

Miss Gay America Pageant Moves from Arkansas to Mississippi

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — In a bid for more national exposure, the Arkansas owners of the Miss Gay America Pageant have sold the franchise to a Mississippi company.

The annual pageant has been headquartered in Little Rock for more than three decades. Organizers describe it as the largest and most prestigious female impersonator competition in the nation.

Former owner Norman Jones sold the pageant, its copyright and a smaller circuit of competitions on Feb. 4 to L&T Entertainment, a firm in Nesbit, Miss., about 20 miles south of Memphis.

Jones won the pageant in 1973 as Norma Kristie and afterward started running it out of a Little Rock nightclub that he also owns, but now he says he's ready to move on.

"I've been doing this for 33 years," Kristie said. "It's time for me to concentrate on something else."

The pageant draws 350 impersonators to pageants across the country to compete for the chance to come to Little Rock. Contestants are scored based on evening gown, creative costume, talent and interview. The winner receives \$6,000 in prize money and an estimated \$35,000 in earnings from guaranteed booked performances after the coronation.

Terry Eason, co-owner of L&T Entertainment, said he is looking at a couple of different cities for the next October competition.

"There were many people who felt that the pageant had reached a point of stagnation," Eason said. "It wasn't growing and it's time to move it around."

Health Authorities Find Rare Drug-Resistant HIV

By Verena Dobnik
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — New York's first diagnosed case of highly drug-resistant HIV in a person never before treated for the virus is "a wake up call" to anyone who has unprotected sex, the city's health commissioner said.

The patient, a man in his mid-40s who had unprotected sex with other men, contracted a strain of HIV that is "difficult or impossible to treat and which appears to progress rapidly to AIDS," said the Health Commissioner Dr. Thomas Frieden.

The diagnosis "is a wake up call to men who have sex with men," Frieden said at a news conference.

The commissioner said the city's health authorities are working with the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta to find other possible cases of the drug-resistant HIV strain that quickly turns into AIDS.

"We are not aware of another case like this in the United States, or elsewhere," said Dr. Ron Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention.

New York health officials are now trying to locate the man's sex partners to offer them testing. The city has not released his name.

The man was first diagnosed in December 2004 at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center on Manhattan's East Side. He apparently had been infected recently after years of what Frieden said was the riskiest sexual behavior — unprotected anal intercourse. The man developed AIDS as early as two or three months after diagnosis.

"To go from infection to disease in months is very unusual," said Frieden, noting that HIV can take as many as 10 years to develop into AIDS.

See **Drug-resistant HIV** on p. 5

MGLCC Celebrates 'Sweet Sixteen'

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) celebrated its 16th anniversary on Sat., Feb. 19, with many people initially involved with its inception attending.

While the Center just celebrated its second year at its present location and for several years was without a physical location, its original location was a storefront near Madison and McNeil. It later moved to a house near Madison and Belvedere. The Center is an outgrowth of the now-defunct Memphis Gay and Lesbian Coalition, but was chartered separately.

During the informal celebration, Heidi Williams, MGLCC vice-president, read what has become the statement of purpose of the Center — a series of more than 20 metaphors espousing what the founders hope the center will become.

Among those present were Vincent Astor, Novella Smith-Arnold, Matthew Presley, Hunter Johnston, Allen Cook and John Stilwell, Bob Dumais, Len Piechowski, Heidi Williams as well as many current board of directors and supporters of the Center.



Top: MGLCC Vice-President Heidi Williams reads the Center's statement of purpose. Bottom: A custom-made celebration cake.



Constitutional Gay Marriage Ban Looks Unstoppable in Tennessee Legislature

By Lucas L. Johnson II
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh may not like it, but he has no plans to fight a proposed constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage in Tennessee.

"Any resolution like this is bad public policy," said Naifeh, a Democrat from Covington. "But it has overwhelming support, so I'm not going to stand in the way and get run over by that train."

Tennessee law already defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman, but lawmakers are trying to prevent courts from allowing gay marriages in other states from being recognized here.

The Legislature approved the ban last session by a simple majority, and now needs a two-thirds majority this session before the question can be put to voters on a gubernatorial ballot.

So far, the bill is getting little resistance. Both the Senate Judiciary and House Children and Family Affairs committees approved the legislation with only a few voices of dissent.

Rep. Johnny Shaw is another Democrat who doesn't agree with the bill, but is backing it anyway.

"I'm going to support it because it's a political issue that a lot of folks have gotten all involved in, and feel like it's going

to make them heroes," said Shaw, who is also a minister. "But I have been preaching the gospel for 24 years, and if the Bible don't change a man's heart, legislation is not going to change it."

A small number of lawmakers say the ban is an attempt to write discrimination into the state constitution, and they are refusing to support it.

"I was at the constitutional convention in 1977, and I was very proud that convention finally repealed from the constitution a section that didn't allow people of different races to marry," said Sen. Steve Cohen, D-Memphis. "It's about 28 years later, and I don't see any reason to write discrimination back into our constitution."

Rep. Beverly Marrero, another Memphis Democrat, said she's also against "altering the constitution" and "doing anything that takes away the rights from a minority of citizens in our community."

But the bills' Republican sponsors — Sen. Jeff Miller of Cleveland and Rep. Bill Dunn of Knoxville — said their intention is not to discriminate, but provide a more definitive description of marriage.

"It goes beyond something that is quoted in the Bible," Dunn said. "I think it's good for the state to have a policy that encourages a man and a woman to come

together and be the very foundation of our society."

Hedy Weinberg, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Tennessee, said lawmakers are actually defeating their own purpose.

"They're choosing to exclude a group of people and choosing to prohibit them from creating legally recognized, loving nurturing relationships," Weinberg said. "I think it's a sad day in Tennessee when we see our elected officials willing to discriminate against a group of people."

Melissa Snarr, an assistant professor of society and ethics at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, said it's tragic that lawmakers are even focusing on this issue right now.

"There're a hand full of biblical references on human sexuality, but there are hundreds on economic injustice," Snarr said. "But you don't see anybody rallying for a constitutional ban on poverty."

Nonetheless, most lawmakers expect the bill to get the required support for passage.

"We've heard the voices of the people; we've debated the issue," said Rep. John DeBerry, a Memphis Democrat and chairman of the Children and Family Affairs Committee, which approved the bill. "It passed last year, and I think it will this year."

Daughter of Conservative Republican Calls Herself 'Liberal Queer,' Urges Support for Young Gays Rejected by Their Families

By Tom Stuckey
Associated Press Writer

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland (AP) — The daughter of conservative Republican commentator Alan Keyes referred to herself as a "liberal queer" and urged support for gay and lesbian young people who have been deserted by their families.

Maya Marcel-Keyes, 19, addressed a rally sponsored by the

gay-rights group Equality Maryland, saying she was motivated to speak out because of her rocky relationship with her parents and the recent death of a friend who had fallen ill after being thrown out of the house by his family.

Marcel-Keyes told several hundred supporters that her sexuality had created a rift in her relationship with her parents.

"Things just came to a head. Liberal queer plus conservative

Republican just doesn't mesh well," she said. "That was making my life a little bit turbulent."

Later, Marcel-Keyes told CNN her parents "were not too pleased" when they learned she was a lesbian, but she said she loves them "very much, and they love me. They can't support my activities."

Her father, the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in Illinois last year, created a stir in

August when he said during an interview that homosexuality was "selfish hedonism" and that Vice President Dick Cheney's lesbian daughter was a sinner.

In a statement issued Feb. 14, Keyes said: "My daughter is an adult, and she is responsible for her own actions. What she chooses to do has nothing to do with my work or political activities."

Marcel-Keyes said she re-

ceived an outpouring of support when disclosing her sexual orientation, but her friend did not.

"Like me, he grew up queer in a conservative household," she said. But where she got hundreds of e-mails, offers of a place to stay and a college scholarship, "he'd been out there two years and had gotten nothing."

"And the worst part is, he isn't the only one," Marcel-Keyes said.

Marine Recruiter Tries to Explain 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy

MIDDLEBURY, Vt. (AP) — Marine Capt. David Doucette was allowed to bring his recruiting message to the Middlebury College campus, but not before answering questions about the military's policy regarding gays and lesbians.

More than 150 Middlebury College students and faculty questioned Doucette the night before his appearance about the military's "don't ask, don't tell" law in an hourlong session the college required before allowing the recruiter on campus.

The session featured a vigorous but respectful back-and-forth, with all but one comment from the overflow crowd directed against the military's policy that forbids openly gay people from serving.

Middlebury spokesman Phil Benoit said Feb. 9 that the college's nondiscrimination policy requires job recruiters to explain their reasons for what would normally be seen as a violation of that policy before being allowed to recruit on campus. He said military recruiters who had approached the college in the recent past had decided not to come after hearing that they first would have to explain the military's policy on gays and lesbians.

"If you don't tell me, and I don't find out, you can join the military. There are members of the military right now who are gay, bisexual or lesbian," Doucette, of Albany, N.Y., said of the military's policy. He said discovery of a person's

sexual orientation as gay likely would result in discharge.

Doucette came to campus for three days to recruit for the Platoon Leader's Class, a military program that allows freshmen, sophomores and juniors to attend Officer Candidate School during the summer and then receive a commission upon graduation.

An explanation is good for one academic year, Jackman said. Benoit said the school's rules were not directed at the military but affected no other organizations.

Doucette said he's never encountered a requirement like

Middlebury's during his 11 years in the military, including recruiting trips to the University of Vermont in Burlington and St. Michael's College in Colchester.

Steve Jasikoff, a 22-year-old senior from Ovid, N.Y., and a member of College Republicans, said he has considered a career in the military but has reservations about don't ask, don't tell. Middlebury, he said, should welcome every group to campus wholeheartedly, even the military, and not subject a recruiter to such intense grilling.

Katie Harrold, 21, a junior from

Newton, Mass., and co-president of the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance, said she'd rather the college prohibit any group that violates the campus anti-discrimination policy.

Doucette told the crowd that don't ask, don't tell, which was enacted in 1993, is less strict than previous military rules on homosexuality. If people want to see the law changed further, he said, they should contact their legislators.

"If you have a problem with what I'm talking about tonight," he said, "it's your duty as a proud American to do something about it."

Massachusetts Attorney General Reilly Now Says He Backs Gay Marriage

BOSTON (AP) — Attorney General Thomas Reilly, who played a key role in state efforts to fight the legalization of gay marriage a year ago, now says he favors same-sex marriage and will oppose any efforts to ban it.

Reilly, an unannounced Democratic candidate for governor, told *The Boston Globe* he was "moved" by the same-sex marriages that took place after gay marriage was legalized on May 17.

Reilly said he would vote against a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage if it reached the 2006 state ballot.

"Once rights are given, they should not be taken away," Reilly said.

Reilly said he still personally believes marriage is between a man and woman. He also declined to take a position on whether a proposed constitutional amendment banning gay marriage should go before voters, saying that's up to legislators.

Reilly is the state's top lawyer and in that role fought gay marriage supporters in the Goodrich case, which that led the Supreme Judicial Court to legalize gay marriage. He also joined with Republican Gov. Mitt Romney in enforcing a 1913 law that barred out-of-state same-sex couples from marrying in

Massachusetts.

His legal brief in the SJC case questioned whether gay and lesbian parents are as good parents as heterosexual parents, language he removed after gay marriage supporters protested. He also criticized the SJC ruling, saying a momentous change in social policy should be left to the Legislature.

Reilly told the *Globe* he has been consistent since March in saying he would not favor taking away marriage rights once they were granted.

"This is not a change in my beliefs. I have been consistent," he said. "What has changed is that May 17 came and went, and people entered into marriage. ... No one has been hurt."

He added, "You couldn't help but be moved by the commitments and marriages that people have entered into."

Tim O'Brien, the executive director of the state Republican Party, said Reilly has "completely flopped" on the issue because he needs to answer to a special-interest group within the Democratic Party.

Arline Isaacson, cochairwoman of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, said it was disturbing that Reilly would not oppose efforts to place what she

says is a civil rights issue on the ballot.

"If he is now saying that he doesn't believe our rights should be taken away, we welcome that, but we need someone who would play a leadership role in this debate and stand up and say ... that a civil rights question should not be placed on the ballot," she said.

Susan Ryan-Vollmar, editor of *Bay Windows*, New England's largest gay and lesbian newspaper, said members of the state's gay and lesbian communities remain "furious" with Reilly.

"When the subject comes up of Reilly running for governor, it runs from, 'Over my dead body' to 'He is going to have to really grovel,'" she said.

Reilly is seeking to meet with gay and lesbian leaders as he prepares his campaign for next year's governor's race. Former Democratic National Committee chairman, Steve Grossman, is trying to set up meetings between Reilly and gay and lesbian leaders at his Newton home.

"I have an enormous respect for Tom Reilly that he is willing to move to a new position on this issue and others," Grossman said. "I don't want a governor who will dig in and say, 'I will never change.'"

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Axing 'Gay' from Event Title Fuels Uproar for Workshop

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The Oregon mental health community is enraged after the organizers of a suicide prevention program were asked to delete references to gay, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people in the event's title.

The workshop's title is now "Suicide Prevention in Vulnerable Populations," instead of "Suicide Prevention Among Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Individuals."

Organizers say they were asked to remove the words by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the federal agency which is funding the Feb. 28 workshop in Portland.

The controversy has promoted a flood of e-mails to the office of Charles Curie, the administrator of the federal agency.

"Charlie is getting e-mails calling him a Nazi," said Mark Weber, the agency's communications director. "It is disgraceful the hate that these people have sent to him."

Weber explained that an agency project manager had suggested that the phrase "sexual orientation" would be more inclusive than the words gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender.

They passed on that suggestion to the Newton, Mass.-based Suicide Prevention Resource Center, which contracts with the agency to stage conferences.

Soon after, the Portland workshop presenters said they were asked by the resource center to remove the offending words.

"This has become a political football," said Reid Vanderburgh of Portland, one of the workshop presenters and a psychologist who treats transgendered men and women.

Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) expressed his appreciation for the clarification offered Feb. 17 by Charles Curie, administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), that it is permissible for grantees of the agency to use the terms "Gay", "Lesbian", "Bisexual" and "Transgender" in the titles of workshops or other

SAMHSA-sponsored public events.

SAMHSA officials did not explicitly make it clear that there was no bar to using GLBT references in SAMHSA-funded activities. As a result, Frank spoke to Curie several times to urge that he issue a clear statement that the terms could be used, and Curie did exactly that Feb. 16, noting in an email to Frank that "there is no policy on the use of the words lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender."

Curie went on to say "I am still planning to participate in the...Conference and I will highlight in my remarks our commitment at SAMHSA to ensure that we reach out to all populations in our efforts to provide substance

abuse prevention, addiction treatment and mental health services."

"I am pleased that Mr. Curie was so cooperative and moved so quickly to repudiate the apparently erroneous earlier statements that SAMHSA policies bar the use of references to any of these terms," Frank said. "Given the fact that the frequency of youth suicide in particular is so much higher in the GLBT community, it would have sent terribly mixed signals to convene a panel discussion on suicide within that community and then refuse to even acknowledge the target audience. I appreciate the fact that the head of the agency took the necessary steps to correct the misinformation."

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Policeman Resigns After Taking Photos of Barely Clad Men for Personal Use

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — A policeman has resigned after 100 photos of barely clad men were found in his home.

An investigation of former patrolman Charles Broshous was begun after a gay dancer reported being arrested and forced to strip to a "satin leopard G-string" while Broshous photographed him.

Broshous, 36, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor official misconduct Nov. 24 and resigned from the force that day. His departure was disclosed this week under a free-

dom of information request by *The Gazette*.

During the Police Department's three-month internal affairs investigation, it was discovered that Broshous had photographed and collected pictures of men who were about the same age, 18 to 24, according to police reports.

"Pictures that are this consistent in nature generally indicate a person's preference for their sexual desires and needs," wrote Derek Graham, a homicide detective who was lead investigator on the Broshous case.

"The fact that photographs would be taken of suspects, all of whom were of the same age group and athletic build with their shirts off, indicated that Officer Broshous was intentionally contacting individuals sharing these characteris-

tics in order to photograph them."

Broshous refused to be interviewed.

Through Colorado Open Records Act requests, *The Gazette* obtained hundreds of pages of internal investigation documents and Broshous' personnel files from Colorado Springs police and the Colorado State Patrol, where he served nine years.

Those documents, coupled with interviews of people who complained about Broshous, paint a picture of an officer who abused his authority.

Investigators said that, among other things, Broshous issued an unusually high number of tickets for underage drinking. He would order offenders to remove their shirts, saying he was looking for tattoos.

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HIV Patients Living Longer with Better Drugs

By Jennifer Ryan
East Valley Tribune

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — They call it their war chest — a kitchen cabinet full of HIV drugs.

A daily prescription regimen of nearly 50 pills each has kept Dave Marks and David Cripe alive after about two decades of being infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.

But it's a bittersweet salvation. The number of pills the Scottsdale couple takes each day doesn't come close to the number of friends they have lost to the virus that causes AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"It was a constant," Cripe, 46, said of the monthly funerals he attended in the 1980s. "A whole generation was lost of people I knew and grew up with."

Although the number of AIDS deaths has declined dramatically with the advent of the combination drug therapy, known as the cocktail, the ranks of the dead are being replaced with newly infected individuals: Men and women, young and old, homosexual and heterosexual. The largest and fastest-growing group of people reported positive for HIV in Maricopa County is men having sex with men, according to the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Nearly 7,000 people in the county are living with HIV or AIDS, according to cases reported to the Arizona Department of Health Services. HIV authorities said the numbers should be 25 percent higher to account for those who do not yet know they have the virus.

Nationwide, HIV and AIDS diagnoses remained steady from 2000 to 2003, when

125,800 new cases in 32 states were reported to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Worldwide, 4.8 million new HIV cases were reported in 2003, of which 3 million were in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The infection rate boggles Cripe and Marks, 51, who said their struggle with HIV should be enough to inspire everyone to prevent the spread of HIV.

"If I had known back in the '80s that all I needed was a condom, I'd never think of having sex without one," Cripe said. "It's such a simple thing to do."

Preventing HIV transmission, however, has not been so simple.

Billy Leeth was infected with HIV when he shared a needle with a methamphetamine user in 1986. Now an HIV prevention and outreach services administrator for the Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Leeth, 50, is helping people in a crystal meth epidemic that has collided with HIV infections.

A 2004 Maricopa County survey of 800 gay men found that 59 percent had used or were using crystal meth. The vast majority said they don't use a condom when they're high.

Crystal meth also can fuel the spread of HIV, according to researchers.

The CDC found that gay men who were crystal meth users were twice as likely to be diagnosed HIV positive, based on a study of 1,263 gay men in San Francisco in 2003.

Crystal meth is a popular club drug that turns up at all-night circuit parties, where sex is rampant, said Mark Kezios, director of HIV services for Pueblo Family Physicians, the Phoenix area's largest private provider of HIV services.

But crystal meth doesn't completely explain the rise in new HIV infections, authorities said.

Elizabeth Miller has two daughters, a home being built in Queen Creek and HIV. Despite having the virus, Miller is lucky. Eight pills taken once each night keep her viral load undetectable and her T-cell count high, indicators that the virus in her body is being held at bay. Even better: The drug's side effects have been minimal.

"It's just a part of my life," Miller said. "I don't even think about it anymore."

But for many people living with HIV, drug therapy hasn't been so easy. Reactions to HIV drugs vary depending on the person, doctors said, and side effects — including debilitating ones — are common.

Still, Miller's experience with HIV shows how far treatment has come.

"The things we did before were just to treat morbidity. Maybe people weren't as sick, but they didn't live as long," said Dr. Andy Myers, medical director of Body Positive. "In the mid-'90s, (new drugs) interrupted this horrible decline. We started talking about living with HIV instead of having something that was a death sentence."

Advanced drugs have reduced fears about HIV infection, authorities said, and contributed to a rising infection rate.

"Across the board there is a tremendous sense of complacency because of all the new medications," Leeth said. "As someone who swallows those pills on a daily

basis, they're no piece of cake."

When Marks and Cripe wake up every morning, the first thing they do is fill their pill case.

The couple's life revolves around taking medications and coping with their side effects. More than half their medications are taken to counteract the side effects of HIV drugs.

Days are often spent going to the bathroom several times for diarrhea, taking naps for overwhelming fatigue and grimacing from neuropathy, which causes constant shooting pains from the knee to the foot. Nights are sometimes filled with fits of sleeplessness and night sweats.

Meanwhile, HIV medications keep their viral load and T-cell counts good, they said. The drugs, however, cannot overcome weakened immune systems that make the men susceptible to illness. Both have dealt with pneumonia and shingles.

HIV educators are battling prevention fatigue, when people tune out repeated prevention messages, and a generation gap, Leeth said.

Max Siegel, who was diagnosed two years ago as a senior at Skyline High School in Mesa, is sharing his story on campus and in the community, trying to help people understand and appreciate the realities of HIV.

"The incredibility of what's going on (with HIV treatment) is greatly exaggerated," he said. "I think they have incredible breakthroughs, but not to the point I'm apathetic to the illness."

Memphis Log Cabin Republicans Changes Name

The Memphis Log Cabin Republicans is no longer affiliated with the national organization and has changed its name to Memphis Gay & Lesbian Republicans.

At the Feb. 20 meeting, the membership voted to cease being a Log Cabin Republican chapter.

According to an email from the new organization, the views of those present at the meeting was that the organization did not have enough members to both maintain the organization and meet national dues requirements of \$500 for the first year

and \$1,000 for each additional year.

The membership felt its money would be best spent, for the time being, on building its local organization. Its goal is to obtain a membership of 40 plus members.

The new group's web address home page is now <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MGLRChat>. The group's email address is MGLRChat@yahoo.com

If you have links which point to this group or an address book entry for the group, you should upgrade them, as the old addresses will no longer work.

Drug-resistant HIV

Continued from page 1

The patient's three-class antiretroviral-resistant HIV did not respond to three of four classes of anti-retroviral medication most commonly prescribed. He is now receiving a fourth "cocktail" in hopes his rare HIV strain will respond, health officials said.

Drug resistance is increasingly common among HIV-positive people, including some who had never been treated before — but not with such a fast progression to AIDS, Valdiserri said.

What makes this case important to sci-

entists is "the double whammy of resistance to three classes of drugs, in combination with the rapid clinical course of the HIV to AIDS," Valdiserri said. "The message to the American public is that HIV remains a very formidable adversary. We can't let down our vigilance."

Frieden said the gay community successfully reduced its risk of AIDS after the first epidemic in the 1980s. "And it must do so again to stop the spread of drug-resistant strains.

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V-Day in Memphis

By Vincent Astor

I saw the first Memphis production of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* several years ago almost by accident. The producer/director was a very old friend of mine, Darian Corley, and Emerald Theatre Company was loading in at TheatreWorks right after V-Day was loading out.

It was an incredible cast of some of Memphis' most noteworthy female talent, and I laughed until it hurt. This play takes you in and out of seriousness and humor with skill and rapidity, and is definitely worth a visit, even though to many men and some women just the title is enough to bring a pre-pubescent scream of "Eeeauuuuuwww!!!!" followed by long minutes of em-

barrassed discomfort and a very Southern change of subject.

Get over it and go, though one must expect a lot of loud female reactions and a tangible presence of estrogen in the air.

This is first and foremost a benefit to stop any and all violence against women. And it happens every year on the weekend nearest Valentine's Day. There were two, non-competing productions in 2005, one at Rhodes College (part of the V-Day College Campaign) and one downtown (part of the V-Day Worldwide Campaign).

I ended up at *The Vagina Monologues* at Rhodes to see Prof. Gail Murray do a new segment called "Baghdad" which is a graphic description of a bombing injury. "Baghdad" falls between

"Islamabad" and "Juarez" which are two other very serious stories dealing with the physical mistreatment/mutilation of women in areas where women are still regarded as disposable.

The Rhodes effort was a fine production using all Rhodes women, both off and on stage, the majority being students. The audience was gender-mixed and appreciative and FOSTER, the GLBT student organization, was one of the sponsors and had a table in the lobby of Buckman Hall.

The Rhodes Student Counseling Center was a primary sponsor and counselors were present in case some of the more graphic descriptions of violence caused audience members to seek their services.

V-Day Memphis was a more elaborate event at the Cadre Center downtown. It included food, drink, music and dance entertain-

ment before the *Monologues*, massage therapists and a silent auction.

Everything was quite enjoyable including a very different production of the *Monologues*. Laurie Hook, another friend, took the role of an old lady who recites "The Flood" and can only use the term "down there." It was interesting to see the different interpretations of the same material and the different staging. The audience was not as rowdy as usual during the first act, but an open bar intermission and some very strong acting in the second act got the estrogen primed. It is really an important part of a V-Day to experience the active and vocal support of the audience.

Family Flavors and the MGLCC represented the GLBT community at the downtown production. I was also treated to a visit with Darian Corley and her

mother, Dale.

Now, this is not meant to be one of those picky reviews, but I did notice that the *Monologues* are enhanced by those who create a real character for each piece. When the actors select voices or accents (even more than costume), the pieces shine.

I heard "The Vagina Workshop" done with a British accent and it sounded like a middle aged, very proper woman—someone who the observer might not expect to find in a vagina workshop.

"My Angry Vagina" was strongly performed in both cases, but the Rhodes woman who used a very country/western voice was absolutely hysterical. Everywhere, the cast had a rousing good time and so did the audience. You really must see it, you really must. V-Day will be back next year. See www.v-day.org.

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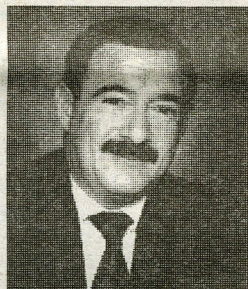
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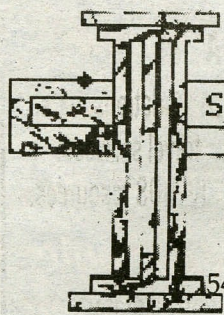
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Desperate Housewives Star Marcia Cross Denies 'Coming Out'

NEW YORK AP) — Marcia Cross is making it clear that while she's no desperate housewife, she's not gay, either.

The *Desperate Housewives* star said she wasn't a lesbian after *The View* co-host Barbara Walters questioned her Feb. 16 on rumors regarding her sexuality.

"I'm not," said Cross.

She wondered how the rumors had gotten started.

"Well, it was very odd," said Cross. "And I, I just assumed this is what comes of being 42 and single. I don't know if they just needed to find a reason why I wasn't married."

Cross' publicist had earlier released a statement denying the reports..

The actress was filling in for *The View* co-host Meredith Vieira. Each day, a different star from *Desperate Housewives* had been a guest host on the ABC daytime talk show while it aired from Los Angeles.

Cross said she didn't know what all the fuss was about.

"I do think it was really weird, though, that there was all this curiosity about something, like that—about sexuality," she said. "And I thought what a world we live in that that's so important."



Marcia Cross

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Jennifer Beals Returns for a New Season of *The L Word*

By Frazier Moore
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ask Jennifer Beals what she's learned playing a gay gal on *The L Word*, the U.S. Showtime cable TV's sexy melodrama about lesbian life in L.A., and she sizes up the human condition: "There are more similarities among us than differences."

One notable example is how all manner of girls and boys will join in welcoming *The L Word*, when, back for its second season, it reunites the dishy sapphic sisters played by (among others) Mia Kirshner, Katherine Moennig, Erin Daniels and Leisha Hailey. And finds Beals' character, Bette, in a real stew.

This season Bette will face fearsome funding problems at the art museum she runs. Worse, it looks like her relationship with Tina (Laurel Holloman), her longtime partner now pregnant with the child they had dreamed of parenting, is on the rocks.

"What a brutal year! It's awful!" Beals chuckles. "There's this moment in the eighth episode where Bette has one little moment of victory and joy. I burst into tears when I read it. 'Something good happens to Bette, everyone!' I was so ex-

cited."

A veteran actress who at 41 appears barely older than she did as the welder/would-be ballerina in 1983's *Flashdance*, Beals says she originally came to *The L Word*, far less focused on portraying a fashion-forward lesbian than on the challenge of depicting an art museum boss.

A lesbian relationship "is about love and it's about attraction," she reasons. "I understood love and attraction. I didn't know anything about art."

The art of *The L Word* has been its spicy recipe of girl-on-girl explicitness blended with a hip California lifestyle anyone might fantasize about.

By design, the series is au courant. But thanks to Bette and Tina, with their ups and downs, it has scored a bit of unsought currency: Since *The L Word*, premiered, gay marriage has been certified as a wedge issue splitting the nation.

"I'm always shocked that gay marriage is such a big deal," says Beals over coffee in a Lower East Side patisserie she loves visiting when she's in town. "You have to realize how precious human life is, when there are tsunamis and mudslides, when there are armies and terrorists — at any moment, you

could be gone, and potentially in the most brutal fashion.

"And then you have to realize that love is truly one of the most extraordinary things you can experience in your life. To begrudge someone else their love of another person because of gender seems to me absolutely absurd.

"It's based in fear, fear of the other, fear of what is not like you," she says. "But when you are able to see lives on a day-to-day basis, rather than reducing it to politics, then it humanizes a whole community of people that were otherwise invisible. I think pop culture is helpful in letting people see another side of life."

One side of life she had a personal stake in displaying: "I requested that we make Bette biracial," says Beals, herself of mixed-race parentage.

This gave the series another useful twist, allowing Kit, a straight friend played by Pam Grier (*Foxy Brown*), to become Bette's half-sister. "A biracial character is something I would have liked to have seen on TV when I was a child."

Since she took a break from Yale to make off-the-shoulder sweat shirts de rigueur in *Flashdance*, Beals has logged dozens of films. Among those for which she feels special pride: *Devil in a Blue Dress*, *Roger Dodger*,

Twilight of the Golds (a 1996 Showtime movie) and *In the Soup*, an independent feature released in 1992. Also *Flashdance*, which she made, then — refusing to bank on its spectacular success — followed up by heading back to Yale.

"I never wanted to be a superstar," says Beals, flinching. "My heart just did an 'uhhhhhhhhh' at the thought of it." No wonder. This is a private person who identifies her husband only as Ken, and loves describing the Philosophy of Sanskrit class she's currently enrolled in, but declines to say where.

Hers is a career she's happy with, she says, "and I hope I'll be acting till the day I die. It's something you can never finish, never get to the center of."

Happily, she isn't finished with *The L Word*: It's already renewed for a third season, which means the series' sisterhood will reconvene in Vancouver, where it's shot, in a few months.

Then Beals can again rely on one more thing she's learned playing a lesbian: That in their shared state of undress, actresses will protect each other from the camera's prying eye.

"You can say, 'I don't feel so great about this part of my body today. When we roll over, can you



make sure your hand is covering that cellulite?" And you can have her augment things: I've had scenes where I went, 'Can you just lift it up, so I look a little bit more ripened?'

"Every guy I've ever done a love scene with has forgotten. But women understand what you mean, they understand how important it is," says Beals, smiling at this case of sisters doing it for themselves: "I'll cover yours if you cover mine."

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Articles of Faith: Reframing Issues of Religion; Public Policy; and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community

"In my efforts to understand the political and religious issues I want to ask: How do you differentiate between homophobia and religious beliefs that say that homosexuality is a sin?" The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force received this question on religion and homophobia by e-mail. A frequently asked question, we offer a response from the National Religious Leadership Roundtable followed by a collection of responses from individual Roundtable members and supporters.

In the case of most people who claim religion as a motivation for their anti-gay beliefs, their opinion

is not based on a nuanced understanding of their scripture and tradition, but on teachings perpetuated by churches, families and religious leaders. Although their religious instruction may have portrayed beliefs condemning gay people as immutable theology, there are scholars in every major religious tradition that have proposed convincing alternatives to assumed anti-gay readings and traditions. Faced with the wide array of religious opinion on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, one can only refer to continued belief in anti-gay teachings as a choice.

The implications of choosing one set of religious teachings over

another are important when it comes to public policy. For instance, there was a time when most Christians in America opposed interracial marriage, and the laws of the state reflected this belief. The 1964 Virginia Supreme Court ruling upholding the state's anti-miscegenation law made a direct appeal to the divine:

"Almighty God created the races white, black, yellow, malay, and red, and he placed them on separate continents. And but for the interference with his arrangements there would be no cause for such marriages. The fact that he separated the races shows that he did not intend for the races to mix."

In 1967, the Supreme Court overturned all of the racist marriage laws in the states. Most Christian organizations that had resisted interracial marriage in the name of God eventually changed along with society and the state, and many have instituted racial justice programs in their denominations.

Faced with the long history of societal, legal and religious change in favor of greater freedom and equality, the burden of proof rests on those who oppose equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people: Why is this belief so important?

As weak answers of "protecting traditional marriage" or "encouraging moral values" fall away, they reveal the face of homophobia. This is not to suggest that all those who oppose equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people for religious reasons are hateful people. But all homophobia sprouts from the same twisted root of hatred and fear of the different that underlies all racial, ethnic, religious, sexual and social discrimination. When religion is used not to challenge prejudice, but to uphold it, it becomes a tool of hate.

Highlights from Responses of Religious Roundtable Members and Supporters

There is no differentiation between these ideas. Religious beliefs that say homosexuality is a sin have been influenced by homophobic attitudes. They are not developed in a vacuum...In the Christian world, beliefs in the sinfulness of homosexuality have been influenced by centuries of ignorance about homosexuality in the Western world generally.

—Francis DeBernardo
New Ways Ministry

If someone can forget the overriding religious principles of love for all of God's creatures (including homosexuals), and of the primacy of conscience in moral issues, and the civil issue of separation of Church and state, in order to deny equal civil rights to homosexuals — for jobs, housing, medical care and, yes, even marriage — but this person has no problem with divorce or other established civil rights which they might not exercise because of their personal religious beliefs, then I would say that person is homophobic.

—Sam Sinnott
Dignity USA

Homophobia is an irrational fear of gay people. Because religion itself requires an embrace of the irrational — in the sense of the mysterious and paradoxical — it is possible for other irrational beliefs to become canonized under the umbrella of religion. Religiously based anti-gay attitudes are therefore felt to be a matter of faith. The problem is when beliefs become the basis for harmful actions against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people — in the form of physical assault, or the more subtle violence of societal exclusion and legal discrimination. Religious leaders who care about justice must help their followers separate the "wonderful irrationality" of faith from the harmful irrationality of fear and hatred of gay people.

—Matt Foreman
NGLTF Executive Director

There is a difference between heterosexism and homophobia... The difference is: Are they motivated primarily by a belief that heterosexuality is superior, or by a real fear of homosexuality or gay folks? To what degree does the individual go beyond the teachings of the faith in question both in expression of their ideas and in further political action?...References to such things as "the gay lifestyle" are clearly stereotyping and not statements of faith.

—Chris Purdom
Interfaith Working Group

I find it impossible to separate any religious belief (from homophobia) which condemns another for who they are.

—Durga Das Majaya
Kashi Ashram

There are any number of religious teachings about activities that are considered sinful. Some faith groups teach that drinking alcoholic beverages is a sin, some believe dancing is a sin, some believe divorce and remarriage are sinful... In a pluralistic society grounded in the Constitution and Bill of Rights, we respect individuals' rights to express their own religious positions. But theological positions on sin cannot be the basis for public policies that violate basic constitutional principles of equality under the law.

—Peter Montgomery
People For the American Way

Although to me homophobia and not homosexuality is a sin, our nation is predicated upon religious freedom and I respect people's faith, even when it is vastly different from my own. BUT no government money, policy, support or resources, should ever go to support particular religious beliefs. This undermines the freedom of religion. Our common covenant in this nation is the Bill of Rights, not the Bible.

—Meg Riley
Unitarian Universalist

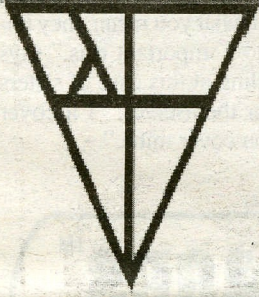
The better name for the systemic problem here is heterosexism. Homophobia is more personal and can be one form heterosexism takes...Homophobia is a response that may or may not be linked to religious views. It is a response that sometimes (all too often) produces reactions which can fall on a range from simply unpleasant, to dangerous/deadly, or illegal.

—Emily Erwin Culpepper
Professor, Women's Studies and Religious Studies
Redlands University

I don't differentiate...as Gertrude Stein said: a rose is a rose.

—Rea Carey
NGLTF Deputy Executive Director

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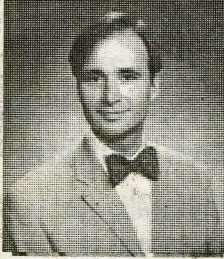


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MGLCC's Lavender University Announces Spring Curriculum

Highlighting the course offerings for the spring edition of MGLCC's Lavender University is a four-week course entitled "HIV in the 21st Century." The course is co-sponsored by MGLCC and Friends For Life.

The course will begin on Wed., Mar. 23, at 7 p.m. and continue on Wednesdays through Apr. 13. Among the topics are HIV/AIDS Facts,

HIV Prevention, Emotional Effects of HIV/AIDS and Healthy Living in a World with HIV.

A course on physical fitness, billed as a "gym class you will actually enjoy," will be offered on Thursdays beginning Mar. 24. The class will be held every Thursday for four weeks also starting at 7 p.m. The course will feature videos, workouts and free

weights.

Finally, a course on the basics of gourmet cooking will be offered for four weeks in May. Dates and times have yet to be determined.

For more information on Lavender University or to enroll, visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/mglcc/> or call the Center at 901-278-4287.

Holy Trinity to Stage Poetry Reading/Coffee House

Holy Trinity Community Church will host a Poetry Reading/Coffee House on Sat., Mar. 5, at 7 p.m.

The event will feature Dr. MaLinda (Faye) Wade, Stephanie Tsolakov, Tracy Pearson, Gail Atkin, Gwen

Demeter, Glenn Althoff and Valerie Langley.

The event is the first of what HTCC hopes will be an annual event.

If attendees have a reading or music to contribute, they are requested to bring it on the

night of the event.

For more information, call 901-320-9376.

Holy Trinity Community Church is located at 685 S. Highland St. on the corner of Highland and Spotswood.



Mon., Mar. 7 & 21

6 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

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Feast for Friends is a service of Friends For life for the HIV -infected and affected community including people living with HIV or AIDS, their friends, caregivers, family and friends. While the dinner is free, those who are able are requested to make a donation to offset expenses.

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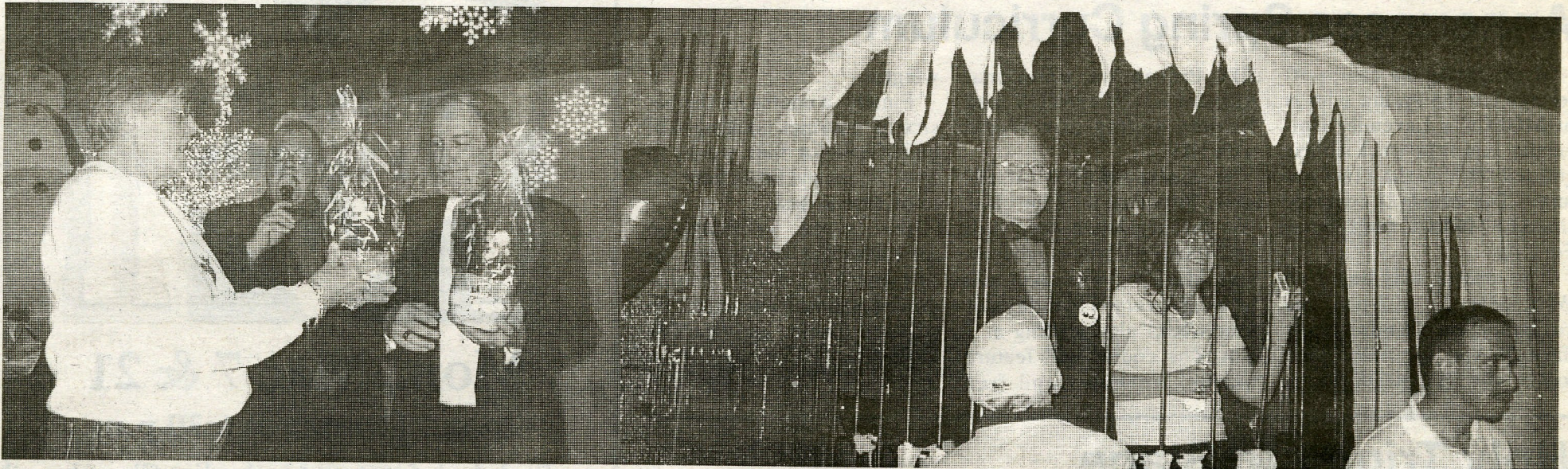
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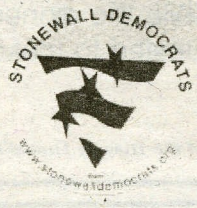
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King and Queen of Hearts – 2005



Left: Betty Wray Sheets (left) buys an item in the silent auction from King and Queen of Hearts founder Jimmy Gray (center) and auctioneer Kevin Duggan (right). Right: Jimmy stands in what is obviously a co-ed jail waiting to be "bailed out" by a generous donation. The event was Gray's final King and Queen of Hearts, although he says it will continue in Kevin Duggan's hands.

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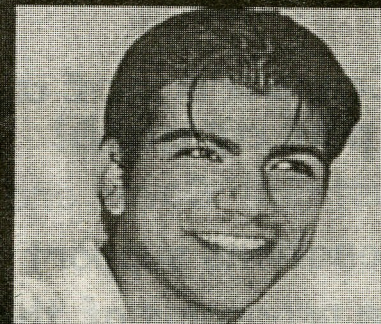
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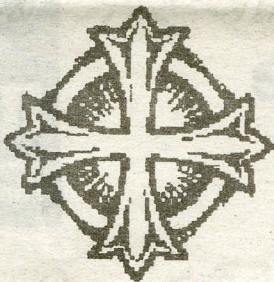
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Lesbian Daughter of Alan Keyes Urges Support for Young Gay People

By Tom Stuckey
Associated Press Writer

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — The lesbian daughter of conservative Republican Alan Keyes appealed to several hundred people at a rally in Annapolis Feb. 14 to provide more support for gay and lesbian young people who have been deserted by their families and too often wind up being victims of violence on the streets.

In her first public appearance since her sexual orientation began to attract public attention, Maya Marcel-Keyes said she was motivated to speak out because of the illness and recent death of a high school friend who was thrown out of the house by his family and by her relationship with her parents.

At home, "things just came to a head. Liberal queer plus conservative Republican just doesn't mesh well," she said at a rally sponsored by Equality Maryland to oppose a proposed state constitutional ban on gay marriage and support bills aimed at guaranteeing more rights for homosexuals. "That was making my life a little bit turbulent," she said.

After her speech, responding to questions from an interviewer for CNN, Marcel-Keyes said her parents "were not too pleased" when they learned she was a lesbian, but she said she loves them "very much, and they love me. They can't support my activities."

Her father, the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in Illinois last year, created a stir in August when he said during an interview in August that homosexuality is "selfish hedonism" and that Vice President Dick Cheney's lesbian daughter is a sinner.

During her speech, Marcel-Keyes contrasted the outpouring of support she received when her sexual orientation became known with that of her friend.

"Like me, he grew up queer in a conservative household," she said. But where she got hundreds of e-mails, offers of a place to stay and a college scholarship, "he'd been out there two years and had gotten nothing."

"And the worst part is, he isn't the only one," Marcel-Keyes said.

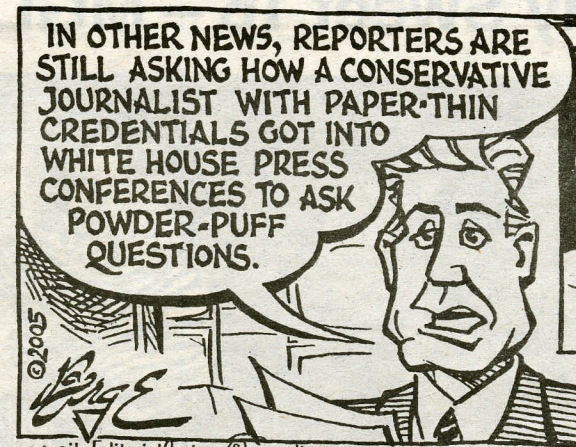
"We have to figure out what we can do to make sure that during those times when it seems like everything in the world is turning against them, like everyone in the world is rejecting them, that they know there are resources out

there they can turn to, there are people out there who will say to them, 'I care.'"

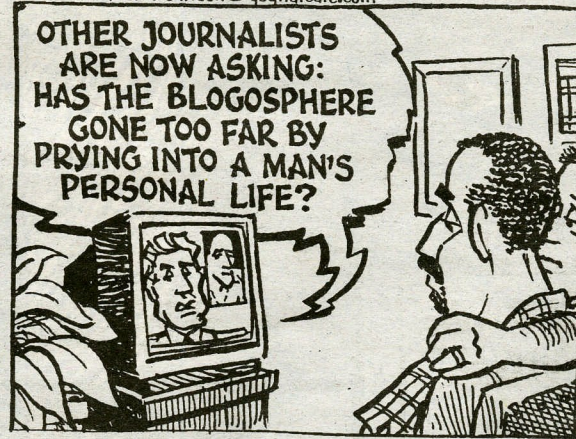
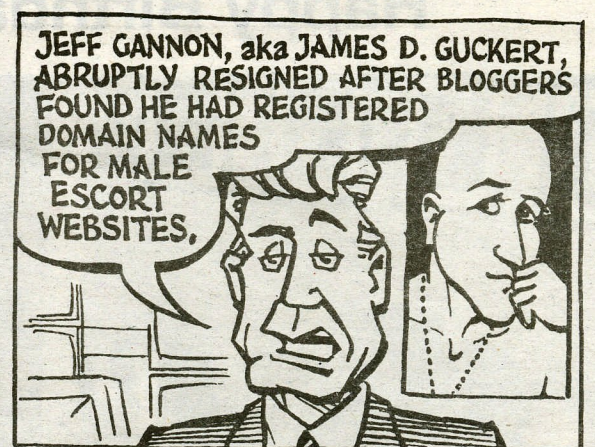
Alan Keyes said in a statement: "My daughter is an adult and she is responsible for her own actions. What she chooses to do has nothing to do with my work or political activities."

The Equality Maryland rally came a little more than two weeks after opponents of gay marriage held a rally in the same location outside the State House to encourage lawmakers to pass a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union of one man and one woman. The definition is already part of state law.

Supporters of equal rights for gay and lesbian couples stood in the damp cold for an hour listening to speakers that included Dan Furmansky, executive director of Equality Maryland; the 14-year-old son of two mothers; and Judy Shepard, whose son, Matthew, was tied to a fence and beaten to death in a highly publicized case



e-mail: EditorialCartoon@qsyndicate.com



in Wyoming in 1998.

Furmansky urged the crowd to lobby for legislation that would increase penalties for hate crimes and give gay couples the right to make medical decisions for their

partners.

Jake Williams, who lives with his two mothers, brother and sister in Prince George's County, said his is "a normal family doing things like just like any other

family."

"I don't get it when some people say my moms aren't good people and shouldn't get married," he said.

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Happy Birthday Sweet 16 – MGLCC's Anniversary



Left: About 30 people attended MGLCC's 16th anniversary party held Feb. 19. Center: MGLCC VP Heidi Williams prepares punch. Top Right: Novella Smith Arnold (left) helped dedicate the first Gay and Lesbian Community Center; Matthew Presley staged the first fundraiser for the Center. Bottom right: John Stilwell and Vincent Astor.

Who We Are

The Pink Triangle

The pink triangle is easily one of the more popular and widely-recognized symbols for the gay community. The pink triangle is rooted in World War II times, and reminds us of the tragedies of that era.

Although homosexuals were only one of the many groups targeted for extermination by the Nazi regime, it is unfortunately the group that history often excludes. The pink triangle challenges that notion, and defies anyone to deny history.

The history of the pink triangle begins before WWII, during Adolf Hitler's rise to power. Paragraph 175, a clause in German law prohibiting homosexual relations, was revised by Hitler in 1935 to include kissing, embracing, and gay fantasies as well as sexual acts.

Convicted offenders — an estimated 25,000 just from 1937 to 1939 — were sent to prison and then later to concentration camps. Their sentence was to be sterilized, and this was most often accomplished by castration.

In 1942 Hitler's punishment for homosexuality was extended to death. Each prisoner in the concentration camps wore a colored inverted triangle to designate their reason for incarceration, and hence the designation also served to form a sort of social hierarchy among the prisoners.

A green triangle marked its wearer as a regular criminal; a red triangle denoted a political prisoner. Two yellow triangles overlapping to form a Star of David designated a Jewish prisoner. The pink triangle was for homosexuals. A yellow Star of David under a superimposed pink triangle marked the lowest of all prisoners — a gay Jew.

Stories of the camps depict homosexual prisoners being given the worst tasks and labors. Pink triangle prisoners were also a proportionally large focus of attacks from the guards and even other inmates.

Although the total number of the homosexual prisoners is not known, official Nazi estimates were an underwhelming 10,000.

Although homosexual prisoners reportedly were not shipped en masse to the death camps at Auschwitz, a great number of gay men were among the non-Jews who were killed there.

Estimates of the number of gay men killed during the Nazi regime range from 50,000 to twice that figure.

When the war was finally over, many homosexuals remained prisoners in the camps, because Paragraph 175 remained law in West Germany until its repeal in 1969.

In the 1970s, gay liberation groups resurrected the pink triangle as a popular symbol for the gay rights movement.

Not only is the symbol easily recognized, but it draws attention to oppression and persecution — then and now.

In the 1980s, ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) began using the pink triangle for their cause. They inverted the symbol, making it point up, to signify an active fight back rather than a passive resignation to fate.

Today, for many the pink triangle represents pride, solidarity, and a promise to never allow another Holocaust to happen again.

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St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament

MGLCC Corner

By Vincent Astor

There are some wonderful new developments at the MGLCC. The 12th Annual Saint Patrick Invitational Bowling Tournament (Mar. 5-6) has again designated MGLCC to be its charity of choice. This has become an institution in the GLBT bowling community and attracts a large number of bowlers from out of town. For more information go to www.spit.cc.

This year's Bachelor-Bachelorette Auction will be at 8 p.m. on Fri., Mar. 11, at Metro Memphis. As always, audience members are able to bid on a dream date—with a dreamboat. As always, auction items and dream date volunteers are needed. Who knows? It might just be love.... Details are at the website www.mglcc.org.

Following on the heels of that is the next gargantuan yard sale, Sat., Mar. 19, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. To donate, contact a Center volunteer and please bring the large statues and sofas and pianos and elephants as close to the date as possible, so we can keep the Center

looking nice. To participate, stop by the Center and buy the piano somebody else donated so it won't clutter up the street afterwards.

Lavender University begins again in March with a course co-sponsored by Friends For Life and MGLCC. It is called "HIV in the 21st Century" and will last four weeks starting Wed., Mar. 23.

Who would have thought that Heidiville, with the home-cooked food, would transform into Fitness Thursday? I guess it's spring and it's time to think about getting out

and getting healthy. It begins promptly at 6:30 and is divided into three parts (just like Gaul?) and will last until around 8 p.m. Fitness Thursdays will get you course credit starting Mar. 24. For details and other course descriptions, go to the Web site.

I just couldn't improve on this one: Announcing MGLCC's very first Home-o-Tour!!! If you live in Midtown and you're willing to have your home on the Home-o-Tour (a fund raiser for MGLCC),

contact Heidi Williams. If you know someone who has a cool house/apartment that should be on the tour, pass it on. The tour is tentatively set for late April. You do not have to be a homo to have your house on the tour. You simply have to be willing to support MGLCC. And who wouldn't want to support MGLCC? The Home-o-Tour is in the early stages of planning. Heidi is looking for approximately 10 locations.

And for the fall: Esera Tuaolo, former offensive lineman with the Green Bay Packers (among other teams) and the first player to sing the National Anthem at a game in



Esera Tuaolo

which he played, will be the guest of honor at the closing ceremonies of the Third Annual Memphis Gaymes. The Gaymes will celebrate National Coming Out Day 2005 and will occur Oct. 2-9, 2005. Esera will also perform in concert at a benefit for the MGLCC during his Memphis appearance. See www.eseratuolo.com.

There have been several requests to start a chorus. If this is something you'd be interested in being a part of, please contact Sonia at the Center. You don't have to be a perfect singer... if you enjoy singing, then we want you in the chorus. Also, someone is

needed to lead the chorus.

Footnote from the Past... I watched the tape of the Gay-Ho (as in country, not hood) benefit for the Center from 1991 the other night. It was played the night of the Sweet 16 party at the Center, and it occurred to me that several shining lights of our community participated. Jimmy Gray (founder of King and Queen of Hearts) appeared in and out of drag; Den-Nickolas Smith (founder of Emerald Theatre Company) also appeared; and the tape contains a lot of classic Bette Hefner (of Aphrodite fame) harangue. The Alliance club, members of Tsarus, the original Cotton Pickin' Squares, Southern Country Memphis and Sofonda Peters also participated. This writer appeared wearing both the prettiest and the ugliest dresses I ever owned. There were two performances of this show, at two different bars, and it consisted of an array of production numbers which had a Country Christmas theme. The brainchild of Matt Presley, it was well received and very successful and can be numbered among the classic benefit shows of GLBT Memphis history.

The Calendar

- *Wed., Mar. 9* - Let's Meet & Chill, 7 p.m.
- *Wed., Mar. 16* - Women's Potluck Social, 6:30pm
- *Fri., Mar. 18* - Q-Café Drumming, 7 p.m. — audience participation - anyone can join in.
- *Sat., Mar. 19* - Birthday Celebration & Volunteer Appreciation Potluck, 6 p.m.
- *Sun. Mar. 13* - Stonewall Democrats, 1:30 p.m.
- *Sun., Mar. 20* - Log Cabin Republicans, 3 p.m.
- *Every Sunday* - Afternoon at the Gaiety (films), 3 p.m.
- *Every Sunday* - An open AA meeting, 8 p.m.
- *Every Tuesday* - The Drum Circle, 7 p.m.
- *Every Thursday* - The Parenting Support Group, 6 p.m.
- *Every Thursday* - Fitness Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
- *Every Friday* - Q-Café featuring Skinny White Chick on the 2nd Friday and Li'l Ryan D every 4th Friday, 7 p.m.
- *Every Saturday* - The Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, 1 p.m.



CLUB NIGHT

Sat., Mar. 19

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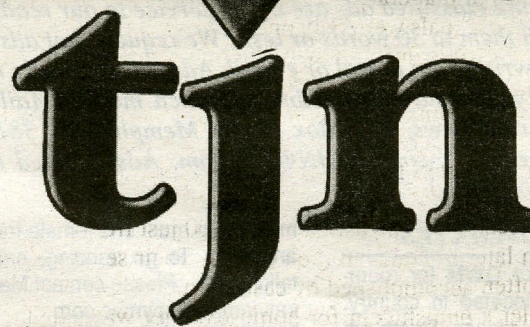
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In case you missed it, President George W. Bush used his State of the Union speech to once again call for a constitutional amendment to prohibit civil marriage for gays and lesbians. In keeping with the GOP's anti-gay platform, the Republican Party continues its assault on the civil rights of gays and lesbians. Why are there still gays supporting Bush and the Republican Party? I just don't understand it. In fact, it makes me angry!

Bush promoted anti-gay homophobe Karl Rove, the chief architect of the Republican gay-basing campaign to win the last election, to the position of Deputy Chief of Staff. Rove, one of the most vile and evil men in politics,

is now in charge of coordinating the Bush Administration's domestic, economic and foreign policy! Rove's strategy of opposing women's right to abortion and gay marriage helped The Shrub get re-elected, thanks largely to conservative fundamentalists and Catholics in Ohio.

The Bush Administration has been paying conservative anti-gay columnists to promote its policies! Over the past month it has been revealed that at least three conservative columnists have been on the Bush administration's payroll. The administration paid anti-gay conservative columnist Mike McManus \$10,000 to "promote marriage." The *Washington Post*

revealed that Maggie Gallagher had been paid \$40,000 to promote the Federal Marriage Amendment, and conservative black journalist Armstrong Williams was paid to promote Bush's "No Child Left Behind" policy.

Another conservative "anti-gay but possibly gay" pseudo-journalist using the name "Jeff Gannon," was discovered to be James D. Guckert, a fake journalist writing for conservative web sites such as GOPUSA and Talon News and the owner of several gay porn Web sites such as militaryescortm4m.com! Somehow he was cleared to participate in White House Press briefings. "Jeff Gannon" is this month's "Uncle Tom Republican," for his attacks on John Kerry's pro-gay positions while he was advertising his sexual positions on pornographic web sites. (He is a top.)

If you need any more evidence of the fascist takeover of the Republican Party and our country, just read the news. Education Secretary Margaret Spelling attacked the PBS series *Postcards from Buster* for showing two lesbian couples in Vermont. PBS once again came

under attack from conservative Republicans, and backed down under political pressure from distributing the episode to all its stations.

This came just after homophobic wacko, and major GOP Bush supporter, James Dobson attacked children's cartoon character SpongeBob Pants for "promoting the homosexual agenda." The Christian Right did not like the pro-diversity *We Are the Family* video that promotes tolerance. (Fascists do not like tolerance and diversity.)

In addition to the many anti-gay marriage bills across the country, Republicans have introduced several bills, mainly in southern state legislatures, to prohibit any public recognition or support of "homosexuality," using exactly the same arguments Hitler and the Nazis used in Germany.

Back home in Tennessee, Republicans have introduced two anti-gay bills against gay marriage and adoption. The chief sponsor of the anti-gay marriage amendment, State Rep. Bill Dun (R-Knoxville) says he wants to pass it "quickly, quietly, and in a bipartisan way."

While many Democrats will oppose it, including Sen. Steve Cohen and Rep. Beverly Marrero, there will be many spineless Democrats who will vote for it, even though they say they oppose it. House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh (D-Covington) says he will reluctantly vote for it. It is bad enough when the Republicans push anti-gay legislation to win elections; it is worse when Democrats "reluctantly" support such legislation.

While I appreciate the precarious and politically dangerous position gay-friendly Democrats find themselves in, especially in a conservative Republican state like Tennessee, it puts gay and progressive Democratic voters in an equally precarious position. Should we support Democrats even when they cave in to Republican anti-gay bigotry, or pressure them to vote for us and lose politically? The long-term answer is to get more people politically active and organize to change the opinions of Tennessee voters. (Be sure to contact your state representatives and ask them to oppose the anti-gay marriage bill and the anti-gay adoption bill.)

Jim Maynard can be contacted at www.jimmymaynard.com.

Opinions expressed in bylined columns are those of the authors.

Softball League Set to Begin Play

Bluff City Sports Association (BSCA) has announced the start of its 2005 season of spring/summer softball. BSCA is an organization dedicated to promoting sportsmanship and camaraderie within the GLBT community as well as the Memphis community at-large.

Teams are made up of players at all skill levels and years of experience. "Experienced players are happy to help newer players develop skills," said League Commissioner Chris Balton. "We welcome all players regardless of ability."

The BSCA is a member of NAGAAA (North American Gay Amateur Athletic Association) with more than 8,000 members across the country.

This year's season starts in mid-

April with new player sign-ups, a skills clinic for new and returning players, and a few exhibition games to get ready for the season.

Games are played on Sunday afternoons beginning at 1 p.m. The season runs through the end of July, concluding with a round-robin tournament to determine the league champion.

The season will culminate in sending a league representative to the NAGAAA World Series in August in San Diego, Calif.

For more information on how to join the league, contact League Commissioner Chris Balton at Chris@fbalton.com or Asst Commissioner Will Batts at wb12eos@midsouth.rr.com or visit the Web site at

www.bluffcitysports.net

There are many sponsors throughout the city of Memphis and Shelby County who provide a multitude of services and benefits to the team members and their families. If you are interested in helping sponsor the league or a specific team, contact the league for more information.

BCSA-Softball League is committed to the elimination of discrimination based on gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, age, physical ability and cultural and religious backgrounds.

Check next month's issue of *TJN* for additional information about the exciting season that is about to start.

Free Classifieds

Personal and classified ads are a **free** service to our readers – Please limit them to 30 words or less. We request that ads be submitted in writing via postal or e-mail. Ads will generally run one time only, but may be resubmitted each month. Mail to *Triangle Journal News*, P.O. Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111 or e-mail them to memphisTJN@aol.com. Ads deemed too explicit may be edited.

ROOMMATES

GWM seeks GWM for roommate. House located in country. Straight-acting, please. Room not furnished. Rent \$250 plus 1/2 utilities. Call Bobby at 731-855-4255

GWM, 39, 5'10", 169 lbs, brown goatee, shaved head, no piercings or tattoos, looking to share my one bedroom home on Kentucky Lake, just outside Paris. I am on Social Security and have a vehicle we can share. Would like someone who is also disabled. No severe disabilities with me. Will help relocate. 731-642-3580.

GWC seeks roommate for their 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in Cordova. The house is 3 minutes from I-40, off Appling road. \$450 includes phone and utilities. Garage parking for your car, as well. 765-6823

GWF, 49, quiet, non-smoker seeks same to help share 2 BR modern and clean apt.w/balcony next to Overton Square. \$250/mo. + utilities. Pets OK. 901-272-3278

WANT TO MEET

I am a 35 year old mother recently transplanted to Memphis from metro-NYC. I am looking to

make both male and female friends, any age, to go dancing, eat out, talking, etc. Please contact Marie at smiriam30@spymac.com

GWM, 48 interested in meeting gay and bi-males for fun, good times and possible friendship. I have brown hair and eyes, weigh 180, drink and smoke sometimes although, I like to keep fit. I also love gay movies and computers. Contact me at moptopmouse@Yahoo.com.

Alone in Rural N. MS. GWM, 50s, seeks GWM, 50-whatever for fun, friendship, sex. Walk on the wild side of 50. I am AARP-approved. W.B. 662-223-5882

GWM would like to meet another GWM from age 37 to 47. I have brown hair and hazel eyes and have a hairy chest. My weight is 250 and I like cooking, movies, enjoy being with someone. I like to go to the clubs. I drink some, dine out. I smoke sometimes. Call Jimmy at (901)-604-6236. I will be waiting.

Seeking husky, muscular GWMs, 3-60, furry or otherwise, for friendship and fun times. No mind games or flakes. Only serious need call. Contact Bud at 732-2755 and be discreet.

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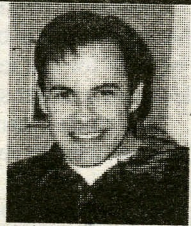
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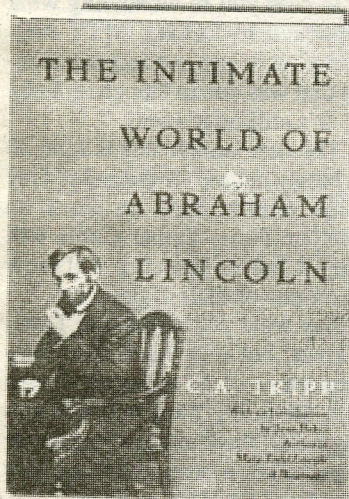
WHAT ABOUT IT?

by Shannon Yarbrough



The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln

Psychologist, therapist and former Kinsey sex researcher C. A. Tripp — author of the 1975 classic *The Homosexual Matrix* — died in May 2003 at the age of 83, just after completing this riveting new



study that makes a surprisingly compelling case for Lincoln's bisexuality. Tripp merges a sexual psychologist's knowledge with a prosecutor's eye for evidence as he scrutinizes letters, diaries and oral histories gathered by early Lincoln researchers.

Seeing what others either could not or would not, Tripp itemizes in telling detail three homosexual liaisons from different stages of Lincoln's life. The first involved young Billy Green, a frequent bunk mate in New Salem during the 1830s. The second was a passionate union with the aristocratic Kentuckian, and Lincoln's lifelong friend, Joshua Speed in Springfield, Ill., during the 1840s. (Tripp notes, refuting others' arguments, that poverty did not necessitate their long-term sharing of a bed.) The last involved Capt. David V. Derickson, President Lincoln's bodyguard and intimate companion between September 1862 and April 1863; it is documented that the president shared his bed with him on numerous occasions during Mary Lincoln's frequent absences.

Throughout the book, the most important factor is Tripp's knowledgeable sex therapist's eye running over key sources to detect telltale markers missed by previous writers who lacked Tripp's training. An introduction by Jean Baker (biographer of Mary Todd Lincoln) and concluding comments from Lincoln scholar Michael Chesson help put Tripp's ground-breaking — and sure to be controversial — study into historical context.

Tina's Back

There are those who will claim that this double-disc best-of is worth its price based on the inclusion of three new songs alone, and given their smolder, it's hard to argue with them. First single and disc one opener "Open Arms" is a stuff-strutting affair, with the leggy rock icon letting loose a vocal torrent to prove that in Tina years 60 is the new 25, not the new 40, and "Complicated Disaster" and "Something Special" don't sit uneasily alongside disc mates like "Typical Male" and "We Don't Need Another Hero (*Thunderdome*)."

Undiminished vocals and still-



vital rock instincts aside though, the reason to pick up this anthology is its classics. Unlike 1991's *Simply The Best* which pulled from 1983 till then, *All the Best* reaches back to 1966 for the soul-steeped "River Deep Mountain High" and chugs through the decades, dipping into the '70s for the Ike'd-up hit "Nutbush City Limits" and hanging around the '80s and '90s for the bulk of 33 tracks.

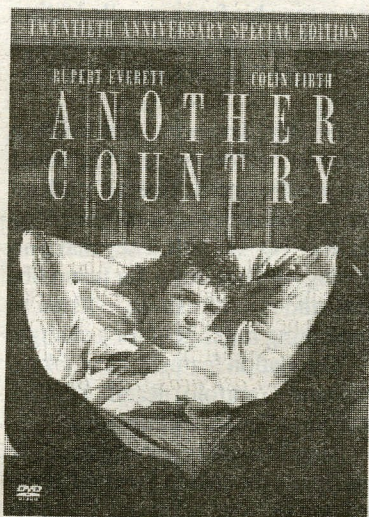
"Proud Mary," a 1993 rendition, keeps on burning, and "Private Dancer" and "What's Love Got to Do With It" land as seductively on the ears as ever, but the lesser-known numbers don't lack for heat either: too many spins of swamp-rocker "Steamy Windows," for example, may require new wiper blades.

Another Country

I never would have discovered this one if it wasn't for recently signing up with Netflix. If you haven't done so, I highly recommend it, particularly if you are one of those movie-loving closet homos that would never go rent a "gay movie" at Blockbuster for fear of being seen. Netflix even sends the discs to your house in plain packaging.

An indictment of the British class system dressed up like a Ralph Lauren ad, *Another Country*

is the movie that made a very young and very gorgeous Rupert Everett a star. Whatever other ideas it has knocking around its head (and there are quite a lot of them), director Marek Kaniévská's adaptation of Julian Mitchell's play is first and foremost a star vehicle for Everett, who played the openly gay



main character with a vigor, flair, and smoldering appeal that was rarely seen onscreen in the early '80s.

Everett is Guy Bennett, a charming, confident schoolboy in 1930s England who yearns to climb to the top of the social strata at his Eton-like school. His ambitions, however, are waylaid by the young and equally gorgeous James Harcourt (Cary Elwes), with whom he begins a passionate yet secret affair.

Soon, however, Guy finds that balancing his love and his ambition is a no-win situation, and that no matter how hard he bucks against it, the ages-old traditional structures of British class and etiquette won't yield in his wake. Added to all this E.M. Forster-style drama and romance is the fact that Guy later on becomes a spy for the Russians against England; it's a weighty theme to drop on the movie, and the fact that it's a true story just shows how less than artfully the film unfolds.

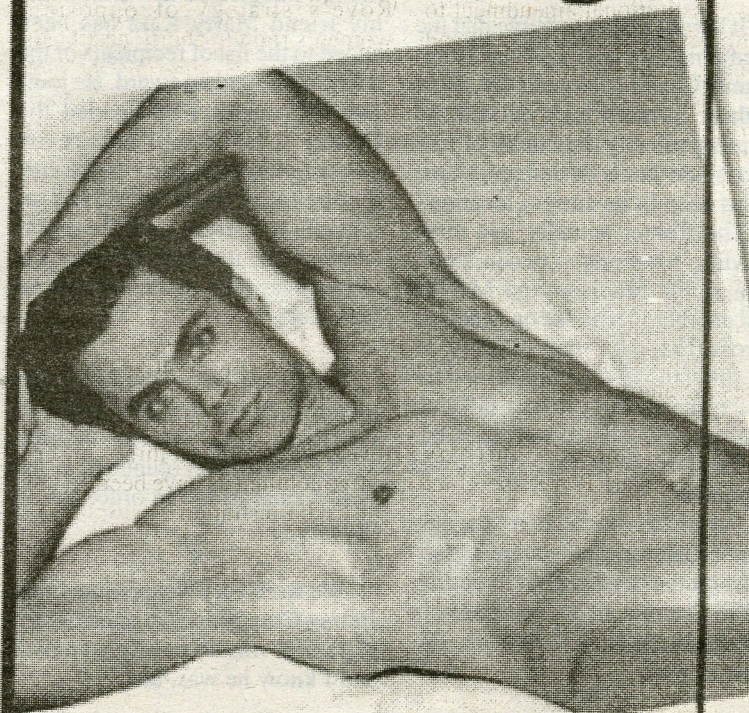
Still, holding it all together is the sublime Everett, who took this persona of the classy, beautiful, passionate, British gay man and ran with it throughout the '80s and '90s.

Shannon Yarbrough lived in Memphis for six years. He now lives in St. Louis, Mo. and is the author of the book, The Other Side of What. Questions or comments? Email Shannon at MisterYarbs@msn.com

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By Allen Cook

It hardly seems possible that the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center is 16 years old. Most of those currently involved with the Center probably only think of it as two, since that is the length of time it has been in its current location.

The Center actually had three previous locations — two in storefronts near Madison and McNeil and another in a house on Madison across from the Piggly Wiggly.

All of those locations closed for two reasons: First it was difficult getting volunteers to staff the Center responsibly and second, it was expensive.

Fortunately for all of us, the current leadership tackled those problems on the head end and not only is the Center a stable institution in our community, it's actually solvent as well.

In a grievous omission last month, I neglected to mention that my friend Marty Katz has been added to the list of recipients of the MGLCC Founders award. He joins Jason Crockett who headed the Center's efforts to secure its present location. Marty is the current treasurer of MGLCC. His attention to detail and financial acumen are a major reasons the Center was able to finish 2004 in the black.

I also failed to mention last month that Jan Spindler and Gin Phillips had been named MGLCC's 2004 Volunteers of the year. Congrats are in order for all of them

We were very disappointed that Jimmy Gray's last King and Queen of Hearts was so poorly attended, and I know he was, too.

Jimmy has worked tirelessly on the event which benefits Friends For Life for the last 14 years and deserved a better send-off.

We understand that Kevin Duggan, who served as the auctioneer for this year's event, will take over the production next year.

I like talk radio. Unfortunately, in recent years I've had to give up on it because it just succeeded in making me mad. Locally, Mike Fleming is (in my book anyway) a raving lunatic. It seems he spouts anything the right wing wants him to. Nationally, Rush Limbaugh and his ilk... well, suffice it to say there is a reason his fans are called "ditto heads." My choice of terms would have been "do-do heads," but I digress.

Finally, someone has made a concious effort to provide some progressive (read "liberal") talk on the air. Air America is now running on WWTQ AM 680. They make no apologies whatsoever for being liberal, and it's refreshing to listen to something intelligent for a change.

The station features Al Franken, Janeane Garafolo, Randi Rhodes and Sam Seder, among others.

Should a rating service ever ask me, that's the station I will tell them I listen to. And, trust me, I will be looking very hard at the advertis-

ers that support this station.

One advertiser I won't be supporting, however, is Bellevue Baptist Church. I still haven't figured out why they are advertising their passion play there. Go figure.

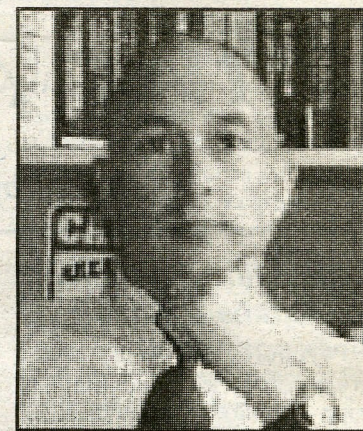
I've been trying to follow this story about "Jeff Gannon" — the erstwhile "reporter" for Talon News, an internet news organization.

You may remember him as the guy who low-balled some questions to President Bush during a recent news conference.

Apparently, Gannon (whose real name is James D. Guckert) was issued White House press credentials just 96 hours after Talon was formed — that *never* happens. In fact, most White House journalists say it's unheard of to get White House credentials without first having had Capitol Hill press credentials. And the fact that they were issued to a man operating under a pseudonym is even more baffling.

Anyway, this story bears more scrutiny and we will be following up on it in the months to come.

Right now, it looks like he was a right-wing plant. Coupled with the fact that several conservative columnists appear to have been paid to publicize some of Bush's pet projects, we can only be suspicious.



James D. Guckert, aka "Jeff Gannon"

In case you're wondering what happened to LOGO, MTV Networks' new gay and lesbian channel that was due to launch on Feb. 17, it's still on it's way.

The new launch date is June 30 — barely in time for the end of Gay Pride month. Still no word on whether Time-Warner Cable will carry it, but we suspect it will show up on one of their digital tiers.

Say what you will about Time-Warner, but they have been very supportive of freedom of speech over the years. They held out getting rid of The Playboy Channel for years after it was economically beneficial for them to do so.

Back in the 80s, John and I produced a show for public access called *Views from 10%*. It was pretty primitive by today's standards, but groundbreaking for the time — nary a word was ever said about it.

In case you missed the Tsarus Man of the Year banquet which is usually held this time of year, take heart. Tsarus decided to move the event to June where it will coincide with gay pride festivities. A good move on their part if you ask me.

Sheridan Lambe, LCSW

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Bill Would Let Transgendered People Change Their Birth Certificates

NASHVILLE — Sen. Steve Cohen (D-Memphis) has introduced a bill to allow a person who has undergone a sex-change operation to change his or her birth certificate.

Senate Bill 37, introduced by Cohen on Jan. 13, states that Tennessee is one of only three states that "refuse to allow transgendered persons the opportunity to correct their birth certificate."

That point parallels a chart on the Internet by Lamba Legal which lists Tennessee, Ohio and Idaho as the only three states that do not permit a birth certificate change after a sex-change procedure.

Cohen's bill further asserts that Tennessee is "the lone state in the country with a statute specifically prohibiting the correction of sex designation on a birth certificate."

The bill proposes to amend the Tennessee code to state: "Upon re-

ceipt of a sworn statement by a licensed physician indicating that the gender of an individual born in Tennessee has been changed by surgical procedure, the certificate of birth of the individual shall be amended to reflect the change."

Cohen described the bill as serving a homeland security purpose as well as "reflecting reality, that the person's sex has changed."

"It is important for homeland security issues that people who often need birth certificates for identification that the birth certificate's sex matches the sex that they, in fact, are," Cohen said.

Cohen also stated, "At birth, sex is determined by physical appearance, not psychology. If the person psychologically is of a different gender and pursues sexual transgender surgery to have their physical and hormonal basis correlate with their psychological

makeup, then an amended birth certificate is appropriate, because that is their sex." Both the original birth certificate — which "will remain as is" — and the amended birth certificate would be kept on file by the state, Cohen said.

Ann Bennett, a longtime pro-family advocate in Kingsport, Tenn., "It's a surprise to me that the homosexual movement has already achieved this legislation in so many other states."

The Tennessee legislature, in 1977, added the guideline to the Tennessee code regarding the amendment of vital records to prohibit the changing of birth certificates after a sex-change operation. The 1977 guideline reads: "The sex of an individual will not be changed on the original certificate of birth as a result of sex change surgery."

Calendar Listings in Bold type take place at GLBT venues or are specifically GLBT-related.

Calendar Listings in non-bold type take place at GLBT-friendly venues or are of interest to the GLBT community.



The Triangle Journal Calendar of Events

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Open Heart Community of Faith - Bible Study & Worship - North End of First Congregational (1000 South Cooper) - (901) 323-3514 - 9am
- Holy Trinity Community Church - Sunday School and Holy Worship Service & Children's Church - (901) 320-9376 - office@holytrinitymemphis.org - 9:45am and 11am
- First Congregational Church - Sabbath School, Café, Congregation and Worship Service - (901) 278-6786 - 9:30am, 10:30am
- Prescott Church - Sunday Worship Service - (901) 327-8479 - 9:30am & 10:45am
- Living Word Christian Church - Morning and Evening Worship Services - (901) 452-6272 - 10am and 6pm

WEDNESDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Aizé - First Congregational Church - (901) 278-6786 - 6pm
- Holy Trinity Community Church - Fellowship Supper and Bible Study - (901) 320-9376 - office@holytrinitymemphis.org - 6pm & 7pm
- Living Word Christian Church - Worship Service - (901) 452-6272 - 7pm

- Open Heart Community of Faith - Bible Study & Worship - North End of First Congregational (1000 South Cooper) - (901) 323-3514 - 7:30pm

SUNDAYS

- Softball - Toby Fields (Central and Hollywood) - 1pm
- Sunday Afternoon at the Gaiety (GLBT-themed films), MGLCC - 3pm
- Tea Dance - Metro - 4pm
- Brothers & Sisters Bowling League - Winchester Bowl - (901) 722-5236 or MemphisGayBowling@aol.com - 6pm
- Pool Tournament - Pumping Station - 6pm
- AA Meeting - Community Center - 278-4297 - 8pm
- Sissy Bingo - Crossroads - 8pm
- After Park Set Sundays - Paragon - 9pm
- Queer As Folks - Metro - 9pm
- Lights Out, Everything Goes - J-Wag's - 10pm
- Drag Show - Backstreet - 11pm

MONDAYS

- Monday Night at the Movies - Sponsored by Holy Trinity Community Church - Bartlett Cinema 10 - 6:45pm - Details at www.HolyTrinityMemphis.org
- Plus Support Group - Community Center - (901) 278-

4297 - 7:30pm

- Pool Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Dart Tournaments - One More, Pumping Station - 8pm
- Karaoke Night - Metro - 10pm

TUESDAYS

- Women's Rugby Practice - Audubon Park - 6:30pm
- The Caring Group - Relaxation and de-stressing by subtle energy practices - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 320-9376 - 7pm
- Lesbians with Breast Cancer - Support Group - YWCA (766 South Highland) - 7pm
- Singles Dart Tournament - Crossroads - 7:45pm
- Pool Tournament - One More - 8:30pm
- Karaoke Night - Metro - 10pm
- Karaoke Night - J-Wag's - 11pm

WEDNESDAYS

- Frontrunners 3-mile run, Overton Park Pavilion, 6pm
- Dart Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Partners Dart Tournament - Crossroads - 8pm
- Lights Out - Come Party in the Dark - Metro

MARCH 2005 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

		1	2	3	4	5
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 9pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alliance Club Night, Pumping Station, 10pm • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm • Poetry Reading/Coffee House, Holy Trinity, 7pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Women's Action Coalition, First Congregational Church, 6:30pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feast for Friends, St. John's United Methodist Church, 6pm • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let's Meet and Chill, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 9pm featuring Skinny White Chick • MGLCC Bachelor/Bachelorette Auction, Metro, 8pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stonewall Democrats, MGLCC, 1:30pm • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm • King & Queen of Hearts, Madison Flame, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends for Life Coffee House, 6-8pm. Call 272-0855 for location • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TJN March Advertising Deadline • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • Integrity Dinner/Meeting, Calvary Church, 6:30pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Potluck Social, MGLCC, 6:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, Drumming, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm • MGLCC Birthday Potluck, MGLCC, 7pm • Tsarus Club Night, The Pumping Station, 9pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm • Gay & Lesbian Republicans, MGLCC, 3pm • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Women's Action Coalition, First Congo, 6:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feast for Friends, St. John's United Methodist Church, 6pm • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lavender University: HIV in the 21st Century, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm • Lavender University: Physical Fitness, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March TJN Due Out • See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 7pm featuring Li'l Ryan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends for Life Coffee House, 6-8pm. Call 272-0855 for location • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lavender University: HIV in the 21st Century, MGLCC, 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm • Lavender University: Physical Fitness, MGLCC, 7pm 		

- THURSDAYS**
- Cotton Pickin' Squares - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 438-2427 - 7:30pm
 - Dart Tournament - J-Wag's - 8pm

- Karaoke - Paragon - 9pm
- Karaoke Night - Allusions Entertainment Center - 9:30-11:30pm
- Star Karaoke - Crossroads - 10pm

- Amateur Show - Metro - 11:30pm

Larry Timmerman

Bill Johns

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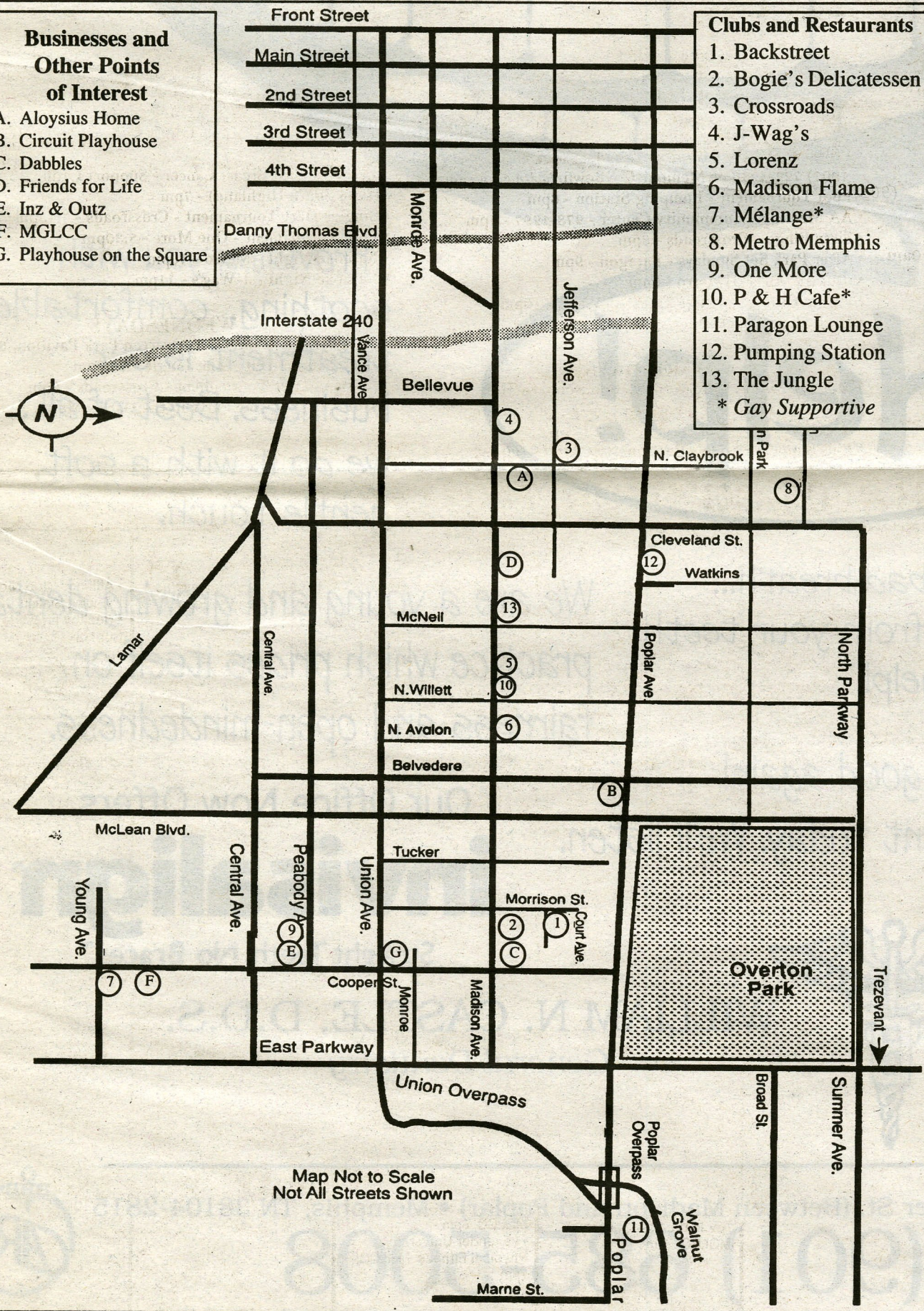
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Businesses and Other Points of Interest

- A. Aloysius Home
- B. Circuit Playhouse
- C. Dabbles
- D. Friends for Life
- E. Inz & Outz
- F. MGLCC
- G. Playhouse on the Square

Clubs and Restaurants

1. Backstreet
 2. Bogie's Delicatessen
 3. Crossroads
 4. J-Wag's
 5. Lorenz
 6. Madison Flame
 7. Mélange*
 8. Metro Memphis
 9. One More
 10. P & H Cafe*
 11. Paragon Lounge
 12. Pumping Station
 13. The Jungle
- * Gay Supportive



Map Not to Scale
Not All Streets Shown

Welcome

685 S. Highland
Memphis, TN 38111
Phone: 901-320-9376

Website Address: www.holytrinitymemphis.org
Email Addresses:
Church Office: office@holytrinitymemphis.org
Pastor: Minister@holytrinitymemphis.org

HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE REV. TIMOTHY MEADOWS, M.DIV., PASTOR

Weekly Schedule

- Worship Service
11:00AM
- Wednesday Night
Study
7:00PM
- Thursday Evenings
Cotton Pickin' Squares

FRIDAYS

- First Congo Films - First Congregational Church - (901) 278-6786 - 7pm & 9pm
- MGLCC Coffeehouse Nights - Community Center - (901) 278-4297 - 7pm
- Seriously Sober - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 320-9376 - 8pm
- Karaoke - One More - 8pm
- Pool Tournament - Crossroads - 8pm
- Ladies Night - Allusions Entertainment Center - 10pm
- Late Nite Beer Bust - Pumping Station - 10pm
- Drag Show - Backstreet - Midnight
- Drag Show - Crossroads - Midnight
- Drag Show - J-Wag's - 3am

SATURDAYS

- Frontrunners 2-mile run, The Pier parking lot (Union and Riverside), 9am
- Women's Rugby Practice, Harbortown Greenbelt Park on Mud Island - 9am
- Live and Let Live on Cooper St. - MGLCC - 278-4297 - 7pm
- Pool Tournament - J-Wag's - 9pm
- Drag Shows - Crossroads - Midnight, - Allusions Entertainment Center - 10:30pm & 12:15pm

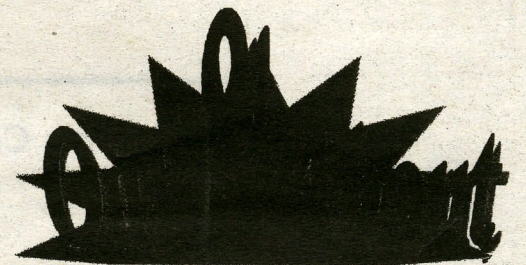
Stephen Pair

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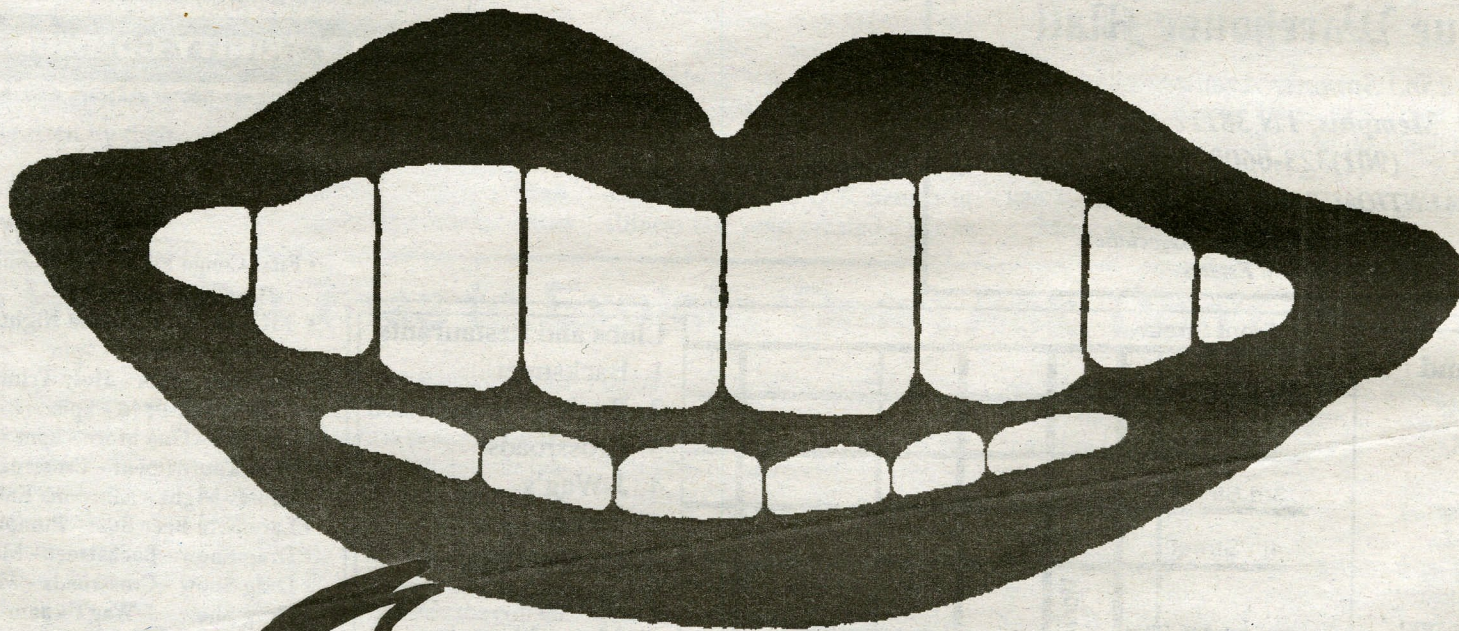
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