



GLSO

LEXINGTON

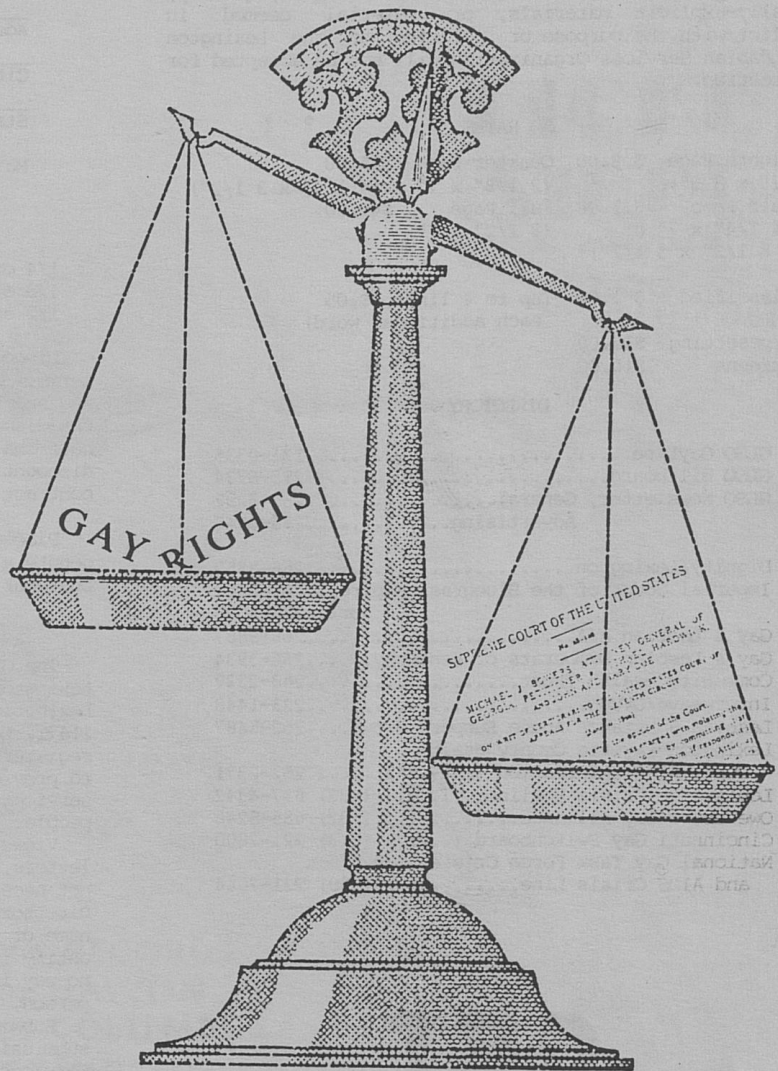
LEXINGTON GAY/LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION P.O. BOX 11471 LEXINGTON, KY 40575

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LESBIAN NEWS

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LEXINGTON'S GAY & LESBIAN NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING
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If you would like to advertise in the GLSO Newsletter, please send your camera-ready copy to: GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. The deadline for all submissions is the 15th of each month for publication the following month. Anything received after the deadline will not be guaranteed to be published in the next issue.

Ads may be sent camera-ready or rough. Rough copies are subject to additional charges as shown in the rates section below. GLSO will not be responsible for typesetting errors in the ad after printing; advertisers are responsible for proofing the ads they submit for publication.

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RATES

Eighth Page \$ 8.00 (2" x 3.5")	Quarter Page \$15.00 (2 1/8" x 7" or 4 1/4" x 3 1/2")
Half Page \$25.00 (4 1/4" x 7" or 8 1/2" x 3 1/2")	Full Page \$40.00 (8 1/2" x 7")
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- Please let me/us how I/we can be more involved in GLSO or other gay/lesbian organizations by calling _____ (phone)
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NAME(S) _____

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- 1/3 off for 12 issues
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The GLSO Newsletter is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization), P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40575. The GLSO is a registered non-profit organization the purpose of which is to provide educational, recreational, social, and referral services directly involving or relating to gay/lesbian people.

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Submissions for the Newsletter are welcome. All submissions become the property of the the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization). All submissions must indicate the full name and address of the author, although no by-line will be published without the express, written permission of the author. Non-original material must indicate that the original author has given permission for use of the material. Anonymous submissions cannot be accepted. The editorial staff reserves the right to alter submissions (including advertisements) to meet publishing requirements.

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RENAISSANCE RECORDS in DAYTON
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TIFS RECORDS in LOUISVILLE
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The DOUBLE CLOSET
(from LIFE)

(part three of three)

Though children may seem alien to most gay men, and would fit poorly into their life-style, there is a small, but significant minority who wish they could have them. The gay life gives these men everything they want except the possibility of fatherhood. Substitutes can be found, of course. Gay men have traditionally been drawn to the 'care-taking' professions -- teaching, medicine, nursing, and counseling. Says Daniel Rosenblatt, a New York psychotherapist who is himself gay, "Why do you think I have four cats, two dogs, three well-loved nieces and a nephew, hundreds of ex-students and over 50 patients?"

For some men, vicarious nurturing is just not enough. One result of their increasingly public perspective is the recent push for liberalized adoption laws. In 1979, Reverend John Kuiper, a gay minister in Catskill, New York, legally adopted a teenage boy. His son is heterosexual -- an advantage as far as Kuiper is concerned, since he would like to have grandchildren. And last year, a California marketing specialist named David Frater, who had long been a surrogate big brother to children in his neighborhood, adopted a 17-year-old son, also heterosexual. Kevin, he said, fills "a major emptiness in my life."

In New York, New Jersey, Washington, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, some social service agencies have recognized the logic of placing homosexual teenagers with homosexual foster parents. Many of these young people have been shunted from home to home for years, criticized so often for their sexual deviance that their self-esteem has all but disappeared. The courts, however, are not always sympathetic to the idea. In a 1975 Washington case, *In re Davis*, the judge refused to place a homosexual 16-year-old boy with a gay couple despite the recommendations of two social workers, two juvenile parole officers, a psychiatrist, a psychologist, and a sociologist. Such a placement, wrote the judge, "offends the traditional concept of what a family is."

These solutions do not offer the chance to pass on one's own genes. Michael Dorman's brother Paul, who is also gay, has ingeniously satisfied this urge by selling his sperm to an Ontario sperm bank. Although he does not consider himself ready for full-time fatherhood, he likes to think that there are children in the world who owe their existence to him. "People say that, because gays don't reproduce, they recruit," says Paul. "That, of course, is bullshit. I would never recruit but, by being a sperm donor, I've probably fathered more children than most straights." (Editor's note: This article was written before the full ramifications of the AIDS epidemic were understood. It is no longer recommended that gay men donate blood, sperm, or organs.)

Radical alternatives also exist for gays who wish to have, and keep, their own children. For several years, gay women have conceived through artificial insemination, sometimes collaborating with male friends from the gay community. Last year, for example, an artificially inseminated son was born in northern California to a lesbian named JoAnn Gardner-Loulan and a gay man named Paul Willson. Both of them had always wanted a child and, when they met each other, they decided to join forces. Gardner, now 14 months old, spends part of his week with each parent.

For men who already have children through conventional marriage, the problem is keeping them after the divorce. If a custody battle is waged in court and the mother is alive, the father's chances of obtaining full custody are practically nil. In some cases, he is denied all visitation. Such terms as "insufficient moral character," even references to Sodom and Gomorrah, regularly turn up in the texts of decisions. In one New Jersey case, *In re L.S. & C.*, the judge responded that, since sodomy is

illegal in his state, a father who exposed his child to homosexuality would be analogous to a bank robber who exposed his child to his "unacceptable line of endeavor." He therefore forbade the father ever to "be in the presence of his lover" when the child was there. In *Gottlieb v. Gottlieb*, a recent New York case, the judge also made the father promise he would never introduce his daughter, age four, to any of his gay friends or take her anywhere where known homosexuals are present." Another common stipulation is that a father attempt to "cure" his homosexuality. (Modes of treatment range from conventional psychotherapy to "aversion therapy," in which electric shocks are administered or vomiting is chemically induced whenever the patient is shown the image of a nude male. Though such therapy sometimes does diminish homosexual activity, gay activists claim that it works, no by altering the person's basic sexual bent, but by deepening his self-hatred so drastically that his true identity is repressed.) Those few fathers who are granted custody or generous visitation rights are generally "discreet" (in other words, the more closeted, the better); they are "balanced in their sexual attitudes" (which means they want their children to be straight even though they're gay); and they do not "flaunt their sexuality" (they do not belong to any gay organizations).

Since the criteria in all custody cases are "the best interests of the child," it is interesting to compare the prevailing judicial viewpoint with the sociological one. The most extensive studies to date were done in 1978 and 1979, in the U.S. and Canada, by Brian Miller at the University of Alberta. He found that virtually without exception, the "discreet" gay fathers who lived closeted lives were poor parents, and the public gays, who would be accused by most judges of "flaunting their sexuality,"

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were extremely good ones. The closeted fathers were far more likely to lead promiscuous sex lives. They kept their worlds separate by such exhausting expedients as secret post office boxes, hidden magazines and address books, and fake identities. To assuage their guilty consciences, they often showered their families with expensive gifts instead of attention -- what Miller calls the Santa Claus syndrome. Their extreme cognitive dissonance left them anxious and ashamed, and as a result, their relations with their children were distant and strained.

By contrast, the publicly gay father, who did not feel that their homosexuality lessened their value as either people or parents, tended to lead stable, domestic lives, often with a single, permanent lover, that permitted them to devote a great deal of time to their children. They were far less likely to use corporal punishment. Miller found that the sooner they were open about their homosexuality, the better. Children who were kept in the dark were likely to blame themselves for their parents' marital problems, and later felt hurt because their fathers had not trusted them enough to tell them the truth.

Right down the line, Miller's findings disagree with the criteria by which most courts have decided custody cases. Michael and Robert find this a sobering thought.

They would, without exception, pass every one of the sociological tests for responsible gay parenthood and flunk every one of the judicial ones. If their wives had fought them in court, it is quite likely that, unless they had given each other up, they would never have seen their children again.

Tolstoy was wrong. Happy families are not all alike. Were it not for the conspicuous absence of women — when Lynn comes to visit, Brittan can't take her eyes off the novelty of eye makeup and long fingernails — the Knight-Dorman household would seem like any modern family successfully reconstructed after divorce and remarriage. There are the usual step-sibling quarrels, quick to erupt but quick to resolve. The occasional moment of real unhappiness seems to have less to do with homosexuality than with divorce. "I want to live in one apartment, not two," Eryn once told Lynn. "I want one toybox." Last year he asked his father, "Why don't you move back? Mama doesn't have anyone to sleep with at night." Michael replied, "Well, if I did, then Robert wouldn't have anybody to sleep with."

Eryn and Jason do not talk about their unusual family at school. Says Jason, "When my friends are older, then I might try to explain it. I think they will like gay people O.K. because they'll like my daddy." So far, most of the reflected discrimination has come from adults rather than children. For the last two years, Robert's children have missed an annual Christmas party — a long-standing ritual, complete with a communally-purchased Santa Claus suit — that the Knights had shared with four other families for five years. In 1981, one of the other fathers informed Robert that, if he and Michael arrived with their families, several of his old friends would leave. "We didn't go," says Robert. "There was no way I was going to let my kids see that." They went to a gay Christmas party instead.


"Later on," says Michael, "when other kids are making derogatory remarks about homosexuality, will Eryn speak up or will he be silent? Knowing his father is gay, that will be a hard decision. I wouldn't blame him if he were silent." He and Robert have already decided that they will go together to their children's graduations but not to school dances. In the meantime, firmly believing in the fully-integrated life, they take the children along to gay father's group meetings, gay rallies, gay bookstores, even — before the cruising hour — to Dude's, their favorite gay bar, for hot chocolate and pinball. They consider this a mind-broadening experience for other gays as well as for their children. Says Robert, "Straights don't understand that we might want to go to a gay bar for something other than sex. We simply feel at home there. It's like that cartoon in *Christopher Street* magazine about a bar full of frogs. The frog bartender is saying, 'After a hard day at the office, it's nice to be with your own kind.'" The children have met their father's complete circle of friends, which includes teachers, nurses, engineers, a plastic surgeon, a real estate salesman and a fundamentalist minister who has never had sex with a man, but is certain that he is gay nonetheless.

Michael and Robert are both fully out of the closet at work. At the Worker's Compensation Board, Robert patiently answers questions like "Do you dress up in drag?" and "Which one of you is the wife?" (Neither: Their sexual relationship has no "male" or "female" roles; all housekeeping chores are shared; each father is responsible for his own children.) When asked if he and Michael are "practicing homosexuals," a term he finds distasteful, Robert replies, "We don't need to practice. We're already good at it."

In his mail room carrel, where other employees have pictures of their wives and children, Michael has pictures of his child and his lover. He likes to whistle "I'm Just Wild About Harry" as he sorts mail. Once someone left a note on his desk that said "FAGOT." Michael calmly pinned it up on a public bulletin board with a comment, "Faggot

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has two g's." "Some gays say they don't rub people's noses in it because what they do in bed is their own business," he says. "but being gay is not just what you do in bed. It's being able to walk arm-in-arm with your lover, tell your co-workers what bar you go to, who you live with, what movie you saw last weekend, what books you read. If that's flaunting your sexuality, then I flaunt it — and so does every straight in the world."

Robert and Michael have stopped counting the times they have been asked, by people looking pointedly at the children they evidently conceived without mechanical difficulty, if they are "really" gay. "They think maybe I must be bisexual, or that I used to be straight and somehow 'turned gay,'" says Michael. "In fact, nothing has changed except my ability to see who I really am. Having heterosexual experiences doesn't make you straight any more than having homosexual experiences makes you gay. Look at all the situations where straight men have sex with each other — armies, prisons, and so on — because they don't have access to women. As soon as they get out, their so-called homosexuality disappears. I feel when I married Lynn, I was in a kind of psychological prison. Society told me that the only sex available was the opposite one, so I made do with that until I was let out of my closet."

Michael often muses on the likelihood that gay fathers, like him and Robert, will become a vanishing breed. As homosexuality becomes more socially acceptable, fewer young gays will be pushed into heterosexual molds, and fewer will marry. "Of course, I wish I'd known what I know now when I was sixteen," says Michael. "Then I wouldn't have missed my entire youth through loneliness. On the other hand, I would never have had Eryn. I don't think I would have felt fulfilled without a child — even my mother thinks so. I'm glad it turned out as it did, except that my wife, who was completely innocent, ended up being sacrificed."

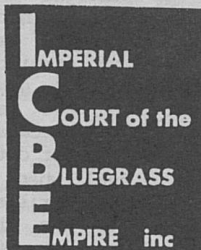
Lynn Dwyer, 36, who has resumed her maiden name, is now a counter agent at a car rental company. Rose Knight, also 36, is a teacher of severely retarded and disabled children. Neither has remarried. Robert still worries about whether Rose will get home safely in a snowstorm. Michael cannot bear to listen to songs that remind him of Lynn. When they saw *Making Love* — a movie most found so bland that, as *Esquire* commented, "it's as if Ozzie told Harriet he was gay" — both cried. "You know when you blink real fast to try to get the moisture back inside?" says Robert. "When the lights came on, I was blinking like crazy, because when the gay man came back to say good-bye to his wife, I kept seeing Rose."

Lynn says there have been times when she wished she

were gay, too. "I've gotten rather disillusioned with straight men," she says, "and I've met so many lovely, intelligent women. Sometimes I've thought, wouldn't it be lovely if the sexual aspect were there? But it just isn't in me." She and Michael see each other about twice a month. "If I'm feeling a little bit down," she says, "I'll say to him when he's leaving, 'Well, I could use a hug.' And its funny, it feels different from anyone else hugging me, even now. I do still love Michael. But he's an awfully hard person to buy a birthday card for. 'For My Husband' certainly isn't it, but 'For My Friend' just isn't enough. I guess Hallmark Cards hasn't yet created a category for people like us. This is not a family like other families. The fathers are well aware that they are a statistical rarity, a minority within a minority. The children know from their friends' families and the families they watch every night on television that theirs is different. Still, all families, however unconventional, have some things in common, and at eight every evening, the Knight-Dormans play out the same bedtime rituals that are taking place simultaneously in hundreds of other households in their suburban neighborhood.

Brittan lies in her frilly, pink room, freshly bathed and shampooed, with her stuffed rabbit on one side and her father on the other. "Benny the Bulldozer rattled and bumped," reads Robert. "Nice Benny," says Brittan. Next door, in Eryn's masculine stronghold, Michael reads, "Within minutes, dozens of Imperial stormtroopers boarded the rebel craft, firing their laser rifles." Before he rises from the bed, Michael leans over and kisses his son on the cheek. Caught in that brief, ambivalent season at the end of little-boyhood, before such acts take on another meaning, Eryn says, "Yuck" and then kisses Michael back.

★ ★ ★



ICBE Notes
by
Twyla Knight

The Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire, Inc. held a benefit show on July 13th at the Circus Disco for the Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass. The I.C.B.E. is planning other fundraisers such as an International Night, as well as a Celebrity Auction to be held in the near future (so watch for details). Representatives of the Court were sent to the Coronation VIII of the Imperial Court of the Golden Butterflies in Ft. Worth, Texas where we presented them with the first Betty Jo Nelson Community Service Award. This award is made in recognition of the outstanding woman in the gay community of Kentucky (with the exception of this award, which was presented, in loving memory, to Ms. Nelson's home Court of Ft. Worth, Texas).

The Court has also held a fundraiser for Chrysalis House, a United Way agency. As the result of a benefit show, the Court made a \$398.69 donation to the Chrysalis House. We would like to express our appreciation to their staff for their cooperation.

If you would like more information on the activities of the I.C.B.E., write us at: ICBE, Inc., 151 Todds Road, Suite 175, Lexington, Kentucky, 40509; or call (606) 266-0882

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION
(d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization)
Operating Receipts and Expenditures
July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986

Receipts:	
Advertising	\$1,474.87
Aerobics	610.00
AIDS Alert	10.00
Billboard	485.00
Brezings Benefit	304.00
Donations	2,144.00
Easter Bonnet Benefit	1,668.23
Pride Week	13.00
Imperial Court Benefit	676.45
Memberships	400.00
Normal Heart Benefit	896.61
Show Auction Benefit	632.50
Valentine Dance Benefit	180.00
Volleyball	130.00
Total Receipts	9,625.16

Expenditures:	
Aerobics	\$ 465.00
AIDS Alert	90.00
Billboard	325.00
Computer	578.00
Easter Bonnet Benefit	384.00
General Administrative	395.47
Newsletter	2,491.69
Normal Heart Benefit	249.11
Phone	839.98
Office Rent	3,016.61
Show Auction Benefit	29.80
Valentine Dance Benefit	19.25
Volleyball	64.35
Total Expenditures	8,948.71

Excess of Receipts over Expenditures \$ 676.45

Cash Balance, July 1, 1985 954.02
Cash Balance, June 30, 1986 \$1,630.47

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION
(d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization)
Billboard Grant
Receipts and Expenditures
January 1 to June 30, 1986

January 1, 1986 Balance \$3,200.00
Interest Receipts 62.78
Total \$3,262.78

Expenditures:
Answering Machine \$ 173.25
Printing 179.67
Billboard Rental Space 2,160.00
Billboard Phone 419.99
Bank Service Charges 20.00
Total Expenditures \$2,952.91

Balance June 30, 1986 \$ 309.87

LESBIAN HANDS ACROSS AMERICA

Jennifer Holliday to perform at GAY GAMES II

Some 1600 women, commemorating "Hands Across America," formed the largest lesbian circle in 'herstory' around a two-mile lake at Southern Women's Music & Comedy Festival at a private camp in Georgia on May 25. The demonstration of solidarity coincided with the national "Hands Across America" which took place that day around the country. The Festival, which drew the largest gathering of lesbian in the South, was produced by Robin Tyler and Lisa Ulrich-Marsh.

The action was greeted with overwhelming support by the festival-goers as virtually all of them linked hands and sang, "We Are The World" to each other across the lake. As the melody drifted slowly through the lush green Georgia hills, performing artists led the voices from the three main stages. The great circle grew silent for a moment to "reflect upon solutions to the feminization of poverty." Organizers then slowly walked the two-mile circumference as participants donated "a dollar a dyke" and \$1600 was raised and given to the Georgia Network Against Domestic Violence. The 20-minute ceremony concluded as Producer Robin Tyler led the circle of hundreds in procession, singing, "We Shall Overcome" to the Mainstage area.

Spread out over 180 acres, "Lesbians Across America" was coordinated by organizers Jeanne Cordova, publisher of the Southern California-based Gay Community Yellow Pages, and Margaret Sloane-Hunter, a black-lesbian activist born in the South, who became one of the founding editors of Ms. Magazine. Cordova got the idea for "Lesbian Hands" on the plane ride from California. "It's important for us to participate in our country, and to make a difference by doing it as out-front dykes. The majority of those who suffer poverty and starvation are single women and their children." Organizer Sloane noted, "There are women here from 25 states representing a lot of diversity, but when it comes to something like this, Lesbians will pull together."

Co-Producer Lisa Ulrich-Marsh said, "The reason we brought this Festival to the South was to organize politically as well as enjoying the music and comedy. This solidarity event has certainly helped us attain that goal."

GAY GAMES II Commence

Just prior to the June 1st athletic entry deadline for Gay Games II, entry forms from around the world began pouring into San Francisco Arts & Athletics, sponsors of the event scheduled for August 9-17, 1986.

Shawn Kelly, Executive Director, estimates that almost 2,000 athletes submitted entries in the last week alone. "We are very pleased that our efforts to reach the gay community have paid off," he remarked, noting that the Games are open to all athletes regardless of age or ability.

Use of personal computers has helped volunteers handle the tasks of logging entries, mailing confirmations and providing statistical reports to each committee in the organization. The custom-designed system handles all athletes as well as donors, sponsors and volunteers.

Cindy Grundmann, volunteer office manager, estimates that data entry will be complete by the end of June. Volunteers are working around the clock to keep the entries moving through the registration process in the Games office.

Opening Ceremonies for the Games, August 9th, will feature the triumphant entry of these gay and lesbian athletes into Kezar Stadium. Closing Ceremonies, August 17th, will feature Ms. Jennifer Holliday as headliner. For complete ticket information, contact the Ticket Hotline number at (415) 861-5686.

Award-winning entertainer Jennifer Holliday will be the featured performer at the Closing Ceremonies of GAY GAMES II, Sunday August 17, 1986. Ms. Holliday will be capping off a week of athletic and cultural events in San Francisco (August 9-17, 1986) for the gay and lesbian community from across the country and around the world.

Jennifer Holliday first leapt to national prominence in her Tony award-winning performance in "DREAMGIRLS", one of the most successful shows on Broadway in recent years. Ms. Holliday also won a Grammy award for one of the singles released from "DreamGirls." Most recently she has appeared in a national touring company of "SING, MAHALIA, SING" packing houses all across the country.

The Closing Ceremonies for Gay Games II will be held at Kezar Stadium in Golden Gate Park and will include an array of gay dancers, cloggers, singers and 500 members of the 15 Lesbian/Gay Bands of America. Over 20,000 spectators are expected to attend. The gates will open at 10:00 a.m. with warm-up festivities set to begin at noon. The Closing Ceremonies will run from 1-4:30 p.m.

The Opening Ceremonies on Saturday, August 9th, also to be held at Kezar Stadium, will feature writer Rita Mae Brown as Master of Ceremonies. The Opening will be highlighted by the triumphant entry of over 3,500 gay and lesbian athletes from around the world.

Event information is available by calling the Gay Games Ticket Hotline at (415) 861-5686. Opening and Closing Ceremony tickets are available through the BASS ticket agency: (415) 762-2277 (within California) or (800) 255-2277 (outside California). General admission seats are priced at \$20 for one ceremony or \$30 for both.

Additional information is available by calling the Gay Games office Monday through Friday during regular business hours at (415) 861-8282.

NEW TAX BENEFITS (?)

As often happens when new laws are proposed or take effect, the proposed tax reform bill from the Senate contains a shock for those who think they might get an immediate reduction in taxes.

David C. Radez, a registered representative of FSC Securities Corporation (Member SIPC, NASD), reports that for the 1987 tax year, the first year the reform would take effect, some people could actually pay more taxes. "The loss of deductions would take effect January 1st, and the lower rates are scheduled to take effect in July, thereby giving only a half-year of reduced taxes, but a full year of lost deductions," Dave says.

"The way the bill stands now, a 'blended tax rate is proposed, so that the 15 and 27 percent rates you've read about won't really be seen until 1988."

"These are the little details everyone misses," Dave points out. "When people hear and read that tax rates are going down, they immediately assume they'll start saving. But it rarely works out that way." The 6.2 percent average, individual tax cut touted by Senator Packwood falls under his complete package...in 1988. Estimates for 1987 haven't been made.

The reason for the blended rate is to inject money into the government's cash flow. The government can withhold at the higher rate for the entire year and keep money coming in, rather than waiting for adjustments the next spring as tax returns are filed. In other words, the government will withhold and any adjustments in the taxpayer's favor will have to wait for tax-filing time. Otherwise, the government will remain in a cash crunch, spending almost \$5 for every \$4 now received in taxes.

"The best way to handle tax reform is to be cautious and get professional advice if you have questions," notes Mr. Radez. Associated Financial Consultants provides tax planning advice as full-service financial planners.

AIDS, Drink And Drugs—What You Can Do!

If you think you might have a problem ask yourself these questions:

- (1) Do you need alcohol or some other drug to have sex?
- (2) Of the last ten times when you had sex, were you drunk or stoned during more than three of those encounters?
- (3) Do you have problems suggesting sex to someone when you're sober?
- (4) Do you do things in bed when you're drunk or stoned that you wouldn't normally do?
- (5) Do you need some drug to perform certain sexual activities?
- (6) Do you agree with this statement? "Sex just isn't any fun unless there's an element of the unknown to make the adrenaline flow."
- (7) Do you agree with the following statement? "Sex feels so restricted unless I've had something to loosen my feelings."

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should think about seeing a professional counselor.

If you know people who are at risk because of their alcohol/drug abuse and sexual behavior:

- (1) Try to persuade them to seek professional help and/or join a gay sensitive AA/NA group.
- (2) When you can, try to keep them out of situations that are likely to lead to high risk sexual behavior.
- (3) Make sure you give them any material you have on safe sex and reinforce the importance of low risk behavior during the epidemic.
- (4) Don't portray safe sex as a burden—it's a minor inconvenience that can be turned into new kinds of fun.
- (5) If you need it, get help for yourself from a professional counselor and/or a family and friends group like Al-Anon.
- (6) Be a good role model!

For confidential information, help, referrals to local resources or details on in-patient programs for chemically dependent gay people and their lovers and families, call 1-606-231-0335 Lexington's Gay/Lesbian Phoneline on Wednesday, Thursday or Fridays between 8:00pm and 11:00pm.

Health Educator Cautions Users of Nonoxynol-9

As part of their personal safe-sex program, many gay men have used condoms and sexual lubricants containing Nonoxynol-9, a chemical also found in commercial spermicidal creams, jellies and foams.

There may be an unforeseen problem. However, in using Nonoxynol-9, according to Dennis James, Health Educator at AIDS Action.

James says that many gay health providers and educators are stressing the fact that Nonoxynol-9 has not been studied "in vivo" (either animal or human) to assess the effects on the rectal lining after either long or short-term use. These educators suggest that products containing Nonoxynol-9 not be used for anal sexual activity. "Carcinogenicity of this product in the rectal area has not been answered—let alone studied," James says.

"The use of a condom with a water-soluble lubricant is still advised for rectal sexual activity in order to decrease the chances of transmitting disease," he says.

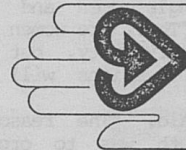
In 1985, an article in the 'Lancet,' a scientific journal, stated that researchers had found out that Nonoxynol-9 inactivated HTLV-3 in test tubes under laboratory conditions.

The AIDS Crisis TaskForce of Lexington (ACT-Lexington) and Community Hospice of Lexington will be training volunteers to provide support for AIDS/ARC patients and their families, lovers, and friends. The two-day seminar will be held on August 2nd and 3rd.

Community Hospice has long been providing support services for terminally ill patients and their families. By combining professional and volunteer service, they have made the final days of hundreds of people more comfortable and have helped an equal number of families cope with the loss of a loved one. Hospice conducts volunteer training two to three times per year and has agreed to specifically target the needs of AIDS patients. For more information, contact Bev Miller at 276-5344.

ACT-Lexington was formed earlier in the year by the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington. They have done a great job of coalescing the various AIDS support/information/referral services that have sprung up in the central Kentucky area in the past two years. Although they won't make their public debut until late August, they have already assembled an "all-star" advisory board of local experts in every field applicable to AIDS, including the local gay/lesbian community.

The actual training will be conducted in three sessions that weekend (Saturday morning and afternoon; Sunday morning) and will draw upon the expertise of the Hospice professionals as well as the experiences of other AIDS support groups, like the Shanti Project. For more information on ACT-Lexington or the AIDS support training session, contact Terry Andrews at 268-3183 (WARNING: Expect to talk to an answering machine...Terry's pretty busy, but she does return her calls).



**Lend a Hand...
VOLUNTEER!**

**Nursing Homes May Accept AIDS Patients
or**

Kentucky the Leader in Nursing Home Care ???

In February of 1986, on behalf of Nazareth Nursing Home, Sister Marilyn Spink of the St. Jude Guild applied for a waiver which would allow two beds for a 24-month period to be used for the care of AIDS patients. On July 8th, Kentucky's Governor Martha Layne Collins signed papers which would allow any nursing home in Kentucky that wished to care for AIDS patients to do so, providing they meet certain and specific requirements: (1) the nursing home must make it public knowledge that AIDS patients are being treated there; (2) employees of the nursing home must adhere to the manual prescribing how to care for infectious people and to protect themselves in the process; and (3) each employee at the nursing home must attend an in-service which will be held by Dr. Finger of the State Health Department.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first state in the United States to be given blanket permission to all nursing homes to care for AIDS patients," stated Jack Kersey, a Kentucky gay activist. Jack has been trying to come up with alternatives in case this action was not passed, as two AIDS patients are presently in need of nursing home care.

Kersey and Rev. Dee Dale-French have been working through the Community Health Trust and several AIDS support groups, and are actively involved with Louisville's Glade House, a home for ambulatory AIDS patients.

— The Lavender Letter

WE NEED YOUR HELP

FEDERAL AIDS FUNDING BEING CUT

Write short, clear, direct letters. Ask for more funding for research, education and services. If you use the example form letter, add a postscript that in one sentence explains you care about the AIDS issue. (A friend has died of AIDS, you want adequate patient services for all people with AIDS, you know of discrimination because of AIDS, you are aware that education is the only way to stop the spread of AIDS).

DATE: _____

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative _____:

I urge you to support an increase in AIDS funding for FY 1987. And, I request that you reject the President's 1987 budget proposal which recommends massive cuts in AIDS funding both this year and next.

The Administration has declared AIDS its number one health priority and yet is cutting funding to government agencies and programs for education, research and health care services. The Administration proposal will cut essential funding to the research projects at NIH, the education and risk-reduction projects at CDC, the psychosocial projects at the national Institute of Mental Health and other vital activities. These programs need much more, not less money!

The AIDS Public Health Emergency will continue to be an increasingly urgent problem. Today we have over 18,000 cases of AIDS in this country. It is important to me that you go on record in support of an increase in AIDS funding, and that you oppose the proposed cuts in AIDS funding.

Please let me know whether you decide to vote for an increase in AIDS funding for FY 1987.

Sincerely,

Don't associate yourself with any organization. Legislators want individual views.
Send 4 letters, preferably hand written to:

House of Representatives

Health and the Environment Subcommittee
Hon. Henry Waxman, Chairman
415 Rayburn House Off. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4952

Subcommittee on Labor, Health,
Education and Related Agencies
Hon. William Natcher, Chairman
2358 Rayburn House Off. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-358

Senate

Committee on Labor, Health,
Education and Related Agencies
Hon. Orrin Hatch, Chairman
SD-428 Dirksen Sen. Off. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5375

Subcommittee on Labor, Health,
Education and Related Agencies
Hon. Lowell Weicker, Chairman
SD-131 Dirksen Sen. Off. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-7290

**Sign your letter and
add your return address —**

ASK FOR A RESPONSE!

Brett Johnson
GALLERY

144 Harrison Avenue Lexington, Kentucky 40507
(by appointment) 606-254-2207



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ASK AUNT MARY

Dear Aunt Mary: Last weekend I met a really interesting and attractive man. He seemed very interested in me, and I was certainly interested in him. As we talked, he very bluntly told me he was involved in a long-term relationship, but liked the excitement of someone different from time to time. I was surprised, to say the least, and really didn't know how to respond. I kind of hemmed and hawed and finally said I had to go and meet some friends, but I did give him my phone number. He said he would call, and I think he meant it.

Now what do I do? He seemed to be making it pretty clear he had no intentions of ending his relationship, but was only interested in a good time. I don't want to be second in anyone's life, but we're talking hunk with a capital H, and they are few and far between. Sign me - Lusting in My Heart.

Dear Lusting: What makes you think he wants to make you second in his life? That would indicate an ongoing affair, and what you told me sounds much more like a one-night stand (or maybe only a few hours). One night offers are usually good only at the time made and, if refused, aren't repeated. I doubt that you even hear from him but, if you do, beware: unless all you want from him is one-time sex, you are likely to be very disappointed. On the outside chance that I'm wrong, you could set up a dinner date where you would have a chance to be as blunt as he was with you and, perhaps, clarify what he has in mind. In answer to your other question, yes, I was wrong once; it was 1962, I believe, so don't get your hopes up on this one. — Aunt Mary

If you would like to write to Aunt Mary, send your letter to: Aunt Mary, c/o GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40511. If you would like a personal reply, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All names are strictly confidential.

Two lesbian deacons, Rev. Joyce Barnett and Rev. Alison Kemper, recently came out before their congregation at the Anglican Holy Trinity Church in Toronto. The women told their parishioners that they live together, are "married," one of them is pregnant and that they plan to raise the child as part of their family. Their Archbishop suspended the religious practicing rights of the two lesbian deacons for allegedly flouting the church's "standards of morality." (In 1979, the Anglican House of Bishops ruled that ordained ministers may be homosexual, but must abstain from sex.) In response, many of the parishioners defended the two women, calling them "very courageous" and "open and honest."

— Rites via Lesbian Connection

Feminist poet Adrienne Rich has been selected as the winner of the \$25,000 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the richest prize ever awarded an American poet.

Rich, who appeared at the University of Cincinnati Gay Fall Festival in 1981 with a reading of her works, stated that poetry is "not just something for scholars to write about. It is for people."

Joseph Parisi, chairman of the awards committee and editor of 'Poetry' magazine, commented that Rich "has spoken not only for herself, but for those who cannot speak," according to an Associated Press dispatch.

In the last two years, parents of 14 lesbian students at Wheaton College in Norton, MA have received telephone calls informing them of their daughter's sexuality. The caller has usually told the parents that their daughter is involved with "the wrong crowd," which is said to consist of lesbians. Parents have been given details of their daughters' lovers and friends, including dates, times and places. Some lesbians have also found (an) 'L' written on their doors and next to their names on dorm lists. Students, faculty, and administrators are putting together a policy statement denouncing discrimination against lesbians, and mandatory dormitory programs have been initiated featuring speakers from Boston's Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau.

— Rag Times via Lesbian Connection

News story voted 'Most Likely to Foster Obscene Puns'

Reuters news service reports that three male giraffes at Taipei Zoo in Taiwan "turned gay" after their female companion died. Chen Pao-Chun, the zookeeper, said the zoo was considering importing female giraffes from Africa because "we are running out of explanations for the children visiting the zoo." — The Advocate (via GCN)

We ARE Family!

In 1979, the American Home Economics Association re-defined the word "family" as follows:

family: "two or more persons who share resources, share responsibility for decisions, share values and goals, and have commitment to one another over time. The family is that climate that one 'comes home to,' and it is the network of sharing and commitments that most accurately describes the family unit, regardless of blood, legal ties, adoption, or marriage."

Now, if we could only convince the Supreme Court, Congress, and the Moral Majority to accept it ...

A British Columbia Supreme Court Justice has recognized a lesbian relationship and awarded a woman half an interest in the house she shared with her former lover. According to the woman's lawyer, this marks the first time a homosexual partnership has gained this kind of legal recognition. But the decision is being appealed. Penny Anderson separated from Arlene Luoma in August, 1984. Two months later, Penny applied to the courts under the British Columbia Family Relations Act for a division of property acquired during their 10-year relationship and for interim maintenance for their two children, conceived by artificial insemination during their time together. Penny was awarded a half interest in the Vancouver house in which she and Arlene had lived, and a 20% interest in their recreational property in Sechelt, BC. However, the court rejected the argument that Penny was also entitled to child support for the children, aged three and five, under the Family Relations Act, saying that Arlene could not be defined under the Act as a "spouse, parent, step-parent or stepfather."

— The Body Politic via Lesbian Connection

AUG 1986

AUGUST 1986

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EVENTS CALENDER

- FRI 1 GLSO Cards & Games, 7pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, Comprehensive Care Center
- SAT 2 ACT-Lexington/Community Hospice Training (call Terry at 268-3183 for times and places)
- SUN 3 ACT-Lexington/Community Hospice Training (call Terry at 268-3183 for times and places); Gay and Lesbian AA, 4pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; GLSO Potluck, 1:30pm (call Karen at 259-3292 for details)
- MON 4 GLSO Forum, 8pm - Board Report and Community Input, 8:30pm - Topic to be announced; free refreshments; GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- WED 6 Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Rm. 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- THU 7 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- FRI 8 GLSO Volleyball/Potluck, 6:30pm, Jacobson Park, Shelter #5; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, Comprehensive Care Center; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- SUN 10 Gay and Lesbian AA, 4pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- WED 13 Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Rm. 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- THU 14 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- FRI 15 Cards & Games, 7pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; Gay Parenting Support Group Wine & Cheese Party, 8:30pm (call Barry at 268-3935 for details); GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, Comprehensive Care Center
- SUN 17 Gay and Lesbian AA, 4pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- MON 18 Interweave, 8pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd.
- TUE 19 Gay/Lesbian Pride Week Association, 6:30pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- WED 20 GLSO Speaker's Bureau, 7pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Rm. 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- THU 21 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm

- FRI 22 GLSO Volleyball/Potluck, 6:30pm, Jacobson Park, Shelter #5; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, Comprehensive Care Center; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- SUN 24 Gay and Lesbian AA, 4pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- MON 25 GLSO Board Meeting, 7pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322
- WED 27 Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Rm. 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- THU 28 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm
- FRI 29 GLSO Cards & Games, 7pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8pm - 11pm; Gay and Lesbian AA, 8pm, Comprehensive Care Center
- SUN 31 Gay and Lesbian AA, 4pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; GAYLINE Training Meeting, 2pm, GLSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322

GWM, 20, attractive, caring, and sincere, who knows what he wants in life and is one of the last true romantics seeks another GWM (20-29) for possible relationship. I believe a relationship should be based upon love, honesty, respect, and communication. I am looking for someone who, as well as sharing my values, is intelligent, sincere, and believes in more than "one night stands." I want someone to explore all the yet undiscovered, wonderful things this crazy world has to offer. I enjoy cultural activities, hours of conversation and sports. Only serious men need reply. Write: Daniel, PO Box 8053-B, Lexington, 40533.

GLSO Annual Campout Scheduled

Every fall, Eddie W. has sponsored a campout for members, friends, and guests of GLSO at his farm in Scott county. This year, he is planning it to be held on Saturday, October 11th. Look for more details in next month's issue!!

GAY/LESBIAN PARENTS

The August meeting of the Gay/Lesbian Parenting Support Group will be a Wine & Cheese Party on Friday, August 15th at 8:30pm. For more information and/or the location of the event, call 268-3935.