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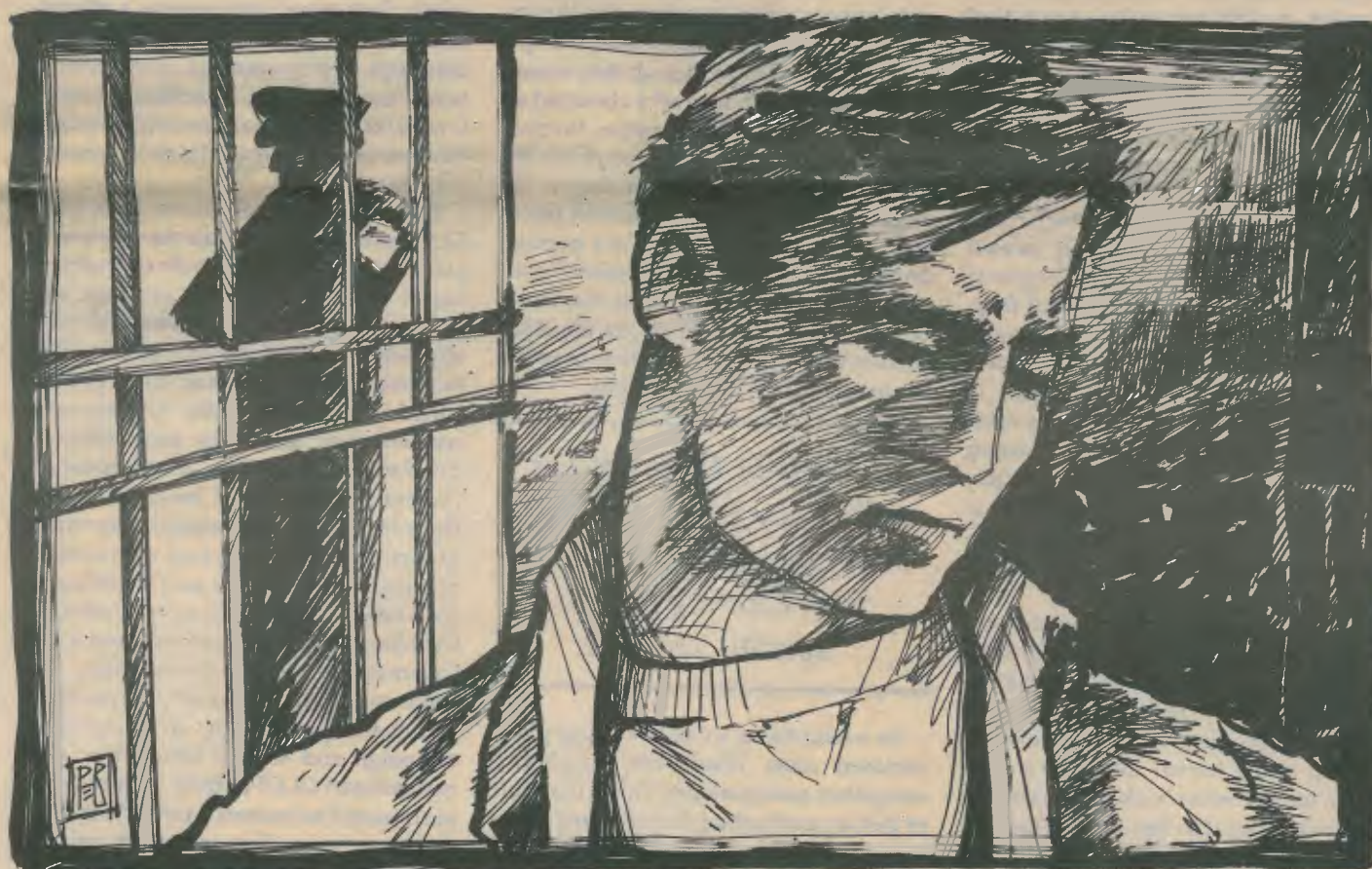
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NEWS MAGAZINE FROM THE CENTER, A PROJECT OF GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.

Volume 3, Issue 12

December 1989

## PRISON NIGHTMARE



### Is Orange County Killing HIV Positive Prisoners?

By Ken Berg and  
Alan Lunin

Illustration by Paige Braddock

Feverish and coughing, Jeb Blankenbiller tossed, sleepless, in the chill of a cramped, closet-sized cell.

I'm dying, Jeb thought. The prison doctor was right. I've never felt so cold. Why did they take away my medicine?

"You're the kid with AIDS," taunted a nearby voice. "Are you a faggot? Soon you'll be a dead faggot."

This is nuts, Jeb decided. A bad, bad dream. But Jeb's nightmare was true-to-life. And just beginning.

— Continued on Page 8



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CENTER  
F O L D

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## Let's Look to the Future

By David Bain  
President, GLCS

As the year comes to a close, it's often a time to look back at the past and congratulate yourselves for a job well done. However, since I tend to march to the sounds of a different drummer, I thought it would be



beneficial to look toward the future. Although our past year has been filled with successes, growth and change, our future offers an exciting realm of possibilities. So step with me as we join our tour guide to the year 1995. A time just 5 short years away in our new "City Beautiful."

As we drive down the street towards the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Central Florida, your guide directs your attention to a number of shops located adjacent to The Center. A travel agency, print shop, restaurant, book store, gift shop, grocery, real estate office, and specialty shops which are all gay owned and operated (openly) and flourish. It seems in 1995, gays as well as gay businesses come out of the closet and benefit from catering to their "special" clientele. All proudly display their GLCS Business Guild logo in their windows and work together at bi-monthly meetings to encourage growth in sales.

Our guide directs our attention to a two-story victorian mansion in the center of this quaint and attractive business and residential district, known affectionately to the locals as "Homo Heights." She explains the building is the former estate of a well-known banker who shocked the community by donating it to the Gay and Lesbian Community when he became sick and tired of the injustices perpetrated on it by a now-defunct fundamental religious group. The building is adjoined by two additional wings and surrounded by formal gardens that have become a favorite spot for weddings and social events. The East Wing, also called the Theater and Arts wing is home of the Gay and Lesbian Theater Guild and the Central Florida Gay and Lesbian Choir and was built with monies raised by national, state and local arts support groups in appreciation for the talents of gays and lesbians in the entertainment field. The 500 seat theater is the site for a number of performances from the Gay Broadway Tour, a cast of Gay and Lesbian performers who tour around the country and perform in Gay and Lesbian produced and written plays.

The West Wing contains an elegant banquet hall and reception area which contains a permanent display from nationally and locally renowned Gay and Lesbian artists. The full service kitchen also serves as the main distribution point for the emergency food bank which provides hot meals and emergency staples for people in need.

As we enter the main building we are greeted by a staff of volunteers who service walk-in guests seven days a week from 8 a.m. till midnight. A group of delegates here for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force conference are preparing to leave after picking up their Central Florida Welcome Packet which contains business and social referrals, coupons to area businesses and a complimentary map of the area. Another couple has just stopped by to pick up their season theater tickets and drop off a classified ad for the weekly GLCS newspaper. We pick up our guest badges and head down the hall to begin our tour. First stop is the elegantly decorated and intimate parlor area. Our host explains this is a popular drop-in spot where locals will meet friends prior to dinner or a night on the town. Others stop by to catch up on the latest news or to rest between meetings or activities in other areas of the building.

*It seems in 1995, gays as well as gay businesses come out of the closet and benefit from catering to their "special" clientele.*

As we continue, we notice a large glass-enclosed room filled with telephones, computers and operators. This is the home of the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard where over 1,000 calls are processed daily for over 30 separate Gay and Lesbian support organizations. A computerized database provides instant information on local or national events, takes messages for other organizations, takes reservations for upcoming events and processes requests for information received on our toll-free travel information line. In the next room, another group of volunteers are busy stuffing mailers with tickets and information packets that have been requested from around the world.

Another fascinating stop is the GLCS research library. Located here is a sophisticated computerized record retrieval system that contains information on past and present legal decisions, news and medical information. All available with the touch of a button. Activity is also apparent in and

around several multi-purpose meeting rooms located at the rear of the building. In one room, twenty new recruits from the Orange County Sheriffs Office are attending a mandatory Gay Awareness class taught by the GLCS Community Liaison Coordinator. A few doors down is a seminar entitled "How the Gay and Lesbian rights bill affects you and your business."

As we exit the elevator on the second floor, we are promptly greeted by Joe Hope, receptionist and office manager for GLCS and a number of other organizations that share offices on this floor like The Orlando Athletic League, Central Florida Political Watch Dogs, Gay and Lesbian Arts Foundation, Gay and Lesbian Legal Assistance Center and the Gay and Lesbian Business Guild. Inside the main meeting room, the GLCS advisory board consisting of the presidents of each major Gay and Lesbian organization in Central Florida, meet to discuss the yearly budget and financial goals for each organization and to develop a master year-long calendar of fundraising events. Each organization receives a monthly rebate of GLCS membership dues, plus discounts and guaranteed allotments of tickets to monthly GLCS fundraising events. Over 5,000 people make monthly pledges that are divided among all member organizations.

Sherri Sweetheart, Executive Director of GLCS, excuses herself from the meeting to join us on the tour through the staff offices. Sherri explains of a time not long ago where organizations raised funds individually with much smaller events that often required massive time and effort and resulted in a smaller profit. "Groups now combine their talents for joint efforts in fundraising." A lot less time is spent on promotion since 85% of the Gay and Lesbian community is represented by our varied groups and can be informed with a single mailing. As she takes us past the offices of the Fundraising Chairman, Activities Coordinator, Communications Director and Community Liaison Coordinator, she comments that these are all paid positions and made possible by an endowment campaign and several benefactors who remembered GLCS in their wills over the past years. The interest on over \$5 million dollars is more than enough to pay for these full time positions. Our membership and fundraising in-come goes directly to outreach programs and organizations of GLCS. "Our need for volunteers is as great as ever as we continue to expand our services." We still have our Volunteer Coordinator, Staff Psychiatrist and Legal Counselor plus a pool of over 250 volunteers, many of them students earning college credit towards degrees in social services.

As we conclude our tour, we begin to wonder where and when did this organization begin. Was it just 5 years ago or was it all just a dream. I guess you'll just have to decide for yourself. The dream can happen, one step at a time. Take that step and help us move into the future. We can only do it with your help... and your dreams...



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## Growth at The Center

By Michael Wanzie  
 Director, The Center

Attendance at The Center increases weekly. We are experiencing growth that brings with it both excitement and added responsibilities. Happily, we are almost to the point of keeping pace as far as staffing

and look after such things as our Backyard BBQ's, Pot-luck dinners, yard sales, etc. If you would like to help, leave a message at The Center for Peter or Kathy at (407) THE-GAYS.

We at The Center were overwhelmed by the positive response to our plea for assistance in establishing a viable counseling program for our community. On Sunday, Nov. 19th, twelve respected members of the mental health profession gathered at The Center to lay the groundwork for such a program. We applaud their efforts and their generosity, and hope to have the program under way by Feb. 1, 1990.



is concerned. Last month's volunteer training drew 24 interested participants and the quality and enthusiasm of those who have taken training is quite encouraging. John Rose has accepted the position of volunteer coordinator.

Women's Discussion Group, which had almost disappeared over the summer, is thriving again thanks to our new facilitator, Kathy Humphries. Kathy feels the groups resurgence of popularity is due in part to the consistency now being experienced by the participants. Kathy intends to seek out guest speakers for the group as well. In addition to facilitating this meeting, Kathy has joined forces with our reception volunteer, Peter, to co-chair the Center's Events Committee. This group will implement

The circulation of The Center Fold increases to 5,000 with our December 1989

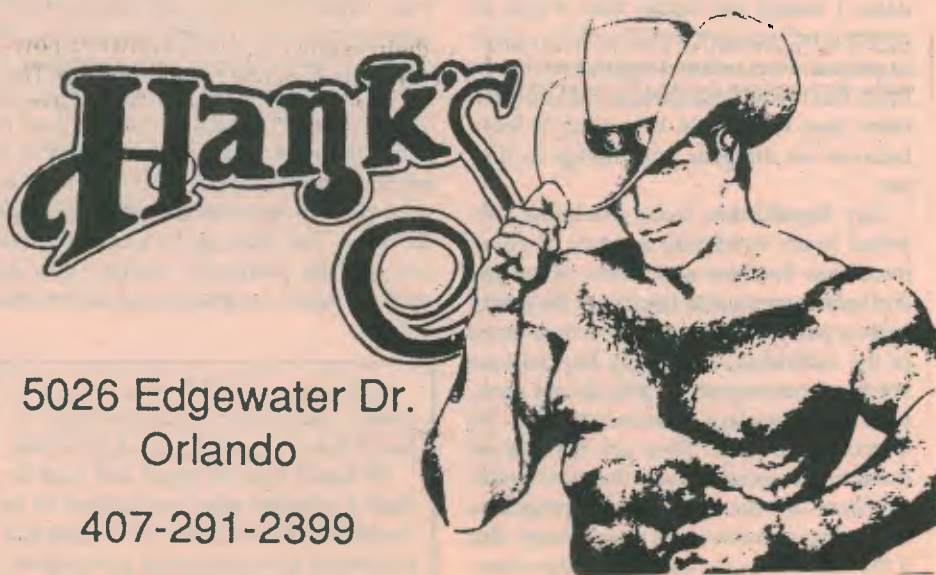
*Women's Discussion Group,  
 which had almost disappeared  
 over the summer,  
 is thriving again...*

issue. That means our News Magazine now reaches more people in the Greater Orlando market than any other Gay and Lesbian publication. If you own a business and are not currently advertising in The Center Fold, perhaps it's time to take advantage of the most-read Gay publication in our area.

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# Being a Republican: New Gay Fag Bashing

By Keith Proud  
Associate Editor

**lib·er·al, adj.** 1) favoring progress and reform, as in politics, religion, etc.; 2) open-minded or tolerant.

**con·ser·va·tive, adj.** 1) disposed to preserve existing conditions, institutions, etc. and to resist change; 2) cautious or moderate.

—Random House Dictionary, c. 1980

I grew up a child of the sixties. Although much of the community in which I lived was a bastion of conservatism, there were many of us who were enlightened liberals. In high school we protested the single-party mindset that dominated the politics in that small town by forming a youth club for the opposite political party. Although some of us felt that our party was the only political party, the majority of us were simply against the existing conservative status-quo attitude that controlled the town's future. We argued for the right to vote and against the war in Vietnam. We argued for more social freedoms and fewer laws and restraints. We were Democrats.

But in all the arguments and rallies and campaigns that I participated, I don't ever remember that we considered being Republican to be a crime, only voting without reasoning.

As is the case with many, I have grown mellow and more reserved in my actions since I was 18. I prefer cooperative dialogue to confrontational argument. I am willing to compromise in one area to gain in another, but I still consider myself to be a liberal. And I still don't think that being a Republican is a crime.

One of the most vehement confrontations I ever had was with a pro-military student in the early 70's. His final line of reasoning was "America — Love it or Leave it" and he would not accept my argument of "America — Love it, but make it better" as valid. In spite of the many problems I saw with the U.S. government in those days, I would not leave. Yes, it was an option, and I was presented with it as a way to protest even before I registered for the draft. But I would not then, and do not now think that we should be forced to leave because we disagree with things as they are.

Gay Republicans today are being subjected to an inordinate amount of abuse from their brothers and sisters in the gay and lesbian community because of the actions of their party, without regard to the actions of the individual. Many gay Republicans are fiscal conservatives, and do not agree with the monetary promiscuity that the Democrats exhibit. They are not against donating to social causes, they just prefer to choose. Blanket reform social programs are seen as excessive and unnecessary. But if the activists in the gay and lesbian com-

munity continue their tirades against gay Republicans, can we expect them to consider us as a worthwhile cause? Are you also against those gay Republicans who feel that the road to change should be within the party? Or have you become as conservative in your attitudes toward change as those whom you denigrate? Being a Democrat does *not* make one a liberal. How you vote and how you act can.

*If you wish to  
guarantee your rights  
as an American,  
then start by granting  
those rights  
to the community  
around you.*

It is time that this community realize that our strength is in our diversity. I have seen editorials about the dreadful "gay clones" who all look, act, and dress alike, yet there seems to be a reluctance to accept the wide variety among people within the gay and lesbian community. How dreadful it would be if we were all the same. No contrasts, no variety, no interest. And if we were all of the same political mindset, it would be just as dreadful. It would become a tremendous battle of us-versus-them, not an argument of the political truths as we see them. If you can't effectively promote your arguments to other members of the gay and lesbian community, how do you expect to get the straight community to listen? How dare you campaign for *any* Human Rights Ordinance if you resort to fag bashing for political opponents in the gay community!

If you wish to guarantee your rights as an American without regard to sex, race, religion or orientation, then start by granting those rights to the community around you. Argue with the individual, not the perceived group to which they belong. My demands for social freedoms must guarantee the fundamentalists their freedoms, even as they attempt to restrict mine, or I am no better than the worst of them. I refuse to become another hypocrite. I will fight for your right to self-determination as I fight for mine. Yes, you can be a Gay Republican, and be politically correct. You can work for social acceptance and reform from within.

Letters to the Editor may be sent to:  
Letters to the Editor, The Center Fold, P.O.  
Box 533446, Orlando, Florida 32853-3446.

All letters must be signed and must include a complete name and address to be considered for publication. Your name will be withheld from publication upon request.

## Letters to the Editor

### Assume Our Responsibilities

I was very impressed with the superb Center Fold article by Jeff Campbell, in which he urged the gay community to assume its responsibilities in acting to protect our civil rights, and cautioned that any actions we take must be tempered by restraint and reason.

I strongly support Jeff's view that our increased visibility, as we begin to more openly demand changes, will make it imperative for us to avoid behavior that could offend or antagonize potential allies. Our mission is entirely too urgent to risk compromise (or even defeat) by the vulgarity, obscenity and outrageous behavior of a few. Let us not hand our enemies a sword with which they can stab us!

In one large city where I once lived, a small group's behavior delayed and seriously jeopardized gay rights. While the city council was considering a fair housing and employment ordinance for gays, a gaggle of misguided gays invaded the council chamber waving placards and screaming and shouting in such a boisterous demonstration that council members retreated from the chamber and had to call police to quell the near-riot. This gay rabble completely disrupted the council's proceed-

ings and, needless to say, the ordinance failed miserably.

A year or two later when the ordinance was reintroduced, a liberal mayor asked more responsible gay leaders to try to keep the rowdies away from city hall. They succeeded, and so did the ordinance. As the article implied, we can accomplish a great deal more by reasonable, dignified and restrained behavior than by brawling in the streets.

Thank you for an article which I hope will rouse the gay community from apathy and serve as an impetus for action. Why can't we start by routinely asking candidates for state and county offices and legislative seats to speak to gay and lesbian groups and to agree, in advance, to answer questions from the audience? When the candidates realize how much voting power the gay and lesbian community has, politicians will accept our invitations — gladly.

In many elections (probably most), a unified lesbian and gay vote could make the difference between victory and defeat. Let's start sending the candidates that message.

Sincerely,  
Douglas Watts

### Special Thanks to GLCS

October has been a month of trauma for me. I lost my apartment, my job, my friends and my dignity. When I called The Center for help, they came through for me. Michael Wanzie gave his valuable time helping me find a place to stay until I got back on my feet, and through the referral service The Center has to offer I found a job.

GLCS offers many, many programs for the Gay and Lesbian Community with which I have taken it upon myself to become involved, such as support groups, rap sessions, movie night, etc. I have also become

a volunteer and find it to be fun, challenging, and a great way to make new friends.

And most importantly, I have gained back my dignity.

Thank you David Bain, Ken Berg, Linda, Michael, Doug Swallow, John, Wayne, Alfredo Martinez-Garcia, Roy D. and Jill, for your love and support. You are a great community center that offers the "other" social life!

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey Pendleton

### Victory in Massachusetts!

The March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights on Oct. 11, 1987 marked a turning point in the nationwide gay rights movement. Never before had the gay community witnessed its own strength in such numbers. As a result, hundreds of thousands of demonstrators brought home with them a new sense of empowerment. The emerging strength of the lesbian and gay community is changing the face of our struggle for equal rights. This year's Massachusetts victory dramatically illustrates this change.

Passage of the lesbian and gay civil rights bill is perhaps the single greatest victory for the gay rights movement in 1989. Massachusetts joins Wisconsin, becoming the second state in the nation to pass comprehensive civil rights legislation for lesbians

and gays.

The development of a national strategy and identity will move each state forward by quantum leaps rather than tiny steps. Our burgeoning national consciousness makes individual victories part of the nationwide gay rights movement. Sharing techniques and tactics from state to state will intensify our political power nationwide, as well as create a lasting unity among gay communities. And sharing the celebration of victories like the one in Massachusetts will heighten our sense of ourselves as a people with a shared history and a promising future.

David LaFontaine,  
Lobbying Director,  
Massachusetts Coalition for Lesbian  
and Gay Civil Rights



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# Freedom

By Jeff Campbell  
Center Fold Staff Writer

They are out there, hiding in the shadows and snooping into the lives of others. They are voyeurs — peeping toms — the Radicals who think that their business is minding your business.

They are never far away, just hiding in dark, wet places waiting for another opportunity to surface when they believe you are vulnerable. And they are dangerous. They hide themselves behind names that in other circumstances represent goodness and wholesomeness: Family, God, Decency, Community. But make no mistake, what they seek and what they represent is **CONTROL**.

In the recent surfacing from the gloom of their depths, the first target of their attack was "pornographic publications." Perhaps "Playboy" and "Penthouse" are not your choice in magazines, perhaps not even "National Geographic," but neither are they pornographic. Whether or not you buy or read them is the business of no one other than yourself.

Because these nifty, nosy people begin their salivating at films and publications, many of their critics lightly dismiss their actions as censorship. Censorship is not their goal; full and total control over the lives of all who disagree with their narrow view of life is their goal. We will be fugitives in the social order they wish to create.

It is important to understand these are the same people who burned "witches" at the stake in the 18th century. In the 1940's and 1950's, these are the people who ordered lobotomies performed on homosexuals and others whose behavior did not meet with their approval.

Freedom is an elusive possession and was achieved by the gay community with great effort. Because it is so comfortable

and so right and so just, it is easy to lose — not through abuse, but through neglect. As with any possession, if we become too relaxed with freedom, the enemy will surely regroup to attack and snatch it from you. The battle to remain free has no end because it is under constant attack. Once you feast at the table of the victorious, it is your turn to pick up the sword and stand your duty on watch.

*Becoming active with an organization will not make you a public figure nor give you more publicity than you feel you can afford.*

Unity is the force that can provide the defense against our loss of freedom and self-determination. We cannot act in concert or speak with an influential voice if we have no support. A life of only fine food, good times and idle pursuits is parasitic and very, very temporary. Everyone in our widely dispersed gay community in the Orlando area has an opportunity to aid in preserving their freedom; serving actively with Gay and Lesbian Community Services at "The Center" or with Joy Metropolitan Community Church will give you an opportunity to assist your community and to help defend your hard earned freedoms.

Becoming active with an organization will not make you a public figure nor give you more publicity than you feel you can afford. It will reinforce your community, for in numbers there is strength. Put your voice in The Center or Joy MCC or both and help defend your freedoms. Fighting the whole war over and hoping to win is far more difficult than standing watch and staying free.

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# Beating The Holiday Blues

By M.L. McCarthy  
Center Fold Staff Writer

Whatsamatta, Bunky? Holidays got you down? Join the club.

The Christmas season can be a particularly difficult time for gay men and lesbians, who sometimes feel set apart from the rest of society and the "traditional" holiday images portrayed in the media.

But how do you tell if you are just having a case of the normal holidays blues, or having a more serious problem?

Well, there's depression and then there's **DEPRESSION**. Everyone, gay and straight, suffers from occasional temporary sadness, a feeling of being "down." This is particularly common around the holiday season. However, ten percent of our population are victims of clinical depression. This psychiatric disorder can be either a mood problem or a chemical imbalance. Either way, it is easily treated by medication and therapy. The problem is in recognizing just what's wrong.

*If you've discovered  
that you're just feeling  
"down," then do  
something about it...  
Be around people.*

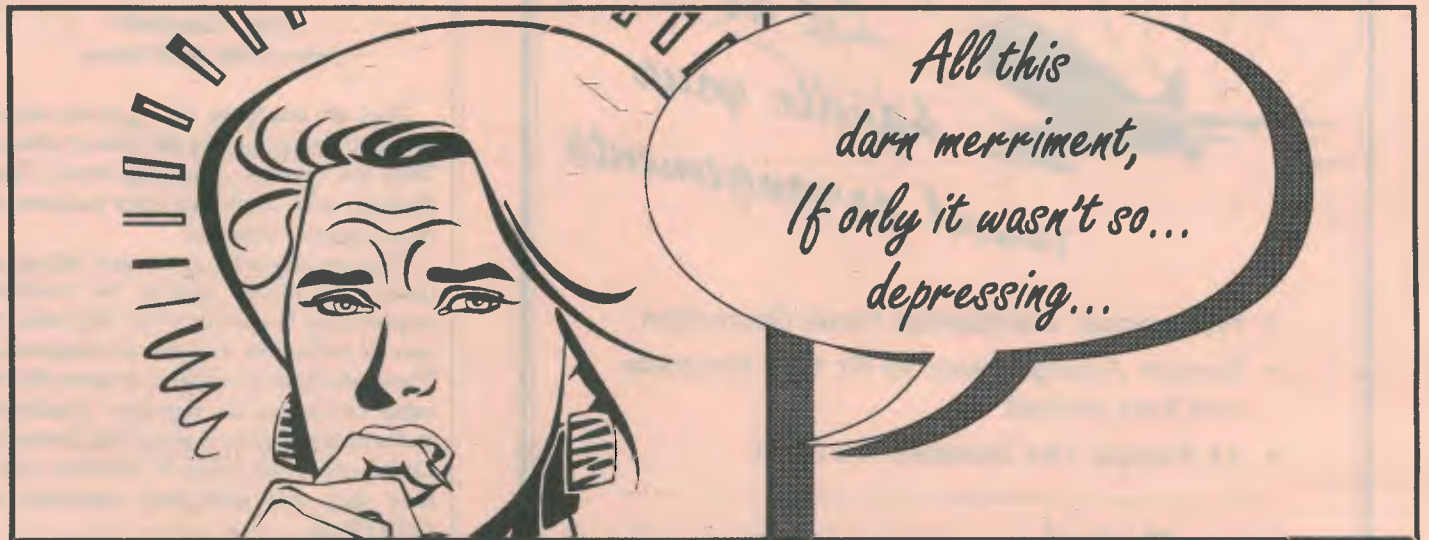
If you have trouble sleeping and, conversely, trouble waking up; if everything seems futile, pointless; if your self-esteem is virtually non-existent; if you've recently undergone a major loss (death of a loved one, dissolution of a relationship, job change and residence relocation) and can't seem to lift yourself out of a blue funk, then you're depressed.

Here's a simple test. It's the Beck Depression Inventory. Deceptively easy, it's actually a highly sophisticated diagnostic measure of depression. So, get out your pencils, answer truthfully, then add up your score (using the numbers at the beginning of each response).

You can use this test to keep a running check on your depression level. If it fluctuates greatly, or gets consistently higher, you should seek counseling. As stated earlier, there are many anti-depression medications on the market today with few side effects and excellent results.

If you've discovered that you're just feeling "down," then do something about it. Throw a party. Plan Christmas dinner with your extended, gay, family and have everyone bring a different favorite dish to share. Be around people. Call friends and take in a movie. But don't be alone and stew in your own depressed juices.

It's sure no fun to be depressed, but a depressed person is usually the last one to realize what the problem actually is. So, the above test and simple advice should put you on the road to recovery. Good luck!



This is the Beck Depression Inventory (Copyright ©1978, Aaron T. Beck, M.D.) Select one response to each question and add up your score using the numbers at the beginning of each response. We'll discuss interpretation of that score after the test.

1. 0 I do not feel sad.  
1 I feel sad.  
2 I am sad all the time and I can't snap out of it.  
3 I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it.
2. 0 I am not particularly discouraged about the future.  
1 I feel discouraged about the future.  
2 I feel I have nothing to look forward to.  
3 I feel that the future is hopeless and that things cannot improve.
3. 0 I do not feel like a failure.  
1 I feel I have failed more than the average person.  
2 As I look back on my life, all I can see is a lot of failures.  
3 I feel I am a complete failure as a person.
4. 0 I get as much satisfaction out of things as I used to.  
1 I don't enjoy things the way I used to.  
2 I don't get real satisfaction out of anything anymore.  
3 I am dissatisfied or bored with everything.
5. 0 I don't feel particularly guilty.  
1 I feel guilty a good part of the time.  
2 I feel quite guilty most of the time.  
3 I feel guilty all of the time.
6. 0 I don't feel I am being punished.  
1 I feel I may be punished.  
2 I expect to be punished.  
3 I feel I am being punished.
7. 0 I don't feel disappointed in myself.  
1 I am disappointed in myself.  
2 I am disgusted with myself.  
3 I hate myself.
8. 0 I don't feel I am any worse than anybody else.  
1 I am critical of myself for my weaknesses or mistakes.  
2 I blame myself all the time for my faults.  
3 I blame myself for everything bad that happens.

9. 0 I don't have any thoughts of killing myself.  
1 I have thoughts of killing myself, but I would not carry them out.  
2 I would like to kill myself.  
3 I would kill myself if I had the chance.
10. 0 I don't cry any more than usual.  
1 I cry more now than I used to.  
2 I cry all the time now.  
3 I used to be able to cry, but now I can't cry even though I want to.
11. 0 I am no more irritated by things than I ever am.  
1 I am slightly more irritated now than usual.  
2 I am quite annoyed or irritated a good deal of the time.  
3 I feel irritated all the time now.
12. 0 I have not lost interest in other people.  
1 I am less interested in other people than I used to be.  
2 I have lost most of my interest in other people.  
3 I have lost all of my interest in other people.
13. 0 I make decisions about as well as I ever could.  
1 I put off making decisions more than I used to.  
2 I have greater difficulty in making decisions than before.  
3 I can't make decisions at all any more.
14. 0 I don't feel that I look any worse than I used to.  
1 I am worried that I am looking old or unattractive.  
2 I feel that there are permanent changes in my appearance that make me look unattractive.  
3 I believe that I look ugly.
15. 0 I can work about as well as before.  
1 It takes an extra effort to get started at doing something.  
2 I have to push myself very hard to do anything.  
3 I can't do any work at all.
16. 0 I can sleep as well as usual.  
1 I don't sleep as well as I used to.  
2 I wake up 1-2 hours earlier than usual and find it hard to get back to sleep.  
3 I wake up several hours earlier than I used to and cannot get back to sleep.

17. 0 I don't get more tired than usual.  
1 I get tired more easily than I used to.  
2 I get tired from doing almost anything.  
3 I am too tired to do anything.
18. 0 My appetite is no worse than usual.  
1 My appetite is not as good as it used to be.  
2 My appetite is much worse now.  
3 I have no appetite at all anymore.
19. 0 I haven't lost much weight, if any, lately.  
1 I have lost more than five pounds.  
2 I have lost more than ten pounds.  
3 I have lost more than fifteen pounds.
20. 0 I am no more worried about my health than usual.  
1 I am worried about physical problems such as aches and pains, or upset stomach, or constipation.  
2 I am very worried about physical problems and it's hard to think of much else.  
3 I am so worried about my physical problems that I cannot think about anything else.
21. 0 I have not noticed any recent change in my interest in sex.  
1 I am less interested in sex than I used to be.  
2 I am much less interested in sex now.  
3 I have lost interest in sex completely.

## INTERPRETING YOUR SCORE

Score	Levels of Depression
1-10	These ups and downs are considered normal.
11-16	Mild mood disturbance.
17-20	Borderline clinical depression.
21-30	Moderate depression.
31-40	Severe depression.
over 40	Extreme depression.

A persistent score of 17 or above indicates that you may need professional treatment.





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## HIV Prisoners: The Legal Issues

By Alan Lunin  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The issue of prisoners being subjected to AIDS testing and quarantine by HIV status is a classic one of pitting the rights of the individual against state interests: in this case the state's need to protect HIV and non-HIV-infected prisoners.

In determining whose right prevails, that of the individual or that of the state, the courts must perform a subjective balancing act. The individual has the right under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to "be secure in their persons... against unreasonable searches and seizures." That right, however, has been held to be in effect only if the conduct (in this case, AIDS testing) infringes "an expectation of privacy that the society is prepared to consider reasonable."

Most of us take for granted, and the Supreme Court has agreed, that we should be able to expect privacy in the personal information about blood, urine, and other bodily fluids have. Further, mandatory testing clearly involves a search and seizure under the Fourth Amendment.

A recent case from the U.S. District Court for the District of Nebraska involved the HIV testing of employees in certain job categories working with mentally retarded clients. In making its decision, the Court discussed the clients' violence and aggressive tendencies that could expose the clients to the virus in the employees, and the potential sexual abuse that could also expose the clients to the virus.

The Court balanced the employee's Fourth Amendment rights against the interests that the state alleged to justify the intrusion. In finding for the employees, the court found that Nebraska had a low incidence of AIDS, and that therefore the incidence of false positives would be greater than in a high incidence area. The opinion also discussed the negative effects of the positive result upon the individual.

Finally, the court said: "There was testimony in this case that there can be no guarantee that the... clients could not possibly contract the AIDS virus, and thus the policy is necessary because of the devastating consequences of the disease." This overly cautious "better to be safe than sorry" approach, however, is impermissible as it infringes on the constitutional rights of the staff members to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures.

In a Wisconsin case an inmate sued prison medical officials for unauthorized disclosure of his HIV status to other staff and inmates. In ruling on a procedural motion, the court stated that

See LEGAL ISSUES, Page 14

# Nightmare on 3 Is Orange County Killing Its P.

By Alan Lunin and Ken Berg

Feverish and coughing, Jeb Blankenbiller tossed, sleepless, in the chill of a cramped, closet-sized cell.

I'm dying, Jeb thought. The prison doctor was right. I've never felt so cold. Why did they take away my medicine?

"You're the kid with AIDS," taunted a nearby voice. "Are you a faggot? Soon you'll be a dead faggot."

This is nuts, Jeb decided. A bad, bad dream. But Jeb's nightmare was true-to-life. And just beginning.

Gang-raped in an AIDS quarantine cell, denied appropriate medical care and detained without legal counsel, Jeb experienced a month-long ordeal that illustrates the impact of anti-gay bigotry and AIDS hysteria on the treatment of prisoners in Orange County's 33rd Street Jail and across the nation.

*A counseling session with  
a jail physician included  
little more than  
being told he would be dead  
in a few years...*

"I kept thinking this can't happen here," he recalls. "But it did. If you are HIV positive and you are arrested in Orange County, it's like being thrown in a Turkish prison."

Greater Orlando Area Legal Services, Inc. (GOALS), a public assistance legal service agency, has prepared a lawsuit requesting a court order to stop abuses of prisoners at the jail including segregation

and inadequate medical care. The suit will seek a jury trial and monetary damages.

When the jail was threatened with the suit last August, a jail spokesperson claimed that some changes in treatment of HIV prisoners would be made. However, reports from prisoners such as Jeb indicate that inadequacies persist.

Jeb, a 24-year old with sandy brown hair, was arrested on charges of cocaine and marijuana possession shortly after Labor

Day. Soft-spoken and earnest, Jeb's clean-cut good looks would not be out of place on the campus of Rollins College or Georgetown University.

excuse for that kind of ignorance. If I was ignorant of drug laws, it wouldn't have kept me out of jail."

Jeb's story is punctuated with polite, but persistent coughing, a nagging reminder of his fragile health condition.

"I told them I had AIDS, thinking it was no big deal," Jeb recalls. "I had no idea what the outcome of it would be."

"They treat you like a leper," he explains. "When they took me in the van I



Orange County's 33rd Street Jail complex; HIV positive prisoners are currently quarantined in the "Y" cell.

Day. Soft-spoken and earnest, Jeb's clean-cut good looks would not be out of place on the campus of Rollins College or Georgetown University.

"They were not being mean," he says. "They were just ignorant. But there is no

was in a separate cage. They acted really weird. They threw the handcuffs away after they were through. They all wore rubber gloves."

Jeb says he was not told of his legal rights at the time of his arrest, and that he repeatedly asked for, but was not assigned, legal representation.

After booking and a cursory medical examination, Jeb was put in isolation in the prisons juvenile ward.

"I couldn't get out of bed, I was so weak," Jeb remembers. "I was horribly sick."

A counseling session with a jail physician included little more than being told he would be dead in a few years, Jeb says.

"He never examined me," says Jeb. "He had the attitude that I deserved this for being a homosexual. For a doctor, he was the most uncompassionate man I have ever met."

### INADEQUATE CARE

Charges that treatment and counseling in the jail have not kept pace with current accepted medical practice are a significant part of the lawsuit prepared by GOALS.

... According to the complaint, Dr. Blakey

## The GOALS Lawsuit

The GOALS complaint is a class action lawsuit on behalf of prisoners in Orange County Jail. Drafted by Homero Leon, Jr. on behalf of the prisoners, the lawsuit addresses a number of significant issues:

- Is segregation in the AIDS cell unconstitutional?
- Is prompt adequate medical treatment available?
- Is testing the blood of only a small group of inmates arbitrary and capricious?
- Have the HIV prisoners been discriminated against?
- Are the HIV prisoners exposed to

- cruel and unusual punishment?
- Is failure to offer education and psychological counseling to the prisoners on HIV, ARC, and AIDS a violation of rights to adequate health care?

There are six causes of action, or legal reasons for the case:

COUNT ONE: Violation of the civil rights of the prisoners. Under 42 United States Code Section 1983, a recently discovered reconstruction era statute,

See GOALS, Page 14



# 3rd Street Prisoners with AIDS?

of the jail medical staff discontinued AZT for a prisoner who had been prescribed the drug for life by the Orange County Health Department.



Standing in front of his parents suburban home, Jeb Blankenbiller looks back on 27 days as an Orange County "AIDS Inmate." Jeb faces a January court date.

Another case history tells of a prisoner's descent into depression after being told by Dr. Blakey that he had five years to live. Despite numerous requests, the patient received no counselling or education.

"It's murder," insists Alfredo Martinez-Garcia, Director of Trans-Aid, a comprehensive AIDS service organization with some clients in the county correctional system. "These people are not getting adequate medical treatment."

"I'm not saying these people are angels," Martinez cautions. "Some of them are thieves and prostitutes and worse. But most of them are not rapists or people who are a threat to society in terms of AIDS. They are far too weak, far too sick."

Martinez believes the cost of providing life-sustaining care is one reason that people with AIDS are discriminated against, combined with "bigotry and hatred of gay people."

A recent report by the New York Bar Association indicates that prisoners with AIDS live "only half as long as people diagnosed with AIDS with similar backgrounds who are not incarcerated."

33rd Street Medical Director Betty Robinson declined comment when contacted about this article. Prison Director Tom Allison did not return a reporters calls.

If previous legal rulings are any indication, it is likely that the prison will ultimately be required to provide competent mental and physical medical care. (Editor's note: see accompanying article.)

In late November, a federal ruling released an AIDS prisoner in Miami to a private hospital. The judge stated that the care in the prison "lacked continuity which is considered necessary" and said that the proper medications for treating AIDS were not available at the prison.

Susan, a 24-year old former prisoner in the jail, is angry about the prison's handling of HIV positive people. She believes that HIV prisoners are treated shabbily due to the stigma attached to the disease.

"That's not for them to decide," she declares. "I'm not a homosexual, and I'm not an IV drug user. It's not just gay people. They just don't want foot the bill."

See NIGHTMARE, Page 14

## AIDS and Its Treatment

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), is a viral disease that breaks down the immune system, leading to a variety of life-threatening illnesses. The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which causes AIDS is thought to be carried by 1.5 million people in the United States alone.

HIV is spread by blood contact, including sex and IV drug use. The virus is not spread by casual contact.

People infected with HIV are not classified as having AIDS until they have developed serious complications such as Kaposi's Sarcoma, the formerly rare skin cancer that first alerted doctors to the emerging AIDS health crisis.

Before developing "full-blown" AIDS, a person infected with the HIV

See TREATMENT, Page 15

## HIV Prisoners: A Medical Perspective

By Ken Berg  
 News Editor

Howard Grossberg, Associate Director of Research at Schering/Plough, was asked by The Center Fold to comment on medical aspects of the HIV prisoners at Orange County Jail. Grossberg is a board certified physician in oncology, hematology, and internal medicine. A nationally known consultant and faculty member at New York University, Grossberg is intimately involved in AIDS research, coordinating basic and clinical trials across the country.

**CENTERFOLD:** Do HIV positive prisoners need to be segregated?

**GROSSBERG:** As far as casual contact with fluids, there's no reason to isolate people. But if the possibility of inadvertent or forceful sexual intercourse exists, it's not altogether unreasonable.

**CENTERFOLD:** Some people think that the fact that the HIV Positives are segregated is an admission that the jail cannot control the unsafe sex that is going on.

**GROSSBERG:** If they cannot stop unsafe sex, then I am not sure it is a bad idea to segregate HIV positive prisoners. However, a lawyer might find all sorts of things wrong with that.

**CENTERFOLD:** Not all people going into Orange County jail are being tested for HIV. They're being tested on whether or not they are known to be a drug user or homosexual or prostitute, or perceived to be.

**GROSSBERG:** That's fairly grossly unfair and you're certainly going to miss people who don't appear to be overtly homosexual or people who don't appear to be overtly drug users.

**CENTERFOLD:** So from a medical standpoint, screening would need to be done globally in order to really be effective in screening?

**GROSSBERG:** Yes, but screening is not 100% sensitive. You're going to miss a number of people who've been recently exposed, and people at the onset of the infection before they make antibodies are very, very good secreters of virus.

**CENTERFOLD:** What do you think that the role of counselling is in HIV Testing?

**GROSSBERG:** I think that if you are going to have mandatory testing of people against their will, you have really got to have a very good system, and you have got to have a very sympathetic staff who can deal with the problem, and not just say, "Oh, you've got HIV and you're going to die in two years." The whole issue of counseling has been looked at very extensively and there

are already some programs. San Francisco General has had a model program in how to counsel patients, and how to break the news to the patients, and how to support the patients through the profound depression which usually occurs shortly after learning the diagnosis. And it depends on the level of sophistication of the individual patient what their perception of the disease is, but lots of people will go into very profound degrees of depression after getting a positive result. I can't imagine the psychological trauma of somebody being thrown into the AIDS cell without any prior idea of being infected, I mean, just being thrown into it, and having that be his first indication that he was HIV positive. That would be rather devastating.

*I can't imagine the psychological trauma of somebody being thrown into the AIDS cell without any prior idea of being infected...*

**CENTERFOLD:** And indications are that is what has been happening.

**GROSSBERG:** Well, that is sort of cruel and unusual punishment in and of itself. That's not the best way to find out that you are HIV positive.

**CENTERFOLD:** Apparently the jail staff are taking the handcuffs and throwing them away, wearing rubber gloves, and serving the HIV prisoners on separate paper plates. Is that necessary?

**GROSSBERG:** In reality, no. It doesn't take much to kill the AIDS virus. If you're going to share silverware between people without washing it, there probably is a minuscule risk. But no, most of those precautions are completely unnecessary. On the other hand, if there are chances that the guards could be bitten by a patient, and certainly there have been cases where AIDS patients have assaulted guards, with biting, with opening wounds, spitting in them, there is at least a theoretical chance that the guards are at risk, but no, most of that is just hysteria.

**CENTERFOLD:** A pair of handcuffs, for example, that's been worn on the outside of a persons body. What is the necessity in discarding them?

See MEDICAL PERSPECTIVE, Page 15



## Concert Packs Emotional Wallop Men's Chorus Groups Sing Out

By John B. Voss  
 Staff Writer

Gay and Lesbian Community Services hosted a performance of the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida and the Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus, the first performance of its kind in the Orlando area, at Valencia Community College's Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Nov. 18th. 350 people attended the event, the proceeds of which will go to support the establishment of a gay chorus in the Orlando area. Helen Spiegel from the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses stated that the choruses are providing not only a "forum for lesbians and gays," but also "leadership and inspiration for the lesbian and gay



Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida perform at the Valencia Community College Performing Arts Center

community through choral excellence." This was truly evident, since both choruses received standing ovations. Many of the people present were visibly moved by the performances.

Each chorus used a seasonal theme for its performance, featuring traditional carols, some not-quite-so-traditional carols and even a couple of turn-the-heads-of-the-far-right-fundamentalists carols. The Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida played against the stereotypical views of gays, bringing comedy, along with the talent of 40 men, to their performance. The focal point of their message was presented in the song "Giving." The idea that despite our differences in sexual orientation, race, religion, etc., we are all equal in our ability to share love and understanding through the giving of ourselves.

The Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus presented a more traditional approach, including many a capella carols. The beauty of their performance came from the group's ability to cooperate vocally — a definite indication of the hard work and talent in that chorus. As comic relief, they presented the song "What If The Founding Fathers," which made the hypothetical point that had our founding fathers been gay, they might have seen fit to make sure that "We the people..." included gays and lesbians as well.



Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus during the Orlando concert

Both choruses joined together for the finale, singing "Walk Hand in Hand," sending not only the message for a happy holiday season, but the promise of a better future for all. As the gay and lesbian community in Orlando builds a chorus of its own, it would be good to retain the inspiration and remember the message of peace and equality presented by this concert.

### SPANKY'S SPACE

BY SPANKY (natch)

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December 1989

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refrigerator or corkboard. When opened up to *I.T.*'s centerfold, you can check the dates of meetings and events and immediately refer to the related phone numbers from the directory. If there's a special event at an area night spot, fundraiser, political rally, or social event, you'll discover it in *I.T.* We think *I.T.*'s a good idea, and we hope you like *I.T.*



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New Year's Eve  
9:00 p.m.  
12/31/89



**LCN Gathering**  
Saturday December 16  
4:00 p.m.



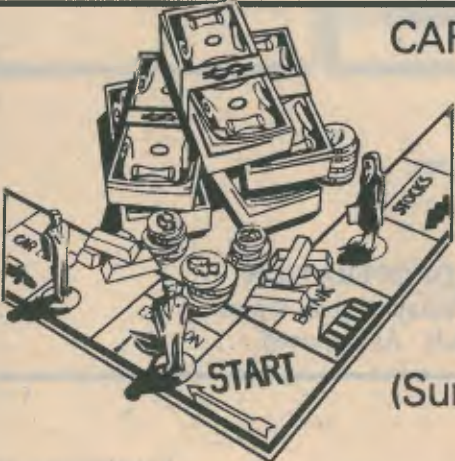
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Monday December 25  
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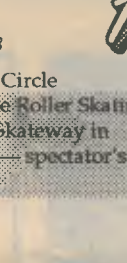
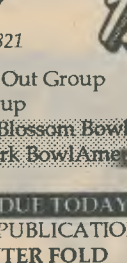
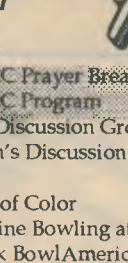
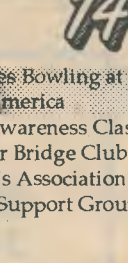
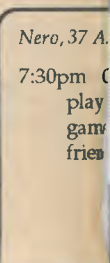

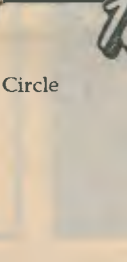
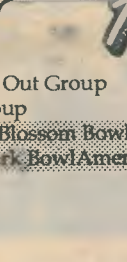
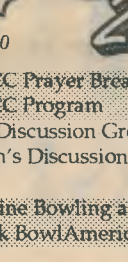
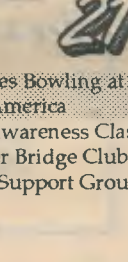
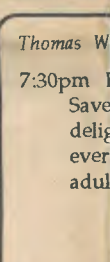

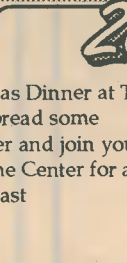
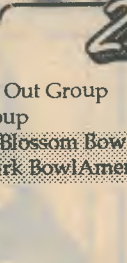
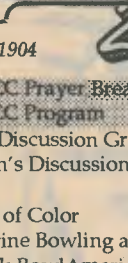
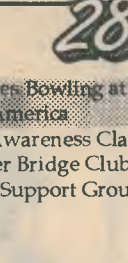
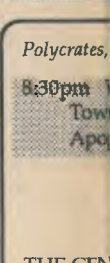
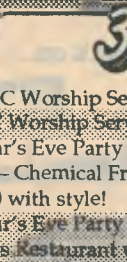
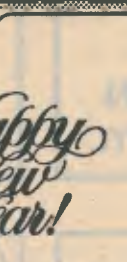
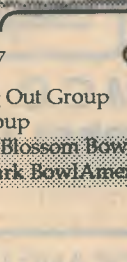
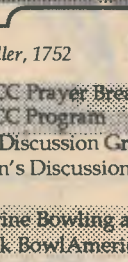
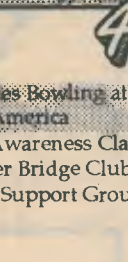
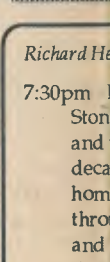
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# DECEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

 Baron Frederick Leighton, 1830 5:30 pm GLCS Board Meeting — if you'd like to help chart the direction of GLCS into the Gay 90's, plan to join us 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service	 Juliette Recamier, 1777 7:30pm Celebration of Light and Hope — a benefit for Hope and Help Center at the Enzian Theater, Maitland 8:00pm Healing Circle	 Christina Rossetti, 1830 6:00pm Coming Out Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Sir Osbert Sitwell, 1892 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast 7:30pm Joy MCC Program 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Willa Cather, 1873 6:30pm Lucky Ladies Bowling at Fairvilla BowlAmerica 7:00pm Christian Awareness Class 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group	 World AID 7:30pm F Chris
 Emily Dickinson, 1830 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service  DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR GLCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS	 Quentin Crisp, 1908 8:00pm Healing Circle 9:15pm GaySkate Roller Skating at Semoran Skateway in Canaberry — spectator's welcome!	 Gustave Flaubert, 1821 6:00pm Coming Out Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica  ALL COPY DUE TODAY FOR JANUARY PUBLICATION IN THE CENTER FOLD	 Martial, 38 B.C. 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast 7:30pm Joy MCC Program 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:00pm People of Color 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Dan Dailey, 1917 6:30pm Lucky Ladies Bowling at Fairvilla BowlAmerica 7:00pm Christian Awareness Class 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Gay Parent's Association 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group	 Nero, 37 A 7:30pm C play gam frien
 Deborah Sampson, 1760 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service	 "Saki," 1890 8:00pm Healing Circle	 Barbette, 1904 6:00pm Coming Out Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Elsie de Wolfe, 1860 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast 7:30pm Joy MCC Program 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Albert Dekker, 1905 6:30pm Lucky Ladies Bowling at Fairvilla BowlAmerica 7:00pm Christian Awareness Class 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group	 Thomas W 7:30pm F Save delig ever adul
 Howard Hughes, 1905 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service 9:15pm Joy MCC Christmas dinner 10:30pm Joy MCC Christmas Service 11:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service	 Christmas 4:00pm Christmas Dinner at The Center — spread some holiday cheer and join your friends at The Center for a late afternoon feast  THE CENTER IS OPEN 3 PM - 7 PM	 Thomas Gray, 1716 6:00pm Coming Out Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Marlene Dietrich, 1904 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast 7:30pm Joy MCC Program 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:00pm People of Color 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 F.W. Murnau, 1889 6:30pm Lucky Ladies Bowling at Fairvilla BowlAmerica 7:00pm Christian Awareness Class 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group	 Polycrates, 8:30pm T Tow Apo
 New Year's Eve 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service 9:00pm New Year's Eve Party at The Center — Chemical Free! Bring in 1990 with style! 9:30pm New Year's Eve Party at Murphy Jim's Restaurant with puppeteer Jerry Halliday — \$75	 New Year's Day  Happy New Year!  THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY	 Carey Thomas, 1857 7:30pm Coming Out Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Johannes Von Müller, 1752 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast 7:30pm Joy MCC Program 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling at Winter Park BowlAmerica	 Harsden Hartley, 1877 6:30pm Lucky Ladies Bowling at Fairvilla BowlAmerica 7:00pm Christian Awareness Class 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group	 Richard He 7:30pm F Stone and u deca homo throu and a those

Shaded entries on the calendar are events which occur at a location other than The Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

LOCATION  
750 W. Colonial Dr.  
Orlando

MAILING ADDRESS  
P.O. Box 533446  
Orlando, Florida 32853-3446

24-HOUR HOTLINE  
(407) THE-GAYS  
(407) 843-4297

HOURS OF OPERATION  
Monday - Friday · 1 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Weekends · As required



## RIDAY SATURDAY

<p>5 Day</p> <p>Film Festival: "White Christmas"</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Catullus, 84 B.C.</p> <p>7:00pm Joy MCC Art Auction at First Unitarian Church</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Augustus, 1868</p> <p>Film Festival: "Miracle on 34th Street" — the spirit of Christmas is rekindled in a young girl (Natalie Wood) by department store Santa.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>John Milton, 1608</p> <p>8:00pm Disney Cast Party — a private party especially for hourly and salaried Disney employees</p>
<p>15</p> <p>D.</p> <p>Games Night — come play your favorite board games and make some new friends!</p>	<p>16</p> <p>George Santayana, 1863</p> <p>4:00pm LCN Gathering — the monthly event for the Loving Committed Network</p> <p>8:00pm Central Florida Mensa GaySIG invites all Mensa members and interested candidates to an Open House at The Center</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Higginson, 1823</p> <p>Film Festival: "Ernest Saves Christmas" — a hilarious comedy starring Yipes favorite mature actors.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Hanukkah</p> <p>4:00pm Backyard BBQ — If you've never been to The Center before, now's a great time to come see what it's all about and meet new friends</p>
<p>29</p> <p>570 B.C.</p> <p>White Party at Orlando's Plantation in Ocala</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Tiny Tim, 1923?</p> <p>THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY</p>
<p>5</p> <p>er, 1773</p> <p>Film Festival: "Before the Fall" — a fascinating unforgettable decade-by-decade history of homosexuality in America through eye-opening films, amazing interviews with who lived through it.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Sherlock Holmes, 1854</p> <p>THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY</p>

## THE GROUPIES

### Groups Appearing on the Calendar

**ALAN KASPER BRIDGE CLUB.** A group of Bridge players gathers for a night of the game. New players always welcomed.

**BACKYARD BBQ.** A cookout which happens indoors when weather demands. Complimentary burgers and dogs(hot) etc. are offered.

**CHRISTIAN AWARENESS.** Discussions on the symbiosis of homosexuality and Christianity.

**COMING OUT GROUP.** This discussion group is open to anyone who is in the coming out process.

**COURAGE TO CHANGE.** A group for friends and family members of alcoholics or anyone who may benefit from a 12-step program.

**GAMES NIGHT.** All are welcomed for an evening of table-top board games from Trivial Pursuit to Clue and Uno and everything in between.

**GLCS.** Gay and Lesbian Community Services. Operates Gay Telephone Hotline for Gay peer counseling. Organizes monthly Gay Skate parties. Raises and distributes funds to other gay outreach organizations. Publishes Gay and Lesbian Guide to Central Florida and operates The Center.

**GAY PARENTS COALITION.** This group is for parents who are gay. They meet the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

**HEALING CIRCLE.** A loving gathering of men and women using Louise Hay's principles to promote self love and loving relationships, and a healthier body and spirit.

**JOY MCC.** Joy Metropolitan Community Church. A Christian church open to all denominations regardless of race, sex or sexual orientation.

**LCN.** Loving Committed Network. Publishes a monthly newsletter, the "LCN Express," and provides monthly functions for women.

**MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP.** This group for men meets Wednesdays.

**MOVIE NIGHT.** The Center presents Friday Night at The Movies each week. There is no ticket price, however, refreshments are available for a donation.

**ORANGE BLOSSOM BOWLING ASSOCIATION.** Meets Tuesday nights at Winter Park Bowling Lanes. The leagues take over the facility for a fun night of bowling. Those not in a league are always welcome to socialize and discover what a great spectator sport bowling is.

**PFLAG.** Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meet the last Wednesday of each month at the Friends Meeting House, 316 Marks St., Orlando.

**PEOPLE OF COLOR SUPPORT GROUP.** A discussion time for non-Caucasian lesbians and gays — Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, American Indians, etc.

**RAP GROUP.** A mixed group of men and women, young and old, discussing a variety of topics concerning the gay and lesbian community.

**SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS.** Signing for the deaf. This 12-week course is currently in mid-term. Sorry, no new joiners unless experienced. New class forms in January.

**TANGERINE BOWLING ASSOCIATION.** Meets Wednesday nights at Winter Park BowlAmerica.

**TRANS-AID AND FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP.** For P.W.A.'s (people with AIDS) and care-givers.

**TRI-COUNTY AIDS NETWORK.** Meets the first Monday of each month to discuss specific areas of need in the AIDS community.

**WE THE PEOPLE.** A concerned group of citizens gathered together to fight for the rights of all citizens.

**WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP.** This group for lesbians and gay-sensitive women meets Wednesdays.

**ZION A.A.C.** A liturgical, charismatic church which believes Christ died to save everyone, including lesbians and gays.

## 3.2.1 CONTACT

### Community Contact Information

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Orlando ..... (407) 647-3333  
Brevard County ..... (407) 242-8063  
AIDS Hotline (Nationwide) ..... (800) 342-AIDS  
AIDS Testing, Anonymous  
Orlando ..... (407) 244-2601  
Volusia County ..... (904) 257-1700  
AREA - AIDS related services ..... (407) 647-2765  
Breaking the Silence MCC ..... (407) 254-5884  
(Brevard County)  
CENTAUR - AIDS related services ..... (407) 849-1452  
Center for Drug-Free Living ..... (407) 423-6611  
Center, The, 24-hour phone line ..... (407) 843-4297  
Gay Parents Association ..... (407) 898-9919  
(Scott or Larry)  
Gay Information Hotline ..... (407) THE-GAYS  
(24 hours)  
Gay Peer Counseling ..... (407) THE-GAYS  
(8 p.m. - 11 p.m., 7 days)  
G.L.C.S. - Gay and Lesbian ..... (407) THE-GAYS  
Community Services  
Health Dept. (Orange County) ..... (407) 244-2601  
Hope and Help Center ..... (407) 628-8542  
(AIDS related services)  
Joy MCC (Orlando) ..... (407) 894-1081  
Lambda Legal Defense ..... (212) 995-8585  
LCN Express ..... (407) 273-1825  
Legal Aid Society ..... (407) 841-8310  
National Gay and Lesbian Law ..... (904) 656-2024  
Association ..... or (904) 488-5899  
PFLAG - Parents and Friends ..... (407) THE-GAYS  
of Lesbians and Gays

Rape Crisis Center ..... (407) 648-3028  
Suicide Intervention ..... (407) 644-2027  
Spouse Abuse ..... (407) 886-2856  
The Center, 24-hour phone line ..... (407) 843-4297  
Trans-Aid - AIDS related ..... office (407) 839-0945  
In emergency ..... (407) 351-6930  
We Care, 24-hour suicide ..... (407) 655-2027  
intervention hotline  
Women's Health Center ..... (407) 896-2022  
Women's Resource Center ..... (407) 898-1599  
We The People ..... (407) 839-0595

### ORLANDO BARS/DISCOS

#### CURRENTLY ADVERTISING IN THE CENTER FOLD

Faces ..... (407) 291-7571  
Flamingo Lounge ..... (407) 677-4299  
Games Lounge ..... (407) 260-8001  
Hank's ..... (407) 291-2399  
Key Largo ..... (407) 291-0686  
Parliament House ..... (407) 425-7571  
Southern Nights ..... (407) 898-0424

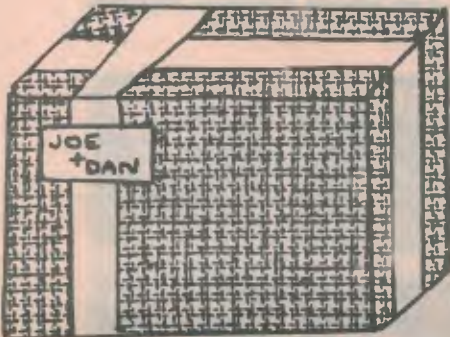
For a complete listing of all area gay businesses and services, consult the Gay and Lesbian Guide to Central Florida, Orlando's own gay yellow pages. Available at The Center and other area nightspots.



# Santa's Safe Sex Toybox

By Dr. Jeff Goodgame  
Contributor

This year Santa's elves have been busy manufacturing some extra special toys for good lesbians and gay men. To make sure that your stocking stuffers are on the "safe" side, Santa offers the following Christmas shopping guide.



**Cock Rings** — This device may enhance or prolong an erection, but should not be used for long periods of time. It should be removed if it causes any pain and frequently released to allow proper blood flow return from the penis. An adjustable snap apparatus would be safer than the metal or rubber continuous ring. Prolonged use of a cock ring might result in bruising, bleeding beneath the skin, and possible ischemia (lack of oxygen) to the penis. Of course, without oxygen things tend to die and fall off! Protect your assets. Don't get caught in the emergency room with a full erection and in a difficult situation.



Santa?!

**Dildoes** — Yes, they are safer than unprotected anal or vaginal intercourse because there is no internal ejaculation taking place. However, there are some considerations. The dildo should be a reasonable size considering the space it is going to occupy. Always take things slowly and never cause bleeding. A base to the dildo is very important, because every now and then someone presents to the emergency room with, shall

we say, a lost article which sometimes requires surgery to relieve an obstruction.

Do not share your toy, (or should I say your friend should not share his/her toy) since they can transmit disease if they are not completely cleaned. Rubber is difficult to clean and sharing toys even in the best circumstances could be risky. Always use a water based lubricant since oils may start dissolving or discoloring your favorite toy.

The lubricant also helps prevent tearing of some important orifices.

**Ben Wa Balls** — These balls, attached on a string, can cause tearing when pulled out rapidly, no matter where they were. Lubricant certainly would be advised and extreme care taken not to injure anything down there. This gift would be low on a recommended scale.

**Poppers** — You've heard it before, these inhalants are probably harmful to the immune system and should be avoided. Skin contact can cause burning and ingestion severe gastroenteritis (stomach ache). If you use them, try to limit the frequency and certainly make sure the container is placed in a safe position so that it will not spill on sensitive areas.



**Rubbers** — Please put these in your stocking stuffers with a good supply of non-oxynol-9. It never hurts to be prepared for the unexpected and always use protection no matter what line you get from the other party. Remember, it takes two to have unsafe sex, and only one to keep it safe!

## Ella's House

By Johnny Stewart, Jr.  
Staff Writer

Ella walked with a little extra pep. The bus driver's flirtation had her palpitating. "I especially like his eyes, they sparkle like my genuine two-dollar emerald earrings." Ella stopped dead in her tracks, it felt as if

*"I especially like his eyes,  
they sparkle like my genuine  
two-dollar emerald earrings."*

someone had walked over her grave. "How can I even be considering courtin' a white man?" She thought back to how everyone at church had treated that girl from up north who was married to a white man. How they stared at them during church and how no one would shake hands with them after church services were over. Ella bowed her head, she remembered how she'd pointed fingers and spoke unkindly

of the young lady. Ella took a long breath and asked the lord to forgive her past foolishness. "That was then and this is now and folks ain't as stupid as they were, I hope, 'cause I surely am smitten with that man." Her enthusiasm returned and once again she was headed for home.

As soon as Ella got in, off went her hat, coat, and shoes. Her favorite chair seemed to hold out its arms to welcome her. She slid into it like a hand into a glove. She caught her breath as she examined her small abode. She pondered how white man would fit in with her television, chair, and the 3-D picture of Jesus that blinked. Ella laughed at herself, "He ain't even asked me out and here we are married already."

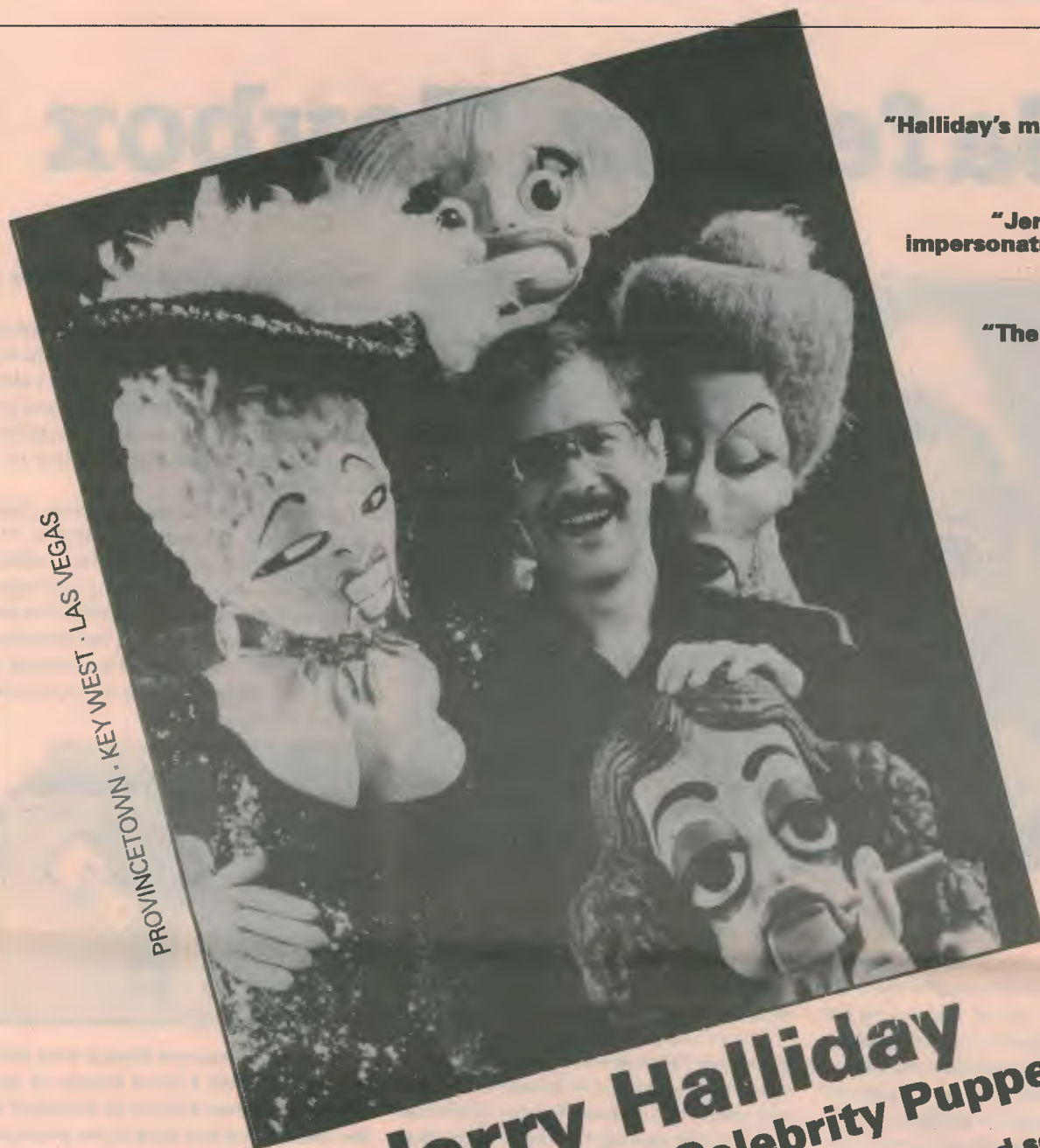
She wiped her brow. The house was a little warm — even the picture of Jesus seemed to sweat between blinks. Ella pulled herself away from her chair and into a cool shower. Halfway through her shower she started to see them eyes just a-sparkling as he drove that bus, so she cut the hot water off and stood under the spigot as the cold

hit the back of her neck. She hurriedly dried off and wrapped a towel around herself. It was getting close to Oprah time and she hadn't a moment to lose. Just as she got comfortable, the phone rang.

It was Mary from Billy Bob's Cafe. Ella rolled her eyes, she wasn't in the mood for gossip — it was time for Oprah. Mary was short and to the point, her boss wanted to see Ella about the job she'd applied for. Ella hung up and did a little jig. "I'm officially gonna be a waitress now. Plus, I've got to take the bus downtown again, so Sparkle Eyes, here I come!" Ella licked her lips and then noticed Jesus staring at her between blinks. She put her hands on her hips and said in a soft voice, "maybe one more cold shower."

*Ella rolled her eyes, she  
wasn't in the mood for gossip  
— it was time for Oprah*





**Jerry Halliday**  
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 -Showbiz Magazine

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 -Entertainment Today

"Las Vegas' hilarious new comedy star!"  
 -Las Vegas Today

"A lot of laughs - a strong, polished act."  
 -Las Vegas Review-Journal

DECEMBER  
 27  
 WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER  
 28  
 THURSDAY

DECEMBER  
 29  
 FRIDAY

DECEMBER  
 30  
 SATURDAY

Dinner served from 6 P.M.  
 Showtime at 9:30 P.M.

DECEMBER  
 31  
 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Open Dinner served 5 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.  
 Reopening for Benefit Party at 9:30 P.M.

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## New Year's Eve

December 31, 1989

Private Benefit Party  
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\$25.00 from each ticket donated to the  
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Entertainment by Jerry Halliday and his Celebrity Puppets.

Tickets available only at The Center.  
Call (407) 425-4527 for reservations.

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Seating begins at 9:30 p.m.



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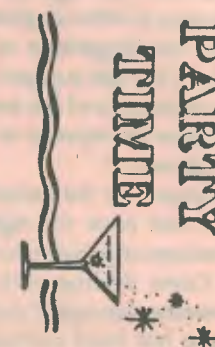
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AND CLEAN UP!**

**PAMPER YOURSELF**





**NIGHTMARE,**

from Page 9

According to Susan, pregnant women are frequently transported to the health department from the jail. She believes the same could easily be done for HIV positive prisoners.

"If you want medical care, it is very hard to get it," says Susan. "They ignore you. The system is a really ugly thing to be caught up in. A real nightmare."

**QUARANTINE AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

Blood tests and segregation are another area of concern surrounding the HIV prisoners.

Tests have been done selectively on prisoners who are thought to be drug users or homosexuals. Following an Orlando Sentinel article in August, the prison promised that prisoners would no longer be tested involuntarily.

However, those who test positive continue to be segregated in an area commonly known as the AIDS cell, which some believe to be an inhumane form of ostracism that violates confidentiality and creates added health problems.

"I was not segregated, but I knew all about the women who were," says Susan. "I was mortified. It was like a freak show. It's bad enough being HIV positive without being a part of that. They treat you like you are not human."

Visitors touring the prison, including school age children, are shown the cell, which is pointed out as the one containing the AIDS prisoners.

Susan was not segregated only because

she had not yet been tested. Ironically, she repeatedly asked for an HIV test while at the prison, because she sensed that she was ill.

Released to The Bridge, a work release/drug rehabilitation center, Susan says her positive test results were revealed to the other women in the program. Now she is forbidden to visit her boyfriend, who is still there.

"We love each other," Susan says. "We want to have safe sex. They said he can't kiss me or be around me, or work in the kitchen because I'm HIV positive."

If Susan's experience is any indication, education and reform in regards to handling of people with AIDS may extend beyond the jail into work release, parole and community control programs.

**JEB'S STORY CONTINUES**

Following isolation, Jeb was put in the AIDS Cell. He says he was not told ahead of time that his fellow inmates would all be carrying the HIV virus.

He was shocked by what he saw there, including widespread, unprotected sex.

"The guards knew about it," says Jeb. "They would say 'Oh, is this your new husband?' It was that obvious. At night, no one would check to see what was going on. They even had a wedding while I was in there. The bride was a drag queen in a garbage bag dress."

Medical treatment seemed to be limited, Jeb says.

"It was calamine lotion for the sores and cough syrup for the bronchitis," he explains. "No one was being given AZT treatment. It was let's just hold them here until they die."

Jeb's biggest nightmare while at the jail

was being forced to have unprotected sex by four of his fellow HIV positive prisoners.

"I was raped by four people while I was in there," Jeb relates, his eyes brimming with rage. "Two of them held me and two of them fucked me, and then they switched. I told the guard, and he said I was lying."

The sexual violence of which Jeb was victim may put him at added health risk. Repeated blood contact with the HIV virus is suspected by experts to be a "co-factor" that increases the severity of AIDS.

The rape was the last straw for Jeb's family. They hired a lawyer and he was soon arraigned and released — 27 days after his arrest.

"I honestly believe I would still be in there if they hadn't hired the lawyer. I don't know how in this country, where our parents have worked so hard for freedom, you can have your son put in a situation like that."

According to Jeb's father, a quagmire of bureaucratic red tape made it impossible to get a court attorney appointed. Because of Jeb's HIV status, he says, a high bail was set, and jail staff took a "who cares" attitude towards the disposition of the case. A January court date is now set, and Jeb is expected to enter a no contest plea, despite his insistence that the cocaine charge was a "set up" by the arresting officers.

**FACING THE FUTURE**

Far more significant than Jeb's legal prospects is the outlook for his health, which has deteriorated since his incarceration. Jeb says that the experience has robbed him of a sense of optimism, a characteristic common to long-term AIDS survivors.

"I had done my own research and be-

lieved that by positive thinking you can outlive the projections," he explains. "Now, no matter how hard I try, I keep hearing them telling me I'm going to die. I feel like the things I had come to believe in are a lie."

"I wake up screaming. I can't get enough rest. I think my experience there has ruined my life because I'll never be that hopeful person that I was before."

Providing the additional needs for care and counselling for Jeb and others like him is a difficult task for donation supported area volunteer groups.

Recalling the treatment of clients at the jail, Trans-Aid Director Martinez is tearful and impassioned.

"It's cruel and unusual punishment," he declares. "Why don't they give people with AIDS appropriate care? Because they think that if the person is out on the street they are a danger. So they are keeping them in jail and letting them die. They throw the book at people with AIDS. But being sick is no crime."

Homero Leon Jr., the easygoing attorney who prepared the GOALS suit, has also expressed frustration. A medical expert has not been found who will testify on behalf of the prisoners, despite a \$5,000 grant for that purpose from the Florida Justice Institute.

The recent report by the Joint Subcommittee on AIDS of the New York City Bar Association indicates that problems experienced by Orange County are nationwide in scope. The report denounced disclosure of prisoners positive HIV status, and recommended more humane legal and medical treatment for prisoners with AIDS.

**LEGAL ISSUES,**

from Page 8

"there is a constitutional right in one's medical records and in the doctor-patient relationship; that this right is not relinquished automatically when a person is incarcerated as the result of a criminal conviction; that, although the right may have to give way to other important interests of society, the allegations of the plaintiff's complaint do not suggest that the defendant's discussion of his medical tests was undertaken in response to any important social interest..."

Unfortunately for prisoners, however, they do not have the right to the same expectations of privacy that non-prisoners have. Cases dealing with very intimate strip searches have held them to be permissible and not cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Searches to find contraband are reasonable and necessary. A spot check of inmates entering a dormitory is permissible and searches of prisoners are

not unconstitutionally unreasonable unless performed in a cruel or unusual manner.

A 1975 federal case from Arizona specifically held that taking blood samples from prisoners was not an unreasonable search and seizure since the penal process itself requires a diminution of the prisoners' privacy.

Is the jail's refusal to provide adequate physical and mental medical care cruel and unusual punishment? The concept of cruel and unusual punishment embodies "broad and idealistic concepts of dignity, civilized standards, humanity and decency." As the society changes, so its standards of decency evolve. Courts have held that when conditions are bad enough to threaten inmates' health, those conditions violate the Constitution. Courts scrutinize the adequacy of prison medical care because it is a human necessity and deliberate indifference to the serious medical needs of convicted inmates constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. As to pretrial inmates, the obligation to provide medical care is at least the same, if not greater, than the re-

quirement for convicts.

It is obvious that people with HIV, ARC and AIDS require medical treatment to survive. This treatment includes education and medication to keep the physical situation from deteriorating, and counseling to keep the inmate's mental condition from deterioration.

Segregating these inmates in an "AIDS Cell" also endangers them. The ignorance among inmates and jailers alike has allowed unfounded fears of and overreactions to HIV infection to grow unchecked, creating a climate of fear and hostility. The inmates in the "AIDS Cell" are humiliated, ridiculed, harassed and threatened. These prisoners also are threatened by each other, each being potentially capable of infecting others with AIDS-related diseases. These facts also constitute cruel and unusual punishment.

Given the "Reagan Revolution" in the federal court system, especially the Supreme Court, it is unlikely that these courts will expand prisoner rights. Politically, AIDS is a volatile issue, and the federal District Court judges in Orlando do live in this

community. The U.S. Constitution has no explicit right to privacy amendment, and the current Supreme Court seems intent on eroding those rights that have previously been found to emanate from the Constitution. The Florida State Constitution, however, does have an explicit right to privacy amendment. And from the recent abortion case it decided, the Florida Supreme Court seems more inclined than the U.S. Supreme Court to protect individual rights.

However, a trial on the issue of testing must include testimony on the violence and sexual conduct in the prison. The only valid state interest in this case is protecting the general inmate population, and the state must prove what it is protecting that population against. This proof must involve statistics on forcible rape in the prison. To justify the AIDS testing, the state must, in effect, prove that it cannot protect prisoners from rape. It must also prove other violence likely to spread AIDS, once again proving that it cannot protect its prisoners. This case may well put the state in a no-win situation.



# Human Rights in Orange County

Prospects for a Human Rights ordinance in Orange County are looking better all the time. The Coalition for Human Rights has taken this on as their primary agenda and several public forums are planned for the coming months. Attend and find out what your rights are, what they could be, and where the candidates stand on the issues. The next meeting takes place Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 1615 East Robinson St., Orlando.

Several pro-gay candidates have expressed their desire to run for seats on the county commission and in the state legislature. Now is the time to get involved in these campaigns. The earlier you get involved, the more impact you can have. It's like voting more than once.

If you don't know who is running in your district, attend the next meeting of your political party. There you should have the chance to meet some of the candidates and to question them about the issues which are important to you.

In 1989 the state legislature dropped

'sexual orientation' from the Hate Crimes statistics bill with the promise that it would be voted upon as an amendment to that legislation in the 1990 session. Now is the

time to call and to write your state representatives and ask them to co-sponsor this amendment. Remember, all of the state representative and about half of the state

senators are up for re-election in 1990, so they should be more responsive to constituent pressure in the coming months. Act now for a change!

## Female at West Point

West Point reached another milestone in its long and illustrious 187-year history - a woman has been appointed to the position of First Captain of the Corps of Cadets. She is Kristin Baker, a 112 lb., 5'4" senior from Virginia, majoring in human factors engineering psychology.

Selected on the basis of academic excellence, athletic abilities, and military skills, as First Captain she oversees the lives of 4400 cadets, 90% of which are men. She is also a cross-country skier, a soccer player, and an Army brat who has graduated from the Army's elite Air Assault school.

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## MEDICAL PERSPECTIVE, from Page 9

GROSSBERG: There isn't any benefit. Pure panic. There's still a lot of panic and a lot of it is mindless and it can't be grounds for anything. But if you're going to ask a guard to expose himself to what he perceives as a very dangerous situation, you can only educate him so much. Certainly it doesn't make the prisoner feel good about himself and that can be very detrimental to see everybody coming in to him wearing gloves and gowns and throwing away handcuffs. It's unnecessary, but those attitudes unfortunately exist and they don't now only exist in prisons, they exist in many hospitals.

CENTERFOLD: What about the effects of the psychology of people who are HIV positive on their health? Prisoners are saying that physicians and nurses who are treating them, are telling them that they're going to be dead soon. Does that have an impact on their health?

GROSSBERG: That's very unproven, but probably the attitude does have a lot to do with the ability to counter infections. The whole field of neural immunology is in its infancy. So depression is probably capable of depressing immunity and there is medical evidence of that, not from AIDS, but in the people who have lost a spouse. The incidence of cancer within the year after losing a spouse is amazingly high. We know there is some immune suppression there that can be induced by grieving and probably the same thing exists in AIDS patients. It hasn't been well studied, but there probably is a very important part of attitude in preventing some of the complications of AIDS.

GROSSBERG: Based on GOALS complaint, the jail medical staff does not feel AZT is a proven effective treatment.

GROSSBERG: Well, that's certainly wrong. In all patients with a T4 count less than 200, the drug has been proven to retaliate the disease to prevent the progression to death.

There's no question about that... this has been well documented and I'm sure nobody believes that it's cured them of the disease, but as far as successful retaliation, it's been approved by the FDA, it's been accepted by the medical community. I think withholding AZT from a patient with a T4 count less than 200 and withholding some form of Pneumocystis Pneumonia prophylaxis from the same patient, both of those are grounds for malpractice.

CENTERFOLD: And what the AIDS service organizations are saying is that they feel it's cruel and unusual punishment. That it's hastening the death of those individuals who might be able, on the street, receive additional care to get AZT and to get this medical care that would lengthen their lifespan.

GROSSBERG: I have no qualms with that. I agree with that.

CENTERFOLD: How closely does a patient need to be monitored to determine

when treatment such as AZT is mandated? Should blood counts be done regularly?

GROSSBERG: A very difficult question, and I guess an ethical question — should patients in prison get better medical care than anybody else in the streets? There is a cost involved in AZT and a cost involved in testing and just getting routine blood tests and routine physicals. At that point it would be great for a patient who couldn't afford AZT and couldn't afford the testing to find some way of getting himself in jail. Because that way he'd be guaranteed getting better medical care than he could get on the outside. I'm not sure how to resolve that.

CENTERFOLD: But I don't think the issue is whether these people have a right to the best possible medical care, but are they being denied basic medical care.

GROSSBERG: I think their complaints need to be taken seriously; if they request medical care, they should certainly be given access to it.

## GOALS, from Page 8

citizens are allowed to sue state officials for civil rights violations.

COUNT TWO: By segregating the AIDS, ARC and HIV inmates, they are being discriminated against on the basis of handicap. A violation of the 29 United States Code Sections 706 and 794, in which AIDS is specifically listed as a handicap.

COUNT THREE: The Eighth Amendment to the Constitution prohibits cruel and unusual punishment. By failing to train its staff on AIDS, provide education, counseling or proper medical care to the in-

mates, and by exposing them to inmates with tuberculosis, hepatitis and pneumonia, the jail violated the inmates' rights.

COUNT FOUR: The inmates' due process rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments have been violated because the jail only tests and segregates some inmates in an arbitrary and capricious manner without any rational basis in its decisions.

COUNTS FIVE AND SIX: The fifth count is a violation of the Florida Constitutions right to privacy amendment and other rights and count six is a violation of Florida Human Rights Act of 1977, Florida Omnibus AIDS Act of 1988 and the Florida State Constitution.

## TREATMENT, from Page 9

virus may have no symptoms. Others develop a range of complications such as fevers, tiredness, and brain disorders. This condition is referred to as AIDS-Related Complex (ARC).

AZT (Azidothymidine) has been shown to be helpful in slowing the replication of the virus that causes AIDS, although its toxic side effects have been controversial.

In recent years, progress has been made in treating the infections and psychological problems which shorten the lives of those

whose immune systems have been weakened by HIV infection.

Pentamidine is an aerosol-delivered drug that has proven effective in preventing pneumocystis pneumonia, one of the deadliest threats to the life of a person with AIDS. Together with other treatments, Pentamidine can significantly extend the life of a person with AIDS.

Medical research shows evidence that depression and stress are aggravating factors in the development and spread of cancer and other serious medical conditions, including AIDS.