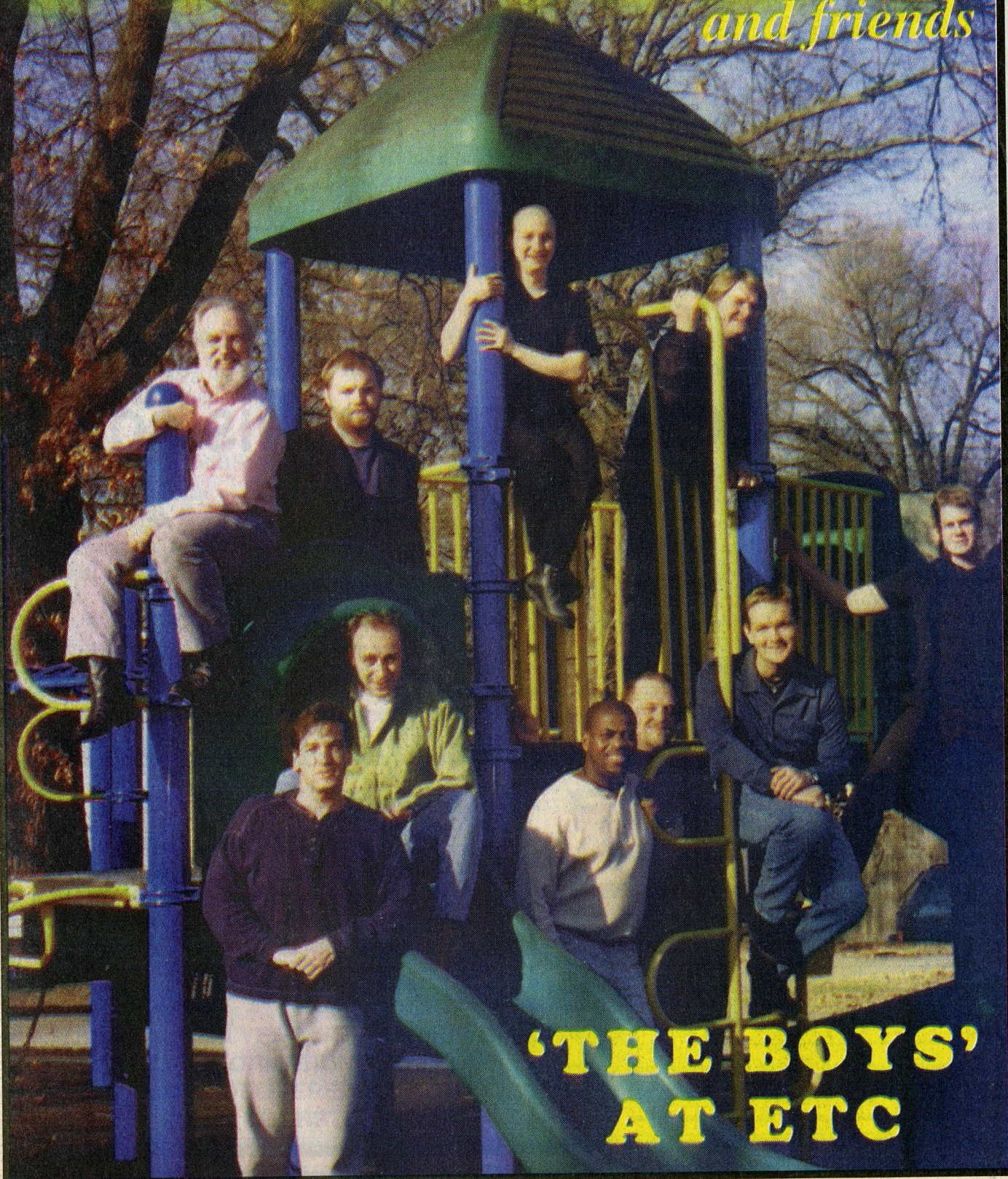


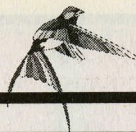
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**'THE BOYS'
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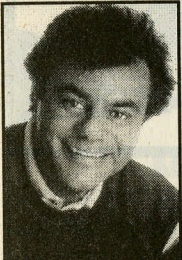


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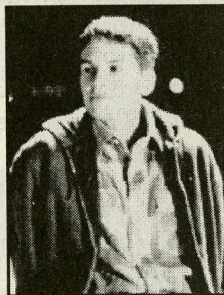
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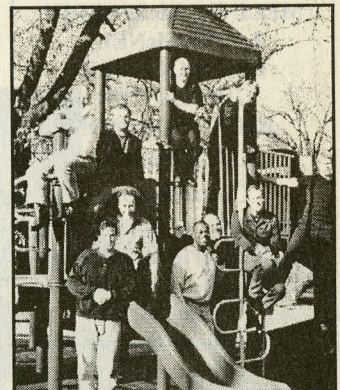


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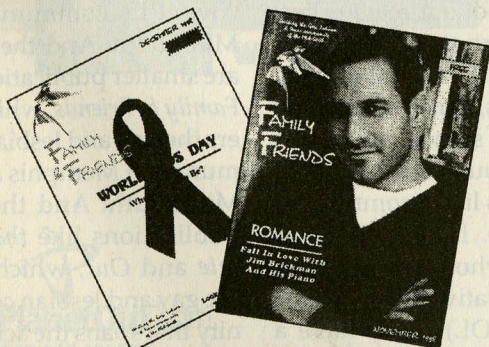
ON THE COVER



THE 'BOYS' AT ETC:
Emerald Theatre Company gets ready to begin its 4th season with The Boys In The Band.

See Page 6

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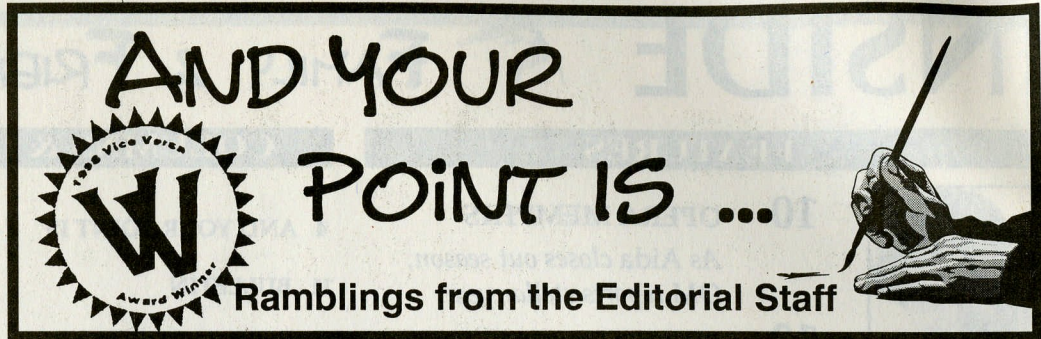
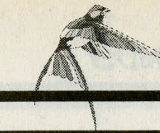
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We attended the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center's monthly town hall meeting in February, along with approximately 25 other people. And let us say on the front end that we believe these meetings to be a great asset to the community. They are held the first Sunday of each month at First Congregational Church in Midtown and begin at 7 p.m.

Ben Mendoza, president of the MGLCC, began the meeting by saying he wanted everyone to leave their personal issues and personal agendas outside since there were about representatives from about 10 different organizations present.

The gathering was less of a meeting and more of a brainstorming session, which we thought was a terrific idea. The topic: "Problems in and outside the gay community in Memphis." While several great ideas were brought up, ie. lack of communication and empathy, we thought of another one after the meeting had adjourned: gossip mongering and back-biting among the organizations in the community.

While we know there isn't any way to stop everyone from spreading gossip and the rumors they hear (and believe us, there are some

doozies floating around right now), we do believe it is a definite negative aspect of our community.

For example, we have heard that a particular organization in town has decided, inspite of its mission statement, to disallow any support of another organization. If it's true, it's crazy. Both organizations were formed to unite the community, not divide it.

Everyday we hear it and see it, not only blasted across buttons, but inked in local and national publications, "Unity in Community" and "Put the Unity back in Community."

We at *Family & Friends* feel the time has come to not just "talk the talk," but to stand up, place one foot in front of the other and "walk the walk."

Many of our readers surf the Internet via America Online. For those AOL members, remember when you first signed up for the plan? You were told that AOL was like a community, and it is. It is a group of people who come together, and figuratively live, in one place (AOL). They have a common interest (surfing the Internet and communicating via the chat rooms). There are good things about the AOL community (special live chats with celebri-

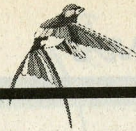
ties, breaking news, etc.). And there are bad things within the AOL community (junk email, unsolicited pornography sites, etc.). There are good AOL people (chat hosts and, believe it or not, decent folks chatting in some of the G-rated chat rooms), and there are bad (those folks that impersonate AOL staff and ask for your password and those trying to steal your credit card numbers).

Are you getting the point yet?

In the world of journalism, there are several kinds of publications, there are national publications like *USA Today*, which covers issues going on across the country. America is its community. There are more localized publications like *The Commercial Appeal*, which covers its community, the Mid-South. And then there are smaller publications like *Family & Friends*, which covers the gay and lesbian community in Memphis and the Mid-South. And there are publications like *the Advocate* and *Out*, which cover the gay and lesbian community that spans the across the United States.

Most certainly the population of gays and lesbians in the Memphis area are

See Point, page 12



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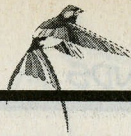
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Emerald Theatre Company

Dream becomes reality as *Boys* begins 4th season

**RY LAINE MCNEIL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Just as the Emerald City was the mystical, magical place of dreams for Dorothy, the Emerald Theatre Company has been the dream-turned-reality for its founder, Den-Nickolas Smith.

For those of you who don't know what Emerald Theatre Company, better known as ETC, is, it's Memphis' haven for gay and lesbian theater, and it sparkles much like the city for which it is named.

The 35-year-old Smith, originally from Selmer, Tenn., started ETC in May 1996.

"In general, it's always been a dream of mine to have

my own theater company,"

Smith explained.

"And, I feel that Memphis needed a venue for gay and lesbian theater. A lot of local theaters here have touched on gay and lesbian plays, but they never bring it to the forefront. People need to have an opportunity to see gay and lesbian theater more often."

Smith's love of theater began

at the tender age of 16, when he was attending McNairy Central High School.

"The first time I stepped on stage I was 16," he recalled. "I was in high school and we (the school's theater department) were doing a one-act comedy (*Alias Ms. Santa Claus*). At that very moment I felt like I had found a missing piece of my life. I knew I had to be on stage. It was most definitely a life-altering moment."

After graduating from high school, the theater-struck Smith headed for the big city to attend college at what was then Memphis State University.

"I went to college as a theater major for one year and then I decided the best thing at that time was to get out and experience theater instead of sitting in a classroom and having someone tell me how to do it," Smith said.

However, according to Smith, at some point in his life the "reality-check" happened and he quickly realized if he wanted to eat he needed to get a "real" job. This realization firmly in hand, Smith became a licensed cosmetologist in 1986. Even though he did in fact get a "real" job (he now works at The Studio on Cooper in Midtown), Smith never lost his passion for the theater.

In 1989, he took on the role of Larry in a production of *The Boys In The Band*, which eventually was produced on the dance floor of the then gay bar, WKRB.

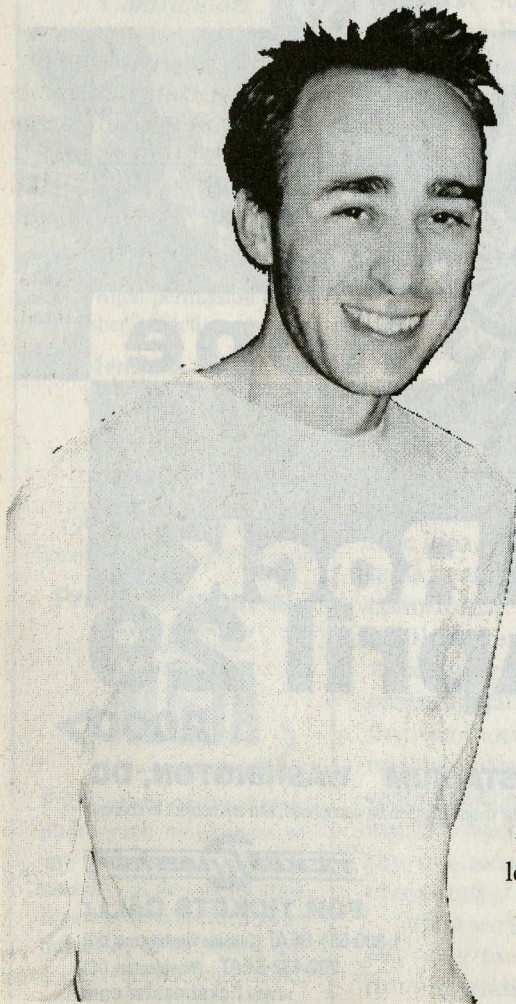
"During *Boys In The Band* I met Matthew Presley, who also was in the cast," Smith began. "At the time I also was writing my first play (*Battle Scars*) and Matthew was very inspiring. He told me when I finished my play he wanted to read it and that if it were good enough we'd get it produced."

Battle Scars was indeed "good enough," because Presley and Smith started an alliance and "through a lot of hard work and sheer luck, we produced it at Theatreworks, which was downtown, in March 1990," Smith said. "At that point, Matthew said we needed to give ourselves a name. We decided on The Lollipop Guild because I'm such a big fan of *The Wizard of Oz*."

A few years later in 1996, Smith was getting ready to produce his second play, *Transition*, at Theatreworks, which by then was in its present location in Midtown, when he had another stroke of good fortune.

"We had rented the space at Theatreworks to produce *Transition* in May 1996, and the week before it was scheduled to open, one of the resident theater companies gave up its office space at Theatreworks," Smith recalled. "I applied for the space and got it."

See ETC page 7



Den-Nickolas Smith



ETC

from page 6

Although *Transition* was produced by The Lollipop Guild, Smith said he knew that his new-found resident theater company status called for a name change.

"We changed the name from The Lollipop Guild to Emerald Theatre Company because the Lollipop Guild sounded a bit childish and I didn't want anyone thinking I was producing children's theater," Smith explained. "In addition, Emerald Theatre Company kept with the *Wizard of Oz* theme and the ETC, was like 'etc.,' you know, etc. the stuff no one else would touch."

Smith began ETC with a co-artistic director, Greg Boyd, who later decided, after just one production (*Lonely Planet*) under ETC's belt, to leave and follow a different calling.

"We were in production for our second show, *Disguise* (another play penned by Smith), when Greg decided to leave," Smith noted. "I then approached a member of the cast, Hal Harmon, about becoming my co-artistic director, and lucky for me, he accepted the position." Today, as ETC

begins its fourth season, Harmon is still Smith's co-artistic director.

"It truly seems like Hal and I have known each other our whole lives," Smith added.

Harmon recalls his intro-

duction to ETC.

"When I auditioned for a show called *Transition*, it was a very cold February night," Harmon said. "Theatreworks was only a few months old and there was no heat in the house. As I auditioned for the role of Drey, I could see my own breath. I was so miserable. I didn't think I had a chance.

"I was so surprised when Den called and offered me the role," he continued. "That May we did the show. ETC was not formed at that time, and at the end of the run, Den announced he was forming ETC and asked me to be a part of the board. We began our working relationship and instantly I found my best friend."

ETC produced five plays during its first season: *Lonely Planet*; *Disguise*; *On The Outside Looking In*, another Smith creation; *Deathwatch*, and Smith's *Divided By Zero*.

ETC's second season consisted of a night of two one-acts, *Days Ahead* and *The Madness of Lady Bright*, and the full-length *What Are Tuesdays Like?*

The third season saw more firsts for ETC and Smith, alike. The company opened the season with Harvey Feinstein's *Safe Sex*, followed by Smith's *Survival*. Then, in the summer, ETC held its first gay and lesbian playwright's competition and produced the winning submissions. From there, ETC produced *Celebrating Our Independence*, and another Smith creation, *Romeo/Romeo*. It was during ETC's second season that Smith asked Harmon to be his co-artistic director.

"During the first season, Den and I became inseparable," Harmon recalled. "When I accepted the post of co-artistic director, Den and I planned the season together and started to plan goals for the company. Today, looking back, we realize we have made significant gains."

Already in the rehearsal stage, ETC will open its fourth season with *The Boys In The Band*, with Smith reprising his role as Larry. In addition to Smith, Vincent Astor, who also was in the 1989 production at WKRK, will reprise his role as Emory, when the play opens later this month.

Smith describes *The Boys In The Band* as "a black comedy about nine men who attend a birthday party you'll never forget. With gay men, you get every stereotype imaginable; it plays on their hopes and fears."

Harmon has the role of Michael.

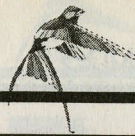
"*Boys In The Band* takes place during an evening at Michael's home," Harmon said of the show's storyline. "Michael is hosting a birthday party for his friend, Harold, and soon is joined by other members of the cast for a most unusual game.

"Playing Michael is my greatest challenge," he continued. "*Boys In The Band* is a well-known show and a staple in the gay community. The challenge of creating a new Michael is one I respect and hope to bring justice to. Work-



Hal Harmon

See ETC page 12



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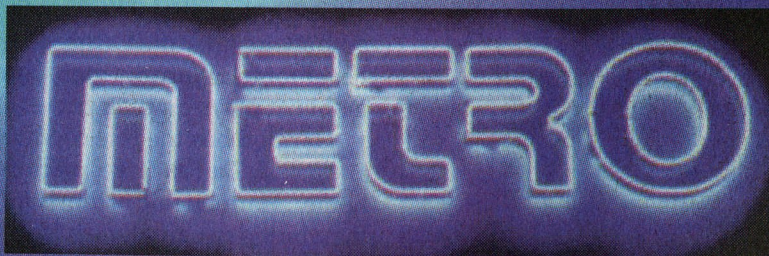
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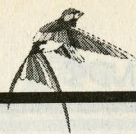
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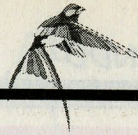
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Aida closes out Opera Memphis' season

Opera Memphis will close their 1999-2000 season with Verdi's *Aida*, the story of two souls that defy social conventions, even to death. *Aida* will take the stage at the Orpheum Theatre, 203 South Main Street on Saturday, March 25, at 8 p.m. and on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Aida is the story of a love triangle. Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian king, is in love with Radames, the new commander of the Egyptian army. But, Radames is in love with Amneris' slave, Aida, who also is the daughter of the Ethiopian king, Amonasro. With the Ethiopian army threatening, Radames leaves for battle. Amneris hopes to marry Radames upon his victorious return and is unaware that Radames' true desire is to free Aida and marry her. However, Amneris, is suspicious of Aida's love for Radames and tricks her into revealing her true feelings for him.

When Radames returns, not surprisingly, the King of Egypt rewards his victory with Amneris' hand in marriage.

To further her anguish, Aida not only sees the man she loves slipping from her hand but she sights her father, the Ethiopian king, hidden among the Ethiopian prisoners.

Pressured by her father to get information from Radames about the Egyptian battle plans, Aida is torn between her love for Radames and her native country. The slave-princess gives in to her father's wishes and tricks Radames into revealing his battle strategies.

However, Amneris overhears their exchange and has Radames condemned as a traitor, a crime punishable by death. And so sentenced, Radames discovers Aida, who has hidden herself in the death chamber.

Thus, Aida's love for Radames takes her into death with him.

Geraldine McMillian takes the role of Aida and Randolph Locke will play Radames. Also, Sherrill Milnes will make his operatic conducting debut in *Aida*. Frequently referred to as the "Pavarotti of Baritone," Milnes has already

made a place for himself as a world-class singer. Now he will take his turn on the other side of the opera stage as the conductor.

Oh, yes! And to liven things up, an elephant, a camel and two boa constrictors will be part of the *Aida* presentation.

Ticket prices for *Aida* range from \$15 to \$60.

For tickets or information, please call the Opera Memphis Box Office at (901) 678-2706. See you at the Opera!

Opera Memphis has record-breaking season

This has been a record-breaking season for Opera Memphis. Opera Memphis performed to their first sold-out house with *Tosca*, in January. The sales for all performances this season have surpassed all projected sales figures. And subscription sales have significantly increased.

The 2000-2001 season subscriptions are on sale now. The upcoming season will open with Memphis favorite Kallen Esperian in Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* on Nov. 18 and 21. On Feb. 2 and 3, 2001, Opera Memphis will continue with Verdi's classic love story *La Traviata*. And closing the season will be Bizet's *Carmen*!

For tickets or subscriptions, please call the Opera Memphis Box Office at (901) 678-2706.

Kent Fisher is set to speak at next Integrity meet

Integrity Memphis is pleased to welcome Kent Fisher as the speaker for its meeting on Tuesday, March 21.

A professional counselor, Fisher will speak about

substance abuse as an issue in the gay community. This topic should be of interest to those with chemical addictions and to their friends. The information presented in this program will be applicable to all kinds of obsessive-compulsive behavior.

An optional worship service including Eucharist is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. and dinner is served at 7 p.m. Visitors are invited to enjoy a free meal.

After a brief business meeting, the program will begin at 7:45 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m.

Integrity meets at Calvary Church, Second and Adams Streets, in downtown Memphis. People of all faith traditions and ideologies are welcome.

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This office provides information about disability supports and community services available to individuals, families, and agencies in TN.

BULLETIN

LIFEWALK 2000'S MEMPHIS AIDS 5K WALK/RUN will be held at Shelby Farms on Saturday, March 11. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk/run at 10 a.m. Funds raised at this event will be split equally between Hope House and Loving Arms. See page 13 for more.

Dykes on bikes? Well, no, not quite. However, CAROL PLUNK will entertain at the HARLEY DAVIDSON BIKE WEEK 2000 in Daytona, Fla., on Friday, March 10. She has the pleasure of opening for the Atlanta Rhythm Section and Jeff Healey. Congratulations, Carol!

Congratulations to GLENN JONES who was voted MAN OF THE YEAR by TSARUS on Feb. 15 at a dinner held at MADISON FLAME. Jones not only prepared the meal for the night but is one of the cooks at the bimonthly FEAST FOR FRIENDS meals.

A big thank you goes out to B.J. HEFNER and SHARON WRAY for all their hard work put in to raising slightly more than \$6,200 for HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH. See pages 38 and 39 for more.

On Friday, Feb. 4, a benefit for TU REAL was held at MADISON FLAME hosted by SHARON WRAY. Almost \$1,300 was raised to help Tu Real out with expenses incurred during his most recent hospitalization due to AIDS. Tu Real has always been there to help out with any benefit to raise money for the community; this time it was Tu Real's turn.

The next town-hall meeting, hosted by the MEMPHIS GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER (MGLCC), is set for Sunday, March 5, from 6 to 8 p.m., at First Congregational Church's Pilgrim Hall, located at 246 Watkins at Eastmoreland. All are invited to attend.

YWCA ENCOREplus is offering a support group for lesbians with breast cancer. Check out page xx for more information.

This month KENT FISHER will be the guest speaker at INTEGRITY MEMPHIS's meeting on Tuesday, March 21. He will discuss substance abuse as an issue in the gay community. See page 10 for more.

BOYS DON'T CRY, the much-publicized movie about the life and death of BRANDON TEENA, will be at the BARTLETT CINEMA 10, 2809 Bartlett Blvd. beginning on Friday, March

10. Don't miss it!

For all you authors and writers out there, EMERALD THEATRE COMPANY invites you to submit a monologue or one-act play to the SECOND ANNUAL GAY AND LESBIAN PLAYWRIGHTS COMPETITION. See page 12 for details.

THE WELLNESS CENTER at Holy Trinity Community Church (HTCC), 3430 Summer Avenue, has announced two new support programs open to the community. One group is a support for GAY PARENTS and the second group is for MARRIED MEN struggling with sexual identity. Check out page 15 for details.

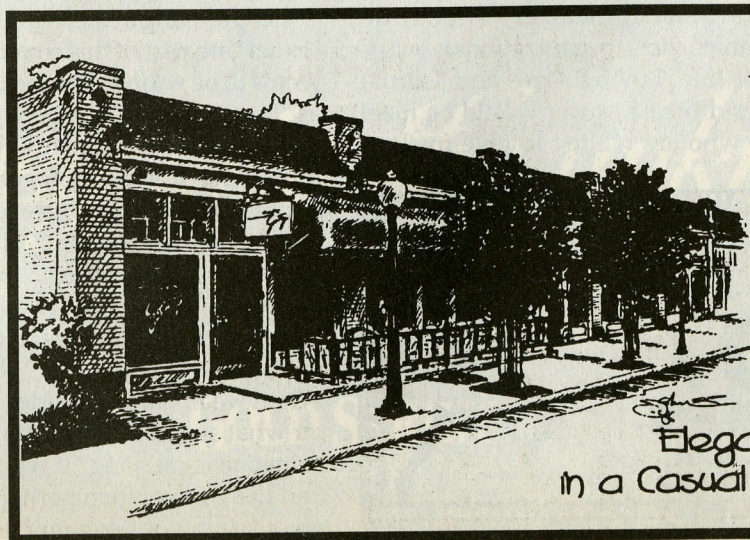
THE LAMBDA CIRCLE, a prayer, bible study and discussion group for g/l/b/t people of faith, meets on the second Tuesday of the every month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Parish House of FIRST CONGREGATION CHURCH, located at 246 South Watkins Street at Eastmoreland. REV. SCOTT HOWELL leads the group.

The ST. PATRICK'S INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT (SPIT) will be in Memphis hosted by the BROTHERS AND SISTERS BOWLING LEAGUE, March 17 to 19. All are invited to watch as many vie for titles all day Saturday and Sunday at the Cordova Bowling Center.

LEBONHEUR MEMPHIS HIV FAMILY CARE NETWORK announced that vocational-rehabilitation services are now offered, free of charge, to anyone that is HIV-positive. See page 27 for more.

THE MEMPHIS TRANSGENDERED ALLIANCE is once again holding monthly meetings on the third Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. Look on page 16 for details.

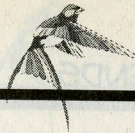
If you want to voice your opinions on some of the best gay-owned and non-gay-owned businesses in the Mid-South, MEMPHIS PRIDE INC. will be accepting completed ballots for its MEMPHIS PRIDE AWARDS, which will be announced April 15, at MPI's annual SPRING PICNIC. For a ballot, see page 51.



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ETC

from page 7

ing with this cast is a wonderful experience. We (he and Smith) have the opportunity to work with new people and create a show that will bring a new audience to ETC. We are striving to bring works from gay and lesbian playwrights to the Memphis stage. Mart Crowley (the *Boys* playwright) is amazing."

Other members of the *Boys* cast include Gary Brackett, who will share the role of Emory with Astor; Michael Hoots as Alan; Jerry Lovelace as Bernard; Daniel Martin as Donald; Jeff Pope as Hank; Chip McCquiston as Cowboy, and Howard Pries as Harold.

The Boys In The Band is scheduled to run March 24, 25 and 26 and on March 31 and April 1 and 2. All shows will begin at 8 p.m. and tickets, which are \$10 each and \$5 each for students with a valid ID, will go on sale March 1. According to Smith, a seventh show may be added on March 30.

Although ETC has certainly come a long way from its humble beginnings, Smith and Harmon have a vision of what they want ETC to be in the future.

And Your Point Is ...

members of a community. A community that has special interests (sports and religion), politics and its own political issues (there are gay and lesbian members of both the Democrat and Republican parties), organizations of varying interests (Friends For Life, Loving Arms and Tsarus), needs (a cure for AIDS and breast cancer would be nice), positive aspects (people who are willing to give freely of

"It is unfortunate that Den and I are the backbone, bank and board for ETC," Harmon said sadly. "We work very hard to make the shows available to the public. We want to get a larger audience of diversity. Our shows are geared towards the gay and lesbian audience and our biggest support comes from outside the gay community.

"We hope to build a strong board of directors within the year and have had such generous support from our close friends," he continued. "Willy and Cheryl Bearden (the William Bearden Company) are always supportive and Michelle and Si Janna have helped us begin our incorporation status. We really would not have survived without them."

And it's not just a vision of ETC Smith and Harmon share, but a philosophy, as well.

"Den and I share the same philosophy for ETC," he commented. "As gay men, we face so many hardships and not so simple realities. Having ETC as a voice hopefully allows us and the community to be heard. The incredible diversity that make up our world is so essential to life. We want to make sure that one, one hundred or even one million other

people who we share our world with have the opportunity to be enlightened, educated and most importantly, to be allowed to feel humanity from another reality."

ETC plans 2nd contest

Emerald Theatre Company invites submissions to the Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Playwrights Competition. One act plays and monologues are preferred.

The winning pieces will be performed on stage at Theatreworks on June 16, 17 and 18, the same weekend that Memphians celebrate gay pride.

For more information or to enter, please call Den at (901) 722-9302 or Hal at (901) 276-0168.

from page 4

their time, talents and money) and negative aspects (domestic violence, hate crimes and substance abuse).

People living in the Memphis area who identify as "homosexual" are part of this community, for better or worse. What seems to be wrong with including those people who identify as "bi-sexual" or "transgendered" in our community?

We believe it is safe to say that the members of our community have a common goal: to be treated like our heterosexual counterparts, instead of being looked at as "abnormal," "sexually deviant" or "sick."

So, our point is this ... instead of slinging mud at each other, why don't we do as Ben Mendoza suggested and put our petty differences aside, not just for a couple of hours one Sunday a month, but 24 hours a day, seven days a week? When we line up, shoulder to shoulder, does it really matter what someone is wearing or whose organizational flag someone is carrying? If we could put our differences aside and truly unite, then perhaps we could focus more clearly on obtaining our common goal.

LANZA · NIOXIN · PAUL MITCHELL · SEBASTIAN

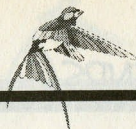
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WALK-INS WELCOME



LifeWalk 2000 set for March 11 at Shelby Farms

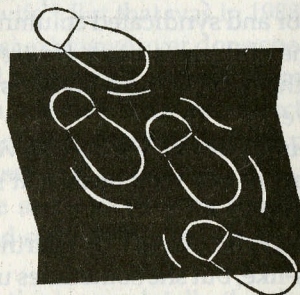
Because HIV & AIDS has impacted both women and children, LifeWalk 2000 members have selected Hope House and Loving Arms to be the equal beneficiaries of the Memphis AIDS 5K Walk/Run to be held at Shelby Farms, 7161 Mullins Station Road, on Saturday, March 11.

Lace up your walking/running shoes, put on comfortable clothing, grab a water bottle and come to the 5K (rain or shine)! Awards will be given in several categories. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk/run kicks off at 10 a.m.

The Memphis AIDS 5K Walk/Run is a fun way to join with people of the Mid-South to make a difference in the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Bring your pledge money with you the day of the event. If you raise \$25 or more you will receive a LifeWalk 2000 T-shirt. Be sure to register prior to the day of the event. Or, you may pay a \$10 late registration fee on the day of the walk/run.

λ LifeWalk 2000



LifeWalk 2000 is a non-profit organization dedicated to the fight against HIV/AIDS. Its goals are to prevent infection with HIV through education, to provide direct support to those persons already infected and those organizations assisting them, and to unite, on a national level, those groups and organizations that are dedicated to this cause. Their primary aim is to create a loving environment of dignity, respect and hope for all persons living with or

affected by HIV/AIDS.

Hope House has been selected to receive fifty-percent of the proceeds of this event. This is a non-profit agency providing day care, respite care and 24-hour emergency care for children infected and affected with HIV/AIDS. Their mission is to address the needs of HIV affected children as well as the complicated social issues often challenging their families.

The other half of the proceeds will go to Loving Arms, a non-profit volunteer organization that meets the needs of women and children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Services include transportation to medical and social service appointments, respite care, nutritional/cooking classes, holistic services, tutoring classes, recreational outings, support groups and hospital volunteers.

For more information or to register, please call Preston Archer at (901) 274-3671.

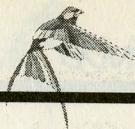
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I would like you to meet my ... uh ...

BY GIP PLASTER CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Your friend from the office finally agreed to come to one of your parties. Now, you get to introduce her to the one you love.

"Hi. I'd like you to meet my partner — no, that sounds like we own a business together. Really, this is my lover — but sex is only a small part of our relationship," you babble. "Meet my spouse."

Area folks use a variety of terms for introduction

Family & Friends wanted to take a look at what gays and lesbians around the Mid-South call their same-sex partners. Here's what we found:

BUTCH VALENTINE, fundraising coordinator at Friends for Life — "I introduce Mark one of three ways: one, as my partner; two, as my better-half, or three, as my bald-headed wonder. It just depends on who I'm introducing him to."

HAL HARMON, co-artistic director at Emerald Theatre Company — "Husband. Significant other sounds too clinical and 'friend,' a staple among many Southerners, sounds kinda easy."

LINDA JONES, founder of Mystic Krewe of Memphis United — "My better-half."

LONNIE MCELWAIN, president of Mystic Krewe of Memphis United — "My mate"

SHEILA TANKERSLY, founder and executive director of Loving Arms — "My partner because she is not only my partner in life, but also my partner in business, too."

ANITA MOYT, managing editor of *Family & Friends Magazine* — "My wife."

TIM "ODIE" STREET, manager of Metro Memphis — "My husband."

MIKE KOLBY, manager/d.j. for Jack & Jill's in Jackson, Tenn. — "My better half."

SAM WILLIAMS, Memphis businesswoman — "My domestic partner or my lover, depending on whether it's a business introduction or a social introduction."

RAY CASTEEL, co-owner of Inz & Outz — "My partner."

TAYLOR HUNTINGTON, Miss Gay Memphis 2000 — "My partner."

"Oh, that just sounds silly."

By the time you finish the introduction, the party's over. As you pick a strawberry from the fruit tray off your white carpet, you decide there has to be a way to describe the one who means so much to you that is both appropriate and accurate.

Perhaps there is no one right answer to the question of what the person with whom you spend your life is called, but almost everyone has an opinion.

Author and syndicated columnist Leslea Newman, who wrote the children's book *Heather Has Two Mommies* and many other articles and books, said she seldom uses the term lover.

"It sounds like all we do is have sex and while of course that's part of our relationship, it's much more than that," Newman said.

She said she doesn't use partner because it sounds too business-like, but she sometimes uses spouse when around straight people.

"I tend to say girlfriend around lesbians because I like the friendliness of the word and everyone knows what it means," she said.

Newman, though, has chosen another term that better fits her situation.

"My word of choice is really 'butch' as in 'This is my butch.' That just about sums it up," she said.

Merle Yost, an author and private practice psychotherapist in Oakland, Calif., said he calls the object of his affection his "partner."

"In my practice, I am finding that partner is becoming a term that is used by couples of different orientations," he said. "I believe that partner is the term that is beginning to be used by people to describe all unmarried relationships."

He knows the term has problems, but he still prefers it.

"While partner has a business tone, it is more inclusive of all the parts of the relationship," Yost said.

San Francisco Chronicle reporter David Tuller said he used the term "mate" for his significant other who died a few years ago. He said he believes the term "lover" is passing from the scene and that a companion sounds like something people have when they are old.

"There's not really a good word to use," Tuller said. "Spouse seems strange. Husband seems forced in some way. Life partner is sort of pretentious."

Some couples use the term "co-husband" or "co-wife" to stress the equality of their relationship, while some same-gender couples are comfortable with the straight husband and wife role titles.

The phrase "longtime companion" and words like "friend" or "roommate" often don't fully explain the rela-

See Partners page 15



Partners

from page 14

tionship. "Significant other" or "other half" are convenient terms, but again they often don't provide an accurate picture of the relationship to which they refer.

"Partner" or "life partner" is the choice of about a third of women and a slightly smaller percentage of men, according to a survey. The 1988 survey conducted by Partners Task Force for Lesbian and Gay Couples found that 30 percent of women and 40 percent of men use the term "lover." Only one percent of the men and women who responded used the term "husband" or "wife." But that was in 1988.

"Our survey is the most extensive ever done specifically on same-sex couples and it has been only six years since it was published," Damian, the task force's co-director said. "Cultures usually don't change that fast — fads perhaps, but cultures take more time."

The terms people use seem to vary by social setting, Damian said. He also said some things may have changed since the survey.

"I would be inclined to think, anecdotally, that these days there seems to be more men who call their partners 'husband' — under certain circumstances," he said. "I have not heard lesbians use the term 'wife' as much, perhaps because of the second-class position it has in our culture."

When lesbian or gay couples decide to hold a ceremony to publicly acknowledge their relationship, it creates a whole new set of language problems.

Ceremonies, once called holy unions or commitment ceremonies, are now often called marriages.

"I believe we are adopting the relationship language of our parents and society," Yost said.

Tuller said the term "marriage" is often used in quotation marks to perhaps show the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the term. He continues, though, that the whole issue of terms for gay relationships is a "moving target" and something with which society is "struggling."

Margarethe Cammermeyer, the colonel who was discharged from the military for admitting she is a lesbian, is in a committed relationship, so she has an opinion on this issue, too.

"Among gay and lesbian couples, the term "marriage" is often used to imply a committed relationship but it lacks legal and social legitimization," she said.

In referring to her partner, she said the language simply fails her.

"My partner and I have a committed, loving, caring and devoted relationship which surpasses any single word created by a society afraid to acknowledge difference."

Maybe that's the answer. The language's relationship words simply don't do a very good job of adapting to couples for whom they weren't designed. But that won't help much at your next party.

Holy Trinity to begin 2 new support groups

The Wellness Center at Holy Trinity Community Church (HTCC), 3430 Summer Avenue, has announced two new support programs open to the community: (1) Support for Gay Parents and (2) Married Men Struggling with Sexual Identity.

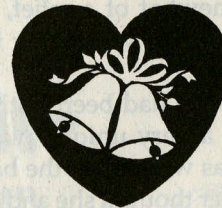
Terry Ogle, LPC, and Rev. Tim Meadows will co-facilitate each group. Ogle brings with her experience in the counseling field and Rev. Meadows will give a spiritual perspective.

Rev. Meadows told *Family & Friends* that HTCC already has several members ready to begin the support group for gay parents.

They would like to invite all individuals and couples with children to this group.

The group for married men struggling with sexual identity was organized after Rev. Meadows saw an increase in those seeking advice on this issue. This group will be a closed group and confidential.

If you are interested in attending either group and for dates and times, please contact Orgel at (901) 754-9423 or Rev. Meadows at (901) 320-9376 or by email at Meadowshir@aol.com.



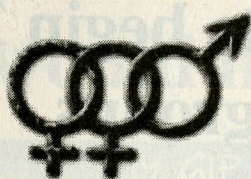
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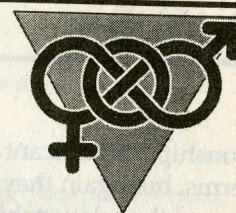
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SPEAKING 'Bi' MIND



Hello, my name is Sunny and I want to share a bit about myself and my thoughts and experiences regarding bisexuality.

I am a 26-year old bisexual woman living in northern California. I am engaged to a wonderful, loving man and I am the mother of a beautiful six-year old little boy. On Aug. 7, I celebrated four years of being clean and sober.

These are my thoughts...

Coming out

Most of my close friends have known about my being bisexual for many years. They were very supportive. I never felt that I had to hide anything from them or be secretive about my life. I did not, however, tell my parents until November 1996.

Important note: They are Southern Baptists.

Well, actually, I told my mother. I personally didn't think my father could take it, so I guess you could say I left it up in the air as to whether or not she would tell him. I still don't know if he knows. My mother didn't take it as bad as I thought she would, though "sin" and "perversion" were words that were mentioned (ouch, that hurt!).

I think it was somewhat of a relief, actually. I was so nervous that she thought I was going to tell her I was a Satan worshipper.

It's a long story, but I had been dating this gothic girl who had take me to a very unique place on Halloween, "Satan loves you" was written on the bathroom mirror in red lipstick. My mother thought she and I were just friends, so she was afraid that I might be involved with that "type" of crowd.

Bi-phobia

"Bi-phobia: The fear of intimacy and closeness to people who don't identify with either the hetero- or homosexual orientation, manifested as homophobia in the heterosexual community and heterophobia in the homosexual community."

I think most bisexuals have had some experiences with bi-phobia. You expect it from the heterosexual community. However, most of my experiences with bi-phobia have been from the lesbian and gay communities.

It's difficult for me to understand how a segment of our society, who has in the past been so categorically rejected and demeaned by society, could be so closed-minded to the possibility that there are other sexualities aside from their own.

How is it that gays and lesbians can completely accept the ability to love the opposite sex and they completely accept the ability to love the same sex, but they refuse to

recognize the validity of the ability to love both the same and opposite sex? It doesn't make sense to me.

I am tired of feeling like I have to explain and apologize about my sexual orientation. I am not screwed up. I am not confused. I am not experimenting. I am not in denial about my lesbianism. I am not in denial about my heterosexuality.

Why include bisexuals?

As Amanda Udis-Kessler wrote, "The lesbian and gay reaction to bisexuals has tended to veer between 'You don't exist,' and 'Go form your own community; you're not welcome in ours,' while the heterosexual reaction has tended to veer between 'You don't exist,' and 'I hate all you queers.'"

"These sentiments hold value for us if we consider the fear behind the anger. The denial of bisexuality by both straights and gays is common, as is our rejection from lesbian and gay communities and our designation as 'homos' by heterosexuals.

"Specifically, I think it can be argued that a good deal of bi-phobia is the expression of crisis of meaning posed by bisexuals, which affects heterosexuals and homosexuals differently. In each case, a collective myth is threatened, raising questions about the lesbian and gay past and the heterosexual future."

This is part two of a two-part column detailing Sunny's thoughts about her bisexuality. Part one was published in the January 2000, edition of Family & Friends. Sunny's website can be seen at <http://bittheway.org/>

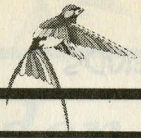
MTGA begins meeting again

After being in a dormant state for two years, the Memphis TransGendered Alliance is once again holding monthly meetings.

MTGA is presently holding its monthly meetings on the third Saturday of each month at 7 p.m.

Also, MTGA is producing a monthly newsletter and all those interested can receive it in printed form or by email.

For further information and locations of MTGA meetings, or to receive a newsletter, please write them at Memphis TransGendered Alliance, P.O. Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052 or by email at memphiscgroup@usa.com.



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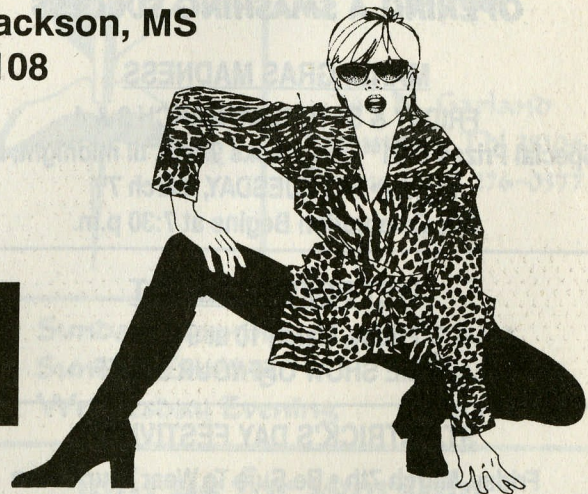
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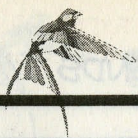
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Johnny Mathis to perform at The Orpheum

The legendary Johnny Mathis will be in concert at The Orpheum Theatre, 203 South Main Street, on Thursday and Saturday, March 2 and 4.

John Royce Mathis was born Sept. 30, 1935, in San Francisco, Calif. As an eight year-old, Mathis started his musical training on a \$25 used piano that his father had to dismantle and reassemble just to get through the door of their small San Francisco basement apartment.

Mathis not only had a natural talent in music, but in track and field as well as basketball. In fact, at the age of 19, Mathis gave up a chance to become a member of the USA Olympic Team when he chose instead to go to New York to record his first album for Columbia Records in March 1956.

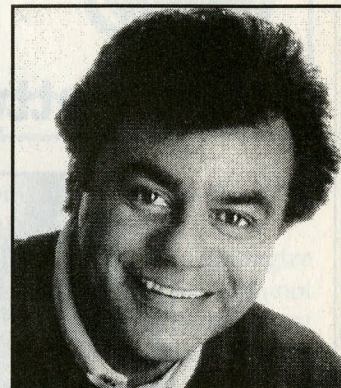
Mathis is known for his soft, romantic ballads. "Wonderful, Wonderful" and "It's Not For Me To Say" hit the Billboard pop chart in July, 1957, and "Chances Are" became his first No 1 hit soon after. Mathis has also lent his voice to the scores and soundtracks of many, many Hollywood movies. Mathis was nominated for a Grammy in both 1960, ("Misty") and 1992 ("In a Sentimental Mood/Mathis Sings Ellington").

Mathis will see his 44th year as one of the most success-

ful recording artists of all time, behind Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley. Mathis has been most creative and adventurous in his recordings, which at present numbers more than 60. For instance, *Wonderful World Of Make Believe* consisted entirely of songs based on fairytales and *Olé* was sung in Portuguese and Spanish.

Mathis also composed tribute albums to Burt Bacharach and Bert Kaempfert. Even as the music world changed, Mathis adapted and returned to the charts. He recorded duets with many women of song including Gladys Knight, Dionne Warwick and Natalie Cole; his duet with Deniece Williams, "Too Much, Too Late," was a No. 1 hit.

Tickets to see Mathis in concert are priced from \$30 to \$60 and both shows begin at 8 p.m. Call TicketMaster at (901) 525-1515 for tickets.



Johnny Mathis

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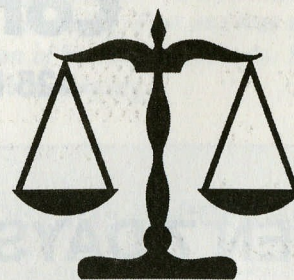
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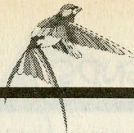
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Secret Garden to bloom at Playhouse

The story of a tragic little girl who becomes a happy child through the magic of a garden is brought to life in Playhouse on the Square's production of *The Secret Garden* set to run March 10 to April 9.

Mary Lennox, raised in India, is thrown into a whole new world by the untimely deaths of her parents. Mary's embittered uncle, Archibald Craven, takes her into his home where she soon discovers that there is a mystery afoot.

The heartfelt melodies lend a mystifying air to this classic story and the set, designed by Larry Brown, conveys the magic of this utterly charming story. Ashley Wieronski portrays Mary, Rebecca Kolber will play the part of Martha, Michael Detroit takes the role

of Archibald Craven, Dave Landis is Ben Weatherstaff and John Maness plays Dickon. Anne Marie Caskey is directing this production.

The Secret Garden is based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett; lyrics are by Marsha Norman and music by Lucy Simon. This Tony Award-winning musical was called "the best musical of the Broadway season" by *Time*.

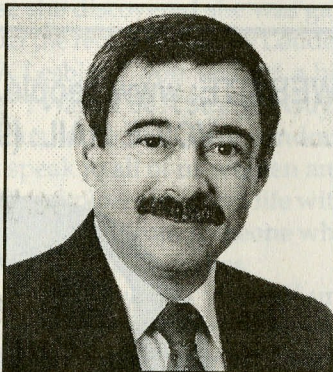
Showtimes for *The Secret Garden* are 7 p.m. Thursday through Sundays except for Sunday, April 9, when the show will begin at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$10 for students, children and military. Pay-What-You-Can Night will be Wednesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. Please call the Playhouse on the Square Box Office at (901) 726-1656 for tickets or more information.

Friends For Life Food Pantry Wish List

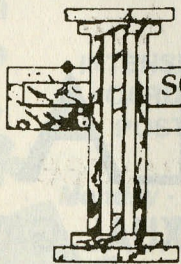
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Jamie Anderson releases *Drive All Night*

BY MELINDA MCSPARRIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was recently given a copy of Jamie Anderson's latest release *Drive All Night*, to take a listen to. I had heard of her before, but was not all that familiar with her or her music. What a pleasant surprise this CD is! But we will get to that in

a minute. First, let me introduce you to her.

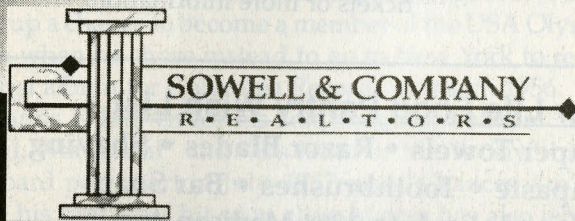
Anderson grew up in a musical family. Her father was a country musician and, according to Anderson, it was a very painful thing for a teenager who would rather listen to Carole King, but it did mean there were always guitars available for her to play.

She taught herself to play the guitar while in high school, and for the next few years, she played coffeehouses, bars and weddings. After discovering women's music and after the hundredth request for Paul Stookey's "Wedding Song," she decided to write her own songs. Her first recording was released in 1989. To her father's delight, it contained two country songs.

See Anderson, page 21



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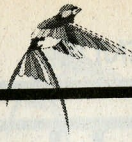
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STUDENTS FOR BI-SEXUAL, GAY,
AND LESBIAN AWARENESS



Anderson

from page 20

Anderson has toured nationally since 1987, and has entertained in hundreds of coffeehouses, concert halls and festivals all over the country. She performed at the National March on Washington, at pride celebrations and at almost every woman's music festival. She has six recordings, including this latest one, *Drive All Night*.

She loves being a full-time musician, so she doesn't really park cars, but her mother thought she should have a career to fall back on! According to Anderson's bio, laughter is a big part of her live performances. Her offbeat song intros and stories help keep the performance fun. She has emceed at many events and twirls the baton badly. She also is a belly dancer and a former radio DJ.

Her style is a mixture of folk, country and rock. She sings about a wide variety of topics reminiscent of '60s protest songs, though protest is not the flavor running through *Drive All Night*.

According to Anderson, a long-distance relationship moved her to write "Feel," and "So Much Pleasure" is an upbeat song inspired by some great cheesecake. "With My Smile" is a ballad about a woman who finds her birth mother and is surprised by her birth mother's explanation of the reason why she left ... because she discovered she was gay. For those of you who remember the recent release by Loudon Wainwright, "I Wish I Was A Lesbian," you will get a big kick out of her response song "I Wanna Be A Straight Guy."

Anderson has a tremendous voice and a tremendous knack for writing songs that speak to all of us women and our wide range of emotions. She explores love and life with a depth of feeling that could only come from someone who has lived the experiences about which she writes.

The melodies are catchy ... you may find yourself unable to get some of them out of your head even after you have finished listening to the album. Her voice is rich and

clear and her obvious talents on guitar also are showcased on this release.

I regret that I haven't listened to her music before now. If you get a chance to acquire this album, by all means please do. I hope that one day I will get the chance to actually meet Jamie Anderson, and let her know in person how terrific I think she is.

I will be anxiously awaiting her next release and once you hear *Drive All Night*, you will be, too! And I don't think I will ask her to park any cars, but I will ask for more and more of these wonderful songs instead!

Lambda Circle to meet

The Lambda Circle: A Gathering of God's Beloved invites all gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender persons of faith to join them in an affirming time of prayer, bible study and discussion.

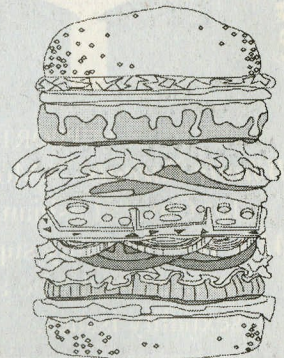
The Lambda Circle meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Parish House of First Congregational Church, located at 246 South Watkins Street at Eastmoreland.

For more information, please call Rev. Scott Howell at (901) 278-6786.

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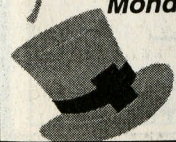
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Planned Parenthood to hold annual event

Memphis Planned Parenthood will hold its annual fundraising event "All Fired Up!" on Saturday, March 4, at Chickasaw Oaks Plaza, 3092 Poplar from 6 to 8:30 p.m. to raise money to support its healthcare services and educational programs.

"All Fired Up!" features a silent auction of 70 artistically-

glazed pottery pieces by local, regional and national artists as well as celebrities. This year's artists include Joe Light Lewis, Nancy Muse, Alexis Leaneave and Carol DeForest. Celebrity pieces will be painted by children's author Judy Blume, tennis great Martina Navratilova, advice columnist Abigail Van Buren and Gillian Anderson star of the hit TV show The X Files.

In addition to the silent pottery auction there will be a small live auction of dinner and destination packages hosted by local supporters. Packages include a "tourist for a day," Gold Stike Casino Resort weekend get-away, a bed and breakfast and camping package and many others.

Tickets are \$50 for donors and \$100 for patrons. Included in the ticket price is admission to the event, heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by The Blue Moon, beer, wine, champagne and great door prizes. For patron ticket holders there will be a patrons party following the event from 8:30 to 11:00 p.m. complete with a light dinner and featuring DiAnne Price and Her Boyfriends.

For more information on "All Fired Up!" contact Memphis Planned Parenthood at (901) 725-3018.

Need someone to talk to?

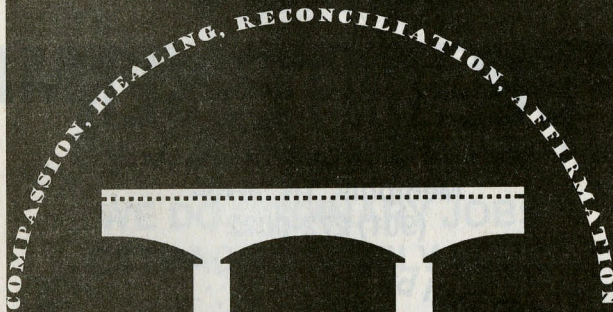
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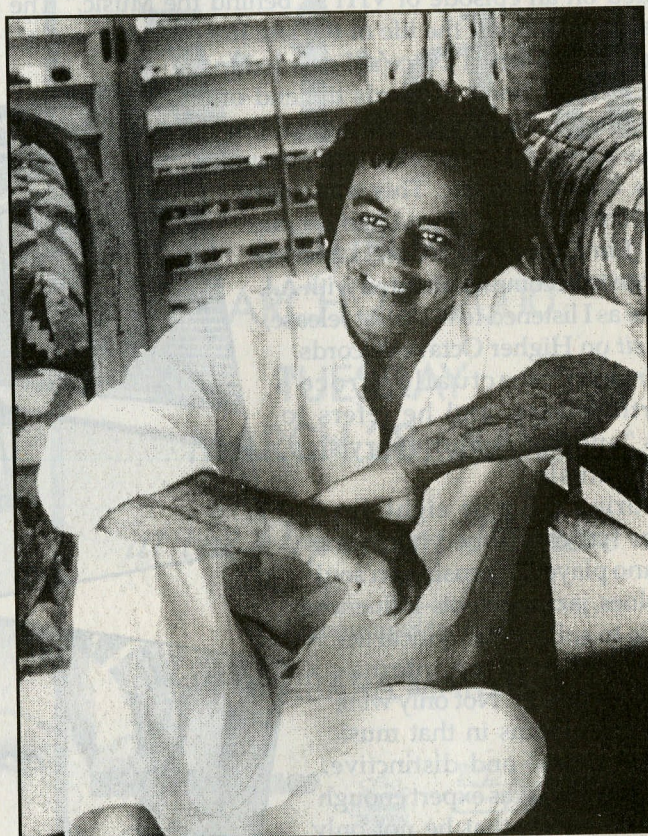
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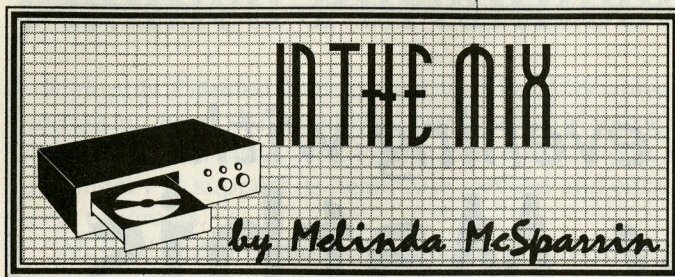
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Transit – A.J. Croce

Some time late last year, I was “channel surfing” and landed on an episode of VH1’s “Behind the Music.” The episode was about the life of the late Jim Croce. Since I was a fan of Croce’s, I decided to watch the episode. Towards the end of the episode, they made mention of Jim Croce’s son, A.J., who also was pursuing a career in music. This was pretty much news to me, since I had no idea that Jim Croce had a son. I got my chance to become acquainted with A.J. Croce as I listened to his latest release, *Transit* on Higher Octave Records.

Transit is actually Croce’s fourth release, and he refers to it as “another evolutionary step in my music.”

During the past eight years, Croce has established himself as a piano player ... focusing on soulful blues, jazz and roots-influenced music to substantial critical acclaim and growing international audiences. Not only were his three albums in that music mode original and distinctive, but Croce also was expert enough in those styles, that he not only played the music, but lectured about it at universities.

One day, while listening to an old Beatles song on the radio, Croce discovered the spirit of the “mod, ‘60s power pop groups,” and realized that there was a whole other world of music that he hadn’t been playing or tapping into and enjoying. Thus, the birth of *Transit* ... an energetic and sophisticated pop work that feature songs rich in detail and instantly catchy. From the bright “Summer Can’t Come Too Soon,” to the powerful “Turn Out The Light” and “Find Out Now.” Rich organ, powerful guitar and electric piano spice up “What I Wouldn’t Do,” while Croce’s rich vocals score big on “The Bargain,” “Everyman” and “Change.”

If you are thinking that Croce is following in his father’s footsteps with the folk/rock/pop style that was trademark for the late entertainer, you may be disappointed. If you listen to this album with an open mind, you will see Croce as a powerful artist in his own right. An artist that deserves his moment in the spotlight, and he may well achieve that moment with this album.

New Day Dawning – Wynonna

I know that there have probably been some of our readers out there that have wondered why no country music albums have been reviewed. The truth is, that I haven’t found any country albums that had more than one or two songs on them that had any merit. That is, up until now.

New Day Dawning is the fifth release by Wynonna as a solo artist. Her first solo album was

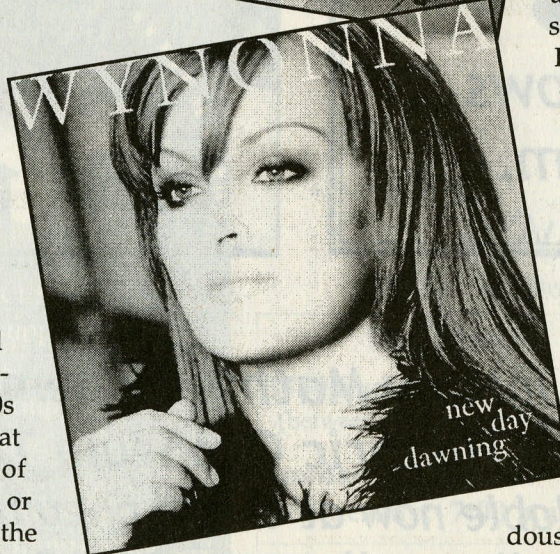
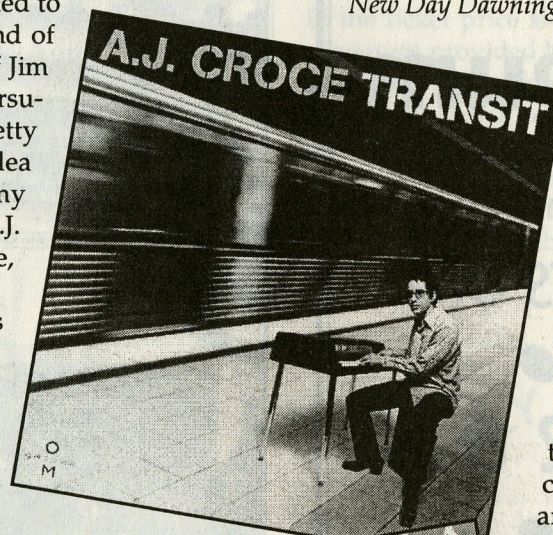
released in 1992, to critical acclaim and it became the highest-selling debut record by a female artist at the time. She has gone on to sell more than nine million records as a solo artist and celebrated 13 Top 10 hits.

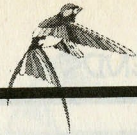
New Day Dawning features some of Wynonna’s strongest work to date, and marks her first time in the studio as co-producer. The album also features the production skills of the industries brightest talents including James Stroud, Tony Brown and Gary Nicholson. Her current single, “Can’t Nobody Love You (Like I Do),” demonstrates her depth and dimension, but when she showcases her signature growl on tracks like “Going Nowhere,” she proves that she can rock with the best of them.

I found myself tapping my toes to “Chain Reaction,” and crying to “Can’t Nobody Love You (Like I Do),” proving that Wynonna has the ability to evoke the gamut of emotions from pure pleasure and happiness to wistful reflection with simply the power of her voice and the beauty of the melodies. She does a tremendous

cover of Joni Mitchell’s “Help Me,” which is almost better than the original, and probably my favorite track on the CD.

My friends know that I am NOT a country music fan, and are probably reading this just waiting until they are through to call me and tell me “I told you so.” I suppose I





In The Mix

from page 24

will allow them this chance to tell me that, because they really did tell me so, and *New Day Dawning* was just the album to make me see the light. In other words, I highly recommend this album, even to those of you (like myself) who don't really care for country music. You won't be disappointed!

Billboard's Hot 100 Singles (top 10) as of week ending February 26, 2000

- No. 1 - "I Knew I loved You" - Savage Garden
- No. 2 - "Thank God I Found You" - Mariah Carey featuring Joe and 98 Degrees
- No. 3 - "Amazed" - Lonestar
- No. 4 - "What A Girl Wants" - Christina Aguilera
- No. 5 - "Breathe" - Faith Hill
- No. 6 - "Maria Maria" - Santana featuring The Product G&B
- No. 7 - "Get It On Tonight" - Montell Jordan
- No. 8 - "All The Small Things" - Blink-182
- No. 9 - "Smooth" - Santana featuring Rob Thomas
- No. 10 - "Hot Boyz" - Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliot featuring NAS, EVE and Q-Tip

Billboard's Top 10 Dance Tracks as of week ending February 26, 1999

- No. 1 - "I Learned From The Best" - Whitney Houston
- No. 2 - "Ssst...(Listen)" - Jonah
- No. 3 - "Stop Playing With My Mind" - Barbara Tucker featuring Darryl D'Bonneau
- No. 4 - "Up In Flames" - Satoshi Tomiie
- No. 5 - "I'm Outta Love" - Anastacia
- No. 6 - "Planet Love" - Taylor Dayne
- No. 7 - "Temperamental" - Everything But The Girl
- No. 8 - "Horny Horns" - Perfect Phase
- No. 9 - "When The Heartache Is Over" - Tina Turner
- No. 10 - "The Chase" - Girgio Moroder Vs/ Jam & Spoon

Melinda McSparrin has been a DJ for the past 18 years. She has worked as the original DJ at the Pendulum and most recently WKRB.

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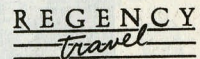
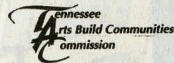
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Ask the CIS

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Question: How important is diet in preventing cancer?

Answer: Many elements found in fruits, vegetables and cereal grains have been found to slow or stop cancer development in research studies. Researchers also have discovered that people who eat lots of fruits, vegetables and whole grains have lower rates of cancers of the esophagus, mouth and throat, stomach, colon, rectum, lung, prostate and larynx. Scientists continue to study how certain foods work against cancer.

People have begun to make changes in the foods they choose and the ways these foods are prepared. Yet most people still eat too much fat and not enough fiber.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) encourages Americans to eat five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day. Here are healthy diet tips from the NCI:

- Dress salads with reduced-fat or nonfat salad dressings, lemon juice or salsa.
- Next time you have toast, try whole wheat bread with jelly instead of white bread with butter. You'll cut back on fat and double the fiber.

- Top baked potatoes with salsa or low-fat varieties of yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, margarine or hard cheese.

- Switch to skim or one-percent milk and other nonfat or lower-fat dairy products.

- Save fried foods and high-fat desserts for special occasions. Have a small amount or share a serving with a friend.

- When preparing lean meats, fish or poultry, trim all fat and remove any skin. Bake, poach or broil and limit your portion to about three ounces (the size of a deck of cards).

- Satisfy your sweet tooth with fruit juice, apple sauce, raisins or other dried fruit. For dessert, try low-fat yogurt or sherbet topped with berries.

For a free copy of the NCI's Action Guide for Healthy Eating, call the Cancer Information Service at (800) 4-CANCER.

Ask the CIS is distributed by the Mid-South Cancer Information Service (CIS). The CIS is a program of the National Cancer Institute. For more information, call the CIS toll-free at (800) 4-CANCER between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. local time.

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HIV-positive people offered free services

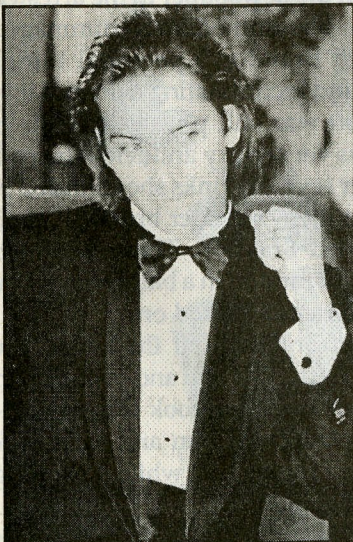
LeBonheur Memphis HIV Family Care Network announced that a new free service is available to anyone that is HIV-positive.

Vocational-rehabilitation is now offered, including assessment, evaluation, training and placement. A certified counselor will listen to your needs and the two of you will decide where to go with your career and job plans. Assessment is available and may include taking a written or job skills test to determine your areas of interests and abilities. Referrals will be made to other agencies as needed in order to gain the education, training or skills needed to obtain a job. And job placement is also offered.

If you are interested, please call Preston Archer at (901) 545-8265. LeBonheur Memphis HIV Care Network is located in the MedPlex, 880 Madison Ave.

Have Family & Friends Delivered To Your Door ... See Page 3

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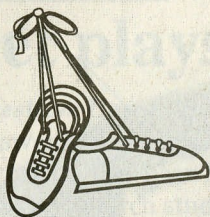
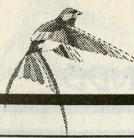
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TAKE A WALK

WITH STEVEN BRADFORD

A First-Hand Look at the Trans Community

For almost two hours, I felt totally devastated. When I left the theater, I felt like I was not the same person as I was when I went in. *Boy's Don't Cry* opened this weekend and I was there to live the experience with four other FTMs.

As I sat there and watched the life and death of Brandon Teena, I wondered if any of those people would have ever thought there were four of us just like Brandon sitting there watching the movie with them. How would they feel about it? Would they be able to accept us as they seemed to have accepted Brandon for who he was? Would our presence validate the kind of person Brandon was?

I saw so much of myself up on that big screen. Brandon could never confide in his friends and admit who he was. I think in so many ways, he could not admit it to himself. The pronouns do not fit and hearing them hurts so deeply. He made so many mistakes in his life and in the end, it cost him his life. He was 21 years old when he was brutally murdered by two of his friends. Can you imagine two of your

friends killing you out of anger, anger brought on because they found out you were gay?

Brandon was somewhat of a drifter. Since the time he left home, he never had a place of his own. He did not have a job to support himself and had written some bad checks he knew he wasn't good for. He also was arrested for grand theft auto.

I sat there thinking how stupid can he be? But the truth of the matter is, Brandon didn't have much choice. He used fake identification, which prevented him from getting a real job. He would easily be found out.

He knew he needed money.

In order for him to make the physical transition, he would be required to undergo at least six months of psychiatric evaluation which runs around \$120 a visit and often you are required to visit once a week. Hormone therapy costs around \$100 for 10 shots, which are taken every two weeks. Then there's the surgeries.

Let's assume that no revisions or corrective surgeries are needed. If that is the case, the chest surgery is \$5,000 to \$7,500 with the lower surgery ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000. No wonder he made bad decisions. I can remember feeling like there was nothing I wouldn't have done to get the money for surgery.

Brandon told a lot of stories to gain people's trust. It made him feel as though his friends would accept him better and he needed their approval. He told them he was a father to a small boy where he was

raised. He also said, after being arrested, that he was born with ambiguous genitalia. He told this same story to the young lady whom he had so desperately fallen in love with.

He needed her to love him and thought that by telling this lie, she would be better equipped emotionally to understand and accept him. I know this because I have done it myself. There is nothing like being rejected by someone you love because they cannot see you for who you are. To have someone you love look at you like they don't know you is heart-wrenching. And to have someone you love question their own sexuality totally invalidates who you are. Nothing could possibly hurt more.

Candace, the young lady Brandon was staying with, found Brandon's name in the newspaper in the arrested section. She immediately rummaged through Brandon's personal things and found incriminating evidence that Brandon was still physically female. She was very angry and felt betrayed.

After several drinks she confided in the two men that later brutally raped and killed Brandon. These two men stripped Brandon in a bathroom while several friends looked on.

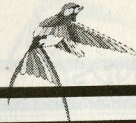
When Brandon left the house, the two men attacked him and pushed him into their car. They took him to a deserted place, beat him and each took their turn raping him while screaming encouragement to each other. Then, they picked him up, put him in their car sitting right between the two of them and then one of them fell asleep while the other drove back to his house.

They let Brandon take a shower and kept asking Brandon from the other



Chloe Sevigny, left, and Hilary Swank in a scene from *Boy's Don't Cry*, set to open March 10.

See Take A Walk, page 30



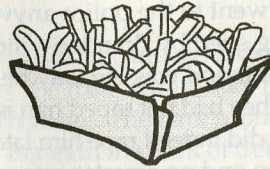
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8

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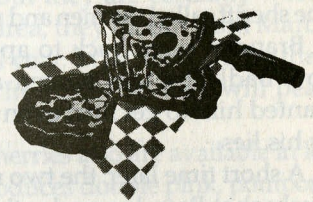
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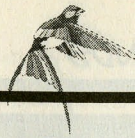
Pool Tournament



**Tuesday
8 p.m.**

**Strange Affair
Fridays**

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Take A Walk

from page 28

room, "Are you okay buddy, do you need any help?"

It was as if nothing had ever happened and Brandon was still their friend. They told Brandon not to tell a soul or they would kill him. He agreed but went to the police anyway.

The sheriff, who is now being sued by Brandon's mother, just couldn't understand why Brandon was the way he was. He was more interested in why they had not raped him in that bathroom than the fact that they did indeed rape him later.

Brandon left the police station and no arrests were made. The sheriff called the men and requested a meeting with them.

Brandon went back to apologize to Candace. She saw how badly he was beaten and took him in. She never wanted him to get hurt even though she had felt betrayed by his lies.

A short time later, the two men broke into the house, callously shot Brandon under the chin with the bullet coming out the back of his head, thus blowing his brains all over the wall. Candace ran through the hallway with her screaming two year-old boy by her side, they shot her in the head.

Brandon Teena's life was filled with turmoil; by who he

was, the decisions he made and his brutal and unnecessary death. Brandon kept saying he was heading to Memphis to start a new life

I left the theater wondering what if? What if he had made it to Memphis? What if he had found me once he got here? And mostly, why did this ever have to happen? Why?!

If only Brandon could **Take A Walk** with me in Memphis.



Memphis musician Susan Marshall performs during the Friends for Life fundraiser, "Judy Garland: The Rainbow Comes To MemphOz, Tenn.," held Feb. 20. For more on this event, see the April issue of *Family & Friends*.

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ROSITA'S

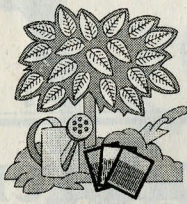
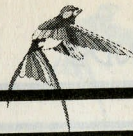


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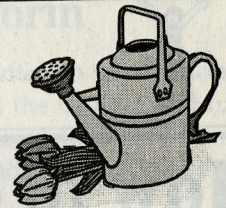
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In The
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(main lobby)



Keeping It Green With Jim Browne



Plants that we use in our yards and gardens change from year to year just as the fashions of clothes change. The Rose-of-Sharon, *Althaea*, was very popular in the '50s and '60s, fell out of vogue in the '70s and '80s, and has made a resurgence with the introduction of sterile varieties like 'Aphrodite,' a pure white variety with large flowers and no seed production.

Nearly 20 years ago, Memphis landscapers began to plant pear trees as specimen plants. This callery pear has become so popular that we now call it by its varietal name "Bradford." Alas, Memphis was again behind the curve when it came to plant fashions. The Bradford callery pears had already been completely removed from ag colleges across the Southeastern United States since they have a nasty habit of splitting apart once they become large enough to be a real show stopper! About 15 years after their introduction, but not before numerous private gardeners had already made the same mistake, the reputation of the Bradford pears made it to Memphis.

Slowly, Memphis gardeners are finding out. It is not a question of "If?" but rather "When?" will their Bradford pear collapse.

There is hope for the lovers of the "lollipop tree" as it is called. Look at your local nursery for other varieties of callery pear. Stronger, and less prone to damage, varieties include "Aristocrat," "Capitol," "Cleveland Select" and "Chanticleer." However, some of these varieties have a higher susceptibility to fireblight, a bacterial disease characterized by scorched leaves at the ends of branches. This condition is aggravated by excessive nitrogen fertilizers. If fertilizing a turf area with a typically high nitrogen lawn food, avoid the area around a callery pear.

The callery pears typically bloom from about March 5 through March 20. You will see wild pears blooming slightly earlier in wasteland areas adjacent to the interstate 240 loop.

The cherry tree is another notable ornamental tree for spring display. The Memphis Botanic Garden maintains an allee of Yoshino cherries along Cherry Road through Audubon Park. The Garden's Japanese Garden of Tranquility also has a grove of cherries. The largest of the Cherry Road trees were planted 40 years ago. However, most of the original planting has been replaced since these short-lived trees are usually only good for 30 years of beauty. Incidentally, this is the same variety that is planted around the Tidal Basin of Washington, D.C.

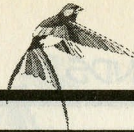
Yoshino cherries require space. They may only reach a

height of 20 feet, but spread out thirty to forty feet. As members of the rose family, they require full sunlight and excellent drainage. They are prone to borers – small worms that chew beneath the bark of trees and disrupt the flow of food from the leaves to the roots. But they are certainly worth your efforts. In the Memphis area, they bloom from March 20 through April 1 in a normal year. In Jackson, Miss., they will bloom one week earlier. In Nashville they will peak about five days later.

The Kwanzan and Okami cherries also are available in local nurseries. The Kwanzan produces double pink, pompon-like blossoms. Where I have seen it, this tree is much more upright and less spreading. The Okami cherry arrived in Memphis just five years ago. (No fashion tips from other areas are available). It produces a blaze of reddish pink blossoms, which are much smaller than the Kwanzan cherries. It, too, grows more upright. I've noticed it planted around bank parking lots in the Memphis area. The First Tennessee Bank at Trinity and Germantown Parkway is one place to view these beautiful trees. Unfortunately, last summer's continuing drought may have weakened these trees. Late in the season I noticed what appears to be borers attacking several in a median strip around Kirby and Neshoba near Germantown.

Other gardening duties this month include:

- Fertilize spring blooming bulbs, daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, etc. with a water-soluble fertilizer to improve bloom potential in future years. Note: In the Memphis area, tulips are treated as annuals. If consistent bloom is required, plant new bulbs next Thanksgiving.
- Remove leaf litter from azalea plantings. Do not allow leaves to accumulate around the base of azaleas since this build-up of organic matter may contribute to azalea die-back, a condition that typically hits older plantings.
- Don't procrastinate. If over-seeding shady fescue lawns to fill in gaps, do so by March 15. Also keep the area well-watered as the seeds germinate.
- Most dormant trees, shrubs and vines can go into the ground now. Early vegetables, i.e., peas, onions, etc., may also be planted if the soil is dry enough to work.
- Prune hybrid tea, grandiflora and floribunda roses back 12 to 18 inches in height removing any dead tissue. Always prune to leave outward pointing buds. This action encourages a more open rose bush, which in turn decreases disease problems.



Parents-R-US



How to exercise safely with your children

BY MARK MANDELL &
LEE JEFFREY BLOOMFIELD

You can feel it in the air. Springtime is here.

And with the coming of warmer weather arrives our desire to once again experience the joys of being out in nature. Many parents enjoy exercising outside, but often find themselves wondering how to safely combine activities such as jogging, biking or backpacking with the care and safety needs of their children.

In a recent issue of the journal *The Physician and Sports Medicine*, Dr. Bryant Stamford, a professor of exercise physiology at the University of Louisville, noted that while exercising with a small child in tow may be a great bonding experience for both parent and child, safety experts often are conflicted over the pros and cons of such activity.

So before taking along a baby or young child, parents need to consider all the factors, including risk.

"As a rule, the younger the child, the greater the risk - a crash could be disastrous for a newborn," warned Dr. Stamford. "But how likely is such an occurrence?" Parents need to closely weigh the risks, take every precaution and use common sense before embarking on an exercise outing with their children.

Dr. Stamford offered a number of suggestions for joggers, bikers and hikers who want to take their children along for the ride.

According to Dr. Stamford, pushing a stroller while running is a pretty safe activity. He advises that if you decide to buy a jogging stroller, "don't trade safety for savings."

It's important to find a model that is sturdy, stable and will not tip over on turns. Look for a deep seat and a secure seat belt. Also recommended is the wearing of safety wrist straps to keep stroller and jogger connected.

Dr. Stamford suggested taking a practice jog or two without the child to get used to the stroller. Try to jog during daylight hours if possible, and use familiar safe routes free of rough surfaces and crowds.

"A smooth running surface is a must to keep a baby's head from bouncing, which is important until the child is at least one," advised Dr. Stamford. A child's bicycle helmet offers protection, and large, slightly-deflated tires can decrease jostling.

Parents also must anticipate hazards like a car door opening or approaching cyclists. And never leave the stroller unattended, because it can easily get away from you.

One last thing to be mindful of is dressing your passen-

ger appropriately and making sure the child is neither under- nor over-dressed. Dr. Stamford also recommended sunblock and an overhead canopy to keep the sun off.

Bicycling with a young passenger may be more dangerous than jogging with a stroller. Dr. Stamford noted that bicycles are "by nature, unstable, and adding a seat decreases stability even more."

Caution should be used when carrying children heavier than 40 pounds because of this stability problem. In addition, special care must be taken with children under a year old, because their necks are weak and might be strained by bumps or the side-to-side motion of a bicycle being peddled uphill.

Whether choosing a front- or rear-mounted bicycle seat, parents should make sure that it has spoke guards, safety belts and adequate padding. It is important to securely fix it to the bike frame.

Another option is a bicycle trailer, which eliminates the top-heaviness issue and is safer if the bike crashes or falls. But also there are drawbacks, such as reduced communication, a rougher ride, more limited maneuverability and expense.

Regardless of the choice of seat or trailer, parents and children should avoid wearing items that can get caught in spokes or other moving parts. And helmets must always be worn by children and the cyclist.

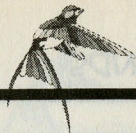
Though not entirely risk free, hiking with a child in a backpack may be the safest option for exercise, according to Dr. Stamford.

Comfort for the parent and child is important, especially on long walks. Padded shoulder straps and a waist belt help take much of the load off the parent's lower back. Large backpacks are more comfortable for the child and offer greater support. The backpack must comfortably keep a baby's back, trunk and head upright.

Carrying backpacks can affect balance, so Dr. Stamford suggested parents "take smaller steps, avoid rough, hard-to-see or slick terrain and don't walk too fast, especially when going downhill."

For more tips, please visit the Association of Trial Lawyers of America's (ATLA) "Keep Our Families Safe" web site at <http://familysafety.atla.org>.

Mark S. Mandell, past president of the ATLA, is a partner in the Providence, R.I., law firm of Mandell, Schwartz & Boisclair. Lee Jeffrey Bloomfield, past president of the Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association, is a partner in the Memphis law firm of Allen, Godwin, Morris, Laurenzi & Bloomfield.



FOR YOUR KIDS

Caterpillar Club to host events

The Caterpillar Club, for ages five and under, will present "Windy Days" on Tuesday, March 7, from 10 to 11 a.m., and again on Wednesday, March 8, from 11 a.m. to noon. Children can learn about the power of wind as they make wind socks and recycle kites for some old-fashioned outdoor fun! On Tuesday, March 21, from 10 to 11 a.m., and again on Wednesday, March 22, from 11 a.m. to noon, children can search for the end of the rainbow at "Lucky Charms." They will learn about good-luck charms and make some of their own. Cost is \$4 per session, all held at the Memphis Botanic Gardens, 750 Cherry Road in Audubon Park. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is requested; please call (901) 685-1566, ext. 110.

Children can celebrate arts

Children are invited to "celebrate the arts" at the Children's Museum of Memphis, 2525 Central Avenue, on Saturday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Performances by Ballet Memphis, Memphis Dance Group, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Playhouse on the Square, Opera Memphis and Theatre Memphis' ShoWagon will entertain you and your children. Children can take part in dancing, acting and music at hands-on activity stations. Refreshments also will be served. This special event is free (although admission to the museum is not included). Call (901) 458-2678 for more information.

Babysitting workshops planned

Children ages 11 to 13 can attend a free baby-sitting workshop set to be held at the following branches of the Memphis/Shelby County Public Libraries: Millington branch, 4858 Navy Road, on Monday, March 13; at the Germantown branch, 1925 Exeter, on Tuesday, March 14; at the East Shelby branch, 7200 East Shelby Drive, on Wednesday, March 15, and at the Bartlett Branch, 6382 Stage Road, on Thursday, March 16. All workshops last from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and registration is required. Please call the library branch to register or for more information.

See Kid Davie perform

Abracadabra! Children are invited to see magician Kid Davie perform amazing tricks at the Children's Museum of Memphis, 2525 Central Avenue, on Saturday, March 25. This event is free with museum admission. Call (901) 458-2678 for times and information.

It's Dr. Seuss' birthday

Families are invited to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with a breakfast at the Randolph branch of the Memphis/Shelby County Public Libraries, on Saturday, March 4, at 9 a.m. Registration is required by calling the branch (located at 3752 Given) at (901) 452-1068.

Mr. Chuck to tell stories

Children, ages three to five, are invited to a special storytime featuring WKNO children's television personality Mr. Chuck. He will be at the Cherokee branch library, 3300 Sharpe, on Wednesday, March 8, at 10 a.m.; the East Shelby branch library, 7200 East Shelby Drive, on Wednesday, March 22, at 11 a.m., and at the Hollywood branch library, 1530 North Hollywood, on Wednesday, March 29, at 10:30 a.m. Please call the branch for more information.

Learn to draw cartoons

Children, ages nine to 15, can sharpen their drawing skills with artist Danny Tennial at a cartoon workshop being held on Tuesday, March 21, at 3:30 p.m., at the Levi library branch, 3675 Highway 61 South. For more information, call the branch at 789-3140.

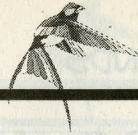
Artwork is needed

Alternative Family Magazine, a magazine dedicated to g/l/b/t parenting and families, is presently seeking artwork from children of g/l/b/t parents for upcoming issues in the "Kids' Room" section of the magazine and in the "Kids' Room" section of the website. The child's artwork needs to depict their family and/or activities which they like to participate in with their family.

If you would like your child to participate, please submit the artwork, the child's name (as you would like it published), state in which the child lives (optional) and age to the following address: AFM Publishing, Attn: Kids' Room, P.O. Box 7179, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

A photo of your child may also be submitted, but that, too, is optional. Any submitted photos should include an address, as the photo will be returned to you.

For more information, please check out their website at <http://www.altfammag.com>.



Southern Living classes planned at MBG

The Memphis Botanic Garden has been selected as one of the sites to host the *Southern Living* Gardening School. There will be two classes held on Tuesday, March 14, both led by Bill Slack, *Southern Living* garden specialist.

"Connoisseur Combinations," is set for 10 a.m. Want your garden to look like a picture? The secret is in choosing plants that look good together. Come explore how to effectively select and arrange your plants and make your garden memorable.

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FamilyMag@aol.com

There will be recipes for success, as well as principles to guide your own creative endeavors.

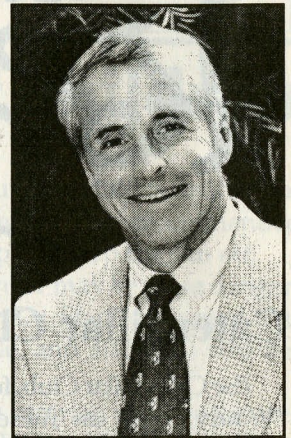
The 7 p.m. class is "The Sunny Side of Shade." Shade is too often regarded as a problem, but you can make it work for you. Nowhere is shade more welcome than during a Southern summer. The challenges of a shaded bed will be met head on and solutions will be offered that will make your garden spot an oasis. You will learn how to get the color you want, while celebrating the abundance of foliage.

Bill Slack, an Athens, Ga., native, is an authority on home landscape and garden design. He served as extension landscape architect at the University of Georgia for 13 years. During that time, the American Society of Landscape Architects named him one of the top extension landscape architects in

the United States. Slack has 18 publications to his credit and is a member of the American Horticultural Society.

Cost is \$15 per person per session and each participant will receive a gift bag from *Southern Living*. Memphis Botanic Gardens is located at 750 Cherry Road in Audubon Park.

For more information or to register, please call (901) 685-1566, ext. 106.



Bill Slack

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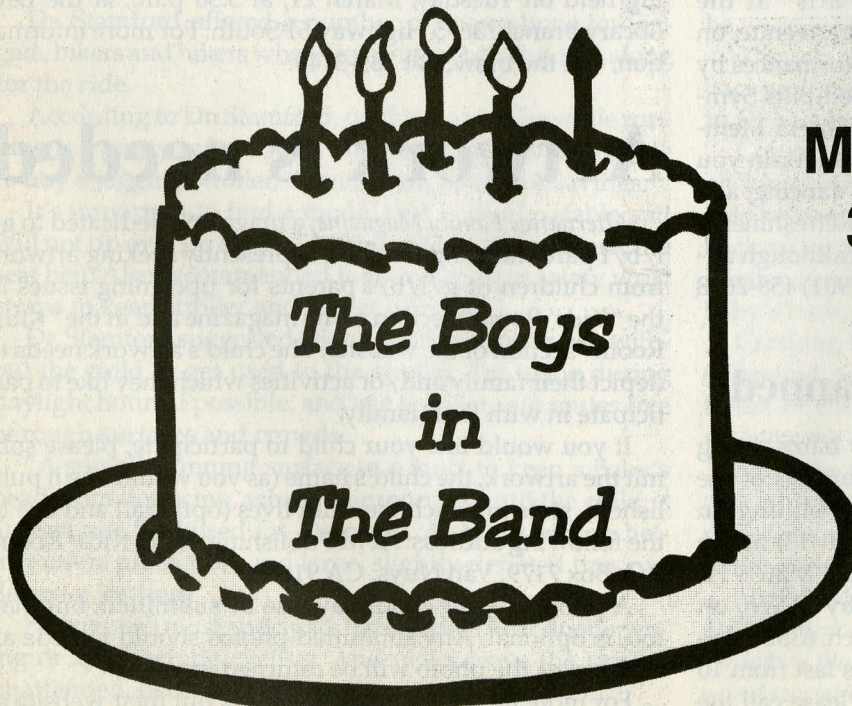
8 p.m. nightly

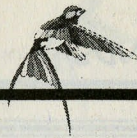
Tickets: \$10 each

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Circuit to stage Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

On an ordinary day, a girl named Alice sights a well-dressed, watch-carrying rabbit hurrying across the lawn. Alice's interest is peaked and her adventure begins.

You are invited to take a mystical ride of imaginative proportions with the characters of the classic, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, on stage at Circuit Playhouse, 1705 Poplar Avenue, March 3 to April 2.

Alice, an intelligent little girl with an active imagination, follows a small white rabbit and finds herself in a great big silly world where everything is turned upside down. Her inquisitive nature leads her into exploits with a caterpillar, talking flowers, the Mock Turtle and the March Hare. The doddering antics of the Mad Hatter, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, and the Queen of Hearts highlight the story. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* satisfies everyone's childhood fantasy about nonsensical dreams coming to life.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland was

written by Deborah Lynn Frockt, from the stories by Lewis Carroll. John Maness will direct this whimsical production and Alice will be portrayed by Playhouse intern Lisa McCormick.

Showtimes are 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays; Pay-What-You-Can Night will be Thursday, March, 2 at 7 p.m. There will be one other 7 p.m. show on Friday, March 3. Tickets are \$14 for adults; \$12 for seniors and \$10 for students, children and military.

For tickets or more information, please call the box office at (901) 726-4656.



Pictured are Daniel Martin as the White Rabbit and Lisa McCormick as Alice.



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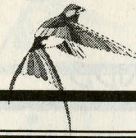
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STRAIGHT UP BUT NOT STRAIGHT

Advice on everything, and we mean EVERYTHING!



I recently ended a five-and-a-half year relationship. Into my fourth month of returning to the dating scene, I found myself frustrated, irritated and amazed at what our community had to offer. About to abandon any ideas of finding a decent guy, I found this terrific guy. He's all anyone could ever want in a mate. From the beginning he revealed to me he was HIV-positive. We've talked in great lengths about a relationship, safety and our feelings toward one another. Do you have any advice that may ease our concerns, and any potential problems?

I congratulate you on your eagerness to return to the dating scene. It can be a wretched place for a vulnerable new kid on the block. You either bark or get eaten in a dog-eat-dog world.

As to your new-found friendship, I would exercise caution. After all, it has only been a couple of month's since you ended a relationship. Taking it easy and slow would be my best advice.

As to future concerns and potential problems, however; I'm sure you guys will have your fair share of experiences that any new relationship faces. Cheers to this guy's honesty relative to his HIV status.

I would recommend continued conversations of feelings, honesty and mutual respect as you guys define your interaction with one another. Playing it safe seems like a good choice; both in and out of the bedroom. Even with relationships where one partner or both are HIV positive, the relationship can still be just as pleasurable, just as emotionally-fulfilling, and just as loving as any non-HIV positive couple so long as each partner remains open, committed and educated. There are some really good books out on dating in the days of HIV and AIDS. Good luck and let me hear from you.

...

I met this terrific guy a couple months back. We had everything in common; he made me laugh, he is a well-rounded guy. But he has a cold heart. If I try to get close to him, he runs away. He has this wall of something built around him that I can't break through. How do I begin to clear things up and help this man feel? I know he is too scared to open up to anyone. Am I opening a can of worms? Please help.

I understand how you feel. We all want to share with and relate to the people we love. While your motivation is pure in that you want someone you love to open up and show real feeling, the truth is that you cannot make him

feel what he does not.

In other words, the journey to emotional awareness is one he must go through on his own.

I wonder what makes him cold. Does he have wounds from the past that need addressing? Has he lost faith in love?

You may want to take some time and contemplate your path for future days. Ask yourself what it is about this man who is cold that makes your heart burn passionately. Look at what drives your heart toward a man who is less than passionate about love.

Once you are able to establish the landscape of your journey, you will step forward and take away the bed of thorns from your horizon. Then, your decisions about this and other loves will be founded on the basic principle of self-awareness. Here is where all great romantic journeys begin.

In other words - don't focus on getting him to open up. Let him express himself in his own time and in his own way! Ask yourself: "How long am I willing to wait for him to open up?" "How long is toooooo long?"

Embrace today and work toward finding someone who is ready and willing to give you the love you need, and more importantly deserve.

Questions are answered by two people, a gay male and a lesbian, in an attempt to get the best and most fair answers possible. Each person has a master's degree in the counseling field. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the magazine. For serious problems, seek professional help. Send questions to Family & Friends, P.O. Box 771948, Memphis, TN 38177-1948, or e-mail them to FamilyFriendsMphs@yahoo.com.

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WEBSITE AT

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Keeping It Green

from page 31

- Feed roses with an alfalfa tea. Locate low-salt alfalfa from the feed store. Use one cup of alfalfa to every three gallons of water. Place the pellets in a plastic trash container. Fill the container with water and allow the pellets to soak for three or four days. Use one to two cups of solution per rose bush. Alfalfa tea contains a growth hormone that induces additional basal breaks on roses. It also is beneficial to numerous other plants in moderation.

- This is the last chance to prune most fruit trees, grapevines, etc. for the year.

- It is now time to divide perennials in the garden.

- Remove any overwintering plant debris from irises and daylilies. Spray these plants with Isotox or Cygon 2E to control thrips on daylilies and borers on irises.

Jim Browne, Director of Public Relations for the Memphis Botanic Garden, writes the "Gardener's Checklist" for the Commercial Appeal's Home and Garden section. He co-hosts "In the Garden with Jim Browne and Vador Vance" on News Radio 600 WREC from 8 to 10 am. His e-mail address at the Memphis Botanic Garden is jamerbro@memphis.magibox.net

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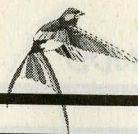
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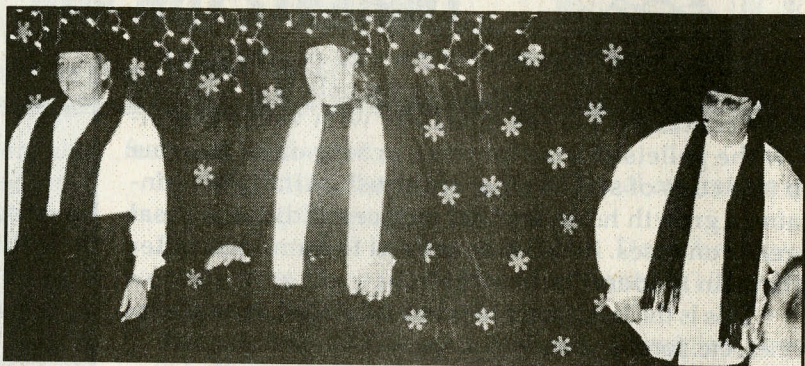
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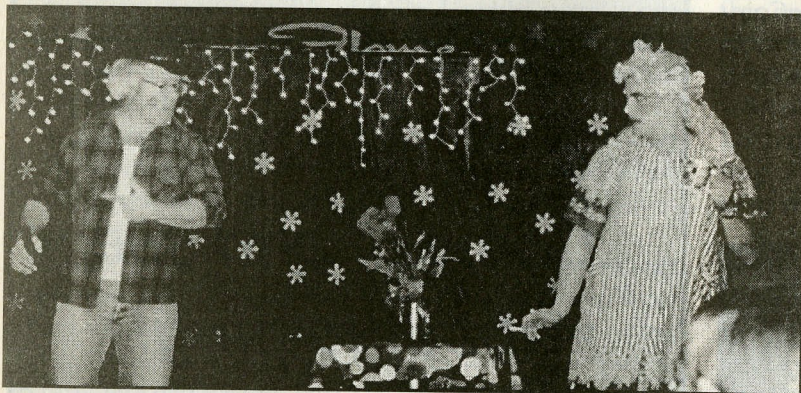
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Family Album ... Fundraiser for FFLC



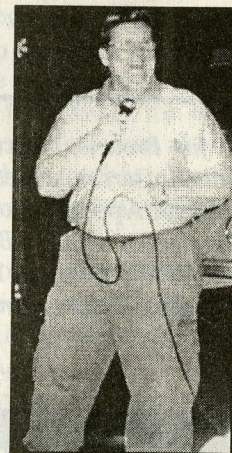
Aphrodite members Kay, Carol and Debbie



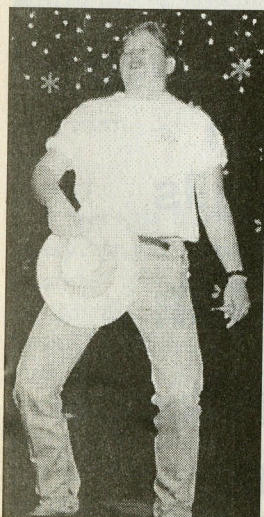
Rev. Tim and Chris ham it up for the audience.



Hettie McDaniels



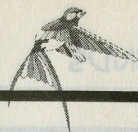
Sharon Wray



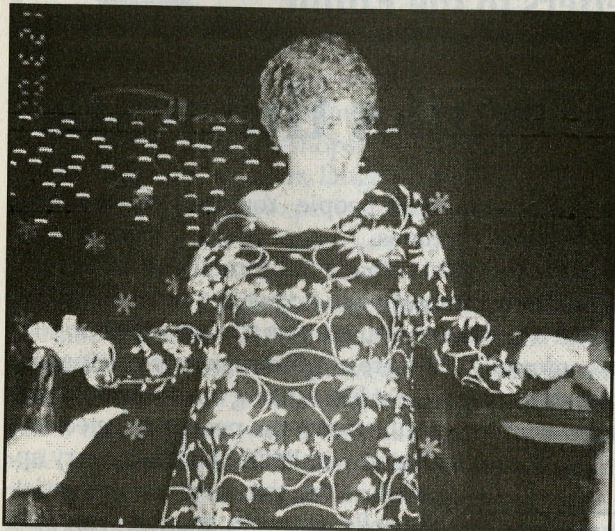
Jim Bob



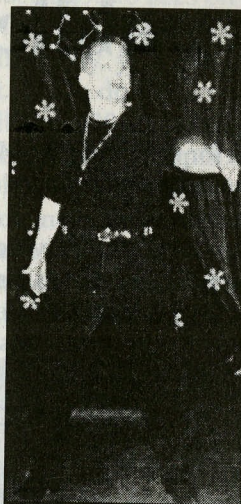
Rev. Ed all in pink.



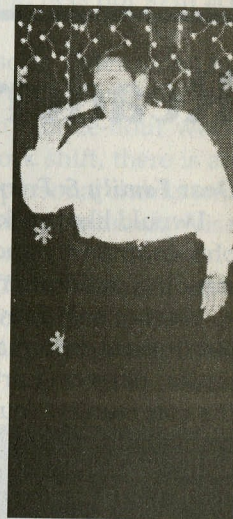
Family Album ... Fundraiser for F7CC



Aphrodite's Cindi does "Mama."



"Rebel"



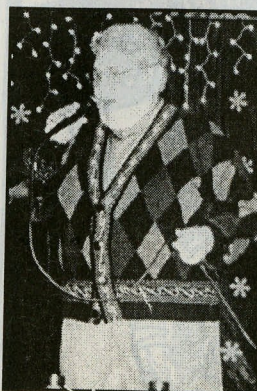
Aphrodite's Kay



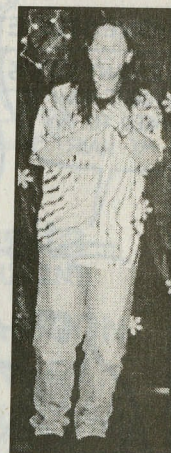
Mystic Krewe of Memphis United's Ed, Bill and Kathy



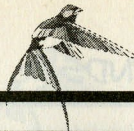
Terry performs for the crowd.



B.J. Hefner



Diane



Your Turn

Letters to the Editor



Reader says publication 'walks the walk'

Dear *Family & Friends*:

I would like to acknowledge you for providing the Memphis community and neighbor communities with an outstanding publication, as well as service.

You not only provide good journalism, you provide entertainment, informative articles, spiritual direction, health issues, parenting articles, and (with great pride) faces of the community. You are to be recognized for your respect

and non-judgement of all people. You are very open and honest with your opinions.

I think the thing that stands out foremost is your commitment to the community. You do not just publish a magazine and let it end there. You are visually active in supporting the community. You are at fund raisers, participating, showing your support, not just writing an article or taking a picture. Your care and concern for people infected and

affected with HIV/AIDS was very apparent in the role you played Christmas collecting toys, money, wrapping paper, and other items for the Loving Arms families. Your support of agencies is widespread. You don't play favoritism. You are the first to make a donation to agency auctions. You are the first to support any new efforts in the community. I guess what I am trying to say is that you "Walk the Walk" not just "Talk the Talk."

Memphis is very fortunate to have *Family & Friends*. I hope you receive the support you deserve from our community because you have certainly given your support.

Love and Light,
Sheila Tankersley
Director/Loving Arms



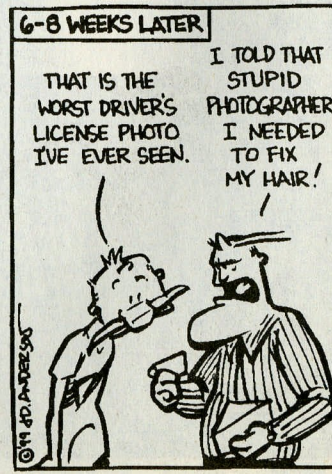
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HONESTLY ETHEL by John D. Anderson





12th Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival slated

Camp Sister Spirit will hold its 12th Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival, Thursday to Monday, April 20 to 24.

All women can join their southern sisters for four days of empowerment, entertainment and encouragement. Music, arts and crafts, workshops, new and old friends, southern food, spring weather, laughter, games, resources and information can all be expected. Slated to entertain you are Sonia Rutstein, Sandy Rapp, Lee Hoffman, Shelley Graff, and Lisa Cohen.

Camp Sister Spirit is located on 120 acres near Hattiesburg, Miss. All facilities are ramped and wheelchair accessible and all indoor spaces are pet/scent/smoke free. There are plenty of RV and tent spaces and a limited number of cabin spaces with a centrally located shower house and latrine. Also available are large and small indoor and outdoor meeting spaces and nature trails.

If you have children, boys age six and under are welcome. However, daughters of any age may attend. Children's activities are planned.

Camp Sister Spirit is a clean and sober space and a non-

violent Space. No illegal drugs, alcohol, pets nor s/m activity are allowed.

Cost is \$95 to \$225 on a sliding fee scale, determined by the number of days you attend and on your yearly income. Additionally, you will be asked to do a three-hour work shift. If you do not want to do the work shift, there is an additional \$20 added to your cost. No personal checks will be accepted after April 10 and there are no refunds. Visa and MC are accepted.


For more information check out Camp Sister Spirit's website at www.rainbowpriderv.net/css or email them at sisterspir@aol.com, call at (601) 344-1411 or write at GCWF, P.O. Box 12, Ovett MS 39464-0012.

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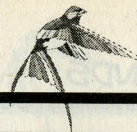
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ABOUT TOWN



Brooks presents works

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, located in Overton Park, presents the works of Donald Sultan now through April 5. "Donald Sultan: In the Still Life Tradition" features 20 of the artist's large-scale paintings, including his well-known vases and flowers, lemons, dominoes and buttons, as well as his latest works of red tomatoes. Sultan's studies in contrast are not painted on canvas but on Masonite-covered floor tiles. Cutting the shapes he desires into the vinyl he paints over it, thus creating texture. For more information, call (901) 544-6200 or visit online at www.brooksmuseum.org.

Lecture is scheduled

"African-American Women in the History of Memphis," will be presented by Elaine Turner of Heritage Tours on Wednesday, March 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Farris meeting rooms A and B at State Technical Institute at Memphis, 5983 Macon Cove. For more information, please call (901) 333-4512.

Gardening workshop slated

In preparation for spring, the Memphis/Shelby County Public Libraries will be conducting a gardening workshop on Saturday, March 18, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Germantown Branch, 1925 Exeter. Booker Leigh, UT agricultural extension agent, will host the program, which will offer expert help and advice on growing plants, landscaping and gardening. You are invited to bring your questions, your plants and even those insect pests you can't seem to get rid of to the workshops. For more information, call the branch at (901) 754-3702 or LINC at (901) 725-8895.

History to come to life

Watch history come to life as the Memphis Pink Palace Museum, 3050 Central Avenue, will be filled with costumed-characters and live demonstrations Saturday, March 25, from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call (901) 320-6362.

Celebration is planned

On Thursday, March 23, a Jazz/Poetry Fest, featuring Galen the Flutist, will be held from noon to 2 p.m. to celebrate African-American History Month. This artistic endeavor will be held at the Farris meeting rooms A, B and C at State Technical Institute at Memphis, 5983 Macon Cove. For more information, please call (901) 333-4512.

Volunteers needed at MBG

"Rake, Shovel and Hoe" is Memphis Botanic Garden's annual spring clean-up event. Volunteers are asked to help manicure the rose, cactus, herb, daylily and wild flower gardens. Please bring your rakes and pruners. Hot chocolate, hot coffee and donuts are offered to keep you going. Please call (901) 685-1566, ext. 122 to sign up and for more information.

Kinnear to lecture, demonstrate

Charles Kinnear, internationally-acclaimed as one of the best floral designers in the world, will offer his wisdom and skills at Hardin Hall at the Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Road in Audubon Park. Kinnear will hold a lecture and demonstration on Tuesday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to noon, entitled "Designs for the New Millennium." Cost is \$20 per person.

Kinnear also will hold two unique design workshops on Wednesday, March 22. This first will be from 9 a.m. to noon and the second from 2 to 5 p.m. Cost is \$75 per person which includes flowers and containers.

Reservations are required for all events by Friday, March 17. Checks should be made payable to the Memphis & Shelby County Area Council of Garden Clubs, c/o Mary Muller, 7887 Highway 72, Germantown, TN 38138. For more information, please call (901) 685-1566, ext. 106.

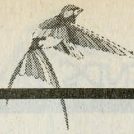
Guided tour of downtown set

Take a guided walk through downtown Memphis and find out about the people and places in the city's historic past. The two-hour "Downtown Walking Tour" starts at Magevney House, 198 Adams Avenue, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 18. Cost is \$9 per person; please call (901) 523-1484 to register.

Carol Plunk sets play dates

You can catch Carol Plunk at One More, 2117 Peabody, every Sunday in March beginning at 5 p.m. On Sundays, March 12 and 26, she will move over to Neil's, 1835 Madison, to start the show there at 9 p.m. In Jackson, Tenn., she will be at North End Grill on Saturday, March 18, at 9 p.m. and Barley's on Friday, March 24, at 8 p.m.

And on Friday, March 31, peruse the books at Borders, 6685 Poplar Avenue, before she begins her show at 8 p.m.



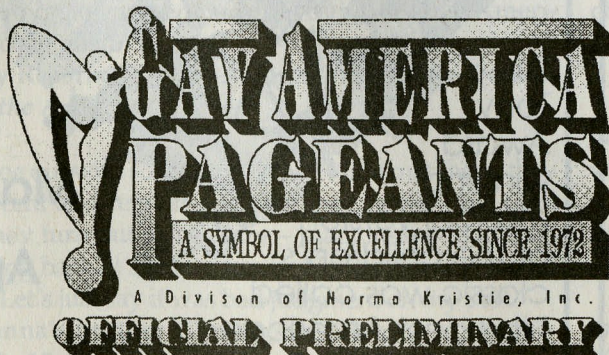
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Memphis Pride Inc. announces theme

Plans are already underway for Memphis Pride Inc.'s Pride Festival 2000, this summer.

Already MPI has selected this year's official festival theme: "Color Me Human, Color Me Proud, Color Me Equal."

According to MPI Chair Daniel Forest, "The first sequence, 'Color Me Human,' was borrowed from a civil rights slogan. It was felt that by using it and enhancing its meaning, it would draw attention to the similarities between the social struggle for equality of GLBT persons of

today with those which the African American community began to overcome as a result of the civil rights movement in the 1960s."

Forest explained that the idea of "color" is "appropriate for a community which uses the rainbow as its universal symbol. The logical sequence suggests that first we must be recognized as a visible entity and viable segment of society - our being human - which will help to foster pride in being who we are and exactly as we are made to be, which in turn helps give the confidence in ourselves to stand up to discrimination and achieve equality."

MPI is now accepting suggestions for a Pride Festival 2000 logo based on the theme mentioned above.

"The logo will be used in MPI merchandising this year," Forest explained. "The 1999 theme was generously donated by Joel Chapman and 1998's logo by Bob Goode."

Anyone interested in submitting a logo idea for consideration should mail their submission to Pride Logo 2000, c/o Memphis Pride Inc., P.O. Box 111265, Memphis, TN 38111, or email them to MphsPride@aol.com or Pride@gaymemphis.com.

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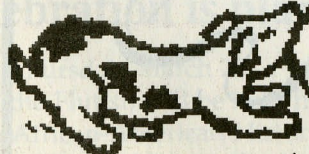
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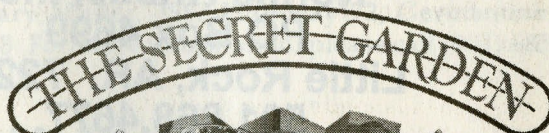
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Tracy Clark, Owner

Unity in Community

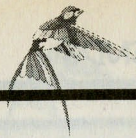
Playhouse on the Square



The Tony Award winning musical version of the children's classic was called "the best American musical of the Broadway season" by *Time*.

Mar. 10
-
Apr. 9

Call
726-4656



Quote

"Only in a so weirdly superstitious and sectarian country as the U.S. could a personal identity be forged out of sexual desire, the most fluctuating of all transient emotion."

– **Writer Gore Vidal to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Jan. 13**

"I can't do anything to help Matt anymore. But maybe I can use this platform to help others. He would want me to be doing it. He always said I shouldn't have been a housewife, I should have a career."

– **Judy Shepard, Matthew's mother, on her expanding role as a gay rights activist, at a San Francisco press conference, Jan. 27. Shepard is campaigning against Proposition 22, the California ballot initiative that would ban gay marriage.**

"There are hundreds and thousands of people that I represent that are just like me that don't happen to have two Grammys that this affects. And this affects me deeply. What Proposition 22 does is tell me, my partner, my children, that we are less than my neighbor."

– **Melissa Etheridge at a Jan. 28 Beverly Hills press conference against Proposition 22, California's anti gay marriage ballot initiative**

"I don't see the Pet Shop Boys as a gay pop group. I mean, do you have to see Benjamin Britten as a gay composer?"

– **Pet Shop Boys singer Neil Tennant to *Out* magazine, January issue**

"I like the idea of amending the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation. It would be simple. It would be straightforward. We don't need to rewrite the laws currently on the books, although I do think we need to address hate-crimes legislation. But amending the Civil Rights Act would grant the same protection to gay people that we give to other Americans – it's only fair."

– **Likely Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to *the Advocate*, Feb. 15**

"I've gone out with some nuts. When I first met them, they seemed decent and regular and said they weren't big fans, but then they turn out to be crazy – mad, insane Madonna fans. Looking back, it's pretty funny. Nobody's ever caused any harm. Let's just say it was bad judgment on my part."

– **Madonna's brother Christopher Ciccone to *the Advocate*, Feb. 15**

"Being gay wasn't a prerequisite of being in the group,

Unquote

it was how well you sang and you danced. But it was basically a group formed to appeal to gay audiences."

– **Village People construction worker David Hodo to London's *Gay Times*, February issue**

"When you are happy in your life, you do your job better. I think she makes me feel good and we have a great relationship and she brings me a lot of confidence. I didn't have as much in 1998, but bit by bit it is coming and I am getting stronger in my mind, and on the court it helps a lot."

– **French lesbian tennis pro Amelie Mauresmo on lover and coach, Sylvie Bourdon, after winning the Sydney International on Jan. 15**

"Everybody looks for faint hope in these crappy (HIV) drugs that are out there thinking that they're going to get people through. What we're saying today is they're not, and there isn't any good news, and you've got to be scared again. And it's only fear that's going to get people off their duff."

– **Activist Larry Kramer in a Jan. 7 interview at <http://my.webmd.com/>**

"Marriage has got historic, religious and moral content that goes back to the beginning of time and I think a marriage is as a marriage has always been, between a man and a woman. ... I think we ought to provide partnership benefits (for gay couples) and make it possible for people to do with their loved ones what anyone in a relationship should be able to do."

– **Hillary Clinton, Jan. 10**

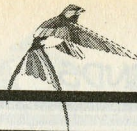
"He's musical, which means a lot to me, and I admire his work."

– **Melissa Etheridge on why she and lover Julie Cypher choose rock singer David Crosby to father their kids, to *Rolling Stone*, Jan. 14**

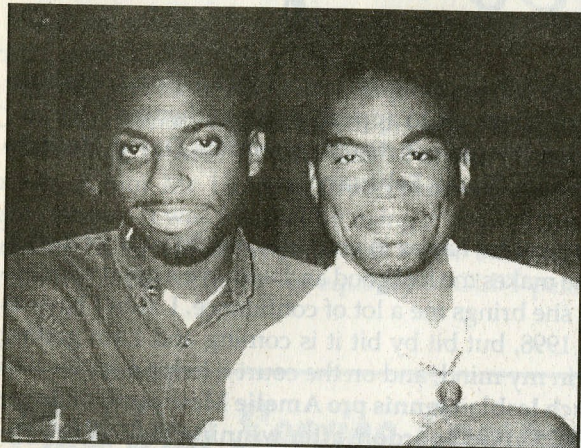
"I split up with my boyfriend last June. So I'm single now, but too tired to be available. Now, I curl up at night with my hot water bottle and an Agatha Christie book."

– **Cabaret star Jon Peterson to *Family & Friends*, February issue**

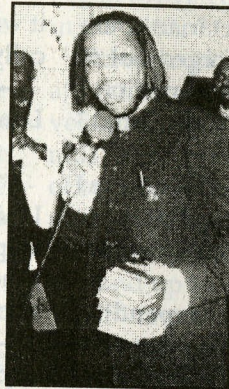
Quotes compiled by Rex Wockner, who has reported news for the gay press since 1985. His work has appeared in more than 200 gay publications. He has a B.A. in journalism from Drake University, started his career as a radio reporter, and has written extensively for the mainstream media as well.



Family Album ... Brothers United



Derrick and Anthony



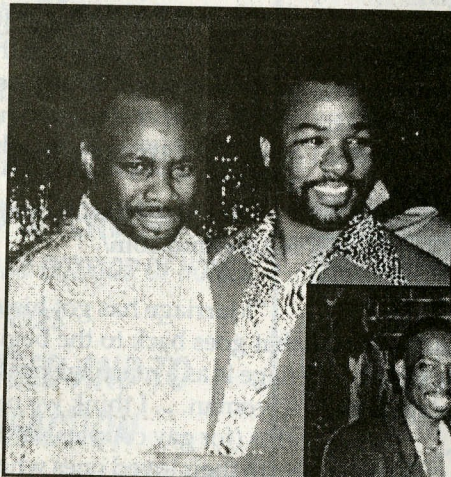
Corey



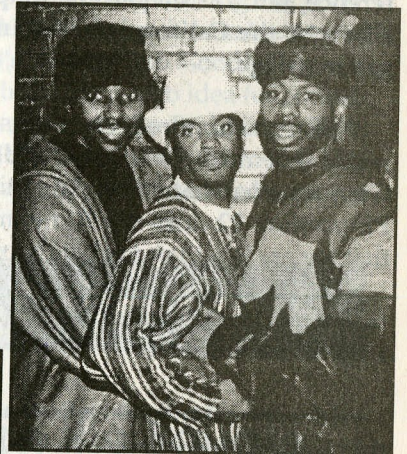
The brothers enjoy each other's company.



Anthony and Sam



Anthony and Jared



James, Anthony and Tramel



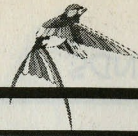
Stan, Anthony and Derrick



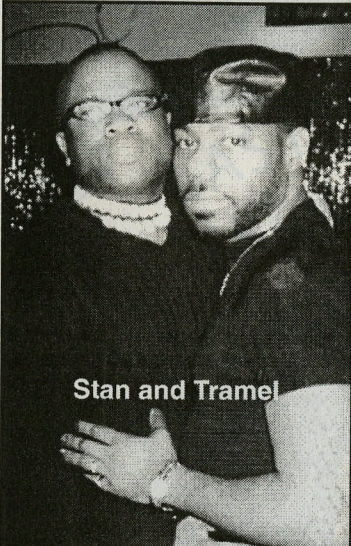
Derrick and Anthony



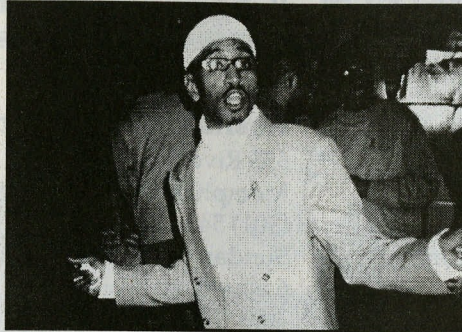
Avery, Anthony and Sam



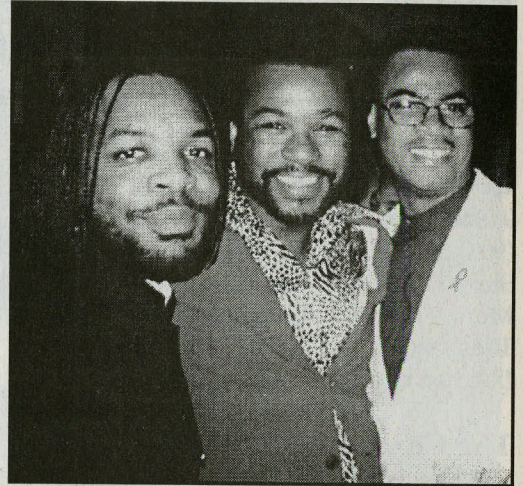
Family Album ... Brothers United



Stan and Tramel



"Buggs"



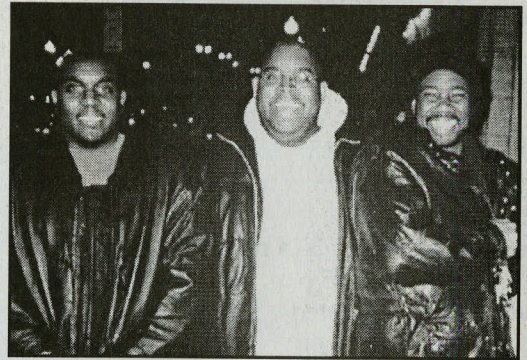
Corey, Jared and Sam



Anthony and Avery



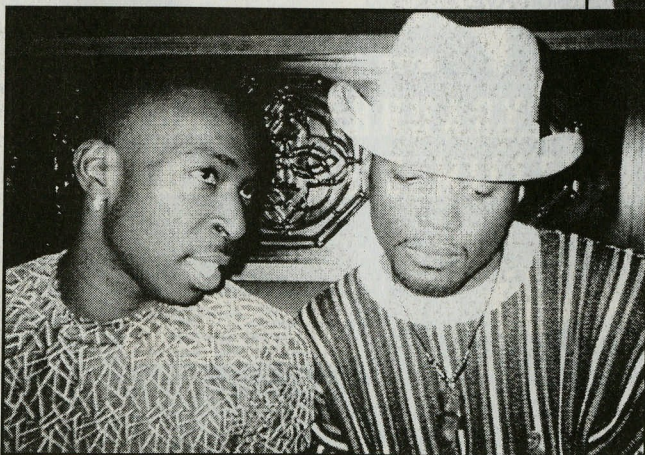
Uncle Nate and DeWayne



Maurice, Tory and Anthony



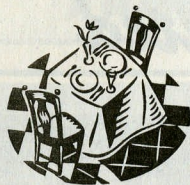
Fox and Jared



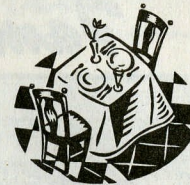
Derrick and Anthony



Louis and Clyde



MEMPHIS RESTAURANT GUIDE



Cooper Street Bar & Grill

948 South Cooper
(901) 272-9400

Sun., 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. (kitchen closes at midnight)
Mon., 11:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. (kitchen closes at midnight)
Tues.-Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 3 a.m.
(kitchen closes at 2 a.m.)

The Chicago Steakhouse

Gold Strike Casino Resort – Tunica
(601) 357-1225

Sun. -Thurs., 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Fri. & Sat., 5 p.m. to midnight
Reservations Suggested

Cafe Society

212 North Evergreen
(901) 722-2177

Lunch: Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m. till 2 p.m.
Dinner: Mon.-Sun., 5 p.m. till 10 p.m.
Reservations suggested

Metro Memphis

1349 Autumn Street
(901) 274-8010

Open 11 a.m. - 3 a.m., seven days a week

Cafe Ole'

2127 Young Avenue
(901) 274-1504

Mon.-Thu., 11 a.m. till 10 p.m.
Fri., 11 a.m. till 11 p.m.
Sat., 11:30 a.m. till 11 p.m.
Sun., 11:30 a.m. till 10 p.m.

The Bourbon Street Cafe

(In the French Quarter Suites)

2144 Madison
(901) 728-4000

Breakfast: Mon.-Sat., 7am-10am
Champagne Brunch: Sun., 11:30 a.m. till 2 p.m.
Dinner: Sun.-Thur., 5 p.m. till 10 p.m., and Fri. & Sat.,
5 p.m. till 11 p.m.

Rosita's Deli & More

655 Riverside Drive
Memphis, TN

(901) 543-0627
Sunday through Saturday
6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

In the Grove

2865 Walnut Grove
(901) 458-9955

Sunday, 5 p.m. till 1 a.m.
Mon.-Thur., 5 p.m. till 1 a.m.
Fri.-Sat., 5 p.m. till 2 a.m.

K.A. Karma

394 N. Watkins
(901) 276-5566

Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m. till 2 a.m.
Sat.-Sun., 4 p.m. till 2 a.m.

Molly Gonzales' La Casita Mexican Restaurant

2006 Madison Ave.
(901) 726-1873

Lunch and Dinner: Mon.-Thur., 11 a.m. till 10 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.
till 11 p.m.; Sat., noon till 11 p.m., and Sun., noon till 10 p.m.

Neil's

1835 Madison Ave.
(901) 278-NEIL

Open 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. seven days a week, year-round.

P & H Cafe

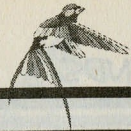
1532 Madison
(901) 726-0906

Closed Sun
Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m. till 3 a.m.

Bogie's Delicatessen

2098 LaSalle Place (behind Paulette's)
(901) 272-0022

Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. till 6 p.m.
Sat., 8 a.m. till 5 p.m.



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by attending the benefit show
Sunday, March 12th
at 7 p.m. at

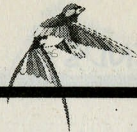
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Memphis Pride Inc. plans annual spring picnic

Recent spring-like weather has everyone thinking about picnics and summertime, Memphis Pride Inc. included.

The third annual Memphis Pride Spring Picnic has been set for Saturday, April 15, beginning at noon in Overton Park in Midtown.

According to MPI officials, "MPI decided to relocate the annual picnic to Overton Park as an alternative site to give the community a change from the previous years' site at Shelby Farms."

The picnic will be held on the east side of the park near

the East Parkway entrance. Food and beverages will be sold, or you can bring your own picnic for the day. MPI officials also said they intend to have door prizes and games, including a scavenger hunt, to enjoy.

In conjunction with the picnic, MPI will present the winners of the Memphis Pride Awards, which will be selected by the public. This is your chance to vote for those you think deserve recognition. Complete the ballot below or, if you would prefer a ballot be mailed or emailed to you, call MPI at (901) 32-PRIDE. Ballots must be postmarked by April 10 to be tallied.

Memphis Pride Award Ballot

Make a nomination of individual, organization or business as indicated for each category. Ballots without signature information or where the signature information is illegible will not be accepted. Remit completed form to Memphis Pride Inc., P.O. Box 111265, Memphis, TN 38111. DEADLINE IS APRIL 10, 2000.

Lifetime Achievement _____

Organization of the Year _____

Helping Hands Award - Individual _____

Helping Hands Award - Group _____

Female Role Model of the Year _____

Male Role Model of the Year _____

Spiritual Leadership Award _____
(Can be group/individual/church)

Best Publication _____

Entertainer of the Year _____

Best Dance Club _____

Best Neighborhood Bar _____

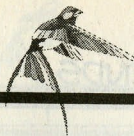
Gay-Owned Business of the Year _____
(non-bar)

Gay-Supportive Business of the Year _____
(non-gay owned)

..... MUST BE COMPLETED

Submitted By: _____ Phone #: _____

(Print Your Name)



B.J. Hefner, Sharon Wray host benefit show

BY ANITA MOYT
MANAGING EDITOR

On Sunday, Jan. 23, there was a really big show at Madison Flame. B.J. Hefner spearheaded this benefit for her church, Holy Trinity Community Church. With the help of Sharon Wray, owner of Madison Flame, the two co-produced a wonderful show and raised slightly more than \$6,200 for Holy Trinity Community Church (HTCC).

Hefner talked to *Family & Friends* about there being such a great response from those who attended.

"They were shoving \$50 and \$100 bills at me as I walked (about the bar)," she said.

Tom and Trent, owners of One More donated \$1,000 and one man in our community donated \$3,000. Obviously, the tip buckets were full. And every dollar counted and was not only welcomed but also well deserved by HTCC.

The show included one very special duo - Rev. Tim Meadows and his partner Chris. Rev. Ed Hammitt put on a pretty pink wig for his number. Other staff and members of HTCC also took the stage or helped out. Aphrodite con-

tributed several numbers to the show. And there were many other performers from the Memphis and surrounding area who also lent a helping hand to put on a great show. (Check out the "Family Albums" on pages 38 and 39 for some of the highlights of the night.)

HTCC has reached out in many ways to our community, besides welcoming all people to worship, without regard to their sexual orientation. About a year ago, HTCC moved to its new location on Summer Avenue, in what was formerly a bank building, and has been remodeling and renovating the building to make it a church, as well as a place to meet many needs in the community.

"I want to thank all the performers for such a wonderful, great job," Hefner said. "I want to thank everybody for such a great show. It is a great church doing a lot out there - The Wellness Center, MAGY and other groups (are provided space there)."

Hefner said she has been a member of HTCC for about nine years. And Hefner is serious about going to church.

"I don't care where you go so long as you go to church ... even if it's just you and God in the park," Hefner concluded.

Anyone else wishing to donate to the Holy Trinity Community Church, can call either Hefner at One More, Wray at Madison Flame, or the church.

DJ Wolfy at
METRO
MEMPHIS

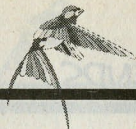
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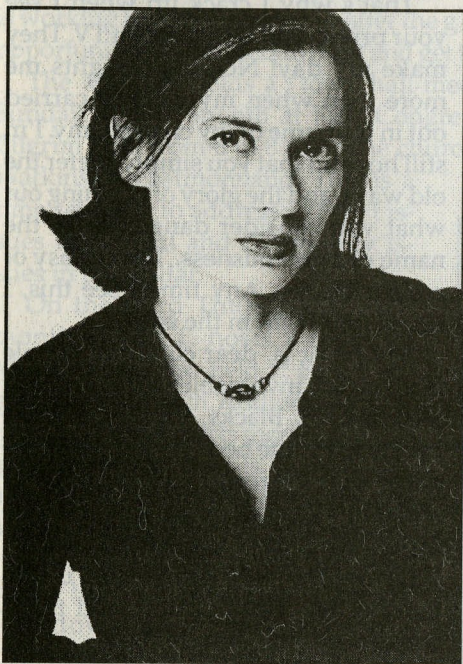
UNION PLANTERS
IMAX
THEATER
MEMPHIS PINK PALACE MUSEUM



Boys Don't Cry to open in Memphis March 10

Boys Don't Cry, the much-publicized movie about the life and death of Brandon Teena, will be at the Bartlett Cinema 10, 2809 Bartlett Boulevard, beginning on Friday, March 10.

From the middle of America emerged an extraordinary double life, a complicated love triangle and a crime that would shatter the heartland.



Director Kimberly Peirce

In Falls City, Neb., Brandon Teena (Hilary Swank) was a newcomer with a future who had the small, rural community enchanted. Women adored him and almost everyone who met this charismatic stranger was drawn to his charming innocence. But, Falls City's hottest date and truest friend had one secret: he wasn't the person people thought he was.

Back home in Lincoln, Neb., just 75 miles away, Brandon Teena was a different person caught up in a personal crisis that had haunted him his entire life.

Like many young people, he made costly mistakes and when he inadvertently trespassed between his new love Lana (Chloe Sevigny) and her reckless friend John (Peter Sarsgaard), the mystery unraveled into violence.

In a single, short life, Brandon Teena was at once a dashing lover and a trapped outsider, both an impoverished nobody and a flamboyant dreamer, a daring thief and the tragic victim of an unjust crime.

Boys Don't Cry explores the contradictions of American youth and identity through the true life and death of Brandon Teena. What emerges from a dust-cloud of mayhem, desire and murder is the story of a young American drifter searching for love, a sense of self and a place to call home.

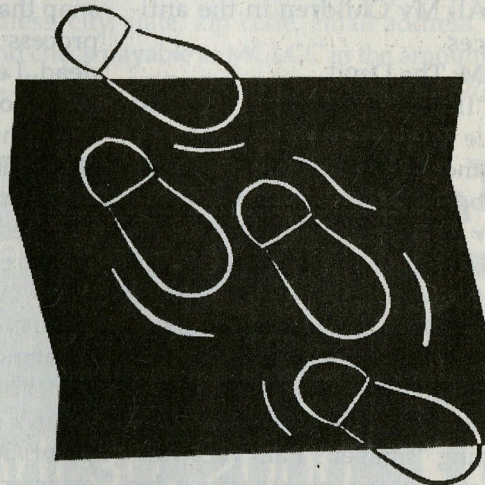
The film is directed by Kimberly Peirce from a script by Peirce and Andy Bienen. Hilary Swank takes the lead in what could be an Oscar-winning performance as Brandon Teena. The film also stars Chloe Sevigny, Peter Sarsgaard,

Brendan Sexton III, Alison Folland, Alicia Goranson, Matt McGrath, Rob Campbell and Jeannetta Arnette.

"Here was a character who was already becoming an icon

See *Boys*, Page 58

LifeWalk 2000



Saturday, March 11, 2000

Memphis

AIDS

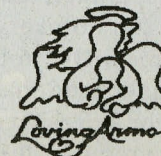
5K Walk/

Run

at Shelby Farms

7161 Mullins Stations Road

A Benefit For
Hope House and Loving Arms





LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

A memo from downstairs: a satirical letter

BY ADRIANNE J.
PRICE
GUEST WRITER

TO: All My Children in the anti-gay forces

FROM: The Devil

RE: "If I were the Devil, I would convince the world that people are born homosexuals and their lifestyles should be accepted and marveled at."

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you so much for your charming quote! I wish to convey my sincere appreciation for all your fine work in my behalf! As mankind grows ever more loathsomely peaceful and tolerant, I find my supply of souls is actually getting "smaller." I am very worried, as you can imagine, because this was NEVER supposed to happen. I had planned for the 20th and 21st centuries to yield me a bumper crop of human souls, what with the atomic bomb, bio-warfare and the fine old custom of genocide, but for reasons that are unclear, it has not worked out that way.

I find this situation extremely frustrating. In the past, it was very easy for me to obtain the souls of humans. All I had to do was get them to believe that certain types of people were unworthy and should be done away with. That way, the human filth marring this beautiful planet kills each other off and I don't have to do a thing. Two examples of my method that you may know are the Crusades and the Holocaust.

This system has stood me in good stead for well over a thousand years and is still in operation today, because I believe if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Until very recently, nobody even seemed to understand that killing off undesirables or at least keeping them down was "wrong." All I had to do then was to tell people that GOD

wanted the undesirables gone, and that it was their holy obligation to carry out "His" will.

Ha! Ha! Getting you humans to believe such nonsense was such a snap that I figured I could just let the process run on until all of you were dead. I even got you to ignore Jesus' gospel of non-oppression (as you say in the modern vernacular) in favor of the bloody glory of the Old Testament! You humans are so stupid it never even occurred to you that that interfering so-and-so came to make a NEW covenant with you. One based on LOVE.

But you ignorant mortals don't understand love, do you? Or maybe you prefer not to understand it? Although I don't see how you could miss the point...it's so obvious! "Love is based on accepting each other exactly as you are." Even I know that. And yet your "God of Love" treats certain of his children no better than a crack-head who throws a baby into a garbage can and leaves it there. You idiots don't even BEGIN to understand how much God loves you. Do you think he would have sent his "Son" to save your miserable lives if He intended any of you for me? Do you think He would give you to me based on who you love? Or what color your skin is?

Or how you worship Him? HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO GET ANY OF YOU!

That's why I crack up when I see your priests and ministers on TV. They make my day! Nothing delights me more than when my work is carried out in the name of my chief enemy. I'm still hopeful that you simply prefer the old ways, and the glory of crushing out what you consider dangerous in the name of righteousness. The ecstasy of casting stones. Any time I see this, I know I will win in the end.

My point is, dear children: people like you are invaluable to me. I cannot feed on Jews, Blacks, cripples, and the insane any more because you now consider that "wrong." My supply of women is drying up as well, despite the efforts of my friends in the church. Gays are the only group that is still more or less open season, and that's why I need you, my children.

I AM HUNGRY! Hungry for souls. And the more people I have to torment the innocent, the more well fed I will be.

I am very proud of you, my children! Come and see me soon...I'll have you for dinner.

*Cordially Yours,
Satan*

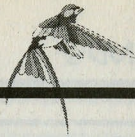
Breast cancer support for lesbians offered

YWCA ENCOREplus is offering a support group for lesbians with breast cancer. Meetings are held at MedPlex, 880 Madison Avenue, every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. The group meets at the Surgery Clinic on the fourth floor.

These groups offer attendees the opportunity to find comfort, support and understanding with other women who have breast cancer by sharing thoughts, feelings and ways of coping. Areas of discussion include nutrition, self-esteem, coping skills, stress, journaling, spirituality, risk factors and more.

YWCA ENCOREplus is the breast and cervical cancer control program of the YWCA of Greater Memphis. It focuses on saving women's lives by educating them about the importance of early discovery of breast and cervical cancers.

Please call (901) 754-4356 to confirm attendance or for assistance with transportation.



Brainstorming works at MGLCC town hall meeting

**BY ANITA MOYT
MANAGING EDITOR**

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) has been reaching out to the Memphis gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender community for many years. In its present form, there is no "community center" physical location as there was in the past; however, this organization is working harder than ever to offer the g/l/b/t community opportunities and outlets to meet and get to know each other.

The MGLCC holds a "town hall meeting" on the first Sunday of each month at First Congregational Church's Pilgrim Hall from 6 to 8 p.m. The church is located at 246 Watkins at Eastmoreland. This is a time set aside to address g/l/b/t issues in general and community issues in particular.

On the third Thursday of each month, MGLCC hosts a monthly Movie Night, also held at First Congregational Church. Additional activities are planned each month, including Community Nights. In February, a night at a River Kings hockey game and ice-skating were enjoyed by many.

MGLCC is best-known for sponsoring the "Riverboat ride" - a night trip down the Mississippi on a riverboat during the week of the gay

SPIT bowling tourney is set

As part of the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO), the Brothers and Sisters Bowling League will sponsor the St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament (SPIT) March 17 to 19.

The Cordova Bowling Center, 7945 Club Center Drive, will be the site of the tournament.

The Single/Double event will be held all day on Saturday, March 18, and the team event will be held all day on Sunday, March 19. An awards banquet will then be held on Sunday at 6 p.m.

For more information on the tournament, please call (901) 737-7824 or (901) 465-4371.

pride celebration here in Memphis.

The officers of MGLCC for 1999-2000 are Ben Mendoza, president; Angela Lamb, vice president; David Hepburn, secretary, and Daniel Forrest, at-large.

You do not have to be a member to participate in the activities, however, membership in MGLCC includes newsletters, e-mail updates on activities and events and the right to vote in MGLCC elections. Cost is only \$10 a year.

If you would like to join MGLCC, you may do so by signing up at one of the town-hall meetings or by sending your name, address, city, state, zip code, email address, phone number and check payable to MGLCC in the amount of \$10 to MGLCC, P.O. Box 41074, Memphis, TN 38174-1074.

The hottest women's dance party at the Millennium March on Washington

Sunday, April 30, 2000

605-12th Street, NW

5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

The party starts when the March ends, with sexy go-go dancers from SF, LA, NY, D.C., DJs from across the country, giveaways and drink specials

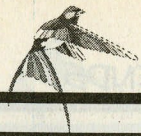
In 1993, thousands of women danced and celebrated at the Aftershock. CURVE's party after the March on Washington. Those who went home early missed out. Those who came called it "the best dance party they had ever attended."

Don't miss out! Tickets on sale (800) 998-5565 and at local Washington, D.C., bookstores. \$10 in advance with this ad. Aftershock is conveniently located at 605-12th Street (between "F" & "G" St.), across the street from the "Metro Center" Metro Stop.

Curve

**D a m r o n
Women's Traveller**

aftershock III



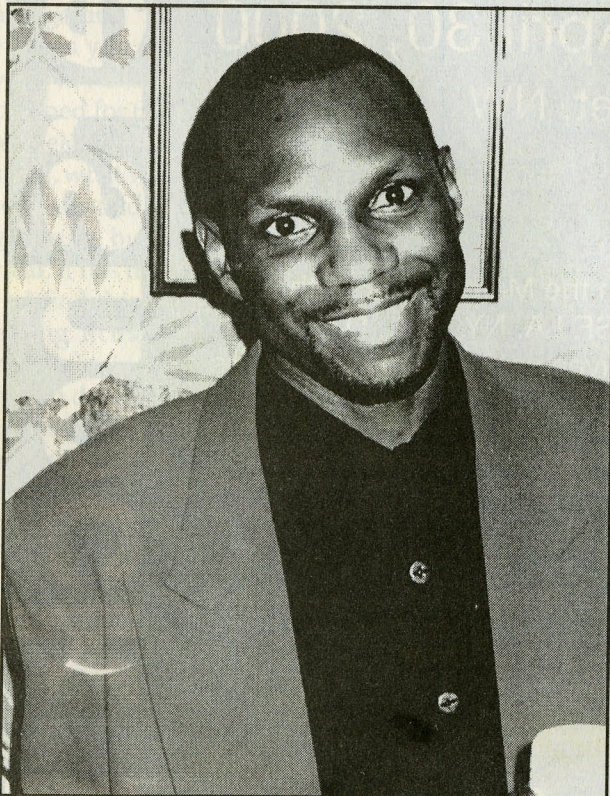
Family Album ... BMW7 Ball



Pictured are, from left, Hal, co-chair; Vince, treasurer, and Joe, co-chair.



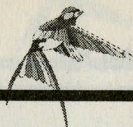
Posing for the camera are, from left, Tim, Hal, Den and Terry.



Co-chair for the ball was Daryl.



Joe, Vanessa and Orin enjoy the evening.



BACKSTREET MEMPHIS

Come Play With Us!

Monday

Karaoke Night

Thursday

Show at 11 p.m. • Dance til 3 a.m.

Friday

Show at midnight • Dance till 6 a.m.

Saturday

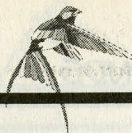
Show at midnight & 3 a.m.

Dance till 6 a.m.

Sunday

25¢ Longnecks • Show at 11 p.m.

2018 COURT AVEUNE • MEMPHIS, TN • (901) 276-5522



The world will go 'round at Theatre Memphis

Theatre Memphis, 630 Perkins Extended, will present *The World Goes 'Round* on stage March 2 through 26.

The World Goes 'Round is a rousing musical revue featuring more than 25 songs written by John Kander and Fred Ebb, the last great songwriting team of the American musical's golden age. With a career stretching from 1962, to the present, their 38-year collaboration is the longest such association in American theatre history. Two of their shows – *Cabaret* and *Chicago* – have been revived and are presently running in New York.

The World Goes 'Round was created in 1991, by Scott Ellis, Susan Stroman and David Thompson. In the show, a cast of five – Greg Gjurich, Mary Gjurich, Joe Lackie, Debbie Litch and



Pictured are, from left, Joe Lackie, Mary Gjurich and Greg Gjurich.

Laura Otts - skillfully illustrate the wit and charm of Ebb's lyrics and the infectiousness of Kander's music. Choreography, by Kathy Caradine, varies the pace amid the performances of well-known songs from the Broadway productions of *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Zorba*, and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, among others. Bennett Wood brings a wealth of experience to directing *The World Goes 'Round*.

Showtimes are Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Tickets for adults are \$19 on weekdays and \$22 on weekends; youth (age 18 and under) are \$10.

For reservations or more information, please call the Theatre Memphis Box Office at (901) 682-8323.

**Wondering where I've been?
Well, I'm back and better
than ever, so come PARTY
with me at LORENZ and we
will catch up on things.**



**11 a.m.
to 7 p.m.
Tuesday -
Saturday
I will be
there
and hey,
I LOVE
YOU GUYS!**

Pickey

**P.S.: Rumor has it I'm the manager, emcee,
show director ... COME SEE**

Boys

from page 53

within months after being killed, Brandon Teena represented so many strands of our cultures – he was a female-to-male (transsexual), he was a petty thief, he was the victim of a hate crime – he was being written about by true crime writers, journalists and feminists," Peirce said, explaining why she was compelled to make this movie.

"There was no disputing that his story was dramatic and tragic, but the real challenge in telling it was finding the human being underneath it all, discovering what it was like to be inside Brandon's skin the very first night he passed as a boy," the director continued. "When you think about who he was and begin to see how extraordinary what he did was, (you see) just how powerful his spirit, imagination and creativity had to have been."

It took Peirce five years to learn about Teena and turn his story into a dramatic fictional film in *Boys Don't Cry*. For show times and other information, please call the Bartlett Cinema 10 movie information line at (901) 681-2020.

By the way, Steven Bradford has had the chance to review this movie and gives his opinion in his column, "Talk A Walk," on page 28. Bradford has been a member of the *Family & Friends* staff from the beginning and adds the voice of the transsexual community to our pages. Because he himself is a FTM, his review promises to be much more insightful than most, since he often times felt like he was watching himself up on the big, silver screen.



MEMPHIS

BAR GUIDE



1. **Amnesia**
2866 Poplar Avenue
(901) 454-1366

2. **Backstreet**
2018 Court Street
(901) 276-5522

3. **Lorenz**
1528 Madison Avenue
(901) 274-8272

4. **Crossroads**
1278 Jefferson
(901) 276-8078

5. **The Jungle**
1474 Madison Avenue
(901) 278-4313

6. **Crossroads 2**
111 North Claybrook
(901) 276-8078

7. **J-Wags**
1268 Madison Avenue
(901) 725-1909

8. **Madison Flame**
1588 Madison Avenue
(901) 278-9839

9. **One More**
2117 Peabody Avenue
(901) 278-MORE

10. **Pipeline**
1382 Poplar Avenue
(901) 726-5263

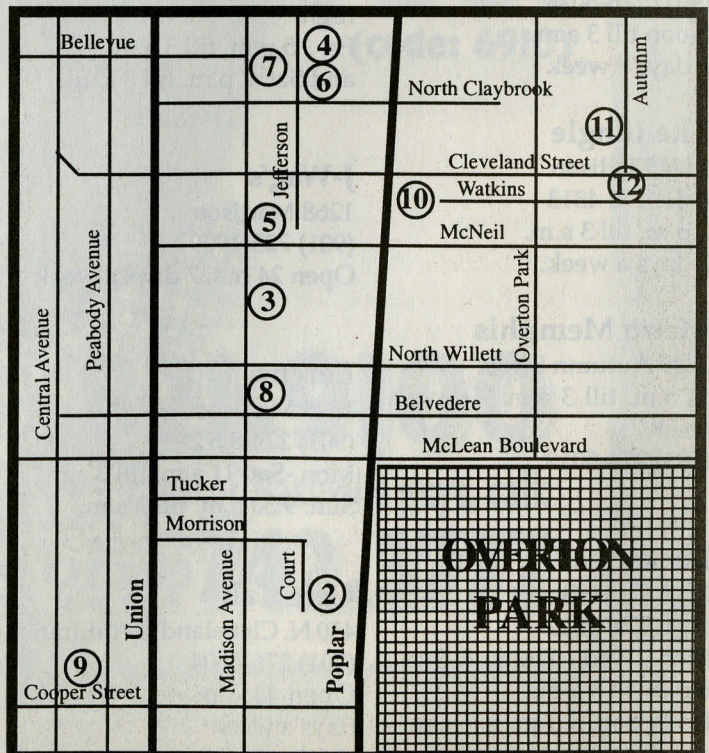
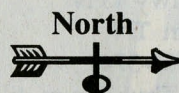
11. **Metro Memphis**
1349 Autumn Street
(901) 274-8010

12. **Cafe Cali**
430 N. Cleveland @ Autumn
(901) 276-4604

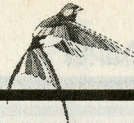
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N-Cognito

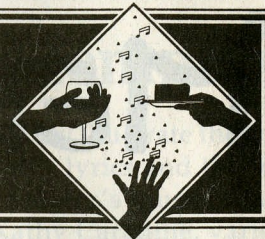
338 S. Front @ Vance
(901) 523-0599



Maps not to scale, not all streets shown



FOR A GOOD TIME CALL ...



BARS

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2866 Poplar Ave
(901) 454-1366
Closed Mon-Wed
Thur.-Sun. 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Madison Flame

1588 Madison
(901) 278-9839
Mon.-Thur. 5 p.m. till 2 a.m.
Fri & Sat 5 p.m. till 3a.m.
Sun. 4 p.m. till 2 a.m.

Pipeline Memphis

1382 Poplar
(901) 726-5263
2 p.m.-3a.m., 7 days a week

Crossroads

1278 Jefferson
(901) 276-8078
Noon till 3 a.m.
7 days a week

The Jungle

1474 Madison
(901) 278-4313
3 p.m. till 3 a.m.
7 days a week.

Metro Memphis

1349 Autumn Street
11 a.m. till 3 a.m. 7 days a
week.
(901) 274-8010

Backstreet

2018 Court Street
(901) 276-5522
Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Sun.,
8 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Crossroads 2

111 North Claybrook
(901) 276-8078

One More

2117 Peabody
(901) 278-MORE
7 a.m. to 3 a.m. 7 days a week

N-Cognito

338 S. Front @ Vance
(901) 523-0599
Thur. & Fri. 10 p.m.-3:30 a.m.
Sat. 10 p.m.-5 a.m.
Sun. 4 p.m.-midnight

The Other Side Club

3883 Hwy 45 N
Jackson TN
(901) 668-3749
Sun. - Thur. 5 p.m. till mid-
night
Fri. 5 p.m. till 3 a.m.
and Sat. 7 p.m. till 3 a.m.

J-Wag's

1268 Madison
(901) 725-1909
Open 24 hrs, 7 days a week

Lorenz

1528 Madison
(901) 274-8272
Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m. till 3 a.m.,
Sun. 9:30 a.m. till 3 a.m.

Cafe Cali

430 N. Cleveland @ Autumn
(901) 276-4604
Open 11 a.m. to 3 a.m., 7
days a week

SOCIAL CLUBS

Tsarus Memphis

Levi-Leather club meets the 3rd
Saturday of every month, 10
p.m., at Pipeline, 1382 Poplar
Ave. Men only.

Memphis Area Gay Youth (M.A.G.Y.)

P O Box 241852 Memphis TN
38124
(901) 335-6249
Website: [http://
www.gaymemphis.com/magy](http://www.gaymemphis.com/magy)
Peer support group for 13- to
21-year-olds dealing with gay
and gender issues.

Integrity Memphis

Meets at Calvary Episcopal
Church
102 North Second Street Mem-
phis, TN 38103
(901) 525-6602
Christian community and fel-
lowship for the lesbian & gay
community in the Episcopal
Church. Meets 3rd Tues of
Every Month at 6:30 p.m.

Cotton Pickin' Squares-Memphis

(901) 272-2116
Meets Thursday Nights, 7:30p.m., at
Prescott Memorial Baptist Church,
Walker & Mynders (Near University
of Memphis)
Square dancing social group.

Memphis Bears

P O Box 11094 Memphis TN
38111-1094
(901) 756-1073
Meets the 2nd Sat of every
month, 10:00 p.m., at the Pipe-
line, 1382 Poplar Ave. Men only.
E-Mail: Fuzthing@aol.com

Parents Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P.F.L.A.G.)

(901) 761-1444
Support meetings for parents,
family & friends
Webpage: [http://
www.starbase21.com/
pflagmemphis/](http://www.starbase21.com/pflagmemphis/)
E-Mail:
amdrake@mem.po.com

U of M Students for Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Awareness (B.G.A.L.A.)

(901) 678-5719
Webpage: [http://
www.people.memphis.edu/
~bgala/](http://www.people.memphis.edu/~bgala/)
BGALA is open to anyone includ-
ing students, faculty, staff of The
University of Memphis.

Black and White Men To- gether Memphis, Inc. (BWMT)

P O Box 42157 Memphis, TN
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A gay multicultural educa-
tional, social and political orga-
nization.

Bluff City Sports Association

P O Box 41803 Memphis, TN
38174-1803
(901) 682-9928
Organizes gay sports leagues in-
cluding softball and volleyball.

Tennessee Leather Tribe

Men and women welcome.
Meets every second Sunday at
10 p.m. at The Jungle, 1474
Madison Avenue.
Website:
[http://users.wspice.com/
~tej/tlt/tlt.html](http://users.wspice.com/~tej/tlt/tlt.html)
E-mail: tej@wspice.com

Sunshine Travelers

Meets every other Tuesday at 7
p.m. at The Jungle, 1474 Madi-
son Ave.
(901) 488-4752



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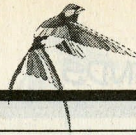
(901) 821.9100

For Nashville guys, call:

(615) 742.3777



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HOROSCOPES

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) – Look for opportunities now that could increase your income and financial status. You have more going for you than you think you do. Now is the time to try something new.

Aries (March 21-April 20) – Hopes and wishes may become realities in the months ahead. Since Jupiter is moving through your income sector now, financial situations could work in your favor.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) – Jupiter is now moving through your sign. What this means for you is that you should experience good fortune and welcomed opportunities. Increased recognition is highlighted.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) – Now is the time to listen to your intuition and rely on your past experiences. Have confidence in your abilities and expand them. Take needed time to think about the future.

Cancer (June 22-July 23) – During the next three months, hoping and wishing for something may cause it to come true. You should find new doors swinging open for you with good results.

Leo (July 24-Aug. 23) – If you've been considering starting a new business, now is the time to move forward. You've got lots to gain by taking time to improve existing relationships, not just with significant others, but with all groups and all peoples, including co-workers.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) – You may find yourself wanting to learn something new, if so, now is the time to ex-

plore and discover. You also may find yourself traveling for business and/or pleasure.

Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) – With Jupiter moving through your sign, now is a great time to combine your assets with someone else. Romance is in the stars for you this month, as is your social life.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – If you single, this month may be a good time to think about settling down and making a commitment. Some scorpions may want to consider real estate deals during the coming month.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – If you make the first move this month where your job is concerned, you could find yourself in a better position. Look for things that add to your personal growth. What you desire could be right under your nose, if you just look.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) – Your imagination and creative self-expression could get a real boost during the coming month as Jupiter transits your sector of love and creativity. Be alert to new opportunities in fresh and new times.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) – Now is the time to seriously consider investing in real estate. It also is a good time to let the world know who you are and how you can help others achieve their goals.

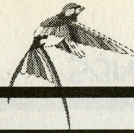
Editor's Note: Horoscopes are meant for entertainment purposes only and are for the month of March.

CELEBRITY QUOTE

“Some people think the fight for legalization of marriage is way down the line, and they don't want to spend time and energy and money. My answer to that is ‘Too bad. It's here. It's now.’”

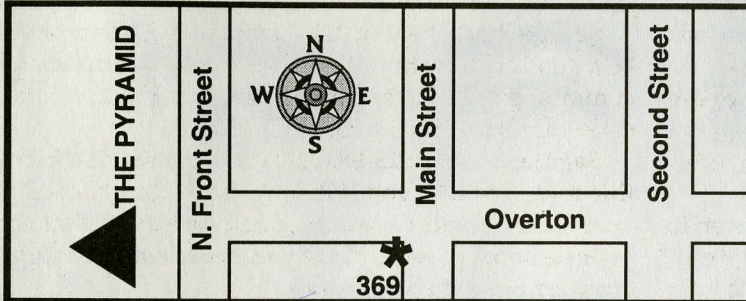
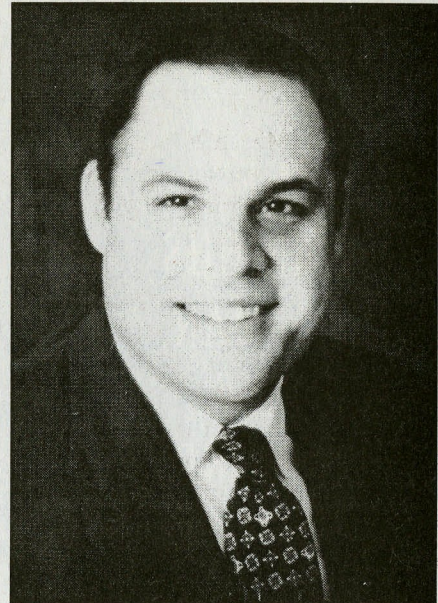
— *Party Of Five's Mitchell Anderson, as quoted in the Feb. 29, 2000 edition of the Advocate*

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| F | B | P | E | O | P | L | E | N | I | G | E |
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STARRING
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THOUSANDS.



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