

NEW DIRECTION

Living Gay In Central Florida

FEBRUARY, 1984

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

JOHN GLENN ANTI GAY

"... I will not advocate nor promote homosexuality."

United States Senator John Glenn, considered a front runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, has come out against protection of the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men. In a statement given before a New York City audience, Glenn said that he was opposed to a Senate bill which would extend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation.

The following is the text of that statement:

"I firmly believe in civil liberties and social justice for all Americans and I have practiced that belief in the businesses I have operated, in my Senate office, and in the campaign. But I will not advocate or promote homosexuality.

"Americans' beliefs about the acceptability of sexual preference or lifestyle reflect their personal values and convictions. I do not feel that it is appropriate for the federal government to extend the reach of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act to govern those questions of personal conviction.

"Title VII now covers matters of race, creed, sex, color and national origin. These are all matters of religious or genetic attributes. I do not believe it is advisable to broaden and extend Title VII into areas of personal behavior."

Prior to that statement, Glenn's position had been somewhat tenuous, not saying that he specifically supported the legislation but

leaving that option open. He has always said that he is personally opposed to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Virginia Apuzzo sent a mailgram to Glenn on November 9 expressing her "shock and dismay". "Guaranteeing the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men," she said, "is no more 'promotion of homosexuality' than protecting the rights of believers of a particular religion is promotion of that religion. 'Deeply held beliefs' do not exonerate people from examining their prejudices."

Tom Chorlton, executive director of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, has worked closely with all of the presidential campaigns, and is concerned about Glenn's statements. He indicated that the Association has had contact with over a dozen Glenn campaign staffers since initial contact was made in May of 1982.

Chorlton said that he had found Glenn's staff to be "friendly and relatively cooperative," but not always well organized. Glenn's staff has, in fact, undergone significant reorganization in the last six weeks.

On November 2, a day before Glenn's statement of opposition to Gay rights protection, Chorlton sent a letter to the Glenn cam-

Continued page 3 . . .

MANY ARRESTED AT REST STOPS AND PARKS

More and more members of our gay community are finding themselves in the grasp of the long arm of the law as they are arrested on a myriad of charges ranging from solicitation for prostitution to lewd and lascivious behavior.

These arrests are currently being made throughout the Orlando area with the majority of these at Lake Eola, Carol Langford Park, Lake Lorna Doone and the 1-4 rest stops near Disney and at the Longwood rest stop.

It is the position of *New Direction* and of the majority of the gays polled, if a person gets arrested for unlawful conduct in these or other public places that he or she must pay the penalty involved.

It has been reported by reliable sources within our own community that sexual encounters have been taking place openly and in broad daylight in many of these places.

Many people and children use these parks and it is wrong to even place the possibility of encountering such an act for them to witness.

Sex between consenting adults can be a very beautiful thing, however, it has it's place.

*See related story
"Police . . ." on
page 8*

**John
Glenn
Anti Gay
Front Page**

**State &
Nat'l News
Page 3**

**Pageant
Pix
Page 6**

**Police
Bordering On
Illegal Arrests?
Page 8**

**Dear Fred
Page 10**

**Gay Skate
Date
FEB. 27**

Roller skaters will have their chance to take to the boards Monday, Feb. 27, during the monthly outing at Semoran Skateway, Casselberry. The all-Gay skate will begin at 9 p.m. Admission is \$3 including skate rentals.

Semoran Skateway is located off Highway 436, north of Howell Branch Road. The rink is located on the west side of the highway, behind and adjacent to a McDonald's restaurant location. The monthly skating program is sponsored by Gay Community Services of Central Florida, Inc.

Lauren and Allen Win Mr. & Miss Southern Nights



**Jennifer Lauren and Tom Allen
more pictures page 6**

January 22 and 23 found a new pageant in Orlando with the 1st Annual Mr. & Miss Southern Nights Pageant.

The two night event was hosted by Lana Taylor, from Daytona's Yum Yum Tree, who performed for the appreciative audience as Liza as well as herself; Tiffany Middlesex, from Tampa's Rene's, with excellent performances and wit and "G."

Another special guest appearance was by Misty Garrison.

Pageant contestants pleased the crowd with exceptional performances by Ramona DeWhore and Rick Weber. Contestant Dennis McKinley, ran into a small problem during his talent by splitting his pants, however, he regained his composure and finished like a trouper.

Miss Tasha Thomas, Miss Gay Orlando, appeared to crown the new Miss Southern Nights, Miss Jennifer Lauren, who turned out to be a very new female impersonator making her seventh and eighth appearances on stage at the pageant. Jennifer was sponsored by the Paradise Cafe in Orlando.

The winner of Mr. Southern Nights was Mr. Tom Allen whose talent number was "Mysto Roboto."

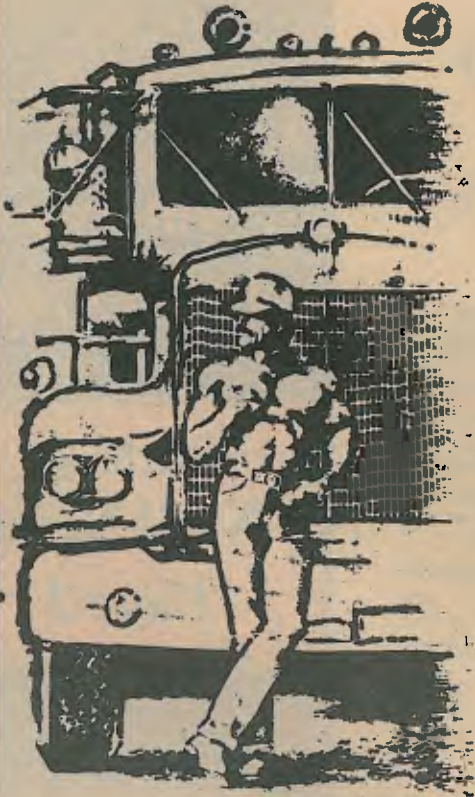
A special Talent Award was presented by Southern Nights owner, Jim Nuss, to Monica Burke.

The other winners in this smoothly run pageant were in the Miss Category: 1st Runner-Up, Tracy Thomas; 2nd Runner-Up, Vanessa Tiara. In the Mr. Category: 1st Runner-Up, Rick Weber; 2nd Runner-Up, Dennis McKinley.

Congratulations to all the contestants and to the staff and management of Southern Nights.

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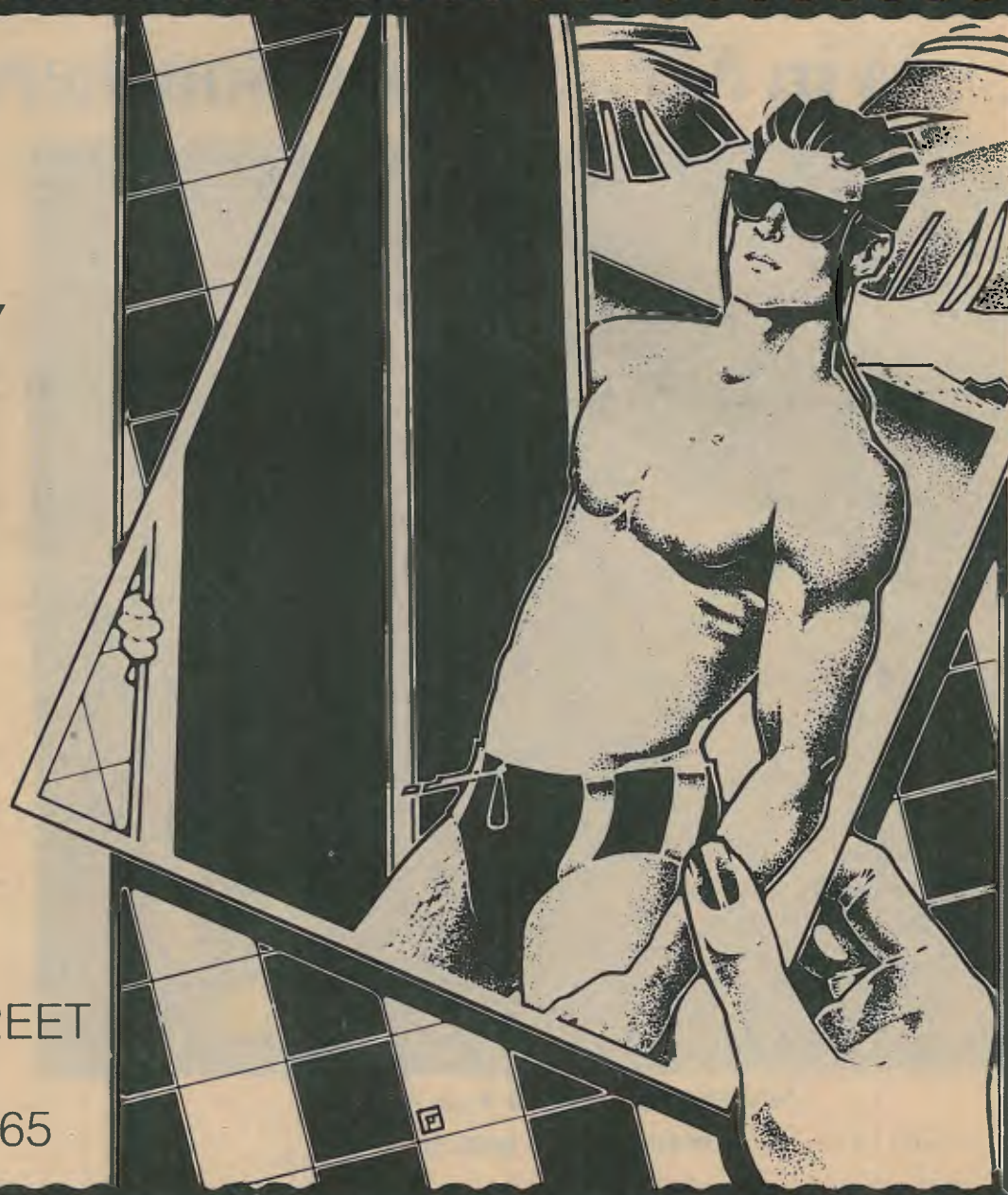
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From the Editor's Desk

From the Editors Desk —

Due to the limited amount of space in the January issue of *New Direction*, I could not run pictures of the fantastic Christmas Shows that were presented in Orlando by both The Parliament House and Southern Nights.

David Scott and his cast presented not one, but two major productions with costuming and choreography to rival Las Vegas and if that weren't enough, those who were fortunate enough to get by The Parliament House saw a real treat as they entered the building.

A complete miniature snowscene with ice skaters, tree decorators (with the tree falling), an ice fisherman, a small figure toasting marshmallows and more, fully animated, greeted holiday seekers. Congratulations!

In case you have not heard, Ollie (me) will not only be the editor of *New Direction* for the April issue, I will also be the new owner!

Through mutual agreements and understandings, Gay Community Services voted unanimously to give *New Direction* to me.

Over a few months time, *New Direction* will have several changes including a new name, "The Paper" gay news and views.

The Paper, your paper, will continue with the quality we now have and will expand its service and area of distribution.

You will be able to continue to look toward "The Paper — *New Direction*" for local as well as regional and national news.

We still need advertising representatives in all areas throughout Florida.

If you are interested, drop us a line at: *New Direction*, P.O. Box 8967, Orlando, FL 32856.

Make sure to look through this issue of *New Direction* for the special events taking place this month.

Ollie

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

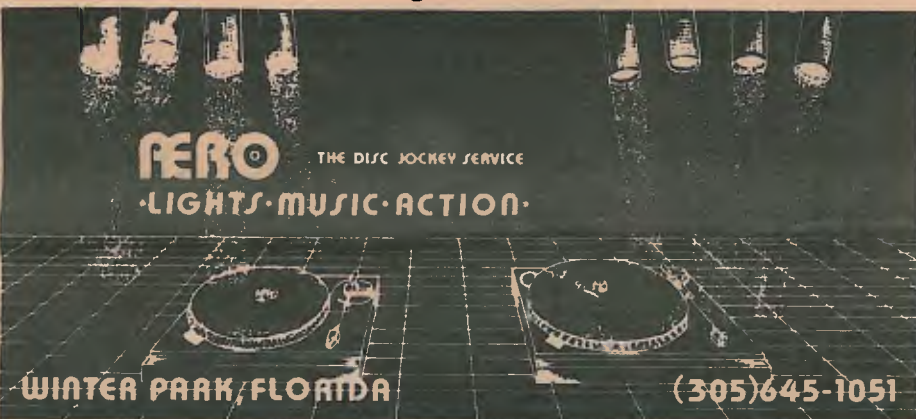
On behalf of the management and staff of Southern Nights I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make the 1st Mr. & Miss Southern Nights Pageant such a huge success. We appreciate the support from the areas gay community and in particular, the many fine contestants that participated in the pageant. Special congratulations to Monica Burke, winner of the overall Talent Award and congratulations to all our winners!

Once again thanks to everyone. We are planning many more exciting events for the gay community in the near future!

I Remain,
"G"



David Scott setting up Christmas display at Parliament House.



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STATE — NATIONAL — INTERNATIONAL

WHITE REFUSED ENTRANCE

WHITE'S RELEASE. California considered releasing political assassin Dan White to a state where the former San Francisco politician has family, but that state refused "because it was such a hot case," Corrections Department spokesman Phil Guthrie said Friday. White was paroled earlier this month in Los Angeles County after serving five years for killing San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

JACKSONVILLE MCC TORCHED

The Metropolitan Community Church in Jacksonville has had it's share of bad luck. Their pastor has had to resign due to poor health.

The Church was also recently set afire by arsonists.

EDDIE MURPHY'S REMARKS — ANTI GAY

Movie and television star Eddie Murphy, the nation's hottest young comedian, is the target of a sophisticated media campaign criticizing what organizers call his "appalling" anti-gay routines. The group — The Eddie Murphy's Disease Foundation — bought ads in *Rolling Stone*, *Billboard* and *Cashbox* magazines to enlist support and let the star of NBC's *Saturday Night Live* know he can be cured of homophobia — fear of homosexuality. Peter Alexander, a spokesman for the Los Angeles campaign, said the group of six young professionals formed spontaneously after the Home Box Office special *Eddie Murphy: Delirious* was broadcast on the cable network last year. "We just decided to do something," Alexander said, stressing that the "foundation" was not made up of gay activists. Murphy, 22, began his career in New York clubs and became a hit on *Saturday Night Live*. His first two movies — *48 HRS.* and *Trading Places* — were box-office gold mines. Last spring he signed a \$15 million deal with Paramount for five movies. During the HBO special, which was taped during a Washington performance, Murphy repeatedly refers to homosexuals as "faggots" and implies that casual contact with gays can spread AIDS, an incurable disease that destroys the immune system and has killed hundreds of homosexuals. Later in the routine, again talking about AIDS, Murphy says: "It petrifies me 'cause girls be hanging out with 'em (homosexuals)," implying women could pick up the disease and later spread it to heterosexuals.

MISS GOV. CLEARED

JURY DROPS CHARGE. A Hinds County grand jury has dismissed a murder charge against one of three male prostitutes who once claimed to have had homosexual relations with Mississippi Gov. Bill Allain. Donald Ray Johnson, 22, of Jackson and the other two men since have denied they were involved with Allain, saying they lied in exchange for money. Johnson's share: \$1,400. He was arrested Jan. 6 in the stabbing death of Richard Simon Walker, 38, also of Jackson. A second man arrested in the case, Kenneth Dale Hughes, 17, of Jackson, has been indicted.

Glenn. ... Cont'd from front page
paign indicating disappointment with Glenn's "limited response" to the Gay issue.

Nonetheless, Chorlton is not totally pessimistic: "In my judgement, John Glenn is not a homophobe. Glenn is, however, grossly misinformed on our issue despite the best efforts of many. Glenn clearly views our issue as a question of lifestyle, preference, behavior. Based upon that view, he believes that the Gay rights bill is inappropriate. Several other candidates were at that same spot not so long ago. Glenn also moves at a glacial pace."

Although it is uncertain just how much Lesbian and Gay support Glenn actually has, it appears he has little organized support to lose. Most partisan political groups in the Gay and Lesbian community has been gravitating to Senator Alan Cranston and former Vice President Walter Mondale.

Nonetheless, several prominent supporters of Gay rights support Glenn, including Ohio Governor Richard Celeste and Massachusetts Senator Paul Tsongas. Tsongas introduced the bill which Glenn now opposes.

Of the Presidential contenders besides Cranston and Mondale, Senator Ernest Hollings (D-SC), Jesse Jackson and George McGovern are on record in support of Gay rights. Senator Gary Hart (D-CO) has not endorsed the Senate bill, but says he would vote for it were it to come to that. Former Florida governor Reuben Askew has, in the past, opposed Gay rights but has said he is re-evaluating his position.



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*I didn't believe it until
I read it in New Direction*



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“Ollie” shows audiences many sides of entertainment

During the month of January, Mr. Fred “Ollie” Stewart performed two one-man shows each Thursday night at Southern Nights.

His shows kept the audience laughing at his comedy, appreciating his live vocals, wondering at his magic, enjoying his mime and voice impressions, gasping at his fire-eating and taking part in the show as various members of the audience joined him on stage or when he performed amidst the audience on the floor.

One particular vocal number moved many of the audience to tears when, after applying clown make-up on stage, he sang “Send In The Clowns”.

Those who did not get a chance to see the show will have other opportunities as he will be performing around the state at various places in the upcoming months!

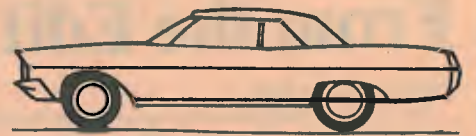


**Happy
Birthday
George
Washington**

**February
22**



ON THE ROAD — Key West Known



BY FRANK STEINER
New Direction Staff Writer

★★★ The Monster, 400 Front Street.

The Monster is a nice bar-disco near the west end of Duval St. close to Mallory Square.

Going for The Monster are the unique, ivy covered entrance and the different bars such as the upper deck garden-like bar, the upper inside bar, the disco bar and the lower outside bar.

The staff is friendly and welcomes new faces. The disco floor is ample and the lighting simple and good yet not quite up to modern standards. The music is a good mixture.

Against The Monster is trying to locate the entrance. This reporter passed by it three times before locating it. There needs to be a better sign or more clearly marked entrance.

The owners seem very cold toward the customers and as such make one feel as though he is intruding on their privacy just by being there.

★★★★½ The Copa, 623 Duval St.

The Copa is where almost everyone ends up at during the later part of the evening.

This is a large disco with a very modern light show, well mixed music, great bartenders and waiters and good decor.

There is a balcony which overlooks the dance floor and a smaller bar in the back, behind the stage, with a pool table and a couple of video games.

In the main part of the disco, there is a large stage which hosts various shows from time to time.

The parking is very limited and the place doesn't open until late at night are the only things against it.

★★★★★ Excellent
★★★★ Good
★★★ Average
★★ Poor
★ Forget it

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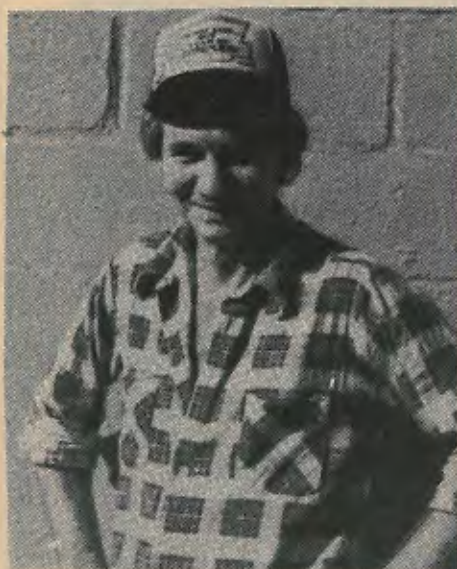
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FOTO/FAX!

Compiled By: Scott Drake



Donald R. Nowling; NICKNAME: Miss M.; OCCUPATION: Bartender; HEIGHT: 5'10"; WEIGHT: 155; CHEST: 38"; HAIR: Blond; EYES: Brown; BIRTHDATE: 3-21-45. BIRTHPLACE: Del Ray Beach; RAISED: Theodore, AL; BROTHERS: 5; SISTERS: 4; Donald is in the middle; ZODIAC SIGN: Aries; FAVORITE FOOD: Oysters; BBQ Whale; FAVORITE BEVERAGE: Bourbon; FAVORITE NIGHT SPOT: Yum Yum Tree; FAVORITE TV SHOWS: Dynasty, 60 Minutes; FAVORITE MOVIES: One Touch of Venus, Imitation of Life; FAVORITE ACTOR: Mark Singer; FAVORITE ACTRESS: Babs; FAVORITE TYPE OF MUSIC: Country; FAVORITE MUSICIAN: Charlie Daniels; FAVORITE SPORT: Horseback Riding; FAVORITE SPORTS FIGURE: Earl Campbell; FAVORITE COLOR: Red; FAVORITE TYPE OF PET: Horse; FAVORITE TYPE OF PERSON: Rugged; LEAST FAVORITE TYPE OF PERSON: Snobbish; MOST SENSITIVE PART OF YOUR BODY: Left Nipple; TURN-ON: Young, Rugged Blondes; TURN-OFF: Screemers, sissies; PET PEEVE: Banging ashtrays; PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: My roommate, Rick; HOBBY/INTEREST: Riding, Art; PERSON YOU'RE TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT: Anita Bryant; FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Sanibel Island; LEAST FAVORITE FAD: Hoola Hoops; FAVORITE PHRASE: Want a cookie, little boy?; LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: Don't nut up; LIFE'S AMBITION: To be a recognized artist; ANY LAST COMMENT: Y'all come.

Billie Jo Adkins, NICKNAME: B.J.; OCCUPATION: Bartender/Part Time Billing Clerk; HEIGHT: 5'11"; WEIGHT: 142; CHEST: 40"; HAIR: Blond; EYES: Blue; BIRTHDATE: 12-22-49. BIRTHPLACE: Strawplains, TN; RAISED: TN/OH; BROTHERS: 0; SISTERS: 2 older, 1 younger; ZODIAC SIGN: Capricorn; FAVORITE FOODS: Seafood; FAVORITE BEVERAGE: 7-Up, Coffee; FAVORITE TV SHOWS: Dynasty, All My Children; FAVORITE MOVIES: Dead Ringer, Imitation of Life; FAVORITE ACTOR: Cary Grant; FAVORITE ACTRESS: Susan Hayward; FAVORITE MUSIC: Country-western; FAVORITE MUSIC GROUP: Alabama; FAVORITE SPORT: Baseball; FAVORITE COLOR: Blue; FAVORITE TYPE OF PET: Cocker Spaniel Dog; FAVORITE TYPE OF PERSON: Sincere, Modest; LEAST FAVORITE TYPE OF PERSON: Arrogant; MOST SENSITIVE PART(S) OF YOUR BODY: Sides, feet; TURN-ONS: Facial Expressions; TURN-OFFS: Loud or Swishy People; PET PEEVES: Impolite People; PERSON YOU ADMIRE: Mother; HOBBIES: Gardening; LEAST FAVORITE FAD: Punk Rock; FAVORITE PHRASE: You will maintain; LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: Miss Thing; FAVORITE VACATION PLACE: St. Thomas, V.I.; YOUR LIVES AMBITION: Give my son the best life possible. ANY LAST COMMENTS: We're put on earth to find out what we can do. Open the door to ourselves and do it.

Who can I Turn to when . .

BY BUTCH HOGAN

Yeah, you know me. I have a thousand faces and a thousand names, - but one thing never changes - the fear and terror I often find.

My name is Jim and I live about thirty-five miles out in the county. It's hell to be lonely, gay, and live so far away from those who would understand. So, when I have some free time, I come to Orlando and search for that someone. Sure, I realize that it's usually just for the night. But, still I look, hope, and wish.

Last night I caught a ride to town and stopped by my favorite bar. After a few games of pool, and a few beers, I met a nice guy. We hit it off well, and soon got with a group of others to play pool. With all the fun I was having, the night passed real fast. Suddenly, it was midnight. "Well Jim," my friend said, "It's been great." "I hope to see you again." ". . . hope you can catch a ride.

A ride! Oh God! I'd forgotten! Let's face it, nobody in a bar at midnight is looking to play Good Samaritan. I guess I'd better sit here and see if someone comes in that I know.

.....later.....

"Hey guys, this is Jim. He's going with us tonight." "Well, let's get a move on. We got what we came for. It's twenty miles to our motel near Disney and it's almost two a.m." (to the side out of Jim's hearing.....one of the three is heard to say, "See, I told you. Late at night you can always spot the one who's got no way to get home." "Hot Damn! Let's get outta here before somebody else grabs him."

"Come on Jim. Let's get going."

I didn't sleep much last night. I doubt that Jim did either. All I could see was the look on his face as he turned and walked out the door. As he left, the jukebox was playing "Who can I turn to when....." and I'm miles from home.

We call ourselves a community. Had you been there, would you have offered Jim a safe place to stay, or a ride home? If there was a place for those who are stranded at night in Orlando, would you have told Jim about it? Have you ever had to go somewhere you didn't want to go with people you didn't know and perhaps done something you didn't want to do? Have you ever been a searcher only to fall prey to the hunters?

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Gay "widow" wins \$25,000 judgement

CALIFORNIA — A homosexual was given \$25,000 in taxpayers' money because he lost his sole means of support when his gay lover committed suicide.

Legal experts said the decision by the California Workers' Compensation Appeals Board was the first of its kind in the nation.

In a hearing held in Los Angeles Earl H. Donovan claimed that he depended entirely for support on his homosexual lover, Thomas P. Finnerty Jr.

Donovan said he and Finnerty had lived together from 1949 until job-related stress led to Finnerty's suicide in 1976.

After Finnerty's death Donovan filed a claim for benefits under the state workers' compensation law.

In 1978 a hearing judge ruled against Donovan's claim, ruling that a homosexual lover fails to qualify as a "good-faith" dependent who would be eligible for benefits under the state law.

But Donovan appealed the ruling and won when the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board decided homosexual couples must be granted the same rights as unmarried heterosexual couples.

The board based its decision on a California Supreme Court ruling in the palimony case, filed by Michele Triola Marvin against the actor Lee Marvin.

California courts do not allow unmarried lovers, either heterosexual or homosexual, to automatically inherit from deceased partners who leave no will.

But worker compensation cases are concerned with the question of dependency rather than legal inheritance rights.

The appeals board found that since Donovan was Finnerty's primary dependent, he was entitled to the award.

Legislator wants to bar high AIDS risks blood donation through Florida law!

TALLAHASSEE — People with a high risk of having AIDS should be barred from donating blood in Florida, a state legislator has said.

"My reason is not to discriminate against anybody or any groups," said Rep. Tom Woodruff, R-St. Petersburg. "It's simply to keep innocent people who need blood from getting a deadly disease."

AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is often a fatal disease believed to spread through body fluids in sexual contact, intravenous injections and blood transfusions.

Woodruff's bill, which has been filed, singled out homosexuals, Haitians and drug abusers.

As of Jan. 16, 215 AIDS cases had been reported in Florida, according to the U.S. Public Health Service. Florida trails New York and California in the number of reported cases, the agency said.

Woodruff said passage of his legislation is necessary to avoid playing "Russian roulette every time you receive blood." The 1984 Legislature convenes April 3.

The measure would require blood donors to sign sworn statements indicating they are not in a high-risk category for AIDS before they could donate blood.

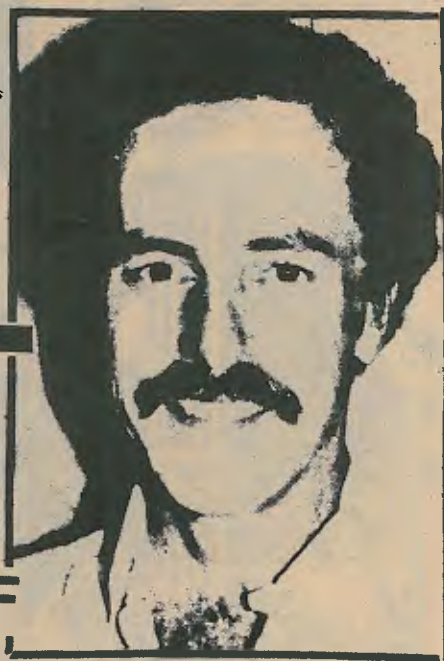
Under the bill, lying in the sworn statement would be punishable by up to a year in jail.



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Winners of 1st Mr. and Miss Southern Nights Pageant: (from L to R) Dennis McKinley-2nd Runner-up; Tom Allen-Mr. Southern Nights; Vanessa Tiara-2nd Runner-up; Jennifer Lauren-Miss Southern Nights; Tracy Thomas-1st Runner-up; Rick Weber-1st Runner-up. Photo by: Ollie.



Tom Allen during his talent.

The winners of: Mr. and Miss Southern Nights Pageant '84

Photos (except where noted) by: Scott Drake



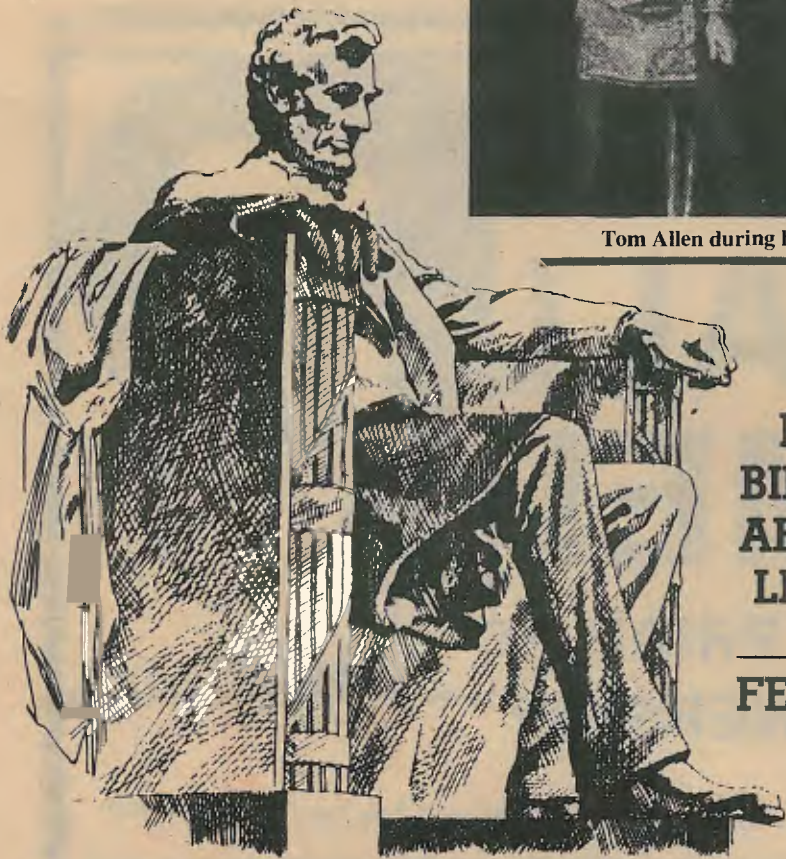
Dennis McKinley



Rick Weber



Miss Jennifer Lauren during evening gown competition.



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If memory serves me correct, which it occasionally does, it all started with calling to get, "at the sound of the tone, the time will be exactly..." and went on from there.

It went on to time and temperature. And then it took a leap to Dial-a-prayer. Followed by: Dial-a-joke, Dial-a-horoscope, Dial-the-arts and so on. Technology pushed us one step further with paying the bills by phone. And now, of all the personal things in the world, there's that famous, yet controversial, phone sex. Where will it end?

Well, with my least favorite holiday of the year fast approaching in February, I may not have the final answer, but a logical step in the progression.

I've learned to tolerate Christmas on my own, which is no small accomplishment I'm sure many of you will agree, but I have never been able to deal with Valentine's Day without some sense of loss. I have been openly gay for at least five years. I say at least because that's when I told my parents, and I'm sure I was gay a while before then. I mean, really. Nobody wakes up in the morning and says, "Oh my god! I'm gay! I'd better tell Mom and Dad." That is not the deal.

At any rate, in those five years plus, I have never had a lover. My roommate says it's because my standards are too high, but we'll get into that at another time. I think I'm rather selective and, although the opportunity has arisen a few times, I haven't met someone that I feel would make for a good lasting relationship with me.

So, when Valentine's Day rolls around and I see all of these cute couples looking all love-eyes at each other like a pair of Donny Osmond posters, I tend to get a bit depressed and occasionally downright upset.

Getting back to my original idea then, I think what we need is a lover hotline. The initial set-up would be a bit tedious as we set up a computer to handle all of the potential and desiring individuals, but the upkeep after that would be rather minimal. That would just be a process of adding or removing a name from the files as needed.

Lover Hotline would be for when those special occasions rolled around and you want someone to spend Christmas Eve with or take out to dinner for Valentine's Day or even someone special to shop for at the last minute. They'd be great on vacations, so there's someone

to put into the scenery.

Going a bit to extremes, you could even keep one around when there was absolutely nothing special going on. Say, just to spend a quiet evening listening to music with over a bottle of good wine. Of which that \$3.00 a gallon stuff you can get at Winn Dixie does not apply, thank you very much.

Without risking sounding like I've gone of the deep end headfirst into an empty pool, how about someone to hug after work and show you care so much about him that you're willing to wash dark socks at 11:00 at night so he can wear them to work in the morning. (Shudder. That's beginning to sound a little *too* domestic to me.)

Now, I'm not talking about that lover-of-the-month club that so many people already seem to belong. I swear, I've had more roommates like that the past two years... I did have one roommate recently that was just a bit different. Somewhere along the line he realized he couldn't call people he went out with only twice an "ex" because they are piling up too fast on his Christmas card list, so he founded the "Boyfriend of the Week" group.

I'm not really the pessimist that some of you have accused me of being. I'm a Sagittarian. We're the wandering sign of the zodiac and I do just that. I have this incredible ability to forget a persons name the first time they look like they're getting serious. I suppose (heavy sigh) that someday I'll be completely floored and actually (God forbid) find someone that I can settle down with. But until then, (violins swell) I'm destined to spend my Valentine's days wandering around a bar somewhere in the heart of central Florida looking for a certain someone to hold onto. (Fanfare, curtain and close)

SCOOTER

Ollie: Put this in the classifieds, would you? Twenty-four year old male, brown hair, hazel to bloodshot eyes, 5 foot 11 inches, 165 pounds (and losing), looking for possible date. Should be fairly intelligent, liking quiet times as well as able to get rowdy on occasions. Must enjoy average to acceptable home cooking and be affectionate at the right times. I'm willing to talk about it with anyone in the *New Direction* distribution area. Call: (305) 291-7541. Ask for Scooter. Sense of humor a must.

the Book Shelf



ALL-AMERICAN BOYS

I've known that I was gay since I was thirteen. Does that surprise you? It didn't me.

According to one of the lousy books I read back then, I'm supposed to tell you it came as some sort of huge shock. Actually, it was the most natural thing in the world. I thought everyone was. At least until I hit high school the next year. That's when I finally realized all those faggot and dyke stories referred to people like me...

So begins *All-American Boys*, the story of a teenage love affair that should have been



simple — but wasn't. In language that is remarkably clear, yet strong, Frank Mosca tells the story of Neil Meislich, a cheerful but highly closeted high school student. Although he has begun to come to terms with his gayness on a personal level, Neil is completely isolated from anyone else who is gay until Paul Carrington moves into town. Soon Paul helps Neil break out of his isolation — perhaps a bit faster than the town is ready for.

The two, Neil and Paul, go thru the terror, with the "secret" out, of facing their peers, several of which band together to let the "faggots" know just what the feelings of the group are.

Neil and Paul go through the uncertainty of telling the truth to their parents and the reality of much of today's world.

All-American Boys is especially important because it is one of the few books around that provides gay teenagers with unequivocally positive role models. It will also be enjoyed by many adults who would like to relive their teen years through the eyes of someone who's doing it a bit more openly than they ever dreamed possible.

This book is a large type, easy to read book which shows compassion and the awakenings of a teen. A good book.

ALL-AMERICAN BOYS by Frank Mosca

Available to individuals through bookstores; or by mail: \$5.50 postpaid from Alyson Publications, PO Box 2783, Boston, MA 02208.

Seafood store owner: Madam, I had to take all of my lobsters for psychoanalysis after your son dropped his riddle book into their tank.

Customer: What was wrong with them?

Seafood store owner: Crustacean frustration.

POLICE —

Are They Arresting Legally OR Just Trying To Look Good?

Just recently, a member of the legal profession stated that many of the recent arrests have been on very shaky grounds.

"The law enforcement officials are arresting people bordering on what could be very well called entrapment," he said. "The officers and courts know that most of the people arrested will plead 'guilty' rather than to open themselves to exposure, ridicule, job loss, etc. More of the people who have been arrested are beginning to fight, however, most still plead guilty."

"The *unfair practices* used to arrest people are a scare tactic to keep people away from these areas and harassment is prominent," stated another.

"One employee of a large local attraction was fired after his arrest not long ago. After fighting it in court and winning, the States Attorney's Office helped him to get his job back," stated another person.

The best solution at this point is to avoid these places or be prepared to fight the charges with possible open publicity.

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Dear Fred . . .

Dear Fred:

I am 18, almost 19, and live with my father who is 42. Ever since mom died, five years ago, my father has been a tyrant.

He makes me do all the cooking and housework and uses me sexually ever since he caught me fooling around with another guy my age when we were 15.

He made me quit school on my 16th birthday and for a birthday "present" he shaved everything but my head and I have to keep it that way or he beats me which he does anyway.

I can't leave the house when he's gone because he keeps all my clothes locked up. Help!

Wants Out
(City Withheld)

Dear Wants Out,

I edited your letter down in length and since you did send your phone number and a time to call, I have already talked to you and told you who to contact in your area for help.

By the time this column is printed, you should be out and a restraining order placed against your father.

Let me know how it all turns out.

Fred

Dear Fred,

There is this guy I'm in love with but he doesn't even know I'm on this earth. I haven't spoken to him. What should I do?

In Love,
Cocoa Beach

Dear In Love,

Your case seems to be more of infatuation at this point.

The next time you see your dreamboat, casually introduce yourself and comment about the bar, the beach, playing pool or any other subject that may be of interest.

Carry the conversation on from there with maybe a suggestion to meet at another time to go for a swim, go to the movies, eat dinner, etc.

In other words, let him know you are around.

Fred

Dear Fred,

I picked up a copy of *New Direction* when I was in Tampa and I have a problem. I have just started going to the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and don't know any gays here.

I'm afraid to ask any of the other guys for fear of being an outcast. Can you help?

U.T. Closet

Dear U.T. Closet,

Sure thing. One of the staff writers for *New Direction*, Frank Steiner, did a review on a gay nightclub just a couple of blocks from the campus.

It's The Factory, 400 Dale Ave. Frank gave it a good rating, however, he said to stay away from Badlands on Gay St.

Fred

Letters to Fred may be sent directly to him at the following address: Dear Fred, P.O. Box 8762, Orlando, FL 32806 or may be sent to Dear Fred c/o New Direction, P.O. Box 8967, Orlando, FL 32856. Names and addresses WILL NOT be published in this column unless permission is given in the letter. Those needing immediate answers should include a S.A.S.E. and/or phone number. (Some letters may be edited due to space availability.)



Mom and Dad —

I may not be what you counted on when I was growing up. Thanks for accepting me as I am.

Your Son.

To Michael,

Same to you.

Chris

Happy Valentine's Day Grandmom.

Fred

Next Gay Community Services meeting is Feb. 19, 4:30 p.m. at the Parliament House. Everyone welcome.

Don't forget the Valentine's Day Party at the Parliament House in Orlando. Benefits Gay Community Services.

Mr. and Miss Sweetheart contest Feb. 12 & 14 at Southern Nights.

TooTles, thanks for sharing hearts.

Tuttles.

Congratulations to Monica Burke for her winning the Talent Award in the Mr. & Miss Southern Nights Pageant.

To Chris.

Happy Valentine's Day.

Michael

To Tuttles,

Four years is a long time. I'm looking forward to the next four. Happy Hearts Day.

TooTles.

The Silver Hammer is having its two auctions Feb. 14, 9:00 p.m. to benefit G.C.S. The first auction, for cash only, will be for merchandise, most of which will be in sealed containers. There is also a nice stereo-AM/FM record player to be auctioned.

The second auction, following the merchandise auction, is the popular Slave Auction, for slave dollars only. Stop by and start saving your slave dollars today.

To Jim, "G," Tom, Max, Dan and everyone else at Southern Nights. Thanks for a great month. I enjoyed doing the shows.

Ollie

-CLASSIFIED-

HOUSING

G.C.S. can assume no responsibility, but tries to assist those with an apartment to share and those looking for a place. Contact the G.C.S. Roommate Referral volunteer by calling the G.C.S. Hotline by dialing THE-GAYS.

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Ricky Walsh, get in contact with Jamie at the Loading Dock. He has a very important message for you!

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