



Supreme Court Finds Colorado's Anti-Gay Amendment 2 Unconstitutional

'An Outstanding Moral Victory,' Says Largest National Gay Organization

WASHINGTON —The U.S. Supreme Court acted in the true interest of justice by overturning Colorado's discriminatory Amendment 2, said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization.

"This decision is an outstanding moral victory," Birch said after the court ruled 6-3 that the measure violates the constitutional guarantee of equal protection under the law. "And this triumph is especially important in light of the congressional Gay-bashing, which has reached an all-time high in the last two weeks."

Birch noted that this decision does not advance equal rights for Gay and Lesbian Americans. "It merely ensures that Colorado—and every other state—cannot pass laws to deny Gay and Lesbian Americans equal access to the democratic process," she said.

"But it also makes clear that this Supreme Court will not permit any state to attempt to pass laws making its Gay residents second-class citizens."

Amendment 2 is the only statewide anti-Gay ballot measure that has ever been passed by voters. In 1994, voters in Idaho and Oregon defeated anti-Gay initiatives in the midst of the Republican sweep. And

last year, voters in Maine rejected a similar effort.

Public opinion polls continue to show that while most Americans support equal rights for Gay people, the majority of Americans do not understand that no federal law protects Lesbian and Gay people from discrimination, Birch noted. Most people do not know that it is perfectly legal to fire someone for being Gay in the 41 states that do not have civil rights protection based on sexual orientation.

Birch pointed out that the same religious political organizations that were responsible for Amendment 2 and other similar measures are continuing their drive to deny equal rights to Lesbian and Gay Americans.

"The religious political extremists have changed tactics," Birch said. "Instead of statewide anti-Gay ballot initiatives like Amendment 2, they are pressing for bills in state legislatures and, most recently, in the U.S. Congress, that would outlaw same-sex marriage. What this new wave of hate demonstrates is that Gay and Lesbian Americans still have a long way to go toward winning equal rights."

The members of Congress who are pushing legislation to outlaw same-sex marriage "should look at

today's Supreme Court decision and think again about what they are doing," Birch said. "The highest court of the land has said that no state can make its Gay and Lesbian citizens unequal to everyone else 'or a stranger to its laws.' This is all we have ever asked for."

Amendment 2, approved in 1992 by 53 percent of Colorado voters, would have overturned local laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and prevented state and local governments from passing similar laws in the future. Colorado's Supreme Court struck down Amendment 2 in 1994 as unconstitutional, declaring that the measure denied supporters of equal rights for Lesbian and Gay people the basic right to participate in the democratic process. HRC was the largest single financial contributor to the legal challenge against Amendment 2.

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support and educates the public to ensure that Lesbian and Gay Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

See related stories on pages 8 and 23.

Volume 6, Number 9

June 1996

Community to Shine in June

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community will seek to outdo itself during the first full weekend in June.

Last year's Pride Weekend proved to be the most successful ever with more people participating than ever before.

This year's Pride weekend starts off on Fri., June 7 with the 17th annual Pride River Ride.

After several years using smaller boats, the event will once again be staged on board The Memphis Showboat, the Queen Line's largest with a capacity of 500. Live entertainment also returns to the event with the very popular Belle Curves providing the music.



bigger party, more purpose

Once again, community groups, both Gay and non-Gay are encouraged to decorate their cars, create floats or just walk along the route.

The parade will organize at 1:00 p.m. just inside Overton Park's main entrance off Poplar. At 2:00 p.m. the parade will proceed east on Poplar to Cooper, south on Cooper to Madison and west on Madison to Holy Trinity Community Church at 1559 Madison where it will merge with the Pride Festival being held there.

This year's Pride Festival will also be bigger. It is slated to begin at 2:30 p.m. for those not participating in parade activities. Live entertainment will begin

at 3:30 p.m. Admission is \$3.

The featured speaker for the afternoon will be state Senator Steve Cohen (D-Memphis). Cohen recently announced his candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives Dist. 9 seat being vacated by Harold Ford. Cohen has consistently espoused support for the Gay and Lesbian community.

Among the entertainers scheduled to appear are the Cotton Pickin' Squares; Mr. Gay Tennessee All-American Thom Malone; Miss Southern Elegance Nicole DuBois; Pebbles, Miss Gay Tennessee; Chadon; Derek Dean; Steve Smith; and others.

Beer, soft drinks and food will be available.

The Miller Brewing Company, through its local distributor A.S. Barboro, is Memphis Pride's Grand Sponsor.

Number of Tenn. Inmates With AIDS Increasing

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — The number of Tennessee inmates testing HIV positive for AIDS has increased dramatically in the last five years — from 28 to 120 — according to state corrections officials.

Wardens in Tennessee and elsewhere believe many inmates are spreading the virus to each other through unprotected sex. Nationally, the number of inmates with the AIDS virus increased from 17,551 in 1991 to an estimated 23,000 in 1995, according to the National Prison Project.

One way to combat the problem is to distribute condoms to inmates, according to Jackie Walker of the National Prison Project, an inmates' rights group supported by the American Civil Liberties Union.

"We know inmates are having sex, so why ignore the problem?" she said.

Only Mississippi and Vermont give condoms to inmates. In Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee,

condoms are considered contraband, she said.

Another solution is to segregate HIV-positive inmates, correctional officers say. The inmates could receive better care while protecting the general population from the disease.

But civil libertarians believe these inmates should not be treated differently than other prisoners. Segregation would create a type of leper colony for inmates, Walker said.

Tennessee does not segregate an HIV-positive inmate unless a physician determines the prisoner is experiencing severe medical problems that require hospitalization, state corrections spokeswoman Pam Gehman said.

That is not true in Alabama, which is facing a federal lawsuit because it does segregate its AIDS inmates.

While Alabama and Georgia inmates are tested for AIDS at the time of their incarceration, Gehman said there are no mandatory AIDS tests

in Tennessee.

"If a physician determines at either the point of admission or any time during the incarceration decides an AIDS tests is necessary, then and only then is one performed," Gehman said.

Seventeen states and the federal prison system do mandatory testing for AIDS and other diseases, Walker said.

Civil libertarians said testing inmates for AIDS is not a problem. Their concern is who has access to the results.

"We believe that only the medical staff should know that an inmate tests HIV-positive," said Jerry Weber, an ACLU lawyer in Atlanta. "However, we have been told that guards and some inmates are being told which inmates have AIDS."

Hamilton County Judge John Cupp said aside from the issues of segregation and testing, the issue is how to humanely treat inmates who

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Plus Local News, Quick Clips and More!

Why Do You Do This Every Year?

by Vincent Astor

I get asked that question a lot, "Why do you do this? Why are you always marching in all these places? What's it for?" One may wonder since I have been somewhere in every Gay/Lesbian march or parade that has ever taken place in Memphis and many in other cities from New York and Washington to Oxford, Mississippi. I was not dressed to be overlooked (and not always in drag, Miss!). What could possibly be so important?

It is, first, numbers that are important. It all goes back to the old adage, "Safety in Numbers." We can feed off one another's presence, we can relax a bit and be encouraged that we are not so few, or to some, not alone. In Memphis and in Tennessee, despite the best efforts of the few and the brave, we are not taken seriously as a community. We are not taken seriously as a voting bloc. Our numbers do not show.

It is, second, openness that is important. AIDS has brought us together in a lot of ways. But unless Gays and Lesbians can get together on something and be ourselves, it doesn't help. People can hide behind AIDS work, face it, especially since

AIDS support systems are becoming increasingly mainstream. That does us absolutely no good whatever when it comes to basic human rights like those which have been challenged in Colorado, Oregon, Maine and especially in Nashville. How quick legislators who purport to be our friends will jump on the campaign safety bandwagon and betray us. The whole same-sex marriage issue is proof of that. We have no clout...unless we make ourselves known. Pride is a good opportunity.

It is, third, the acceptance that is important. I have had the argument about "image" and media countless times with friends and enemies and will do so until the day I go to that great Radical Faerie gathering in the sky. As a Gay Christian, it is very difficult to feel love and compassion for the Jerry Falwells and the Jesse Helms and the Phyllis Schafly's and the Jehovah's Witness in my office who gets prune-faced every time I talk about Pride. But, as a Christian Christian, I must try. It goes with the territory.

If we are to preach tolerance we must practice it. Those who whine that they are not represented by drag queens, dykes on bikes and the like must take it upon them-

selves to represent themselves. Really and truly, the fringe persons are vastly outnumbered in large pride celebrations throughout the country by everyday beautiful people who look and act very much like other everyday people. If one waits for the "undesirables" to go away before they participate, who is to guarantee there will be anybody at all? Courage, great courage, is the prime ingredient and people of courage come in all sorts. One can do it without a medal from a wizard. It can be acquired very easily.

Finally, as those of us who march all over do, one must bring it home. Acceptance must begin with one's self, extend to those closest to us, then to co-workers,

church members and ultimately to society, little by little. It has to stay with a person at home, with relatives, at work and in the voting booth. It is chillingly clear that, unless we change things for ourselves, our elected officials are not about to do it for us. The recent Supreme Court decision is only the affirmation of what the Constitution said in the first place over 200 years ago. If we are going to see the times and society change it is up to us to do it.

Be strong, be vocal, be proud. I'll be right beside you and we will change the world, maybe not today, or next year, but we will.

Promise.

L E T T E R S

The Triangle Journal News welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be as short as reasonable and typed if possible. Although names may be withheld on request, all letters should be signed and include a phone number for verification. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All letters are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation and grammar. However every effort will be made to maintain the original intent of the writer.

Letters should be mailed to: Triangle Journal News, P.O. Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111-0485 or faxed to (901) 454-1411. Our e-mail address is TJNmemphis@AOL.com.

Happy to Hear!

I felt compelled to let you know how much my partner and I enjoy reading your monthly newspaper. We especially enjoy the "Sad to say, Happy to hear" column written by Butch Valentine.

Being involved with the ongoing saga on the HIV/AIDS front, you are bombarded with a multitude of articles, case studies, journals etc. It is so nice to find a compact version of so many of these topics executed in a positive and sometimes humorous manner. Without

filtering through all the periodicals and articles enables us to have more time to LIVE POSITIVELY.

Thanks and keep up the good work!

C & C
Memphis, TN

We're really pleased to have Butch on board as a new writer for TJN. For those of you who don't know him, he's very much involved in Friends For Life activities, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Consortium, the Lambda Men's Chorus and fending off Mule's advances through our classifieds. —Eds.



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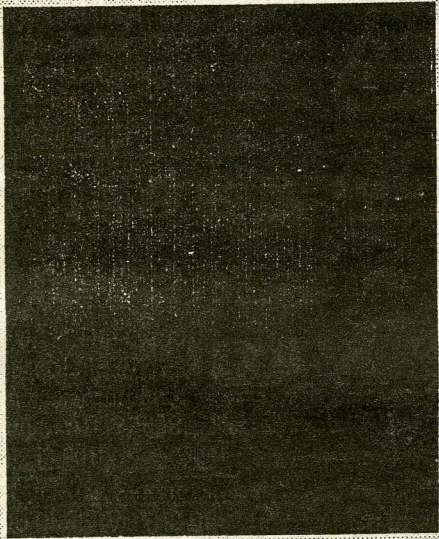
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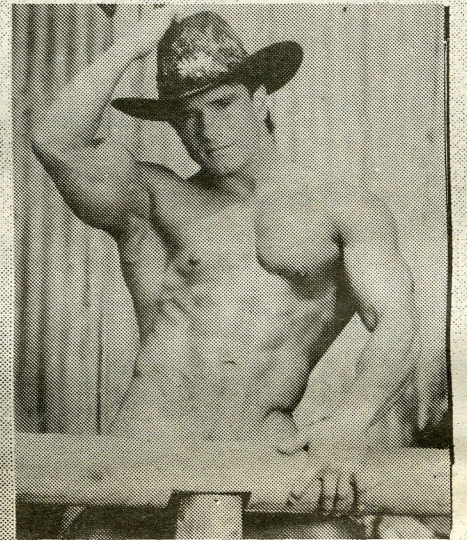
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An Election-Year Strategy to Score Points Against Gay Men and Lesbians,' HRC Says

WASHINGTON — Religious political extremists have orchestrated the introduction of anti-Gay marriage bills in at least 33 state legislatures and the U.S. Congress in an election-year strategy to score political points against Gay men and

Lesbians, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

HRC, the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization, has issued a report on Gay marriage to coincide with the unveiling of the first federal bill to ban same-sex

marriage. That measure is being sponsored by Reps. Bob Barr, R-Ga., and Steve Largent, R-Ok.

"This is a calculated national assault on the lives of Lesbian and Gay people," HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch said at a news con-

ference. "Religious political extremists are using this issue as an election year baseball bat to bash Gay Americans and score political points. These elected leaders are supposed to be focusing on the business of the country. Don't they have anything better to do than fixate on divisive social issues?"

Daniel Zingale, HRC's political director, noted that the bills are unnecessary and may be unconstitutional.

"All these bills are being positioned as pre-emptive strikes against the possibility that the state of Hawaii may soon legalize same-sex marriage," Zingale said. "However, Hawaii is unlikely to approve same-sex marriage for at least two years, so these states are legislating against a non-existent institution. Plus, they may violate the 'full faith and credit clause' of the U.S. Constitution."

HRC released copies of its report, *Wedded to Intolerance*, which exposes the false and defamatory rhetoric being used by religious political organizations as they spread these bills from statehouse to statehouse and attempt to inject this issue into the presidential campaign. To date, eight states have passed laws that would ban marriage between people of the same sex. They are: Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Utah. Anti-Gay marriage legislation remains pending in eight states, and measures were defeated, withdrawn or killed in 17 states.

Among the report's key findings is that the overall anti-Gay marriage strategy was hatched at a meeting in January of religious political extremists. That meeting included many of the same religious political leaders who were involved in crafting and introducing anti-Gay ballot initiatives.

"Since most of the discriminatory ballot initiatives failed, these extremists went hunting for a new way to scapegoat Gay men and Lesbians," Birch said. "This is just a new manifestation of the same hateful tactics they have used in the past."

Also, Jay Sekulow, an attorney affiliated with Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, has admitted in several public forums that his mission this year is to see anti-Gay marriage bills introduced in all 50 state legislatures, according to the report.

Finally, HRC found that coordinated messages have emerged in the nationwide campaign to pass laws restricting marriage.

A primary tactic is to mischaracterize Gay marriage as an attack on heterosexuals and on traditional marriage and family.

A secondary message is to claim that legalizing Gay marriage opens the door to absurd pairings or multi-person unions.

A third line of argument tries to link Gay marriage to the spread of HIV and AIDS and plays upon the unfounded stereotype that Gay people are incapable of long-term relationships.

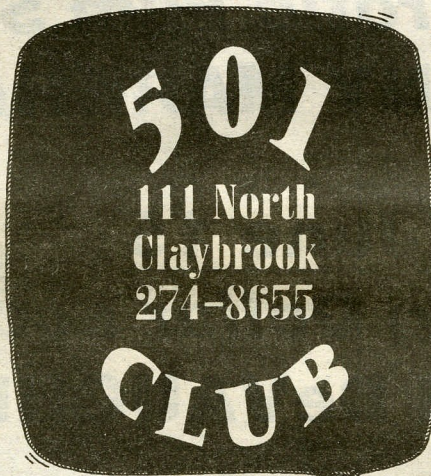


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Anti-Gay Marriage Bill Unconstitutional Federal Intrusion, HRC Says

WASHINGTON — Legislation to give the federal government power over marriage for the first time in U.S. history is an unconstitutional intrusion into state sovereignty, Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, testified.

"In the entire history of this nation — for over 200 years — never has the federal government intervened in the state regulation of marriage. Never," Birch told the House Judiciary subcommittee on the Constitution. "So what is really going on here? I am afraid this legislation will

be viewed as a mean-spirited, cynical election-year ploy Surely the Congress has much better things to do — like attend to the business of the nation."

Birch, former chief litigator for Apple Computer, explained how the bill — H.R. 3396 — unconstitutionally infringes on states' rights.

"The definition and administration of marriage has in all previous times in our history been left to the states," Birch said. "The proposed legislation is not only a bad idea, it is an unprecedented intrusion into state sovereignty and is unconstitu-

tional."

Birch pointed out that Congress is not empowered to limit the "full faith and credit" clause of the Constitution, under which states must recognize the laws and judicial proceedings of other states.

"If Congress can simply alter the definition of marriage at its whim, what is to stop it from deciding at some future time that in the interest of family values, marriage should only be extended to those who can procreate or those who have entered into first marriages but not second or third?"

Birch also discussed the political context in which this legislation has been introduced. "The political climate is marked by increasing chaos, demagoguery, hatred, ignorance and upheaval — with the scapegoating of Gay Americans on the rise," she said.

And she noted that there is no state in the country where people of the same sex can be legally married. Outside the hearing, HRC's po-

litical director, Daniel Zingale, said, "This hearing was nothing more than a Bob Dole for President publicity stunt."

"The Senate majority leader made a political calculation to become an original co-sponsor of an identical bill in the Senate," Zingale added. "Clearly, Dole is trying to inject this issue into the presidential race as he continues to flounder for a message and an agenda."

Clinton Would Sign Legislation Outlawing Gay Marriages

By Laura Meckler
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In what opposing sides both called evidence of President Clinton's strategic move to the political center, the White House said Clinton would sign legislation outlawing Gay marriages.

In angry reaction, a Gay-rights group withdrew an invitation for a White House adviser to speak at a dinner in June.

Clinton is on record opposing same-sex marriages, and the White House already had said the president might sign a bill pending in Congress that would allow states to reject same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Identical bills are before committees in the House and Senate.

Anticipating that Gay marriages may soon be legalized in Hawaii, the bills would allow states to reject same-sex marriages performed in

other states. But it wouldn't block any state from conferring its own legal status on same-sex unions.

The bill also defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

But press secretary Mike McCurry's firm statement May 22 that Clinton would sign the bill prompted the Human Rights Campaign to withdraw its invitation for White House adviser George Stephanopoulos to speak at a dinner in San Francisco on June 15. He already had accepted the invitation.

"This is a time to fortify the community," Russ Roeca, co-chairman of the event, said in a statement. "We need voices of strength and hope, and at the moment, George Stephanopoulos is neither."

Stephanopoulos did not return a call seeking comment.

Religious conservatives lobbying for the measure responded that they are pleased Clinton will sign the bill but said it doesn't make up for his

support of other Gay issues.

"I must admit that I'm suspicious that his statement today is merely part of the now well-publicized effort to look like a conservative candidate for president," said Gary Bauer, president of the conservative Family Research Council.

The head of the Human Rights Campaign agreed that it was a tactical move.

"The signing of the bill is a capitulation to political religious extremist organizations," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the group that lobbies on Gay and Lesbian issues. "We are saddened and very disappointed that the president needed to deal with this in a politically expedient manner."

The White House has complained that Republicans are using the issue as a political tool and a "wedge issue." But McCurry said Clinton would sign the legislation if it were to pass as currently written.

Clinton Extends Federal Assistance for People with AIDS.

By Sonya Ross
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wishing aloud that a cure for AIDS will be found soon, President Clinton renewed federal assistance for AIDS patients May 20 and pledged \$52 million toward providing better drugs.

Before a roomful of AIDS activists, Clinton signed a five-year extension of the Ryan White CARE Act, which was created to help communities cope with the AIDS epidemic.

The law helps pay for home care, transportation, counseling, hospice care and other support for people with AIDS or HIV. More than 300,000 people have received care under the law since it was passed six years ago. The law provides funding for a number of AIDS service

organizations in the Memphis area including Friends for Life, Aloysius Home, Loving Arms and Hope House, among others.

"AIDS has taken too many friends and relatives and loved ones from every one of us," Clinton said. "It has shaken the faith of many. Even as we celebrate our progress, we shouldn't forget that the fight is not over."

The law devotes \$738 million toward AIDS support services for fiscal 1996, up from \$632 million last year. Clinton awarded \$350 million, the remainder already has been allocated.

As Clinton signed the law, White's mother, Jeanne White, stood beside him, resting her hand gently on his shoulder.

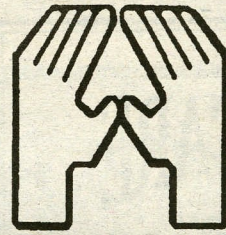
"Let us all pray that no president will ever have to sign another bill because, by then, we will have found

a cure for AIDS and a vaccine to protect every American," Clinton said.

Clinton also announced that states would receive \$52 million for providing "lifesaving and life-extending" new AIDS drugs and therapies to HIV patients who cannot afford them.

The Ryan White Act, Clinton said, provides people with AIDS the medical care and support services they need to enjoy a higher quality of life. As a result, people are living longer and infection rates are falling, he said.

"At one time, AIDS was thought of as inevitably the end of life, the death of hope," Clinton said. "But today, through the twin miracles of science and spirit, we're making great progress. There is hope for a cure."



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Poll: Utah Split Almost Evenly on Gay Clubs

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Utah residents are nearly evenly split over whether clubs for Gay and Lesbian students should be allowed at public high schools.

A poll of 624 adults, conducted by Valley Research and published May 12 in a copyright story of *The Salt Lake Tribune*, also indicates that less than a quarter of the respondents believe the Utah Legislature is the proper arena to decide

the issue.

The survey, taken May 7-9, has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Half of those surveyed would not support Gay clubs under any conditions, while nearly that many would accept such clubs — especially if the parents of participating students approve.

In all, only 15 percent unconditionally favored after-school

Gay and Lesbian clubs, but an additional 26 percent would support such clubs if parental permission is required.

Another 4 percent listed other conditions as a prerequisite for their approval, for a total of 45 percent. Five percent were uncertain.

When it came to who ought to decide if such clubs should be allowed, 42 percent favored individual school districts. Another 15 percent chose the federal government, while 23 percent said the decision belonged with the Legislature. Another 20 percent either were unsure or did not want to answer the question.

The Utah Legislature, in a special session last month, outlawed Gay and Lesbian clubs in all of the state's public high schools following efforts by students at East High School to form a Gay-straight alliance.

A court suit on the constitutionality of the law, which takes effect mid-June, has been promised.

According to the poll, young adults appeared less inclined to oppose the clubs outright. Older respondents were more likely to say the issue ought to be decided on the school-board level, with overall respondents in Weber and Davis counties most heavily favoring local control.

Weber County respondents displayed the most opposition to the clubs, with 75 percent unconditionally against. By comparison, in northeast and northwest Salt Lake County, 36 percent of the respondents said they generally were opposed.

Seven in 10 active members of the Mormon Church opposed the clubs under any condition, while less than a quarter of the non-Mormons interviewed — making up a third of the overall respondent sample — were opposed.

Gap Narrower than Two Years Ago on Anti-Gay Initiative

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The edge opponents have over supporters of the proposed anti-Gay initiative is markedly narrower this spring than it was two years ago when the proposition ultimately failed by less than 3,100 votes.

A statewide public opinion survey conducted by the Social Science Research Center at Boise State University showed 46 percent of those questioned opposing the initiative and 34 percent supporting it.

Two years ago, the same survey in the spring found 54 percent opposed to the proposal and 26 percent for it.

Both polls had the undecided category at 20 percent.

The telephone survey of 592 randomly selected people was conducted during three weeks in February. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percent points.

The initiative being circulated by the Idaho Citizens Alliance would ban state or local laws protecting homosexuals from discrimination. It is a modified version of the proposal that was narrowly rejected by a record non-presidential election turnout in 1994. Opponents mounted a \$475,000 campaign to defeat the initiative that the alliance and its allies spent less than \$185,000 to promote.

Alliance founder Kelly Walton said initiative forces are at about the same stage in signature gathering as they were two years ago. They must obtain 41,335 registered voter signatures by July 5 to put the initiative on the November ballot.

"The last four to six weeks is

crunch time, and if our volunteers come through for us like they did the last time it's going to happen for us," Walton said.

Although some 8,000 more signatures are needed this year than in 1994, Walton said the alliance essentially collected enough two years ago to meet the higher total had it been in effect then.

Some believe the polling numbers continue to reflect the refusal of voters to reveal their true position on such a controversial social issue. That was reinforced by the university's 1995 public opinion survey in which only 38 percent of the respondents said they voted for the proposition while 62 percent said they voted against it when the actual vote was almost even.

Analysts speculated that those answers reflected the how people wished they had voted rather than how they actually voted.

According to the latest survey women were more likely than men to oppose the initiative while men were more likely to support it. Opposition was also found among the more economically and socially liberal respondents while support for the proposal increased as the period of residence in Idaho increased.

The poll found that 55 percent of the respondents described themselves as social conservatives while just 20 percent said they were liberals.

It also found that only 2.2 percent of those questioned believed that ethics and moral decline were the most pressing problem facing Idaho.

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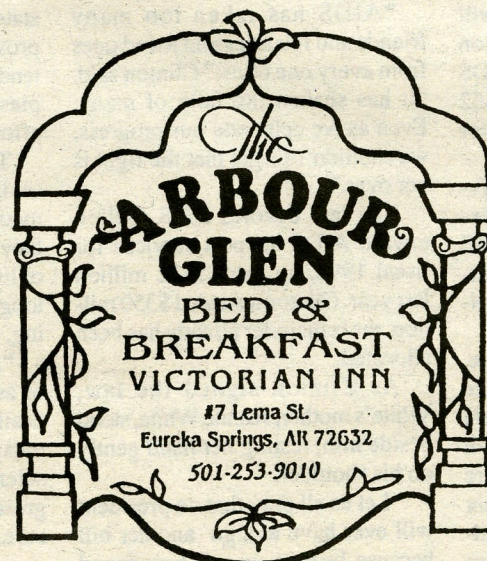
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FREE PERSONALS IN TJN

See page 34 for details



Dole's D.C. Campaign Runs Ad in Gay Paper

WASHINGTON (AP) — The group running Bob Dole's local campaign for next week's District of Columbia primary has taken out a half-page ad in a Gay newspaper.

The ad, which appeared in the *Washington Blade*, urges "Republicans for a strong and united Republican Party, vote Bob Dole for president on May 7."

The \$425 ad was paid for by the Bob Dole Delegate Committee, which is running Dole's campaign in the nation's capital and operates independently of the main Dole campaign.

"Why not?" said D.C. Republican Committee chairwoman and Dole delegate Julie Finley, who coordinated the advertising campaign. "It's just another publication. It's a newspaper and it has readership and people who read it support Bob Dole."

Dole made headlines last year when his campaign first accepted a \$1,000 check from the national Gay group Log Cabin Republicans, then returned it saying the group's views were not compatible with Dole's. Dole later said it was a mistake to return the contribution.

Dole campaign spokesman

Nelson Warfield said the national campaign had no control over the placing of the ad in the *Blade*.

"This group isn't controlled by Bob Dole, it's independent of the campaign," Warfield said.

"There are probably plenty of *Blade* readers who are fed up with Bill Clinton's broken promises," Warfield said. "And we're not going to second-guess the local group who independently placed these ads."

Blade senior editor Lisa Keen was skeptical.

"I suppose if somebody had checked in with the national campaign, they might have had some strong feelings about the placement of the ad," Keen said.

Eddie Murphy Responds to Gay Activist Protest

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Actor Eddie Murphy apologized May 10 for comments he made in 1981 about how AIDS can be transmitted, saying he was a young, misinformed comic at the time.

"I deeply regret any pain all this has caused," Murphy said in a statement regarding comments he made during a 1981 HBO show called *Delirious*.

His statement came in response to AIDS activists who had demanded that David Letterman remove Murphy as a guest for Thursday's *Late Show* because the comic never properly apologized for the remarks.

In the HBO show, Murphy commented on promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases, saying that AIDS might be transmitted through kissing. Research has shown that

AIDS is transmitted through bodily fluids, such as blood and semen. There is a small chance it can be transmitted through saliva.

Among the protestors was San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who is Gay.

Ammiano read his own version of Letterman's Top 10 List. Calling it "Ten Reasons Why Murphy Should Not Appear," he somberly recited the names of 10 well-known people who have died of AIDS.

Murphy appeared on the show as scheduled.

"I know AIDS isn't funny," Murphy said in the statement, adding that he is more knowledgeable about AIDS now.

"I think it's unfair to take the words of a misinformed 21-year-old and apply them to an informed 35-year-old man ... I want to once again go on the record as saying that I'm not homophobic and I'm not anti-Gay," he said.

Murphy signed the statement: "Peace, love and condoms, Eddie Murphy."

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6th Annual Miss J-Wag's Pageant

Friday, June 14 — 10:30 p.m.

Applications at J-Wag's, The Pub & Star Search Video

Gay Alternative Leaves WEVL Radio

by Vincent Astor

Last month, the Gay Alternative, a weekly radio show on station WEVL, signed off for the last time. It had provided a radio voice for the Gay and Lesbian community in Memphis for 15 years and, for many of those years, was the sole contact many of its listeners had with the G/L community.

A year ago, its perennial time slot was changed. The 8 p.m. time slot was less convenient for producer/announcer Pat Jones and the calls to the show decreased significantly. She stresses this and a change of attitude at the station, long described as "alternative ra-

dio" with creative programming as its hallmark. "All the old hippies we started with are all gone," she says. "They didn't kick me off, but I just got tired of fooling with them, of being harassed and of no positive feedback.

"In 15 years we never missed a show, we were never late. We were one of the top two shows during pledge drive; I think the oldest show on the air. I deserved more consideration," said Jones. She remembers numerous calls for referrals, and questions and just talk, most of which were not heard on the air. "Out of questions which came out of the show, workshops resulted concerning Lesbians and AIDS and women's health care. We played

AIDS in Focus before the NEA cut its funding. We were able to be very frank about AIDS prevention and other health issues and we got away with a lot." Listeners were about equally male and female, Jones said.

The station tried a year ago to switch first to all talk and then all music. They also switched the show's time slot. "WEVL has

changed a lot. A lot more conservative. Two people doing gospel shows are on the programming committee and I didn't want to put up with the homophobia around there," Jones said, "but there is a lot more now for people to read, listen to and see. They have more resources. But 15 years ago we were one of a very few, and I feel we made a difference."

MGLCC Sets Board Elections

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) will conduct board elections on July 6. Anyone interested in either becoming a member or running for an office should contact the Center through the Gay Switchboard at 728-4297. Available positions are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and Member-At-Large.

All that is required is maturity, responsibility, patience, a year's commitment and some amount of tenacity. It wouldn't hurt to have a

car, but a ride can be provided, given arrangements.

The Center Board organizes upcoming Center events and fund-raisers, among other things.

Meetings are held the first weekend of each month at the Center, 1486 Madison Ave. If you feel unable to commit to the responsibility of a position on the board, yet want to give time, consider attending a meeting. The Center is what you make it.

Safe Harbor MCC Attends Conference

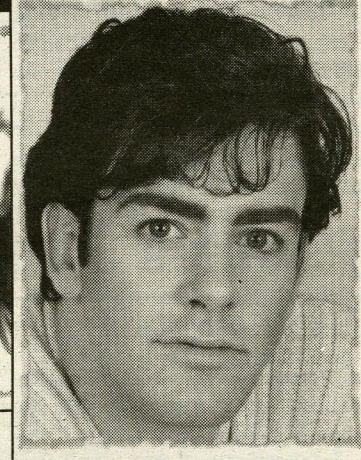
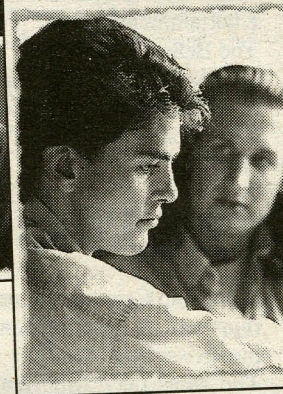
Safe Harbor Metropolitan Community Church attended the District Conference of the Gulf Lower Atlantic District (GLAD) of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) in May.

The conference was held in Nashville and was attended by more than 30 churches from the southeast region (Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee). GLAD is the fastest growing district in the UFMCC with Safe Harbor being one of the fastest growing congregations in the district. The UFMCC is one of the ten fastest growing Christian denominations in the United States.

Present at the conference were Rev. Elder Don Eastman, one of the seven sitting on the Board of Elders. This board is responsible for the spiritual direction of the UFMCC. This conference held an ordination of clergy by a local district Board of Ordained Ministry. Previously, ordinations had only been performed at the General Conference level. Topics discussed at the conference were inclusivity and diversity and how these were to be implemented.

Safe Harbor also brought home the banner for having the highest percentage of a congregation present at the conference. This banner will be carried in this year's Pride Parade.

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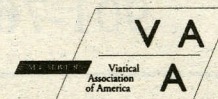
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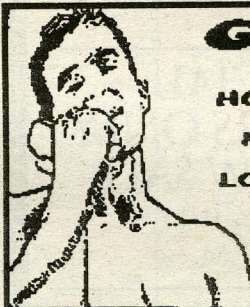
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Boat Ride Moves To Friday, Set for Showboat

Submitted by MGLCC

On Fri., June 7, in conjunction with the Memphis Pride, Inc., the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) is proud to again sponsor a river boat cruise down the Mississippi River on the famed "Memphis Showboat."

This event will kick off a Gay and Lesbian Pride weekend which celebrates the diversity of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community.

In the past, this event has proven to be one of the most entertaining of the Pride celebration. The boat ride

has moved to the day prior to the Pride Parade and Festival in order to allow everyone to enjoy the activities without feeling they have to rush off to the boat.

Other changes this year include the use of the "Showboat," which holds 500 people, appetizers and dry snacks will be provided, at least two cash bars will be available, and live entertainment will be provided by The Belle Curves.

Boarding will begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Monroe St. docks and the boat will sail at 9:00 p.m. for a three-hour cruise.

Tickets are available through the MGLCC and will be on sale at area bars at various times before the event. Tickets are also available at Dabbles Hair. Co., Meristem and Star Search Video. Advance tickets are \$20 with tickets being sold at the dock for \$25.

Support the Gay and Lesbian Community in Memphis and have a truly entertaining evening. Contact the MGLCC through the Gay Switchboard at 901-728-GAYS for last minute information.

Pebbles Selected Miss Gay Tennessee

Submitted by Kay Entertainment

Pebbles was crowned Miss Gay Tennessee 1996 on May 4 at the pageant held at Holy Trinity Community Church. Pebbles and first

runner-up Crystal Jo Jennings will represent the state of Tennessee at the Miss Gay America Pageant. The Miss Gay America Pageant will be held in Charlotte, N.C. Oct. 16-20.

We would also like to thank the other contestants in this year's pageant because without you, there would not be a Miss Gay Tennessee Pageant. A big thanks goes to Holy Trinity Community Church for the use of its facilities and all its help and support. Thanks to all of the advertisers who placed ads in this year's program— your support was greatly appreciated. To all of our sponsors and vendors, thank you for your timely deliveries and set-up.

Last we would like to thank everyone who attended this event. We hope you had a good time in spite of the heat. We tried to make this entertaining for you by bringing in some of the best female impersonators in the country to entertain you between categories. Kay Entertainment Productions will be bringing other events and entertainment to Memphis via local bars and other entertainment outlets, so keep your eyes posted for additional information on times and events.

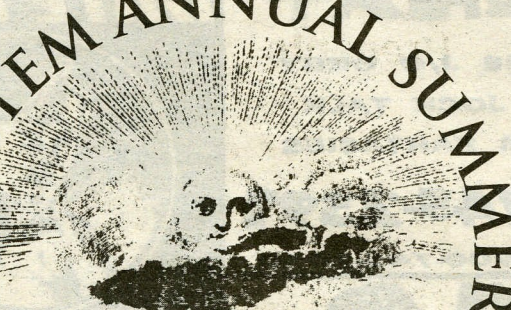
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Softball League Play Is Underway, Miller Lite Signs On As League Sponsor

Submitted by
The Bluff City Sports Association

The Bluff City Sports Association Softball League is already into its seventh week of play. Action is proving hot and heavy with plenty of fans in the stands cheering their favorite team on.

All games are played at Audubon Park, corner of Southern and Goodlett, beginning at 12:30 Sunday afternoons.

Results from May 12
Peepers 13 – Pirates 10
Peepers 15 – Clippers 7
Jaguars 23 – WKR Bee's 1
Haze 12 – Knight's 9

Results from May 19
Knights 22 – Clippers 10
Jaguars 14 – Pirates 7
Haze 15 – Peepers 0
Pirates 16 – WKR Bee's 6

Standings as of May 19

Amnesia Haze (6-0)
J-Wag's Jaguars (4-1)
Mid-South Vision Peepers (4-2)
Pipeline Pirates (3-3)
Amnesia Knights (2-4)
Cole Haysten Clippers (1-4)
WKR Bee's (0-6)

A.S. Barbaro, Inc., distributor of Miller Lite products, has agreed to become the Bluff City Sports Association Softball League sponsor for 1996. Miller Lite has been a sponsor of the Pride parade in 1995 and 1996 and their agreement to support the softball league in its first year is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to Tommy Stewart, owner of J-Wag's and Autumn St. Pub, for his assistance in helping acquire Miller Lite as a league sponsor. Now is the time for us to show our support to Miller Lite Brewing Company. Buy their products.

Alliance Plans Month-Long Series of Events To Celebrate 5th Anniversary

Submitted by Alliance

June 1, Saturday night 10 p.m. Alliance L.L. will host a "Dare to Go Bare...Bear" club night at Pipeline. There will be skin contests, hairy whatever contests, prizes, shooters, and a variety of other neat nifty stuff designed to entertain the enlightened masses. Bears and bear admirers are encouraged to participate. Half of all proceeds will benefit Memphis Pride.

On Sat. June 8 at 10 p.m. there will be an Alliance cocktail party held at 501 Club, with other surprises in store for those still recovering from the parade and festival earlier that day.

The next day, Sun., June 9, Alliance will host the buffet at Pipeline around 5 p.m. An interesting menu is in the works and we urge the public to come feast with us and help us

celebrate our fifth year of service to the Mid South Gay community.

A road trip to Birmingham, Ala. as guests of the Steel City Centurions is in the works and anyone interested in going should contact any Alliance L.L. member for more information.

We would also like to congratulate Tsarus on what is said to be the best Aida ever, and are all looking forward to number 20 next summer.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Alliance should feel free to contact any member of the club or call S.W. at 901-388-9986.

New in town? Our potlucks, held once a month, are a great way to safely and sanely meet new friends and visit with old ones.

Thanks to everyone who has helped and supported us all these years in our efforts. Hope to see you at an Alliance LL. function soon!

Talk to Lady A

E-Mail

TJN Memphis@AOL.com

Transition—A Review

Review by Vincent Astor

Transition by Den-Nickolas Smith was produced by the newly-rejuvenated Lollipop Guild Productions at Theatreworks in May. It is the second in what promises to be a trilogy of plays which began with *Battle Scars* produced at the downtown location of Theatreworks in 1990. Approximately the same number of years has passed both in real time and in the story.

The central theme of the piece is, in the playwright's words, "letting go of the past is often the most important lesson we can learn in life." The central problem is the traumatic death of Ben, a young, naive, idealistic romantic. In the earlier play, he had become infatuated with Drey, a coarse, bluff, role-playing fetish daddy. The accidental death of Drey's former lover, after a heavy S/M scene, has left its own set of scars, which cannot be healed by even the best efforts of his current lover, August, another role-player who has gone to great lengths to conceal his real name. Ben is killed, accidentally, after numerous dialogues, arguments and an egged-on rape of Ben by Drey, complicated by a fourth character named Taz who has tricked with both Ben and Drey. Emphasize complicated.

The second play opens with an almost identical scene as the first one; there is one genuine and one virtual flashback. In this play, August (now called David, his real name) is destroying his relationship with current lover Troy (young, slender, innocent and compassionate) by clinging to Ben's diary and keeping the memory of the tragedy much too alive. August stomps out abruptly (and not unexpectedly) to find Drey and Taz again, for the sake of closure. He encounters Taz, now introspective and morose; Ben's father, Steve, who fluctuates between putting up a brave front and genuine fury at his son's death; Troy, who in the best "Stand By Your Man" fashion tries to fix things; and finally Drey who has made his peace with the situation and does not want to relate to August/David who cannot let go of the memory. A scene of abrupt surprise revelations with the added sauce of violence provides the climax and all is explained. Of course it is David/August who is the truly crazy one and claims responsibility for Ben's death. Ben's ghost, who has appeared to Troy (by means of Troy's own innocence and naivete), relived his death, showed he can operate a slide projector and spoken in genii-esque riddles, is laid to rest when the diary is returned.

The play is even more complicated than this brief outline but not an especially memorable evening. Its predecessor did some exploration into the darker side of S/M leather fetish but there is none of that titillation in *Transition*. The plot's twistings and turnings are acceptable, if sometimes predictable; the moral is valid; and the ghost's being unable to rest and/or leave this plane is metaphysically correct. It even has some similarities to Oscar Wilde's *The Canterville Ghost* or many other restless-spook stories.

The chief problem is the dialogue. Den-Nickolas Smith is a poet and has won some recognition as such. The style of his dialogue does not fit the character types he has chosen to create and it is very difficult for an actor to attempt elaborate dialogue and a realistic character unless it is completely poetry or prose (either Shakespeare or Arthur Miller, for example).

The two things I missed the most were the undertones of sexuality, more properly *undertow*, in the earlier piece, and the unconscious masculinity of the previous actors. There were handsome men and plenty of flesh to peruse, but no sensuality or chemistry and very little strong masculinity.

Ron Gephart as Steve, Ben's father, whose experience as an actor served him well, had the most natu-

ral performance and handled the dialogue best. Brett D. Cullum as Taz, Anthony Flessas as Troy and the playwright as the ghost of Ben turned in admirable performances (E for effort), the easiest being the Ben character because he has a reason to be ethereal and obtuse, being a ghost. It was a serious disappointment to see the character of Drey (Hal Harmon) change from something out of a *Drummer* illustration (in the previous play) to a restrained, cuddly bear even when described, in best foreshadowing mode, as "Psycho Man." The part of August/David (Marc Surles) is the most difficult and angst-ridden role in the play but the gamut of emotions required did not quite make it in performance. In fact, generally the performances were almost, but not quite, complete. And, the disclaimer about "involve-

ment in this production is in no way indicative of sexual preference" makes my blood boil. Welcum to Mayumphiyus, y'all! Put that stuff in the biographies where it belongs!

The set was adequate and functional, sound and special effects suitable, though the slide projector was used to death. A bit of technical surrealism in certain scenes might have helped. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained.

The Lollipop Guild has metamorphosed into etc (emerald theatre company). The company plans to produce quality cutting edge works dealing with controversial issues that would not ordinarily be produced by conventional theatres in the Memphis area. I hope to see more. Theatreworks itself is a fine, though very basic, performing space and a far cry from its earlier incarnation.

Craig Spain Killed in Nashville

Craig Spain, noted Nashville scenic designer, was found stabbed to death in the home he shared with his parents in Nashville, on May 14. He was 42. His credits included the Nashville Ballet, Tennessee Repertory Theatre, the Circle Players; opera companies in Texas, Kentucky and Carolina and numerous music videos. He spent several years in Memphis doing scenic design work in the 1980s, primarily at Playhouse on the Square. His most recent work in Memphis was for the 1991 Playhouse production of *Oklahoma*. He leaves his parents and one sister. A memorial service was held in the Polk theatre at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center on May 19. The funeral was held the following day with burial in Nashville. Memorial contributions may be made to the Craig Spain Fund c/o the Nashville Community Foundation, 210 23rd Ave, Nashville, TN 37203.

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June 30th

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Show at 9:00 p.m.
Prizes for Best Beach Attire
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Gay Cruises, Resorts and Travel Agencies: Big Business

By Victoria Brentt
Associated Press Writer

As the cruise ship motors toward the next Greek island, Mark Dietz, lounging by the pool, leans over and kisses his boyfriend. They hold hands. They talk intimately.

No one stares. In fact, no one even seems to notice.

But then, Dietz isn't on one of those Carnival cruises with bubbly Kathie Lee and her husband, Frank. And while it's a "Love Boat" of sorts, you won't find Julie McCoy or Capt. Stubbing playing matchmaker to these folks.

Dietz, a 43-year-old health care management consultant from Minneapolis, is on a Gay-only cruise.

"You have this great feeling of freedom that you can be exactly who you want to be," said Dietz, who has been on eight Gay cruises. "You can hold hands and kiss in public."

Cruises like this one by RSVP Travel Productions Inc. are part of

the growing Gay and Lesbian travel industry, which includes everything from Gay bed-and-breakfasts to Gay and Lesbian tours through Europe.

"Gay and Lesbian travel is the up and coming niche market in the travel business," said travel agent Paul Bernard, president of Adventure Travel in Scarborough, Maine. "You're talking about people who have higher than average incomes and fewer expenses because they're not raising kids — most of them. They have a lot of disposable income."

Bernard became a member of the International Gay Travel Association four years ago. Now, being the only IGTA-member travel agent in Maine, 40 percent of his customers are Gay or Lesbian.

The IGTA, based in Key West, Fla., estimates its member travel agents book about \$1 billion in business a year. And its guesthouse and hotel members bring in more than \$75 million. The travel association,

which started in 1983 with 25 members, now has more than 1,200 members from travel agencies to major airlines to hotels.

"The tourism industry is starting to wake up to the fact that we're everywhere and we have money to spend," said Thom Tabor, 34, of San Francisco, who is planning his first trip to England this month with his lover.

But Tabor, originally from South Portland, Maine, confessed he's a little apprehensive about his upcoming vacation. How will the British react to two men in the same room? In the same bed? Can they hold hands?

"In San Francisco, you get spoiled by the fact that you don't have to hide anything," he said.

"If we're going to a big city we have no hesitation," Tabor said. "But when you get out into more rural areas it becomes a question mark."

Enter the Gay-friendly travel agency. Bernard set them up in Gay-welcoming areas and reserved rooms at Gay bed-and-breakfasts.

Bernard calls this the "comfort factor" — the biggest reason why Gays and Lesbians book their travel through him. Gay couples don't get

hassled with looks and hotel workers snickering, "OH HHH, you want ONE king-sized bed. Are you sure you don't want two beds?" Bernard said. "You know people get sick of that."

Gay travelers also don't want to spend a lot of money on a nice vacation and have to worry about their safety or harassment. "You don't want to go on a cruise and have Jerry Falwell be in the next cabin," he said.

Since homosexual travel excursions aren't marketed in the mainstream media, travel agents like Bernard rely on newsletters, pamphlets and brochures to learn about new and hip destinations. The travelers then rely on Bernard.

"People always ask me: 'Where else can I go besides Key West?'" Bernard said.

A lot of places.

If you want to go to Club Med, but don't want the usual heterosexual atmosphere, Atlantis for men and Olivia for women rent time at the resorts for all-inclusive homosexual vacations.

If the "Leatherman's Tour of Dungeons in Europe" sounds too outrageous, there's always RSVP's cruise ship which goes to the Medi-

terranean, Mardi Gras in New Orleans, and South America.

For a little culture, the New York-based Our Family Abroad offers tours of ancient Egypt, 15 days in the "Golden Cities of China" or Bastille Day in Paris.

Right now the most popular Gay vacation destinations are San Francisco, Provincetown, Mass., Key West, Fla., Fire Island, N.Y., Rehoboth Beach, Del., and Saugatuck, Mich., according to Overlooked Opinions, a Chicago-based market research group that specializes in Gay issues.

But for adventurers who want something a little less predictable, Toto Tours in Chicago promotes "Fruits in Kiwiland," a trip to New Zealand; "The African Queens," a 15-day safari in Tanzania; and "Forbidden Pleasures," a tour through mainland China. They also have horseback riding through the Canadian Rockies, hiking and whale watching in Hawaii and whitewater rafting on the Grand Canyon.

"We get people into a natural place that they may not feel like going to with a regular group," said Dan Ware, president of Toto Tours. "It's much nicer to be in an all-Gay group."

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Activist Changes Name to Queerscout

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A Milwaukee AIDS activist and advocate for the Gay community has legally changed his name to the one-word name of Queerscout.

"I'm not doing this name change to prove a point. I'm doing it for personal spiritual convictions," the former Dennis LeRoy Bunch said May 13 shortly after the name change was approved by Milwaukee County Circuit Judge William J. Haese.

Bunch, 31, offered to give the judge a detailed explanation of why he had chosen the name, but Haese waved him off. The judge said he was satisfied with the reason Bunch had listed on his petition for name change: "Spiritual convictions/ritual."

"Queer is a dictionary term for unusual, different, out of the ordinary. I don't necessarily mean my sexuality," he said later.

"Scout is an explorer, someone who scouts things out. I try to explore life, the world of nature, the human experience."

He said he didn't want to wait to legally change his name because he has become sicker since the early 1980s when he tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. He said he served on Gay pride committees in Milwaukee and Madison.



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Gay Teen Challenges Britain's Age of Consent

LONDON (AP) — A Gay teenager is asking European courts to throw out Britain's law that sets the homosexual age of consent at 18 — two years older than the age for heterosexuals.

Euen Sutherland, 19, hopes to learn in a hearing whether the European Court of Human Rights, in Strasbourg, France, will accept his case.

Two years ago, Parliament low-

ered the homosexual age of consent from 21 in a controversial vote.

Opponents claimed some teens would be lured into a Gay lifestyle without being mature enough to understand all the consequences.

But Gay lobbyists sought to lower the age of consent to 16 years, as it is for heterosexuals. Sutherland now hopes to win that fight.

"It's normal for a 19-year-old bloke to be going out with a 17-year-

old girl," Sutherland said. "If I was doing that (with a 17-year-old male) it would be illegal. Both of us would be breaking the law. There are jail penalties."

Although prosecutors rarely bring cases against those who engage in consensual homosexual acts involving someone between 16 and 18 — convictions could lead to two years in jail for offenders from 16 to 20 years old, or up to five years in

prison for offenders 21 and older.

"We think we've got a pretty strong case," said Stephen Grosz, the teen's lawyer. "There's no justification for this discrimination."

The Home Office disagrees. "We will be contesting this case vigorously," a spokesman said.

Grosz said that if the European court accepts jurisdiction, a final decision is not expected for about two years.

Sutherland lives at home in Dulwich, South London, with his parents, who support his legal battle. The teen says he began having homosexual relationships at age 16 — making him a criminal.

"I'm very proud of him, to think he's got enough guts to stick by his principles and not be put down by the politicians and the media," said his father, Norman Sutherland.

It was Maria Da Conceicao dos Reis Who Gave Her Son a Mother's Day Gift

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — It was Maria da Conceicao Dos Reis who gave her son a mother's day present, and not the other way around.

The 66-year-old mother of Toni Reis, a Gay man, agreed to marry his British lover to prevent that man's extradition from Brazil.

Reis, 31, and Englishman David

Ian Harrad, 38, have maintained an exclusive relationship for four years in Brazil, where they live together.

But the government finally cracked down on Harrad, who had been leaving the country every six months to renew his tourist visa.

When Harrad was ordered to leave Brazil by May 15 or face extradition, Reis petitioned the justice

ministry and even the president to allow the two to marry. Authorities denied his request, since homosexual marriages are not officially recognized by law.

"It was the least I could do for my son's happiness," said Maria Dos Reis from her home in Curitiba, some 500 miles (843 kms) southwest of Rio.

"I sent him to a psychiatrist when he was 14 and I found out he was Gay. Now I'm paying him back for that embarrassment."

Brazilian law says that a foreigner married to a Brazilian cannot be extradited.

Harrad was busy Sunday making arrangements for his wedding. "Nobody can talk badly about mothers or mothers-in-law around me. That's for sure," he said.

Reis and Harrad also plan to challenge the law one more time by adopting a child, the Englishman said.

South Africa Bans Military Discrimination

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — The South African military was applauded by a Gay rights organization May 17 for its anti-discrimination policy.

The National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality said in a statement that the policy, announced in parliament earlier that week, makes South Africa one of only a few countries in the world to explicitly protect the rights of Gays and Lesbians in the military.

"The present policy ... does not prohibit the appointment of any person with homosexual preferences," South African National Defense Forces spokesman Capt. Louis Kirstein told the South African Press Association.

The military said it would not tolerate disruptive sexual behavior, whether it be homosexual or heterosexual.

The policy is in line with a new South African constitution adopted recently that is the only charter in the world to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.

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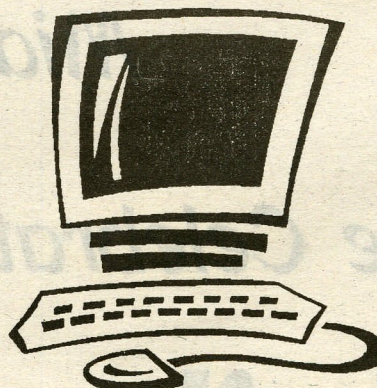


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Author: Gay Men Often Feared Rejection in Small Towns

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Gay men often move away from small hometowns because they fear rejection, says a Wisconsin man who has written a book about homosexuals growing up in rural areas.

And in the age of AIDS, when Gay men suffering from the fatal disease come home to family, many rural communities extend only qualified support, Will Fellows said.

"Often the gesture does not extend to a change in a world view about sexual orientation issues," Fellows said. "It's a gesture of smug Samaritans who are extending support to wayward souls who have come home to die. It's troubling, but maybe it's a step toward a breakthrough."

Fellows, a Gay man who grew up on a farm in south-central Wisconsin, now is a health and nutrition educator in Milwaukee. He said he felt like a misfit in the urban Gay community and he wondered if his feelings might have something to do with his rural upbringing.

Fellows could not find any literature on the subject, so he collected biographical information from Gay men who grew up on farms in eight Midwestern states. The result is a collection of distinct stories that Fellows stressed is not a statistical survey or an educational pamphlet.

It is titled *Farm Boys: Lives of Gay Men from the Rural Midwest* and will be published in October by the University of Wisconsin Press.

"It's turned out wonderfully," said Fellows, 38, during a recent visit to Lincoln to talk about the book. "I feel very fortunate to have been able to collaborate with these men in telling about their lives."

One message from the book is that "homosexuality is not an exclusively urban thing and Lesbians and Gay men come from all kinds of communities and families," Fellows said.

Fellows said he found that many of the men who now live in cities had not wanted to leave their rural communities and would still live there if they felt they could live honestly and openly.

Fellows also found that many of the men grew up feeling a sense of social isolation, and feeling deprived of information about their sexuality.

"Many of these men felt growing up in rural areas hindered their ability to recognize being Gay," Fellows said, "their ability to deal with sexuality in general and homosexuality in particular."

One of the men Fellows interviewed grew up on a 160-acre farm in southeast Nebraska and now lives in southern Wisconsin. Born in 1951, he is a writer and used the

pseudonym Martin Schertz in Fellows' book.

Schertz described an emotional tie to Nebraska: "When I go back home, I feel a real connection with the land — a tremendous feeling, spiritual in a way. It makes me want to go out into a field and take my shoes off and put my feet right on the dirt. I get homesick a lot, but I don't know if I could ever go back there and live. It's not the kind of place that would welcome me if I lived openly. I would be shunned."

West Hollywood Will Recognize Domestic Partners Other Cities Register

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Couples from cities that acknowledge the rights of unmarried partners can expect similar treatment when they visit this Southern California city.

The City Council on May 20 unanimously approved a program recognizing domestic partners registered in other cities.

"At a time when politicians are

The stories are about men born between 1909 and 1967. The men who participated had responded to information about Fellows' project that appeared in Gay and Lesbian publications. Fellows heard from 120 men, interviewed 75 and selected 25 for first-person narratives.

About half of the men agreed to have their names used in the book. Fewer than six still live in rural areas, and only a couple of them are still farming. One of the men described his desire to eventually tell

people in the agricultural community that he is Gay.

Said James Heckman of Indiana, who used a pseudonym: "Agriculture is my life. I like working with farm people, although they don't really understand me. When I retire I want the word to get out (that I'm Gay) to the people I've worked with, the dairy producers, the veterinarians, the feed salesmen, the guys at the co-ops. They're going to be shocked, but their eyes are going to be opened."

York City; Rochester, N.Y.; Travis County, Texas, and San Francisco.

West Hollywood's domestic partners program was established in 1985 and was the nation's first. The ordinance grants two unmarried adults the right to declare a domestic partnership. Such partners are treated as spouses and cannot be denied visitation rights in health care facilities and jails.

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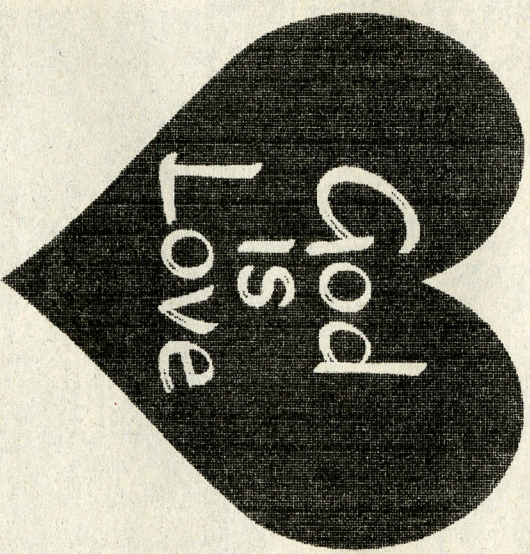
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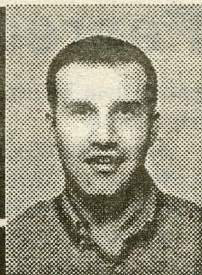
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PAST/OUT

BY DAVID BIANCO



What is the origin of the annual Gay and Lesbian pride events?

Many people know that the Gay and Lesbian marches, parades and festivals that take place every summer across America and around the world commemorate the Stonewall uprising of June 28, 1969. But the idea of a Gay event every summer actually goes back to the mid-1960s, to the "Annual Reminder" held every July 4th from 1965 to 1969.

The Annual Reminder was organized by the East Coast Homophile Organizations (ECHO), an umbrella organization of Gay and Lesbian groups in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. The first Annual Reminder took place in 1965 at Independence Hall in Philadelphia as one of a series of demonstrations protesting government policies that considered Gays and Lesbians to be security risks and unfit for both military and civilian employment.

While ECHO also picketed the White House, the Pentagon, and the

State Department in 1965, the Philadelphia protest became an annual tradition, with conservatively dressed Gays and Lesbians marching a stone's throw from the Liberty Bell on Independence Day five years in a row. Organizer Franklin Kameny, a long-time homophile activist and organizer of Mattachine Society-Washington, insisted that the women wear dresses and the men wear suits and ties. Protesters wore "Equality for Homosexuals" buttons and carried signs with slogans such as "Sexual Preference is Irrelevant to Federal Employment."

The 1969 Annual Reminder came within days of a series of clashes between police and Gays in New York City, sparked by a raid at the Stonewall bar in Greenwich Village. Most of the 40 or so New York Gays and Lesbians who had chartered a bus to join the Annual Reminder had "liberation" on their minds, not "equality." The activists who wanted to maintain the decorum of previous Annual Reminders

objected when a pair of Lesbians were seen holding hands. Kameny tried to separate the pair, much to the dismay of the Gay liberationists. Craig Rodwell, a New York activist who had proposed the Annual Reminder in the first place, was furious and led the New Yorkers in breaking the "rules" of the Annual Reminder. For the rest of the demonstration, the New York activists paired off and held hands in same-sex couples.

Rodwell engineered a resolution that passed at the November 1969 ECHO Conference to replace the Annual Reminder with a new, annual demonstration shifted a week earlier to commemorate "the 1969 spontaneous demonstrations on Christopher Street." The resolution dubbed the New York City protest "Christopher Street Liberation Day" and urged other cities to form their own, parallel demonstrations the same day. The new protest was inspired by the broader goals and more confrontational tactics of the bur-

geoning Gay liberation movement, in contrast to the public but polite protests of the homophile movement of the previous decade.

New York's first Christopher Street Liberation Day march was a part of a "Gay Pride Week" of activities including dances, political meetings and an erotic art show. The march itself, on Sunday, June 28, visibly reflected the liberationist style, including shirtless, long-haired marchers, "Gay Power" signs and open drug use. As with any march, crowd estimates vary widely, but perhaps five to 10 thousand Gays participated in the New York demonstration, with hundreds more in Los Angeles and Chicago.

The next year, the number of participants at the New York, Los Angeles and Chicago demonstrations grew sharply, and marches were added in Boston, New Orleans and other cities. Since then, events have been organized in every major city in America — some of which have continued the march/parade tradition, and some of which are more of a picnic or a festival. The issues most visibly represented in the pride events have varied widely — from opposing Anita Bryant in 1978 to supporting Gays in the military in 1993. But contemporary Gay pride events still draw on elements of the both the bold but conservative Annual Reminder and the confrontational, celebratory Christopher Street Liberation Day.

What was Evelyn Hooker's research about?

Dr. Evelyn Hooker was one of the first American psychologists to use the results of psychological research to argue for the decriminalization of homosexuality. Before Hooker began her work, most research on homosexuality relied on case histories of Gays and Lesbians who were hospitalized, incarcerated, or sought psychological help. Hooker was the first American psychologist to study well-adjusted members of the Gay

community.

Hooker was originally an animal psychologist, but in the mid-1940s she befriended a Gay student in one of her courses at UCLA. With his prodding, she began to explore the nature of homosexuality in her research. She recruited volunteers through homophile organizations and friendship networks for a study on the psychological adjustment of Gay men. She subjected 60 men, half of whom were Gay, to a series of personality tests, including the Rorschach or inkblot test. A panel of "experts" was utterly unable to determine who was Gay based on the results of the tests. Hooker argued that her results showed that homosexuality was not a sickness. Her research did not include Lesbians as subjects, however — mostly because she feared being labeled a Lesbian herself.

When Hooker presented her work in 1956 and 1957, she was attacked by many who were convinced that homosexuality was pathological. But when Hooker allowed her critics to review her data, they too were unable to identify the homosexuals based solely on the results of psychological tests.

In the late 1960s, Hooker took her science a step further when President Lyndon Johnson appointed her to lead a Task Force on Homosexuality for the National Institute of Mental Health. The report which her task force issued called for the repeal of sodomy laws, and was one of many influences on the 1973 decision by the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its list of mental diseases.

David Bianco, M.A., teaches Gay and Lesbian history and politics at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there's anything about the history of Gays and/or Lesbians you've always wondered about, contact him in care of this newspaper or through his E-mail address: AriBianco@aol.com.

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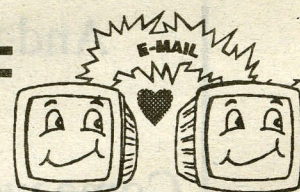
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Michael Horne, Cobb County Theatre Empresario, Dies at 41

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — Michael Horne, one of the founders of Theater in the Square whose productions helped bring about Cobb County's anti-Gay lifestyle statement, has died. He was 41.

Horne, who died May 12 of cardiopulmonary arrest, was producing artistic director of one of the county's most distinctive institutions. Horne and his managing director and long-time companion, Palmer Wells, founded Theater in the Square in 1982.

The two would later navigate the theater through political storms. The Cobb County Commission with-

drew the theater's \$40,000 annual grant in 1993 after mainstream plays whose references to homosexuality drew a few objections from the audience.

Horne refused to scratch social issues from the theater's offerings. In 1993, he received the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's Excellence in the Arts Award, although the theater was 20 miles northwest of downtown Atlanta.

Major donations from AT&T and actress Joanne Woodward, a former Marietta resident, helped compensate for the loss of county grants.

Horne's personal triumph, a 1993

staging of *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*, helped trigger the County Commission's condemnation of the "Gay lifestyle" and demonstrations in Marietta Square, directly across from the theater. He was an opponent of the commission's statement.

His many hits also included

wholesome examples of traditional "family values," from *Smoke on the Mountain* to *The 1940s Radio Hour*.

"Michael lit people up... the word 'torch' comes to mind," said Mary Nell Santacroce, one of many Atlanta actors drawn to the Marietta playhouse by Horne's talent and

drive. "He lived his life valiantly."

"Theatre in the Square will go on — we are committed to keeping Michael's legacy alive," said Cherry Spencer-Stark, vice president of the theater's board of directors. "If there's any community that needs that legacy, it's Cobb County."

Man Sues Over Gay "Wedding"

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Gay man married another man, closed down two businesses to become a "homemaker" and then discovered his mate was HIV-positive, according to a lawsuit.

Mychael Robinson is seeking unspecified damages for fraud, sexual battery and assault, emotional distress, and half of Allan Louie's assets and future income.

The lawsuit, filed May 7 in Superior Court, was a "baseless attempt to extort money," said Louie's attorney, Nanci Clarence.

"Any allegation that they had a marriage is patently false," she said. "Mr. Robinson ... was an invited guest for a limited amount of time."

California law does not recognize Gay marriages, but state appellate courts have adjudicated Gay and

Lesbian palimony cases.

The marriage was a private ceremony held last November without witnesses or documents, Robinson said.

The plaintiff said he closed his two businesses — a beauty salon and an antique shop — and moved in with Louie to become a full-time "homemaker."

Robinson contended the two engaged in unprotected sex three times until he found AZT, a drug commonly used to treat HIV, in the house last December. He said he moved out of the bedroom after Louie admitted to him the drugs were his.

Clarence refused to comment on Louie's HIV status.

"It is a private matter which we'd like to keep private," she said.

Town Councilors Reject Gay-Rights Ordinance

NORMAL, Ill. (AP) — Bucking a trend established by Chicago and its suburbs, town councilors on May 6 rejected a measure designed to protect homosexuals from job and housing discrimination.

The Town Council voted 5-2 against a proposal to add sexual orientation to an ordinance that now protects people from discrimination based on such factors as religion and race.

Critics of the proposed ordinance said there was little proof discrimination against homosexuals was common enough to merit changing the law in this town of 40,000 about 120 miles southwest of Chicago.

But supporters said it was a matter of basic rights.

"You may not love all your neighbors as thyself, but you can give them their rights," Rebecca Hawkins-Valadez told the council.

Discrimination based on sexual orientation has been banned for years in Chicago and Cook County, along with the suburbs of Evanston and Oak Park. But across the rest of the state, only Champaign-Urbana, about 50 miles southeast of Normal, has taken the same step.

Bloomington, a city of 52,000 adjacent to Normal, rejected a similar measure in January.



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Lesbian Magazine Struggles to Stay Afloat

By Katherine Seligman
San Francisco Examiner

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Last year life threw many curveballs at *Deneuve* magazine. The cost of paper went up, the reliability of distributors went down and the French actress, the other Deneuve, sued for trademark infringement.

So the popular 5-year-old Lesbian publication realigned itself and came up with a new name — *Curve*.

Now, with the help of Lesbian celebrities and a dedicated community of readers, *Curve* is fighting to stay afloat. Organizers of a May 19 benefit called "Alive and Kicking" hoped to raise at least \$50,000, in part from auctioning off autographed memorabilia donated by k.d. lang and Melissa Etheridge and dates with comedian Lea Delaria and actor Scott Thompson.

"We get phone calls and letters every day from people thanking us," said Publisher Frances Stevens. "A lot of our readers don't live here. For them, we are their only connection. They don't know another Gay woman."

Stevens said the magazine's financial problems were "led by the lawsuit" filed by Deneuve a year ago in Paris and Los Angeles courts and later settled out of court.

The lawsuit contended that the name of the magazine, which also runs a catalog business, conflicted with the actress' right to market her name and image.

Stevens has always said that the magazine was named after her first love, a woman whose full name she will not disclose. She never intended the magazine as a namesake for the famous actress.

Speaking about the lawsuit requires, as the French say, "delicatesse." Both sides have said what they think of it in the past but neither one can say anything now. The gag order is part of the settlement.

"I'll make sure you have my name spelled right. Then I'll say no comment," said David Wrobel, the actress' New York attorney.

Curve's Los Angeles lawyer, Mercedes Cruz, similarly declined to comment.

To Anita Lofton, a disc

jockey helping with the benefit, the lawsuit by Deneuve, who has a sizable following in the Gay community, had more to do with homophobia than trademark infringement.

"If it had been *Deneuve* the boating magazine, she wouldn't have minded," she said.

Wrobel in the past has said the lawsuit had no anti-Gay intentions.

What can be said is that *Deneuve* voluntarily changed its name to *Curve* and wants to carry on its tradition of printing bold stories covering Lesbian issues and figures.

"*Curve* is not straight," said Stevens. "I think the new name is great. It's hot and sexy."

Stevens, 28, came up with the idea for a Lesbian magazine in her early 20s when she was a student at San Francisco State University. She planned to become a veterinarian, until she discovered she was allergic to practically every kind of animal.

She began noticing that bookstores and newsstands had few Lesbian publications to offer. So she spent most of a year in the library reading books on publishing.

In 1990 Stevens posted a handwritten notice in A Different Light bookstore. Within a month she'd gotten calls from more than 300 people who were interested in starting a Lesbian magazine. More than 100 showed up for a subsequent meeting.

"I think the magazine chose me," she said. "I didn't choose it. Women came up and said, 'I'm a designer' or 'I'm an editor.' People found me."

Stevens, "a little kid with a business plan," was 22 when she started the magazine. She had three credit cards, applied for on the same day, and \$70,000 — most of it from working three jobs and none of it from outside investors.

Production space was the living room of her Castro Dis-

trict apartment, which she shared with Anabelle, a potbellied pig and the one animal she was not allergic to.

As circulation grew, she moved the magazine to a South of Market office and eventually to its current, professional-looking office at the foot of Haight Street.

The magazine now has a staff of nine full- and part-timers, 14,000 subscribers and a circulation of 60,000. Published bimonthly, it is sold for \$3.95 around the country.

Its importance lies in giving a voice and identity to Lesbians, many of whom are isolated, said Lofton. Not everyone can live in San Francisco with its many resources for the Gay community, she said.

Over the years, the magazine has gone from looking like a low-budget literary magazine to a full-scale glossy publication. It's carried stories on such famous Lesbians as Martina Navratilova and k.d. lang as

well as features on custody battles, Gay rights and popular hangouts. The "Lesbofile" column dishes up gossip.

In 1993 and 1994, the magazine was in the black. But in 1995, according to Executive Editor Katie Sanborn Brown, expenses went up and two distributors filed for bankruptcy. What Stevens calls "colossal legal fees" and the cost of changing the name — including on stationery and promotional items — added to financial woes.

Even so, sales are up 12 percent over last quarter, Stevens said. Although readers might have been temporarily confused about the name change, they now know to look for *Curve*, said Dylan Berkey, a buyer at A Different Light.

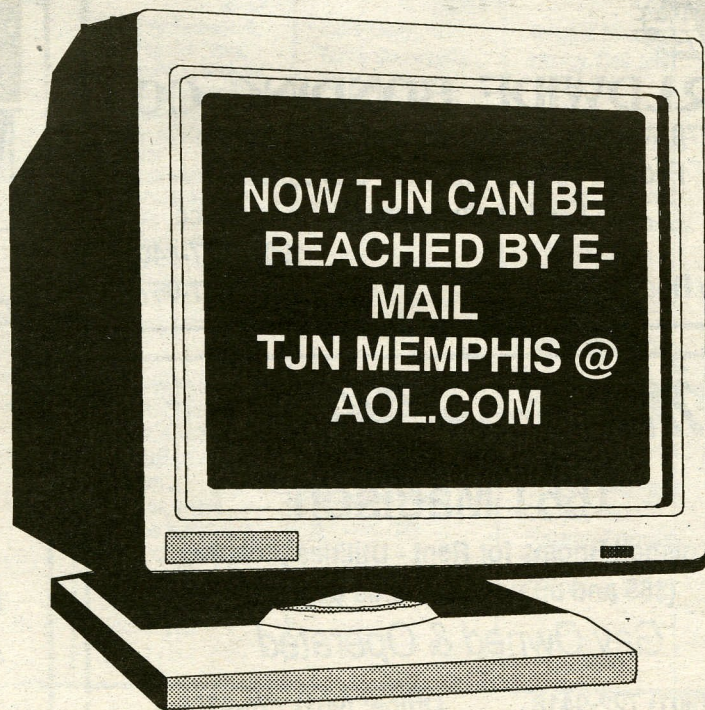
"It's an awesome magazine and Lesbians have so few things that are awesome," said Lofton. "It's what *Life* is to white America or what *Ebony* is to Black America. If someone took them away, there would be rioting in the streets."



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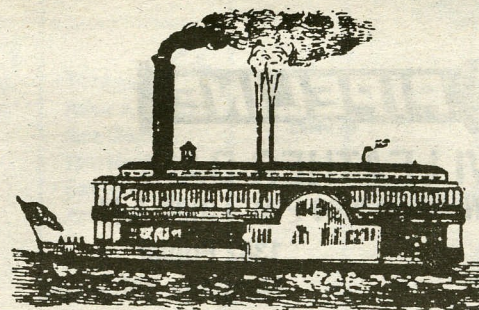
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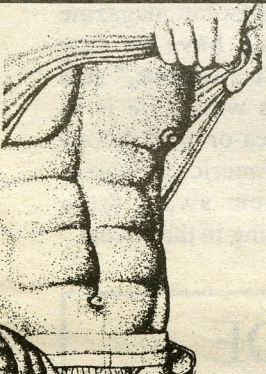
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- J. Lavender Earth
- K. MGLCC
- L. Meristem
- M. Not Quite Paris
- N. Paris Theatre
- O. Playhouse on the Square
- P. Safe Harbor MCC
- Q. Star Search Video
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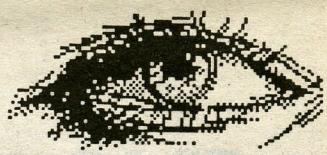


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TJN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| JUNE 2 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Services, 11am • Living Word Christian Church, Services, 10am & 6pm • MCC, Worship Services 7pm • WAC Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 2pm • Pride Meeting, MGLCC, 2pm • Mr. Club 501 Contest | 3 • Friends for Life Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm | 4 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, MGLCC, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, WKRB, 8pm | 5 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm | 6 • GRACE Meeting/Liturgy, Call John, 725-5237 • NOW Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm • Gay Skate Night, Skateland, 8pm | 7 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, 501 Club, 9pm • Memphis Pride River Ride, Boarding 8pm, Sails 9pm, Riverside @ Monroe | 8 • Pride Parade, Overton Park, 2pm • Pride Festival, 1559 Madison, 2:30pm • Michelle Holliday, Amnesia • Backstreet Dance Room Grand Opening, Mid-night |
| 9 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Services, 11am & 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Services, 10am & 6pm • MCC, Worship Services 7pm • WAC Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 2pm • TLT Drag Race, WKRB, 7:30pm • Michelle Holliday, Amnesia | 10 | 11 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, MGLCC, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, WKRB, 8pm | 12 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm | 13 • GRACE Meeting/Liturgy, Call John, 725-5237 • NOW Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm | 14 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, 501 Club, 9pm • Mid-South AIDS Mastery Workshop, Call 767-2182 for Details • Miss J-Wags, 10:30pm • Sonny Markham, Amnesia | DEADLINE FOR JULY '96 TJN 15 • Mid-South AIDS Mastery Workshop, Call 767-2182 for Details • Potluck, MGLCC, 7pm • Shannon de Vaughn, Amnesia |
| FATHER'S DAY 16 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Services, 11am • Living Word Christian Church, Services, 10am & 6pm • MCC, Worship Services 7pm • WAC Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 2pm | 17 • Friends for Life Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm | 18 • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, MGLCC, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, WKRB, 8pm | 19 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm | 20 • GRACE Meeting/Liturgy, Call John, 725-5237 • NOW Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm | SUMMER SOLSTICE (1ST DAY of SUMMER) 21 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, 501 Club, 9pm | 22 • Transgender Alliance, MGLCC, 6pm Change, 7pm Meeting • Fahrynheit, Amnesia |
| 23 • Church Services (See June 2) • WAC Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 2pm • Mid-South AIDS Mastery Workshop, Call 767-2182 for Details • Military Night, WKRB, 9pm • Club X-scape Pride Picnic, Te-To-Tam Ranch | 24 | 25 • Integrity Eucharist & Healing Svc., 6pm; Dinner/Mtg., 6:45pm, Calvary Episcopal • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, MGLCC, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, WKRB, 8pm | 26 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm | 27 • GRACE Meeting/Liturgy, Call John, 725-5237 • NOW Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm | JULY '96 TJN DUE OUT 28 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, 501 Club, 9pm | 29 • Maxi Houston, Amnesia |
| 30 • Church Services (See June 2) • WAC Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 2pm • Bowl-a-thon, Brunswick Winchester Bowl, 2-4pm • Beach Night, WKRB, 9pm | JULY 1 | 2 • Integrity Board Mtg., 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Lambda Men's Chorus Rehearsal, MGLCC, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, WKRB, 8pm | 3 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm | INDEPENDENCE DAY 4 • GRACE Meeting/Liturgy, Call John, 725-5237 • NOW Meeting, Coffee Cellar, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm | 5 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, 501 Club, 9pm | 6 • MGLCC Board Meeting, MGLCC, 1pm |

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U.S. Government Approves Home Test for AIDS

By Paul Recer
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans will soon be able to take an HIV blood test in the privacy of their home using a new blood col-

lection kit approved May 14 by the U.S. government.

The kit will enable patients to take their blood sample at home, send it to a laboratory and then receive the results by telephone. Until now, all blood sampling for HIV

tests had to be done at clinics, hospitals or doctors' offices.

Direct Access Diagnostics of Bridgewater, N.J., developed the test kit and will market it under the brand name Confide HIV Testing Service for about \$40.

Jeffrey J. Leebaw, a spokesman for Johnson and Johnson, parent company of Direct Access, said the kit will be sold over the counter in Texas starting in June. It will be sold in drug stores, college health centers and clinics, he said.

Also starting in June, the kit will be available for purchase by telephone in Texas and in Florida, he said.

Leebaw said the sales are initially limited to Texas and Florida to help the company fine-tune the process.

"We felt we needed some real market experience for the product before going to a national rollout," he said.

Sales of the kit in the rest of the country will start in 1997, he said.

Steve Michael of ACT-UP, an AIDS activist organization, said most patients in the AIDS community applaud the new kit.

For people in some rural communities, where confidentiality is difficult to preserve, he said, the mail-in specimen may be the only way to get HIV testing done while keeping the results secret.

However, three other organizations in Washington said they had "serious concerns" about the test kit's approval.

"Extreme adverse reaction to the

news of an HIV diagnosis can and does occur," the National Association of People with AIDS, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association and the Whitman-Walker Clinic, which serves people with AIDS, said in a joint statement.

They said people who test positive need counseling. They also noted that test results may be inaccurate during the period of up to six months when an individual may be infected but has not yet produced antibodies to HIV.

"We are confident that this new home system can provide accurate results while assuring patient anonymity and appropriate counseling," said Dr. David A. Kessler, head of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which approved the sale of the tests.

To conduct the test, a person puts a finger-stick blood sample on a test card and mails it in a protective envelope to a laboratory. The sample has a personal identification number.

The person can receive the results a week later by calling a toll-free number and giving the identification number. People with positive or inconclusive results speak with counselors. Negative results are given by a recording.

HIV Home Test Kit Raises Questions

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Health officials fear state laws in Nebraska will prevent the sale of a new home test kit for the AIDS virus next year.

Dr. Mark Horton, director of the Nebraska Health Department, said he is intrigued by the test kit's potential but has reservations about its legality.

"Hopefully, the kit wouldn't be illegal," he said. "We might have to modify our laws and regulations. It sounds like we've got a little time frame."

The test kit, called Confide, was approved last month by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Nebraska law requires that people sign a form before being tested. The form indicates that they understand the test's purposes and the meaning of positive and negative results.

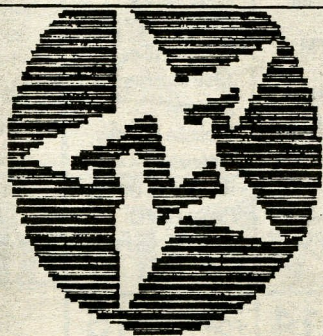
People taking the Confide test collect a blood sample at home and mail it to a certified laboratory. Seven days later, they can dial a toll-free number, punch in a personal identification number and hear test results.

Confide users who show no signs of the AIDS virus will receive the announcement on a recorded message. Those with a positive or inconclusive test are told to wait on the line for a counselor.

Confide's manufacturer said all users will have access to counseling if they want it. The test kit will include a counseling booklet written by retired Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, said Marisa Cunningham, director of marketing for Direct Access Diagnostics of Bridgewater, N.J. People who have a negative test can choose to listen to a recorded, six-minute message about HIV or punch a button that will let them speak directly to a counselor.

Dr. Horton said the easy availability might persuade more people to be tested. He said an estimated three of five people infected with HIV don't know it, even though testing already is performed at doctor's offices and at anonymous clinics scattered across Nebraska. Other state laws vary.

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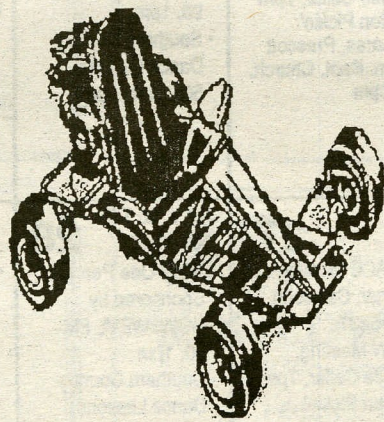
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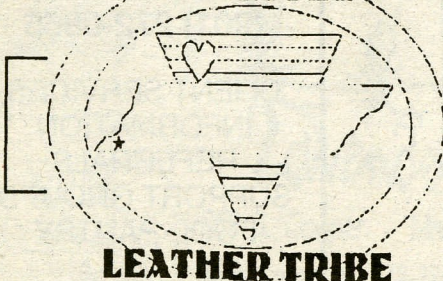
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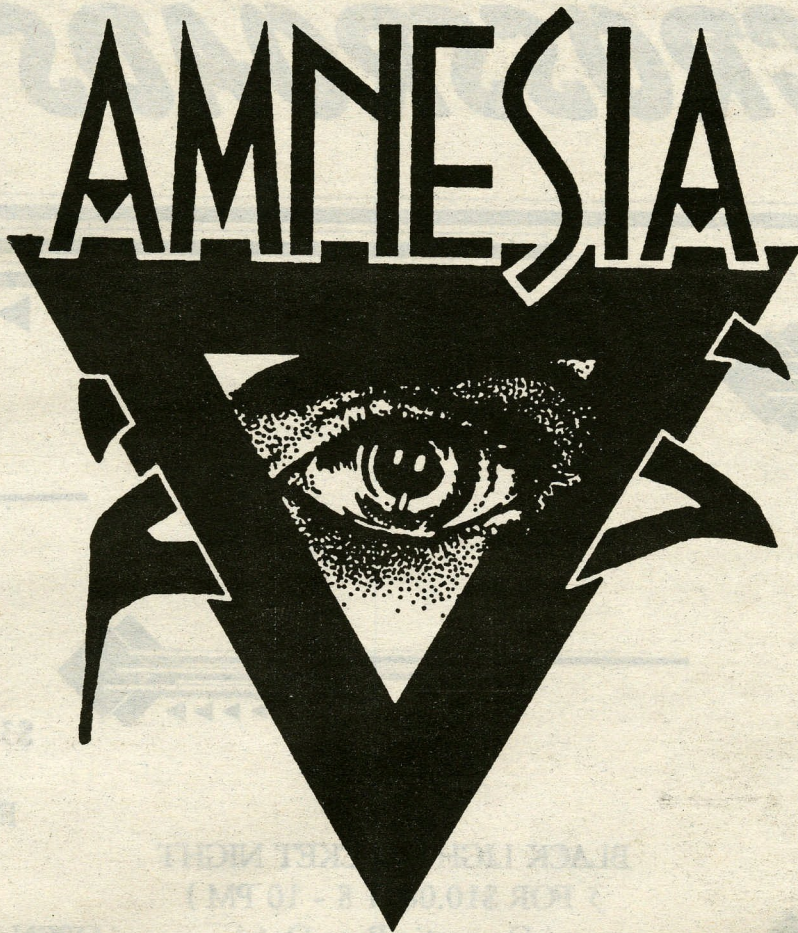
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Fridays - Southern Country Dance
9 pm 'til Midnight - Show at 12:30 - \$2 Cover at 10 pm

Saturdays - Mega Drag - 11:30 pm - \$2 Cover at 10 pm

Christian Coalition Leader Wades Into Dangerous Waters

By Laura Meckler
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Christian Coalition leader's suggestion that evangelicals tone down harsh attacks on homosexuals and President Clinton is sparking fresh debate over where to draw the line between religion and politics.

"Every word we say should reflect God's grace," coalition director Ralph Reed writes in his new book, *Active Faith*, excerpted in *Newsweek* this month. "This is easy when dealing with allies, but the Bible tells us to love our enemies."

On Clinton, Reed writes: "Some of the opposition has been deeply personal, attacking his character rather than his policies, and in so doing, risks permanent damage to the office he occupies ... If Bill Clinton is a sinner, he is no worse than you or me."

On Gay bashing: "Calling Gays 'perverts' or announcing that AIDS is 'God's judgment' on the Gay community is not consistent with our Christian call to mercy."

The reception from some has been chilly, if not outright hostile.

Jerry Falwell, whose Liberty Alliance is singled out in Reed's book as over the line, predicted that as

Reed "gets older he'll be more careful about questioning the persons in his own movement who may have been at it longer than he."

Reed argues that many in his movement are not behaving in a Christian way when they use hateful language in place of legitimate policy debates.

"I think our movement is a movement of love and compassion and concern for human compassion," he said in an interview. "We've seen a coarsening of our political discourse that needs to be softened and made humane, and I think Christians can be an important part of that softening process."

Many Christian leaders said they agree with Reed on his philosophical point — that Christians must separate the sin from the sinner. But they do not agree on its application to politics.

"I do believe the president of the United States is open game regarding his conduct," said Falwell, chancellor of Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Character is fair game, agreed Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, based in Nashville, Tenn. "Any man that would cheat on his wife would cheat you,"

he said.

Christians must use "great care and caution" when choosing their language, but they cannot compromise their beliefs, said Bill Merrell, a vice president with the Southern Baptist Convention's executive committee.

"We do not have the permission as Christians to be less than forthright," he said. "We have an obligation to say what we believe God has stated," adding that the Southern Baptist Convention teaches that "homosexuality is a practice disapproved by God."

Falwell said there is nothing

wrong with calling homosexuals "perverts."

"I think it's fair to say that homosexuality is a moral perversion," Falwell said. "I think that a person who is practicing moral perversion is a moral pervert."

Meanwhile, Reed didn't score any points with Gay-rights advocates either.

"This move to attempt to stop the really cruel Gay bashing is completely disingenuous," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, a national Gay and Lesbian rights organization.

"The truth is his members won't

let him do this anyway," she added. "Every time Ralph Reed tries to strategically move to the center, he is yanked back by his members."

Some in the Christian community agree.

"I think Ralph Reed is being very true to his faith when he calls for civility, and I think a call from him, particularly when he is known by many for his harshness, is welcome," said the Rev. William H. Willimon of the Duke Divinity School.

"It sounds like he is attempting to give a real leadership to this," he added. "With some of his followers, he may pay a price."

Concord Church Votes to Welcome Homosexual Members

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — A Concord church has approved a resolution that members hope will welcome Lesbian and Gay worshippers.

On a vote of 123-26 at the May 8 annual congregation meeting, the South Congregational Church voted in favor of a resolution that affirms the rights of homosexuals to participate fully and openly in church activities.

Supporters say the change was

needed to counter the prejudice homosexuals historically have experienced.

"At this point in time, it's discrimination against Gays and Lesbians that's at the forefront of society," said Eric Nord, a church deacon.

Only about 200 of the country's 6,400 United Church of Christ parishes have passed similar resolutions. Individual congregations can

decide whether to adopt resolutions and, for almost 10 years, the New Hampshire conference has urged churches to open their memberships to people from many different backgrounds.

The vote came as a relief to one Lesbian couple who already felt accepted at the church.

"They've given a bigger gift than they realize," said one of the women

See Church on page 34

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Pride Weekend—Pride Sunday

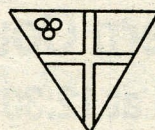
Join us Sunday, June 9 as we celebrate our hopes and dreams for a just society. Our kindred congregation from Jackson, Mississippi will be celebrating and worshipping with us that weekend. Stop by our booth at the festival and buy your Pride beads!!

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Proclaiming God's Love For All People

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10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. - Second Sunday Program
7:00 p.m. - Wednesday—Talk Soup



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Court Ruling Expected to Bolster Wide Range of Gay Rights Cases.

NEW YORK — The victory in the Supreme Court abolishing Colorado's unconstitutional Amendment 2 "reverberates through the dockets of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and will affect all cases involving discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men."

Lambda, the country's oldest and largest Gay legal rights organizations, released a list of specific issues that exemplify potential applications of the Supreme Court's May 20 decision.

"*Romer v. Evans* will be a powerful weapon in Lambda's legal arsenal on behalf of Lesbians, Gay men and people with HIV and AIDS," said Beatrice Dohrn, Legal Director of Lambda.

"Directly or indirectly, this 6-3 ruling works a profound change in the battle for civil rights by stating that the Constitution forbids singling out Lesbians and Gay men for discrimination."

Dohrn stressed, "When it comes to securing Lesbian and Gay civil rights, *Romer* is a very good start. Now we must go on to secure the legal protections that Amendment 2 sought to preempt."

Bowers v. Hardwick Blunted

Sodomy laws like Georgia's are still on the books, Dohrn said in addressing the 1986 *Bowers v. Hardwick* ruling that upheld the arrest of an Atlanta man in his bedroom where he was having sex with another man. "Some of the worst impact of *Hardwick* will be blunted by the Court's clear statement that anti-Gay sentiment is not a permissible rationale for law. The Court greatly limited *Hardwick's* holding that 'moral disapproval of homosexuality' was sufficient to justify government action," said Dohrn, adding that for a decade, lower courts have cited that decision to justify a plethora of unrelated anti-Gay rulings.

Lambda Executive Director Kevin Cathcart commented in Justice Antonin Scalia's dissent in the case. "Scalia's harsh and ugly words may have helped push that majority to six of the nine justices," Cathcart said. "His tone, from his use of the German term *kulturkampf* to the allegation that Gay people are disproportionately wealthy and influential, echoes what is plain in the content of the dissent: his opinion is on the extreme political right and outside of the mainstream of this court," Cathcart added. "We are celebrating

signs that, on Gay equality, the center is with us."

How Ruling in Romer v Evans Should Affect Gay Rights Litigation

Anti-Gay Ballot Initiatives

• Other anti-Gay initiative cases certainly will feel the effect of *Romer*. Most immediately, *Equality Foundation v. Cincinnati*, challenging an amendment banning any discrimination protection laws in Cincinnati for Lesbians, Gay men and bisexuals, is awaiting a Supreme Court ruling on a *certiorari* petition. "Cincinnati's amendment is a clone of Colorado's and we expect the court to send it, dead on arrival, to the Sixth Circuit," said Patricia Logue, managing attorney for Lambda's Midwest Regional Office and co-counsel on the case along with Suzanne Goldberg, the ACLU of Ohio and attorneys Alphonse A. Gerhardtstein and Richard Cordray.

• *Morris v. Hill* challenges a ban by Florida's Alachua County that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. Despite the text's differences from Colorado's Amendment 2, Florida courts are likely to recognize this measure as unconstitutional under *Romer* for intending to limit the political rights of Gay people.

AIDS-Related Discrimination

• Many federal, state and local government agencies continue to treat HIV disease differently than other disabilities in employment and program eligibility criteria. "Much discrimination against people with HIV has homophobia at its root, and the reasons offered to justify limiting or excluding the participation of people with HIV in government jobs and programs, such as the military and Job Corps, have been every bit as irrational and unsupported as proffered bases to exclude Gay men and Lesbians," said Catherine Hanssens,

director of Lambda's AIDS Project. "Unsupportable assumptions about the health and safety risks that people with HIV pose in the workplace and in places of public accommodation could be prohibited under the *Romer* majority's equal protection-rationale basis analysis, Hanssens added.

• Likewise, *Romer* further strengthens arguments against revived efforts in the House of Representatives to include a provision in the next Defense Authorization Bill which would require the discharge of people with HIV as well as of Gay men and Lesbians.

Military Discrimination

• *Able v. U.S.* challenges the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban on Gay service members, arguing the ban is based solely on the government's desire to accommodate the dislike and discomfort of those who do not want to serve with Lesbians and Gay men. *Romer* firmly rejects laws in which "the disadvantage imposed is born of animosity toward the class of persons affected," said Dohrn, co-counsel with the courts examining the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that it is based entirely on prejudice and personal discomfort toward Gay people."

Marriage Rights

• *Romer* states that "Laws singling out a certain class of citizens for disfavored legal status or general hardships" cannot survive even minimal equal protection scrutiny. Right now, legislation is pending before Congress that would create two classes of lawful marriage, with the federal government withholding benefits from marriages of Gay people that any state lawfully recognizes. "This anti-Gay effort to create two classes of lawful marriage is precisely a classification of persons undertaken for its own sake," said Evan Wolfson, Lambda senior staff attorney and director of Lambda's Marriage Project. "We hope *Romer* will help in our efforts to demon-

strate this."

"Sodomy" Law Challenges

• *Campbell v. Sundquist*, a challenge to Tennessee "Homosexual Practices Act," currently before the Tennessee Supreme Court, singles out and imposes criminal penalties

on Gay people for engaging in particular sexual acts. "*Romer* should help undermine Tennessee's defense of this law and aid challenges to other "sodomy" prohibitions, particularly in the six states that prohibit only same-sex sexual conduct," said Lambda Staff Attorney Suzanne Goldberg.

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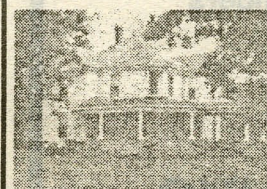
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Former Lesbian Lover Given Role in Raising Child

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A court has given the natural mother custody of her 2 1/2-year-old son but says she has to consult with her former lesbian lover on all parenting decisions.

St. Louis Family Court Judge Thomas J. Frawley this week also ordered the two women to split the

child's time equally between them. The child will change residences every Friday.

The second woman raised the child from an infant and Frawley said that separating the child from her would harm him emotionally.

Family law experts said that

Frawley's ruling may open the way for other people, such as stepparents or live-in companions, to use the "equitable parent" concept to seek continuing contact with a child, after their relationships with the child's parent have ended.

"I think this is an important step in recognizing that a child can be harmed by the interruption of a relationship with an adult whom the child views as a parent," said Susan Appleton, a family law expert at the Washington University School of Law. "A child's affection and trust aren't based on neat legal definitions of who counts as a parent."

Although the "equitable parent" concept has figured in custody decisions elsewhere, and in inheritance cases in Missouri, this is apparently the first custody case in Missouri in which it has been cited to justify

continuing contact between a child and an unrelated adult.

The case started last summer when a 35-year-old warehouse worker known in court records as A.L. sought legal and physical custody of the child.

A.L. said that her former lover, Y.R., an unemployed mother of four, gave her the child within days of his birth, in June 1993, and that he spent all but one night of his life with her until last June. She says she returned him to his mother after she was threatened with prosecution.

A.L. was seeking full legal and physical custody of the child. Leigh Joy Carson, the attorney Frawley appointed to represent the child, supported her position.

During a two-day trial last month, Y.R. denied that she had been A.L.'s lover or had promised A.L. that she

could raise the child, although she admitted leaving him with A.L. for weeks at a time. She said that she gave the child A.L.'s surname only because A.L. was his godmother. Frawley said in his order that he believed A.L.'s version of events, not Y.R.'s.

The mother's attorney, Allen Harris, argued that A.L.'s sexual orientation made her unfit to rear the boy. But Frawley said her sexual orientation was not an issue because of evidence that the child's mother had also engaged in lesbian sexual activities. Frawley put limits on both women's sexual activities: no overnight adult visitors in their homes while the child is present.

Frawley said the case was a reflection of changing social relationships and required a "functional approach" rather than a "traditional, stricter formal approach" to defining family.

Judges Hear Lesbian Custody Arguments

By Bill Bergstrom
Associated Press Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Lesbianism didn't hurt a Niceville woman's ability to be "a great mom," her attorney said.

Witnesses testified Valerie Maradie was a good mother to her daughter despite having sexual relationships with other women, attorney Michael Webster told three 1st District Court of Appeal judges May 16.

"It had no effect" on her children, he said, urging the court to throw out a ruling to the contrary by Circuit Judge Jere Tolton in Okaloosa County.

And Maradie proved that in Tolton's court, Webster said.

"We brought in the people who knew Valerie ... schoolteachers, friends, neighbors, co-workers, day care providers," he said. "They knew her sexual orientation. They also knew she was a great mom."

Despite the testimony, Tolton had cited Maradie's lesbianism in awarding custody of their 4-year-

old daughter to the child's father, John Maradie.

"That's a small part of things," Mrs. Maradie, 38, said after the appeals court hearing. "Hopefully this will all be over, and I hope that maybe people will see mothers and fathers as total people."

John Maradie didn't attend, but his attorney, Jane Brehany, argued the child should stay with him.

"Whose interest is the mother considering? Her own? Her own physical needs, her own physical desires? Or those of (the daughter)?" said Brehany.

The judges did not say when they would rule in the case, one of two similar ones before the appeals court.

In the other, Mary Ward, of Pensacola, filed an appeal in February of a ruling that sent her 11-year-old daughter to live in Milton with John Ward, a convicted killer who served nine years in prison for fatally shooting his first wife in 1974.

Circuit Judge Joseph Tarbuck, of Pensacola, ruled the Wards' daughter should be able to grow

up in "a non-Lesbian world."

In both cases, the mothers were given visitation rights. The appeals court hasn't set a date for arguments in the Ward case.

In Maradie's case, Tolton ruled he had the power to "take judicial notice that a homosexual environment is not a traditional home environment, and can adversely affect a child."

"Do you contend that this was a traditional environment?" Judge Robert Benton — hearing the appeal with Judges William Van Nortwick and James Joanos — asked Webster.

"This is certainly not an Ozzie and Harriet type environment," Webster said, but he added, "I would respectfully suggest that the Ozzie and Harriet days are long in our distant past."

"If we're going to find that there is some sort of lacking of morality in the parents, it must be shown to have some sort of negative impact on the child," he said.

Brehany argued the child "was definitely aware" of Maradie's lesbian activities: "The woman would come to the home. They had relationships. They were in the master bedroom. The children had been awakened by them, had come into the room."

After the hearing, Maradie admitted having company but denied her children were exposed to anything disturbing.

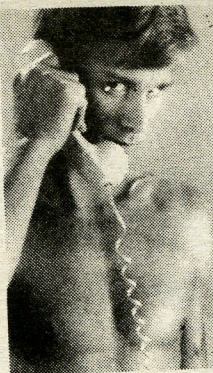
"No, I don't think everybody piling up on the couch and watching the evening movies and eating popcorn is going to disturb the children," she said.

She plans to fight the same battle in Alabama. Two weeks before Tolton's ruling, an Alabama judge transferred custody of her 10-year-old son from the second of her four marriages to his father, Alan Bobyarchick, of Tuscaloosa.

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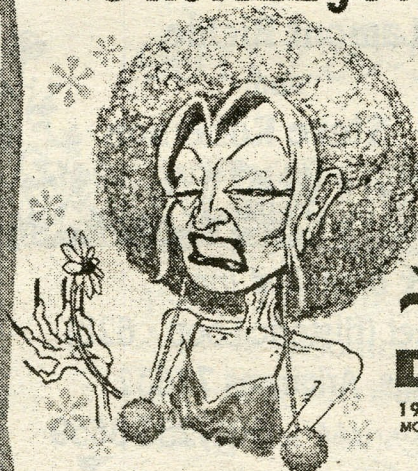
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Chastity Bono Says Dad Broke Commitment to Allow Same-Sex Marriages

By Michelle Locke
Associated Press Writer

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—U.S. Rep. Sonny Bono was accused of breaking his word on May 17 by one of his closest supporters — his own daughter.

"I feel really ... disappointed and angry," Chastity Bono, who is a Lesbian, said Friday in a telephone interview from San Francisco. "... It obviously shows that he is not all that supportive of me or of our issues."

Bono, R-Calif., half of the 1960s TV duo Sonny and Cher, signed on as one of several cosponsors on May 17 of a bill that would define marriage under federal law as a legal union between one man and one woman.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., would allow states to reject the legality of same-sex marriages performed in any other state. It was introduced in response to a Gay rights case that could make Hawaii the first state to recognize same-sex marriages.

Chastity Bono, 27, said her father had agreed to support same-sex marriages in an interview with her that

was published in *The Advocate*, a national Gay and Lesbian magazine.

Bono's answer, as printed in the Jan. 23, 1996, article: "That seems fine if that's what they want to do. Yeah, I'll support that, unless there are any costs involved, but there don't appear to be any."

Bono's complaint comes three days after Candace Gingrich appealed to her brother to stop "an unprecedented political assault on the lives of Lesbian and Gay Americans."

The Lesbian half-sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich also accused Republican leaders of "a wave of political Gay bashing" in their budget.

Ms. Bono said she had not talked to her father since he became a co-sponsor of the bill, and didn't expect to.

"It's just very disappointing to me that my father would put aside personal convictions for a political party," she said.

Neither Bono, or his press secretary, Frank Cullen, were in their Washington offices Friday afternoon for comment.

Gay Congressman Defends Use of Federal Buildings for Party

By Jim Abrams
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Steve Gunderson, the only openly Gay Republican in Congress, assailed a fellow Republican on May 14 for publishing material suggesting he had sponsored a wild, Gay party in a federal building.

"The gentleman from California has every right to dislike me if he so chooses," Gunderson said of California Rep. Bob Dornan, a zealous crusader against Gay rights. "But he has no right to misrepresent the facts, nor the motives of others in this, his latest attempt to smear the Gay community."

Dornan published in the May 9 *Congressional Record* an article by freelance reporter Marc Morano stating that Gunderson was a sponsor of Gay events in two federal office buildings that were pervaded by illegal drugs and illicit sexual activities.

Gunderson, visibly upset, invoked a "point of personal privilege," a rarely used parliamentary procedure for speaking on the House floor when a lawmaker feels that his or her dignity or integrity has been harmed.

The Wisconsin Republican said the "Cherry Jubilee," held in Washington the weekend of April 12-14, was "a gift of love, not a weekend of illegal activity," that raised up to \$60,000 for two AIDS service organizations.

According to Gunderson, the main event, a Saturday night dance at the Mellon Auditorium in the Department of Commerce attended by 2,000, and a Sunday brunch in the courtyard of the Rayburn House Office Building, were held without incident.

"There is no evidence by anyone, including all security personnel and authorities at the Department of Commerce, of any illegal activity."

Gunderson said he was a host for the Sunday brunch, which he attended, but was not a sponsor of the weekend.

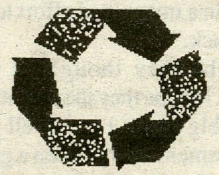
Morano said he conducted an "undercover investigation" at the Saturday night party, and his article details lewd dancing, nudity, illicit sex and evidence of illegal drugs. He produced a videotape for the conservative Family Research Council and the article was the basis of a column by conservative Black radio host Armstrong Williams.

"Hate and prejudice are the mo-

tives by which Mr. Morano and Mr. Williams sought to totally misrepresent the fund-raising events," Gunderson said.

Morano said he stood by everything in the report and said, "I don't appreciate him referring to me as a bigot. It is a very straightforward account."

Dornan, who on May 14 was leading an attempt to expel from the military anyone with the HIV virus and reinstate the ban on Gays in the military, had no comment on Gunderson's statement, his office said.



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Seattle Mayor Denies Gay Rumor, Blasts Talk Radio for Spreading It

By David Ammons
AP Political Writer

SEATTLE (AP)— Mayor Norm Rice denounced a radio station for spreading a fired city worker's claim that Rice was once shot by a family member who caught him having sex with his male deputy mayor.

The rumor has been circulated for two years, originating in a flyer handed out by a water department worker who was fired in 1993.

Rice said May 13 he had hoped the tale would die on its own. But when it was repeated recently on a talk radio show, he called a news conference to denounce it as a "vicious" lie started by the ex-city worker "in a misguided effort to get his job back."

"Maybe they thought it was harmless. Maybe they thought it was all just a big game. Let me tell you, this harassment has not been a game for my wife or son," the two-term

mayor said.

"These attacks are designed to hurt me and my family. They are false. They are nothing more than character assassination."

Rice, a Democrat who is running for governor, was joined by his wife, Constance, the president of North Seattle Community College, and a group of religious and community leaders. Their son is in graduate school.

Rice was most critical of radio station KVI, which repeated the story on a call-in talk show with host Mike Siegel, a longtime critic of the mayor.

"I draw the line when someone attacks my character using vicious lies," Rice said. "Today we are drawing the line against anyone who would spread hatred and intolerance in our community."

Siegel has said a co-host raised the issue during the show. He apologized to Rice on the air May 13 "for

allowing a rumor to surface on my program that caused you and your family pain and suffering."

At his news conference, Rice released the flyer distributed by Kurt Hettiger, who claims the mayor was shot a few years ago by a member of his immediate family who caught him having sex with Deputy Mayor Bob Watt.

Watt, now president of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, called the story "preposterous."

A recording on Hettiger's home telephone said he stood by his allegations. He did not return a message seeking additional comment.

The mayor said in an interview that he is heterosexual and has a happy home life.

Rice, who has the support of many in Seattle's sizable Gay community, said a candidate's sexual orientation is a legitimate question for voters, but he didn't want his comments to be taken as "an implication that there's anything wrong with being Gay or Lesbian. That's why we handled this so carefully, not to be critical."

Portland Will Fight Arbitrator's Ruling Reinstating Firefighter

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)— City officials say they will fight the reinstatement of a firefighter who was fired after he ran a former state legislator off the road because he believed she and another woman were Lesbians.

James P. Harder, 43, was fired by Portland Fire Bureau Chief Robert Wall on Jan. 12, 1995, a month after he pleaded no contest to intimidation and careless driving.

The charges and subsequent firing resulted from a September 1994 highway incident involving Danetta Wilke and her passenger, then-state Rep. Hedy Rijken, D-Newport.

The women said Harder tailgated them, passed them and stopped, shouted obscenities at them regarding sexual orientation and beat on the driver's side door.

Wilke's van had custom license plates listing an Oregon House bill that Harder mistakenly thought referred to a Gay-rights measure. Police arrived after Rijken called 911 on a cellular phone.

Harder, a 17-year veteran, served 10 days in jail, performed 100 hours of community service and paid a \$250 fine. He also took anger-management classes.

An arbitrator ordered Harder reinstated May 20. He also will receive 16 months of back pay, said Randy Leonard, Portland Firefighters Association president.

Leonard said City Commissioner Charlie Hales bowed to political pressure from the Gay and Lesbian community in agreeing with Wall to fire Harder.

But Hales said Harder should have been fired even if a bias crime wasn't committed.

"This guy ran two women off the road," Hales said. "He made obscene gestures, shouted obscenities and tried to open their car door."

"His conduct was outrageous regardless of the sexual orientation of the people in the car," Hales said.

Rijken and Wilke could not be reached for comment.

Harder said he wants to put the incident behind him and get back to work. "I am truly sorry for what happened," he said.

Greenville Denies Site for South Carolina MCC

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP)— Members of a church that welcomes Gays and Lesbians have been told by a city board they cannot move the church to a historic residential neighborhood.

Now, the Metropolitan Community Church has hired a lawyer and is looking to the courts to overturn the city's decision.

"In the old days, everybody would stand up and say they're not going to do this because homosexuals are moving in, but now things are more subtle and they're trying to find a pretext to stop them. The true motivation is they don't want a church with homosexual members," said the church's lawyer, Suzanne Coe.

Members of the city's Board of Zoning Adjustments said they rejected the church's request not because of the parishioners' sexual orientation but because it would bring too much traffic to the area.

The church bought an old school in December and began clearing away four years of decay in hopes of starting worship services in March.

Members liked the site because it is close to downtown and was advertised as ideal for a school or church. They didn't expect problems because two other churches are on the same block and the building was used by a small Greek Orthodox congregation after the school closed.

Contractors found they needed the city's permission for renovations because the area is planned for family housing, and that's when the Rev. J. Allen Smith of nearby Central Baptist Church spoke up in opposition.

"It's a homosexual church group," he said. "We don't hate homosexuals and would like to see them get their lives straightened out, but the Bible in many, many places condemns that as a sin. We'd hate to see it in our community because it would encourage that sort of thing."

Metropolitan Community pastor Mick Hinson said about 80 percent of his 114-member congregation is Gay.

"We are a Christian church," Hinson said. "We are not the Gay church that people perceive us to be, but a church that opens its doors to everybody. What is happening doesn't make sense, and we're confused."

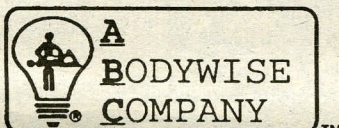
The city zoning staff said renovating the deteriorating building would improve the historic neighborhood, but zoning board Chairman Brian Todd said board members were concerned that traffic and parking would destroy the area's character.

"If it were any other church, we would have made the decision based on the same conditions," Todd said. "The composition of the church and the beliefs of the church had nothing to do with the board's decision."

City Councilwoman Elizabeth Gower said she believes the church's membership played a role in the rejection. Greenville is a center of the conservative religious movement in South Carolina.

"I've lived in Greenville long enough to know that it is very likely possible that it did," she said. "It raises a lot of questions about the legitimacy of our process."

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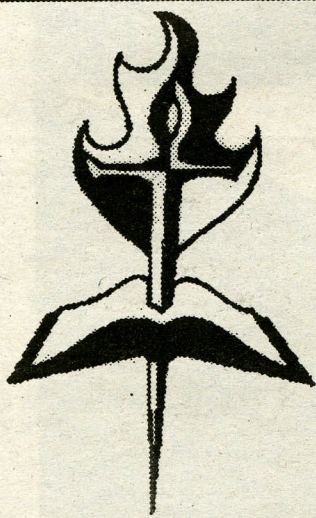
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Girl Scouts Policy Being Questioned

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — A controversy over homosexuality and religion has arisen in New Hampshire's Swift Water Girl Scout Council.

About 20 percent of the 16,000 Girl Scouts and 4,000 adult volunteers in the council, which includes New Hampshire and eastern Vermont, meet in church facilities.

At the heart of the controversy are Girl Scouts of the USA policy statements that say Girl Scouts do not discriminate against nor endorse any lifestyle or religion. But it does say individuals decide whether they want to be members by making the Girl Scout Promise.

The Promise reads: "On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout law."

In 1993, the Girl Scouts voted to allow flexibility in the wording of the promise regarding religious beliefs.

Regarding Lesbians, the policy says, "The Girl Scout organization does not discriminate, but we do not endorse any particular lifestyle and we do not recruit Lesbians as a group... We do not permit sexual

displays of any sort by our members. We do not permit the advocacy or promotion of a personal lifestyle or sexual orientation. These are private matters for girls and their families to address. Girl Scout volunteers and staff must at all times serve as appropriate role models for girls."

Regarding atheists, the policy says, "The Girl Scout organization does not endorse or promote any particular philosophy or religious belief. Our movement is nonsectarian, founded on American democratic principles, one of which is freedom of religion. Each individual decides if she or he can meet our membership requirements, which include making the Girl Scout Promise."

Some groups objected, including several deacons at Island Pond Baptist Church in Hampstead, which until January sponsored Troop 2009.

In the fallout, three adult volunteers were ousted from their leadership positions. And two of the former leaders are calling upon churches that sponsor troops to stop allowing the scouts to meet in their halls.

The Rev. John Kuespert, who was serving as interim pastor at the

time, notified the Swift Water Council, and then-troop leader Pamela Boulter, that the troop no longer could meet at the Hampstead church because church doctrine conflicts with the policies.

Boulter says the policy statements were not included in any of the documents she received when she became a Girl Scout leader.

Boulter, a Roman Catholic, said she was told she would have to resign her leader's contract, stating that she supported all Girl Scout policies. She refused, and was terminated as a leader.

Boulter's assistant leader also received a letter of termination after she said she could not support the same policies.

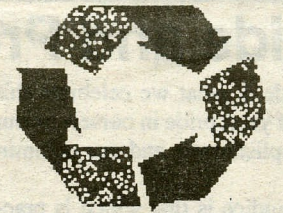
"The way I look at it, Girl Scouting was founded on a promise to serve God and country, not fill-in-the-blanks," Boulter said. She contends the new flexibility allows someone to substitute satanism, witchcraft or atheism for worship of God.

Georg-Ann Duval, who had been a troop leader at St. Anthony Church in Manchester, said she began looking into the group's policies and found that statements on abor-

tion, birth control and sex education bothered her.

She said she wrote letters to several parishes asking them to stop allowing the Girl Scouts to meet at their churches. She also spoke at a Christian Coalition meeting in Manchester where she was promoted as "Girl Scout Leader."

Duval said a few days later she received a letter from the Girl Scouts lawyer to stop representing herself as such and then was ousted from the organization. Martha Netsch, a spokeswoman for the Swift Water Council, said, "We have two people who disagree with us and they have a right to."



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Clinton Defends Support of Bill Outlawing Gay Marriages

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (AP) — President Clinton defended May 23 his support of legislation that would allow states to outlaw same-sex marriages and deny recognition of Gay marriages allowed in other states.

Despite that position, Clinton insisted, "I do not favor discrimination against people because they are homosexual."

Clinton was in Milwaukee for a meeting with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The two leaders spoke at a joint news conference, but a question-and-answer session that followed was dominated by U.S. domestic politics. Clinton fielded questions about Republican proposals to cut gas taxes and outlaw same-sex marriages.

Kohl looked amused at times as Clinton fielded election-related questions.

Gay rights groups that have supported Clinton are furious at the White House announcement that Clinton would sign the bill. The president accused Republicans of pushing the measure in hopes of winning an election issue.

"And let me just say, even though I will sign this bill...this is hardly a problem that is sweeping the country," Clinton said.

Anticipating that Gay marriages may soon be legalized in Hawaii, a bill proposed in Congress

would allow states to reject same-sex marriages performed in other states. But it wouldn't block any state from conferring its own legal

status on same-sex unions.

The bill also defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

Majority Opposes Legal Gay Marriages

NEW YORK (AP) — Although an overwhelming majority of Americans support equal rights for homosexuals in jobs and housing, nearly six in ten are opposed to legally sanctioned Gay marriages, according to a *Newsweek* magazine poll.

In an indication of the issue's political resonance, 45 percent of registered voters say they are less likely to support a candidate who favors Gay rights, including marriage. Twenty-four percent are more likely to support such a candidate, and a quarter say it doesn't affect them either way.

In the poll, taken by telephone May 22-23 and reported in the magazine's June 3 issue, 84 percent of Americans say they support equal rights for Gays in employment, and

80 percent in housing. But 58 percent oppose Gay marriage.

More than half (52 percent) oppose adoption rights for homosexuals and special laws to guarantee equal rights for Gays. On Social Security benefits for Gay spouses, 48 percent voice support, while 43 percent are opposed.

President Clinton said May 23 that he would sign a bill outlawing Gay marriages, even though it "is hardly a problem that is sweeping the country." He accused Republicans of exploiting the issue for election-year gains.

The poll of 779 adults has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4 percentage points for all Americans, and plus or minus 5 points for registered voters.

Mark Your Calendars
Memphis Pride Meeting
MGLCC - 2 pm



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Pride and Prejudice

Pride is what we celebrate this time of year; pride in ourselves, our accomplishments and our community.

Prejudice is that which is practiced by the state legislators and "leaders" in Congress who are hastily and categorically denying Gays and Lesbians legal partnerships, i.e. marriage.

It's getting scary out there.

Oot and About

We enjoyed our first taste of Derek Dean's *Thursday Night Live* at WKRB. An amazingly diverse group of performers entertained a receptive group of patrons with contemporary, country and rhythm and blues. The diversity included males and females, Gay and non, black and white. This variety is a hallmark of these evenings and it is truly a unique and enjoyable evening out. The

schedule is set through June and we hope it will continue indefinitely.

Gays Off Poplar Street, the jolly crew from the Sunshine Lounge, went to the Big Easy over Memorial Day Weekend as is their custom. We expect to hear another book's worth of stories upon their return but don't expect them here, they are much better heard from the perpetrators at the scene of the crime, the Sunshine Lounge.

The Spaghetti Supper fund raiser at MGLCC was just like old home week. Many of those who have had long involvement with the Center turned out for a delicious meal courtesy of Hunter Johnston and Dixie Alexander with Miki Zulewski and B.J. Massengale. The stunningly handsome waiters gave impeccable service and we enjoyed seeing founding president Ken Horton, former treasurer Steve

McLain, and longtime supporters Gary Coughlin, Steve Solomon and Aubrey Koon. MGLCC will be electing its new board in July.

We heard only recently of the outcome of a tribute to Lady Peaches held at Club Xscape back in March. She was honored by performers from

Leigh, Coco Cortez, Victoria Sweets, Aphrodite and a representative from One Night Only Productions. One Night Only had previously raised over \$1,500 for the AIDS Mastery Workshop at Amnesia.

We are sad to say that the Gay Alternative radio show has left the air as of last month. Pat Jones and many volunteers on and off the air kept the show running for 15 years and were instrumental in many ways in funding support for station WEVL. Throughout its history it touched many lives, some whose only contact with the Gay and Lesbian community was through this weekly show. Lack of cooperation from the station, frequent changes in format for the station and the change of the time slot were cited as the main reasons for the show's demise.

Warm Fuzzy Department

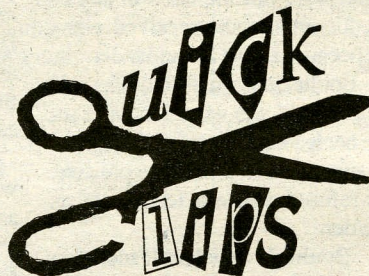
Craig Spain, a talented scenic designer known in Memphis, Nashville and other cities died a tragic death in Nashville last month. He was the apparent victim of a robbery/murder. He was known to all as a funny, kind and generous individual and will be greatly missed. So long, Delilah.

Church Lady Department

Safe Harbor Metropolitan Community Church attended the District Conference of the Gulf Lower Atlantic District of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Churches. Whew!

The conference was held in Nashville and was attended by more than 30 churches from the southeast region (Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North and South Carolina and Tennessee). Church growth is significant at the denominational level, regional level and congregational level with GLAD and Safe Harbor among the fastest growing.

Safe Harbor brought home the banner for having the highest percentage of the congregation present at the conference. You, too, may see this banner proudly carried in this year's Pride Parade.



in town and out of town and the proceeds were presented to Miss Peaches as a love gift. We have always enjoyed knowing Peaches and have been happy to give her her due as a pioneer in our community. It is a comfort that she has the support of her brothers and sisters, her family, her church and many other friends outside of our community.

Congratulations to Pebbles, our new Miss Gay Tennessee America. She was crowned May 4 amid trying circumstances caused by a very warm location for the pageant. We will here only warmly applaud all of the entertainers and contestants for not only performing beautifully but remaining looking their absolute best under warmer than normal circumstances. We understood all too well what they were going through since the judges ended up sitting in the same lights that the performers endured. Pebbles' Ella Fitzgerald talent is worth making a special effort to see. Congratulations also to Crystal Jo Jennings as first alternate. And to Hetti McDaniels for a real slam-bang final bow. Perhaps we will write of our experiences judging a major preliminary pageant soon.

We also heard, through the wind, that Melina has given up lipstick for good. She was assisted in her farewell performance by B.J. Hefner, Lorretta Williams, Jezebel, Shannon

Benefit Recap

Aphrodite raised more than \$850 at their *Summer in the City Benefit* for Loving Arms.

Backstreet raised more than \$1,000 at their Benefit for Love for Friends For Life.

More than \$600 was raised to benefit the Bluff City Sports Association at the grand opening weekend of Autumn St. Pub with its new liquor license. It is spacious with bar/pool area, dance floor and shows.

Coming Attractions Dept.

Saturday, June 1, Alliance will hold another Bare...Bear club night at the Pipeline with half of the proceeds to benefit Memphis Pride. The club will be hosting the Sunday afternoon buffet on June 9 to celebrate the club's 5th anniversary.

An extra added attraction of Pride weekend will be the opening of Backstreet's long-promised dance room. It is behind the bar/DJ booth area and accessible from both sides of the current space. It is a nice size and will consist of bar, DJ and dancing only (with its own rest rooms).

The Tennessee Leather Tribe Drag Races (to benefit PWA Services at Friends For Life) will be held at WKRB the evening of June 9. See ad, it's the leather community vs. the drag community to see which raises the most money.

Club X-scape will hold its second annual Pride Picnic at Te-To-Tam ranch on June 23. This was a very good time last year in a large, beautiful park with very friendly folks around. Details through Club Xscape.

Kay Entertainment Productions has scheduled a number of events, mostly at WKRB, for June. They bought an ad, why don't you read it.

During the run of *Forever Plaid* at Playhouse on the Square in June will be several performances of *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*, a one-man show to be performed after the main show in the theatre's Memphis Room. More details later.

The Runaround

The Alternative Restaurant will be celebrating its first anniversary on June 7. A special late night celebration is planned.

Miss J-Wag's has been rescheduled for June 14.

Amnesia has a host of male and impersonator entertainment for this month but we will try not to miss Maxi Houston on June 29. She is an entertainer of some stature and large presence and looks a lot like *TJN* staff member Bob Dumais in drag. See the ad for the rest.

Mr. 501 will be held June 2.

The Other Side in Jackson, TN, has open performer talent nights every other Friday.

Pride Events Schedule

The 17th Annual Pride River

The Miller Lite Bluff City Sports Association Softball League

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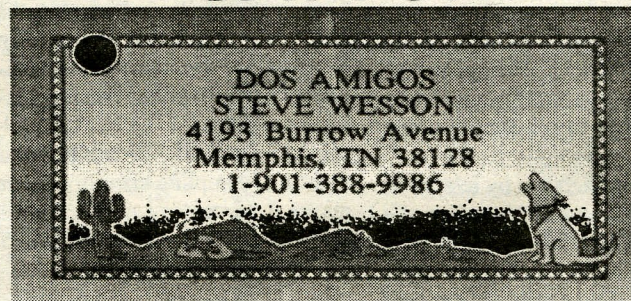
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Gays and Lesbians Cheer, Conservatives Criticize Amendment 2 Decision

By Sandy Shore
Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP) — Amendment 2, which gave Colorado a national reputation as a hate state, was declared unconstitutional May 20, drawing cheers from Gays and Lesbians and derision from the initiative's conservative backers.

In a 6-3 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court said the anti-Gay-rights law violated homosexuals' constitutional rights by denying them the chance to seek protection from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.

At a hastily organized news conference, elated Gays and Lesbians applauded the court and announced celebratory rallies in 10 cities, from Fort Collins to Durango.

"I'm in a little bit of shock, still," said Richard Evans, one of the plaintiffs. "It's a good day and it's a good feeling."

Priscilla Inkpen, another plaintiff who is a minister in the United Church of Christ, said, "I'm supposed to be a preacher and I really don't feel like preaching today, just celebrating."

Meanwhile, Amendment 2 backers criticized the court's failure to distinguish between equal rights and

special rights.

"Today is a truly chilling day for people of conscience across America," said Will Perkins, board chairman of the Colorado Springs-based Colorado for Family Values, which spearheaded the Amendment 2 campaign four years ago.

"This decision of the United States Supreme Court represents a body blow against freedom of belief and freedom of association."

Attorney General Gale Norton, who defended Amendment 2 on behalf of the state, said the decision showed the court "bought the myth that Colorado is the hate state."

She called the decision "insulting to the Colorado voter. It mocks the democratic process."

Amendment 2 would have prohibited state or local laws protecting homosexuals from discrimination; it would have struck down laws passed by Denver, Boulder and Aspen.

It was approved by 53 percent of voters casting ballots in November 1992, triggering a divisive reaction across the nation, including a boycott of the state by celebrities and some conventions.

Nine days after the amendment was approved, a group of six Coloradans filed suit to declare it uncon-

stitutional.

In January 1993, Denver District Judge Jeffrey Bayless issued an injunction that blocked Amendment 2 from taking effect. Subsequent court rulings all have found it unconstitutional on the ground that it denies homosexuals full access to the political process.

Attorney Jean Dubofsky, a former Colorado Supreme Court justice who represented the group, believes the issue will be put to rest with the decision.

"I also think it's one of those issues

whose time has come and gone because it wasn't a real problem. It was designed to get political attention," she said.

The decision was praised by government leaders and those who battled Amendment 2.

"This is not about preferential treatment," said Sue Anderson, executive director of Equality Colorado. "This is about basic civil rights protection."

Denver Mayor Wellington Webb said, "Upon this ruling, we shall build and expand these human rights, whether they are those of the Gay and

Lesbian community or of any other group whose precious human and civil rights are being challenged."

Gov. Roy Romer, who opposed the amendment, said he hoped another anti-Gay rights initiative would not surface. "Instead of trying to legislate in some micromanaging way, we can work on making it work for all of us," he said.

Perkins said he is keeping his options open, but wants to review the Supreme Court's ruling before he decides how to proceed.

OCA Chairman Upset, Ore. Governor Please By Supreme Court Ruling

By Bob Baum
Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Lon Mabon seemed stunned. For years, he has been at the forefront of the contentious, mostly futile battle in Oregon to prohibit government protection of the rights of Gays and Lesbians.

On May 20, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark rebuke of his beliefs.

In a 6-3 decision, the court held

that a Colorado anti-Gay-rights law violated the constitutional provision guaranteeing equal protection of all citizens under the law.

"I'm very disappointed because what the Supreme Court has done is basically say that the citizens of Colorado can't set their own moral standards," the chairman of the Oregon Citizens Alliance said.

Mabon warned that the ruling is "extremely disturbing for me and I think extremely problematic for our society for the future in setting what

is right and wrong sexual behavior."

Gov. John Kitzhaber, though, praised the ruling as a victory.

"I applaud the United States Supreme Court for putting a halt to discrimination against our Gay and Lesbian citizens," Kitzhaber said.

Mabon said that his latest effort to get an anti-Gay-rights measure on the Oregon ballot might be harmed by the ruling, but he vowed to continue the fight anyway.

"We don't allow bigamy. We See Oregon Reaction on page 30

U.N. Gets Down and Dirty in Advising Peacekeepers How to Avoid AIDS

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations has gotten downright undiplomatic in a graphic new pamphlet telling U.N. peacekeepers how to avoid AIDS.

Protect Yourself Against HIV/AIDS tells it like it is.

The 29-page pamphlet contains six illustrations of how to put on, use and dispose of condoms. It warns of the risks of unprotected genital and anal intercourse and recommends "non-penetrative sex such as mutual masturbation, massage, caressing, hugging and kissing different parts of the body."

For those who are reluctant, it adds that "research with people in the military has shown that when people use condoms in the right way, and with confidence, there is no loss of stimulation or pleasure."

There was no explanation how or when the "research" was performed.

The pamphlet was published in December by the U.N. Department for Peace-Keeping Operations for distribution to the 26,000 U.N. troops and civilian police in 17 peacekeeping missions worldwide.

No figures are available on how many U.N. troops may have contracted HIV, the virus that causes

AIDS, during peacekeeping missions. Troops are sent from their home countries for limited tours of duty.

In recent years, major nations such as the United States have been reluctant to send their own troops to peacekeeping missions, and the United Nations often has to reply on soldiers from countries where discipline and training are below standard.

Most of the advice differs little from that which is taught in high school sex education classes in the West. But due to the nature of U.N. peacekeeping operations, the pamphlet may represent the first time

many soldiers have received such frank and detailed advice on avoiding AIDS.

But it suggests that the worst time to discuss using a condom with a partner is "the moment before you have sex" because she "may feel tricked or not trusted."

The pamphlet suggests that spending off-duty hours in bars and engaging in casual sex as "your main way of coping with stress" are not the best ways of self-protection.

"Find some things you enjoy doing with your friends, and just decide to do some of those things when you are off-duty instead of turning to casual sex," the pamphlet advises.

Quick Clips

Continued from page 32

Ride which benefits the MGLCC and Switchboard is moving in a lot of ways. This year: Live Entertainment—the Belle Curves; More Space—the return to the Memphis Showboat, the big boat; Munchies and Plenty of Bar Service. To accommodate all of these changes, the Boat Ride will be held on Friday, June 7, the day before the Pride Parade and Festival.

This year's bigger and better Pride Parade and Festival will have the same times and locations as last year. Marching groups, floats, cars, lions, tigers, bears, etc., will assemble at Overton Park at 1 p.m. The Parade will step off at 2 and follow last year's route from Poplar to Coo-

per to Madison and end at the covered parking area at Holy Trinity Community Church.

The Festival will already be open when the Parade arrives. Entertainment and speakers will begin at 3:30 and the featured speaker will be State Senator Steve Cohen, who is campaigning for the District 9 seat in the Congressional House of Representatives. Entertainment will be provided by Chador, Thom Malone (Mr. Gay Tennessee All-American), Steve Smith, the Cotton Pickin' Squares, Pebbles (Miss Gay Tennessee America), Derek Dean, Nicole Du Bois (Miss Southern Elegance) and others. Speakers will include Rev. Tim Meadows, representatives from MAGY (Memphis Area Gay Youth), B-GALA (Bisexual—Gay and Lesbian Alliance at U of M), Rev. Greg Bullard, NOW (National Organization for Women) and a new group from the G/L community to mobilize support for Steve Cohen.

Final Round

Pride is the opposite of shame. We are going to need plenty of that soon, our enemies have named us and shown us they mean business. We can retaliate—Vote the Bastards OUT!!!!!!!!!!!!

And use some of our characteristic drive and compassion and energy to change our society. We cannot put it off any longer.

Ta, ta.
Lady A.

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and we do not claim such certification.

Oregon Reaction

Continued from page 8

don't allow pedophilia. I don't understand the logic of the Supreme Court saying bisexuality and homosexuality are a class," Mabon said.

Kitzhaber had ordered the state's attorney general to file a friend of the court brief on behalf of opponents of the Colorado law.

"It is clear now that we are not talking about 'special rights' for a certain class of citizens," Kitzhaber said. "The court found there is nothing special about equal protection. It means what it says."

The ruling would have struck down both of the OCA-backed measures that were defeated by Oregon voters in 1992 and 1994, said Marla Rae, spokeswoman for Attorney General Ted Kulongoski.

Mabon said he believes the Supreme Court ruling would not apply to the measure the OCA is proposing this year, however.

The proposed measure says minority status shall not be based on sexual behavior or desires, but does not single out homosexuality or any other specific behavior. It also says that the law would not diminish the constitu-

tional rights of any citizen. Another clause says that if any part of the law is found unconstitutional, the rest of the law would remain in effect.

The measure was carefully crafted in anticipation that the Colorado law might be struck down, Mabon said. But he said he's concerned that, in light of the court ruling, his group might not be able to gather enough signatures to get it on the ballot.

If voters don't understand the distinction between the Colorado law and Oregon measure, "the average person out there is going to become discouraged and say, 'What's the use'?" he said.

The group is 57,000 to 62,000 signatures short of the 97,000 it needs by July 5 to make the November ballot.

The executive director of Basic Rights of Oregon, Julie Davis, said the ruling knocks down the premise of the entire anti-Gay-rights movement.

"The whole concoction that the OCA tries to sell about Gays and Lesbians getting special rights is completely untrue," she said.

Basic Rights of Oregon was formed to fight the OCA's efforts.

Church

Continued from page 26

who wished to remain anonymous. While the couple has felt pretty comfortable there, they hadn't submitted their anniversary date for the parish newsletter. That's something they now plan to do.

Deacon Nancy Brown hopes others interpret the vote as an invitation to the church.

"I hope the Gay and Lesbian population will feel comfortable here," she said. "If they haven't been here before this is certainly an invitation to come and worship."

Although the church approved the resolution by a wide margin, some members did express concern that the church was unnecessarily singling out one group for special attention.

"If we are indeed a Christian community, I feel we should be able to see people through

Christ's eyes ... and he didn't see us in categories," one woman said. "If you're going to identify one group, put alongside it the mentally disabled and other groups."

South Congregational Church has spent about five years studying the issue of homosexuality through classes and discussion. Some people have expressed unease at the idea of making Gay and Lesbian acceptance an official church stance. It's a difficult issue for many people who have grown up learning biblical interpretations that condemn homosexuality.

The Rev. Greg Turner wants to ensure no one feels alienated by the vote.

"I clearly hope that those who voted no feel they were heard and affirmed and feel a part of the church ... we're not looking for lock-step agreement," he said.

[First Congregational Church of Christ in Memphis has adopted an affirming policy.]

Inmates

Continued from page 1

are severely ill.

"We've had some who were so sick that we worked with the judge to have them released so they could spend their last days at home," Cupp said. "It's (AIDS is) a hard thing to deal with."

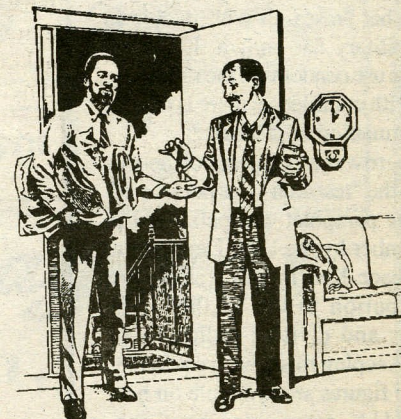
Criminal justice experts predicted the AIDS virus would sweep through prisons in the 1980s, and it did in some places, such as Georgia and Florida.

"Whether it's through sex or inmates giving each other homemade tattoos using an electric razor, the opportunity is certainly there for AIDS to be contracted," Georgia prison spokesman Mike Light said.

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Another Side of the Coin Man Argues Ex-Wife's Same-Sex Marriage Ends Alimony

By Ravi Nessman
Associated Press Writer

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A Morris County Superior Court judge on May 24 rejected a man's request to be freed from his alimony obligations because his ex-wife has entered into a same-sex marriage.

Though New Jersey does not recognize same-sex marriages, Robert Alston argued in legal papers that since his ex-wife, Michele, considered herself remarried to another woman, he should not be forced to continue paying alimony.

"Courts have to recognize it's not as simple as it used to be with these marriages. The family unit is not the traditional heterosexual unit," Alston's lawyer, Spencer Robbins, told The Associated Press Friday.

"If two people decide to become married, even if they're the same sex, certainly the benefits should be cut off that come from the prior spouse," he said.

Activists in the Gay community said until New Jersey recognizes same-sex marriages Alston has no grounds to fight his alimony payments.

"He cannot go to court and have her penalized for being married when she legally isn't. People can't have it both ways," said Evan

Wolfson, director of the marriage project at the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Wolfson is co-counsel on a court case in Hawaii that could end in the legalization of Gay marriages there.

Alston, who has custody of the couple's three children, said in court papers his wife was married in September by an ordained Episcopal priest and so should not be entitled to alimony payments.

"It is unfair to continue to require me to pay alimony and related expenses when the defendant has done everything she could to hold herself out as being remarried," Alston said in an affidavit.

Alston, who was divorced in October 1994, is required to pay \$50 a week to his ex-wife until October 2001, under the divorce judgment. He must also pay her medical insurance coverage, maintain her as a beneficiary on his life insurance and contribute \$30 a week to her auto insurance.

Michele Alston's lawyer, Peter Laemers, did not return a message from The Associated Press.

Elliot H. Gourvitz, past president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, said Alston did not have to argue his ex-wife had remarried, only that she was living

with someone who was helping support her.

To rule in Robert Alston's favor Judge Barbara Zucker-Zarett would not have had to specifically recognize the marriage. But any ruling in his favor would be "giving public recognition to a nontraditional family," Gourvitz said.

The issue of same-sex marriages has become politically volatile recently as politicians across the country prepare for the possibility Hawaii could endorse the unions.

President Clinton said May 23 he would sign a bill allowing states to reject same-sex marriages performed in other states. The bill also defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

Tom Stoddard, former executive director of Lambda and adjunct professor of law at New York University, said homosexuals who wanted to get married had to be willing to accept all the ramifications and responsibilities that come with marriage.

"The principal for me would be absolute equality between same-sex and opposite-sex marriages and that has its good consequences as well as its bad consequences," he said.

Arguments like Alston's may actually strengthen the position of proponents of same-sex marriages, he said.

he said.

"It'll make plain that Gay people are not just seeking advantages, they are seeking something deeper and more important, which is justice," Stoddard said.

But Wolfson said a ruling in Robert Alston's favor would have put one more burden on homosexual

couples.

It would mean that "when it counts against you your relationship will be considered a marriage, but for all the other basic responsibilities, protections and rights that come with marriage you're basically out in the cold if you're Gay, and that's unfair," he said.

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Baboon Transplant Recipient Says More Drastic Action Needed

By David Tirrell-Wysocki
Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Jeff Getty, the AIDS patient who became the first human to receive a baboon bone marrow transplant to fight the killer disease, says more bold steps must be taken or it will keep on killing.

"The war's been a losing battle because they wouldn't let us fight," Getty, of Oakland, said in New Hampshire May 25. "A lot of us were willing to risk our lives to try to find answers, but the cautious system and timid government and scientists weren't going to do it. So we had to force them to let us do something bold."

Getty was in New Hampshire to visit his sister, Kim, who helped force the government to allow the experimental baboon transplant five months ago. He also helped dedicate a home for low-income AIDS patients and challenged the state and its residents to do more to fight the disease.

"The only way we are going to cure this disease is to get it right out front, put it on the table and say 'Okay, your cousin's got it, my uncle's got it, let's get to work find

housing, find medicine, find answers,'" said Getty.

He was tanned and looked fit and healthy, far from his situation for years, when he often landed in the emergency room.

"I've got my life back now. I got lucky. It could have killed me," he said of the transplant.

Doctors have said the transplant has not taken, and Getty, 38, said there is a chance his improved health might be due to chemotherapy he had beforehand to try to prevent his immune system from rejecting the transplant.

He said he has been HIV positive for 16 years, but since the transplant and chemotherapy, his immune system has bounced back, making him well enough to travel, something he and his family are

enjoying.

"This is great," said sister Kim, from Hopkinton. "He's never seen my house. Normally when I see him, he's ill. This is the first time I've seen him to have fun."

Kim Getty said she hopes publicity about her brother's visit to her home will help people realize AIDS is a problem close to their homes too.

"Any publicity we can get for AIDS is beneficial," she said. "We've got to get the word out that AIDS is in New Hampshire. It's a people problem, period."

Getty said AIDS killed tens of thousands of people around San Francisco, partly because people did not know how to prevent it.

"Hopefully, that won't happen here," he said.

Mark Your Calendars

**Feast for Friends Dinners
for PLWAs, their Caregivers and Friends
June 3 and June 17**

6:30 p.m.

St. John's United Methodist Church
Peabody and Bellevue

M.A.G.Y.

Memphis Area Gay Youth

Peer support and discussion group

Call Jonathan: 725-7152 Leave Message

Spiritual Resources in the Memphis Area

Calvary Episcopal Church - 525-6602

Connection Center - 761-3435

First Congregational Church - 278-6786

Holy Trinity Community Church - 726-9443

Living Word Christian Church - 276-0577

Memphis Friends Meeting - 323-3196

Neshoba Unitarian Universalist Church - 756-5433

Prescott Memorial Baptist Church - 327-8479

Safe Harbor MCC - 458-0501

St. John's United Methodist Church - 726-4104

St. Therese Catholic Church - 276-1412

Unitarian Church of the River - 526-8631

Unity Church (Kirby Road) - 753-0831

Space donated as a public service by the Triangle Journal News

Sad to Say, Happy to Hear

By Butch Valentine



Sad to say... Transitions are a necessary part of life, but when a door closes, windows usually open. That's what's happening at Friends for Life. Interim Executive Director Allen Cook moves on to new adventures after guiding FFL through an important transitional period. Good job, Allen, and good luck!



Happy to hear... Tom Roden has been named the new E.D. of Friends. He brings a strong background in hospital administration and grant writing to the organizations, and faces many challenges, most notably the current HOPWA crisis. Speaking of which...



Sad to say... This past winter caused a higher than usual number of requests for rent and utility assistance for PWA's and the money was spent well before the end of the fiscal year. Some people have experienced some hardships because there have been no funds to cover requests, even for prescription assistance.



Happy to hear... City of Memphis Housing and Community Development to the rescue! They have come up with the \$90,000 (\$30,000 a month) needed to fulfill the needs till the end of the fiscal year, which is the end of June.



Sad to say... TennCare's Executive Director Rusty Steibert is leaving his position for private enterprise. Though he stayed on longer than planned, his departure is still saddening. Rusty has been affected by AIDS, having lost a close friend, and he understood the importance of all the MCO's making available the protease inhibitors and 3TC (Epivir). He will be succeeded by Theresa Clarke, his assistant for several months.



Happy to hear... Rusty recently announced that TennCare is pumping \$90 million into the \$3.5 billion program July 1 to help cover the rising costs of AIDS treatment, as well as new drugs to treat cancer and diabetes. Combination drug therapy (protease inhibitor, 3TC and AZT, for example) can cost as much as \$5000 per month!



Sad to say... As reported in POZ magazine (April), "Viral load is in, CD4 count is out." Now the question is, "How long will it be before the FDA adopts the viral load test as the preferred way to evaluate new drugs and their effect on the virus?"



Happy to hear... Here is a simple explanation of this new viral load test and why it is so important. Vital load shows you how much of the virus is in your blood system, where CD4 counts tell you how your body is reacting to the virus. The new drugs in combination are more effective in decreasing the viral load count (the smaller the number, the better) than raising the CD4 levels (the higher the number, the better),

and is more precise in predicting progression to AIDS and survival rate. Says John Mellors of the University of Pittsburgh: "You can actually see a doubling of viral load at least two years before you see a 100-cell decline in CD4 levels."



Sad to say... Humor columnist Erma Bombeck recently died of complications following a kidney transplant. Her observations on marriage is one of the best ever, and in this day of AIDS, it deserves special attention: "A serious illness is marriage's unspoken fear. The chances of a couple staying together and dying at the same time are Las Vegas odds. Life is a dance you want to finish on the same beat. And I was the first to stumble."



Happy to hear... Nadia Comaneci and Bart Connor, both Olympic gymnastics gold medallists, were recently wed in Romania. Can you just imagine what these agile, in-shape, prime-of-their-lives gymnasts can do in bed?



Sad to say... The recent Sotheby's auction of personal items from the estate of Jackie O brought in \$34 million! The \$2.5 million from the catalog sales will benefit the JFK Library in Boston, but the big bucks go to the principal beneficiaries, Caroline and John, Jr. (who were both bequeathed \$250,000 incidentally). The rich get richer and richer while...



Happy to hear... In Memphis, recently, the Auction for AIDS raised about \$28,000 to benefit many. There was much time, effort and commitment from many people to make this event the success that it was. And so many people with open wallets! Here's a big "atta boy" for all.



Happy to hear... There's more good news about local money being used for local concerns. The Assisi Foundation of Memphis has awarded Memphis Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN) a much needed grant of \$18,000.



Sad to say... A school the size a caliber of the University of Memphis does not have a policy of non-discrimination because of sexual orientation. President Rawlins has said he personally has no problem adding "sexual orientation" to the policy; he is awaiting clarification from the Tennessee Board of Regents.



Happy to hear... A group of 20 students from Students for Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Awareness staged an impromptu sit-in at Rawlins' office demanding equal rights, and a Regents official has said it is up to each campus. OK, Mr. President... you talk the talk, now walk the walk.



Happy to hear... They won't be buying too much! More than 400 companies — from Walt Disney to Coors to Levi-Strauss — have adopted policies that ban discrimination against homosexuals or allow company benefits for domestic partners. Some firms even encourage

employees to bring their partners to company picnics.



Sad to say... Studies are showing that the sperm counts of American men are declining for various reasons.



Happy to hear... Another finding: the sperm counts of men in New York City are about 50 percent higher than those in Los Angeles. Just thought you'd like to know.



Sad to say... Many people with HIV are afraid to change jobs because of the loss of insurance. Pre-existing conditions and all that.



Happy to hear... Democrats and Republicans have agreed on one thing... the need for "portability insurance" to make it easier for people with chronic illnesses to keep health insurance if they change or lose their jobs. Excellent idea!! But can they keep it affordable?



Sad to say... He has had to follow his own policy of "don't ask, don't tell," but the Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie has acknowledged ordaining practicing Gays into "bishopdom." The church bans homosexual priests, but Runcie considers the ban "ludicrous."



Happy to hear... The Church of England's American offshoot, the Episcopal Church, has decided church doctrine does not prohibit the ordination of Gays and Lesbians. This will have a major impact on America's protestant denominations, but read on...



Sad to say... The Methodists still don't want us. Delegates to the United Methodist General Conference voted 577-378 to continue to refer to homosexual practice as "incompatible with Christian teaching." When will they realize their intolerant attitudes to others are "incompatible with Christian teaching"?



Sad to say... In 1864, Col. John Chivington, a Methodist lay preacher and U.S. cavalry officer, led a force that butchered an Indian encampment of over 200 people, mostly women and children.



Happy to hear... It took 132 years, but the United Methodist Church has formally apologized and has asked for forgiveness of the descendants. Read my inkpen... one day they'll be apologizing to the Gay community!



Sad to say... It's a cat fight on Capitol Hill. Ultraconservative Rep. Bob Dornan (R-Cal.) has accused Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, the only openly Gay Republican in Congress, of using a federal building to throw wild Gay parties that had illicit drugs and illicit sexual activities.



Happy to hear... In fact, Gunderson hosted a two-day "Cherry Jubilee," a fund-raiser for two AIDS service organizations that raised more than \$60,000. No drugs, no sex... just a good cause. Get a

life, Dornan.



Sad to say... A white state senator from Alabama who was running for Congress wrote a speech arguing that slavery is justified by the Bible and was good for Blacks. Of course, he is a Republican. I won't quote him, but I want to make a point: The attitudes of these Republican Righteous Wonders (RRWs) is proof positive there is not enough chlorine in the Republican Party gene pool!!!



Happy to hear... "Was running" are the key words here. Sane heads prevailed, and he was not allowed to deliver his speech. It was distributed, however, and the uproar was

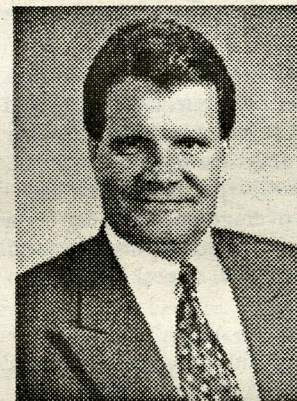
so immense he was forced to drop out of the race.



Happy to hear... And a real big HTH. Sen. Bob Dole, er... Dole... has resigned from the Senate after 35 years to wholeheartedly campaign for President of the U.S. So it's either going to be the White House or his own house back in Kansas. Well, there's no place like home, Bob, and Dorothy and Toto have missed you so.



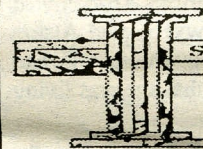
Happy to hear... Jay Leno... "Madonna said that she doesn't care if it'd a boy or a girl... as long as it's bisexual."



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Randy Wilder

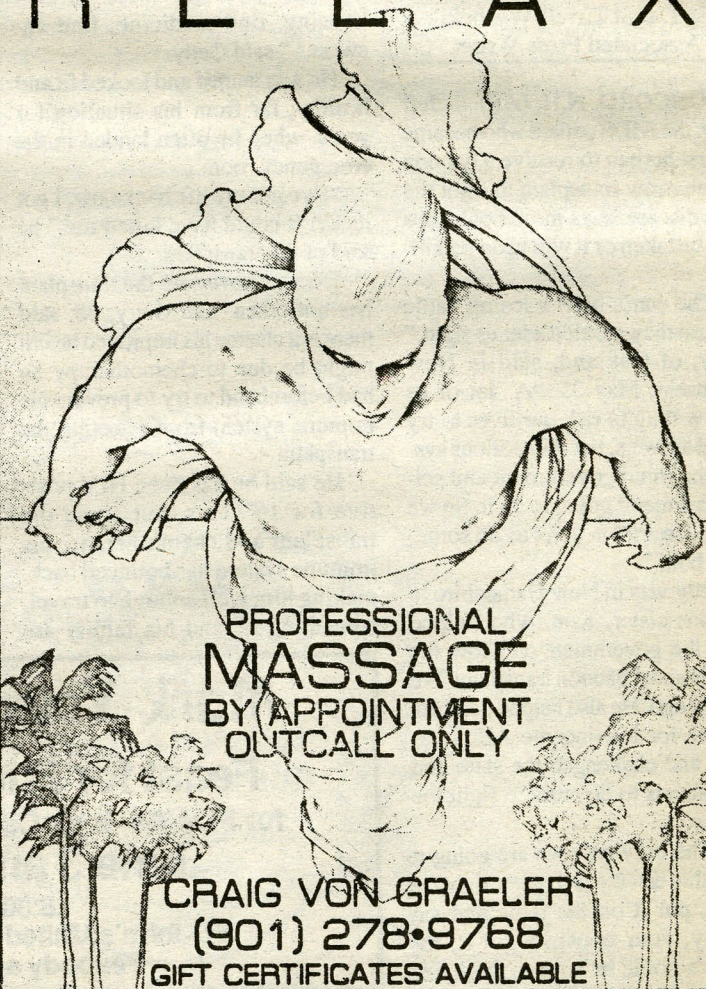
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Memphis

MUTUALLY SATISFYING Ken, 25, blonde/brn freckles, 5'8, 160, musc gd shape, good smile, love meeting people, like to converse, masculine, look European, versatile, int are travelling, love music, wide variety, art, cook, work out, conservative, like to meet someone nice- (Memphis) **34124**

THE MORE THE BETTER GBM, seeks others for group action. Leave me a message. (Memphis) **32020**

CAN I WATCH? GWM, 5'11", 155, 35, brown hair and eyes, tanned and fit, seeks others into watching and more. Singles or couples are always welcome. (Memphis) **32518**

GROUP GROPE GWM, 35, seeks same, hairy cowboys preferred, one on one and groups are always welcome. Give me a call. (Memphis) **22887**

ROMANTIC POETRY GWM, 26, blonde hair, blue eyes, 6'4", varied interests, seeks others, 19-35, for fun, friendship and more. Give me a call. (Memphis) **23938**

EXTREME EXCITEMENT GWM couple, seeks others for fun and extreme pleasure. Call us. (Memphis) **20873**

GROUP GROPE GWM, 29, brown hair, blue eyes, 150, varied interests, seeks others into group fun and more. Give me a call. (Memphis) **7927**

FOUR IN THE FLOOR GWM, 30, seeks others, 20-30, for daytime group fun. Call me anytime. (Memphis) **19696**

NAUGHTY NUDIST GWM, nudist, seeks same for fun and adventure. Call me soon and let's get together. (Memphis) **2099**

TWO FOR YOU GWM couple, cute and attractive, seeks others for fun and possibly more. Give us a call. (Memphis) **18119**

MASCULINE IN MEMPHIS GWM, 22, 5'7", 155, brown hair and eyes, seeks others, local preferred, for fun and more. Give me a call. (Memphis) **13703**

JUST LOOKING FOR FUN GWM, brown hair, green eyes, 170, 5'11", into alot of things, seeks same for fun, dining out and more. Please leave a message. (Memphis) **42733**

Tennessee

WHERE'S MY DAD? GWM, 32, 5'11", 170, dark tan, clean shaven, into B/D and over the knee punishment, seeks Daddy type men, hairy and burly, to take care of this extra well endw'd, masculine and extremely submissive boy. Please, daddy, call me soon. (Bristol) **48507**

BLACK MALE ME GWM, seeks GBM, 20-28, well built and endw'd, for fun and pleasure. Call me now! (Charlotte) **49001**

LET'S MEAT SOON GWM, 44, 6'1", brown hair, hazel eyes, varied interests, seeks local dudes for fun and more. Beep me! (Chattanooga) **19378**

LET'S SHARE SOME TIME TOGETHER GWM, 39, seeks others, 20-40, for friends and more. Give me a call. (Chattanooga) **42893**

I WANT A REAL MAN GWM, 6'2", 185, smooth, blonde hair, blue eyes, sports inclined, seeks others, 40-43, who are masculine with a hairy chest. Give me a call. (Cleveland) **8188**

I'M TIRED OF SECOND BEST! GWM, 26, 6', light brown hair, 'stache/beard, 170, attractive and straight acting, seeks others, 27-40, relationship oriented preferred, attractive and straight acting a must. No fat's or fem's need respond! Please leave a message. (Dixon County) **32262**

TWO FOR YOU GWM couple, seeks others for fun and more. Call us. (Henderson) **5314**

JUST A PARTY DUDE! GWM, 31, long brown hair, brown eyes, seeks others for fun and more. Leave me a message. (Jackson) **23910**

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED GWM, 34, 6', 190, blue eyes, brown hair, straight acting and clean cut, varied interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and relationship possibilities. I am not into one niters. (Jackson) **21762**

I'M A GOOD LOOKING GUY GWM, 6', 185, brown hair and eyes, seeks others into weight lifting, camping and more. Give me a call. (Johnson City) **8377**

DEEP KNEE BENDS GWM, 24, 5'8", dark blonde hair, blue eyes, 145, good body, seeks same, under 35, for fun and pleasure. Give me a call soon. (Knoxville) **27753**

MASCULINE MOVEMENTS GWM, 38, masculine, 5'8", 160, auburn hair, blue eyes, seeks others into sweaty and heavy action. Call me! (Knoxville) **30541**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? GWM, 28, 170, 5'11", brown hair and eyes, good looking, seeks others for fun. Leave me a detailed message. (Knoxville) **37785**

RENAISSANCE MAN GWM, 5'9", 140, smooth and slender swimmer's build, varied interests, seeks others, 20-40, local preferred, no fat's, fem's or hairy backs. Leave me a message. (Knoxville) **18171**

BEAR FACTS GWM, 35, 6', 165, black hair, blue eyes, attractive, straight acting and looking, seeks others, 20-35, stable, in shape and HIV-, for fun, friendship and hopefully more. Give me a call. (Knoxville) **49079**

I LOVE CHOCOLATE GWM, 20, alot of interests, seeks GBM, 18-23, attractive and well endw'd, for pleasure and more. Please call me. (Knoxville) **49148**

I WANNA BE BLACK MALED! GWM, seeks GBM's only, for mutual satisfaction and pleasure. I am waiting for your call. (Knoxville) **48282**

YOU ARE MY FRIEND GBM, 25, seek friends only. Leave a message. (Knoxville) **47726**

ALL TIED UP GWM, 31, 6'3", 200, seeks others to teach me the Leather scene and more. The wilder for me the better. Domination experience a big turn on! Call me soon. (Knoxville) **47471**

FRIENDSHIP FIRST GWM, 30, 5'6", brown hair and eyes, 140, seeks same, 30-45, for friendship and possible relationship. Please leave a message. (Knoxville) **33640**

ARE YOU BUTCH ENOUGH FOR ME? GWM, 32, slender and attractive, 145, 5'11", HIV+, smoker, seeks others, 30-40, masculine, attractive, tall and hairy chest preferred. Please be sincere and not into game playing. Leave a message. (Knoxville) **32326**

HI, IT'S ME GWM, 39, 5'10", 190, seeks others, 35-40, for fun, friendship and more. Give me a call. (Madison) **24391**

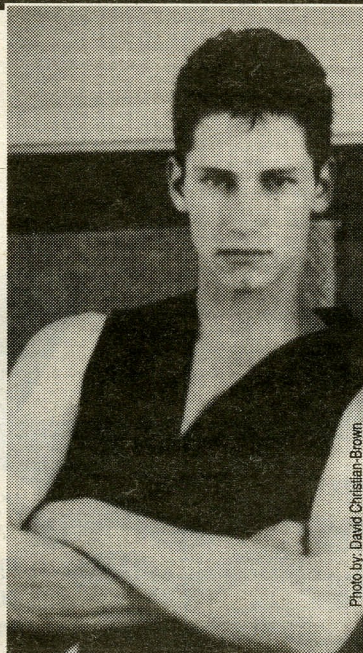


Photo by: David Christian-Brown

DAYTIME INTERLUDES GWM, 21, seeks others, 25-32 and into working nights, for daytime fun and more. No fat's or fem's need bother to respond. (McMinnville) **43029**

LOOKING FOR THE BOY NEXT DOOR GWM, 36, 6', 170, brown hair and eyes, clean shaven, good shape, seeks young guys, boyish looks a must, for fun, friendship and maybe more. If you're feminine or over weight, DO NOT CALL ME! (Murfreesboro) **19082**

MASCULINE MEN ONLY Bi WM, 150, brown hair, green eyes, lean and smooth, seeks others into camping, hiking and more. Leave me a message. (Murfreesboro) **33743**

LET'S SWAT SOME BALLS! Bi WM, seeks local dudes for tennis, adventure and more. Give me a call. (Murfreesboro) **18712**

OUTDOORSMAN hi, Chris, 29 GWM, 5'7, 180, black/brn, love anything outdoors, camping hiking fishing, into a relationship, if you are interested, give me a call- (Nashville) **33629**

THRILL OF DE-FEET Hello, Steve, I'm 6', 250, 37 may not be your type, but I like foot fetish! I would give you a relaxing massage, if you are interested in this leave a message- (Nashville) **34015**

BLACK ON TOP 42 WM professional, int in meeting a BM well built, who is a bodybuilder type, attractive, who likes to stay on top of things, want to fulfill some fantasies, 6'1 180, dk brn goatee, blue eyes, like to meet for daytime fun, if ur interested beep me! (Nashville) **34449**

SAFE AND FUN GWM, 140, 5'7", seeks others for clean and safe fun. Call me soon. (Nashville) **32872**

BUDDY STUFF GWM, 40, 195, 6'1", seeks others for early morning workout partners and wrestling matches. Give me a call. (Nashville) **32885**

LET'S GET TOGETHER GWM, 32, seeks others for discreet fun. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **30311**

LOOKING FOR YOU GWM, 6'1", 185, brown/gray hair, brown eyes, tanned, very submissive, seeks others for fun, friendship and possibly more. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **27166**

THE FINER THINGS OF LIFE GWM, mature and professional, 40's, varied interests, seeks young and straight acting males for dinner and more. Give me a call. (Nashville) **25014**

I HAVE MORALS! GBM, 32, bored to death, seeks others into fun, friendship and more. I am not into bar games, one niters or head games. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **23077**

ARE YOU THE ONE? GWM, 19, brown hair and eyes, 5'11", 150, seeks same, attractive and masculine a must, for fun, friendship and excitement. Give me a call. (Nashville) **21052**

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE GBM, 41, bottom, seeks top men only for fun and more. Give me a call. (Nashville) **21143**

I'M HERE AND LONELY GBM, seeks others for fun and more. I love to sing, travel and look forward to hearing from you. (Nashville) **21597**

NEW IN NASHVILLE GBM, 6'6", 240, 25, new to area, college student, into sports and music, seeks GWM's only, 21-30, for fun, friendship and more. Wanna show me around? Call me. (Nashville) **19790**

BUDDY BONDING GWM, 35, 6'1", 205, seeks others, 25-35, sportsminded a plus, for friendship and more. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **42807**

DISCREET INTERLUDES Bi WM, 32, 5'11", 210, brown hair and eyes, seeks same for discreet fun and more. Give me a call. (Nashville) **17470**

YOUR COMMAND IS MY DESIRE GWM, 32, 5'8", 185, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks experienced and masculine Leather top men for hot fun, training and adventure. Help me explore my limits. (Nashville) **34404**

HI, WHAT'S UP? GWM, 6'1", 190, brown hair, hazel eyes, varied interests, seeks GWM's only, for fun and adventure. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **11107**

TOTAL SATISFACTION Bi WM, 38, 6', 185, brown hair and eyes, seeks same, working class and top's only, into total body worship. Give me a call if you can handle this. (Nashville) **12154**

MAT BURNS GWM, 6'1, 220, muscular, seeks others into hot and sweaty wrestling matches. Throw me to the floor, if you can, and winner takes all! (Nashville) **13764**

CALLING ALL JOCKS! GWM, 46, seeks others, 18-20, for fun and more. You must be a smooth college jock to respond to me. (Nashville) **16330**

TALL TROUBLE GBM, 27, 6'8", 215, into alot of things, seeks GWM's only, drug and disease free, for fun, friendship and much more. Please call me as soon as you can. (Nashville) **7735**

SMOOTH A TURN ON GBM, handsome and educated, 5'9", height and weight proportionate, seeks GHM/GAM, smooth and feminine, no facial hair, for fun and alot more. Let me hear from you soon. (Nashville) **49102**

LET'S MEAT SOON! GWM, 24, HIV-, brown hair and eyes, 5'9", 175, seeks same, 18-30, for safe and clean fun. Get in touch with me. (Nashville) **5372**

ANYONE OUT THERE? GWM, seeks any and all for fun and friendship. Call me. (Nashville) **48777**

BASHFUL TEDDY BEAR GWM, 40, 179, 5'7", variety of interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please call me soon. (Nashville) **48816**

NO GAMES HERE GWM, 33, 5'11", black hair, brown eyes, not into mind games, seeks same for friendship and possibly more. Leave me a message. (Nashville) **49072**

PRETTY BOY SEARCH GWM, early 40's, attractive, muscular and a runner, non smoker, seeks very attractive, young and feminine guys, for fun and pleasure. Your prompt response will get mine. (Nashville) **48174**

QUALITY IS A MUST GBM, variety of interests, 27, 6'3", 215, medium and muscular build, seeks quality people for fun and friendship. Give me a call. (Nashville) **48250**

MATURE FOR ME GWM, seeks older men, 50+, for fun and friendship. Please leave a message. (Nashville) **47797**

YOURS TO COMMAND GWM, 5'11", blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks others for total body worship. Leave a message. (Nashville) **47269**

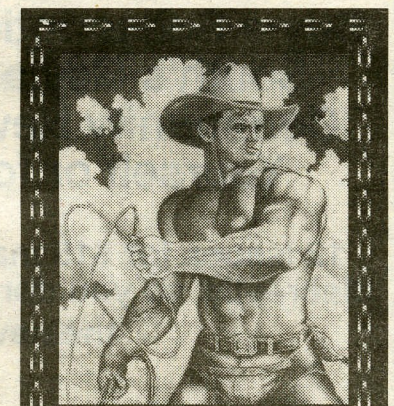
NASTY IN NASHVILLE GWM, new to area, very attractive, 24, bottom, seeks very straight acting, masculine and well endw'd GWM's for fun and pleasure. I look forward to meeting you! (Nashville) **47412**

UT KNOXVILLE STUDENT GWM, 20, college student, seeks same for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Nashville) **43140**

LET'S HANG OUT Bi WM, 24, brown eyes, shoulder length hair, medium build, seeks others to hang out with and possibly more. Give me a call. (Nashville) **42956**

LIFE IS JUST BEGINNING GBM, 26, 5'8", 220, very attractive, never had a lover, seeks GWM's only, under 30, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Nashville) **33687**

THREE IS NOT A CROWD GM couple, mixed race, early 30's, attractive professional's seeks singles or couples for safe and clean fun and more. Please leave a message. (Nashville) **33865**



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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Bed & Breakfast-A Victorian home furnished with antiques offers accommodations to men and women. Home is located in small Tennessee River town near Pickwick-Shiloh. Gourmet country dinner with complimentary wine. Area activities include: boating, walking trails, antique shops, auctions. Your hosts are available to assist with planning local activities. Reservations: Mon-Thurs. (901) 278-5844, Fri-Sun (901) 687-3456.

Ozark Bed & Breakfast-5 wooded acres of privacy in a fun vacation area. Exclusive resort for men & women. Hot tub. Country club privileges. Greenwood Hollow Ridge, Rt 4, Box 155, Eureka Springs, AR 72632, (501) 253-5283.

The Arbour Glen Bed & Breakfast-Circa 1896. Located on Eureka Springs Historic District loop close to downtown shops & restaurants. Completely renovated for comfort but still maintaining its old world charm, elegance & romance. Picturesque tree-covered hollow. The Arbour Glen, #7 Lema, Eureka Springs, AR 72632, (501) 253-9010.

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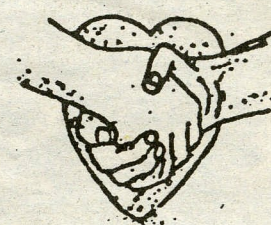
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INTEGRITY offers opportunities for growth, prayer, friendship and understanding.

INTEGRITY meets every third Tuesday of the month at Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis. For more information, call Calvary Episcopal Church at 525-6602.



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PERSONALS

David, love—Darker, damn it! Your anal fetish has exploded into a light-hearted mixture of fu-fu la-la! Please—get sick again! Love, Mule. P.S.—Maybe the Widow can help!

GWM, 45, 5'4", 165#, Br, Gr. ISO GWMs, 30-50, professionals: acc'ts, orthodontists, nurses, etc. for friendship, companionship and whatever may develop from that. Glenn: 732-5212.

GWM, 5'8", 165#, age 43. Seeks GWM, boy, age 18-25, bottom boys, kinky, to be my son. Write to M.L.C., 200 Harris Cir. #54, Corinth, MS 38834. Hurry—write. I'm lonely.

GWM, 5'9", 150#, 35, Br, Gr, sks fun, "no strings adult play" with in-shape tops, 25-45. Bi, married, race, OK. No fats, fems, druggies, or unemployed! I'm a great bottom! Go ahead—call! J.B. 901-384-6660.

Happy Fifth Anniversary Alliance! Signed, A Friend of the Family.

SGWM, divorced, 43, seeks a very special man to share my life with. Interests are music, beaches, traveling, outdoors, etc. I am a professional with MBA & MMA. Prefer some good-looking, hot, macho stud. Me: 6'1", 195#, BrHr/Greyes, good build, well-endowed, all hands-on

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Phoenix (Alcoholics Anonymous) All Meetings Open

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

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

Into The Light (Alcoholics Anonymous - Women)

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday | 7:00 pm | Discussion (Open, Smoke Free) |
| Sunday | 12 Noon | Discussion (Open) |

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

Seriously Sober (Alcoholics Anonymous)

| | | |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Friday | 8:00 pm | Discussion (Open, Smoke Free) |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------|

Open Heart (Al-Anon)

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------------------|
| Tuesday | 6:00 pm | Discussion (Open) |
| Thursday | 5:30 pm | Discussion (Open) |

(Business meeting 3rd Tuesday of the month, Birthdays last Tuesday)

Freely Speaking (All 12-Step Programs)

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------------------|
| Thursday | 9:00 pm | Discussion (Open) |
|----------|---------|-------------------|

ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)

| | | |
|--------|---------|-------------------|
| Sunday | 6:30 pm | Discussion (Open) |
|--------|---------|-------------------|

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

Space donated as a public service by the Triangle Journal News

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.

(* Indicates T/JN distribution points.)

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. ☎ 373-5760.

BARS / RESTAURANTS

- Alternative Restaurant & Lounge**: 553 So Cooper ☎ 725-7922.
Amnesia*: 2866 Poplar ☎ 454-1366.
Apartment Club*: 343 Madison ☎ 525-9491.
Autumn Street Pub*: 1349 Autumn ☎ 274-8010.
Backstreet*: 2018 Court Street ☎ 276-5522.
Club 501*: 111 N. Claybrook ☎ 274-8655.
Coffee Cellar*: 3573 Southern ☎ 320-7853.
Crossroads*: 1278 Jefferson ☎ 725-8156.
David's*: 1474 Madison ☎ 278-4313.
J-Wags*: 1268 Madison ☎ 725-1909.
One More*: 2117 Peabody Ave ☎ 272-1700.
P & H Cafe*: 1532 Madison Ave. ☎ 274-9794.
Pipeline*: 1382 Poplar ☎ 726-5263.
Sunshine Lounge*: 1379 Lamar ☎ 272-9843.
The Edge*: 532 South Cooper ☎ 272-3036.
The Other Side: 3883 Highway 45 North, Jackson, TN. ☎ 1-901-668-3749.
WKRB in Memphis*: 1528 Madison ☎ 278-9321.
Western Steak House & Lounge: 1298 Madison ☎ 725-9896.
X-scape*: 227 Monroe ☎ 528-8344.

BOOKS & GIFTS

- A Novel Idea***: Book Store • 2113 Madison in Overton Square ☎ 276-8535.
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 ☎ 745-3300.
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/Gay Liberation Movement**: ☎ 226-6523 Call for meeting place & schedule.
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.
Aloysius Home, Inc.: 28 North Claybrook, Memphis 38104 • Mailing address: Box 41679, Memphis 38174-1679 ☎ 274-8321, Dr. Jim Shaw.
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: 3139 Choctaw Ave. ☎ 323-3111.
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 • 1450 Poplar, Memphis 38104 ☎ 272-0855 or ☎ 278-AIDS.
Gay and Lesbian American Indians: Information ☎ 725-4898.
Gays Off Cleveland Street (GOCS): Social Group • c/o Sunshine Lounge, 1379 Lamar ☎ 272-9843.
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. 11 am & 7 pm; Bible study: Wed. 7 pm; 1559 Madison ☎ 726-9443.
Integrity Memphis: Meets the 3rd Tues., Healing Service/Eucharist, 6pm; Dinner, 6:45pm, \$4; Meeting 7:30pm • c/o Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd ☎ 525-6602.
Into The Light (Women's AA): Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379.
Lambda Men's Chorus: 1698 Belvedere Ct., Memphis 38104 ☎ 278-1190 (Aaron Foster).
Living Word Christian Church: Worship Service Sun. 10 am, Wed. 7 pm • 340 N Garland ☎ 276-8161.
Loving Arms (Support Partners for HIV+ Mothers & Babies; "hold" babies at the Med): Shelia Tankersley, P.O. Box 3368, Memphis, TN 38173 ☎ 725-6730.
Memphis Area Gay Youth (MAGY): PO Box 241852, Memphis, TN 38124 ☎ 725-7152 Jonathan Green for info, e-mail: ujgreen@msvux1.memphis.edu.
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 • 1488 Madison ☎ 276-7379, 726-6293, 527-1461, or 327-3676.
Memphis Pride, Inc.: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgendered Pride Events • Box 3956, Memphis 38173 ☎ 726-4867 or 276-5263, Dennis Kijowski.
Memphis TransGender Alliance: TV/TS support group • c/o Barbara Jean Jensen, Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052.
Mid-South AIDS Mastery Group: Ronnie Gardino ☎ 767-2182 or e-mail at msaidmstry@aol.com.
Mid-South Men's Council: Box 11042, Memphis 38111-0042 ☎ 278-0961.
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.
Safe Harbor MCC: Pastor Greg Bullard, 751 North Trezevant ☎ 458-0501.
Seriously Sober (AA): Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 276-7379 or 454-1414.
Southern Country Memphis: Country Western Dance Club ☎ 278-9321 or 274-8655.
Southern Sisters: Support group for transexual women (male to female) ☎ 728-4297, 7:30-11 pm for referral.
Stonewall Mission Church: A Progressive Christian Church • Sun. Service 6:30 p.m., meets at the Center, 103 Berry Rd., Nashville, TN 37204 ☎ (615) 269-3480.
Tennessee Leather Tribe: Men's &

- Women's leather org. Box 1034, Collierville, TN 38027-1034 ☎ 853-0347.
Tsarus: Leather-Levi club • Box 41082, Memphis 38174-1082.
U of M Students for Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Awareness (BGALA): BGALA c/o Office of Greek Affairs Box 100, U of M 38152.
WAC (Woman's Action Coalition): PO Box 1203, 3566 Walker, Memphis 38111 ☎ 678-3339.
Wings: Social Club • Box 41784, Memphis 38174-1784.

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS

- Bear Trappers BBS**: Serving Nashville & surrounding area ☎ (615)360-2837.
DDT BBS: Gay owned & operated, discussion oriented, 14,400 baud ☎ 853-1308.
Second Wind BBS: Memphis, Adult bulletin, computer modem speeds to 16,8000 BPS ☎ 276-8027.
The Personals: Gay computer bulletin board • 300 or 1200 baud ☎ 274-6713.

COUNSELING SERVICES

- Kerrel Ard, BSW**: Personal growth, spiritual counseling, alternative healing



- Flamingo Flowers & Gifts**: 3864 Macon Road, Suite 2 ☎ 452-0803.
Flower Market of Memphis: 1523 Union Ave. ☎ 274-8103.
Park East Florist: 6005 Park ☎ 761-2980.
Sweetpeas: 665 Madison ☎ 523-8635.

GRAPHICS/PHOTOGRAPHY

- Barr Photography**: Call 12-7 • Jackie/Nadine ☎ 366-7920.
Bonehead Creative: 1271 Poplar, Ste 103, Memphis 38104 ☎ 276-2101.
E.M.I. (Erotic Male Imagery): Photo Sets • PO Box 40691, Memphis, TN 38174 ☎ 320-7723.
Graffiti Graphics: 1985 Madison #7 ☎ 278-5002.
It's Done!: Typing, word processing/printing service-resumes, thesis, manuscripts, etc. ☎ 795-4308.
Printers Ink: Box 11485, -0485 ☎ 454-1411.
RK Photo: Full color post cards ☎ 452-2766.
See-S: Portraits & photography ☎ 327-3760.
That's Certainly Graphics: Resumes, ad campaigns, letterhead, etc. ☎ 761-2980.

HELP & INFORMATION LINES

- Affirmation**: ☎ (708) 733-9590.
AIDS Switchboard: ☎ 278-AIDS.
Gay & Lesbian Hotline: ☎ 1-800-285-7431 (24 hr. help & information for Lesbians, Gays, transvestites & transexuals).
Gay & Lesbian Youth Hotline: ☎ 1-800-347-TEEN (Thu.-Sun., 7pm-11:45pm).
Gay & Lesbian Switchboard: ☎ 728-GAYS • 24-hrs. Live Operators 7:30-11pm.
LINC: ☎ 725-8895.
Narcotics Anonymous: ☎ 276-LIVE.
Rape Crisis: ☎ 528-2161.
Suicide & Crisis Intervention: ☎ 274-7477.
Transvestite-Transexual 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) 726-5281.
The Höglund Law Firm at Memphis: 165 Madison, Ste 1813, Memphis 38103 ☎ 526-7526 (24 hrs).
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. Wurzburg, Attorney At Law: 5118 Park, Ste 232, ☎ 684-1332.
Jason O. Young, Jr.: 147 Jefferson, Ste 806, ☎ 523-8912

MASSAGE SERVICES

- A Bodywise Company**: Therapeutic/sports massage by appointment. ☎ 377-7701.
Bodycare By Jordan: Deep tissue massage, therapeutic touch and preparation for movement. By appointment only. ☎ 527-2273.
Jim Brymer, LMT: Muscle & deep tissue therapy, reflexology, Swedish massage ☎ 521-6044, pager: 391-3176.
Massage by Jim: ☎ Pager 541-0579.
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.

MEDIA

- 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, Fax: 454-1411 *51, E-mail: TJNmemphis@aol.com.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

- Antique Warehouse**: 2563 Summer ☎ 323-0600.
Bliss Salon: 2111 Madison ☎ 726-6100.
Body Shop Tanning Center: 599 Erin Drive ☎ 821-0086.
Dabbles Hair Co.: 19 N. Cooper ☎ 725-0521.
Dolls & Bears: Doll Shop • 3263 N Watkins ☎ 357-8600.
Eagle Pest Control: Jacqueline Behles • ☎ 743-8945.
Kyla J. Dillard, DVM: Housecall Veterinarian, Memphis Area ☎ (901) 278-5825. For emergency care call ☎ (901) 533-5084.
David Gairhan: A/C, refrigeration & appliance repair ☎ 274-7011.
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).
Have Bar Will Travel: Bartending for private functions • Lisa Gray (The Peabody Hotel) ☎ 726-5910.
Bob Hughes, EDD: Yoga, relaxation & meditation classes ☎ 682-0855.
Kings Interior Painting: ☎ 745-3300.
Lavender Earth*: 852 S. Cooper, ☎ 272-2853.
McPherson Appliance Clinic: Sales, service & repair, Heating & A/C. • 1447 National, ☎ 327-6887, 327-7395.
Midtown Galleries & Auction, Inc.*: Antiques, Art, Painted & Unusual Furnishings • 960 South Cooper ☎ 725-0049.
Midtown House Cleaning Service: 15yr. exp., ref., onsite est., • ☎ 274-0281 evenings or weekends.
Not Quite Paris*: Art, Antiques, Furniture • 1737 Madison ☎ 274-3736.
Pet Care Unlimited: Pet sitting and/or house sitting by competent, caring couple ☎ 726-6198.
Enrica Ramey: Insurance Memphis ☎ Business: 377-1075, Home 375-9584
Sanders Facilities, Inc.: Catering & party facility rental • Michael Sanders ☎ 948-3998.
Star Search Video*: 1411 Poplar Ave ☎ 272-STAR.
The Bolo Bartender: Steve Wesson • 2001 St. Elmo, Memphis 38127 ☎ 358-2089.
Tom Webb Ins.: Insuring in the Gay and - Lesbian Community, 4646 Poplar ☎ 682-2170.
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.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

- Russell Armstrong, Developer, Looney Developments**: 194 Looney Ave. ☎ 525-3044.
Glenn Moore, Broker, Owner, Woodland Realty: ☎ 854-0455.
Kris Pelts, Affiliate Broker, De Caro Realty: 5545 Murray Road Suite 100 ☎ 767-3100.
Steve Solomon, Affiliate Broker, Sowell & Company: 54 S. Cooper ☎ 278-4380, Fax 278-4390.

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.
Madison Ave. News & Tobacco, Co.: 1865 Madison ☎ 726-5118.
Memphis and Shelby County Public Library: 1850 Peabody ☎ 725-8800.
Squash Blossom Market: 1801 Union ☎ 725-4823
Tobacco Corner Newsroom: 669 Mendenhall Rd S. ☎ 682-3326.

FLORISTS

- Botanica**: 937 S. Cooper, ☎ 274-5767, 1-800-769-5767, fax: 274-5688.

Memphis Pride '96

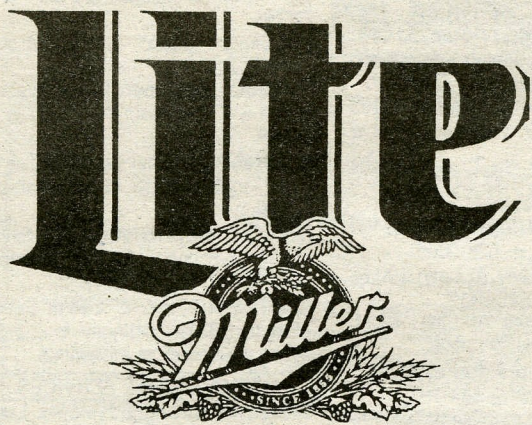


bigger party, more purpose

Pride Parade and Festival

Saturday June 8

Featured Speaker
State Sen. Steve Cohen



GRAND SPONSOR



PARADE

*Assembles at Overton Park at 1 p.m. Steps off 2 p.m.
Ends at Holy Trinity Community Church*

FESTIVAL

*2:30 p.m. Live entertainment begins at 3:30
Food, Beer, Soft Drinks, Vendors - Admission \$3.00
Holy Trinity Parking Garage - 1559 Madison*