



Volume 8, Number 5

FEBRUARY 1998

Cayman Islands Says No To Cruise Ship Chartered For Gay Men

By Catherine Wilson
AP Business Writer

MIAMI (AP) — The Cayman Islands has refused to allow a cruise ship chartered for Gay men to make a one-day stop in port, saying research and experience has shown that such passengers wouldn't uphold standards of "appropriate behavior."

Gay and civil rights groups, outraged, called the action discrimination.

Atlantis Events Inc. of West Hollywood, Calif., chartered the 910-passenger ship Leeward from Norwegian Cruise Lines for the one-week cruise leaving Jan. 30 from Miami.

But Thomas Jefferson, Cayman's minister of tourism, commerce and transport, wrote Norwegian's port captain Dec. 8 to say the government's joint ministries voted to reject the ship's visit.

"Careful research and prior experience has led us to conclude that we cannot count on this group to uphold the standards of appropriate behavior expected of visitors to the Cayman Islands, so we regretfully cannot offer our hospitality," the letter said.

So the Leeward is headed to Belize instead. A Cayman government spokesman did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

"It's absolutely appalling that the government of the Cayman Islands would send out a message

basically that Gay people are not welcome," said David Smith, spokesman for Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest Gay political organization. "It's discrimination of the worst kind."

Rich Campbell, president of Atlantis Events, said the company had asked the government to reconsider but never received a response.

"I find it astonishing that in 1998 you could elicit such a strong response to 900 well-heeled men who want to stop for seven hours of diving and shopping," he said.

The Leeward is scheduled to visit the Mexican ports of Cancun and Cozumel before returning to Miami.

"As a sovereign government, they have the right to deny us entrance," said Norwegian spokeswoman Fran Sevcik. "However, we were perfectly willing to go in there."

Cruise lines often rent their ships for group trips. Although conventions and sales meetings are the most common charters, a Lesbian group chartered a Norwegian ship a few years ago.

Special permission was required for docking this time because the charter changed the ship's regular itinerary. Sevcik said permission to dock is usually denied only when ports are full.

The British Embassy has promised that the Cayman government will review its berthing policies.

See additional stories on pages 7, 32 and 34



Have a Gay Valentine's Day!

Sailor's Career in Hands of Judge

By John Diamond
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge said Jan 26 the Navy "embarked on a search and 'outing' mission" in ordering the dismissal of a sailor accused of homosexuality based on information obtained from an online service.

In ruling that Timothy R. McVeigh (no relation to the Oklahoma City bomber) should remain on active duty pending the final outcome of the case. U.S. Dist. Judge Stanley Sporkin said McVeigh is likely to prevail in his contention that the Navy violated the "don't ask, don't tell" policy on Gays in the military, and a federal electronic privacy law.

In a statement issued just before the hearing, the Virginia-based online service, which serves millions of subscribers, admitted breaching its policy and said it regrets disclosing McVeigh's identity to a Navy investigator. The Navy used that identification to link McVeigh to statements posted on AOL by a "Tim" who expressed a sexual interest in young men and wrote, under marital status, "Gay."

"This was a case of human error under very unusual circumstances," AOL Inc. said in a one-page statement. While criticizing the Navy for the way it sought the information, AOL said of its disclosure: "This clearly should not have happened, and we regret it."

The case is being closely watched by the military and Gay-rights activists as a possible precedent on the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell," policy. It is also being watched by online specialists and privacy advocates concerned about the privacy of computer networks. A key issue is whether the Navy, in getting information from AOL, violated a 1986 electronic privacy law that forbids disclosure of confidential information to government officials without a warrant or court order.

"What the Navy did here is break the law," said McVeigh's attorney, Christopher Wolf.

Justice Department attorney David Glass argued that the 1986 law restricts online services from giving up confidential information but contains no limits on how investigators can go about seeking information.

Sporkin closely questioned

Glass about the don't-ask, don't-tell policy.

"You're saying once somebody in an electronic instrument says that they're Gay, that that's enough for the Navy to go out and start these (discharge) proceedings," Sporkin said.

"That's correct," Glass replied. He said the Navy investigator who called AOL "was entirely within the bounds of the statutes."

The case may hinge on whether McVeigh's online communications, none of which contained his full name, represented an open, public statement of sexuality. McVeigh has denied he is Gay and told the Navy he had once been engaged and attends social events with women.

McVeigh, 36, is a highly decorated senior enlisted man with 17 years in the service — three years shy of the 20 needed to retire with a pension.

"I don't have any bitterness against the Navy at all," McVeigh said outside U.S. District Court. "My only regret is that the Navy is unwilling to follow regulations."

McVeigh's honorable discharge was to take effect at midnight Jan. 23.

Report: Steroid Found in Gym Bag May Be Clue to Cunanan Killing Rampage

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A gym bag that Andrew Cunanan left behind at the outset of an alleged killing spree contained steroids, which are known to cause violent behavior when abused, a newspaper reported.

Five vials of injectable testosterone — often used illegally by athletes to build muscle — were found at the apartment of David Madson, according to the Jan. 4 edition of the *Star Tribune*.

Investigators believe Cunanan acquaintance Jeffrey Trail's slaying in April was the first committed by Cunanan, who then went on a spree that left four others dead, including fashion designer Gianni Versace.

Cunanan, 27, who was known as a male prostitute, killed himself in July a week after gunning down

Versace.

Miami Beach police recently released their investigative files showing they have no idea why Cunanan went on his alleged murderous rampage.

Minneapolis police said the condition of Trail's body and the amount of blood spattered at the apartment where he died indicated an attack of explosive rage. Trail, an acquaintance of Cunanan's, was bludgeoned to death with a hammer.

The apartment was the home Madson, a former Cunanan lover and the second victim in the spree.

Testosterone is legally used as hormone therapy, but Cunanan had no medical need for it, the newspaper said. Studies show steroid use can lead to overaggressiveness and violent behavior.

Cunanan's close friends said he had long boasted of selling illegal drugs, primarily prescription drugs, including testosterone, the *Star Tribune* said. He also mentioned "smuggling a product from Mexico," adding that almost all illegal testosterone is smuggled from Mexico.

The *Star Tribune* said its information came from more than 2,000 pages of documents and 2,300 crime-scene photos, as well as interviews with hundreds of people across the country, including investigators, criminologists, witnesses, friends and family members.

Officials did not test Cunanan's blood for increased levels of the hormone, and none of his friends saw him use steroids, nor did they remember him talking about using steroids.

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Black History Month: Beyond Ethnicity and Sexuality

Ira L. King
TJN Staff Writer

In the years preceding the Black civil rights movement in America, February was noted as the month lovers and dead presidents were celebrated. Not even the native Americans had a day (let alone an entire month) to call their own, a time when their contribution to the making of our nation was celebrated. Times have changed. Native Americans are still living mostly on reservations and largely treated as a second-class citizens. Black Americans, having been brought to America against their wills, sacrificed their time, talents and energy as slaves to build a nation whose white Anglo-Saxon Protestant majority would strive to keep them second-class citizens.

Times have changed. February has been designated by the powers-that-be (whoever they are) as Black History Month. From the moment we began celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday in mid-January until the end of February all we hear and see is Black history this and Black history that. By the time February is over everyone in America, including many Blacks, are tired of hearing about Black history month. Please don't misunderstand. I am not saying that Blacks don't deserve to have an entire month des-

igned to their ethnic culture. After all, for generations we were ignored and even forgotten about in history books, on television, advertising, etc. Our contribution to the building of America history was seen as necessary, but not worth noting or remembering. It seems that the only things the rest of America thought we were good at were playing sports and making babies. So we are due.

Being a Black Gay Christian male in today's America presents a unique set of circumstances. It is assumed by many that just

being Black is a strike against me. I think not. Even though affirmative action is beating a hasty retreat in America after having benefited so

many, I can honestly say that I have never called on affirmative action policies to get a job, get into a school, or be accepted in any social environment I chose to enter. At the same time I realize that my opportunities are greater today because those policies exist. Affirmative action laws were not written to be used as a crutch for not getting what we think we want. They were meant to ensure that the playing field is as level for all peoples as possible.

Being Black and having to deal with the innate prejudices that permeate our Southern culture, not to mention our national psyche, makes being Black and Gay much

easier to live with. When you have experienced prejudice and abuse on one issue you learn coping skills that arm you well for dealing with other less obvious prejudices such as homophobia. If for some reason I were not a functioning and contributing member of society, I suppose I could use being both Black and Gay as a convenient excuse. Unfortunately too many members of our culture in all ethnic persuasions use their race and/or their homosexuality/transsexuality/bisexuality as an excuse for being less than he or she can and should be.

women. What a bunch of rubbish! So why would a man with all that power and control going for him want to be a faggot. It just destroys that macho image painted for us by those either too closeted to deal with their own sexuality or too entrenched in ignorance to see life as it really is.

Forget the Black factor. Forget the Gay factor. Forget the male factor. What you have left is a Christian. A human being wanting and indeed needing to worship and serve a true and living God. The first three factors are only an issue to other men. Frankly, God

VIEWPOINT

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

Being Black, Gay and Christian is an even more complex cross to bear. Not only must I function in a culture that is narrow-minded where race and sexual preference are concerned — I must do so while trying to practice my faith. Is this fair to me? Is this fair to the God Who loves me? Must I have to deal with so many issues at once. It's hard when you can't count on our mainstream churches for support. They are so preoccupied with my homosexuality (which is really a very small part of who and what I am spiritually) that my spiritual needs could go unmet. This is, in fact, what is happening to many Gays and Lesbians today. Many attend churches that openly malign them as they sit in the pews and listen. With each word that spews from the fundamentalist pulpit their hearts are pierced and bleeding. Yet they sit in silence because in their minds silence is better than no fellowship at all. This is an appalling situation. How can anyone concentrate on the act and art of praise while being bombarded with thoughts of inferiority and damnation while trying worship. This type of predicament is why the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Religious Affairs in Memphis was born.

Finally, being Black, Gay, Christian and male... here is a situation that is truly swimming against the societal tide. After all, men (according to Judeo-Christian thinking) are supposed to be the backbone of a society. According to traditional thinking we are the hunters and gatherers. We make the laws. We run the banks and the government. And if you believe the archaic attitudes of the Southern Baptists and their ilk, we run the

doesn't care about your race, sexual preference or gender. Why is it so important to the rest of us? The first three factors are non-issues with God. What He asks us for is our hearts. Since we are all made in His image isn't it peculiar that while we are all different on the outside everything on the inside is the same. Hearts, livers, skeletons, tongues, all the same color. All blood flows blue and bleeds red.

It is my hope that we as a nation outgrow this need for special times of year to recognize the contributions of any ethnic group in the making, maintenance and future success of America. There are, after all, only 12 months in the year. If we were to pick a month for every ethnic group represented in America we would run out of months long before we ran out of groups. I would hate to be the one trying to decide who gets included and who doesn't. If the government of the people, by the people and for the people is to remain alive and well, then our churches, places of employment, government, educational institutions and socio-economic institutions are going to have to start looking at us on the inside.

I was once asked by a minister if the "dream" articulated by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has been fulfilled. I told him no. I told him that as long as there are more than two people on the face of God's green earth, the dream won't be fulfilled by anything mankind does on its own. Unfortunately the same can be said for our society's treatment of Gays and Lesbians in the church. Designating us a month to recognize the contributions of Gays and Lesbians to the ever-changing fabric of American life is not the answer. Besides, we don't want a month. We want the entire year. We want all 365 days. We want those days every year. The only way to get what we want is to not be afraid to join the revolution, just as Blacks in the early sixties were not afraid to fight for civil rights that were really nothing more than human rights.

In the words of NBC newsman Frank McGee: "There comes a time, there even comes a moment, in the affairs of men (and women) when they sense their lives are being altered forever We are experiencing a revolution." That time has arrived. The revolution is here. We, the Gay and Lesbian men and women living today are responsible to see that that revolution (first articulated in September 1963) bears fruit for the next generation of Blacks, whites, Asians, Hispanics, American Indians, homosexuals, heterosexuals and all those who fall somewhere in-between.



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The Triangle Journal News is a member of *The Associated Press*.

**TJN Advertising/Copy
Deadline for the
March 1998 Issue
February 15, 1998**

**Mail submissions to:
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Supreme Court's Refusal to Hear Job Discrimination Case Points Up Need for Federal Law

WASHINGTON — The Human Rights Campaign expressed disappointment Jan. 12 that the U.S. Supreme Court decided not to hear the case of a Lesbian attorney who was denied a job with the Georgia attorney general's office because of her sexual orientation.

"Robin Shahar's job offer evaporated solely because she is a Lesbian — exactly the kind of situation the majority of Americans believe is unfair," said Winnie Stachelberg, political director of HRC, the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization. "Shahar was offered job because she was qualified, and she should have been judged solely on that basis. This case points up the clear need for a federal law to protect Americans from job discrimination based on sexual orientation."

HRC renewed its call to Congress to pass in 1998 the Em-

ployment Non-Discrimination Act, a bill that would protect Americans from job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The Supreme Court said Jan 12 it would not hear the case of Shahar, who had been offered a job in 1990 in the office of then-Georgia Attorney General Michael Bowers. Shahar had worked as a clerk in the Georgia Department of Law that summer and was offered a job as a staff attorney when she graduated from law school. She accepted, and was to begin work in September 1991.

In July of that year, Shahar and her partner participated in a religious commitment ceremony to celebrate their union. A few weeks before the ceremony, Shahar received a letter from Bowers rescinding the job offer.

"As chief legal officer of this state, inaction on my part would constitute tacit approval of this

purported marriage and jeopardize the proper functioning of this office," Bowers wrote.

Shahar sued. Last May, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Bowers, leading Shahar to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"We are disappointed that the justices declined to hear this case," Stachelberg said. "However, we know that most Americans believe that job discrimination based on sexual orientation is wrong."

Last year, HRC commissioned a bipartisan poll that found 68 percent of Americans support passage of ENDA, and that 80 percent of the public believes Gay people should have equal rights in terms of job opportunities.

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It 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.

Salt Lake Ordinance Against Discrimination Is Scheduled for Repeal

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The new City Council has voted to consider repealing the ordinance passed in December to prohibit discrimination against Gay and Lesbian city employees.

Council members Carlton Christensen, Keith Christensen, Bryce Jolley and Roger Thompson voted Jan 6 to put the ordinance up for repeal at next Tuesday's meeting.

Council members Deeda Seed, Joanne Milner and Tom Rogan wanted to wait and study the issue.

The ordinance approved by a 5-2 vote on Dec. 9 prohibits discrimination "against an otherwise qualified employee or applicant based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation or disability."

Three of the council members who supported it are gone.

Jolley, who is the new chairman of the council, opposed the ordinance when it was adopted in December.

"My passion for repealing this ordinance came from the lack of process, consideration and discussion before it was passed," Jolley said. "I made the same plea for time

two months ago, but I was ignored. I was hurt and offended by that lack of respect.

"We need to take a look at the ordinance and start the process properly," Jolley said. "It's imperative that this law be repealed."

Keith Christensen said there was a need to protect city employees against discrimination, but, "Just give protection to everybody, not a few protected classes, and I'll be happy."

Thompson, who refused for months to say where he stood on the issue, backed them up. "It appears to me that this is an ordinance looking for acts of discrimination instead of acts of discrimination seeking a remedy," he said.

Seed, who promised when she was elected two years ago to push the ordinance, said, "The discussion tonight was not entirely honest. These men believe that homosexuality is immoral. They won't come out and say that. They're hiding behind legal arguments."

"I'm sad. We're sending entirely the wrong message to residents and taking a step away from human rights."

California Supreme Court Hears Scout Discrimination Arguments

By Jennifer Bowles
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Allowing Gays and atheists into the Boy Scouts would be like asking the NAACP to provide services for the Ku Klux Klan, a lawyer for the Boy Scouts argued in two discrimination lawsuits against the group.

Scout lawyer George Davidson claimed the group was merely upholding its belief in conservative

sexual morality and duty to God when it expelled a man because he is Gay and twin boys because they do not believe in God.

During arguments before the California Supreme Court on Jan 5, he held up a Boy Scout book before the seven justices, saying: "There's God on the front cover, there's God on the back cover."

Attorneys for the twin boys and the man sought to portray the Boy Scouts as a business rather than a private club.

Jon Davidson, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney, said Boy Scouts sells camping supplies through its trading posts, engages in public relations, pay a full-time staff and charges fees to its 5 million members across the country.

"Those factors point to it not being a private club," he said.

If the justices buy that argument,

the Boy Scouts would be subject to California laws that prohibit businesses from discriminating because of sexual orientation, religion and other factors.

A decision is expected within 90 days.

The ruling could also affect a third California case, recently accepted for review by the court but not scheduled for argument, on whether the Boy Scouts must admit girls.

One of the cases Jan. 6 involves Timothy Curran, a former Eagle Scout, who was barred from being an assistant scoutmaster after a newspaper story on Gay teen-agers revealed he was homosexual. The other involves twin brothers Michael and William Randall, now 16, who were expelled because they refused to acknowledge a duty to God as contained in the Boy Scout oath.

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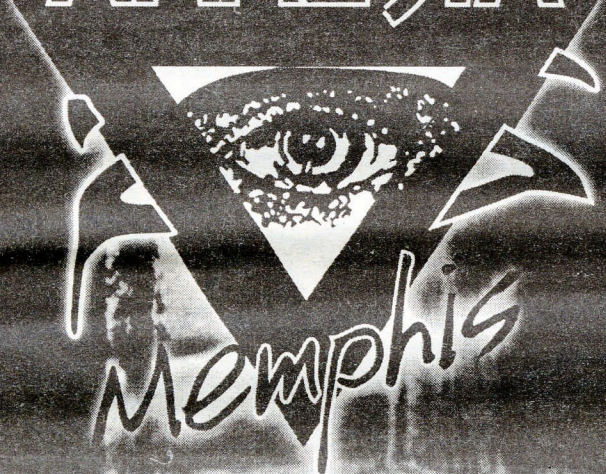
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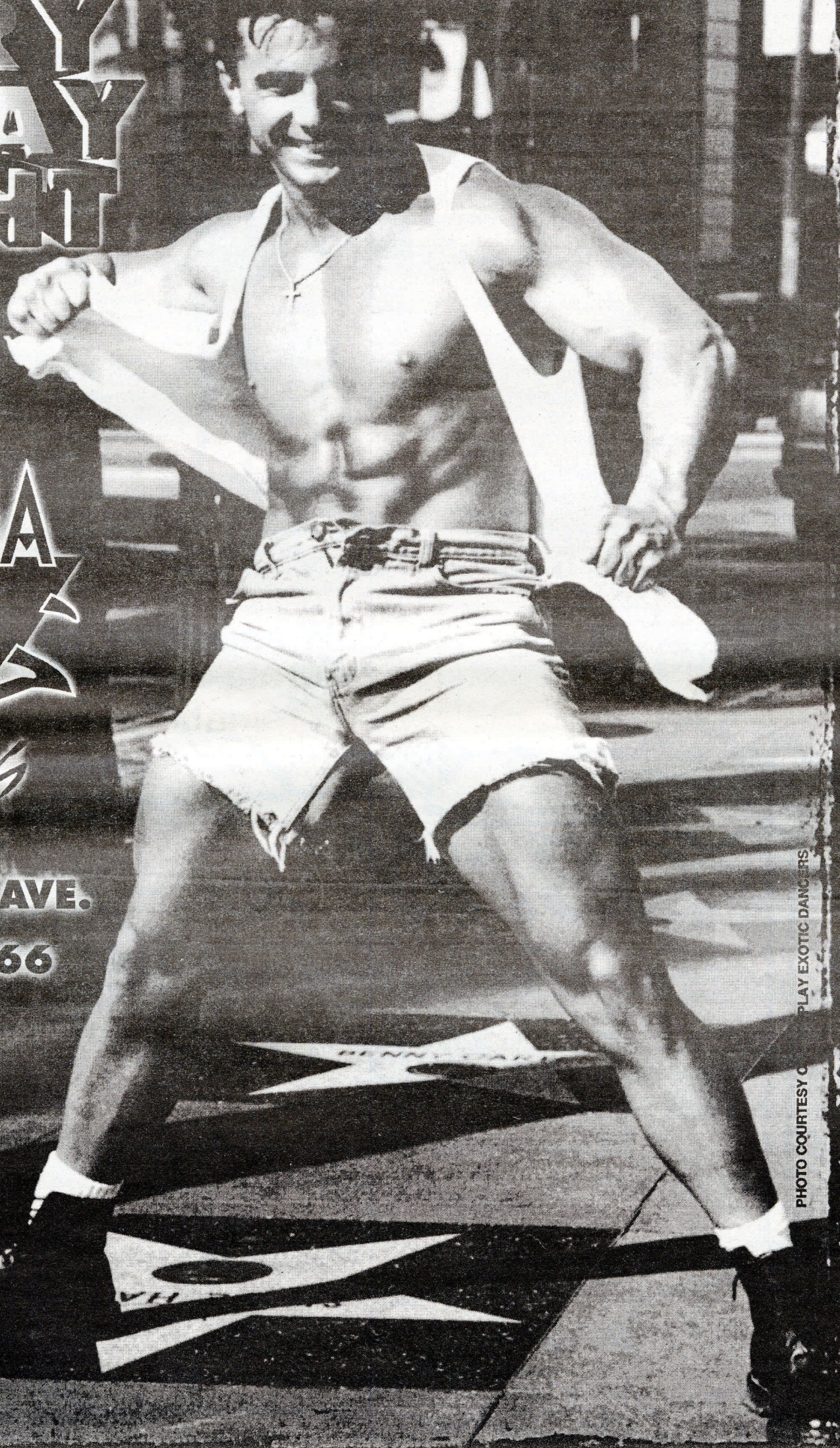


PHOTO COURTESY OF PLAY EXOTIC DANCERS

Book Spoofing Barbie Boosts Lesbian Publishing House

By Ross Sneyd
Associated Press Writer

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — Beth Dingman and her partner never played with Barbie dolls in their childhoods. So they hadn't given much thought to the debate many women have about whether the doll promotes sexist stereotypes.

They were more focused on keeping their Lesbian-feminist publishing house in business in the face of a changing industry that is forcing many of their niche publishing colleagues to fold.

So when Sarah Strohmeyer, a newspaper reporter who lives in Middlesex, approached them with a book proposal spoofing Barbie and the world she represents, Dingman and Claudia Lamperti were skeptical.

But after some thought, and a good sales job by Strohmeyer, they decided they'd try something entirely new for their business and agreed to publish *Barbie Unbound, A Parody of the Barbie Obsession*.

"We knew it was a bit out of our normal publishing genre," Dingman said. "But we thought it would be fun to do something different. We thought she was making a real social and political point."

The success has been phenomenal for a small business like New Victoria Publishing in Norwich. Already in its third printing at 20,000 copies, *Barbie Unbound* is the biggest-selling — and the first non-Lesbian — title New Victoria has ever had.

"I laughed when I looked at it," Dingman said. "I thought it was funny and I thought it was social commentary that definitely had a real strong feminine perspective."

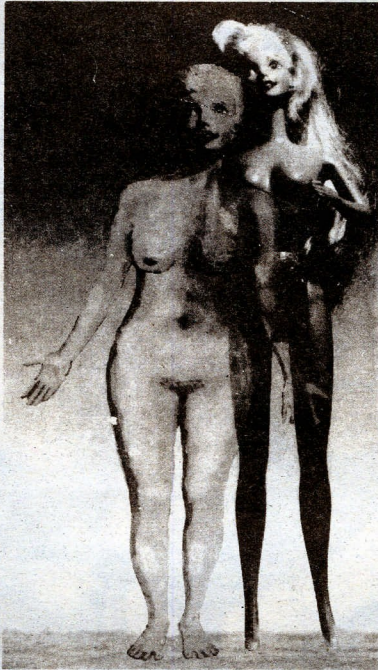
Really strong, as it turns out.

No longer is Barbie just the fashion plate with a fabulous figure that so irks feminists. No, this Barbie is a woman of the real world. This is no book of "Baywatch Barbie," "Foam and Color Barbie" or "Totally Hair Barbie."

Instead, there's "Overweight Outcast Adolescent Barbie." Or "Welfare Queen Barbie." And "Teenage Pregnant Barbie." There's also a series of Barbies set in a historical context: "Barbie D'Arc," a takeoff on Joan of Arc, and "J. Edgar Hoover Ken Shops at the Barbie Boutique."

Each version of the one-time bubble-headed bleached blonde is accompanied by a black-and-white photograph of Barbie in an outfit to fit the theme set in a scene that completes the picture.

The idea, explains Strohmeyer in the introduction to her book, is to turn the tables on the Barbie of old. "After nearly 40 years in her pink plastic prison she is on parole, exploring the roles REAL women have assumed for years,"



Strohmeyer wrote.

"We are confident that with a little tinkering you, and perhaps even your Barbie-obsessed daughter, will come to see the Pink Prin-

cess not as the enemy, but as the ultimate feminist teaching tool," she wrote.

The idea for this decidedly non-conformist view of Barbie came from Vermont friends who were livid that Strohmeyer allowed her own daughter to play with one of the dolls. Many of them prohibit Barbie because they don't want their daughters growing up striving to become a Barbie themselves.

"People move to Vermont to get away from the commercialism. A lot of people sacrifice salaries and other things so they can raise children in an environment that's clean, healthy, pure," Strohmeyer said. "Then Barbie comes along and Barbie could ruin all of that in one shot. So Barbie becomes this symbol of everything that you don't want your children to fall prey to."

So instead of rejecting the commercialism and false beauty that so many of her friends resent about Barbie, Strohmeyer said, she chose to embrace it and turn it to her advantage. Show adults, she said, that Barbie can be something other than the 1950s icon of femininity. She can be a feminist.

But getting the book with that message into print was a challenge. Strohmeyer found an agent and they shopped the book to 30 publishers. All said no, many afraid of

taking on Mattel, the trademark-conscious manufacturer of Barbie, who celebrates her 40th anniversary next year.

By chance, Strohmeyer ran across New Victoria in a catalogue of publishers and decided to approach the company because it was local. Dingman said she and her partner decided to go with the project for much the same reason: Both Strohmeyer and the book's photographer, Geoff Hansen, were local.

It has become bigger by far than New Victoria's next biggest selling book, the 12,000-copy Stoner McTavish mystery *Bad Company* by Sarah Dreher.

Despite the incredible success — something that "will certainly help us at a time when things have been pretty difficult for us financially" — Dingman said New Victoria has no plans to move away from its tradition of publishing Lesbian literature.

"It's certainly a pleasant interlude," Dingman said. "I don't know that it changes the point of view of our company. I don't really see this setting us out in another direction than we have."

Barbie Unbound, A Parody of the Barbie Obsession is available locally at Meristem Bookstore, 930 South Cooper.

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Pressure on Gay Teen-Agers Can Create Suicide Risk

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Few schools have programs to deal with the stresses experienced by homosexual youths, the Akron *Beacon Journal* reported.

A survey of 62 northeastern Ohio school districts in five counties turned up no groups expressly designed to deal with Gay issues.

Some Gay youths, under pressure from family or acquaintances, consider or try suicide. The *Beacon Journal* reported Jan 4 it had interviewed 13 Gay teens of various backgrounds and circumstances and nine had attempted to take their lives.

The other four said while they never attempted to kill themselves, thoughts of suicide were never far.

While adult Gays have the freedom to seek support in adjusting to their sexual orientation, Gay children are almost totally ignored — at the very time that their sexuality is developing.

"Homophobic positions kill people, literally," said Akron Rabbi David Horowitz, who, along with his wife, Toby, became Gay rights activists after learning their daughter was a Lesbian.

"This is not a theoretical debate. This is an issue of life and death,"

he said.

Leslie Sadasivan, whose Gay 14-year-old son, Robbie, killed himself on Jan. 2, 1997, said she was supportive when she learned of her son's sexual orientation.

In an interview published in the second installment on the issue, Ms. Sadasivan said the family rallied around him, reassuring him that he was normal and being Gay was in God's plan.

But they couldn't get Robbie to accept himself after years of feeling ashamed of his sexual orientation.

Ms. Sadasivan now belongs to

several Gay-rights groups. She said while no schools are taking up her challenge, she will continue to press them to recognize that every school has Gay children.

"I don't find the teachers and administrators at fault, but at a very young age, children need to be taught that some behavior is not right. They need to stress how painful teasing is, how they may say something flip and the person they hurt, well, it stays in their heart," she said.

One Gay youth who was interviewed didn't act on thoughts he had of killing himself, but he did

do something else that is common among homosexual teens: He abused his body, cutting his chest, thigh and calf.

"It was a drug because, you see, physical pain stunts all of the emotional pain," the 17-year-old Canton Timken High School student told the *Beacon Journal*.

Gay teens dread persecution in every aspect of their lives — including family and religious institutions — but many say they feel it most acutely at school, the newspaper reported.

French Doctors Find Second Genetic Mutation That Helps Resist AIDS

By Deborah Seward
Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — A second hereditary genetic mutation appears to help provide resistance to the AIDS virus, even in the case of frequent unprotected sex with infected partners, according to a report in the Jan. 3 edition of the British medical journal *Lancet*.

For more than a year, U.S. and European researchers have been pursuing indications that genetic mutations can naturally provide protection against HIV.

A French team headed by Dr. Alberto Beretta of St. Joseph's hospital in Paris and Dr. Luc Montagnier of the prestigious Pasteur Institute, co-discoverer of the AIDS virus, took blood samples from 18 men at high risk who, over time, did not contract the virus, the *Lancet* article said.

They made two discoveries: a new genetic mutation and the possibility that this mutation, combined with a previously discovered mutation, provides resistance to HIV.

The AIDS virus enters human

cells with the help of proteins called receptors. Researchers have previously noted that some individuals with unusual resistance to AIDS have two copies of a gene mutation — called Delta 32 — in the two copies of the gene that makes the protein receptors called CCR5.

According to the *Lancet* article, the researchers learned that people also can be resistant if they have the new mutation, named m303, in one CCR5 gene copy and Delta 32 in the second CCR5 gene copy, despite frequent unprotected sex

with infected partners.

In the study, one man who had both mutations and had been repeatedly exposed to the AIDS virus displayed a natural resistance.

His father and sister also had the same m303 mutation, which appears to be inherited, the journal said.

The researchers then wanted to find out whether this mutation existed in only one family or in the general population.

They tested 209 healthy blood donors and found that three had the m303 mutation, indicating it was

not unique to one family.

The article said scientists believe the presence of the m303 mutation in western European countries is "appreciable."

French media, including the daily *Le Monde* and all-news television network LCI, said that in the future, such naturally resistant molecules could be artificially produced and perhaps used to help provide resistance to people already infected with AIDS.

The Pasteur Institute did not return telephone calls asking for more information.

British Embassy Says Caymans Will Review Cruise Ship Policy

WASHINGTON — The government of the Cayman Islands will review its policies regarding the berthing of cruise ships after the Human Rights Campaign and members of Congress filed complaints with the British Embassy over the Caymans' denial of docking space to a cruise ship because it would be carrying Gay tourists.

"We are encouraged by the statement we have received from the British Embassy and hope that the government of the Cayman Islands will immediately discard its anti-Gay tourism policy," said Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director. "Clearly, the British government recognizes that the actions of the Caymans and the tone of their original refusal were offensive to Lesbian and Gay people everywhere. As we have said repeatedly, denying berthing rights to a ship because it is carrying Gay passengers is morally wrong, as well as economically foolish."

In a letter to the Human Rights Campaign released Jan. 16, the chancery of the British Embassy stated: "[T]he British Government is surprised that a Minister of the Cayman Government should have responded to the cruise operator in the terms to which you refer. The British Government's concerns about this decision were expressed by the Governor to the Caymans Executive Council on 7 January."

The letter went on to say that the Cayman Islands government has agreed "to review its policy on cruise ship berthing facilities."

The Human Rights Campaign learned that the Cayman Islands had sent a letter to Norwegian Cruise Line Inc. denying a berth to a ship chartered by Atlantis Events Inc., a Gay tour operator based in West Hollywood, Calif. In the letter, Thomas C. Jefferson, the Cayman Islands' minister of tourism, commerce and transport, said: "Careful research and prior experience has led us to conclude that we cannot count on this group to uphold the standards of appropriate behavior expected of visitors to the Cayman Islands, so we regrettably cannot offer our hospitality."

The M/S Leeward, operated by Norwegian Cruise Line, was slated to arrive in Grand Cayman on Sunday, Feb. 1. The letter was sent to the port captain for Norwegian in Miami.

HRC decried the action as discriminatory, and immediately registered a complaint with the government of the Caymans, which is a British territory, and with the British Embassy. HRC also asked the public to voice complaints to the Cayman Islands.

Members of Congress, including Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., and Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., also complained to the British Embassy and the State Department.



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More Big Advertisers Seek Thriving Audience in Gay Press

By Eric R Quinones
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Gay press was founded to give voice to an isolated community. Nearly 30 years later, corporate America is increasingly wooing that community and its buying power.

Advertising in Gay publications is soaring with an increasing number of huge companies pitching cars, travel, computers, investments, drugs, clothing and more. New advertisers in 1997 included IBM, United Airlines and American Express.

"In spite of the fact that a larger number (of Gay publications) are free, we have a viable audience and they are brand loyal," said Bob Craig, publisher of *Frontiers*, a bi-weekly Gay newsmagazine that has served Los Angeles since 1982 and expanded to San Francisco in 1994.

Readers of Gay newspapers in 10 major markets have an average individual income of \$47,090, according to Simmons Market Research Bureau. That figure is more than twice the U.S. per capita income of \$18,135 based on Census Bureau figures.

Simmons also found that 94 percent of the more than 735,000 readers studied are likely to buy a product or service advertised in a Gay publication.

"In choosing somewhere, I'll go to a store that I know advertises in the paper," said Dallas resident Dennis Polk, a reader of the weekly *Dallas Voice*.

Advertisers say it would be foolish to ignore such potentially loyal customers.

"We've been a longtime supporter of the Gay community. They in turn are very supportive of us, which makes a heck of a lot of good business sense," said Miller Brewing spokeswoman Gina Shaffer, whose company has placed Miller Lite ads in national magazines such as the *Advocate* and *Out* magazine.

"To reach people you have to reach them in a wide variety of publications and advertising mediums," said Mark Smith, a spokesman for cigarette maker Brown & Williamson, which advertises its Lucky Strike brand in the Gay press.

The company's biggest competitor, Philip Morris, also pitches its top-selling Marlboro brand, as well as Benson & Hedges and Parliament, in the Gay press. They are among scores of prominent brands from all types of businesses — including Nike, Blockbuster, HBO, MasterCard, Gucci, State Farm insurance and Harley-Davidson — on the pages of the nation's 175 Gay publications.

Despite the proliferation of such

big names, local advertising in newspapers has remained the backbone of the Gay press since its birth in the late 1960s.

Total ad spending jumped 36 percent to \$100.2 million in 1997 from a year earlier and has nearly doubled since 1994, according to a study of 138 publications by Mulryan/Nash, a New York ad

agency that helps companies target Gay consumers. Local newspapers alienate a large segment of society if you have an openly Gay character," Mulryan said.

Despite major inroads, however, there is still significant opposition by some conservatives to corporate support of the Gay community. Walt Disney Co., which owns ABC, is being boycotted by the 15 million-member Southern Baptist

94 percent of the...readers studied are likely to buy a product or service advertised in a Gay publication.

Convention for its Gay-friendly policies. Disney's chairman, Michael Eisner, told shareholders the boycott has had no discernible impact on earnings and that he will defend Disney's right to produce the entertainment the company chooses, even if some might find offensive.

Coors, the nation's third-largest brewer, had no trepidation about advertising in Gay publications despite its potential to upset some shareholders, spokesman Joe Fuentes said.

"We've been through that already," Fuentes said, noting that the company extended health benefits to partners of Gay employees in 1995. "We understand that there could be some backlash."

Ad rates tend to be higher in the Gay press than in mainstream pub-

lications, which are often corporate-owned and have more efficient sales practices, Mulryan said. To attract more national advertisers, many Gay newspapers are banding together.

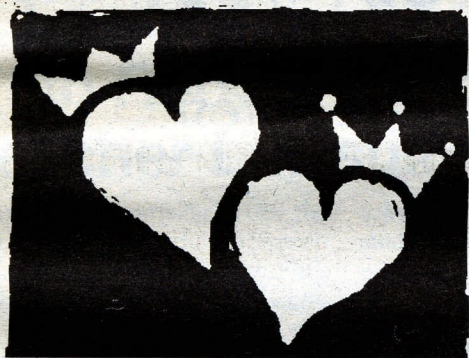
The Simmons Market Research study was funded by the National Gay Newspaper Guild, a group of papers in 10 major markets formed in 1988 to research demographics. The guild was formed with the help of Rivendell Marketing Co., a firm that buys ad space in Gay publications for major advertisers.

In addition, a group called Window Media acquired the *Southern Voice* in Atlanta and the *Houston Voice* in 1997 under a plan to form a Gay newspaper group sustained by growing national ad revenue while still focused on local news.

William Waybourn, the founder of Window Media and former managing director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, said the Washington-based investment group wants to purchase 10 papers within five years.

Many Gay publications struggle financially because they are started primarily by activists without much capital behind them, Waybourn said.

"We're looking at making money, too, but the point is to make sure that these newspapers go well into the next century," he said.



7th Annual King & Queen of Hearts Fundraiser

Sunday, Feb. 8 ♥ Madison Flame
Show & Crowning 7:30 p.m.

\$3 Admission or 3 Toiletry Items

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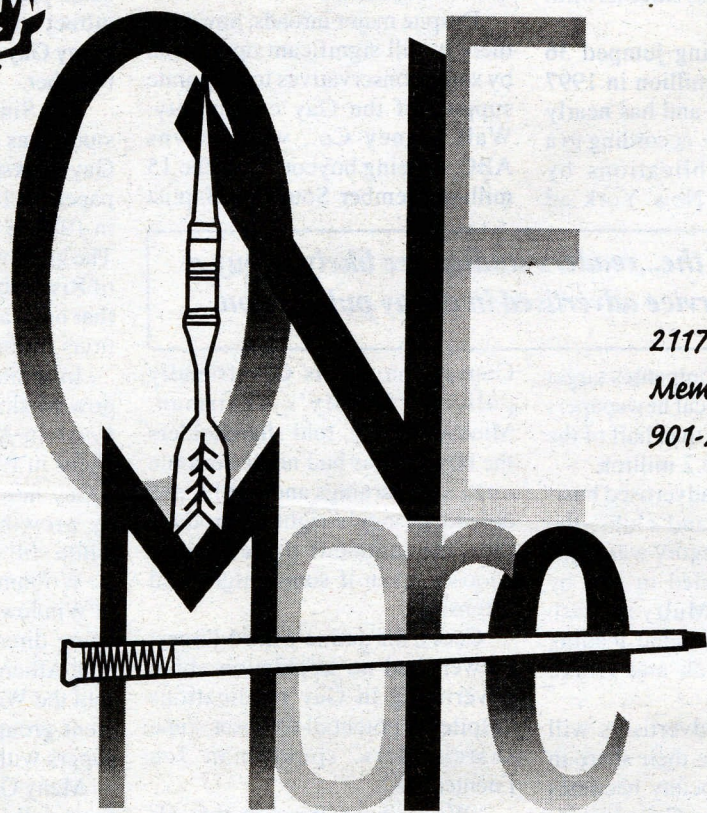
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\$10 Entry Fee
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- Saturday, Feb. 14th
Valentine's Day
- Saturday, Feb. 21st, 8 p.m.
Warhurst & Eddington

- Friday, February, 27th

March 5th Gras Blowout

Food - Jello Shooters - Party Mask - Beads - Costume Contest

- Saturday, February, 28th

*Team Dart Tournament - 7 p.m.
Choose Your Own Partner - \$10 per Team*

EVERY TUESDAY, 8 P.M. - DART TOURNAMENT - \$3 ENTRY

EVERY THURSDAY, 8 P.M. - POOL TOURNAMENT - \$3 ENTRY

Kitchen Open Until 2 a.m.

Pizza - Burgers - Chicken Fingers

March 21st Old School Reunion II

Suspended Pastor to Continue Fighting for Homosexuals

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The suspended pastor at First United Methodist Church in Omaha said he wants to get back in the pulpit, but he will continue fighting for the right to perform marriage-like ceremonies for homosexuals.

"It's not possible for me to work on reconciliation (with members of the church) while I'm not connected with the congregation," the Rev. Jimmy Creech said Jan. 14.

In January, Nebraska Bishop

Joel Martinez extended Creech's suspension at least until a committee investigating Creech's officiating at a Lesbian-union ceremony completes its work.

Creech performed the Lesbian "covenanting" ceremony on Sept. 16, after Martinez told him not to. Creech said he felt the church's prohibition on such unions was "discriminatory and unjust" and "because I felt it was my responsibility as a pastor to support the

couple."

The names of the Lesbian couple, who came to Creech in April requesting the ceremony, have not been made public. The issue has divided the 1,900-member church and galvanized United Methodists across the state and around the country.

Church member Mel Semrad, who was head of the finance committee when Creech was hired, said he believes most members welcome people regardless of sexual orientation. "But we also believe we should follow the guidelines of the General Conference" that prohibit sexual unions, he said.

If the investigation determines Creech acted wrongly, either in violation of the church's rules or because he failed to obey Martinez' order, Creech said he is ready to appeal to the United Methodist Judicial Council, which acts as a supreme court for the denomination.

Creech said he believes a statement in the church's Social Principles adopted in 1996 that prohibits homosexual union ceremonies is contrary to the biblical teachings of Christ.

Creech performed more than a dozen such ceremonies for Gay and Lesbian couples while a pastor at Fairmont United Methodist Church in Raleigh, N.C. All those ceremonies occurred several years before the 1996 General Conference of the UMC passed the ban, he said.

Creech said he and his wife, Chris Weedy, married in 1992 in a courthouse marriage ceremony fol-

lowed by a covenant ceremony in the church that did not include marriage vows as a statement of solidarity to what homosexuals face. "We did it to be in solidarity with Gay men and Lesbians who are denied the right to have their relationship recognized as legal," he said.

In part because of his activism on Gay issues, Creech lost his position at Fairmont UMC, was unemployed for six months, then served as a social lobbyist for the North Carolina Council of Churches for five years before coming to Nebraska.

Kevorkian Present When Transsexual Commits Suicide in Michigan

PONTIAC, Michigan (AP) — Dr. Jack Kevorkian, a leading U.S. advocate of assisted suicide, was present when a transsexual woman with AIDS committed suicide at a motel, his lawyer said.

Carrie Hunter, 35, of San Francisco suffered from AIDS-related complications, said Kevorkian lawyer Michael Schwartz. Kevorkian and Dr. Georges Reding — a Kalamazoo psychiatrist who has said he is doing a "fellowship" in assisted suicide with Kevorkian — were present for the woman's death on the night of Jan. 18, Schwartz said.

Ms. Hunter, who began her life as a man and had an operation to change her sex, had uncontrollable

nausea, an enlarged spleen and trouble controlling her bowels. She also had lesions in her lungs and indications of a form of pneumonia found in AIDS patients that is often fatal.

Police were notified of the body by the owner of Oakland County's Sagamore Motel about 8 p.m. Police Sgt. Robert Ford said the body was found with a note with Kevorkian and Reding's names, along with the woman's name, age and disease.

Kevorkian, 69, has refused to disclose the exact number of suicides he has attended. But at a Dec. 31 news conference, he put the number at "somewhere between 80 and 100."

Utah Rebuts Lesbian Teacher Lawsuit

In a move surprising no one, the Utah Attorney General's Office on Dec. 27 denied that Spanish Fork high school teacher Wendy Weaver's civil rights had been violated by a school-issued sweeping gag order regarding her sexual orientation and her firing as coach of the girls volleyball team because she is a Lesbian.


The Attorney General's Office claims that Weaver's "speech regarding her sexual orientation is not a matter of public concern and does not rise to the level protected by the First Amendment."

Weaver contends the gag order demanding she not discuss her

sexual orientation with coworkers, students or their parents and others would forbid her from engaging in basic speech.

Earlier, a local anti-Gay group filed a separate suit in state court targeting Weaver with claims of child abuse, sodomy and unprofessional conduct. The suit is seen by many as a legally baseless witch-hunt intended to intimidate Weaver into dropping her civil rights struggle.

"I expected them to get dirty," said Weaver, sarcastically adding the suit made a "nice Christmas present."



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UFMCC to Sponsor Historic National African American Conference

LOS ANGELES — "In Our Own Language: A Conference for African Americans in UFMCC" will be held in suburban Washington, D.C. Apr. 16-18. This historic national conference is the first organized entirely by and for African American friends and members of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, the world's largest predominantly Gay spirituality organization.

According to the Rev. Elder Darlene Garner, conference organizer, "This conference will provide an opportunity for African Americans in UFMCC to affirm who we are in UFMCC and to celebrate the diversity of gifts and experiences we bring to the growing Gay spirituality movement, and to the greater g/l/b/t communities."

Conference participants will include Dr. Kelly Brown-Douglas, professor of theology at Howard University School of Divinity; the Rev. Delyne Russell-Hinton, associate pastor of Belair United Methodist Church in Belair, Md.; the Rev. Sandra Robinson, president of Samaritan Institute for Religious Studies; and the Rev. Darlene Gar-

ner, a member of the International Board of Elders of UFMCC and senior pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia.

According to Garner, "The three-day conference will provide exercises to create awareness of ourselves and our community. Through leadership training, African American lay and clergy persons will be equipped with spiritual and practical tools for reclaiming, maintaining and sharing our unique gifts with the g/l/b/t communities."

Conference brochures and registration information are available from UFMCC Headquarters by phone at (310) 360-8640 or by e-mail at Info@ufmcc.org.

UFMCC was founded in 1968 to provide positive Christian spirituality for the Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities. UFMCC provides more than 300 congregations in 15 countries. With an annual combined budget of \$15 million, the churches of UFMCC comprise the largest predominantly Gay organization in the world.

The UFMCC website is: <http://www.ufmcc.com>

14th Annual Tsarus Man of the Year Banquet set for Feb. 11

by Vincent Astor
Tsarus Associate

This year's Tsarus Man of the Year banquet is scheduled for Wed., Feb. 11, at Madison Flame, 1588 Madison.

Tsarus has been honoring individuals and organizations for their contributions and service to the Memphis Gay and Lesbian community since 1985.

The event is, and always has been, open to the entire community and is an enjoyable evening both honoring (and sometimes slightly roasting) a notable member of the community. A meal is part of the festivities.

Tsarus members and members of the community nominate individuals or organizations who merit recognition for their efforts. The recipient is selected by secret ballot. The club members arrange for speakers, print and sell tickets, and furnish and serve a four-course meal. All proceeds from tickets sales are donated to the charity of the recipient's choice. The recipient is not disclosed until the night of the banquet and is always a carefully guarded.

Announced nominees for this year's man of the year are Ed Brandon, Glenn Jones, Ken Grimes and Steve Wyatt, The Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite, Shelia Tankerley, Butch Valentine, and Black and White Men Together.

Previous recipients have been:

Allen Cook and John Stilwell for *Gaze* newspaper (1985); the Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite for its blood donor program (1986) Tommy Stewart, president of ATEAC (now Friends For Life) (1987); Bettye Griffin, president of Human Response Council (now defunct) (1988); Heart Strings volunteers (1989); Vincent Astor, columnist and historian (1990); the Waggettes (Jim Easter, Harold "Granny" Weaver, Mattie Sanchez and Jerry Attaway) for fund-raising (1991); the Pipettes (Jim McCain, Jere Douglas, Mike Ferguson, and the late

Sandy Hutchins and Dwayne Branham) for fund-raising (1992); Rev. Ethan Pruett and Rev. Ed Hammett from Holy Trinity Community Church (1993); the late Dennis Kijowski, activist and fund-raiser (1994); Sharon Wray, Lesbian pioneer and fundraiser (1995); Bill Andrews and Matt Presley, fundraising and community service (1996) and Jimmy Gray for fundraising and community service (1997).

Tickets are available through Tsarus members, from bartenders at Madison Flame, Pipeline or Crossroads, or by calling 763-2934.

At Heart Of Bible Belt, Families Flock To Disney

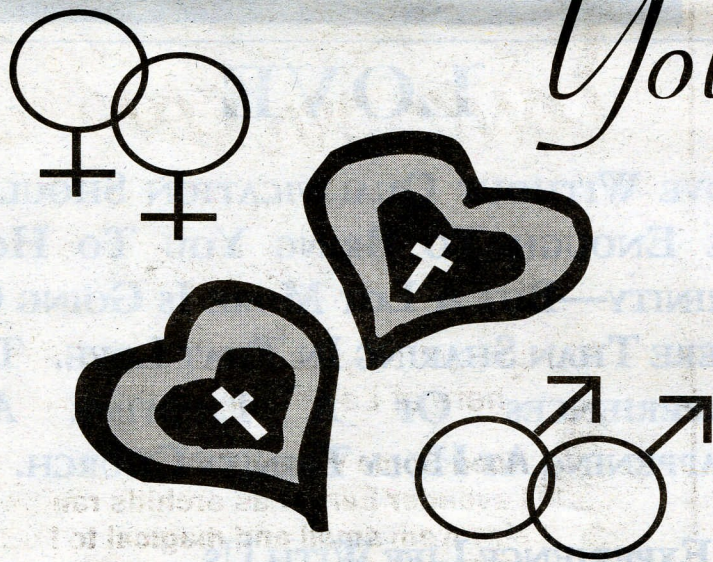
In yet another indication that a call by leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention to boycott Disney is not being heeded by Baptists or anyone else, Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., has announced a record 17 million visitors in 1997, up a whopping 23 percent from 1996.

The Southern Baptist leaders attempt to boycott was due in part to its inclusive employment practices and diverse entertainment media representations of Gay people.

Meanwhile, according to trade publication *Amusement Business*,

the Tokyo Disneyland attracted 17.3 million visitors, becoming the most visited theme park in the world.

"In 1997, people of faith worldwide clearly saw through the small-minded tactics of the handful of far-right leaders at the Southern Baptist Convention to recognize that Disney still offers the same family-oriented entertainment it always has," said Cathy Renna, GLAAD, Acting Media Director. "Supporting equal treatment of Gay people is just an extension of that philosophy."



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Local Gay Softball League Joins National Organization

The Bluff City Sports Association Softball League was accepted as a participating member into the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) at the winter meeting recently held in Atlanta.

With the participation of Gay softball locally and the fact that the league had two years of operation under its belt, the time was right for Memphis to apply.

The decision to apply was made last July and representatives from the league were in San Diego last August at the Gay Softball World Series to ensure teams there knew about Memphis and its desire to join.

Created in 1977, NAGAAA is a non-profit international organization comprised of men and women dedicated to promoting amateur athletics for the

Gay community, specifically to encourage participation of Gay men and women in organized



softball competition.

Currently, about 50 Gay softball leagues in approximately 30 cities are members of NAGAAA. Teams representing these leagues participate in the Gay Softball World Series, hosted each year by a different member city. The location this year is Atlanta and in 1999 is Kansas City. At least two teams from Memphis will be eligible to participate in the games this year which will be played from Aug. 11-15, with approximately 110 teams involved.

You may want to make plans to attend this event and support your favorite Memphis team. Players are not the only representatives of the leagues there; most teams bring a fan base of their own to enjoy and take part in activities all week.

Softball League Gearing Up

The Bluff City Sports Association Softball League's third year of play is fast approaching.

While many don't think about playing softball during the cold winter months, now is the time to at least start thinking about playing or forming a team.

League play will begin in the middle of April, with exact dates to be announced later along with the field location. Seven teams took the fields the last two years and the league would like to see more. If you would like to play either as an individual or team contact Bill Hasty at 725-7590. The league is again working on gaining a major sponsor for our league.

Also, the BCSA will be hosting its second softball tournament, "Battle on the Bluff," Independence Day weekend, July 3-5.

Expectations are high to increase the number of teams from last year's total of 22. This tournament will have teams from many parts of the country journeying to Memphis for some hot softball action and plenty of fun.

Pride Parade Date Announced

The Memphis Pride Committee met on Jan. 19 and made some important decisions.

The Pride Parade and Festival are set for June 20 this year. The theme of the parade and festival this year is "Memphis Pride ... Unity in Community."

There will be several meetings of the committee between now and the actual festival date, with the location and time of the Parade and festival to be decided in the next few weeks.

If you are interested in helping

in any way, please contact George Ettinger at 381-1258, Greg Jordan at 726-0987 or Greg Bullard at 458-0501.

The committee is planning a much larger Celebration, so all help will be appreciated.

Those individuals who are interested in submitting designs for the logo and T-shirt designs are encouraged to do so. Designs should be submitted to Mark Jones, 278-0035, at P.O. Box 111265, Memphis, TN 38111.

ads, billboards.

A black/white and a color version of your logo is necessary for judging. Please include a written statement supporting/explaining your design, your name address and phone number.

Designs should be submitted to Mark Jones, 278-0035, at P.O. Box 111265, Memphis, TN 38111.

Pride Logo Contest

Memphis Pride encourages you to submit a camera-ready finished logo by Feb. 10 to be considered in competition for this year's Pride festivities. The winning logo should reflect and include this year's theme "Memphis Pride...Unity in Community" which will be used in several applications...T-shirt, newspaper

Discussion Group for Gay Men and Women Set

A roundtable discussion group for Gay men and women is forming to provide an opportunity to explore issues of homosexuality and how to deal with this in a positive way.

Society is frequently condemned for being homophobic; there is much homophobia within the Gay community itself that needs to be confronted and changed.

The meetings will be held at Holy Trinity Church at noon on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month beginning in March. Bring a sack lunch and plan on spending 45 minutes to an hour.

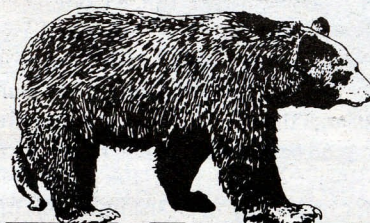
Terry Orgle, the facilitator, is a psychologist who recognizes the need for such a group and is donating her time and energy.



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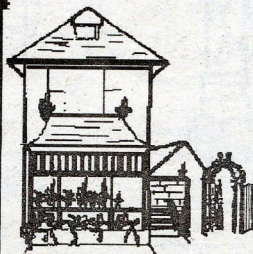
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Mutual of Omaha Sued for Denying Coverage to Those with HIV

CHICAGO — Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago has filed a lawsuit against Mutual of Omaha, charging that the company violates federal and state law and endangers lives by severely limiting HIV-related health care coverage.

"Mutual of Omaha caps HIV-related care at a fraction of the amount allowed for other illnesses or conditions. This discrimination severely limits access to standard, life-saving therapies and is illegal," said Lambda Staff Attorney Heather C. Sawyer. "Initial investigation also suggests that this practice might be widespread across the country."

"The caps are not medically or financially justified," said AIDS Legal Council Executive Director Ann Fisher. "Insurers should not pit one disease against another, yet companies often and unfairly single out those with HIV infection for discrimination."

Lambda and the Council are suing the major health insurer on behalf of two HIV-positive Chicago residents, John Doe and Richard Smith, who have chosen to remain anonymous. Smith's Mutual of Omaha policy caps his lifetime benefits for HIV-related

conditions at \$25,000, and Doe's policy caps such benefits at \$100,000, in contrast to the \$1 million dollars that Mutual of Omaha would provide them if they needed health care for other medical conditions.

Filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, located in Chicago, Doe v. Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company contends that such caps violate the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Illinois Insurance Code.

Medical experts recommend early use of certain HIV drug regimens. They warn that any interruption of these drugs may jeopardize their future effectiveness and lead to the emergence of new, drug-resistant strains of the virus. The caps on HIV-related care have affected Doe's and Smith's treatment decisions, forcing them to consider going without therapies which actually could prolong their lives, the lawsuit said.

"Dealing with HIV is tough enough," commented Smith, "but having my health and even my life put at risk because of Mutual of Omaha's unwillingness to provide fair coverage is outrageous."

Added Doe, "I pay the same kinds of premiums as Mutual of Omaha's other policyholders. It

isn't fair that I should be treated differently simply because I have HIV."

"Ultimately, the actions of companies like Mutual only increase health care costs for the public," said Lambda AIDS Project Director Catherine Hanssens. "When people like John and Richard can not turn to their companies for the benefits for which they have paid, they have to turn to public medical assistance to stay alive, while private companies avoid their obligations," she said.

Attorney Stuart Graff, a partner

at Schiff Hardin & Waite and a member of the AIDS Legal Council Board of Directors, will be working with the groups in litigating the challenge.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of Lesbians, Gay men and people with HIV/AIDS through impact litigation, education and public policy work. Headquartered in New York and with offices in Atlanta, Chicago and Los Angeles, Lambda has regional and national

expertise in all aspects of sexual orientation and HIV-related law and policy.

The AIDS Legal Council of Chicago was founded in 1987 as a not-for-profit organization to promote and protect the legal rights of men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS in the Chicago area. The agency's seven-person staff operates offices in the Loop and at Cook County Hospital. A corps of more than 70 volunteer attorneys augments staff efforts to ensure the presence of a legal safety net for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Is Erogel a Miracle Substance for HIV?

By *ESQUIRE*
A Hearst Magazine

Is Erogel the miracle substance that will free us from HIV and every other sexually transmitted disease?

Most definitely, wrote Rene Chun in an article in the current issue of *Esquire* — that is, according to retired United Methodist Reverend Ted McIlvenna, who is the savant behind Erogel, a chemical product with a goolike substance developed to be used topically to prevent HIV-STD transmission. Erogel's active ingredient is nonoxynol.

McIlvenna is the founder and president of the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, a fully accredited graduate school in San Francisco that awards academic degrees in sexology. According to Dr. Jack Summers, a urologist and the president of the Ohio State Medical Association, McIlvenna is the country's foremost authority on sex.

"In over 10 years of testing and recommending Erogel, I haven't had a single case of a person testing positive for a sexually transmitted disease."

Chemoprophylaxis — the use of various substances, applied topically to the genital area, to prevent HIV-STD transmission — is not new. But recently it has become the topic on the STD front as the battle intensifies between prevention and cure.

The Center for Disease Control says that 14 million Americans will contract an STD this year. At current rates, at least one person in four will pick up one by age 35. Three million new HIV infections occurred worldwide last year.

Dr. Ken Meyer, who heads the AIDS program at Brown University, is also at work on prevention research. "At best, we are five years away from an AIDS vaccine. But even if we do succeed, we don't know if it will be 100 percent effective. That's why I'm researching both vaccines and microbicides

— it's the belt-and-suspenders approach. Currently we are spending too much money on the vaccine and not enough on prophylaxis." And while there are several new microbicides in various stages of development and testing, the one responsible for the most hope and controversy on the sex circuit is nonoxynol.

Nonoxynol-9 was not originally created to save mankind. AIDS researchers at the National Institutes of Health did not discover its properties. It was, rather, developed more than 40 years ago as a superdetergent used to scour the bottoms of swimming pools.

McIlvenna's Erogel is made with nonoxynol-15, a similar compound, with a slightly different molecular composition. Nonoxynol has long been efficacious as a spermicide. For the past few years, it has been used to coat condoms, though in concentrations too small to be of much use.

The turning point for nonoxynol came in 1985, when the medical journal, *The Lancet*, published the results of a clinical experiment demonstrating conclusively that nonoxynol-9, which had begun to show its potency against STDs, effectively killed HIV in a test tube.

But there was just one problem. The substance can be caustic when applied to human genitalia, which can, in turn, increase the risk of HIV infection.

Enter Erogel. The secret is McIlvenna's special homeopathic extract of green oats called *avena sativa*. It is this ingredient that acts as a buffer, lowering the acidity of the gel and preventing irritation to sensitive tissue.

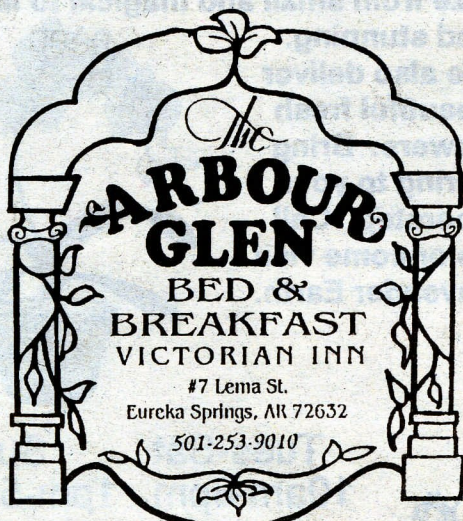
So if Erogel is so great, why haven't you heard about it? "This is a multibillion-dollar business," McIlvenna growls, "They're never going to let me in without a fight." If everybody had Erogel, McIlvenna says, "condom sales would plummet, the lucrative AIDS-drug market would have no reason to exist after a while because no one would test positive for HIV, and the AIDS-drug companies would not be able to recoup their research-and-development costs."

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Profile—Rev. Greg Bullard, Safe Harbor MCC

by Vincent Astor

Rev. Greg Bullard, pastor of Safe Harbor MCC, was ordained to the ministry by MCC founder Rev. Troy Perry last November 16. This ordination was another milestone in a life devoted to service of church and fellow beings.

He was born in 1965, the eldest son of a farm family in northern Alabama. His early religious background was in the United Methodist Church (Holiness Tradition), and he has been in leadership roles from an early age. He felt the call of being a pastor when he was 19, and had been very active in the youth group and youth revivals. Out since age 13 he "never dated a woman, never pretended to be interested for anyone's purposes." The pastor of his own small congregation told him, "You have the call, but the bishop isn't going to approve," so at the time he remained active in lay ministry.

He moved to Huntsville, and didn't find a Methodist congregation which met his needs. After discovering and carefully studying the matter, he joined the local MCC, a congregation similar in size to his home church. He immediately became a candidate for the ordained ministry.

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, known to most as MCC, was founded in 1970 by Rev. Troy D. Perry in Los Angeles, Calif. Rev. Perry, a former Pentacostal minister, founded his original MCC congregation in late 1968 and organized as a denomination two years later.

MCC's own literature states that it would not be accurate to label MCC as a "Gay church" though it is the oldest and largest religious organization in the world committed to serving the Gay and Lesbian community. Its outreach extends to all those who are perceived to be "different" from the majority. It is a Christian Church with a special ministry of inclusion for minorities, especially Gay, Lesbian and bisexual people. Its members are predominantly Gay and Lesbian.

There are close to 300 churches in the United States and in 13 other countries. Central to its ministry is the concept of "the three pronged Gospel of Christian Salvation, Christian Community and Christian Social Action." MCC has been called one of the fastest growing Christian denomination in the country, and links with denominational organizations are growing.

The making of a minister begins with being "in care." The learning process includes actively participating in church work as a staff person, learning the craft as well as the theology. It included, for Rev. Bullard, a full load of classes at Samaritan College, the MCC seminary, a full-time job and being suddenly thrust into regular

pastoral duties by the resignation of his pastor in Huntsville. A committee operated the church, but Rev. Bullard was essentially interim pastor for 9 months.

A move to Birmingham changed the situation to being associated with a larger church, but being the regular preacher for a tiny congregation in Tuscaloosa. This move put him into a position to be able to learn, rather than to act and find out his mistakes later, as was the case in Huntsville. He completed the two-week retreat which is part of the ordination process and began to seek a new pastorate of his own. "I'm not associate pastor material. Just give me a goal and the freedom to do so, and I will achieve it." During this period of transition he first came to Memphis to interview for pastor of the new Safe Harbor MCC.

After a period of getting religious vocation and secular vocation to align in the same city, he settled in Memphis in November of 1995. "As soon as I came, I knew where everything was. I've never been lost in Memphis." He interrupted his schooling to concentrate on Safe Harbor, was a founder of the Coalition for Diversity and now sits on the board of Memphis Pride and the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Religious Concerns. He came out to his current employer, the University of Tennessee Medical Group, at the very beginning of his first interview. He came prepared to have a very high profile in the activist community.

The roughest part of a long process was May of 1997 when he met with the District Committee to seek ordination. He was denied that time along with most of the candidates. This is not uncommon in MCC, but he was ordained in November after a second meeting. "They're very rough the first time; it's a proving ground because pastoring Gays and Lesbians can be rough. I've had everything I believed challenged, I've had everything I've ever thought degraded, been angry, wanted to quit and do anything but be a preacher, but God won't let me out of that. In MCC because so many people believe different things, you have to navigate the waters, so to speak."

Rev. Bullard has always been associated with growing churches. His first small Methodist congregation experienced significant growth while he was active there, and the MCC congregations in Huntsville and Tuscaloosa showed similar development during his stay. There were 4 active people at Safe Harbor when he arrived, it has since grown to 29 regular members and eight friends.

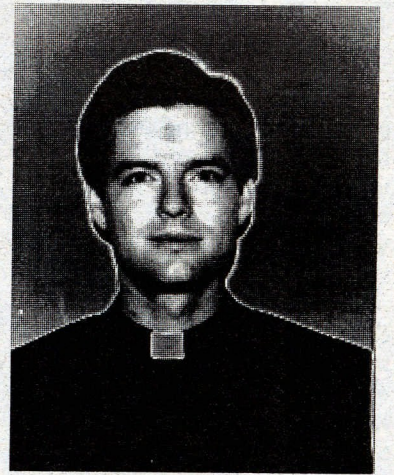
Members who vote in MCC are expected to be involved as ministers, it is part of the tradition of MCC. Friends may attend regularly, but are not expected to participate in active ministry. "I like

pastoring Gays and Lesbians. I've seen them make great leaps of faith after they have gotten over some initial problems, overcoming what I call the lies that we have been told all these years about our relationships with the church. I just want to share the radical love that God gives us through Jesus Christ." Safe Harbor has met in a variety of locations, two of them historic churches, and looks forward to someday owning its own sanctuary. There is a mission in Jackson, Tenn., founded by Safe Harbor.

"Safe Harbor's Vision 2000 includes reaching out to people, telling them that Jesus loves them and that we love them, too. That's the important part, you can't tell them Jesus loves them without loving them, too. This includes facing down those structures which exclude. To say that saying people are evil and bad because they are Gay or Lesbian is a sin and a lie, to call it what it is. Safe Harbor should be a witness for including people in God's kingdom." Its particular goal is to reach 200 members by the year 2000 through celebration worship, outreach, sound Christian education, media involvement and through missions. "We do not have a large church, but you will find a family."

"I look forward to the day when the cathedral is built, when we are such an integral part of the community that we won't have to worry about whether the police will do a good job providing security for the Pride Parade, that we will be so protected and loved that things will be different."

Members of Safe Harbor MCC and friends of Reverend Gregory Bryant Bullard will participate in an Affirmation of Ordination at 6 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 31, at Union Avenue United Methodist Church in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd.



Rev. Greg Bullard, Safe Harbor MCC

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Major AIDS Agency Reverses Stance on HIV Tracking

By Verena Dobnik
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Tracking people as soon as they become infected with HIV is crucial to "saving thousands of lives," the director of the nation's leading AIDS service agency said in a policy reversal.

The Gay Men's Health Crisis called on New York state to begin monitoring patients who test positive for HIV but who are not yet experiencing symptoms, a major turnaround in agency policy.

Tracking HIV is critical to fighting the spread of AIDS, said Ronald Johnson, the agency's managing director. He said that ignoring HIV-positive cases "gives only the end-stage of the epidemic."

"It doesn't tell us where it's growing and emerging," Johnson said Tuesday. "You can't fight an

epidemic if you don't know where it is."

He said the move would be crucial to "saving thousands of lives."

In its position paper, the non-profit agency does not address the issue of using patients' names to monitor cases because "too much attention has been given to names and not to a unique identifier system," Johnson said.

While the agency does not oppose using names, it favors privacy protection through the use of coded identification systems, with computerized information about a patient available only to health care professionals.

Similar systems are used in Maryland and Texas.

The policy switch could influence other states' policies, as New York is — as Johnson put it — at the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic, with the highest rate of re-

ported AIDS cases in the United States. For every 100,000 people in the state, 69 have AIDS, state health officials estimate. Another 150,000 are infected with HIV.

Lawrence Gostin, an adviser to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said GMHC's decision "not to expressly oppose name reporting" was the most significant aspect of its new position.

"The word 'name' in the history of the AIDS epidemic is powerful. There is a terror in the Gay community about names being kept on government databases," said

Gostin, a professor of law and public health at Georgetown University.

"That's the single thing that's prevented implementation of a national system of HIV reporting that's desperately needed," he said.

Gostin said he believes the CDC will recommend that names of HIV-positive patients be recorded, and "most places are going to go along."

Twenty-eight states have HIV reporting, accounting for about 24 percent of all AIDS cases reported in the United States. Every state requires doctors to report AIDS cases to public health officials. But

in many states, including New York and California, HIV cases need not be registered.

Major groups that also support HIV reporting using coded identification include AIDS Action, a national group representing 2,500 community providers of AIDS services; the American Civil Liberties Union; and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The state AIDS Advisory Council — representing the medical community and advocates — will make policy recommendations to the governor and the legislature in March. The California Legislature will begin considering proposed laws on HIV reporting in February.

Court Ponders Unusual Custody Battle

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — A custody battle between two Lesbians may set the stage for a precedent-setting decision in New York regarding the custodial rights of a partner who is not a biological parent.

The women ended their 17-year relationship last year while in adoption proceedings involving the 4-year-old girl. Since the breakup, the child's biological mother has retained custody of the child, while the former partner has lodged a custody battle to legally become the girl's parent.

The dispute presents some difficult decisions for Onondaga County Family Court Judge Bryan Hedges. Following a hearing Jan. 22, Hedges reserved decision on a request by the biological mother's lawyer to dismiss the case. To protect the identity of the young girl, authorities did not identify the two women.

The partner who is not the child's biological mother claimed she had a partial hysterectomy based on her companion's promise to have a child for both of them. In 1992, the other woman was artificially inseminated.

When born, the baby was given both women's last names "signifying her parenthood," said the former partner.

"From the beginning of (the child's) life I accepted and fulfilled the role of one of her parents," the woman said in an affidavit.

The former partner said she cared for the child when the biological mother returned to work and participated in the child's schooling and school activities until last September, when the couple split.

Complicating the case is an apparent agreement between the women for the biological mother to give up her rights as a natural parent so the two women could adopt the child together as equal parents. The biological mother has since withdrawn her consent for the adoption.

Marsha Hunt, the lawyer for the biological mother, said the case has

nothing to do with the Lesbian relationship between the two women. The same situation would exist with any child born out of wedlock, she said.

"This would set a very dangerous precedent, forcing a child into a hostile situation," Hunt said, noting that police have been summoned several times to handle disputes between the women.

"I don't see how forcing a child into a broken home is ever going to be in the child's best interests," Hunt added.

She argued that the court has no legal authority to grant an adoption over the objection of the natural mother without evidence the child's present or future financial circumstances would be harmed by not granting the adoption.

Meanwhile, the former partner contends it is in the child's best interests to continue with the adoption. She maintains her exclusion from the child's life is traumatiz-

ing the little girl.

"This is to the detriment of the child who does not understand why her mommy is gone," said lawyer Marjorie Wengert, who is representing the former partner.

Wengert asked Hedges to recognize the relationship as a "de facto" marriage. New York does not recognize same-sex marriages, although the courts have ruled that same-sex couples have the right to adopt.

If she is not allowed to adopt the girl, the former partner said she would seek visitation rights.

"It's been very stressful," the former partner said Thursday as she left court. "I'm a mother whose child has been taken away from her. I haven't seen my child for over four months."

Hedges said he was considering a hearing to determine what is best for the child. He said he would assign a lawyer to represent the child's interests.

Colorado Gay Rights Club is Suing School District

AURORA, Colo. (AP) — A high school Gay-rights club is suing the Cherry Creek School District, demanding that it be treated like any other club.

A lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Denver on Jan. 22 on behalf of the Homosexual-Heterosexual Alliance Reaching for Tolerance. It says administrators at Smoky Hill High School have allowed HHART to meet but refused to include it in a list of school clubs.

The lawsuit, filed by the Colorado Legal Initiatives Project, also says school officials have censored words such as "homosexual," "Lesbian" and "Gay" from the club's posters.

The high school club includes 25 members, both Gays and heterosexuals, who meet to discuss per-

sonal and social issues.

The lawsuit asks the court to declare that the group has a constitutional right to be treated like any other club.

CLIP is a Denver-based Gay rights legal group.

Cherry Creek School District spokeswoman Michelle Cahn said administrators could not comment on the lawsuit because they had not seen it.

Smoky Hill Principal Mary Jarvis said HHART had been allowed to put its full name on signs at the high school, to meet at the school and to make announcements on the school's public address system.

"I feel we've not violated any policies," she said. "I'm not sure I understand what this is about."

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The Klan, The Dream, Homosexuals

by Ira L. King
Staff Reporter

Sat., Jan. 17, 1998, was a day of comings. The Ku Klux Klan came. The counter-protesters came. The gangs came. Each came in the shadow of commemorating the dream articulated by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Each group felt it had a message to deliver to Memphians. Each came with a different agenda. Each left with the same reminder that racism, violence, ignorance and stupidity are alive and well in Memphis, Tenn.

Among those participating in the counter-protest were members of the clergy and of the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Religious Affairs. There were also parents, Black and white, who wanted their children to experience history and gain some understanding as to why bigotry thrives so well in the South.

When asked if I thought a group should participate in the counter-protest, I said "no." I was reminded that a famous man once said, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." To a large degree I agree with this axiom. However, when it comes to organized hate groups like the Ku Klux Klan (which, for the uninformed, was founded in Tennessee in Polaski County) I say the less attention paid to them the better.

If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound? The best thing Memphians could have done for the Klan rally would have been to ignore it. There should have been no media coverage. Citizens interested in demonstrating reconciliation and healthy respect for ethnic diversity and personal dignity should have participated in the myriad of positive King-related activities that took place over that weekend. In fact downtown should have been cordoned off altogether and the Klan allowed to carry on

their rally all by themselves. Thus the public would have been spared the vile epitaphs spewing from the mouths of Klansmen as they tested their public address equipment. Instead of the normal "testing one, two, three, four", listeners heard "testing H-O-M-O". This type of behavior is engineered to get a hostile response from onlookers.

During this time of celebration Vice President Al Gore addressed the congregation of historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. This was the home church of Dr. King. To a racially mixed congregation he outlined new federal initiatives calling for the abolition of racial and gender discrimination and pledging thousands of dollars to that end.

While this Clinton administration move is laudable, I would like to know why abolition of homophobia was not included. The Clinton administration has done much for the Gay community in the last six years. I hope it's not becoming complacent where we are concerned.

Gays and Lesbians in America fight an uphill battle that is not unlike the battles fought by Blacks during the early days of the civil rights movement. We fight housing discrimination, exclusion in the legal and medical affairs of our partners, loss of child custody because of our sexual orientation, just to name a few.

I keep hearing talk about preserving the "dream." I'm more concerned today with surviving in the 64 reality". I am more concerned with expanding the dream to include Gays and Lesbians. As communication technologies continue to make the world a smaller place to live in, no one race or maligned group can afford the luxury of being stingy or possessive with its vision of the future.

It is no secret that besides Jews, Blacks, Indians, Asians, etc., the

Ku Klux Klan hates Gays and Lesbians. Yes "hate" is the right word. If allowed to flourish, especially in the South, the Klan will target every homosexual for lynching in one form or another. Granted it won't be easy, since most homosexuals do not wear their sexual orientation on the outside the way one wears skin color or national origin. But rest assured, when the Klan knows a man or woman is homosexual, it will have no problem targeting that person for destruction. In fact, skin color will not matter at that point. The Klan is much more hostile towards Gays and Lesbians than toward any other group of people. The Klan views homosexuality as a definite hindrance to the procreation of the Aryan nation. This is a very scary scenario.

Ultimately, Dr. King's dream must be expanded to include homosexuals. This is why government initiatives must identify homosexuals as recipients and shareholders in programs and policies intended to rid America of bigotry.

In fairness, I must point out that it was not the Ku Klux Klan or the counter-protesters that caused the mini-riot in downtown Memphis. It was the gangs. Gangs traditionally use occasions like rallies to draw attention to themselves, usually through violence. Gangs are a faction over which there is no control, not even by the police. I believe that to some extent the Klan counted on this happening. The Klan welcomes any activity that draws attention to it — even gang violence.

As Gays and Lesbians in America join with heterosexuals to remember the life and legacy of Dr. King, I hope we are willing to expand the dream and keep working to secure it until it becomes a part of our reality.

New Jersey Couple Become First Joint Gay Adopters

On Dec. 17, New Jersey couple Michael Gallucio and Jon Holden became the first couple to jointly adopt their foster son, Adam, in a landmark decision which made New Jersey the first state in the country to allow joint adoptions by both Lesbians and Gay men and unmarried heterosexual couples.

These couples who sought to adopt children jointly had to make two court appearances, whereas married heterosexual couples could adopt with one.

At this time, Florida and New Hampshire are the only states that currently bar adoptions by Lesbi-

ans and Gay men.

GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry, whose three children were adopted in the first second parent adoption in New Jersey, said, "It is important that the Lesbian and Gay community not cede the issues of what makes a family to radical religious groups. This victory gives us an opportunity not only to take those issues back. Most importantly, we've learned that the important issue when talking about adoption isn't whether a parent is Lesbian, Gay or heterosexual, but whether they are simply a good parent, period."

GLAMA Nominees Announced

On Jan. 12, the Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards (GLAMA) announced nominees for its Second Annual GLAMA, including Me'Shell Ndegeocello, the Indigo Girls and Erasure. Among the 72 nominees in 14 categories, ranging from Best Male and Female Artists to Comedy to Original Out Song, include k.d. lang (Best Album for *Drag*), Lucious Jackson (Band) and Ferron (three categories). RuPaul will receive the Outmusic Award which honors him for his "embodiment of courage and truthful self-expression." The awards show will be held in New York City on March 9.

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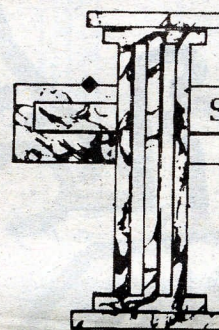
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Loving Relationships Training Coming to Memphis

By Chet Overstreet

Have you ever wondered why some of your relationships don't seem to be working, or at least not working the way you want them to?

Have you ever thought, "I'll never find the right lover?" Have you ever wondered why you are in a dead end job or why you don't have enough money or even why your car keeps breaking down? Have

you ever thought, "I want more out of life," but aren't quite sure how to get it? Or have you ever thought, "my life is great now but I'm afraid the good stuff will end?" If the answer to any of these questions is

yes you will likely be interested in the Loving Relationships Training.

In March, a group of Memphians committed to helping heal and strengthen relationships is sponsoring intensive training called the Loving Relationships Training. The LRT (as it is commonly referred) was designed over 20 years ago by Sondra Ray, one of our contemporary spiritual leaders. Sondra, who will be leading the training and who has written more than 15 books about relationships and love, became interested in the power of relationships when her hair began to fall out after her divorce. As a result of her efforts to learn more about the power of the relationships we develop in life, and as a way to heal herself from what seemed to be a catastrophic event in her life she developed the weekend training event.

The LRT combines mini-lectures, experiential processes, and sharing from participants of their thoughts and feelings. It is founded in part from the teachings in *A Course in Miracles*, which Sondra believes is one of the most important spiritual books written in 2000 years. The cornerstone of the training is the belief that "thought is creative and I am the thinker." In other words, what I believe to be true, I create; and life presents to me the results of my thoughts. For example, if you find yourself in an unsatisfying job with an impossible boss and you are in an emotionally-unfulfilling relationship you likely have thoughts such as "life is a struggle and I can't succeed," or "I'm not good enough to have what I want." The goal then is to clear or change the thoughts to life-affirming ones.

However, we have thoughts and beliefs that are stored in our conscious mind and thoughts and beliefs that are stored in our unconscious mind. It is often the thoughts and beliefs of which we are not aware, those in our unconscious mind, that wreak havoc in our life. According to Sondra and experts in the now-burgeoning field of pre- and perinatal psychology these unconscious thoughts and beliefs can form at the time of and even prior to our birth experience, one of the most powerful transitional experiences we ever face. Through processes that are presented during the LRT, participants have the opportunity to uncover their "personal lie," the strongest, most negative message received or thought formed either before, during or immediately after birth. And then participants have the opportunity to begin clearing that lie and replacing it with their "eternal law," which is the basic truth for which we are all, in various ways, searching.

One of the clearing techniques presented during the training is

rebirthing. Developed over 20 years ago by Leonard Orr with assistance from Sondra, both disciples of the Indian guru Babiji, Sondra has incorporated this technique in all of her work. Rebirthing is a conscious breathing process designed to purify the mind, body and spirit by flooding the cells of the body with oxygen, the life-sustaining element. The process of rebirthing can be compared to pouring fresh water into a cup with dirt in the bottom. If the breathing process is practiced regularly, the "dirt," our negative beliefs and thoughts, will first be stirred up and then spilled out as the "water," the breath, keeps coming in. The rebirthing experience can be very powerful, because for most people it is the first time they have felt fully alive since birth. The rebirthing process and all of the processes that occur during the LRT are presented in a safe, loving environment in which each participant can choose how much they want to engage.

The LRT may be of special interest to the Gay and Lesbian community. One belief that seems to be ever-present in our community is that Gay men and Lesbian women cannot sustain long-term committed relationships. While this is clearly not true, it apparently is a thought many people harbor perhaps deep within their unconscious mind. Also, since according to pre- and perinatal psychologists the infant is affected by the beliefs of the caregivers even while still in the womb, it makes sense that negative unconscious thoughts about ourselves may have started very early since most parents were thinking and fantasizing about their baby growing up to be a happily-married heterosexual person. In this case we might be born with the unconscious belief that "I am wrong," and then go through life creating this result in various aspects of our life.

The organizers of the training, who have all been participants at least once, claim that the Loving Relationships Training is a way to break free from the negative thoughts, beliefs and decisions that keep true joy from occurring in our lives. They report that the LRT provides the knowledge and tools for achieving greater success in the areas of relationships, family, career, goal-setting, prosperity, health and peace of mind. They aver that it helps open the door to a new vision of yourself in relationship to the world and to the exciting possibilities that exist. They merrily state that it is a transformative experience of unbounded love and joy.

If you would like more information about the training, please see the ad in this edition of the TJN or call Judy Short at (901) 454-9492.

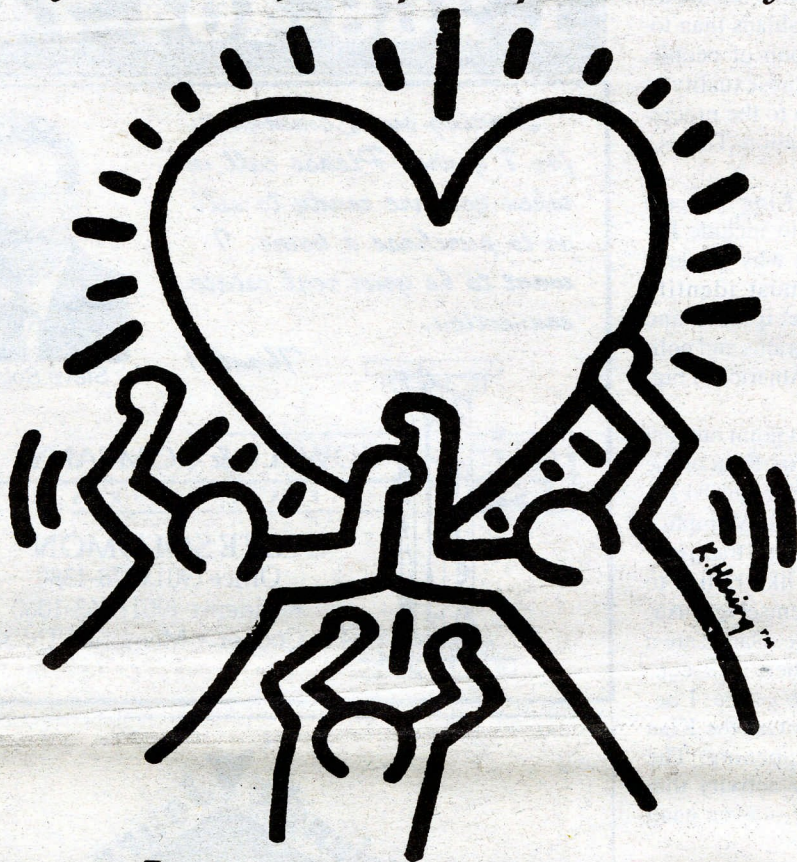
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Doctor Claims False AIDS Rumors Hurt Business, Reputation

By Kimberly Greuter
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Dr. Susan Johnson started hearing the rumors in October. Then patients began calling her Martin obstetrics-gynecology practice asking to transfer to another doctor.

They had heard Johnson had AIDS and didn't want her treating them. Her practice faltered as the rumor spread.

"It's devastating for any human being to have a lie told about you," she said Jan 22 in a telephone interview.

Johnson and her husband, William Whitehurst Jr., filed a \$5 million lawsuit on Jan. 14 against the people they claim started the rumor: two other doctors in Martin,

a city of 10,000 in rural northwest Tennessee.

Johnson claims Drs. Susan Lowry and Anna Hopla "were motivated to do harm" to her because she refused to take on obstetrical patients of Lowry, who was pregnant and a patient of Johnson's at the time. Lowry and Hopla were in practice together at Martin Medical Center.

"Lowry and Hopla ... became angry and in retaliation maliciously spread the false, scurrilous and slanderous rumor that Dr. Johnson had tested HIV positive, had AIDS and would be writing a letter to each of her patients" informing them of her condition, according to the lawsuit.

Lowry acknowledged hearing rumors that Johnson had AIDS and

said they prompted her to stop seeing her as a patient. But she denied starting the rumors.

"I was concerned for my safety and my unborn child's safety. My sister is also pregnant and I was concerned for the two of them," Lowry told *The Weakley County Press*. "I would never start a rumor like that."

Lowry's sister, Christy Thompson, also switched to another doctor. Thompson then passed along the rumor to fellow pharmacists at the Martin Wal-Mart and it spread to customers and other Wal-Mart employees, according to the lawsuit, filed in Weakley County Circuit Court.

Johnson said she and her husband have suffered embarrassment and psychological trauma.

Johnson, who has practiced in Martin since 1979, said she saw up to 30 patients a day before the rumors started, but business has dropped for her and other doctors at Martin Specialty Clinic.

"We've had many calls here from patients who asked if this was true," said Johnson, whose lawyers are state Democratic Party Chairman Houston Gordon and Jason Whitworth.

The lawsuit also names Thompson and Wal-Mart pharmacists Casey Vernon and Joyce Hayes.

Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Martin Medical Center.

Vernon declined to comment when reached by phone. Charlie Barnett, the lawyer representing Wal-Mart, Vernon, Thompson and Hayes, said he had just received the lawsuit and was not prepared to comment.

Martin Medical Center refused to comment, and the lawyer representing it, James Glasgow Sr., is on vacation and could not be reached.

Study: Some AIDS Drugs More Cost-Effective Than Others

By Heather Lalley
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Some Boston researchers are questioning the cost-effectiveness of treating every AIDS-related ailment — or whether doctors should focus on preventing only the most serious problems, such as pneumonia.

While the benefits of fending off AIDS-related pneumonia are worth the cost, preventing drug-resistant eye and fungal infections may not be worth the expense, according to the study by the co-director of the HIV diagnostic evaluation unit at Boston Medical Center.

"If resources are unlimited, then one may want to use all of these medications," said Dr. Kenneth Freedberg, the study's lead researcher. "But this study should help put into perspective what to do if resources are limited. You can't put everyone on every plausible medication."

Freedberg's findings appear in the Jan. 14 edition of *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The researchers compiled data from several clinical trials and AIDS studies to determine the clinical impact, cost and cost-effectiveness of drugs that prevent AIDS-related infections, as opposed to those that treat the virus itself. Cost-effectiveness weighs benefits against expense.

The study could fuel debate over state programs' spending of available funds on AIDS-related care. Activists say all possible treatments should be made available, but some doctors question whether the cost outweighs the benefit.

"Everybody wants to know if what we're doing really makes sense in the long run," said Dr. Catherine Creticos, interim medical director for Chicago's Howard Brown Health Center, who was not

involved in the study. "Not that we're going to make all of our decisions based on finances, but it's nice to have the data that proves it."

Patients who reached a critical stage in their illness and received no preventive medicines had a projected life expectancy of 39.08 months, after adjusting for quality of life, with average total lifetime health care costs of \$40,288, the researchers found.

Recommended trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole to prevent AIDS-related pneumonia and toxoplasmosis, a brain infection, increased life expectancy to 42.56 months with a cost of \$16,000 per quality-adjusted year of life saved, they found.

But using ganciclovir to prevent cytomegalovirus, a progressive eye infection, was the least cost-effective at \$314,000 per quality-adjusted year of life saved, according to the study.

The findings support current clinical guidelines of working to prevent pneumonia, toxoplasmosis and a tuberculosislike infection. Doctors currently do not routinely prescribe preventive drugs for eye and fungal infections.

A quality-adjusted year of life saved is based on a widely used mathematical formula in which a person expecting to live a certain number of years would have only a fraction of that considered "quality" because of an illness.

Same-Sex Marriage, Part 1

On Dec. 18 the American Psychoanalytic Association (APA) endorsed Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's Marriage Resolution, which maintains that states should not interfere with couples of the same gender who wish to marry.

Marvin Margolis, M.D., Ph.D., president of the APA, expressed his enthusiastic support for the resolution.

Ralph Roughton, M.D., chair of the Association's Committee of Issues on Homosexuality added "[A]s psychoanalysts, we are proud to join the many prominent national organizations and individuals which support the efforts for Gay and Lesbian civil rights in the area of marriage and family, spearheaded by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund."

Same-Sex Marriage, Part 2

On Dec. 19, The Hawaii Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling that prevented eight state lawmakers from intervening in the case of Baehr v. Miike, which led to a decision allowing same-sex couples the right to marry.

The case itself, which was decided a year ago in favor of three couples seeking the right to marry, is currently on appeal to the same Supreme Court which ruled on the lawmakers' appeal.

If the court had found in favor of the state representatives, it might have jeopardized the landmark decision which found that denying marriage licenses to couples of the same sex amounted to unconstitutional gender discrimination.

The lawyer representing the eight states, Jay Sekulow, is an attorney with the American Center for Law And Justice, which is closely affiliated with Pat Robertson and the Christian Coalition.

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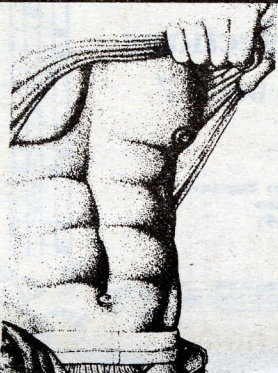
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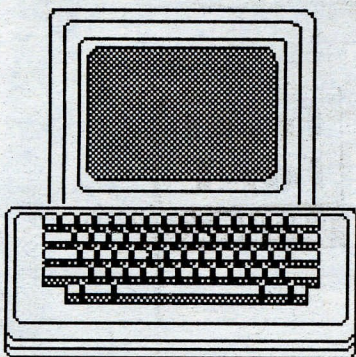
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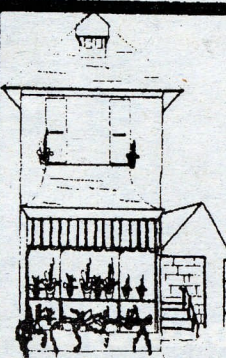
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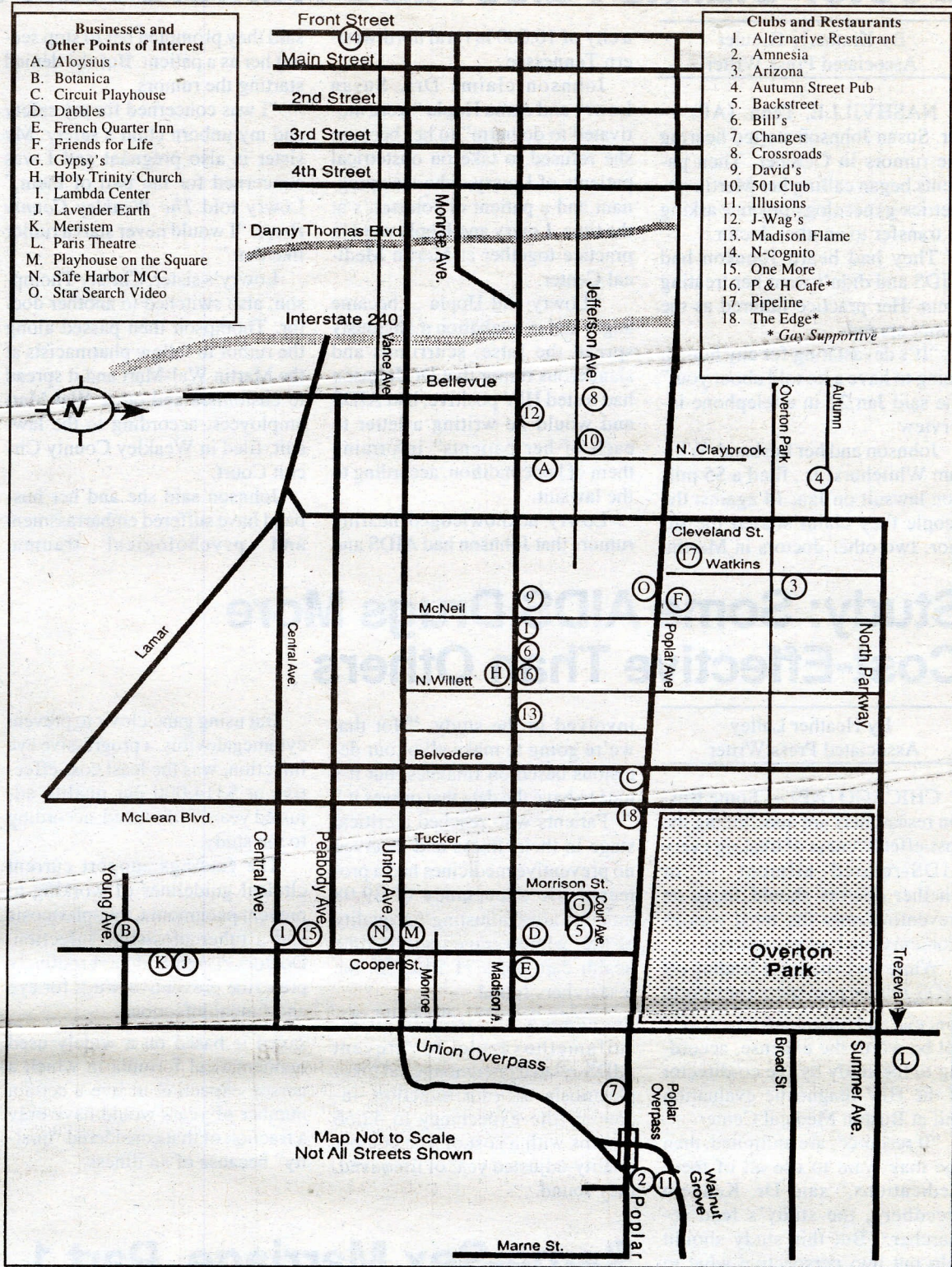


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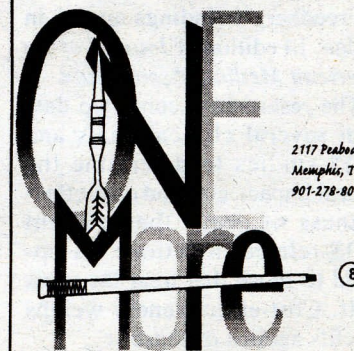
- Businesses and Other Points of Interest**
- A. Aloysius
 - B. Botanica
 - C. Circuit Playhouse
 - D. Dabbles
 - E. French Quarter Inn
 - F. Friends for Life
 - G. Gypsy's
 - H. Holy Trinity Church
 - I. Lambda Center
 - J. Lavender Earth
 - K. Meristem
 - L. Paris Theatre
 - M. Playhouse on the Square
 - N. Safe Harbor MCC
 - O. Star Search Video

- Clubs and Restaurants**
- 1. Alternative Restaurant
 - 2. Amnesia
 - 3. Arizona
 - 4. Autumn Street Pub
 - 5. Backstreet
 - 6. Bill's
 - 7. Changes
 - 8. Crossroads
 - 9. David's
 - 10. 501 Club
 - 11. Illusions
 - 12. J-Wag's
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TJN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 1 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • WAC Meeting, 7pm, call 272-3638	Groundhog Day 2 • Feast for Friends Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm, Sponsored by Temple Israel & Chris Miller	3 • Volleyball, Glenview Community Center, 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, Madison Flame, 8pm	4 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • Safe Harbor MCC, 7pm	5 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	6 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Catholic Mass w/ Special Invitation to Gays & Lesbians, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 7pm	7 • Entertainer of the Year Award, Club 501, 9:30pm
8 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • King & Queen of Hearts, Madison Flame, 7:30pm	9 • Pride Rap, 7-8pm, 323-2078	10 • Volleyball, Glenview Community Center, 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, Madison Flame, 8pm	11 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • Safe Harbor MCC, 7pm • Man of the Year Banquet, Madison Flame, 7:30pm	Lincoln's Birthday 12 • NOW Meeting, YWCA, 766 So. Highland, 7pm • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm • Pool Tournament of Champions, One More, 8pm	13 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm	Valentine's Day 14 • Memphis Bears Club Night, Pipeline, 8pm • Lambda Support Group, Jackson, TN, Regional Hospital, Classroom A, Jackson, TN, 2pm • Valentine Show, J-Wag's, 11pm Pageant, Cross-roads
Deadline for March '98 TJN 15 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • WAC Meeting, 7pm, call 272-3638 • Billie Holiday Fundraiser, New Daisy Theatre, 7pm	President's Day 16 • Feast for Friends Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm, Sponsored by Renee Beech, Bill Andrews & Susan Wooldridge	17 • AIDS Consortium Mtg., United Way Bldg. on Union, 3pm • Integrity Eucharist & Healing Svc., 6pm; Dinner/Mtg., 6:45pm, Calvary Episcopal • Volleyball, Glenview Community Center, 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, Madison Flame, 8pm	18 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • Safe Harbor MCC, 7pm	19 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	20 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Women of Color & Allies Summit, Washington, DC	21 • Women of Color & Allies Summit, Washington, DC • Warhurst & Eddington, One More, 8pm • the Masque Ball, 1559 Madison, 9pm
Washington's Birthday 22 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • Women of Color & Allies Summit, Washington, DC	23 • "How to Stay In Love," free presentation by Fully Alive!, call 323-2078	24 • Integrity Board Mtg., 6:30pm • Volleyball, Glenview Community Center, 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, Madison Flame, 8pm	Ash Wednesday 25 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • Safe Harbor MCC, 7pm	26 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm • Lambda Support Group, Jackson, TN, Regional Hospital, Classroom A, 6pm	March '98 TJN Due Out 27 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Jackson PFlag, Madison Co., Ag Extension Office, 309 C North Parkway, 6:30pm • Mardi Gras Blowout, One More	28 • Team Dart Tournament, One More, 7pm
March 1 • HTCC Sunday School, 10am; Service, 11am • Living Word Christian Church Services, 10am & 6pm • Safe Harbor MCC, Worship Service, 11am, 7pm • WAC Meeting, 7pm, call 272-3638	2 • Feast for Friends Dinner, St. John's Methodist, 6:30pm, Sponsored by John Greer	3 • Volleyball, Glenview Community Center, 6:30pm • B-GALA, U of M, University Center, 7:30pm • Southern Country Dance Lessons, Madison Flame, 8pm	4 • Bible Study, Holy Trinity Community Church, 7pm • Living Word Christian Church, Service, 7pm • Safe Harbor MCC, 7pm	5 • Cotton Pickin' Squares, Prescott Mem. Bapt. Church, 7:30pm	6 • "Fifty-One Percent," Sponsored by NOW, WEVL FM 90, 1pm • Southern Country Annual Hoe Down, Holiday Inn Midtown	7 • Southern Country Annual Hoe Down, Holiday Inn Midtown (Also March 8)



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Teen Sues Teacher, Alleges Longtime Harassment

By Kristen Hays
Associated Press Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A northwestern Pennsylvania teenager said verbal abuse from his high school gym teacher and taunts that he was "Gay" and "queer" nearly drove him to suicide.

The 17-year-old boy, the son of a janitor at his high school in Punxsutawney, has accused the teacher of repeated harassment and educators of ignoring the problem.

Identified only as "John Doe" in his lawsuit filed in federal court in Pittsburgh Jan. 22, he now attends classes in his home and

Punxsutawney teachers visit daily.

The boy accused Punxsutawney High School teacher Gale Shields of harassing him so much over two years that he dropped out and ended up in a hospital, depressed and suicidal.

"It's only by the grace of God that he's not dead," his attorney, David Long, said. Long declined to identify the boy or his parents.

He alleges that counselors and school officials ignored his repeated complaints and pleas for help.

Thomas Frantz, the Punxsutawney Area School District superintendent and a defendant in the lawsuit, declined to

comment, saying he was unaware of the lawsuit. School officials would not pass a message along to Shields.

Former Punxsutawney High School principal Anthony Parise declined to comment as well. He was principal when the boy attended the high school and is now the district's director of curriculum and instruction.

The lawsuit says Shields first encountered the boy when he was a freshman in fall 1994 and that Shields often screamed at him, calling him "Gay" and "queer."

The boy said Shields sometimes grabbed him, pinned him against a wall and said he was worthless.

Students followed Shields' lead and harassed him too, the lawsuit says.

When the boy complained, Shields denied his story, according to the lawsuit.

He sought help from counselors and a school nurse, but they didn't refer him to counseling for depressed or suicidal students, and the district didn't investigate, the boy alleges.

In March 1996, the boy told a counselor the harassment had triggered memories that he had been sexually abused by a man when he was 7 years old. He said he wanted to kill himself.

His parents placed him in an

adolescent unit at DuBois Regional Medical Center, where he was diagnosed as being depressed. The boy's parents were reluctant to question officials about their son before then because the father feared for his job, Long said.

In summer 1996, the boy's mother decided to educate him at home. By last February, the boy went to Long to ask for help in seeking a General Education Development diploma. He told his story, and Long agreed to be his attorney.

"They had enough notice," Long said about educators. "They didn't do anything."

The defendants are Shields,

Ellen Makes Big News for 1997

With a number of the different polls, surveys and studies on the top newsmakers for 1997, Ellen DeGeneres and her historic openly Gay lead character on the ABC sitcom *Ellen* has been consistently identified as one of the biggest stories of the year.

The Video Information Show Report Study, which examines major television newsmagazines, placed DeGeneres third, with 283

stories, behind only Princess Diana and Jonbenet Ramsey.

Readers of the *Philadelphia Daily News* were evenly split between DeGeneres and Princess Diana in voting on "TV that rocked our world." *TV Guide* named DeGeneres the third "Best of '97."

In its "Man of the Year" issue, *Ellen's* coming out episode got *Time's* pick for the second best television event of 1997, highlight-

ing the comedic quality of the episode.

People Magazine placed DeGeneres among its 25 Most Intriguing People of the Year. "Years from now, the historical impact of Ellen DeGeneres' coming out and the groundbreaking program will be remembered as one of the major milestones for Lesbians and Gay men during the 1990s," said GLAAD Executive Director Joan

M. Garry.

"In 1997, the media's enthusiasm for this story indicated America's enthusiasm for discussing and exploring cultural, legal and political issues of sexual orientation. In 1998, GLAAD hopes this will translate into even more powerful, honest and realistic representations of Gay people and our families by the entertainment and news media."



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Texas High School OKs Same-Sex Dates for Prom

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Same-sex couples who were forbidden from attending a high school prom will be allowed to go following a challenge by two female homosexual students.

The two students at Marshall High School asked principal John Bordano recently if same-sex partners could attend the senior prom together. They were told only opposite-sex partners were allowed to attend.

"There is a large Gay commu-

nity at Marshall and it really hurt me," Katherine Stanfield, 17, one of the students who challenged the rule, was quoted as saying in the Jan. 21 edition of the San Antonio *Express-News*.

"We have rights just like everyone else," she said. "Gays and Lesbians aren't heterosexuals, but they should have rights, too."

The policy of selling couple tickets for dates of the opposite sex came about after the school had a problem with groups of boys go-

ing to the prom and flirting with the female dates of other boys, Bordano said.

School officials also worried about gang activity if large groups attended the function together.

In response to the girls' complaints, Bordano met Jan. 20 with the student leaders — the presidents of the senior and junior classes, the student council president and editors of the school newspaper — to get their input.

They agreed each senior should

be allowed to buy two tickets and take whomever they choose to the dance.

"We never had an intention to discriminate against anybody," Bordano said. "We talked about it and we're going to do something about it now."

Chris Duke, editor-in-chief of the student newspaper *The Rampage*, said the new policy also is good for students who don't have prom dates.

"People who wouldn't normally go because they didn't have dates could go," Duke said. "Every senior who wants to go can buy two tickets."

Bordano said if he receives complaints from parents about same-sex couples attending, he can't help it.

"That's society as it is," the principal said. "These kids don't feel uncomfortable with it and they're the leaders of our campus."

Gay Groups Urge Wizards Players to Write Checks for Anti-Gay Hex

GLAAD and Gay Men & Lesbians Opposing Violence (GLOV) today called upon Washington (DC) Wizards players Tracey Murray and Rod Strickland to use fines imposed on them for fighting over Gay allegations to fight anti-Gay violence and intolerance.

After the two basketball players came to blows, allegedly prompted by Murray's accusation that Strickland was Gay, Wizards General Manager Wes Unseld fined both players \$25,000 and ordered them to apologize and

donate the fines to charities of the other's choice.

GLAAD and GLOV are suggesting that the \$50,000 be donated to their respective organizations. "The message [is that] even the suggestion of being Gay is justification enough to start battering someone [but] anti-Gay violence is far from acceptable.

In the District of Columbia, the Wizards' home, it is, in fact, against the law," said GLOV Executive Director Sharen Shaw Johnson.

GLAAD DC Media Resource Center Manager Cathy Renna added, "GLOV and GLAAD salute Unseld for fining the players and feel our two DC-based organizations are ideal choices for receiving the money: GLOV works to counter violence against Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and transgender people; GLAAD works to protect this targeted community against the kind of media defamation that was an inescapable by-product of these athletes' brawl."

Lambda Legal Looks Ahead to New Year

Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 1998, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF) has announced that the new year will see a record number of Lesbian, Gay and AIDS-related concerns in the country's highest courts.

"The Supreme Court and other high-level courts are expected to address employment, the military, disability protections, family and other fundamental constitutional issues for Lesbians, Gay men and people with HIV in 1998," said LLDEF Legal Director Beatrice Dohn.

"We expect an unprecedented number of decisions from top-level state as well as federal courts, and they are likely to affect the way Lesbians and Gay men are treated across the country for many years to come."

In addition to the Hawaii high court same-sex marriage ruling, LLDEF expects to see the Shahr job discrimination case come before the U.S. Supreme Court as well as another employment-related case, *Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services, Inc.*, which urges the federal sexual harassment law be applied without regard to sex or sexual orientation.

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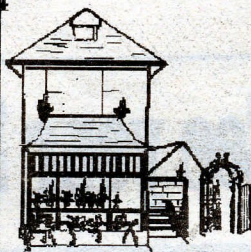
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So, Tell Me about the Gay Community in Memphis

by Ira L. King
Staff Writer

I have often been asked by visitors to Memphis to describe the Gay community in our city. This is a singularly impossible task. Do I describe it from a Black point of view? Do I describe it from a male point of view? Do I describe it from a journalist point of view? Do I describe it from a Gay Christian point of view? I usually find myself trying to incorporate all these dimensions into my description. It is perhaps safest to say that the Gay community in Memphis actually defies a singular definitive description.

I usually start by saying that our community is quite fragmented. By that I mean there are factions that function independently of each other. Although a member of the Black race, I know very little about the goings on in the African American Gay community. (I do know who the Black drag queens and performers are.) This is partly by design and partly because I do not move in circles that Black Americans, Gay or straight, move in en masse. I do not go to the predominantly Black clubs and bars. This is not a good or a bad thing. It is just a fact. Consequently, I cannot converse intelligently about life in the Black Gay community.

Obviously not being a woman (except for Miss Ross on Halloween), I cannot speak to the Lesbian viewpoint. I do know that there are Lesbian lawyers, doctors, school teachers, musicians, medical personnel, clergy, etc., who are actively working to make Memphis a more Gay-friendly city. I applaud their efforts.

I can however speak to both the male viewpoint and the Gay Christian viewpoint. My view as a Gay male is multi-faceted. I am always cognizant that I am a baby boomer who grew up in a culture where men slept with women and were damn proud of it. Men were the hunters and gatherers. Having a male friend did not mean having a male sex partner or showing affection (dare I say love) for another

male. Many of my friends and acquaintances come from the same environment.

I tell visitors that Gay men in Memphis have come a long way. Today many of us are open and unashamed of who and what we are. We wear Gay pride emblems on our clothing and automobiles. We are not afraid to be seen walking into Gay clubs and bars. Some of us are comfortable being seen in public places like shopping malls in the company of our partners and lovers. I tell visitors that Gay men in Memphis are bracing to face the 21st century head-on and open new doors and windows of opportunity. This is especially true when employment and civil rights/benefits are concerned.

I can probably speak most authoritatively to visitors about the Gay religious community. I tell visitors that Memphis is blessed with several Gay and Gay-friendly congregations and clergy. I tell them that these congregations clergy are very supportive not only of Gays and Lesbians, but of all who come through their doors seeking refuge and spiritual sustenance and an affirming environment in which to practice their faith.

There is even an organization whose sole reason for being is to foster understanding and open communication between the Gay community and the religious community. This is a wonderful thing for Memphis. Having met many of the Gay clergy in our city I can attest to their dedication, devotion and love for the members of the community, and willingness to be there when needed. This is a good thing.

It pleases me greatly to tell visitors that we have an excellent regional Gay newspaper. Communication is a vital part of being aware in our Gay community. The *Triangle Journal News* does an excellent job at this. Everything from local to national news articles, feature stories, advertisements, and help information can be found between its pages. The editors are constantly working to better the

paper and its content. I have seen and read many Gay newspapers from around the country. Ours is one of the best.

It also pleases me to let visitors know that when it comes to staging benefits for people in our community, our members always come through. It's good to boast of events like *The Three Basses*, sponsored nights at Playhouse on the Square or Circuit Playhouse and 501 Club's annual *Beyond Tea*. Many of the bars put on drag shows and cookoffs that benefit needy members of our community. These same bars can be counted on to provide holiday dinners at no charge to their patrons.

The Memphis Pride Parade is yet another shining example of the community's ability to come together.

Also noteworthy are the annual Prayer and Healing Service at Calvary Episcopal Church and the annual World AIDS Day observance. These are both ecumenical services that cross and unite religious and sexual orientations.

There's a lot of good going on

in Memphis' Gay community. There is, however, room for improvement. Too many of us are still closeted. Too many of us are either ashamed or afraid of who and what we are. Far too many of us let past circumstances overshadow future happiness. Too many of us won't march in a pride parade. Too many of us don't want to be seen in a Gay environment on local television. Too many of us want to live closeted in Germantown and occasion-

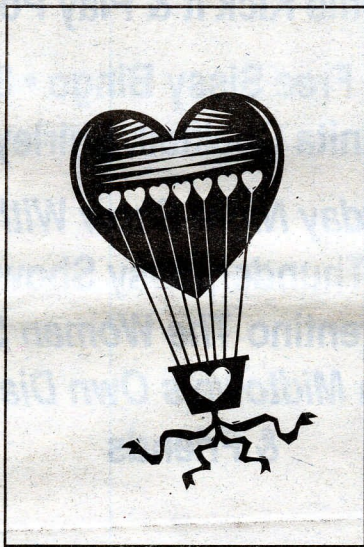
ally come to Midtown to be among our own. Too many of us have one-dimensional homosexuality. That is, we only communicate and socialize with a certain segment of our community and virtually ignore the rest. (I am sometimes guilty of this.)

All in all, I tell visitors that the Memphis Gay community is what they choose to make it, what you and I choose to make it.



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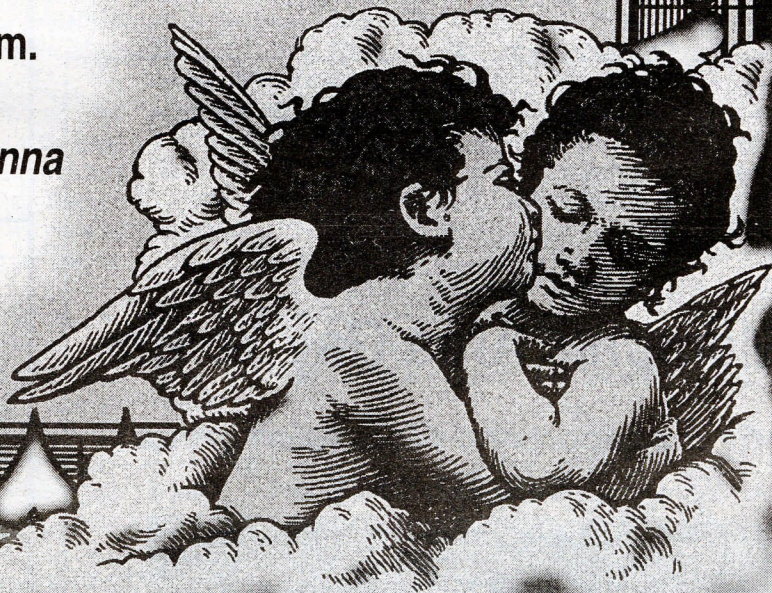
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Who was Norma McCorvey?

On Jan. 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision in *Roe v. Wade*, establishing a woman's constitutional right to terminate a pregnancy. Only a few people knew the true identity of "Jane Roe," the plaintiff in this historic and controversial case. Roe was, in fact, Norma McCorvey, a lesbian from Dallas.

McCorvey was born Norma Leah Nelson in 1947 to a working-class family. Ironically, her mother had wanted to abort her, which was illegal, but consulted the local back-room abortionist too late. Norma's father deserted the family when she was a child, and the girl suffered physical abuse from her mother. Angry and unhappy, Norma ran away when she was only 10 with a girlfriend, using money she stole from the gas station where she helped pump gas.

At a motel in Oklahoma City, Norma and her friend had their first lesbian sexual experience. When they were picked up by police several days later, Norma's friend said Norma had forcibly sodomized her. Norma was sent to a girls' reform school for that offense and for robbing the gas station. The reform school, McCorvey later wrote in her memoirs, was more of a home than she had had with her own fam-

ily.

After her release at 15, Norma began working as a carhop at a drive-in restaurant. There she met Woody McCorvey, a smooth talker whom she married after a brief courtship. Their marriage proved almost as brief. When McCorvey told her husband she was pregnant, he beat her up and she left him to return home.

Though it may seem like an unlikely time to come out as a lesbian, it was during her pregnancy that the 16-year-old McCorvey discovered a local lesbian bar and began to frequent it. She found a home within the Lesbian and Gay subculture of Dallas. Though she had several relationships with women, she also continued to have occasional sex with men. After the birth of her first daughter, she came out to her mother and paid a price for her honesty — her mother was able to take her infant daughter away from her.

When McCorvey became pregnant again after a week-long affair, she carried the baby to term, but gave it up for adoption. But it was Norma's third pregnancy, from another casual fling, that made history. That time, she sought out an abortion but was unable to find a doctor to perform one. She tried

unsuccessfully to abort with a homemade potion that made her sick. Finally, an attorney she consulted about adoption referred her to two young lawyers who would change her life — Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee.

Weddington and Coffee were feminists who wanted to build a case challenging Texas's anti-abor-

was two-and-a-half months pregnant and desperate. She saw the two attorneys as her last hope for an abortion. When McCorvey met with them, she was honest about her sexual orientation and saw the confusion on the women's faces. Afraid they might not take on her case, McCorvey lied and told them she had been raped. Because she was concerned that her lie would be discovered later on, McCorvey

Connie Gonzalez, and got a fresh start.

Roe v. Wade was appealed by the state of Texas and went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. By a vote of 7-2 in early 1973, the justices held that a woman's right to an abortion was part of her constitutional right to privacy. It wasn't until 1987 that McCorvey revealed herself as Jane Roe and admitted her lie about being raped. A made-for-TV movie starring Holly Hunter was made about her in 1989, but with her lesbian identity left out.

After several years in the public eye, speaking out for abortion rights and writing a pro-choice memoir, McCorvey became a born-again Christian in 1995 and abruptly recanted her position on abortion. Since that time, she has been an outspoken advocate for Operation Rescue, the militant anti-abortion group.

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

Historic S.F. Domestic Partner Law a Success

Six months after the City of San Francisco began implementing a law requiring companies doing business with the city to comply with domestic partner benefits policy, the city's Human Rights Commission (HRC) has declared it a success.

To date, 1270 city contractors now offer the benefits to their employees. Since the ordinance requires that companies comply in all of its locations throughout the U.S., approximately 642,757 employees now receive equal benefits.

"This historic piece of legislation has had a far-reaching impact on the number of businesses providing [these] benefits to their employees and the number of insurance providers across the country offering domestic partner coverage. We are thrilled with the success of this anti-discrimination law," said HRC Director Marivic Bamba.

PAST OUT

BY DAVID BIANCO

tion laws, with an eye to setting a precedent that might overturn all existing abortion laws. Weddington had a personal stake in such a case - she had had an unwanted pregnancy when she was in law school and had an abortion in Mexico. In order to make their case, Weddington and Coffee needed a pregnant woman who wanted an abortion. Enter Norma McCorvey.

In February 1970, McCorvey

opted to use the pseudonym "Jane Roe" for the trial.

McCorvey didn't understand the legal system, and Weddington and Coffee failed to tell their client that the suit would take too long to benefit her. By the time the case was tried and won, McCorvey was six months pregnant. She put her third and last child up for adoption. After a period of despondency in which she tried to commit suicide, McCorvey met her life partner,

Finding Protein May Help AIDS Therapy

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Researchers are trying to find a natural protein that may conceal the AIDS virus from anti-AIDS drugs. boost the effectiveness — and lower the cost of — anti-AIDS drug therapy, researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center say.

"We're not saying this is the way to a cure," says Dr. Richard B. Kim, assistant professor of medicine and pharmacology who led the research team. "But it may be an important way to further eliminate the virus."

The Vanderbilt study was published in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, a medical journal.

New drugs, called protease inhibitors, when combined with older medications, can help AIDS patients. But the virus that causes AIDS can come back if the patient stops taking the drugs, which can cost \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually.

P-glycoprotein generally is good for the body by protecting it from toxic substances.

But Kim and his colleagues have found evidence in mice that P-glycoprotein may prevent protease inhibitors from reaching HIV in the blood and in the brain — thus creating "sanctuaries" for the virus to hide out.

Other Vanderbilt researchers are trying to find out if the same thing occurs in humans. If so, patients could be given drugs that block the action of the protein and get rid of the hideouts for HIV.

Anti-AIDS drugs cannot shut down HIV reproduction unless they can reach and get into the cells that HIV infects.

"We're suggesting that this transport molecule (P-glycoprotein) seems to act as a barrier to prevent entry of these drugs into the cell," Kim said.


The Vanderbilt researchers studied a strain of genetically engineered mice in which the P-glycoprotein function was disrupted. They found that the amount of protease inhibitor given by mouth that reached the bloodstream of these mice was two to five times higher than in mice with normal protein function.

And when protease inhibitor was injected directly into the vein, the amount that reached the brain in the genetically engineered mice was seven to 40 times higher than in the normal mice.

Drugs that block P-glycoprotein, including the common heart drug verapamil, are relatively inexpensive and have few side effects.

These drugs may not act specifically on P-glycoprotein. They may also inhibit enzymes that break toxins into inactive forms or into forms that can be more readily flushed from the body.

"You don't want to shut down (these) enzymes totally," Kim warned, or the body would be unable to diffuse potentially life-threatening toxins.

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Queer Science

by Dr. Simon LeVay
See page 31



Sad to Say, Happy to Hear

By Butch Valentine



Sad to say...Many people who have had HIV/AIDS for any length of time or have had any of the illnesses associated with the virus, have probably noticed a change in their body structure, notably muscle mass and muscle tone. Now-a-days, many of us on protease inhibitors are happy to have gained weight, but sadly it's not the right kind of weight. Much of it is fat that settles in the stomach. That little paunch has even been given a name by the medical community... "crixibelly." Next to T-cells and viral load, muscle mass (and I'm not talking about bulging muscles) is the most important factor to your good health, and all three need to be monitored. Because more people are surviving longer, the ever-evolving treatment of HIV/AIDS is just beginning to put more emphasis on nutrition and muscle mass.

Happy to hear...There is a drug study at the Adult Special Care Clinic you may want to check out. It is for oxandrin, a mild steroid intended for short term use that has been used to increase muscle mass in patients who have been sick a long time from cancer, for example. It is now being studied for HIV/AIDS patients. From my understanding, I was the first one in Memphis on the study, and I have gained 14 lbs. in two months, and it's not across my belly. I am happy to say I have a butt again! Check it out. THE STUDY, I MEAN. Call Sally DiScenza at 545-7446 for info. You don't have to be a patient at the clinic to participate, but you would need your doctor's approval. (And a major thank you to the 501 Club for raising the money for the clinic to buy the machine needed to monitor muscle mass.) By the way, a friend of mine on the study has happily gained the same kind of weight.

Sad to say...All the hoopla over same-sex marriages. Yada, yada, yada. What's the big deal?

Happy to hear...No matter if you're straight (we really need to use a different word to describe breeders) or Gay, after you get married you have the same sex anyway! And to think straights don't think they have anything in common with Gays.

Sad to say...Very rarely do women and men mix in sports. The chauvenistic walls don't come down easily in college and pro sports.

Happy to hear...The Entitlement 9, which put women's collegiate sports more on equal footing with men's, has given a dramatic rise to women's participation and success in sports. Just look at the success of our women in the At-

lanta Olympics, and the women's professional basketball conferences. Women's hockey will be in the upcoming Olympics for the first time. Now the National Basketball Association has cracked some walls by adding two women to their referee staff, the first time women will officiate in an all male league. I think this is a very smart choice. My mother taught me how to play by the rules for years, and believe you me, she was very quick to penalize me when I was wrong.

Sad to say...Off-year elections generally don't have huge turnouts, but the results are closely monitored for indicators for the next general elections. Gawd, I hope not!! Pray for the residents of Washington. Voters in that state rejected a measure to legalize medicinal marijuana; rejected a measure requiring trigger locks on handguns (intended to protect children and to prevent accidental shootings) and safety courses for owners; rejected allowing workers to keep their doctor if they change health plans; and finally, but not surprisingly, rejected a measure barring employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Wow!! The voters collectively got up on the wrong side of the bed that morning!

Happy to hear...My mother always said if you have nothing nice to say, restrict your conversation to the weather. My...it's been unusually warm this winter, hasn't it.

Sad to say...And Cincinnati is still a nice place to visit, but you wouldn't want to live there. The 6th U.S. Court of Appeals affirmed earlier rulings that allowed the city to implement a 1993 voter-approved amendment to the city charter barring enactment or enforcement of any law aimed at ending bias based on sexual orientation. This means it is still legal

to discriminate against Gays in Cincinnati. How can such a pretty city have such an ugly attitude?

Happy to hear...Do you think it will be a warm spring?

Sad to say...My all-time favorite TV series, and probably the best ever, *Seinfeld*, is leaving after nine wonderfully entertaining years. (Remember the one with the running gag, "I'm not Gay....not that's there's anything wrong with that.")

Happy to hear...To all my fellow *Seinfeld* fanatics, I have just one word to say...Reruns!!

Sad to say...Here's a shocker from the CDC in Atlanta that I heard Kim Hindrew report: the fastest growing age group for new HIV infections is 50+!!

Happy to hear...Jimminy! I guess I get to have that son-to-father safe-sex talk with my dad.

Sad to say...As reported by Dr. Peter Gott, a nationally syndicated columnist, at last count there were more than 30 sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), ranging in severity from AIDS (fatal) to herpes (uncomfortable). Hell, a new couple's first date should be to the health clinic for a thorough screening.

Happy to hear...Although any sexual activity, no matter how quick or how innocent, carries potential risk, here is his simple analogy for you to ponder: "The risk of being struck by a car while crossing a quiet street in your community is statistically quite small. However, if you run out into the street without looking both ways, you substantially increase the chance of injury. Conversely, if you are prudent, look both ways, and take other precautions, your risk of being run over is markedly reduced. Same with sex. Pick your street. Keep your wits about you. And, by all means, look both ways."

Sad to say...The Cayman Islands' government has refused to let the Norwegian Cruise Line's 910 passenger Leeward dock at Grand Cayman on Feb. 1st, because it is a Gay cruise. The government feels it couldn't expect "appropriate behavior" from ho-

mosexual passengers.

Happy to hear...Oh, man, are they ever gonna regret that ignorant comment. But, to paraphrase Forrest Gump... "Ignorant is, ignorant does." Belize happily accepted the boat load of Gays and their boatload of Gay money.

Sad to say...Which is slower, the FDA or the legislature? It took three years to hammer out the FDA Modernization Act of 1997, which is to give the FDA new powers to speed the approval of drugs to combat killer diseases, such as cancer and AIDS.

Happy to hear...Acknowledging experimental drugs are sometimes people's only hope, Clinton signed the bill into law before all his stuff hit the fan. Luckily, during the three-year debate, patients didn't go without. Many of the bill's provisions had been put into effect administratively through V-POTUS Gore's "re-inventing government" programs.

Sad to say...The military doesn't want Gays, and the Republicans certainly don't cotton to us either.

Happy to hear...The maverick founder of San Francisco's Cannabis Buyers Club, Dennis Peron, announced he would be a candidate for governor in California in '98. The Gay Vietnam War veteran will be

running as a Republican. It could only be better if he actually won. But, hey...in California, anything's possible.

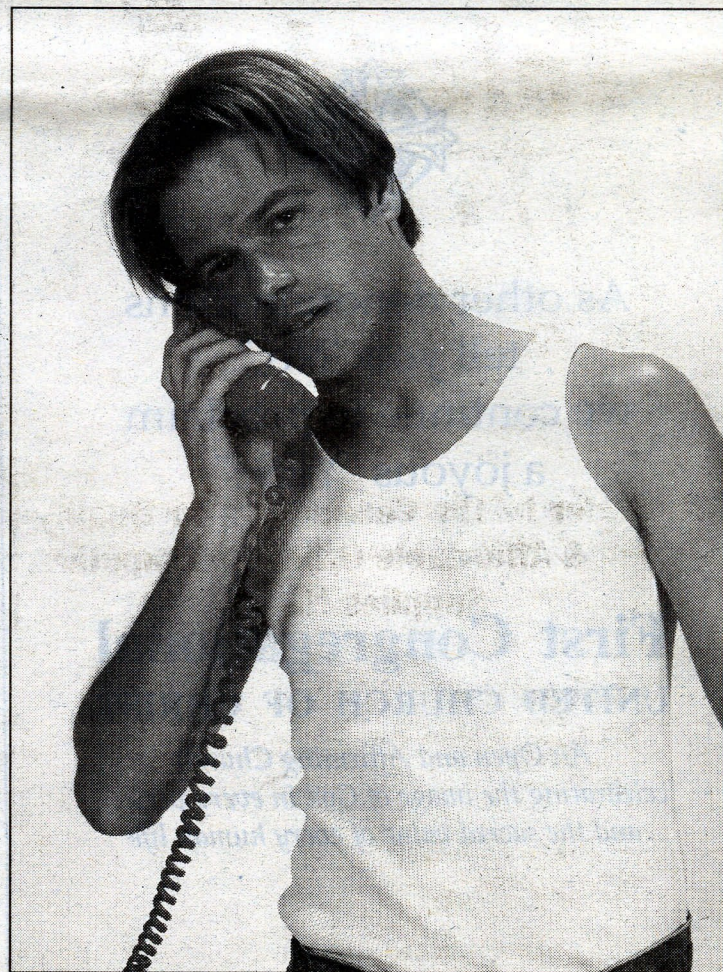
Sad to say...Even though it is more economical to pay for the very expensive meds of HIV patients (to keep them healthy) than to pay for even more expensive hospitalization (for people who get sick because they couldn't get the expensive meds), it's just too darn expensive to expand Medicaid for this purpose as Gore would like.

Happy to hear...Clinton (bless his heart) is seeking a 35 percent increase in spending for the "AIDS drug-assistance program" (ADAP), which helps pay for the new but expensive drugs. I've always said, when there is a will, there's a way.

Sad to say...*The British Medical Journal* reports that a study of Welsh villagers has found that frequent sex reduces the death risk among men. Men who said they had sex twice a week had a risk of dying half that of those who said they had sex once a month. But what if it's the other way around? What if it's that ill people might be less likely to have sex?

Happy to hear...Either way, I can tell you when I've had long dry spells it almost killed me!

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Benefit Central

by Vincent Astor

For an after-holiday month, January was quite busy with Gay/Lesbian community-related things.

And, if you get this really quickly, you can attend the Affirmation of Ordination of Rev. Greg Bullard on Jan. 31 at Safe Harbor MCC at 6 p.m. Safe Harbor worships in the Good Shepherd Chapel of Union Ave. United Methodist Church at the corner of Union and Cooper.

The Inevitable Lady A.

We had an exceptionally fun New Year's Eve. *TJN* gave away its promotional tickets to *Falsetto's* at Circuit Playhouse (it's a Gay-themed play, dear) as doorprizes for New Year's Eve. Therefore, your columnista got to go to every New Year's Eve party in the Gay/Lesbian community.

We saw small bars and large bars. We saw beautifully decorated bars and non-decorated bars. We saw carefully contrived atmosphere and "hats, horns and champagne at midnight." We visited 14 Gay/Lesbian bars, the P & H Cafe and the Lambda Center. I guess we saw just about every facet of the bar-going community from N-Cognito to Madison Flame, from Amnesia to

Pipeline.

We must say that we were early at Amnesia and spoke to Frank Cooper and his employees in the lobby so we cannot comment fairly; we didn't go in. We can be certain that it was festive and wonderful. Backstreet used that evening to premiere its new light show, which we didn't get to see. We enjoyed the decor at Madison Flame and One More and had open invitations from every last bar to come back. And, of course, best wishes from P & H owner Wonderful Wanda Wilson.

It took us an entire trolley ride down Main St. to decide where to end up. We ended up at Pipeline which had a splendid buffet, elaborate decorations, uniformed staff and a lovely evening.

We extend our faerielike best wishes to all of our local saloons for the coming year and thanks for one of the best New Year's Eve trots of our career.

Benefit Recap

I neglected to mention Loving

Arms' first fundraiser on its own way back in November. "Home for the Holidays" raised \$15,000 for the agency and its plans to open a center. Much of the coordination was done by Corky Cayton, and significant in participation were many of Loving Arms' own volunteers and the Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite. Ron Childers, Joyce Peterson and Papa Sacks and Terry

Z provided fun and entertainment.

In case you haven't heard, this year's Police Calendar (having both beef and cheesecake to offer) will benefit Loving Arms. GOCS (Gays

off Cleveland St.) which is now headquartered at Bill's gave \$225 in memory of Payton Robinson to Loving Arms at a benefit on its opening night. Loving Arms now gives support to nearly 200 children and has organized a support group for women.

It was also Loving Arms which received a \$1,000 donation from a show starring '90s icon RuPaul which took place on Jan. 18. Now, if you read the *Memphis Flyer*, you might have heard about it. If you saw some pink posters which went up a lot of places after New Year's, you might have remembered it. We at *TJN* received no notice about it at all, and I was unable personally to attend. Those who did said it had been under-promoted and was therefore under-attended. Shelia

Tankersly, founder and director of Loving Arms, did get to meet RuPaul and the diva was cordial.

The thing that puzzled me the most was the list of sponsors which included Lesbian International of Memphis. I later found out it is a new organization founded out of the Black Lesbian community. I would like to know more

Benefit Recap II

I happened upon another benefit which took place at TheatreWorks on Sat., Jan. 24. The groups which call TheatreWorks home banded together to host a benefit for Emerald Theatre Company (ETC). It was also not spectacularly publicized, but was considered a success. Participants were Playwright's Forum, Our Own Voice Theatre Troup, Memphis Black Repertory Theatre, PROJECT MOTION, and ETC. ETC is involved in producing Gay/Lesbian-themed works both published and unpublished.

The benefit performance of *A Tuna Christmas*, Jan. 3 at Playhouse on the Square, was sold out and all proceeds went to Friends For Life.

Benefits to Come

A Holiday With Billie Holiday—New Daisy Theatre, Sun., Feb. 15, benefits Friends For Life Hearth & Home. Live vocalists and jazz, should be a fun event.

7th Annual King and Queen of Hearts—Madison Flame, Sun. Feb. 8, benefits Friends For Life. Show, contest, always lost of surprises.

The Ball—The Warehouse (next to Holy Trinity at Madison and Willett), Sat., Feb. 21st at 9 p.m., a Mardi Gras extravaganza to ben-

efit Holy Trinity's building fund. It seems they may be at their current location for a while.

Tsarus Man of the Year Banquet—Madison Flame, Wed., Feb. 11, 7 p.m., benefits a charity chosen by the recipient. Try to get in on a surprise recipient, a great meal and a lot of fun.

We are so evil, you will have to find the ads to get more info.

Oh Yes. News!

By the by, the nominees so far for Tsarus Man of the Year are Ed Brandon, Glenn Jones, Ken Grimes & Steve Wyatt, Aphrodite, Shelia Tankersley, Butch Valentine and Black & White Men Together.

Keep an eye on the restaurant formerly known as Ithaca. I enjoyed a couple of meals there, but the name and format are changing. Chef Scott Lenhard is remaining, and I really care less about what this restaurant is named than keeping track of where Scott is.

Lady A. and I always are treated to a lot of laughs at Bill Goodman's bar. It is called, not unexpectedly, Bill's. Ask Miss Goodman or Cotton about the night we were there and watched Miss Goodman get what was coming to her. It was truly droll.

The Folk Alliance Conference (of folk artists, ninny) will be held in Memphis the week of Feb. 11. There has been a concerted effort by organizers to include minority folk artists in the programming.

Three well-known Lesbian performers will be included in the Women's Showcase portion of the FolKrawl, a public event taking place Wed. the 11th, from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. The Women's Showcase is dedicated to female songwriters. A wristband admission will cover several venues that night but the Map Room will be the location to see Chador, Mary Gauthier and Jamie Anderson.

Jamie has been to Memphis several times, in fact she will be in solo concert at Barrister's on Feb. 6. Well-known Lesbian duo Kathy Fink and Marcy Marksen will perform for conference participants only later on and a Gay/Lesbian artists group will meet during the conference. For information and tickets call the Center for Southern Folklore or Meristem Books.

Soon to Come

Ms. Valentine Pageant—Crossroads, Sat. Feb. 14.

Mardi Gras Blow Out—One More, Sat., Feb. 28.

Luck 7 Hoedown hosted by Southern Country Memphis—Holiday Inn Midtown, Mar. 6, 7, 8.

Final Round

Isn't it amazing that our generosity as Gay and Lesbian people is counted on so often. I would rather think that it is great hearts as opposed to gigantic guilt. So, go ye and do good things.

Ta, ta.
V. A.



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QUEER Science

By Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

A Valentine's Day Poem

How do I love thee? Let me cut the bull
About how you're so wonderful,
And give it to you straight: what fuels
My passion is just molecules.
For what you like to call romance
Is just a little hormone's dance,
And love is nothing but a vortex
Of chemicals within the cortex.

Before you scream "Reductionistic!"
Recall that many an ancient mystic,
Poet, and scribe have shared my notion.
For didn't a fast-concocted potion
Make lovers of Isold and Tristan?
And fairy queen Titania kissed an
Ass-headed Bottom with amorous sighs,
When Oberon instilled her eyes
With juice of pansy-flowers. The poet
Imagined it, and scientists know it.

Since we're agreed on love's obedience
To chemistry, what's the ingredients?
The answer comes from work on voles
(They're tiny rodents that live in holes)
Done by Tom Insel, an M.D.
At Emory University.

The prairie vole (perhaps *Microtus
Ochrogaster*, but please don't quote us)
Is passion's slave: so keen to mate
It brings a U-Haul to its first date,
And moves right in, never to be sundered.
Their love is such, that if one blundered
Into a trap, the other prefers to mingle
Its soul in death than to survive single.

How different is its mountain cousin
(Called *M. montanus*, if you're fussin'
About names). He scoffs at marriage bands
And wastes his life on one-night stands.
He's called the "circuit vole"—he's glamorous
And sexy, but not amorous.

"One vole's a saint, and one's a slut,"
Thought Insel, "So, suppose I cut
Their brains up, see what's not the same,
Maybe I'll find what feeds love's flame."
And sure enough, he soon was focussin'

On a tiny hormone called oxytocin
Found in the hypothalamus and nearby,
At the brain's base, behind the eye.

The hormone surges during sex;
It fills the beast's brain as he necks
And smooches; it finds the neurons' nooks
And crannies; it freezes his lover's looks
Into synaptic concrete, leaving him forever
Fixated on his mate — how clever!

That's saintly ochrogaster. But
The brain of *M. montanus* (slut)
Is wired quite differently, says Insel:
There's less "receptors" found within cell
Groups in regions of the brain
Where conjugality has its domain,
Which means they're deaf to the hormone's call.
So when sex is done the vole says "'Y'all
Take care!" and off he trots to find
Another vole with sex in mind.

From voles to humans is a country mile,
I grant you. Still, in a short while
They'll find the stuff that works for us,
And then I'll snare you with no fuss.
I'll send it as a Scratch'N'Sniff,
But since the stuff works in a jiff
I'll make a point of being present,
Or else you'll fall for the first peasant
Your eyes may fall on as you scratch,
And that will leave me without a match,
For the love-smitten can't be unsmote
Until they find an antidote.

So that's the truth about love's biology;
If you don't like it, here's my apology.
You still say love's a magic art,
The breath of Venus, Cupid's dart,
Or some such stuff? Say what you like,
I only know I love thee, Mike.

*Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research
on the "Gay brain." He is the author of The Sexual
Brain, City of Friends (with Elisabeth Nonas), and
Queer Science (MIT Press, 1996), and the biomedical
thriller Albrick's Gold (Richard Kasak Books, 1997).
He may be reached at SLeVay@aol.com. For more
Queer Science columns, visit www.gay.net.*

Citibank to Sponsor Elton John's "The Big Picture Tour"

MIAMI (AP) — Elton John and Citibank announced a deal for the British singer to appear in the bank's commercials in exchange for sponsorship of his concert tour and a donation to his AIDS foundation.

The two sides didn't reveal how much Citibank is paying to be sole sponsor John's 65-city, international "The Big Picture Tour." But Citibank said it's making a \$1 million donation to the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

Citibank Vice President William Campbell said that John will help the company reach its goal "to have one billion customers around the world by the year 2010."

John, flashing his new Citicards, said the sponsorship will help him

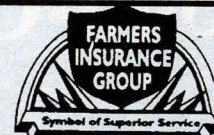
sell records in places like Japan, Australia and Europe by paying for tour costs to bring him there.

John said by touring internationally, he sells well abroad while multi-million selling country singer Garth Brooks "means diddly squat in Europe."

The tour, which opened Jan 21 in Biloxi, Miss., is already breaking new ground for John.

"I've never, ever played Mississippi before (and) I've been coming to America for 30 years," John said.

John will appear in three commercials for Citibank and agreed not to sign any other endorsements this year. Also, Citicard holders will have special access to tickets, CDs and other tour items.



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Gay Travelers Find Mixed Signals in the Travel Industry

By Karen Schwartz
AP Business Writer

American Airlines has five sales representatives specifically marketing to Gay travelers, but the carrier won't extend health benefits to Gay employees' domestic partners. St. Maarten is trying to attract

Gay visitors to its sandy beaches, while its Caribbean neighbor, Grand Cayman, refused to allow a cruise ship carrying Gay passengers to dock for the day.

Sought after for their tourist dollars, Gay and Lesbian travelers find that in some circles they are still shunned for their lifestyle.

For instance, Sandals, which runs 10 couples-only resorts in Jamaica and other Caribbean islands, only allows heterosexual couples as a matter of policy.

"I constantly remind myself where we've come and how fast we've come as a community," said John d'Alessandro, president of the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association. "We are no longer illegal. The question of us being 'sick' has gone away completely. But the fact is people grew up in an environment where we're not an accepted crowd. Today we are, but it's going to take people some time."

The Cayman Islands this month refused to allow a cruise ship chartered for about 850 Gay men to make a one-day stop in port, saying "careful research and prior experience has led us to conclude that we cannot count on the group to uphold the standards of appropriate behavior."

In contrast, the island of St. Maarten in the Netherlands Antilles welcomes Gay travelers and will be advertising this year in *Out* magazine.

"We're looking at various niche markets and one of those niche markets would be the homosexual market," said Regina LaBega, director of marketing for St. Maarten. "They do have the discretionary income, and they spend, and we haven't had any problems with homosexuals — or any other group — coming to the island."

The IGLTA estimates that Gay and Lesbians account for nearly 10 percent of the \$200 billion that Americans spend annually on business and leisure travel.

With that sort of spending power, the travel industry has increasingly put out the welcome mat for homosexual travelers. One result is that the IGLTA, founded in 1983 with 25 tour operators and travel agent members, reached about 600 members by 1992 and today boasts nearly 1,400 members, including the Avis and National car rental chains, the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Australia

tourism council, and most of the major U.S. airlines, with the exception of Delta and TWA.

"In the last five years, major tourism organizations and countries have come to realize the dollar value of the Gay market," said David Alport, publisher of the Gay travel newsletter *Out & About*.

ees, but they are doing so much more than the vast majority of companies out there," Alport said. "Sometimes, recognizing the value of your employees is the last step a company will take."

Out & About, which has 10,000 subscribers, recently rated several airlines on their Gay-friendliness.

Only the foreign-based British Airways and Virgin Atlantic scored an 'A,' and even they don't offer health and insurance benefits to Gay employees.

Indeed, American and United Airlines — the only U.S. airline to advertise in a national Gay magazine with its "United with pride" ads — joined a lawsuit filed on behalf of 25 airlines last year that sought to block a San

Francisco law that would force airlines that fly into the city into adopting domestic partner plans.

American spokeswoman Andrea Rader doesn't see that as a dichotomy. The Gay-friendly marketing campaign and the lack of domestic benefits are "two entirely different issues," she said.

The lawsuit is "a broader issue of what a city can tell an airline to do in terms of how it operates," Rader said.

As for why American — and the other U.S. carriers — don't follow some major companies like American Express Co. and the Walt Disney Co. in offering domestic partner benefits, Rader said it has been proposed by the airlines Gay and Lesbian employees' group and was "being studied."

There is no doubt that companies that appear Gay-friendly set themselves up for criticism by conservatives.

Southern Baptist leaders have asked the church's 15 million members to boycott Disney, in part because of the domestic benefits and other Gay-friendly policies.

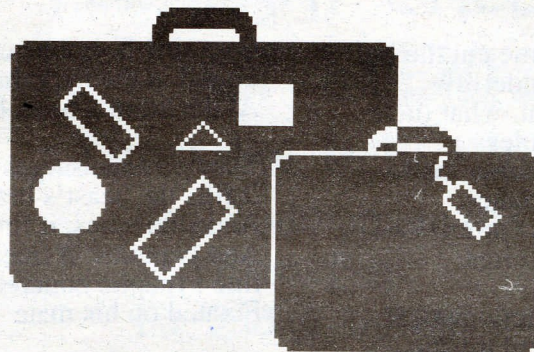
American gets it from both sides.

"We have been criticized by some family organizations for marketing to Gay and Lesbian groups and by Gay and Lesbian employees who would clearly like this matter to move more quickly," Rader said.

"If both sides are complaining ... you've probably got it right," she added.

And certainly, with some doors still closed, Gay travelers are grateful for the recognition they have been getting from the travel industry.

"Every consumer is viewed by people selling to it as just that, a consumer. If someone recognizes my value as a consumer and that's the first step to recognizing my value as a person, then I'll accept that," Alport said. "Often the dollar is the way that people are heard."



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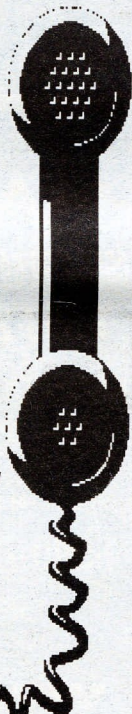
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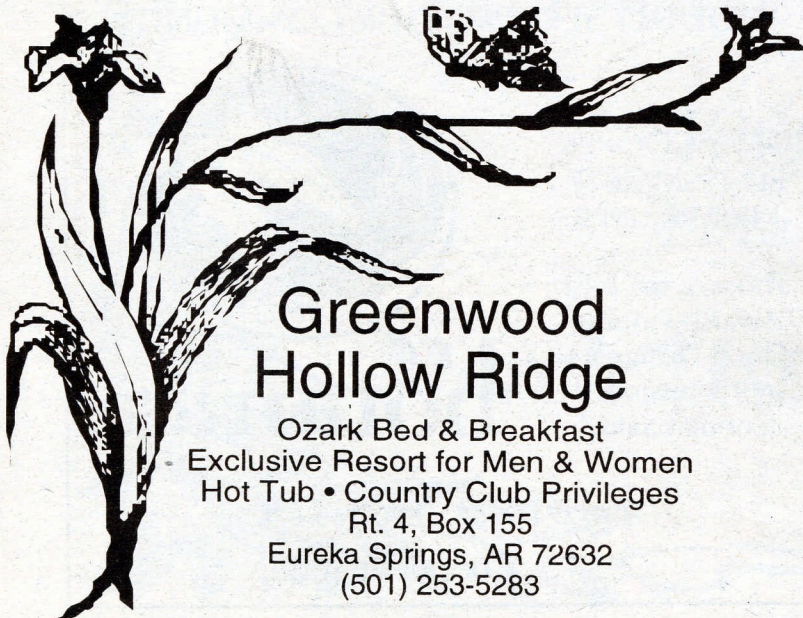
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Deep Inside HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

In One Door, Out the Other

With NBC still reeling from Jerry Seinfeld's recent decision to end his sitcom's nine-year run, the suits at the Peacock network are turning to Nathan Lane in hopes of maintaining their ratings supremacy.

The producers of *Frasier* are developing the show, which will feature Lane as an opera singer who inherits his family's Napa Valley wine vineyard. Details are limited, such as what Lane's



Nathan Lane

character's sexual orientation will be, but it appears a cinch to premiere in the fall.

NBC could ensure big ratings in the big cities by pairing Lane's new vehicle with *Ellen*, who is now telling friends she is convinced ABC is going to cancel her show. It seems Southern affiliates are having a hard time selling local ad spots for *Ellen* and there's talk many of them won't carry the program next season. ABC execs say they intend to renew the show, which makes sense since the network has fallen to third place this season and *Ellen* is one of its highest-rated programs. And the ensuing PR would be nightmarish for ABC. I know a lot of people are getting sick of this story, but as far as I'm concerned the saga just gets more and more interesting. With renewal time approaching, we'll soon know whether Ms. DeGeneres is just being paranoid or realistic about the difficulty one faces coming out on network TV.

Money, Money, Money

They held out for some 15

years, but the founding members of ABBA are finally going to cash in on the group's continuing popularity.

Bjorn Ulvaeus, one of the two male members of the group (you know, the Swedish one), says he and his male counterpart in the band, Benny Andersson, are producing a stage musical based on ABBA's songs.

Ulvaeus says 20 to 25 of the group's songs will be featured in the musical, which he hopes will premiere in Britain by spring 1999. Already there's a working title, *Summer Night City*, and sketchy details about the plot, which features a mother and daughter.

However, don't expect to see the female members of the band appear in the musical. Blonde singer Agnetha Faltskog has left show business altogether, while brunette Anni-Frid Lyngstad has seen little success as a record producer. Meanwhile, Andersson and Ulvaeus have already profited from working together, enjoying great acclaim in Sweden with their epic musical production, *Kristina from Duvemala* about Swedish emigrants to America in the 19th century.

Speaking of musicals, Warner Bros. is considering turning *Batman* into a stage show, a la *The Lion King*, which is enjoying torrid success on Broadway. Wonder if Joel Schumacher had anything to do with this idea?

Best Friends

The rumored screen reteaming of Julia Roberts and Rupert Everett is now a reality. The two will star in *Martha and Arthur*, which features the openly queer Everett as a Gay movie star who marries Roberts to keep his homosexuality a secret from his fans. Everett is currently working on the screenplay, and the film will be produced by Roberts' Disney-based Shoelace Productions.

Scare Tactics

You can't get much hotter than *Scream* and *Scream 2*'s openly Gay writer Kevin Williamson, who looks to continue last year's success with two high-profile projects this



© 1997 TriStar Pictures

Rupert Everett

year, including his directing debut, *Killing Mrs. Tingle*.

Williamson has said that film, which is scheduled to begin filming in March, best represents who he is as a writer. It is NOT a horror film, but instead a dark-comedy in the vein of *Heathers*. Williamson says it's about a young girl who will stop at nothing to be the valedictorian of her class.

Williamson is being given the chance to direct the film as part of a trade-off with Miramax honcho Bob Weinstein, who asked in return that the writer complete a treatment for *Halloween 7*. Expect a vast improvement from the previous sequels; Jamie Lee Curtis is planning on re-creating her role as Laurie Strode. The film takes place 20 years after the original, and Laurie is now a high-school teacher in Haddonfield. Look for the trailer this summer, featuring nothing but a black screen and the classic theme song.

Gay Sundance

This month's Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah will feature several queer themed films. They include:

- *Conceiving Ada*, the latest from Tilda Swinton (*Female Peerversions*, *Orlando*). B movie queen Karen Black is one of the stars;

- *Gods and Monsters*, starring Ian McKellen and Brendan Fraser. The film chronicles the career of openly Gay 30s film director James Whale (*The Bride of Frankenstein*). Gay horror writer Clive Barker is executive producing;

- *The Hanging Garden*, a queer coming-of-age film that received 15 nominations from the Canadian Genie Awards (equivalent to the American Independent Spirit Awards);

- *High Art*, starring Ally Sheedy (*The Breakfast Club*, *St. Elmo's Fire*) as a junkie dyke. Gay film festival audiences

might remember director Lisa Cholodenko's 1994 short film *Souvenir*;

- *The Misadventures of Margaret*, an adaptation of the Cathleen Schine novel *Rameau's Niece*. Brian Skeet, whose previous shorts *The Making of the Lost Language of Cranes* and *The Boy Who Fell in Love* played extensively on the Gay festival circuit, is directing this feature starring Elizabeth McGovern (*She's Having a Baby*) and Parker Posey (*The House of Yes*);

- *Relax, It's Just Sex*, P.J. Castellaneta's follow-up to his 1991 sleeper *Together Alone*.

This time, Lesbians are the centerpiece; Jennifer Tilly (*Bound*) and Lori Petty (*Tank Girl*) star;

- *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*, a romantic comedy from Tommy O'Haver about a Gay photographer who becomes infatuated with a straight waiter/model and;

- *Out of the Past*, a documentary about the formation of a Gay-straight alliance in a Salt Lake City high school.

The Original Amazon

Seeking to capitalize on the success of *Xena: Warrior Princess*, Warner Bros. is preparing a two-hour TV movie and a possible series for NBC that will return *Wonder Woman* to the small screen for the first time since Lynda Carter modeled the star-spangled bikini in 1979. Casting calls for the new *Wonder Woman* are being held this month in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Dallas.

Romeo San Vicente, who has already broken all of his New Year's resolutions, can be reached care of this publication at RSVicente@AOL.COM. For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit www.Gay.net.

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Cruising the Grand Caymans? Think Again!

By Ira L. King
Staff Writer

When Atlantis Events, Inc., of West Hollywood got 900 well-heeled Gay travelers together for a February Caribbean cruise that included a seven-hour stop in the Cayman Islands, little did the organizers dream that Cayman Island officials would deny them access. According to the officials passengers aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's Leeward are being denied island access because "careful research and prior experience has led us to conclude that we cannot count on this group to uphold the standards of appropriate behavior expected of visitors."

"It's amazing that they would go to such lengths to keep us out. We're not talking about 900 Gay men moving to the Cayman Islands; we're talking about a seven-hour visit by well-heeled travelers," said Rich Campbell, the president of Atlantis Events, a tour

operator that charters resorts and cruise ships for about 3,500 Gay men and Lesbians a year.

Cayman Island tourism officials have declined comment on the matter. Are they ignorant or just plain stupid? I vote for stupid.

In response to the decision, David Alport of *Out & About*, a travel newsletter aimed at Gay men and Lesbians, says the publication is urging its 10,000 subscribers to vacation elsewhere.

Alport says, "This is the first island to deny entry to Gay cruise passengers, and they need to know they're talking about a large, affluent segment of the population that upholds the same behavioral standards of any other traveler."

Alport is right. I am curious as to what sort of behavior the Cayman Island officials have observed in the past that warrants such a decision. Were there limp-wristed fairies moving through the streets in drag and making overtures to the other tourists? Are Gays stealing

and looting the hotels and shops? Do they fear open proselytization by cruise members of the Cayman Islanders? Just what specifically is their problem.

Gays and Lesbians have been touring the Caymans for years. Like any other island paradise the Caymans are full of homo and heterosexual natives and tourists. There is certainly no fear that a boat-load of tourists with same-sex orientation are going to try to take over the islands. The men and women on the cruise ship just want to have a good time and spend lots of money.

I'd like to know where the authority to deny these tourist island access comes from. Is it the government? Is it the port authority. Usually, when officials start picking on specific groups for exclusion in the socioeconomic process they have a few skeletons of their own they are trying to hide. They use this convenient exclusion as a smokescreen. I wonder if they

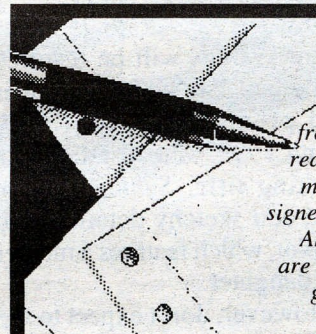
would be so willing to exclude a ship filled with 900 well-heeled Southern Baptists, or 900 well-heeled corporate embezzlers. I think not. It is amazing to me that this is happening on the threshold of the 21st century.

Who's next? Jews? Hispanics? The disabled? The mentally challenged (it can't be this group because then the officials would have to kick themselves out)? Members of third world nations? This is truly nothing more than modern day Nazism. Maybe when the cloning of human beings is perfected, officials in the Grand Caymans can grow the kind of humans with whom they want to coexist. I am

again reminded of a movie from a few years back called *Boys From Brazil*. In that movie a scientist is breeding blond-haired; blue-eyed boys for Adolph Hitler. The consequences were frightening.

Apparently the powers-that-be in the Grand Caymans feel they can do just fine without "Gay" dollars. If this is the attitude of these officials then I say fine. None of us want to spend time or money in places where we are not welcome. If they are going to make a conscious effort to exclude Gays and Lesbians from their society, then they may as well change the name from the Grand Caymans and the Bland Caymans.

LETTERS



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

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

Reader Encourages Local Y to Redefine 'Family'

I have sent two letters to Rick Nubert, CEO of Memphis' YMCAs asking that the organization update its membership policy to allow anyone living at the same address to join the "Y" as a "family" regardless of relationship. Memphis' YMCA current membership policy states that only those legally married or blood relatives can join as a family. The national YMCA office in Chicago permits local branches to govern their membership policy but encourages them to allow their individual

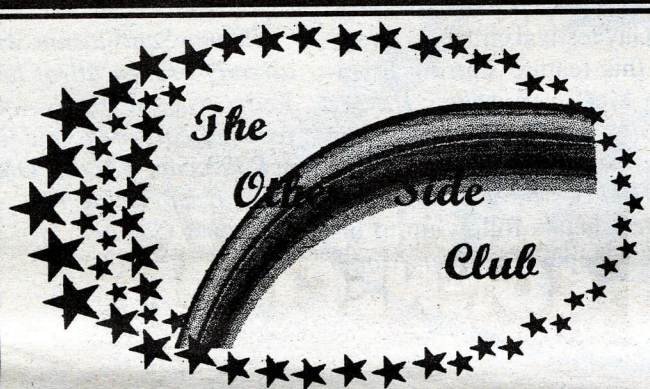
members to define a "family."

To date I have not received any response from Mr. Nubert or the YMCA Board of Directors regarding consideration of this proposed policy change. I am encouraging those interested to submit a similar letter to Mr. Nubert at the YMCA Administrative Offices, 245 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103 asking for a change in this policy and join other YMCA's throughout the country that have previously updated their membership policy.

via e-mail
DAllan@ AOL.com

Solution to Gay/Lesbian Crossword Puzzle on page 40

A	H	E	A	D	S	I	G	M	A	C	R	Y
N	O	T	M	E	A	D	A	M	S	R	E	V
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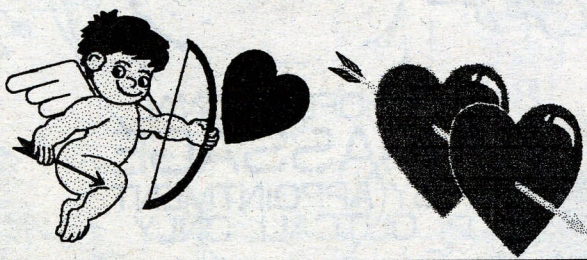
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WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE Nice looking, 37 year old, Italian male, 5'7, 150lbs, with dark, Brown hair, dark, Brown eyes, a beard, and a hairy, muscular build, enjoys working out and going to the movies. I want to correspond with an attractive, Black male, 25 to 45. (Little Rock) #11095

FUN WITH A PARTNER Good natured, funny, masculine, Single, Gay, White male, 26, 6'1, with Blond hair and Green eyes, seeks another Single, Gay, White male, 21 to 35, for dating and a possible relationship. I enjoy drives in the mountains, camping, swimming, relaxing times at home, fun filled weekends, and spending time with friends. (Russellville) #11627

THE SECRET GARDEN Youthfully handsome, fit, 51 year old, White male, vegetarian, 5'9, 125lbs, with waist length, Silver hair, seeks a clean, honest, tall, slender, Transvestite, Transsexual, or feminine Gay male, for companionship. I love gardening and other laid back pleasures. #12322

A CUP OF HOT CHOCOLATE I'm a good looking, 31 year old, Gay, White male, 5'9, 149lbs, with Brown hair and eyes. I enjoy country/western music and dancing, movies, meeting new friends, fishing, and curling up, in front of the fire, with a good murder mystery. I'm interested in meeting someone special to share with. I'm in central Arkansas. #12356

STRIVING FOR GOALS This college educated, fun loving, honest, African American male, 30, seeks a masculine, discreet, goal oriented, African American male, 25 to 40, who's self-supporting, trustworthy, healthy, honest, and willing to be friends first. Absolutely no drugs, please. #10974

MISSISSIPPI

BLACK IS BACK Attractive, laid back, Black male, 5'10, 185lbs, seeks another sexy, loving, Black male, 21 to 55, for good times. I enjoy just about everything so let's get to it. (Columbus) #10248

SOULMATE SEARCHING I'm a 36 year old, Gay, White male, 5'9, 210lbs, with light, Brown hair and Blue eyes. I was just transferred here so I don't know anyone yet. I'd like to meet other Gay, White males, for friendship and fun. Who knows, maybe I'll meet my soulmate? (South Haven) #11540

ONE LIFE TO LIVE This good natured, White male, 41, 6'1, 180lbs, seeks a friend, maybe more. I enjoy movies, long walks, special times at home, and being with someone who's open minded and who enjoys life. (Hattiesburg) #9037

IT'S MY TURN Attractive, 28 year old, White male, seeks a well built guy, under 35, for good times. (Tupelo) #9329

I FEEL LIKE A KID I'm 42 but people say I look much younger. This stable, professional, White male, 5'9, 160lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, into music and more, seeks a nice guy, 18 to 30, for fun times. (Tupelo) #11937

HUNG UP ON HAIR I'm a fun loving, sexy, attractive, 32 year old, White male, 6'4, 173lbs, with Brown hair and Blue eyes. I want to hook up with hairy, well endowed, younger guys, 18 to 32. #10115

ALL OF THE ABOVE Do you enjoy dining, dancing, the outdoors, and walks along the beach? Come join me for some good times. This good looking, Gay, White male, 24, 5'10, 150lbs, seeks another Gay, White male, 28 to 45, for all of the above and more. #9616

TENNESSEE

LAIID BACK BUD Honest, caring, outdoorsy, masculine, Gay, White male, 32, 6'1, 180lbs, with Red hair, Blue eyes, a mustache and trimmed beard, seeks a similarly down to earth, stable guy for a relationship. I enjoy camping, canoeing, most types of music, dancing, and much more. I work in Nashville. (Clarksville) #7231

AGAIN AND AGAIN Handsome, 53 year old, Gay, White male, 6ft, 160lbs, with Salt and Pepper hair, a mustache, and cleft chin, seeks another fun loving guy for good times. I'm definitely a bottom so it'd help if you like to take charge. I enjoy the outdoors, gardening, movies, reading, music, and quiet nights at home. (Fayette County) #2376

A CRY FOR BI GUYS It's hard to find Bi, Black, and Hispanic guys, in this area. I'm a very attractive, well educated, Black male; 25, 6ft, 230lbs, with a husky build. Let's hook up and see what happens. (Germantown) #9160

LOW KEY GUY Low key, professional, White male, 39, 6'1, 190lbs, with average looks, is not out, so it's hard for me to meet people. I'd like to get together with someone for friendship and good times. I love traveling. (Henderson) #6106

SHOPPING SPREE This attractive, fun loving, Black male, 24, 5'9, with a short, low haircut, and Brown eyes, likes meeting new people, reading, and shopping. I want to make some interesting new friends. (Humboldt) #9405



WARM EMBRACE Handsome, 29 year old, White male, 5'9, 135lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, seeks a White male, 18 to 28, who's trustworthy, honest, and wants to be friends or more. I enjoy dining out, outdoor activities, and cuddling in front of the tv. (Jackson) #11609

ROUND THE WORLD Young, attractive Asian, is a world traveler. I'm a sexy, friendly, good-looking, 26 year old, 5'11, 170lbs, Black hair, dark eyes, and dark, hairy skin. I'll be traveling to Brazil soon, want to come? If you're a good-looking man, 18 to 30, with an attractive body, you could be my travel companion. White skin a plus. (Jackson) #5485

SPECIAL BULLETIN This nice looking, 18 year old, White male, 6ft, 200lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes hopes to find a long term relationship with an honest guy who likes to have fun. I enjoy spending time outdoors, dancing at the clubs, and sharing special times with the people I care about. (Jackson) #3985

GOTTA FIND OUT This curious, White male, 37, 5'8, 170lbs, would like to meet a Gay couple for a new experience. (Memphis) #11914

MANLY IN MEMPHIS This rugged, White male, new to Memphis and the Gay lifestyle, 40, with Brown hair and eyes, seeks another masculine, outdoorsy guy, 35 to 50, who's financially secure and interested in manly pursuits like camping and fishing. (Memphis) #11988

SAFE BUT SEXY This well hung, 50-ish, White male, 5'11, 185lbs, seeks someone, 30 to 40, for some hot, safe sex. (Memphis) #12028

JUST YOU AND ME Healthy, professional, smoke and drug free, Gay, White male, 53, 5'6, 145lbs, with Grey hair and Brown eyes, is home oriented, neat, nurturing, and affectionate. I'm interested in politics, travel, the arts, reading, and more. I'd like to meet a retired, or professionally mobile, Gay, White male, of any age, for a strictly monogamous relationship. (Memphis) #12364

FACIAL HAIR FETISH Very masculine, 32 year old, White male, 5'7, 150lbs, with sandy, Blond hair, a mustache, and a smooth, cut chest, seeks tops with facial hair, who are under 6ft tall, and weigh less than 200lbs. I'm not into the Gay lifestyle but am very comfortable with myself. I enjoy trucks, stereos, movies, eating out, and much more. (Memphis) #11719

WE ARE BEAUTY This beautiful, Gay, Black male, seeks another beautiful, Gay male, White or Black person, who is 24 to 34, 5'11 to 6'4, open minded, masculine, and a top. (Memphis) #11361

INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN Hot bootied cowboy, 6'5, 215lbs, with a short crewcut, trimmed mustache and beard, and a well built, hairy body, is into unusual fantasies. Lately, I've been thinking about finding a well built man and pretending I'm 3 inches tall so I can easily explore every inch of him. I wear size 12D boots. (Memphis) #11111

A NATURAL FIT African American bottom, in my early 30's, seeks a masculine, African American top, 25 to 40, who's fun loving, trustworthy, and willing to be friends before we get too serious. You should be discreet and a non drug user. (Memphis) #10975

HOPELESSLY DEVOTED This Gay, White, Transvestite, 42, 5'11, 160lbs, is looking for a man who needs a full time girlfriend. I'm very feminine, a great cook and housekeeper, pass easily, and love to take care of my man, in every way, especially in ways other women wouldn't even consider. I take pride in being a woman and can't wait to cater to your every whim. (Memphis) #6232

SEXY CEO TYPE? This Single, Black male, seeks a strong, good looking, well built, extremely masculine, professional, Black male, who's intelligent, discreet, aggressive, and able to travel. I prefer tall, bald headed guys, 30 to 45, who weigh less than 185lbs. Please only respond if you're able to travel because I live in Cleveland. (Memphis) #31937

THEY LOVE ME AT THE GYM This very handsome, broad shouldered, popular, 30 year old, White male, 5'10, 165lbs, with long, Blond hair, Blue eyes, smooth skin, and a great build, seeks similar, muscular, athletic, Blond males, with big, ticklish feet. (Memphis) #9848

BIG RIG This masculine, good looking, White male, 49, 6ft, with Salt and Pepper hair, has over 9 inches and is seeking similar men with similar equipment. (Memphis) #9510

BEST FOOT FORWARD I'm interested in meeting a guy who shares my fascination for feet and socks. I love 'em. This attractive, Gay, White male, 5'9, 155lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, is most attracted to guys around my size, between 25 and 45. A relationship is possible with the right guy. (Memphis) #9292

THE TAN MAN This discreet, safe, good looking, 20 year old, White male, 5'11, 168lbs, with Brown hair, Brown eyes, and a great tan, seeks a similar guy, who doesn't smoke, for good times and stuff. (Memphis) #10272

HORNY FOR HAIRY I'm a good looking, horny, 40 year old, White male, 5'10, with Blond hair, Blue eyes, a beard, and a moderately, hairy body. I'm into other big, hairy guys. (Memphis) #9043

EXTRA ORDINARY I'm a healthy, good looking, African American male, 31, 6'2, 215lbs, seeks a loving, compassionate guy, 24 to 36, with a love of life and good sense of humor. I like being outdoors, going out to eat, and a little romance. Let's go for something a little out of the ordinary. (Memphis) #8411

INDEPENDENT SPIRIT This nice, honest, sincere, Gay male, 26, 6ft, 145lbs, seeks someone to become friends, and possibly more with. I'm independent, well rounded, down to earth, and open to trying new things. I like movies, going out to eat, relaxing at home, and socializing. (Memphis) #8746

BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP I need a young, Gay, White male, 24 to 30. This 23 year old, White male, 5'11, 190lbs, clean shaven, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, likes movies, camping, hiking, and live music. I hope you have a sense of humor and are relationship minded. (Memphis) #8585

PRIVATE SHOW I'm a professional, Gay, White male, Transvestite, in my early 40's, 5'7, 135lbs, with a smooth, toned, sculpted, swimmer's build. I'd like to meet other clean cut, professional, Gay, White males and Transvestites, for fun. I enjoy cultural events, dinners, and going to the show clubs. (Memphis) #8546

PROFESSORIAL PAL Athletic college professor, 53, 5'6, 155lbs, into snowskiing, ice skating, rollerblading, hiking, classical music, vegetarian food, swimming, theater, open and honest conversation, cuddling, long term relationships, and making friends, seeks a Gay, White male, 25 to 40, who's healthy, responsible, and able to share his feelings, for friendship or more. (Memphis) #8351

STUD SEARCH This good looking, 25 year old, Gay, Black male, wants to meet someone in the area. (Memphis) #8159

THE KING OF KINK I'm a Bi, White male who gets kinky. Very kinky. I wanna talk to other Bi guys who like things a little unusual. (Memphis) #7934

WILD IMAGINATION I'm a very well built guy with a wild imagination and I'd like to meet some guys to have fun with. This 30 year old, Gay, White male, 6'3, 204lbs, with Black hair, Green eyes, and a trimmed beard and mustache, is looking forward to meeting you. (Memphis) #7743

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TANGO IN THE BIBLE BELT I love women and children but I have another side to me too. This nice looking, Single, White male, wants to make friends with a guy I can be myself with. I'd like to do some fun, interesting, exotic things. (Memphis) #7703

SERVICE STOP I'm an attractive, 35 year old, White male, 6'1, with dark hair and eyes, a clean shaven face, and a little chubby around the waist. I'm interested in meeting in shape guys who need servicing. Younger guys a plus. (Memphis) #7523

PARAMOUNT PICTURE This hot, southern stud, 45, 6'2, 190lbs, with light, Brown hair, Green eyes, a mustache, hairy body, and large endowment, wants to settle down with a handsome, hard working, fit, financially secure guy, 25 to 45, who enjoys movies, the beach, the outdoors, and traveling. Your emotional security is paramount. I look forward to cuddling together in the evenings. (Memphis) #7093

UNDER MY SKIN This good looking, 30 year old, Gay, White male, 5'9, 175lbs, with a couple of body piercings and a hairy chest, seeks guys who are uncut, like me, for hot play sessions. Be around my age. (Memphis) #2805

NEED A PHYSICAL? This medical student in Memphis wants to make some friends. (Memphis) #7041

A LOT TO HANDLE I'd like to hook up with a mature guy, under 45, who's hung, big and thick. I'm a good looking, White male, 6ft, 190lbs, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, a worked out body, and hairy chest. I'm versatile and I work nights. I enjoy traveling and going to concerts. (Memphis) #6738

ARTS AND SMARTS This older Gay, White male, 6ft, 170lbs, with artistic and intellectual interests, in addition to sexual ones, seeks a congenial, Gay friend, preferably feminine. (Memphis) #6758

PORN PARTY Hot, muscular, very good looking, White male, in my late 30's, wants to hook up with other sexy men to watch porn, party, and have a great time. (Memphis) #6329

THE CLOWN IN SPAWN I'm an attractive, 37 year old, Puerto Rican male, 5'3, 115lbs. I love to dress up as a woman and I'm very outgoing. (Memphis) #6206

FRIENDS OR FOREVER Professional, attractive, Gay, Black male, 25, 6'1, with a medium build, Brown skin, and Brown eyes, seeks friends to talk to and have fun with. I prefer other masculine, Gay, Black males, 18 to 40, who are good conversationalists. More can happen if we both want it to. (Memphis) #6309

MR. SNIFFIT I'm looking for a butch, uncut, White man. If your nickname is Mr. Skin, Mr. Smelly, Mr. Doorknob, Mr. Beercan, or Mr. Cheese, this butch, booted, hairy bear, 48 years old, 6'1, 220lbs, needs it bad. (Memphis) #49991

MALE MINDED Nice looking, rugged, Bi, White male, in my mid 30's, seeks young, White males and couples, for hot times. (Memphis) #6032

BLACK DISCRETION 25 year old, Black male desires to meet a discreet, Black male, between 20 and 25. Sound like you? (Memphis) #5687

MR. AMERICA I'm 35 years old, 6ft tall, 235lbs, buzz haircut, Brown eyes with a 49 inch chest, 18 inch arms, and 36 inch waist. I'm very masculine and very muscular. (Memphis) #5002

TRAPPED IN A SMALL CITY I'm seeking a mature, sexy, open minded individual, who likes to dine out, travel, and enjoy music and quiet times at home. I'm a unique individual, 29 years old, quite educated, financially independent, and I'm 5'11, 180lbs. (Memphis) #5050

FOOT PATROL I'm looking for a sexy guy with big hands and big feet. This hairy, horny, 35 year old, Gay, Black male, 5'10, 180lbs, with Black hair and Brown eyes, likes 'em big. (Memphis) #2293

SUBMISSIVE SISSY This sexy, Transvestite, a sissy all my life, loves servicing men. I give the best oral service you'll ever find. I also love to take it like a man, if you know what I mean. I just love men. If you need that big thing taken care of, you know who to call. (Memphis) #2382

RIDE OF YOUR LIFE If you're looking for a good time, this hot looking, Black male, wants you to come party with me. I'll give you the ride of your life. (Memphis) #4440

INDEPENDENT SPIRIT This attractive, Gay, Black male, 6ft, wants to meet a similar guy to spend quiet times, and fun times, with. I enjoy talking on the phone and doing lots of things together. You should be serious minded, independent, and know where you're going in life. (Memphis) #4409

SWEET TOOTH SEEKS SUGAR DADDY This 23 year old, Gay, White male, with a supersized sweet tooth seeks a supersized sugar daddy, to satisfy it. No penny candy. I'm shopping for bulk quantity. Only fine confections wanted. Sour balls need not apply. I'm slender, good looking, well endowed, and have dark hair and eyes. (Memphis) #4265

THE HAIR BARE BUNCH Good looking, very masculine, Gay, White male, bottom, 40, 6ft, 195lbs, with short Brown hair, Hazel eyes, and a hairy body, likes one on one, and group, sex with other rugged, hairy, well endowed men, of any age. I like porno videos, shooting pool, cooking, barbecuing, and relaxing by the pool or hot tub. I'll lick you head to toe. (Memphis) #2370

MOVIES AND MATES Good looking, middle aged, Gay, White male, 5'11, 185lbs, seeks friendship with a similar guy who likes movies, going out to eat, and quiet evenings at home. (Memphis) #3918



THE TIME HAS COME I'm ready to meet someone outgoing, attractive, fun loving, and relationship minded. Is it you? (Memphis) #3635

DON'T LEAVE ME AT HOME I don't like to stay home so I'd like to make a new friend who'll be my workout partner and engage in many other activities with me. I'm a nice looking, 22 year old, White male, in good shape, with Blond hair, Blue eyes, and a good tan. My interests include bike riding, hiking, the beach, movies, music, clubs, baseball, and swimming. I love to try new things. (Memphis) #3629

BODILY BLESSED Masculine, sexy, 48 year old, White male, built and hung to last, seeks other horny men for hot times. (Memphis) #3662

ALL PLAY AND NO WORK I'm just looking for some hot guys to play with. I'm a very muscular, White male, 6'2, with Brown hair and Hazel eyes. (Memphis) #3673

MAKE DADDY PROUD Daddy wants to meet a nice guy to share some good times with. You should be a fine, young, man who is honest, trustworthy, compassionate, healthy, and drug free. (Memphis) #3442

HAIRY BROWN SKIN Good looking, slender, Haitian male, 28, 6ft, 165lbs, with Black hair, Brown eyes, light Brown skin, and a hairy body, is a friendly, educated, professional, bottom. I'd like to meet a slender, attractive, White male, around my age, who enjoys travel, dining out, and more. (Nashville) #12077

MANLY URGE This good looking, 38 year old, Gay, White male seeks non-committal, hot sex with young guys. (Nashville) #12458

COLLEGIATE LOOK This hot, very sexual, Blond dude, 24, with a collegiate look, wants to hook up with other sexy men, of any race and age, for hot times. I especially like hairy men. (Nashville) #12127

STEAM VALVE I'm a 37 year old, Bi, White male, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, and a runner's build, which makes sense because I'm a runner. I'm seeking other men, 29 to 55, who aren't looking for a relationship but would like a buddy to let off some steam with, every once in a while. You should be passionate, aggressive, and uninhibited, like me. (Nashville) #11995

HUNTING SEASON I'm an honest, open minded, masculine, 18 year old, Gay, White male, 6'3, 160lbs, with short, Brown hair and Hazel eyes. I love the outdoors, animals, shooting pool, fishing, hunting, and just hanging out, having fun. I'd like to meet other masculine, Single, Gay, White males, with similar interests, for good times or more. (Nashville) #11998

PAYS TO TELL THE TRUTH I've been Bi curious for a while and when I told my girlfriend about it, she got excited. Now, she wants to see me in action with one or more well endowed men. I have to admit, I'm turned on by the idea. If you'd like to be friends and have some fun, let's talk. (Nashville) #11284

IF IT'S WET, I LIKE IT I just got out of a bad relationship and want to get on with my life. I'm a river rat who loves any kind of water sport. I'm a 34 year old, White male, who likes movies, dinner, dancing, and more. I'm a smoker and social drinker. Let's talk and get to know each other. (Nashville) #10618

ALL IN A LIFETIME Fit, good looking, 28 year old, White male, seeks another attractive, White male, 23 to 32, who enjoys movies, biking, outdoor sports, and spending long nights together. (Nashville) #11610

COME TO PAPA If you're over 18 and in search of the dad you never had, give me a call. I'm a warm, caring, affectionate daddy who can give you the understanding and consideration you deserve. (Nashville) #10472

NASHVILLE NEED This attractive, 29 year old, Gay, White male, 6'2, 175lbs, with Brown hair and Blue eyes, seeks other masculine, good looking guys, 21 to 39, for fun, hot times, or more. (Nashville) #9524

PUMPING BLOOD Muscular, well built, construction workers get my blood pumping. I want to worship your body anytime, anywhere. This good looking, 33 year old, White male, can't get enough hot action. Well hung a big plus. I also love phone sex. (Nashville) #6630

DEVELOPING CRUSH Buffed, good looking, Blond haired, Blue eyed, White male, 19, seeks a friend to hang out with. Maybe more will develop. (Nashville) #4970

GROUP WITH GUSTO I'm a fun loving, in shape, Bi, White male, 6'2, 180lbs, with Brown hair, Brown eyes, and average features. I'd like to meet two or three other Bi, White males for regular, weekly encounters. (Union City) #8845

IT'S MY SERVE Eager, hungry, White male, seeks well endowed, muscular guys who get off on being orally served. (Nashville) #3832

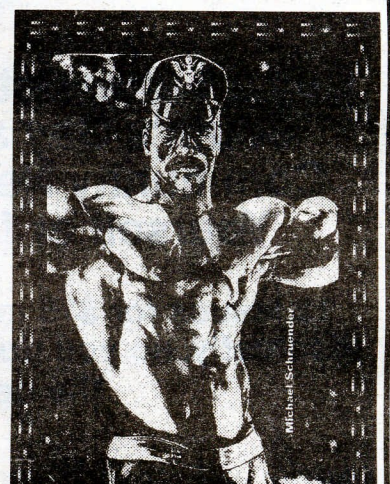
PARIS PAL I'm looking for someone to go out with. I like shooting pool, dancing, camping, fishing, watching movies, traveling, and more. I'm a good looking, hairy, White male, 5'11, 148lbs, with dark, Brown hair, a mustache and trimmed beard, and a deep tan. (Paris) #9961

GAY PAREE I'm looking for a relationship with a nice guy in the area. I'm a good looking, smooth bodied, White male, 31, 5'10, 170lbs, with dirty, Blond hair and Hazel eyes. Let's meet and see if magic occurs. (Paris) #6769

LONGING TO SHARE Good looking, 25 year old, Black male, 5'5, 162lbs, with Black hair and Brown eyes, seeks someone for friendship or more. My hobbies include spending time outdoors, dancing, clubbing, shopping, cooking, and sharing. (Trenton) #9076

LET'S DO A WAVE Sports loving, White male, 31, 6'2, 180lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, seeks a masculine, good looking guy, 22 to 32, who likes sports, dancing, and general good times. I love watching college basketball and football on tv. Let's work on a long term relationship, or at least a friendship. (Union City) #7541

A LOT IN COMMON I'm a White male in my early thirties looking for other White males in their early thirties. Let's talk. (Memphis) #7648



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SISTER PAIRS NEEDED FOR STUDY OF ADULT SISTERS.

University professor is looking for volunteers to complete a survey about how the lives of adult sisters are similar or different. To participate, please contact: Esther Rothblum, Box 267, John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, tel. 802-656-4256 and request either two surveys (one for you and the other for *one* sister) or else give both addresses and you and your sister will

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GWM, 36, 6'3", 200#, good-looking, long

hair with hazel-blue eyes. In good health, seeking GWM, 21-30, slick, slim and sexy, for romantic lover. Will be waiting to hear from you. Call anytime: (601) 343-5102, MS.

GWM, NE Ark. Need love. LTR is goal to share life's goodness. 40s, 5'6", 150#, balding, good-looking. Like movies, some sports, talk & more. Jim: 870-878-6335.

Master ISO Slave. Dominant, 35-year-old W/M, 165#, nice chest hair. Looking for a young, 18-22ish, submissive, smooth bodied, W/M about 140#, with boyish looks and mannerisms. Skinny a plus. No diseases. Phone: 373-6351—Mr. Paul.

Mature, GWM, professional, HIV-negative, NS, ND, financially stable, educated, above average appearance, down-to-earth, home-oriented, sensual, enjoys movies, the arts, antiqueing, seeks same for discreet, monogamous LTR. Call 901-327-3510 after 7 p.m.

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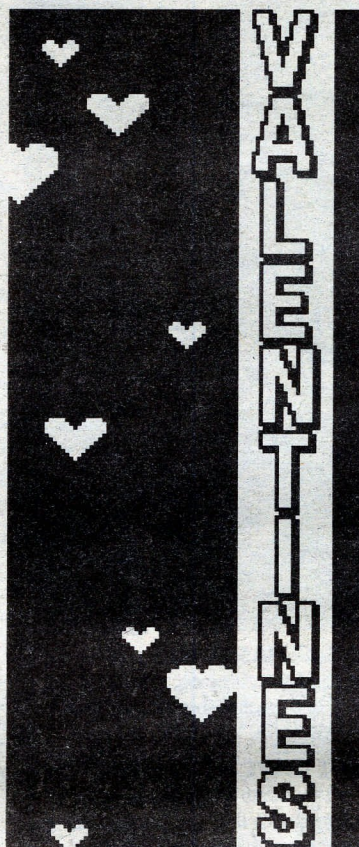
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SOCKS, JOCKS & BRIEFS! Worn by hot, sweaty studs! Locker room attendant has them all! Send \$10 check or m.o. to: SW, 4520 Summer Ave., Suite 3, Box 133, Memphis, TN 38122. Please specify item(s). Must be 18.

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Well-built, honest, discreet, disease/drug free BiWM seeks same. Am 50-plus, 175#, br/br. Mainly desire live-in companion/helper. Especially turned-on by younger rugged-type who likes pleasing a well-endowed "dad" with slow massage and oral servicing. Before meeting, let's exchange letter with facial photo. Phone 357-6522 for mailing address.



Buy a Subscription to the Mid-South's Gay and Lesbian Community Newspaper. For Yourself or for a friend.

12 Issues for \$15 mailed First Class, discreetly, so you don't have to wait for the news.

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____

**Mail to: Triangle Journal News
 P.O. Box 11485
 Memphis, TN 38111-0485**

**Meetings at
 Memphis Lambda Center, Inc.*
 1488 Madison Avenue
 Memphis, TN 38104
 (901) 276-7379**

Phoenix (Alcoholics Anonymous) All Meetings Open

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

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

Into The Light (Alcoholics Anonymous - Women)

Thursday	7:00 pm	Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)
Sunday	12 Noon	Discussion (Open)

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

Seriously Sober (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Friday	8:00 pm	Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)
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Open Heart (Al-Anon)

Tuesday	6:00 pm	Discussion (Open)
Thursday	5:30 pm	Discussion (Open, Smoke Free)

(Business meeting 3rd Tuesday of the month, Birthdays last Tuesday)

Freely Speaking (All 12-Step Programs)

Thursday	9:00 pm	Discussion (Open)
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ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)

Sunday	6:00 pm	Discussion (Open)
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*Memphis Lambda Center, Inc. is a private organization formed for the promulgation and enhancement of Twelve-Step meetings with a special outreach to the Gay and Lesbian community. Business meetings are on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Space donated as a public service by the Triangle Journal News



You were chosen by God to be who you are - gay, lesbian or heterosexual.

The expression of your sexuality is a gift from God in making and building of relationships.

Integrity is a family of Gays, Lesbians and their friends within the Episcopal Church.

Integrity is a place to find community and support.

Integrity offers opportunities for growth, prayer, friendship and understanding.

Integrity meets every third Tuesday of the month at Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis.

For more information, call Calvary Episcopal Church at 525-6602.

MID-SOUTH RESOURCES

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 TJN 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**: 553 So Cooper ☎ 725-7922.
Amnesia*: 2866 Poplar ☎ 454-1366.
Arizona*: 394 North Watkins ☎ 272-9000.
Autumn Street Pub*: 1349 Autumn ☎ 274-8010.
Backstreet*: 2018 Court Street ☎ 276-5522.
Bill's*: 1528 Madison ☎ 278-9321.
Bourbon Street Cafe: (In the French Quarter Suites, 2144 Madison ☎ 728-4000.
Cactus Cafe: In 501 Club & Crossroads ☎ 274-8655.
Changes*: 2586 Poplar ☎ 327-3175.
Crossroads*: 1278 Jefferson ☎ 725-8156.
David's*: 1474 Madison ☎ 278-4313.
501 Club*: 111 N. Claybrook ☎ 274-8655.
Illusions*: 2865 Walnut Grove Road ☎ 458-9955.
J-Wags*: 1268 Madison ☎ 725-1909.
Madison Flame*: 1588 Madison ☎ 278-9839.
N-cognito*: 338 South Front ☎ 523-0599.
One More*: 2117 Peabody ☎ 278-8015.
P & H Cafe*: 1532 Madison Ave. ☎ 274-9794.
Pipeline*: 1382 Poplar ☎ 726-5263.
The Edge*: 1913 Poplar.
The Other Side*: 3883 Highway 45 North, Jackson, TN. ☎ 1-901-668-3749.
Western Steak House & Lounge: 1298 Madison ☎ 725-9896.

BOOKS & GIFTS

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

CARPET CARE / CLEANING SERVICES

- BJ's Cleaning Service**: ☎ 726-4211.
King's Kleaning Service: Home or Office ☎ 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**: ☎ 526-7903 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 • Box 42174, Memphis 38174.
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 ☎ 276-0168, 274-8658.
Bluff City Sports Association: Box 41803, Memphis 38174-1803 ☎ 682-9928.
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.

Crossroads: African American Gay/bisexual/transgendered men's motivation/support/social group. ☎ Tony, 757-2039 or Conrad, crpegues@aol.com.

Friends For Life—HIV Resources: HIV/AIDS Service Organization • 1450 Poplar, Memphis 38104 ☎ 272-0855 or ☎ 278-AIDS..

Gays Off Cleveland Street (GOCS): Social Group • c/o Sunshine Lounge, 1379 Lamar ☎ 272-9843.

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.

Jackson Lambda Support Group: Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 901-427-1500 for information.

Living Word Christian Church: Worship Service Sun. 10 am & 6pm, Wed. 7 pm • 340 N Garland ☎ 276-0577.

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 ☎ 335-MAGY for info, e-mail: M A G Y 9 7 @ h o t m a i l . c o m ; website: www.geocities.com.westhollywood/1772/.

Memphis Bears Club: PO Box 111094, Memphis 38111-1094 ☎ 756-2687, e-mail: fuzthing@aol.com.

Memphis Center for Reproductive Health: 1462 Poplar Ave ☎ 274-3550.

Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC): Box 41074, Memphis 38174 ☎ 324-4297.

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 3713, Memphis 38173 ☎ 274-2849 Chet Overstreet, 274-1217 George Ettinger, e-mail: safehmcc@aol.com.

Memphis TransGender Alliance: TV/TS support group • c/o Barbara Jean Jasen, Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052.

Mid-South AIDS Mastery Workshop: Ronnie Gardino ☎ 767-2182 or e-mail at msaidmstry@aol.com.

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

National Organization for Women (NOW): Box 40982, Memphis 38174-0982 ☎ 272-0560.

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

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

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG): Jackson, TN 38305 ☎ 1-901-664-6614 for information, e-mail: burtren@aeneas.com

Phoenix AA Memphis Lambda Center ☎ 454-1414.

River City Men's Chorus: Box 12837, Memphis 381182-0837 ☎ 276-3471 (Charles Friedman).

Safe Harbor MCC: Pastor Greg Bullard, 2117 Union Ave., Chapel ☎ 458-0501.

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

Southern Country Memphis: Country Western Dance Club ☎ 278-9321

Southern Sisters: Support group for transsexual 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: Gay men's/

women's leather org. 1568 Rolling Hills Dr., Memphis, TN 38127-5409 ☎ 357-1921.

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 ☎ 278-5825 email: bgala@cc.memphis.edu.

UT-Martin ALLIES: Campus and community. Alternate Weds. 5 p.m. Info 131F Humanities Bldg., Martin 38238, neilg@utm.edu ☎ 587-7301.

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.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Joel Chapman, PhD: 1835 Union ☎ 726-1284.

Kent D. Fisher, LPC, BCSAC: Group & Individual Therapy ☎ 458-7164.

Fully Alive! A center for personal enrichment. Susan Taranto, MPS & Carol Schlicksup, MA. Individual, couples & group therapy. ☎ 323-2078 • Sliding fee scale.

Anne S. Gillis, MS: Individual, couple & family counseling, rebirthing ☎ 761-3435.

Patricia Goshorn, M.Ed.: Licensed Psychological Counselor • Simmons, Kelman & Assoc., 3960 Knight Arnold Rd, Ste 316 ☎ 369-6050.

Cliff Heegel, PhD: Licensed Psychologist • Centerpoint, 5180 Park Ave. Ste 150 ☎ 767-1066.

Sheridan Lambe, LCSW: Individual & Couple Counseling, ☎ 761-9178.

K. A. Moss, MS: Midtown Counseling Service, 1835 Union, Ste. 101 ☎ 726-4586 • Sliding fee scale.

Northeast Mental Health Center: ☎ 382-3880.

Joseph Robert Pfeiffer, LCSW: ☎ 578-9107.

Joyce Schimenti, LCSW: Individual & Group Counseling ☎ 761-9178.

J. Kent Usry, CMSW: Individual, couples, bereavement & sexuality counseling. ☎ 578-9107.

DENTAL SERVICES

William N. Castle, D.D.S.: Dentist • 776 Mt. Moriah ☎ 685-5008.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Ronnie Bingham, CPA: Taxes, accounting, estate planning ☎ 753-1413.

Donald Morgan Bookkeeping and Tax Service: 3340 Poplar Ave., Ste 305 ☎ 458-0152.

FLORISTS

Botanica: 937 S. Cooper, ☎ 274-5767, 1-800-769-5767, fax: 274-5688.

Flamingo Flowers & Gifts: 3864 Macon Road, Suite 2 ☎ 452-0803.

Park East Florist: 6005 Park ☎ 761-2980.

Sweetpeas: 597 South Holmes ☎ 324-2733.

GRAPHICS/PHOTOGRAPHY

ALL2GRAPHIC DESIGN: Logos, letter-

head, ad campaigns, T-shirt design, illustration, web pages, billboards. ☎ 272-1336 or e-mail:

ALL2GRAPHIC@aol.com.

Barr Photography: Call 12-7 • Jackie/Nadine ☎ 366-7920.

Bonehead Creative: 1271 Poplar, Ste 103, Memphis 38104 ☎ 276-2101.

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: Black & white photography, processing & printing services. Full color post card advertising. Call ☎ 452-2766 or e-mail: bttag69a@prodigy.com.

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: ☎ 324-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

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.

Jocelyn D. Wurzburg, Attorney At Law: 5118 Park, Ste 232, ☎ 684-1332.

Jason O. Young, Jr.: 147 Jefferson, Ste 806, ☎ 728-4000.

LODGING

French Quarter Suites: 2144 Madison ☎ 523-8912

MESSAGE 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.

Massage by Michael: ☎ 278-5475.

Massage by Sarah: Full-body, by appointment only, male and female ☎ 753-9449.

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.

Bereavement Express: A unique way to express your sympathy to family, friends, co-workers, clients. ☎ 578-9107; www.LandscapesPublishing.com

Bliss Salon: 2111 Madison ☎ 726-6100.

Body Shop Tanning Center: 599 Erin Drive ☎ 821-0086.

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

Eagle Pest Control: Jacqueline Behles • ☎ 743-8945.

Kyla J. Dillard, DVM: Housecall Veterinarian, Memphis Area ☎ (901) 324-3425. For emergency care call ☎ (901) 533-5084.

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

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 • 2228 Central ☎ 725-0049.

Midtown House Cleaning Service: 15yr. exp., ref., onsite est., • ☎ 274-0281 evenings or weekends.

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

Enrica Ramey: Insurance Memphis • Business: 377-1075.

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

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

The Bollo Bartender: Steve Wesson • 2001 St. Elmo, Memphis 38127 ☎ 358-2089.

The Limo Connection: ☎ 521-0331.

TNT Painting: Tom Rowe & Trent Gatewood ☎ 481-7900.

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.

Vantek: Internet Services • Box 111324, Memphis 38111-1324 ☎ 324-4999, e-mail: vtadmin@vantek.net.

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.

Jerry Everett, Realtor Associate, Pyramid Realtors: 134 Timber Creek Drive ☎ 753-6300.

Glenn Moore, Broker, Owner, Woodland Realty: ☎ 377-1057.

Steve Solomon, Affiliate Broker, Sowell & Company: 54 S. Cooper ☎ 278-4380, Fax 278-4390.

Randy Wilder, Affiliate Broker, Sowell & Company: 54 S. Cooper ☎ 278-4380, Fax 278-4390, Home 725-1818, Pager 533-0620.

TRAVEL

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

Travel Customized by Jean Morris: Member International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association ☎ 465-2936.

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Noon to 7 p.m.
\$1.25 Long Necks
\$2 Pitcher



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725-1909

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24 Hrs. Daily

VALENTINE SHOW

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FURSTENBERG**

with Special Guest &
Her Famous Party Packs

Plus Show Special

11 p.m. to 2 a.m.

All Domestic Beer \$1.25

No Cover Charge

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Thursday—
Saturday—

**ALEXIS
Von
Furstenberg
&
Company**

No Cover

10th Annual MISS J-WAG'S

March 12 - 10:30 p.m.

Applications at J-Wag's,
Autumn Street Pub &
Star Search Video
Starting February 5th

*Miss Jezebel Makes Her
Final Walk as Miss J-Wag's*

Theme: "They're Playing Our Songs"

ACROSS

- 1 In the lead
6 Rho follower
11 "Don't ___ for Me Argentina"
14 Possible answer of denial to 4-Down
15 "Grizzly ___"
16 Gun the motor
17 "Shaming of the Sun" group
19 Most televised judge of 1995
20 H.S. dropout's document
21 Love affair
23 "Bill & Ted's Homosexual Adventure" group
26 Ham ___ (deli sandwich)
28 Richie's dad, to The Fonz
29 Lesbos, for example
30 "___ Shy" (song by 23-Across)
31 ___ for the Cure
33 Bed-and-breakfast
35 Dildo or vibrator, sexually speaking
36 "Chains of Love" group
38 Fore's opposite
41 Winter hours in P-town
42 Meat-and-potatoes meal
43 Apprehend
44 List-shortening abbr.
47 Famed Julie Andrews role
48 Emulates any of this puzzle's theme entries
50 "Macho Man" group
54 Laura ___ Wilder
55 Holbrook of *That Certain Summer*
56 Sgt. or cpl.
57 "West End Girls" group
63 Christine or Herbie

- 64 Berry of *Boomerang*
65 Like a haunted house
66 L.A.-to-N.Y.C. dir.
67 Keep ___ on (watch)
68 Talks like Harvey Fierstein

DOWN

- 1 Punk/folk singer DiFranco
2 Sweetie
3 Airport abbr.
4 Self-posed sexual identity question
5 Sitcom star who answered "Yep" to 4-Down
6 Droop
7 Infamous Amin
8 Marinara ingredient
9 CLVIII x XIII
10 Very, in music scores
11 Gay Men's Health ___
12 Update a business
13 Lesbian columnist Zipter
18 Takes too much, briefly
22 "The proof ___ the pudding"
23 Chicken, to a chicken hawk
24 50-Across smash
25 Put on one's Sunday best
26 Make a choice
27 Prefix with classical or conservative
32 Andy Warhol's bailiwick
33 Anger
34 *The Dallas Voice*, for one
37 *The ___ Reader* (*Reader's Digest* alternative)
38 Actress Heche
39 *Teen* ___ (alternative Gay magazine)
40 Atlanta-based TV "SuperStation"
41 Scat queen
44 Show clearly

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66					67					68				

- 45 Soda-pop container
46 Dan Quayle's successor
47 Lesbian Herstory Archives founder Joan
49 "Well ___ monkey's uncle!"
51 ___ Centauri
52 Gather bit by bit

- 53 "So that's your game!"
58 Crafty
59 ___ Haw
60 Surgery sites, briefly
61 Kennel cry
62 His (Sp.)

Solution on page 34