Gay Pride

June 7th & 8th

"Do Ask, Do Tell"

Join us as we celebrate Monterey's 3rd Annual Gay Pride March & Festival. It's free, it's fun, and it's the best opportunity of the year to see how the local gay community has grown this year.

Gay Pride Schedule on p. 10

We're Here, We're Queer, and We Know How to Write Headlines
Letters to the Editor

Homo
Go away! Please! Or at least keep it down!
-EPoppino <tridime@rnbay.net>
via the Internet

Response to Just Girlfriends
Dear Editor,

In the last issue of The Paper, Jessica Rae wrote an article which began by stating her belief that lesbians should not feel obligated to adopt the stereotypical dresscode of a woman. Eight paragraphs later, it had become one of the longest personal ads I've ever read. According to the article, "if you enjoy mainstream social outings and look, dress and act like a woman then forget it. If you fit the mold of the "helpless female princess", stay away.”

Jessica, does it really matter for a social outing? If you have "adopted the physical semblance of a man," then know she has "no desire to sleep with or share in [your] subculture". Do you sleep with everyone you go "shopping" with? While the original intent of this article may have been something I would agree with, the negative categorizing and general bashing of the large number of lesbian women who don’t fit Ms. Rae’s idea of a good time is disturbing.

Hey!
I wonder if you can keep your gayness to yourself. It is quite tiring hearing of your pride. Just remember, no matter what you do, no matter what you say, we will never believe you are born this way. God didn’t create you that way, you chose to be an ass pirate!

Love Always, Elvis, Ziek Heil!!

-MAVERICK <topgun1@infidad.com>

Publisher’s Note

It’s remarkable to think that our gay pride celebration is in its 3rd year. While that may not seem like much, consider that we are 30 years behind the rest of America in terms of organizing our community. At least we’re out of the gate. I hope that you will join the rest of our community. At least we’re out of the ground.

A Status Report

Many people have commented on how much they enjoy having a newspaper of their own. If you can speak for the staff of The Paper, I would like for you to know that the pleasure is ours. There is nothing quite like reaping the rewards of volunteer work, especially as rewarding as volunteer work, especially for a cause that you truly believe in.

As with all things, The Paper must evolve or die. We added a website to our list of services last year, and over 27,000 people have paid us a visit, far more than ever see the tree-based version you’re reading now.

Media Mongrel

The Paper’s next project is a bit more involved, and may never get off the ground. Every month as I send in a check to pay off my student loan, I feel the need to take advantage of my film school training. If TCI’s revised contract with the City of Monterey includes public access, by this time next year the Peninsula will have its own monthly gay television show.

Craig Wenzl, a local gay man and a friend of mine, is planning on starting his own gay radio show, modeled after the one he produced in Little Rock. With this addition, Monterey will no longer be able to consider itself a lost world off the coast of the gay mainstream. Soon coming out will just be a matter of tuning in.

Now for a self-indulgence...

My sweetie and I passed the one year mark as boyfriends on April. That's quite an achievement considering that we’re almost exactly alike in stature, personality, and job description (if you know me and my temperament, you know why I find this remarkable). Of course, we’ve had to overcome the problems common to all relationships, but we seemed to be weathering them. This issue is dedicated to the man I love. Kisses, Alan.

Having said all that, I want to applaud Jessica’s efforts in publicly trying to establish a network of lesbians for social gathers, albeit exclusionary. For those of us who have lived in Monterey a short time, it appears the lesbian community is so far “underground” it might as well not exist. I grew up in the south where being discrete and inconspicuous was a way of life for gays. I often dreamed of living in a place where social consciousness was more enlightened. I assumed California was such a place but never considered the possibility that homophobia would be so strong within the gay community itself. As gays and lesbians we should overcome the temptation to discriminate as we have been discriminated against all our lives. We should celebrate our diversity, not exclude others from it. Besides, you just never know who you might meet if you allow yourself to experience all the possibilities. It’s a lot more than “admitting you like facials”. It’s about admitting you like yourself enough to be comfortable around someone else.

- Carol Reeb, Carmel, CA

Hey!
I wonder if you can keep your gayness to yourself. It is quite tiring hearing of your pride. Just remember, no matter what you do, no matter what you say, we will never believe you are born this way. God didn’t create you that way, you chose to be ass pirates!

Love Always, Elvis, Ziek Heil!!

-MAVERICK <topgun1@infidad.com>
Support Needed for Gay Prom '97

by John E. Brennan
Contributing Writer

Gay Teen Alliance (GTA) is going to Gay Prom '97. Lesbian and gay youth will converge on Hayward, in the East Bay, on June 14th to celebrate, well, whatever you celebrate at prom. Gay Teen Alliance will make a round trip with Monterey County gay and lesbian youth who want same sex dancing with a tropical paradise theme.

Going to the prom is hard enough, but going to a straight prom when you are lesbian or gay can be torture. This only-in-California event has had extensive national press while providing an alternative to the millions of traditional, heterosexual dances teenagers endure. Finally, a dance where you know it's safe to ask someone cute to dance.

Two adult chaperones will try to stay out of the way while making sure that everyone makes it home safely from this alcohol-free and drug-free dance. Both singles and couples are welcome. This dance is for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and friends 25 and under. If you even think this might be you, come with us! Participation is strictly confidential.

Gay Prom '97 is billed with the subtitle, Under the Stars We are Free, but the event is not free. GTA is looking for financial sponsors for the cost of admission ($25 at the door). Your anonymous donation can help defray the cost of the trip and admission.

For more information, visit the Gay Prom's web site at www.turing.org/gayprom. To go with us or to sponsor a youth, call GTA at (408) 772-8202.

Late Breaking News

The Santa Barbara City Council unanimously adopted a Domestic Partnership Registry on Tuesday, 20, 1997.

Local AIDS Housing Organization Needs Loan Assistance

David Wheeler of All American Loan Services in Monterey is seeking individuals interested in participating in a loan to the John the XXIII AIDS Ministry, a local AIDS service organization that operates two low-rent housing projects for HIV+ people. Wheeler was able to obtain institutional financing for the 1st Trust Deed on the Casa Max property in Seaside last year. There are three other loans on this property that total $75,000 and John XXIII is looking to refinance this amount.

Wheeler is seeking those willing to loan a minimum of $7,500 or up to the full amount. The loan will be secured by a 2nd Trust Deed on the property at an interest rate of 10%. The loan will be interest only in monthly payment with a 5 year term, at the end of which the loan will be paid in full.

John XXIII has had a perfect payment record on this property since its purchase in 1993. Wheeler describes this as a classic "win-win" opportunity. All American Loan Services will receive a nominal fee for this arrangement. You can contact Wheeler at (408) 655-8114.
Update on “Just Girlfriends”

by Jessica Rae
Contributing Writer

E
evthing is going well. I was happy to find that there are women out there who share the same interests and also felt alienated enough to make a change.

However, in response to some negative feedback about how some people think we at “Just Girlfriends” are being exclusionary, why would anyone want to spend time with people one had nothing in common with?

Think we’re being too judgmental? I guess some people are not being judgmental when they accuse “Just Girlfriends” of being a vehicle to bedhop with our shopping companions.

Most of the women that have responded to my first article are in committed relationships. Both partners felt in some way out of sync with the local lesbian community.

Did you think my first column read like a personal ad? DUGHHH-HHHH! Of course it was tailored to attract people with shared interests. “Just Girlfriends” is meant to be a way of starting new friendships

“Just Girlfriends” is meant to be a way of starting new friendships based on shared interests.

ships based on shared interests. And if a sexual encounter ever evolves between two consenting adults, it will be between two consenting adults with shared interests and attractions.

Think we don’t like ourselves or have an identity problem? Wrong. We know who we are and what we like. Women. Women we have things in common with. Period. We are Lesbians/Gay Women, women who have tastes just like anyone else. It’s not so difficult to understand. We’re sorry it was a bitter pill for some. That was never our intention.

In closing, if you don’t have common goals and interests with someone, why would one want to push the issue and spend time with them? Of course to have an answer for that one it would call for a multitude of therapy sessions.

On that note, thanks to all for the responses, both negative and positive. Have a great month!

Jessica Rae is a regular contributor to The Paper. For more information on “Just Girlfriends” write to Just Girlfriends c/o The Paper, 787 Laine St. 85, Monterey, CA 93940.
Monterey Comes Out for "Ellen"

by Russ Duesenberg

Monterey's gay community watched in anticipation as Ellen DeGeneres became the first star of a network TV show to announce that she was gay both on and off screen. Approximately 80 women and men gathered at the After Dark nightclub in Monterey to watch the history making episode. Reaction from the crowd was overwhelmingly positive.

"For me, it took more than an hour to realize and accept what I was, more like an hour and five years."

While the comedic aspects of the show were appreciated and spurred a rise in toaster jokes, some lesbians and gay men sympathized with Ellen's character's difficulty admitting her own homosexuality, and cited it as the most realistic part of the program. Because of the format of the sitcom, events that normally take years were compressed into a one-hour episode. "For me, it took more than an hour to realize and accept what I was," said Carol Reeb, "more like an hour and five years. Coming out to my straight friends and family was much more traumatic. Very few were as accepting at first as those on the show."

Although high ratings followed "Ellen" through the subsequent episode in which she came out to her parents and the show has been renewed for next year, many gays are wondering what the repercussions will be from having an out gay character on national TV. "It's hard to really know what the fallout will be when public opinion is so easily swayed by the media," said Reeb. "It's usually been my experience that once people get to know you and like you, it doesn't really matter so much whether you are gay or straight. I believe the straight community would be more accepting of gays and lesbians if they were portrayed as successful, contributing members of society by the media. I think the burden is on the gay community to insist it be recognized in that light."

Now that Ellen DeGeneres has come out to her television friends, her television parents, television boss, and the entire millions of Americans curious enough to tune in to her past few shows, members of the gay community are calling for widespread support of the sponsors who have chosen to continue or begin buying airtime.

Supportive Companies

- Molde H. Wehnes, President, Bayer Corporation
  500 Grant St.
  Pittsburgh, PA 15219
  phone: 412.394.5500
  fax: 412.394.5596
  nora.kohfelder@bayer.com
  www.bayer-ag.de/

- Monroe C. Milauskin, Chairman, Burlington Coat Factory
  1800 Rte. 130 N., Burlington, NJ 08016
  phone: 609.367.7900
  fax: 609.367.7071
  customerrelations@coat.com
  www.coat.com

- Rupert Murdoch, Chairman, News America Publishing, Inc.
  1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036
  phone: 212.852.7100
  fax: 212.852.7145

- S. Daniel Abraham, Chairman, Slimfast Foods Company
  777 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 1400
  West Palm Beach, FL 33401
  phone: 407.853.9020
  fax: 407.852.2876

- Carl Yankowski, President, Sony Corporation
  1 Sony Dr.
  New York, NY 10017
  phone: 212.275.3970
  fax: 212.258.6000
  armory@globalone.net
  www.global2000.net/armory

Universal Pictures

100 Universal City Plaza, CA 91608
phone: 818.733.0152
zmi@zminteractive.com

Sumner M. Redstone, Chairman, Viacom International, Inc.
1513 Broadway
New York, NY 10036
phone: 212.258.6000
fax: 212.258.6074
inbox@viacom.com
www.viacom.com/

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A Woman's Guesthouse
9422 Acorn Circle
Salinas, CA 93907
JODY L. COSENZA
408-633-8808

NCBI Workshop for L/G/B/T Community

The National Coalition Building Institute will host a Building Community Workshop for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cal State Monterey Bay. This is the first in a series of workshops led and directed by the queer community, although the workshop is open to all. NCBI charges a sliding scale fee of $20 to $80. The rooms are 82A-115 and 82B-115. Attendees should park in parking lot 82.

The workshop is being sponsored by All in the Family, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,Transgender club at CSUMB. Call Matt Friday at (408) 899-2263.
Women/Sport Premiere Issue Illustrates Homophobia

In the spring 1997 issue of Women | Sport, Sports Illustrated’s long-awaited woman athlete-oriented magazine, Olympic softball team member Dot Richardson describes her years of hurt and disappointment, caused by people’s presumptions that as an athletic woman she must be a lesbian. As early as seventh grade, Richardson felt “crushed” when a friend called her a lesbian during an argument, “freaked” when a teammate came out to her in 10th grade, and later in college ran “sobbing” out of her room when another good friend who was gay asked Richardson to “consider her sexual views,” which Richardson characterized as a sexual advance. Richardson states that the stereotyping of female athletes as lesbians “has been one of the biggest hindrances to the development of women in sports” because parents don’t want “insimations” so they keep their daughters off playing fields.

While Richardson claims to have moved beyond judging her girlfriend “(Wasn’t she still a good ballplayer, a good teammate), a good person, her and Richard demonized, men who ‘wanted to be [boys],’” denies lesbian sexuality as “not really sex,” and calls being labeled a lesbian a “poison.” Richardson maintains that it’s the possibility of being called a lesbian that keeps gifted women athletes from developing, not her and society’s homophobia and discomfort with women who happen to love other women and who challenge gender stereotypes.

Write Women | Sport and tell them that including an anti-lesbian article in their premier issue is a cowardly way of denying lesbians a level playing field in the arena of women’s athletics. Contact: Sandra Bailey, Editor, Women Sport, Sports Illustrated, Time & Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212.522.4543, letters@sis.cs.compuserve.com.

Congressmen Sign On Against Trans-Violence

[WASHINGTON, DC : May 13, 1997] In a groundbreaking meeting today, representatives of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community met with Assistant Attorney General and members of the Office of Policy Development of the US Department of Justice to discuss violence and biased-related crimes against differently-gendered people.

The meeting had been requested by members of the Gender Public Advocacy Coalition (GenderPAC) in a letter sent to Janet Reno following the bombing of the Otherside bar in Atlanta. Although the bombing was considered a “gay and lesbian” hate crime, the Otherside was also well-known by local citizens for its bisexual and transgender clientele.

GenderPAC’s Dana Priesing, Tony Barreto-Neto and Riki Anne Wilchins were joined by the Human Rights Campaign’s Kris Pratt, Bi-Net’s Lorraine Hutchins, and NGLTF’s Helen Gonzales. Declared Ms. Gonzales, “As far as we know, this is the first meeting of its kind, and a crucial step for all of us in helping those on the Hill — and in the administration — recognize the importance of crimes against the differently-gendered.

Past Out

What Was the Leopold and Loeb Case?

By David Bianco
Contribution Writer

Before the O.J. brouhaha, before the Manson murders, even before the Lindbergh baby kidnapping, America’s first “Crime of the Century” involved two amoral male lovers intent on experiencing murder. The crime, trial, and punishment of Leopold and Loeb — not to mention numerous literary and cinematic retellings of their deeds — have buttressed the link between homosexuality, criminality, and mental illness for generations of Americans. Long before the gay and lesbian community had organized itself in a manner that could respond to negative press, Leopold and Loeb were demonized in newspapers, books, and even by their own attorney as very sick individuals whose homosexuality was directly linked to their criminality.

Nathan F. Leopold and Richard A. Loeb were two wealthy Jewish teenagers of exceptional intelligence. Lovers since their early teens, they spent a tremendous amount of time together, often bird-watching or driving around their native Chicago. While Leopold had a very strong sex drive, Loeb was driven by lust of a different sort: he dreamed of committing a “perfect murder.” Not out of hatred, or revenge, or greed — but out of sheer curiosity about what it feels like to end another life.

Leopold’s eros and Loeb’s thanatos came to a bizarre pact: they would have more sex and commit more crimes.

At first, the duo shoplifted, set off false alarms, vandalized property, and torched buildings. But Loeb was not satisfied, and the two decided the time was right to experience homicide. On May 21, 1924, Leopold and Loeb kidnapped 14-year-old Bobby Franks from his schoolyard. Once they had the boy in their rented car, Loeb struck his head with a chisel, and Franks bled to death.

Leopold remained predatory, raping several of his fellow inmates. Loeb died at age 28 when a young prisoner he attacked fought back and killed Loeb with his own razor blade. Leopold volunteered for an Army malaria experiment, survived, and was paroled in 1958. He moved to Puerto Rico and in a hospital, wrote a book about his experiences, married a woman in 1961 and died in 1971.

David Bianco, M.A., is the author of Modern Jewish History for Everyone. He can be reached at address: ArtBianco@aol.com.

Look for More Local News in the Coming Year
The Lighthouse Bar & Grill
(formerly Title IX)

BEER BUST!
2 p.m. to 2 a.m. every Sunday
Beer Bust All Day Long!

Pride Luau
Saturday, June 7th
All Night Long
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Monterey, CA
408/373-4488

Saturday & Sunday
2 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Wednesday - Friday
6 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Look forward to our
Grand Reopening!

New Hours will be 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. every day

The Paper Congratulates The Lighthouse Bar & Grill on Their Wonderful Remodeling Job
Supportive Psychotherapy Groups

From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life: for married/once married lesbians and wondering wives to explore and affirm the choices they make regarding sexuality. Prime Time: for mid-life lesbians to work on feeling more satisfied as they negotiate the 40's and beyond. Alternate Thursday evenings in Santa Cruz.

For more information: Deborah Abbott, MA, MFCC 408.464.2168

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What Will You Wear at Gay Pride '97?

by Marsha Olson
Contribution Writer

Wow! It's that time again! Yup! It's time for GAY PRIDE '97. This is an event that let's you celebrate your freedom, creativity, individuality and most of all who you are!

So the best way to celebrate is to dress up! That's right... the "F" word... or, uh... I mean "FASHION." There is no better time than to join in a parade to display your colors and "fashionableness" to the world. Throughout the years there has been everything from the outrageous to the naked participant. If you're planning on going out of town this year, like parading in S.F. or N.Y., expect to see lots and lots of exhibitionists: chests, breasts, bulges, rubber, freakish costumes, big wigs, platforms and the list goes on.

You'll also be doing a huge amount of walking. If you are planning on being in the sun, leave the polyester at home; whether it's a shirt, shorts or that dress you've been waiting to do drag in... Don't! You'll be sweaty, sticky and by the end of the day irritable. Your best bet will be breathable cottons and linens.

Here are a few tips whether you want to feel and look casual, glamorous or outrageous. And don't forget your feet! Most of your time will be spent on your precious feet so save them for the rest of your venturing and cruising with comfortable boots, walking shoes, or athletic ones! Have Fun!!

Throughout the years there has been the outrageous to the naked participant.

Casual/Comfortable

- Windbreaks • Pride wear • Walking shoes • Levi's • Tanktops • T-shirts • Haltertops • Shorts • Polos • Adidas • Fisherman's Hats • Baseball caps • Backpack • Sunglasses

Eyecatchers

- Anything with a triangle/rainbow • Fur • Sequins • Bondage wear • Leather • Rubber • Vinyl • Wigs • Funky hats • Biggest platforms possible • Caps • Decorated umbrellas • Feather boas • Glitter make-up • Dog collars

"The Freak"

- Garbage bags or garbage turned into apparel • Streakers • Dress you pet just like you! • Gay pride bumper sticker turned into breast plate • Goggles on and dressed as a gay space alien

If you are planning on being in the sun, leave the polyester at home; whether it's a shirt, shorts or that dress you've been waiting to do drag in... Don't!
GLAADLINES
Roseanne Finale Embraces The Whole Conner Clan

As nine wonderful years of ABC's hit show, Roseanne, come to a close with the May 21 finale, the lesbian, gay and bisexual characters have a central place in the extended Conner family as they welcome home Darlene and David's baby from the hospital.

Roseanne has introduced five lesbian, gay and bisexual characters over the years, and has addressed issues from coming out to older lesbian identity, and from lesbian and gay families to workplace discrimination.

In 1994, Roseanne made television history with an onscreen kiss with Mariel Hemingway, helping pave the way for realistic and open portrayals of same-sex intimacy on television. The show on the whole has been a central driving force in opening Hollywood's-and America's-eyes about the importance of fair, accurate and inclusive media representation of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals.

Please thank Roseanne and ABC for producing such a high-quality, intelligent and inclusive program as Roseanne, and let them know that the Conners-and the entire extended family-will be sorely missed.

Contact: Marcia Carsey, Tom Werner, Roseanne, Daniel Palladino, Executive Producers, Roseanne, c/o Carsey-Werner Productions, 4024 Radford Avenue, Building 3, Studio City, CA 91604, fax: 818.760.5882.

Babylon 5 Says Same-Sex Marriage Is Not Just For Martians

The April 24 episode of the science-fiction series Babylon 5, two male crew members are sent on an undercover mission to Mars as a gay newlyweds in order to infiltrate the society there. As they were given their falsified identification, their contact, Captain Jack (Donovan Scott) told them that "most of the resistance travel light, travel alone. So to get travel permits for the two of you together...you're just a bunch of drag queens anymore!"

This year the GCEM is embarking on a new era: an era of more focus on fund raising. On August 9th

Over the years the court system has evolved into various volunteer organizations whose main purpose is to support their communities.

The Big Event

The GCEM will present their most ambitious event to date: Seasons of Love: An Evening of Caring and Sharing. The evening will feature a catered dinner with a proposed choice of either Filet Mignon, Filet Mignon with Jumbo Prawns, Stuffed Game Hen, or a Veggie Plate. A silent auction and a variety show will round out the evening, with the beneficiaries of the evening being the Monterey County AIDS Project, The Santa Cruz AIDS Project, and John XXIII AIDS Ministry. As a member of the Board of Directors, Artistic Director Michael Pina will produce this event, as well as other theatrical events in the coming months.

A special thank you to the sponsors, performers, and friends...

Weldon and Kevin of the After Dark • Flanders & Kim of Carmel Floral Shoppe in Carmel • Ted of the Furniture Connection • Gerald of Gerald's Antiques of Salinas • Diana McGuire of the 3M Foundation • Mindy Zireme, Empress VIV, Electra & Jonathan, Imperial Crown Princess and Prince; Stacey Tyler of the Grande Cypress Empire • Ineeda Richman, Selena, and Arlena of Santa Cruz County • Tiger Lily, Grand Duchess of San Francisco; Dan, Mr. Gay San Francisco 1996 • David aka Raylyn Lovecat • Dennis and Javier • Deno and Steve • Jay Adeff • And the community for all of their support. Congratulations Jayar! You better work "Gig!"
Monterey County's
Gay Pride '97
June 7th & 8th

Saturday, June 7
Monterey
Gay Pride
March

The annual march down Lighthouse Ave. in New Monterey kicks off the 3rd Annual Gay Pride Festival in Monterey. The march forms at the city parking lot (please notice any parking signs, we don't have a waiver) at the corner of Reeside and Foam in Monterey (across from the Coast Guard bldgs.) at 5 p.m. The march begins promptly at 6 p.m.

We encourage you to bring flags, banners, noisemakers, drums, bubbles, and all of your friends and family. Both the Lighthouse Bar & Grill and the After Dark nightclub will be open after the march.

Sunday, June 8
Monterey
Gay Pride Festival

The 3rd annual Gay Pride Festival kicks off at 11 a.m. Sunday morning at Monterey Bay Park (formerly Windows on the Bay Park) in Monterey. This is the same location as last year's festival. Join an estimated crowd of 1,500 for a BBQ, entertainment from around the state, speakers from local gay social clubs, and politicians.

Booth set up is from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. The Festival and BBQ begin at 11 a.m. and end at 6 p.m. Post festival parties begin at 6:30, with the largest being at the After Dark nightclub (214 Lighthouse Ave.) starting at 4 p.m. with no cover charge.

For information on booth rental (deadline is June 1st) or anything else regarding the festival, page Scott Steinman at 685-5708 or write to the Monterey Pride Association, P.O. Box 2551, Monterey, CA 93942.

Pride Festival Booth Rentals:
$10 Non-profit information space
$20 Commercial information space
$30 Non-profit merchandise booth
$50 Commercial sales booth & all food booths

WARNING!
Do NOT park your car in the red zones on Del Monte Blvd.
Several cars at last year's festival were towed away by city police.
There is plenty of parking along Camino Aguajito, Camino El Estero, and surrounding streets.

The site of this year's Gay Pride Festival. New name, same location. Look for the rainbow flags.
May

Sun, 25th
80's Dance at the After Dark Join in the most fun Monterey has had in a long time, decades in fact. Starts at 8 p.m. $3 donation to benefit MCAP. Call 373-7828 for information. At the After Dark 2144 Lighthouse Ave. Monterey.

Tue, 27th
PFLAG Meeting At the Unitarian Universalists Church. Call 655-2810 for information.

Sat, 31st
Santa Cruz Dyke March Grrrls night out. Starting at the Cooper At the Unitarian Universalists Church. Call 373-2144 Lighthouse Ave. Monterey. Starts at 6 p.m. in Santa Cruz. $3 donation to benefit MCAP. Call 373-2144 Lighthouse Ave. Monterey.

June

Sun, 1st
Santa Cruz Pride Festival The oldest Central Coast pride festival promises to be bigger and better than ever this year. Parade starts at the Catalina Casino Mall around noon. Parade continues to San Lorenzo park for a Pride Picnic at 1 p.m.

Fri, 6th
MCAP’s New Salinas Office Open House 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the new Salinas office, 12 E. Gabriil (across from First Awakening). Call 772-8200 or 394-4747 for more information.

Mon, 14th
Exclusive Monterey County Premiere of Stonewall Don’t miss the July 14th (two showings) at the Dream Theatre in Monterey (cross streets Prescott and Lighthouse). Stonewall will not be shown anywhere else in Monterey, Santa Cruz or San Benito Counties. One night only! Tickets $25, Visa/MasterCard gratefully accepted. Call Katherine Thoeni at 655-1737 for ticket information. Benefits John XXIII AIDS Ministry. For more information, call David True at (408) 772-8205 or Dean Harvey at (408) 393-3457.

Sat, 28th
MCAP Community Health Outreach Worker Training Strategies for street outreach volunteers. One day training at Salinas office. For more information, call David True at (408) 772-8205 or Dean Harvey at (408) 393-3457.

Sun, 8th
Monterey Gay Pride Festival The biggest event on the gay calendar this year in Monterey County. Over 1,000 women and men joined the festivities last year. BBQ, entertainment, speakers, vendors, local group information, and more fun than you can shake a pink triangle at. At Monterey Beach Park (formerly known as Windows on the Bay Park) in Monterey. Del Monte and Calle El Estero. Starts at 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Page Scott Steinman at (408) 685-7308 for more information.

Thu, 19th
HIV & Nutrition Seminar Basic nutrition gives which foods help strengthen your immune system. Sponsored by Community Hospital. Call Michelle Barth, MS, RD, LD, 625-9497. Pre-registration required, call OPINS at 655-9702.

Sat, 21st
Women’s Golf Tournament Two-person scramble at Sunken Gardens Golf Course $45 per person including BBQ lunch. Registration deadline June 14th. Call Rosebud at (408) 984-8210 or e-mail women@frielded.com.

Fri, 4th
Monterey Bear Club Meeting The Monterey Bay Bears meet on Monterey Friday of every month at 6 p.m. Call Tex or Bruce at 664-1642 or send e-mail to bruce@mbay.net.

Mon, 14th
Stonewall Premieres July 14th Submitted "A Love Story," director Nigel Finch’s (The Language of Cranes) film Stonewall dramatizes a pivotal moment in gay history, the start of the Gay Rights Movement. Stonewall follows Gay New Yorkers in the weeks leading up to the famous riot at the Stonewall bar, when drag queens decided on the anniversary of Judy Garland’s death to take control of their lives when the rest of the gay community was cowering in the closet. The film, based on the novel by Martin Duberman, has been critically acclaimed for its humanistic portrayal of the Stonewall riots. The screening at the Dream Theater is a benefit for John XXIII AIDS Ministry. See the listing for July 14th for information.

July

Fri, 1st
Deadline for The Paper Turn in your articles, short stories, letters, and calendar events now. Ad deadline is July 7th. Call 655-3750 or e-mail webpage for more information.

Fri, 8th
Monterey Bear Club Meeting The Monterey Bay Bears meet in Monterey on Friday of every month at 6 p.m. Call Tex or Bruce at 664-1642 or send e-mail to bruce@mbay.net.

Sun, 7th
Monterey Gay Pride March March down Lighthouse Ave. in Monterey with 300-400 of your closest friends. Sign in at 8 a.m. at the parking lot at the corner of Reseide and Foam (same place as last year). The march begins promptly at 6 a.m. and winds down the sidewalk of Lighthouse Ave. to David, then back down the other side of the street. Free to all. Bags, banners, balloons encouraged.

Auditions for Seasons of Love II the Grande Cypress Empire is holding auditions for their show. Sat. the 7th from 12:30 p.m. and on the 8th from 1 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, Delores near 8th in Carmel. Acts of all varieties are encouraged to audition. To schedule an appt. call (408) 394-6666. Auditions by video or by special arrangement can be accommodated.

Sat, 14th
MCAP Community Health Outreach Worker Training Strategies for street outreach volunteers. One day training at Salinas office. For more information, call David True at (408) 772-8205 or Dean Harvey at (408) 393-3457.
Mr. & Mr. Smith Go to Washington

by Tracy Nyle
Contributing Writer

May is the month to visit the sparkling marble monuments of the Capital. The city is blooming, the weather hasn't turned sticky hot, and the crowds are manageable. My traveling companion and I stayed at the Radisson on Dupont Circle in a huge top floor room with a panoramic view of neighborhood. Dupont Circle looks like most other parts of the Washington; tidy brownstones, small restaurants and cafes, and a variety of shops. There aren't a great number of visible gay folk, although a few rainbow flags show up in the occasional shop window.

From the hotel, it’s an easy walk to the Metro station. Washington’s clean is stark subway system is the easiest way to travel around the city, although it stops running before the bars close, so plan accordingly.

Tourist Attractions

We started our travels with lunch at the newly restored Union Station. It's a handsome structure with an enormous coffered ceiling that has become part transportation hub, part shopping mall.

From there, we continued to our tour of the Capital Mall. The Capitol is easy to find, as most of the streets radiate from the imposing structure. The wait to pass through the airport-style metal detector to enter took about 30 minutes, but it was fascinating walking the halls, seeing the House and Senate chambers, and the enormous rotunda.

I recommend a stop at the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum, with famous aircraft (the genuine article, not replicas) hang from the glass and steel ceiling. The hands-on exhibits leave something to be desired, but the spectacle of full-size air and spacecraft is breathtaking.

My companion and I also stopped at the National Holocaust Memorial. Visitors walk through a self-guided chronologically structured journey through the Holocaust, from the Nazi uprising through to the liberation of the concentration camps. We spent some time in the research center looking for information on lesbians and gays sent to the camps. The information was there, although it’s limited to a few stories of male entertainers and hustler, and one lesbian. A pink triangle from a prisoner’s uniform is on display, as are several photos of those imprisoned.

FAST 10
Reviews of Cultural Elements

by John E. Brennan
Contributing Writer

Film!

Crash - Compulsive visionaries passionate about life and injury find satisfaction in “Crash”, a refreshing film about men and women obsessed with the collision of sex and automobile injuries. Exploiting the tiny intersection between the danger in sex and the danger in automobile accidents and presenting a fictional world that’s set in the real world, this Cronenberg-directed stylish adaptation of J.G. Ballard’s novel drives head-on into our disorienting culture. Not for everyone. A great film.

Liar, Liar - It was OK, but barely worth the price of admission. The previews reveal the plot and about 80% of the good jokes. Rent it for mild entertainment.

The Lost World - How can he review it if it’s not even released! Please. I can’t imagine it’s nothing but good entertainment. Plus it has Julianne Moore. Opens Memorial Day weekend.

Volcano - A volcano erupts in the mid-Wilshire, and Tommy Lee Jones tries to stop it while still being a good father. We get a few exciting city blocks of lava (that alternately moves fast or slow, depending on what the scene demands) and some dull METRO subway subplots. “Volcano” leaves the impression that volcanic activity is just another urban problem to be mastered by humans. Wins the award for best Heironymous Bosch joke in a drama. Rumor has it that the leading lady is Ellen DeGeneres’ lady-friend...

Breakdown - Sort of “The Vanishing,” meets “Deliverance.” Thrilling and action-filled with not much plot to get in the way. Should have had an extra, I-thought-it-was-over, but-now-I-see-it’s-far-from-over, scene.

Rent!

Juliet of the Spirits (Giulietta degli Spiriti) (1965): A Fellini visual masterpiece with a rambling plot through a boorish housewife’s mind and life. Notable parties. Yes, it has subtitles.


Taxi Driver (1976): Lots of Oscar nods for this DeNero vehicle. Jodi Foster was turning heads back then too. Worth seeing, or seeing again.

CD


Everything but the Girl vs. Drum ‘n’ Base/Everything but the Girl (1997): Extensive remixes of their newest songs.

Nightlife

Washington isn’t San Francisco. In fact, it’s barely Columbus. Apart from the availability of naked go-go boys—which we didn’t have time or the desire to see—the club scene is on a par with San Jose. There are a handful of clubs around Dupont, each catering to a particular audience: college boys, yuppies, Latinos, leathermen and transvestites (an interesting mix at Mr. P’s), and a medium-sized dance bar. For a very gay and social dinner, there is Annie’s near Dupont Circle, where meat is king.

The more restful Two Quail Restaurant (320 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., (202) 543-8030) has homey food and a questionable sense of decor. Take in “Shear Madness” at the architecturally fascistic Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts [Editor’s Note: “Shear Madness” is also playing in San Francisco]. It’s campy and partly improvised, but the gay character is a queeny hairdresser. How daring.

Do not leave Washington without a nighttime visit to the Jefferson Memorial. Like most things in Washington, it is more inspiring than any photo could show. It’s place along the Potomac, with the city lights glittering in the tidal basin makes for a romantic respite indeed.
A bright moon shone on the tree filled with shiny-eyed creatures. Leaves shimmered silver and black as long branches swayed under animal movements. A makeshift treehouse balanced there between the limbs, a gathering place where boys and girls conducted their rites of passage.

"Girls get to spin first!" Naomi, in body and spirit, was the most adult of the bunch. She seemed created for productivity: her curves full and round, her demeanor direct and efficient. The boys knew lust for Naomi, but also a particular intimidation bordering on amnesia; Goober Girl (also afflicted by allergies and chronic post-nasal drip); and Godzilla Breath (her sinuses slowed, eventually wobbling with a clackety-clack until it came to rest directly facing the brown-eyed girl).

The boys prayed silently, let it be me! let it be me! And the five children scrambled out of the treehouse.

Long moments passed. The tree vibrated with life: sap running through trunk and limbs; moisture wicking its way to silvery leaves from roots reaching deep into the earth; and two heartbeats pulsing, beating, shaking the entire tree.

Naomi put her face near the brown-eyed girl. The girl could smell the sweetness of Naomi's hair and clothes and her belly turned inside out. Eyes wide open, she leaned forward. Naomi put her lips on the quivering mouth before her. Barely, just barely.

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A few kisses passed around the treehouse, dry and sterile. With anticipation bordering on dread, each boy held his breath as the girls spun the needle of his fate. Finally, the bottle came to Naomi. The boys prayed silently, let it be me! let it be me! let it be me! And one girl - the girl with the brown eyes - wished that it could be her lips meeting Naomi's.

"Now who is it gonna be...?" Naomi teased, looking at the half-circle of boys, then into the brown eyes of the girl directly across from her. "You never know...!" She turned the bottle this way and that, pointing at the three boys, then at the brown-eyed girl, then spun the bottle. It turned fast and smooth for what seemed like hours to the mesmerized children, then slowed, eventually wobbling with a clackety-clack until it came to rest directly facing the brown-eyed girl.

"Oh man! You gotta spin it again!" Tommy whined.
"Yeah, that doesn't count...!
"C'mon Naomi!
"Well... the rules are the rules..." she teased, looking into the brown eyes. "The rules are: you have to kiss whoever the bottle points to." "Crost!
"You're not going to kiss a girl are you?" "Feeeew!
"Let's get out of here!

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"Do you want to kiss me?" Naomi asked.
"Yes... I... yes..." and the two fell together in a tangle of arms and legs and lips and heartbeats.

The moon rose higher and brighter against the dark sky and the leaves danced silver, black, silver, black, silver as the two discovered peak and valley, palm and voice, quiver and bow.

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Women On the Russian River
by Dan Presser
Contributing Writer

The Russian River has long been a favorite gay male vacation spot, but things are different now. Women have made this resort area a lesbian haven as well. Summer seasons kicked off with Women's Weekend. Several thousand lesbians will descend on the area for three days of celebration, including parties, dances, comedy, golf and pool parties at several resorts.

New Places and New Faces
The River now boasts a couple of snazzy new bars where women gather. One is the Bull Pen, which is a sports bar and another is called River Business where Lalita's used to be. Both pubs will be hosting special welcome parties for women while Fife's Resort will be sponsoring contests galore. Among the favorites at Fife's are the "Sexiest Bikini Contest" and the "Martha Stewart Award for the Best Decorated Campsite."

Merri Cavanaugh, the handsome Harley riding former owner of the Cactus Club, is hosting the Best Butch in Boxers and other events as well.

Seasonal Pleasures
The Russian River resort area has been a summer destination, but many are discovering the joys of autumn, winter and spring along its banks.

October is filled with fun events such as the Russian River Treasure Hunt, Art Trails and the Sonoma County Harvest Fair. December's activities include the Russian River Christmas Celebration and Crafts Fair.

In January visitors enjoy the Russian River Winter Wine Land weekend. Spring along the Russian River is welcomed with the "Spring Thing," the "Rivertop Stomp" and the Russian River Barrel Tasting. Complete details about all these events and more can be found by contacting the Russian River Chamber of Commerce.

Tourist beds along the Russian River have dwindled due to the sale of one of the major resorts and the closure of some smaller spots. Tourists are renting vacation homes to fill the bedroom gap. Beautiful homes, ranging in price from $125 to $290 per night, are an economical alternative for groups vacationing for two. There is also a listing which includes a corral for visiting equine fillies.

Good, Clean Homos
Pop Homo Band Erasure Doesn't Disappoint
by Waylon Katz
Contributing Writer

Pop band Erasure is not for everyone. After ten minutes at the concert, my companion leaned over to me and moaned "It's just like going to church. Zero angst." He was disappointed by the lack of a mosh pit.

Expecting to see a mosh pit at an Erasure concert is like expecting to meet a husband at Blow Buddies. You simply don't go to see an Erasure concert to wallow in your problems. Erasure is about as close as a gay group can get to The Carpenters. Happinness, love, and more happiness are their only themes.

I Wanna Be A Cowboy
Erasure's concert tour coincides with the release of their new album "Cowboy." The odd thing about an Erasure concert-like those of the Pet Shop Boys and other synth bands—is that there are no musicians on the Western-themed stage set; only bare-chested blond Andy Bell, a handful of back-up singers, a guitar playing cactus (the other half of Erasure Vince Clarke), and a tower of blinking computer hardware.

Erasure is about as close as a gay group can get to The Carpenters. Happiness, love, and more happiness are their only themes.

Programmed to Please
Cute as a bug and mighty gay lead singer Andy Bell hopped and spun through Erasure's hit list, which includes homo favorites "Oh L'amour," "Blue Savannah," and "A Little Respect" (the latter being this writer's favorite).

Bell is an engaging enough front man, and his vocals were polished enough to make the two of us wonder if he wasn't lip-synching (he wasn't). Since each song is programmed, there's no room for improvisation, but this wasn't the crowd to demand it. If you want an evening of good, clean entertainment with some of your homo sisters and brothers, this is your ticket.
Licensed to Kill: Documentary Focuses on Murderers of Gays

by Marsha Tacks
Contributing Writer

The best documentary filmmakers know their subjects inside and out. Arthur Dong, whose new documentary Licensed to Kill won the Filmmaker’s Trophy at Sundance, was himself a victim of a gay bashing in San Francisco that could easily have turned deadly.

Licensed to Kill is simple in form. Interviews with six men convicted of killing gay men are interspersed with titles of quotes and sound bites from Pat Robertson, Ralph Reed, and other right-wing leaders, and sickeningly gory crime scene photos.

What’s unusual about Dong’s approach is that unlike his PBS counterparts he chooses not to manipulate his audience through reenactment nor film technique; they are instead left to meet these admitted murderers, some of whom are themselves gay, and by seeing beyond their recollections of their crimes decide for themselves what drove them to commit seemingly senseless these crimes.

Perhaps the most unsettling of the killers is a well-spoken, seemingly intelligent gay man who methodically recounts his motives through an uneasy smile. Jay Johnson, who killed two men in Minneapolis in two separate shootings, speaks of his internalized homophobia, of his ultra-conservative religious upbringing, and his entry into a racist gay community.

For the others, their motives range from simple robbery to a display of teenage bravado to a religious crusade. All found their victims at well-known gay cruising areas (“because they’re easy to find”) and the type of gay men who frequent these areas won’t report a lesser crime. In most cases, the victims willingly accompanied the killers to secluded locations or their homes where they were then murdered.

The single failing of Dong’s otherwise insightful and well-crafted film is his reliance on sociatal pressure as a motivating force for murder. In all but one case, the reason appears to be mental illness or retardation. His humanistic approach to his subjects is laudable, considering his own harrowing experiences (the man that the gang did bash was almost beaten to death). Dong allows us to meet the men who hate homosexuals and wonder if, in another context, we would be so driven by our own homophobia or foolish as to become one of their victims.

The Monterey County AIDS Project Needs Your Support

Support the largest provider of gay HIV/AIDS support, outreach, and education on the Central Coast.

Pledge your support today.
772-8200 in Salinas
394-4747 in Monterey

A Gay Evening Brings Queer Joy to S.C.

by Alannis Mayan
Contributing Writer

The 13th Annual Gay Evening in May, the Santa Cruz talent show for the gay community received cheers from queens May 16th & 17th at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. The Saturday performance began with a catered dinner for over 250 supporters who were inexplicably forced to listen to a duo sing ABBA hits while eating.

After the last refrains of “Dancing Queen” came to a thankful end, the rest of the enthusiastic audience filled the auditorium. Attendance appeared equal to that of last year’s event.

Every year AGEM showcases the best in gay talent from the Central Coast. Stand-out performances included “Poverty Paradise”, a dance routine performed by Dee Meredith and her extraordinary troupe of hip hop dancers. Local singing duo The Queerberries offered a lesbian-themed acoustic performance, and favorite Karen Soo Hoo’s solo performance had the audience stomping the Civic’s parquet floor.

Other favorites that night included The Jus Country Cloggers, Tish Denevan’s sing-along “The Chapel of Love”, and Sini Man’s a capella performance of “This Song (Ode to John)”, written in memory of his brother.

Less successful that night were a barely comprehensible camp drag routine based on Mommie Dearest, and an engaging but clumsy juggler.

A Gay Evening in May donates the proceeds from the event, generally in the neighborhood of $25,000, to several local community groups including the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, WomenCARE, and the Santa Cruz Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Community Center.

The Paper

Travel 45 Miles to Get Away from Monterey and Chances Are It Will Sit Down Next to You
An Update On Antiviral Resistance

by Mark Katz, MD
reported by Jim Stoecker

Last month, we reviewed the current thinking on when to start antiviral therapy, what antivirals to start with and when to change your antiviral regimen. Left open was the question of why antiviral regimens fail to suppress the virus. The most likely cause is the development of viruses that are resistant to the drug or drugs being used. In fact, we suspect the development of resistance whenever an antiviral regimen results in incomplete suppression of the virus.

Two Types of Resistance

Scientists talk about two types of antiviral resistance:

- Phenotypic resistance refers to the decreased susceptibility of the virus to the drug being used. This is the practical definition of resistance, what most of us mean when we talk about antiviral resistance. The drugs aren't working because most likely the virus has mutated in such a way that the drug no longer is fully effective.

- Genotypic resistance refers to those mutations which are associated with the emergence of phenotypic resistance. This is the actual specific genetic mutation of the virus and is of interest to scientists and researchers.

Today we have sophisticated testing mechanisms that can type the particular hiv that infects an individual. This testing can determine whether genotypic resistance is present, whether specific mutations of the virus exist in the blood. No test, however, will tell whether resistance is actually occurring.

With a viral typing test, we may know that an individual is at risk for developing resistance to certain antivirals, but the actual emergence of resistance must be inferred from viral load testing and the monitoring of the individual's overall health.

Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors

The reverse transcriptase inhibitors have differing resistance patterns. AZT resistance emerges gradually because a combination of several viral mutations are required for high level resistance. The risk of developing AZT resistance increases with time on the drug. Time allows the virus to form the specific set of mutations required.

On the other hand, both 3TC and nevirapine have a single point mutation that confers high level resistance to the drug. This means only one viral mutation is required to highly reduce the effectiveness of these drugs. In fact, early testing of nevirapine revealed the rapid development of resistance when the drug was used alone.

Nevirapine is now used only in combination with other antivirals. Some researchers are suggesting that the use of both 3TC and nevirapine be avoided when prescribing a first-time antiviral combination. They reason that since these drugs require only one mutation to render them ineffective, their use should be confined to later combinations.

Early studies of the newest protease inhibitor, Agouron's nelfinavir, suggest that if you become resistant to it, you may still be sensitive to the other currently available protease inhibitors.

Protease Inhibitors

Early studies on protease inhibitors highlighted the importance of dosage level and regimen compliance in the development of resistance to these antivirals. For example, early studies of saquinavir showed very low viral mutations when 7200 mg per day were used versus 3600 mg per day. Equally important is staying with the recommended dosing schedule, which ensures that adequate levels of drug are present in the bloodstream, thereby lessening the development of viral mutations.

With protease inhibitors, we have the additional issue of cross resistance. If you develop resistance to one protease inhibitor, are you then resistant to the others? This appears to be the case with saquinavir, indinavir and ritonavir. However, early studies of the newest protease inhibitor, Agouron's nelfinavir, suggest that if you become resistant to it, you may still be sensitive to the other currently-available protease inhibitors.

Strategies for Avoiding Antiviral Resistance

We know that resistance is more likely to occur if there is incomplete suppression of the virus. In such a case, the virus continues to reproduce and mutate. The specific mutations required for resistance can begin to emerge.

Thus, the best way to avoid the emergence of resistance is to go for complete suppression of the virus. (As we mentioned last month, this is in fact the goal of any antiviral regimen.) This means that you determine the most powerful combination of drugs available, that you take the highest recommended dosage, and that you follow the dosing schedule accurately and completely. If resistance should emerge, you then determine a new regimen to suppress the virus. The good news today is that we have a number of antivirals available to develop the best possible regimen for each individual.

Reprinted from the Being Alive newsletter. Being Alive is an organization of and for people with HIV/AIDS. For a subscription to their monthly newsletter write to 3626 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026 213.667.3262, TDD 213.661.7837, FAX 213.667.2735, bealive@aol.com.
Positive Lesbians Deserve the Best!
Achieving Your Personal Best GYN Health

By Risa Denenberg FNP
Lesbian AIDS Project at Gay Men's Health Crisis

First, the bad news: Recognizing the symptoms of HIV infection in women's bodies was delayed for many years because research was based on the model of AIDS in men's bodies. Gynecological (gyn) manifestations of HIV such as abnormal Pap smears, irregular periods, vaginitis, and pelvic pain were ignored for the first decade of the epidemic.

Women Were Ignored
Early opportunities to study the natural history of HIV in women's bodies were lost due to this neglectful approach, and as a consequence, women's survival time from an AIDS diagnosis continues to be less than that for men. Even when women began to be recognized and counted, lesbians and women who partner with women continued to be ignored. Researchers and doctors who learned to ask about same-sex sexual behavior in men still have not learned to accept and inquire about women who have sex with women.

The exclusion of lesbian and bisexual women from HIV research, prevention, and education is particularly striking when compared to the breakthrough of sexual silence in the public health sector in regard to gay male sexuality.

While this breakthrough was compelled by the high seroprevalence in the gay male community, the increasing rate of HIV infection in women has not compelled the same attention. Until women's (straight, lesbian, and bi) sexuality becomes part of the public discussion on HIV prevention, early detection, and treatment, all women are being neglected.

Lesbians experience unique challenges in accessing the health care system. This is primarily because lesbians face invisibility, and may fear provider hostility and abuse when seeking health care services. These fears are not unwarranted. In fact, discrimination and provider hostility toward lesbians is well documented. This often serves to drive lesbians out of the health care system, or to hide our sexuality and lifestyle from medical providers.

So, What's a Girl to Do?
One important point to keep in mind is that we have already done a lot: Lesbians have been front line AIDS activists throughout the epidemic. Lesbians have taken the lead in creating programs that serve women with AIDS, and have created the vast majority of programs, literature, research, prevention efforts and curriculum that deal with lesbians and HIV/AIDS. Peer education programs, pamphlets, forums, outreach, and social activities have brought women who partner with women together to discuss how to cope with the epidemic in our community.

Pulling Together A Personal Program for GYN Health:
First, learn all that you possibly can about your female body. Go to forums, read pamphlets, ask questions. Get personal by keeping a health calendar and writing down the dates of your periods, any unusual symptoms, changes in your moods. Notice your cycles to take best advantage of your "good days." Share your calendar with other positive women, and always take it with you to your medical appointments.

Find a good primary care provider. A primary care provider is a medical professional who understands about HIV infection and treatments, can admit you to the hospital if you become ill, and doesn't ignore your gyn care. Gyn care is primary care. You shouldn't have to go to a specialist to get routine Pap smear, medication for menstrual cramps, evaluation of menstrual changes, or treatment for a vaginal our pelvic infection.

Be concerned if your provider never asks you questions about your periods and sex life. Any negative judgments expressed about your sexuality lifestyle, or other important issues should be a cause for dismissal.

A good clinic will ask about any history of sexual abuse and treat any disclosure with due respect and concern for your safety. A Pap smear or pelvic examination does not need to be painful. If you don't often have sexual penetrations, be sure to have the provider use the smallest possible speculum.

Whenever you see a specialist, be certain to get a written report sent to your primary care provider promptly. Bring a "consult form" from your provider for this purpose, or make notes with your provider's address. Learn about the opportunities to enter research programs.

There are currently two large studies of HIV infection in women, both of which are gathering information about gyn health: HERIS (HIV Epidemiology Research Study) and WINGS (Women's Interagency HIV Study). Read booklets that describe opportunities for entering research into new treatments four HIV and for opportunistic infections. To date, fewer than 10% of participants in HIV clinical trials have been women—far too few to know if the research results are actually valid for women.

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Women Still Missed in HIV Diagnoses
At the same time as deaths from AIDS are increasing for women as they fall for men, women's infections are often missed as the disease progresses. A different course, according to a new research study.

Women's HIV infection often is missed because doctors aren't recognizing that vaginal infections, yeast infections of the mouth and throat and cervical cancer are part of the disease. A recent federal report noted that while the AIDS death rate in men dropped by 15% in the first six months of 1996, deaths in women increased by 3%.

A Chicago consortium has found illness-causing cytomegalovirus active in blood and secretions well before women with HIV progress to AIDS. The research found cytomegalovirus was the root cause of vaginal infections in 41 percent of the women tested.

Also, at the third National Conference on Women & HIV, a University of Southern California team announced that it had detected unusual types of breast cancer in young HIV-infected women, including rare metastastic carcinoma.

While the rate of AIDS deaths in men declined 15% in the first six months of last year, the rate for women increased 3%, according to figures at the Federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. AIDS is the third-leading killer of American women ages 25-44 and the No. 1 killer of African-American women that constitute the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population to become HIV-infected.
Wanted for the Summer
Room or cottage to rent. I am a 45 year old Latino who wants a break from my home in Sacramento. Willing to help out with chores or errands. Very responsible. Please call Ron (916) 684-4020.

HAVE A PLACE
Del Rey Oaks
Room available in 3 bedroom, 1 bath room house in Del Rey Oaks. $400/month plus 1/3 utilities. 2 GWM roommates, 26 and 31. Two indoor/outdoor dogs. Available immediately. Call Chris at 392-2878 or Brian at 394-5467.

Del Rey Oaks
House Share: Sunny Del Rey Oaks. Share 2 bedroom house. Large bedroom with view, deck, yard, washer and dryer, storage, quiet and clean. $475 mo plus 1/2 utilities. $200 deposit. Please call Kathy at 392-0895.

Pruneda/Castrovile
Roommate-companion wanted by artist, 72, to share double-wide mobile home located on Rt. 156. Pool table, private bath. Second BR is also 1/2 art studio. I have a basset hound. You need to be employed with own transportation, enjoy serious music. Scrabble. No D/S. $200+phone, includes meals. Male preferred. Call Len at 603-0318.

The Paper will run your roommate ads for free. Send them to us using the Classifieds/Personals form. We don’t screen these ads, so please check references carefully.

Women Seeking Women
Santa Cruz Pre-Med
with beach house looking for attractive GWF, 18-28, female to soft bath. Am Italian with green eyes, sensual, ambitious, aggressive and want to live well, do you? Enjoy surfing, concerts, laughter, SF, coffee, clubs, playing music, cuddling and, yes, of course yummy kissing and making love all night. I am a classic Leo with a lib's appetite...do you have what it takes to tame this lion with nerdy bowwow? Looking forward to your letter and picture (will repeat). Reply to Boxholder, P.O. Box 2460, Santa Cruz CA 95062.

This is Easy...
Let’s get together for dinner. It’s as simple as that: Drop me a line and let’s see what we can work out. (respond to #030301)

Men Seeking Men
ISO Someone Who Wants to Road Travel to the Phoenix Area
As a travel companion or just one way (some financial assistance necessary). Leave here Aug. 18th, leave Phoenix Aug. 26th, 1997. Me: GWM, 44 yrs. UGM?: Send letters to Richard, #040101

Truth in Advertising
We as a people are locked within our own shadows. Fear to say what we really want. What have you wanted? I know what I want. I want to be seduced by intellect, arrested by words, harassed by silence, enveloped by the sound, confronted by what you want. Energy only two can share! So what do you want? Do my words excite you? Are they rich in content? What is important, is your determination and willingness to strive for a goal. So put pen to paper and write. (respond to #030504)

Handsome Professional
Athletic, artistic, and successful, single Multi-Nationality/Gay Male wants to make contact for possible LTR. I’m 6’1”, 180 lbs, well-built, 39 yrs. You—similar specs. Not looking for Mr. Perfect, just Mr. Right. Race unimportant. Like you, I want a LTR. Just take a chance and see what happens...if it doesn’t work out—well, I’ll just move in. (respond to #030302)

In Search of Romance
GAM, 18, 5’9”, 135#, into music. I love singing. Looking for GWM, romantic, gentle, sweet guy, for friendship and fun or more. (respond to #030501)

Gay Asian Male
GAM, 28, 6’6’, 170 lbs, likes the outdoors, reading and gardening...and a good laugh. Your pic gets mine. Send response to Box 2574, Monterey, CA 93942-2574.

Monterey Cub Seeks Love
WM, 44, 5’10”, 180lb hairy teddy bear wants a man for loving long-term, monogamous relationship with other bear from late 30’s to 50’s. Enjoy staying home to play house but willing to expand outside interests. No fancy food—I’m a meat and potatoes man. Like C/W rock music, movies & football. Shy but easy to warm up. Not into bars. Like drink OK. I’m HIV-, you should be, too. Sexual appetite ranges from lots of cuddling and kissing to a little kinky with the right man. Endowment not important to either of us. Not looking for a sister. Please send letter and photo to Gary. P.O. Box 2542, Monterey, CA 93942.

You Don’t Have to Be a Rice Queen!
But we can still have great times together. Attractive, fun athletic, light skinned, good with my hands, caring open to new things. Like going out but will stay in if there are not enough people. Easy to get along with. Write me a line and let’s see what we can work out. (respond to #030303)

First Time Ad
HM, 33, 6’11”, 310lbs. Attractive, athletic, professional, honest, clean-cut and not into bar scene. Seeks 31/WM, 30-40 yrs for friendship and possible relationship. Please no chemical dependants. Send photo and phone number to Box Holder, P.O. Box 211, Monterey, CA 93942.

All submissions are strictly confidential and are run for three consecutive issues or as space allows.

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- Queen set: $499
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### Spring Air Four Seasons

- Twin Set: $399
  - Full set: $499
  - Queen set: $599
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