

# XENOGEN'

Middle Tennessee's Only Lesbigay Newsweekly Promoting Diversity, Visibility & Unity In Our Community. We Are Here For You!

**VOLUME 3 ISSUE 28** 

JULY 15, 1996

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH**

OFF THE INTERNET WIRE SERVICE

A scathing human rights report timed for the start of the Atlanta Olympics accuses the state of Georgia of racial discrimination, intolerance of gays and lesbians, undermining freedom of expression and police abuses.

The nongovernmental group Human Rights Watch said its researchers found that state officials and public policies contradicted Georgia state law, U.S. federal law, the U.S. Constitution and international human rights law.

Human Rights Watch, privately-funded and established almost 20 years ago in the United States

to monitor and promote observance of human rights accords worldwide, said those responsible for abus-

es frequently went unpunished.

The organization said it focused on Georgia to illustrate abuses that also occur in many other parts of the United States and because Atlanta had trumpeted its human rights record as a reason for gaining the summer Olympics.

'Just as Georgia embraces the international sporting system, it should uphold the international system for protecting human rights," Human Rights Watch executive director Kenneth Roth said in a statement. "The same standards of fair play and justice that we applaud on the playing field should be applied to our streets, homes and prisons.'

Atlanta beat favorite Athens and several other cities to host the Games of the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Olympic Games, between July 19 and August 4. It will be the biggest Games ever, with more than 10,000 athletes from 197 nations taking part.

Human Rights Watch cited Atlanta's application to host the Olympic Games in which it described itself as "for many the modern capital of human rights" and equating itself with the "justice and equality inherent in fair play."



#### HELMS STICKERS & VANDALS

GATHERED FROM THE CYBERSPACE NEWS WIRE

"Hatemonger" Senator Jessie Helms' bumper stickers and campaign signs now come with a warning indicating "the use of campaign signage could be hazardous to your health or property."

Senator Helms' political coordinator, Jennifer Knox, told campaign leaders across the state that Helms is scaling down on the distribution of signs and bumper stickers after numerous prob-

lems in Raleigh.

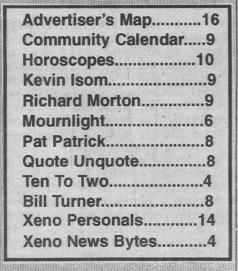
"For years we've endured the hatred liberals have for Sen. Helms," she wrote in a memo. "Now we are receiving reports from our supporters who have had Helms' bumper stickers stripped from their cars or our signs destroyed in their vards."

Knox said a Raleigh couple who had the Republican's stickers on two cars awoke one morning to find their tires slashed and "vulgar anti-Helms epithets" scratched into the paint.

"We want to take every precaution possible to prevent this type of thing from happening again," Knox wrote, explaining that the campaign will limit sign distribution. "We will make them available only after supporters have been warned. Possible exceptions will be for events where signs are used.'

"Please let them know the senator never wants to put them in a situation which threatens their property or has the potential for physical harm," she wrote. "Senator Helms values your friendship.

Why would anyone want to destroy signs which promote hate, bigotry, racism, and radical right religious beliefs?





### XENO I

xenogeny is from the Greek words "xeno," meaning stranger or alien, and "genesis," meaning production or creation. In this context, XENOGENY means "strange child," and reminds gays, lesbians and bisexuals that we remain second-class step-children as long as we continue to be denied civil rights and civil protection.

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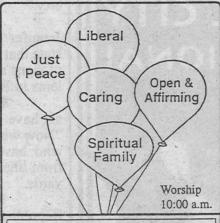


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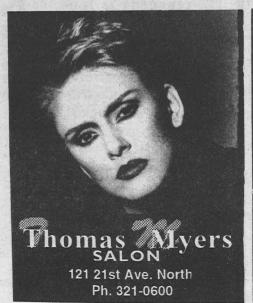
Nick Pride

#### New Study Beginning

AIDS Vaccine **Evaluation Unit** at Vanderbilt.

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#### HIV/AIDS DIGEST

#### RARE FORM OF AIDS

FROM THE CDC AIDS DAILY SUMMARY

Federal health officials report that a Los Angeles woman has been identified as the first person in the United States to carry HIV Group O, a rare strain of the virus that is more commonly found in West Africa, where the woman is from. Existing tests for HIV detect Group O about 80 percent of the time, and the woman, who has not been identified, repeatedly tested HIV-negative with vari-The Centers for Disease ous assays. Control (CDC) and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration emphasized that the rare strain poses very little threat to the blood supply. They noted, however, that HIV tests should be reconfigured to better detect Group O. The woman appears to have been infected in her homeland and was identified months ago during a records search that was initiated after Group O appeared in Europe. Still, the discovery was somewhat accidental, as the woman had been listed as an HIV carrier even though her tests had come back negative. The CDC issued a public report of its finding on Thursday, describing the discovery as an indication that Group O could become a public health problem in the future. Officials at the agency say they plan to present the findings in a "late-breaking presentation" the 11th International AIDS Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, which was set to begin this last weekend

#### PROMOTING DRUGS

As an increasing number of AIDS drugs enter the market and HIV infection becomes increasingly thought of as a manageable disease, drug makers are becoming more aggressive in their mar-keting of AIDS therapies by targeting the patients themselves. Advertisements for new drugs, which are often expensive, run in magazines like Poz, while drug makers court gay advocacy groups like Gay Men's Health Crisis. Marketing to HIVinfected patients was especially prominent at the Poz Life Expo, described by its organizers as the first consumer show for HIV-positive people. While analysts say there will probably be no billion-dollar drugs for treating AIDS, small biotechnology companies and large pharmaceutical firms can still make handsome profits off of the many new drugs entering the market.

#### DC WATER ALERT!

Washington, D.C., Public Health Commissioner Harvey I. Sloane has canceled his warning for city residents to boil tap water before drinking it, claiming the advisory was based on old test data. Sloane based his recommendation to the elderly and to people with compromised immune systems on second-hand reports about tests performed in early June. He said he was not aware until Thursday that more recent tests indicated that bacteria was at normal levels in the city's water supply. "Basically, I didn't have all the information regarding the latest testing by the EPA," Sloane said. "The results have been normal since the 25th of June, and had I known that, I would not have recommended that anybody boil water." Sloane also acknowledged that city officials were concerned that the advisory would further damage the city's image, and he said that officials contacted him

last Thursday morning with the more recent test results. Before the warning was lifted, volunteers who deliver meals to the more than 300 AIDS patients in the Food and Friends Program distributed gallon jugs of water, as well as instructions for boiling tap water as a precaution.

#### MONKEYS & RESEARCH

Francoise Barre-Sinoussi, a pioneer researcher at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, reports in the British medical journal the Lancet that determining the "driving force behind the evolution of primate lentiviruses," could help further AIDS research. Barre-Sinoussi noted that one key problem is the rapid speed at which HIV mutates, thus allowing new variants of the virus to continually develop and resist anti-HIV treatments. In an editorial accompanying the report, the Lancet stated, "The war on HIV is certainly one that can be won," noting that "by comparison with the lack of progress toward effective treatments for rheumatoid arthritis or multiple sclerosis, those responsible for research into HIV have nothing to be ashamed of.

#### AIDS RESEARCH

An editorial in The Economist says that the powerful AIDS research engine, while now showing promising results, demonstrates that medical research in the United States and Europe is ultimately driven by profit and politics. Over the past 15 years, while scientists have been working to understand and treat HIV and AIDS, 4.5 million people have died of the disease, and another 19 million are now infected with HIV. The United Nations estimates that by 2000, another 11 million to 14 million people will be infected. While not hailed as a cure, scientists are hopeful that a new combination of anti-HIV drugs may be an effective treatment for the disease, allowing people with HIV to live longer, healthier lives. The high cost of the drugs is a serious concern, however, and the authors raise questions about whether wealthy countries' would feel responsible to provide the drugs for poorer nations. The article also points out that, while other diseases pose more serious threats AIDS in developing countries, research is limited because they are not health threats in the United States or Europe.

#### SCIENCE AND HOPE

A new AIDS therapy, involving a combination of three drugs, has raised the hopes of AIDS patients, doctors, and researchers that the disease may be treatable as a chronic condition. The new drugs are designed to block HIV's pro-tease enzyme, needed for the virus to replicate. The therapy combines a protease inhibitor with an older drug, a reverse-transcriptase inhibitor. This idea was first published by David Ho, of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center, and George Shaw, of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. They showed that HIV replicates continually from the time of initial infection, and is not dormant for years as was previously thought. As the body fights off infection, the virus mutates rapidly, until a strain arises that the immune system cannot overpower. At that point, a patient develops AIDS symptoms. The three-drug therapy aids the immune system, making the virus' chances of developing more powerful.

### CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE

#### CREATING CHANGE

Barney Frank, the outspoken Democratic Congressman Massachusetts, will kick off the ninth annual Creating Change Conference, regaling attendees with his views of the 1996 Presidential election. Frank's keynote address opens the conference on Thursday evening, November 7, 1996.

The pre-eminent national gathering of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender activists returns this year to its birthplace of Washington, DC. Pre-conference institutes and trainings will be held November 6 and 7, with the core conference running November 7 through 10. All events during this ninth annual national gathering sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia.

This year's conference features the First Annual Vito Russo Memorial Lecture on Art & Politics, to be delivered Friday, November 8 by author and poet June Jordan. Jordan is a prolific writer and social critic whose greatest strength is her ability to live what she believes. The late Vito Russo, a 1989 Creating Change keynote speaker, wrote the critically acclaimed study of cinema "The Celluloid Closet."

Veteran organizer Carmen Vasquez, currently the director of public policy at the New York City Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, will deliver a keynote address on Saturday, Nov. 9. Vasquez, a self-described Butch-Puerto Rican-Socialist, is co-director of Promote the Vote, a national voter registration and mobilization project of the country's 65 community centers.

Five all-day pre-conference institutes are scheduled prior to the core workshops and roundtables of the conference. On Wednesday, November 6, two institutes will run simultaneously: the annual "People of Color Organizing Institute," with organizers/facilitators Don Kao, Cathy Cohen, Graciela Sanchez, Michael Marinez, and Katherine Acey; and "Race Is The Issue: An Institute for White Activists," with lead organizer Suzanne Pharr of the Arkansas Women's Project, assisted by a team including Amber Hollibaugh, Marj Plumb, Laura Flanders, Mab Segrest and Jamie Grant.

On Thursday, November 7, the three simultaneous institutes scheduled are "Finding Common Ground: Building Alliances Across Race, Class & Gender Lines," organized and facilitated by Pam McMichael and Pat Hussain, co-directors of

Southerners on New Ground; "Youth Organizing Institute," coordinated by youth organizers from the New York City Lesbian and Gav Community Services Center; and "Community Centers: Laying the Foundations to Create Change," convened by leaders from the country's gay and lesbian community centers.

Two special all-day tutorials are offered: Fundraising Training with Kim Klein on Thursday, November 7 and Board/Leadership Development with Karl Mathiasen on Friday, November 8. Participants at these special trainings are expected to attend them for the entire day. Registration for these trainings is not included in the conference registration fee; a separate fee will be charged and lunch is includ-

A Strategy Meeting for Statewide Organizations will be held on Thursday, November 7. This day-long gathering is by, for, and about the people and groups that toil in the state legislatures, building networks across their state, county by county and town by town. This meeting is organized and facilitated by Helen Gonzales of NGLTF, Paula Ettelbrick of the Empire State Pride Agenda, and Urvashi Vaid, attorney and community organizer.

A panel of inside-the-Beltway pros will lead off the morning on Friday, November 8 with a pithy discussion of The Next Presidential Administration. The current discussions of same-gender marriage, the status of ENDA and federal hate crimes law and the outcome of Colorado's Amendment 2 provide much grist for this mill. This panel discussion is organized and facilitated by writer and activist Torie

Conference goers can choose from dozens and dozens of workshops, panels, caucuses, meetings and small group sessions about activists' work in their communities. Subject matter includes: freedom to marry, media, sex and gender identity, organizational development, anti-violence, workplace organizing, speakers bureaus, leadership skills, sodomy laws, and current hot topics and trends in the movement. Digital Queers returns for the fourth year with a full schedule of computer, on-line, and web trainings for everyone, from the weak-fingered rookies to the veteran cyberjocks.

For more information or to receive a Creating Change 1996 brochure and registration brochure, call 202/332-6483, ext. 3329. It is also available on the world wide web at http://www.ngltf.org/cc96.

#### Corrections:

The excellent front page article "Disney Movies are Filled with Fairies" published in our June 24th edition was submitted to us by Steven Edwards, but was actually written by Mile Redmond, staff writer of the Indianapolis Star and News. We apologize!

Also in the July 8th edition we printed "Dolly Parton" rather than "Polly Darton" in the Music City All American display ad on page 11.

Please accept our apology for these grave errors!



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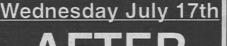
TUE Free Country Dance Lessons at 7pm Killer Karaoke with Steve Mogck at 10 pm

WED 50¢ Draft All Night

THU Karaoke with Steve Mogck 10pm \$1.75 Longnecks

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# AFTER SHOCK

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### Friday, July 19th Conductors



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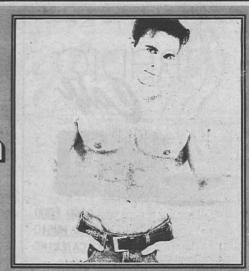
#### Saturday, July 20th HAPPY BIRTHDAY JACK! Tell Us About New Orleans!

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#### TEN TO TWO

BY RON SLOMOWICZ

The boys down at "Dance Music Authority" have done it again. In addition to publishing the most helpful and informative dance music magazine, they have

released a second compilation of dance music. the title, DMA DANCE Volume 2: The Best of Eurodance, accurately describes the contents.

What makes this compilation essential is the difficulty of finding most of

the songs. Just about all of the titles were available only on import and have been out of print. I have been trying to track down Herbie's "Right Type of Mood" since it's release. Herbie made the great hiNRG records "Come on Boy" and "Make My Body Rock" under the name DJ H featuring Steffy.

Although most of the songs are current euro hits, a few classics are thrown in: Dr.Alban's "It's My Life," Two Brothers on the Fourth Floor's "Let Me Be Free" and Two Unlimited's "No One." These songs make the CD feel like a greatest hits of euro.

DMA DANCE Volume2 has something for everyone. For those who like their euro really fast (over 140 beats per minute), Netzwerk's "Memories," Double You's "Dancing With an Angel" and Masterboy's "Anybody" will satisfy the craving. People on the housey tip will enjoy the self titled "Love Message" track. Pop fans will love La Bouche's "Be My Lover."

#### **GREATEST HITS**

I was bopping around the CD store last week and I noticed that there seems to be a million greatest hits packages out there. Some don't seem necessary. For example, did Stacy Q really need to release a greatest hits package? This girl has two dance hits in the 80's "We Connect" and "Two of Hearts" and then disappeared into obscurity. Remember her stint on Facts of Life as Cinnamon? Her greatest hits seems more like a last minute effort to cash in on royalties than actual greatest hits package.

Arista has been on a roll, releasing greatest hits packages from their prestige divas. Whitney Houston's upcoming greatest hits album is being previewed with a new house remix of "I Wanna Dance With Somebody." Remixed by Junior Vasquez, it is very similar to Cher's "One By One:" but even better. The mix starts out very dark as a building bass beat which crescendos into the most high energy mix that Junior has ever done. Look for this to be a huge club hit when it is eventually released.

On the Arista tip, both Taylor Dayne and Expose have Greatest Hits albums. Taylor Dayne mines the singles from her breakthrough "Tell It To My Heart" to her most recent single "Say A Prayer." Remixes of these singles and "I'll Wait" are included as bonus tracks on the

CD. Her hits such as "Love Will Lead You Back," "Prove Your Love," and "I'll Be Your Shelter" stand up well against the test of time. Expose has been through several member changes, but their music has been consistently excellent. From dance

hits such as "Point of No Return" and "Come With Me" to ballads like "I'll Never Get Over You" and "Season's Change," Expose was a strong group. Their cover "I Specialize in Love" was remixed for their greatest Hits CD.

While Boy George is currently exploring his rock and roll side, his greatest hits album At Worst...the Best of Boy George combines his solo hits with the best of the Culture Club. "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me" introduced Culture Club to the world. Who can forget all the controversy that his effeminate nature and cross dressing caused? Ditties like "Karma Chameleon" and "I'll Tumble 4U" are some of the best dance songs that the early 80's had to offer. The most humorous track is definitely "Bow Down Mister." Recorded during his conversion to Hare Krishna, he suggests an end to the world's problems through new found self enlightenment.

Also good for a laugh is Cyndi Lauper's 12 Deadly Cyn.. Of course "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" is the most obvious, but did you ever hear the reggae version "Hey Now?" Cyndi never took herself too seriously, with dance hits such as "She Bop" (an ode to female self satisfaction) and "Money Changes Everything" (trash cans as motorized vehicles anyone?) Ballads such as "Time After Time," "True Colors" and "Change of Heart" all stand the test of time. Actually, her hit "I Drove All Night" was recently covered by dance act Bandido, which makes me wonder which of her hits will be covered next.

#### **Good Garbage**

Last week, I mentioned the Todd Terry remix of Garbage's "Stupid Girl" and thanks to Rich from the Mix Factory, I got a tape of it. Although I liked Garbage's previous songs "Queer" and "Only Happy When It Rains," I always hoped for a club mix. Similar to the remix of Smashing Pumpkin's "1979," the mix is phenomenal. All that is added is a steady drum machine beat with the original vocals and effects kept in place. Be sure to check out "Stupid Girl" when it is released commercially in the upcoming weeks

615-331-8275

#### ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY I

Music City Rollers Winter Bowling League: 12:30 p.m. 227-3543

Volunteer Volleyball: 1:30 p.m. - 297-0008

Stonewall Mission Church: 6:30 p.m. at 703 Berry Road 297-0008

Dayspring Christian Fellowship: 7:00 p.m. 13th & Holly Street at East End

United Methodist Church in east Nashville 227-3261

Metropolitan Community Church: 7:00 p.m. 1808 Woodmont Blvd.

MONDAY

Positive Attitude: 6-8pm at the Connection for HIV+ individuals & friends 742-1166

NOW: National Organization for Women 4th Monday 7:00 p.m. 292-6371 1016 18th Ave South

Lambda Group (AA): 8:00 p.m. 1808 Woodmont Blvd

TUESDAY

MTSU Lambda Association: 6:30 p.m. Fall & Winter 780-2293

Southern Country Dance: The Chute 7:00 p.m. 2535 Franklin Rd.

P-FLAG: Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays 1st Tuesday 7:00 p.m. 1808 Woodmont Blvd

Married and Gay Network: 1st & 3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m. At the Center for Lesbian & Gay Services located at 703 Berry Rd 297-0008

NWA: Nashville Women's Alliance 3rd & 4th Tuesday 7:00p.m. 703 Berry Rd 297-0008

Integrity: 4th Tuesday 297-0008

MENTOPS: Sacred Space for Man Discussion/Support Crown Trees 7 0mm

MENTORS: Sacred Space for Men. Discussion/Support Group. Tues. 7-9pm at the Center, 703 Berry Road. Phone 269-4342

Integrity: 4th Tuesday 297-0008 for details

WEDNESDAY

Co-Dependents: Anonymous 7:00 p.m. 703 Berry Rd 297-0008

Free to Be {AA}: 6:30 p.m. 419 Woodland St.

One in Teen: 6:30 p.m. 703 Berry Rd 297-0008

Women's Discussion Group: 7:00 pm at the Center 703 Berry Road. Call 297-0008

THURSDAY

Music City Rollers II: Bowling League 6:30 p.m. Donelson Plaza Lanes 227-3543

The Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice; The Board meets 7p.m. the 1st Thurs. & the general membership meets 7p.m. the 3rd Thurs. At St. Ann's Episcopal Church 5th & Woodland. Info 298- LGCJ (5425)

INTERACT: Gay men's discussion group 7:00-8:30 P.M. on 2nd & 4th Thursday 703 Berry Road 297-0008

Vanderbilt Lambda Association: 7:30 p.m. Winter & Fall 322-0376 Alternatives (AA): 7:30 p.m. 2007 Acklen Ave.

FRIDAY

HIV-infected & Affected (AA): Noon at CARES, 209 10th Ave. S. Ste 160

Overeater's Anomynous: 5:00 p.m. 703 Berry Rd 297-0008 Program Study Group (AA): 7:00 p.m. 2007 Acklen Ave.

SATURDAY

Nashville '96 Lesbian & Gay Pride Committee: Meets every week at Noon! At the Center 703 Berry Road. Everyone is welcome!!!

Tennessee Vals: Transgendered Group 2nd Sat. 664-6883

OTHER

Clarksville CARES: 1-615-503-4063

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#### MOURNLIGHT

DIVERSITY, UNITY AND WILDLIFE

Diversity, Unity, and Wildlife "I see that you've been writing," he said, "but how do your stories serve the purpose of that publication: promoting diversity, visibility, and unity in our community?

I knew the answer, but how could I explain it? Most of my stories deal with wildlife, with an event in nature, or with the emotions and feelings of a certain type of individual in a certain situation. Rarely do I write about everyday prejudice against a gay or lesbian individual, or about news events concerning the same.

Yet, I do feel there is a connection. It has to do with the balance among and connections between all of us: the living and the inanimate, the humans and the many creatures. A person who has no appreciation for the various creatures in the animal kingdom likely also has no appreciation for the various types of human beings, in my opinion. Yet, I believe they are part of "our community." How likely is an individual who never notices the beauty of the minuscule flowers growing among the simple grass in his yard to notice the beauty buried beneath the surface of a human whom he does not necessarily like? To find those flowers in the grass, he must lie on his belly and look carefully among the green blades. Unless the lawn has been inundated with chemicals, there will be tiny flowers scattered among the grasses; there is a whole eco-system living there that we rarely see. And just as one must lie on his belly and look carefully to see those won-ders, one must often look closely beneath the surface of an otherwise uninteresting human to see the wonder that is there. So then, if I can stir one to look for the wonders among the grasses, might they not also look for the wonders of the rest of the human race, and learn that the diversity is a wonderful thing?

Then there are the larger creatures. Whether it be a snake, skunk, raccoon, opossum, hawk, sparrow, or whatever: there is a wonderful diversity among them. Among them, there is much for us to learn, to appreciate, to laugh about, and to

wonder about. They can teach us, if only we will open our ears and eyes and learn. They, too, are part of "our community." One who is willing to invest the time can earn the trust of these creatures. One who is

willing to invest the time can also often earn the trust of a skeptical human being. spring, a young skunk has come regularly to my front yard to feed. Have you taken the time to notice that not all skunks are alike? Not all have one white stripe reaching from their head to their tail, as cartoons would have us believe.

Although the one next door has only a patch of white upon his head, and is otherwise completely black, this one is almost completely white. I have watched this young creature for many nights while he rooted his tiny nose among the grass in the yard, and dug with such energy that dirt flew behind him like a waterfall. He pounces, much like a cat, when he spies the substance he feeds upon. But to witness all of his frolicking, I first had to patiently gain his trust. Perhaps you would say I am crazy, because the penalty for not being trusted would surely have been a heavy dose of his pungent oil. I say that sometimes the risk is worth the reward, and that I was confident in my ability to be trusted. So, I sat far away for several nights, quietly scooting a little closer every so often. He watched me guardedly at first, but now hardly pays attention as I sit about twenty feet away and watch.

Now I ask you: Is this not also true

of relationships with fellow human beings? Do we not risk when we try to earn their trust? Is it not worth the reward? Can we not enrich our lives by patiently working to earn the trust of those much different from ourselves? And does this not foster unity among the human race? I think the answer to each is "yes." So then, as you read my columns in the coming months, (with Linda's blessing) consider them as more than just wildlife stories. Consider the broader applications behind them, and how they might promote diversity and unity within your own community. We must be accepting to be accepted.

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#### XENOGENY NEWS BYTES

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#### EXPELLED FROM PARK SAFE ZONE

On July 6th, Merrisa Leigh Coleman, a Sacramento-area transexual and her son, were harassed and expelled from "Water World", a local theme park open to the public.

Confronted by a small army while at the park, Coleman had tried on and purchased a bikini at the park store. A short time later, she was surrounded by 3 Park Rangers, a Deputy Sheriff, and several park employees (including the park's General Manager). Informed there had been a complaint, Coleman was questioned and forced to leave.

The woman who lodged the complaint refused to give her name, and when asked by officers present if Coleman appeared male or female to her, responded "I don't know".

"We'll Have You Checked Out."
Referring to Coleman as "a guy in drag," the Deputy Sheriff also accused her of lewd conduct for using the Women's Room to relieve herself. When informed her California driver's license and ID show her as female, he responded, "Well, we'll just take you into the restroom and have one of these ladies check you out," adding "Whoever issued you your driver's license didn't check you out good enough."

The Sheriff declined to take any formal statements in this case, including one from the complainant, and no formal charges were filed. The entire affair was conducted as publicly as possible, possibly to maximize Coleman's humiliation.

"I feel humiliated and degraded and made to feel like a freak, Stated Merrisa This was done completely indiscriminately right in front of hundreds of people as well as my own son. I could have been taken aside, questioned in private, and asked for my ID and, when it showed me as female, the matter dropped.

"I've worked so hard to get to where I am in such a short time, and now I have no idea where I am going. I've been having nightmares, nausea, lack of appetite and I'm terrified to be alone or even seen in public right now."

#### DISCOUNTED AIRFARE

Limited Time Discounted AIR-FARE!! Now you all MUST come to the DC '96 Display of the Quilt October 11-13!

This is the largest mobilization around the issue of AIDS ever and a great convergence of progressive/queer (& queer supportive)/AIDS-HIV affected folks. Also happening that weekend is the PFLAG National conference, the Skills Building Conference, the GLSTN national board meeting, and more. You and your friends won't want to miss this historic event!

Southwest Air (800/435-9792) is running a promotional special that is good through the display in DC. They just announced it. \$100 round trip from West of the Mississippi to Baltimore-Washington International, \$50 round trip east of the Miss for travel between August 19 and October 31. This is extraordinary and will not last very long. Tickets must be bought by July 23rd.

The professional staffand Professors at Western Washington University now can post stickers declaring their offices safe zones for gay, lesbian and bisexual students.

Supporters say the stickers send a message that the students can find an understanding listener.

"It is symbolic of a willingness and a commitment for open discussion about anything.

"But there's a big difference between being willing to talk to people and treat people as people regardless of whether your values match theirs, and signing on," Nelson said. "I'm not going to put a sticker up for that reason."

Other professors worry that the stickers will cast them in a counseling role they're not trained for. Still others wonder if people will assume they don't accept homosexuals if they decide not to display the stickers.

The stickers first were available four years ago and are being reintroduced by the campus Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Concerns Committee.

The first round of distribution didn't reach everyone, and some students still find the campus hostile, said Matt Pearcey, a WWU graduate student who co-chairs the committee and led efforts to get the stickers.

The committee sent memos to department heads and student affairs administrators in late May telling them about the stickers. Since then, faculty and staff members have requested about 50 of the 500 stickers.

The stickers are intended to identify people who support gay, lesbian and bisexual students and who can refer them to others better able to address their needs and concerns, Pearcey said.

An example: A lesbian would know she could speak openly with a financial aid officer about any financial obligations she had to her partner's child.

Psychology professor George Cvetkovich, president of the Faculty Senate, said he regards the stickers as a positive effort and understands why the committee thinks they are needed, given anti-gay rights initiatives in several states, among other things.

But when asked whether he would display a sticker, he said his first reaction was "no."

"It's sort of claiming something about me in terms of what I can provide in terms of counseling," he said.

But Cvetkovich said he would be willing to refer students to the appropriate campus and community agencies to seek help with personal problems.

Marie Eaton, dean of Fairhaven College, supports the sticker program. She still has a sticker from the previous distribution, which she helped engineer when she was WWU's vice president for student affairs.

Then, she and other student affairs administrators saw the stickers as a response to surveys showing that gay, lesbian and bisexual students felt invisible on campus or felt hostility from others.

The safe zone stickers are one small way to help shift that climate.



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#### LAMBDA BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

BY PAT PATRICK

Bookstar celebrated Gay Pride and Gay/Lesbian Book Month by once again sponsoring the Lambda Book Discussion Group. The Group met Wednesday, June 19th to review Sarah Van Arsdale's first novel, Toward Amnesia. Among topics discussed (besides Van Arsdale's book) were Gay Pride (in general and in Nashville) and the importance of groups such as the Lambda Discussion Group.

Lambda's next group will meet on Wednesday, July 17th at 7:30pm. The book to be discussed will be Nightswimmer-a Lambda Award nominee in 1995-by Joseph Olshan.

Nightswimmer, Olshan's fourth novel, presents an emotionally resonant tale of love and loss. In the book, the reader is introduced to Will, the protagonist, and his efforts to cope with past love that has burdened him emotionally for ten years. This long and never-ending search for inner-peace is marked with universal signposts of pain. Will soon encounters Sean Paris and begins to attempt to feel once again. Through a lyrical narrative, Olshar weaves a tale that rings true to the heart as well as creates believable, honest characters. (Of note among Olshan's other titles is Clara's Heart, which was made into a feature film starring Whoopi Goldberg.)

Nightswimmer has been a staff recommended selection at Bookstar since April, having been prasied for it's aching sensitivity and it's appeal to readers both gay and straight.

All Lambda Book Discussion Group titles are discounted 30% at Bookstar, and all are invited to attend.

July - 17 TH

Night Swimmer by Joseph Olshan

September-

Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit by Jeanette Winterson

October -

Like People In History by Felice Picano

November -

Just As I Am by E. Lynn Harris

While future dates have not been set, the group will usually meet the third Wednesday of each month.

For more information, contact Pat Patrick at Bookstar at 292-7895.

Bookstar is located at 4310 Harding Road & is open from 9am -11pm.

#### WHO'S ATTACKING CHRISTIANITY?

BY BILL TURNER

I recently read a story about two Tennesseans who Convention. You will have heard about that meeting, no doubt. is Catholic, of course, not Baptist, but the Christian Coalition and

It was the one at which the Southern Baptists resolved to boycott Disney for its willingness to recognize the rights of lesbians and gay men.

According to this latest story, one speaker at the SBC meeting predicted that in just a few years it would be acceptable to attack Christians openly. As evidence, he offered the infamous example of "Piss Christ," in which an artist photographed a crucifix submerged in urine. He went on to suggest that, should any good Christian decide to photograph a rainbow flag submerged in urine, that person would suffer censure from lesbians and gay men.

This argument rests on several mistaken assumptions. One is the idea that all Christians agree with the SBC. Thus, anything that the SBC doesn't like constitutes an attack on Christianity. The Southern Baptists cannot fathom the possibility that many devout Christians might find "Piss Christ" profoundly offensive, but not see in it evidence of a conspiracy to attack Christianity as a religion. Or, at worst, see it as a conspiracy of

More disturbing is the automatic parallel from art that Southern Baptists find offensive to lesbians and gay men. Why did this speaker use the rainbow flag for his example? Why not a Star of David or something similar?

Because for some Southern Baptists, the mere existence of openly lesbian and gay persons constitutes a threat to Christianity.

Never mind that many lesbians and gay men are devout Christians. Never mind that we would all be perfectly happy just to ignore the SBC if its members could get over their morbid fascination with us. From their perspective, if we're out of the closet, Christianity as a whole is under siege.

It's worth noting that a prominent advocate of this attended the latest annual meeting of the Southern Baptist siege mentality is Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Scalia

> other right-wing Protestant groups have been talking for some time about making common cause with right-wing Catholics.

> It's important for us to appreciate the danger that lies within this worldview. In essence, these people are saying that they're accustomed to having things their way, and any challenge to their narrow view of the world, no matter how firmly grounded in the basic principles of equality on which this nation was founded, poses a fundamental threat to which they are justified in responding with all of the force at their disposal.

Now, as usual with such arguments, this one has a tiny grain of truth in it. I freely admit that I wish to diminish the control that Southern Baptists exercise over our culture and politics, precisely insofar as that control has the effect of legitimizing prejudice and discrimination against lesbians and gay

But as far as I'm concerned, it's not an all-or-nothing proposition. Once the SBC has learned to stay within its proper limits, we can all get along just fine together here in this great big, pluralist nation.

Regrettably, the SBC seems to think that it's their way or no way. They can't seem to appreciate the point that, by prohibiting discrimination, government, whether local, state, or federal, increases the available opportunities for everyone.

As always, those Southern Baptists who support the Convention's resolutions in favor of discrimination lack any sense of history. They forget that Baptists, once a despised minority, have benefitted enormously from this nation's tradition of respect for religious diversity.

But now, if anyone is on the attack, it's the Baptists.

#### QUOTE, UNQUOTE

Living."

"Piercing your tongue is a lesbian contradiction in terms." -From Shelly Roberts' new book "Roberts' Rules of Lesbian

"There's somebody I've been seeing, a wonderful, wonderful man. Dating's weird. It's hard. ... I don't think I've ever felt as emotionally close to someone. But it's difficult. He's HIV- negative and I'm positive. It's an issue, no matter how well-adjusted we are. It is an issue. ... He's got his success in hisown right. He's even said, 'I'm used to being the star.' The roles are a little reversed."

-Greg Louganis to Portland, Oregon's Just Out.

"They have been more supportive since I have come out."

-Diver Greg Louganis to Atlanta's Etcetera magazine on his advertising association with the Speedo swimsuit company.

"I thought I was out. ... I never made any secret about my life. But, you know, [British actor/activist] Ian McKellen ... wrote to every gay artist and said, 'It's your duty to come out.' I said: 'No! F--k that!' I don't feel a duty until I'm good and ready. I mean, as far as I'm concerned, I made 'Sunday Bloody Sunday.' I made 'Darling' with a positive gay character, and I'd done 'Midnight Cowboy' which I never considered anti-gay. ... I hate outing. I absolutely despise it. I think it's just as bad as any fascistic activity, unless it's somebody in public office who's against any formal change in gay law but is a raving homosexual."

-Film director John Schlesinger to Atlanta's Etcetera magazine.

"NBC cast me as a captain in the military in a miniseries. I just strut on stage and nobody says boo about it. And I'm the biggest, butchest bull-dyke you've ever seen in your life in that uniform! I thought they were going to poof up my hair like they do with [my character on the TV series] 'Matlock' [but] they cut it, they made my hair shorter, they made me even butcher than I am."

—Comic Lea DeLaria to Cleveland's Gay People's Chronicle.

"The femmones. The long-haired, beautiful babes. And young, young, young! I always say that if they're old enough to be in my field of vision, they're old enough for me!"

-Comic Lea DeLaria when asked by Cleveland's Gay People's Chronicle, "What kind of girl gets your attention?"

"I believe that those who promote discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistakenabout the values that make our nation strong. I will continue tomove my administration in the direction of compassion, acceptance, and understanding."

-President Bill Clinton in an interview with The Advocate (June 25 issue).

"The human sex drive is extraordinarily powerful. It may become inappropriately affixed to underwear, corpses, animals, children, footstools and members of the same sex."

-Long Beach, Calif., City Councillor Jerry Shultz, in a speech opposing domestic-partnership registration.

#### LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE

BY KEVIN ISOM

In the South, the adage "it's better to let sleeping dogs lie" has a long and honored history of accuracy. evening naturally progressed down a more intimate pathway. Everyone knows that if you wake up a sleeping dog, he's a damn sight more likely to piddle on your feet.

The adage applies to humans as well as canines. Especially when referring to exboyfriends, ex-girlfriends, and ex-spouses, where the canine-human distinction isn't necessarily clear. The basic rule is that once an ex is an ex. especially if the break-up was painful or faultbased, it's better to leave 'em alone. One of my father's divorced friends takes this philosophy seriously. He's intentionally forgotten all his exwives' names. He just calls them all "Plaintiff."

But even with the best distancing techniques, sometimes an ex is like used dental

floss. No matter how hard you fling it, it keeps sticking to your fingers.

I had an ex like that. Until recently. Every six months to a year, he'd show up in my life, do something really weird, and disappear again. Like the Ice Capades. I sort of figured it was God's punishment to me for teaching my Aunt Elsie's parrot to say "cunnilingus." But whenever my ex-we'll call him "Dean," a good name for a dog-reappeared, I simply thought of him as a sleeping dog and left him pretty much alone.

Then a few months ago, there was a message blinking seductively on my machine. It was "Dean." He was in Atlanta for a conference. He said he really missed me, he would understand if I didn't want to see him, but he hoped I would consider it. The sleeping dog looked so docile and harmless at my feet. Against the usually restrained urgings of my inner voice, which was now screaming "RUN, DON'T WALK, RUN!", I reached down and stroked the dog to wake it up. I called my ex, and we arranged to meet for a drink.

Our evening was surprising and completely unexpected. There was none of the old rancor that had characterized our interactions before the break-up. He no longer seemed like a strange gay space alien in human form intent on making my life miserable. Prozac is apparently a good thing. This time, the waked-up dog licked my hand affectionately. And he wanted to lick other things.

I've never been one to turn away a puppy, so the Never mind that he'd put on twenty pounds in two years and

> seemed to have lost a commensurate amount of hair. My feelings of connection with him, once re-awakened, were still there. I found I'd missed the way his body felt, and the way mine felt against his. I felt safe again, as though nothing bad could ever happen to me, so long as we were in each other's arms.

> Yet my little voice was nagging at me, telling me that the encounter would be full of sound and fury, latex and lubricant, ultimately signifying nothing. And my inner voice was right. "Dean" left Atlanta two days later, without returning my calls, or even calling to say good-bye. At first, I was stunned. Then I was hurt. Then I was, quite

oddly, really amused. I'd fallen for the same ruse all over again, the same power game that led to the end of our relationship in the first place. I could almost see a dog sitting at my feet, laughing at me, hyena-style (doggie-style seeming an inappropriate expression here). So I decided to stop worrying about it, and I did the unthinkable. I let him win. I walked away from the game.

I also walked to the nearest phone—someone else's phone—and paged an escort, Helga, Princess of Pain, Whip and Cuffs Optional, to his home. The best revenge must always fit the crime, have a sense of humor, and never hurt anyone. "Dean" was clearly seeking the services of a prostitute in Atlanta, so I sent him one. Actually, two. Hans, the Bavarian Slave Master looked interesting, too.

Of course, the sad part was that "Dean" was someone I truly, deeply loved, and this was hardly the final good-bye I would have envisioned.

But I've learned my lesson, and melodramatic moments aside, I guess I'm just lucky I didn't need a pooper scooper.

Next time, you can be sure I'll remember to let sleeping dogs lie.

Kevin Isom is an attorney and writer in Atlanta. His columns appear in newspapers and magazines throughout the U.S. and Canada. His fiction has appeared in Paris Transcontinental and other magazines.



BY RICHARD MORTON

\* The talk in "Tinsel Town" is that Demi's new movie "Striptease" is a bust..no pun intended!

\*58% of the people polled think that Cathie Lee Giffard should leave the show. Can I see a show of hands of those who whish she would fall off the ship!

\*The Who (Who?) performed a concert in England for charity benefit...150,000 people attended the event.

\*The cereal wars rages on...now Post has lowered their prices. Soon I will be able to eat Fruit Loops, again...wait a minute...that wasn't...cereal...there was no milk involved...but I do remember a loop...maybe a ring...fruit? Maybe a banana...it was definitely in a box!

\*Prince or !@#\$%^& & his lovely wife are expecting....the question is will the kid have a name or a symbol?

\*Elton John divorced his wife, it cost him \$12.5 million...I got divorced last year and all I got was the furniture!

\*"Courage Under Fire" stars Denzel Washington & Meg Ryan. The film is about the 1st woman ever awarded the Medal Of Honor in combat.

\*"Multiplicity," starring Michael Keaton is about a man that works way too much! So he has himself cloned...couldn't Surface." Louganis will not be reporting the Summer Olympics. he just hire himself a maid?

\*Jeff Fisher, coach of the Oilers best season was 7 to 9!

\*Queen Elizabeth or (Liz as I like to call her) and Prince Phillip have been married for 50 years! Why isn't Phillip King? I guess it's easier to be a Queen and tons more fun girl!

\*Margot Kidder will be playing the lead in "Calamities." They have already removed all the foliage around the building!

\*"Excess Baggage" is the next film for Chris Walkin & Harry Connick Jr. I can just hear it now, huh huh huh huh!

\*Dr. Joyce Brothers said of her experience while acting on "Baywatch"...."I was the only one on the set without a push-up bra! See I knew David Hasslehoff was a cross dresser...it's in his walk!

\* Rosie O'Donnel says since she adopted her baby, she's in bed by 10pm, before that she was just getting started at 10pm

\*Fergie soon will be seen on QVC selling jewelry...I wonder who's?????

\*Greg Louganis is touring the U.S. promoting and signing the paperback version of his bestseller, "Breaking the

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, July 18th: **INTERACT: Open Forum** 

7pm at the Center located at 703 Berry Road. Call 254-3806.

Thursday, July 18th: Gay author & filmmaker Clive Baker will be at Davis-Kidd Bookstore at 6pm July 20th

**Music City Panel Makers** Quilting Bee: 10am -2pm. Call HEARTLine 1-800-845-4266 for details.

July 24th **Volunteer Orientation:** 

At 6pm, Call Andy Peterson at 259-4866 ext. 152 for details. July 27th

The Lesbian and Gay **Coalition for Justice** 2nd Annual "Our House" fund raising event on Saturday, July 27, beginning at 6:15 p.m. For details call 298-LGCJ (5425)

July 27th

The Ultimate Lipstick Lesbian & Butch Lesbian Pageant

MCC Building Fund-Raiser Featuring comedian Tony Dometico, Brittiany Holden & Rocket C. At KC's Club 909. \$5 Cover, \$35 entry fee. Call (502) 726-4352 or 251-9057 for details & entry forms.

Monday, August 5th

2nd Annual HIV/AIDS Conference. Kingsport, Tn. 8:30am - 4pm. Contact Carolyn Sliger at (423) 929-5939

**STARTING IN AUGUST: NEW CENTER FUND** HOUSE PARTIES BEGIN!

September 6th - 8th TENNESSEE GAY CAMP at Fall Creek Falls Call 1-615-372-8073 or write to: MTGALA Box 101, Cookville, Tn. 38503-0101

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weekend retreat in rustic surroundings designed to provide recreation, rest & renewal to anyone affected or infected by HIV/AIDS. Call Rev. Terry Carty at (615) 327-1533

October 11 - 13 The Entire NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt to be shown in Washington

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Don't compromise your health.

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Sources:

Lauritsen, John and Hank Wilson,

Death Rush: Poppers and AIDS, New York, 1986.

Metro Health Department, Nashville Davidson County, TN.

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#### SISTER SAGE'S ASTROLOGICAL READINGS



Aries March 21st - April 20th
You super rams are able to leap tall buildings in a single bound and perform exceptional acts of bravery. But just like Superman/woman, you become vulnerable (defensive) when exposed to matter from the grapevine (gossip). There is an antidote; but all you I-did-it-my-way-types may find it hard to swallow. It's called ignore it and compromise "believe only half of what you hear." Liberal doses will soothe the pain.



Taurus April 21st - May 20th
A major planetary shift has set the stage for significant long term changes is your career. You are a charter member of Procrastinators Anonymous. But don't worry, you don't have to do anything-except think about doing what you've always dreamed of, but for security rea-

sons never pursued. It is hard for you to change but in the long run you will be glad you followed your heart's desire and made the switch.



Gemini May 21st - June 20th

At the risk of having you think I'm a one-note astrologer, I have to bring up your love life again. Face it, you were in serious danger of being dubbed a "must to avoid". If you 're otherwise engaged, you'll deepen your attachment; if you're a single Twin, renounce the glitterati and go for the gold. It is time for you to try out what you learned about love on a real, live person. Keep soul searching for your soul mate.

Hello! You have reached the Birthday wish hotline. If you were born under the sign of the crab, please select one. If you wish to be smothered with love- by someone other than your mother- press one. If you wish to smother your mother press two. If you wish to remain in your current co-dependent rut- please hang up. There is no time like the present to break free and realize your wildest dreams. It's your call.

Leo July 23rd - August 22nd
This week will find you running low. It is a good time to pull off the road and replenish your spirit. You'll get more mileage by cruising the options available at your favorite night spot. There will be plenty

of them coming your way. This week you can do what comes easy for you Egoists: self reflection. The more enlightened among you can challenge yourselves by doing it without a mirror.



<u>Virgo</u> <u>August 23rd - September 22nd</u>
Your detractors claim that because you see life in all its dizzying

detail, you don't grasp the big picture. Those armchair philosophers are the same ones who come running to you when they can't close the deal or change the toner in the copy machine. No matter because you will have the last laugh. Your career is about to speed into high gear and leave them all behind in the dust. Not that you would leave any dust.



Libra September 23rd - October 22nd
In the next episode of "All My Libras" Pat - on a business trip- meets dashing Kelly, who begs them to stay and vacation at their villa. Trouble is, Pat has just landed the plum project of their career and is expected to holiday at the family bungalow. Caught in the classic Libra dilemma trying to please everyone. Does this shoe fit you?????



Scorpio October 23rd - November 23rd
You have been stereotyped as the sex fiend of the zodiac, but you hunger for far more than physical passion, and now you're going to get it. In (ahem) lay terms: Lust and love are coupling in your house of sexual transcendence. Unleash your power where you and your partner will soar to heights of simultaneous ecstacy! Your career will skyrocket if you just put forth a little effort.



Sagittarius November 23rd - Dec. 21st
Itching to explore uncharted territory? Look no further than your own intimate relationship or lack thereof. Your partner has to spur, nag, bribe or do whatever it takes to get you to grab more out of your love life. All you have to do is take those blinders off and sit still long enough to identify your issues. Then you will be free to strut your stuff and ride tall in the saddle. Work on travel plans and self-promotion.



Capricorn December. 22nd - January 19th

A blue moon represents a rare opportunity to identify and express your deepest feelings and needs. So don't even think about using work as an excuse to avoid them. When it comes to sexual intimacy, revealing a little vulnerability will go a long way toward avoiding a major conflagration. Just be grateful you only have to do it "once in a blue moon."



Aquarius January 20th - February 18th

Do take advantage of the love planets stimulating your house of selfexpression to show how innovative and experimental you can be. You
can make the most of the situation by trying out some of your more ingenious ideas in your bedroom. Don't be surprised if your partner has some
ideas of their own. As hard as it is for you to believe, other people do get
to control the situation every now and then. Flip a coin to see who wins.



<u>Pisces</u> February 19th - March 20th
"Where's the romance?" is what you Fabulous Fish ask, Oops!! I went for the bottom line and made some exemptions from reality. Your love life and creativity bloom this week. Even a potential domestic disturbance can't dampen your high spirits. It's as near a Pisces paradise as I can imagine, complete with cool days and hot nights.

#### MEDIA ALERT

# THE NOT READY FOR PRIME TIME PLAYERS

By Al Kielwasser

On June 28, MTV broke new broadcast ground when the network included same-sex couples on its popular dating game show, "Singled Out." As with other media milestones, however, this advance was marked by a simultaneous retreat.

For "Singled Out's" lesbian and gay episode, MTV canceled the show's usual prime-time broadcast. Instead, the program was shown four hours later — at 11:00 PM. Moreover, the broadcast was a one-time deal. Whereas regular (heterosexual) episodes of "Singled Out" are repeated several times during the week, the homosexual episode was aired only ONCE.

In an interview for the Associated Press (June 27), MTV spokesperson Tina Exarhos attempted to explain the network's extraordinary scheduling. "There was some content we felt should air at a later time," Exarhos said. "It has absolutely nothing to do with outside pressure from any group. We're proud to present the show, and we're doing it during Gay Pride week."

Of course, by "some content" — Exarhos meant "homosexual content" — ANY homosexual content. The lesbian and gay episode did not, after all, differ in any other way from previous broadcasts of "Singled Out."

Privately, MTV staff have challenged the network's official explanation. According to one employee, the 7:00 PM broadcast was actually preempted because several "advertisers, led by McDonalds, backed out."

A spokesperson for NAYA bottled water — one of "Singled Out's" regular sponsors — publicly took exception to MTV's preemptive strike, however. "It looks like censorship, and you don't expect that from MTV," said Steve Wasik, NAYA's vice president and general manager.

Of course, relegating lesbian and gay subjects to fringe time slots is hardly without precedent in other mainstream media. Most recently, ABC booted an episode of "Roseanne," simply because it contained a gay wedding scene. According to ABC's (double) standards and practices department, such "adult content" was not suitable for young viewers.

MTV's decision is especially discouraging, though. As Wasik suggested, this network has made more of an effort than most to include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender content. Queer themes have not only appeared in MTV's music video rotations, but also in the network's "Sex in the 90's" documentaries, "MTV News" reports, and every incarnation of "The Real World." [See "Real Sex," below!

In deciding to relocate the lesbian and gay episode of "Singled Out," MTV capitulated to one of the most regressive programming assumptions. In the dominant entertainment media, queers are consistently (if not exclusively) presumed to be something of "special interest." Often, homosexual subjects are treated as if they can (or should) appeal ONLY to homosexuals. Clearly, this was MTV's assumption.

Most of the promotional energy for "Singled Out's" lesbian and gay episode was spent pitching the broadcast to a lesbian and gay audience. MTV placed ads for the show in "Out" magazine, which

subsequently purchased airtime on MTV. "Out" was conspicuously advertised during the episode, appearing as the irregular sponsor for an irregular broadcast.

Of course, there is nothing wrong with patronizing or promoting queer publications. With regard to the mainstream media, however, such targeting can (without direct intention) cause a collateral damage — which is often ignored, or overlooked.

In his review of "Out On Tuesday" (a lesbian/gay series that aired on British television in the early 1990s), media critic Colin Richardson identifies a similar problem. "Channel 4 advertised the series in the lesbian and gay press," Richardson reports. "However, the channel ran very few trailers for the series on screen, suggesting that it neither wanted to draw attention to what it was doing lest it attract criticism nor that it had much interest in courting — converting? — a straight audience."

Richardson also cites a survey on "Sex and Sexuality in Broadcasting," which had been conducted by England's Broadcasting Standards Council (BSC). When asked for their opinions about "homosexual representations on television," 61 percent of the respondents "were opposed to banning 'programmes and films about gays and lesbians,' but 71 per cent agreed that they 'would find it embarrassing to watch homosexual sex scenes with some of the people with whom I watch TV' and 58 per cent agreed that 'homosexuals should be able to see their own programmes."

The public's allowance for "their OWN programmes" is most revealing, says Richardson, because "Out On Tuesday" was "just that." "Unusually for a television series, it was cut off from the general flow," he observes. "We were left talking to ourselves.... The place it occupied in the schedule, far from being a bridgehead from which lesbians and gay men would move on to conquer the commanding heights of British broadcasting, became in fact a black hole into which every programme idea even remotely concerned with homosexuality disappeared."

Admittedly, Richardson fails to acknowledge the value of "talking to ourselves" — a media activity that is most often a privilege of the dominant culture. There is an undoubted place — and need — for "special interest programming."

Yet, in a pluralistic society, the mass media ought to reflect diverse communities to EACH OTHER — not only to THEM-SELVES. Homosexuality is a television "taboo" PRECISELY BECAUSE the networks systematically treat such themes as ESSENTIAL controversies — "mature subject matter" that "should air at a later time."

In the broadcast industry, such heterosexist expectations — of viewer disinterest or disgust — become self-fulfilling prophecies. The networks do not simply appease an audience of homophobes — they cultivate it.

As long as they continue to sequester "general audiences" from homosexuality, the producers of popular entertainment abet a taste for hate.

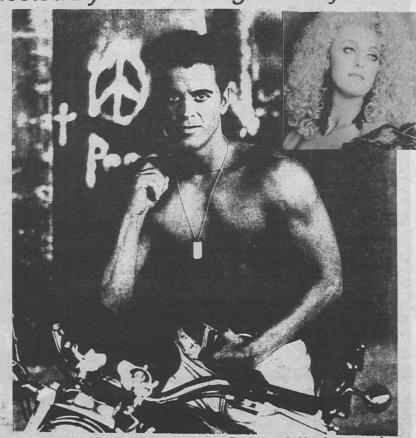
\*\*\*\* ACTION/OPTIONS: The first step in

\*\*\*\* ACTION/OPTIONS: The first step in cultivating a general audience for primetime diversity is simple. GIVE IT TO THEM. And DON'T hide it away. In the past, MTV has demonstrated a capacity to do better in this regard. Contact: Judy McGrath, President, MTV Networks, Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036.

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# All American 1996

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Chyna, Racquel Savage
& Stephanie Wells
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Any Questions: George McIntyre at 262-7997

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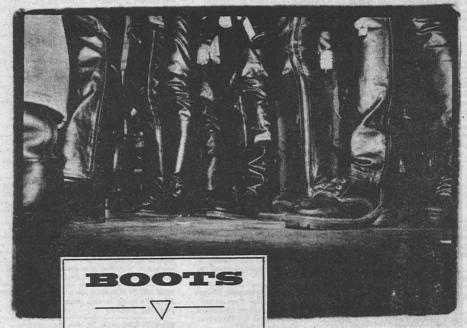
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# () Xenogeny Personals

Discreet Phone Contacts By Area Code

#### Tennessee

DISCREET FUN I'm a 33 year old Gay White male, very clean and discreet. You be too. I'm looking for no strings fun with guys of all ages and backgrounds. Call me. (Chattanooga) = 21731

SAFE AND SANE I'm 33 years old, White male, 6'3, 195lbs. I'm looking for men 20 to 50 for discreet sex. I'm sale and disease free, you be the same. Call me. (Chattanooga) #21576

LET ME APPRECIATE YOU Generous artist seeks model to be my David, Apollo, Adonis, Altractive and in shape 29 year old artists seeks a male 18 to 27 to pose for private sketches, drawings, and pointings. I'm educated, cultured, and sane. (Chattanooga) #17522

BI IN TENNESSEE Bi WM, 25, 5'2", varied interests, new to area, seeks others, 18-25, well built and masculine preferred, for friendship and fun. Please leave a message, (Columbia) #21297

THE POWER OF TWO I'm a Gay White male, 40 years old, 5'10, 160lbs, hairy and slim. I'm very romantic and I hate quickies. Call me. (Cookeville) #19532

#### GRAB THAT PHONE!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- 1) To respond to these ads & browse others Call: 1-900-737-2636
- 2) To record your FREE Xenogeny personal ad Call: 1-800-546-MENN (We'll print it here)
- 3) To pick-up messages from your existing ad Call: the 900 number & Press the star key (\*)

Due to our large volume of calls, if you can't get thru, simply try your call later.

900 blocked? Try 1-800-863-9200. VISA/MC.

Questions Call: 1-415-281-3183

OPEN OPTIONS I'm 30 years old, 5'11, 190lbs, well built. I like to bike ride and spend quality time with someone special. I'm looking for someone no taller than me, Latin men are a plus. I'm Hispanic and American Indian.

ARE YOU GAY? Gay White male, mature, big build. I seek others for friendship and more Call me. (Kingsport) \$\times 14557\$

KNOXVILLE STUD I'm 36 years old, 6'1, 205lbs. I like sports, working out, and the outdoors. (Knoxville)

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? I'm 33 years old, 5'11, Black hair, Brown eyes. I would like to meet someone who is honest, sincere, and not into mind games. Call me. (Knoxville) #18660

FRESH FRUIT I'm new here and I'm bored out of my mind. There has to be some good looking Gay men around here. Race is unimportant to me. . (Knoxville) #18411

#### Recording your ad:

Figure out what you want to say before calling in. Write down what you want to say. Keep it short and simple. Just describe yourself and what you're looking for. Our computerized system will walk you through the rest. Have a pen ready to write down your box number.

HOT SUMMER NIGHTS I'm a discreet 39 year old White professional. I'm well endw'd, good looking, and looking for some hot fun. If you would like to meet me please call and leave a message. (Knoxville) #1206

TIRED OF THE BARS AND ATTITUDE I'm a Gay White male seeking a young Gay White male 25 to 35 who is loyal, honest, and romantic. I'm tired of the bars and attitude. If you are too, I would like to meet you, please call. (Knoxville) #1993

LATIN: LOVER I'm a 39 year old Gay White male with a variety of interests. I'm looking for Hispanic men to have fun with. If you are looking for a good time call me. (Madison) #10868

SAFE FUN I'm in my early 40's, 6ft, 165lbs, muscular. I'm looking for one or more, firm, well built, safe men for pleasures. Call me. (Memphis) #22364

LETS GO BOWLING I'm a Gay White male, 25 years old, 5'6, 150lbs, Blue eyes, Black hair, glasses, mustache. I seek others for a relationship. I like movies, dining out, and bowling. (Memphis) #22394

LOOKING FOR FUN I'm looking for a Goy Black male 25 to 45 for fun and friendship. Call me. [Memphis] #22682

LETS DO IT I'm a 30 year old Gay Black male looking for White men or Black men. I'm looking for a very physical man who likes long walks, good conversation, and dining out. (Memphis) #22968

EBONY AND IVORY I'm a Gay Black male, 30 years old, 6'1, 130lbs, big kid, half nature boy, half city boy. I'm looking for a Gay White male 20 to 50 who is clean shaven. Call me. (Memphis) #23416

DISCRETION A MUST I'm looking for a man 35 to 55 who can be discreet and monogamous. Call me. (Memphis) #24845

SANE AND ENJOYABLE I'm 35 years old, 5'7, 140lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes, attractive. I'm new to Memphis and would like to meet men for safe fun. (Memphis) #20200

LETS MEAT IN MEMPHIS I'm a Bi White male, 28 years old, 6ft, 185lbs, very versatile. I'm looking for someone to talk to or meet. (Memphis) = 19623

JOCK JUICE I'm a White male, 25 years old, marathon runner, muscular legs and body, 5'10, 168lbs. I seek tall, athletic jocks with broad shoulders and muscular legs. Call me. (Memphis) =19966

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME I'm 28 years old, 6'1, 175lbs, versatile, and I have many interests. (Memphis) #17988

LETS MEET I am 5'10, 155lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm interested in meeting men in my area. If you would like to meet a new friend call me. (Memphis) #16237

EBONY AND IVORY I'm a Gay Black male, 30 years old, 61, 130lbs. Half nature boy, half city boy. I'm passive and gentle. I seek a Gay White male 20 to 50 who is also caring and gentle. Call me. (Memphis) #15782

THIS DADDY IS A PLEASER I'm 41 years old, very hairy, 5'9, 150lbs. I'm looking for a very submissive or very leminine male. If you are interested in meeting a daddy who knows how to please, call me. (Memphis) = 14024

LIVING PROOF I'm a Bi Black male with HIV seeking the same. If you are interested please call me. (Memphis) #14316

LOVE IS REAL NOT FADE AWAY I'm 43 years old, 6'1, dark hair, Green eyes, mustache, well endowed. I'm seeking someone 25 to 43 for a one on one monogamous relationship. No drugs, bar flies, or queens. Let me love and take care of you. (Memphis) #14.329

LET US BE LOVERS I'm 20 years old. I like bowling, tennis, walking, movies, etc. I'm looking for someone 18 to 24 who would be interested in a relationship. (Memphis) #14339

LETS GET HOT AND SWEATY I'm a hot 50 year old man, 5'11, 195lbs. I like all kinds of hot fun. You must be discreet. (Memphis). #7619

WHERES MY SUGAR DADDY? I'm an attractive
Gay White male, tall, 30 years old. I'm looking for a
Sugar Daddy in the Tri State area. (Memphis) = 9373

TIRED OF BEING SINGLE? I'm a 31 year old single White male. I'm looking for other single White men in my area for fun and friendship. (Memphis) \$\infty\$11797

I'LL MAKE THE RESERVATIONS I'm a 24 year old Black male, 6th, nice, honest, attractive, and intelligent. I like movies, good conversation, and dining out. I'm seeking a male 18 to 35 to spend time with. (Memphis) #12481

BI THE WAY I'm a Bi White man in my early 30's. I'm looking for other Bi men in my area. (Memphis) =12756

PUMP IT UP WORK IT OUT I'm 6'3, Blonde hair, smooth skin, body builder. I'm searching for a single White body builder 25 to 40 with smooth skin and dark hair. Call me. (Nashville) #23127

COMING OUT SLOWLY I'm a 22 year old White male, 5'10, 160lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, athletic. I'm new to the scene and coming out slowly. I'm looking for discreet friends. (Nashville) #25510

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM LIFE? I'm a 33 year old White male, 5'10, 1 45lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes, educated, in shape, stable. I'm seeking men for friendship, fun, and more. [Nashville] =22297

PUT ME IN MY PLACE I'm new to the area. I'm 26 years old, 145lbs, swimmers build. I'm looking for a veryoggressive top to put me in my place. If this sounds fun to you give me a call. (Nashville) #22758

MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE I'm a Black male looking for men in my area. I'm 27 years old, 5'8, good looking. I'm a good person looking for friends and a possible relationship. I'm looking for a white male 18 to 30 with a round and beefy butt. Call me. (Nashville) =22972

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL I have Brown hair, Brown eyes, 5'5, 130lbs. I'm looking for Black men in my area to have fun with. I'm not looking for a long term relationship. Just friends and good times. (Nashville) #23277

THE LOVE I WANT I'm 28 years old and I'm looking for love. If you can be true, are not into drugs, and you are ready to settle down call me, let me know your ready. (Nashville) #24539

LET ME TOP YOU I'm a hairy top, 5'6, 180lbs. I'm looking for submissive bottoms. (Nashville) #25326

SAFE PLAY ON MY MIND I'm a mature White male, average looking, 5'10, 150lbs, HIV negative. I'm looking for a safe bottom. If you have already left a message please leave another one. (Nashville) #10992

CALL THIS HOT MAN I'm a Gay White male, extremely discreet, very clean, and very straight acting., 6tf, 200lbs, 50's, bald, excellent shape. I'm looking for no strings fun. Call me. (Nashville) #21116

WILL YOU BE MY DADDY? I'm 26 years old, 5'5, Brown hair. I'm looking for a father figure 28 to 55. I like sports and music. Please call me. (Nashville) #21763

JOCK JUICE I'm 40 years old, professional, into working out, and I party now and then. I'm looking for someone 30's to 40's who is well built and likes to party now and then: (Nashville) #21372

BLACK AND WHITE FOREVER I'm 27 years old, 5'8, 220lbs, healthy, good looking, and intelligent. I love to dance, read, camp, and spend time with special friends. I'm young and love White college students. Call me. (Nashville) #20198

PITCH A TENT I'm a Black male, 27 years old, 5'7, 210lbs. I'm looking for a White male 18 to 30 who is ready for a relationship. I like the outdoors, camping, music, dancing, etc. Call me. (Nashville) #20270

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS I'm a 39 year old Gay White professional male, 5'10, 190lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes, very well endowed. I'm seeking other gay mer for friendship and possibly more. Call me. (Nashville) #20176

CREAM OF THE TOPS I'm a 45 year old bottom looking for a stimulating top. I prefer a slightly younger man. Call me. (Nashville) #4946

JUST THE JIST OF IT I'm just a regular guy looking for another regular guy to start something very regular with. I'm a professional, 35 years old, 6t, 165lbs, good shape. You should be under 35, good looking, and in shape. Call me. (Nashville) = 19593

LOOKING FOR LOVE I'm 24 years old, 6'1, 175lbs.
I'm a hair stylist. I would like to meet a Straight acting,
down to earth, very sincere guy. I'm looking for a long
term relationship. Call me. (Nashville) #19956

NEW TO THE GAY LIFE I'm 5'8, 210lbs, very good looking, very loving, very supporting. I'm a 27 year old Block male new to the Gay life. I'm interested in meeting a White male 18 to 28 for support and direction. Call me. (Nashville) =19722

BATTER UP I'm looking for someone to have a good time with. I like baseball and the outdoors. If you think you might be interested please call me. (Nashville) = 19890

JACK RABBIT I'm in my 30's, 5'11, 180lbs, Blande hair, Blue eyes, hairy chest and legs. I want to meet men for good hat times. . (Nashville) #18952

NASHVILLE GUY LINE I'm 45 years old, 6'1, 190lbs, light Brown hair, sexy, and new to this. I would like to meet men in the Nashville area. Call me. (Nashville) = 18501

WORKIN IT I'm 34 years old, 5'8, well built. I'm looking to meet guys around my age or older. Call me. (Nashville) #16761

BIRDS OF A FEATHER I'm an attractive, masculine, young looking, 40 year old professional into body building, varied interests, and light partying. I'm seeking to date others like myself. (Nashville) = 16899

PERSONAL BOY TOY WANTED I'm looking for my own personal boy toy. Someone who is masculine like myself. I'm a 30 year old Bi male into bondage looking for an obedient boy who knows who's in charge. Call me. (Nashville) = 16979

THE POWER OF THREE We are a young Gay couple interested in finding a third 18 to 30 who can be in our relationship with us. We love to travel. If you are playful, outgoing, gentle, creative, and interested please call us. (Nashville) #17148

SUMMER HEAT WAYE I'm a Bi White male, 42 years old, 166lbs, hairy body. I like dining, dancing, and romancing all night long. Call me. Lets heat up the summer. (Nashville) #17294

wild imagination I'm a dominant Bi male seeking a fit masculine male who knows where is place is. Let me dominate you. I'm clean and safe. I'm looking for someone to play with on a regular basis. (Nashville)

CAN WE TALK? 27 year old Black male looking for someone to talk to. Call me. (Nashville) #13242

TAKE ME DOWN I'm interested in erotic wrestling. If you like guys who are built like wrestlers please call me (Nashville) #13618

NO ATTITUDE HERE I'm a Gay White male, 24 years old. I'm seeking hot men with dark hair. If you are well travelled and well educated please call me. No snobs or attitude please. I'm 5'9, 165lbs, Block hair, Brown eyes, boyish looks. Call me. (Nashville) #14671

LET ME TREAT YOU LIKE A KING I'm a 23 year old college student, 5"10, 160lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, athletic body. If you are sincere, honest, and easy going please call me. (Nashville) #14697

LEARNING AND YEARNING I'm 24 years old and I live outside of Atlanta. I'm 5'10, 160lbs, good shape. I love the outdoors. I'm looking for a man not a boy. Someone to show me the ropes. I need to get out and cut loose. Call me. (Nashville) ≈14721

WE CAN WORK OUT TOGETHER Gay White male, 36 years old. I'm into working out. I'm seeking friendship with anyone 25 to 45. Call me. (Nashville) 215278

TOP THIS FRESH CREAM I'm a 21 year old Gay White male, 5'11, 165lbs, Blande hair, and blue eyes. I enjoy movies, swimming, and other summer adventures. I'm seeking top men to have fun with. (Ndshville) #12962

READY FOR A STEADY I'm
32 years old, 5'8,135lbs. I'm
interested in a long term
relationship with someone who
is honest and sincere. If you are
25 to 40 and ready for a friend

HAD A PEACE LATELY? I'm seeking a White male 20 to 30 who likes to have a good time. I'm 59, 27 years old, very up to date, and very good looking. No drugs please. (Nashville) #9566

NO WANNABEES Are you tired of trashy men who want nothing but sex and money? Me too. I'm looking for a warm hearted guy. I'm 27 years old, off, clean cut. I'm looking for a relationship mined Gay White male. (Nashville) #9632

HELP 1 I'm a 52 year old Gay
White professional male. I'm in
search of an affectionately
aggressive, very good looking,
extremely muscular, young
White male. Call me. Lets
negotiate. (Nashville)
#10383

BEARDED LOVER WANTED
I'm 32 years old, 5'8, 135lbs.
I'm looking for a man with a
hairy chest and a neat beard. I
want a long term relationship
with a man 25 to 40. (Nashville)
#10758

GOOD TIMES I'm 26 years old, 6'2, 185lbs. I like to swim, hike, travel, and more. I'm looking for men 25 to 45 to have a good time with. If you are interested please call and leave me a message. (Nashvilke #11079)

#### MANFINDER\*

THE BUDDY SYSTEM I'm 31 years old, 5'7, 155lbs, Brown hair, and Blue eyes. I'm looking for someone 26 to 36 with a medium build for summer fun. (Nashville) #11775

GOOD SPORTS IN NASHVILLE Randy, 31, very outgoing person, like to have a lot of fun, sports, going to professional/college sports, type of person that likes to go out and meet someone; if you're my type, that's great, if you're not it's OK, too. (Nashville) =5933

THIS BOY IS BACK IN TOWN I'm a 22 years old Gay White male with Brown hair and Green eyes. I have varied interests and I'm looking for new triends. If you would like to meet me or know more about me please call. (Nashville) #7508

NASHVILLE PROFESSIONAL I'm a 25 year old White male, 6'2, 185lbs. I'm a professional man and I'm seeking other men in my area to get together with. If you are interested please call today. (Nashville) #8328

WHAT A TOWN! I'm a lonely ex New Yorker looking for new friends. If you'd like to be on the greeting band wagon give me a call. (Nashville) #7951

WORKING CLASS TOPS WANTED I'm a professional White male in search of hot working class White tops. I have my own place, plenty of movies, and lots of privacy. Call me. (Nashville) #2188

BRAND NEW HEAVY I'm a Gay White male, 6ft, over weight. I'm looking for an over weight Gay White male to share good times with. {Nashville} #2968

NEW KID IN TOWN I'm new to the area. I'm 24 years old and I'm looking for some people to hang out with.
(Nashville) #42775

QUALITY TIME GWM, 29, HIV+, seeks others for quality time and more. (Nashville) #17718

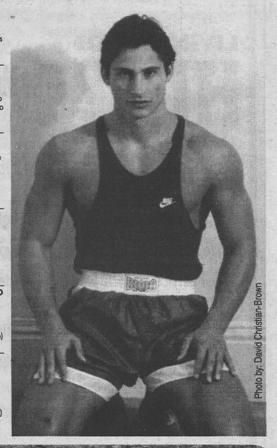
#### Kentucky

MUSCULAR MAN GBM, 27, 5'5", 165, muscular build, variety of interests, seeks other males, 21-35, for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Ashland) =23454

HISPANIC BOTTOM I'm a 22 year old Hispanic bottom. I'm looking for Hispanic top men for a relationship (Covington) = 22854

ENJOYING LIFE Average Gay White male, 40's, seeking men for friendship. I like watching the sun come up, listening to the birds chirping, and watching flowers blooming. Call me. (Covington) #18391

COUNTRY MUSIC FAN GWM, 21, black hair, stache, 5.7", 157, varied interests, country music lover, professional nurse, seeks other honest and sincere guys for friendship and more. (Kentucky) #23121



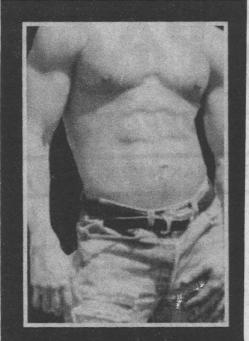
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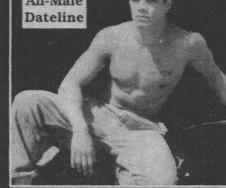
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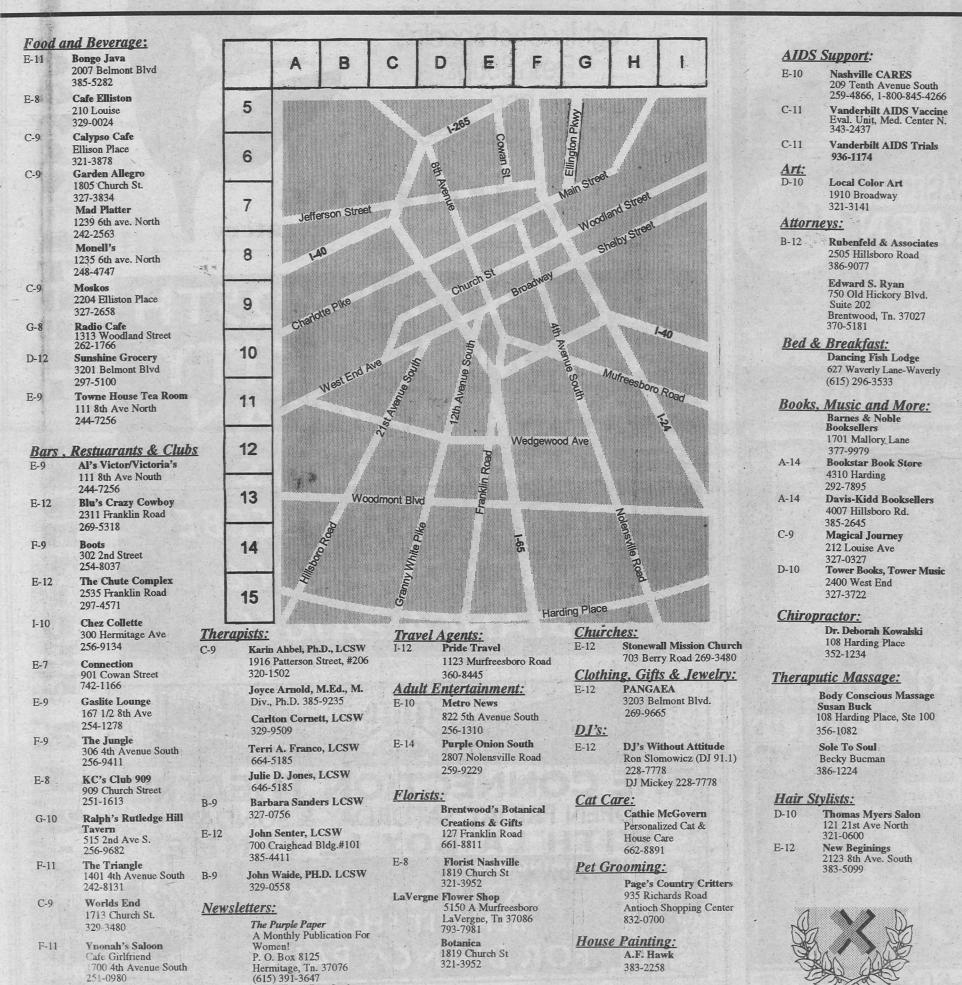




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