

Demonstrators Protest in Front of Kentucky State Offices

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The firing of a lesbian social worker by a private children's home agency prompted an hourlong demonstration outside state offices by protesters.

The demonstrators, who rallied Nov. 24 outside a building housing Kentucky child-service agencies, said the state should withdraw the \$10.4 million it provides the private Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children runs eight homes across Kentucky for emotionally disturbed children.

Alicia Pedreira told the crowd that her dismissal may have been legal but that it wasn't fair.

Pedreira, a supervisor at a Baptist children's home in the Louisville suburb of Middletown, was fired in October after agency employees saw a picture of her and her partner, Nance Goodman, at this year's Kentucky State Fair. Pedreira said the picture was taken a year earlier by an amateur photographer and was entered in a contest at the fair without her knowledge.

Pedreira was terminated on the grounds that her "admitted homosexual lifestyle is contrary to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children core values."

Brenda Gray, a spokeswoman for the Baptist Homes, said that it had every legal right to fire Pedreira because her homosexuality didn't reflect the values of the KBHC, which is part of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Gray said the KBHC complies with state laws.

Five KBHC employees resigned to protest her dismissal last month.

Spalding University and the University of Louisville's Kent School of Social Work have decided to withdraw their students from KBHC programs. The schools say discrimination based on sexual orientation doesn't conform with the ethics and ideals of social work.

The Cabinet for Families and Children, one of the state agencies that contracts with the KBHC, has said it cannot withdraw money from a child-care agency that discriminates based on sexual orientation because that is not covered by federal, state or local laws.



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Gay Advocates Ecstatic After Anti-Sodomy Law Struck Down

By James Pilcher
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The state Supreme Court's decision to overturn an anti-sodomy law has Georgia Gay activists thinking the state — once known as one of the nation's most anti-homosexual — is quickly changing.

"I think that Georgia is preparing itself to move into the 21st century as a just state," said Lynn Cothren, an Atlanta Gay activist, in reaction to Monday's ruling. "We are moving forward. This is an issue we had been working on for a long time. There is still a lot of work to be done; it's a slow process."

The state Supreme Court voted 6-1 to overturn the sodomy conviction of Anthony Powell. The former Norcross resident was found guilty of sodomizing his 17-year-old niece in 1996. He had been charged with rape, but his lawyers argued that the sex was consensual and the jury acquitted on that charge.

The court's majority opinion, by Chief Justice Robert Benham, said the law violates the state constitution's provision that citizens are entitled to privacy.

"We cannot think of any other activity that reasonable persons would rank as more private and more deserving of protection from governmental interference than consensual, private, adult sexual activity," he wrote.

The state's 165-year-old law

banning oral and anal sex was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986 in the landmark *Hardwick v. Bowers* case. Voting 5-4, the court ruled that the U.S. Constitution provided no protection for private homosexual conduct in a case that infuriated Gay activists nationwide.

Georgia State University law professor Victor Flatt said the federal court basically reversed itself when last year it struck down a Colorado state constitutional amendment prohibiting laws barring discrimination against homosexuals.

"And since the Supreme Court undercut itself, the state followed suit," Flatt said. "And I think that politically this was the right time too. These are elected officials. That's not to say they had their eyes on the ballot box, but they felt it was an appropriate time to do this now."

The state court heard another challenge to the law in 1996, but that case turned on the solicitation of sodomy.

Three other states — Kentucky, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania — have recently overturned such laws. There is a suit underway in Texas challenging a state law banning homosexual acts in a case where police stormed into a private residence. A similar Louisiana law is also being challenged.

Eighteen states still have laws against sodomy. Those challenging such laws now have "fuel and ammunition to fight the battle," said

Powell's attorney Steven H. Sadow.

The ruling cannot be appealed, because the Georgia Supreme Court is the ultimate authority on the state's constitution. Legislators would have to amend the constitution to pass a similar law.

Governor-elect Roy Barnes had no comment, while fellow Democrat and Lt. Gov.-elect Mark Taylor said the old law was useful in prosecuting sex cases in which more serious charges, such as rape, were hard to prove.

"I think there needs to be a law of some sort on the books," said Taylor, who will preside over the Senate when the Legislature convenes in January. "I think, Republican or Democrat, it's an issue the Legislature would rather not deal with. But we don't have that option."

Charles Shanor, an Emory law professor, said the sodomy law gave juries an out when they did not want to convict for either rape or aggravated sodomy.

"With this law, they could penalize what they saw as wrong conduct — such as a married man having relations with his 17-year-old niece and not send him away for life," Shanor said.

The states that ban sodomy are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

See related stories on page 5

Former Memphis Man To Start Gay, Lesbian Internet Bank

By Bill Kaczor
Associated Press Writer

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — When banks refused to finance a Gay and Lesbian resort, Steven Dunlap scrapped that idea and decided to start a financial institution that would welcome homosexuals instead of spurn them.

The result is G&L Bank — the initials stand for Gay and Lesbian

— expected to open here in the spring pending final approval from federal regulators, said Dunlap, the bank's chairman and former Memphis, Tenn., resident.

Dunlap may be best remembered locally for having renovated the dilapidated landmark Ashlar Hall and opening it as The Castle in the late 80s.

Not only would it be the nation's only bank catering specifically to

homosexuals, it would be one of the first operating primarily via the Internet.

"The whole deal is to take banking away from you having to go to the bank, and let us bring the bank to you," Dunlap said. He envisions Gays and Lesbians as an entry market, but not the bank's sole customer base.

"Just like Federal Express is doing to overnight delivery, I ex-

pect to be the No. 1 brand name in the Internet banking arena," Dunlap said. "You're going to sort of forget, potentially, what this G&L stands for."

Bold talk, but Dunlap, 42, has some unique business credentials to back it up.

He went from selling watermelons outside his father's appliance store in Jonesboro, Ark., at age 8

See Internet Bank on page 5

Clinton Raised \$350,000 At Gay Fund-raiser

WASHINGTON (AP) — The mid-term elections may be over, but President Clinton returned to the fund-raising trail Dec. 1 with a pair of events that drew small audiences but brought \$1.1 million to the Democratic National Committee.

The president addressed 35 Gay and Lesbian supporters at a \$10,000-a-plate dinner at the Mayflower Hotel that raised \$350,000. He then went to another room at the hotel to speak to a separate group of 35 who paid up to \$25,000 per couple to attend. That event raised \$750,000.

Clinton spoke of "the real mandate" of the Nov. 3 elections, and resumed his pre-election criticisms that Republican leaders in Congress are too obsessed with politics to respond to the concerns of the American people.

"The real mandate of this election was for the American people to pull together and go forward," Clinton said. "In the end, the American people are almost always called upon to make the same decisions. Are you for progress or partisanship, are you for people or politics, are you for unity or division? ... I look very much forward to two more years of significant progress."

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The American President: Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Throw Him Out

by Ira King
TJN Staff Writer

Impeachment looms large on the millennial horizon for President William Jefferson Clinton. Sex, lies and audio tapes have helped Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr fulfill his dream of dethroning one of the most popular presidents in American history. This is certainly true in America's Gay community.

I am convinced that this impeachment mania is not stirred so much by lawmakers practicing righteous indignation over who the president sleeps with, as it is about Republicans' continuing angst over losing the White House in 1992 and having failed yet to regain it.

Whatever the outcome of this saga, the Gay community owes Mr. Clinton a tremendous debt of gratitude. Never in our history has one president gone out on a limb to ensure that Gay Americans achieve the same civil rights as heterosexual Americans. President Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy set a new standard for the U.S. Armed Forces. Gay men and women are now free to practice their sexuality as long as they are confidential about it while in the military.

The fact that the president even dared suggest such a policy was more than most Gay activists and organizations had hoped for. When the suggestion became law, the

Gay community was elated, the fundamentalist right was deflated. The Bible thumpers haven't recovered since.

When the scandal involving Monica Lewinski broke, nobody really care, save the Republican party. The president obviously has a libido that is unquenchable. This is apparently no news to his wife. The president and his wife have obviously come to terms regarding his sexual proclivities. Why can't the American Congress?

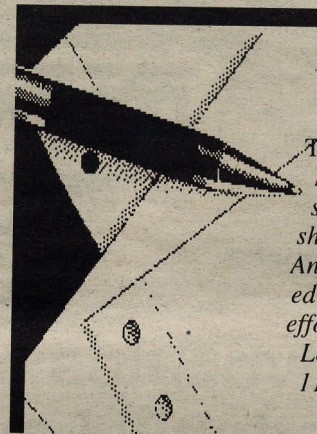
The Congress in general and the Republican party in particular, are seemingly made up of self-righteous, sanctimonious men and women who are willing to overlook their own sins in order to exploit the sins of another. It is a fact that if the American people were to impeach every politician who ever had an affair and lied about it, the nation's government would have to shut down.

Personally, I don't think Mr. Clinton should or will be impeached, not if the Congress acts responsibly and listens to the American people. Public opinion is very much against such an action. It seems that Americans recognize that their president is the embodiment of his constituents. He's one of us. While he has "sinned," he has not failed to do the job we hired him to do.

Apparently Congress has decided that the American people are too stupid to determine if the president is contrite enough for what he did. How many mea cuplas does the have

Opinions expressed in editorials, commentaries and letters are those of the authors.

to say? How many "I'm sorry"s does he have to recite? It appears the number is quite high and he is not even close to reaching it.



LETTERS

The Triangle Journal News welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be as short as reasonable and typed if possible. Although names may be withheld on request, all letters should be signed and include a phone number for verification. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All letters are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation and grammar. However every effort will be made to maintain the original intent of the writer. Letters should be mailed to: Triangle Journal News, P.O. Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111-0485 or faxed to (901) 454-1411. Our e-mail address is MemphisTJN@aol.com.

Member Thanks Bowling League

I am taking this time to say "THANK YOU" to the Brothers & Sisters Bowling League for their prayers, the kind thoughts and the generosity extended to me during my recent hospitalization.

Your friendship demonstrated to me that the league is not one dimensional. It really is a small community comprised of caring and giving human beings. You have proven that friends always come through in times of need. I remain sincerely grateful.

Patrick Hoing
Memphis

More Thanks

It is said that when God closes a door, many windows open. I never knew this to be true until I was diagnosed with having AIDS and I began my new life's journey here at Friends For Life. It never ceases to amaze me how thoughtful, kind and generous people can be toward others. Friends For Life has been the recipient throughout the year of such kindred kindness and genuine acts of generosity and thoughtfulness. We, in turn, have done our best to help those living with HIV or AIDS to live a better life, one filled with hope and dignity. And when we do this, and if we are able to do this well, we are touching the lives of their life partners and spouses, their children, their mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunts and uncles, their friends and countless others. So you see,

when you help us, you see who is also benefiting...the family of humanity.

I was asked to make a list of names this agency would like to thank for their caring and support during the past year, and I realized it could not be done. No matter how long the list, it would forever be incomplete, for it could not just be measured by donations. Its measurement would have to include acts of the heart, and the capacity that one has in their heart for others is vast, possibly infinite.

As an employee of Friends For Life, I can thank people who have money for giving so generously; people with tight budgets for sharing so unselfishly; people with precious extra time for volunteering so cheerfully; people who are spiritual for praying so fervently; and people who have lost a loved one for living on so bravely.

As a PWA, I thank you for keeping us in your conscience and in your hearts, for I know you are in mine. And I think I can speak for all of PWAs and the agencies when I say that Friends For Life, Aloysius Home, Loving Arms and Hope House could not continue their important missions without the love, understanding and compassion of the Gays and Lesbians in this city. Every day, intentionally or not, you help to make Memphis a kinder and gentler, yet wiser, place to call home.

Forever grateful,
Butch Valentine, PWA
and Friends For Life
Fund-raising Coordinator



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Ex-Zimbabwe President Flees Country, Found Guilty on Gay Sex Charge

By Angus Shaw
Associated Press Writer

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — The former president of Zimbabwe, was convicted on 11 counts of sodomy and homosexual assault, and prosecutors confirmed he has fled the country.

Canaan Banana, 62, a Methodist minister, went to neighboring Botswana on Nov. 17, said Chief Prosecutor Augustine Chikumira. He said the government will seek the former leader's extradition.

Banana was convicted of using his power as president to force bodyguards, a cook and a gardener to perform homosexual acts. The offenses allegedly occurred from 1980 to 1987, when he served in the largely ceremonial role of president.

Judge Godfrey Chidyausiku issued an arrest warrant for Banana and ordered his bail revoked.

The former president had been freed on \$600 bail, and had surrendered his passport and the deed to his mansion in an exclusive suburb of the capital, Harare.

In his defense during a three-week trial in June, Banana said the charges were an attempt to destroy his character and standing amid rumors he was planning a political comeback.

He faces a possible maximum jail term of 22 years at his Dec. 10 sentencing.

Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has launched a campaign against homosexuality, saying the concept was brought to the continent by the West. He has described same-sex partners as "lower than pigs and dogs."

In Botswana, the Foreign Ministry confirmed Banana was in the country but said officials had received no request for asylum.

The state-controlled *Herald*

newspaper of Harare reported Nov. 26 that Banana may have taken refuge with the Anglican church in Botswana.

Botswana's deputy police commissioner, Edwin Batshu, said authorities would begin extradition proceedings once Banana is found. The politician could face charges in Botswana for entering the country without a passport.

Banana fled to Botswana in 1972 when he was a political activist fighting the white-led government in Rhodesia, as Zimbabwe was known before independence. In exile, he became chaplain at the American University in Washington, D.C.

Banana was brought to trial after a police inspector who had worked as his bodyguard killed a colleague who had taunted him for his alleged relationship with the former president.

Jefta Dube, serving a 10-year prison term for that killing, testified that he was forced into a sexual relationship with Banana from 1984 to 1986.

Former Rep. Huffington Announces He Is Gay

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Huffington, a former Republican congressman from California who spent \$28 million in a failed bid for the Senate in 1994, discloses in the January issue of *Esquire* magazine that he is gay.

The oil and banking heir made the disclosure during interviews with the article's author, David Brock.

"I know now that my sexuality is part of who I am," Huffington said. "I've been through a long pro-

cess of finding out the truth about me."

Huffington, 51, unseated a veteran Republican congressman from California in 1992. Two years later, he lost a race for the seat held by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif.

Huffington's former wife, Arianna, issued a statement saying, "I wish Michael well, and all that matters to me is that he's a good father to our children." The couple, who have two daughters, divorced in 1997 after 11 years of marriage.

Attorney Not Sure If He Will Challenge Same-Sex Marriage Amendment

HONOLULU (AP) — The Hawaii Supreme Court has asked attorneys to submit arguments outlining how the same-sex marriage amendment recently approved by voters might affect the case that is before the court.

The court also ordered the Department of Health to turn over a certified copy of the vote in which Hawaii residents overwhelmingly approved the amendment authorizing the Legislature to reserve marriage for opposite-sex couples.

The Health Department also must describe how it believes the proposed amendment would affect the case before the high court.

Civil liberties attorney Dan Foley said he does not believe the constitutional amendment overturns a ruling by Circuit Judge Kevin Chang that the state failed to justify its ban on same-sex marriage. He said he will ask the Supreme Court to affirm Chang's ruling.

Assistant Attorney General Dorothy Sellers said it is "prudent" for the Supreme Court now to ask for

briefs on questions related to the case.

Cynthia Quinn, special assistant to Attorney General Margery Bronster, said, "We are looking at the court's request and will give it careful attention."

Foley, who represents the three plaintiff couples in the same-sex marriage case, earlier said he hadn't decided whether to challenge the new amendment on grounds that it violates the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause.

The Supreme Court earlier ruled that the ban on same-sex marriage violated the state constitution's equal protection clause unless the state could show compelling reason for retaining the ban. The case was sent back to Circuit Court, where Chang ruled the state had not shown a compelling reason.


In 1992, Colorado voters ratified a constitutional amendment barring state, city and county governments from adopting legislation to protect Gays from discrimination. The Colorado Supreme Court declared the amendment violated the federal constitution's equal protection clause, and the U.S. Supreme Court agreed.

Foley said he would be more likely to raise the federal constitutional issue if same-sex couples are not granted rights to marry by either the Hawaii Supreme Court or the state Legislature.

The Legislature in 1994 passed a law defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman. It is unclear if the Legislature now will have to pass another law making that clarification.

Foley said he believes lawmakers must pass another law. Jon Van Dyke, professor of constitutional law at the University of Hawaii, said he would recommend that the Legislature pass another law to end any "ambiguity."

Legislative leaders say they will seek advice from the attorney general.




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Georgia Decision Could Bolster Case Challenging Sodomy Law In Texas

By Pauline Arrillaga
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Georgia Supreme Court's decision to throw out that state's anti-sodomy law could bolster a challenge to the Texas statute that is beginning to wind through the court system, a constitutional law expert said Monday.

"There's no reason why Texas can't rely on Georgia for its reasoning," said Neil McCabe, a constitutional law professor at South Texas College of Law. "State courts are big on that — they look around and see what other states have done."

"And you're not talking about some liberal state with a Supreme Court that's Gay- and Lesbian-friendly. You're talking about a state in the heart of the conservative South."

Voting 6-1, the Georgia court found that state's sodomy law "manifestly infringes upon a constitutional provision ... which guarantees to the citizens of Georgia the right of privacy." The ruling came in the case of a man who was convicted of sodomizing his 17-year-old niece in 1996.

The decision was issued just three days after two Houston men caught having sex in a private home pleaded no contest to sodomy charges and then appealed the case, initiating a legal challenge to the 119-year-old Texas law that bars Gay intercourse.

John Geddes Lawrence, 55, and Tyrone Garner, 31, were arrested for engaging in homosexual conduct, a misdemeanor, on Sept. 17 when deputies found the two in Lawrence's apartment engaged in consensual sex. The deputies were responding to a false report of an armed intruder.

McCabe said the Georgia decision would lend more credence to arguments that the Texas law should be tossed out. He noted the Georgia court, in its opinion, even cited a 1992 Texas appeals court decision finding the sodomy law unconstitutional. That ruling eventually was overturned by the Texas

Supreme Court, which said the lower court did not have proper jurisdiction.

"The Georgia case expressly relies on the earlier Texas case," he said. "If they can rely on Texas, I don't see why Texas can't rely on them."

Mitchell Katine, a lawyer for the Houston men, said their appeal primarily would attack the fact that the Texas law makes sodomy illegal only for same-sex couples, not heterosexuals. But the privacy issue also will come into play, and the Georgia decision "strengthens the privacy arguments in our case," he said.

Suzanne Goldberg, another defense attorney in the Texas case, agreed.

"The Georgia decision helps illustrate how laws like Texas' homosexual conduct law infringe upon the privacy rights of Lesbian and Gay men," she said. "I think it should provide additional reinforcement for a proper decision striking down the law in this case."

But Harris County Assistant District Attorney Brett Ligon, who is prosecuting the Texas case, said it was too soon to determine what effect — if any — the Georgia case would have.

"It's not binding on state law, and it's not binding on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals," Ligon said of the Georgia ruling. "It doesn't mean anything."

Texas' sodomy law makes homosexual oral and anal sex a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500. Because police rarely catch someone performing a homosexual act, officials say few cases ever are prosecuted.

Gay activists long have argued the law is used to justify discrimination. But with no defendant in a criminal case, efforts to remove the law have met with mixed success.

The Houston case, which originated in a justice of the peace court, has been appealed to a county criminal court. It could eventually reach the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and, possibly, the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ruling Throwing Out Georgia Sodomy Law Could Affect Louisiana Lawsuit

By Alan Clendenning
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The lawyer challenging Louisiana's sodomy law says his case got a big boost this week when the Georgia Supreme Court overturned that state's sodomy statute.

The 6-1 ruling that the law violates the Georgia Constitution's privacy rights clause could help persuade an Orleans Parish judge rule that the Louisiana law is unconstitutional, said attorney John Rawls.

"This is the first Deep South state to throw out its sodomy statute," said Rawls, who plans to file a copy of the Georgia court decision soon with Judge Carolyn Gill-Jefferson.

Gill-Jefferson presided over a one week civil trial in October on the constitutionality of the Louisiana law, which makes consensual oral and anal sex a felony punish-

able by up to five years in prison.

It's not clear when Gill-Jefferson will issue her ruling, but the losing side is expected to appeal to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

During the trial, Rawls spent four days questioning witnesses who said the sodomy law discriminates against homosexuals by outlawing their only sexual option. State lawyers called only one witness, a therapist who testified that Gay men and Lesbians can be "healed" and become heterosexual.

They don't believe that the overturning of the Georgia law will have an impact on the outcome of the Louisiana lawsuit, said Denise Bottcher, a spokeswoman for the state Attorney General's Office.

"It does not have any jurisdiction or implication in the state of Louisiana," she said.

The Georgia law was the subject of previous challenges but was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court

in 1986 after a homosexual sued state officials to have the law declared unconstitutional. The court ruled 5-4 that consenting adults have no constitutional right to private homosexual conduct.

But the majority opinion of the Georgia Supreme Court said the sodomy statute's reason for being "can only be to regulate the private conduct of consenting adults, something which Georgia's right of privacy puts beyond the bounds of government regulation."

Such an argument could help sway Gill-Jefferson or the state's Supreme Court justices, said Betty Cole, a professor at Tulane University School of Law.

"They're not governed by what Georgia does, but in terms of the theory that (the sodomy law) is violative of the right to privacy, Louisiana does have a pretty broad right to privacy," Cole said. "This ruling certainly doesn't hurt (Rawls') case."

Internet Bank

Continued from page 1

to retirement in his early 30s after developing a series of novelty products. They include Night-crawlers, children's house shoes with eyes that light up to guide youngsters through the dark, and Pet Peeves, talking collars for cats and dogs.

He made his real fortune, however, by selling millions of Moonies. The chubby doll-size figures attached to car windows with suction cups like the ubiquitous Garfield-the-cat stick-ons, but with a risqué difference.

"You squeezed the bulb and the little guy dropped his pants and mooned people," Dunlap said. "I got rich off of it, and I quit."

He moved in 1990 from Memphis, Tenn., to Navarre Beach, about 20 miles east of Pensacola, planning nothing more than to sit on the sugar-white beach and write a book about fad products.

However, after noticing that thousands of homosexuals congregate on area beaches every Memorial Day weekend, he decided the Florida Panhandle could support a small Gay and Lesbian resort. Dunlap, a motel developer drew up a plan and took it to local bankers about six years ago.

"You could just see the color run out of their faces," Dunlap recalled. "My personal impression and observation was that they did not want anything to do with the financing solely because it was a ... 'Gay and Lesbian' business."

Dunlap, himself Gay, figured if that was happening here, it also was happening to others elsewhere. Creating a bank for such a geographically widespread market niche would have been difficult at

best before the Internet.

"The Internet now allows us to deliver to this community without having bricks and mortar," Dunlap said. "It actually allows me to put a bank branch in every house where there is a computer."

Internet banking remains in its infancy, however, so G&L has had to do extensive research and development. That effort is headed by G. Kay Griffith, G&L's president.

Ms. Griffith, 53, originally from Columbus, Ohio, worked for major bank groups in California and Florida and was president of Admiralty Bank in Palm Beach County until 1994 when she formed a consulting company in Fort Lauderdale. She closed the business after taking the G&L job in March.

"There were a few moments when I candidly sat and said, 'Hmmm, there are going to be questions asked about me,'" said Ms. Griffith, who is heterosexual. "But that took only about a second."

She had always been interested in civil rights and the opportunity to be part of such a pioneering effort was too attractive to pass up.

The bank's 11-member staff is almost equally split between homosexuals and heterosexuals. Staffing at its Pensacola headquarters is expected to increase to about

25 employees after opening.

The Office of Thrift Supervision, a branch of the Treasury Department, does not permit disclosure of an exact opening date or capitalization until its national savings bank charter is approved.

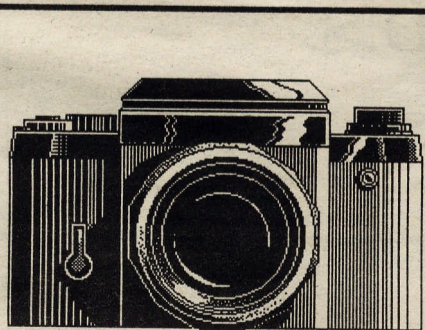
Potential customers, however, are lining up.

Michele Johnson, a Houston retail manager, learned about G&L from a newspaper article. She has had no problems herself, but wants to bank with G&L because she has heard horror stories from other homosexuals who tried to open joint accounts at conventional banks.

"You know, the looks, the cold shoulders, people not really wanting to do that and making you jump through all the hoops," she said.

John Redding, a civil servant in Boise, Idaho, stumbled across the G&L site while surfing the Web. The bank's Internet site — <http://www.g-lbank.com> — has had 20,000 hits since going online more than a year ago, Ms. Griffith said.

"Having a banking institution that clearly stands up and does our business for us is really to our benefit, both financially and politically," Redding said. "Knowing the person on the other end is somebody that I can relate to and understands what my situation is, that's a great deal of comfort."



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Man Challenging Texas Sodomy Law Accused of Assault

HOUSTON (AP) — One of the two men challenging Texas' sodomy law was arrested on suspicion of assaulting the man who prompted his original arrest, but the charges were dismissed today because of insufficient evidence.

Tyrone Garner, 31, was arrested early Monday on charges of assaulting roommate Robert Royce Eubanks, 40, with a belt, said police spokesman Fred King. Eubanks told police Garner struck him while they were arguing.

Garner was arrested on a Class C misdemeanor assault charge and jailed. However, he was released this morning after the charges were dropped for insufficient evidence.

King said Garner and Eubanks have "a history of filing false reports on each other."

Garner and John Geddes

Lawrence, 55, were arrested Sept. 17 and charged with deviant homosexual conduct, a class C misdemeanor. The two pleaded no contest last week and appealed, setting up a challenge to the state's sodomy law.

Harris County sheriff's deputies arrested the two after finding them having consensual sex in Lawrence's apartment. A third man had contacted deputies, saying an armed intruder had broken into the home.

The Houston Chronicle reported today that the man was Eubanks, who later was convicted of filing a false report.

"No one should be surprised there is some tension between the two," said David Jones, a lawyer representing Lawrence in the sodomy case.

"He wrongfully put them in

jail," Jones said, adding he didn't know what happened between Garner and the man Monday. "I am very suspicious of anything that comes out of the mouth of that guy."

Although it's been on the books for 119 years, Texas' sodomy law rarely is enforced. Gay activists have worked unsuccessfully for years to overturn the statute.

The Georgia Supreme Court on Monday threw out that state's anti-sodomy law. Some constitutional experts say that could bolster Garner and Lawrence's legal challenge in Texas.

Harris County Assistant District Attorney Brett Ligon, who is prosecuting the Texas case, said it was too soon to determine what effect — if any — the Georgia case would have.

FBI Reviews a Civil Rights Complaint by Gay Couple

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP) — A Gay couple are accusing a neighbor of harassment, saying he displayed a Confederate flag, hung out a rope tied in the shape of a noose and erected an insulting sign.

Until recently, the couple, Raymond Maxwell and Gary LaRose, seemed to get along with Ronald Trim, 43, with whom they often socialized during backyard cookouts.

But on Nov. 20, LaRose, 42, filed a complaint alleging civil rights violations by Trim.

FBI spokeswoman Juana Klim confirmed that the FBI is looking into the allegations, but wouldn't elaborate. The American Civil Liberties Union also has been working with LaRose to help him obtain a restraining order against Trim.

The dispute goes back to a neighbor who accused Trim's five dogs of killing some rabbits she had been raising in her backyard.

Trim, who is white, accused Maxwell, who is Black, of pointing the finger at his dogs. From there, things escalated.

The Polk County Sheriff's Office was called in after Maxwell and LaRose, partners for 10 years, said they thought some of Trim's actions were meant to intimidate them.

During the afternoon of Nov. 9, Trim said he raised a Confederate flag, which still flies, in his front yard. He also constructed a platform, put a tripod on top of it, and attached a hangman's noose.

Trim said he later posted several signs on his front fence warning neighborhood children that "F-E-R-R-I-E-S" — apparently meaning "fairies," a homosexual slur — lived in the neighborhood.

He drew an arrow pointing toward Maxwell and LaRose's residence.

Maxwell and LaRose also videotaped Trim and his wife, Sandra, making racial slurs that they said were directed against them.

Trim said he put up the flag after he "got tired of looking at it in the living room." The signs weren't really homosexual-related slurs because he hyphenated the word, he said.

"It could mean anything," he said. "Besides, I posted those signs because I was raped by a man when I was 9 years old. I'm afraid it could happen to the neighborhood children."

Gays Get Apology From Campbell, School for Remarks

By Michael A Lutz
AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M football player Dan Campbell admits he got too caught up in a recent bonfire celebration.

Campbell offended Gay and Lesbian students by saying he was glad to attend a school where "men like women and women like men."

On Nov. 30, Campbell said he didn't mean to upset anyone.

"I offended some people, and I'm sorry for that," the senior tight end said. "It was heat of the moment. It's not that I directed it at anyone."

He was ready to drop the subject. "I haven't heard anything about it," Campbell said. "Nobody has said anything to me about it in class."

A&M President Ray Bowen and athletic director Wally Groff also is-

sued apologies for Campbell's remark.

The hangman's noose, Trim said, is used "to slaughter hogs."

Maxwell and LaRose said they are afraid things will turn violent.

"He used to brag about being in the Ku Klux Klan when we were friends," Maxwell said. "He said I was the only Black man he let ride in his truck."

Trim denied being a member of the Klan, but said he has friends who are affiliated with the group.

LaRose said he just wants to feel safe in his home. "I have a 3-year-old I am trying to raise," he said of his niece, Trisha. "I just want to live a normal life."

sued apologies for Campbell's remark.

"The implied criticism of Gay and Lesbian people was a personal view and not one condoned or embraced by Texas A&M University," Bowen said in a statement. "Our university is one where criticism real, implied or unintended — of people for their differences is unacceptable."

Groff said Campbell "has been made aware that it is not an appropriate place and time to voice his views and has expressed regret."

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Aggies, the officially recognized Gay student group on campus, lodged a complaint after Campbell's remarks.

Group advisor Kim Novak, a university employee, said the public apologies were seen by Gay and Lesbian students as "major progress."

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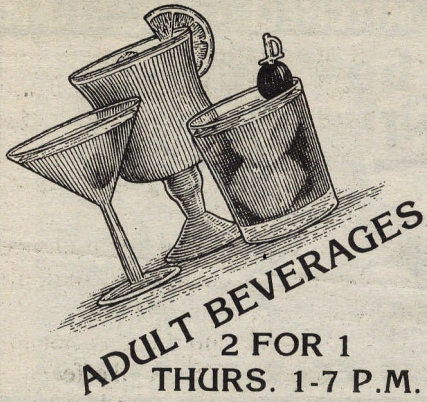
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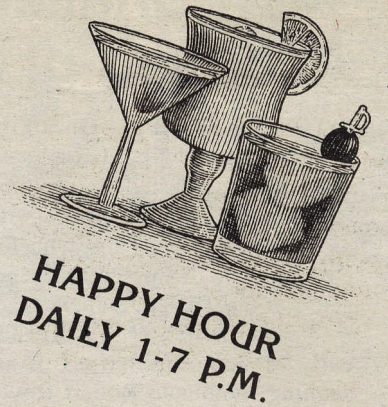
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Judge Rules in Favor of Lesbian Teacher

By Kimberley Murphy
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A simple phone call cost Wendy Weaver her job as volleyball coach, her freedom to speak openly about her sexual orientation and her privacy.

But a federal judge's ruling on Nov. 25 may help her get it all back.

Weaver, who filed a lawsuit last fall against the Nebo School District, claimed she was fired as volleyball coach at Spanish Fork High School after acknowledging to a student that she is a Lesbian.

She also said school officials violated her rights with a gag order that prevented her from talking with students or staff about her sexual orientation, even outside of school.

In his 25-page ruling, U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins agreed Weaver's rights of free speech, equal protection and due process had been violated. Jenkins ordered the school district to offer Weaver the coaching position and to lift the gag order. He also awarded Weaver

the \$1,500 she was seeking in damages.

"I feel like I really fought for something that should have been mine in the first place," Weaver said. "It was a personal matter that kind of became something of purpose."

The Weaver case has attracted national attention because of the precedent it could set for how public schools treat homosexual teachers and coaches.

School officials took action against Weaver following a phone call she made to a student in the summer of 1997. Weaver was preparing for the upcoming volleyball season by telephoning prospective volleyball team members about summer camp schedules. During one of the calls, a senior team member asked Weaver, "Are you Gay?"

Weaver responded that she was, and the team member told Weaver she would not play on the volleyball team in the fall.

The school acted that summer, a few months after Weaver and her husband, Gary Weaver, who also works at the high school, divorced and Weaver

began living with another woman. Since then, parents speaking for and against Weaver have packed heated school board meetings, called news conferences and circulated petitions.

The judge concluded that school officials had discriminated against Weaver by dismissing her from her job as volleyball coach after it became known she was a Lesbian and by imposing the gag order.

"Although the Constitution cannot control prejudices, neither this court nor any other court should, directly or indirectly, legitimize them," Jenkins wrote.

The judge noted Weaver has continued to teach psychology at the school without incident and that school officials have been unable to point to any problems since her sexual orientation was revealed.

"The statement from a student and volleyball team member that she felt uncomfortable about playing for Ms. Weaver, and that she would not play volleyball in her senior year, is just that," Jenkins wrote. "While the

student's actions may have interrupted her own activities, there is no evidence that the activities of the school were in any way disrupted."

Jenkins also said that while Weaver was threatened with disciplinary action for discussing her intimate associations and sexual orientation, no other teacher in the school district faced the same restriction.

"Indeed, as the school district conceded at the hearing, no similar restriction was placed on heterosexual teachers at all," Jenkins said. "Clearly then, the school district wanted to silence Ms. Weaver's speech because of its expected pro-homosexual viewpoint. Such viewpoint-based restriction is constitutionally impermissible.

"Simple as it may sound, as a matter of fairness and evenhandedness, homosexuals should not be sanctioned or restricted for speech that heterosexuals are not likewise sanctioned or restricted for," he said.

Weaver said Wednesday she felt vindicated by the decision, and a sense of freedom that her lawsuit and the issues raised in

it are nearing resolution. She said she had not decided if she will apply next year for the coaching position but would discuss it with her partner, Rachel Smith.

"I want to make that choice because I want to coach or don't want to coach," she said.

Weaver said she does not anticipate the ruling will effect her work as a teacher, and hopes it will help other teachers feel they can speak freely on any topic.

Assistant Attorneys General Martha S. Stonebrook and Robert C. Morton, representing the Nebo School District, were not available for comment.

Stephen Clark, legal counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah, called the ruling a tremendous victory for Weaver and other Utah teachers.

"For her, it obviously means that she is vindicated on all legal claims that she brought," Clark said. "For others — other teachers — I think it's tremendous just because it acknowledges that they can respond honestly about who they are ... without fear of constitutional restraints on their expressions."

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New Judge Assigned for Suspect in Shepard Case

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — A new judge has been assigned to hear the case of one of two men suspected in the murder of Matthew Shepard, the Gay college student who was tied to a fence, robbed, and beaten to death.

Eighth District Judge Barton R. Voigt of Douglas will take over the case against Aaron James McKinney, 21, who is charged with first-degree murder, kidnapping and aggravated robbery in Shepard's death.

Second District Judge Jeffrey A. Donnell was disqualified from the case by McKinney's public defenders Dion Custis and Jason Tangeman on Dec. 2, following McKinney's innocent plea.

Under rules reinstated Nov. 30 by the Wyoming Supreme Court, attorneys in criminal and civil cases may remove a judge without offering a reason, but only once. Donnell signed the case over to Voigt on Dec. 3.

Voigt's district includes Converse, Niobrara, Platte and Goshen counties, but McKinney's trial will be held in Donnell's Albany County courtroom unless Voigt is persuaded to move it. No change of venue motion had been granted.

Russell Arthur Henderson, 21,

faces the same charges as McKinney and also pleaded innocent. Henderson's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, is fighting an attempt by prosecutor Cal Rerucha to have the suspects tried together.

Donnell scheduled a Dec. 10 hearing on Rerucha's request, but may allow Voigt to conduct the hearing. Rerucha has until Dec. 31 to determine whether he will seek the death penalty.

Shepard was targeted because he was Gay, according to testimony at a Nov. 19 court hearing. He was lured from a downtown Laramie bar Oct. 7, bound and tied to a rough-hewn wooden fencepost in the foothills outside of Laramie. The University of Wyoming freshman died five days later. Shepard, who wanted to be an ambassador, would have been 22 in December.

The attack prompted widespread outrage, a condemnation from President Clinton and calls for tougher hate-crime laws.

Henderson conceived the idea of robbing Shepard, but McKinney was the one who struck Shepard repeatedly with the butt of a .357-caliber Magnum, authorities said.

McKinney admitted to an investigator that he and Henderson met Shepard in a bar, drove off with

him and then told him: "Guess what. We're not Gay. You've been jacked. It's Gay Awareness Week."

Shepard suffered 18 head wounds and also suffered wounds on the inner thighs. His skull was so badly fractured that doctors

could not operate.

The girlfriends of the two suspects, Chasity Vera Pasley, 20, and Kristen LeAnn Price, 19, were arraigned Dec. 9 and pled not guilty. Both are charged with accessory after the fact for allegedly helping

Henderson dispose of his bloody clothing after the attack.

Of the four suspects, only Pasley was a University of Wyoming student.

Hundreds of Gay Rights Supporters Meet Anti-Gay Protesters

CHICAGO (AP) — More than 1,000 Gay-rights supporters surrounded a church where an anti-homosexual minister protested a marriage ceremony for two men conducted earlier this year.

The Rev. Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., and about 10 of his supporters gathered Nov. 22 to protest a September marriage presided over by the Rev. Gregory Dell, pastor of the Broadway United Methodist Church.

Gay-rights supporters surrounded the church, gathered on rooftops, and held signs that read "Stop the Hate," in anticipation of the Phelps group

Phelps and his followers have engaged in anti-homosexual picketing around the country, including a demonstration at the funeral of Matthew Shepard, a Gay University of Wyoming student who was beaten to death in October.

Chicago police surrounded the

anti-Gay group with barricades as they gathered on a street corner facing the church.

Phelps waved different anti-Gay signs throughout the demonstration. One sign read "God Hates Fags."

"This is tacky, minimal, cheap, tawdry stuff," Phelps said in referring to those protesting against him and his followers.

Midway through the demonstration, some Gay supporters approached Phelps and his group and were forced back by police.

The anti-Gay demonstration ended when Phelps and his followers were escorted away by police. Phelps said he plans to return to Chicago in the next few weeks to continue the protests.

"It's unfortunate that individuals and groups carry the kind of hate and fear that these folks do," Dell said of the Kansas protesters. "But however offensive their message might be, the strength of community, justice and love is stronger."

Dell performed the Gay marriage service despite a ban on such ceremonies that was inserted in his denomination's *Book of Discipline* in August.

The United Methodist Church will put Dell on trial next year for violating the ban. He could be defrocked.



All the news that's Flit to Print!

by Vincent Astor
See page 26



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United We Stand or Divided We Fall?

by Jim Maynard,
Political Sociologist and Activist.

The 1998 election exposed a fissure within the Gay/Lesbian movement which threatens to undermine our movement's commitment to work with other civil rights groups for social justice.

The Human Rights Campaign endorsed abortion rights opponent Alfonse D'Amato against the wishes of the majority of Gays and Lesbians in New York. D'Amato was endorsed as the GOP incumbent for his recent support of ENDA, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, even though his HRC scorecard

was considerably lower than his Democratic opponent Rep. Charles Schumer.

Making matters even worse for HRC, D'Amato lost. The Gay Log Cabin Republicans endorsed Republican Matt Fong in the California Senate race, even knowing that Fong had contributed \$50,000 to the Traditional

Values Coalition, one of the most radical anti-Gay organizations in the country. Luckily, he lost too. Many affluent Gays endorse conservative economic policies which threaten the well-being of the working class, the poor, racial minorities and women.

Even more progressive Gay/Lesbian organizations are compromising principles for financial support. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation accepted a large grant from Coors, whose founding family is a strong financial supporter of right-wing causes. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force accepted a donation from Nike, whose labor practices are being challenged by the labor movement which NGLTF claims to support.

Why are Gay/Lesbian organizations supporting the enemies of social justice and civil rights? Are we only committed to our own civil rights and not willing to stand with other groups in their civil rights struggles? How can we expect the support of other civil rights movements when we will not support them? This politics of division is hurting us both in the short run and in the long run. We will need the support of other civil rights groups, and we should earn their support.

As Urvashi Vaid pointed out in *The Advocate* (Dec. 8), we need to develop a long-range strategy that is guided by principles. Our opponents have a package of values: traditionalism, patriarchy, libertarian economics, racism and theocracy. What principles can we unite on?

Suzanne Pharr (*In the Time of the Right: Reflections on Liberation*, 1996) contrasts two different types of politics: liberation politics and the politics of domination. The politics of domination promotes the values of being separate, of being elite, of being responsible for and to only a small group of people. The politics of liberation offers the values of sharing power, democracy, and social and economic justice for all people. It is a conflict between the politics of inclusion and sharing and the politics of exclusion and selfishness.

We must seek ways to bring people together to work on common causes across differences. If all oppressions are connected, then so are the targets of oppression as well as the solution to the oppression. Those who demand liberation for one cause or one group, but act out oppression or

exploitation toward others, lack political integrity. Liberation politics requires an understanding of the interconnections of oppressed groups, especially those centered around race, gender and class. The radical right has been successful in driving wedges between oppressed groups because there is little understanding of the interconnecting linkage of the oppression different groups struggle against. We stand ready to be divided. To leave any group out leaves a hole for everyone's freedoms and rights to fall through.

Urvashi Vaid offers a set of principles progressives should all unite on. One is the idea of a constitutional form of government, not a religious one. Instead of debating the Bible with the opponents of Gay and Lesbian rights, we should be defending freedom from religion as set out in the First Amendment.

Another principle essential for liberation politics is sexual and reproductive autonomy. Government and religion have no business controlling our sexuality or reproductive lives.

A third principle involves the need for more understanding of human differences. We must address racism, sexism, heterosexism, as well as homophobia and other exploitations of human differences.

A fourth principle is that national change emerges from local action. The struggle for civil rights must be waged at the state and local level. We cannot just write checks to national organizations in Washington and wait for them to win our rights.

NGLTF and the Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Statewide Political Organizations have called for a week of national action at the state level called "Equality Begins at Home," March 21-27. (Tennessee's action will be a rally on Sun., March 21 in Nashville on Legislative Plaza sponsored by the Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice.)

A final principle we should rally around, Urvashi Vaid argues, is the ACT UP slogan SILENCE = DEATH. There is no substitute for our participation in the struggle for social justice and civil rights. Our silence and non-participation is the greatest tool of oppression our enemies have. We have to be active voting citizens who participate in the political system at the local, state and national levels. Let us base our political participation on principles that matter.



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The Island of Me

Commentary by Ron Akanowicz

A few months back, while driving down Jackson Avenue, I saw a billboard that posed the question, "Are Black men responsible for the condition of the Black community?"

I didn't pay attention to what group or organization sponsored the billboard because I was busy pondering the answer. My first reaction was, well, of course they are. Then as the other half of my Piscean brain kicked in I thought, well, maybe they aren't.

As I drove on, I substituted "Gay" for "Black" and again asked myself the question, "Are Gay men responsible for the condition of the Gay community?"

One might argue that you could easily answer that question by flipping a coin and backing up the toss with real evidence, good or bad. But the answer itself goes deeper than a simple yes or no. The answer depends on how we view ourselves in relation to one another, the Gay community, and society in general.

We can see how events in society shape and influence our movement just as we can see how our

actions bring about awareness (and hopefully change) to the culture at large. If you ask yourself that question, then I think it also begs another question, "Do I believe that Gay men are victims of circumstance?"

If you believe that we are victims, then your answer will be "No, we are not responsible for the condition of the Gay community." We are a people whose lives are dictated by the larger culture, whose happiness and security is influenced by others, and whose purpose is relegated to scant speculation. The condition of the Gay community is a mere by-product of how the straight community treats us. You can say we've more or less abdicated our power to the mainstream.

If you do believe that Gay men are responsible for the condition of the Gay community, and that we're not victims, then I'd ask, "Are you happy with what you've created?" You see, since coming out five years ago when I moved to Memphis (I know, Lord help me), I've seen some things that I don't like; things that are just accepted as part of our "life-style" (or lack thereof), and I have to ask myself, "Have I

created this? Have I participated in this?" And since I happen to believe we're not victims and that we do control our destiny as individuals (and as a subculture) then I have to assume some responsibility for the condition of our community.

One example of this burden of responsibility is how we treat relationships. Last night I was visiting with a dear friend (and sage) who explained that at one time he did not believe in Gay marriages. He said that eventually he realized some sort of recognition of the relationship was important for its viability, whether it is called a marriage, union, or whatever.

But if we as Gay men fail to respect the bounds of our own relationships, how can we expect the straight community to view them with any seriousness? Do we disrespect relationships because no one else views them as important (so why should we)? Or does our culture see Gay relationships without merit because it sees us treat them so carelessly?

Before I digress into my views on Gay relationships I want to say that this is just one area where we actively participate in creating the character of our community.

What we do shapes the character of our community. And what we do affects one another. And what our culture does affects the culture at large (and vice-versa). We've all heard and discussed the "six degrees of separation" theory (2-3 degrees in the Gay community, in my opinion) and yet sometimes we

act like we're all islands with no connection to anyone else.

As John Donne so eloquently stated more than 300 hundred years ago: "No man is an island, entire of itself... Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in

Mankind; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; It tolls for thee..."

Am I responsible for the condition of the Gay community in which I live? You bet I am.

Lesbian and Gay Coalition Sets Meeting

The Memphis Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice will have a meeting Sat., Jan. 9, 1 p.m. at First Congregational Church to vote on by-laws for the organization. Officers will be nominated in February and elections will be held in March. In the meantime, the organization has chosen interim officers, including co-chairs Jim Maynard and Margaret Henkle.

For more information contact the LGCJ at P.O. Box 241363, Memphis, TN 38124; email: lgcj@gaymemphis.com or visit the coalition web page: <http://www.gaymemphis.com/lgcj>.

Tuesday Night Basketball Fun

Submitted by Bluff City Sports Association

The Bluff City Sports Association is sponsoring a night of basketball for everyone. On Tuesday nights from Jan. 5 through Feb. 16, the gym at Glenview Community Center will become "our" facility for the night. Play will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. using an "Open Gym" policy — meaning EVERYONE gets to play. Games will be 3 on 3 half court with free substitution.

This will be strictly for fun, exercise and enjoyment. Team won/loss records will not be kept and most teams will be "picked up" (selected) before each game.

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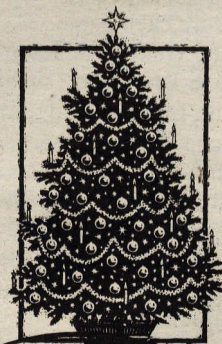
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Homosexuality Stirs Margins of World Council of Churches Assembly

By Richard N Ostling
AP Religion Writer

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — The issues of homosexual liberation and abortion hovered at the margins of the World Council of Churches assembly Dec. 7.

Both issues could complicate an already worsening split in the WCC between the Orthodox churches and the Western liberal wing of Protestantism. The two camps are diametrically opposed on these matters, and thus the WCC has refused to take a position.

But during the assembly, the WCC was staging a weeklong "padare" — the term for "meeting place" in Zimbabwe's Shona language — in which church-related groups were offering hundreds of workshops. And 11 of the presentations, including three on opening day, were promoting liberal views on homosexuality.

No workshop was advocating the traditional Christian teaching against same-sex practices.

Homosexual activists and their

heterosexual supporters want the WCC assembly to authorize a seven-year study of human sexuality. There could be lively debate if such a proposal reaches the assembly floor.

That topic seemed irrelevant for African and Asian speakers, who made fervent appeals during the women's discussion concerning the debt burden of developing nations and discrimination against the Dalit ("untouchables") and Christians of India.

The Gay and Lesbian issue had threatened to divide a pre-assembly WCC women's festival. Lesbians at the festival clashed with Orthodox women including Despina Prassas of America's Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, a doctoral student in theology.

A statement from the women's festival that was presented to the WCC assembly stated that "human sexuality in all of its diversity emerged with particular significance" during a decade of WCC emphasis on women's issues. But due to Prassas and the other Ortho-

dox, the statement added that there was "divided opinion" and that "for some women and men in our midst the issue has no legitimacy."

The Orthodox women accepted that compromise wording, but were upset when the women's statement said churches should call for laws to protect women's rights, including "reproductive rights." The Orthodox considered that to be a code for the right to choose abortion.

A WCC spokeswoman said it could be read that way, or as a reference to contraception.

A protest on behalf of the Orthodox women was written by Prassas and Anne Glynn Mackoul of the U.S. Antiochian archdiocese, a lawyer. Mackoul read the protest from the floor, declaring that Orthodox women did not want the assembly to think that they affirmed the letter or that it reflected true consensus.

She complained that the "development of theological positions stemming from contemporary political issues is foreign to the Or-

thodox ethos."

The first three WCC workshops on Gay and Lesbian issues were sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Churches, a U.S. denomination for homosexuals with headquarters in Los Angeles; Urban-Rural Mission (USA), a social justice group based in Durham, N. C.; and the International Global Lesbian Network of Geinhausen, Germany.

Other events later in the week were under the auspices of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands, the European Forum of Lesbian and Gay Christian Groups, Germany's Lesbians and the Church, and the United Church of Canada. The assembly concluded on Dec. 14.

Among the speakers at the Lesbian network presentation was the

Rev. Elisabeth Wolf of Frankfurt, Germany, who was ordained by a regional unit of the Evangelical Church in Germany although she's an avowed lesbian. Wolf said she came out as a lesbian while studying on a WCC scholarship at New York's Union Theological Seminary.

The day's other developments included a second harsh assembly intervention from the Russian Orthodox delegation. Father Vsevolod Chaplin said Western Christians had moved away from the Orthodox by promoting ordination of women and inclusive language in worship, "which I personally regard as blasphemy."

He said "radical feminism is humanism and alien to true Christianity. It should not be a common agenda for us."

Social Episcopalians Reject Canterbury Resolution on Gays

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) — Southern California Episcopalians voted to oppose a resolution by the world's Anglican bishops that essentially condemned homosexuality.

The 203-105 vote Dec. 5 by delegates of the Los Angeles Episcopal Diocese was one of the first official reactions by U.S. Episcopalians to the position taken by Anglican bishops during their once-a-decade world conference in Canterbury, England.

The world's Anglican bishops had voted 526-70 in August to oppose the ordination of practicing Gays, saying homosexuality was "incompatible with Scripture."

The Los Angeles diocese vote came after lobbying by traditionalists and Gay-rights advocates. It also included an unexpectedly strong statement by the diocese's bishop, the Right Rev. Frederick H. Borsch, in which he disavowed the Canterbury resolution.

"We would be remiss not to listen with care to our brother and sister bishops from around the world," Borsch said, "but in my view they would need to gain considerably more pastoral experience and engage in more thoughtful study and Christian conversations before I could regard them as well informed and wholly guided by the Holy Spirit on this issue."

Borsch was one of the 70 bishops who voted against the Canterbury resolution.

Traditionalists and others opposed to same-sex unions were angered by Borsch's remarks, which

they said suggested that bishops from Third World countries needed to be better educated.

"They were condescending and racist," said the Rev. Darryl Lee of St. Mark's Church in Glendale.

In the 85,000-member Los Angeles diocese — composed of Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, River-

side, San Bernardino and Santa Barbara counties — priests have been blessing same-sex unions for 10 years without waiting for approval from the national church.

Bishops have also been ordaining non-celibate Gay men and Lesbians.

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Neshoba Unitarian Universalist Church - 756-5433

Prescott Memorial Baptist Church - 327-8479

Safe Harbor MCC - 458-0501

St. John's United Methodist Church - 276-4104

St. Patrick Catholic Church - 527-2542

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MLS

Ban on Extracurricular Clubs, Aimed at Gays, Hurting Other Students

By Kristen Moulton
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Three years after the school board axed extracurricular clubs to get rid of a Gay students group, the target

of the ban is thriving and East High School, where the Gay-Straight Alliance so unsettled assorted officials, is hurting.

Dozens of clubs disbanded, including Students Against Drunk Driving, the Crazy E pep club,

Young Republicans and Young Democrats, and several that promoted ethnic awareness, as well as groups that celebrated Bart Simpson, UFOs and the joys of eating beef.

School spirit has evaporated, students socialize less, and class and racial rifts are deeper than before, say students and teachers.

"People don't care about school anymore," said cheerleader Chris Trindel.

"It's been a disaster," said Scott Nelson, a social studies and history teacher. "There's more to education than just the curriculum... There's a certain social element."

The turmoil began in 1995 with a student request for school sanction of a support group for homosexual teens, the Gay-Straight Alliance. The conservative state Legislature quickly lined up in opposition and began a contentious period of hearings that culminated in spring 1996 with passage of a bill banning school clubs that encourage criminal or delinquent conduct, bigotry or sexual behavior.

The bill was eventually incorporated into State Board of Education rules approved the following winter.

But the Salt Lake School Board wasn't waiting for state guidance. Advised that federal law prohibits schools from discriminating against clubs on the basis of unpopular ideas they espouse, but unwilling to stomach the Gay-Straight Alliance, the board in February 1996 banished all clubs not linked to academic studies in the city's four high schools.

Civil libertarians and hundreds

of high school students — only a few of them Gay — marched on the Statehouse in a doomed attempt to save their extracurricular clubs.

The Gay-Straight Alliance survived because it had the guidance and support of the politically savvy Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network, a national Gay-rights group.

Now, under sponsorship of GLSEN, the alliance meets as a community group and pays \$6 an hour to rent an East High classroom one afternoon a week.

The Key Club, a civic-service group sponsored by the adult Kiwanis Club organization, is the only other extracurricular club to have gone the "community group" route and rented meeting space at East High.

Other clubs died for lack of adult volunteers and the money to pay rent and insurance premiums.

The few groups still allowed — science, math and language clubs, along with athletic, debate and drama teams — attract mostly college-bound students. According to science teacher Camille Lee, the students hurt the most are those with tenuous after-school links to the school.

Clubs like Polynesian Pride and the Aztec Club for Latinos used to be a big part of ethnic students' school lives. "Now they're part of nothing," Lee said.

"A lot of the education in this school has been lost," she said. Without the public evidence of support for minorities that the ethnic groups helped provide, she said, "the kids get the message that it's OK to discriminate."

Ivy Fox, an alliance member

and instigator of a petition campaign this fall that failed to persuade the school board to reconsider its ban, said clubs used to be a way for loners to make friends.

"You see a lot of students roaming through the halls alone. They have nobody to sit with at lunch," said Fox, a junior and one of three alliance members who have filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the district.

Senior Andrew Perkins said he's bitter over lost opportunities. He had hoped to get clubs going for Democrats, environmentalists, even wooden sword fighting.

"It ruined a lot of things I wanted to do in high school," Perkins said.

Many seniors worry that colleges will snub them in favor of students from schools with an array of activities.

"The books all say colleges look at your GPA, your SAT (score) and your extracurricular activities," said senior Ann Lynch. "It's hard to fill out that last category on your own."

The president of the school board, Karen Derrick, said she favored reconsideration of the club ban in light of the state policy instituted last January. But she was voted down in October, partly because board members wanted to wait until the lawsuit is resolved.

By that time, the only students who remember the extracurricular clubs at Salt Lake's high schools — the seniors — will likely have graduated.

Said Lee, the science teacher: "The students in general don't know what they're missing anymore."



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Former Denny's Waiter Loses Wrongful Termination Lawsuit

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A former Denny's waiter who claimed he was fired because he was Gay and has the AIDS virus has lost his lawsuit against the restaurant chain.

After a three-week trial and three days of deliberations, a San Diego Superior Court jury Nov. 24 found that Gary Hardin, 48, was not wrongfully terminated or discriminated against when he was fired in August 1997.

Hardin of San Diego asked the jury for \$3 million. While the jury

found in favor of Denny's, the jury awarded Hardin \$16,029 because the panel believed the company did not fully explain to Hardin why he was fired. The amount represents what Hardin would have earned in one year with the restaurant chain.

Hardin, who had worked for Denny's for seven years, did not comment to reporters after the verdict.

Denny's spokeswoman Karen Randall said the decision shows the South Carolina-based chain was

justified in firing Hardin because he violated the company's strict anti-discrimination policy.

Co-workers testified that Hardin often used racial slurs and refused to serve African-Americans and Hispanics.

"We applaud the jury's rejection of Mr. Hardin's highly publicized, frivolous allegations," Denny's President John Romandetti said. "This verdict supports our strong stand against discrimination of any kind."

An anti-discrimination policy was put in place at Denny's restaurants several years ago after several minorities sued the company because some managers had discriminated against some ethnic groups.

The policy prohibits discrimination against customers or employees because of race, color, religion, sexual preference or age. Randall said the company also holds seminars to explain the policy to managers and employees.



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Conclave on AIDS and Religion Leaves Out Evangelical Christians

By Lori Johnston
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — When theologians and AIDS activists met here to discuss how America's religious community has responded to the AIDS epidemic, one group's voice was mostly absent — conservative Christians.

The AIDS National Interfaith Network, the event's co-sponsor, said several evangelical groups were invited to attend the four-day conference earlier this month.

One group, the Washington-based National Association of Evangelicals, said it would have attended if it had been invited.

"No big surprise," said Richard Cizik, acting director of the association's office of governmental affairs, who has been the lone conservative at other AIDS conferences.

"To not get invited exhibits the same mentality that has existed for years. Either we don't care or what we have to say is not acceptable," he said.

More than 200 representatives of AIDS advocacy, religious and public policy groups attended the conference at the Carter Center. The event was promoted as the first such meeting in a decade.

The Rev. Kenneth South, executive director of the AIDS National Interfaith Network, acknowledged that the conference needed a broader spectrum. He said 15 evangelical groups were represented, although about half of those participants were writers for religious publications.

"Evangelicals are doing great ministry, as long as they don't try to change people," said South, who is Gay.

Evangelicals, many of whom consider homosexual practice sinful, are not going to change their views to be part of things, Cizik said.

"If that's the criterion for having a voice in this gathering, then I guess we won't have a voice," he said. "You must not ask us to do that."

J. Lee Grady, editor of *Charisma* magazine, left the conference early after experiencing what he called a hostile attitude toward evangelical views. He at-

tended the conference because organizers cared enough to invite him, and he thought his views would matter.

"This wasn't reflected in the speakers," he said. "Charismatics and Pentecostals were definitely not represented."

Grady said it was obvious that a lot of the speakers wanted to promote a view that homosexuality was not a sin.

"What they want to do is to convince evangelical churches to stop preaching that," he said. "You're not going to get charismatics and Pentecostals to teach that."

Some conference speakers addressed the policy split.

The Rev. James Allen, pastor of a multid denominational church in north Georgia, said the crowd needed to hear that "we're not always going to have the same perspective," but that members of religious groups can agree on the goal of helping those with AIDS.

Religious leaders said churches, synagogues and other religious communities are becoming more accepting of HIV-positive people, although beliefs about homosexuality and drug use remain barriers in many faiths. Unprotected sex and sharing of needles by addicts are primary ways that the AIDS virus is spread; researchers first noted the disease among male homosexuals, though heterosexuals are also at risk.

"There is no stigma greater than the one attached to AIDS," said Brahma Das of The River Fund, a nonprofit Florida AIDS organization.

"You've got sex, you've got sexuality, you've got drug use, you've got death," added Rabbi Mark Blumenthal, who is HIV-positive and chairs the board of directors of AIDS National Interfaith Network.

Buddhist theologian Jose Ignacio Cabezon said he began thinking about the AIDS epidemic after HIV-infected Buddhists appealed to him years ago to help them face the challenges of AIDS.

He has concluded that religions must work together, addressing the disease as a problem crossing philosophical and geographical borders. The battle against AIDS, he said, "is not going to be won

only at a local, state or national level."

Black religious leaders said their churches are much more involved in AIDS outreach than a decade ago. There are needle exchange programs, outreaches to build hospice centers and on a larger scale, the Black Church Week of Prayer

for Healing of AIDS, in which more than 5,000 churches nationwide have participated.

"The landscape has definitely changed," said Permessia Seele, who develops programs to educate Black churches to become involved in the fight against AIDS. "Still, far

more are not involved than involved."

Some churches, she said, "shut people out of the kingdom of God" because those people have AIDS. "They don't want to deal with women, homosexuals, drug abuse and incest."

Psychiatrists Condemn Treatment to Convert Gays

By Robert Weller
Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP) — The American Psychiatric Association's board voted unanimously Dec. 14 to reject therapy aimed solely at turning Gays straight, saying it is harmful and could contribute to violence like the murder of Matthew Shepard.

"All the evidence would indicate this is the way people are born. We treat disease, not the way people are," said Dr. Nada Stotland, head of the association's joint committee on public affairs.

The American Psychological Association made a similar decision last year.

Gay activists applauded the decision. Proponents of converting Gays said the decision could deny patients the treatment they want.

Some fundamentalist Christian religious groups attempt to persuade homosexuals to undergo treatment, sometimes called "reparative therapy," to convert to heterosexuality. Focus on the Family, the Family Research Council and the Christian Coalition began a national advertising campaign just before Shepard's killing, urging Gays to convert.

Stotland, of Rush Medical College in Chicago, said, "The very existence of therapy that is supposed to change people's sexuality, even for people who don't take it, is harmful because it implies that they have a disease. There is evi-

dence that the belief itself can trigger depression and anxiety."

Stotland, chair of psychiatry at Rush, asked whether efforts to convert Gays could result in attacks like the killing of Shepard in Laramie, said spreading the idea that homosexuality is a disease or evil could make people "feel less inhibited about beating up Gays, or not giving them jobs."

Some of the groups trying to turn Gays straight came under fire after Shepard's death. The 21-year-old openly Gay University of Wyoming student died Oct. 12 after a severe beating.

Police believe he was attacked in part because he was Gay. Two men suspected of luring him out of a bar and beating him while driving around have been charged with first-degree murder.

Stotland said during the psychiatric group's quarterly meeting that there is no evidence that sexual orientation can be changed.

John Paulk, a specialist on homosexuality and gender for the Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family, disagreed. He said there is no evidence that homosexuality is "biologically predetermined."

"This makes it more difficult for clients who want to be treated for unwanted homosexuality," Paulk said. "Furthermore no scientific study has given conclusive evidence that homosexuality cannot be successfully treated."

Paulk, who also is chairman of Exodus, the world leader in "help-

ing men and women come out of homosexuality," agreed with the board's comment that Gays and Lesbians should not be told that all homosexuals are lonely and unhappy.

Paulk attracted national attention in July by appearing in a full-page ad in newspapers featuring him and his wife. The two said they were homosexuals who were "cured" through faith in God.

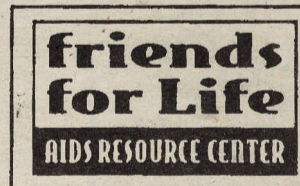
"You cannot discount the stories of thousands of men and women who have successfully overcome homosexuality," he said.

David Smith, chief strategist for the Human Rights Campaign, said, "We applaud ... the condemnation of this thoroughly discredited practice that causes great harm to people who are Gay but not yet comfortable with their sexual orientation."

"Smith's group defends the rights and interests of homosexuals."

He said "'reparative therapy' is nothing less than psychological terrorism used by political religious groups as a tool to undermine fair public policy for Lesbian and Gay groups."

The question of whether homosexuality is a disease or a choice is sometimes the focus of legislative debates on whether to enact laws defending Gay rights. Those who argue Gays are born that way defend such protection, while opponents contend homosexuality is a behavior, not an in-born characteristic.



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Miami-Dade Brings Back Gay Rights Ordinance After 21 Years

By Rachel La Corte
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI (AP) — As members of the Christian Coalition prayed nearby, Miami-Dade County commissioners voted to ban discrimination against Gays with an ordinance similar to one tossed out 21 years ago after pressure from conservatives spearheaded by Anita Bryant.

After more than four hours of public comment, the commissioners voted 7-6 Dec. 1 to approve a law barring discrimination against homosexuals in housing and the workplace.

The measure is much like one torpedoed in 1977 by Ms. Bryant, a former beauty queen and singer whose Save Our Children group led a highly publicized appeal. The county was one of the first municipalities in the nation to protect Gay rights — and was one of the first where such a measure was repealed.

After the commission's decision, opponents of the measure said they fear other governments also may extend similar rights to homosexuals.

Ralf Stores, director and president of Family First Ministries, said "what homosexuals are after is a governmental seal of approval."

Commissioners debated for about 20 minutes before approving the measure.

"Oppression in the name of religion is a time-honored tradition," said Commissioner Katy Sorenson, who reintroduced the issue. "I'm sorry that people are fearful. Those fears are usually based on ignorance."

The county previously prohibited discrimination based on race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, pregnancy, age, dis-

ability, marital status or familial status. The new ordinance adds the words sexual orientation.

The law doesn't apply to companies with fewer than five employees, rental buildings with fewer than four units, people who rent or sell by word of mouth, not-for-profit religious affiliated groups or religious groups.

More than 300 demonstrators gathered outside the downtown building where the commission meets, and members of the Chris-

tian Coalition dropped to their knees to pray. Opponents and supporters were separated by a metal railing.

"We're taking a stand for righteousness," said Pieter Swart, a member of the Miami-Dade County Christian Coalition. "We already have equal rights. We're talking about special rights for an abomination, a sin."

Ms. Bryant no longer lives in Florida. A message left on the answering machine at the Anita

Bryant Theater in Branson, Mo., was not returned.

Supporters of the ordinance carried signs reading "We are Christian, too" and "God loves everyone, even if you're straight." They shouted "Preach love, not hate."

"I'm Gay and I do not deserve special rights, but I do deserve equal rights," said Richard Sherman of the Gay rights group SAVE Dade. "Today, I'm protected."

Mutual of Omaha Caps on AIDS Treatments Ruled Unconstitutional

By Margery Beck
Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A federal judge in Chicago has determined that Mutual of Omaha's cap on HIV- and AIDS-related medical expenses violates the Americans with Disabilities Act.

U.S. District Judge Suzanne Conlon ruled on a lawsuit filed against the insurer by two national Gay, Lesbian and AIDS legal representative groups on behalf of two HIV-infected Chicago residents.

The lawsuit, filed in January,

challenged Mutual of Omaha's lifetime ceilings for HIV-related benefits of \$100,000 for one plaintiff listed as John Doe and \$25,000 for the second listed as Richard Smith.

Other medical conditions permit caps of \$1 million in lifetime benefits, according to the complaint filed by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago.

Lamba attorney Heather Sawyer called the ruling a major victory for all those with disabilities, although she said other federal court decisions have been divided.

"What this decision says is that the Americans with Disabilities Act can reach the insurance industry," Sawyer said. "There's no reason that they should not be held to the same standards that other companies are held to."

Mutual of Omaha spokesman Jim Nolan said the judge's decision doesn't end the case.

He said terms of the judgment were negotiated by both the plaintiffs and the insurance company to avoid a trial and send the case directly to an appeals court.

"It was done in recognition that this will end at the federal appeals level," Nolan said, adding the company plans to take its appeal to the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

Both sides agreed the case is about whether the Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the insurance industry.

"It is Mutual of Omaha's position that the ADA does not regulate the content or design of insurance policies," the insurance company said in a statement.

"Title III of the act regulates only access to goods and services offered by places of public accommodation, not the content or nature of the goods and services," the statement said.

Sawyer argued that although the

ADA allows insurance companies to charge different premiums for different levels of risk, it doesn't allow the industry to show bias against medical conditions like HIV and AIDS.

"They certainly did not intend to allow the insurance companies to engage in blatant discrimination," Sawyer said.

The ruling was an injunctive claim, meaning no monetary compensation was sought or awarded to the plaintiffs.

"The only thing the plaintiffs wanted was relief from the cap," Sawyer said.

According to Sawyer, Smith was diagnosed with HIV four years after he purchased a policy from Mutual of Omaha.

She said Doe's original insurance company, with which he had purchased a health policy that covered HIV- and AIDS-related medical expenses, was bought by Mutual of Omaha a few years ago.

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Researchers Find Genetic Variation Speeds AIDS Progression

By Paul Recer
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Genes that in most people slow the progression of an AIDS virus infection have some variations that actually accelerate the disease, researchers report.

In a study published in the journal *Science*, National Institutes of Health researchers report that a gene variation called CCR5P1 allows HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, to spread rapidly.

Researchers earlier found four separate genes, called CCR5, SDF, CCR5P and CCR2, that act to slow the progression of HIV by preventing the virus from invading cells.

Further studies, however, found that each of these genes has variations that actually accelerate the disease. Dr. Stephen J. O'Brien of the National Cancer Institute in Frederick, Md., co-author of the

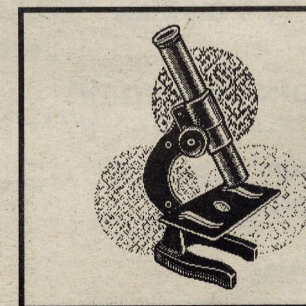
study, said one of these accelerator variations has now been identified.

Primary credit for the discovery, said O'Brien, should go to Mary P. Martin and Mary Carrington, leaders of an HIV research team at the federal cancer center.

O'Brien said about 10 percent to 15 percent of all HIV patients progress rapidly to AIDS, an advanced stage of HIV infection. Of these rapid progressors, he said, 10 percent to 17 percent have two copies of the CCR5P1 gene variation.

Researchers hope to identify all the other gene variations involved in both the rapid acceleration of HIV and in the slow progress of the disease. This will help in the design and testing of vaccines that would protect against infection by HIV, said O'Brien.

"We would like to develop vaccines that imitate what the protect genes do," said O'Brien. But to accomplish this, he said, the researchers also need to identify the gene variations that actually speed up the disease.



Queer Science

by Dr. Simon LeVay
See page 30

New Study Debunks the Myth of Gay Wealth

WASHINGTON, DC — A new study resoundingly debunks widely held beliefs about the economic status of Gay, Lesbian and bisexual (GLB) people.

Contrary to what has become the conventional wisdom on the subject, Gay, Lesbian and bisexual people do not earn more than heterosexual people. In fact, they may even earn less.

Income Inflation: The Myth of Affluence Among Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Americans was released by the Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies (IGLSS). The re-

port was authored by M.V. Lee Badgett, Ph.D., professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and executive director of IGLSS.

Income Inflation is a startling study of the economic status of a frequently stereotyped population of Americans. Badgett explores the pervasive and inaccurate notion that GLB people form an economic elite, insulated from discrimination by their wealth and disconnected from society at large by a special, privileged status. After examining data from seven different surveys, she finds that none support this stereotype.

"The evidence from many different scientifically sound data sources points to the same clear conclusion: Gay, Lesbian and bisexual people do not earn more than heterosexual people, either as individuals or as couples," reported Badgett. "Some GLB people are poor, some are rich, and most are in the middle, just as heterosexual people are. Now that we have credible data, we can stop relying on flawed studies that were designed to find high income Gay people.

Right-wing organizations and individuals perpetuate and regularly exploit the myth of

Gay wealth to bolster their attacks against the Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. The myth is so pervasive and accepted that even Su-

preme Court Justice Antonin Scalia injected it into the dissenting opinion in the Colorado Amendment Two case.

Oregon Appeals Court Ruling Bans Job Discrimination Against Gays

By Charles E Beggs
Associated Press Writer

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — An Oregon appeals court has done what state lawmakers have been unable to do for years — ban discrimination against homosexuals in the workplace.

Ruling in a case brought by three Lesbians seeking domestic-partner benefits, the appellate court is the first in the nation to interpret a state constitution as requiring a ban on job discrimination based on sexual orientation. Ten other states also have such a ban, but it came from their legislatures.

"This tells Oregonians that discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, public and private, is illegal," Deputy Attorney General David Schuman said.

Oregon Gay rights advocates had tried and failed since 1975 to get anti-discrimination legislation passed in the Capitol.

The ruling requires the state to provide benefits to same-sex domestic partners of its employees and to the thousands of teachers, police officers and others who work for local governments. Private employers were not specifically required under the ruling to provide those benefits.

Three Lesbian employees at Oregon Health Sciences University had sued to get the benefits for their domestic partners. The university and the state voluntarily began providing the benefits last June, but the court nailed that down as an obligation on Dec. 9.

The "denial of insurance ben-

efits to the unmarried partners of its homosexual employees" violated the equal protection provisions of the Oregon Constitution, the three-judge panel of the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled.

The court turned aside the university's argument that it made benefits available on equal terms to all married employees. The judges said that reasoning misses the point because homosexuals cannot marry.

"Accordingly, the benefits

are not made available on equal terms. They are made available on terms that, for Gay and Lesbian couples, are a legal impossibility," the court said.

The court concluded that homosexuals are a distinct class and that it is beyond dispute that they "have been and continue to be the subject of adverse social and political stereotyping and prejudice" in a state where the constitution requires all "privileges or immunities" to be granted equally to all citizens.

Solution to Gay and Lesbian Crossword Puzzle on page 33

I	L	L		T	V	A		S	P	R	A	Y	E	D	
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A	C	C	L	A	I	M		N	A	T	A	L	I	E	
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T	R	O	L	L	E	Y		L	E	N		L	A	T	

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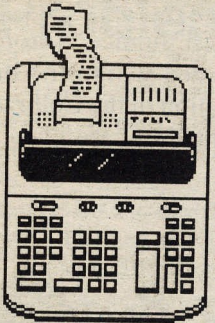
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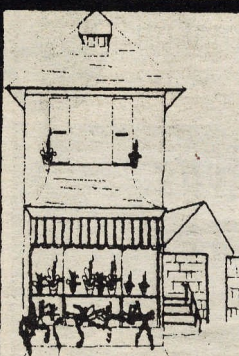
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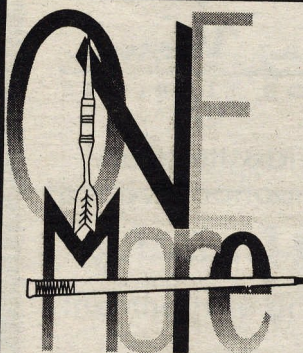
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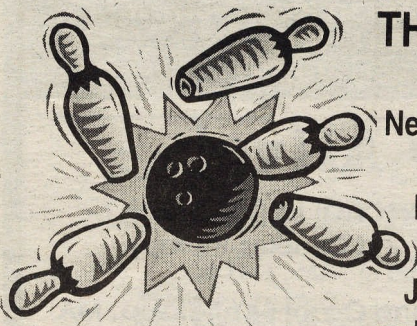
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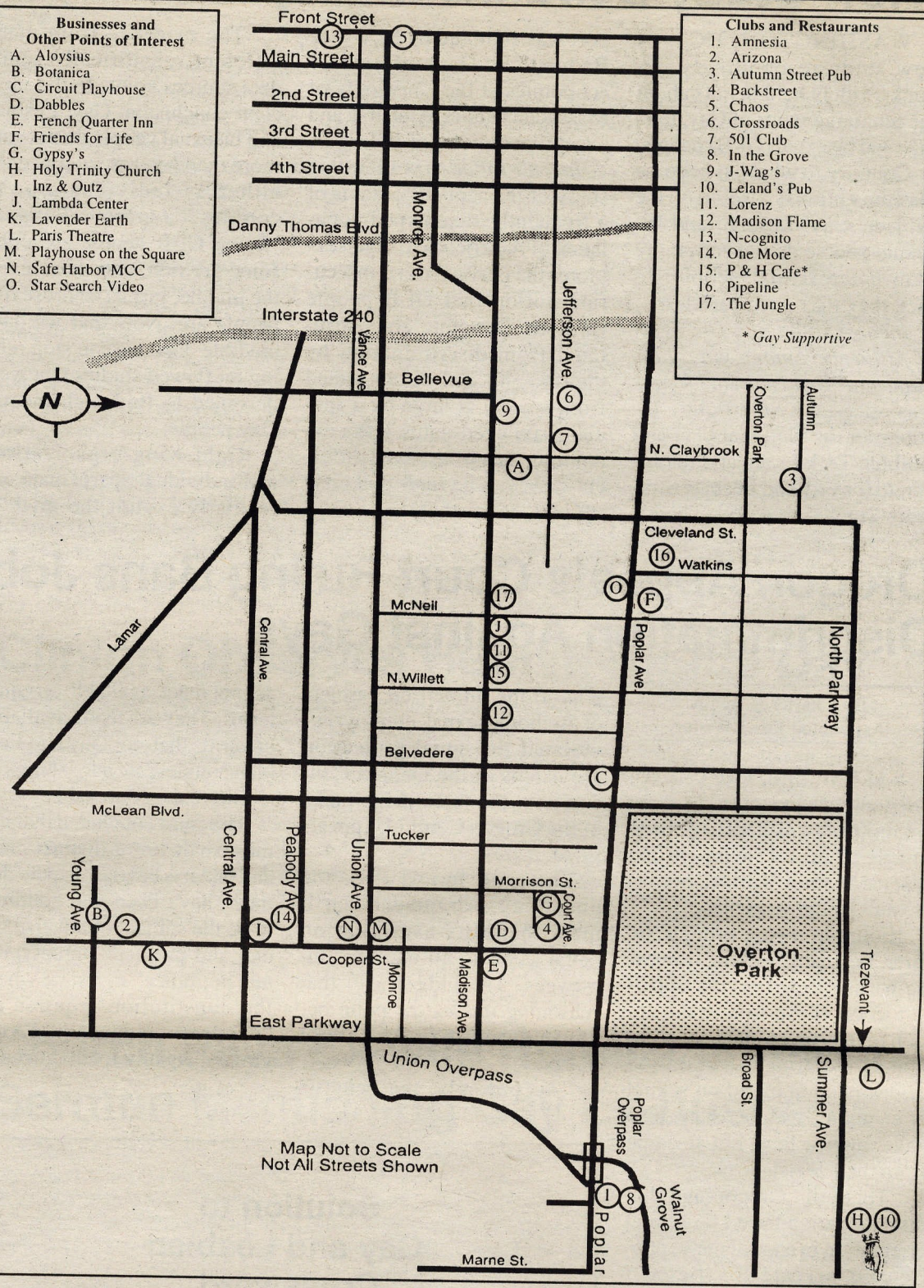


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 - I. Inz & Outz
 - J. Lambda Center
 - K. Lavender Earth
 - L. Paris Theatre
 - M. Playhouse on the Square
 - N. Safe Harbor MCC
 - O. Star Search Video

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 - 5. Chaos
 - 6. Crossroads
 - 7. 501 Club
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 - 10. Leland's Pub
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 - 13. N-cognito
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TJN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 27 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Bros. & Sisters Bowling, Cordova Lanes, 7945 Club Ctr. Cove, 5:45pm	28	29 • Integrity Board Mtg., 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm	30 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • HIV/AIDS Support Group, Jonesboro, 7pm	31 • See Ads for New Year's Parties	January 1 New Year's Day • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm	2 • Tsarus Club Night, Pipeline
3 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Bros. & Sisters Bowling, Cordova Lanes, 7945 Club Ctr. Cove, 5:45pm • WAC Meeting, 7pm, call 272-3638	4 • Feast for Friends Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm	5 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Vern's Birthday, One More	6 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm	7 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	8 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Catholic Mass with Special Invitation to Gays & Lesbians, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 7pm • Southern Country Monthly Hoedown, Club 501	9 • Mephis Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice Mtg., 1pm, First Congregational Church • Lambda Support Group, Jackson, TN, Regional Hospital, Classroom A, Jackson, TN, 2pm • Memphis Bears Club Night, Pipeline, 10pm
10 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Bros. & Sisters Bowling, Cordova Lanes, 7945 Club Ctr. Cove, 5:45pm • Tom's Birthday, One More	11 • Memphis Pride Mtg., Fully Alive, 7pm	12 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm	13 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • HIV/AIDS Support Group, Jonesboro, 7pm • Spaghetti Dinner, One More to Benefit Aphrodite	14 • NOW Meeting, YWCA, 766 So. Highland, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	15 Deadline for February '99 TJN • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm	16 • Sappho's Dinner Club, 6:30pm. Call Carol at 324-6949 for details • How to Stuff a Wild Bikini, One More
17 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Bros. & Sisters Bowling, Cordova Lanes, 7945 Club Ctr. Cove, 5:45pm • WAC Meeting, 7pm, call 272-3638	18 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day • Feast for Friends Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm	19 • AIDS Consortium Mtg., United Way Bldg. on Union, 3pm • Integrity, 6pm; Dinner/Mtg., 6:45pm, Calvary Episcopal • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm	20 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm	21 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	22 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Jackson PFlag, Madison Co., Ag Extension Office, 309 C North Parkway, 6:30pm • Front Patio Party, One More	23
24 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Bros. & Sisters Bowling, Cordova Lanes, 7945 Club Ctr. Cove, 5:45pm	25	26 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Integrity Board Mtg., 6:30pm • 1998 Dart Tournament of Champions, One More	27 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm	28 • Lambda Support Group, Jackson, TN, Regional Hospital, Classroom A, 6pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm • 1998 Pool Tournament of Champions, One More	29 February '99 TJN Due Out • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm	30



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NGLTF & HRC Lobby at the White House for Consideration of the Problems of GLBT Old People

The White House staged a first-ever conference on Social Security in Washington, DC on Dec. 8 and 9, and representatives of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) were among 240 advocates and policy makers in attendance. While government support programs for the elderly have been an area of lesbiGay activism in Australia, Canada and New Zealand for some time, it's a relatively new topic for the Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement in the U.S.

Both NGLTF and HRC raised the issue of recognition of Gay and Lesbian relationships. NGLTF executive director Kerry Lobel said, "The lack of legal recognition for our family bonds is a difficulty all GLBT people must face. Because people of the same sex cannot legally marry, and domestic partnership policies are not available everywhere and do not always

apply to all the activities we need them for, our families are often deprived of the rights and privileges that opposite-sex couples and their families can receive," including inheritance, hospital visitation, power of attorney, employee health benefits, housing, and social security benefits for survivors. Lobel noted that, "We encounter these issues increasingly as we age because we may rely more and more on our families to take care of us or make decisions for us. Also, we may seek more and more help from governmental programs that use definitions of family that exclude us." In fact, the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act specifically prohibits recognition of same-gender partnerships in all federal government regulations.

HRC's statement noted that, "A national dialogue on Social Security reform should address the definition of 'survivor' when a beneficiary dies." HRC noted that

although "the public, for now, seems not yet ready to define same-sex unions as marriage ... public opinion polls clearly show growing support for granting Gay and Lesbian people the benefits of marriage that heterosexual couples enjoy. In 1996, for example, 46% of voters favored granting social security benefits to Gay and Lesbian partners. In 1998, that figure jumped to 57%. We would hope that a discussion of Social Security reform would consider expanding the definition of 'survivor' to encompass non-traditional relationships."

NGLTF specifically called on the Lesbian, Gay, bisexual, and transgendered community to work on overcoming their agism, to "take up the struggle of carving out a place for GLBT old people" and to

learn about issues of aging such as economic anxiety, poverty, health care, housing, and employment. Lobel also said, "We must also appreciate that for old GLBT people, these struggles are compounded by the homophobia that exists in social service organizations that assume their clients to be heterosexual. In the coming year, NGLTF's Policy Institute will be releasing a new report, "Outing Age, A Working Paper on Policy Issues Facing Old Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender People."

HRC also took up the issue of Social Security disability benefits as they impact people with HIV and AIDS. "Recently, new treatments have led to dramatic improvements in the health of many (although certainly not all) people living with HIV. In theory, those

who are feeling healthy once again should be able to return to the work force and end their reliance on public assistance. However, many people with HIV can not take advantage of their restored health because by returning to work they risk losing the Medicaid and Medicare coverage they gained through their eligibility for cash assistance. If they lose comprehensive insurance coverage, they lose access to the life-saving therapies that keep them healthy in the first place. Social Security reform should address this catch-22 for people with HIV disease and other disabling conditions." HRC noted that if only 1% of those now receiving disability payments became successfully employed, it would save some \$3.5-billion over the course of their working lives.

Clinton Observes Human Rights Day

In a lengthy address on Dec. 10 observing the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations, U.S. President Bill Clinton mentioned something the Declaration does not: the civil rights of Gays and Lesbians. He was in Washington, DC presenting the first Eleanor Roosevelt Awards for Human Rights.

Roosevelt was the instigator of the Declaration, and also a Lesbian,

as revealed in her posthumously published letters to journalist Lorena Hickock.

After discussing four international human rights initiatives by the U.S., Clinton said, "Finally, I'd like to repeat my support for two top legislative priorities -- an Employment Non-Discrimination Act that would ban discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the workplace, and a Hate Crimes Prevention Act. Last year, the entire

nation was outraged by the brutal killings of Matthew Shepard, a young Gay student in Wyoming; and James Byrd, an African-American in Texas. All Americans are entitled to the same respect and legal protection, no matter their race, their gender, their sexual orientation. I agree with something President

Truman once said, 'When I say Americans, I mean all Americans.'"

Church Pays Ex-wife Humiliated by Sermon Mentioning Gay Ex-husband

SPARTA, N.J. (AP) — An Episcopal church has agreed to pay \$42,500 to a woman who accused a pastor of humiliating her and her family when he gave ser-

mons urging tolerance of her Gay ex-husband.

Karen Scott of Sparta sued St. Mary's Episcopal Church and its former pastor, the Rev. John

Nieman, for his public chastising of parishioners who wanted Scott's former husband, the church's choirmaster, to be more discreet about his homosexuality. Scott's ex-husband was hired by St. Mary's in 1982. The couple divorced in 1992 after the husband acknowledged he was actively homosexual, according to the lawsuit.

The former husband then invited his male companion to attend services at the church, distressing the Scotts' 15-year-old son, according to the complaint.

A former church rector persuaded the choirmaster to use "proper discretion" in church. But after Nieman arrived in 1994, Scott's former husband again brought his companion to services.

During this time Nieman took to the pulpit before the congregation and, using the names of the people involved, criticized those in his flock who wanted the choirmaster to be discreet.

In settling the lawsuit, the church admitted no wrongdoing.

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Tues., Jan. 5th
Vern's Birthday
Shooters & Good Times

Sun., Jan. 10th
Tom's Birthday
Shooters & Good Times

Wed., Jan. 13th - 5 - 9 P.M.
Spaghetti Dinner with
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Benefits Aphrodite

Sat., Jan. 16th - 8 P.M.
How to Stuff a Wild Bikini!
1st Place - \$100 Cash
Also 2nd & 3rd Prizes



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Shooters - Chili Dogs \$1⁰⁰.
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Ice Cold Beer

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Food & Shooters

Thurs., Jan. 28th
1998 Pool Tournament
of Champions
1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes
Food & Shooters

Let's Howl!!



Sat., Jan. 31st
Full Moon Party
7 P.M. - 'Til?

Snacks
Shooters
Dancing
Prizes

Town Of 450 Passes Parade Law Following Request For Gay Pride

By Seth Hettena
Associated Press Writer

MILLINGTON, Md. (AP) — No one in this tiny Eastern Shore community noticed there were no laws regulating parades — until a young man announced he was planning one to promote Gay pride.

When the fire company celebrated its 25th anniversary in August, there were no forms to fill out, no insurance required. But after Ricky Everett proposed his march, town officials adopted a six-page, 14-part ordinance.

Everett, 21, has reminded the 450 residents of this Kent County town that the Constitution protects the right to peaceful assembly. But that doesn't sit well with a local minister.

"This ordinance will allow things to occur that God considers an abomination," said the Rev. Scott Kreh of Millington Evangelical Christian Church, whose congregation numbers around 30.

The town's part-time mayor, R. Dennis Hager, and other residents say the issue has been blown way out of proportion. They suggest that Everett is a dreamer with grand visions who

should not be taken too seriously.

But Everett, who claims to have suffered verbal threats and been called names, says he plans to invite thousands of people to march through Millington's quiet streets on Aug. 28, 1999.

"I'm definitely going through with this," he said. "It's going to happen."

The three-member town council says Everett can have his parade, as long as he follows the ordinance that was passed unanimously. Town officials spent four months studying the issue after Everett announced his plans last spring.

"We don't make any judgments," Councilwoman Maryland Massey said.

Among other things, the measure requires parade organizers to pay a \$10 fee, get insurance, put down a \$200 deposit for cleanup and provide for traffic control in a town without a police officer.

Everett said the ordinance is unfairly aimed at him. He was infuriated when the fire company was allowed to march past the Victorian homes without having to abide by any such rules.

Deborah Jeon, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, said that a 1992 U.S. Su-

preme Court ruling made it unconstitutional for a city to require parade organizers to obtain insurance.

"The law is very clear," Jeon said.

Hager said that while the town's parade ordinance was based on that of Chestertown, the Kent County seat, parts of it duplicate the state's parade permit because Millington's two main streets are state roads.

Jeon said the ACLU would discuss any inconsistencies in the law with town officials, hoping to avoid going to court.

But while Everett thinks the law is too strict, Rev. Kreh thinks it's too lax.

"We are not in favor of any ordinance that will promote unbiblical behavior," Kreh said in a statement that quoted Scripture and called homosexuality "a perversion of God's created order."

He intended to read the statement to council members before their vote on the ordinance, but the mayor closed debate.

At two earlier public hearings, Kreh called for an ordinance limiting permission to march to established local organizations. That proposal was rejected.

Hager, a genial Southerner

who operates the Millington Pharmacy, said Kreh just doesn't understand "this Ricky thing."

Hager says Everett is a "troubled soul" who needs help and is relishing the attention the issue has brought him.

"If you take him seriously, you've got trouble," Hager said.

Many people in town say it's hard to take Everett seriously.

"People who know him just turn a deaf ear," resident Marge Jordan said.

"This whole thing's been blown out of proportion," said Faye Everett, who runs the Hickory Lane Farm store and isn't related to Ricky Everett.

Everett held a candlelight vigil before the council meeting, but only one other person carried a candle with him.

"Even though he's Gay, he's still a person," said John Rush, 14. "He should have the rights everybody else has."

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◆ Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign. Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine; love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign. ◆

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Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service:

Thursday, Dec. 24, 11:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Community Church

3430 Summer Ave.

320-9376



Sad to Say, Happy to Hear

By Butch Valentine



Sad to say... The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported in a 1989 study that Lesbian and Gay youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than other youth and account for roughly 30 percent of all teen suicides. A Youth Risk Behavior Study in 1997 found 46 percent of Gay, Lesbian and bisexual said they had attempted suicide in the past year compared to 8.8 percent of all students. They are also subjected to more threats and violence than the student general population.

Happy to hear... These shocking figures were reported in an excellent article in the *Commercial Appeal* (Dec. 13) written about MAGY, Memphis Area Gay Youth. This group was born out of necessity and compassion, and has touched the lives of over 250 teens since its beginnings in 1995. I am so thankful there is a wonderful group such as this to help our troubled youth through their difficult times. I only wish there had been this type of help and support available in 1971 when I was a senior in high school.

Sad to say... We all remember the tragic story of Matthew Shepard, the 21-year-old from Wyoming who was brutally murdered only because he was Gay.

Happy to hear... Visit Time.com and place your vote for *Time* magazine's Man of the Year. Though unscientific and not final, Matthew Shepard is way ahead of the pack with 34,225 votes (12/14). The announcement will be made on Dec. 20th. I doubt he will be honored in such a way, but I'll keep my fingers crossed nevertheless.

Sad to say... Let us not forget the infamous Reggie White, the reverend from Tennessee who plays for the Green Bay Packers. The Southern Baptist Rev. Reggie spent too much time and a whole lot of energy last summer bad-mouthing homosexuals every chance he got. I was so disappointed because I could no longer cheer on my favorite team with someone like him on the roster. It's Religious Righteous Wonders like Rev. Reggie that intentionally or not foster the environment that causes harm to people such as our Gay teens and young adults like Matthew Shepard.

Happy to hear... The Green Bay Packers have only an outside shot at the Super Bowl this year. See there? What goes around,

comes around.

Sad to say... Aren't there any Gays out there who enjoy football beside me? (Volunteers Rule! We're Number One!!) Anyone planning to watch the Super Bowl this year?

Happy to hear... Now Gays will have a reason to tune in to the Mother of all Football Games — at least for the first few minutes. It has been announced that Cher will be singing the national anthem for Super Bowl XXXIII in Miami on Jan. 31. And get this — she is supposed to wear a \$12,000 skin-tight gown with peek-a-boo cutouts. Now that's reason enough to tune in, but I can't wait to hear her rendition of our nation's catchy little ditty.

Sad to say... Santa and his elves are so inconsiderate of their wives on Christmas eve, leaving them to fend for themselves.

Happy to hear... That's alright with the ladies. They just go into town and blow a few bucks!

Sad to say... Can it get any weirder than this? Probably, but read this anyway. A 36 year-old Fort Smith, Ark., man with HIV jumped on a man's back and bit him on the back of the neck during a robbery, and bit him so hard that he broke the skin. OUCH! He stole the man's wallet, which had \$40, to buy crack cocaine. Instead of charging him with exposing someone to the deadly virus, they can only charge him with robbery. Prosecutors said Arkansas law requires that exposure only occur through sexual contact. Another OUCH!

Happy to hear... Not even this optimist can think of something good to say about this story.

Sad to say... Viagra's launch last April was the most successful in prescription drug history, but sales have declined. I wonder if the 69 men who died after taking the miracle drug had anything to do with it. Gives a whole new meaning to the term "lucky stiff."

Happy to hear... This is plain ol' bizarre. Viagra's manufacturer, Pfizer, has hired — get this — former senator and Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole to be their pitchman. It won't work though — everyone knows since this impeachment stuff started up that Republicans don't have sex. Who would have thought that Dole would be 'gettin' any' and Clinton wouldn't. Speaking of impeachment...

Sad to say... I am terribly disturbed by the events surrounding the possible impeachment of President Clinton. As of this writing, there are four counts of impeachment pertaining to perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power. There are too many issues on this subject to write about here, but I will say this... I think the abuse of power charge should be flipped to the Republican Righteous Wonders. The American public is overwhelmingly against this high-stakes impeachment game, but the Republicans and Starr have been relentless, foisting their personal agendas, moral judgements and hatred upon an unwilling populace. THEY are proceeding with this because it is what THEY want, not the rest of the country.

Happy to hear... Something good can come from all this mess. First of all, I am doubtful Clinton will be impeached (I hope). The House may vote for it (simple majority required), but I don't think it will fly in the Senate (two-thirds majority required). Secondly, I believe there will be a backlash against Republicans in the next election. We Americans are an intelligent lot and a majority of us see what's really going on here — and please say this out loud—

It's pure PP! (which means partisan politics). And it's just one notch below doo-doo. And if elected officials don't listen to what John and Jane Q. Public want and stop this nonsense, it will come back to haunt them.

Sad to say... A life changes drastically when that person is told he or she has HIV. I know mine did, and whenever I speak to a group of people, that questions inevitably comes up. "How has your life changed since you were diagnosed?" It's like... how long do you have to listen? But I sum it up nicely with this answer...

Happy to hear... "I find that I have to vote Democrat."

Sad to say... That's right, folks, my life B.A. (before AIDS) was that of a die-hard Yuppie.

Happy to hear... Now I guess I am a bleeding heart liberal.

Sad to say... HIV is the smartest virus ever, outwitting science at every turn with its ability to mutate in order to survive. Almost a whole new science has had to be created to battle this voracious virus.

Happy to hear... Thanks to a

special x-ray machine called a synchrotron, scientists are now able to "see" changes in the virus that lets it become resistant to drugs. They are able to crystallize and make an image of the enzyme that HIV uses to replicate. This could help to design better medications.

Sad to say... We have all heard the evils of smoking and the effects of second hand smoke. Now, are you ready for this? The breast milk of mothers who smoke smells like cigarettes! Can you believe that little tid-bit of information? Researchers are guessing that breast-fed babies of smoking moms might learn to like the taste of cigarettes.

Happy to hear... Who thinks of these things? I'm curious to know what methods were used to determine that breast milk could taste like cigarettes. Just imagine... menthol breast milk.

Happy to hear... To all of you, whether you have been naughty or nice, I wish a holiday season filled with warm memories, old and new, and a New Year that will bring happiness and healthiness to all.

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And The Countdown Begins....

by Vincent Astor

Do any of y'all ever think, really notice, that the year 2000 A.D. (or Common Time) is so close? Up until very recently it always seemed so far away. There is a lot of hype, name your flavour, but it strikes me sorta quietly and strangely.

The One Big Event We've Heard About

Jezebel's Reverse 29th Birthday Party (she didn't say which one) will cover two days, Wed., Jan. 20 and Thurs., Jan 21. She will be doing another stand-up comedy gig at The Loony Bin from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday and will hostess a party at Madison Flame afterwards. Thursday,

she will hostess cocktails during Happy Hour at TGI Fridays in Overton Square from 4 to 6 p.m., move to In the Grove for more cocktails until 9 p.m., to Amnesia for even more cocktails at 9 and then hostess the first Miss Memphis Pride Contest at 11 (in spite of all of those cocktails).

Special guest will be Bianca Paige from Nashville and all proceeds will benefit Memphis Pride. Tickets to the entire extravaganza are \$20 and may be obtained from Jezebel, or, we imagine, at sponsors Amnesia and In The Grove.

We would also ask at Madison Flame or Memphis Pride. Additional sponsors are Gateway Travel and *Family & Friends Magazine*.

The Runaround

Any of our Gentle Readers may also contact a Tsarus club member during this month for suggestions for this year's Man of the Year nomination. This dinner event will be held in early 1999.

Speaking of dinner events, Beyond Tea raised over \$3,000 after all the events were over. This money always goes to the Adult Special Care Clinic at The MED.

Speaking of dinner, a Lesbian dinner group is in the formative stages. See the ad.

Out With Family

Club 501 will serve Christmas Eve dinner starting at 5 p.m. Crossroads will serve Christmas Brunch at 5 p.m. Pipeline will serve Christmas Dinner at 5 p.m. At The Jungle, it will be Potluck at 5 p.m. There may be a surprise that escaped me.

Memphis now has 14, count 'em, 14 Gay/Lesbian bars and several other alternatives for New Year's Eve. There is always glitter, there are sometimes themes and, inevitably, hats, horns and champagne at midnight. There is a party for just about every taste and all will be celebrating.

Holiday Wish List

The Memphis Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice continues its organizational

meetings. A fair-sized group of volunteers of many ages, races and genders are organizing to give Memphis and West Tennessee Gays and Lesbians a political voice. The Nashville organization has become very talented in working the political machine there. We can do it too and more help (and contributions) is needed. The next meeting is Sat., Jan. 9, at 1 p.m. at First Congregational Church.

Memphis Pride, Inc., will be beginning to gear up for this

spring's events in January. This year's theme and logo will premiere very soon. Assistance is needed on all fronts to make this year's celebrations the best yet.

Several Gay/Lesbian organizations banded together (an idea brought forward by the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center) and purchased an ad in the program for *Rent* at the Orpheum. Yet another first! If you haven't seen the ad, look it up or get somebody who's going to the play to bring it home. You know very well that any organization in this ad needs volunteers and financial support.

Warm Fuzzy Department

I would like to thank Margaret McNutt and the staff at the Memphis Pink Palace Museum for helping to preserve a tiny part of our history. Items from previous Memphis Pride Celebrations have been placed in the Memphis History Collection at the Pink Palace and will be available as a record for the future.

Final Round

As usual, have a happy holiday, whichever one belongs to you.

Ta, ta.
Lady A.



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What Was the First Gay-Rights Organization in America?

Almost 30 years before Harry Hay and his friends founded the Mattachine Society, a nonprofit corporation called the Society for Human Rights paid \$10 for a charter from the state of Illinois and took its place as the earliest documented Gay-rights organization in the United States. The written purpose of the Chicago-based group was so vague that the government clerk who processed the application for a charter undoubtedly had no idea

mal sexual behavior. Gerber set down as the Society's main intent "to promote and protect the interests of people who by reason of mental and physical abnormalities are abused and hindered in the legal pursuit of happiness." Nowhere in the statement could he dare words like "homosexual" or "invert."

Once he'd written the declaration, Gerber had a hard time finding anyone to sign it, even though it was a nebulous statement about human rights. He

vice-president of the organization, Al Meininger, had a wife and children. When Meininger's wife found out about his double life, she reported him to a social worker, alleging that he and his friends performed "strange doings" in front of the children. An article appeared on the front page of the *Chicago Examiner* under the lurid headline "Strange Sex Cult Exposed." The three officers of the Society — Gerber, Meininger, and an itinerant preacher named John Graves — were arrested and prosecuted. The policemen who raided Gerber's apartment at 2 a.m. took his typewriter, personal diaries and all the files of the Society. But because the arrests were made without a warrant, a judge eventually dismissed the case, and the three men were released.

Though Gerber got his type-

writer and the Society's papers back, his diaries were never returned. They were confiscated by postal inspectors who were investigating if "Friendship and Freedom" had violated the federal law against sending obscene material through the mail. Gerber subsequently lost his post office job, and his ordeal marked the end of his fledgling Gay-rights group. Disheartened, he moved to New York City and re-enlisted in the Army, serving for another 17 years.

For the rest of his life, Gerber remained an active Gay-rights proponent, publishing a number of articles and reviews on Gay themes, sometimes under the pseudonym "Parisex" and sometimes under his own name. His account of the founding of the Society for Human Rights in a 1962 issue of *ONE* magazine is one of the few remaining

records of that historic organization. After its demise, more than two decades would pass before American Gays and Lesbians would once again form political organizations to protect their interests.

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of Modern Jewish History for Everyone. He can be reached care of this publication or at AriBianco@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.Gay.net.

For further reading:

Gerber, Henry. "The Society for Human Rights — 1925." *ONE*, vol. 10, no. 9 (Sep. 1962).

Katz, Jonathan Ned. "The Chicago Society for Human Rights." In *Gay American History: Lesbians and Gay Men in the U.S.A., A Documentary History*, rev. ed. (Meridian, 1992).

PAST/OUT

BY DAVID BIANCO

that he was helping to make queer history.

The guiding light behind the Society was Henry Gerber (1892-1972), whose family had emigrated from Bavaria to Chicago in 1913. Immediately after World War I, Gerber served with the U.S. Army's occupation forces in Germany and there became acquainted with the work of Gay-rights pioneers, including Magnus Hirschfeld and his Scientific Humanitarian Committee. Gerber was particularly enthusiastic about a group called Bund fur Menschenrecht (Society for Human Rights), which advocated for a mass movement of Gay people. He began subscribing to German homophile magazines and making frequent trips to Berlin to participate in the city's lively Gay culture.

His experiences in Germany fueled Gerber's desire to launch a similar movement in the United States for what he called "homosexual emancipation." Soon after he returned to Chicago, where a Gay subculture was forming, Gerber set out to achieve his goal. Besides wanting to help himself and others like him, Gerber also had hopes of fame and glory. "If I succeeded," he wrote later, "I might become known to history as deliverer of the downtrodden, even as Lincoln."

During breaks from his job with the post office, Gerber drafted a declaration of purpose for a proposed Society for Human Rights. The statement's wording was lofty, vague, and drawn from the idea, prevalent at that time, that homosexuality was an "inversion" of nor-

mal sexual behavior. Gerber set down as the Society's main intent "to promote and protect the interests of people who by reason of mental and physical abnormalities are abused and hindered in the legal pursuit of happiness." Nowhere in the statement could he dare words like "homosexual" or "invert."

Once he'd written the declaration, Gerber had a hard time finding anyone to sign it, even though it was a nebulous statement about human rights. He finally talked a half-dozen of his friends into working with him, and their seven names appeared together on the 1924 charter. "The average homosexual," Gerber later complained, "was ignorant concerning himself. Others were fearful. Still others were frantic or depraved. Some were base.... We wondered how we could accomplish anything with such resistance from our own people."

As part of the group's mission, Gerber hoped to institute a series of educational lectures for Gay men on sexual self-control, "especially urging against the seduction of adolescents," he wrote. He also wanted to publish a newsletter called "Friendship and Freedom" to keep Gay people informed about the group's activities. The publication, too, would downplay sexuality in order to gain the sympathy of the general public and, in particular, legal authorities.

Gerber soon found that Gay men who were afraid to sign the Society's declaration of purpose also hesitated to donate money to the group or add their names to its mailing list. He wrote and mimeographed two issues of "Friendship and Freedom" by himself and financed them out of his own pocket. Because of the financial drain on Gerber, only two issues were ever published, although they were not widely circulated, and indeed, no copies of "Friendship and Freedom" remain.

Gerber's greatest challenge as a Gay activist came in the summer of 1925. Although most of the members of the Society were, like Gerber, bachelors, the

About 2,000 People Hold Rally Against Miami's New Gay Rights Ordinance

MIAMI (AP) — Miami-Dade County's new Gay rights ordinance continues to draw fire.

About 2,000 people held a rally Dec. 12 to protest a recently approved county ordinance that bars discrimination against homosexuals in housing and the workplace.

"We are here to preserve the dignity of the family unit," said Ovidio Cardin, who was among those at the Orange Bowl. "We all know homosexuals have rights, but this law is the beginning of giving them too many rights, giving them free reign... It's not good for the family."

The Miami-Dade County commission decided Dec. 1 to amend the county's civil rights law to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodation.

Those speaking out against the amendment, though, may be outnumbered by supporters, according to a new poll.

The poll, released Dec. 12 by *The Miami Herald* and Miami television station WTVJ, found that 53 percent of 650 voters interviewed said they support the new Gay rights law. Another 33 percent said they oppose the commission's decision, and 14 percent said they don't know.

The overall poll results, based on telephone interviews with people who described themselves as frequent voters, have a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The results suggest that opponents will face an uphill battle if they try to repeal the law through a

public referendum, said South Florida pollster Rob Schroth, who conducted the survey.

"They would have to change a great many people's minds in order to be successful," Schroth said. "Of course, that's not impossible, just difficult."

The poll was conducted Dec. 10 and 11 by Schroth & Associates of Washington.

The county's voters overturned a similar law in 1977 after singer Anita Bryant led a crusade against it. But times have changed, Schroth said.

"Dade County today is not the Dade County of the Anita Bryant

era," he said. "With almost 50 percent of voters saying they know someone who is Gay, it will be difficult for the anti-Gay forces to overturn this decision."

Hialeah evangelist Oscar Aguero said he had divine inspiration for organizing the stadium rally.

"God spoke to me Thursday (Dec. 10) morning," he said. "And he told me to rent the Orange Bowl."

But the number of people who attended fell far short of the 100,000 that organizers of the rally had hoped to attract.

New York Times on Hate Crimes

"Matt Shepard spoke three languages or more. He seemed bright and open and full of promise. We will never know what he would have done in life. But in death, in a nation sickened by the gratuitous thuggery of his murder, he may do much to dispel the stubborn belief in some quarters that homosexuals are not discriminated against. They are. Hatred can kill. The men accused of killing Matthew Shepard will be tried for first-degree murder. But his death makes clear the need for hate-crime laws to protect those who survive and punish those who attack others, whether fatally or not, just because of who they are."

— Editorial in *The New York Times*, Oct. 13.

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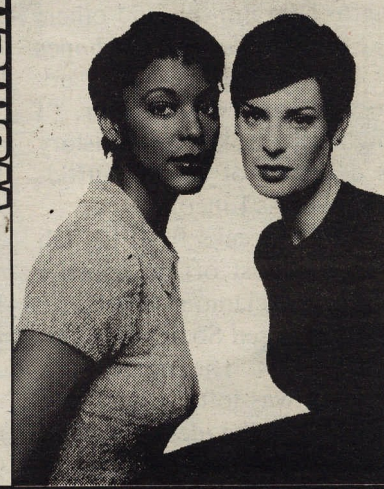
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Judge Denies Gag Order for Shepard Murder Suspect

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — A judge on Nov. 15 denied a request for a gag order in the case of one of two men charged with beating Matthew Shepard to death.

Eighth District Judge Barton R. Voigt denied prosecutor Cal Rerucha's motion to limit information about the case against Aaron James McKinney, 21.

McKinney and Russell Arthur Henderson, 21, are accused of fracturing Shepard's skull during a robbery that authorities said may have been motivated in part because Shepard was gay. Shepard died Oct. 12, five days after the attack.

In a decision letter, Voigt wrote that "a general gag order is too high a price to pay in this case."

Rerucha had asked that all

the files in the case be sealed and that a gag order be imposed to prevent attorneys, witnesses, law enforcement and court personnel from speaking to reporters about the case.

Rerucha had said that "counsel for defendant McKinney is attempting to gain publicity in order that venue will be changed from Albany County," and argued that a gag order be imposed "to preserve the integrity of the potential juror pool," according to court documents.

McKinney's public defenders Dion Custis and Jason Tangeman objected to the accusation that they were seeking publicity, saying in a motion, "This contention is ridiculous."

Voigt also ruled that "indi-

vidual hearings may be closed and individual documents may be sealed upon an appropriate showing of need and with notice to the media."

"In such case the party seeking such court action must file a particularized request or motion," he wrote.

The judge hearing the cases against Henderson and McKinney's girlfriend, Kristen LeAnn Price, 19, had earlier denied Rerucha's request for a gag order, and partially granted his motion for closing files.

Price and Henderson's girlfriend, Chasity Vera Pasley, 20, are charged with accessory after the fact to first-degree murder for allegedly disposing bloody clothes worn by Henderson.

Second District Judge Jef-

frey A. Donnell ordered future motions to be filed under seal and future hearings be closed in the Henderson and Price cases, but the media, through the Wyoming Press Association, will be afforded a chance to argue for opening specific hearings and files.

A hearing on Rerucha's request for a gag order in the case of Pasley had not been scheduled at press time.

Henderson's trial is to begin March 22. McKinney's trial will begin Aug. 9. Both men are charged with first-degree murder, aggravated robbery and kidnapping with intent to inflict bodily injury or to terrorize the victim.

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Judge Denies Students' Request For Gay Student Club

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A federal judge has refused to block a Salt Lake School District policy that prohibits extracurricular clubs, including the East High School Gay-Straight Alliance.

Two students in the Gay student club and their parents had asked U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins to issue a preliminary injunction, which

would allow the club to function pending a trial expected next year.

The students sought immediate action since one graduates this spring.

The school board banned all extracurricular clubs in 1996, after a Gay-straight support group sought recognition as a school-sponsored club. In order to comply with federal law

and continue to receive federal aid, the board had to either accept all clubs or none at all.

Attorneys for the students argued that other clubs were being allowed to meet, meaning a prohibition on the Gay club was discriminatory.

Jon Davidson, an attorney for the plaintiffs, called the Nov. 25 ruling "a bump in the road." He is considering an appeal.

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QUEER Science

By Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Could DES Have Affected Sexual Orientation of Children?

Between 1938 and 1971, several million pregnant women in the U.S.A. were given the drug diethylstilbestrol (DES), a synthetic and very potent estrogen-like hormone. It was prescribed for women who were at risk for miscarriage although, as we now know, it is not effective for that purpose and may in fact promote miscarriage.

Administration of the drug to pregnant women was halted when it was found that it caused serious health problems for some of the female children born to those pregnancies. About one in a thousand of these girls, when they reached young adulthood, developed a cancer of the cervix or vagina (clear

cell adenocarcinoma) that is normally very rare in that age group. Others have had fertility problems, and some have anatomical abnormalities of the reproductive tract whose significance is uncertain.

The DES saga was a medical catastrophe. But it was also an unintentional experiment: what would be the effect of exposing the brains of developing fetuses to a powerful estrogen? The consequences have been studied by Anke Ehrhardt and a number of her colleagues at Columbia University in New York. In males who were exposed to DES as fetuses, they found no significant effects of any kind. In four different groups of DES-

exposed women, however, Ehrhardt found a higher prevalence of bisexuality and homosexuality, compared with comparison groups of women who were not exposed. Statistically, it was a highly significant effect, but it was not a large effect: the majority of the DES-exposed women were in fact heterosexual.

At first glance, Ehrhardt's findings are unexpected. If DES is an estrogen — a "female" hormone — why should it drive psychosexual development in a "male-typical" direction? The answer probably has to do with a peculiarity of brain chemistry. In the typical development of a male fetus, the brain is directed to develop in a male direction by testosterone coming from the fetus's testes. This masculinization is partly a direct action of testosterone, but it also depends in part on the conversion of testosterone to estrogen in the brain. The resulting estrogen has further masculinizing effects, and it is these effects that are mimicked by DES.

DES may influence more than sexual orientation. Four studies, including a recent one by Laurel Smith and Melissa Hines of the City University of London, have reported that DES-exposed women are more likely to be left-handed or mixed-handed than other women. This is of some interest,

because the same thing has been reported for lesbians and bisexual women. In addition, one study has reported that DES-exposed women, during childhood, are atypical in some traits — for example in being less interested than other girls in doll play — but these findings have not been confirmed in other studies.

Whatever the effects of DES, they are quite small compared with the effects seen in women who were exposed to testosterone-like hormones during fetal life — for example, women with the syndrome of congenital adrenal hyperplasia. Those women are much more atypical in their childhood characteristics and in their adult sexual orientation. This supports the notion that the masculinizing effect of testosterone on the fetal brain is twofold: in part a direct effect of the hormone, and in part a secondary effect resulting from its conversion to estrogen.

Lesbians and bisexual women who were DES-exposed during fetal life may wonder whether their sexual orientation is a consequence of their DES exposure. The numbers suggest that it could have been a contributing factor, but not a large one. Most DES-exposed women are heterosexual, so other factors — genetic predisposition, life experiences, or outright choice — probably play a more significant

role.

It's important for DES-exposed women to be familiar with the possible health effects of their exposure and to make sure their doctors are too. As the population of DES-exposed women enters middle age, there is some concern about the possible occurrence of new kinds of health problems. DES Action USA (www.desaction.org) is the place for more information on this topic. It should be kept in mind, however, that the majority of exposed women have suffered no adverse consequences from their exposure.

The history of DES reminds us of the potential hazards of new drugs — hazards that may not show themselves for many years. The current trend toward more rapid approval of new drugs, sparked in part by AIDS activists, is bringing many benefits, but also carries serious risks. Pregnant women in particular need to be cautious about every pill they swallow.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well known for his research on the "Gay brain." He is author of *The Sexual Brain*, *City of Friends* (with Elisabeth Nonas), *Queer Science*, and the novel *Albrick's Gold*. For more *Queer Science* columns, visit www.Gay.net. Contact LeVay at SLeVay@aol.com, or visit his home page, <http://members.aol.com/slevay>.



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George Michael Regrets Loss of Dignity in Los Angeles Arrest

LONDON (AP) — Pop star George Michael says his arrest at a public restroom was not the way he would have chosen to bring his homosexuality out of the closet.

"Believe me, I'd rather have run up and down Oxford Street naked saying 'I'm Gay, I'm Gay,' than have it happen the way it did," Michael said in a television interview.

He is grateful, he said, for the public support he received following his April 7 arrest for lewd conduct at Will Rogers Memorial Park in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"I've had a really tough decade. I've lost a partner. I've lost my mother. I've lost my dignity," he told BBC-TV. "The one thing I hold onto is my relationship with the public."

He said the deaths of his live-in partner Anselmo Feleppa and his mother had helped him deal with what happened in California.

"Within a day and a half I saw

the funny side of it," he said.

Michael said he had been drinking before the incident in the park and that he took a foolish risk.

"There was no-one in the vicinity, but two undercover cops and a slightly drunk randy pop star. I was not subjecting the public to full frontal nudity," he said.

In a related development, Michael says he'd gladly work more hours for an AIDS charity rather than spend his court-ordered community service on the telephone.

Michael was sentenced to 80 hours of community service after pleading no contest to committing a lewd act in a restroom at a Beverly Hills park.

He was scheduled to begin the service on Nov. 23 at Project Angel Food, which delivers 1,000 meals a day to people with AIDS.

But on Nov. 20, Beverly Hills Municipal Court Judge Charles Rubin ordered the singer to fulfill

the obligation by phoning schools and children's centers to encourage kids to do charity work.

The judge did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

Michael attributed the judge's order to a recent video in which the singer mocked his April 7 arrest by an undercover police officer at Will Rogers Memorial Park.

"In all likelihood, I have prompted Judge Rubins' sudden change of heart by my own actions. I've talked openly about police entrapment and in my latest video made light of recent events," he said, reading from a statement outside Project Angel Food.

Michael, wearing a cook's apron, said that he will work "as many hours as (the judge) sees fit" if he is allowed to complete his community service at Project Angel Food, a charity to which he has donated for years.

The media attention could help the nonprofit group, he said.

"You guys want to see me take my punishment. And that's absolutely fine by me if it can benefit others," he said, gesturing to cameras and reporters huddled around him.

He then retreated into Project Angel Food, saying he had work to do.

"I have to go bake a cake," he said.



Mon., Jan 4
Mon., Jan. 18

6 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
St. John's United
Methodist Church
(Peabody & Bellevue)

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Deep Inside HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Downey Goes Bi

Talented on-again off-again junkie Robert Downey Jr. seems rehabilitated enough to go back in front of the camera. In *Black and White*, Downey stars as Brooke Shields's husband — who also happens to be a flamboyant bisexual. The film, which reunites the actor with *Two Girls and a Guy* director James Toback is about a group of wealthy New Yorkers who get wrapped up in Black hip-hop culture. Ben Stiller and the cuter-with-every-passing-year Elijah Wood also star. This is far from Downey's first queer role — remember *Less Than Zero* and *Home for the Holidays*?



Robert Downey, Jr.

Cruise Beats Geisha

Uber-director Steven Spielberg has put his film adaptation of *Memoirs of a Geisha* on ice, ice baby in order to work with Tom Cruise. *Geisha*, based on the Arthur Golden bestseller of the same name, was long thought to be the *Jurassic* director's next project. But Steven has balked, claiming that the worldwide publicity *Saving Private Ryan* has generated has kept him from prepping the project properly. In other words, Steven is writing his Academy Award speech and doesn't want to have to jet in from *Geisha*'s Japanese locations for the ceremony.

While Spielberg insists *Geisha* is still on, he's instead focusing on working with the one-time Top Gun as soon as the cruise man finishes up *Mission: Impossible II* at the end of next summer. The two will most likely collaborate on 20th Century Fox's *The Minority Report*, a futuristic thriller about a policeman who is forced to go on the run for a crime he has not yet committed.

You'll also be able to see Mr. Kidman in an uncredited cameo in the new movie from *Boogie Nights* director Paul Thomas Anderson. *Magnolia* is a series of vignettes about love, loss and family as seen through the eyes of San Fernando Valley-ites and will reunite many members of the *Boogie Nights* cast, including the hyper-talented duo Julianne Moore and William H. Macy.

A Star is Born Again

In 1937 there was the original. Then there was Judy. Then Barbra. Now there is Will — as in Smith. Warner Bros. is planning a third remake of *A Star is Born*, asking the Fresh Prince to bring some of his Big Willie Style to the project. The genders will swap in the new take on the film — this time, an ac-

tress whose career is on the decline helps a young actor to achieve fame. No word yet if D.J. Jazzy Jeff is being considered for the Kris Kristofferson role.

Cross-Dressing Cameo

Rocking transvestite Marilyn Manson is making a cameo appearance sans makeup and latex breasts in Sony's black comedy *Jawbreaker*, which will be released early next year. The Antichrist Superstar will sport cheesy polyester threads and a fake mustache in the film, which stars Manson's main squeeze, *Scream* actress Rose McGowan.

Busy Single Moms

Jodie Foster, who has made 33 films in her 34 years, has a new project. The super-talented mom/producer/director/movie star has found her six-year-old production company, Egg Pictures, a new home at Paramount. Foster recently entered into a three-year deal with the studio to produce, direct and star in Paramount projects.

Sandra Bernhard's one-woman Broadway show, "I'm Still Here, Damn It!" has been extended at New York's Booth Theater after good reviews. The show, a combination of comedy and music, pokes fun at everything from celebrity deaths (Princess Di, Versace) to the (lack of) sexual dynamics between Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. Ms. Bernhard also pipes a satirical tribute to diva Liza Minnelli. But Sandra's foxy post-partum figure is what's getting most of the rave reviews, since she sports a see-through dress in the show.

Will Grace Still Have a Job?

On the TV front, it's been a tough season for Gays. NBC's Gayest sitcom is facing some stiff competition from its hetero opponent, Ted Danson. CBS has just

ordered a full season of Paramount's *Becker*, starring the former *Cheers* bartender after airing just three episodes opposite *Will & Grace*. *Will & Grace*'s ratings have fallen 25 percent since *Becker* debuted. Perhaps the peacock network will now allow Will to get a life (and a relationship) in an attempt to boost ratings.

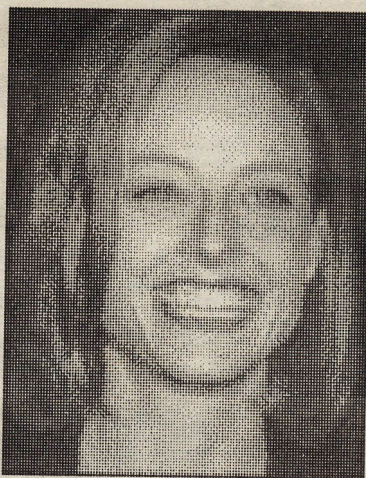
Williamson's Wasteland

It's never too soon to start planning next season's schedule. That's why ABC has inked a 13-episode commitment with Gay writing powerhouse Kevin Williamson of *Scream* and *Dawson's Creek* fame. *Wasteland* is a one-hour drama about former college buddies living in New York City, including a closeted soap actor and those ubiquitous NYC staples: a cop and a reporter. Hopefully, *Wasteland*'s Gay character will get more action than perpetual virgin Dawson.

Spacey Looking Fine

Academy Award-winning actor Kevin Spacey, who so convincingly portrayed a Gay man in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* has decided what he really wants to do is direct. While his directing debut *Albino Alligator* didn't wow much of Hollywood, he has signed a "first-look" production deal with New York-based Fine Line Features (a division of New Line Cinema) to act in, produce and possibly direct films.

The first film to unfurl under Spacey's Trigger Street Productions banner is *Ordinary Decent Criminal*, an Irish gangster film in



Jodie Foster

which Spacey stars with Linda Fiorentino (*After Hours*) and Helen Baxendale of *Friends* fame. Unlike most actors' production companies, Spacey is not limiting his interest to film. Trigger Street is also producing the revival of *The Ice-man Cometh* on Broadway next April.

The Busiest Couple in Hollywood

The busiest partners in Tinseltown are writing/directing/producing wunderkinds Dean Devlin and Roland Emmerich, who brought us the fun *Independence Day* and the mega-flop *Godzilla*.

Apparently, the *Godzilla* box-office receipts (or lack thereof) weren't enough to keep the studios from investing again in this dynamic duo.

Devlin and Emmerich are now attached to two high-profile film projects. The first is *Patriot*, a story about American Revolutionary Francis "The Swamp Fox" Marion. Devlin and Emmerich, who swore they'd never work on a project they didn't write seem to be going back on their word (perhaps *Godzilla* taught them not to be cocky), trusting the very capable hands of screenwriter Robert Rodat (*Saving Private Ryan*). Also in the works is *Twilight's Last Fading*, a thriller about an impeached U.S. President who refuses to abandon the office.

Romeo San Vicente, who will never be a single mom (but if he were, he'd be happy to discuss how he got pregnant), can be reached care of this publication or at RomeoDeep@aol.com.

For More Deep Inside Hollywood, visit www.Gay.net or www.popcornq.com.

A Gay Oscar?

With *Gods and Monsters* winning the National Board of Review vote for Best Picture and openly gay actor Ian McKellen (who portrays Gay director James Whale in the film) being named Best Actor

by the Board and the LA Film Critics, it may be a Gay old time at the 71st annual Academy Awards next March. Tinseltown is also buzzing about Gwyneth Paltrow's cross-dressing turn in *Shakespeare In Love*. This wouldn't be the first time a transvestite was nominated for an Oscar, though. At the 1982 awards both Dustin (*Tootsie*) Hoffman and Julie (*Victor/Victoria*) Andrews were nominated for top awards, but neither won. And Jack Lemmon was nominated for his cross-dressing role in *Some Like it Hot* in 1959. The Academy Award nominations will be announced on ABC on Feb. 9.

Gods and Monsters will play at the Bartlett Cinema beginning on Jan. 15.



Sir Ian McKellen

On December 4, 1998 the Pipeline celebrated 12 years of serving the Memphis Gay Community. The holiday season can be frantic at times, but it's also a time of togetherness and renewed friendships. We sincerely want to thank all of you who have stayed with us throughout the years. Best Wishes for a safe and Happy Holiday Season from all of us at the Pipeline.

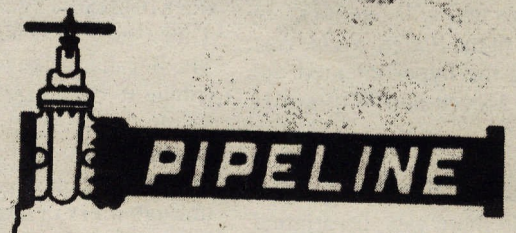


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Sundance Channel Features Gay Films

The Sundance Channel, being offered by Time Warner Cable in Memphis beginning Dec. 30, will very likely provide a venue for Gay-oriented films not likely to be seen on other cable or satellite services.

The Sundance Channel, under the creative direction of actor/director Robert Redford, brings television viewers nationwide the best of new independent feature movies as well as documentaries, shorts, animated and international cinema, running uncut and commercial-free 24 hours a day.

On tap for January are *Kiss Me Guido* (Fri., Jan 22, 8 p.m.) and

Dottie Gets Spanked (Sun., Jan. 31, 7 p.m.)

In *Kiss Me Guido*, aspiring actor Frankie mistakes GWM in the roommate-wanted ad to mean "Guy With Money." When he leaves his pizza place in the Bronx, his promiscuous girlfriend and his Italian parents to move into the city and pursue his dream of becoming the next Al Pacino, he discovers his new roommate Warren is as unwilling to live with a "Guido" as Frankie is to live with a Gay man. But somehow they have to make it work.

The film appeared at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival.

In the 1993 short *Dottie Gets Spanked*, six-year-old Steven Gale is obsessed with Dottie Frank and "The Dottie Frank Show" even though Dottie is clearly for girls. When teased by both the boys and the girls, it becomes apparent that Steven will choose to keep his interests in the closet.

The Sundance Channel operates independently of the nonprofit Sundance Institute and the Sundance Film Festival, but shares the Sundance mission of supporting independent artists and providing them with wider opportunities to present their works to audiences.



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*Happy Holidays
from the Staff of the
Triangle Journal News*

Theme: The Black Stripe in the Rainbow

ACROSS

- 1 Having hepatitis, e.g.
- 4 Dam govt. bureaucracy?
- 7 Used Lysol, e.g.
- 14 Without a ___ (penniless)
- 15 Erogenous zone, to many
- 16 "Chains of Love" band
- 17 Kudos
- 19 Wood of *Rebel Without a Cause*
- 20 1963 civil rights march organizer
- 22 George Jetson's son
- 23 Sappho's Muse
- 24 Bus alternative
- 27 Garland that doesn't sing
- 28 The Beatles' Pepper, e.g.
- 29 Kappa preceder
- 30 Harlem Renaissance poet
- 36 ___ Domingo
- 37 Hollywood's Dickinson
- 38 First black state senator in Texas history
- 42 Artist Warhol
- 43 *Red Peony* novelist Yutang
- 44 Tiger Woods's org.
- 47 ___ Speedwagon
- 48 9" x 6", penis-wise
- 50 Stevie Wonder's "My Cherie ___"
- 52 *Go Tell It on the Mountain* novelist
- 54 La Paz's land
- 57 Locale of Hardin-Simmons University
- 58 NOW President Patricia
- 59 It may be pulled
- 60 Rent out

- 61 Subject of a Judy Garland hit
- 62 Author Deighton
- 63 Gym bunny's pride

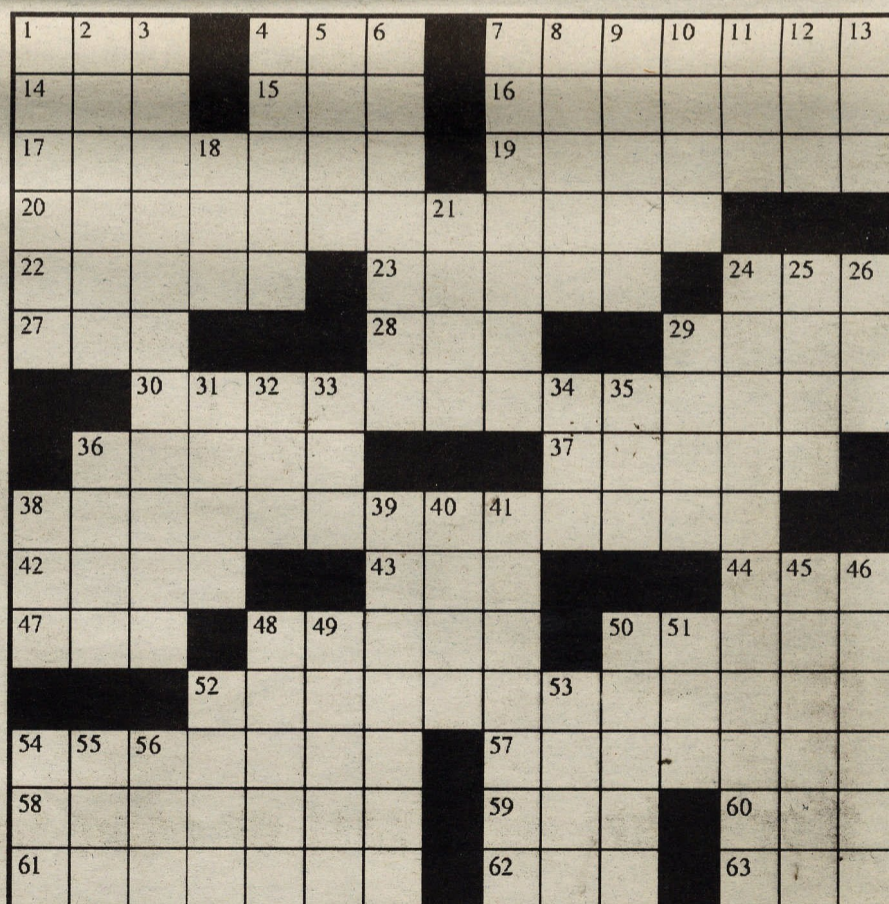
DOWN

- 1 Sherman's co-star on *The Jeffersons*
- 2 Site
- 3 Ball, on-screen
- 4 Like the audience at the end of *Terms of Endearment*, perhaps
- 5 *Virtual Equality* author Urvashi
- 6 It's out under a limb
- 7 Having feeling
- 8 Whitney's partner in aircraft-engine manufacture
- 9 1:10, for one
- 10 Straight ___ arrow
- 11 Brynner of the stage
- 12 "___ tu" (aria from Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*)
- 13 Lesbian activist Mosbacher
- 18 *7 Faces of Dr. ___* (1964 Tony Randall vehicle)
- 21 Libido, e.g.
- 24 Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman when "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was implemented
- 25 To ___ (perfectly)
- 26 Prohibit, as homosexuals in the military
- 29 Global gay org.
- 31 Dionne Warwick's "Walk ___"
- 32 Actress Hagen

- 33 "... ___ a lender be"
- 34 Mustang or Colt
- 35 Sturm ___ Drang
- 36 Unlike Norman Bates
- 38 The Eagle, in many cities
- 39 "Enough ___!"
- 40 Lively Irish dances

- 41 Part of a billiards rack
- 45 Pig or hen preceder
- 46 CNN correspondent Peter
- 48 University in Quebec
- 49 Nitrogen compound suffixed to "catechol"
- 50 Make straight

- 51 Middle of the 16th century
- 52 Hill climber of rhyme
- 53 Busy as ___
- 54 Wasn't careful during oral sex
- 55 Bruin Hall-of-Famer Bobby
- 56 Author Tolstoy



Solution on page 19

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Researchers Hope Treatment Will Jump-start Immune System

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Two University of Arizona researchers have developed a therapy they believe will jump-start the immune systems of people infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

"Most people attempt to treat AIDS by killing the virus," said Ronald Watson, a research professor at the Arizona Prevention Center. "We're not trying to kill the virus. We're trying to reduce the immune damage it does."

Watson and fellow researcher John Marchalonis, head of the microbiology and immunology department at the UA College of Medicine, patented the therapy, which involves treating HIV-positive patients with a protein fragment called a receptor peptide, found in human T cells — key players in immune defense.

Repeated studies with more than 600 mice have shown the peptide helped animals infected with "mice-HIV" fight off the opportunistic infections that typically rage unchecked in infected animals.

Marchalonis and Watson's patent goes into effect in January. Though the two are listed as the inventors, the patent belongs to the university, which contributed about \$30,000 to start the study.

San Mateo, Calif.-based Allergene has purchased technological development rights to the peptide for an undisclosed amount.

The company plans to begin clinical trials of the peptide with HIV-positive patients by late 1999, said Bill Friedman, Allergene chairman and chief executive.

Clinical trials can explore whether the peptide boosts T-cell

counts or enhances T-cell capacity, Marchalonis said. In people with AIDS, T-cell counts fall nearly tenfold.

Giving AIDS patients more T-cell receptor peptides is certainly an idea worth trying, said Dr. Neil Ampel, director of the clinical HIV program at Tucson's Veterans Affairs Medical Center and a UA associate professor of medicine.

"It is an intriguing approach," he said. "What's different about HIV than other viral infections is that people don't develop a protective immune response, so attempts to induce that are reasonable."

The researchers hope the immune-system-boosting peptide will complement current antiviral treatments.

The effect of boosted immune capacity lasts in mice for at least six months, a significant time in the life span of a mouse, Marchalonis

said.

The researchers have published their findings in several scientific journals, including *Nutrition Research* and the *Journal of Immunology*.

They were awarded a five-year, nearly \$1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health in

1997 to find out if the peptide can help lessen heart disease in infected mice.

More than half of AIDS sufferers are afflicted with heart disease, and scientists surmise this may be because their immune systems are compromised by HIV, Watson said.

Indian Judge Calls for Protection for Actors

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The Supreme Court ordered the government Dec. 14 to provide body guards for actors and others who have filed suit in order to get a film on Lesbian love back in the theaters.

The court responded after actors' lawyers told the three-judge bench hearing their case that they had been threatened by the films' opponents, United News of India reported.

On Dec. 12, some 80 members of the right-wing Shiv Sena party clad only in their underwear — as a statement about what they see as the film world's immorality — protested at the Bombay home of one of the actors, Dilip Kumar. Shiv Sena is known for its sometimes violent tactics.

When the Dec. 12 protest was criticized by some members of the upper house of parliament the following Monday, a Shiv Sena lawmaker called Kumar a "Pakistani," Press Trust of India news agency reported. The comment was tantamount to labeling Kumar a traitor


given the long history of hostility between India and neighboring Pakistan.

Kumar is not directly connected with the movie, but is one of the most prominent film personalities who signed a petition in support of *Fire* filed before the Supreme Court. The petitioners asked the court to ensure that the film can be shown without disruption in India.

In recent weeks, Sena members have stormed into movie theaters, tearing down posters and breaking windows to force cinemas to stop showing the film, saying its sexual content is an affront to Hindu values.

Fire is the story of women in unhappy marriages to two brothers living in New Delhi. The sisters-in-law, seeking comfort, develop a Lesbian relationship.

Until the Shiv Sena protests erupted, *Fire* showed for three weeks with little comment in India, though sex is rarely discussed in this traditional society and issues such as homosexuality are rarely even acknowledged.

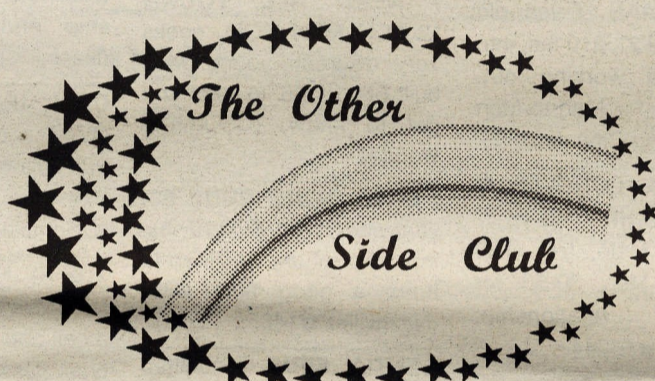


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READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP GWM, 32, 6', 200 lbs, works in television, like dining out, going out, travel, quiet evenings at home and theater. Looking for someone who's a top for a relationship. Race and age open. (Johnson City) ☎19317

KING OF THE JUNGLE 30-year-old WM, 5'10", 165 lbs, Tarzan type, works out a lot, looking for another smooth, jock type Guy, over 6', with big ticklish feet. (Memphis) ☎19323

NEW TO THIS Bottom WM, 38, dark/blue, smooth, new to the lifestyle. Looking for someone who can take of me in all ways. (Nashville) ☎18968

ARE YOU A TOP? GWM, 28, 5'8", 200 lbs, looking for a masculine Guy, 25-40, who likes to be on top most of the time and wants a relationship. (Clarkesville) ☎18958

MAN OF MY DREAMS Very open-minded GWM, 18, 5'7", 157 lbs, brown/brown, likes shopping, movies, camping, picnicking and going out on dates. Looking for a tanned, muscular, smooth Guys 18-25, to be the Man of my dreams. If this is you, give me a call. (Columbia) ☎15160

MOSTLY A TOP Middle-aged WM, mostly a top, interested in meeting a middle-aged Male for oral sex. (Chattanooga) ☎18726

A BIT SKEPTICAL I was just going through the personals and I don't really think these things work. If you think you can prove me wrong, leave me a message so I can tell you about myself. (Dixon) ☎18491

SHY BUT FUN-LOVING 42-year-old WM, 6', 195 lbs, hairy chest, likes movies, videos, partying and trying new experiences. Give me a call. (Memphis) ☎16989 Looking for a hot top (Greenville) ☎16994

WANNA JERK OFF? WM, 6', 145 lbs, brown/hazel, looking for a similar Male, for some fun. Leave me a message. (Chattanooga) ☎16941

BOTTOM SEEKS TOP Very mature, outgoing BM, 27, 5'10", 230 lbs, n/s, looking for a well-endowed BM, over 25, for fun. (Memphis) ☎10007

A MAN'S MAN 28-year-old Gay Male, 6'2", 210 lbs, into sports and working out. Seeks Men for Man-to-Man fun. (Johnson City) ☎16635

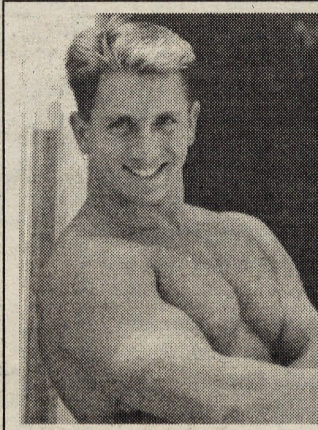
I NEED A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP 43-year-old Single Male, 5'6", 160 lbs, seeks Men, 30-50, for long-term relationship. (Savanna) ☎16244

GETTING DOWN TO THE POINT Middle aged White Male, interested in younger White Men for friendship and sex. (Knoxville) ☎16056

MAKE ME SUBMIT Submissive bottom Male, 37, 5'11", 198 lbs. Seeks dominant, top Men to make me submit to your wishes, for friendship and possible relationship. (Nashville) ☎14887

I NEED THE REAL THING 41-year-old White Female, into sports and whatever else. Seeks White Females, with children and into sports, for long-term relationship. (Nashville) ☎16068

YOU'LL LEARN MORE Honest, sincere Gay Black Male, 26, medium build. Seeks other Gay Black Males, 21-30, in the area, for fun and good times. (Chattanooga) ☎15899



LITTLE BOY BLUE Attractive White Male, 49, 6', 185 lbs. Little boy blue, I lost my horn, if you're 39-59, and have a pretty horn to practice on 4 times a month. (Fayette County) ☎15720

I NEED ALL YOUNG BLACK MEN SGM, seeks very discreet, young, well built BM, 21-26, to meet and get to know. (Columbia) ☎15347

I LOVE BEING NUDE 53-year-old GWM, 6', 170 lbs, in search of another Man to have a good time with. (Nashville) ☎14859

GENTLY FIRM Committed SWM, mid 40s, 6'1", 200 lbs. Seeks dedicated, submissive Males. All limits respected. (Nashville) ☎14934

SOMEONE INTERESTED? Attractive; slender GAM, 33, 5'11", 170 lbs, HIV+, financially secure. Seeks the same for fun and friendship (Nashville) ☎13481

GIVE ME A CALL Sexy WM, 30, 5'10", 155 lbs. Smooth, hot body. Seeks masculine Men, 20-35, body hair. (Nashville) ☎14829

JUST LIKE ME Down-to-earth BM, 6'1", 167 lbs, enjoys movies and bowling. Seeks other straight-acting BM, down-to-earth, for fun and more. (Nashville) ☎14768

STOCKY, DISCREET, GSM, 30, 6', 200 lbs. Seeks straight-acting Men, for friendship and possible relationship. (Columbia) ☎14412

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A LONG WAY Honest, sincere GWPM, 5'10", 190 lbs, versatile, above average looks, cut endowment, down-to-earth. Seeks GW, L, H and Italian M, sincere, down-to-earth; well endowed, uncut, for friendship and possible LTR. (Nashville) ☎12999

CALL IF THIS IS YOU: GWM seeks one or more masculine, well endowed BM, for a good time. (Columbia) ☎10021

THE RIGHT PRICE Looking for a M in the area. Give me a call and we'll have a good time. (Nashville) ☎13399

BREAK OUT THE PUMPS Married WM, seeks TS and TV to do what she wants to do. Let's play. (Nashville) ☎13377

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS Bi-curious WM, late 30s, seeks attractive, submissive bottoms. I want to see what life is like on the other side of the fence. (Nashville) ☎13387

GRAB IT WHILE YOU CAN Bi-curious WM, 39, 5'9", 210 lbs. Seeks slender, smooth Bi or Gay Males, 18-45, to go to the movies and maybe more. (Nashville) ☎13591

VERY FRIENDLY, HIV+ GAPM, 33, 5'10", 170 lbs, seeks the same. (Nashville) ☎12077

FIRST TIMER Looking for a Man who will teach me for my first time experience. (Cookeville) ☎12387

HOT HUNG TOPS Hot, submissive, leather bottom, 130 lbs, small. Seeks hot, hung tops in the area. The more the merrier. (Johnson City) ☎12724

INTELLIGENT nice looking, young M, seeks someone with the same qualities as I have. (Memphis) ☎12236

ACTION Hairy M, 40, 6'4", 195 lbs, good build. Seeks M for companionship and some action. (Nashville) ☎11946

MUST BE NATURAL Well endowed, sincere GWPM, 42, 5'10", 190 lbs, honest and down-to-earth. Seeks well endowed GH, W or LM, for friendship and possibly more. (Nashville) ☎11807

WORKOUT EVERYDAY Professional GWM, with a very toned body, likes to go to clubs and works out everyday. I'm looking for someone to hang out with. Let me know. (Nashville) ☎11749

I'M FUN TO BE AROUND I'm a 27 year-old Italian Man, 6'2", 235 lbs, HIV+, clean shaven and looking for a top Man who wants a long term relationship. (Memphis) ☎11024

VERY HAIRY GWM HIV+ GM, 5'9", 180 lbs, great shape, brown/blue, enjoys swimming, biking, hiking, dancing and quiet times. Seeks someone drug and alcohol-free. (Nashville) ☎19821

35-YEAR-OLD BM seeks GM, 25-50, who like masturbating, oral sex and fun in bed. (Memphis) ☎10012

CHUNKY This WM, 28 years old, 5'7", chunky, likes many things. I'm a feminine bottom who is looking for a top, masculine Man. (Nashville) ☎10992

CROSS-DRESSING I'm a 22 year old, BM who is looking for cross dresser or Transvestites in the area. (Nashville) ☎11099

FUN, HOT TIMES I'm looking for Guys in the area for hot, fun times. (Memphis) ☎11033

ALABAMA

DOMINATION IN BIRMINGHAM Attractive cute WM, 5'10", 170 lbs, bottom, looking to hook up with someone foursome light domination. (Birmingham) ☎19437

SERIOUS BUT FUN Italian WM, 5'10", 175 lbs, dark/dark, energetic, fun, outgoing, seeking well-grounded Man, with a wild side. Race open. (Birmingham) ☎18351

ALL YOU HAVE 28-year-old Gay Male, into movies, cooking and quiet times at home. Seeks anyone who would love to meet me. (Decatur) ☎16568

I'LL SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME! Attractive, well built White Male, seeks well endowed White Men for fun. (Birmingham) ☎16563

TAKE ME IN! Nice-looking Black Male, 21, into shopping and traveling. Seeks nice, masculine Men to take care of me. (Birmingham) ☎15432

LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT I HAVE TO OFFER Very Bi-curious WM, 5'6", brown/brown, enjoys outdoors and movies. Seeks other hot Men who will show me the ropes. Must be honest, sincere and understanding. (Birmingham) ☎17721



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JUST A LITTLE KINKY

Attractive GM, 40, interested in feet and kink. Seeks open minded, discreet Guys into feet and a little kink. (Birmingham) ☎14292

JUST LOOKING Lonely BM, 40, 6'1", 200 lbs. Seeking friends and lovers. (Birmingham) ☎11273

NOT FAR FROM HOME Good-look GM, 28, blonde/hazel, hairy and discreet, seeking other M in the area. (Birmingham) ☎13902

NEW TO AREA Young Guy seeking nice Guy for good times and to show me around. (Birmingham) ☎1951

ARKANSAS

BOTTOM ISO TOP GWM, 31, 6'2", blonde/blue, bottom with foot fetish, who knows what he wants. Seeking top. If interested, drop me a line. (Fayetteville) ☎17108.

VERY SERIOUS 38-year-old GM, 5'9", 180 lbs, beard and mustache. Seeks bottoms in the area, 25-40, no bar flies or head games. Serious replies only. (Ft. Smith) ☎15467

ONLY ONE THING BM, 5'10", 173 lbs, enjoys walks in the park and looking for something serious with a person who's honest, able to be themselves. (Pine Bluff) ☎14226

HAIRY 40-YEAR-OLD MALE 6' with hairy chest and legs, looking for good times, friendship, movies and quiet nights at home. (Little Rock) ☎4105

KENTUCKY

GAY AND UNASHAMED Masculine, professional GWM, 26, 6', 175 lbs, dark/green, looking for Guys in Louisville who like to party and have a good time. (Louisville) ☎19245

NICE-LOOKING, EASYGOING GUY

WM, 32, 5'9", 170 lbs, brown/hazel, not into the bar scene, enjoys going for walks, horseback riding and spending time with my dogs. Looking for someone I can have a conversation and have fun with, for friendship and maybe more. (Louisville) ☎19037

PLEASE CALL. 22-year-old GM, looking for someone to get to know and possibly start a relationship with. (Louisville) ☎19079

SMOOTH AND WELL-ENDED

Attractive GWM, 33, 5'6", 135 lbs, dark/dark, smooth and well-endowed. Looking for masculine Guys, 25-35, HW, for friendship, fun, dating and possible relationship. (Louisville) ☎18973

WANNA RIDE? Looking for a fun-loving cowboy, who likes going to rodeos, movies and riding horses. Friendship first and possibly more. (Louisville) ☎15338

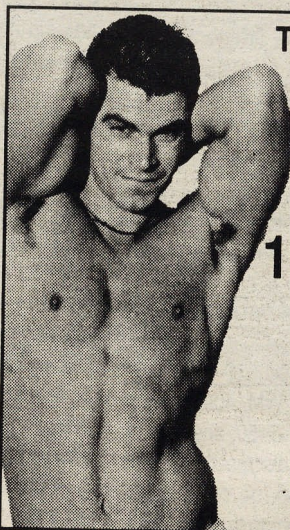
YOUNG ENERGETIC GUY

Real Man of respect and standards, well-groomed, well-built, likes to dance, liven things up, take long walks and be surprised. Seeking someone who's energetic, talkative, well-groomed, respects themselves, has high self esteem and wants to get ahead in life. (Madison Field) ☎18574

COME AND GET IT Bisexual White Male, 40, 5'10", 155 lbs. Seeks discreet bisexual White Males, 30s-50s, for some hot bondage action. (Louisville) ☎16713

ARE YOU READY? Bottom, young, hot Male, 25, seeks other Gay Males, Black or White, for a long-term relationship. (Frankfort) ☎16505

VERY, VERY GOOD TIME Good-looking, discreet DWM, 30, bisexual. Seeks hairy, masculine WM, up to 40, for friendship and possible relationship. (Franklin) ☎14970



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MF
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MAN-TO-MAN FUN BM, 29, 185 lbs, enjoys movies and romantic walks. Seeks the same, age open. (Louisville) ☎14703

SEXUAL ESCAPADES 27-year-old WM, 6'1", 193 lbs. Seeks someone who enjoys movies, talking and sexual escapades. (Paducah) ☎14009

BOTH WAYS Hot, horny GWM bottom seeks tops for anal and oral sex. (Louisville) ☎13682

JUST TO TALK Bi-curious M, looking to talk to attractive, straight-acting Bi Guys who are curious, to talk on the phone and have a possible sexual relationship. (Madisonville) ☎13364

KICK BUTT PERSONALITY All around HM, 19, 6'2". Seeks anyone, 25-35, for friendship and a possible relationship. (Louisville) ☎11936

HAVE DARK FEATURES? Good looking SWPM, bottom, looking for a Man who is between the ages of 20-30 with dark features and a hairy chest. Please be good looking and a masculine top. (Elizabeth) ☎11727

VERY SEXUALLY ACTIVE This GWM is looking for other GWM for fun and friendship. I'm a hot and horny bottom who is looking for a top. (Tucson) ☎11028

VERY ACTIVE GWM, looking for safe sex. I'm a bottom, very sexually fun and looking for a top Man. I'm very sexually active. (Louisville) ☎11068

HOT AND HORNY I'm a hot and horny, Gay bottom Man who loves oral and anal sex. I want to find me a well hung top Man for lots of hot fun. (Louisville) ☎10890

MISSISSIPPI

BREAK ME IN SWM, 34, 6'1", 190 lbs, looking for someone for a first time experience. Interested? Then leave me a message. (Carthage) ☎18604

LET ME DO IT Romantic, top Gay Male, into honesty, romantic movies and the clubs. Seeks honest top Men who will accept the things I have to offer. (Jackson) ☎15909

IN TOWN SOON Fun-loving, easygoing Gay White Male, 32, 6'4", into the outdoors. Seeks friendship and possible relationship with a muscular, well endowed top. (Jackson) ☎15784

I WANT SOMEONE OLDER Young, thin Man, 6'2", 160 lbs, into the movies and outdoors. Seeks older Men for friendship and possibly more. (Jackson) ☎14949

WORK WITH ME SWM, 185 lbs, 5'11". Seeks someone easygoing and likes to have fun, for friendship. (Jackson) ☎14237

CHILL OUT SBM, 145 lbs, 5'7", medium build. Seeks someone to chill out with and get to know. (Jackson) ☎12737

ONE AT A TIME GWM, 45 years old, 5'4", 129 lbs, enjoys the ocean, travel and nature. I want to meet someone for a monogamous long-term relationship. (South Haven) ☎11756

MEET MY DEMANDS Slim, 36 year old GWM, 5'10", 150 lbs, looking for a GWM who is between the ages of 38-54 for a long term relationship. You must be a top and generous. Meet my demands and I'll meet yours. (Jackson) ☎11101

FUN IN THE SUN Smooth, good-looking M, 32, 5'10", 170 lbs. Seeks other Guys in the area for some fun times. (Jackson) ☎10147

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CLASSIFIED Rates: 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. Deadline for ads is the 15th of each month. Send to Triangle Journal News, Box 11485 Memphis, TN 38111-0485. Classifieds must be submitted in writing and must include your name and a telephone number where you can be reached to verify the ad. **If you would like a copy of the issue in which your ad appears, please send \$1.00 to cover postage.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!! TJN announcements and classifieds will not automatically be re-run. Announcements and classifieds must be re-submitted each month, in writing, by the 15th of the month.

BED & BREAKFAST

Ozark Bed & Breakfast-5 wooded acres of privacy in a fun vacation area. Exclusive resort for men & women. Hot tub. Country club privileges. Greenwood Hollow Ridge, Rt 4, Box 155, Eureka Springs, AR 72632, (501) 253-5283.

The Arbour Glen Bed & Breakfast-Circa 1896. Located on Eureka Springs Historic District loop close to downtown shops & restaurants. Completely renovated for comfort but still maintaining its old world charm, elegance & romance. Picturesque tree-covered hollow. The Arbour Glen, #7 Lema,

Eureka Springs, AR 72632, (501) 253-9010.

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Executive Escorts. Attractive male escorts at your location. Major credit cards accepted. Discretion assured. Call 452-5322 for an appointment.

GRAPHICS/PHOTOGRAPHY

Bud Bear Illustrations: Pen and ink and marker erotic sketches of men in leather. Call 732-5212 for price quotes and size of picture and mats.

GUIDES

Gloryholes List! Best locations in Tennessee to give or get oral satisfaction! Hot studs, construction workers, college jocks, heated businessmen, leathermen, active athletes and other guys are anxious to meet you. Complete list of Gloryholes mailed back in plain discreet envelope. Please be 18yo+. To order your guide(s), send \$5.00: Metroplex-TJN, Box 451781, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Also available: SoCal, NoCal, Seattle, Chicago, Vegas, Arizona, Denver, New Orleans, Carolina, OH-IN, FL, NYC, TX, Kansas City, KS; Philly; MD (at \$5.00 each).

MASSAGE SERVICES

DON'T YOU DESERVE THE BEST? California trained, certified bodyworker offers therapeutic and sports massage. 1 1/2 hours, by appointment, outcall only. Gift certificates also available. **Craig 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. (901) 278-9768.**

Full Body Massage. California-trained. Body Electric-certified bodyworker. 1-1/2

hours by appointment-in only. Jonathan (901) 324-8316.

PERSONALS

Accompanist needed for Sunday morning services at Safe Harbor MCC. Call Jim at 454-1949.

Amnesia to La Quinta, Friday, Dec. 9. Chris?? - You were right, I got your number wrong. You kept me up all night. Wanna repeat? "Max" 278-9768.

Attention Gay white males over 50: Are you tired of being ignored and turned down because of your age at the bars, the movies and the park? Give me a call and we'll have a good time. We may even form a club. Remember—if you've been around the block a few times, at least you know your way there and back. Call 683-2629.

Attractive professional WM, 40s, seeking bi or straight females, 25-50, any race or size, for friendship and discreet encounter. No drugs, no diseases, no commitment required. Send letter/photo to: Lynn, P.O. Box 7838, Jackson, TN 38302-0838.

BiWM, 6', 210#, married, clean, safe, discreet, UB2, bottom, seeking top. S.C., 2310 E. Matthews, A208, Jonesboro, AR 72401.

Devout Christian, GWM, 41, 6'3", 225#, masculine top truck driver in Memphis every day seeks feminine bottom for lifemate. I'm very romantic. Serious only. Call Larry 870-251-4088 or write 1111 Sherrill Drive, Batesville, AR 72501.

GAY CRUISING!!! Record, listen and respond to hot personal ads FREE (18+). The Confidential Connection@ 901-529-9800 Code : 9006.

GWM, 28, seeks GWM, 18-35, who's open, honest, monogamy-minded, in touch with himself and sincere about friendship/possible relationship. If so, call Bryan: 276-9630. Please, serious replies only! GWM, 33, 5'10", 195#, ISO other GWM bears in the NEMS area, age unimportant, friendship first, possible relationship. A. Sartin, 7981 Hwy 15 S, Pontotoc, MS 38863-9463.

GWM, 36, 6'3", 200#, good looking, long hair with hazel-blue eyes, in good health, seeking GWM, 21-30, slick, slim & sexy for romantic lover. Will be waiting to hear from you. Call anytime (601) 343-5102. MS.

GWM. Age and physical features alone are not important to me, compared with sharing an intimate healthiness of mind, body, soul and spirit, along with creatively exploring mutual interests. Seeking to choose friends, not use them. Prepared to give and to receive love as a friend, possibly more. If interested, write to: A.V., P.O. Box 280123, Memphis, TN 38168. Photo optional. Sincere correspondence answered. Please state your preferred method of being contacted.

GWP, mid-50s, height & weight proportionate, NS, ND, HIV negative, not into the bar scene. Enjoy movies, travel, the arts and the simple pleasures of life. Frequently described as down-to-earth and a real person. The person I am seeking must be comfortable with his sexuality, mature and possess high personal standards and values. I am only interested in meeting someone interested in a potential long-term, monogamous relationship. Age is not an

important factor. Call after 6 p.m.: 327-3510.

J/O Buddies. Meet by phone. Try it FREE! 901-821-9100, Code 7001, 18+.

Master ISO Slave. Dominant 35-year-old W/M, 165#, nice chest hair, looking for a young, 18-22ish, submissive, smooth-bodied W/M about 140#, with boyish looks and mannerisms. Skinny a plus. No diseases. Phone: 323-1521—Mr. Paul.

24 HOUR MEAT! Meet local guys discreetly on The Confidential Connection@. Record, listen and respond to hot personal ads FREE! (18+) 901-529-9800 Code: 9007.

MEET LOCAL MEN TONIGHT! FREE to browse & respond to Personal ads. (901) 565-0006 Use Pub. 333 (18+).

MEMPHIS MEN!!! 100% Local!!! Meet other Men in the Memphis area. FREE to Browse & Respond to Ads. (901) 565-0006 Pub. 334 (18+).

Searching for long-lost friend, Larry Farrell. If you are out there, please give me a call: 901-275-3044.

Unwrap me. GWM, 38, likes younger. 5'11", 165#, blond/hazel, mustache, HIV-negative. This out-going artist, designer likes cowboy boots, jeans, romantic evenings at home or out. For more information call: 901-275-3044. Fayette county.

WORK WANTED

Need help moving anything? Call Mark at 901-373-6147 for price and appointment. If no answer, leave message on answering machine. Evenings only, 4 to 8, Mon. thru Fri. Some weekend work, okay.



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**Meetings at
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1488 Madison Avenue
Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 276-7379**

Phoenix (Alcoholics Anonymous) All Meetings Open

Sunday 8:00 pm Discussion
Monday 8:00 pm Discussion (Smoke Free)
Tuesday 8:00 pm Twelve Step Study
Wednesday 8:00 pm Big Book Study
Friday 10:00 pm Discussion
Saturday 8:00 pm Discussion

(Last Sunday of month is birthday night with speaker.)

Into The Light (Alcoholics Anonymous - Women)

Thursday 7:00 pm Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)
Sunday 12 Noon Discussion (Open)

(Business meeting 3rd Sunday of month, Birthdays last Thursday)

Seriously Sober (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Friday 8:00 pm Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)

Open Heart (Al-Anon)

Tuesday 6:00 pm Discussion (Open)
Thursday 5:30 pm Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)

(Business meeting 3rd Tuesday of the month, Birthdays last Tuesday)

Freely Speaking (All 12-Step Programs)

Thursday 9:00 pm Discussion (Open)

ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)

Sunday 6:00 pm Discussion (Open)

*Memphis Lambda Center, Inc. is a private organization formed for the promulgation and enhancement of Twelve-Step meetings with a special outreach to the Gay and Lesbian community. Business meetings are on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Space donated as a public service by the Triangle Journal News



You were chosen by God to be who you are - gay, lesbian or heterosexual.

The expression of your sexuality is a gift from God in making and building of relationships.

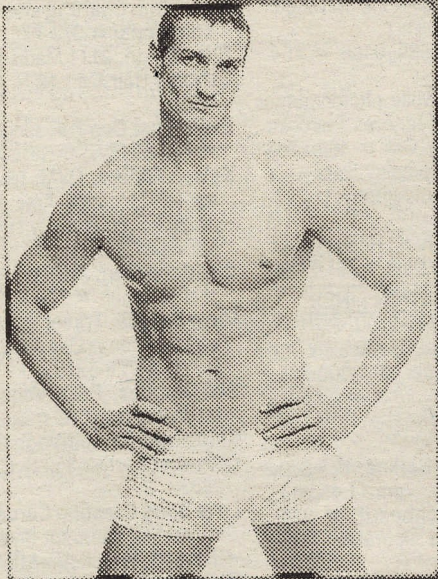
Integrity is a family of Gays, Lesbians and their friends within the Episcopal Church.

Integrity is a place to find community and support.

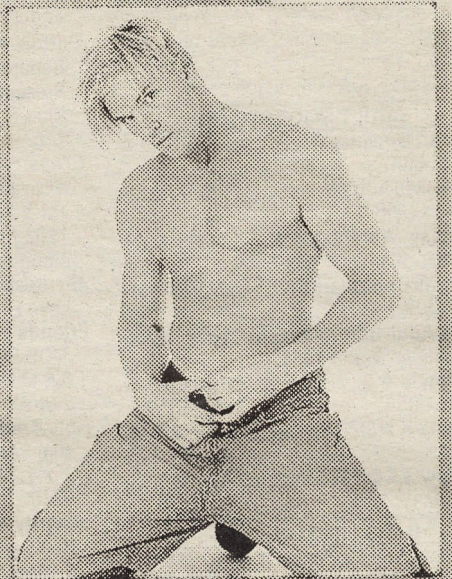
Integrity offers opportunities for growth, prayer, friendship and understanding.

Integrity meets every third Tuesday of the month at Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis.

For more information, call Calvary Episcopal Church at 525-6602.



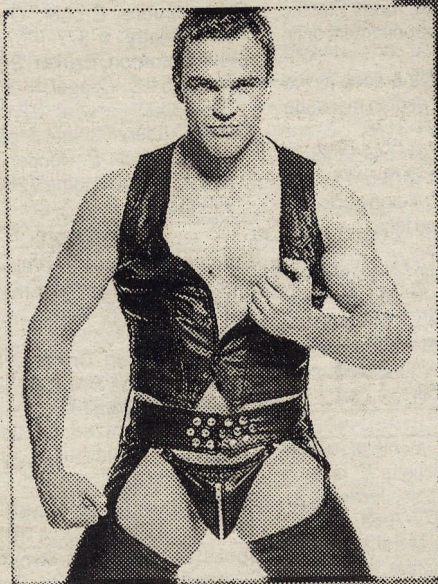
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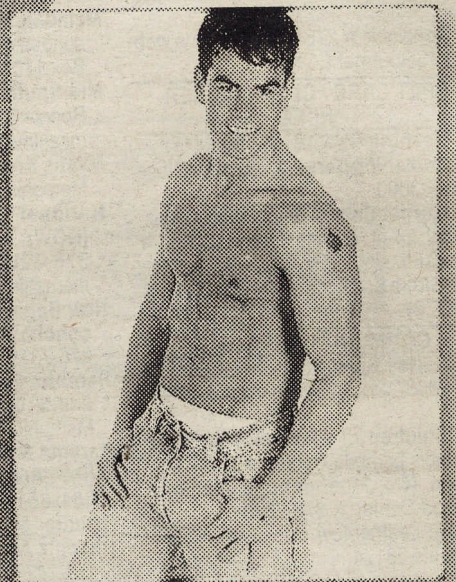
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