

GLSO NEWS

AUGUST 1995

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEXINGTON GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

WHERE WERE YOU FOR PRIDE '95?

Lexington's first experiment with a Pride Month instead of a Pride Week was a lot of fun and would have been a big success if more people would have attended. Remember several years ago there was a movie "What if There Was a War and Nobody Came." Well, this year several people worked very hard to throw a party for the community and nobody came.

Queer Jeopardy, which has sold out at the Actor's Guild in the past, moved to the Kentucky Theater so more people could enjoy the fun. However, it attracted the same amount of people that it did at the old The Pride picnic's location. attendance was 150, down from last year's 400. Fortunately, the picnic did make a net profit of \$77.76 toward next year's Pride Week.. The Inter-Faith Service was attended by 65 people, down from 125 last year. The other events experienced the disappointing turnouts, but by far, the big loser was the Lexington Volunteers Awards Banquet.

TSGRA has never made money on sponsoring this event and views it as a community service. However, while in the past they have lost an

New AIDS Drug Gives Hope, Needs Participants

People with AIDS in Kentucky and surrounding states have new hope, according to drug studies currently being held throughout the state. The Kentucky AIDS Consortium (KAC), a group of physicians dedicated to the advanced care of persons living with HIV/AIDS is now in the process of administering various drugs and drug combinations to persons in varying stages of the AIDS progression. The KAC physicians include many doctors in private practice as well as those at the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky. AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL) works with the consortium in an advisory capacity.

Current studies being conducted by the Kentucky AIDS Consortium focus on several promising new drugs including Delavirdine, Nevirapine, 935U83, ddl, AZT, ddC as well as several new protease inhibitors. "Having local drug studies brings hope closer to home." Stated Kim Belcher, AVOL Hope Coordinator. Dr. Richard Greenburg MD, the director of the University of Kentucky's drug studies added, "The

continued on page 8

STILL LOOKING...

The GLSO is still looking for replacements for our layout editors, whose pending departure to Boston will leave us typesetter-less.

The lucky volunteer will receive numerous scans and graphics, in addition to copies of Quark XPress, and Adobe Illustrator, and scads of fonts for either Macintosh or an IBM-compatible PC.

And, of course, you'll get the fulfillment of knowing you do your part for your community.

For questions, please contact Mary at 266-5904, or Peter, at 273-5845. We are counting on you!

Inside August:

Beyond the Beltway: State of	the
States - A Progress Report on :	Stat
Legislature Activities in '95	2
Community News	3
Local Softball Team Gets Natio	nal
Invitation	3
National News	4

continued on page 8



GLSO News
Published Monthly by the
Lexington Gay/Lesbian
Services Organization
P.O. Box 11471
Lexington, KY 40575

Interim Editor: Peter Taylor

Layout Editors/Co-Editors: Tammy D. Strong/ Elizabeth A. Gilliam

Glso Annual Dues and Newsletter: \$15 Dues and Newsletter for Couples: \$20 Newsletter Only: \$10

Views or opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board of Directors. Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate full name and address of the author. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and ads to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submissions. Placement of advertising in GLSO News denotes neither a person's sexual orientation nor a business' customer preference.

BEYOND THE BELTWAY: STATE OF THE STATES A Look At Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Issues At The State and Local

Levels in 1995

Washington, DC, July 12, 1995...Anti-gay attacks through state legislation were pervasive during the 1995 state legislative sessions, and seem to be on the increase according to state organizers. Meanwhile, gay, lesbian and bisexual advocacy organizations were adapting to the changing political climate and successfully defeated many anti-gay measures while pursuing limited advances toward non-discrimination. These are the summary findings of Beyond the Beltway: State of the States 1995, the first annual survey by the Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Beyond the Beltway is a state-by-state survey of gay-related legislation that moved forward during the 1995 sessions, with details of other non-legislative activities that offer a fuller picture of the political landscape gay/lesbian/bisexual people at the state level in 1995.

Gay-related legislation moved forward in 33 states, with 30 states being the sites of anti-gay measures or significant anti-gay attacks on related measures, while 18 states advanced non-discrimination measures that include sexual orientation in some way. document tracks 97 gay-related measures that experienced legislative movement this year, with 39 anti-gay measures; 12 non-discrimination measures that were vetoed, killed or indefinitely stalled due to anti-gay

advocacy; 10 non-discrimination measures that were specific to sexual orientation not killed due to anti-gay attacks; 35 non-discrimination measures that were not specific to sexual orientation, but included it in a broader list of categories; and one non-classified measure (a measure in Hawaii calls for investigating ways to offer more equal benefits to gay/lesbian employees, but the intent of the legislation is to undermine court arguments for same-gender couples seeking the freedom to marry in that state).

Many of the anti-gay measures advanced this year focused on the areas of family and education — curtailing rights to adoption and foster care and mandating only negative references to gay-related issues and individuals through the educational system.

"The Radical Right is successfully exploiting emotional flashpoints around children in the context of family and education," said Robert Bray, NGLTF Field Organizer. "These are areas where myths and misinformation about child abuse, parenting abilities and the existence of diverse family structures ignite and inspire extremist legislation. In the name of 'family values,' the Radical Right frequently attacks the ability of gay people to care for our own families and children."

1995 also saw a number of measures advanced to permit statewide ballot referenda in those states which do not currently have a mechanism for voter initiatives. These measures are frequently supported by anti-gay Radical Right

continued on page 10

COMMUNITY NEWS

LOCAL SOFTBALL TEAM GETS NATIONAL INVITE

Outrageous Acts, the overall winner of the Idle Hour Monday Night D-League, recently placed in second at the Women's Midwest "D" Qualifier. Although they missed first by a run, their performance in the tournament earned them an invitation to play in the "D" League National Tournament in Colorado in September.

Thus, Outrageous Acts is looking for sponsors and donations towards this trip, so they can represent Lexington in this national event. If you or someone you know would like to help, contact Sharon W. at 269-0828, ▼

BANQUET AWARD WINNERS

The following people received awards at the 1995 Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Tri-State Gay Rodeo Association which took place on June 25.

Wasson Award: Lexington Volunteer of the Year

Linda West
GLSO
Lee Stormbringer
Fairness Lexington
Lou Vickers

Lexington Men's Chorus

Wayne Goodin

Pride Center Committee

Shea Elder

RISC

Michael Blevins

C.O.L.T.S. Mark Cross AVOL

Mike Yaden

UK Lambda

Steve White

Lexington MCC Ric Kausrud

Front Runners

Joe Uecker

TSGRA

Terry Mullins

Rainbow Bowling League

Steve Rosenberg

Congratulations to these people for all of their extra time and hard work - we are all in debt to them.

STONEWALL CINCINNATI KICKS OFF "BUYCOTT PROJECT"

Cincinnati, OH — Stonewall Cincinnati will officially launch the "Buycott Project" at its quarterly membership meeting on Tuesday, 27 June, at 8:00 pm, at St. John's Unitarian Church, 320 Resor Street in Clifton.

The Buycott Project will identify businesses and organizations that have anti-discrimination policies that prevent discrimination against employees and customers or members on the basis of race, age, color, religion, disability status, marital status, sexual orientation, or ethnic, national, or Appalachian regional origin. A listing of those who have agreed or refused the sign the survey

will be made public and distributed, so that individuals can utilize this tool as they decide which businesses to patronize and which organizations to support.

"We believe that the majority of the people of Cincinnati do not wish to see gays, lesbians, or bisexuals fired from their jobs, lose their housing, or face harassment or violence," says Cindy L. Abel, Executive Director. "The views of the radical right cannot be allowed to make hostages of the fair-minded citizens of our city, by silencing the voices of tolerance and rejecting the basic values of our society, such as recognition of individual dignity and respect for others. We look forward working with the many individuals and organizations in Cincinnati that believe in and promote human rights for all people." Buycott Project materials, such as survey cards, and "thank you" cards (to be given by customers when frequenting an establishment on the Project listings handbook) will be available for volunteers to take and distribute at area places of business.

For

NATIONAL NEWS

please see page 4

NATIONAL NIEWS

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN ORGANIZATION INCLUDES LESBIGAYS IN NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Washington — The campaign arm of the Republican party largely responsible for the GOP takeover of Congress includes lesbian and gay employees in its personnel policy against job discrimination, according to information provided this week to the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). After HRCF representatives met with U.S. Rep. Bill Paxon (R-N.Y.), chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), NRCC staff provided HRCF with a copy of the employment NRCC's equal opportunity policy, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

"It's good to see that the Republican party's campaign arm has taken a step toward recognizing the fundamental value of fairness. We hope to see more Republican candidates support the same values," said HRCF Executive Director "We had a Elizabeth Birch. productive meeting with Chairman Paxon that set a positive tone for a dialogue on these issues. discrimination is an area where we can find common ground with Republican, Democratic and Independent voters."

The NRCC's employment policy is similar to policies in most Congressional offices. HRCF has lobbied every Member of Congress

to include lesbian and gay employees under their office non-discrimination policies. Currently, 229 U.S. Representatives and 64 Senators — a majority of the 104th Congress — prohibit anti-gay discrimination in their offices. No federal law protects people from being fired, refused work or otherwise discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSN. SUPPORTS A GAY HISTORY MONTH

On July 6, 1995, the 2.2 million member National Education Association. Passed Resolution B-8 on "Sexual Orientation Education." which supports the concept of a Lesbian and Gay History Month.

The resolution states in part, "The National Education recognizes Association importance of raising the awareness and increasing the sensitivity of staff, students, parents, and the community to sexual orientation in our society. The Association therefore supports the development of posititve plans that lead to effective ongoing training programs for education employees for the purpose of identifying eliminating sexual orientation stereotyping in the educational setting."

According to the resolution, programs should address such topics (1) as accurate portrayal of the roles and contributions of gay, lesbian, and bisexual people throughout

history, with acknowledgment of their sexual orientation. (2) acceptance of diverse sexual orientation and the awareness of sexual stereotyping whenever sexuality and/or tolerance of diversity is taught. (3) Elimination of sexual orientation name-calling and jokes in the classroom and (4) support for the celebration of a Lesbian and Gay History Month as a means of acknowledging the contributions of lesbians, gays, and bisexuals throughout history.

LESBIAN CAMP "NOT A PRIVATE NUISANCE"

Ovett, Miss. (AP) — A judge refused to shut down a feminist retreat Wednesday, saying disruptions to neighbors did not rise to the level of a "private nuisance."

The case of Camp Sister Spirit has drawn national attention among homosexual groups, who contended neighbors only wanted it closed because it is operated by lesbians.

Ever since it opened two years ago on a former pig farm near this rural southern Mississippi town, residents have grumbled about disruptions caused by seminars and music festivals, and about media attention brought on by camp complaints of gay bashing. And some neighbors have said women at the camp were trying to recruit their daughters.

While Chancellor Frank
McKenzie said in his seven-page
ruling that the camp broke no law, he
said neighbor concerns were
continued on page 5

NATIONAL NEWS

"genuine" and warned "activities in the future are subject to scrutiny by the courts."

"We're just really grateful that the judge listened," said Brenda Henson, who operates the retreat with her lover, Wanda Henson. They have said authorities have repeatedly ignored complaints about harassment, that once included finding a dead dog draped over their mailbox.

Their attorney, David Daniels, said the ruling shows, "in Mississippi, that gays and lesbians have rights just like everybody else." Eleven neighbors of the camp filed suit last year in Jones County Chancery Court seeking to have the retreat closed on grounds its presence was disruptive. All but five had dropped out of the case by the time McKenzie heard testimony in May.

d

d

at

of

it

ıg

ed

ed

is

n,

ut

nd

lia

np

nd

eir

nk

ige

he

ere

e 5

Michael Barefield, the lawyer for the plaintiffs, said the ruling showed only that "at this point, it

Are you being discriminated against in Kentucky due to your sexual orientation?

Report It Now.

Call the GLSO Discrimination Project, and help to put our discrimination on the books.

276-5393

hasn't gotten out of hand." ▼
GAY MARRIAGE IN ITHACA?

contributed By Shelley Ettinger
While the lesbian and gay
community waits and watches events
in Hawaii, where a move to legalize
same-sex marriage is working its
way through the court system, a New
York college town is about to take
the leap on its own.

By unanimous vote on July 5, the city council in Ithaca, N.Y.—home of Cornell University—approved a resolution endorsing the issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

The vote wasn't binding. But the council is reportedly preparing to take stronger action.

A vote to formally instruct the city clerk to issue licenses to gay or lesbian couples who seek to marry is expected later this summer.

The council's action was prompted by the case of two men, Toshav Greene and Phillip Storrs, who applied for a marriage license last month and were turned away. Ithaca Mayor Ben Nichols, who describes himself as a socialist, said the constitutional right to equal protection extends to gay and lesbian marriages.

Meanwhile, Ithaca City Attorney Charles Guttman "is consulting with a gay-rights lawyer on the issue,according to a New York Times report." Guttman observed that the state's marriage law does not explicitly rule out same-sex marriage. ▼

Netherlands To Legalize Gay Marriages

According to De Gay Krant, Holland's leading gay newspaper, The Netherlands will legalize gay marriage this summer. The editor or De Gay Krant reports "The minister of justice and the secretary of state for internal affairs have announced that the marriage rules will be changed ... [The] new rules, will include gays and lesbians without any restrictions, and will be sent to parliament before the summer holidays.

More than 100 Dutch cities and towns already allow gays and lesbians to record their relationships in a symbolic "marriage register. The registers were created following lobbying from the Friends of De Gay Krant Foundation.

Gay marriage is legal in Denmark, Norway and Sweden but it is technically "registered partnership" and does not include the rights to adoption, church weddings, artificial insemination or in-vitro fertilization. When the rules are ratified, Holland will become the first country to allow gays to marry under the exact same laws as heterosexuals.

ONE-THIRD OK GAY VOWS

Lansing, Mich. (AP) — A third of the nation's voters believe that two people of the same sex should be able to get married if they love each other, a new poll showed Wednesday.

The poll found 33 percent believed same-sex marriages should be allowed, while 63 percent disagreed, EPIC-MRA-Mitchell Research said. Four percent were undecided.

Robin Kane, a spokeswoman for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, found the 33 percent figure encouraging, even though gay

continued on page 9



August 1995

GLSO Welcomes Back Area Colleges



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul S M T W 2 3 4 5 9 10 11 12 16 17 18 15 23 24 25 26	V T F S		2 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	3 7:00 PM Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	5 9:00 AM Frontrunners
6:00 PM MCC-Greenleaf Motel 7:00 PM Dignity 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	7 7:30 PM Pride Ctr. Taskforce	8 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Southland Lanes)	9 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	10 7:00 PM Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	12 9:00 AM Frontrunners
13 Imperial Ct. (ICK) Mtg. 6:00 PM MCC-Greenleaf Motel 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	14	15 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowl- ing (Southland Lanes)	16 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	17 GLSO News Deadline 7:00 PM Lex Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 PM P-FLAG 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	18 Integrity (St. Augustine's) 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	9:00 AM Frontrunners 10:00 AM Men's Network
20 12:00 PM WV Pride Picnic (Coonskin Park, Charleston, WV) 2:00 PM Lesbian Potluck 6:00 PM MCC-Greenleaf Motel 7:00 PM Guy/Lesbian AA	21 7:30 PM Fairness Meeting (Alfalfa's)	7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowl- ing (Southland Lanes)	23 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00 PM Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt Grp. 8:00 PM COLTS Mtg.	Log Cabin Gay Republicans Nat. Convention (Cincinnati's Westin Hotel) 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	26 Log Cabin Gay Republicans Nat Convention (Cincinnati's Westin Hotel) 9:00 AM Frontrunners
27 Log Cabin Gay Rapublicans Nat. Convention (Cincinnat's Westen Hotel) Imperial Ct. (ICK) Mig. 2:00 PM GISO News Folding 6:00 PM MCC-Greenleaf Motel 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA		7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Southland Lanes)	30 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	31 7:00 PM Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt Grp. Rhythmfest (w	S M T 3 4 5 10 11 12 17 18 19 24 25 26	tember W T F S 1 2 6 7 8 9 13 14 15 16 20 21 22 23 27 28 29 30



RESTAURANT

557 S. Limestone Lexington, KY 253-0014

Renowned Weekend Brunch: serving blueberry buckwheat pancakes, eggs benedict arnold, spanish omelettes, and much more...

Wednesday is International Night

Breads and desserts baked daily in our kitchen

FREE EVENING PARKING.

Pride Week - from page 1

average of \$200, this year, the loss was to the tune of \$450. This is more than double any of their previous losses. The biggest reason for this was that after last year's event (and during the initial planning stages of this year) they received lots of requests from the community to end the evening with a dance. Frankly, the dance flopped. TSGRA incurred a lot of extra expenses to do this and not even the people that requested it came, let alone the rest of the community. The other reason for the loss is that banquet attendance was down. 64 people attended compared to 104 last year. The banquet has experienced steady growth in the previous three years and looked as if it was on its way to becoming what an event like this should be; the community event of the year. We hope that this setback does not keep TSGRA from continuing to sponsor this uplifting

As the title of the article asks, where were you? We would like to know. Were there mistakes made in the planning that kept you away? Was a month too long? Was this just a blah year? What did keep you away?

PLEASE, drop us a line, give us a call, or talk to us in person. Because, unless there is an influx of volunteers, the same people will be planning Pride Week next year, seeing as how, with few exceptions, it has been the same people for the last three years - although many others have been invited - and we would like to make next year's the best ever. - TM.

AIDS Drug - from page 1

best treatment is here." Dr. Greenberg said that currently over 80 people are enrolled in studies and he expects to see that number increase to between 200 and 300 by the end of next year.

While many of the studies require maximum and minimum T-cell levels, there are studies that admit clients regardless of their T-cell status. If you are a person living with AIDS or know someone who is, and you are interested in receiving free treatment in a clinical drug trial, call the Kentucky AIDS Consortium for more information. In Lexington call Dr. Richard Greenberg at (606) 323-6327 or (606) 257-5467. In Louisville contact Dr. Anna Huang MD at (502) 852-5131, or call toll-

bose who don't do politics will be done in by politics.
- french proverb

If you don't try and make it happen, who will?

H

di

C

of

h

free at 1-(800-365-2470.

Recent data from the Department of Health Service's Division of Epidemiology indicates that there are currently over 1500 individuals living with AIDS in Kentucky. This number does not include persons who are HIV positive or have T-cell counts above 200 or those who are HIV positive but have not been tested. This data may be a very conservative estimate about the prevalence of AIDS in Kentucky. ▼

SUE STRONG, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist

(606) 255-4864

Fax (606) 255-5385

110 Woodland Ave. Lexington, KY 40502

Precious Furs

All Breed Pet Grooming Experienced

277-9365

NATIONAL NEWS

from page 8

marriages are banned in every state. However, Glenn Clark, executive director of the Michigan Christian Coalition, said allowing the marriages would be "just another step toward eroding the moral fiber of our nation."

Younger voters, those with higher incomes and those with more education were more likely to say such marriages should be allowed, he said. Only 21 percent of those with a high school diploma or less agreed, compared to 44 percent of those with college degrees.

Of those earning \$25,000 or less a year, only 24 percent agreed with same-sex marriages, while 38 percent of those making \$60,000 to \$75,000 agreed with the idea, as did 48 percent of those making more than \$75,000. In age groups, 56 percent of the 18- to 24-year-olds said "yes," and that gradually declined over various age groups to only 18 percent for those 65 and older.

Jeffrey Montgomery, president of the Detroit Triangle Foundation, said the higher percentages for younger people showed a cultural shift, due in part to the media. "Younger people are seeing more and more popular entertainers who are willing to come out and have done so and seeing other entertainers who aren't gay or lesbian who are giving the strong message that it doesn't make any difference," he said.

The telephone survey of 1,000 voters nationwide was conducted

June 21-26. It has a margin of error of 3 percentage points. About a dozen or so cities, including New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis and Madison, Wis., allow same-sex couples to register in a domestic partnership.

Marriages, however, are regulated by the state and allow couples to file joint tax returns, cover each other on their medical insurance and other benefits. ▼

CLINTON DEFENDS GAYS AGAINST HELMS

Washington (AP) — In a graduation address to seniors at Georgetown University, Clinton restated the themes of his last presidential campaign and urged Americans to set aside their differences and work "in a chorus of harmony" to solve our nation's problems. "My friends, with all our differences, let us find new common ground," Clinton said at Georgetown University.

At the same time, he argued that his political agenda is better suited than Republican plans to preserve what he called "middle-class values and middle-class dreams."

He indirectly criticized Sen. Jesse Helms for suggesting the government should think about spending less money fighting AIDS. The Republican for North Carolina said the disease is brought on by "deliberate, disgusting, revolting conduct."

Clinton, arguing that politicians and the public must be more tolerant, responded, "Gay people who have AIDS are still our sons, our brothers, our cousins — are citizens. They're Americans, too," he said. "They're obeying the law and working hard,"

Clinton said. "They're entitled to be treated like everybody else."

But the president didn't mention Helms by name and avoided some of the harsh rhetoric he often unleashes on Republicans. In fact, he urged Americans to be less caustic in their criticism.

When talking to someone with a different view, he told Americans to ask themselves: "Is it the language of respect, or a language of a suspect?" Instead of harping on the worse in society, "We ought to find the best and celebrate it," Clinton said.

"Instead of having shrill voices of discourse, we need a chorus of harmony," Clinton said. "In a chorus of harmony you know there are a lot of difference, but you can hear all the voice."

WE WELCOME YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

If you would like to contribute to items in our Community News, National News section, or if you know of a newsworthy item yours or another lesbigay organization doing, is contact Peter at 273-5845, or Elizabeth at 277-2328. e-mail to send Or. bee@ms.uky.edu.

BEYOND THE BELTWAY: STATE OF THE STATES

from page 2

activists, who have initiated a national campaign of state and local anti-gay ballot measures.

Most of the non-discrimination measures that moved forward were not targeted only at anti-gay discrimination, but included sexual orientation in a broader list of other characteristics. Even so, NGLTF views the inclusion of sexual orientation in any non-discrimination

policies on the state level as an important step toward fairness. Many of these non-discrimination clauses were included in hate crimes and health-related legislation. Due to the nation's health care crisis and lack of a federal solution, dozens of health-

federal solution, dozens of healthrelated measures were advanced on the state level.

"Years and years of organizing and education on the issues of AIDS and anti-gay violence has clearly paid off," Bray said. "Gay advocates and our allies are vigilant in addressing anti-gay violence through a variety of hate crimes provisions on the state level. Meanwhile, we also recognize the history and continued existence of anti-gay discrimination in insurance and health care practices. Our work has succeeded in some states where non-discrimination clauses in health care policies are routinely advanced."

One measure that directly tackled the issue of anti-gay discrimination needs to be highlighted. Rhode Island this year became the ninth state in the nation to implement

a statewide non-discrimination measure when it passed a law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in public and private employment, credit, housing and public accommodations.

"Rhode Island served as inspiration to the rest of the country, where activists were frequently under assault by the Radical Right," Bray said. "It was encouraging to see a state take an important step toward valuing all citizens equally, even in the face of vicious anti-gay maneuvers to kill the bill."

"Homosexuals put themselves in harm's way. The criminal element has found out that it is an easy group to prey upon." Texas State Rep. Warren Chisum, leader of the Conservative Caucus

Of the 97 measures, 15 have been signed by governors so far (seven states continue sessions until the end of the year). Of those measures, six were anti-gay Montana's of (although one measures was stripped of anti-gay language prior to passage); one was a non-discrimination measure specifically targeting sexual orientation (Rhode Island's measure); and eight were non-discrimination measures that included sexual orientation in a broad list of categories (these were predominantly related to hate crimes and health care).

"This survey documents what activists have been telling us all year — the national climate of divisiveness and intolerance is playing itself out at the state and local level," Bray said. "Invigorated by mainstream electoral success, Radical Right

politicians this year attempted to turn campaign rhetoric into state policies. On the local level, there was no 'Contract with America' to deter legislators from delving immediately into explicit, anti-gay measures. Thankfully, gay activists have risen to the occasion, frequently responding successfully to increased attacks even in states that have a limited history of gay political organizing."

ins

stat

and

gay

test

pre

Bo

pro

ori

cui

act

fro

Bi

the

Ga

tal

Sc

W

wh

he

rig

to

ap

ba

to

ali

tie

Se

Sp

th

Some hot spots from 1995 legislative sessions:

Alaska, South Dakota and Utah:

All advanced measures that would bar the legal recognition of marriages performed between individuals of the same gender. These measures were introduced as preemptive strikes against a

pending court case in Hawaii that is challenging that state's prohibition against same-gender marriages. Alaska's measure has not moved from the committee to which it was assigned, although it has an opportunity to move during the second year of the state's two-year session. Utah's measure passed and was signed by the governor. Meanwhile, South Dakota's measure was narrowly defeated after it



inspired the organization of the state's first lesbigay political group and was the cause for the first openly gay person in the state to offer testimony on gay-related legislation.

Iowa: Following Radical Right pressure, the Des Moines School Board last January dropped a proposal for the "infusion of sexual orientation issues" in public school curriculum materials. The board action followed anti-gay protests from Radical Right leaders, including Bill Horn of The Report (producer of the virulently anti-gay video, "The Gay Agenda") and right wing radio talk show host Jan Mickelson. School Board member Jonathan Wilson made national headlines when he came out as gay during local hearings on the measure. Since then, right wing state legislators attempted to pass an amendment to the state's appropriations bill that would have banned state funds from being used to "promote or encourage homosexuality" in state colleges and universities. The "no promo homo" measure is similar to those offered by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms.

Montana: A national uproar was sparked by a bill that would have required individuals convicted under the state's "deviate sexual conduct" law (which prohibits consensual homosexual acts) to register for life with local law enforcement agencies. The bill's sponsor, Rep. Sen. Al Bishop, said gay sex was "even worse than a violent sexual act," such as rape and child abuse. The "deviate sexual conduct" provision of the registration bill was subsequently deleted under national scrutiny. The bill's sponsors are quoted as saying a local Christian Coalition chapter worked with them on the measure.

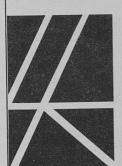
Nebraska: The State Department of Social Services instituted a ban on gay and lesbian adoption. sponsor of the measure, Mary Dean Harvey, director of the Dept. of Social Services, denies any link to the Radical Right. However, the similarity between her ban and a bill before the state assembly (#255) sponsored by State Senator Kate Witek - is acute. Witek is described by local activists as "far right." In fact, the state legislation was withdrawn following the announcement of Harvey's measure.

Texas: The state currently has a hate crime law that has been deemed unenforceable because of the measure's vague language. In attempting to specifically identify hate crimes, a measure was

introduced this year that enhances penalties for hate crimes and strengthens the definition of a hate crime. The measure included sexual orientation in the list of characteristics for which victim selection is The measure was prohibited. attacked by the Radical Right due to the inclusion of sexual orientation. State Representative Warren Chisum, the leader of the influential 75-Conservative member fought against the measure because, homosexuals "put said, themselves in harm's way." asked whether he believed the victims were bringing the violence themselves, he upon "Absolutely. The criminal element has found out that this is an easygroup to prey upon." In the past two years, eight Texan men have been slain in apparent anti-gay or gayrelated incidents.

The 24-page Beyond the Beltway survey is available from Beth Barrett, (202) 332-6483, ext. 3311

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is a leading national civil rights organization that has supported grassroots organizing since 1973. ▼



Laura E. Kaplan
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

HIV/AIDS ■ Personal Growth Relationships ■ Women's Issues

436 West Second Street
Lexington, KY 40507
606.254.9112 ■ Pager: 232.0873

HIV Help Program



1510 Newtown Pike, Suite H

Lexington, Kentucky 40511

Phone (606) 253-0300 Fax (606) 231-1214

GLSO DIRECTORY

OW	00
# w #	See II B
4 8 8	V BE V

GLSO B	Board (Mary)		266-5904
	Discrimination 1		
			273-5845
			275-3037
		(Sue)	255-4864
	Calendar (Jet		276-5383
			277-9365
	Layout (Tami	ny)	275-3037
GLSO S	peakers Burea	u (Bill)	266-9175
GLSO S	Support Group	(Mary)	266-5904
		(Mike)	225-1828

STUDENT GROUPS

ACE League: Berea (Ed) ext. 7472 evenings only	986-9314
AGLF: NKU (Pat)	572-5604
B-GLAD: Centre College (Mykol)	238-5332
GUESS: EKU (Greg)	622-3764
UK Lambda (Julien) before 10pm	272-7232

ANONYMOUS AIDS TESTING

Jessamine County	885-4149
Lexigton-Fayette County	288-2437
Madison County	723-7312
Woodford County	873-4541

AIDS INFO/SERVICES

AIDS HOTLINE	231-7545
AIDS Volunteers of Lexington	254-2865
AVOL Legal Referral Program	254-2865
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	(502) 584-1254
HIV+ Youth Support Group	
Kentucky AIDS HOTLINE	(502) 564-6539
Partners of HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
(Greg)	288-2437
Saturday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
(AVOL)	254-2865

To ADD OR UPDATE A LISTING, PLEASE CONTACT TAMMY AT 275-3037

COMMUNITY

Bluegrass COLTS (Mark)	
Country Dykes (Debbie)	
Cumberland Cares	(606) 678-0587
E-Male (Juno)	252-2353
Fairness of Lexington HOTLINE	275-7812
Fairness of Louisville	(502) 893-0788
Front Runners (Keith)	254-6850
G/L Al-Anon	277-1877
G/L Defense Fund	(502) 589-2896
IGBO Mid-Year 1995 (Steve)	276-3058
Kentucky ACLU (Keith)	
Kentucky Fairness Alliance (Keith)	281-1482
Kentucky Legislature	
Bill Status Line	(800) 382-2455
Legislator Message Line	(800) 372-7181
Meeting Info Line	
Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby)	231-0090
Louisville Youth Group	(502) 635-1302
Names Project, Lexington (Katie)	272-2588
Newcomers Group (Joe)	278-5032
P-FLAG (Ruth)	272-7075
Pegasus Travel	268-4337
Rainbow Bowling League (Teri)	268-8563
RISC (Mike)	225-5151
(Jack)	272-8354
Tri-State Gay Rodeo Assn. (Terry)	255-5469
(Paul)	278-8023
Womynweave (Ramona)	

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Dignity [Catholic] (Don)	299-4458
Episcopal Diocese AIDS Ministry (Steve)	
Honesty [Southern Baptist] (Eddie)(502)	637-7609
(Dorothy)(502)	458-5392
Interweave [Unitarian] (Craig)	269-8215
MCC-Hopkinsville & Horse Cave(502)	897-3821
MCC-Lexington (Rex)	271-1407
MCC-Louisville(502)	775-6636
MCC-Paducah(502)	441-2307
Pagan Forum (Pat)	268-1640
Quaker FLGC (Connie)	276-2554

IYG LESBIGAY YOUTH HOTLINE 800-347-TEEN 7p-midnight Thurs. & Fri.