'Shame On You Awards' - New Feature, Pages 4 & 17

10 Months to the March on Washington

'Center Stage Magazine' - Get the Hook: Pages 3 & 7

THE

Volume 6, No. 7 - July 1992

CENTERWFOLD

Central Florida's "Family" Newspaper

It is the conclusion of this court that known homosexual persons are included in a class of persons who are inherently treated with prejudice by a large number of people in our society.' - Orange County Circuit Court Judge William Gridley ruling in the Woodard case.

See Articles Inside

Have a Fight - Wind Up in Jail!

A First-Hand Look at Florida's New Domestic Violence Law

Editor's Note: When was the last time you had a fight with your partner? Did it get to the point that you needed to call 911 because of violence or the threat of it? Well the following story is an actual account of a couple who had a fight and wound up in jail all thanks to the new domestic violence laws which went into effect on Jan. 1 of this year. The couple wanted a story written about their ordeal so that others who might call 911 for domestic arguments would think twice. This is their story. Their names have been changed to protect their privacy.

y name is Allen. Carl and I had been seeing each other for a few weeks before he moved in with me. Things went well for a time, but then Carl's drinking was becoming a problem. I knew having a relationship would not be easy. I thought making this relationship work was worth it. Carl thought it was worth it too, and when he didn't drink, things were wonderful. He has a lot to offer, but his preoccupation with drinking was robbing him and me of any future.

"Sure he had reasons, just like we all have. The only problem was that Carl was letting the unhappy events of the past dictate his future, which was to be one of drinking to escape.

"The one time we had a fight, I had called 911 because Carl was drinking again. When he drank, he became suspicious of me, jealous and angry. It seemed that I was the scapegoat for all of the hurt he experienced. But this time I was scared for myself. So when the police arrived, I told them what was going on.

"Because Carl feared he was about to be thrown out into the streets, he told the police that I had hit him, and that was the reason why 'he' called the police. No sooner did he say that then I found myself having to go out to the police car and be readied for arrest. In my shock, I asked the police why I was being arrested and not Carl. They told me that just the accusation of abuse is reason for arrest according to the new Domestic Partner Law, which went into effect in January 1992.

"The sight of me being arrested made Carl recant his story. After a thorough scolding by one of the officers, they left. Both of us were shaken by the experience.

"Well, it happened again, and for the same reason – alcohol. But this time, it did escalate, and Carl began

hitting me, giving me a bloody nose. I called 911, and after a half hour of questioning and assessing the situation, the police arrested both of us. We spent the night in the county jail after spending about two hours in the city jail first.

"The cops were nice about the whole thing. I mean after all we were not hardened criminals. This was the first time I had been arrested, and I was scared, yet relieved. I was relieved because this was the last chance for our relationship to work. I hoped that this episode would make Carl realize once and for all that his life would be one of unhappiness and loneliness if he didn't get help with his drinking.

"For one hour, I watched this rookie cop try to fill out the paperwork for the transfer to the county jail. He knew just about as much about doing the paperwork as I would have. He kept asking a more experienced officer what to do next. In the meantime, both of us sat in separate cells waiting for the next step. I could hear Carl. He was trying to talk to me, but I ignored him. As much as I wanted to go through this ordeal for him, I hated him for putting me through the same thing.

"Now it was time for photographs and finger printing. If you thought being photographed for a police record was humiliating, it was. First, there's ink all over your hands from the fingerprinting. Then you have to stand in front of a camera set up in a corner of the booking room where you hold up a sign with numbers in front of it like the mug shots you've seen in the post office lobbies.

"It was about 11:30 p.m. when we were finally taken to the county jail in separate cars. All the time, I sat in the back of the patrol car with my hands cuffed behind my back. I couldn't believe this was really happening to me. I did everything I could to hide my identity as we drove through town. This was especially important at a stop light. I was so afraid that someone I knew would pull up beside us.

"If I thought sitting in the city jail was bad, I had no idea what I was in for at the county lock up. Immediately after being brought into the double entry hallway, I was told to put all of my valuables in a brown paper bag, take off my shoes and socks, and put on a pair of slippers. First I had to look into a box of about 100 pairs to find the right and left one, and the right size. I was so upset and disgusted, I declined

the shoes for now.

I had to endure another session of questions and answers for the county lock up forms by this cop who was not the least bit interested in what he was doing. He was more interested in hearing about the latest jail house gossip.

"Now that that was over, I finally got to go to my cell for the long night ahead, even though it was about 1:30 a.m. One thing about the jail cell though. It appeared larger than those on TV, but just as uncomfortable and cold. I was told later on that they keep it colder in jail because that promotes calmer inmates. I guess hot, steamy cells would cause tempers to flare quicker. I thought Carl was in the next cell. Although I wasn't sure, and, quite frankly, didn't care really.

"I couldn't fall asleep. All I had was a light blanket that I swear was crawling around the cell before I got in to it. They also keep the lights on in the cell, all night long. Try sleeping in that atmosphere. And to make matters worse, there were inmates in the hall talking and carrying on. I could tell they were looking in the cells to see the new meat. I did everything I could to cuddle up in fetal position facing the wall with my head covered. I did this to keep warm, and so that no one could see me. It was about 3:30 a.m. when after dozing off to a light sleep, I was awakened to the sound of a floor waxer. Yes, they were waxing the hall floor at 3:30 in the morning! Their voices got louder and louder, and scarier and scarier.

"After a night of slamming jail doors, floor waxers and 'Boys In The Hood' rap, it was time for breakfast. Yes, at 5:30 they wake you up to get your breakfast from the small slot in the solid steel door. Breakfast consisted of a banana, Wheaties, milk and a poor excuse for a cinnamon bun. I ate the banana, gulped down the milk, forfeited the Wheaties, and gave a cursory sniff to the cinnamon bun, and shoved it back through the slot.

"I wondered why they wake you up so early, and came to the conclusion that if you slept too much, you would not realize that you were in jail being punished for wrongdoing. So the longer they kept you awake, the harder it would be on you. Made sense!

"Well, there was not much to do after that wonderful breakfast but to go back to sleep. I mean, I had no idea what was to happen next. I was told that court would be at 9 a.m., then 11, then 1:30 p.m. because the judge was out of town, or probably putting in nine holes of golf. What was I to do for

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ORDEAL, from Page 1

four to six hours in a cell?

"Meanwhile our fellow inmates, who I later learned were called 'trustees' were inmates who merited special favors for cleaning halls (with special brownie points for 3:30 a.m. cleaning no doubt!) and other chores. From the look of some of them, I guess some of their special privileges were life instead of the death penalty for multiple murders!

"They kept asking me what was I in for. I ignored them as long as I could, and got so annoyed, finally I blurted out: 'Me? Oh, I'm a serial killer! I just wiped out my whole family!' I thought that was pretty daring, but the fellow (all of I could see of him were his big brown eyes) almost believed me!

"Carl, next door was not so bold. He told them the truth! He told them that he had a fight with his *lover*! They asked for clarification and he clarified! 'Your lover?' they asked. 'He a guy or a girl?' they pried. 'A guy!' Carl confessed! Well, that was all he had to say. You know those stories about prisons? Well they're all true! Saying you're gay in a prison is about as stupid as saying you're a virgin at an orgy. Well, they never let up on Carl.

"They kept snooping, wanting to hear more. The more they snooped, the more feisty Carl got with them. I heard Carl shout out that he was going to charge them with harassment. 'Harassment,' I thought to myself. 'Hell, they're in here charged with murder and rape to say the least!' Their badgering got to the point

where I blurted out to them to leave Carl alone. Carl was now crying, and began to realize where he was and who was in the cell next to him. It began to hit home.

"At the arraignment, we were handcuffed together. It was 2 p.m., and I wanted to get out of there, along with Carl. I thought he was learning-his lesson from all of the abuse by the inmates. Their taunting got so bad that even the guards, usually immune and indifferent to that sort of thing, ordered the inmates to stop

"That was good because if I heard one more of those oafs call out 'faggot' or 'homo,' or exclaim 'they lovers ... they suck dick,' or 'who be on top?', or "who's the girl, you?' one more time, I would have been charged with murdering an inmate! It was that traumatic!

"If you thought nothing worse could happen, you're wrong. After arraignment, we were sent to orientation. That's the next step before lock up in general population. That's when I knew that Carl would never survive. With his young butt and smart mouth, he was to be dessert for the whole bunch! Luckily, we got to make our proverbial phone calls (actually you can make as many as you want, unlike in the movies), and then into orientation cell

"But before that, we had to look like the rest of the inmates. We had to strip down (there were about five of us in our happy little group of misfits), shower and then be deloused. After a quick shower, we each stood naked with our hands stretched up in the air, slowly turning

while this stuff, which smelled like Raid, was sprayed all over us. Talk about humiliation. Besides, how dare he think we have bugs! What broke the ice with Carl, was when he asked if there was another color uniform besides bright orange? Leave it to a queen to worry about wearing the right colors!

"Well, after retrieving our little bag of toiletries, a pillow and a mattress, we got to orientation holding cell. It was first come, first served as far as bunks were concerned. Of course, the ones left were on the second level, almost falling off the walls, and smelling like someone was just murdered in them. All I could think of was that all eyes were on us, which in fact they were, especially Carl. I could see the guys eyeing us up, probably wondering who would have either one of us that night. But I knew that we would soon be out of this place on bond put up by a friend and a bail bondsman.

"About one hour later, we were breathing the fresh and free air of Orlando. But before that, Carl and I had enough time to talk seriously about him, me and us. If it was going to work, then this was the last chance for it to work. The ordeal had proven effective. I had finally succeeded in making Carl realize how he was wasting his life, my life and our relationship. The rest is history.

"Carl is now getting help for his drinking problem, and has been quite honest with his temptation to imbibe. What he tells me, is that when he is tempted, all he has to do is remember those horrible 17 hours in jail. That's enough to make him realize how

drinking would ruin his life. Sure the county jail is a physical place of restriction and punishment. There's not much life to live in a place like that. But then again, there's not much of life worth living if someone is locked up in the prison of alcohol abuse. Their lives can be about as fruitful."

Editor's Note: This is a true story. I believe this happy ending is one in a million. If someone you love needs help to stop alcohol and drug abuse, then get them that help. Just remember, many times the most effective help you could give is actually sharing in a person's destruction. Allen wanted Carl to see that he was willing to share in his ordeal in jail, in the hopes that Carl would see how much Allen loved him, enough to endure arrest and jail. In their case, it worked, and they are on the road to a happier life together.

As far as this new law is concerned, I believe that it gives undue power to the police. They become judge and jury, determining whether arrests are warranted because of alleged guilt. But what it boils down to is one person's word against the others. As in the first encounter with the law, Carl accused Allen of hitting him even though it was untrue. The police took Carl's words as truth, and were about to arrest Allen. This knowledge of assured arrest even when lying about abuse can be a great weapon for someone wanting to get even with a lost love or roommate. A word to the wise. Be sure you wish to involve the police in a dispute. Their hands are tied, just as assuredly yours will be, because the law says they must arrest upon allegations of domestic partner abuse laws being violated.

2nd 'Positively Great' Tea Dance Set for Early July

By Bruce Wellington Center Fold Staff Writer

The second "Positively Great!" tea dance of the season will debut on Sunday, July 5, at the phoe•nix AT ALOMA, 7124 Aloma (one mile east of Highway 436; phone 678-9220).

Originally scheduled for the last Sunday of each month, the "Positively Great!" affair has been permanently rescheduled for the first Sunday of each month. Because of this rescheduling, "Positively Great! was not held in June.

Regrettably, the first "Positively Great!" event failed to live up to its pre-billing. A conflict of events taking place at the phoe•nix was responsible. These involved the on-going mid-to-end-of-the-month presentations of Act Out Theater, when pre-performance production set ups for each performance required use of the phoe•nix's disco/theater area. Stage setups (in the disco/theater area) for each performance occur during the two hours preceding the 8 to 9 p.m. presentations; this made it impossible to schedule social events in the same area at the same time.

The rescheduling of "Positively Great!" to the first Sunday in each month remedies the situation, as no Act Out Theater productions occur at that time.

Therefore, the disco at the phoe nix AT ALOMA has been reserved for "Positively Great! from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 5. Music and hors d'oeuvres will be provided

by David and Dennis, hosts at the phoe•nix.

The disco is a pleasant, congenial area set aside by the phoe•nix for dancing and other special events. It includes its own Italian-lighted bar, numerous round tables and chairs for easy conversation, a wall covered with fascinating photographs of the famous and infamous (including works by Robert Mapplethorpe) and a spacious, free-form area for dancing. All of this combines to create a true nightclub ambiance.

"Positively Great!" is being sponsored by the phoe nix AT ALOMA to benefit Hope and Help, a prominent Central Florida AIDS support organization. A \$2 donation will admit one to the event.

Originating in Seattle's gay and lesbian community, "Positively Great!" is an idea designed to provide Central Florida's HIV-infected population with an opportunity for "an afternoon out among friends and relatives – to socialize, relax, dance/and or just make interesting conversation."

Too often persons infected with the virus have few opportunities to socialize. "Positively Great's! mission is to close the door of aloneness for a few hours one Sunday a month – and to bring gaiety into lonely lives.

Everyone is welcome! Please bring friends, lovers and relatives to enjoy a low-key, warm-hearted afternoon of conviviality.

Further details, including requests for transportation, can be obtained by calling Hope and Help at (407) 895-1992.

Act-Out Theater Schedules Future Plays

By Cornelius Van Pelt Center Fold Theater Critic

After a one-month July hiatus, Act Out Theater will resume performances of gay- and lesbian-themed plays.

Future productions, scheduled for the fall of 1992, include:

• Fog, a one-act comedy by Robert Patrick.

"Stud and Fag meet in a freak fog in Central Park, for it is the (freaky) '60s. Each character, tired of the limits of their roles, uses the fog to pretend they are each other."

Performances: Aug. 21, 22, 23, and 28, 29 and 30. Auditions: July 12, 7 to 10 p.m.
• Execution of Justice by Emily Mann.

"Dan White's trial for the murders of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. A dramatic collage of sights and sounds, mixed with a generous dose of reality." Performances and auditions to be announced.

• In Her Own Words by John Glines.

"Lesbian playwright Jane Chambers comes alive with all the vibrancy, humor and brilliance that marked her professional and private life. A dazzling celebration of the whole woman."

Performances and auditions to be announced.

For more information on Act Out Theater productions, call Lew Routh, founder and director at (407) 677-5407; address: P.O. Box 1626, Goldenrod, Fla. 32733-1626.

Performances of Act Out Theater are held at the phoe nix AT ALOMA, 7124 Aloma Ave., Winter Park (one mile east of Highway 436).

Act Out Scores
Triumph With
'Bar Dykes'
- See Page 22

The Center Fold Doesn't Belong in a Landfill – Recycle It or Pass It Along to a Friend

Local Citizens Say 'Bring the Curtain Down on Center Stage Magazine'

Editor's Note: The Theater Downtown sent this letter to Center Stage Magazine to protest its refusal to publish the part of an advertisement that announced concerts by the Orlando Gay Chorus.

Mary Johnston Editor Center Stage 610 S. Maitland Ave. Maitland, Florida 32751

Dear Ms. Johnston,

Your publication bills itself as "Central Florida's Arts and Entertainment Magazine." As members and supporters of the Central Florida arts and entertainment community, we are writing to protest Center Stage's refusal to publish an article on the Orlando Gay Chorus in its June issue.

According to the report in the June 4 Orlando Sentinel, your grounds for refusing to run the story were that Center Stage is not "a forum for something that politically controversial and morally sensitive, and something that is a potential health risk."

We are astonished that you would consider group singing an activity that would fall into any of these categories. If, on the other hand, your action was motivated by disapproval of the sexual orientation of the singers, our astonishment changes to indignation.

All artists and entertainers have a



sexual orientation, a fact that should be irrelevant to your consenting to include them in a paid advertising supplement to your publication.

Apparently, you were afraid of offending someone. Well, you have.

The cosigners of this letter are men and women of various ages, races, ethnic origins, professions, religious beliefs and sexual orientations. We are all members and supporters of the arts and entertainment community that Center Stage covers. We feel that your refusal to print an article about the Orlando Gay Chorus is blatant censorship, and we are offended. We request that Center Stage change its policy of not publishing articles about artists who are open and honest about their sexual orientation. We request that you publicly apologize to the Orlando Gay Chorus.

If you are unwilling to grant our requests, you will lose our support and our respect. As individuals and organizations, we will no longer distribute Center Stage, will neither advertise in it nor patronize those who do, and will no longer provide information about our activities for your

calendar listings and editorial content.

Please reconsider your actions, which have hurt and offended so many in Central Florida's arts and entertainment Community, the very community whose activities provide the basis for your

Sincerely, Theater Downtown (Editor's Note: The letter contained 63 signatures.)

Editor's Note: This letter was also sent by a local resident to Center Stage in protest of its homophobia.

Dear Editor,

Perhaps a name change is in order: to Off Stage, Right from Center Stage. Your recent action in deleting portions of paid advertising purchased by The Arts Services Council and detailing the activities and schedule of the Orlando Gay Chorus reveals the true bent of apparently the ownership and the editorial board of your not-for-profit

How interesting that the multi-pronged attack on artistic freedoms of the National Endowment for the Arts, public broadcasting and similar enlightened cultural agencies has lifted one of its tentacles in Orlando. Censorship of this type is deplorable and dangerous at any level, and when it's advanced by an "arts press," it smells.

Using the same logic, or lack of it, am I to presume you would choose not to review or advertise such contemporary dramas as The Fifth of July, The Normal Heart, Torch Song Trilogy and Falsettos, if they were to be presented in the community? All are plays with strong

messages about AIDS, gays and life in the U.S.A. Would you hide their light under your moralist basket?

Do you apply the same "health risk" censorship pen when preparing ads for supper clubs which offer alcohol bar service to your readers or allow smoking in direct disregard to warnings by the surgeon general of the United States? I suspect a negative answer.

If the Ballet Russe were to play Orlando, would you deny them a chance to advertise because of fear they may turn local balletomanes into communist sympathizers?

Every important artists' confederation in the United States has gone on record as supporting efforts to raise understanding between the various segments of society. The display of red ribbons during the Tony, Emmy, Oscar and Grammy awards ceremonies shows the depth of concern for the same causes the gay choruses of America are dedicated to - the eradication of AIDS and the removal of mental and moral fetters which restrict the peaceful evolution of modern society toward a higher plane. These efforts should not be blunted by forces such as publishers and editors who have given up their beliefs in a balanced, fair press, and would impress on their readers a pabulum of quasi-Christian dogma and restriction.

The joy and wonderment I have experienced in hearing and seeing the Orlando Gay Chorus perform over the last few years reinforces my feelings that good people singing great music under the banner of fine fellowship is no threat to anyone - except those who have lost their own love of life and song to untamed prejudice.

> Jim Welch Winter Park

Metropolitan Business Association to Meet July 9 at Big Bang

The July 9 meeting of the Metropolitan businesses and professionals in the community Business Association (MBA) promises to be one of the most exciting yet, with travel tips for gays and lesbians and entertainment by the Implications topping the agenda.

The meeting, which begins with a social at 6:30 p.m. and business at 7 at Big Bang, 102 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, is also the last time that non-members will be admitted free, so get your membership application in now! The meeting was moved from the regular date of the first Thursday of the month to July 9 due to the Fourth of July.

Following a membership drive at last month's Pride Picnic, the MBA, Orlando's gay and lesbian business and professional guild, now has about 30 charter members.

At the upcoming meeting, Vicki Brescher, owner of The Travel Group in St. Petersburg, will give attendees inside information on gay and lesbian travel and how to take advantage of the current low airfares.

The Implications, a female duet with a male percussionist, are slowly capturing the hearts of music lovers around Orlando with their mixture of blues, jazz, folk and country-western tunes. The group, which does virtually all original material, has played at Kelly's Cafe, the Yab-Yum Coffee House and at the Mill.

Work is continuing on the MBA's bylaws, which stress promoting gay and lesbian and respecting the confidentiality wishes of its members. "We want to put out a nice set of bylaws so we can form this organization to be a true power for months and years to come," said MBA President Keith Morrison.

More than 40 people attended the MBA's June 4 meeting, which featured Bruce Ground, owner of Orlando's new gay and lesbian bookstore, Out and About Books. Ground emphasized the MBA's importance to the gay and lesbian community.

"The more we project a positive image, the more they'll see that we aren't the negative things that stereotypes make us out to be," he

MBA Vice President Debbie Simmons said calls keep coming in from people trying to find more out about the group. "We're all here because we have something in common we've all experienced some kind of discrimination, " she said. "We need to stand together as a community, regardless of sex or color. It's not just a club."

MBA Program Director Karen Good, said the group means all of that - and more. "I think it's important for us to come together to support our businesses and those who support us," she said. "There's strength in numbers - all of us getting together can only make things better for

Human Rights Campaign Fund Endorses Clinton

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political organization, on June 1 announced its endorsement of Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton for president of the United States. It is the first time in the 11- year history of the group that it has chosen to endorse a candidate for president.

"Gov. Clinton has made it clear that he will fight to end discrimination against gay and lesbian Americans and will push to secure funding for our health care concerns," said Laura Altschul, co-chair of the Campaign Fund's board of directors.

"After 12 years of ignorance, inaction and community to stand on the sidelines. Every gay and lesbian American has an important stake in removing George Bush from office and putting Bill Clinton into the White House." In



the Campaign Fund's Presidential Questionnaire, Gov. Clinton stated clearly his position on several issues of vital importance to gay men and lesbians. Here are some of Gov. Clinton's responses:

- · Gays and lesbians in the military. "I believe patriotic Americans should have the right to serve the country as a member of the armed forces, without regard to sexual or affectational orientation."
- · Executive order ending discrimination in federal employment. "I think it is imperative that the United States government work

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THE CENTER FOLD

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Editorial and Business Offices: 750 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando, Fla. 32804 Phone (407) 425-7450

Hours: Monday-Friday - 1-9 p.m.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 533446, Orlando, Fla. 32853-3446

Managing Editor: Michael J. Sopoliga

Advertising Office: For information, call Michael Collins at (407) 425-7450.

Layout/Copy Editor: Benjamin B. Markeson

Staff Writers: Jeff Campbell, Dr. Alan Grieco, Diane P. Kerkhoff, Alan Lunin, Mailey McLaughlin, Andre Provencher, Laurence Sheldon, Cornelius Van Pelt, Bruce Wellington, Bradley Whiteside

Typists: Allene Baus, Rochelle Williams

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Shame on You, Center Stage

Editor's Note: The Center Fold is pleased to present this new feature called "Shame on You." This feature will alert our readers to those who want to undermine the gay and lesbian community's efforts for recognition and equal treatment under the law, as well as cast a spotlight upon those who are just "out to get us."

By Michael J. Sopoliga Center Fold Managing Editor

"We're not a forum for something that is as politically controversial and morally sensitive, and something that is potentially a health risk." – Mary Johnston

Central Florida back to the Stone Age, I present the very first "Shame on You" award to Mary Johnston, editor of Center Stage Magazine.

Johnston made the quote above in an Orlando Sentinel article spotlighting Center Stage's refusal to print information on the concerts which were to be given by the Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC) in celebration of Pride Month.

The OGC information was only part of

the two-page ad purchased every month by the Arts Service Council to publicize the activities of its member groups. Center Stage only refused to publish the portion of the ad that was about the OGC.

Imagine the crust of this woman who claims she speaks for the arts in her pathetic magazine. Little does she (probably) know that (to quote Mel Brooks in his movie To Be or Not To Be): "Without Jews, fags and Gypsies there would be no theater ..." Without Jews, fags and Gypsies there would be no Center Stage magazine!

I am happy and encouraged that the Arts Service Council, an arm of United Arts of Central Florida, decided to stop advertising in that poor excuse for an arts magazine. Apparently, the only arts fit to appear on *Center Stage's* pages are those

which will not sour the rag's closeminded readers, nor harm its pocket book as well. In short, this act of blatant censorship, based upon homophobic fears as well as fears of loss of revenue, has highlighted yet another shameful decision.

Here's a few questions Ms. Johnston should answer.

1) Since when is announcing a concert given by a gay chorus politically controversial?

2) Since when is a concert given by a gay chorus morally sensitive?

3) Since when is a concert given by a gay chorus a potential health risk? As you

Mel Brooks said that
"Without Jews, fags and
Gypsies there would be no
theater ..." Without Jews, fags
and Gypsies there would be
no Center Stage magazine!

can see, the idiocy of these questions matches the idiocy of *Center Stage's* decision not to publish the information on the OGC.

Sure, we have experienced discrimination by politicians (of course to protect their own political lives); sure, we have been the target of every preacher and every denomination of religious bigots around, but this discrimination, homophobia, and downright censorship by someone whom we would expect to be more open-minded than the other two groups I just mentioned, is hard to swallow. After all, "Without Jews, fags and Gypsies, there would be no theater ..."

I say that with bigotry and profits its only concern, Center Stage deserves a great big SHAME ON YOU!

If you would like to write to or call Center Stage, please do so! Its address is: Center Stage Magazine, 610 S. Maitland Ave., Maitland, Fla. 32751. Its phone number is (407) 629-0252.

Give Us All the News Please, Orlando Sentinel

By Jeff Campbell Center Fold Staff Writer

ncouraged by reports of newspapers from different parts of the country that recognize dedicated, long-term gay relationships, I became curious about Florida newspapers.

The Tampa Tribune recently joined other newspapers from across the nation wherein survivors of the deceased also list "longtime" or "lifetime" companions. This may seem a small and unimportant step in the struggle for our rights, but it is a vital milestone.

I visited the office of *The Orlando Sentinel* to inquire about its policy in this area, but was unable to find anyone who could discuss this matter. A person at the first floor desk gave me the name of Managing Editor Bill Dunn in editorial. So I called later in the day, but he was out of his office. Leaving a message of the nature of my inquiry, I was pleased when he returned my call.

According to Mr. Dunn, the position of the Sentinel is to not list such a relationship, citing "the difficulty in verification of the information." He mentioned the research necessary to confirm such a relationship, that it may take "a reporter's entire day."

I commented that a portion of the Sentinel's masthead reads, "the best newspaper in Florida." If The Tampa Tribune were accepting such listings, why not the "best?" Mr. Dunn was unaware of the Tampa decision, and said that the newspaper would probably check with the Tribune to confirm the policy.

Telling Mr. Dunn that I am not a young rebel, but a man who enjoys the contentment of a 33-year, devoted and monogamous relationship, I asked if this deserved less recognition than a heterosexual relationship of a similar length. Mr. Dunn's response was that the judgment is not a moral stance, but stems from concern over possible reactions from blood relatives.

I responded that moral codes had changed over the past 30 to 40 years (he agreed) and that many

Listing a survivor in an obituary may seem inconsequential in that an obituary confirms the end of a relationship due to the death of a partner, but it is a step leading to the eventual legal recognition of the validity of our lives.

heterosexual couples now share their lives without benefit of marriage.

Mr. Dunn expressed particular concern about the possibility of lawsuits by parents of the deceased "should they still be living," in the event of "lifetime" partner listing. He added that perhaps someday an "affidavit" provided by such parents could circumvent legal ramifications. I chose then and choose now to refrain from making a response.

Turning to living relationships, I cited the frequent mention of celebrities in the "Names and Faces" column on page 2 of the *Sentinel* each day, I specified a recent mention of actor Christopher Reeves having sired his second child out of wedlock.

His comment was that celebrities are in a different category and are handled differently.

I asked Mr. Dunn if the absence of a document such as a marriage certificate was the concern about validation of the relationship, and he replied that it is.

I told Mr. Dunn that we gays must pursue our rights one by one and step by step. The listing of a survivor in an obituary may seem inconsequential in that an obituary confirms the end of a relationship due to the death of a partner, but it is a step leading to the eventual legal recognition of the validity of our lives.

This is an important protection for a surviving partner, preventing other relatives from stepping in to dismantle and destroy the life of the survivor. What two people have built in a partnership of love and sharing should not fall victim to bitter and vindictive people who often

refused to share in the life of their relative or to accept the selected relationship of two people. This is why the recognition of a relationship, even when life is done, is so important.

Citing the opinions of attorneys advising the Sentinel, Mr. Dunn asked that the gay and lesbian community be patient. I told Mr. Dunn that I feel the day will come that we shall be afforded this small but significant step forward. Mr. Dunn agreed.

Writer's Note: When I received this phone call from Mr. Dunn I was virtually on my way out the door to have dinner with friends. This conversation was fresh in my mind, and I discussed it with the group.

To put it politely, their opinion was that Mr. Dunn's arguments were employed to evade an editorial decision.

Make Your Voice Heard on This Issue

Send letters to *The Orlando Sentinel*, 633 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, Fla. 32801-1349, Attn.: Mr. William Dunn, managing editor.

Please Note:
The Copy and
Advertising Deadline
for The Center Fold
is the 15th of
Every Month.

Of Pride and Politics

By Jeff Campbell Center Fold Staff Writer

t was grand showing our collective strength when we celebrated Gay Pride last month. But already, we're showing a little flab as we drift back to our indifferent ways.

In step with the rest of America, we have become an apathetic and unconcerned people who don't register to vote at a time when our freedoms are at stake; a time when the religious right increases its registration and calls out its voters.

It's a hot, hot political year. Locally, the candidates for sheriff, except for incumbent Walt Gallagher, participated in an open forum with the gay community at Joy MCC.

Apparently, Gallagher feels you and I are not qualified for some employment. Even after Judge William Gridley ruled in favor of reinstating former Deputy Tom Woodward, the sheriff pronounced the ruling "inconsistent and inconclusive," and indicated he may file an appeal. Maybe Gallagher thinks we are not qualified to vote either; so let's get to the polls and show him otherwise.

The vice president criticizes single parenthood; the Congress takes our money and runs into retirement; an independent has evolved into a serious candidate as the public seeks a way to protest the politicians who have expropriated our rights and sent us into debt for the benefit of themselves and their friends.

AIDS has become a political hot potato, and those who wish to isolate the disease by quarantining individuals who have it are gathering strength. They are able to do this by playing on the fear of a people without political leadership. But AIDS is loose in the land of heterosexuals, and is beyond quarantine. This is a

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portentous political year that will affect the course of this nation for decades.

We know who and where the politicians are; if only we could identify the statesmen, and stir the interest of the voters, perhaps we could start on the road toward regaining our rights and the control of our destiny. This specifically means the rights of gays.

The Constitution proclaims the equality of all, yet the federal courts rule that we are not entitled to equal rights. In the last 20 years we have let our guard down while we were letting our hair down.

We have failed ourselves: Our lack of concern for our own interests is demonstrated every time we fail to oppose legislation restricting our rights, and whenever we fail to challenge politicians who fail to represent our rights when we are under attack. We receive no support or recognition from politicians who see us as disorganized and disenfranchised. Too many gays seem to have a mystic belief that the straight world or some other coalition of people will defend our right to be free.

Many non-voters defend their failure to vote by denying responsibility for the actions of those who are elected, but the unfortunate truth is they are directly responsible for the election of incompetent and dishonest candidates and the passage of bad legislation. The loss of basic constitutional rights is the price we have paid for not exercising our right and duty to vote: guilt without trial, search and seizure; loss of sanctity of the home.

On the national scene, we suffer a president who once identified financial disaster with the term "voodoo economics," an apt description. Today he is part of it. He is the "education president" with an education system in crisis; he is the "environmental president" with the policy of "not in my backyard," and a man who does not know the difference between a "recession," a "depression" and boom times. His vice president tells the nation the economy is surging ahead because the fast

food chains are hiring again.

We have a Democratic candidate who has wooed the gay vote, has had difficulty keeping the attention of the press or the public focused on issues of economic survival, and who cannot seem to outpoll an undeclared independent candidate.

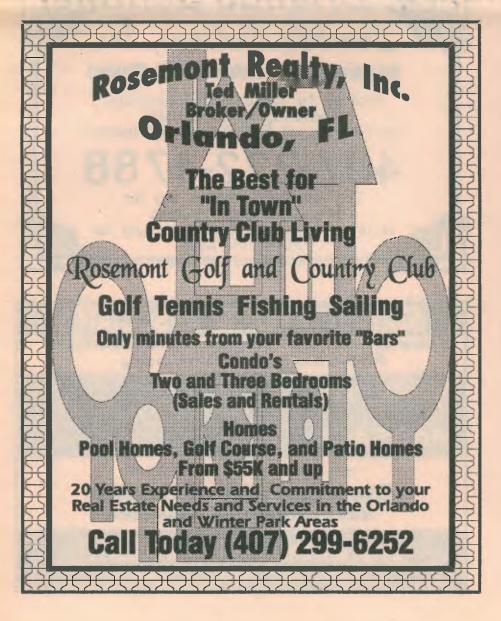
Finally, we have that independent candidate who has caught our attention with some expressions of homophobia, but has offered no ideas for resolving the economic crisis. Curiously, we find him attractive because he seems not to be just another politician taking money from the till – but we would like to know his ideas.

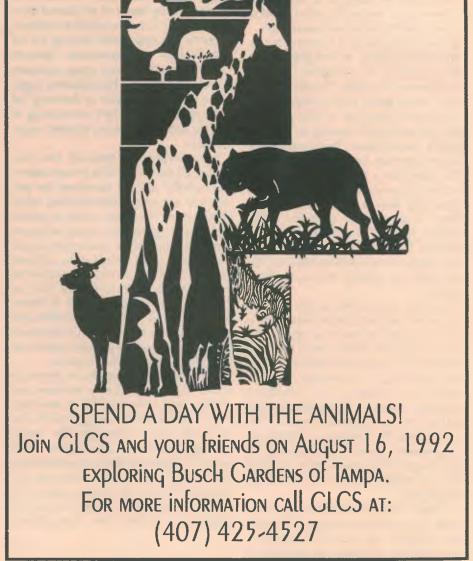
Twelve years of the voodoo money game have given us more millionaires and far more poor and unemployed. The new millionaires live off the failure of the banking industry brought on by deregulation, and to be paid for by the poor over the next 20 years. The poor live off minimum wage jobs, and food stamps and unemployment checks. All these problems and still so many people express disinterest in who is elected.

So where are you? Are you registered? Do you vote? Do you care? Our concerns should not be gay rights exclusively, but the privileges of choice and freedom and liberty for not only are we gay but we are full citizens, too. Much of what we oppose today are efforts by the radical conservative PACs to influence legislation for the purpose of excluding gays and lesbians; let us not be guilty of the same attitude. We cannot allow our attention to be diverted by issues of no consequence, nor can we continue to allow our presidents to create wars and other crises to distract us from vital domestic concerns.

It's time, ladies and gentlemen. It's time to vote.

Our lack of concern for our own interests is demonstrated every time we fail to oppose legislation restricting our rights, and whenever we fail to challenge politicians who fail to represent our rights when we are under attack.





Educator: It's Time We Privatized Sexuality Through Public Action

By James T. Sears, Ph.D. Empathy Magazine

reveral years ago, two University of South Carolina professors in the College of Education were overheard saying, "I don't understand why people like that just can't keep it to themselves. Why does he have to flaunt it in our faces?" What these two female faculty members really fail to understand is that it (one's sexuality) is not a private matter. All but two Southern states have some type of sodomy statue. South Carolina, for example, classifies sodomy, "the abominable act of buggery ..." as a felony. Under this same statute, the state also restricts heterosexual married couples from engaging in sexual acts which it terms as "so horrible they cannot be described." The state, through this sodomy legislation, moves consensual, adult relationships from the privacy of the bedroom into the public domain.

Though few people have been charged and fewer been convicted since the adoption of these aged statues, their removal was a principal demand of gay pride marchers throughout the South this year.

Beneath the veneer of ethnic restaurants, high-tech industry, and interstate cloverleafs of the New South, there rest the underlying social codes of the Old South. One of these is a respectful politeness and another is a strict division between public and private knowledge.

In the South, there is a respect for an individual's privacy or, less gingerly, an unwillingness to confront private idiosyncrasies in public. The whole town might know about Cousin Randolph's fondness for men; but as long as these behaviors are kept to himself, no one will publicly discuss them. This storehouse of collective private knowledge, in part, is what identifies a Southern community. Southerners evidence, as the wonderful writer Meg Segrest, a Southern lesbian, writes: "a determined ignorance of the seamier facts of life. Even the most innocent Dear Old Thing knows what Town Fairy is and what he does, but the blue-rinse set simply refuses to think about it. '

Carefully preserved in the hidden recesses of the Caroliniana Library are a series of letters written in the spring and autumn of 1826 which were recently unearthed by historian Martin Duberman. According to Duberman, 22-year-old Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Whithers, eventually to assume the judgeship of the state's Court of Appeals, wrote to his friend, James H. Hammond, a legendary congressman, senator and governor, of their playful bedtime exploits. Writing from his college residence in Columbia, Jeff asks Jim:

"I feel some inclination to learn whether you yet sleep in your Shirt-tail, and whether you yet have the extravagant delight of poking and punching a writhing Bedfellow with your long fleshen pole - the exquisite touches of which I have often had the honor of feeling."

In publishing his article, Duberman faced numerous obstacles from the curator who painstakingly sought to avoid a conflict between the interests of the historian and the honor of the family. The curator's reluctance to publicized these behaviors (about 150 years after the event) is a legacy of the Old South.

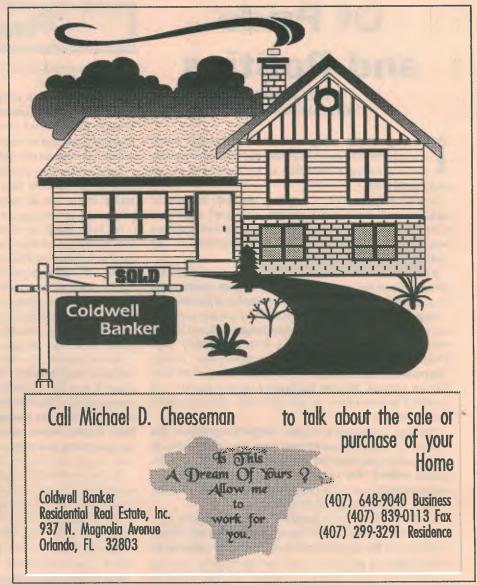
We all, however, pay a price for this conspiracy of polite sexual silence. State legislators shudder when schools expose adolescents to sexuality education while we wring our hands at images of children bearing children and parents burying children.

Stressing Rambo-like strength or debutante-like appearance, we translate the importance of acting like male or female into rigid sexual roles and an inability to express qualities "inherent" in the other gender. Heterosexuals seldom see a relationship between themselves and the struggles of lesbians and gay men while the U.S. Supreme Court upholds a Virginia court's conviction of sodomy against a heterosexual married couple when a passerby spotted their sexual act from an open bedroom window.

Prominent citizens enjoy private homosexual lives of affluence while fearing being "outed" from their Confederated closets. Roving bands of adolescent boys prey on gays as fundamentalist ministers roam the AM radio bands praying for the "deliverance" of homosexuals – through violence or religion each group represses its own sexual fears. The Alabama Legislature links the "support or fostering" of sodomy to a university's sanctioning of lesbian and gay campus student organizations.

Sexual expression between two consenting adults should be a private matter. The sodomy statutes transform the private into the public, criminalizing many Southerners. The state's power to define and delimit appropriate sexual behaviors further legitimizes the discrimination and harassment faced everyday by lesbians and gay men. These archaic sections of criminal code help to justify job and housing discrimination and to foster intolerance and hatred. As a symbol, the sodomy statues create sexual outlaws. As laws, they are an ever present threat to an emerging segment of Southerners.

While some state legislators privately admit that the sodomy statutes are archaic, none come forward to lead their repeal. From their vantage point, the political costs outweigh the social benefits. "After all," one legislator has argued, "when is the last time someone in this state has been prosecuted for buggery?" This, of course, misses the point – a skill that many successful politicians adroitly use. The sodomy







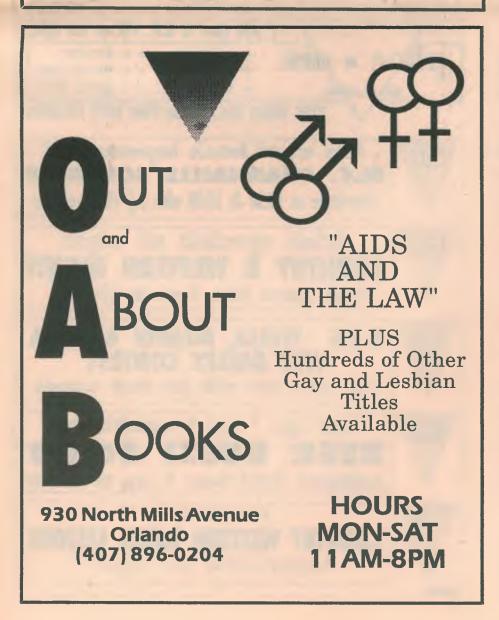
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The Center Stage Controversy

The Arts, the Gays and the Philistines

By Jeff Campbell Center Fold Staff Writer

In the midst of all the Pride celebrations came a sour note to remind the gay and lesbian community that not everyone applauds our very public display of self-esteem: Center Stage, a monthly newspaper covering the local arts, petulantly declined to publish information on the Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC).

Because it is unusual for a newspaper to refuse to report activities related to its purpose, I called *Center Stage's* Maitland office to find out the reasons for the refusal.

The phone was answered by a secretarial type. I told her that I wished to speak with Mary Johnston, the newspaper's editor. Ms. Johnston's line was busy, so the secretarial type asked the purpose of my call.

I identified myself by name as a writer for the gay press and said I wished to find out the reasons for refusing to publish the article concerning the chorus. I was told that "Ms. Johnston will return your call." This transpired at 11 in the morning and by 3:15 that afternoon I had received no response. I called again and Miss Secretary answered once more. Identifying myself again, I added that this article would be submitted the following afternoon and that if Ms. Johnston wished her side of the controversy included, I should hear from her no later than 11 the following day. (My estimation is that the ice crystals carried by the voice on the phone were sufficient to cool my office for at least four hours.)

It is now 11:15 of the morning of that next day and I have heard nothing. Either Ms. Johnston chose not to call or my phone suffered freezer burn yesterday.

Earlier, Ms. Johnston had told The Orlando Sentinel that Center Stage is "not a forum for something that politically controversial and morally sensitive, and something that is potentially a health risk."

I suggest to Ms. Johnston that she does not understand controversy, for her refusal to run the article on the OGC has placed *Center Stage* on the center stage of

CITIZEN'S ALERT! HB75H - MAKE IT LAW!

HB75H is the code for a measure which has just left the state House Judiciary Committee. It would further clarify the Hate Crimes Law, which was previously struck down by a state judge who said it was too vague in its original form. The Judiciary Committee passed HB75H unanimously. It boosts penalties if it is "proven" the crime was committed because of racial, religious, ethnic or sexual orientation or other prejudices.

Circuit Judge J. Leonard Fleet of Fort

Perspective

controversy.

The OGC is a dues-paying member of the Arts Services Council (ASC), which each month bought two pages in Center Stage to announce that activities of its members. (The ASC's board of directors has voted to quit buying advertising in the newspaper.) What Ms. Johnston has said, is that Center Stage will accept your money, but it will control what you say on those two pages – even if it relates to public performances.

It is apparent that this publication will note works to be performed or displayed that were created by homosexual artists, but will refuse to acknowledge the performer if he or she fails to meet Center Stage's standards of correct sexual orientation. This is a most unusual criteria for an arts critic or promoter

Elsewhere in this issue, Center Fold editor Michael Sopoliga, has commented on the creative spirits of gay people throughout the span of history. Playwrights, sculptors, painters, poets, musicians and writers in great part have risen from the gay community. The genius of the arts has blossomed from the creative minds of gay people capable of seeing a whole world. The narrow little minds of groups like the American family Association and State Attorney John Tanner have promoted thought control and created nothing but oppression.

Now a little publication in Maitland has joined this group of ignoble bigots.

How unfortunate these self-appointed censors have chosen to become moral arbiters; how sad that they have lost sight of the job they set out to do: presentation of the arts to the Central Florida community.

How gratifying that the gay and lesbian community has finally stood tall and said, "No more! We will no longer bear the weight of dishonor and humiliation that others have assigned us. We are a creative and productive people, and we will proudly present ourselves to the world."

Lauderdale declared the law unconstitutional on April 20 saying its ambiguity could violate freedom of speech and association with other people.

The measure approved June 1 in the special legislative session makes the law more specific by requiring it to be proven beyond doubt that the crime was motivated by hate before the stiffer penalty can be imposed.

The bill is moving to the full House for further action. You are encouraged to write to your representative urging passage of this bill. Just check the blue pages of your phone book for the name and address of your representative.

– Michael J. Sopoliga

Eckerd's Fills AFA's Prescription for Homophobia

By Patrick Edwards The Gazette

TAMPA - The southeast's largest drugstore chain, intimidated by threats from the American Family Association (AFA), has withdrawn its advertising from the daily news and talk show, Eye On Tampa Bay. Eckerd Drug advertising representative, Julie Gardner, confirms that the popular issue oriented talk show, "no longer meets the company's sponsorship guidelines for 'appropriate' broadcast material." She would not say when these guidelines were adopted.

Kathy Fountain, WTVT-Channel 13 news anchor and host of Eye On Tampa Bay, first attracted the ire of David Caton, president of the Florida chapter of the AFA, when she agreed to be the guest speaker for the December meeting of the Tampa Bay Business Guild.

Caton accused Fountain of "coming out of the closet, at least to the extent that she is taking a more blatant position in support of homosexual activism." Caton, a self- proclaimed sex and pornography addict, also objected to the sexual theme of two of Fountain's Eye On Tampa Bay shows, one on gay adoptive parents and one about female impersonators. Fountain told the audience at the Guild meeting that "being on the receiving end of this kind of intimidation gives me a better understanding of what gays and lesbians must live with every day." She said she offered to present the same program she gave at the guild to the AFA but never received a reply.

Caton's newsletter regularly encourages letter-writing campaigns to scare advertisers away from gay-positive television show and media. One such campaign caused ABC to vow to never re-run the realistic Thirtysomething episode showing two men in a post-coital conversation. In September, the tactic backfired when the AFA threatened Gazette advertisers and advertising increased 40 percent.

To express your opinion: Stewart Turley, CEO, Eckerd Drugs, 8333 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, Fla. 34647.

Heard Any Good Gay-Bashing Jokes Lately?

Dear Readers,

I would appreciate hearing about your experiences and ideas related to gaybashing jokes. Several months ago someone wrote to me about this issue, but I wanted to carefully consider the various sides of it before responding.

Recently, just prior to a group therapy session on sexuality issues, a client said he wanted to share a joke.

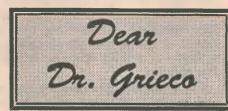
"Two gay guys were playing a game in a bathroom," he began. "Hold it," I said. "Is this a gay-bashing

"No," he reassured me and continued. "One gay asks the other to close his eyes and guess what objects are being inserted anally. 'Oh, that's a banana' was the first response. Then and that's a broom handle!' was the next response. Then the inserter picks up a ... oh, what do you call those suction things beside the toilet?"

"A plunger?" I offered.

"Oh, so you've played this game before?!"

OK, I laughed, but reflecting upon it later, I felt it did play on the remaining social stigma against homosexuals. The premise, in part at least, is "You don't want to be perceived, as a homosexual do



On the other hand, if you are gay and out, and someone erroneously attributes heterosexuality to you, you might correct that impression.

And I've heard some gays make heterobashing jokes about the "breeders." Although most jokes are implicitly aggressive in that they have a butt, humor also can serve as a coping mechanism. When we are able to not take ourselves so seriously, to step back and chuckle at irony, slapstick and double entendres, the perspective gained can be healing.

Some jokes, however, unforgivably cross the line from provocative to sadistic. Please let me learn from your efforts to define this boundary and how you have handled situations that did deeply offend.

Write to me at the following address, and I will summarize responses in a future column: Alan Grieco, Ph.D., 2255 N. Lakemont Ave., Suite 207, Winter Park, Fla. 32792.

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Pride Picnic '92: A Proud Day

By Laurence Sheldon Center Fold Staff Writer

Orlando's Pride events during June would be incomplete without the eagerly awaited Pride Picnic. As usual, it was Camp Heronwood. As usual, it was a huge success.

According to GLCS Board Member Lee Moody, attendance was well over 1,100 people. Probably the youngest picnicker was a beautiful 7-week-old blonde baby girl who will undoubtedly turn heads when she grows up. Let's just say that the other end of the spectrum, there were a few "more experienced" men and women. Age certainly had nothing to do with the fun and entertainment, however.

Even the weatherman cooperated. The day started with high temperatures and humidity. As a heavy storm passed by, the temperature dropped and it became much more comfortable. Surrounding areas of Seminole County were drenched by the storm, but we got only a small, short rainstorm. Maybe the weatherman

As usual, several groups set up fundraising booths. Gay and Lesbian Community Services (GLCS) served again as the host for the picnic. Other groups participating were Hope and Help, CENTAUR, Joy MCC, P/FLAG, and even a group from AT&T. Food, T-shirts, buttons, drinks, books and other gay- and lesbian-oriented materials were available.

Toward the end of the afternoon, John Rose presented a plaque to Phyllis Murphy who this year was a co-chair for the Pride Parade.

GLCS President David Bain also made a welcoming speech. Bain made a point to

welcome Tom Woodard who was successful in requesting reinstatement to and back pay for his job as a deputy with the Orange County Sheriff's Department. Bain also discussed the recent difficulty with Pizza Hut as first reported in The Center Fold and the company's apparent anti-gay stance. After the matter was brought to the attention of Pizza Hut's district office, it contacted GLCS and asked what the company could do to make amends. Bain had an immediate answer: come to our Pride Picnic. Pizza Hut girded its loins, so to speak and came to the picnic.

Nadine Smith, the national co-hair for the March on Washington in April 1993, also was presented. Smith, who lives in Tampa, explained that she was here to help Central Florida gay and lesbian residents raise funds for transportation and housing in the Washington, D.C,. area during the week long activities.

The Center Fold does not have enough space to list the various activities that took place during the picnic, Look for more Pride Month reporting in the August issue. Those who were sportsoriented found volleyball and softball games, tugs-of-war and swimming.

For the more sedentary types, the sun provided plenty of rays for sun bathing. Many people brought their own food and drink and for those who chose not to, food and drink booths were always ready to help out. The moral of the story is that the weather will never spoil a Pride Picnic as long as Central Florida gay and lesbian funseekers attend the festivities. Our pride will always protect us from the weather as well as other hostile elements, weather or otherwise.

Scott Laurent Galleries Hosts Gala Exhibit

By Laurence Sheldon Center Fold Staff Writer

The rains came and so did 300 art lovers when Scott Laurent Galleries hosted the opening of its latest show "In celebration of the Male Form" on June 12. The gallery was packed even though the weather was uncooperative. The show, an integral part of the Pride Month celebrations, was a joint fund raiser for the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International Inc. and the Gay and Lesbian Community Services.

The main pieces of art were collected by a local businessman, who allowed the gallery to exhibit his pieces, which according to gallery co-owner Scott Alles, took over seven years to put together. The general consensus of the art patrons was that the collection of photographs was controversial and beautiful. Small groups

of people gathered in front of various photographs discussing the merits of the poses, lighting, as well as the sexual content. Works by the late Robert Mapplethrope were prominently displayed as well as others by Bruce Weber, David La Chapelle, Andy Warhol and Jon Reich. Artist Andy Devine attended the opening, accompanied by several of his models.

Besides the art work on display, there was also a silent auction of vases, objets d'art and jewelry. Gallery co-owners Scott Alles and Larry Nicastro have been steadfast supporters of the gay and lesbian community for several years. Their financial support and generosity has not been overlooked.

The Scott Laurent Galleries is located at 533 N. Virginia Ave. in Winter Park. Any visit there will bring pleasure because you're almost sure to find something there that will capture your interest.

Coming in the August Center Fold: A Special Souvenir Pull-Out Section Commemorating Pride Month 1992

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JULY....

GLCS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ì	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	June 28	June 29 6:00pm Ita Youth Alliance Rap Group 7:30pm Circle of Healing	June 30 7:30pm Rap Group	July 1 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	July 2 7:00pm Safer Sex Seminar 7:00pm "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom" Benefit at PH 7:30pm CODACo- Dependents Anonymous	July 3 7:00pm Movie Night: "The Rainbow"	July 4 JULY 4th THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY
	July 5 7:00pm FantasiaTransvestite/ Transexual Support Group	July 6 6:00pm Delfa Youth Alliance Rap Group 7:00pm GLCS Board Meeting 7:30pm Circle of Healing 7:30pm Singles Group	July 7 7:30pm Rap Group	July 8 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	July 9 7:00pm MBA- Big Bang 7:30pm CODA- Co-Dependents Anonymous	July 10 7:00pm Movie Night: "Prick Up Your Ears" 7:00pm Committed Couples Network 7:30pm GLPCI Parents Rap Group	July 11 The Center is OPEN-Noon to 5:00 PM 3:00pm Zion Free Catholic Church Service
	July 12	July 13 6.00pm Delta Youth Alliance Rap Group 7:30pm Circle of Healing 7:30pm Boat & Scuba Central 9:15pm Gay Skate	July 14 7:30pm Rap Group 7:30pm Coming Out Group	July 15 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	July 16 7:30pm CODA— Co-Dependents Anonymous	July 17 7:00pm Movie Night: "Andre's Mother" & "Brothers" 7:30pm Deaf & Hearing Impaired Group	July 18 The Center is OPEN Noon to 5:00 PM 3:00pm Zion Free Catholic Church Service 3:00pm Gay & Lesbian Science Fiction Club
	July 19 7:00pm FantasiaTransvestite/ Transexual Support Group 7:00pm Dignity	July 20 5:00pm Delta Youth Alliance Rap Group 7:00pm GLCS Board Meeting 7:30pm Singles Group 7:30pm Circle of Healing	July 21 7:30pm Rap Group 7:30pm Coming Out Group	July 22 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	July 23 7:30pm CODA— Co-Dependents Anonymous	July 24 7:00pm Movie Night: "Too Much Sun" 7:30pm Bisexual Support Group	July 25 The Center is OPEN-Noon to 5:00 PM 3:00pm Zion Free Catholic Church Service
	July 26	July 27 6:00pm Delta Youth Alliance Ran Group 7:30pm Circle of Healing 9:15pm Gay Skate	July 28 7:30pm Rap Group 7:30pm Coming Out Group	July 29 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	July 30 7:00pm MBA Board Meeting 7:30pm CODA Co-Dependents Anonymous	July 31 7:00pm Movie Night-"Chorus Line"	Aug 1 The Center is OPEN-Noon to 5:00 PM 3:00pm Zion Free Catholic Church Service
	Aug 2 7:00pm FantasiaTransvestite/ Transexual Support Group	Aug 3 6:00pm Delta Youth Alliance Rap Group 7:00pm GLCS Board Meeting 7:30pm Circle of Healing 7:30pm Singles Group	Aug 4 7:30pm Rap Group 7:30pm Coming Out Group	Aug 5 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Womyn Of GLCS	Aug 6 7:00pm Safer Sex Seminar 7:30pm CODA— Co-Dependents Anonymous	Aug 7 7:00pm Movie Night-"Come Back to the 5 & 10, Jimmy Dean"	Aug 8 The Center is OPEN-Noon to 5:00 PM 3:00pm Zion Free Catholic Church Service

Boxed Events occur outside the GLCS Center!! TATA ATALA A A ATALA A A ATALA A A ATALA A A ATALA ATA

6/23/1992

CALENDA OF **EVENTS** DESCRIPTIO

CODA is a group for co-depe Thursday nights. COMMITTED work is a social planning group fo the fourth Monday of every month a transvestite/transexual support gays and non-gays. GAYSKAT ages and held twice each mon Skateway. GLCS BOARD MEE to the public and are held on the Mondays of every month. Any iten must be submitted at least 24 ho HEALING CIRCLE is back as Monday. MEN'S DISCUSSION OF GLCS are each general disc MOVIE NIGHT is every Friday other GLCS activities, there is no but donations will always be grate RAP GROUP is a mixed discussion and women. SINGLES GROUP o meets the third Monday of every m RAP and all other Delta Youth Al take place off-site and are open on olds. DEAF AND HEARING GROUP meets the third Friday **BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROU** fourth Friday of every month. (GLCS for information on any of

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Analytic Associates, 1850 Lee Rd, Winter Park,470-8040 & 682-4822

√Stefan M. Lampe, Adult Psychiatry, 1330 W. Citizens Blvd., Suite 402, Leesburg (904) 360-1151

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✓ See display ad in this issue √✓GLCS business contributor

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Are Gays and Lesbians the Subtle Minority?

By Michael J. Sopoliga Managing Editor

re gays and lesbians the subtle minority? It seems that every day gay and lesbian issues are reported on in our local newspaper. Of course, the news is usually bad, depressing, frustrating or all of the above. There is no doubt that we are, in fact, a minority in this country.

However, we differ from other minorities in one important aspect. You see, other minorities stand out in the crowd. The blacks, Mexicans, Hispanics, Cubans, and others can be picked out of a crowd. They live in neighborhoods (some call them ghettoes). Therefore, the discrimination against these groups can be focused and well directed.

But gay people? We are so subtle that we blend in with heterosexuals, to a degree. We can mingle in with the crowd. We suffer discrimination, but it is only in the mind of those doing the discriminating. Think about it. We don't look different from others. We're not of color (those of us who are suffer double discrimination, a topic deserving further study), we don't experience the negative stereotyping that Mexican-Americans endure, for example. We don't live in ghettoes, so that it's not always "us against them," rich against poor.

No, the only fuel which fires up the furnaces of hate among non-gay people is

The Last Word

based solely on what we do in the bedroom – how we enjoy sex. Because some heterosexuals think that our sex is "dirty" and "perverse," we are fair game for discrimination and prejudice.

If that's the only reason someone like Tom Woodard was forced to resign from the Orange County Sheriff's Department, then it is a sad commentary on human nature. Yet this attitude is why, for example, two North Carolina Baptist churches were expelled from the flock for accepting homosexuals into their fold.

That is why candidates for Orange County Sheriff must tow the Religious Right's party line, if they want to be elected, by condemning what gays do in the bedroom.

I wonder why the same sexual behavior litmus test isn't applied to heterosexuals. Why haven't those running for sheriff, for example, been asked what kind of sexual practices they engage in with their wives! I would venture to guess that unless they use the missionary position exclusively, and only have sex in order to procreate, they would be deemed unqualified by the Religious Right to serve in public office.

But suppose it was disclosed that a sheriff's candidate had been seen having sex with his wife and some sexual "toy" was introduced, or that they engaged in oral sex, or that they liked whips and chains, or perhaps liked watching an X-rated video at the same time, should they be rejected by the public? Or suppose a candidate was impotent? How could he qualify for sheriff?

I can see it on the front page of the newspapers, or on the evening news: "Candidate for political office condemned because he had sex with his wife doggie style, and claimed they did it just for fun, not to have children!" This is as ludicrous as the justification for barring gay people from being teachers, law enforcement officers, or any other job just because of the way they satisfy their libidos

And then such groups as the Organization for the American Family Way of Life, or whatever they're called, says it opposes homosexuals because of their "lifestyle." These people say we can't be adoptive parents because we would corrupt the values of children. Children have no values. They are "taught" values. If their parents are homophobic, the children will also become homophobic, and so forth.

I think would make a great parent! Torch Song Trilogy comes to mind when I say that. My values are better than those of a lot of straight people. (More about that in a later issue.)

I guess the answer to this dilemma of how we protect our rights and end antigay bigotry is that we should not be so subtle anymore. We don't have to become political activists, or members of ACT-UP, but we have to thwart the efforts of those who are homophobic, bigoted and who think they can get away with discriminating against us. We can't let them do it! Expose any and every attempt at discrimination and hate directed against you or a friend. We took on Pizza Hut, we're taking on Center Stage Magazine, and we'll take on anyone else who wants to deny us our freedom to be ourselves. Anything else would spell defeat.

did not choose to write a column last month, especially as it was Pride Month and all. I told them that my work got the best of me, as well as down-right fatigue. As a writer, I must have the urge to write. Contrary to what you might think, I don't crank this stuff out. I write about things which concern me, and our community. Let's just say that I took the month off to

Quote of the Month

"The [gay] lifestyle is mostly a choice, and the model for Americans ought to be a man and a woman who are married." - Vice President Dan Quayle's response when asked to comment on homosexuality.

plan for better issues of *The Center Fold* in coming months.

Now that that's out of the way, I hope our readers are pleased with the content of the paper. As I said in the past, I am striving to make *The Center Fold* the newspaper of choice among those looking for more than just weekly news stories and bar activities. Speaking of writers, I am encouraged by the number of individuals who would like to either write or assist in the publication of *The Center Fold*. You'll be seeing them in the August issue, along with many interesting stories about our community.

The Center Fold is proud of, what it calls, its "brainchild," which has become the Metropolitan Business Association (MBA). A few months back, I stressed the need to form a business guild similar to those in other parts of the state.

Business clout is something which many individuals, especially politicians, listen to. If we are to expand our voice in our community, we must do so in all aspects, and gay-owned or -operated businesses can have a great deal of clout. The Center Fold is pleased by the tremendous enthusiasm with which the MBA has been greeted by the local gay private sector. As managing editor of The Center Fold, I hope the MBA's growth is steady, and that the benefits for our community will be felt in the months to come.

Also, watch for the new MBA business page, coming soon in *The Center Fold*. Let's support those businesses that are members.

Coming Next Month:

- · Ways to deal with homophobia;
- How to respond to ignorant zealots, religious and otherwise;
- Also, waiting for Perot: deliverer or demagogue?

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News, Feature and Opinion Writers for the Center Fold.

Submit articles to *The Center Fold*, 750 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando, Fla. 32804, attn.: Michael Sopoliga, managing editor.

For more information, call (407) 425-7450 and leave a message.



'Bar Dykes' Scores Triumph

By Cornelius Van Pelt Center Fold Theater Critic

When the invisible curtains opened on Act Out Theater's May production of *Bar Dykes*, the scene revealed a dimly lit, sleazy looking bar that could have been found in any city at any time in recent bar history.

Whether straight or gay, we've all visited similar bars. We all know the silence, the heavy, smoke-filled air, the loneliness, the characterless and impersonalness that fills these bars. We have them aplenty in Central Florida.

It wasn't until a wide array of patrons, all women, began drifting, lurching, hurrying and scurrying and snuggling along to the front door that things began to change. Slowly at first, then with a quickening pace, as the 11 well-drawn female characters came fully to life.

During the ensuing 45 minutes of this hilarious one-act play, these diverse lives came into wonderful focus for sold-out audiences, night after night.

Bar Dykes presented its audiences with a fun-filled evening that looked at lesbian bar cruising during the 1950s. However, judging from the audience reaction the night we attended the production, the action could have taken place anytime between the '50s and the early '90s. The audience (split two-thirds, one third between

women and men) lapped it up. It was timeless.

So were the characters. From prototypical butch "dyke types" (in both petite and large sizes), to bitchy lovers, to quasi-hustlers, to hangers-on and "wanna-bes," to "femmes" to school-marmish nerds, to the bar regulars and "ain't she special" newcomers, Bar Dykes seemed to cover the spectrum of lesbians out for a cruising night on the town.

As written, the characters were distinctive; as played by the 11 talented women, the characters became fullblown, recognizable individuals, many of whom will remain well-etched in our memories.

Two males, playing straight, hardened and totally unsympathetic local cops, completed the cast. Tall, macho, commanding, muscular, leathery and "tough as nails" Bob Thurman, who (along with his partner in bigotry) roughed up petite lesbians with glee quite realistically, was loudly booed during curtain calls (not surprisingly). It was a logical and symbolic finale to the evening's theatrics.

The plot of *Bar Dykes* is simple. "In the 1950s, when lesbian images were distinctly 'butch' or 'femme', several women meet, cruise and explore their sexuality in a typical bar of the era."

It is a "slice-of-life play, where the audience witnesses one moment in time." There were no great revelations in the plot; no characters were changed by the development of other characters.

The audience simply peers in through the keyhole of a dark, dingy, brooding lesbian bar to watch an evening, not untypical of today's gay and lesbian bars, where

ageless characters act out timeless roles.

Bar Dykes first played at the Theatre Rhinoceros in San Francisco in the late 1970s. Originally scheduled as a short-term production, it was held over to standing-room-only crowds for multi-weeks.

As directed by Lew Routh, founder and director of Act Out Theater, *Bar Dykes* enjoyed sold-out audiences for all six performances. It's too bad the production couldn't have been extended. Not only was it popular, but also it was a highlight of Act Out's 1991-1992 season.

Act Out Announces
Future Productions
- See Page 2

Above: The cast of 'Bar Dykes.' From left to right, Jennifer Burrill (Loraine), Jacque Matthews (Linda), Maria Sinclair (Sherry), Christine Smith (Trick), Debbie Barretta (Bette), Mary Walters (Elaine), Catherine Goodison (Rusty), Ruth Hoglin (Cynthia) and Ginny Edwards (Joyce). Not pictured: Terry Wolfe (Bo) and Becky Case (Cindy); crew: Ginny Whitehead, lights; Stacey Shore, sound; Debbie Dean and Claudette Bettencourt, props.

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7:30 P.M. PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) MEETS THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE FIRST UNITED METH-ODIST CHURCH, WESLEY BLDG, THE PUBLIC IS WELCOMETO ATTEND THE PROGRAM PORTION OF THE EVENING. THE RAP GROUP IS OPEN ONLY TO PARENTS AND MEMBERS. ALLENE BAUS AFTER 6:30 P.M. (407) 896-0689.

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THURSDAYS

TION MEETS THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT VARIOUS BUSINESSES LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY. (407)425-

6:30 P.M. PROJECT RESPONSE HOLDS A POT LUCK AND SOCIAL THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN NORTH BREVARD COUNTY. IT HAPPENS AT THE UNITARIAN CHURCH ON MINTON ROAD. (407) 242-0352. 7:00 P.M. CENTAUR HOLDS NAMES PROJECT QUILT NIGHT UNTIL 9 P.M. EVERY THURSDAY EVENING. (407) 849-1452.

7:30 P.M. THE HOPE & HELP SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV-POSITIVE PERSONS AND CAREGIVERS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING. (407) 894-1992. 7:30 P.M. THE FIGHT FOR LIFE AIDS SUPPORT GROUP IN KISSIMMEE MEETS EVERY THRUSDAY. (407) 846-0456.

FRIDAYS

7:00 P.M. AEGIS OF BREVARD HOLDS A MEET-ING EVERY FRIDAY FOR HIV POSITIVES AT THE AEGIS OFFICE, 200 N. 1ST ST., COCOA BEACH. (407) 784-3063

7:30 P.M. THE JOY MCC SINGLES GROUP MEETS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE MARK CARDWELL HALL FOR A FRIENDLY GET-TOGETHER. (407) 894-1081.

7:30 P.M. GAY & LESBIAN PARENTS COALITION PARENT'S RAP 2ND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH 750 W. COLONIAL DRIVE, (407) 420-2191.

SATURDAYS

2:00 P.M. AREA (AIDS RESOURCE, EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE) HOLDS RAP GROUPS THE SECOND AND FOURTH SATURDAYS OF THE

OPEN GAY & LESBIAN PARENTS COALITION SOCIAL MEETINGS 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH. KID'S DAY 4TH SATURDAY WITH OUTINGS FOR THE KIDS.(407)420-2191.

OPEN THE LOCAL ORGANIZATION OF GAY/ LESBIAN OCALA (LOGO) HOLDS A GENERAL MEETING THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH (904) 620-0157.

CALENDAR

JULY 1992

<u>SUNDAYS</u>

10:30 A.M. & 7:15 P.M. <u>JOY MCC</u> SUNDAY WOR-SHIP SERVICES ..(407) 894-1081 .

2:00 P.M. THE BLACKSTARLEVI/LEATHERCLUB MEETS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE FULL MOON SALOON. MICHAEL (407) 420-2787

5:00 P.M. THE NEW CREATION CHURCH, A CHRISTIAN CHURCH "WHERE EVERYONE IS AL-WAYSWELCOME" HOLDSSERVICES EVERYSUN-DAY AFTERNOON AT 1815 E. ROBINSON STREET. (407)236-9188.

7:00 P.M. <u>HOPE MCC</u> HOLDS SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AT FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 56 N. HALIFAX, ORMOND BEACH. (904) 676-1030.

7:00 P.M. BREAKING THESILENCE MCC IN BRE-VARD HOLDS SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT THE UNITARIAN CHURCH, 1261 RANGE RD., COCOA. (407) 254-5884

TO HAVE YOUR GROUP'S MEETINGS AND SPE-CIAL EVENTS LISTED IN THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, SEND INFO. TO: THE CENTER FOLD, ATTN. CALENDAR SECTION, P.O. BOX 533446, ORLANDO, FL 32853. INCLUDE DAY, TIME, ORGANIZATION, AND PHONE FOR EACH LISTING. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMIS SIONS IS THE SECOND FRIDAY OF EVERY

COMMCAL.PM4

CLASSIFIEDS, from Page 11

ORLANDO AREA GWM

27, 5'10", 140 lbs., Br/Br, moustache, hopeless romantic, seeks honest GWM 25-32 for friendship/relationship. Not into bar scene, drugs, mind games, boozers, losers, fems. Person must enjoy animals, qulet evenings at home, and good times in life. Letter/photo (optional)/phone to P.O. Box 915553, Longwood, FL 32791-5553.

HANDSOME, ASSERTIVE PROFESSIONAL

6', 165 lbs., blonde needs slender romantic young friend, hopefully more. Enjoy sailing, diving, biking, skating, and other safe pleasures (407) 685-6758.

GWM, 33

6'1", seeks good-looking same, 25-35, for possible relationship. Enjoy quiet evenings and life to its fullest. Photo/phone/letter. J.P., 2659 Carolyn Ave., Orlando, FL 32810.

GWF

very fem., looking for Butch type female. 26-39, professional, for friendship, penpal, relationship. Honest good communication, like to play pool, walk on beach; Original Creations, 1216 Spartan Ave, Port Orange, FL

GWM, 38

6 ft., 225 lbs., brown hair/blue eyes, seeks sincere GWM, 32-38, for friendshiprelationship. Not into bar scene or drugs. I enjoy quiet evenings at home and romantic dinners. Letter/photo/phone, gets you mine. 528 Daniels Ave. Orlando, FL 32801.

GWM, 34,

5'8", 127 ibs., Br/Br, hopeless romantic, seeks sincere GWM, 25-36, for friendship-relationship. Not into bar scene, smokers, drugs, head games, fats, fems, losers, etc. Likes quiet evenings at home, movies candlelight dinners, and life in general. Letter, photo/phone to P.O. Box 692142 Orlando, FL 32869-2142

GWF, 31

Seeks romantic, down-to-earth female, 28-35, for friendship/sincere relationship. Interests include beach, fishing, sports, music, and weekend getaways. P.O. Box 450205, Kissimmee, FL 34745

ROOMMATE WANTED PINE HILLS

to share 3BR/1 1/2 BA home in Pine Hills just outside of Rosemont. Rent includes partially furnished bedroom, washer and all utilities except long distance phone charges. The room will be available June 1. References required. Security deposit \$150/\$300 mo. LeJune (407) 897-5920 (days), 236-9480 (messages).

SOUTH WEST ORLANDO (CONWAY AREA)

Roommate wanted; Male, smokers OK. \$240/mo. (Incl. utilities), no pets. Robert (after 4 p.m.), (407) 857-0465.

MALE OR FEMALE

\$315/mo. includes all utilities. 3 becroom home with large backyard. Jeff or Mike, (407) 299-3291.

SOUTHWEST ORLANDO

available Aug. 1. 3 br, 2 ba, great room, master abth with garden tub, track lighting, ceiling fans, privacy fenced back yard, washer/dryer hook-up, 2 car garage w/ auto opener, 1 1/2 years new, stucco Fiorida style home for \$850/mo. (407) 240-4316 now! This won't last!!

WHEELCHAIR BOUND YOUNG GWM

(just coming out) wants to meet other people for friendship and possible relationship call evenings. Louis, (407) 297-1775

HOUSING WANTED OR FOR RENT

GWM, 19, SEEKS GWM ROOMMATE 18-25. UCF area. Smokers OK, no Drugs. Andrew (407) 282-2368.

NEED IMMEDIATE HOUSING

able to pay \$65 per week. Downtown or southeast area preferred. M/F roommates OK. Move in date 7/1/92. Rick Brumell (407) 381-

STABLE LESBIAN WITH SMALL DOG

would like home to share with same. Clean, non-smoker, drug-free a must. Downtown or College Park area. \$250/mo. range. (407) 898-

GWF LOOKING FOR ROOMMATE

or apt. to share; preferably GF but male OK! Location & rent are negotiable; need housing imme-diately, call anytime. Debbie (407) 682-

UCF AREA

want to share an apt. w/2-3 other gay or nongay students - need to move in at the latest July 10, 1992. \$200-\$250/mo. Mitch Meiners (407) 841-9304.

SEEKING ROOMMATE

1 block N. of Southern Nights. Unfurnished; responsible, employed single/couple, male or female, non-smoker preferred. Leave message w/Laurie Clark (407) 896-9133 \$225/mo. +1/2 util.

CONDO: 2BD/2BR

\$245/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Tennis, pool, rec center, cable, micro, W/D. S.W. Orlando. Smokers OK. Responsible male or female. Bob (407) 649-4378.

FOR RENT: 2 BR, 1 1/2 BATH

townhouse. Eagles Glen in Deer Run. Microwave, dishwasher, washer/dryer, pool privileges. Available Aug. 1 \$595/mo. plus deposit, (407) 696-2701.

ROOMMATE WANTED

to share 3/2 home N.W. Orlando, \$350/mo. includes utilitles. No Drugs. (407) 290-9318.

ROOMMATE WANTED - LONGWOOD

GWM, 45, seeks 30ish pro, responsible male to share upscale 4 br/2 ba screened pool home in the Longwood area. \$500/mo. includes all. (407) 332-2434; will return call.

ROOMMATE - AIRPORT AREA

WM seeks responsible, masculine G/Bi male (28-45) to share 2 master BR/2 BA apt. Fireplace, screened patio, wooded view, W/D, cable, phone. \$250/mo. Call mornings: (407)381-3176.

ROOMMATE WANTED

3/2. Near airport. \$250/mo., includes utilities, washer/dryer, furnished, cable, HBO. Deposit:\$250. References re-quired. David, (407)382-6826.

436 & EAST/WEST AREA

nice pool home, W/D; great neighborhood; no smokers or drugs. \$250/mo.+ 1/3 utilities. (407)249-3917.

APT. FOR RENT OR HOUSE TO SHARE

Large home on small lake. Nice one brapt. or private room and bath. Utilities included. DeBary, near I-4; Rent negotiable. Call (407) 668-8301.

M/F ROOMMATE WANTED - ST. CLOUD

to share nice 3bd/2ba mobile home. No drugs, stable responsible. \$250/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Deposit & references. (407) 892-6092.

SHARE 3 BR, 2 BA HOME - UCF AREA.

2 rooms available. Must like cats, no children, -smoker, gay remale couple preferea. (407) 366-5040

S. DOWNTOWN ORLANDO

fun GWM, 28, seeks mature, employed M/F to share 2/2ba. apt. Access to Lk. Pineloch. W/D, smoker OK. Honest, stable person only. Available in June. \$100 deposit, \$290/mo. +

1/2 utilities. Call (407)422-7836.

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS

Rent a room in a large house in Altamonte Springs near Forrest Academy. \$275/mo. incl. util. Your own bedroom and share bath. Smokers OK, Call 774-9658

FURNISHED 1 BR APT.

util. included, take over lease (3 mo. expires Sept. 30.) \$469/ mo., quiet location, overlooking pool and tennis, Winter Park area. 436 & University Blvd. (407) 679-4198.

CONDO IN CASSELBERRY

non-smoker preferred, but not necessary. Mature, reliable male or female. \$250/mo. + 1/2 utilities - water, phone, electric, cable (approx. \$75/mo.). (407) 699-0547 (leave message).

2 BR, 1 BA HOUSE

needs roommate. \$300/mo., includes all utilities except long distance phone. No drugs, must be a pet lover (2 dogs).Located in the Altamonte area on 434 near Maitland/i-4 interchange. Large bedroom. Try before 9 a.m. and after midnight. (407) 297-1332.

EFFICIENCY APT. NEAR BASE

12' x 30'. Nicely furnished, decent neighbors. \$100/wk., includes electric, cable, pool, W/D, and tri-canine burglar system. Available 6/28/92. (407) 897-2073.

TWO ROOMS TO RENT IN HOUSE

Oakridge (S.W. Orlando) A/C, house privileges, washer/dryer, smokers OK. Owner has 2 dogs. Men or women welcome. \$350/mo. + \$100 deposit. (407) 363-1805

ROOMMATE WANTED - OFF GOLDENROD

near University. Share a 2 BR/2 BA mostly furnished condo. HIV+ OK; responsible easygoing non-smoker. \$275/mo + 1/2 utilities. Guy, (407) 671-7473.

ROOMMATE WANTED

Close to 1-4 -OBT-on Clear Lake. Swimming, and boating. 3 BR /2 BA home. Cable, HBO, A/C, furnished room, phone, washer, \$320.00 per month pays all. (407) 839-1046.

ROOMMATE WANTED DOWNTOWN

To share 3BR home near Michigan, and Orange Avenue. Non-smoker, furnished/unfurnished, private entrance, great area, professionals only, \$250/mo.; half utilities; Mark, (407) 841-8453

GWM SEEKS GWM OR GWF

to share 3/2 House. \$320/mo, util included. Pine Hills call Paul 294-5770

ROOMMATE NEEDED

to share new 3br/2 ba townhouse in Winter Garden. 15 minutes to Disney, w/d, cable, private 5 man hot tub spa - \$60 wk. + 1/3 util. Chuck (407) 656-6632.

SHARE MY HOME IN WINTER PARK

3 BR/2 BA, swimming pool, washer-dryer. All utilities included, smokers OK - no drugs, must have job and references, want GWM only. Me GWM. Call Richard M. Gentz (407) 679-4916 \$300/mo.

GWM NEEDS ROOMMATE

for beautiful executive home w/pool, jacuzzi. Utilities included, convenient to downtown. No pets, prefer non-smoker \$375/mo. Dennis McDonald (407) 277-3353

HOUSE IN LONGWOOD

30s professional male to share exec pool home. Your own bedroom, bath, cable and phone. House privileges non-smoker preferred, must like cats. \$350/mo. + 1/2 util. Wendy, (407) 869-4614, or write P.O. Box 915361, Longwood, FL 32791.

SHARE 3BR HOUSE NEAR WEKIVA SPRINGS

dryer. Big backyard pit grill. \$250/mo. + 1/2 util. Mellony, (407) 889-489, leave message.

HOUSE TO SHARE

3 BR/ 2 BA, 1/3 util, + \$170/mo., washer/dryer. no pets: Gav male non-smoker. Steve or Steven at (407) 740-8247.

FEMALE NEEDING TO RENT ROOM

or share apartment with other female only. Needed for June, or July. Will discuss any price. Sandy Adams, (407) 332-0644, or 332-

SPECIAL INTEREST

SPECIAL INTEREST

GLCS needs licensed mental health counselors to volunteer for our inhouse counseling program. Those interested, please leave a message at The Center for John Rose, (407) 425-4527.

BISEXUALS!

Now we have a support group for you! Come join in. Meetings at The Center the 4th Friday each month at 7:30.

FUN? ROMANCE?

Stop wasting your time and money going out on nights when nothing exciting will happen to you! Find out NOW which specific nights will be personally ideal for you to find fun and romance. Amazingly accurate! Only \$10/6 mos. Order now! Send birthdate, time, city. Cash only: Starpower, 1815 Green Meadow Lane, Orlando, FL 32825.

FREE COCKER SPANIEL

Free to a good home; 4-yr. old black neutered male cocker; housetrained, great personality. Jon, 291-3056, anytime.

BOAT AND SCUBA CENTRAL

a recreational group formed to bring together gay men and women who enjoy salling, power boating, and scuba diving, holds monthly events, meets on 2nd Monday In July at 7:30. Howard Eisner, (904) 742-8122

DEAF & HEARING IMPAIRED

Join other "signers" at The Center on the 3rd Friday each month at 7:30; TDD, 425-4527.

HISPANIC SOCIAL GROUP

New group forming at GLCS! Meeting the 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m. All gays/lesbians/bisexuals who know Spanish welcome. Dimitrius, 348-3893 for more info.

CLASSIFIED AD INSTRUCTIONS

When you advertise in The Center Fold under the classifications Friendships/Relationships, Housing Wanted or For Rent, Employment Wanted and Employment Available and your word count is 30 or less, your ad is FREE. Each additional word over 30 is 20 cents.

ALL other classifications are \$10.00 for 30 words. Each additional word over 30 is 10 cents. A border around your ad is

HOW TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD IN THE CENTER FOLD

an additional \$2.00

On a separate piece of paper, type or print your ad. Mark down the classification you want. Include your name, address and telephone number in case we need to verify your ad. Please make your check or money order payable to The Center Fold. Mail your ad and payment to: THE CENTER FOLD CLASSIFIEDS, P.O. Box 533446, Orlando, FL 32853-3446. The deadline is the 15th of each month. We also have classifications for Services, For Sale and Miscellaneous. We reserve the right to refuse or edit classified



4408 N.O.B.T Orlando (407) 294-1919

380 Semoran Commerce Plaza, Apopka (407) 880-1602

MASTERCARD/VISA ACCEPTED

Videos Magazines Leather Lingerie



Open 10AM to 2AM Largest Selection of Gay Videos and Magazines in Orlando

By: Robert Patrick Friday and Saturday July 7,8,14,15,21 & 22 **Auditions** 6PM-8PM Sunday July 12 2 character play 1 older male 1 younger male reservations and information 677-5407

Church Chat

Local Church Gets New Name

The congregation of the Family That Cares Church recently voted to change the name of our church to the New Creations Church.

We are starting new and exciting activities as we are a growing church and still spread the word of Christ within our community.

On May 23 we had a successful turn out with a few different friends and shared a smile or two. On May 24 the Rev. Joe Whitley met with us at New Creations and had a wonderfully and touching speech and seminar for our congregation. Joe is a candidate for our new pastor; he is presently pastoring in Augusta, Ga.

The We Care Rap Group meets every two weeks, Wednesday evenings atvarious locations. The group has been successful, thanks to the love and the caring that we, as a church continue to reach out, in order to strive what the Lord has always taught us to do: To love thy brothers and sisters, to help one another.

These are tough times we are going through; let us help you with the most beautiful love that we could ever imagine, the love of Jesus Christ. We meet every Sunday at 5 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 1815 E. Robinson St., Orlando. For more information, call (407) 236-9156.

Please join us for prayer and fellowship this Sunday. God bless and keep you.

Sincerely, Billy Green

THE FAMILY THAT CARES CHURCH

Regardless of what you may have heard, The Family That Cares Church is alive and well, and busy being about the work of the Lord.

Due to many requests, we have reorganized and re-located, at 4:30 p.m. each Sunday at 200 N. Denning Drive, Room 3A, Winter Park. If you are interested in God-filled, Spirit-filled church where the board of directors is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - and the only by-laws are found in the Holy Bible - we invite you to come and worship with us. We will be doing Bible studies and are planning many Fellowship

For further information on our Church and to let us know how we can be of help to you, please call 365-3762. We are here to serve God through you!!

The Rev. Mary Jo Gunn, pastor

Ron Romanovsky **Debuts First** Solo Release

LOS ANGELES - Fresh Fruit Records is proud to announce the release of Hopeful Romantic, the debut solo album by Ron Romanovsky.

Hopeful Romantic was produced by Bay Area singer/producer Teresa Tull and contains 12 original songs written by Romanovsky from 1979 to the present. Best described as "a romantic album with moments of comic relief," Hopeful Romantic runs the gamut from pop tunes such as "The Telephone Company Loves Me" (a long-distance love song) to the eccentric and hilarious "I Like To Polka," and from the dark and introspective "Battle Scars" to the comic folk-swing sound of "Sacrifices." Also included are two gorgeous collaborations with John Bucchino and Tom Wilson Weinberg.

Hopeful Romantic is available on compact disc cassette at better record and bookstores. It can also be ordered directly from Fresh Fruit Records, 369 Montezuma, #209, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501 or by calling 1 (800) 47-FRUIT (1 [800] 473-

Founded in 1984 by Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips, Fresh Fruit Records is a pioneer in promoting the gay and lesbian music genre. Fresh Fruit Records currently distributes releases by Michael Callen, Tom Wilson Weinberg and the Flirtations.

Local Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition Chapter to Attend Conference in Indianapolis

Conferencewill be held in Indianapolis from July 2-5.

We have 14 adults and children from the Central Florida chapter planning to

Several social events are planned, including a family picnic featuring the premiere of a mini-play presented by the vastly talented members of the Central Florida chapter.

Throughout the weekend the adults us at (407) 420-2191.

The GLPCI Annual International will have the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops, the children (ages 6©12) will be escorted to the Indianapolis Children's Museum and other fun places, and the youth (13+) will run their own conference.

> On July 10, at 7:30 p.m. the Parents Rap Group (adults only) meets at GLCS, 750 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando. On July 18, 7 p.m. we will hold our social/support meeting. For more information please call

Scholar Offers a Linguistic Analysis of Gay Male Slang Terms

By Yoshi Fujiwara Special to The Center Fold

ecently, I graduated from the University of Central Florida with a bachelor of arts degree in English. My concentration was in linguistics.

In some of the linguistics courses I had taken, I learned about a number of words and expressions that originated in subculture lingoes: gambling, slave trade, sports terms, political talks, and occupational jargons. I had never heard of, however, nor thought about homosexual influences on the "standard" English lexicon until I saw the documentary film Paris is Burning last August. The verbal communication among black homosexuals in the film intrigued me, a linguistics major. For a person who didn't even know what flaming meant not too long ago, such entertaining terms as reading, shade and mopping in Paris were

Except for the rare exception of "vogue"/"vogueing," male homosexual slang shares very few terms with the heterosexual lexicon, standard or slang. It is said that "vogueing" was started in the 1960s by Harlem transvestites who mocked Seventh Avenue. Of course until the 1990 hit song "vogue" by Madonna, "vogueing" belonged mainly to urban black male homosexuals.

In the 1930s, black slang terms such as "cool" and "jive" migrated into the white vocabulary through jazz in spite of segregation. Homosexuals never had such a vehicle. For "vogue"/vogueing," Madonna was the vehicle that made the terms clean and allowed them to successfully migrate into the mainstream heterosexual culture. Some homosexual slang terms might migrate into the heterosexual vocabulary, but they are most likely to stay as slang terms.

Society's attitude toward homosexuality is one obstacle, but the main block that prevents homosexual influences on "mainstream" English is the nature of slang itself. Slang - meaning a type of language, but not an individual expression - indicates the membership to a group or a subculture which does not go along with social conventions. Subculture groups are formed to pursue the special interests of their members. Therefore, each subculture slang has a special emphases on things social con-

In the male homosexual slang, the abundance of terms or euphemisms for the male genitals, buttocks and different types of "queens" demonstrates such matters of homosexual interest.

The following discussion of gay terms is based on a term paper I wrote in November 1991 for a graduate level linguistics course. The majority of terms came from two main contributors whom I interviewed. I also had gay friends as minor contributors, who had agreed and disagreed with definitions of gay terms from the two

contributors. Such variations of definitions are typical in defining slang terms because a slang term can mean different things for different people; sometimes the difference is minor, but occasionally a slang term can have two conflicting definitions. If the definition were written on stone, however, it would not be a slang term.

 Boys/Men: Chicken is a general term for a young teenage boy, from a chicken hawk's sexually interested point of view. From a young gay man's sexually uninterested point of view, an old gay man is called a troll. Another term, yet less established, for a young boy is a blue boy.

A teddy bear is a hairy man. A chubby chaser is a gay man who prefers heavy men. Butch, as acknowledged by several slang dictionaries, is originally a lesbian term. It is generally used positively among male homosexuals, and it refers to a gay man who is (very) masculine. One of my main contributors, however, told me that the word is negatively used as in butch girl - meaning a gay man who is trying to be straight.

A harlot, or a hussy, is a sexually active gay man. (Harlot is originally a word for a female prostitute, and hussy is for a woman of low morals.) A trick is a casual sex partner, usually a one-night stand.

· Common Expressions: To read your beads means "to tell someone off." Fluff yourself is a command meaning "straighten up." Your hells (or pumps) are too high means "you are being very bitchy (or obnoxious)." To trip (one's) trigger means to make someone sexually aroused.

 Terms for Effeminate Male Homosexuals: Swish, flamer and limp wrist are terms that are used negatively. All of them mean the same thing: a gay who is extremely feminine.

A nelly (also spelled nellie), according to one of my main contributors, is a negatively used term meaning a "big sissy." Originally, it meant an "old cow," and it was a farm term.

According to a slang dictionary, it means "a homosexual male," a scream is a "naturally flaming" gay man, I was informed; and the adjective screaming means flaming, or being obviously gay.

• Euphemism for Buttocks: Buns and cookies refer to the male buttocks. A bubble butt means one's big, round buttocks.

• Euphemisms for Monogamous Homosexual Partners: Roommate, the significant other, and social unit.

· General Terms of Address: Girl, girlfriend, Miss Thing, Miss Woman, Mary, Mary-Louise (or any other common names for women such as Martha, Bettie), mother, and sister (a close gay friend).

• Terms for Queens: According to one of my main contributors, technically speaking, a gay man can be called a queen only after his mother's death; until then he should be called a princess. No other gay man I met for the research knew this information. Similarly, no slang dicqueen either just a male homosexual or a box. The term meat market (not necessarily passive male homosexual; yet my a gay term) is a metaphor. Deals are made

According to one of my main contributors ... a gay man can be called a queen only after his mother's death; until then he should be called a princess. No other gay man I met for the research knew this information.

impression is that the term queen itself is basically a generic term for a male homosexual

There are, however, a number of different types of queens. A closet queen is a gay man who hasn't come out yet. A drag queen is almost a generic term for a female impersonator, or a transvestite (not a transsexual), but it can be used negatively by those who prefer masculine men. A helium queen is a passive gay man; the expression comes from the leg position in anal intercourse. A label queen is a gay man who prefers and wears name-brand clothes. A leather queen is a gay man who wears leather outfits and appears masculine, but is actually effeminate; this expression is used negatively. A size queen is a gay man who prefers well-endowed men. A starch queen is a gay man whose clothes are well-pressed; therefore, he is well-dressed.

 Slang Terms for Male Genitalia: A basket refers to the male genitals. This is a homosexual term which considers the male genitals as a package. A box means the same thing. The following Yiddish words refer to penis: schmuck, schlong and schmekel. According to one of my main contributors, who is a Jewish New Yorker, schlong is a big penis, and schmekel is a small penis. The term hung refers to a wellendowed penis, as well as to its owner.

 Terms from the "Wizard of Oz": There are at least three expressions that are used commonly among male homosexuals, which originated in the movie The Wizard of Oz.

When a man is referred as a friend of Dorothy, he is a gay man. We are not in Kansas anymore means "we are not dealing with gay people but straight," often used as a reminder or a caution

Variations of Be gone before somebody drops a house on you, too is used by gay men, meaning "Get out of here, quickly."

Some of the slang terms above may not be familiar to you, but, once again, that is due to the nature of subculture lingoes.

inguists use several terms to describe the various types of male homosexual slang terms:

 Self-explanatory. (In other words, they are obvious terms even I did not need explanations for.) Terms such as cut, uncut, top and bottom are simple and

• Metaphoric. Both basket and box are metaphoric terms because they regard the upon consent of sellers and buyers over things that are sold or traded. The adjectives screaming and flaming may be called metaphoric expressions because, for those who detest effeminacy, a man's displaying effeminate quality is like trying to catch negative attention from people. The negative use of the adjective gay falls into this category.

• Euphemistic. Calling buttocks buns or cookies is a euphemism. They are not metaphors because there is no obvious metaphoric schemes or mapping. A gay man's introducing his monogamous lover as his roommate to heterosexuals is another example of euphemism.

 Synecdochic. A limp wrist is a synecdoche (defined by The American Heritage Dictionary as "A figure of speech by which a more inclusive term is used for a less inclusive term or vice versa ...") for a gay man's effeminacy. When the term hung is used to describe a gay man's masculinity or attractiveness, it is a synecdoche.

 Cross-gender. From using the pronoun she for a gay man to calling a gay man with a common name for women. Terms of address, such as Miss Thing, are commonly used, but users of such terms are not considered masculine.

· Queen-related. The term queen can be used as a generic term for a homosexual man, yet expressions with the term often imply effeminacy or passiveness. The common expressions closet queen and size queen do not necessarily imply effeminacy.

Other expressions, however, do imply effeminacy such as drag queen, helium queen and leather queen.

The list can go on and on, but I believe the majority of male homosexual slang terms fall into the above linguistic

One way to look into a subculture lingo is how the needs of the group's members are satisfied, or pursued, in their slang. The terms chicken hawk and chubby chaser demonstrate the existence of male homosexuals with such interests.

Positive and negative in a subculture lingo are keys to knowing how things are valued among its members. The term hung is used positively; therefore, an observer may conclude such a quality is valued highly, or considered attractive, among male homosexuals.

Many gay men's detestation of effeminacy is expressed in the negative terms swish, limp wrist and flamer.

The terms cut and uncut describe whether gay men are circumcised or uncircumcised. At the same time, both terms can be used to attract those who prefer such qualities. The distinction between top and bottom is more preference oriented. These four terms themselves, however, do not inherently bear either a positive value nor a negative one.

My regret, even as I write this article six months after the completion of the term paper, is the exclusion of local slang terms. For example, I was hoping to include terms and expressions used by male homosexual employees at Walt Disney World, but I never had a chance to interview one. (Anyone who can help, please write me in care of The Center Fold.) tionary I had consulted with had this male genitals as a package. In fact, a treat, I know for sure that P. House, or the information. Slang dictionaries define a a gift, or a surprise comes in a basket or initials P.H., is a local term, but I really do not know whether balcony bingo is a local term or not. Or should it matter to me?

Shame On You Too, Walt Gallagher!

By Michael J. Sopoliga Center Fold Managing Editor

nfortunately, so many individuals and companies in Central Florida deserve The Center Fold's monthly "Shame on You" Award that it would be unjust to recognize just one candidate a month, especially when they have so richly earned that recognition. So (drumroll, please) we are going to induct yet another person into our Homophobes' Hall of Shame!

"A number of organizations have concluded that gays are security risks, including the KGB of the former Soviet Union."

That was just one of the gems spoken by our esteemed Orange County sheriff, Walt Gallagher. He made this claim, as well as others, in the trial of former Deputy Tom Woodard, who sued the Orange County Sheriff's Office to get his job back. He claimed that he was pressured into resigning because he is bi-sexual.

When the captain of the ship leads the charge, there's little wonder homophobia thrives. Yet when Kenneth Glassman, director of the Dade County police school, stated that "They [gays] are as qualified as any other group to serve as police officers," Gallagher came up with another stereotypically homophobic volley: "The AIDS peril rules out gay officers."

Yates Rumbley, Gallagher's lawyer, also stated that "Sodomy is a crime under military laws well as in some states ..." He added: "It [homosexuality] offends the deeply held moral precepts of many people in the community that Sheriff Gallagher must serve."

Apparently, Sheriff Gallagher would rather encourage homophobic stereotyping than update his thinking to include the ideas of the 20th century.

It also seems he would rather hide behind his religious or morally corrupt constituency of illiterate, uneducated rednecks, who until a few years ago would rather have lynched a black person than live next to one, than admit that he just hates gays.

This bigotry is what this officer of the law, to whose paycheck we all contribute, promotes.

Of course Judge William Gridley has ruled that Woodard's rights were violated and that the pressure placed upon him to resign was unconstitutional. Unless Gallagher decides to appeal the ruling, this means that Woodard is entitled to get his job back. (I hope poor Woodard isn't harassed now by his fellow officers and other homophobes like the good sheriff.)

Despite this sobering news, we still have a very big problem on our hands, fellow gay and lesbians of Orange County, or anywhere there are homophobes ready to question our civil rights. With sheriffs like Gallagher, we will always be harassed; we will always be targets; we will always be second-class citizens; we will always be the victims of contempt.

I hope we remember Gallagher's name on Election Day, and vote him out of office. By the way, did you register to vote yet?

Oh yes, I guess Gallagher is going to blame gays for the collapse of the Soviet Union. Maybe they made the mistake of recruiting too many sissies to their ranks!

I say shame on you, Sheriff Gallagher!

Vasectomy: A Method for HIV Prevention?

In the "Medical Updates" section in the May 15 issue of the Washington Blade, our nation's capitol city gay and lesbian newspaper, an interesting theory of infectious semen transmission has been proposed.

The study that elicited the story has not been concluded, and no final conclusions should be drawn from its results to date).

A very preliminary study has found that HIV may not be transmitted in the semen of men who have undergone a vasectomy.

The study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, was presented to members of the American Urological Association in Washington, D.C., in mid-May, according to Reuters News Agency.

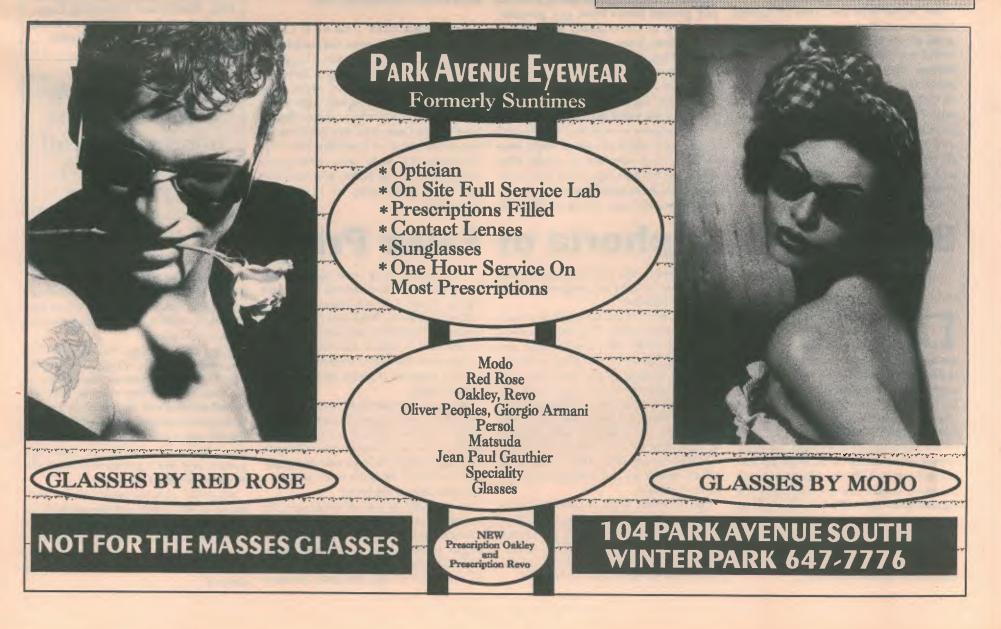
The researchers, headed by John Krieger of Seattle University, took semen from four HIV-infected men who had undergone vasectomies. Unlike semen taken from HIV-infected men who had not had vasectomies, the semen from these four did not contain the virus.

This result, researchers reported, "may have profound implications about strategies to limit sexual transmission of HIV."

But, Krieger cautioned, "It is very important (that) this be studied scientifically, and no one should jump to conclusions."

The study now will focus on 33 new HIV-infected men; with researchers attempting to culture the virus from semen both before and after the men undergo vasectomies.

(This health news item is a reprint from the June 1992 issue of the monthly newsletter distributed by the Hope and Help Center of Central Florida. Although details of this study-in-progress are scarce and may not be readily available at this time, further information may be available from Hope and Help, (407) 894-1992.)



Having Fun at the 'Y'

Compiled By Michael J. Sopoliga Center Fold Managing Editor

DES MOINES, Iowa - HAVING FUN AT THE "Y"! It seems that the Mid-West has it over we in the East regarding gay rights. The Greater Des Moines YWCA is now extending low cost "family" memberships to "Family", that being gay families. Changing ideas of "family" in America were one of the reasons for this invitation for low-cost memberships extended to gays and lesbians. Like the director of the Y stated, "This policy of same-sex partners has existed for years; it was time for the staff to know about it." ... I only hope that the YMCA follows suit!

RIO DE JANEIRO – It seems that the leaders of the world during the very first Earth Summit have talked about everything concerning the pollution of the world except one: overpopulation. While Third World countries decry the United States and other industrialized countries for polluting the earth with every chemical imaginable, they fail to turn the evil eye upon themselves.

Overpopulation is a serious problem which countries in Africa, Asia and South America need to address. However, the prospects for this kind of awareness seem dimmed by two important social forces. One is "machoism" and male dominance.

Yes, even with the likes of Gloria Steinem and others, most men in other parts of this big world like having their wives barefoot, pregnant and in the kitchen. The only problem with that idea is that most women wind up having 12 to 14 children before their wombs wears out. The other driving force for the population boom, and a country's unwillingness to address it is religion. For some reason the words "Be fruitful and multiply" seem to have taken on onerous proportions, especially among good Catholics in South America.

News Bites ... Ouch!

Bringing children in to a world of poverty with no hope of a happy life is just as wrong as dumping oil into the sea. Both harm our fragile planet.

ST. PAUL, Minn. – A dentist who refused to treat a patient infected with HIV was ordered to pay the patient \$10,000. The judge stated that the person's rights were violated because of the refusal. It also seems that a gay hairdresser was also fined for refusing to style the person's hair into a bouffant.

The hairdresser stated that he did not refuse the person's wishes because of his medical condition, but confessed that he flunked Bouffant 101 in hairdresser's school

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Lawmakers are considering a bill that would limit public funds for gay groups. It seems that this lovely river port of a more genteel nature becomes just the opposite when the legislature is in session.

Many of the tobacco-spitting, smalltown lawyers have traded in their plaid sport coats and hick nicknames for a more business like wardrobe, but it seems that bigotry dies hard nonetheless. The chief architect of the bill, Rep. Pete Turnham, claims not to have inserted his "beliefs" into the debate. His objection to state funds being given to gay groups stems from gay peoples' breaking of the sodomy and sexual misconduct laws ... but it seems that many of the legislators, many of whom could be considered "scoff-laws", are squeamish about the law to say the least. In a recent survey, it appears that 90 percent of the states' population could go to jail because of sodomy and sexual misconduct, which has never really been defined, or at least not in public. One astute person has suggested that since there could be no good reason why a gay person would want to live in Alabama

anyway, they should really think about moving.

HAVANA - Due to growing pressure from post-Castro teen-agers, is seems that even Fidel can't stop the music. Discos are being build in Cuba for the first time. American music is making inroads, and as long as you don't foment revolution, you're pretty safe to do your own thing. This means even men can now grow longer hair. Up to now, having long hair was seen as being antiestablishment. Can we talk?...Why even gay people are being treated almost human nowadays. I don't foresee gay bars popping up in downtown Havana as yet, but at least gays won't be shot on site. How long can one of the last bastions of communism hold out until Madonna and Dame Edna burst upon the

ORLANDO - NO GUM SOLD HERE!...That's what you'll find in every store at Orlando's International Airport. It seems that those sticky bubulous blobs made from horses' tongues (that's what my mother used to tell me to discourage chewing) is not welcome when you fly the friendly skies from Orlando. When asked why gum is not sold at the airport, the floozy redhead behind the counter simply said: "too messy ... The cleaning crew got tired of scraping off the goo from seats, carpets, planters, and phone booths." That's funny because tho one thing I need is chewing gum after a plane ride so that my ears would pop. Oh, well, when you fly out of ORL, just bring along a big supply, and go ahead, leave some big blobs around for old-time's sake.

NEW YORK CITY ... Go for it, Calvin Klein!....Have you seen Calvin Klein's latest tv ads for Obsession? It quotes Hemingway, while panning a delicious hunk of a man, and an occasional beautiful woman. The quote is from one of Hemingway's writings about "Brett," how "when I saw him, my heart would leap to the stars" or something like that. Anyway, it's very gay, and quite intriguing. Almost makes you rush out and find Obsession, or is it "an" obsession?

Off the Bookshelf

AIDS and the Law: A Basic Guide for the Nonlawyer by Allen H. Teri, attorney at law.

This important new book is written specifically for those interested in the legal aspects of AIDS, but who may have no professional legal training. It strives to relate how AIDS and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) have affected various legal issues. Discrimination is a factor which permeates all aspects of these issues, and the author examines how such prejudice now impacts on virtually every traditional area of law.

Contents: Preface, introduction, "Early Legislative Quick Fixes," "Access to Justice," "Public Benefits," "Confidentiality," "Consumer Fraud," "Criminal Law," "Education," "Employment," "Family Law," "First Amendment," "Housing," "Immigration," "Insurance," "Military," "Prisons," "Public Accommodation and Professional Services," "Quarantine," "Testing," "Torts," "Wills," "The Americans With Disabilities Act," "The Right to Know Glossary." Published 1992, 184 pages, hardcover (1-56032-218-7),\$45; softcover (1-56032-219-5), \$19.95.

To order call toll free, 1 (800) 821-8312, Hemisphere Publishing Corp., c/o Taylor & Francis, 1900 Frost Road, Suite 101, Bristol, Penn. 19007-1598.

Advertise in The Center Fold; for information, call (407) 425-7450, M-F, 1-9 p.m.

accepted and just being tolerated.

I believe that here in Central Florida we are tolerated, but not accepted. If someone could think of a way to get rid of us they would. They would probably want to include blacks, too. If you're only tolerating them as well, you might as well get rid of them too.

When are we going to be accepted? Not for a long time. Not as long as we are the target of sting operations, not as long as we flaunt our lifestyle to those who are closed-minded and bigoted. Not as long as organized religion is allowed to foment hatred and question even our right to exist. Not as long as we are politically passive and don't get involved with the issues which affect us.

No, pride parades won't do it. They make us feel good, and the euphoria of the day can cloud our thinking. Yes, the sirens of ancient Greece were mythology. Those who want to destroy us are real. It's time to realize that, and do something about it.

Beware the Euphoria of False Pride

By Michael J. Sopoliga Center Fold Managing Editor

o you remember reading about the sirens of Ancient Greece? Well, those girls were the end of the line for many unwary crewman on the sailing vessels of Greek mythology. It seemed that these guys were so taken back by the sirens' beauty that they jumped ship to swim to them, only to be destroyed because of their enchantment.

Well, the events of last month, the Pride events which many of us attended and enjoyed are over. The parade banners we marched under are all put away for another year. The AIDS quilt display and memorial service which touched us all, especially the somber reading of the names, waits till next year, albeit with many more of our loved ones to be included in the list to be sure.

The picnics, the stories of pride, the expressions of unity felt nationwide were certainly enjoyable.

But if I may, let me cast a more serious note on these events. Our enemies have not gone away. No, groups like the American Family Association, of which you'll be reading in this issue, are still bullying advertisers to boycott any TV station that seems to sympathize with gay issues in the very least. We have Jesse Helms, and others like him, attempting to to suffocate us under the burdens of discriminatory laws and resolutions which make us the fall guy for the nation's collapse.

The Religious Right, a chorus of hatemongers hypocritically preaching love and compassion for all while with blood on their hands they promote homophobia, blame us for the collapse of the family and the breakdown of morality. No, it's not a pretty sight, and all of the Pride parades, and memorials won't change things. I do not believe anything will, quite frankly. When you think of the mountain of homophobia we must climb or the vast ocean of hatred we must navigate or the sea of stereotyping we have to traverse, it seems that we don't have a chance.

Do you know how hard it is to change the mind-set of a person, let alone an entire nation or culture? It's impossible. When you have states like Oregon wanting to teach children that being gay is sinful then we have even less of a chance to change the world.

But the children are our only hope. We can write off our parents, most of our friends, and society as a whole. They might tolerate us, as we are being tolerated today, but they will never accept us, and there's a big difference between

Sheriff's Candidates Should Quote the Bill of Rights - Not the Bible

By Michael J. Sopoliga Center Fold Managing Editor

Tt could only have been on a Christian TV talk show that the candidates for Orange County sheriff would do their best to almost come right out and admit to being as bigoted and intolerant as the show's hosts and sponsors are.

It all took place at the Northside Christian Church, home of the Christian Viewpoint television show, hosted by a fundamentalist minister, the Rev. John Butler Book. He made every effort to pin down the candidates, not to find out if fairness and constitutional rule of law would prevail if they were elected, but to insist that the candidates should be ruled by the Bible, that is the Christian undamentalist interpretation of the Bible.

I think all the candidates should perhaps try breaking the evil spell being cast upon them and others seeking public office by the Religious Right, before black slavery is even reintroduced as a viable "Christian, loving" way to clean out the inner-city slums!

The Rev. Book commented: "Trying to pin them [the candidates] down is like trying to nail a custard pie to the wall." Perhaps somebody should have put that custard pie to better use by throwing it at Book.

Sure, the candidates didn't want to be pinned down for their religious

convictions because they weren't running to be the Archbishop of Canterbury, but as someone who would have to uphold the laws of this country, particularly the Bill of Rights. Book and others like him would like to throw the Bill of Rights out and put in its place their narrow-minded views of the Bible.

Book was disillusioned by the candidates because at a political forum at a gay and lesbian church, all of them voiced some concern for gay and lesbian rights. If it were up to Book, we would all be gassed in the name of Jesus!

I thought there was supposed to be separation of church and state in this country. Well, that is slowly, but most assuredly, being eroded by the Religious Right.

Just read some of the closing remarks made by the candidates at the close of the show, and you be the judge.

Dennis Dayle, a Republican, said his decisions as sheriff "would be governed by the Constitution and the Christian Bibie." Democrat Roger Clark was just as bad when he said: "I will increase faith in the office [of sheriff] through God's will."

It is clear that the Constitution and Bill of Rights are destined to be muddied by the intrusion of the Religious Right and its bigoted and homophobic agenda. My advice to you, the voters: Give 'em hell on Election Day!

Co-Chairperson of March on Washington Attends Pride Picnic

By Laurence Sheldon Center Fold Staff Writer

Nadine Smith, who lives in Tampa, attended Centeral Florida's Pride Picnic on Saturday, June 13. She is the national co-chair of the March on Washington, which will take place on April 25, 1993.

The last March on Washington took place in 1987. At that time, 650,000 people participated in the event. Smith said she is hoping that in 1993 the figure will be over 1 million marchers. She was at the picnic as a recruiter and fund raiser.

Smith brought March on Washington T-shirts to sell in order to raise funds to help defray transportation costs for those attending the march. Only a limited number of shirts have been made and distributed throughout the country at this time, but more will be coming in the future, Smith said.

"We need to be involved early and fund raise early. We want everyone who wants to be there to have a chance to attend the Washington in April of 199 a trip you will never forget.

week-long activities," Smith said. She said that the organizers are trying to arrange convoys of buses to transport Central Floridians to Washington for a nominal price. There will be also a toll-free hot line for Washington accommodations.

Future developments will be printed in The Center Fold as accommodations and travel arrangements are finalized. GLCS will also have information regarding the march. Smith gave an overview of the week-long activities that will take place, including a concert and probably a wedding (or maybe a divorce, she added).

"We will run the city while we're there," she said. The government officials in Washington need to see the gay and lesbian community and its supporters in unprecedented numbers united with one voice, Smith said.

Make yourself a part of that voice. Start saving your money for the March on Washington in April of 1993. It should be a trip you will never forget.

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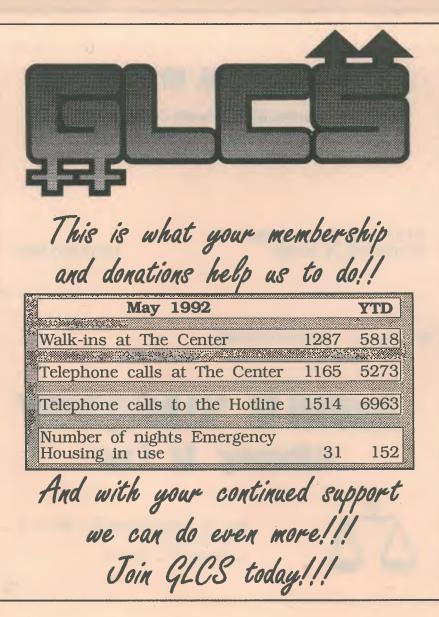
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PRIVACY from Page 6

statues are an affront to Southerners. They are visible reminder to a minority of the population of its second-class citizenship; it also nourishment for those who breed ignorance, hatred, fear, and indifference.

The ignorance, hatred, fear, and indifference which result in discrimination and harassment of lesbians and gay men is the business of everyone: heterosexist adults ignorant of the pain of growing up gay in the South; legislators and educators who choose timidity over courage and excuse over action; homosexual adolescents and adults who escape in a fog of drugs or a sea of alcohol; and ordinary citizens whose fear of public ridicule outweighs their sense of civic outrage. Legislative debate must begin on the sodomy statutes throughout the South. The intent of the sodomy statutes, of course, is to criminalize sexual behavior.

One of their impacts, however, is to stigmatize persons with homosexual or bisexual identities.

Public hearings on this legislation will be educative. For too long the public image of homosexuals have been those of butch motorcycle dykes, drag queens, and dirty old men cruising rest areas. For some legislators, political commentators, and ministers these images may be less disturbing than those of successful lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals in business, sports, and other professions or trades who will testify before such hearings. And, perhaps most important, will be readers like you who, believing

that sexual activity should become a private matter, will speak out. Oppressions based on race, gender, age, religion and sexual orientation intersect. Ending discrimination and violence against lesbians, gays and bisexuals cannot occur without a coalition of agendas among all who are despised or dispossessed.

Liberation is sought by the bisexual who writes torrid letters to a local paper, by the Chicano migrant worker laboring in our harvests of shame, by female activists lobbying state legislators on pro-choice issues, by the once middle-class black family which has now entered the ranks of our working poor, by our African-American children in rural schools who year after year receive a substandard education, and by those darkened with despair who have yet to be touched by the "thousand points of light." We are all inextricably woven together in this tapestry we call humanity.

We must work in solidarity on this march toward social justice and human dignity. We must choose action over silence. We must transform fists of hatred into hands joined in solidarity. We must act in concert with conviction and courage. It is time to end the hegemony of self-appointed religious vigilantes and the divisive politics of sloganeering and political correctness. It is time to be heard; it is time to privatize sexuality through public action.

James T. Sears is an associate professor at the University of South Carolina. The author of several books, including the critically acclaimed Growing up Gay in the South, Professor Sears is editor of the Southern-

CLINTON from Page 3

actively to end discrimination against gays and lesbians. Discrimination in federal hiring or contracting is absolutely unacceptable to me, and would be banned by executive order in my administration."

• Opposition to mandatory HIV testing: "While testing and early detection are a vital component in the fight against AIDS, I believe we must act vigilantly to protect the individual's right to privacy."

"We have the opportunity to help elect a man who is far and away the best candidate our community has ever had as a national party nominee," McFreeley said. "Bill Clinton believes that gay and lesbian Americans are part of the mainstream of American life. More than any other major candidate in history, Bill Clinton has sought and earned the support of our community."

The Campaign Fund, a \$5 million political advocacy and lobbying group, has a \$1 million political action committee.

The organization announced that it would encourage its 37,000 members and other gay and lesbian Americans to support, contribute, volunteer and vote for Gov. Clinton.

THE WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN OF CODA

Co-dependency is not about a relationship with an addict, but is the absence of a relationship with one's self? GLCS and CODA intergroup are proud to announce an enriching night for those individuals or couples who feel they may be co-dependent.

Our meeting will be held each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. We offer a safe place for unconditional love during recovery. Our goal is to use the 12 steps and topical discussions to offer assistance toward new understandings and reintegration into nurturing, supportive and recovering relationships with ourselves. Every other week will alternate from Melody Beattie's *The Codependent's Guide to the Twelve Steps* and open discussion on topics from her book of daily affirmations. If you or someone you know would benefit from this group please join us at our next session upstairs at GLCS. See you there.

P.S. Looking for co-dependent parents to alternate child care at The Center. If interested, call Juli T., (407) 578-8923.

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