

Reno Directs Agency to Intervene in Overt

WASHINGTON — The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) announced Feb. 18 that Attorney General Janet Reno has directed the Community Relations Service (CRS), a division of the Justice Dept., to mediate the volatile situation in Overt, Miss.

Reno issued the order in response to an NGLTF request for intervention in the situation involving Brenda and Wanda Henson and their feminist retreat, Camp Sister Spirit.

The Hensons have faced months of harassment and threats from some residents in the region who object to the fact that many of the women, including the Hensons, are Lesbians.

"We applaud the Attorney General for her decisive action and hope that it will immediately serve to diffuse the tense situation in Overt," said Peri Jude Radecic, NGLTF's Executive Director, who was notified of the order Feb. 18 in a hand-delivered letter from the Attorney General's office.

"I am deeply troubled by the harassment and intimidation of Brenda and Wanda Henson, the Lesbian owners of Camp Sister Spirit," Reno wrote. "The intolerance and bigotry demonstrated by some of the people of Overt has no place in this country."

Until this action, CRS officials said they were unable to mediate because the agency's mandate allows them to intervene in community tensions based only on race, color and national origin. The agency has, on occasion, mediated in situations beyond that mandate when other federal laws were violated.

In the Camp Sister Spirit issue, Reno said she ordered the interven-

tion based on the start of an FBI investigation into a threatening letter sent to the Hensons.

Sending a threat through the U.S. mail is a federal offense.

Reno highlighted the adversity Gay, Lesbian and bisexual people face because sexual orientation is not included in federal civil rights laws.

"At this time, sexual orientation is not a protected status under federal civil rights law," Reno said. "Accordingly, we are unable to assist the Hensons through the enforcement of existing federal criminal civil rights laws concerning housing or federally-protected activities."

"NGLTF will continue to fight for a permanent expansion of the CRS mandate and other federal statutory protection, so the Justice Dept. will no longer be constrained in cases like the Hensons," Radecic said.

"The situation in Overt has clearly been a dangerous one since the time a dead dog was hung on the Henson's mailbox and town meetings were held denouncing the women and pledging to drive them from town... Federal involvement should not need case-by-case advocacy and decision making."

NGLTF began advocating for Justice Dept. intervention and mediation in a letter sent to Reno on Dec. 7. In that letter, Radecic requested that the CRS perform mediation in the community to alleviate the potential for violence, the FBI monitor the situation for any possible hate crimes, and the Civil Rights Division investigate any attempts to violate the Henson's civil rights.

See additional story on page 4



Queen and King of the Memphis Mardi Gras Ball, Melanie Anderson and Mark Whitehead were crowned at the Flower Market on Feb. 5.

Amnesty Int'l Says Gays Vulnerable to Rights Abuse

By Gene Kramer
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amnesty International announced a six-month campaign Feb. 8 to combat rights abuses against homosexuals in the United States.

The announcement by Amnesty International USA, the U.S. branch of the London-based human rights organization, coincided with the release of a 24-nation survey on the treatment of homosexuals.

Amnesty called it a ground breaking report placing "government repression of Gay men and Lesbians squarely on the international human rights agenda."

Five U.S. states apply anti-sodomy laws only to homosexuals, and "Amnesty International would consider an individual imprisoned under these laws a prisoner of conscience and call for their immediate and unconditional release," the organization said. The states are Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Montana and Tennessee.

Amnesty International defends victims of political, religious and ethnic persecution, torture, violence and discrimination.

Curt Goering, acting director of Amnesty USA, said the group wants to elevate Gay rights as a mainstream issue before the public and such bodies as the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

The organization's international council decided to take up homosexual rights in 1991. Exhaustive investigations showed that Gays and Lesbians, like political prisoners traditionally defended by Amnesty, are

"vulnerable to the pretexts governments use to lock people up," Goering said.

Sexual orientation is not mentioned in the 1948 U.N. Declaration of Human Rights, but homosexuals are implicitly protected and Amnesty wants to ensure that "what is implicit in language is explicit in practice," he said.

The organization said it considers "prisoners of conscience" anyone detained for peacefully advocating Gay rights or "solely because of homosexuality," including private sexual acts between consenting adults.

Amnesty's worldwide survey said Ukraine had become the first republic of the former Soviet Union to decriminalize homosexual acts between adult males. Similar steps are being taken or considered in Russia, the three Baltic republics and elsewhere in the former Soviet Union.

Mistreatment of homosexuals by police is frequently alleged in Britain and Northern Ireland, the report said. Amnesty welcomed the introduction of legislation in the Irish Republic decriminalizing private homosexual acts between consenting adults.

In Colombia, there are reports of homosexuals, vagrant children and petty criminals being rounded up as "social undesirables" and gunned down by police-supported "death squads," the survey found.

Amnesty said its six-month U.S. campaign would include the petitioning of state governments to revoke laws singling out homosexuals.

Memphis Mardi Gras Royalty Crowned

Over 100 Mardi Gras revelers took over the Flower Market Feb. 5 for the second MGLCC Mardi Gras Ball.

The previous Ball, held in 1992 was the first such function in Memphis in 10 years. Although not held last year, it is planned that the ball will become an annual event.

Crowned as King and Queen were Mark Whitehead and Melanie Anderson.

Ms. Anderson, a former Miss Aphrodite, is well-known in the community. She has been active in Aphrodite as both a regular member, a board member, and popular performer at Aphrodite shows.

Mr. Whitehead, a former board member of Friends For Life HIV Resources and current president of its Advisory Board was one of the organizers of this year's Mardi Gras Ball. He was active in both Heart Strings presentations and organized the Friends For Life AIDS Auction six years ago.

The names of the royalty were a carefully guarded secret until the night of the Ball.

The theme of the Ball was "Star Trek" with participants in the royal court costumed as a variety of extra-terrestrial beings.

Man Of The Year Banquet 10 Years Old

The 10th annual Man of the Year banquet, a function sponsored by Tsarus, will take place on Wednesday, March 9, at WKRB. Tsarus is Memphis' oldest leather/levi club and began sponsoring this event in 1984.

Each year, a man, woman or group is selected by the club members and surprised at the banquet with an award and speeches by friends of the recipient. The award is presented for conspicuous community service. The recipient is treated to dinner, prepared and served by club members, and all proceeds from the event are then donated to the charity of the recipient's choice.

Dinner begins at 7 pm, tickets available at WKRB or from Tsarus members.

WELCOME BOWLERS AND BOOT-SCOOTERS

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A Different Point of View: Racism of a Different Color

by Kerrel Ard
TJN Contributor

Some time ago a friend, who happened to be Latino, told me of being in a restaurant with a few friends. All of the persons involved happened to be Gay. One of the "friends" commented, "... we are the only white people here..." My friend, quickly responded, "I am not white!" His companions could not understand why he was offended.

I find that often people refuse to see me as anything other than white because I do or do not look a certain way. People of mixed racial and/or cultural heritage are often forced to the outside because they are seen as "not enough" (not Black enough, not Indian enough, not white enough, even not disabled enough, etc.). This happens every day to many people of mixed racial heritage all over our city. This points to an issue that many people had rather not look upon. Some call it the "Browning of America." Like all change, it is very frightening for most people. In this city everyone is aware of the racial tensions and struggles, but most often this is seen only from the perspective of the two dominant races, Black and white. The rest of us seem to be

forgotten and ignored by both sides.

As you may have noticed our city is indeed "browning." We have had a growing Asian community for a few years. It will only continue to grow. The Hispanic community has grown by leaps and bounds just in the last year. While we still struggle with how to live together as a Black and white city, we should be ready to incorporate all the people of our city and its power systems. While these "minority" communities are indeed small compared to either of the two dominant racial communities, we deserve to be seen and respected.

Whatever our race or creed, we as Gay and Lesbian people should understand how it feels to be ignored and not given respect. As we have in so many other ways, could we not lead our city and country on this issue? Often we rant and rave for "Gay Rights" while clinging to our own fears and prejudices that grew from the same root as the ones that oppress us. We belittle straight people and offer little understanding when they won't change to become what we would like "them" to be, but when asked to look at our own prejudices we claim "it's just the way I was raised. Over and over I hear, "why do they need to be so obvious —

Opinions expressed in editorials and commentaries are those of the authors

they know the media will focus on the wierd ones." It seems harder to walk the talk than we want to admit.

How do we change and give respect to everyone? It seems simple to me, ask others how they wish to be treated, then do it. To that end let me share a few ideas I hope will break myths and stereotypes about Native Americans.

In the past few years there has been much debate about names, especially those of sports teams. Hear what the writers of *Akwesasne Notes* have to say about it: Americans do funny things with names. With Indians, names usually mean something, and one cannot separate the name from the meaning. Many athletic teams and businesses adopt Indian motifs, and somehow think they are honoring Indians by doing so.

We are more interested in real things than being "honored" by names. What good is it if a school calls itself the "Indians" while its textbooks ridicule and distort us, and none of our people attend the school? What good is it if the states are named for Indian places, and the rivers are named in Indian languages, when the Mississippi, the Missouri, Lake Erie, and the rest are polluted and poisoned?

Should we become excited because there is a Mohawk Airlines, Mohawk Tires, Mohawk Carpets, when our name is exploited so someone else can make money?

Even if our request to abandon the use of our names for college teams is irrational and emotional, we ask that it be honored for one reason that should be sufficient if it is really true that you give us your respect: We, the people you call Indians, ask that you not use our names that way. That should be reason enough. "Can you begin to see that just because someone says they do a thing to honor a group, that group may not see it as an honor.

Why do all Indian men in stories told by non-Indians get called "chief" or "medicine man"? Why do those same stories refer to all Indian women as "princess" or "squaw"? Chief and Medicine Man are titles that are carried by very few men, why not let us just bemen. There were no princesses just as there were no Native kings and queens in America. 'Squaw' is a French corruption of a Native word meaning "male genitalia."

Did you know scalping was introduced by the French, Dutch and English, it was not a custom native to the Americas.

There is no such thing as Indian culture, there are many Native cultures.

What does an Indian look like? Very few Natives fit the Hollywood stereotype of "redskin" or dark skin, black hair, brown eyes, hook noses and high cheekbones. There were and are blond, blue-eyed Natives with turned-up noses, low cheekbones and lighter skin. Just as the Caucasian races allow for extreme variety, so must the Native American Indian race?

Do you know that the children's song "Ten Little Indians" came into being as a way of counting dead Native bodies during the invasion of the west.

Our feathers and beads are not just adornment. Each piece of what we wear on each step of a dance has a spiritual meaning. Also, not every Native wears the same apparel. Some have short hair, others had braids. There are numerous varieties of head gear and adornment.

The pipe is not a "peace pipe", it is a sacred spiritual tool. Many Natives did/do not use pipes.

These are just a few of the inaccurate beliefs and attitudes held by non-Indians that feed the coals of misunderstanding and ignorance. Give them up, please.

Not every Native American will agree on every point I address. Why should we have to? What other group or race is required to agree on every issue? Groups and grouping is important to humans. Group identification can offer a sense of belonging and safety that we all wish for and that is found no other place. Yet it does not seem to advance any group's agenda, in the long run, to expend most our energy opposing (even by avoidance) another group. Should our definition of ourselves not come from within the group rather than from outside the group, as it does when the strongest part of who we are is defined by who or what we oppose or refuse to accept?

As we move through our daily lives, how hard could it be to put forth a little effort to behave and speak in respectful ways about our neighbors. If we hope to live free from the pain and oppression of prejudice should we not give away what we hope to receive?



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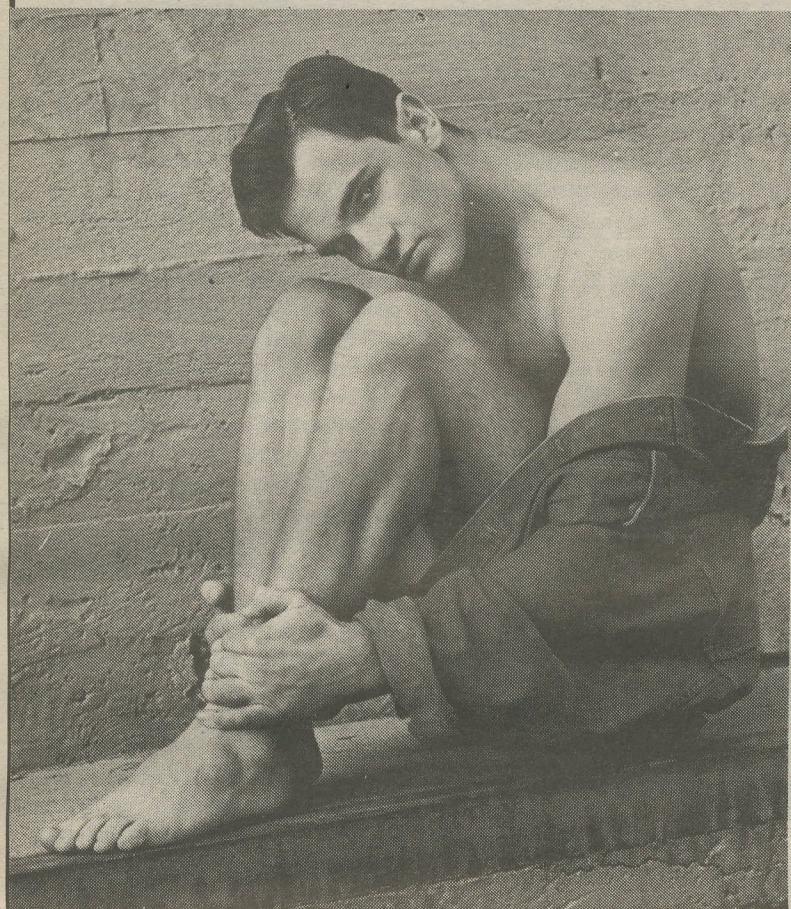
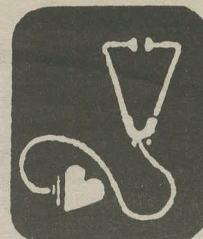
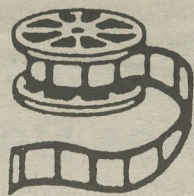
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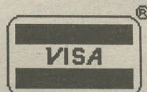
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"Where Friends Meet and Leave Happy"

Lesbians Say the 'Second Wave' of Civil Rights Movement Has Begun

By Amy Harrington
Associated Press Writer

OVETT, Miss. (AP) — Many Bible-toting residents in this south Mississippi community are convinced the devil himself is running a feminist retreat among the region's rolling hills and tall pines — a Lesbian hideout to lure their wives and daughters into moral ruin.

But to Wanda and Brenda Henson, who consider themselves married, it's goodwill, not the devil, that drove them to convert an old pig farm into Camp Sister Spirit.

Ironically, the battle of wills is being waged in a state that is still scarred from another struggle, one of civil rights.

"I think it's a continuation, the same fight — a different struggle here. This is the second wave of the civil rights movement in Mississippi and it's Lesbian led," said Wanda Henson, 39.

Wanda and Brenda Henson, 48, say their battle against hostile towns-

people has slowed work that began in July on the 120-acre retreat surrounded by lavender painted trees and a locked lavender cattle gate.

But when the Hensons aren't answering the phones, lobbying national officials to intercede on their behalf or talking to reporters, they spend their time making improvements at the camp.

The Hensons and about 20 others who live in the camp's temporary housing spend their days clearing roads and land on the sprawling grounds, repairing waterlines and renovating old barns and other buildings.

According to the Hensons, opposition to their dream has gone far beyond simple disapproval. They claim men with guns have been intercepted on the grounds and there have been gunshots, death threats and a string of harassing phone calls.

"I have seen this kind of ignorance in other parts of the country but it's much easier to focus upon Mississippi because of the history of

Mississippi and the beginning of the civil rights movement and the stereotypes of Mississippi," Wanda Henson said.

said attorney Paul Walley of nearby Richton.

Walley, like many residents, wants the two women to pack up and leave. Some warn that the retreat will become a Lesbian recruiting center for vulnerable women and children.

"We are being invaded by activists with a radical agenda," said the

made thousands of copies and mailed it to residents in Jones County and beyond, the Hensons said.

Since that time, countless letters have appeared on opinion pages in area papers decrying the Hensons' lifestyle and its potential effect on the community.

"I feel we must stop this Lesbian colony from growing roots in our land and affecting the way we live our lives and rear our children. As it stands now, I am personally not ready to have south Mississippi turned into a haven for every stray Lesbian that wants to settle down in Jones County," wrote Ovett resident J.D. Hendry in a nearby town's newspaper.

Hendry, one of the most vocal opponents to Camp Sister Spirit, says the women should move to New York or California.

But the Hensons say that's not going to happen.

"They can't throw me out and say that you don't belong because I do belong," said Wanda Henson, who was born and raised in Pascagoula.

The women, who met more than 10 years ago while they were escorts at an abortion clinic, spent several years on the Gulf Coast running a food bank and doing charity work before they moved to Ovett. They are frustrated that their philanthropy is eclipsed by the fact that they are Lesbians.

"Our media polarized this community against us," Wanda Henson said. "They should have given it all — who we are, what we do — and then said, 'by the way, these women are Lesbians.'"

But many of the tiny town's 300 residents say the Hensons didn't try to get along with their neighbors.

"If they had tried to get along with people, but basically they really didn't, in fact they came in not trying to get along," said Rodney Landrum, 41, who owns a small car repair shop on the town's main street.

Rose Ann Blackwell, 49, agrees. "I think if they had come in in a little bit nicer way, that they would probably have been accepted."

A citizen's group has been formed and is looking into the possibility of using the state's sodomy laws against the women, who have been featured in newspapers across the country and on such shows as ABC's 20/20 and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*.

Many residents feel the media attention is unwarranted and only serves to give the state another black eye.

"That's what causes Mississippi to remain to be seen as a bunch of rednecks," said Tina Sims, 30. "The people here in Ovett, they're just standing up for what they believe in."

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"If their plans are allowed to go through, Ovett will become the hub of Lesbian activity for the region,"

Rev. John Allen, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Richton. "We're not just dealing with people that are

different and want to live their lives privately. We are dealing with people who are different and want to change our community."

The Hensons deny such claims. They say Camp Sister Spirit only will offer shelter to those who need it and workshops on topics such as racism, child abuse and home-lessness.

The harassment began when someone stole a copy of a newsletter from the camp's mailbox,



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Grievance Procedures Available to Gays in Gov't

By Larry Margasak
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's administration is informing government agencies that their homosexual workers can combat discrimination through government grievance procedures, Rep. Barney Frank announced Feb. 4.

Frank said that while discrimination against homosexuals has been banned in the federal work force since 1978, there was no adequate grievance procedure in place.

Frank, who is homosexual, released a letter from James B. King, director of the Office of Personnel Management, that will be sent to federal agencies. The letter outlines the grievance procedures available, and says employees should not hesitate to contact agency lawyers if problems arise.

Frank told a news conference that early last year, an organization of homosexual and bisexual federal employees informed him about the inadequacy of grievance procedures.

He negotiated the grievance policy with the Clinton administration and said he was authorized to

announce it publicly.

Employees with complaints could use formal agency grievance sessions, dispute resolution procedures, provisions in collective bargaining agreements, procedures under the Civil Service Act and federal offices that handle discrimination complaints throughout the government.

Frank urged those denied promotion, fired, saddled with unfavorable work assignments and harassed because of sexual orientation to use the procedures.

He said the administration also has begun to remove obstacles to homosexuals seeking security clearances which enable them to use confidential and secret information.

He said the Defense, State and Justice departments have issued regulations making sexual orientation irrelevant in obtaining the clearances and hoped other agencies would do the same, especially the intelligence agencies.

The administration has now made clear, he said, that "the question won't be asked, and homosexuality will only be relevant to the extent heterosexuality is relevant..."

Same-Sex Marriage Bill

HONOLULU (AP) — The same-sex marriage debate in the state Legislature continued Feb. 19 with a public hearing on a bill that offers an alternative: legal domestic partnerships.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Rey Gaulty authored the legislation, and his committee will review written testimony on the matter at the hearing.

If passed, the bill would extend to couples with a domestic partnership agreement the same economic benefits enjoyed by married couples.

Couples of the same sex may re-

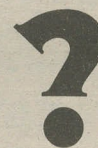
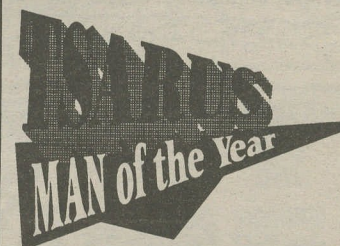
ceive such a designation and be entitled to tax advantages and legal rights that are now given to married couples only.

Gaulty said this measure could head off a state Supreme Court decision that could force the state to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Provisions of the bill say state officials would register domestic partnerships and issue certificates for a fee, and the unions would be dissolved in Family Court, the same as a marital divorce.



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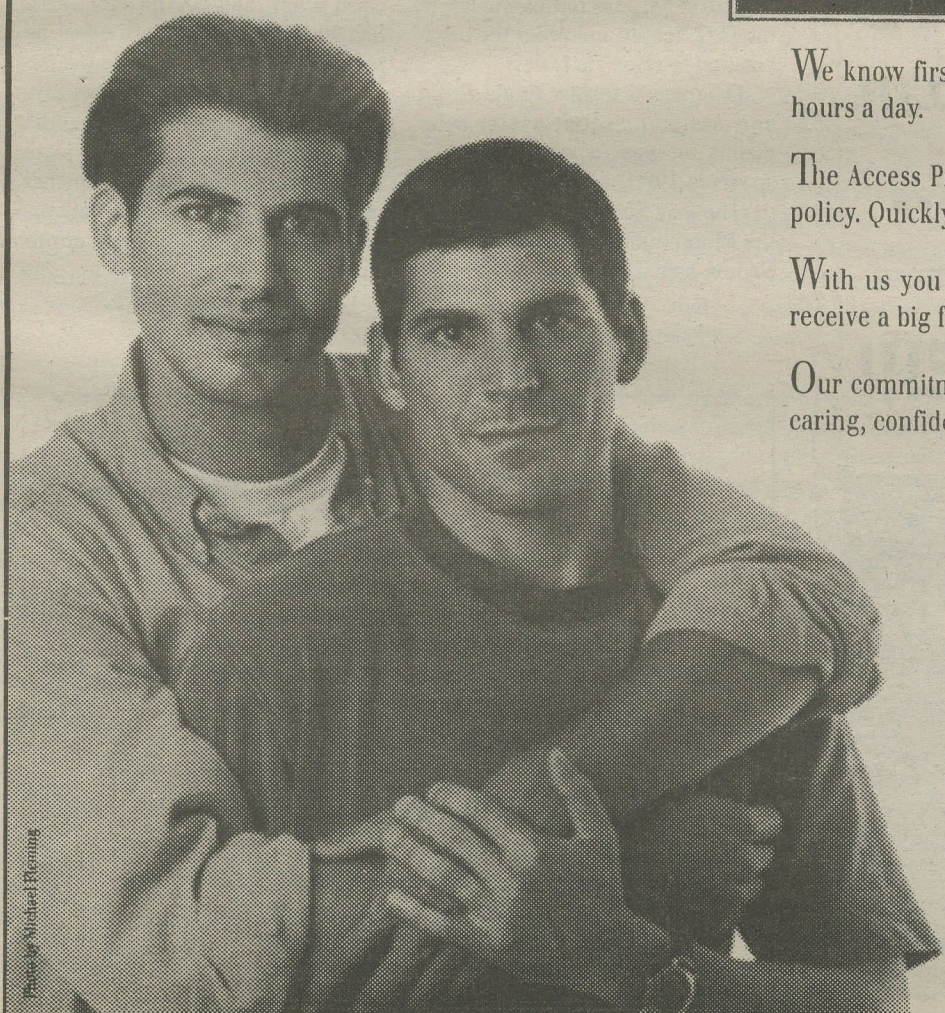


Photo by Michael Worman

GOP, Pentagon Reach Compromise on Gay Regulations

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wording for the Pentagon's new regulations on homosexuals in the military has passed muster with conservatives in Congress, and the rules could be sent out later this month.

The new rules are designed to precisely define homosexual conduct and conditions warranting an

investigation that could lead to a service member's removal from the military.

The regulations, to be sent to commanders in the field later this month, were delayed in response to complaints that they did not conform faithfully to a law Congress enacted last year.

A provision that prompted the most disagreement has been rephrased in an effort to accommodate those concerns, said Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Doug Hart.

Originally, the provision said: "Sexual orientation is considered a personal and private matter, and homosexual orientation is not a bar to

service entry or continued service unless manifested by homosexual conduct."

The revised provision states: "A person's sexual orientation is considered a personal and private matter and is not a bar to service entry or continued service unless manifested by homosexual conduct."

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said Thursday the change has "no legal significance," and occurred only because conservative members of Congress had attempted to remove all references to "sexual orientation" from the regulations.

The regulations "are still lousy," said Frank, one of two openly homosexual members of Congress.

Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., who had demanded a change in the provision, is "pleased with the outcome," said

his spokesman, Tim Goeglein.

Coats and several other GOP members of the Senate Armed Services Committee had threatened to hold up confirmation of William Perry as defense secretary over the regulations.

Frank said the squabble over language in the regulations is irrelevant since the real fight over the Gay ban is taking place in the courts.

"Since the day it was clear that we lost it in the Congress, it's been an issue for the courts," Frank said.

The new rules came about after President Clinton, facing strong opposition from Congress and the Pentagon, abandoned his campaign pledge to lift outright the 50-year-old ban on homosexuals. He settled for a policy that differs only slightly from the old rules.

Judge to Rule Soon on Gays in Boy Scouts

FREEHOLD, N.J. (AP) — A judge said he will rule in the next few months on whether New Jersey law prohibits the Boy Scouts from discriminating against Gays who wish to join the organization.

"When I say I haven't made up my mind, that is the absolute truth," said Superior Court Judge Patrick J. McGann Jr., who said Friday he will not issue a ruling for at least three months.

Attorneys for James Dale, a 1993 Rutgers graduate from Middletown Township, asked McGann to apply the state's anti-discrimination law to the Boy Scouts and order the organization to reinstate Dale.

Dale was a former Eagle Scout and assistant scoutmaster who claims he was expelled from the scouts in 1990 because he is Gay.

The Boy Scouts of America and the Monmouth Council of the Boy Scouts asked McGann to dismiss

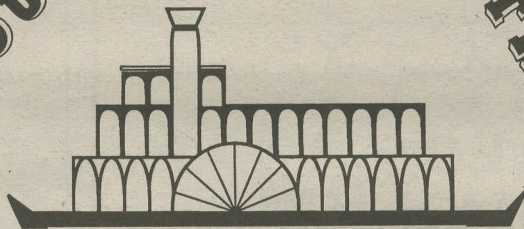
Dale's lawsuit and rule that the scouts have a First Amendment right of association that supersedes Dale's rights. That right of association, said a lawyer for the Scouts, allows the organization to require its members to abide by its moral standards.

Dale's lawyer, Donna Costa, argued that the 1974 state court decision in favor of the National Organization for Women against the Little League established the legal principles that require a ruling in Dale's favor.

However, McGann criticized that court ruling, and said he may establish standards of his own when he rules in this case.

At issue was whether the Boy Scouts can be considered a "public accommodation" under the state anti-discrimination law, or whether the Scouts are merely a private organization that is free to discriminate.

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Clinton Bolsters Gays in Fight Against Ballot Initiatives

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gay-rights groups say a strong letter of support from President Clinton will help in their fight against anti-Gay ballot initiatives in nearly a dozen states.

The Feb. 14 letter, released Tuesday with the blessing of the White House, came in response to a plea for help five days earlier from the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and several other national organizations.

"Those who would legalize discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistaken about the values that make our nation strong," the president said in his letter.

Clinton said he agreed with the coalition fighting the initiatives that "this is not an is-

sue of 'special rights' for any one group. This is a battle to protect the human rights of every individual."

At issue are pending and potential ballot initiatives that Gay groups say would prohibit recognition of Gay civil rights or legislate discrimination against homosexuals.

Clinton's letter is expected to be used as an organizing tool by activists in Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon and Washington.

White House spokeswoman Ginny Terzano said Clinton's letter follows through on strong civil-rights positions he took during his campaign.

Police Chief Says Biloxi Doesn't Have AIDS List

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — Police and emergency departments are discouraged from keeping lists of HIV-AIDS infected citizens like the one described in a lawsuit against the city of Biloxi, the head of Mississippi's HIV-AIDS program says.

"They are actually doing the (responding personnel) a disservice because it would have encouraged them to have been lax," said Craig Thompson, director of the state Department of Health's HIV-AIDS Program. The program annually screens 65,000 people for HIV.

According to a court document, a list of people believed to have AIDS or to be HIV positive was kept at the Biloxi Police Department until the lawsuit was filed in November.

Biloxian Clyde Hall, who does not have AIDS and is not HIV positive, contends that the city invaded his privacy by listing his name.

Police Chief Tommy Moffett said the list was not initiated or maintained by the city or police supervisors.

Thompson said his office encourages police and emergency personnel to use universal precautions, which means handling all patient contacts involving blood or bodily fluids as if the person had acquired immune deficiency syndrome or was infected with HIV.

He said that level of precaution was the recommended standard for medical personnel's best protection. He said his Jackson-based office works very hard with emergency and police departments around the state on accepting universal precautions.

Thompson's office keeps Mississippi's official records of HIV and AIDS patients from state Health Department tests as well as private doctors, clinics and testing services.

Those results are kept in a secure computer

system inside an old records vault with access limited to a handful of department employees.

"I know that we don't even produce a list as such, but there are any number of ways that a list could be compiled," Thompson said. "I think the likely ways would be random information provided by people in the health-care community, people in testing labs and a lot of times just because people think someone is positive."

Hall's lawsuit contends that he suffered great emotional distress after a police employee told a mutual friend that he was on the list. Hall said police did not remove his name after he told them he was not HIV positive.

The city contended in its response that because officials never sanctioned the list there was no policy to remove Hall's name.

Hall's only professional contact with city police was in early 1993 when he complained about unsanitary conditions at property near his.

Bill Brent, director of the South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, said that to his knowledge there have been no cases of broken confidentiality with any testing sites around the state, but he added that the revelation of the list at the Biloxi Police Department could be harmful for some residents. That's because all Mississippi HIV tests require specific identification, unlike Louisiana, which allows anonymous testing.

"One thing that's going to happen is that the Health Department is going to see a marked decrease in the number of people who are getting tested," said Brent, adding "and it's horrible that has to happen."

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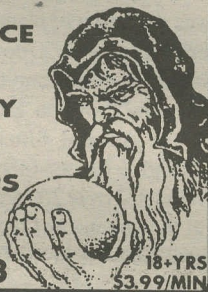


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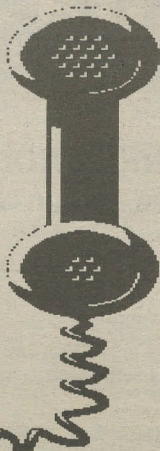
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Bowling Beat

By Tony Matics

Another month has gone by; winter is quickly crashing to an end with spring now peeking its head out, and we have plenty of bowling news to cover...

Second Half Season Rounds the Corner For Fast Finish

In what could be the most competitive season ever for the Brothers and Sisters Bowling League, we have at least six teams within a four-game spread between first and sixth place. The first position round of the half was rolled-off on Feb. 19, with three teams tied for the first place, and the next three teams in the standings only a mere four games behind. At press time all results were not known, however one team set league records for high team game and series. Those guys with the "Nice Balls" were making their move from an early season low tenth place by taking all four games against the fifth-place team en route to a team series 2497, and a high game

of 897. Such hot bowling cannot go unrecognized, as yours truly (a member of this record-setting team) set a league-high series scratch (and career best) 644 with games of 228, 215 and 201. Well, coach... what do you think about that? With only six weeks left in the season, it could come down to the last night of bowling. Stay tuned to this bat-bowling column next month for the fast finish!

Merry Mirth-Makers of Memphis Invade Icy Lexington, KY!!

On Friday, Feb. 11, while most of Memphis was dreaming of electricity and any temperature above 30 degrees, 10 of our bowling brethren braved the icy conditions and drove to Lexington, Ky. for the **Annual Bluegrass Classic**. This highly successful IGBO tournament attracted over 200 bowlers from around the country for a weekend of tropical paradise in the frozen Kentucky tundra. It can be said that our bowlers must have had the icy conditions in mind, as that is how they bowled... ice cold! But not all was lost

on the bowling, as our Memphis delegation came away from this tournament with at least one title... the Bluegrass tournament's coveted Queen of Hearts. Last year's reigning Queen of Hearts, our own Mike Reed (a former Mr. Leather Tennessee) was proud as peaches to crown this year's Queen of Hearts, our very own "Mr. Tournament," Ron Shelton. We can only hope that Ron will bring great distinction to his subjects this year. Our hearty congrats to you!!!

S.P.I.T. Benefit Show Rakes It In

A great time and a lot of money was raised at Chaps on Feb. 5 during a show to benefit the St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament. This show marked the stage debut of two of the hottest new divas (and regular league bowlers), Hailey and Hillary, the Pleasure Twins, with their rousing rendition of the Reba McIntyre duet of "Does He Love You?" These two showstoppers can be seen again on stage during the S.P.I.T. Tournament Banquet on Mar. 20.

Many thanks to our other performers, and a special thanks to Jerry Attaway for all his work in putting this show together. The show raised over \$600 to benefit the tournament's prize fund.

And Finally... Welcome All S.P.I.T.ers

A mighty Memphis welcome to all of those attending the First Annual St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament being held at Park Bowling Lanes March 19-20. All bowling during these two days will be closed to the public. However, if you would like to attend the bowling sessions, we still have non-participant packages available for a cost of \$35 per person. This package includes entry to all tournament bowling, receptions, free cover charges to participating bars, and entry to the tournament banquet being held at the Memphis Marriot hotel on American

Way Sunday, Mar. 20. For more information, call Mike Reed at 274-0005.

I would like to take the time to thank our core-committee members, Mike Reed, Andy Cain, Ron Shelton (our co-director), Linda Etherton (Tournament Secretary) and Rod Goldy, for all their hard work for the past year and a half. We hope that all of our out-of-town guests have a great time!

Watch this column next month for the tournament results, and the stretch-drive finish of our bowling season. Until then, remember, it's not how well you scored it, it's if you scored at all!

Men's Softball Set To Practice

When the major league teams start reporting to their spring baseball practice sessions in Florida and Arizona, it's a sure sign that softball practice is about to begin here in Memphis.

Softball practice for the Memphis Cruisers will be starting in early March for its second season of play. The team will play in the Nashville Gay Softball League which has been in existence for many years, with our sights set on qualifying for the Gay Softball World Series being held there in August. Scheduled regular season games are tentatively set to start April 10.

Practice sessions for the Cruisers will be held on weekends starting

March 6. Whether you are an experienced player or not you are welcome to participate. Practices will stress basic fundamentals and improving on all areas of skill.

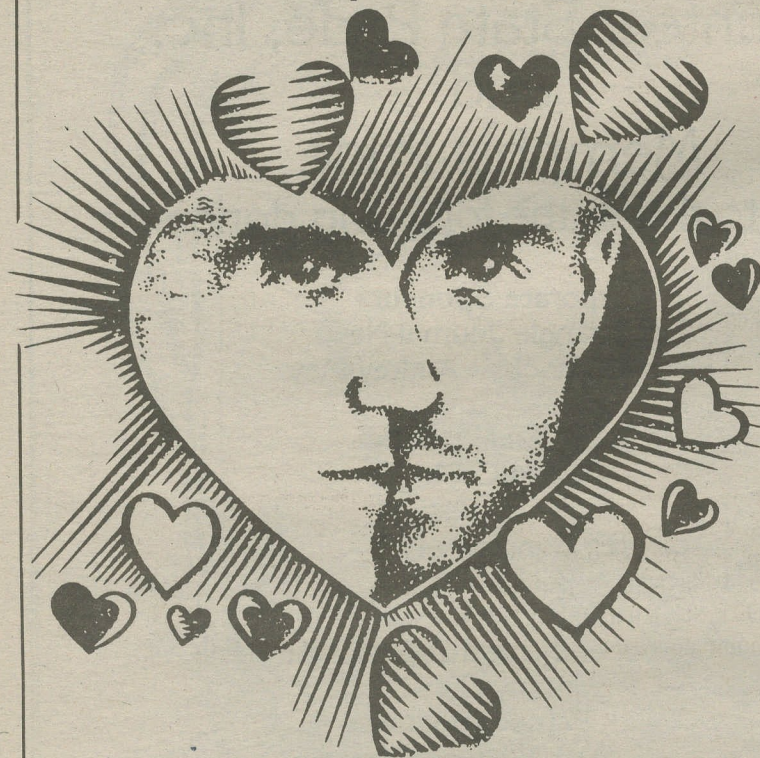
What better way to spend those long summer days than being outside and participating in something fun and exciting?

With enough interest we would like to have two teams from Memphis playing this year. If you are interested or know anyone who may be interested, call Chuck at 682-9928. An organizational meeting is scheduled to be held soon.

—Submitted by Chuck Saylor

Eroticizing Safer Sex

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Ice Skating Scheduled for Mar. 6 at Coliseum; Benefits Community Center

An MGLCC benefactor has rented the Coliseum at the Mid-South Fairgrounds for a Gay and Lesbian skating party from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on Mar. 6.

For beginners, there will be instructors on hand to help you with the basics. Skates will be available for \$2.

Admission is \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Call Herb at 274-2524 to reserve your spot.

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King & Queen of Hearts Crowned for 1994

The 3rd annual King & Queen of Hearts benefit raised over \$3,000 on Sunday, Feb. 13, at WKRB. A capacity crowd enjoyed a multitude of guest entertainers and participated in an auction. This included a wide variety of items, some from new donors to our community. The recipient was We Care AIDS Ministry of Holy Trinity Community Church (by coincidence, a new neighbor of WKRB; see story this page.)



Dee Dee Whitaker and friend.

Photo by Candace Spearman

This year's royalty was chosen by the amount of donations brought in by the sponsoring organization. Leslie and Janet from WKRB were crowned King and Queen of Hearts. Linda and Bret of the Cotton Pickin' Squares were first alternate and Hetie and Bob, from Stewart Enterprises, second alternate.

Last year's royalty were enthroned early in the proceedings, the returning king in full uniform regalia and the queen in a ravishing dark green schemata with tiara. Popular entertainers, alternated with seldom-seen entertainers and the event is already scheduled for 1995.

This benefit is the brainchild of Jimmy Gray, a.k.a. Dee Dee

Whitaker, who is show director and hostess at WKRB. Dee Dee hopes that the event will continue to grow and eventually become more inclusive in the community. Couples (not necessarily partnered to one another) are sponsored by organizations or businesses and compete by the dollar amount raised.

AIDS and the Workplace Business Conference Planned

Friends For Life HIV Resources, the Memphis/Shelby County Health Dept., the West Tennessee Area Health Education Center and the Memphis AIDS Council for Education are sponsoring a "Business Responds to AIDS" conference scheduled for March 23.

The conference will aid large and small business in planning comprehensive HIV workplace programs.

According to Virginia Stallworth, Education Director for Friends For Life HIV

Resources, the ideal plan would include policy development; training of managers, supervisors, and executives in that policy; employee and family education; and development of corporate/community support systems.

Since HIV and AIDS affect every segment of society, including the home, school, church and workplace, businesses across the nation are beginning to address the issue of AIDS in the workplace.

The majority of individuals now infected with HIV and those

most likely to become infected are adults, ages 25-44, an age group which comprises more than 50% of the nation's workforce.

Stallworth says that she is interested in obtaining samples of current HIV/AIDS workplace policies which have been implemented.

For more information on the conference, contact Ms. Stallworth at Friends for Life at (901) 272-0855.

New Counseling Center Opens in Midtown

The Wellness Counseling Center is located at 1559 Madison in Holy Trinity Community Church. It is a psychological counseling center for all those needing emotional support, especially for people with HIV/AIDS, cancer or other life-threatening illnesses. It is also designed for those with other emotional problems involving relationships, families or individual problems such as self-esteem or stress-related issues.

The director is Linda Merritt, a 51-year-old therapist with many years of experience in various types of counseling.

Although a native Memphian, Ms. Merritt spent five years at Fairfax Hospital in Virginia doing individual, group and couples therapy. She was also an intervention specialist in substance abuse.

For the past five years, she has been in private practice in Memphis working primarily with people who suffer from serious, chronic or life-threatening illness. She has a master's degree in psychology, and has done post-graduate work toward her doctorate. She has studied with Dr. Bernie Seigel (Yale surgeon and author of several best-selling books including *Love, Medicine and Miracles*, and *Peace, Love and*

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Holy Trinity Dedicated

By Vincent Astor

At the end of January, Holy Trinity Community Church held its first service at its new location, 1559 Madison. The members and friends of Holy Trinity had transformed what was once part of the showroom area of the Memphis Design Center into a contemporary, exposed brick sanctuary with room to spare.

Clerestory windows admit natural light, and the whole atmosphere is clean and modern. Adjacent is a fellowship hall and meeting room. The entryway is quite spacious, with office area and windows facing Madison. Parking is under cover and connected to the building.

Members and friends filled the space nearly to capacity for the opening services. The liturgy of Holy Trinity is developing into a unique church experience. Pastor Ethan Pruett and the members come from a variety of Christian denominations. The liturgy synthesizes the gospel music atmosphere of many Protestant churches with a higher liturgical communion service which might

remind a participant of MCC, Catholic or Episcopal communion.

Rev. Pruett preached on the story of the raising of Lazarus, comparing the suppressed hopes and aspirations of many Gays and Lesbians to the dead Lazarus, and stressing the opportunity to raise these with the same faith that returned Lazarus from the dead.

The sanctuary may also be cleared for multi-purpose use, and there is fallow space in the building for expansion.

Originally housing the Tastee Bread Bakery, the building was remodeled as a permanent "trade show" space for the design industry.

The only remaining tenant, besides Holy Trinity, is the Marble Showroom.

Holy Trinity is located in a district familiar to many Gays and Lesbians, directly across from WKRB, down the block from the Community Center and the Construction Site and around the corner from Reflections.

Healing) and his staff in New Haven, Conn.

The Wellness Counseling Center offers individual, group and couples therapy. Appointments can be made by contacting the church office (726-9443) Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There are specific therapy groups available for HIV/AIDS patients only, cancer patients, caretakers of seriously ill patients and an open group on Tuesday night from 7-9 p.m. for everyone seeking help with problems of living — self-esteem issues, ways to elevate the immune system, a relationship problems.

Available in all types of therapy sessions are techniques to strengthen your immune system and enhance current medical treatments. Relaxation techniques, meditation, visu-

alization and guided imagery are some of the ways in which to accomplish this.

Fees are affordable and arrangement can be made for those needing a sliding scale fee-rate. Confidentiality is assured.

Ms. Merritt says that Dr. Seigel best describes the kind of therapy she does in his book *Peace, Love, and Healing*: "When you put your feelings outside, you may heal inside. And you certainly heal your life, if not your disease."

Interested participants are invited to visit the open group on Tuesday nights to acquaint themselves with the Wellness Counseling Center. A donation of at least \$7 is asked, but not required, for this group.

—Submitted by Bill Hanley

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Episcopal Church Stands Spark Controversy

BOSTON (AP) — The Massachusetts Episcopal diocese was to open hearings Feb. 6 on the election of a new bishop amid charges that its increasingly liberal stands don't represent its flock.

The Massachusetts diocese, the nation's largest Episcopal diocese, is to choose the new bishop at a conference March 12.

At its annual convention last November, the diocese urged the national church to allow the ordination of Gays and Lesbians to the priesthood, and to bless Gay and Lesbian couples within the church — despite a survey showing only a third of its members supported those ideas.

"The laity in the pews ... who generally don't have much to say, are much more conservative than the leadership," William Tinkham, a ninth generation Episcopalian and member of Boston's Church of the Advent, told *The Boston Sunday Globe*.

Several signs point to friction between church leaders and their flocks:

— In a survey last May by the state's diocese, which included both church leadership and rank and file members, 44% of those who responded disagree with blessing

same-sex couples, while 31% agreed. Forty percent disagreed with ordaining Gay clergy, while 36% agreed.

— Faculty at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge openly oppose the national church's rules barring ordination of homosexuals. The Rev. William Rankin, the school's new dean, said the seminary's support for Gays and Lesbians "has hurt enrollment in the sense that some bishops have not wanted to send candidates for ordination to us."

— More than half of the diocese's 400 priests have arrived within the past seven years. That's a sign of high turnover and frequent rector-parish conflict, said the Rev. K. Gordon White of St. John's Church in Lowell. Now, 25 parishes are without rectors.

— Since November, Episcopal parishes in Melrose and Norwood have told Bishop David E. Johnson they are withholding financial support because of the stands on homosexuality taken by the convention.

For more than a generation, the Episcopal Church has staked out controversial stands. It was in favor of the civil rights, black power and anti-war movements in the 1960s, and later the women's movement of

the 1970s and 1980s.

Membership has dropped during the same period, from a national high of about 3.4 million in the mid-1960s to about 2.4 million in 1989. The Massachusetts diocese has lost about 35% of its members during that time, from 144,019 in 1966 to 93,821 in

1991.

"I don't feel negative about where we're going in this diocese," Johnson said. "In fact, I see that we have much stronger efforts toward building community than in the past."

"If a new bishop can show he can fire up the small, isolated churches

... in rural areas or communities of color, or that minister to the Gay community, then I think bigger churches will support him," said Ben Strohecker of Marblehead, a member of the committee that nominated the candidates.

Genetic Engineers Seek Advice, Debate With Theologians

By Arieh O'Sullivan
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — If mankind can one day be genetically cured of heart disease or cancer, will society also seek to eliminate criminal inclinations and perhaps homosexuality, Christian and Jewish leaders asked Feb. 2.

Genetic engineering is seen as an ethical land mine and anathema to many Catholics, Protestants and Jews. But bishops, ministers and rabbis meeting in this holy city questioned the moral path they believe genetic research should take in modern society.

"This technology may give temptation to play God a little," said Archbishop Maxim Hermauk of Winnipeg, Canada, one of 450 par-

ticipants in a conference on "Religious Leadership in Secular Society."

The conference drew 50 heads of national churches or denominations from 97 countries including the archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Anglican Church and two senior Roman Catholic cardinals.

"We cannot act as God but coming up with guidelines would be a good thing to come out of this," Canadian genetics professor Michael Hayden told a workshop on genetic engineering, attended by over 250 participants.

He told the audience that the rapidly developing field of genetic therapy will be able to identify and one day cure most inherited birth defects within the coming decades. Both scientists and religious leaders

agree that standards have to be set for the application of this technology.

"What if we get rid of heart disease, Alzheimer's and cancer. What on earth are we going to die of?" said David Bleakley, General Secretary of the Irish Council of Churches.

Many clergymen echoed the fear of eugenics, propagation of desired traits, saying that mankind had no place to decide what were good or bad genes and "engineer it out," as one rabbi put it.

What about criminality, schizophrenia and some studies say homosexuality, questioned Morton Narowe, the chief rabbi of Stockholm, Sweden. "Some people may say these too are undesirable diseases. Does society have a limit?"

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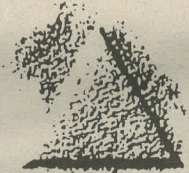
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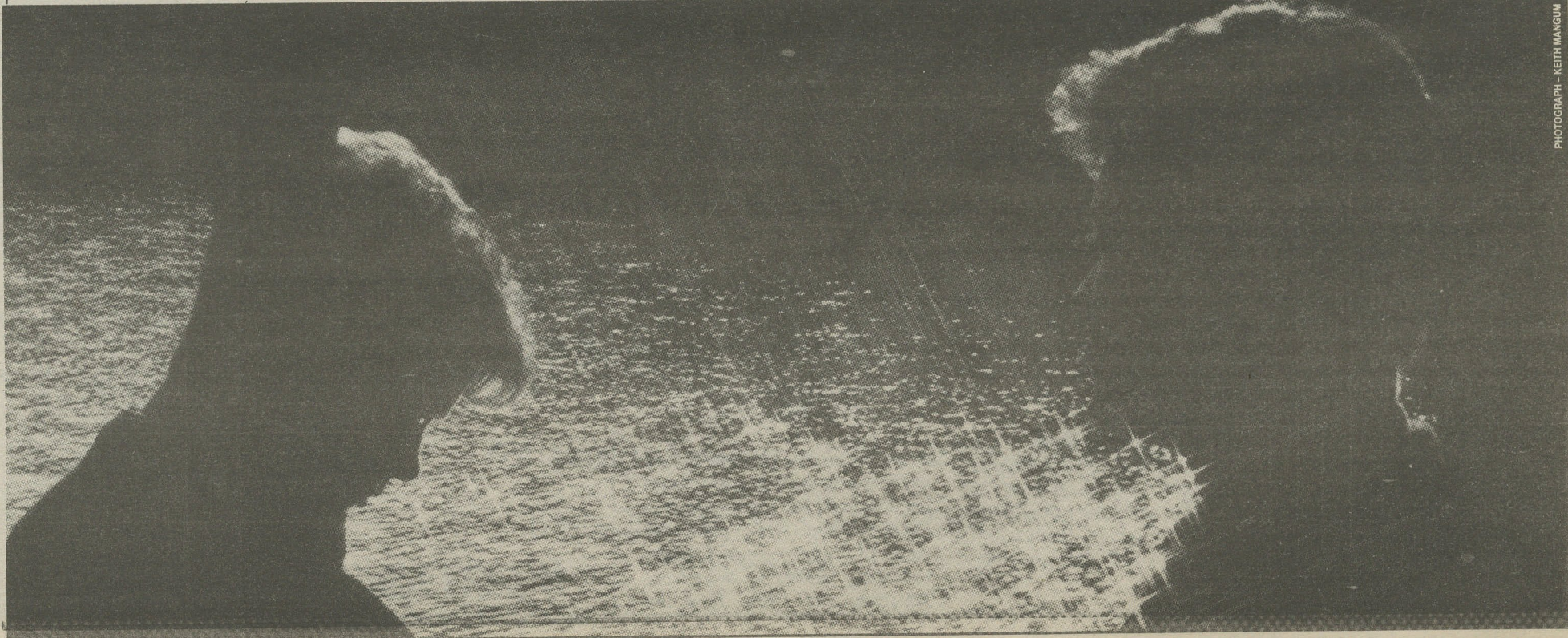
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Randy Shilts, Journalist and Author, Dies at 42

By Elizabeth Weise
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — AIDS has claimed the life of Randy Shilts, a tireless, driven author and reporter who caught and chronicled the first, almost invisible signs of the coming epidemic that would kill millions.

Shilts died of the disease at his home in the Sonoma County community of Guerneville late Feb. 16 or early Feb. 17, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported. He was 42.

He authored *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military*; *And The Band Played On: People, Politics and the AIDS Epidemic*, a history of the AIDS crisis; and *Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*.

And *The Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic*, published in 1985, was an exhaustive, relentless history of the AIDS epidemic. It chronicled the neglect of governments and the medical establishment in the early years of the epidemic. It was later made into an HBO movie, which aired last year.

"I think we're shocked to hear of his passing," said Dean Licitra, spokesman for AIDS Project in Los Angeles. "He's another warrior in

the battle that has succumbed.

"He single-handedly probably did more to educate the world about AIDS than any single person," remembered playwright Larry Kramer, one of the founders of both ACT-UP and Gay Men's Health Crisis of New York, the first U.S. AIDS organization.

Shilts had a difficult time finding work as reporter in the mainstream media because he was unwilling to hide the fact that he was Gay. In a 1990 report to the American Society of Newspaper Editors on coming out in the newsroom, Shilts wrote:

"It's impossible to describe the intense frustration of knowing you're utterly qualified for a job, but unable to get it because of a factor that has nothing to do with your competence. It was like at the age of 30, I was supposed to put all my journalist training aside and become a florist because I'm Gay."

Shilts was finally hired by the *San Francisco Chronicle* in 1981 in a two-month vacation replacement stint, Editor Bill German said. He worked as a general assignment reporter. His editors were told not to give him Gay stories to cover.

"It took two weeks until I said, 'Randy, you're hired.' We changed

the rule of making Gay issues off limits. We had complete trust in Randy," he said.

"He demonstrated that you could be Gay and still write one hell of a story and play it down the middle and be balanced," said LeRoy Aarons, former editor of *The Oakland Tribune* and founder of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

Not long after he was hired, word of strange outbreaks of unusual types of pneumonia and skin cancer among Gay patients began to surface.

"Almost from the outset Randy concerned himself with that issue. He did all the pioneer investigation into how all this was spreading. I think the whole world has reason to honor Randy for his absolutely relentless investigation that made us all aware of what was becoming a global epidemic," German said.

In 1993, Shilts was awarded the Lifetime Achievement award from the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association. He was too ill to attend the group's New York convention but sent a videotaped acceptance. Among other awards, Shilts was named Journalist of the Year for 1992-1993 by the Northern California chapter of the Society of Profes-

sional Journalists; Outstanding Young Alumnus in 1993 by the University of Oregon; Mather Lectureship at Harvard University in 1990; and Outstanding Author in 1988 by the American Society of Journalists and Authors.

Shilts tested positive for HIV in 1985 and admitted publicly, early in 1993, that he was suffering from AIDS.

The disease advanced by 1992 and he suffered a collapsed lung that December while writing *Conduct Unbecoming*.

"He said many times that his work was about finding the story and reporting it as objectively as possible and letting the chips fall as they may," Ford said.

Towards the end of his life, Shilts lived in a cabin where he could write and enjoy the solitude with his partner Barry Barbieri and their golden retriever Dash.

It was May 19, 1972, during a class presentation in college, that Shilts revealed he was Gay. From then on, he vowed never to hide his sexual orientation.

"When heterosexuals start hiding their wedding rings ... I'll start covering up the fact that I'm Gay," he said in a 1989 interview with *San Francisco Focus* magazine.

Steve Brengard, 32

Stephen M. Brengard, 32, formerly of Paragould Ark., retired manager of The Flower Market, died Feb. 8 at his home of complications of AIDS.

He was a communicant of St. Therese Little Flower Church in Memphis and was a long-time volunteer of Friends for Life.

Steve served on the core committee of the Memphis presentations of Heart Strings both in 1989 and 1991.

He is survived by his partner, Eric Baranski; his mother, Rebecca Acuff Scott of Memphis; and three brothers, Richard, Ronnie, and Chris.

The family requests that any memorials be sent to Friends For Life HIV Resources (P.O. Box 40389, Memphis, TN 38174-0389) or R.A.I.N. (P.O. Box 2675, Batesville, Ark. 72501).

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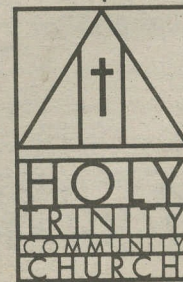
The Exodus has begun.

When Moses' people were freed from bondage, their journey is remembered as Exodus. They were escaping the oppression placed upon them by the Egyptian government — much like our congregation has escaped from the bondage of untruths.

Through prayer, faith, and worship, we're learning the truth. As a result of sharing those truths, our congregation has grown in truth, love — and size.

To accommodate our numbers, we have moved from our building on Monroe Avenue, to a new location at 1559 Madison Avenue, in the Design Center. Please join us as we travel, in God's love, to our ultimate home with Him.

Services: Sunday School at 10:10 a.m., Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. · Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Pastor — Rev. Ethan Pruett



Holy Trinity
Community
Church
1559 Madison
Memphis
Tennessee 38104
901/726/9443

There will be a benefit show for Holy Trinity Community Church at Reflections on March 26 at 8:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Aphrodite, and PMS.

"We Care"
AIDS Ministry would like to express thanks to DeeDee Whitaker and WKRB.

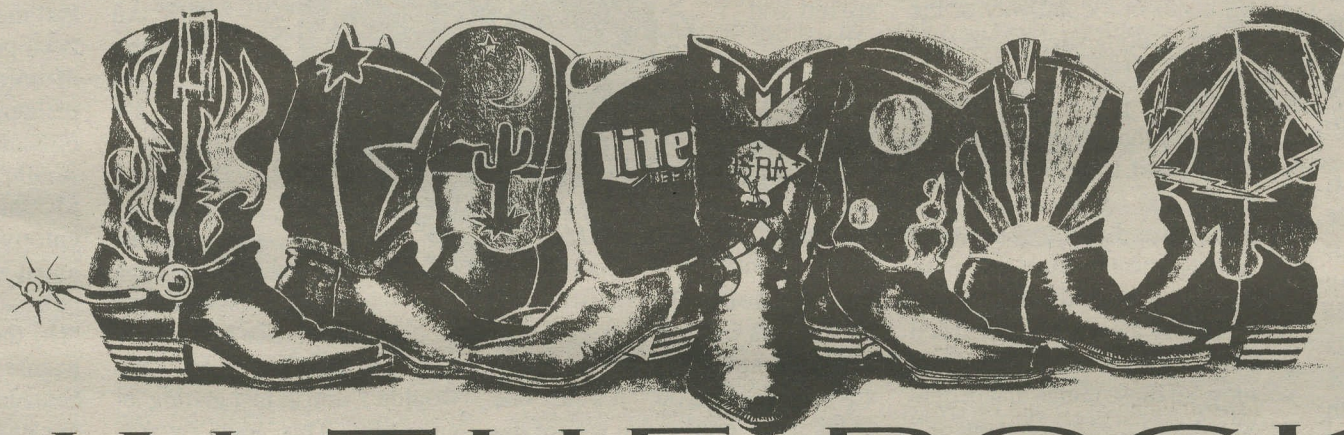
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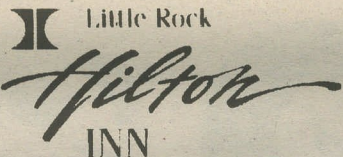
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Gay Couples Seek Marriage Licenses on Valentine's Day

By Charlton Harper
Gay People's Chronicle
(Cleveland)

CLEVELAND—The Cuyahoga County Courthouse was the site of the usual number of eager Valentine's Day marriage license applicants this February 14. But waiting patiently in the basement hallway outside the license bureau were 11 couples who wouldn't ordinarily have made the effort to file license applications.

Patrick McCabe and Scott Hare are a Gay couple who made the trip to the courthouse in protest of the lack of legalized Gay marriage. "Well, nothing was being done about marriage rights here in Cleveland," said McCabe, who organized the turnout with his friend Douglas Braun. Braun and his partner Brian DeWitt were also in suit and tie, patiently waiting in line. "We just wanted to get the ball rolling. Since Valentine's Day is not such a big deal for Gay people, we thought it would be the best way to bring

attention to our issue."

The effort was viewed as the first step towards registering domestic partnership, a move that several cities around the country have made. Many Gay couples would like to see the county and the city of Cleveland try it also.

But for McCabe, Hare and others gathered in the hallway of the courthouse, domestic partnership without legal rights is not an answer. "We're just looking for the same rights that straights take for granted," said Hare, who's got a shopping list of demands. "Tax benefits, shared medical benefits, the right to make medical decisions for our partners, paid bereavement leave, family discounts for married people, hassle-free adoption and custody, all those things that people never realize Gays are shut out of."

In lieu of legal recognition of their relationship, Hare and McCabe have held their own private commitment ceremony. Other couples are still working out the technical problems of tying the knot. Debra Dunkle and Martha

Webb have been together for more than 12 years, yet they haven't had a formal ceremony. "I don't really know why we haven't had a ceremony," said Webb, looking to her partner for an answer. "I guess that we haven't sorted out all the issues. We still haven't found a person to make our rings," she laughed. Both women hope that their efforts will bring an end to the invisibility of Gay union. Said Dunkle, "it's just one of the many civil rights we are denied. That's what brings us here. We're doing this for the community and for all the people who couldn't be here."

Many couples have worked out the various legal entanglements to protect themselves in the face of no

legal rights. Hare said that he and McCabe are "in the process of dealing with the legal issues right now. We know we need things like durable power of attorneys and wills. We're working with an attorney to get those things." But even with the legal problems solved, it's the larger issue of acceptance that Hare and McCabe seek. "We wouldn't stop at just getting legal rights. This goes towards society's resistance to us and our relationships."

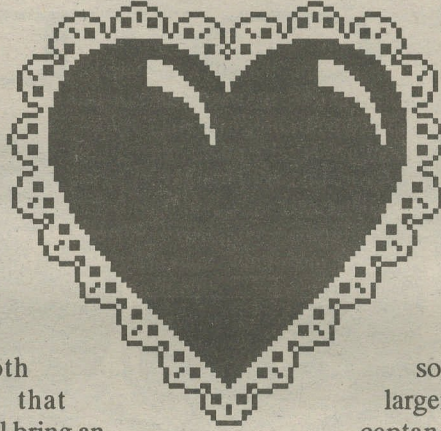
But Gays and Lesbians were not alone as they attempted a bit of history making. Some of that desired acceptance could be found in the supportive friends

filtered amongst the couples. Reverend Mary Grigolia, of the Southwest Unitarian Church in Middleburg Heights, came to lend her support. "I came to support my friends and focus public opinion on the sacredness of Gay relationships. I'm proud to say that the Unitarian church has been performing ceremonies of union between same-sex partners since 1973." Michael Fowler, an "avowedly heterosexual" man who attended McCabe's and Hare's ceremony, was strongly opinionated about the lack of equal representation under the law. "Do they revoke a marriage license when a husband has beat his wife? Can't we spend our gusto to create laws in a more appropriate manner? I hope that being here today will be a little step at moving us out of the dark ages."

While all applications were politely refused, efforts to get the bureau to accept certificates of domestic partnership were also denied. Bureau official Brenda Carey said that "the bureau really has no way of keeping such records." A license application is kept on file for five days, after which a couple can return for the actual license. Carey acknowledges that the department has never given out applications to Gay couples.

Several present were still working through their own fears and trepidation as they waited amidst the glare of flashing cameras and eager microphones. "I'm still a little nervous right now," said Greg Campbell, his certificate in hand. Though he and his partner of 12 years, John Barrick, are "totally out at work and with our families," he knows that "we always have to think about things like losing our jobs."

McCabe agreed that fear played a large part in the low couple turnout. "Yes, fear is definitely a factor in getting more people involved. While there are more couples out there, the response might make you think otherwise. Lesbians and Gays need to work past their fears in order to get what they want. If you feel fear then you know you're doing the right thing."



An Evening on Ice

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Memphis Gay and Lesbian
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Sunday, March 6
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Instructors on hand for Beginners

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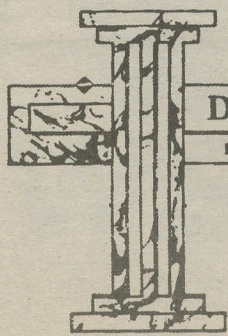


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Female Impersonator Tries To Balance His Lifestyle and Faith

By Frank Fisher
Associated Press Writer

CARBONDALE, Ill. (AP) — Julie sensuously walks down a flight of stairs and begins a slow dance under red strobe lights on the stage of Club Paradise. A tight miniskirt hugs Julie's swaying body.

About three dozen enthusiastic fans at Carbondale's only Gay bar clap and whistle as Julie lip syncs to a torrid rock 'n' roll song. They wave dollar bills, which Julie accepts with a peck on the cheek.

In reality, Julie's life is not such a party. Julie is a Gay man and has been a female impersonator for about 12 years.

"I'm a very devout Christian, and I feel that homosexuality is not something that's very well accepted by Christians, and I myself don't truly accept it as a given lifestyle and given personality," said Julie, the son of a minister.

"I can't see myself any other way and I just take the Bible literally," he said, batting his long eyelashes and playing with a large,

circular earring sticking out from his wavy wig. "Every day, I can ask forgiveness for the things I do."

When Julie isn't working at Club Paradise or traveling to other shows, he's on the road as part of a Christian gospel singing group that performs across the United States and in Europe. He only dresses as a woman during "drag shows."

But if Julie is struggling to reconcile his homosexuality with his Christian faith, fellow impersonator Jodie Santanna has no such doubts. Santanna is undergoing "gender reassignment," commonly known as a sex change.

"It feels good to know you're beautiful," Santanna said. "As a boy, I didn't feel I was nice looking."

Female impersonators invest thousands of dollars in dresses and outfits. The payoffs can be big, also. Santanna, recently crowned Miss Club Paradise, said a Miss Gay USA can make \$100,000 in a year.

Retailer To Test-Market Gay Greeting Card Line

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dayton Hudson Corp. plans to carry a line of greeting cards designed to be sent between Gay people as well as between straights and Gays.

The giant retailer will test-market the cards beginning in March at two Marshall Field's stores and at the downtown Minneapolis Dayton's.

Chicago-based Cardthartic creates and distributes the cards under the brand name, "Through Our Eyes." The company, which has been in business for about two years, describes its cards as Hallmark-like, with warm messages.

Robb Anderson, vice president of Cardthartic, said that having Dayton's as a customer will be a breakthrough for his tiny company. So far, independent sales representatives have sold Cardthartic cards primarily to small specialty stores, especially in Gay neighborhoods.

Cardthartic also is introducing "crossover cards" that a Gay man could send to a straight friend or relative, or that a straight person could send to a Gay friend or relative, Anderson said.

For example, one card pictures

a man holding a birthday cake. It says, "Birthday girl, if I were a straight man, I'd ask you out in a heartbeat. But if I were a straight man, you'd probably write me off as an insensitive jerk like all the rest of them."

Market research shows women buy 85 to 90% of all greeting cards, but in the Gay community men eagerly purchase cards, Anderson says. Lesbians generally don't buy many greeting cards, but Anderson thinks that's because they don't find appealing ones.

Dayton's has agreed to sell about 500 cards initially, or 36 designs, and has been particularly enthusiastic about the "crossover cards," Anderson said.

"Our buyers are always looking for products that are suitable for our diverse customer base," Dayton's spokeswoman Molly Maloney said Feb. 16. "We have offered cards for other specific groups including African-Americans and American Indians; they've done well."

Cardthartic is one of many distributors of Gay and Lesbian cards carried by alternative stores.

Be Like ~~Mike~~ Lorena

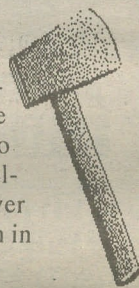
GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — A judge in this South American republic has urged a woman to sever her brother-in-law's penis the next time he bares it in her presence — drunk or not.

"Cut it off the next time," Principal Magistrate Paul Fung-a-Fat told the un-named sister-in-law of 34-year-old Kassim Yussuf.

The state-owned *Chronicle* newspaper Jan. 28 said Yussuf exposed his private parts because the woman allegedly charged that he was Gay. The incident occurred at the family's home in the southern part of this city.

But pleading drunkenness, Yussuf, a jeweler, admitted his guilt also saying his threats to perform un-natural sex on the woman were also influenced by alcohol.

Imposing a \$1,500 fine on the defendant, the magistrate gave the woman permission to perform the now celebrated act if he ever drops his pants again in her presence.



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St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament

A special advertising supplement to the Triangle Journal News

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

The St. Patrick's Invitational tournament welcomes you to our first annual IGBO Tournament held March 18 - 20, 1994, in Memphis, Tennessee. This tournament is the culmination of over a year of planning and fund raising. We are proud to host this first of many tournaments geared toward fellowship and fun for all our brothers and sisters.

While visiting in Memphis, you will enjoy a beautiful southern city known for its music, its barbeque, and its southern hospitality. While here, you will surely want to visit the home of Elvis (Graceland), the blues (Beale Street), and the world famous Peabody Ducks (the Peabody Hotel). Memphis also has wonderful museums, local theatre, and touring Broadway shows at the Orpheum Theatre.

Memphis is located in the heart of the Mid-South, 35 miles north of Tunica, Mississippi, the home of Splash Casino, one of many riverboat casinos located in the Mississippi Delta.

We urge you to experience Memphis and its diverse culture, its wonderful restaurants, and its friendly people. Welcome to Memphis. Enjoy yourself!

Schedule of Events

Friday, March 18

Registration 6:00 - 11:00 PM

Hospitality Suite Open 7:00 - 12:00 AM

Saturday, March 19

Shift A Check-in/

Final Registration 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Singles & Doubles Event 9:00 - 2:00 PM

Shift B Check-in/

Final Registration 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Singles & Doubles Event 2:00 - 7:00 PM

Hospitality Suite Open 7:00 - 12:00 PM

Sunday, March 20

Shift B Check-in 9:00 - 9:30 AM

Shift B Team Event 9:30 - 12:30 PM

Shift A Check-in 12:30 - 1:00 PM

Shift A Team Event 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Cocktail Party 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Awards Banquet 7:00 - ??

9-3 Reflections
11-1 Lunch Reflected.
9-3 Reflections
7
7
X

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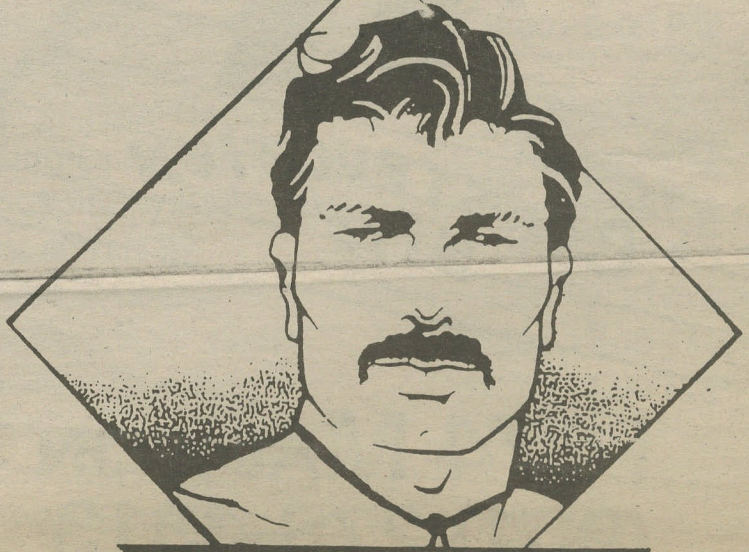
So, wear the green, kiss the blarney stone and welcome Tom back to the Zone!



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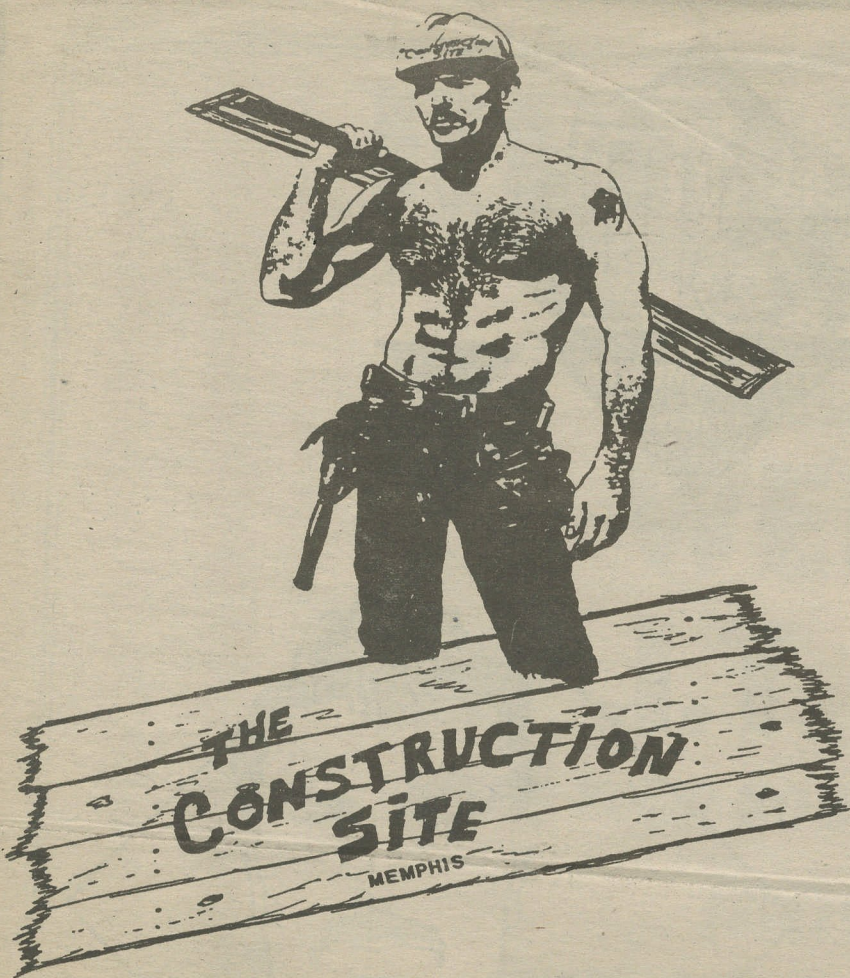


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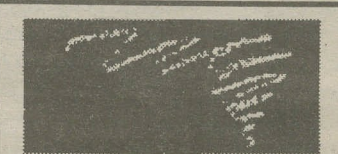
Calendar Listing Policy
 Because of space considerations, commercial listings in the Calendar are limited to "Special Events," only. To ensure your events are listed or to make corrections on current listings, call (901) 454-1411 with your information.



1528 Madison
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MARCH

<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Trinity Community Church Services, 11 am & 7 pm ACT-UP Mtg., Meristem, 5:30 pm 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gay & Lesbian Support Grp., MSU, Call Dr. Alkekruse 678-2068 Gay Alternative Hour, WEVL, FM 89.9, 6 pm FFL Dinner, St. John's Methodist Church, 6:30 pm, Call 272-0855 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrity Brd. Mtg., The Cupboard, 6:30 pm Gay Teens, MGLCC, 7pm PLUS PLWA Support, MGLCC, 7pm BGALA, MSU, University Center, 3rd Floor, 7:30 Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, Calvary, 7:30 Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 8 pm 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7:30 pm 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Hour For Persons With HIV, First Congregational Church, 5:30 pm Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church., 7 pm P-FLAG Meeting, 7pm, St. John's Episcopal GRACE Mtg., Call John 725-5237 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MGLCC Brd. Mtg., 6 pm MGLCC Movie Night, 7 pm Brothers & Sisters Bowling League, Park Lanes, 7 pm, Call Tony 272-3875 Stations of the Cross, St. Therese Cath. Ch., 7 pm Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 9 pm 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memphis Pride Mtg., MGLCC, 10 am Video Benefit for Camp Sister Spirit, Meristem, 5 pm
<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Trinity Community Church Services, 11 am & 7 pm ACT-UP Mtg., Meristem, 5:30 pm MGLCC Skating Party at Mid-South Coliseum, 7:30-9:30 pm 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gay & Lesbian Support Grp., MSU, Call Dr. Alkekruse 678-2068 Gay Alternative Hour, WEVL, FM 89.9, 6 pm 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gay Teens, MGLCC, 7 pm PLUS - PLWA Support, MGLCC, 7pm BGALA, MSU, UC, 3rd Floor, 7:30 pm Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, Calvary, 7:30 pm Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 8 pm 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7:30 pm 10th Annual Tsarus Man of the Year Banquet, WKRB 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Hour For Persons With HIV, First Congregational Church, 5:30pm Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church., 7pm GRACE Mtg./Liturgy, Call John 725-5237 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MGLCC Movie Night, 7 pm Brothers & Sisters Bowling League, Park Lanes, 7 pm, Call Tony 272-3875 Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 9 pm 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bisexual Alliance, MGLCC, 4 pm Women's Discussion Group, MGLCC, 7:30 pm
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Trinity Community Church Services, 11 am & 7 pm ACT-UP Mtg., Meristem, 5:30 pm Tennessee Leather Tribe Show, WKRB 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> G&L Support Grp., MSU, Call 678-2068 Gay Alternative Hour, FM 89.9, 6 pm FFL Dinner, St. John's Meth. Ch., 6:30 pm, 272-0855 Coming Out Group, MGLCC, 7 pm Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, Calvary, 7:30 pm 	<p>15</p> <p>AD & COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL '94 TJN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDS Healing Svc./Integrity Eucharist, Calvary, 6 pm Integrity Monthly Mtg., Calvary, 6:30 pm Gay Teens, MGLCC, 7pm PLUS PLWA Support, MGLCC, 7pm BGALA, MSU, UC, 3rd Floor, 7:30 pm Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 8 pm 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7:30 pm 	<p>17</p> <p>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Hour For Persons With HIV, First Congregational, 5:30 pm Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7 pm GRACE Mtg., Call John 725-5237 Club 501 Opening 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Country's Regional Throw Down, Reflections, See schedule p. 27 St. Patrick's Invitational Bowling Tournament, Park Bowling Lanes MGLCC Movie Night, 7 pm 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Country's Regional Throw Down, Reflections, See schedule p. 27 St. Patrick's Invitational Bowling Tournament, Park Bowling Lanes MGLCC Potluck, 7 pm
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S.C.'s Regional Throw Down, Reflections, See p. 27 for schedule S.P.I.T., Park Bowling Lanes HTCC Services, 11 am & 7 pm ACT-UP Mtg., Call Pride Night at WKRB, benefits Memphis Pride Events, 9 pm 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gay & Lesbian Support Grp., MSU, Call Dr. Alkekruse 678-2068 Gay Alternative Hour, WEVL, FM 89.9, 6 pm 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Eroticizing Safer Sex</i>, Workshop for Gay Men, MGLCC, 7-9 pm Gay Teens Memphis, MGLCC, 7pm PLUS PLWA Support, MGLCC, 7pm BGALA, MSU, UC, 3rd Floor, 7:30 pm Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 8 pm 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7:30 pm 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Hour For Persons With HIV, First Cong. Church, 5:30 pm Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church., 7 pm GRACE Mtg./Liturgy, Call John 725-5237 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MGLCC Movie Night, 7 pm Brothers & Sisters Bowling League, Park Lanes, 7 pm, Call Tony 272-3875 Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 9 pm 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transgender Alliance, MGLCC, 1 pm for changing, 2 pm mtg. Women's Discussion Group, MGLCC, 7:30 pm Aphrodite/PMS Show, Reflections
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Trinity Community Church Services, 11 am & 7 pm ACT-UP Meeting, Meristem, 5:30 pm 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> G&L Support Grp., MSU, Call Dr. Alkekruse 678-2068 Gay Alternative Hour, WEVL, 6 pm FFL Dinner, St. John's Meth., 6:30 Call 272-0855 Coming Out Group, MGLCC, 7 pm First Class Male, J-Wag's, 11 pm 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gay Teens, MGLCC, 7pm PLUS PLWA Support, MGLCC, 7pm BGALA, MSU, UC, 3rd Floor, 7:30 pm Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, Calvary, 7:30 pm Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 8 pm 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7:30 pm 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Hour For Persons With HIV, First Congregational, 5:30pm Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church., 7 pm AA Mtg., MGLCC, 8 pm GRACE Mtg., Call John 725-5237 	<p>APRIL 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TJN DUE OUT MGLCC Movie Night, 7 pm Brothers & Sisters Bowling League, Park Lanes, 7 pm, Call Tony 272-3875 Southern Country Dance Lessons, Reflections, 9 pm 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memphis Pride Mtg., MGLCC, 10 am



MGLCC

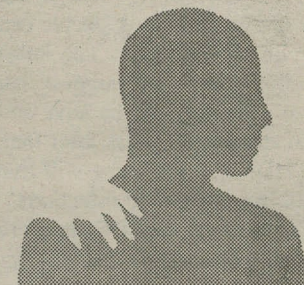
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Scientists Study Long-Term Survivors In Search of AIDS Answers

By Daniel Q. Haney
AP Science Writer

Rob Anderson remembers how angry he felt back in 1985 when he read experts' predictions about AIDS. Everyone who catches the virus would surely die from it, they said. By then, Rob Anderson had been infected for six years.

"I decided, 'I'll show them,'" he said.

And he did.

Anderson has had HIV, the AIDS virus, for about 15 years. He still is healthy. And this raises a question that has begun to fascinate scientists: Why does the AIDS virus kill some people much more slowly than others?

Early in the brief history of this disease, death seemed to be the only certainty. More than 200,000 Americans have been lost so far; about 100 more die daily.

Clearly, the longer people are infected with HIV, the more likely they are to fall ill with full-blown AIDS and die. Yet the course of this decline is unpredictable.

Scientists wonder why, for instance, that 12% of those infected with HIV go on to develop AIDS within five years of catching the virus. Why do half stay healthy for 10 years? Why are a third still going strong after 14 years?

The study of long-term HIV survivors has become a hot area of study in AIDS; researchers would very much like to figure out what makes these lucky few different.

"It's a question of following clues," said Dr. Lewis Schragger of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "We hope the clues will give us new ideas and directions for vaccine development and therapeutic strategies."

The disease is so new that no one really knows how long people can live with the infection. The latest projections, however, suggest that 10% to 17% still will be alive and free of disease 20 years after they catch HIV. Perhaps some will live out full lives with their infections.

Like so much in AIDS, there are few clear answers to the "why" questions.

Long-term HIV survivors like Anderson, a 40-year-old San Francisco artist, have their own theories.

"I feel it all goes back to my attitude," he said. "I won't let this make me ill. I've watched quite a number of friends go from being relatively healthy to sick and dead in very short periods of time. In every case, they all bought into the idea that you have to die from AIDS if you have HIV. I just simply don't agree with that."

Others credit their diets, their vitamins, their medicines, their exercise, their meditation. But as far as

scientists can tell, long-term survival has little to do with how people get infected, their sex habits, the food they eat or anything else they do.

Instead, they are looking at three main theories of why some people survive longer with HIV:

—They are genetically different.

—Their immune systems work better.

—They are infected with less rapacious strains of the virus.

Indeed, all three possibilities could be true.

Most information about long-term survivors comes from studies of Gay men that began in the early 1980s, shortly after the AIDS epidemic started.

The largest of these is the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study conducted by the National Institutes of Health. Of 4,954 men enrolled in the study, 1,809 already were infected at the outset in 1984. Two similar studies in San Francisco are following a total of 2,700 men.

The men in these studies give blood samples regularly so doctors can track the course of their infections. The AIDS virus attacks a crucial variety of white blood cells called helper T-cells or CD4 cells.

Healthy people have about 1,000 of these cells per cubic millimeter of blood. Most people experience an initial drop in helper cells immediately after they get infected. Then, the loss almost — but not quite — levels off. For years, the totals drop very slowly. Eventually, they fall below 200, and this puts people at risk of overwhelming infections, the hallmark of AIDS.

The researchers are especially fascinated by Anderson and others who escape this inexorable damage. He, like perhaps about 5% of all infected people, has not continued to lose helper cells. Instead, his levels are close to 800.

"It will be imperative to follow these people for long periods of time to see what happens," Schragger said. "Some may suddenly start losing CD4 cells. Some may never, which would be fascinating. There is clearly a hope that at least some of these people will represent a unique group, not just the tail of a normal distribution."

If a difference in immune responses explains long-term survival, some experts believe another type of virus-suppressing blood cells called CD8 cells could be the key.

Dr. John Phair of Northwestern University and others have noticed that long-term survivors have abnormally high levels of these white cells in their bloodstreams.

"It tells us that CD8 cells play a very important role in the response to this infection," Phair said.

Just why is unclear. But scientists are especially intrigued by the possible role of a variety of CD8 cells known as cytotoxic lymphocytes, which recognize HIV-infected CD4 cells and destroy them.

Researchers theorize that long-term survivors might have more of these cells, or that the ones they have might do a better job of hunting down infected CD4 cells before they release more copies of the virus into the blood.

"The question is: What's different with these people?" asked Dr. Susan Buchbinder of the University of California, San Francisco.

She thinks genes may play a role, especially the human leukocyte antigens, or HLA, genes. These genes vary from person to person and play an integral role in regulating the immune system.

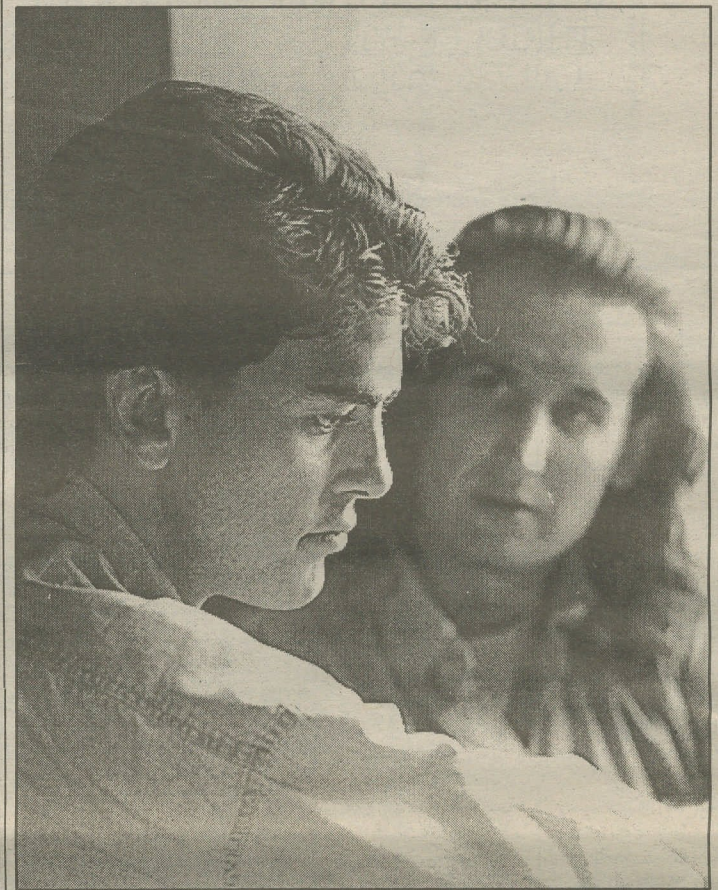
Buchbinder has found a particular pattern of HLA genes that appears to be more common among longtime HIV survivors.

Other evidence suggests, however, that differences in the strains of virus people catch could be just as important as variations between people.

Dr. David Vlahov of Johns Hopkins University studies genetic diversity in the virus. He found that some long-term survivors carry

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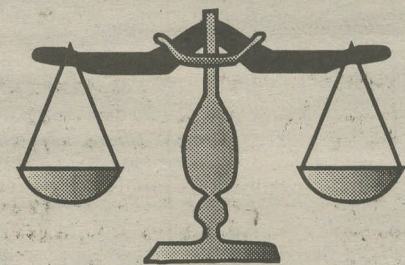
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Remembering Randy: Not Only for Notoriety of Gay Prom Date

By Karren Mills
Associated Press Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — It was a day Isolde Rohl will never forget.

Her 17-year-old son, a mischievous redhead who always had his nose in a book, told her he was taking a 20-year-old man to the senior prom.

"I was totally shocked. That was in 1979. I knew Randy was different, but I didn't know why he was different. I had no idea at that time that he was Gay," Ms. Rohl, a Sears sales clerk in Sioux Falls, S.D., recalled.

But she stood by her son, just as 15 years later she stood at Randy's bedside, holding his hand as he died of AIDS on Dec. 31.

Most people had never heard of AIDS at the time of Randy's prom escapade. The Centers for Disease Control didn't begin recording AIDS deaths until 1981.

The numbers mounted quickly, however. By the end of last September, the latest count available, AIDS had claimed 204,390 lives in the United States.

Randy gained national notoriety for that night at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, when he and his date made their prom entrance wearing matching powder blue tuxedos, red rose boutonnieres and silver pierced earrings.

But his mother and friends remember him for other things: his dream of being a doctor and helping other people, his sense of humor, his quiet strength and courage.

He loved skiing, swimming, riding his motorcycle and tooling around in his red Jeep. Taking flying lessons was an adventure for him, as was working with his computer and becoming proficient at 3D photography.

"He took pictures of everything — a beautiful butterfly outside, a dandelion — and enlarged it. He also loved antiques, museums and art galleries," Ms. Rohl said.

"Anything interesting that was a challenge and needed concentration, Randy was into it."

Randy's parents met and married in 1958 while his father was in the service in Germany, and Randy and his younger sister, Tori, made frequent trips back to Germany to visit their maternal grandparents. The Rohls were divorced in 1969.

Randy studied in Germany for part of his high school years and used his grandparents' home as a base for trips to Russia, Africa, Greece, Ireland, England, France and Holland. He spoke fluent German, Spanish and French.

Those are the memories Ms. Rohl cherishes. But she doesn't deny the rest.

"I thought, there are so many families who disown their children. I see it in the paper every week where young people are dying. Nobody dies of AIDS. It's all some other infection."

Ms. Rohl told her son she accepted him even when she was upset by something he did.

"I can't say he was wrong. I can't say he was right. Who am I to say what is right or wrong for someone else? I told him, 'Whatever you do, I love you.'"

She was in the spectator section of the high school gymnasium the night of her son's prom.

People booed. Police protected the youths, who had been threatened. Reporters recorded what the National Gay Task Force said was the first time acknowledged homosexuals had ever attended a high school prom together.

When Randy looked around and saw his mother, he broke into a big grin, she said. Then the dance went on as planned.

Randy told reporters later that he and his date were just friends, not lovers, and said he hoped the prom adventure would not impair his future.

"If you think about it, the sexual part of everyone's life is such a small part, it's unfair to judge anyone by their sex life. It's such a trivial matter," he said.

After high school, Randy moved to Minneapolis to attend the University of Minnesota. He hoped to become a doctor.

He kept in touch with his family, and gave his mother a doll with a photo impression of his face so she'd have him close by.

"He said, if you miss me, just look at me. Here I am. You can punch me out," Ms. Rohl said. "He could be such a clown."

Randy never hid his homosexuality, said Nancy Herzog, a longtime friend who once worked with him at University of Minnesota Hospitals.

"We hit it off right away. I liked him and he liked me. He told me he was Gay right away. It was no big deal," said Mrs. Herzog, of Brooklyn Park.

When the two met, Mrs. Herzog was single and said she and Randy enjoyed going to bars together and picking out men for each other. "He was wild. He made me laugh. We had a lot of fun," she said.

"If he wouldn't have been Gay, I might have married the guy."

Randy later lived in Germany and California. Mrs. Herzog married and moved to Nevada, where she and her family lived for about five years. Despite the distance, they kept in touch. Randy called Mrs. Herzog in Nevada in the mid-1980s to tell her that he had HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

He believed he contracted the virus from a man he had lived with for about three years, and who died of AIDS about a year ago, Mrs. Herzog said.

"I couldn't believe how accepting he was," she said.

William "Bill" Lowell, who met Randy when both were studying genetics and cell biology at the University of Minnesota in 1988, said Randy wasn't afraid of anything.

"He was always attempting to get a reaction out of people," Lowell said. "You'd be walking down the hall with him and he'd let out a bark, then would look at you and say, 'Knock it off!' I always appreciated his sense of humor. I liked him because he did the things that I never would do."

Randy didn't tell Lowell about the prom until he'd known him about 1 1/2 years.

"He said it wasn't meant to be political," Lowell said.

Randy rarely regretted anything he did, Lowell said. "The only thing he regretted was that he didn't get to go to medical school."

He also regretted that his life was so short, his mother said.

"He would say to me, 'Hey, Mom, we all have to die sooner or later. Just not so soon.'"

As his health deteriorated, Randy talked about death, often couching it in language of the computer world he loved so much.

"He almost felt like he was a computer program that had gone awry and needed to be deleted and started over," Lowell said.

Randy, who had spent much of his life traveling and living around the United States and Europe, moved back to Minnesota from California last fall to be closer to his family.

Before he died, he could no longer walk or stand up by himself and was blind in one eye.

Lowell said he believed Randy always held out hope that a cure would be found for AIDS. "At the end he said he was really disappointed, that he didn't feel they were any closer to treating the disease. In November, he said if things didn't get better he wanted to be gone by the first of the year."

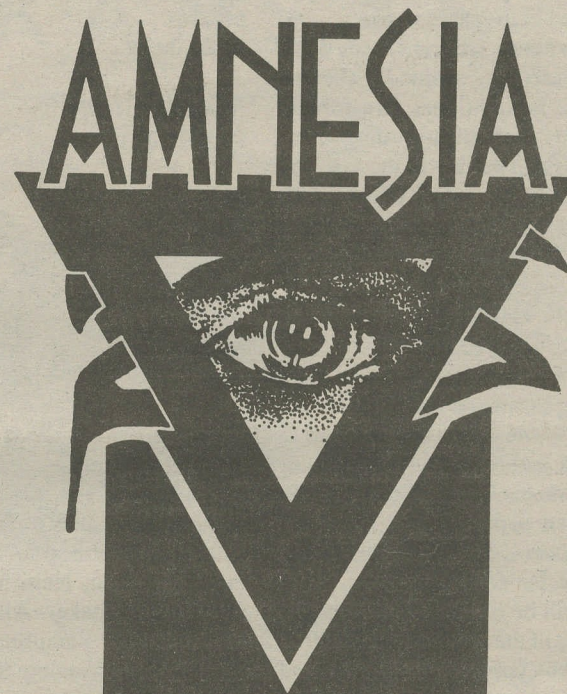
Randy died at 10:52 p.m. Dec. 31, 1993.

His ashes will be buried in the family plot in Pirmasens, Germany.

Randy told his mother he would like to have a panel in memory of him on the AIDS quilt commemorating victims of the disease. His mother, an accomplished seamstress, is sewing the panel.

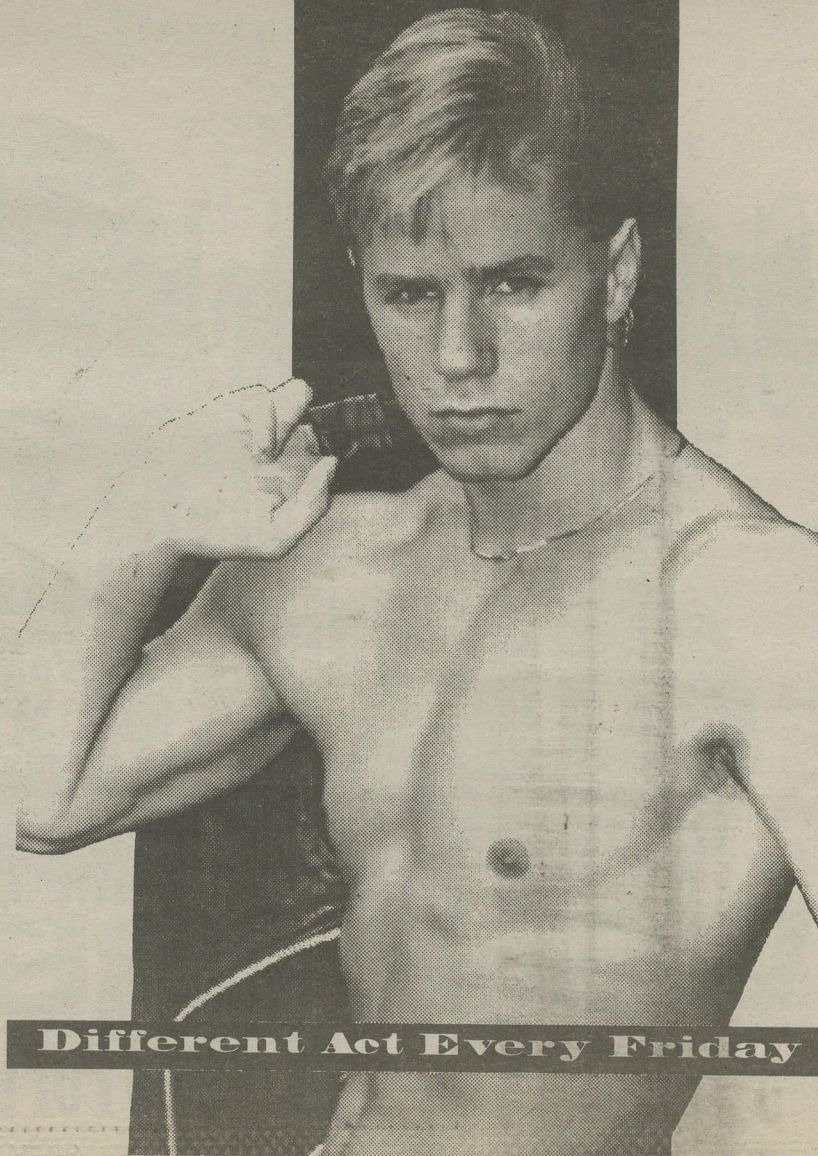
A photograph of Randy sitting behind his microscope will form the center of the black-bordered panel with a caption reading "Searching for a Cure" below.

She also will include this poem:
*With tearful eyes we watched him linger
And saw him slowly fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
We could not make him stay.*



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When will you ever find St. Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras right next to one another again? Hopefully not soon. Holidays should be judiciously spread about, not just cluttered in the same week.

You know, we sometimes don't understand why seafood, delicious as it is, is traditional fare for Fat Tuesday. After all, according to tradition, Fat Tuesday is the last day meat may be eaten before Ash Wednesday. Carnival (Latin carnevale) itself means "farewell to meat."

Cut The Sweet Talk Department

A woman from Memphis State is doing a paper on Gay/Lesbian activism in Memphis. She has had to go back and research the history of the Memphis Gay Coalition, which has been defunct since 1991, because there is little else about which to write. Isn't that a pity.

It will be interesting to hear her analysis of the Sad Summer of 1990 when the Coalition (granted, in need of renewal) was thrown into upheaval by several who meant well and one who didn't. Dedication, however, was lacking. *Gaze* newspaper died after two more issues and the Coalition gasped its last in the summer of 1991. Only three people gave a damn about what happened at that last meeting and only one

went to Shoney's afterward. Let the facts prove themselves. For the undeserved personal attack on one dedicated man, there is not enough mud in creation to smear on the perpetrator.

So there.

Mardi Gras Aftermath

The Mardi Gras Ball which was held for the MGLCC profited \$400, enough to underwrite this year's Pride River Ride. Many thanks to Ken Walker and Kevin Waldrop for spearheading; Crystal Jo, Hetti McDaniels, Dee Dee Whitaker, Alexis, Dixie Lee, Martina Valentine and Tim Brown for performing; Steve Smith for DJ; the front-of-house and bartender volunteers and the members of the Royal Court. Mark Whitehead was crowned King and Melanie Anderson, Queen. Five supportive saloons were visited after the event. Note that this year's royalty, as well as returning royalty Rick Bray and Bette Hefner, were chosen for con-

spicuous community service and no prior recognition.

There are rumours running rampant that a Krewe will be founded in Memphis very soon which will continue to give a benefit ball at Mardi Gras. Similar to the Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite, fundraising will be central to this krewe's purpose. Our psychic sources say that the name will be the

Lady A's
Pounds

Mystic Krewe of Ptolemy (you ptoleme now I'll pteleyou). This is a Greek-Egyptian name which has never been used as a krewe

name.

Ptolemy was a general and good friend of Alexander the Great. His share of the empire was Egypt where he founded the Ptolemaic dynasty, the last great dynasty of Egypt. He founded the famous Library of Alexandria and built the lighthouse which was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. He was later worshipped as a god. The last ruler of this dynasty was Cleopatra, the wife of Julius Caesar and paramour of Marc Antony.

Historically speaking, Ptolemy

the first was the close friend of one of the most famous homosexuals of ancient history. He was also Greek. The last ruler of his line was the most famous queen of ancient history. Her closest male friend and advisor had many male lovers. Her brother, another Ptolemy, was very nellie and his eunuch ran things. Does this sound like a magical choice to you?

When Carnival Memphis sees the costumes, they will probably come knocking. There has been a previous Krewe of Lambdi and a Krewe of TQM (The Queen's Men) associated with Carnival but expenses proved too great for them to last. Maybe this time....

Benefit Update

Dee Dee Whitaker's King and Queen of Hearts raised over \$3,500 for the We Care AIDS Ministry of Holy Trinity Community Church. The show was fabulous and we will acknowledge all at once the multitude of groups and individuals who contributed, not the least of which is Miss Whitaker herself. Leslie and Janet from WKRB were crowned King and Queen of Hearts. Linda and Bret of the Cotton Pickin' Squares were first alternate and Hetti and Bob, from Stewart Enterprises, second alternate.

A note about We Care: It was advertised that a fixed monetary amount is available to PLWA's for emergencies through the church. Holy Trinity absorbs all administra-

tive costs concerning this ministry; any donations go directly to recipients.

A less-than-publicized benefit for the S.P.I.T. bowling tournament at the now-departed Chaps raised \$618.

Library Threat Department

Periodicals are not to be removed from the Community Center Library. Period. A collected set of *Left of Center* has almost completely disappeared. Magazines and newspapers which are outside the library may be used and taken but those in the library may not be removed from the building because it has taken some trouble to collect them.

Hoot & A Half Department

Sofonda Peters is 40. That's pretty old (we should know). Not to let such a momentous occasion go by, her "friends" staged a This Is Your Life in her honor. She did have to tell the "cement block" story on herself but the rest of her follies and foibles were retold complete. The highlight of the show was Vonna Valentino appearing in the famous Christmas Tree Gown (which looked like a castoff from the Ringling Brothers Tent Dept.) doing Sofonda's famous Pelvic Thrust choreography. We haven't laughed so hard in a long time.

This, of course, followed the performance of the Diamond Studs
continued on page 27

Saint Patrick's Day Party

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BUST



Stonewall-Not Just a Street in Midtown

by Vincent Astor

During the last weekend of June of 1969, police and Alcoholic Beverage Control Board agents entered a Gay bar, the Stonewall Inn, on Christopher St. in New York City. Allegedly there to look for violations of the alcohol control laws, they made the usual homophobic comments and then, after checking identification, threw the patrons out of the bar, one by one. Instead of quietly slipping away into the night, as Gays and Lesbians had done for years, patrons held their ground and fought back. Someone uprooted a parking meter and used it to barricade the door. The agents and police were trapped inside. They wrecked the place and called in reinforcements. Their vehicles raced to the scene with lights glaring and sirens blaring. The crowd grew. Someone set a fire. More people came. For three days, people protested. And for the first time, after innumerable years of oppression, the chant "Gay Power" rang out.

This incident, known as the Stonewall Rebellion or the Stonewall Riots, was the catalyst for the formation of the modern day Lesbian and Gay human rights movement. Over the years, the event has taken on a profound significance and is commemorated annually by Gay and Lesbian communities around the world. Stonewall has become a word which stands for the beginning of the modern movement and Christopher Street has become synonymous with the Gay/Lesbian district. In fact, before Stonewall and after Stonewall have usages similar to "B.C." and "A.D."

It is to be remembered that the Stonewall Inn was not a pretty place. It was a dive. Yuppies, preppies and the like had not been invented yet, and it was those in the Gay/Lesbian community which tend to be looked down upon by more "normal" types of Gays and Lesbians who finally said not only "no" but "hell no, Mary" in June of 1969. The role of Judy Garland's funeral on this day will be discussed in another column.

Stonewall is the reason that Gay/Lesbian Pride events are traditionally celebrated in June. Pride committees and organizations all over this country (and internationally) have rescheduled their events to leave this weekend free so that as many participants as are able may attend Stonewall 25. Memphis' events will be held June 11th and 12th; the Expo and River Ride on Saturday, the Parade and Rally on Sunday.

On Sunday, June 26, 1994, over a million Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender Persons and their friends will converge on New York City for the International March on the United Nations to Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay

People (Stonewall 25 for short) and to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion. This is different from 1993's March on Washington in that the '93 March was Americans marching for American Human Rights. Stonewall 25 is an international demonstration which will be the first human rights demonstration to ever march on the headquarters of the United Nations. ILGO (International Lesbian & Gay Organization) has a central role in this event.

Taking place the week before will be Gay Games IV, a week of athletic competitions, which was originally called the Gay Olympics until the homophobic Olympic committee denied use of the term to homosexuals. The primary events during Stonewall 25 will be a Candlelight March for Stonewall which will take place near the newly reopened Stonewall Bar Saturday, June 25. The March on the United Nations will take place Sunday afternoon, June 26, using five march routes which will converge on Central Park for a massive rally. A Moment of Silence in memory of those lost to AIDS and hate crimes will be observed by all participants at 4 p.m. and the Largest Rainbow Flag in history will be carried in the March.

Events from other segments of our community (Leather, Transgenderal, Political and others) will take place in the week surrounding Stonewall 25.

In these days of inclusiveness and pride in our diversity many individuals see Political Correctness (PC for short) as becoming unwieldy and sometimes ridiculous. This is indeed possible but a few moments worth of sensitivity are worth the years of good

will to follow and the avoidance of arguments, great and small. The Gay/Lesbian human rights movement has been joined by two more much-maligned groups: bisexuals and transgender persons of all descriptions. It is meet and right so to do that we embrace these individuals as we embrace all of our non-Gay/Lesbian friends and supporters. However, this results in some lengthy organizational and event names.

Therefore, we customarily shorten Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Pride to "Pride." Note carefully that in Pride and political organizations (unless otherwise specified) these inclusive words are always hidden between the lines instead of cluttering up sentence structure and letterheads. Therefore, all are welcome and all are expected.

Particularly in the Pride department, all types of expression are welcome (leather, drag, Faerie raiment, etc.) which do not run contrary to local codes of deportment (chaps but no cheeks, bustiers but no boobs, chants but no obscenities, camp but no sleaze). Note that during last year's March on Washington, all of the bare-breasted Lesbians were not breaking any local ordinances by going topless. Other places are different. We need to be proud but, as Miss Manners would no doubt agree, good deportment is always correct.

For information about the Memphis and Tennessee contingents to Stonewall 25 go to Meristem Books, Mid-Town Hair or the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Memphis Pride meets the first Saturday of each month at the Center at 10 a.m. All bus arrangements are being made through Nashville Pride and Volunteer State Pride.

STONEWALL



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FREE PERSONALS IN THE TRIANGLE

Alone in Memphis

By Michael Schiefelbein

Part of three of three parts

Synopsis: After breaking up with his lover in Washington, D.C., Paul Saxon takes a job with an ad agency in Memphis. After months of desperate loneliness and a brief fling with Andy, Paul gets involved with Jack, a druggie who's into heavy S&M. Paul's friend, Danny, warns Paul to break up with Jack. But Paul doesn't listen until Jack gets high and hits him one night — after bragging about his daughter who worships him.

During the two weeks that passed before I saw him next, I got Danny to help me play sleuth by promising him that once my curiosity was satisfied about Jake I would dump him. He charmed Jake's landlady into believing he was Jake's brother who wanted to surprise him with a card for his birthday. She lived in the house next door. Her mailbox said "Braxton." (I might have tried to trick her myself, except I could never lie without starting to cough uncontrollably.) She threw a terrycloth bathrobe over her nightgown (it was about nine in the morning) and led Danny across the yard. "Stop by when you're finished," she said to him once she'd opened the door — like she wanted him to have some coffee with her.

Inside, he found a school photo of a little girl about eight years old, and on the refrigerator one of her drawings, signed Jenny. Always thorough, Danny searched through the checkbook he found on the bureau in the aquarium bedroom, which he told me was "dark as a cellar" because of canvas nailed over the windows. As he suspected, the checkbook listed monthly payments described as alimony to Deborah D. Kenge. With that much information he paid a visit to Mrs. Braxton, now sheathed in a smart house coat that she'd pinned with a silk rose.

Over coffee, he complimented her on her eclectic taste in furniture — odds and ends in vinyl and rattan were so much richer than Queen Anne complete sets. And let her tell him about a gallstone, a book club she belonged to, and an uncle who had recently died without leaving her a penny even though she'd always been his favorite and had "explicitly promised" her a ring he'd had made out of her grandmother's wedding band. With a little coaching, she asked about Jake's birthday, out of politeness because she obviously didn't like him. When Danny told her that the idea was really Jenny's, she shook her head and said she didn't doubt it because the child was the only unselfish one in the family. Danny's ex-wife was, well, she'd rather not say the word, but let it suffice to mention her weekly boyfriends. And the older child, the retarded one would probably be dead if it

wasn't for Jenny; she was the only one who paid the kid any attention.

Danny told me he felt very, very guilty at that point, but went on anyway out of friendship for me. "Yes, O gracious martyr," I said. He stretched his eyelids at me and went on.

Yes, Jake certainly had been disappointed when the girl was born, he said to Mrs. Braxton.

"The girl? Jenny?" The old woman looked puzzled. "He dotes on her, even though he only gets her once a month. Now Billy is another story. Yes, he was disappointed with *him*."

Danny felt relieved that she hadn't discovered his faux pas.

"Not at first," he said. She'd heard him talking one night to a "nice looking" young man on his front porch. He was saying how normal Billy looked and how he'd planned to get him into little league and dance class. (She'd thought that a little strange.) And when he'd found out, something had exploded inside of him and he'd never put it back together.

"She got all of that from an overheard conversation on the porch?" I said.

"And from Jenny. Apparently she likes to visit the old lady when her Dad has custody of her."

"So he is human after all," I said. I leaned back on the sofa. Danny sat on one of the tulip chairs, massaging his cuticles.

"If you call abandoning a retarded child human. Besides teaching an eight-year-old girl who knows what. I mean, how could he hide the devices in his bedroom?"

"Oh, come on."

"He had everything but whips and chains, Romeo."

You were supposed to be searching for family information, Danny boy."

He's sick. And what do you want with all of this information anyway?"

"I'm just curious."

Danny leaned forward. "Why do you want him, Paul? I'm serious." He grabbed my arm.

"Who says I want him? But Danny could see me I was fudging. "I don't know." I pulled away from him and sank back into the sofa.

"By the way," Danny said. He picked at his permed bangs with his fingers. "Andy's coming back to town to throw a Christmas party before he sells his house. It's a tradition. Last year two hundred people came!

"Andy who?"

"It's not like he took this job to get away from you, you know."

"I know. No one's plans have ever revolved around me."

"Please don't take it personally if I don't weep for you right now."

I threw a cushion at him.

Jake called me three days later, very apologetic. Things hadn't been going well at work. They were going to lay off some people and he was a likely candidate. His ex-wife was after him to send extra child support for a tutor for one of his kids (I guessed which one) and he didn't have shit. He barely had enough in his refrigerator to make a sandwich. What I didn't say was, "You seem to have enough to spend at the bar. You seem to have enough to keep yourself high on whatever. Why should I give a damn about you." What I did say was "Okay" and when he asked me to go out with him that night I said I'd meet him at Stallion's.

We met at ten, drank two shots apiece, and went to Jake's house. The first thing I looked for inside was the picture of Jenny. It sat in a clutter of cleaning supplies on a desk in the spare bedroom, which I found while Jake was in the bathroom. Shaggy brown hair framed the girl's pixie face, brightened with a goofy grin. What did the other child look like, I wondered?

We actually talked before doing anything. Jake stretched his long legs in the recliner, safe and relaxed in the shadow of his deer head and shelves of bowling trophies. He expressed generic sentiments, of misery about work, of anger at his wife, of desperation about the drugs he wanted off. He talked about going into a detox unit. I lay back on the carpet, though God only knew the last time it had been vacuumed — I really didn't care. Absorbing everything, absorbing, and maybe dozing, until he kicked my foot and said, "Let's go." Dutifully, I arose, approached the bubbling room, dark except for the fluorescent bulb of the aquarium, and undressed for him. He left and returned, naked, his pale skin blue in the light, a long metal studded strap in his hand.

"No way," I said. I was half-teasing, convinced he was too.

"It only hurts a little. I won't do it hard. See, it's already got me excited."

My senses sharpened. My heart thudded a warning signal into my body. "Forget it, Jake."

continued on page 23

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— The Publishers

Lady A's Rounds

continued from page 24

from Arkansas. This is the entertainment arm of the Diamond State Rodeo Association. We enjoyed the entertainment as much of it was live including two vocal solos by two separate heart-throbs, a performance by Miss DSRA (who was having just a tad of early Cooper's droop in the brassiere department) and a gymnastic dance turn by one member which absolutely boggles the mind. Southern Country contributed two dance segments and the finish was a beautifully choreographed bit of steam which reminded one of the "Aggie Song".

We ponder, sometimes, why girls new to face paint never seem to have any lips. Lips come in many sizes and shapes but white girls usually have reddish ones. If one's face is remade, so must one's lips be. Make 'em red (not pale pink, not neutral, not beige) so we can see them under a pink spotlight.

We must give credit to another of our modern day icons—this one of taste, deportment and just plain manners. We were fortunate to have attended a lecture by Judith Martin, known to all her Gentle Readers as Miss Manners. Not only did she mince no word, not only was she very cognoscent about her subject, not only is she gracious and impeccable but she, also, is a hoot and a half. And, no, we are not giving her autograph to any auctions for at least the next 20 years.

The Runaround

This month four major events will take place, two on the same weekend.

The first will be the 10th annual Tsarus Man of the Year Banquet, Wed., March 9 at WKRB. Served and prepared by members of Tsarus, each year a recipient is chosen for conspicuous community service. We have been so honoured in years past as have the editors of disyere newspaper. All proceeds are donated to the charity of the recipient's choice. The collected recipients will be listed next month; this year's banquet marks a milestone in Tsarus' annual event.

During St. Patrick's Day weekend Southern Country Memphis will host their annual Regional Throw Down, a weekend of visiting, dance swapping, good company and boot-scootin'. It is headquartered at Hampton Inn, Midtown and Reflections, Southern Country's home bar. Congratulations to the club for raking in the trophies in Houston. The schedule of events is published in this paper.

The St. Patrick's Invitational Bowling Tournament (SPIT) will be held the same weekend. Bowlers from all over will compete during the day on Saturday with a Casino run and other events in the evening. Their culminating banquet and show will be Sunday evening. It is headquartered at the Memphis Mariott 1000 Oaks and Park Bowling Lanes.

Congratulations to Ron Shelton for winning the Queen of Hearts trophy at Lexington. The schedule of events is published in this paper.

Aphrodite's first major fundraiser of the year will take place at Reflections on Sat., Mar. 26. This will be a collaboration with PMS. These wonderful women have also consented to do a small entertainment on this year's Pride River Ride.

Sat., March 5, a benefit for Camp Sister Spirit will be held at Meristem.

Sun., March 6, a benefit skating party will be held at the Coliseum for MGLCC.

Sun., March 13, Tennessee Leather Tribe will unveil its colors and hold a benefit show at WKRB.

Sunday, Mar. 20, Memphis Pride will hold a fundraiser at WKRBt. Expect the unexpected! Hostess for the evening will be Tu Real. You may have not seen this gal, behind the microphone she is up there with the most hilarious hostesses Memphis has ever seen.

First Class Male will perform at J-Wag's Mon., Mar. 28.

Isn't that enough?

Final Round

My heartfelt thanks to those who contributed to the Pride effort just because they believe in it. The names are elsewhere, but the gratitude is all over.

Ta, ta.
Lady A.

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Alone in Memphis

continued from page 22

I got up and grabbed my pants.

"I said let's play, Pauly." He blocked the door.

"Let me go." The words sounded faint, so I repeated them more forcefully.

"You know you want it. You know you'd do anything for it."

"I said let me go."

"Sure." He stepped away from the door. But when I opened it he grabbed my wrist and dragged me to the bed. I kicked him in the groin. He moaned and doubled over. I flew out of the room, out of the house. Traffic lights meant nothing to me as I sped downtown to my condo where I was safe.

He called on Monday morning, but I hung up on him and had the secretary screen my calls. I ripped up his phone number and swore to myself that I'd never go to Stallion's alone again. Danny knew something was up when I had lunch with him at the Peabody. He knew it was about Jake because he was unusually kind — he let me sit facing the window for once and rounded up sugar for my iced tea. He also avoided his name. I finally told him about it, told him everything was over, really over. He said he believed me. He suggested we drive up to St. Louis

for the weekend. We could go dancing at a new bar he'd heard about, look at the Christmas lights on Grand. I'd gone to college at St. Louis University and thought it would be a good idea to see the city again.

It was the best thing I could have done. We luxuriated in the hot tub and sauna, watched semi-dirty movies (straight soft-porn) on the TV in our room, drank \$107 worth of liquor from the wet-bar, and stayed out all Saturday night sampling club after club.

When I got back home, the light was blinking on my answering machine. I played the message. Jake's sheepish voice apologized, asked me to call him, said he really needed me.

The sun had set already, but long fingers of orange light lay against the clouds, emblazing them below a purple sky. From my window, I heard traffic below, but muffled. I knew beyond the glass the air was cold enough to cause patches of ice

on the streets below where puddles collected after the afternoon rain, but the room was warm. I was afraid that whether I was outside or inside I was alone, but that inside my home I was safe.

But I could even leave the shelter of those walls and be safe, and I didn't have to be alone. I picked up the phone and dialed.

"Hello." The voice sounded despondent.

"Hi, Gerald. It's Paul. Listen, you've heard of Andy's famous Christmas parties?"

"I am still breathing."

"Do you wanna go with me? It's on the 21st."

"Well, let me check my busy social calendar. What do you know, your in luck."

"Yeah. I'm in luck."

Michael Schiefelbein is an English instructor at a local university and his work has appeared in Christopher Street magazine.

Gay Teens Memphis

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SOUTHERN COUNTRY MEMPHIS RIVER CITY THROW DOWN

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, March 18

Registration:

Hampton Inn 5 - 8:30 pm

Reflections 9 - 11 pm

Open Dancing (Relections) 9 pm - 3 am

Saturday, March 19

Registration & Eye Opener/Breakfast

Hampton Inn 8 - 10 am

Lunch (Reflections) 11 am - 1 pm

Dance Swap (Reflections) 1 pm - 3 pm

Open Dance (Reflections) 3 pm - 5 pm

Free Time 5 pm - 9 pm

River City Throw Down 9 pm - 3 am

Reflections • Dancing/Entertainment

Sunday, March 20

Eye Opener/Breakfast 9 am - 11 am

Hampton Inn

Dance Swap (Reflections) 12 N - 2 pm

Open Dancing (Reflections) 2 pm - 5 pm

Farewell 5 pm

MGLCC President Responds to Criticisms

After reading letters by Allen Cook and John Prowett in the *TJN*, I would like to clarify some important facts about The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center. First of all, the most fundamental goal of the Center is to advance understanding and unity among the Gay and Lesbian community itself and within the larger community of Memphis. A key element of this goal is the "recognition of the diversity and multiracial and multicultural character of our community" (MGLCC Constitution).

This goal is attained through three kinds of programs: educational, counseling and cultural. Here are some specific examples of these programs:

Educational

- The Gay and Lesbian Switchboard operated nightly under the directorship of Allen Cook.
- The [Gay and Lesbian] library un-

der the directorship of Vincent Astor

- Distribution of *TJN*, organizational literature, bulletins, business cards, etc.
- Courses like "Eroticizing Safer Sex" (sponsored by Friends For Life), "Strategies for Enriching Your Life," "Healthy Relationships," "Landscape Design," "Cooking," "Coming Out to Your Parents."

Counseling:

- Coming Out Group
- Teen Group (Sponsored by P-FLAG)
- Women's Discussion Group
- HIV Testing and Counseling by the Health Dept
- AA Group
- Memphis Transgendered Alliance
- BWMT Conference (in January)
- Bisexual Support Group

Cultural:

- Recitals by Jay Pontius, Marian Shaffer, Charlie Friedman, and The Lambda Men's Chorus
- Poetry Reading by Women Writers
- Poetry Reading by Dennis Ciscel, AIDS Specialist and drug rehab counselor.
- The on-going art and photography display.

The Center also offers a monthly potluck in which a Gay/Lesbian organization is honored. So far, honorees have included Aphrodite, Holy Trinity, Lambda Men's Chorus, and Loving Arms. And the Center sponsors a variety of social events: The Annual Riverboat Ride during Pride Week [in June], the Mardi Gras Ball, and other events like last year's Las Vegas Night and 4th of July Pool Party, and this month's Ice Skating Party at the Coliseum.

The Center is open to the public

whenever there is a scheduled event, which is almost every day. This includes Friday evening when a video is shown. The Center is also opened from 2 to 5 on Saturday afternoon for those who just want to drop in when nothing structured is taking place.

Can other activities take place at the Center? Can there be more open hours? Certainly. There can be as many activities and as many open hours as there are people to take responsibility for them. The more involvement, the better. In fact, several new members have initiated support groups. Several new people have stepped forward to teach and take classes. New people have taken charge of fund-raisers. Potlucks have included 50-60 people, many of whom have visited the Center for the first time and have volunteered their services.

Of course, the Center needs much more involvement, especially leadership. We need a treasurer and a secretary for the board. We need

someone to write monthly articles for the *TJN*. We need a PR director. We need someone to take charge of maintenance. We need someone to handle our correspondence. For more drop-in hours, volunteers are needed to oversee staffing. We need someone to spearhead the upcoming River Boat Ride. Right now, only a handful of very dedicated people are managing all administrative and fund-raising tasks.

All input is welcomed at MGLCC. The monthly board meeting is open to everyone. If you would like to be instrumental in shaping goals and programs of the Center, please come and commit yourself. Organize an activity or group. Run for a position on the board this September.

We are very lucky to have a Community Center, something that a major city like Washington, D.C. does not have. It is an attractive place that everyone can be proud of. It has the potential to serve the widest range of groups and individuals within the Gay and Lesbian community. But it can meet that potential only through your commitment.

Michael Schiefelbein
President, MGLCC

Survivors

continued from page 22

forms that stay genetically stable. Those who fall sick have HIV that mutates rapidly.

A strange tragedy in Australia adds more evidence of the importance of viral strains.

Between nine and 13 years ago, six people got HIV from blood transfusions donated by one infected man. They ranged in age from 35 to 77 and got blood for different medical reasons.

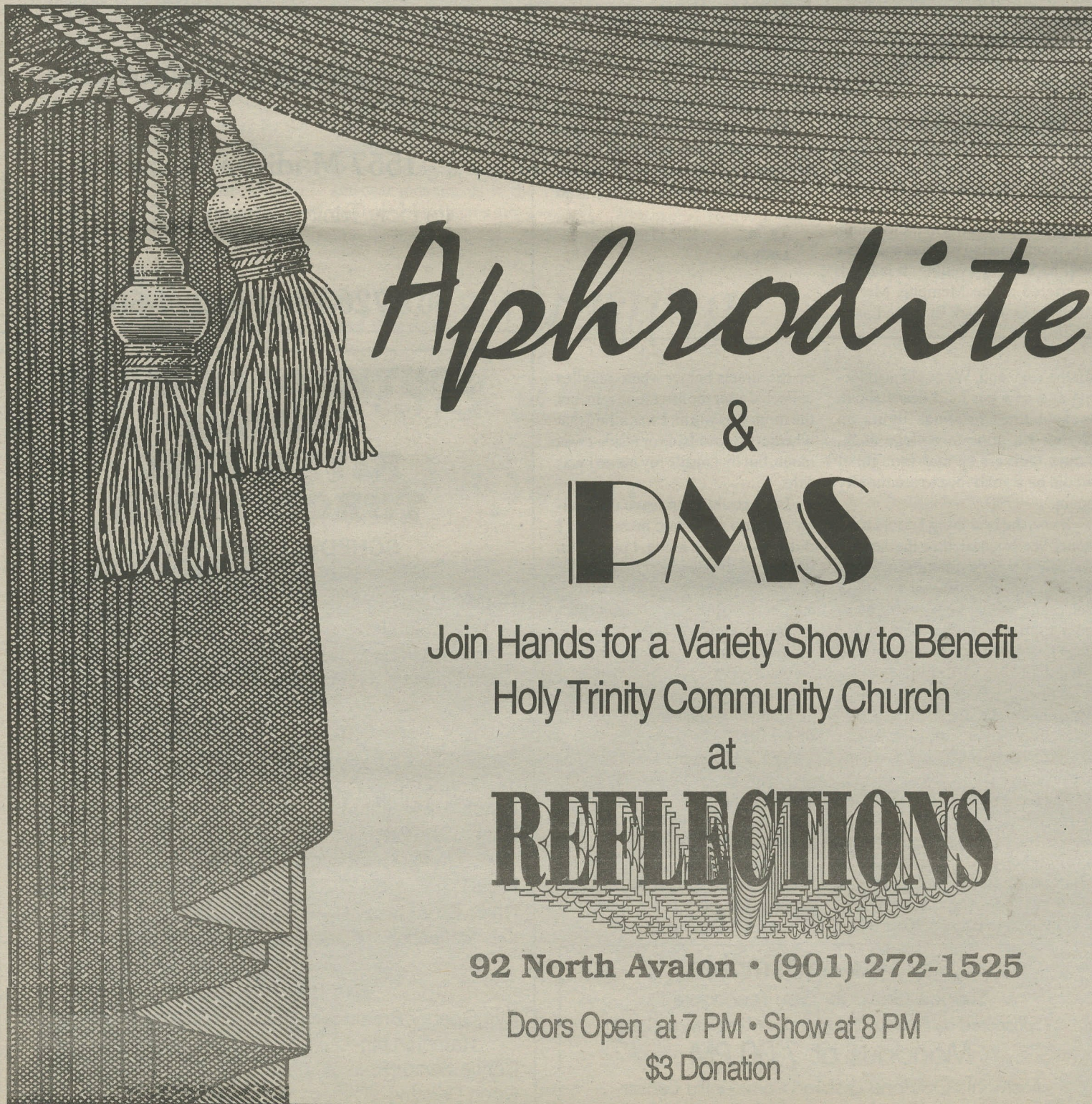
The only thing they have in common is the outcome of their infections: All of them, as well as the donor, remain healthy.

Differences in immune system responses may account for some people's longevity with HIV, said Dr. Jennifer Learmont of the Red Cross Blood Bank in Sydney. But "in this case," she said, "we think it's the bug."

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Former Trucker Fights For Gay Rights

By Kate Bailey
Associated Press Writer

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. (AP) — David Roberts spent 15 years rolling up and down the East Coast in his 18-wheel rig, making conversation with other truckers who knew him only as a deep, gravelly voice on the CB radio.

They didn't know he was Gay. And neither did anyone else.

Roberts revealed the truth in December 1986 on radio talk shows and in letters to the editor.

Now a self-proclaimed Gay activist, Roberts, 46, is urging other Gays to come out of the closet.

"You just beat yourself up as a closeted Gay person," said Roberts, who, in his words, "tore the closet down with a bulldozer."

While there's nothing easy about coming out in a small city like Fredericksburg, it's up to the Gay community to change negative attitudes toward homosexuals, Roberts said.

"Anybody can be Gay in New York or San Francisco or Washington," said Roberts, who has lived just outside Fredericksburg since he was 3 years old.

He estimates only about 3% of the Fredericksburg area Gay population openly acknowledges being homosexual and said "there are some who would deny it until hell froze over."

Roberts said the decision to reveal his long-kept secret resulted in pressures within his company to resign and sent him into depression. He also received phone calls from anti-Gay residents.

"It was a very painful experience," he said.

People like Roberts eventually will force a change of attitude about homosexuals in small-town America, said Cathy Renna, co-chairman of the Washington, D.C.,

chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

"This really is sort of the next frontier for our movement," Ms. Renna said. "In the end, I think it will be a great thing for the community. The more visible we are the better it is."

Robert Knight, director of cultural studies for the Family Research Council in Washington, disagreed with Mrs. Renna. "While hatred of homosexuals is wrong, society cannot promote homosexual behavior and still have any conscience left," Knight said. "Let's let small towns have small town values."

Ms. Renna said Gays in small towns have a harder time because they lack the numerous support groups and gathering places found in larger cities.

Roberts, who now works as a courier for a land development company, is convinced that his effort to bring other Gays out of the closet will not only save them from emotional problems, but may also save their lives.

Gay teenagers are three times more likely to commit suicide than other teens, according to a 1989 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"That's big part of being a Gay activist," Roberts said. "You see that number and it's a reality to you. It's not something that most of us haven't thought about at one time or another."

Roberts was once a member of the Fredericksburg chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance but dropped out because he didn't think the group was working hard enough to make its presence in the community known.

Tere Dunn, president of the 120-member group, said she doesn't think the area is ready for such a change.

"It has a lot of growing to do be-

fore we can actually be accepted," she said.

According to Ms. Dunn, about half of GALA's members are openly Gay. Many of the rest are professionals in the community who don't want to risk their careers by exposing their

sexuality, she said.

"I do agree that the ones that are out and are able to be out should pull together and make it known that they're here," Ms. Dunn said.

But she added that it is "just too soon" to expect more from the Gay community.

Roberts maintains, however, that his push to bring other Gays out into

the community will help dispel myths and stereotypes associated with homosexuality.

He said he will continue his fight to change society's perception and awareness of the Gay community.

"I'm not going to let them convince me that I need to crawl back in the closet," he said.

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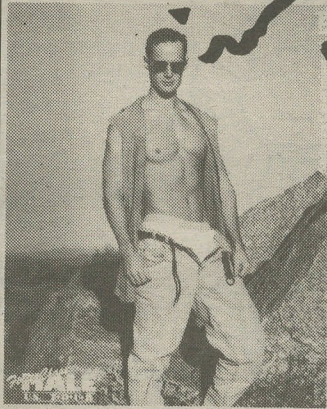
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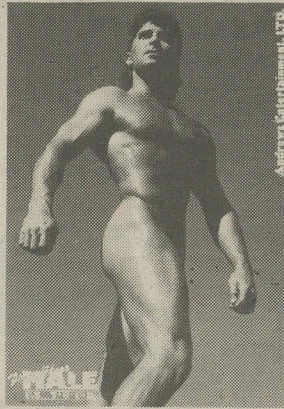
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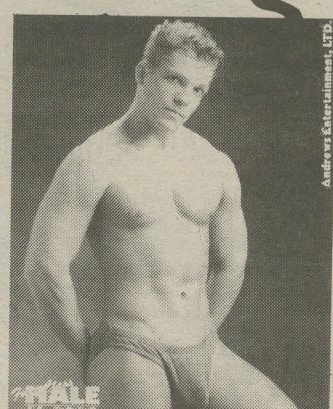
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PLUS

MGLCC + Friends For Life

City to Pay \$350,000 To Beaten Activist

By Mike Mokrzycki
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The videotapes aren't nearly as clear as in the Rodney King case, but a Gay activist who says they show police

beating him at a demonstration has won a \$350,000 settlement from the city.

Christopher Hennelly said Feb. 16 he has suffered seizures, vision problems and other disorders since being beaten while watching a dem-

onstration by ACT UP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, outside the Midtown North police precinct on Feb. 11, 1991.

The demonstrators were protesting alleged police beatings of other ACT UP members six days earlier.

A state judge, who viewed freelance photographers' videotapes of the demonstration and questioned witnesses, ruled later that year that police rushed the demonstrators "without any apparent provocation" and that "Christopher Hennelly was assaulted — he didn't assault anyone."

ACT UP members said their demonstration wasn't violent; protesters and police did verbally taunt each other, however.

Videotapes that Gay activists played at a news conference Wednesday showed a confusing nighttime scene with chanting protesters and many police.

At one point, officers appear to move quickly toward the demonstrators. "Back up! Back up!" someone can be heard shouting. The camera is jostled, the picture shaky.

At that point, Hennelly, 31, a former Franciscan friar, said the tape shows a deputy inspector smashing a police radio into his head. Someone can be heard shouting in pain, and, seconds later, a man who appears to be Hennelly can be seen sprawled on the street.

Hennelly said he was clubbed at least seven times in the head and other parts of his body, and that police subsequently taunted and mistreated him while he was in custody.

"My perceived homosexuality

and consequently my perception of having AIDS, which I do not have, were the focus of these officers' hatred," Hennelly said.

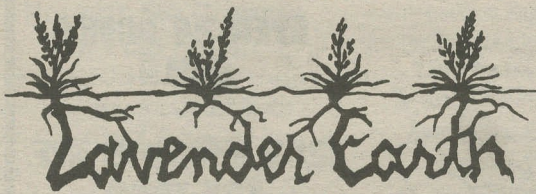
Police charged him with assault and disorderly conduct, but in October 1991, Justice Edgar G. Walker of Criminal Court threw out the charges, saying that the beating was unprovoked and that police and a prosecutor lied.

Hennelly filed a \$15 million federal lawsuit. U.S. District Judge Robert Sweet recommended a settlement, as well as sensitivity training at the Midtown North precinct on homosexuality and AIDS.

Lorna Goodman, a top lawyer in the city corporation counsel's office, said the city decided to settle rather than risk losing a jury verdict. "The juries in New York tend to be very, very sympathetic to plaintiffs like Mr. Hennelly," she said.

Hennelly and other activists complained that the officers involved in the incident wouldn't be disciplined. A Police Department investigation had cleared the officers, and Goodman said the city wouldn't have defended them in the first place if they had acted illegally.

Gay activists also complained that city officials had rejected Sweet's recommendation for sensitivity training for Midtown North officers.



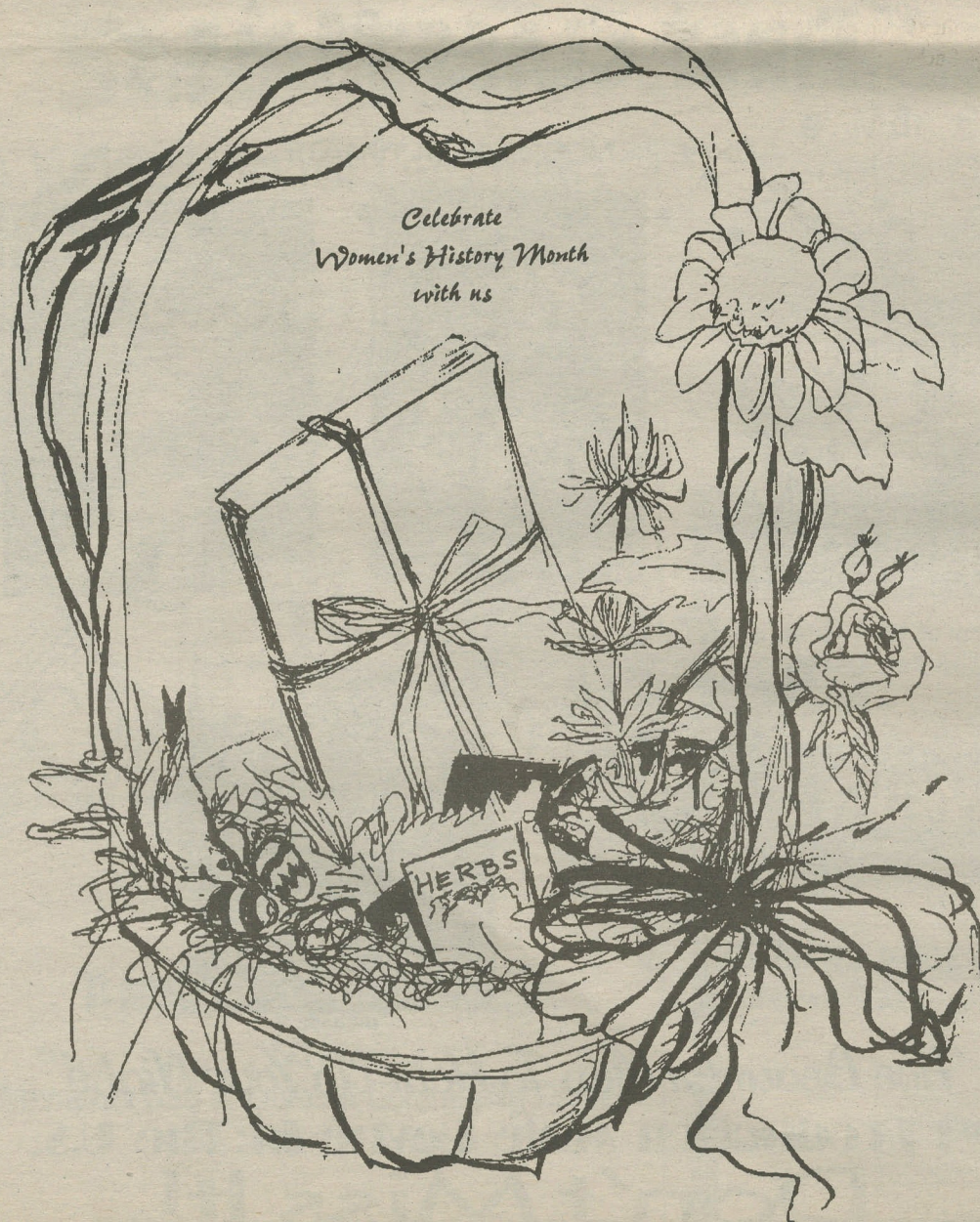
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Bar Files Suit Against Paper

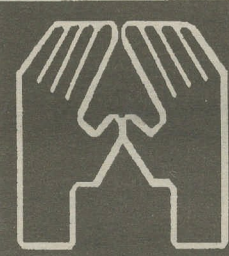
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A downtown Gay bar has filed a discrimination complaint against the *Star Tribune*.

The Gay 90's contends it and two other Gay bars, Y'All Come Back Saloon and the Brass Rail, were excluded from a guide to nightlife in the downtown Warehouse District. The complaint claims discrimination based on affectional preference in the area of public accommodations.

Gay 90's owner Michael Bloom filed the complaint Feb. 11, the same day the *Star Tribune* published a list of bars and restaurants that might be of interest to visitors in town for the NBA All-Star Weekend.

"We think we were excluded out of pure anti-Gay prejudice," Bloom wrote to editors. He also claims that Gay bars are routinely omitted from regular nightclub features in the newspaper.

Star Tribune editor Tim McGuire denied any attempt to discriminate, saying the Gay 90's was cut from the list because of space limitations. McGuire said that editors make similar decisions about news content every day, and that those decisions are protected from governmental action by the Constitution.



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Gay Rights vs. First Amendment; Judgement Is No Snap

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — First Amendment principles clashed with Gay rights in a lawsuit over a homosexual couple's high school reunion photo, and judgment was anything but a snap.

The seven-year case, followed throughout by civil rights experts and widely reported, gave both sides something to cheer even though plaintiff David Engel could claim the legal high ground when the state Supreme Court turned down an appeal Feb. 3.

"I knew there was no way we could lose. I knew it was the sort of thing that needed to be a public example," Engel said.

"I feel I have won a victory for small businesses in this state," said defendant Dan Worthington, a Costa Mesa commercial photographer who refused to print a 10-year reunion book for Irvine High School's class of '77 with a portrait that offended him.

"He was willing to print the pictures of all the straight couples, but not the one of the Gay guys," said the 34-year-old Engel, who posed with Eric Underwood, his partner of three years. "It was obvious discrimination."

Worthington, who opposes homosexual activity on religious grounds, argued that he would lose advertising if the 2-inch by 2-inch shot was included in the anniversary annual. Besides, he said, it offended his beliefs.

Worthington, 59, said the dispute cost him business during its first year, but he told the *Orange County Register* he still wouldn't publish Gay couples' pictures.

"No court decision is going to change that," he said. "I have no intention of pushing their

lifestyle in my publications."

Engel, a stage actor who shares a Baldwin Park apartment with Underwood, had no regrets. He got news of the decision Feb. 4, two days after returning from London, where he appeared in *Forever Plaid*.

"It's almost embarrassing how far we both took this thing," said Engel. "But neither side was willing to give in. We couldn't sell out our principles."

Engel, represented by attorney Gloria Allred, sued Worthington after his class reunion in 1987. An Orange County Superior Court Judge found for Worthington, but the 4th District Court of Appeal ruled 2-1 last October that Worthington had violated state civil rights law.

The Supreme Court let the appellate ruling stand, but sealed the verdict, making it off limits to lawyers seeking precedents in future cases. Worthington was to pay legal costs and damages, which were yet to be determined.

Almost forgotten was the annual itself. The reunion committee, which supported Engel, sought a court order forcing Worthington to return the photos and the \$1,500 he charged. But the pictures of the 500 or so alumni weren't identified by name, so the committee still couldn't print the book.

"I think the whole situation is outrageous," said committee member Heather Carlone. "I still have classmates who ask me what happened to the book. I can't explain it to them."

Carlone and Engel said they were trying to pull the yearbook together in time for the next reunion in 1997.

Lesbian Field Hockey Player Sues University of Maryland

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — Vicki Yost, a former University of Maryland field hockey player, has sued her coach and another school employee for allegedly forcing her to keep quiet about being a Lesbian.

Ms. Yost, a student from 1988-1992, filed a \$1.5 million lawsuit against field hockey coach Margaret Meharg and Suzanne Tyler, a senior associate athletic director.

Ms. Yost said she filed the suit so players in the future won't have to keep their sexual orientation a secret.

"Being yourself. That is what this case is about," she said. "To be free to develop sexually and emotionally in your own way."

In her suit, Ms. Yost claimed: —Ms. Meharg repeatedly told her that homosexuality was "not acceptable to the University of Maryland or to society itself."

—Ms. Meharg repeatedly called her a "raving dyke," and said she "looked like a boy."

—Ms. Meharg prohibited Ms. Yost to wear baseball hats, ripped jeans and work boots, claiming they reinforced the Lesbian stereotype.

—Ms. Meharg called meetings in which she tried to persuade Ms. Yost to keep quiet about being a Lesbian.

—Ms. Taylor worked with Ms. Meharg to suppress the sexual orientation of female athletes.

Ms. Meharg, who was ACC and NCAA Coach of the Year in 1993, denied all of Ms. Yost's allegations.

"I'm very saddened by this. It seems ironic that attention is going to this case, when we

just won the national championship," she said. Ms. Tyler also denied the allegations.

"In my 20 years of service, this is the first complaint I have heard."

Ms. Yost initially wanted to file a conspiracy suit against the university president, athletic director and women's basketball coach, but a judge ruled there were no grounds for such a suit because "courts have consistently held that homosexuals are not a class within the meaning of the federal Civil Rights conspiracy statute."

The campus human relations code, adopted in 1976, includes a prohibition against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The code is included in the Student Athletes' Handbook distributed to athletes at the start of every season.

State's Attorney Carmen Shepherd, who is representing Ms. Meharg and Ms. Tyler, said the case has little merit. "It's unfortunate the kid is in retrospect unhappy with her playing experience, but I think she's also quite a bit confused," said Ms. Shepherd.

She questioned why Ms. Yost got all her scholarship money before filing the suit.

Ms. Yost received \$2,500 in scholarship aid each year for her first two years and \$1,800 a year for her last two years.

Linda Delaney, Ms. Yost's attorney, said she's optimistic about the case because it will bring attention to the issue. "If people just talk about this issue, what is happening to Lesbians in athletics, there is no way we can lose, even if we do in court," she said.

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Law Offices
of
Jason O. Young, Jr.
523-8912
147 Jefferson Ave
Suite 806

A Review

More Twists Than a Box of Pretzels

 Review by
Cheryl Dare

Accomplice, by Rupert Holmes
Circuit Playhouse through Mar. 20.
Directed by Gene Crain
Costumes by Heather Garrett
Lighting Shelly Callahan
Set by Chuck Britt
Cast: Craig Smith, Josephine Hall,
Brian Francoise, and Shelly
Callahan. Understudies: Paul del
Gatto and Amy Matheny

Oy, ve! And the reader can interpret that any way he/she pleases! This play has more twists than a box of pretzels. If the reader likes whodunits he/she will most likely get a kick out of this show. More contemporary than an Agatha Christie, it is still an English drawing room mystery. 'Course some of the mystery isn't on stage; I admit to being confused frequently during the play!

I seem to have a knack for not knowing I was coming to opening night — my editor at *TJN* told me it was a preview — but the snacks and champagne after the show are always a nice bonus. I also managed to come on a night that Craig Smith was indisposed and understudy Paul

del Gatto performed Mr. Smith's role.

The set is a suitably complicated one — very busy with lots of stairs and doors and lots of props. For the most part, the set seemed well-designed: no awkward-to-play areas, though I'll bet the lighting designer had quite a time working around all those ceiling beams! The one fault I found glaring was that the water wheel — yes, indoors! — had very few paddles and couldn't possibly have ever worked. Almost all of the props were used (I said this was a busy set!); the one thing I suggest is that the foot bath be carried so the audience does not see the underside. And, Gene, where **did** you get that terribly Deco floor-lamp?

The costumer picked suitable clothes for each scene, the women in casual clothes; the men wearing earth-toned suits or casual clothes that blended with the earth-toned decor of the set.

Although the basic lighting called for is a simple whole set wash, there was lighting as well as flickering lights and each was reasonably convincing. (Whoever heard of a good mystery without a thunderstorm and flickering lights?)

The playwright even makes fun of himself and the mystery genre, sticking in comments about stock actions (business); and there is suitably mysterious music leading into each of the four scenes.

During both scenes of Act I, I had trouble "getting into" the show: as much as I love mysteries, there was something not quite natural about either the dialogue or the delivery. It **seemed** liskel was watching a poorly performed play. There were a couple of deaths that seemed hokey and contrived at the time. I could't hear the dialogue over the sound effects of one death, but I now realize the actors were camping it up. And the singing of "Oh, What A Beautiful Morning" as the perpetrator accomplished one murder was a particularly clever comment on the action ("Everything's goin' my way!")

Although I believe just about anyone who lies mysteries will have fun with this one, I don't recommend it for pre-teens; there are some situations a child would not understand.

And I wish the seats at Circuit were a little roomier!

\$10 Million Lawsuit: Movie *Philadelphia* Stole Our Story

 By Kelly Armstrong
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Geoffrey Bowers lost his fight against AIDS but won his discrimination complaint against the law firm that fired him.

Now his survivors are suing the producers of the hit movie *Philadelphia* for \$10 million, saying the filmmakers stole Bowers' story.

In a suit filed Feb. 2 in Manhattan federal court, Bowers' family accused Tri-Star Pictures, director Jonathan Demme, producer Scott Rudin and others associated with *Philadelphia* of using intimate details about Bowers' life without acknowledging they were doing so.

"We made the mistake of trusting people," said Dana Bowers, one of Geoffrey's brothers. "They betrayed us."

Tri-Star spokesman Ed Russell denied that *Philadelphia* is Bowers' story.

"*Philadelphia* is a fictional story which addresses a regrettably recurring theme of AIDS discrimination in this country," Russell said in a statement issued on behalf of himself, Demme and Rudin. "Tri-Star pictures is very proud of *Philadelphia*, and there is no merit to the lawsuit. We are confident we will be

vindicated."

Tri-Star previously has said the movie was inspired by dozens of cases, including one involving a Philadelphia law firm.

Geoffrey Bowers, 33, died on Sept. 30, 1987, two months after testifying before the New York State Division of Human Rights. Last December, the state ruled that Bowers' former employer, the Manhattan law firm of Baker and McKenzie, had discriminated against him and ordered the firm to pay \$500,000.

Charles Bowers, Geoffrey's other brother, said that in October 1988, Rudin contacted him about a movie deal.

The family's attorneys said Rudin sold the movie rights to Orion Pictures. In December 1991, Tri-Star acquired Orion's rights in bankruptcy court.

Lawyer Daniel Felber said Bowers' brothers and their mother, Alberta Bowers, all of Medford, Mass., shared their reminiscences

with people involved in making *Philadelphia* with the understanding that they would be paid and that Geoffrey Bowers would be mentioned in the credits.

They said a dollar figure was never agreed upon; until the movie came out, they said, they thought their negotiations were still in progress.

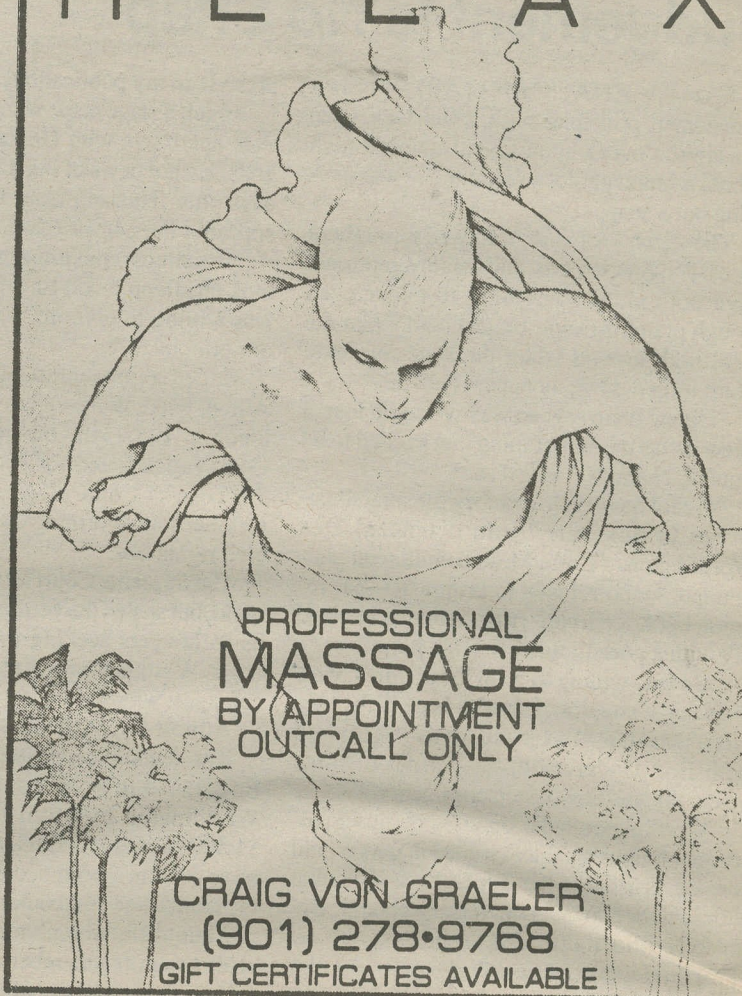
Dana Bowers said *Philadelphia* contained dozens of similarities to his brother's life and personality.

Besides the discrimination case, the movie recreated conversations and events that only could have emerged from hours of "highly personal and extremely emotional" interviews with Bowers' loved ones, Felber said.

"It reminds me of *The Verdict*, where Paul Newman goes through funeral homes passing cards to the deceased's family, saying, 'He was a good friend of mine,'" said Charles Bowers, one of Geoffrey's brothers.

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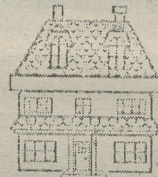
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Roseanne and Mariel Sitting In a Tree, K-I-S-S-I-N-G

NEW YORK (AP) — A kiss is just a kiss, as far as "Roseanne" is concerned, even if parental discretion is advised.

ABC says it will show an episode of the sitcom on March 1 that features Roseanne Arnold kissing Mariel Hemingway. A parental discretion advisory will precede the broadcast, the network said.

In the episode, Arnold's character goes to a bar with a bisexual friend, played by Sandra Bernhard. After dancing with Hemingway, Roseanne makes a wisecrack that is misinterpreted. The kiss results.

Exactly what the kiss will look like remains to be seen, ABC spokesman Steve Battaglio said Feb. 17. "There have been discussions concerning how the kiss will be depicted. Those talks are continuing."

Earlier this month, Tom Arnold, husband of the star and the series' co-executive producer, charged that ABC was refusing to air the episode because of the kiss. At the time, he called the network's decision misguided and "homophobic."



MEMPHIS

MANFINDER™ PERSONALS

Tennessee

BIRTHDAY SUIT: GWM, 40, 5'6", 160 seeks a caring and honest guy. Hairy A+. I am into getting back to nature. ☎15326

ALL-AROUND GOOD GUY: Easy-going outdoorsy type seeks 20-30 year olds for great times. ☎16418

LET'S GET STARTED: 27 year old. I am mixed race and seek a nice white guy for friendship. ☎16382

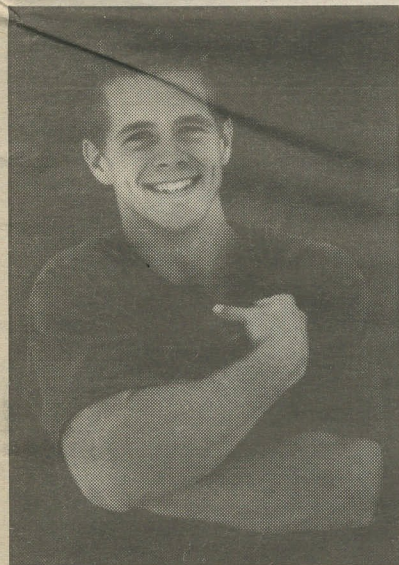
ROCK JOCKS: 25 year old guy seeks rockers, surfers and jocks up to 24. Tp guys only. ☎16829

GET OUT THE DENIM: 27 year old is into a one on one with a guy his age. Blue jeans and flannels A+. ☎16929

MUST BE CARING: 25 year old into hiking, biking and good conversation. Seeking mod. athletic guys who care about others. ☎17088

Chattanooga **YOU MET HIM HERE:** 28 yr old blk male, 5'11", 185 and smooth. I am seeking a masc male of any race. ☎11815

Memphis **HOUSECALL:** 40 YO Physician is just getting back into the swing. I like the theater and classical music. ☎1326



Nashville **WHAT'S ALL THE HOOP-LA?:** Curious white male. Please call me at home and let's talk. ☎13277

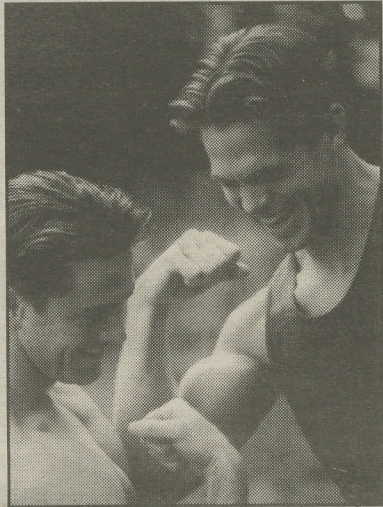
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TN **TPGUN:** 45 yr old daddy seeks a yng sub. ☎11500

TN **ARE YOU THERE?:** I am looking for other guys in this area. I am 35 and vry discreet. ☎12618

TN **DREAM MAN:** 28 year old guy is attractive and outgoing. Call me and pls be discreet. ☎14069

TN **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:** Bi-black male seeking someone to teach me a few things. ☎14718

CALLING ALL COPS: Total discretion assured. Please call. State troopers A+. ☎3113

Memphis, **HEY JOCKS:** handsome, 25, 5'10, 165lbs, jock type, (like tall smooth jock types) enjoy back rubs too, hoping you call. ☎8591

901 area code, **PAINT IT BLACK:** 28 y/o, lonely interested in bm for dating. ☎8343

Ft Leonardwood, **TANNED/CLEAN SHAVEN:** 28 y/o, 5'10, 155lbs, goodlkg, bitm w/short blondish hair, tanned, w/green eyes, currently in grad. school, new to area., like music, sports, ☎6893

Memphis, **STRAIGHT WM:** 32, above avg. looks, looking to expand my horizons, leave msg if you can assist. ☎4724

Nashville, **BLOND:** 40, 6', 170lbs, nice build, love talking on the phone! Looking forward to hearing from anybody, call anytime. ☎7226

St. Louis, **BLACK MEN ONLY:** 30 y/o, bm, 5'7, 155lbs, enjoy movies, music, & art, seeks masc. acting bm, tp men only 25-65, big & uniformed A+, ☎2003

21 YR OLD BUSINESS STUDENT: 6', 220lbs, football player's built, italian, dark hair, enjoy quiet evenings with masc. man under 25 who's looking for a rel. ☎2476

DADDY WHERE ARE YOU? 25, 5'7, 130lbs, bitm, long blond hair, seeking dom. daddy for fun times. ☎3155

HERE'S LOOK'N AT YOU: 27 y/o, blond, blue, love dancing, partying & quiet times at home, seeking guy 25-38, dark hair A+, if you like to have fun we should get together. ☎3138

19 YR OLD BLOND: w/ blue eyes, 6', 185lbs, into sports, looking to meet someone new. ☎7936

BEAR CALL: 30 y/o, wm, looking for bear types to meet, talk to. ☎4151

ATTRACTIVE: gwm, 39, looking to party with big bear types, age unimportant, beards, tattoos a definitely plus. ☎6321

901 Area, **COLLEGE STUDENT,** 5'10, 150lbs, lookin for anyone to hang out with, ☎6588

BIGGER IS BETTER: 6'3, 230lbs, blond, brw eyes, interested in eqpd man, thin, call if you fit the description & want to get together. ☎5979

Knoxville, **SWELL GUY:** 24, looking for nice guys to meet, ☎4001

Knoxville, **OPEN TO ANYTHING:** (just about) Vers., 24, brw hair, blue eyes, desires close encounters w/adventuresome type. ☎4001

VERS. BM, 29, v. attrac., intelligent, interested in friendship. (prefer 2B bitm) ☎6469

Tennessee, **BLACK TRACK'IN:** 26, BM, fun to be with, enjoy swimming, hiking, seeks BM, 24-28 for close encounters. ☎3415

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Knoxville, **MASC. MEN'S CLUB FORMING:** Just wanna meet other masc. guys? Call for details. ☎5752

Memphis, **MOVING TO MEMPHIS:** BM, 18, call anytime for my number in charleston, sc, as I moving real soon & would like to hear from you. ☎3473

MANHANDLER: v. adventurous WM, 32, 6'8, 230lbs, give me a call if you're also on the wildside. ☎4354

EXPANDING CIRCLES: 26, BM, just looking for someone to spend some time with. ☎4236

FUN IN THE SUN: 6'1, sub. WM, brw hair/eyes, into cuddling, rel., dinner, movies, outdoor activities. So call. ☎5579

NOT FOUND IN THE CLUBS: Intent 22 yr old w/ long blond hair is tired of barflys & is looking for someone has a life from ages 25-35. call. ☎3306

BASHFUL? CURIOUS? 1ST TIME? great! I'm 29 yr old seeking fun-filled nights w/ right one. Call. ☎5343

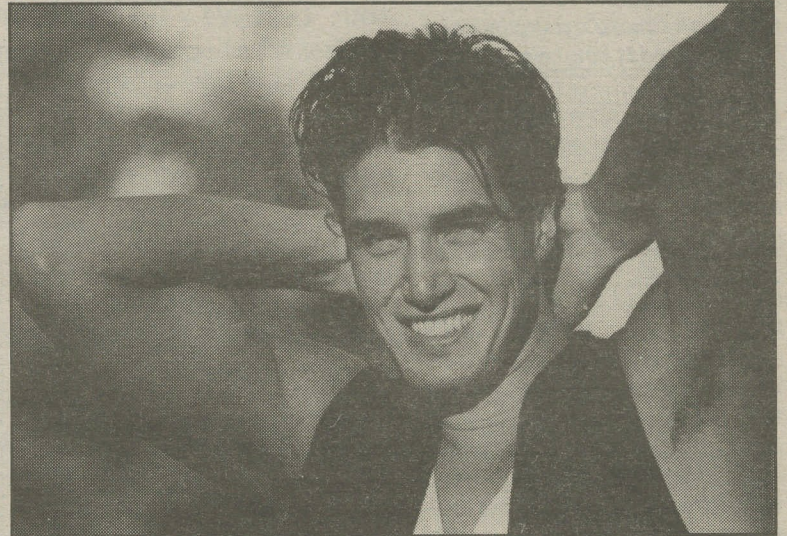
TALL BLUE EYED BLOND 26, 6', desires get togethers w/local & sincere guys, leave msg. for best time to contact you. ☎5713

MEMPHIS LONG BLOND LOCKS: 25, WM, w/blue eyes, 145lbs, 5'6, seeking guys in memphis area to get to know each other first. ☎2919

MEMPHIS ROMANTIC SENSUAL ITALIAN 35, into candle light dinners, jacuzzi, & quality company. A call is worth a thousand words. ☎5847

KNOXVILLE OLDER UNIFORMED TYPE WANTED: 34 yr old sub, bitm, would love to find older tp man, to take charge. Your turn, sir. ☎5575

KNOXVILLE REAL LEATHERMAN WANTED: 34 yr old Sub. blond & blue, N2 older leather guy w/right accessories. (benefits included). ☎5724



MEMPHIS LIFE IS RICH: 20 yr old, 5'11, 165lbs, brw hair, blue eyeds, seeking well-built humorous guy 20-25 to enjoy multiple activities with. ☎5217

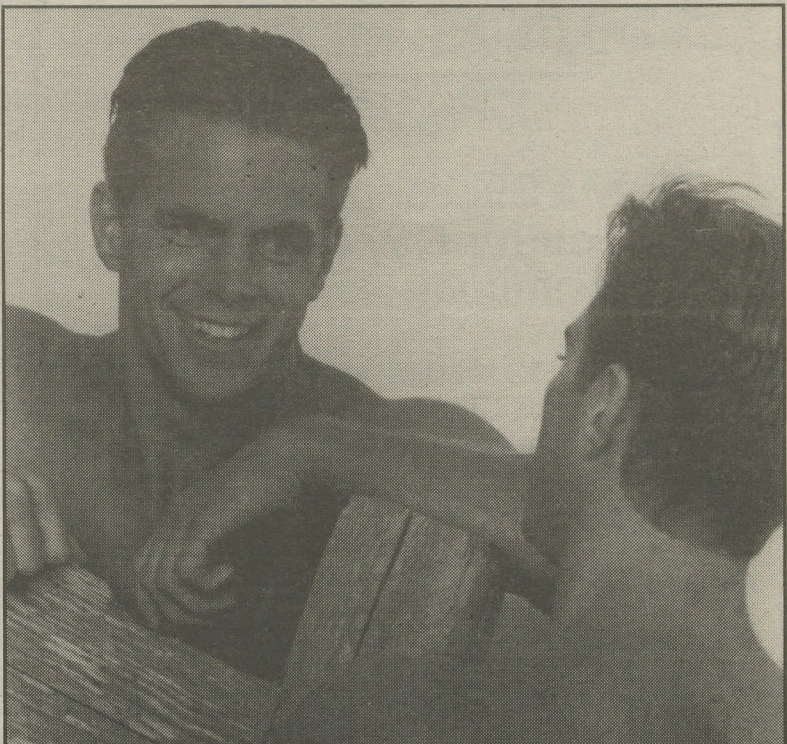
NASHVILLE AREA **BUFFED:** into music, working out at the gym, livin in smallish town, let's connect. ☎2747

KNOXVILLE **OLDER TOP UNIFORM MAN** wanted to take charge! I'm 34, brw hair, hazel eyes, with a very sexy attitude; eagerly awaiting. ☎5074

INTO ALL SPORTS, esp. Wrestling: 28 yr old, brw hair, attractive, seeking asians or any guy into sports. (having a great body doesn't hurt) ☎1932

MUSCULAR LEATHERMAN. GWM 32, 5'10", 175#, moustache, Dk Brn/Dk Brn. Have I peaked your curiosity? Call at your convenience. ☎2096

TENNESSEE, EDUCATED BM: 30 yr old, Profess. Black M, 57, 155lbs, would like to meet same for interesting conversation & fun weekends (discretion advised) ☎4673



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PERSONALS

Artist looking to build customers and clients for work in commercial, portraiture, costume design, figure drawing, fantasy and leather physic, art deco. If interested call: 732-5212.

Attractive GWM, 28, 5'6", 130#, blond, graduate student, likes: computers, alternative music, progressive politics, New Age, physical fitness, cute dudes. Write Jim, Rt. 1, Box 18, Gassville, AR

72635.

GWM, 21, dark eyes, hair, complexion, 5'11", 163#, looking for GWM, 20-30 for friendship, possible relationship. Write to: **JKS, PO Box 734, Hernando, MS 38632.** GWM, 34, 5'9", 150 in-shape-pounds, in search of Big Brother type for fun and friendship. I am open-minded, educated, very employed, stable, and a damned good bottom. Receive mail at country address but spend most of my time in Memphis. I love the outdoors, my dog, my cat, and epic films, jazz and techno, local

theater, and tractor pulls. drop me a line. What's a stamp? No fats, fems, or druggies, please. J.B., Rt. 3, Box 280 C, Linden, TN 37096.

GWM, 34, 6'3", well-built, b/bl, attractive, college-educated, intelligent, fun-loving, down-to-earth, conservative, decent. Have a variety of interests. Interested in meeting sober, masculine, decent GWM, 30+, for friendship or possibly more. Prefer non-smoker, Write: Dept. M-0, PO Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111-0485.

GWM, very fit, Mr. Right, 33, 5'11", 165#,

masculine, very discreet, into music, romance, seeks same, 25-37. Let's build bodies, lives, future. You won't be sorry. Photo expected. Write: Dept. M-03, PO Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111-0485. Leland D. So very good to hear from you at last! Yes, world, Peggy Pinkpumps and his top 40 collection are still alive and kicking! Spurn the crowd and clear the dance floor one more time just for the hell of it. Love to brother Bo (that was fun). Love, Steve.

MEMMOS Contact Club for ALL men enjoying mutual masturbation & oral sex nationwide. Send SASE to MEMMOS, POB 3145, Madison, WI 53704-0145 for information.

Robo: OK forget the flour and try a little more spit next time. Signed, Mule.

Scotty from Alliance: Is it true that you have the third longest tongue on the American continent and are absolutely nuts about Daddies with tremendous foreskins? Mule.

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**Meetings at
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Phoenix (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Sunday	8:00 pm	Discussion
Monday	8:00 pm	Traditions (Smoke Free)
Tuesday	8:00 pm	Twelve Step Study
Wednesday	8:00 pm	Big Book Study
Friday	10:00 pm	Discussion
Saturday	8:00 pm	Discussion

(Last Sunday of month is birthday night with speaker.)

Into The Light**(Alcoholics Anonymous - Women)**

Thursday	8:00 pm	Discussion (Open)
Sunday	12 Noon	Discussion (Open)

(Business meeting 3rd Sunday of month, Birthdays last Thurs.)

Seriously Sober (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Friday	8:00 pm	Discussion (Open, but participation by other than alcoholics/addicts discouraged.)
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Al-Anon (Co-dependency meeting)

Call For Information

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)

Call For Information

*Memphis Lambda Center, Inc. is a private organization formed for the promulgation and enhancement of Twelve-Step meetings with a special outreach to the Gay and Lesbian community. Business meetings are on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Space donated as a public service by the Triangle Journal News

The Gay Memphis Resources Directory is printed as a public service, and its listings are free. Agencies and businesses listed herein have requested to be listed, but have not been charged. All phone numbers are area code 901 unless otherwise noted.

ADULT BOOKSTORES

- Airport Bookmart:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. ☎ 345-0657.
- Cherokee Adult Book Store:** 2947 Lamar ☎ 744-7494.
- Fantasy Warehouse I:** 791-793 North White Station ☎ 683-9649.
- Getwell Book Mart:** 1275 Getwell ☎ 454-7765.
- Paris Adult Entertainment Center:** 2432 Summer ☎ 323-2665.
- Tammy's # 2:** 2220 East Brooks Rd ☎ 396-9050.
- Tammy's # 3:** 1617 Getwell Rd ☎ 744-4513.
- Tammy's # 4:** 5937 Summer Ave. ☎ 373-5670.

BOOKS & GIFTS

- Meristem:** Feminist Book Store • 930 S. Cooper ☎ 276-0282.

CARPET CARE / CLEANING SERVICES

- BJ's Cleaning Service:** ☎ 726-4211.
- King's Kleaning Service:** Home or Office ☎ 278-2835.
- Lee's Carpet Care:** Commercial or Residential, 24-hr. service, free estimates ☎ 327-6165.
- White Glove Services:** Home or Office ☎ 388-3781.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ACT UP Memphis:** 5:30 Sun. Sharon Ann ☎ 725-5483.
- Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA):** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379.
- Al-Anon (Co-dependency):** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379.
- Alliance:** Leather/levi club • 4372 Kerwin Dr., Memphis 38128.
- American Gay Atheists (AGA) Memphis:** Box 41371, Memphis 38174-1371.
- Black & White Men Together (BWMT):** Box 42157, Memphis 38174-2157 ☎ 452-5894.
- Brothers & Sisters Bowling League:** 1929 Evelyn Ave. ☎ 272-3875.
- Cotton Pickin' Squares:** Gay/Lesbian Square Dance Club • Meets Thurs., 7pm Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 3956 Blue Spruce, Lakeland 38002 ☎ 387-1567.
- Friends For Life—HIV Resources:** HIV/AIDS Service Organization • Box 40389, Memphis 38174-0389 ☎ 278-AIDS or ☎ 272-0855.
- Gay and Lesbian American Indians:** Information ☎ 725-4898.
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Veterans of America Memphis Chapter:** Information: John Prowett, 1517 Court Ste. 4, Memphis 38104-2402 ☎ 726-5790, leave message for John.
- Gays On Cleveland Street (GOCS):** Social Group • c/o The Hut, 102 N. Cleveland ☎ 725-9872.
- Gay Teen Support Group:** Tuesdays 7-8:30, Gerry Wright ☎ 388-6110.
- Girth & Mirth of Tennessee:** Statewide men's social group for larger men & their admirers • P.O. Box 121886, Nashville, TN 37212 ☎ (615) 664-6725.
- Into The Light (Women's AA):** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379.
- Lambda Men's Chorus:** Calvary Episcopal Church, • Mailing address: 2058 Young Ave, Memphis 38104 ☎ 276-4045.
- Loving Arms (Support Partners for HIV+ Mothers & Babies; "hold" babies at the Med):** Sheila Tankersley, P.O. Box 3368, Memphis, TN 38173 ☎ 725-6730.
- Mature Gays:** Information: John Prowett, 1517 Court Ave., Ste. 4, Memphis 38104-2402 ☎ 726-5790, leave

- message.
- Memphis Center for Reproductive Health:** 1462 Poplar Ave ☎ 274-3550.
- Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC):** 1486 Madison, Mailing Address: Box 41074, Memphis 38174 ☎ 726-5790.

- Memphis Gay & Lesbian Sports Association:** c/o MGLCC, Box 41074 ☎ 728-GAYS or 458-6023.

- Memphis Lambda Center:** Meeting place for 12-step recovery programs • 241 N. Cleveland (above United Paint Store) ☎ 276-7379, 726-6293, 527-1461, or 327-3676.

- Memphis TransGender Alliance:** TV/TS support group ☎ Barbara Jean 353-2612 (evenings) or John Prowett 726-5790 (leave message).

- MSU State University Students for Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Awareness (BGALA):** BGALA c/o Office of Greek Affairs Box 100, MSU 38152. ☎ 371-9978 for info.

- Mid-South Men's Council:** Box 11042, Memphis 38111-0042 ☎ 278-0961.

- Minority Prison Project (MPP):** Information: John Prowett, 1517 Court #4, Memphis, TN 38104-2402.

- Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite:** Box 41822, Memphis 38174-1822.

- National Organization for Women (NOW):** Box 40982, Memphis 38174-0982 ☎ 276-0282.

- New Beginnings (Adult Children of Alcoholics):** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379 or 454-1414.

- Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (P-FLAG):** Box 172031, Memphis 38187-2031 ☎ 761-1444.

- Phoenix AA** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 454-1414.

- Seriously Sober (AA):** Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379 or 454-1414.

- Southern Country Memphis:** Country Western Dance Club ☎ 272-1525.

- Tennessee Leather Tribe:** Men's & Women's leather org. 3293 Renners Cv. ☎ 372-4426.

- Transsexuals in Prison (TIP):** For information: John Prowett, 1517 Court Ave. #4, Memphis 38104-2402.

- Tsarus:** Leather-Levi club • Box 41082, Memphis 38174-1082.

- Wings:** Social Club • Box 41784, Memphis 38174-1784.

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS

- Bear Trappers BBS:** Serving Nashville & surrounding area ☎ (615)360-2837.
- Flesh Illusions BBS:** We have P.O.D.S. & Nuit Net Available thru requests only. Also carries Fidonet, 2400-14.4 baud. ☎ 357-5483.
- The Personals:** Gay computer bulletin board • 300 or 1200 baud ☎ 274-6713.
- Two's Company:** Gay computer bulletin board and computer support. "Handles" accepted. 1200/2400 baud. ☎ 726-4073.

COUNSELING SERVICES

- Kerrel Ard, BSW:** Personal growth, spiritual counseling, alternative healing ☎ 725-4898.
- Beth Causey, M.Div.:** Pastoral counseling ☎ 278-9554.
- Joel Chapman, PhD:** 1835 Union ☎ 726-1284.
- Patricia Goshorn, M.Ed.:** Licensed Psychological Counselor • Simmons, Kelman & Assoc., 3960 Knight Arnold Rd, Ste 316 ☎ 369-6050.
- Cliff Heegel, PhD:** Licensed Psychologist • Centerpoint, 5180 Park Ave. Ste 150 ☎ 767-1066.
- Sheridan Lambe, LCSW:** Individual & Couple Counseling, ☎ 761-9178.
- K. A. Moss, MS:** Midtown Counseling Service, 1835 Union, Ste. 101 ☎ 726-4586 • Sliding fee scale.
- Northeast Mental Health Center:** ☎ 382-3880.
- Joyce Schimenti, LCSW:** Individual & Group Counseling ☎ 761-9178.

- Susan Taranto, MPS:** Individual & group therapy • Fully Alive! ☎ 323-2078 • Sliding fee scale.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Ronnie Bingham, CPA:** Taxes, accounting, estate planning ☎ 756-4449.
- Charles Butler, CFP:** Financial Planner ☎ 274-2524.
- Donald Morgan Bookkeeping and Tax Service:** 3340 Poplar Ave, Ste 305 ☎ 458-0152.
- Wilma Vandermeer, CPA:** Taxes, accounting services ☎ 726-9082.

FLORISTS

- Accent With Flowers:** 1505 S. Perkins, ☎ 683-3007.
- Botanica:** 944 S. Cooper, ☎ 274-5767 1-800-769-5767, fax: 274-5688.
- Flower Market of Memphis:** 1523 Union Ave. ☎ 274-8103.
- Park East Florist:** 6005 Park ☎ 761-2980.
- Sweet Peas:** 111 S. Highland ☎ 324-6873.

GRAPHICS

- Bonehead Creative:** 1271 Poplar, Ste 103, Memphis 38104 ☎ 276-2101.
- Image Illustration & Design:** P. O. Box 161075, Memphis, TN 38186-1075 ☎ (901)324-5742, Fax (901)323-7524.
- JRP Specialties:** Photo business cards & distinctive nature photography • Joe Pfeiffer ☎ 272-1207.
- Printers Ink:** Box 11485, -0485 ☎ 454-1411.
- That's Certainly Graphics:** Resumes, ad campaigns, letterhead, etc. ☎ 761-2980.

HELP & INFORMATION LINES

- AIDS Switchboard:** ☎ 278-AIDS.
- Gay & Lesbian Hotline:** ☎ 1-800-285-7431 (24 hr. help & information for Lesbians, Gays transvestites, & transsexuals)
- Gay & Lesbian Youth Hotline:** ☎ 1-800-347-TEEN (Thu.-Sun., 7pm-11:45pm).
- Gay & Lesbian Switchboard:** ☎ 728-GAYS • 7:30-11pm.
- LINC:** ☎ 725-8895.
- Narcotics Anonymous:** ☎ 276-LIVE.
- Rape Crisis:** ☎ 528-2161.
- Suicide & Crisis Intervention:** ☎ 274-7477.
- Transvestite-Transsexual National Hotline:** ☎ (617) 899-2212 (8-2am, Mon.-Sat.).

LEGAL SERVICES

- Wayne C. Gullede, Attorney At Law:** Rt. 1, Box 255 A, Senatobia, MS 38668 ☎ (601) 562-8738 or (901) 722-8188.
- David Hooper, Attorney At Law:** 1870 Union Ave ☎ 274-6824.
- Susan Mackenzie, Attorney At Law:** 100 N. Main, Ste 2518 ☎ 526-0809.
- Robert Ross, Attorney At Law:** 100 N. Main, Ste 3310 ☎ 525-0417.
- Kelly Stark, Attorney At Law:** 44 N. Second, Ste 600, ☎ 521-9996.
- Jocelyn D. Wurzberg, Attorney At Law:** 1903 Lincoln American Tower, 60 North Mid-America Mall, Memphis 38103 ☎ 684-1332.

MASSAGE SERVICES

- Bodycare By Jordan:** Deep tissue massage, therapeutic touch and preparation for movement. By appointment only. ☎ 527-2273.
- Bodyrights:** Therapeutic/sports massage by appointment. ☎ 377-7701.
- Dave Everitt:** Full body Swedish massage Shiatsu, Medical Massage ☎ 722-5522, Pager ☎ 533-9492.
- Tom Pitman:** Rejuvenating full-body massage by appointment. ☎ 761-7977 or Beeper 575-1230.
- Craig von Graeler:** Professional full body massage by appointment. Please call 10am-10pm ☎ 278-9768.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

- Art Gallery Memphis:** ☎ 725-0521 (By Appointment Only).

- Dabbles Hair Co.:** 19 N. Cooper ☎ 725-0521.

- Kyla J. Dillard, DVM:** Housecall Veterinarian, 480 Pruitt Rd, Oakland, TN 38060 ☎ (901) 465-2699. For emergency care call ☎ (901) 533-5084.

- F.U.N. Parties & Toys For Us:** Gay & Lesbian parties exclusively. ☎ Rich 327-2225.

- David Gairhan:** A/C, refrigeration & appliance repair ☎ 274-7011.

- Fusion:** 2027 Madison ☎ 272-7451.

- Graffiti Graphics:** 1985 Madison #7 ☎ 278-5002.

- Great American Cruises, Inc.:** Cruise Travel Agency, Sherman Perkins, 52 N. Second ☎ 525-5302.

- Gypsy's Vintage Fashions and Antiques:** 2018 Court, (In the Mid-Town Flea Market) ☎ 725-4751.

- Have Bar Will Travel:** Bartending for private functions • Lisa Gray (The Peabody Hotel) ☎ 726-5910.

- Bob Hughes, EdD:** Yoga, relaxation & meditation classes ☎ 682-0855.

- John In Charge:** Household & office cleaning, errands, a personal valet • ☎ 272-2316.

- Kings Interior Painting:** ☎ 278-2835.

- Lavender Earth:** 852 S. Cooper, ☎ 272-2853.

- Lederwex:** 2027 Madison.

- MT's Bakery:** Gay and Lesbian Wedding Cakes A Specialty, Mary Jane or Theresa, 2127 Frayser Blvd. ☎ 358-6689 or 388-2376.

- Mid-Town Hair:** 1926 Madison, Memphis 38104 ☎ 278-2199.

- Pass Pets:** Hickory Ridge Mall ☎ 366-4428.

- Pet Care Unlimited:** Pet sitting and/or house sitting by competent, caring couple ☎ 726-6198.

- Quality Electronics:** TV/VCR Repair, 1593 Getwell ☎ 743-6377.

- Quality Furniture:** Gary Lewis, 1490 Getwell ☎ 743-7739.

- Enrica Ramey:** Insurance (Midtown) ☎ 725-6023 & (Bartlett) 377-1075.

- Richard's Designs:** Packaging designs & marketing ☎ 683-6157.

- S & R Body Shop:** Sandy George, 2052 Clifton ☎ 353-4604.

- Sanders Facilities, Inc.:** Catering & party facility rental • Michael Sanders ☎ 948-3998.

- See-S:** Portraits & photography ☎ 327-3760.

- Star Search Video:** 1411 Poplar Ave ☎ 272-STAR.

- STUDZ:** ☎ 276-4225, for Info.

- Tom Webb Ins.:** Insuring in the Gay and Lesbian Community, 4646 Poplar ☎ 682-2170.

- Tiger Paw Windshield Repair & Replacement:** Donna Watson ☎ 363-4629. 24hr. phone service.

- Tropical Impressions:** Pet Shop & Grooming Salon • 3700 S. Mendenhall ☎ 794-3047 or 365-9716.

- Whittington Tree & Lawn Service:** Sandra & Troy Whittington ☎ 685-8410. Free estimates, 24 hr. service.

MEDIA

- Gay Alternative:** Radio program, Mon. 6:00-7:00pm, WEVL-FM 90, Box 41773, Memphis 38174.

- Hera Sees:** Bi-monthly newspaper published by Hera Sees, Inc., 1725-B Madison Ave. ☎ 276-0543.

- Query:** Weekly newspaper published by Pyramid Publishing Box 40422, Nashville

- TN 37204-0422 ☎ (615) 327-3273.
- Recovery Talk "In the Midnight Hour":** Radio program, Sat. 12-1am, KWAM-AM 990. Weekly program about addictions & recovery. ☎ (901) 377-7963.

- Recovery Times:** Free monthly newspaper focusing on addictions & recovery. Distributed in Memphis, Jackson, & Nashville TN ☎ (901) 377-7963.

- Triangle Journal News:** Monthly newspaper published by Printers Ink • Box 11485, Memphis, 38111-0485 ☎ 454-1411.

NIGHT CLUBS / DINING

- Amnesia:** 2866 Poplar ☎ 454-1366.
- Apartment Club:** 343 Madison ☎ 525-9491.

- Cafe Samovar:** 83 Union, ☎ 529-9607.
- Club 501:** 111 N. Claybrook ☎ 274-8655.
- Club Hide-A-Way:** 2018 Court ☎ 274-6602.

- Construction Site:** 1474 Madison ☎ 278-4313.

- Hut:** 102 N. Cleveland ☎ 725-9872.
- J-Wags:** 1268 Madison ☎ 725-1909.
- Nikita's Bar & Grill:** 2117 Peabody Ave ☎ 272-1700.

- Oops:** 1349 Autumn ☎ 272-1634.
- Pipeline:** 1382 Poplar ☎ 726-5263.
- Reflections:** 92 North Avalon ☎ 272-1525.
- WKRB in Memphis:** 1528 Madison ☎ 278-9321.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

- Russell Armstrong, Developer, Looney Developments:** 194 Looney Ave. ☎ 525-3044.

- Glenn Moore, Broker, Owner, Woodland Realty:** ☎ 854-0455.

- Steve Solomon, Affiliate Broker, Davies-Sowell, Inc.:** 54 S. Cooper ☎ 278-4380.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

- Gays Rejoicing & Affirmed in a Catholic Environment (GRACE):** Support group for Catholics & their friends • Meets every Thurs. with Liturgy 2nd & 4th Thurs. Information: ☎ 725-5237. John.

- Holy Trinity Community Church:** Worship Service: Sun. 9 & 11am, 7 pm; Bible study: Wed. 7:00pm; We Care AIDS Support Ministry: Sat. 10am 1559 Madison ☎ 726-9443.

- Integrity Memphis:** Meets the 3rd Tue., Healing Service/Eucharist, 6pm; Dinner, 7pm, \$3; Meeting 7:30pm • c/o Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd ☎ 726-4698 (Doug Deaver) or 272-1207 (Joe Pfeiffer).

- TRIANGLE JOURNAL NEWS IS ALSO DISTRIBUTED AT THESE LOCATIONS**

- Bookstar:** 3402 Poplar Ave. ☎ 323-9332
- Circuit Playhouse:** 1705 Poplar Ave. ☎ 726-5521

- Davis-Kidd Booksellers Inc.:** 397 Perkins Rd. Ext. ☎ 683-9801.

- Memphis and Shelby County Public Library:** 1850 Peabody ☎ 725-8800.

- P & H Cafe:** 1532 Madison Ave. ☎ 274-9794.
- Squash Blossom Market:** 1720 Poplar ☎ 725-4823

- Star Search Video:** 1411 Poplar Ave. ☎ 272-STAR

- Tobacco Corner Newsroom:** 669 Mendenhall Rd S. ☎ 682-3326 & 1803 Union ☎ 726-1622.



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March 17th
St. Patrick's Day Party

Happy Hour 12 - 7
Beer Bust 7 - 3

CLUB

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