBUTED AT THESE BUSINESSES

- Davis-Kidd Booksellers Inc. -** 397 Perkins Rd. Ext. - 683-9801.  
**Men of Leather:** Leather shop - 111 N. Claybrook - 722-8963.  
**P & H Cafe -** 1532 Madison Ave. - 274-9794.  
**Star Search Video:** 1264 Madison - 272-STAR.  
**Tobacco Corner Newsroom:** 669 Mendenhall Rd S. - 682-3326 & 1803 Union - 726-1622.

## MEDIA

- AIDS Update:** Newspaper published by the Aid to End AIDS Committee - 458-AIDS.  
**Gay Alternative:** Radio program, Mon. 6:00-7:00 PM, WEVL FM 90 - Box 41773, Memphis 38174.  
**Gaze:** Monthly newspaper published by the Memphis Gay Coalition - Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038 - 454-1411.  
**The Personals:** Gay computer bulletin board - 300 or 1200 baud - 274-6713. (You must have a computer and modem to access this service.)  
**Two's Company:** Gay computer bulletin board and computer support. "Handles" accepted. 1200/2400 baud. 726-4073.