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# Gaze

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January, 1983

## Gallup Poll Shows Rise in Pro-Gay Feeling

by Karlis Streips, Gaylife

A three-part survey released in mid-November by the American Institute of Public Opinion in Princeton, N.J., has found that Gay men and Lesbians enjoy a higher percentage of positive public opinion than in previous years.

The poll, conducted in random telephone selections nationwide, showed that a majority of Americans accept homosexuality from legalistic and moralistic standpoints. But a smaller percentage apparently feel that Gays should be granted the status of a 'socially acceptable lifestyle' and fewer still feel that Gays lead 'happy' lives.

The latest poll asked the question, "Should Gay relations be legalized, or should they not be?" Forty-five percent of those queried indicated that they thought 'Gay relations' should be legal, while 39% said they should not be. Sixteen percent of those surveyed had no opinion. In a 1977 poll, the same question yielded 43% positive response and 43% negative response, with 14% registering no opinion.

Another question asked, "Do you feel that a homosexual can be a good Christian or a good Jew?" A total of 53% of respondents answered, "Yes,"

while 32% answered "No." Fifteen percent had no opinion. In 1977, the results of the question were much the same, with 53% of respondents answering, "Yes," 33% responding, "No," and 14% answering, "No opinion."

On the question, "Should homosexuality be an acceptable alternative lifestyle?" 51% of those queried answered, "No," while 34% answered, "Yes." Fifteen percent had no opinion on that topic. Men were more likely to answer negatively to that question (54% vs. 31%) than were women (49% vs. 36%).

Alec Gallup, one of the poll's chief implementers, said that the wording of that question was "based on the input of 10 or 12 people, including several Gays."

"It's a very difficult question to pose," Gallup said. "If you have a better version, please give it to me."

The second part of the survey showed that the public still stereotypes Gay men and Lesbians as being insecure and unhappy.

When asked if most homosexuals would stay Gay if given the option to change, only 33% of those questioned answered that they thought homosexuals would stay homosexual, while 37%

said most Gays would change their orientation. Thirty percent had no opinion on the subject.

By a five-to-one margin, the public also indicated the opinion that Gay men and Lesbians are less happy and secure than their heterosexual counterparts. Almost two-thirds of the respondents (66%) said that homosexuals are less happy and well-adjusted than non-Gays, while only 13% thought that homosexuals were happier and better adjusted than heterosexuals. Also, by a two-to-one margin, people indicated that they thought Gays are more likely to have problems with drugs and alcohol than non-Gays. Forty-four percent of those questioned thought Gays have more problems with drugs than non-Gays; 41% thought the same held true of alcohol.

However, only 23% of respondents thought Gays are more likely to commit crimes than are heterosexuals. Thirty-six percent answered that question in the negative, and 31% had no opinion.

The survey also asked whether people are homosexual because of hereditary factors or environmental conditioning. Fifty-two percent thought environmental conditions caused homosexuality, 17% thought the factor was a hereditary one, 15% thought it was both or neither, and 16% had no opinion.

The survey's final portion dealt with employment opportunities for Gay men and Lesbians.

The primary question in that portion of the survey asked if Gay men and Lesbians should enjoy equal opportunity in employment. Fifty-nine percent of those quizzed answered,

"Yes," 28% answered, "No," and 13% had no opinion. That demonstrates a change from 1977, when only 56% of those surveyed answered the question positively, 33% answered in the negative, and 11% had no opinion.

The survey then asked if Gay men and Lesbians should be given equal opportunity in various specific occupations. In three of those five occupations, a majority thought that Gays should not be discriminated against. In sales jobs, for example, 70% of respondents thought there should be equal opportunity, while 18% thought there shouldn't be, and 12% had no opinion.

For the medical profession, 50% thought Gays should be allowed to become doctors, 38% percent thought they shouldn't, and 12% had no opinion.

The two professions in which a majority of respondents thought Gays shouldn't have equal opportunity were the clergy, where only 38% thought there should be no discrimination, as opposed to 51% who thought there should be; and elementary school teachers, where only 32% thought Gays should have equal opportunity and 59% thought they should not.

Overall, the study found that college-educated people, those in the 18-29 age bracket, Catholics, women, and Eastern and far-Western residents were more likely to be tolerant of Gays than other Americans. Men and women thought along similar lines on whether Gays are happy, but women were more likely to feel that Gays are unhappy because they are "born that way," according to a spokeswoman for the survey.

## Senate Lobbied to Up AIDS Funding for '83

(Excerpted from an article by Lou Chibbaro Jr.)

WASHINGTON (*The Washington Blade*)---Gay activists joined public health professionals in urging three key senators to introduce a Senate floor amendment that would raise the funding level for research into the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) to \$2.6 million, the same amount the House approved in an amendment on December 1.

The funding would go to the Federal Centers for Disease Control in an effort to find a cause and means of prevention of the recently discovered AIDS disease, which has caused life threatening infections and cancers due to impairment of the immune system of its victims.

In a related development, the CDC released additional information indicating AIDS may be transferred from one person to another through blood. In the December 10 edition of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, CDC officials cite a report of a 20-month-old infant from San Francisco who developed a condition believed to be AIDS after the infant received blood transfusions from 19 donors. One of the donors, it was later learned, developed AIDS, the CDC said.

As of November 26, the CDC has received reports of 775 cases of AIDS. About 75% of the victims are Gay or bi-sexual men, according to CDC officials. Researchers suspect the disease is caused by a transmissible agent such as a virus, and that the

ailment can be transmitted through sexual contacts.

The CDC has predicted AIDS will be fatal in more than 80% of the reported cases.

The House approved the \$2.6 million research proposal in the form of an amendment attached to a fiscal year '83 funding bill for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other agencies. The amendment was introduced by Rep. Edward Roybal (D-CA) and passed by a voice vote.

The Senate Appropriations Committee last week approved a \$1.5 million line item funding allowance for AIDS research, an amount Gay lobbyists and public health groups have called inadequate.

Gays working through the Gay Rights National Lobby, are hoping one of three senators on an appropriations subcommittee will introduce an amendment on the Senate floor that would raise the Senate version of the AIDS funding to the \$2.6 million level approved by the House.

The committee members are Sens. Alfonse D'Amato (R-NJ), Mark Hatfield (R-OR), and Harrison Schmitt (R-NM).

Nearly 50% of the AIDS cases have occurred in New York prompting action by New York Gays, several physicians' groups and NY health officials to encourage New York freshman senator, D'Amato to introduce the amendment.

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## An Analysis of Election '83

By Bill Johnson

1982 was the most active election year ever in the Gay political movement and it was the first time Gay political strategists in Tennessee made a concerted effort to affect the outcome of the elections.

In Nashville, the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights openly endorsed Walter Kuntz for a judgeship. Kuntz won by a wide margin. For state representative, the Coalition endorsed Mike Murphy, who also won by a wide margin, putting an end to the myth that Gay endorsement is political suicide.

Perhaps the greatest victory for Gays in Tennessee was the re-election of Senator James Sasser or the defeat of Robin Beard. Though it is not clear at this point just how supportive Senator Sasser is, Beard made no secret of his anti-Gay feelings and voted along those lines while serving in the House of Representatives. Although Sasser was endorsed by the Memphis Gay Political Caucus, his victory probably stems more from the mudslinging and utter tastelessness of Beard's campaign. It is vastly

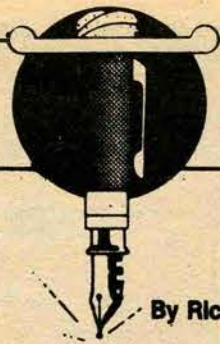
significant that Beard, who was endorsed by the "Christian Right", lost by the widest margin in the history of Senatorial elections in Tennessee. It seems that "Christian Right" endorsement may be political suicide.

Again, however, it is significant that Sasser was openly endorsed by a Gay political group.

One state representative, Pam Gaia, who termed endorsement by Gay political organizations "political suicide" in 1980, was endorsed by the Gay Political Caucus to prove her wrong in an otherwise relatively insignificant race. Gaia overwhelmingly defeated her opponent. She and other politicians must now realize that while Gay political endorsements in Tennessee may not yet be an exceptionally powerful asset, they are far from political suicide. If anything, such endorsements are ignored by the great majority of non-Gay voters.

The only real disappointment this year was the defeat of State Representative John Spence by only 57 votes, adding punch to the old line "Your vote counts." I am quite certain there are 58 Gay readers out

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# Gazing

Editorials appearing in Gaze represent only the opinions of the authors unless otherwise indicated.

## Gazing Back

By Ric Sullivan

I vividly remember that first 'staff' meeting in October, 1979. I didn't attend it personally, but Bill Johnson, whose voluntary editorship was accepted when the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights (Memphis) was founded a month earlier, often recalled how the initial idea of a Coalition newsletter rapidly evolved into the actualization of a newspaper. That first four-page newsprint tabloid was a world away from an 8 1/2 x 11 xeroxed in-house newsletter.

For several weeks, the six or so staff members had discussed things that quickly became routine, taken for granted, or simply forgotten--selling ads; having copy written, edited and typed; formulating headlines; finding places willing to distribute the paper. I particularly remember one discussion that touched on the controversial issue of censorship--whether or not GAZE should accept 'personal' ads, and, if so, how 'graphic' they should be.

The name, of course, was the only item we didn't discuss. Bill proposed it, having selected it some seven months earlier when his dream of helping to create a quality Gay newspaper in Memphis began, and it became a given.

And I remember what a zoo it was on lay-out night for that first issue. Four or six people gathered around a table, trying to fit this much typeset copy into that much (smaller)

space. Paste-up by consensus. And then came the pride, the celebration, the feeling of significant accomplishment when that first issue came back from the printer. We had to fold them in half before they could be distributed.

Since that first, revolutionary, four-page issue, the paper has variously contained up to 20 pages per issue, depending on available money, news, features, and energy of the staff. Subscriptions have grown to the present high of 250 mailed each month. The staff has varied from four up to a dozen people working on a particular issue. The body copy changed from typeset to manually justified typing, strictly out of financial considerations. (Though typesetting was not affordable when ads did not materialize regularly, the clean, concise typeset appearance was maintained by the editor's dozen of hours at the typewriter each month.)

And the main logo of the paper, the graphic representation of its name, changed four times in the past three years as the staff sought to maintain an aesthetically-viable logo that complemented the journalistic integ-

rity and professionalism of the body of the paper.

Those directly involved with the paper constantly have had to make decisions about outwardly identifying themselves with a Gay newspaper. Pseudonyms became common among the by-lines. The first several issues, in fact, didn't identify specifically anyone responsible for the paper. It was difficult to find people willing to permit their names to be used in news stories or interviews. A photo of someone involved in the 'Gay Alternative' radio show appeared with an accompanying article in the second issue. However, the individual photographed was not identified.

Contributors and other staff members still have to decide how 'out' they will be publicly via GAZE. One regular writer who works for a local newspaper, consistently uses a pen name. Other staff members have consistently used their own names. Shortly before he resigned as editor, Bill Johnson was quoted in a *Press-Scimitar* article on Memphis' Gay community and was identified as GAZE's editor. That article, one of the few times the 'straight' local print media has recognized Memphis' Gay newspaper, was accompanied by a photo of two other GAZE staffers.

Perusal of headline stories through the past three years reflects the constant effort to balance national Gay news, available to some GAZE readers through other outlets, with local Gay news, at best hard to find and at worst seemingly non-existent. But, according to GAZE, a lot has happened here since December, 1979. And without GAZE, I feel a lot of people wouldn't have known about a lot of trauma, or a lot of potential, or a lot of celebration.

Now it's December, 1982. Over the past three years topics were presented---Lesbian health, research, Gay history---but discontinued. Other topics---personal interviews, book/movie/record reviews, personal commentary---appear as need and motivation create them. Still other facets of the paper---news, ads, information, layout---continue to materialize monthly, sometimes, it seems to me, out of sheer will power and a fervent desire to make it happen on the part of those most responsible.

I owe a lot to GAZE and to those who have made it happen. Happy Holidays to the GAZE staff--past and present.

And Happy Third Birthday, GAZE!

## Special Gay Entertainment—The Public's Need To Know

By Allen Cook

In the past couple of months two major "Gay" entertainment events have bombed in Memphis, plagued by low turnout. The first was the Tom Wilson concert at the now-defunct Body Shop

and the second was "Fantasy in White" featuring The Weather Girls at the Barracks on November 27. I hope that these two failures will not deter others from attempting to bring quality entertainment for the Gay community.

I am sure there will be a tendency among those in a position to do this sort of thing to say, "Well, look at that! We brought in a good act and they stayed away in droves!" I can't believe that Gay Memphians are not willing to support quality entertainment.

Let's look at some of the factors which may have contributed to the poor turnout at both of these events.

The Tom Wilson concert was moderately priced. So why the poor turnout? Poor publicity.

"Fantasy in White" was, in my opinion, exorbitantly priced and poorly publicized. The only publicity I saw on that event was at the Barracks and at George's. And only the week before did I see information on showtimes and ticket prices. So why the poor turnout? Poor publicity, high ticket prices and the worst weather we've seen in a long time.

According to our standard 10%-of-the-population rule, there are over 100,000 Gay men and women in the im-

mediate metropolitan area. To assume that all of them are so engaged in word-of-mouth networks that they would "know" that an event was scheduled is a bad assumption. Gay people are like everyone else. They need to be informed. They need to be informed more than by publicizing in the sponsoring establishment. To be sure, a lot of people who normally frequent a bar will attend a special event there, but don't count on it. On the other hand, a lot of people who seldom go out for the normal functions, might go out especially to see some quality entertainment---IF THEY KNEW IT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN.

We hope that the people responsible for these two events and others who might be inclined to bring entertainment of the same quality will think twice about handling the publicity. Reach out to all of the Gay community--don't depend on your regular clientele to shell out extra money to see an unknown quantity. Take a note from the Warehouse 28 in Nashville which regularly books Gay entertainers. They keep the prices moderate, publicize the event well and do it on a regular basis. Gay Memphis will support Gay entertainers, but only if they don't feel gouged in the wallet and know about it beforehand.

# Gaze

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## Senate Lobbied

Continued from page 1

GRNL legislative assistant Susan Green said prospects for increased AIDS funding remain unclear even if the proposed Senate amendment is introduced and approved. According to Green, Capitol Hill observers expect President Reagan to veto the overall appropriations bill. A veto would result in passage of a temporary funding bill, known as a continuing resolution, and no one can predict the amount of AIDS funding that would be included in such a resolution.

CDC officials said the report about the infant contracting what appears to be AIDS adds to existing evidence indicating AIDS may be transmitted by an agent through blood.

Dr. William Faggi, director of the CDC, said the finding indicates AIDS could be transmitted from one person to another at a time when the carrier has no symptoms and appears healthy. It also shows the incubation period for the illness may be relatively long.

Faggi said that AIDS is considered by the CDC to be an epidemic more serious than the outbreaks in recent years of Legionnaire's Disease and Toxic Shock Syndrome. There is currently no specific federal appropriations for AIDS and research is being accommodated by the diversion of funds from other CDC Programs.

Efforts to approve AIDS research in the CDC budget have come in the wake of recent reports that the Reagan administration may propose a \$500 million reduction in the overall budget for the Department of Health and Human Services. Such a reduction, according to Capitol Hill Sources, would "devastate" the AIDS research program as well as other CDC projects such as child immunizations. However,

observers say they expect Congress to refuse to go along with significant cuts in health programs.

The CDC has reported that the majority of the homosexual males who have contracted AIDS have had histories of multiple sexual contacts over a long period of time and have histories of having had several sexually transmitted diseases such as hepatitis, Herpes, and gonorrhea.

GAZE readers are urged to visit, call or write your Congressional Representatives expressing your deep concern about AIDS and asking for greatly increased funding for AIDS research by the CDC and the National Institutes of Health. If you don't know who your representatives are, contact your local Board of Elections or League of Women Voters. To contact your Senators or Representatives in Washington: a) call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask

# An open letter to the gay community on hepatitis B

## Hepatitis B, a serious disease, may be sexually transmitted

Sexually transmitted diseases among the gay community are epidemic. Herpes has recently received a lot of attention; gonorrhea and syphilis are well known; but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted disease: Hepatitis B. In their *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the CDC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be vaccinated [against hepatitis B] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

## Gay men are at a high risk of contracting hepatitis B

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted disease clinics had evidence of past or present hepatitis B infection. Once infected, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier—capable of passing on the virus. The CDC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these carriers are gay men.

## The hepatitis B virus can be passed on by contact with contaminated body fluids

such as saliva, urine, semen, and blood. The hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through tiny breaks in the skin or contact with mucous membranes. This can occur during intimate sexual contact and can lead to hepatitis B for the partner of an infected person. Although most patients recover and over half contracting hepatitis B do not get symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for hepatitis B infections.

## Hepatitis B may lead to even more serious complications

For those who do get symptoms of hepatitis B, a mild or severe "flu-like" sickness may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted diseases. The serious complications include the chronic carrier state, chronic active hepatitis, chronic persistent hepatitis, cirrhosis, and even cancer of the liver. Every year almost 4,000 carriers die of cirrhosis. In addition, carriers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of contracting a usually fatal form of liver cancer.

## Now this serious sexually transmitted disease is usually preventable by vaccination with the new hepatitis B vaccine

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of hepatitis B. In clinical studies, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing hepatitis B infection and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two a month apart and the third, six months after the first. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets hepatitis B. The vaccine helps prevent the disease: It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you consult your doctor to determine if you should be vaccinated.

**For more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine to prevent it, contact your doctor, clinic, or the American Liver Foundation. 998 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (201) 857-2626.**

This message is brought to you as a public service by  
The American Liver Foundation

### Why you should consult your doctor or clinic

The vaccine helps protect against infection caused by hepatitis B virus. This virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not

protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

No serious adverse reactions were reported in over 6,000 individuals receiving the vaccine in clinical trials. The most frequent reaction was soreness at the point of injection; less common local reactions included redness, swelling, warmth, or formation of a hard, lumplike spot. The local effects were usually mild and lasted no more than 2 days after vaccination. Occasionally, low-grade fever (less than 101 °F) occurred. When it did, it usually lasted no longer than 48 hours following vaccination. In

rare cases, fever over 102 °F was reported.

More generalized complaints including malaise, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, muscle pain, and joint pain were reported infrequently. Rash was reported rarely. As with any vaccine, broad use may reveal additional adverse reactions.

Your doctor or clinic knows what special care must be taken when administering the vaccine and in determining who should receive the vaccine. The vaccine is not intended for persons who are allergic to any of its components.



# National

## Moral Majority says "Let's Stop Gays"

COLORADO(*Out Front*)—Moral Majority has once again declared war on homosexuality, urging the recipients of a mass mailing to send in their money to stop America from "losing the war." In a form letter signed by Jerry Falwell, Moral Majority lists a number of things which are 'happening' in the United States, including the fact that legislation which would give 'minority status' to Gay men and Lesbians has been introduced in Congress, the fact that Gays were 'allowed to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier...to honor any sexual deviants who served in the military,' the fact that 'efforts are being made to permit known practicing homosexuals, who are flaunting their lifestyles to teach in public schools,' and the fact that 'ordained homosexuals are preaching in our church pulpits and interpreting the Word to thousands of Americans.' The letter also includes a questionnaire which is to be filled out and sent back to Moral Majority for presentation to Congress. Included in the questionnaire are questions such as, 'Should avowed, practicing homosexuals, who are flaunting their lifestyle, be permitted to teach children in the public schools?' Closing the letter is a handwritten plea: 'Let's stop the homosexuals once and for all! Jerry.'

## Navy to Discharge 20 Gay Sailors

SAN DIEGO(*The Weekly News*)—At least 20 personnel—10 men and 10 women—will be dishonorably discharged for alleged homosexuality, the U.S. Navy confirmed.

All 20 were stationed on the two nuclear submarine tender ships the USS Dixon and USS McKee, where the Navy recently investigated 31 sailors.

Another sailor was transferred to a different ship for his support of Gay Rights, reports Southern California's *Update*.

Recent bulletins on the ships stated it is the duty of every officer to turn in suspected homosexuals.

## Secret Gays in Congress Block Pro-Gay Bill.

SAN FRANCISCO(*Equal Time*)—There are at least 20 members of the U.S. Congress who consistently vote against Gay Rights legislation who are themselves 'secret homosexuals,' according to Steve Endean, the Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby.

"I know their names. I know their friends. I know their so-called associates," said Endean during an interview with *The Sentinel*.

Endean described this figure as being "extremely conservative" and said it does not include Congressmen who support Gay Rights but who also remain in the closet. While the Washington-based lobbyist refused to name names, he admitted that this situation was a "source of constant frustration."

"I know the issue of *Outage* is an important and divisive matter now facing the Gay community, but I am

not in favor of it," said Endean.

(*Outage* is when one Gay person publicly identifies a still closeted homosexual simply because the latter is an open opponent of Gay Rights. For example, the recent fingering of ultra-right lobbyist Terry Dolan, the Executive Director of the National Conservative Political Action Committee.)

"There are many reasons why I'm against *Outage*," explained Endean. First, there are many closeted Gay people in Washington who assist me in my lobbying efforts. They would feel threatened if I suddenly started exposing people. Second, probably a majority of GRNL's members are not out and visible themselves. And third, in this sort of match, no one really wins. What would prevent the Moral Majority from exposing liberal Congressmen who are hidden Gays?

## Lesbian Mother Documentary Planned

SOMERVILLE, MA(*The Lesbian News*)—A documentary film about Lesbians who decide to have children after they have come out, is being planned by two women in Somerville, MA.

Debra Chasnoff and Kim Klausner believe the topic of Lesbian motherhood has not been widely discussed despite the fact that a number of out Lesbians have had children and that interest in the topic is growing. The film they plan will fill a gap by giving specific information providing role models and establishing a context in which the topic can be discussed. Chasnoff and Klausner would like to contact Lesbians who have had children since coming out, who are now pregnant or who are interested in giving birth. They are looking both for those who are willing to appear in the film and those who are not.

If you are interested, please contact Debra Chasnoff and Kim Klausner, 46 Bay State Ave., No. 2, Somerville, MA 02144. All information will be confidential.

## NGTF hires Apuzzo as Exec. Director

NEW YORK—The National Gay Task Force (NGTF) officially announced the hiring of Virginia Apuzzo as Executive Director on November 16, 1982.

Early in November Apuzzo accepted that position contingent upon the approval of the Board of Directors of the NGTF Fund for Human Dignity, for which she also serves as Executive Director. That approval came unanimously from the Fund's Board, which met in New York on November 14.

In a statement issued to the NGTF membership, Jose Gomez and Betsy Hess, Co-Chairs of the NGTF Board of Directors, said, "We are most fortunate to have as our new Executive Director an individual as experienced, respected, capable and dynamic as Virginia Apuzzo. Her leadership, backed by a united Board and a dedicated staff, will ensure not only NGTF's survival, but also its renewed growth."

Apuzzo has served as the Fund for Human Dignity's Executive Director for the past year. One of the most widely known and respected Gay leaders in the country, Apuzzo serves on the boards of directors of the Gay Rights National Lobby and the Human Rights Campaign Fund. She was the recipient of the first annual Robert

Livingston Human Rights Award "for outstanding contributions to advancing the cause of Gay And Lesbian Human Rights" at the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner in New York in September. An articulate and rousing speaker, she has keynoted major conferences and addressed small groups around the country. Her frequent broadcast appearances have included recent national television exposure on NBC's *Phil Donahue Show*—on which she and former Legal Services corporation head Dan Bradley debated the Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell—and ABC's *Nightline*.

A college educator by profession, Apuzzo has been active in the Gay Rights movement for ten years. As a delegate to the 1980 Democratic National Convention, she co-chaired the convention's Lesbian and Gay Caucus and was instrumental in negotiating the historic Gay Rights plank adopted by the party that year. In 1982, as one of the few openly Gay delegates to the Democratic Mini-Convention in Philadelphia, she successfully defended the party's pledge of support for Gay Rights and saw it expanded.

## Court Refuses to Hear arguments

SAN FRANCISCO—The Arizona Court of Appeals has refused to allow National Gay Rights Advocates to file an amicus curiae brief in support of a police officer who was fired because he is Gay. The filing, and acceptance, of an amicus curiae ("Friend of the court") brief is a routine procedure which is rarely opposed.

The case revolves around Steve Horn who was fired from the Mesa, Arizona police force after he came out last fall. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, terms the reactions of the court homophobic. "There are some very compelling constitutional arguments that we made in advocating Mr. Horn's reinstatement. Apparently the court wasn't prepared to hear them from a Gay law firm.

Feeling that their case was threatened, the city attorney had urged the court to reject NGRA's brief. In defending its position, the city argued that being Gay is "not compatible with holding the high office of a policeman;" and "to retain Horn would have an adverse impact on the morale of the police department."

Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of NGRA, said "We will not be deterred by this action. NGRA is committed to fighting employment discrimination whenever it occurs." O'Leary went on to explain that cases of this nature are part of NGRA's national litigation project. She said, "One of our top priorities is to insure job security for Lesbians and Gay men throughout the country."

## NGTF Launches Crisisline

NEW YORK—The National Gay Task Force has, through the generous assistance of local organizations like Chelsea Gay Association, opened its toll-free CRISISLINE, a national telephone number which will be used to compile nationwide statistics on homophobic violence, and to provide callers with access to local hotlines and support services.

Kevin Berrill, Violence Project Coordinator, said at the October 6 opening of the CRISISLINE, "Anti-Gay violence in America is increasing. Until now, there has been no way to show the dramatic rise as a national figure. NGTF is using its resources and its recognizability factor in the Gay/Lesbian community to provide a national hotline to put the overall picture of homophobic violence into focus." The CRISISLINE will also give callers information about groups/projects/hotlines in their communities, and in some instances will provide limited referral information about AIDS hotlines and clinics.

The NGTF CRISISLINE is open weekdays from Noon to 6:00 pm EST, and is staffed by volunteers who have undergone rigorous 'hotline' training. The toll-free number is 800-221-7044. In New York State, call (212) 807-6016.

## Conference of Catholic Lesbians Slated

A conference for Catholic Lesbians, the first of its kind ever offered in the history of the Catholic Church, was held the weekend of November 5-7, 1982, at Kirkridge, a retreat center in Bangor, Pennsylvania.

Theresa Kane, R.S.M., the Conference keynote speaker, is currently President of the 4,500 member Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Union, and a former president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. Sister Kane is best known for her controversial remarks addressed to Pope John Paul II during his 1979 visit to the U.S. when she asked him to open all ministries of the Church to women, including the priesthood. The subject of her address was "Women in the Church".

The meeting was attended by 110 women from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, the District of Columbia, Texas, the Province of Quebec, Canada, and Argentina.

The Conference for Catholic Lesbians was endorsed by New Ways Ministry (Mt. Rainier, Maryland), SIGMA (Sisters in Gay Ministry Associated), the National Assembly of Women Religious (NAWR), the National Coalition of American Nuns (NCAN), and several Dignity groups.

## BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER BWMT/MEMPHIS

We are a Gay interracial, cultural, social, political and educational organization dedicated to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome, as well as working to combat racism both within and outside the Gay community.

General Meeting	Gay Pride Week Activities
Group Travel	Holiday Canned Food Drive
Potluck Social Evenings	Employment Surveys of Bars
Consciousness-Raising/Support Groups	Community Dances

Co-host (Memphis/Atlanta) of 1984 International Association of Black & White Men Together.

Celebrate our first Anniversary with us—January 21-24, 1983.

For Information Call: Irwin at 901-276-4160 or Joe at 901-274-0532. BWMT meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Main Library, Meeting Room A, Peabody at McLean.

General Meetings: December 27 and January 24.

Consciousness Raising/Support Groups: January 11 and 27.

# SF Newspapers Attack Concept of Gay Spousal Rights

(Excerpted from an article by George Mendenhall)

SAN FRANCISCO (Bay Area Reporter)--- All three major San Francisco newspapers attacked the new live-in partners legislation adopted by the Board of Supervisors in recent editorials. The City ordinance, which would have permitted the unmarried partners of city employees to enjoy certain benefits--hospital and jail visitation rights, bereavement leave, and hospital plan care (after one year). "This is an attack upon 'social norms'" the *SF Examiner* asserted, "the destruction of which concerns a great many people." The *SF Progress* stressed, "The majority of the people's views have been misrepresented by the majority of those who govern." The *SF Chronicle* urged, "This provides equal benefits for the nontraditional couple without requiring from it the same level of responsibility to society around it which is the legal duty of the 'straight' world."

A *SF Chronicle* editorial page cartoon depicted a man, a horse, a goldfish, and a sheep lined up for spousal benefit registration.

The following are reactions of San Francisco Gay Activists:

"These newspapers have reactionary editorial policies. They never support anything for Gay people. The important thing is that Gay people are getting balanced, major news section coverage and that was not happening ten years ago. The editorial page is

the least read section of the paper."

"I wonder how effective we have been in educating the public if these editorials reflect community attitudes. This legislation helps us stabilize our relationships...I question whether we should be persuaded by the heterosexual media in determining what our relationships should be like."

"...City government is realizing that long-term relationships outside of marriage are valid. The *Examiner* was honest in recognizing what it was about and then rejecting it. The *Chronicle* lied by distorting what the financial impact might be. The *Examiner's* own poll showed that the public supports this and the newspapers usually fail when they try to change public opinion."

"...They did not mention that we are part of the system but do not fully benefit from it. They refuse to recognize that there are changing values and changing relationships."

"The *Chronicle* cartoon was an all-time low for offensiveness in a city which prides itself on being civilized...Rev. Jerry Falwell was obsessed with the notion that Gay people are driven to bestiality, but one

does not expect the *Chronicle* to stoop to such an idea. When the press realize that the lives of Gay people consist of legitimate, loving relationships rather than purely of sex, the public will be better served..."

"The editorial writers freaked out because they know there is a real social change going on here. Their denial only gives it more validity..."

"It is the same basic argument we heard during the Black civil rights struggle when people said, 'I am for your rights but I don't want you to marry my daughter.'..."

"Evidently there is a fear that city employees would have to pay more for their health plan with domestic partners added. Equality is evidently all right as long as it does not involve money...I question whether a marriage license makes people more responsible, as most of our domestic violence comes from these relationships."

"They are commenting on what they see as 'Gay Power' without any real knowledge of the depth of many of our relationships. We are a real family as are a lot of heterosexual live-in partners...I am proud that our city did this. Real proud."

## Feinstein Kills Domestic Partners Bill

(excerpted from an article by Lisa M. Keen)

SAN FRANCISCO (The Washington Blade) San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein vetoed a bill that would have extended the same benefits now available to spouses of married city employees to the lovers of unmarried homosexual and heterosexual city employees.

Feinstein's action was immediately denounced by San Francisco Gays, who protested it at a rally that drew an estimated 1,000 demonstrators to City Hall, and by Gay leaders in other cities. Gay activists in Houston, where Feinstein was scheduled to appear at a Gay political fundraiser, recinded the invitation to protest the veto.

Despite the angry reaction from Gays, Feinstein, who is up for re-election next year, insisted that her veto of the 'domestic partners' bill was not aimed at Gays.

The veto, she said in a letter to the Board of Supervisors, which passed the legislation in an 8-3 vote came "not as a comment on any lifestyle, but because the legislation itself is vague and unclear."

"The ordinance neither defines what it will do, suggest its cost, or makes clear how it can be administered," Feinstein said. "Consequently, it is becoming an instrument of division and dissent in our city."

Feinstein told the supervisors that her decision to veto the legislation caused her "deep anguish" because she "would like to be able to sign legislation which recognizes the needs of single persons who make up the majority of the city's population."

Feinstein's interpretation of the bill and her motives were strongly attacked, however, by the bill's supporters, who said her veto was inspired by opposition to the bill from the city's Roman Catholic archbishop, John R. Quinn.

"When I met with Dianne before I left on this trip, she told me she had no problems with the bill," said openly Gay Supervisor Harry Britt, who was reached in Philadelphia where he was on a speaking tour.

"We thought she would sign it until the archbishop stepped in," said Britt, the bill's chief sponsor. He added that the concerns Feinstein cited in her veto message "were discussed and refuted in the debate (by the supervisors) over the bill's passage."

A spokesman for Feinstein said Wuinn "had no more impact on the mayor than anyone else." Feinstein spokesman Bill Strom said Feinstein received letters about the bill "from every religious community in the city" and insisted "no religious group held a sway on the mayor."

The reaction from Gay leaders to the veto was swift. San Francisco Gays, aware that Feinstein was scheduled to speak at a fundraising banquet in Houston for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, immediately urged Houston Gays to recind their invitation. After negotiations, the Campaign Fund committee in Houston agreed to do so.

Britt, in Philadelphia, said he would ask to Board of Supervisors to override Feinstein's veto. A vote to override would require eight votes. While noting that a Feinstein veto has never been overridden, Britt was cautiously optimistic that it could be done this time.

## No Spot Shortages of 'Heptavax-B' Reported

WEST POINT, PA--Supplies of 'Heptavax-B', the new hepatitis B vaccine, are now available in adequate quantity to vaccinate the people considered to be a greatest risk for contracting the serious liver infection.

Merck Sharp & Dohme, the developer of the vaccine, announced that no shortages have occurred and none are expected at this time. At the time of the U.S. introduction in July, the company had warned that large initial orders could lead to spot shortages since the vaccine wasn't being stockpiled but moved directly into distribution channels upon government certification.

The initial concern that unusually large requests for the vaccine might conceivably lead to short supplies in certain locations was largely based on the lengthy and complex manufacturing and testing process, which requires 65 weeks.

More than 600,000 doses of 'Heptavax-B' have been distributed to date.

A cost-effectiveness evaluation of the vaccine published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* in September shows that it would be most beneficial to screen everyone for immunity to hepatitis B virus in the male homosexual population--which has a high prevalence of hepatitis B and is at high risk of contracting the disease--and to vaccinate only those without evidence of immunity as a result of prior exposure to the virus.

Costs are lowered by screening Gays first to eliminate the large number of persons within the population who already have been exposed to the virus and, therefore, would not benefit from immunization. In that way, only persons who need the vaccine would receive it, while persons who are already immune need to bear only the lower expense of the screening process.

Also in September, the Federal government's Interagency Group to Monitor Vaccine Development, Production and Usage reported that its finding support statements by another advisory committee that the vaccine is safe and efficacious. The report was published in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* of the U.S. Center for Disease Control.

The group reviewed available data on the vaccine in response to requests for additional information and concluded that: "1) immediate side effects are minimal after receipt of ...vaccine; 2) no long-term reactions have been reported; 3) the purification and inactivation process is known to inactivate representatives of all known groups of animal viruses; 4) each lot is safety tested in primates; 5) no known cases of hepatitis B or non-A/non-B hepatitis have been transmitted by the vaccine and no known occurrence of AIDS (acquired immune deficiency disease syndrome) have been associated with the vaccine."

## Election Analysis

continued from page 1

there in District 90 who stayed home on election day.

Spence was the only candidate for any election in Memphis to ask for the open endorsement of the Gay and Lesbian community, and he got it. He had a 100% voting record and campaigned on a promise to help the ACLU of Tennessee erase the state's "sodomy" law from the books, a promise, incidentally, also made by victorious Rep. Mike Murphy in Nashville.

Despite Spence's exceptionally narrow loss, the loss cannot be attributed to Gay endorsement. If anything, the Gay vote is likely responsible for the margin of loss being so small. The major media were probably correct in their assessment of Karen Williams' win over Spence; they credited her victory to an election eve letter sent by Minerva Johnnican to Black voters in the district endorsing Williams. Johnnican, upset over a defeat in August, apparently harbored a resentment because Spence had endorsed her opponent, Julian Bolton, who was also endorsed by the Ford political machine. Johnnican, active in the Democratic party, endorsed Williams, a Republican, to Black voters as an apparent means of getting even with Spence. It remains to be seen how Williams will react to Gay and Lesbian issues, particularly regarding the upcoming attempt to wipe out the "sodomy" law.

It was no surprise that U.S. Rep. Harold Ford won his bid for re-election by a landslide. It almost goes without saying that no one expected him NOT to. Ford was endorsed by the Memphis Gay Political Caucus, although his victory was never in doubt with or without the Gay vote. His victory is significant for Gay voters, however, because Ford will very likely join the list of co-sponsors of the national "Gay Civil Rights Bill."

It should be noted that every co-sponsor of the bill won re-election, and at least one new one was elected.

Although the Memphis Gay Political Caucus endorsed Randy Tyree for gov-

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# Spectrum

News, Information, Coming Events...

## Right To Privacy Foundation Appoints Education/Research Director

WASHINGTON, DC- Rick Davis has been appointed Education and Research Director for the Right to Privacy Foundation, a new organization set up to engage in research, analysis and education on public policy issues of national legislation of interest to Gay men and Lesbians.

Davis, who moved to Washington, DC to take the job, brings with him extensive involvement in the Lesbian and Gay civil rights movement, having both lobbied and trained others to lobby for anti-discrimination legislation protecting Lesbians and Gay men in the 1973, '75, and '77 sessions of the Minnesota legislature. He served as a special projects coordinator during the St. Paul, Minnesota Lesbian and Gay Rights referendum in 1978 and as an openly Gay member of the Minneapolis Commission on Civil Rights from 1979-81. He holds a B.A. degree in speech and a law degree.

"Rick has an unusual combination of strong academic background and good practical political sense and experience," commented Steve Edean, President of the Right to Privacy Foundation. Edean, who also serves as Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, explained the Foundation was created when he realized that no organization existed which concentrated solely on research, education, and analysis of issues of Gay-related national legislation.

"The people working on national Gay and Lesbian civil rights legislation necessarily get caught up in the frantic scramble to fight daily battles. They often don't have time for careful analysis, they have to be too close to daily developments to see long-term trends clearly, and they're too battered and exhausted to do painstaking, detailed research. The Right to Privacy Foundation will provide this essential research and analysis," said David. Further com-

menting that while many other organizations engage in educational activities on homosexuality, "the Right to Privacy Foundation is unique in its focus on national legislation. We're choosing projects carefully to make sure we're highly effective while avoiding duplicating the functions and services of others." The Foundation will be starting out with a number of projects, including analyzing the impact of anti-Gay bills and amendments in Congress and analyzing the arguments which are being used by the Moral Majority and other such anti-Gay groups.

The Right to Privacy Foundation can be contacted at 750 7th Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20003, (202) 526-2130.

### Now Announces New Officers

MEMPHIS---The National Organization for Women (NOW) has announced new officers for the 1982-83 year. The officers are: April Ferguson, President; Vickie Scarborough, Vice-President; Linda Raiteri, Second Vice-President; Marcia Diamond, Secretary; and Annabelle Barton, Treasurer.

Regular meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in Meeting Room B of the Main Library.

To further the goal of bringing women into full and equal participation in all aspects of society, NOW has established the following task forces: Consciousness Raising, Legislative, Media, Minority Women, Sexual Harassment, Lesbian Rights, Sports, Fundraising, Newsletter and Membership.

For more information about NOW activities and task forces, write to NOW, Memphis Chapter, P.O. Box 40982, Memphis, 38104

### Caucus Sends "Season's Greetings"

The Memphis Gay Political Caucus has completed the first mailing of seasonal greeting cards to politicians, business leaders and Gay/Lesbian activists and organizations.

The cards, designed by a local Les-

bian artist for this project, were mailed on December 7. The over 200 recipients of the greeting cards, which stated "Season's Greetings/Memphis Gay Political Caucus" and featured an illustration of a Lambda inside a wreath, included President and Mrs Reagan; Mayor Dick Hackett; Jerry Falwell; Avron Fogelman; *The Advocate*; local television newscasters and administrators; and all local, state, and congressional politicians.

Irwin Rothenberg, a member of the Caucus, called this project "an effective outreach to Gay communities and political leadership" at various levels, and "a subtle way to let people know that we exist as a Gay political force."

He also stated that this activity "reinforces the increasingly positive image that Memphis is acquiring in Gay activist circles around the country. We also hope to involve disparate members of the Gay community locally in building a political base for future elections."

This greeting card project was the second major activity of the Memphis Gay Political Caucus since its founding three months ago. Caucus members prepared a list of endorsements for the November general election and distributed the information to the Gay community in an attempt to solidify Gay political clout and make candidates aware of their Gay constituency.

Further information on activities of the Gay Political Caucus is available through Box 3038, Memphis, TN, 38103

### NGRA Announces New Litigation Goals

SAN FRANCISCO- National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public interest law firm, has announced a new legal agenda for the 1980's. This new litigation program will focus on the legal rights of Gay couples and employment discrimination cases. NGRA will also seek to challenge the oppressive criminal statutes which still exist in half of the states in the nation and are used by legislators as a rationale for not enacting Gay rights laws.

Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of NGRA, expressed enthusiasm for the new program. She said, "It is a far-reaching program intended to achieve security and equality for Lesbians and Gay men--both as individuals and couples." When asked how the strategy of concentrating in these areas developed, O'Leary said: "We are simply giving priority to the issues that will improve the quality of our lives."

Leonard Graff, Legal Director of NGRA, said the program will respond to the needs of the Gay community while building on past court victories. "Gay people must be treated equally in hiring, promotions, fringe benefits, taxation, visitation rights

and insurance programs." Graff stated that NGRA is in the process of developing the legal theories that will be used in court to bring about these changes.

## Election Analysis

Continued from page 5

ernor, it was a 'limited' endorsement based more on Gov. Alexander's silence on Gay issues than on Tyree's support. Tyree had asked for the support of the Gay community, certainly something Alexander had not done, but he had asked for a 'closed' endorsement, fearing a negative voter reaction in conservative East Tennessee. Members of the Political Caucus were split on their decision to make an endorsement at all, and were neither surprised nor overly disappointed at Tyree's loss. Gov. Alexander, after all, has not been bad on Gay issues, he just hasn't been good on them.

Alexander did put a quick stop to UT Chattanooga's refusal to recognize a Gay student group last year, but he did so to avoid an ACLU lawsuit that would surely have been victorious and would have cost the state a great deal of taxpayer money.

The emerging political strength of Gays in Tennessee, particularly in Memphis and Nashville, has somewhat surprised the national Gay movement. It has surprised us, as well. We not only proved to the general public, but to ourselves, that openly endorsing political candidates can have a positive effect on the outcome of local elections. It has been difficult in the past to shake the myth that open Gay endorsements would cause other voters to drop a candidate like the proverbial 'hot potato'. The 1982 elections proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that Rep. Pam Gaia's 'political suicide' remark is meaningless. I congratulate Rep. Gaia on her victory and I hope she will congratulate us on ours. Maybe by 1984, she will ask for the Gay endorsement.

It is also important for Gays to realize that candidates of the 'Christian Right' went quickly down the tubes this year. The political strength of the New Right in the Memphis area was proven null and void as their candidates lost one after the other by incredibly large margins. This obvious lack of strength that we had previously pictured as a highly successful voting bloc makes our fight a much easier one. They simply aren't there in the numbers some of us thought.

The Gay political movement in Tennessee has much to be happy about in 1983, and much work to do in 1984. I am confident, after studying this election year, that we will have a powerful influence in future elections. We know, now, that we can do it. And that, more than anything, is the impact of this election year.

## Announcing Counseling Services for Gay Men and Women

Individual, Group and Couples Counseling

## Memphis Psychotherapy Center

1835 Union Avenue, Suite 203

Hours by Appointment

726-1284




## Memphis First Organized Gay Sport.

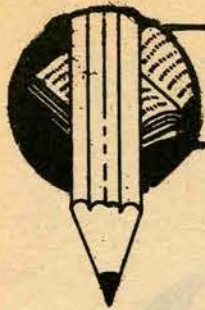
Bowl every Saturday at 2 pm at Poplar Plaza

Next General Meeting January 8

For further information contact

Ron Smith 726-9254

Everyone is welcome!



# REVIEWS

## Heavyweights Crash Barracks

By Collin Lane

I approached the door with apprehension. What on earth could be done to make this military bar host to "Fantasy in White"? Many employees were questioned beforehand but no concrete answers were offered. The closest rendered was, "It's a big surprise!" Endowed with common sense, I knew the reply was by no means facetious. The Weather Girls are definitely big surprises.

Moments later I entered the arena to be overwhelmed by a profusion of white balloons hanging from the ceiling and scattered over the floor. Employees dressed accordingly in mock formality. The music was intense and lended to the festive decor. Patrons danced frenetically until the source of mystique arrived.

The Weather Girls stepped on stage and slid into the schedule of things.

The show was launched with a forceful rendition of EARTH CAN BE JUST LIKE HEAVEN. Talk about angelic. It was as if I'd entered Heaven's gates. I actually saw charged particles. (No, I was not on any mind altering substances).

Unfortunately, the flow of things was not to continue. Their mikes acted up as well as their taped accompaniment. These problems were rectified and the show progressed to the next number, JUST US. It allowed the audience to observe how well the two can meld their voices.

After mellowing out for a few moments with the voice play they zipped into a bumping, grinding version of OOH, "I'VE GOT THE FEELING. This got everyone in the mood for serious business.

The intro to their hot new single



IT'S RAINING MEN began and in the blink of an eye umbrellas were whipped out to add to the intensity of the song. Ionic particles reappeared to encircle the two. The angelic Weather Girls almost made me run for cover. Talk about a heavenly weather report. The Weather Girls had it down pat! I had to look at the ceiling to be sure no men were falling from the balloons. As quickly as the angels arrived, they left.

Collectively known as the Weather Girls, Martha Wash and Izora Armstead are the voices of this impressive duo. They're managed by Doug Kibble and Frank Armstead. Off stage the foursome is witty and personable. While speaking with them, they made me feel at ease.

Martha hails from Texas, Izora from California. They operate from the strategic base of San Francisco, CA. Both grew up singing in church which explains why they get so emotionally charged by their music. Oddly enough, the duo is involved religiously when off tour. Their professional career began with back-up work for the infamous Sylvester and they have since remained in the pop arena. No member of the group cared to talk in terms of years and Goodness knows I was not to delve into the matter of age or weight. I have too few of both behind me.

The performance gave me the impression Izora was in charge of things. Actually, Martha is the more talkative of the two. She feels during a performance, "a person should be able to throw his cares away and enjoy the spirit." Both rely heavily upon the audience for positive strokes. Both

### Weather Girls Lead Top 10 selected by Don Laney, Barracks DJ

1. It's Raining Men/The Weather Girls
  2. Invasion/Patrick Cowley
  3. Space Age Love Song/Flock of Seagulls
  4. I Eat Cannibals/Toto Coelo
  5. I ran/Flock of Seagulls
  6. Shock the Money/Peter Gabriel
  7. Take a Chance/Bizzy and Co.
  8. Do Ya Wanna Funk?/Sylvester
  9. Peek A Boo/Devo
  10. Car Crash/Uranium
- UP AND COMING
1. Starknight/Bob Salton
  2. Drums on the Fire/Gazuzu
  3. She Has a Way/ Bobby O.
  4. Lay Your Love on Me/Girlfriend
  5. City of the Night/Rational Youth

heartily agreed the audience and not the entertainer sets the mood of things. During the show, Izora validated the point because of the ongoing rapport she established with one patron.

There is no definite audience for them. They think in terms of mass appeal. Izora preferred to categorize the mass as young, middle-aged and older. Martha offered the more concrete age bracket of eighteen to fifty. Although they aim for no certain segment, both agreed to a large Gay audience as contributing to their popularity. They hold no qualms in regards to performing in Gay bars.

Currently, The Weather Girls are on a tour of San Francisco, Miami, New York, Denver, Dallas, Memphis and Houston. London will be graced by their presence during the recording of their new album scheduled for release early next year. They will premier it on their European/African tour.

No performance occurs without negative impressions. The performing area was awkwardly positioned. Taped accompaniment is fine for dancing but for the cover charge one would expect live musicians. Lighting was inadequate for finer features. Sound equipment at one point broke the continuity a good show should have. The show was too short. No animosities intended, if I can be there at show time, so should the performers.

All things accounted, the production merits two stars from a possible four. A valiant effort for acts of this caliber. I can only be positive and encourage you to go for it. You'll get Grace yet!

## Marshall Street Tops list of Gay Places to be in '83

By Allen Cook

In 1982 George's Disco and Drag Bar topped the list of places that Gay men and women frequented most last year.

At 600 Marshall for about 5 years, George's has consistently been a popular night spot for the Gay crowd since it opened. The French Connection and The Barracks, on either side of George's, probably benefit from the crowd that is drawn to Marshall Street by George's.

Despite the opening and closing of a major competitor, George's still remains the number one meeting spot for Gays in the Memphis area.

On any given weekend night, you can see cars with license plates from three or four states lining the streets and parking lots surrounding the complex. Although estimates vary, a good Friday or Saturday night will bring 1000-1500 people to the block between Madison and Union.

What makes George's so successful? Well, a tried and true formula is one reason. Many years ago, the beer bust coupled with a drag pantomime show proved to be a draw among the predominantly Gay male audiences. Although other bars have come and gone, George's remains essentially unchanged. Doors open at 8 but the real action starts around 10 or so with disco music revving the audience up. At about 11 the emcee announces "It's show time" and the dancing stops, there's a quick rush to the rest rooms while the overture plays and the show is off and running. An hour and a half or so later, it's all over and it's back to disco dancing. The crowd begins to drift off to other bars.

Another popular bar is The Barracks (just east of George's and under the same ownership). The Barracks, as one would assume, has a military decor but unlike its name, does not necessarily cater to a military crowd. Primarily known as an after-hours bar, things are usually slow there until about 12:30 or 1:00 am. After that, about anything goes.

New to the Marshall Street area this year is The Psych Out II. For those who remember the original Psych

Out, which was primarily a women's bar, The Psych Out II is a change. Catering to a mixed male-female clientele, this club is concentrating on an amicable mix. Primarily a dance bar, owner Sharon Ray occasionally presents shows of a similar but decidedly unique nature on the weekends and seems to be making a successful bid for her share of the Marshall Street action.

Not to be left out, The French Connection offers an entirely different ambience from the other bars on Marshall. Actually a restaurant with a bar, The French Connection offers a fairly decent menu with shows on the traditionally dark days of Monday and Tuesday.

Perhaps because there are so many new people 'coming out', business has been good at the other established meeting places in town. The Pendulum (92 N. Avalon), P.W. Bumps Disco (238 N. Cleveland), J-Wags (1268 Madison), and Sharon's (1474 Madison) still do enough business looking after those who don't like the crowded disco-drag scene to provide an alternative. With a loyal and growing clientele, they too promise to be around in 1983.

One notable exception to the success story of the Marshall Street and the general health of Gay establishments in Memphis was the demise of The Body Shop and Hard Times Saloon. Launched soon after Labor Day at a location next to the downtown YMCA, The Body Shop showed early promise but failed to deliver. It closed a scant few months later. Perhaps the reason was the fact that The Body Shop tried to duplicate an existing formula...one that was so established that nothing could compete with it for long. Once the novelty wore off, the patrons realized that they were seeing a copy and not a very good one at that. Conclusions are hard to draw, but what seems to be reasonable, is that for any new bar to be successful, "you gotta have a gimmick." But Gay Memphis also seems to be fickle and they like to party in familiar surroundings for the most part. After all, we are all creatures of habit. So anyone trying to open a new bar in Memphis had better try, like the bride, to have something old AND something new.

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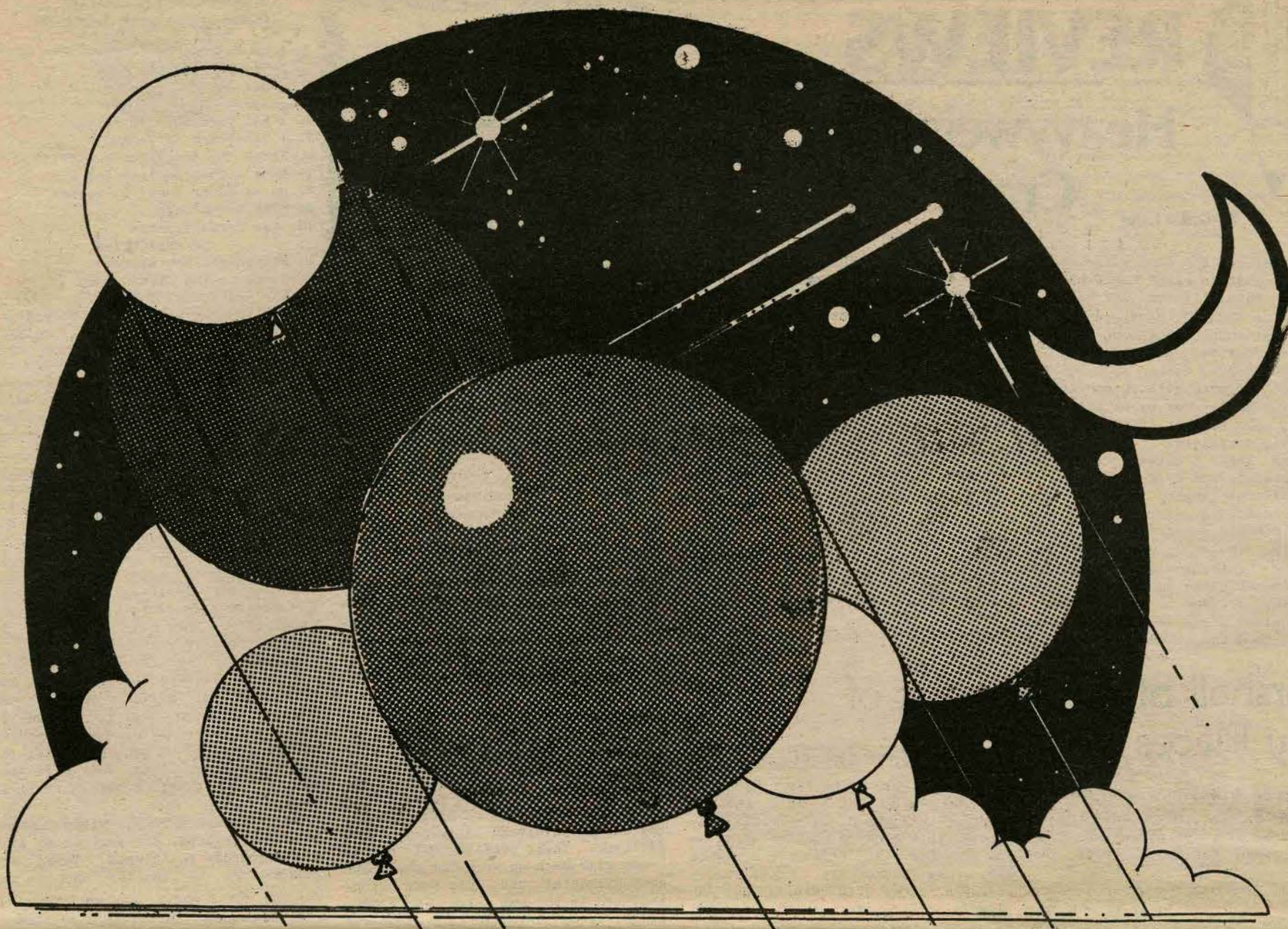
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# WAREHOUSE 28

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**—December 31: Five Dollar Cover. 8 pm- until. Top 40 Countdown starting at 10:00 pm. Party favors, Champagne Toast at Midnight!

**Thursday January 6:** Cast Party for the Broadway production of **EVITA**. Wine and Cheese Bar. Free admision with ticket stub from one of the performances.

**Sunday January 9:** Entertainment from Washington, D.C. with **Jullet Prowse** and **Tina Santana**. Buffet from 6-9 pm. Shows at 10, 11 and 12. Two of Washington's finest female impersonators.

**Wednesday/Thursday January 12/13:** **David and Dazzle**. Ventriloquist act. Wild and Crazy!

**Sunday January 16:** **Gay Family Feud Returns**. Teams of three people compete for cash prizes in the Warehouse version of the famous television game.

**Thursday January 20:** A promotion party from Lite beer by Miller. Free beer and giveaways along with our regular Thursday drink specials. Sponsored by DET Distributing Company.

**Sunday January 23:** We turn our DJ booth over to two of Nashville's most talented music programmers, **Chip Schofield** and **Fred Porter**, known professionally as "**Famvlew Productions**." Come out and hear a different approach to Sunday night music. Chip and Fred will be blending a wide variety of music to titillate your senses and the soles of your feet.

**Sunday January 30:** **A Wear-me-out Gay-La! Extravaganza**. Five talented and not-so-beautiful stage girls put on a show of shows complete with production numbers and individual performances. Not to be missed, this show will break more than one camera lense, we're sure.

**2529 Franklin Nashville 615-385-9689**