

**H.I.V.**  
**POSITIVE**

**IS TESTING A  
CIVIL RIGHT?**

**SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS**

# HATE CRIMES

By Fred Duncan

As homosexuals, we deal with hate crimes or bias related crimes everyday. We can never be ourselves because of a constant unknown threat from hets who might disapprove of our lifestyle. We put on our "straight" act at work and school and everywhere else we feel unsure of. Fear of name calling, discrimination, loss of jobs, familial rejection, vandalism and even physical violence are only some of the reasons that most of us have to lead double lives. How can it be possible to escape from the closet when there's a doorstep wedged under the door?

Today there is a growing concern for the documentation of bias related crimes. Hate crimes documentation has come under fire by many groups across the nation. These groups have come to realize, just as with the A.I.D.S. epidemic, that education and awareness are the most important tools we can use. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has mounted a campaign to document hate crimes throughout the U.S. with the support of several other groups.

But what about locally? To find out, I got on the phone and called the Knoxville Police Department to ask a few questions. The woman I spoke to was not shocked (as I expected her to be) when I began asking her gay and lesbian related questions. As a matter of fact she was quite helpful. The conclusion that my line of questioning boiled down to was that not only doesn't the police department record crimes against homosexuals as bias related, they also

aren't aware that there is a need to document them. No special significance is given to biased related crimes.

A common question asked by both of the people I spoke to was "why should gays and lesbians want to be treated separately from other people?" I had to stop and think about that for a moment. If our goal as a group is to take away the sensitivity placed on an issue because it is gay related, then why would we want to make certain issues more sensitive than others?

I was brought back to the original idea of understanding through education. People do not see bias related crimes as a problem because people DO NOT SEE THEM AT ALL. The crimes are masked among the hundreds of other crimes that happen everyday locally, or, in the case of less severe crimes, not reported at all.

It seems to be left up to the gay and lesbian community to keep track of what is happening in our community and to us. Through services like the gay hotline, this information is being recorded locally. Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers, it is hard to keep the phone line going on a constant basis. If you would like to volunteer, please call 524-0748 and do so. Your community needs you now more than ever before.



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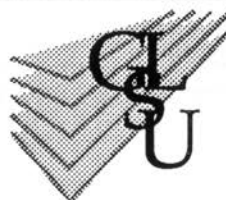
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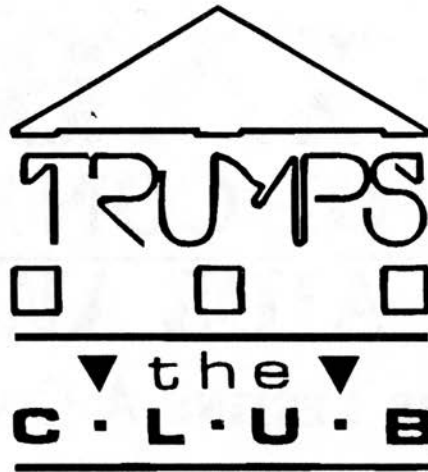
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# AIDS AWARE

## IS TESTING A CIVIL RIGHT?

By Rochester

The past few weeks have seen a variety of news stories on AIDS. Locally, parents raised strong objections over the content of AIDS education in public schools, horrified that their pre-teen children are learning about condoms and oral and anal sex. Naturally, teen AIDS was said to be on the rise, as was the case with heterosexual AIDS. There has been a scare in Texas over the "Black Widow," an anonymous person who claims to be a heterosexual woman spreading AIDS to every man she can in revenge for having contracted the disease; no men have come forward claiming to have been infected by this person. In Washington, 74 members of ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) were arrested during protests. The protesters interrupted Senate debate, lit stink bombs in the House and Senate subways, threw red dye in fountains, and congregated 300 strong on the Capital steps, protesting the lack of adequate federal response to the epidemic.

But the most important AIDS story of late was the Congressional hearing for a bill

sponsored by Congressman Danameyer. Kimberly Bergalis, a PWA (Person With AIDS) who contracted HIV from her dentist, testified: "AIDS is a terrible disease and must be taken seriously. I did nothing wrong, and yet I am being made to suffer like this. My life has been taken away. Please enact legislation," she continued on, asking for a law requiring every health care worker and every patient to be tested for HIV. There have been other proposals and compromises on similar bills, such as the earlier version by Senator Helms which was passed 81-18 by the Senate, and which, if enacted into law, would have set prison sentences for HIV+ health care workers who perform "invasive procedures" without informing the patient. Compromises are surely forthcoming which would lessen the severity of this legislation, but as long as the intent is to coerce HIV testing on any group by any means, such a law would be unhelpful and would set a dangerous precedent.

As far as the "Bergalis bill" is concerned, the bill as

law would only elevate tension and paranoia, creating an atmosphere of mistrust, or at the least validating the mistrust many people already feel against the medical profession. Quality care is intimately tied to the doctor-patient relationship, where trust can be essential to healing and health. To mandate the testing of all medical professionals and all patients by law would be to make a national declaration of mistrust and paranoia.

Another reason the Bergalis bill is misguided is because it would create a false sense of security. Far too often, people regard testing as a kind of immunization, thinking of a negative test result as a kind of validation for the safety of their practices, sexual or medical. In reality, a negative test result has no such moral value to it and can't even be used to validate the absence of HIV: though scientists are uncertain, it is widely believed that there is a six month window during which you can test negative, and yet be incubating transmissible HIV. And besides, as was pointed out by Barbara Fassbinder, an RN from Wisconsin who

contracted HIV from a patient, only one health care worker is documented as having transmitted HIV to patients, compared to a large number of patients known to have transmitted the virus to medical professionals. The majority of the medical profession understands these risks. And yet Fassbinder is joined by Dr. Les Seldin, and American Dental Association spokesman, by the entire HIV Task Force, and by nearly every medical association in the country in fighting against Bergalis-style legislation.

Along the same lines, perhaps Congress should consider something closer to home for them: the expense. The numbers of medical professionals alone is in the hundreds of thousands, and since all patients would have to be tested too, that includes practically everyone in the country. In addition, everyone would have to be tested regularly in order to provide updated results, and even then the six-month window would be open for any health professional, patient, or blood donor to transmit HIV during a medical routine. Besides the absurdity, the cost for all this would bankrupt the country. Too much money has already been wasted on everything but what is needed: a vaccine and a cure, and, in lieu of a cure,

better treatments than those already being made available (ddi, a pharmaceutical relative of AZT, isn't better.).

What happened to Kimberly Bergalis is a definite tragedy, and it took great courage to travel to Washington in her failing health just to deliver a thirty-second testimony. As short as it was, her statement was excruciating to watch, this frail human being surrounded by the flashing cameras at a Congressional hearing. But there is an implication in her words that is too malignant to be ignored: "I have done nothing wrong, and yet I am being made to suffer like this." Ten years after the first reports of a strange and horrible new disease afflicting homosexuals and intravenous drug users, a heterosexual woman can still find sympathetic ears for her tale implying other people deserve her tragic illness more than she does, simply because she is heterosexual and doesn't use drugs.

That underlying sentiment drives the Bergalis bill, and suddenly the whole range of questions we faced when testing first became available in the mid 1980's

has been called into question all over again. In particular, how do we test as many people as possible, particularly people in high risk groups, while protecting their civil rights? In the end, these important precedents were established: that testing would be on a voluntary basis, and that those being tested would learn their results confidentially and would remain anonymous. The reasons for the precedents are clear. As long as society continues to stigmatize PWA's as well as HIV high risk groups, people who test must be protected from society.

Since testing began, many states have begun requiring all individuals who test, especially those testing HIV+, to be reported to a centralized public health authority, where lists and files will be kept. Plans are underway to include Tennessee among those states beginning January 1, 1992, at which time a name, address, and telephone number will be required in order to test. Health officials maintain that confidentiality will be guaranteed, and that since no ID verification will be required, false names and numbers can be given. According to statements in an earlier Query article, this

new requirement "is designed to help lower the rate of HIV transmission in the state." How the requirement will accomplish this goal has not been adequately explained, though there is an ominous mention of the new policy facilitating "partner notification."

There are many problems with reporting HIV testing, even for those who test negative. What will be done with these lists? Epidemiologists will find them extremely useful, but so would many other groups and individuals who might have their own agendas. Once such a comprehensive list exists anywhere, the dangers of misuse are much greater than if the list had never been made at all. Lists could be used for blackmail, witch-hunting, establishing quarantines, litmus tests for being gay or a drug user, blacklisting by employers, insurers, or others. The anonymity precedent was established to protect people from these threats and to create a climate in which people would more freely volunteer to be tested.

Of course, one solution to reduced volunteerism may be on the way with the Bergalis bill even now: forsake volunteer testing and test by proscription. Once you have lists you have

the means to calculate target groups with the stamp of statistical approval, not to mention the fact that once you test you could be targeted for mandatory retesting on a regular basis. There is an unspoken assumption by many in this country that if you test you are admitting guilt for being at risk, and so long as the misperception remains that AIDS belongs to the unpopular fringes of society, denial will enable people to continue unsafe practices without a qualm. It also enables people to assume they needn't be tested, or to avoid it through denial, assuming that to be tested voluntarily would be to admit to some kind of guilt. Even the gay community falls prey to this when the denial assumes that only a "fastlane" promiscuous lifestyle is at risk.

The fact that HIV-stigma is so deeply embedded in the American psyche that the stigma extends even to testing is the main reason any compromise to anonymous testing is dangerous. The problem with the Bergalis bill is that it would set a terrible precedent for more obvious abuses of mandatory testing. With the Bergalis bill, testing doctors is tantamount to labelling doctors legally as a high risk group and medicine

as a high risk activity. Quite clearly, this is not the case. But if this bill is passed, it will not only equate doctors and medicine as risks to public health, it will also establish the right of the government to intercede wherever it perceives a risk and allow laws forcing "risk groups" to be tested in the "public interest."

Every epidemic has its scapegoats, people who are victimized as much or more by society than by disease. But in the case of AIDS, the majority of PWAs are already criminals in half the states in this country, and too few politicians are willing to stand up for them and the double stigma attached to the largest group at risk, homosexuals. Until we have a much more tolerant society, voluntary anonymous testing must be vehemently defended. Lest anyone doubt it, remember the implication in Kimberly Bergalis' testimony: "I have done nothing wrong, and yet I am being made to suffer like this." This stigmatization of AIDS provides a license to say PWAs deserve to suffer, and NO ONE deserves to suffer from AIDS.



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GLSU Party - November 2 - 8:00 pm to 1:00 am - at the Laurel Theatre - \$5.00 Admission

GLSU at the University of Tennessee - meets Tuesdays at 8 p.m. - University Center.  
Call 524-0748 for more information

aids Response Knoxville - offers PWA support group, grief and bereavement support group, HIV+ support group. Call 523-AIDS for more information.

Metropolitan Community Church - Corner of Weisgarber and Lonas.  
Worship Service: Sundays at 6 p.m. Call 521-6546 for more information.

Political Action Alliance of the GLSU meets on the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m.  
Call 524-0748 for more information.

GALA (Gay And Lesbian Alumni Association) - Call Kurt Haas at 595-7949 for more information



# CO-DEPENDENCY, THE SERIES

By Paul Porter

In the August issue of AWARE I wrote an article on co-dependency. I had several people come to me who were feeling panicky about the descriptions of a co-dependent person that I listed in the article. The word co-dependency comes from the original phrase co-alcoholic which was first used in Alcoholics Anonymous. Co-dependency has become a kind of catch-all phrase used by modern psychologists.

The main questions posed to me were "what do I do about this?" and "how do I deal with this?" Well, I've gotten a lot of good research material from Tina which I will reveal to you readers.

"Anyone who has diligently followed our path has never been known to fail. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this program."

"If you are hurting and would like to change, you are probably willing to try anything that will help. There is a twelve step program you can follow even though some of the ideas may seem preachy:

1) We admitted we are powerless over our co-dependency - that our lives had become unmanageable.

2) Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.

4) Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

5) Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

6) Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of our character.

7) Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

8) Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

9) Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

10) Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

11) Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out.

12) Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

"Some of the steps seemed difficult. We thought there must be an easier way, but there was not. From the very beginning we urge you to be fearless and thorough in

following these steps. Some of us tried to hold on to our old ways but found we could not grow in the program until we let go entirely."

"We discovered through the program that God, as we understood him, helped us to comprehend and begin working these steps, as completely as we could, to the best of our ability. Through daily practice of these steps we learn to accept our co-dependency, realize our lives have become unmanageable, and that we are powerless over the disease. As we become willing to admit our defects, insane thinking, and dysfunctional behaviours, we are able to make choices about our attitudes, behaviours, and lives."

You may not wish to incorporate the God portions of the list of steps, depending on your religious beliefs. I for one, welcome God's intervention in my life. There is a really good prayer that I want to share with you. The serenity prayer: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

In future issues I will cover: The Twelve Promises, Affirmations, Goals and Solutions.





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# NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

By Paul Porter

October eleventh is one day that every gay and lesbian should look forward to. This is a day when all of us who are "out" celebrate our freedom and those who want to come out have the added impetus of a nationally recognized day to do so. For anyone who wants to come out, obtaining your freedom can be the most exhilarating experience of your life. But anything worth fighting for will come with a price.

Many of us will celebrate coming out day by going out to social functions within the community. That usually means going to the bars to dance our butts off and do some drinking. Of course, anyone with a brain will pick a designated driver to stay sober so no one gets hurt on the way home. Those with lovers may wish to celebrate in a different manner, such as an intimate dinner for two.

I think it's wonderful that we have a nationally recognized day for all of us! When you think about how invisible the gay community was until the Stonewall riots of the late sixties, we have come a

long way, baby! We are now a visible portion of every major community and we are no longer ignored. There is still much work to be done in many communities (including ours) to gain equal rights for gays and lesbians. As long as there are people hiding in fear in their closets, our work is not done.

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**As long as  
there are  
people hiding  
in fear in their  
closets, our  
work is not  
done.**

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Some of us may not have had much loss from coming out in terms of friends or family rejecting us, but some of us have had heavy losses in other areas. We all need to be loved and I think that coming out is also wrapped up in that. For me, coming out was finally accepting who I am and now I am trying to learn to love

myself. Some of you may have already gotten to this point and I congratulate you on your hard work.

As far as family and friends go, your family may be horrid to you at first, but they will come around eventually. You may lose some friends, but if they can't accept you for who you are, then they were never your friends to begin with.

As I am standing on my soapbox preaching love and acceptance, I am trying to reach out to all of you who are out and those of you who are still closeted and tell you all that yes, there are people in the gay community who care and who will listen when you need an ear to bend or a shoulder to cry on. I know this because I am one of these people myself, and I have several friends who are like me in that respect. Remember you are not alone in your struggle to be free because we are all in this together. So come out, come out, whoever you are! You CAN choose your family!





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## THE GROWING G.L.S.U. - U.T. FAMILY

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By Fred Duncan

Starting at the end of 1991 spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, The Gay and Lesbian Student Union was created despite much protest and debate, mostly on moral grounds. They were turned down at first, but with stirred up public sentiment and a somewhat open-minded student senate, they were allowed to become the first openly gay/lesbian/bisexual student group at the U.T. Chattanooga campus.

The goals of the newly created student union are very simple. They want to work within the U.T.C. system to make the campus more open and sensitive to gay issues. The officers of the G.L.S.U. see working together with existing student organizations as a way to lend credibility to their own organization. They feel that if they show the university that they do have

something to give back to the students they will eventually be accepted as a university student organization instead of being a group of sinners who are destined to go to hell, as some protesters of the group would have us believe.

Already this year G.L.S.U. -U.T.C. has sponsored an open forum on spirituality and sexuality. The turnout of twenty plus people was very good, considering the lack of publicity the event recieved. They are planning to sponsor another open forum in November that will deal with coming out. There are also other things planned such as parties and other informal events to promote a more openly gay community at U.T.C. Some other events planned for the fall include a Halloween party on October 26th, and a theatre party November 15th. They are also planning to have a

program for A.I.D.S. awareness and are going to work with the Sequoyah Society to sponsor a lecture on a well known lesbian author in the spring.

One of the main things that their secretary hopes will happen in the future is that the groups in the Chattanooga area will work together to provide a more positive gay community. He also hopes that their group can work with other groups outside the area to get some insight into problems that the other groups have encountered and hopefully, to learn from the others' mistakes.

If you would like any information about the G.L.S.U. - U.T.C., you can write to them at: The University of Tennessee - Chattanooga / 619 McCallie Ave. / Chattanooga / TN / 37403 / Attention: G.L.S.U.





# A True Queen's View

By Kelly Rafaiidolatobadii

Atlantic City, New Jersey: A city made famous the boardwalk and by casino gambling. Situated on the Atlantic Ocean, there were plenty of half naked subjects (both men and womyn) to watch playing volleyball or just sunbathing. The ocean water was colder than a cold shower, which was needed after watching the swimmers and lifeguards, who were wearing less than believable (yummy, yummy!). The beach itself was nasty. Broken clam shells and trash strewn everywhere by the tens of thousands who visit daily. The beach was almost as crowded as the dance floor at Trumps on a Saturday night. The boardwalk was hot and crowded but the "rikshaws" carried us from casino to casino in the manner that true queens are accustomed to.

Our first stop was at Donald's Taj-Mahel...(hated it)...the eighth wonder of the world. It was huge, cheap looking, and not even completed when poor Donald went broke. The cocktail waitresses were fully clothed (darn the luck) in tacky paisley shirts that somewhat matched the decor. The odds were fair.

The bellydancers outside the Taj-Mahel were great! Barely clothed and bumping and grinding all over the stage. The breakfast buffet line was hindered by three little old ladies demanding firmer eggs. The fist fight that took place on the way out to the elevators (between an eighty year old man defending the virtue of the eighteen year old bottle-blond on his arm and a twenty five year old studly hungwell) was handled efficiently by Donald's security people.

At 'Sister' Merv's Resorts Hotel and Casino...(hated it)... there was only a two hour wait for the afternoon buffet. The cold veal in gravy and the bologna sandwiches made better fare than the succotash and creamed beets. For five dollars we didn't complain because the waitstaff was nice and the chocolate milk flowed freely. The odds seemed a little better than at Donald's, but not by much.

Our last stop was at Ivana's Castle...(loved it)...we really felt AT HOME here. Girlfriend Ivana divorced him right in time before he went broke. She got the buttered

side of his bread. Not only did she get the kids, the cash, and a couple of condos, she got the best casino, the Castle. The Castle is located on the bay with all the tall yachts. At night it was beautiful. The only problem we found with Ivana's Castle was that the three matching chandeliers in the grand lobby are only 20 feet wide and 15 feet tall each, and at that size they are just too small for my dining room. The 5 cent slots were plentiful. Waitresses were half naked in bright costumes, and the odds were good. Way to go Ivana. Like your hair, the Castle is up there!

If you don't mind a filthy city once you get away from the boardwalk, the sleaze motels charging fifty dollars and the nice ones charging two hundred, and the people on the streets always yelling obscenities, then Atlantic City is the town to visit. The most memorable thing was the great hotdogs and fresh lemonade made on the boardwalk by street vendors.

Until next time...



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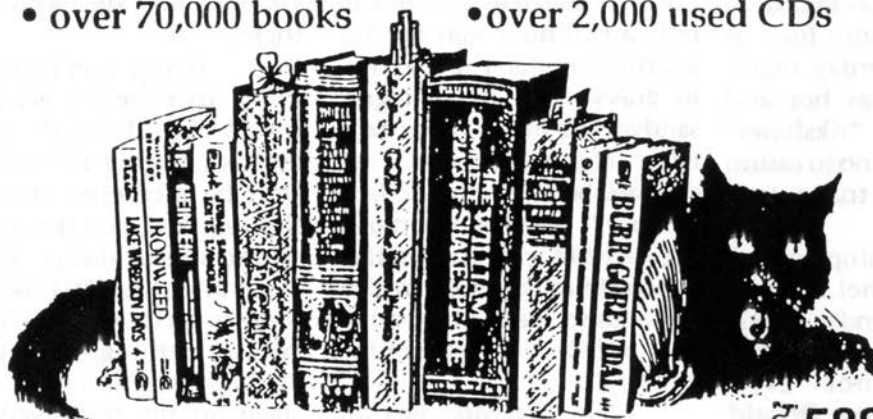
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# UT'S FIRST OPENLY GAY R.A.

An interview with Kurt Haas

by Tom Jackson

UT has a history of being a rather conservative institution; one that is steeped in tradition. So it is always a surprise when liberalism rears it's lovely head on campus. Such is the case with Kurt Haas, who is UT's first openly gay Resident Assistant. I spoke with Kurt about his experiences and goals as an R.A.

**AWARE:** Can you explain what an R.A. is?

**HAAS:** R.A. stands for resident assistant. An R.A. is a student who lives on a floor in a dormitory and works for the University. Responsibilities include clerical duties (desk work), keeping order on his floor, and disciplining students. An R.A. is supposed to create a learning environment and encourage the students' academic, physical, and mental growth. R.A.s also plan special programs and help students deal with any problems that may arise.

**A:** How do you feel about being the first openly gay R.A. at UT?

**HAAS:** It's a great opportunity. I can put forth a good face for the gay community and show that we're as responsible as anyone else. I can also be very visible to gay residents and, hopefully provide a good role model.

**A:** How is your relationship with the other R.A.s?

**HAAS:** They're great, and generally very accepting of me. A few were shocked at first. I didn't tell them until they asked me. They've been very supportive and helpful. The Hall Director and other administrators have been

great. I told them I was gay when they interviewed me.

**A:** What have your experiences with the students on your floor been like?

**HAAS:** Most of them have been very good. I have a wide variety of people on my floor, from alternative types to frat types to born again Christians. I have a couple of rooms of rowdy people, but I'm told that these people are obnoxious in most situations. It's not necessarily because I'm gay.

**A:** What is the most positive experience you've had as an R.A.?

**HAAS:** There are two. One day someone wrote "FAG" on my door and I found another resident erasing it. Another time, a female R.A. said that she would be willing to do homophobia as one of her programs next year. She's a fundamentalist Christian and I thought that it was very open-minded of her.

**A:** What is the most negative experience you've had?

**HAAS:** The night I had a movie festival downstairs. I came up to check on my floor and one resident had written homophobic comments on the chalkboard on my door.

**A:** Do you feel that being an R.A. gives you any additional opportunities as a gay person to educate others?

**HAAS:** Yes. Many, in fact. People have to talk to me

frequently. I'm in a position of responsibility and visibility. I can set a good example and be myself in an everyday way. I think that's a powerful form of visibility.

**A:** Were you surprised that you were hired?

**HAAS:** No. I had good recommendations from people on campus. The interview went well and the residence hall staff is very open-minded. However, I doubt that I would have been hired for a less diverse hall such as Reese or one like Hess that has community showers.

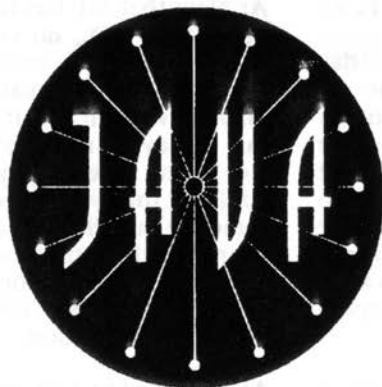
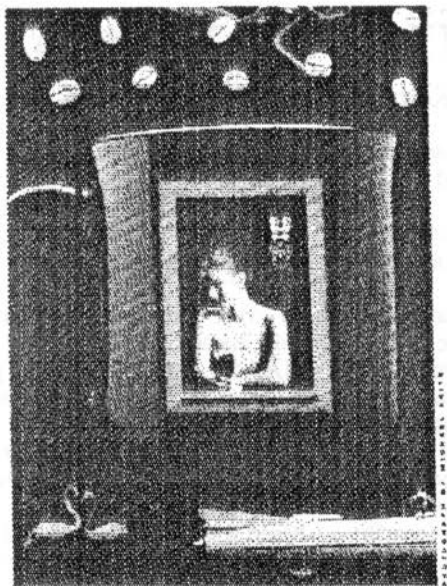
**A:** Now that UT has hired one openly gay R.A., do you think that there will be more in the future, or is this an isolated fluke?

**HAAS:** I wouldn't say it's a fluke, but it may be an isolated case. Not many openly gay people apply for this type of position. If someone qualified and gay were to apply, I think that they would have no problem. If there aren't more gay R.A.s, it won't be because of the administration.

**A:** If you had to do it over again, would you still accept the position as an R.A.?

**HAAS:** Yes. It's been a positive experience overall. Some people have said that I was the first gay person they've gotten to know. It's changed some of their feeling toward gay people.





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# A DIFFERENT VIEW

## Adventures as a gay audience

By Julian Marr

I've got so much to say this month that I'm not sure where to begin. The last few weeks have been fairly disturbing, both worldwide and locally. There is so much unbridled hatred and misguided fear in this world right now, it's becoming increasingly difficult to NOTICE anything positive or uplifting, especially concerning homosexuality or the gay community (let's not even mention civil rights). Taking all this into account, I have determined to focus on positives anyway, and the more I narrow my vision towards this, the more I am finding. There is a lot of good stuff going on right now, it's just really difficult to notice amidst the headlines.

Movies. Hmmm. Everyone with a brain should see the *Fisher King*. It's probably Terry Gilliam's most accessible film yet, and definitely one of his best. Robin Williams turns in yet another brilliant performance, thanks to the rest of the cast

(chemistry is all important!). I know it's not a "gay" film, even with it's mustached Ethel Merman, but it is very much a "human" film, and in the long run, that should be more important anyway. Let's see... waiting with semi-baited breath for *My Own Private Idaho*, supposedly to see a sympathetic gay lead... I'll let you know more next time.

In music, there are new sexual equality spokespeople appearing! Billy Bragg, the British folk protest poet laureate, has turned out an anthem for gay rights that spots him right up there with Madonna, since he is most decidedly straight. His song, *Sexuality*, (which is in fairly heavy rotation on WUTK) is extremely well crafted and lyrically, as is typical of Billy, witty but blunt. He gets right to the point: "just because you're gay/ or want a newer way/ if you stick around/

I'm sure that we can find some common ground/ sexuality/ young and warm and wild and free/ sexuality/ your laws do not apply to me." Way to go Mr. Bragg! As much as the gay community would love to have the rest of the world understand us ourselves, sometimes the most powerful statements have to come from those who support us from outside. Go out and buy the album, folks.

On television, the most stunning thing recently was an episode of Saturday Night Live hosted by Michael Jordan. There was a "commercial" they produced for the "beer" "Schmitts' Gay." It was a serious poke at the blatant use of sex (hetero) to sell alcohol, and it was brilliant. Two young men in a house sitting situation decide to throw a party, even though there's no water in the pool. But once they open a bottle of beer, the pool is magically full, the house is clean, and there are bikini clad babes everywhere! Sounds typical of

a beer commercial, until you notice that the "babes" are all incredible hunks of beefcake posing poolside. None of the guys are portrayed as stereotypical queers, just stereotypical men (almost as bad). They gawk at the scanty crotch shots all around them and basically turn into sex starved pigs. "If you're gay, and you're thirsty, reach for Schmitts' Gay." It was a refreshing gem in the middle of one of the best episodes of SNL in a long time.

Also, on the MTV Music Video Awards Program, just about everyone who is anyone in the music industry was wearing a red ribbon as a

visual reminder in support of the December 1st AIDS Crisis Day. Everyone is encouraged to pin a red ribbon on everyday between now and then, as a reminder of all those who have died in the medical and political fight against AIDS. I will have more on that soon, too.

Locally, we had *Pseudopalooza* at Club 121 on Jackson Ave. in the Old City. An intriguing crowd gathered for the one night festival of music, art, fashion, culture, and information. Of specific interest, thanks to Fred and David, who manned the GLSU table and passed out information on the group and

copies of AWARE. Also, the new performance group, Quack with a Q., wowed the crowd with their patented industrial/alternative version of Vogue (I liked the Brady Bunch theme, myself.). I'm slated for an interview with the members of this comic performance group next issue, so don't miss it!

Elsewhere locally, Theatre Central (on Gay Street, where else?) has put up a production of *Greater Tuna*. This camp farce is a must see. Ladies, wear your evening gowns! Well, that's about all I have space for this time, so until next month, Ciao.



# The Gay and Lesbian Student Union

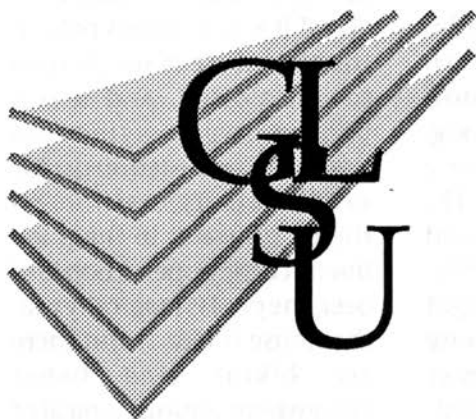
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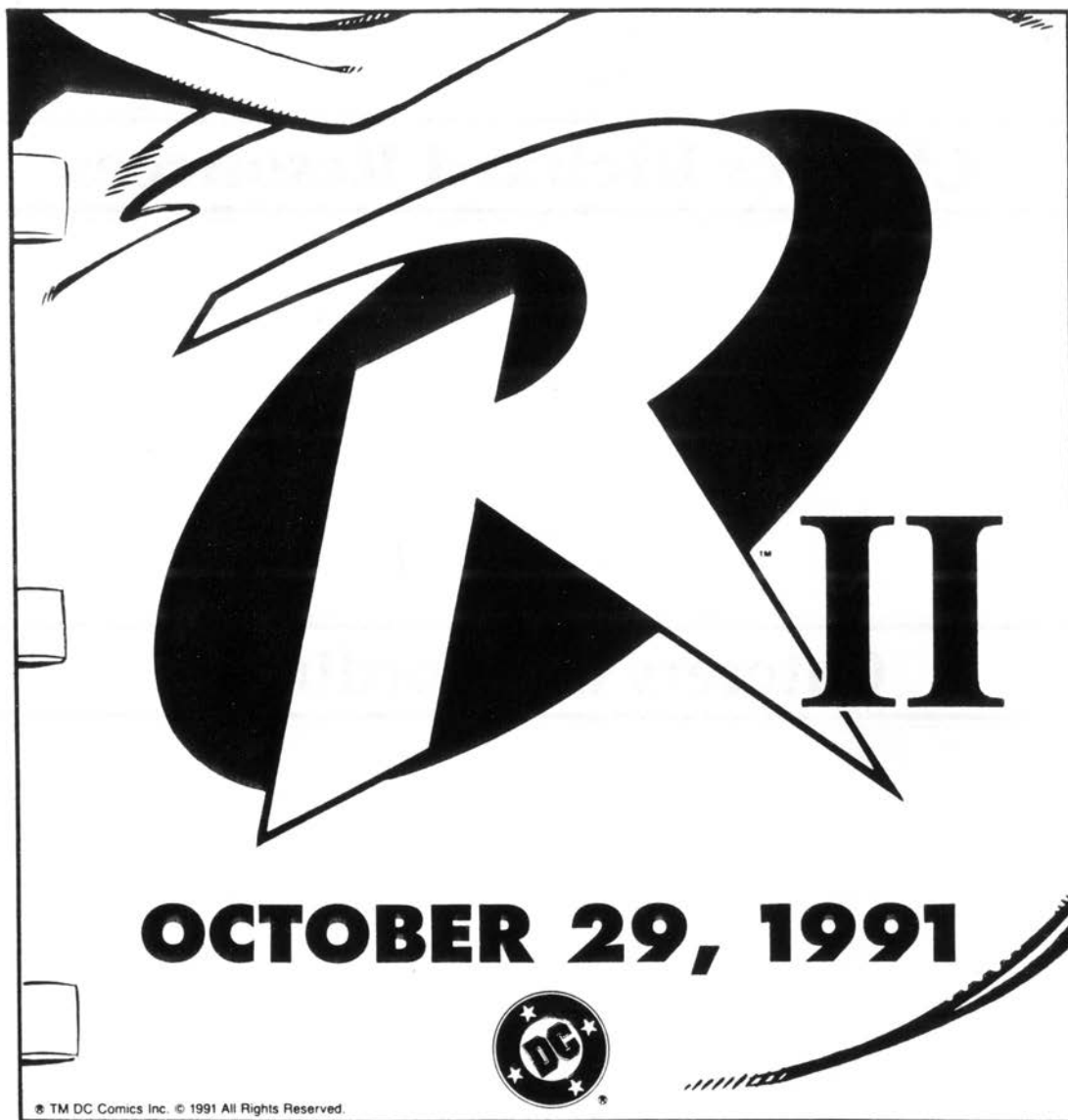
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