

Gaze

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November, 1982

Openly Gay Candidate Runs For State Legislature -- A First For Tennessee

by Regina Russell

CANNON COUNTY, TN--Milo Guthrie, a resident of Short Mountain, has announced his candidacy for the State Legislature from Tennessee's 40th district. "Government at all levels is facing a struggle to creatively provide needed services in this period of economic difficulty," Guthrie said. "The present day politicians seem unwilling or unable to stop playing games with people's lives and to genuinely deal with the challenges of social change in the last decades of the century. We are fortunate that the state of Tennessee provides such an accessible ballot to its citizens. I wish to provide an example of using the electoral arena to present a series of dissenting opinions and different political issues. Given the ease of ballot access for independent candidates, it is a mystery to me why one-third of the State Legislators typically run unopposed in November. Our democracy becomes meaningless if citizens do not use the electoral process to present dissenting opinions."

Guthrie, the first openly Gay candidate to ever run for State Legislature in Tennessee, has worked for several years in the movement for peace and for preservation of natural resources. "All of us, including our political leaders," Guthrie said, "are faced with the threat of a destructive nuclear war. I support the call for a freeze on further production of nuclear weapons by the U.S. and U.S.S.R., and I pledge to introduce this resolution into the next session of the Tennessee Legislature."

"I regard the roots of our present economic problems to be excessive and wasteful military spending, and an economic system which rewards excessive private profit and speculation, and which penalizes or ignores sacrifice, productive work, and thrift. The private profit planners and business growth experts take the people of Tennessee on periodic boom and bust roller coaster rides, like the now defunct Hartsville Nuclear Power Plant, or the 'World's Fair.' I believe we need to re-examine the agricultural

situation in Tennessee and explore unique cash crops which could provide a livelihood for the struggling small farmers as well as increase the state tax revenues."

On sodomy laws, Guthrie said, "the state has no business attempting to regulate the private consensual sexual conduct of citizens. Such repressive laws are selectively enforced, if at all, and should be removed from the books."

Guthrie has lived in the 40th district since 1973 and has worked as a seasonal agricultural laborer and in the printing industry in Woodbury.

Guthrie will face incumbent Rep. Frank Buck of Dowelltown in the November 2 general election.

Although he does not expect to win, Guthrie wants to get the message across that anyone can run for the Legislature, and that a campaign itself can be important just to get alternative views into the public limelight.

"I ask the voters to honestly consider my candidacy and its message," Guthrie stated. "I call upon other concerned and energetic citizens to exercise the right to run for office, and present a variety of views to the voters in 1984."

Church of God In Christ Ousts Gay Priest

WASHINGTON--The Memphis-based Church of God in Christ has excommunicated an openly Gay priest here. Dr. James S. Tinney, leading Pentecostal scholar and organizer of Washington's first Lesbian/Gay revival, was formally excommunicated by Bishop Samuel Kelsey of the Washington diocese.

The Church of God in Christ is known in Memphis as the "Patterson empire" and is strongly tied to acting Memphis Mayor J.O. Patterson, Jr. GAZE was unable to reach Mayor Patterson, a candidate in the November 2 special election for mayor, for comment about the excommunication of Tinney.

The expulsion came as somewhat of a surprise to many observers because Tinney had openly announced his sexual orientation in 1979 and had organized a nationwide Pentecostal Coalition for Human Rights as a vehicle for promoting acceptance of practicing Lesbian and Gay Christians throughout his own denomination and the entire Pentecostal movement. Since that time, Tinney had traveled coast-to-coast speaking on behalf of Lesbian and Gay Christians.

"The wide publicity of the Lesbian/Gay revival evidently became too much of an embarrassment to Bishop Kelsey, who told me that I was bringing reproach upon the church," Tinney said. Kelsey confirmed that he had received many calls, including some from bishops as far west as Oregon, complaining about the Pentecostal Coalition for Human Rights.

"As long as I appeared to be a lone voice without a following, the church seemed content to ignore me," Tinney stated. "But as both the local chapter and the national organization at-

tracted more and more persons, and churches of other denominations kept offering me opportunities to express my views, and as the media continued reporting the phenomenon of Gay Pentecostals, the church felt that this cause was getting out of control."

The coalition now has more than 1000 members. The Church of God in Christ, with over three million members, is the nation's largest Black Pentecostal denomination.

The act of excommunication is seldom practiced by Pentecostals today, although in the early years of the religion's history it was more frequent. Tinney told Bishop Kelsey at the time of the excommunication, "You are punishing me for attempting to minister to Lesbians and Gay men whom you yourself will likely never be able to reach or understand." Tinney accused the bishop of rewarding dishonesty and punishing him because of his honesty in telling the truth about himself.

Seventeen persons staged a picket line outside the Temple Church of God in Christ in Washington September 19 in protest against the church's expulsion of Tinney. The picket line--the first ever conducted against a Washington church by Lesbians and Gay men--confronted worshippers arriving for morning services and continued throughout the morning and early afternoon.

Kelsey, who oversees more than 30 congregations in Washington, said Tinney would be reinstated "if he confessed his sin and was cleansed. The Lord could clean him up and straighten him out if he quits."

Bible Belters Protest -- Bible Belt Boy Wins Miss Gay America

By Bill Johnson

CHARLOTTE, NC--Jon Meadows (Franceska Wakeland) of Johnson City, Tennessee claimed the title of 1982 Miss Gay America September 25 while a group by the name of "Christians for Moral Decency" marched outside Owens Auditorium.

Sporting signs and cameras, about 300 hymn-singing protesters swished about in front of the auditorium. The group, led by Rev. Joseph Chalmers, had promised they would send 1000 protesters, equipped with cameras, to record who went into the show. Only about 300 showed up, however, and they were forced to march on the other side of Independence Boulevard, a busy six lane highway.

"The auditorium officials were ready to shine bright lights in their direction if they tried to take pictures, but we didn't feel as though we had to," said Michael Bonner, pageant spokesperson.

Meadows, who performs regularly at The Connection, a Johnson City bar, said the protesters were fighting social myths.

"I don't think they know what they're protesting," Meadows said. "They're fighting social myths. I'm really a Southern Baptist Bible belt raised boy."

The protesters showed up around 6 PM

for the 8 PM show and left by 10 PM, although the pageant didn't end until midnight.

Rev. Chalmers indicated he was protesting the fact that the pageant, which drew an estimated 1500 people, was being held in a city-owned auditorium.

But media coverage of the potential confrontation between Gays and protesters heavily favored Gays during the week before the pageant. A Saturday editorial in the CHARLOTTE OBSERVER blasted the protesters for narrow-minded abridgement of the Gays' right to assemble. The paper devoted a page, and a half spread to the contest in its Sunday edition.

Protesters may have actually helped the visibility of Gays and the cause of Gay rights by generating massive publicity. UPI picked up the story, which appeared in the September 27 COMMERCIAL APPEAL in Memphis, complete with photograph of Franceska Wakeland dancing to her victory to the familiar tune of "Rocky Top."

Participants in the pageant pointed to the publicity as "making the protesters look foolish and helping Gays to publically denounce those who perpetrate myths and falsehoods."

The Miss Gay America Pageant is sponsored by Norma Kristie, Inc. of Little Rock. Kristie plans to produce the Mr. Gay America contest next spring in Houston.

Cops Terrorize New York Bar...

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Gazing

Editorials appearing in Gaze represent only the opinions of the authors unless otherwise indicated.

For All The Lonely People

By Bill Johnson

I have been told from time to time that I condemn people for not screaming to the world they are Gay, or that I make people feel guilty for hiding their sexual identity.

Obviously, it is the intention of those involved in the equal rights movement to solidify the movement and attract as many Gays as possible, as well as supportive non-Gays, to the cause. Condemning people and making them feel guilty will not accomplish this. The words of this column have never been intended to even remotely criticize that clear majority of our community who cannot come out.

It is easy to feel targeted. I have never, though, intended to make people feel more guilty, but to make all of us realize that we carry a burden of societal guilt that says we are not deserving of the same rights and privileges afforded heterosexuals in our society--to live openly and honestly without the constant threat of "being discovered" and suffering negative consequences.

I have repeatedly stated that it is because of the very fact that so many of us must live in closets--no matter how comfortable those closets may appear to be--that the fight must go on.

Gaze

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Editor:
Bill W. Johnson

Staff Writers:

Bill Johnson
Marcia Kama
Rick Reed
Regina Russell

Seamus Smith
Bill Stevenson
Ric Sullivan
Joel Tate

Production and Graphics:

Allen Cook Ric Sullivan

Circulation:
Cecil McLeod
Ric Sullivan
Martv Martin

Advertising Information:
(901) 274-0431 or (leave message) (901) 725-4299

National Advertiser:

Joe DiSanto
Rivendell Marketing
666 Sixth Avenue
New York, NY 10010 (212) 243-6863

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An astounding number of Gay people sincerely believe that every time the word "Gay" appears in the newspaper it is a threat to their own security. That such a "threat" exists is ample evidence that we live in fear. It is undeniably wrong, unfair and senseless that we should have to live our lives with that burden.

No matter how sophisticated the Gay and Lesbian rights movement may appear in those glamorous other cities that snicker at our feeble efforts in Memphis or Nashville or Little Rock, the fact remains that most Gay people all over the land of the free live with the fear that permeates our local Gay community.

It is wrong, very wrong, that anyone should have to fear losing a job if someone should discover who we love.

It is wrong that anyone should have to fear eviction from an apartment for that reason.

It is wrong that I cannot muster up the courage to hug you when I feel like it. That is the most wrong of all.

Maybe we can't change the world. But it is a sure bet that the world is not going to change by itself.

I learn so many new things every day. Our new secretary at work told me last week that she was glad to know someone who is Gay. She said, "Bill, I have to confess to you that I was very homophobic before I met you." She even used my own terminology. "Homophobic" is not in the vocabulary of the average non-Gay person. But I had learned more from this than she; I learned I had made more of an impact with this one small incident than I have made working within the Gay community in three years. By damn, they are going to accept us if we give them half a chance. They are going to learn the truth about us if we tell them.

She went on to say that we need to be more visible. "Why don't ya'll work to change things more?" she asked. I did not have a good answer for her. But my gut reaction to the question is "why the hell should we have to?"

Well, everybody who can work to cause those changes seems to want to be in on the "decision-making" process, but they don't ever seem to have time for the nitty-gritty physical dirty work.

Before we start in on Memphis and Memphis politics again, this problem is not limited to any geographical area.

I spoke to a number of people in the bars in Dallas following the recent National Gay Leadership Conference there. Invariably I was told after mentioning that I was in Dallas to attend the conference that we were all a bunch of troublemakers who were just making it difficult for people trying to survive and earn a decent living.

Thank you very much. Do I enjoy this? No, I do not. Do I get paid for this? No, I do not.

But one thing must be made very clear to those who would doubt it; I, and I sincerely believe most Gay activists, want more than anything for all the people who must live in closets to be able to come out and breathe the fresh air of total freedom. We do not want you to have to come out; we want you to be able to if you should want to. Homophobia left alone will not go away. We have been burned at stakes, burned in Nazi ovens, denied U.S. citizenship, refused at U.S. ports-of-entry, imprisoned, harassed, murdered, evicted, mutilated, kicked out of the military, and just about every other

bad thing possible; and all of this happened before the concept of "Gay activist" even existed.

We have no idea how prevalent queer bashing is today. Every single day I read in a Gay paper from some other city of someone who has been beaten or murdered for no reason other than the fact that they were Gay. Extremely rarely, though, are these incidents in any way connected with activism. They usually happen in the parking lots of Gay bars. If we report these incidents, we are accused by barowners of giving people ideas. They already have the ideas. They've had the ideas for thousands of years.

All Gay people need to know that the bashings and murders really do happen. Non-Gays need to know it too.

The Gay rights movement has made greater strides in a shorter period of time than any other civil rights movement in history. Younger Gays have no idea what it was like to be Gay in the 1950's. And most older Gays who do are still living in that past.

We tell ourselves that living in the closet is a conscious choice. It is not. It is an absolute necessity. I know very few people who are really free. Losing jobs and all the other crap we may not worry about. But I have never hurt like I did when I wanted to hug you and didn't for fear that someone would see us.

Being a Gay activist has been very rewarding for me. I have been rewarded with having other people take the credit when it was my candle burning at both ends. I have been rewarded by having the vast majority of Lesbians and Gay men tell me that I am nothing more than a self-seeking troublemaker. I have been rewarded by having those who bear the unconscious shame of their Gayness attempt to share that shame with me. I have been rewarded by having those who are totally absent from the workforce of the movement giving themselves a free reign to criticize whatever I have done in their absence. I have been rewarded by having most people within the move-

ment fail to follow through on their commitments.

I guess I am just tired. I realized last weekend that I had no time for my friends. I also realized that I didn't have many real friends. I had not had the time to have them.

I realized that I was still fighting a constant battle with several influential Gay barowners—who are frequently the "liberal oppressors" of our own community—just to get them to put up a poster for us. I am tired of guarding my every step (and rather unsuccessfully) in order to please those who are intent upon publicly criticizing and sabotaging my work. It is difficult for me to imagine that these barowners can really convince people they are supporting the Gay community by generously providing a place for us to go when they have such an unpleasant history of underhandedly stifling all competition. If a Gay bar is such a rare commodity and such a "service," why is it necessary to attempt to sabotage new bars?

Keep us in the dark. I realized recently that I have never felt more alone.

It is important to realize that the opinions I have put forth here are mine alone and do not reflect those who will be putting this paper into print each month. I founded GAZE three years ago, with big dreams. My real rewards from it have been within myself, and those rewards won't go away.

I deeply appreciate those readers who have been supportive and sincere. You have made it worthwhile.

Many people I have talked to have the impression that we have a large staff of people. We do not. If this paper is to grow and improve, people from our community must come forward and help. There are a thousand things to do. The workload must be shared.

We don't yet have a new editor. If you are interested, please let us know. All the bad stuff aside, it really is a great experience—for a while...especially if you want to be a decision-maker.



Box 3038

Cheap Display

Dear Editor,
Last night, Tuesday, October 5, 1982, I forced myself to watch a production filmed at and sponsored by George's, and aired on Cable Channel 32.

After 40 minutes of disappointment, then disgust, I felt compelled to write this letter.

I have been a member of the Gay Community for many years and remember the days prior to Gay Bars and other meeting places for Gays. The Gay Community has come a long way since those days; we are open and out and it is great! But to sit in my home and watch a Gay production with such low class and to be sponsored by a leading Gay Bar in Memphis is degrading to me and the entire Gay Community. I only hope that no one that could or would watch such

a program representing Gays would believe that this is our Lifestyle. I am all for using the media to promote our community, but do it with taste and dignity.

So many of us have suffered through long years of hatred and misunderstanding. We do not want to be set back 20 years.

I am shocked to think that such a cheap display of "QUEERISM" would be sponsored by anyone in Memphis.

The next time any production is done in this area, I hope they budget enough funds to include taste and talent. Memphis is not a backwater town and deserves better. Memphis should be an example of growth and recognition for the Gay Community, not an Anita Bryant nightmare.

Fellow Gays, I implore you not to support, accept or condone such a cheap display of our community.

Ronnie Carlisle
Memphis

Spectrum

News, Information, Coming Events...

Test Developed For Gay Pneumonia

A simple blood test may soon be used to diagnose a virulent form of pneumonia that has afflicted over 200 men—many of them Gay—during the past three years.

Dr. Linda Pilfer, a microbiologist and assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Tennessee's Center for the Health Sciences in Memphis, has developed a blood test to detect pneumocystis carinii, a disease caused by a parasite which attacks a weakened immune system. The disease invades the lungs and causes a deadly form of pneumonia. The diagnosis was previously made by a surgical lung biopsy.

Tennessee Correspondent Sought For National Radio Show

The position of Tennessee correspondent for the national Gay radio program, INTERGAY, was recently created. INTERGAY is a syndicated Gay radio news program heard on various radio stations across the country.

The volunteer position is open for a Gay person who has experience in radio, or has the ambition and desire to learn radio broadcasting. "We are looking for someone who can report the news from Tennessee," said David Wynyard, producer.

"We are more interested in dedication than experience," added Wynyard. "We

Cops Stage Violent Attack On New York Bar

By Bob Nelson, Gay Community News

NEW YORK--In an unprecedented display of force, midtown police trashed a Black Gay bar on West 43rd Street on Wednesday, September 29, beating bar patrons "indiscriminately" and laying waste to the premises.

According to the manager of the bar, twelve people required emergency care and were taken by ambulance to St. Clare's Hospital on West 51st Street. The Gay community has reacted in shock to the violence, and activists met on October 5 to plan a demonstration and to demand an investigation of the event.

"It was about five minutes before the cover charge, about 11 PM," said Louis, the security guard at Blue's, a bar at 264 West 43rd Street. "About ten cops came in. They had guns drawn and their clubs out. They told people to step away from the bar, and they started throwing bar stools around. They told everyone to stand facing the wall at the back of the bar, and they just started beating people. They were shouting that two cops got jumped in Times Square and that we were to blame."

Staff members of GAY COMMUNITY NEWS observed the premises at Blue's the next day. Piles of broken bottles and glasses, along with an overturned cash register, were heaped behind the bar. Mirrors, light fixtures, a pinball machine and a jukebox had been smashed. The glass in the deejay's booth was cracked, with records and sound equipment inside in disarray. In the back of the bar, a pool table was turned on its side. Bloodstains, still slightly sticky to the touch, lined the paneled wall behind the pool table.

Several angry but frightened witnesses showed up Thursday afternoon to tell their stories to writers and activists gathered at the bar. There was general agreement on the nature and severity of the beatings, though estimates of the number of police involved varied.

Roland, the bartender that evening, told GCN that "they had us line up around the back of the bar with our hands up on the wall. They turned the lights up and started beating people for no reason. They pulled out our ID's and took our money. Anybody who moved got hit. And they were shouting, 'You want to fuck with cops? We'll show you how to fuck with cops!'"

Bar manager Lew Olive said, "On his way out, one cop threw down a round of bullets and told us they were faggot suppositories. He said they'd use them if they had any more trouble."

The police appeared indiscriminate in their use of violence. The deejay that evening, Doreen, was pulled from the soundbooth, punched in the face and beaten about the head, opening a gash that required twelve stitches at Bellevue Hospital. A young man with crutches suffered heavy bruises on the forehead. A woman who came to Blue's Thursday afternoon unwound an ace bandage to display a fractured kneecap.

The owner of Blue's has retained Enid K. Gerling, a lawyer with thirty years' experience in litigating bar cases. Gerling told GCN that she had filed a complaint with the Civilian Complaint Review Board and had taken depositions from individuals who witnessed the raid. "I was horrified," said Gerling. "I've seen after-hours places busted up, but never like this. We've also been in touch with the district attorney's office."

are quite willing to train people in radio production. In fact, we have already trained most of our current reporters and they have improved to a very professional level."

Anyone interested in becoming INTERGAY Tennessee correspondent should write or call David Wynyard, INTERGAY GPO Box 3387, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11202; (212) 624-5014 (leave message).

MGC Plans Evaluation Meeting

The Memphis Gay Coalition decided at its October 4 meeting to hold the second re-evaluation meeting in its three-year history on Saturday, October 23 at the Orpheum, Beale at Main.

The day-long session is scheduled to begin at 10 AM, lasting through the afternoon.

MGC Secretary Irwin Rothenberg was selected to facilitate the meeting. Topics for discussion will include successes/failures, goals, fundraising, membership development, and activities and project for the upcoming year.

The meeting is free and open to all present and past MGC members, as well as other interested persons.

Gay Students Set Goals

The Memphis State University Gay Student Union has recently completed a series of reorganizational meetings. According to a spokesperson for the

group, "It was mostly setting goals, not reorganization of the structure of the Union. We had to define exactly what we expected of ourselves and of the Union."

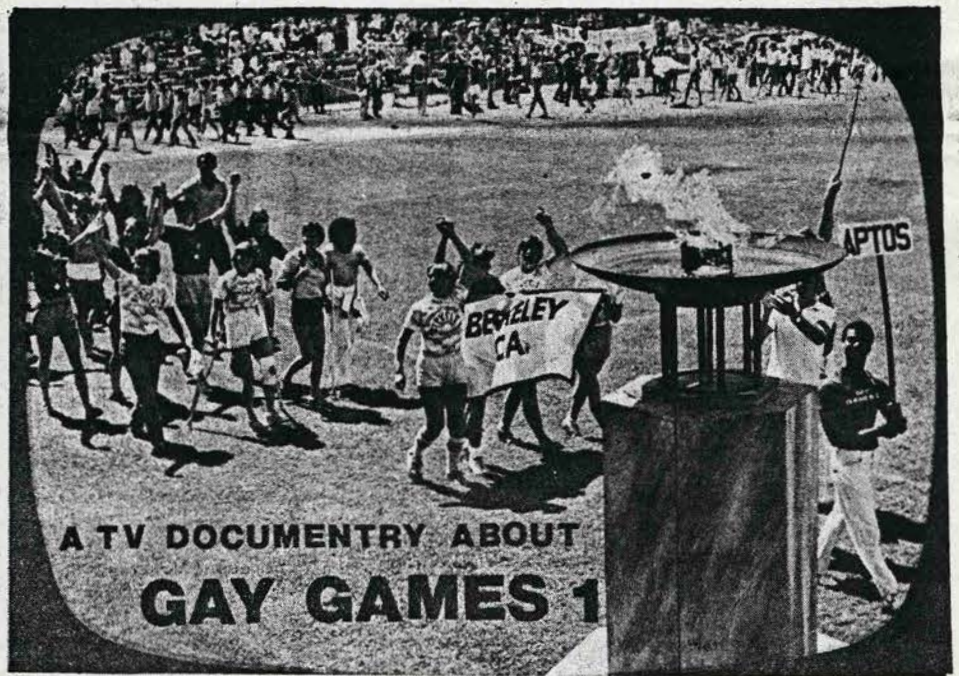
According to GSU Resident Marty Katz, the members of the Union want to be a support group where Gay students will feel comfortable to come and discuss problems they are having on campus. The Union would also like to become a resource center for people who have questions concerning homosexuality. But the main objective, Katz said, is "to create a better atmosphere for learning for Gay and Lesbian students at Memphis State."

The GSU has also scheduled various programs. A speaker from the ACLU will be on campus for an open meeting October 27, and future meetings are scheduled to discuss Gay health issues. The Union is also working on having a social event and some form of community service project.

Membership in the GSU is open to all Gay and Lesbian students at Memphis State; faculty members are also welcome to attend the meetings. It was reported that membership in the GSU is at its highest level ever, and the group will be moving to a larger meeting room in the near future.

Presently, meetings are held on Wednesdays at 12:30 PM. Those interested in attending the meetings should call Randy at 454-3678 for further details.

Gay Games TV Documentary Produced



SAN FRANCISCO--A television documentary of the first athletic games for Gay men and women is being produced by Walter Rowen Associates. The one-week San Francisco sports festival, first announced as the "Gay Olympic Games," recently gained international attention when a US District Court issued a restraining order prohibiting the use of the word "olympic" on the grounds that the United States Olympic Committee enjoys exclusive rights to the words "olympic" and "olympiad."

The documentary features celebrities such as authors Rita Mae Brown (RUBY-FRUIT JUNGLE), Armistead Maupin (TALES OF THE CITY), entertainers Tina Turner, Pamela Brooks, Bob Zendorff, Meg Christian, Sylvester, and the Rev. Troy Perry. It also covers the elaborate opening and closing ceremonies which were attended by thousands, comments by U.S. Congressman Phillip Burton (D-CA), extensive footage of the athletic competitions and other activities of the 1500 foreign and American athletes.

The focus of the show deals with the participation of the men and women ath-

letes and volunteers who worked with Games organizer, Tom Waddell, M.D., who finished 6th in the 1968 decathlon in Mexico City. Major events include basketball, body-building, soccer, swimming, diving, wrestling, tennis, volleyball, softball, track & field, cycling, a mass disco rally in the middle of Kezar stadium, the torch bearing ceremony, as well as footage of some of the most stunning men and women of all age groups, the world over.

Walter Rowen Associates is an independent television production company which plans to market the documentary to several audiences. Consumers can order a one-hour VHS or Betamax version of the show for non-commercial home use for \$49.50 which includes shipping. To order, contact Al Talley, Consumer Distribution, Walter Rowen Associates, 157 Duboce Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94103.

A second version of the production will be available to cable companies and public broadcasting systems within a few weeks, and a foreign version will be distributed early next year.

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National

Homosexuality A Sickness?

NEW YORK--A forthcoming biography of Ronald Reagan by Lou Cannon traces the history of then-Gov. Reagan's 1967 firing of aides suspected to be Gay. The book says that the reports of Gayness, attempts to verify them, and recommendations for firing were handled by Reagan assistants and later agreed to by Reagan. Cannon says that Reagan is personally tolerant of homosexuals but considers their sexuality a sickness.

Mondale Backs Gay Rights At Fundraiser

NEW YORK--Former vice president Walter Mondale announced his support for a national Gay rights bill and called the Reagan administration's attitude toward Gay rights "unfair...and unresponsive at a fundraiser September 29 for the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

Mondale's appearance was his first at a Gay fundraiser and marked a turnaround from a 1977 appearance at a San Francisco Democratic Party fundraiser when he was booed for refusing to address Gay rights issues.

The black-tie dinner at the Waldorf Astoria raised \$125,000 for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national Gay political action committee.

The overflow attendance at the fundraiser was attributed in part to negative publicity and demonstrations outside the hotel. The New York POST, for example, editorialized that the dinner represented declining standards and ticket sales skyrocketed.

ABC's NIGHTLINE used the event as a focal point for a late-September program on Gay politics.

Discrimination Charge Stops FBI Plans To Interview In Wisconsin

MADISON--According to an article in the NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, the FBI has decided not to interview graduates of the University of Wisconsin Law School after the Student Bar Association complained that the FBI consistently refuses to hire known Gays.

The FBI chose not to respond to the complaint filed with the law school's placement office and informed the university that it would not interview graduates this year, ending a six-year practice of interviewing there.

Wisconsin recently became the first state in the country to pass a comprehensive Gay rights law.

Valeska Out

NEW YORK--The Board of Directors of the National Gay Task Force has accepted the resignation of Executive Director Lucia Valeska.

Valeska, whose contract was renewed in August, is in her second three-year term, but six months prior to contract renewal, the Board of Directors indicated that her work was deficient in several areas. Valeska, controversial for some time now, delivered a speech at the Dallas National Gay Leadership Conference which offended much of the audience. In the speech, she made references to a rift with journalist Larry Bush and NGTF and irked members of the National Gay Press Association. Valeska also offended southern leaders by indicating that the movie MAKING LOVE had to be shown in private homes in the South due to protests outside theaters, a remark having no basis in fact. It was felt by Gay and Lesbian

leaders from the South that NGTF had long neglected and criticized the area.

In 1979, NGTF caused great damage to the Gay and Lesbian rights movement by using signatures from nationally-circulated petitions for a mailing list and providing the names to other organizations.

March On Washington Set For Spring

WASHINGTON (THE WASHINGTON BLADE)--A 1983 March on Washington has been tentatively set for the spring of 1983. The National Activists Union of Gays and Lesbians--the remnant of the organization which coordinated the 1979 Gay March on Washington--made that decision during their first meeting.

The spring 1983 March would have three purposes. It would be held to support congressional passage of the Gay Civil Rights Bill and reform of the U.S. immigration laws, and to oppose the passage by Congress of the "Family Protection Act."

In addition to the tentative plans made for the March, the group agreed to work on three other projects: establishing a nationwide network of local Gay hotlines, working to combat violence directed against Gay men and women, and the initiation of a dialogue between Gaymen and women on the issue of age consent laws.

Name Calling Ruled Child Abuse

RICHMOND CO., NY (GAY COMMUNITY NEWS) A family court here ruled on August 20 that a 14-year-old boy who has repeatedly been called a "fag," "faggot" and "queer" by his father is legally an abused child.

The court found that the "unrelenting torment of verbal abuse by his father directed at his sexual identity" constituted the physical injury necessary to a finding of child abuse.

According to an article in the FAMILY LAW REPORTER, the court dismissed as "singularly ludicrous" the father's contention that verbal abuse of his son was legitimate parental discipline aimed at curing the boy of "girly behavior." The father's behavior, wrote the court, "is a serious form of abuse as if he had plunged a knife into the stomach of this child. In fact, it's probably worse since the agony and heartache suffered by the boy has already assailed him for several years and constituted a grave and imminent threat to his future psychological development."

Poster Threatens Gay Extermination

BOSTON (GAYLIFE)--Officials at GAY COMMUNITY NEWS, the Boston-based newspaper, have found posters plastered across buildings all over the city that threaten extermination of "filthy Communists, Socialists, draft resisters, feminists, Gays and the rest of the scum of the earth." In its entirety, the poster reads: "Attention! All you filthy Communists, Socialists, draft resisters, feminists, Gays and the rest of the scum of the earth: you know who you are! Jews, liberals, interracial couples, members of the press, professional students, radicals, and leftists, you all are running out of time! Our new, ultra-rightist group of terrorists have formed just recently, and will follow up our most recent act of burning the Gay press centers by bringing to you a host of other fine deeds, such as assassinating Lesbians and Gays within the near future. Give up hope of any resistance, for our cause is a just one, and we'll

trained are we. Comprised of Vietnam veterans, we will use the latest in high-tech, state of the art weaponry, urban guerrilla tactics are our specialty. We have waited too long. You will come to know us as the werewolves."

The poster features a picture of a hooded man carrying a gun, which has been identified by an investigator from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms as an Israeli-built Uzi submachine gun. It has not been determined whether the group that manufactured the posters was actually responsible for the July 7 fire that destroyed the offices of GCN, FAG RAG, and the Glad Day Bookstore.

Posh Gay Restaurant Firebombed

HOLLYWOOD--The Academy Restaurant and Bar was completely gutted by a firebomb in the early hours of September 1, after having been evacuated briefly six hours earlier following a telephoned bomb threat.

The bomb squad found no evidence of a bomb, but at 1 AM another call was received in which the caller said only "Boom!" At 4 AM, two hours after its closing, neighbors reported hearing an explosion. A few hours later only the bare walls were left standing.

The Academy was one of Los Angeles' better Gay restaurants and was also a showcase room for talented Gay and non-Gay performers.

New Right Could Have Greater Impact In 1982 Elections

WASHINGTON--The 1980 electoral impact of the religious Right could actually increase in this fall's Congressional elections according to a feature article in the newsletter of People for the American Way (Norman Lear's anti-Right group.) This analysis runs contrary to the prevailing sentiment that the Moral Majority is fading. According to the Human Rights Campaign Fund, which is spearheading

the electoral fight against the religious Right, the current perception of waning Moral Majoritarian electoral influence may be because of lack of publicity.

Arson Suspected In Atlanta MCC Fire

ATLANTA (METROPOLITAN GAZETTE)--This city's Metropolitan Community Church suffered several thousand dollars worth of damage in a fire following an incident of vandalism in late September. Members of the congregation suspect arson was involved.

Around 5 AM on a Sunday morning bricks were thrown through the plate glass doors of the church. About 45 minutes later a fire report was phoned in to the Atlanta fire department. The church had been vandalized repeatedly during the past several months.

MCC held its Sunday worship service in Piedmont Park. "We're going right on with our church," Rev. Jimmy Brock told the congregation. "Nobody is going to stop us."

Following the fire, no church in Atlanta offered assistance to MCC.

Gay Cops Need Not Apply

HOUSTON (GAYLIFE)--This city's Police Officers Association, a labor union for police officers, says it doesn't want Gays in its ranks. In fact, the POA has been circulating a petition opposing the recruitment of Gays for the Houston force. Mike Wood of the organization says the decision to circulate the petition was made at a meeting of the union last week and that the vote for the petition was "unanimous." He did not say exactly how many officers actually voted. A spokesperson for the Houston Gay Political Caucus said he had heard nothing about plans to recruit Gays for the police force and speculated that the petition may have been inspired by a recent federal court ruling striking down the Texas sodomy laws.

Schlitz Belle Party*

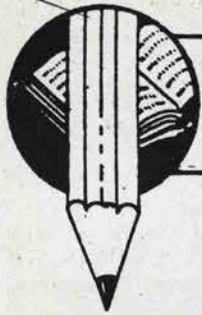
A celebration marking the 6th anniversary of the Memphis Gay Switchboard.

FREE BEER
(Softdrinks and munchies too!)

Friday, October 29 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Schlitz Brewery 5151 E. Raines Rd.

EVERYONE INVITED
Prize For Best Halloween Costume!

*Rescheduled from June 16 because of Schlitz Brewery Labor Strike



Reviews

Blue Rider Is Best Of Cris Williamson

By Susan Smith

Cris Williamson weaves musical artistry with a unique and commanding vision that has made her one of the best selling artists on an independent label. A depth of insight and breadth of talent combine to create her music's powerful appeal.

BLUE RIDER is Williamson's brand new release on the Olivia label, and it is by far the best of her several albums. BLUE RIDER exemplifies Cris' spirit from the flight of fantasy expressed in the cut "Peter Pan" to the moving requiem for John Lennon "Night Patrol." This album also marks a notable expansion of Cris' talents in her co-producing BLUE RIDER with singer and songwriter Tret Fure.

Williamson's first Olivia album, THE CHANGER AND THE CHANGED, has sold over 150,000 copies, making it one of the most successful LPs ever produced by

an independent label. Many attribute the enduring success of THE CHANGER to her strong grass roots following where friend after friend has passed the word about her work. Her following continues to grow; she has sold over 1/3 of a million copies of all her albums.

Born in the hills of South Dakota, the powerful mysticism of the Sioux Universe permeated Cris' early childhood. "Daughter of a forest ranger, she grew up a nomad in the wilderness of Wyoming and Colorado. An old wind-up Victrola and family "sings" sparked her earliest in music. It was not until her family finally "moved into town" that Cris began study of voice and piano, enriching the melodies she was already composing. A passion and reverence for the Earth and all its inhabitants are reflected throughout Cris' music.

By the time Cris began studies at



Chris Williamson

Photo By Irene Young



INTERNATIONAL GAY BOWLING ORGANIZATION

The International Gay Bowling Organization is now forming a league in Memphis.

IGBO's purpose is friendship, unity, competition and kinships.

Open to everyone, even if you have never bowled before.

For further information, call Ron Smith 527-4084 after 5 P.M.

The IGBO will be holding a meeting Sunday, October 24 at 1:00 P.M. in the nursery of the Poplar Plaza Bowling Lanes.

the University of Denver, she had recorded three albums on the Avanti label. During her college years, she performed as a folk singer and, later, with a rock and roll band. Graduating with a BA in English, Cris headed for the West Coast bringing with her a music and spirit, rare and individual.

In 1971, Cris' first studio album, CRIS WILLIAMSON was released on the Ampex label, six months before Ampex closed its record division. In 1973, Olivia Records, the first all-woman owned and operated record label, was founded. Cris was instrumental in the genesis of Olivia and her association with the group has provided the creative freedom essential to her artistry.

In the past nine years, Cris has released six LPs under the Olivia label: THE CHANGER AND THE CHANGED, LIVE DREAM, STRANGE PARADISE, CRIS WILLIAMSON, LUMIERE and BLUE RIDER.

Cris' 20-city Fall Tour of the U.S. will culminate in two performances at Carnegie Hall in late November. Here, she will join Meg Christian, a founder of Olivia, for a historic concert celebrating the tenth anniversary of Olivia Records.

The Washington POST perhaps best captured the magic of Cris in their statement that "Williamson displayed optimism, insight, humor and pathos in songs of survival that spoke to anyone lucky enough to listen."

If Looks Were Everything . . .

By Bill Johnson

Who is the hottest new Gay recording artist today? Paul Parker is, but he has more looks to sell than talent.

Megatone recording artist Paul Parker's premier effort "Right On Target" has done well--it reached the number one slot on Billboard magazine's dance chart. But it's not the kind of music that is any good off the dance floor.

The 12-inch single "Right On Target" b/w "Rushin' Too Hard" which was produced by San Francisco musician Patrick Cowley was first pegged by club dj's as a top favorite and spilled over into r&b and dance radio. This would have to be attributed to its danceability. Parker tends to shout rather than sing.

Working with Cowley, who produced the smash dance album MEGATRON MAN, has given Parker the experience he desired to begin his own live club appearances. He first connected with Cowley in 1979. Cowley liked what he heard and invited Parker to join him on some demo tapes he was working on--one such tune was "Lift Off," a cut on the MEGATRON MAN album.

Parker, a 29-year-old San Francisco native, is now devoting all of his time to his singing career. Dance music sells, and his record sales are soaring. Parker plans an international tour soon and is in the process of filming a video of his #1 single and cuts from his forthcoming Megatone album. Parker says he likes songs that are emotional, from contemporary bal-



Paul Parker

lads to dance-oriented rock, and that "Right On Target" is a love song which brings out emotional feelings. But, then, he knows what the words are, and I have a difficult time making them out.

Despite the shortcomings of his music, I can't deny being overwhelmingly swayed by his good looks. He can sing to me anytime he wants.

BWMT/Memphis BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER

October-November Calendar of Events - Everyone Welcome

General Meetings: Main Library 7:30 P.M. Meeting Room A
Monday, October 25
Monday, November 29

Support Group: Thursday, October 28
Tuesday, November 9

Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend: Wow!
Canned Food Drive For The Needy - Bring a canned good to each event listed.

Nov. 24-28 1. Hosting visit by BWMT/Atlanta and BWMT/Raleigh-Durham, N.C.

2. Pot-luck Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Trix Art Gallery - Corner Cooper and Young - Nov. 24, 5 P.M.
Admission is one covered dish and one canned good.

3. EBONY & IVORY DANCE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 8 P.M.
TRIX ART GALLERY - admission charge

For information: Call 274-0532 or 276-4160

Classifieds

RATES FOR CLASSIFIED: 20¢ per word, \$3 minimum. Phone numbers & zip codes are free. Deadline for ads is 10 days prior to publication date, 4th Friday monthly. Payment must accompany ads. There is a \$2 charge for use of our post office box. Address to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103. Phone (901) 274-0431 (irregular hours, keep trying).

GAY WRESTLING: Info/Mag—\$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th Street, NYC, 10011. Pro-style, collegiate, fans welcome.

48-PAGE CATALOGUE of 2,500 Gay/Lesbian books, magazines, records, etc. \$2 refundable from ADL, 4014 Santa Monica Blvd., LA CA 90029.

OUT FROM UNDER: Sober Dykes and Our Friends is a new anthology of the stories and dream of those of us involved with recovery from alcoholism or drug addiction. Need material from women making clean, sober lives in Lesbian communities. Articles or artwork in almost any style welcome. SASE for details. Deadline: Jan. 1, 1983, 11 Broderick, #5, San Francisco, CA 94117.

LESBIAN CORRESPONDENCE CLUB: Reliable, honest, caring, successful, inexpensive. Singles, couples. Send S.A.S.E. to: New Dawn, Box 1849, Alexandria, VA 22313-1849.

W/MALE, 28, serving last year of 5-year sentence in Nevada State Prison; 5 ft., 11 in., 180 (solid) lbs., brn. hr. & eyes & moustache; good-looking, well-endowed, educated, sincere, bisexual, w/p friends or family, seeking meaningful relationship and friends too. Loves to laugh, not afraid to cry; feel people most valuable commodity. If you have time in your life, space in your heart, I welcome you. Will answer all mail. Write: James Ross, #15312, P.O. Box 607 N.S.P., Carson City, Nevada 89702-0607.

ROOMMATE NEEDED to share 5-bedroom Midtown house. \$110 plus utilities. Call 278-3946.

NATIONAL GAY CONTACT CLUB: Men and women. Low rates. SASE to: Dean, P.O. Box 26044, San Jose, CA 95159.

I AM 5'11" tall, Blk. hair, Brn. eyes and Hawaiian. I would appreciate all letters from those who will write a lonely person and needs someone. Will answer all letters. Peter Trapasso, NSP #15321 C-30, Carson City, Nevada 89702.

JOIN 501 LEVI FETISHERS. SASE to Box 6029, Tucson, AZ 85725.

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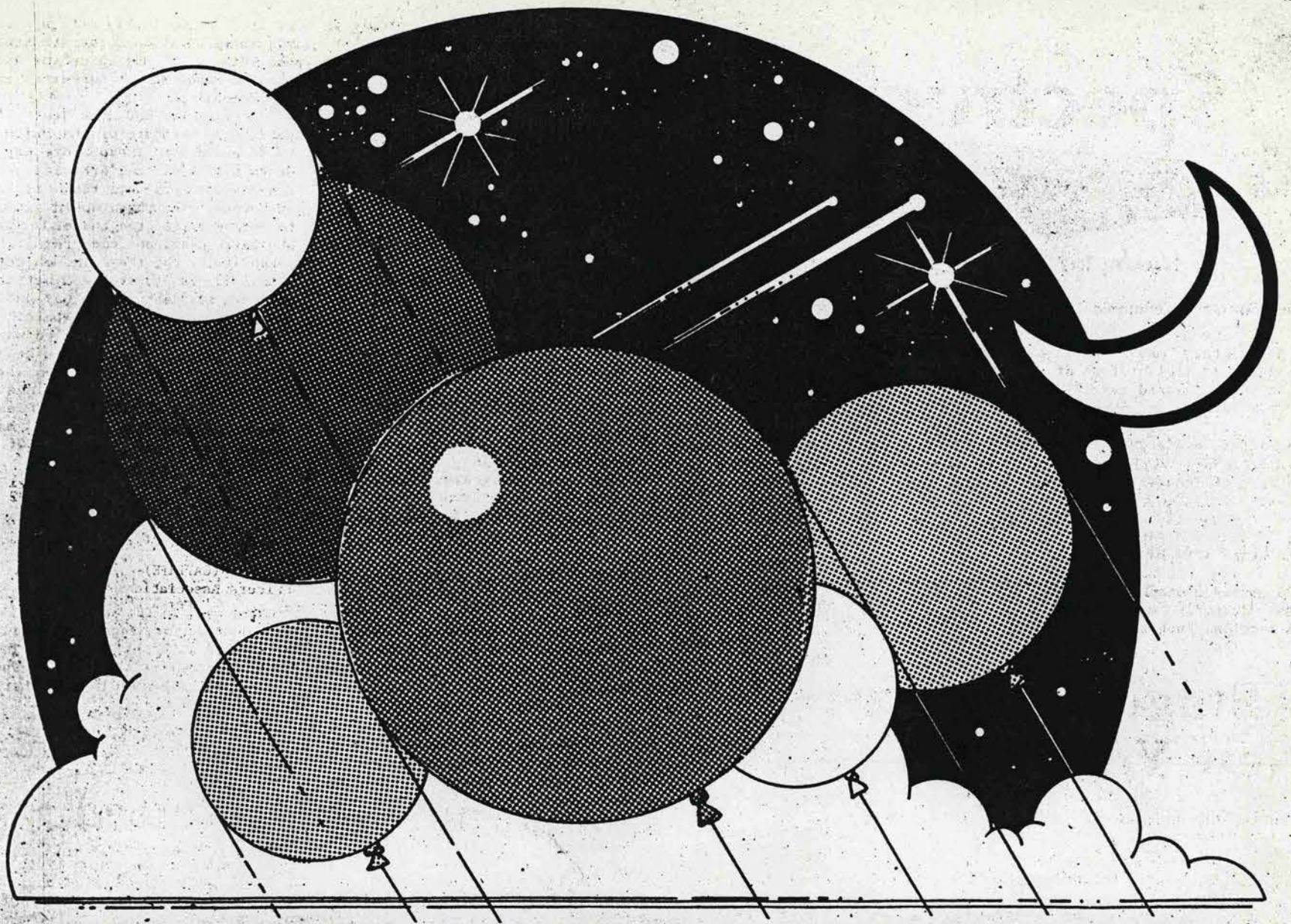
November 5 9:00 P.M.
 November 17 8:00 P.M.
 November 22 9:00 P.M.

Featuring the director of the Washington office of NGTF, Mel Boozer

Barefoot, Pregnant and Ignorant

November 9 8:00 P.M.
 November 13 7:00 P.M.
 November 19 9:00 P.M.

Featuring Susan McGrievy of the ACLU talking about the Patriarchal Society and the oppression of women.



WAREHOUSE 28

November is WILD!

Sunday October 24—Gay Coalition slunch Party, membership party from 2:30-5 pm.
\$1 Bloody marys—free buffet and exhibits by local gay businesses. Also, October-fest buffet 6-9 pm with entertainment by singer/songwriter Tom Wilson.

Oct. 29-31—Three nights of Halloween:

Fri: Costume Judging—5 prizes \$50 each
Sat: Shake It Down To The Break of Day
Sun: Buffet of Witches Brew & Pumpkin Pie; Featuring a night of Erotic Games (Bobbing For Dildos...) Shake it down til Day break (We really will keep it going 'til the sun comes up.)

Sunday November 7—Excitingly new and different entertainment for the Warehouse. A live show featuring two of America's most progressive female musicians—Nancy Vogl and Suzanne Shaunbaum. These women were original members of the Berkeley Women's Music Cooperative, and are once again performing together. If you like good music, you'll want to see this show.

Sunday November 14—Zoe Walker entertains for the "Hello Dolly" cast party. You won't want to miss this exciting Broadway performer. It was Nashville's gain and New York's loss when she left the show "Ain't Misbehavin'." She's a knockout!

Thursday Nov. 18—Autumn Men of '82 Contest. A preliminary contest with the grand prize a weekend in Houston. Emceed and entertainment by Rita Rhinestone.

Sunday Nov. 21—A special Holiday Fashion Show by Vintage Department Store.

Tuesday Nov. 23—The 2nd Annual Miss Gay Melrose Contest at the Crazy Cowboy, 2311 Franklin Road. (The Warehouse will be closed.)

Sunday November 28—Autumn Men of '82 Finals with special entertainment by Gary Herb and Johnny Potato, the two "mad men from Manhattan." You loved their show last spring—this is an event not to be missed. Gay comedy and song like you've never seen before.

2529 Franklin Nashville 615-385-9689

Congratulations to the Body Shop and the Hard Times Saloon.

Warehouse 28 is proud to be a contract advertiser in Gaze--Gaze advertising pays off!