

Calendar

July 31-Aug 2—Buddies 10th Annual Summer Festival (Buffalo) Buddies Bar 31 Johnson Park. Casino games, entertainment, food, raffle, dancing. Kids activities 11am-2pm. New: First Annual Festival of Gay & Lesbian Artists and Crafters. This event raises a lot of money for AIDS organizations in WNY. Info: 716-855-1313.

Aug 1—Womynspace: NO MEETING "See you in September! For further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com."

Aug 4—Lughnassadh at UU 7:30 pm. Pagan holiday celebrated by lesbigay/trans-friendly Coven of Brighidshaven at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Wear green, bring a drinking vessel for the ritual and a dish to pass for the potluck feast following. Info: Contact Sharon at medhbh@velocity.net

Aug 4–P.O.V. "She Shorts" 11 p.m. WNED (PBS-Buff/Ch.17). This selection of short films about women features an evocative portrait of lesbian writer Dorothy Allison.

Aug 4-Culture Club on David Letterman CBS.

Aug 6-PFLAG-Erie meets 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

Aug 6-The B-52's on Jay Leno NBC.

Aug 6-Lilith Fair (Cleveland area) Blossom Music Center 216-566-8184.

Aug 7-9—Jones Pond: Country Western Hoedown "100 Block Fandangle. (716) 567-8100"

Aug 8—Menspace Call for location. Call Michael at 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net

Aug 8—Gay Day at Wonderland (Toronto) Info http://www.gaydaywonderland.com/ 416-410-1426.

Continued on page 3



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On the Cover: Playground Slide by Micheal A. Miller

If you want to reprint...

If you would like to reprint original articles or artwork that appeared in *EGN*, please contact us for permission, and please credit *Erie Gay News*. If an article or illustration contains the author's/creator's name, please credit them as well.

Thanks!

Items to send us in August

Aug 15— Deadline for info related to September and early October events:

Labor Day Events, End of Summer Festivals/ Fairs, Back to School Stuff, Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur, National Coming Out Day





c/o EGC Coalition, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105

Phone: (814) 456-9833 Fax: (814) 452-1392 Pager: (814) 870-9128 Email: egcn@ncinter.net

Web Site: http://www.eriegaynews.com/

The Erie Gay News is published monthly as a source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their friends & families in the Erie area.

Contributors: Our deadline is the 15th of the month! We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments and opinions of interest to the Erie and surrounding area's LesBiGay community for publication in these pages.

We <u>STRONGLY</u> recommend sending SASE for writers' guidelines or at least inquiring of the EGN staff before submitting articles! Please include contact information with any submissions (name, phone, email address, etc.) so we can contact you if we have questions.

We will consider for publication any nonfiction article or illustration graphic which broadens our understanding of our lives and each other. We won't publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of EGN staff.

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Thanks for the July issue collators!

Thanks to Paul Grubbs, Dave Amy, Brian Skelly, Jerry McCumber, Dave Mulholland, Roy Whetstine, Greg Knowles, and Joe for helping us to collate the most recent issue of *EGN!*

If you would like to volunteer, please give us a call at 456-9833. You needn't feel obligated to become a regular or even to stay from start to finish. Any help is always appreciated!

Aug 8—GLS Pionic (Titusville PA) 4 PM. For more info, call Bell at 827, 2061 or write to FAGL&B, PO Box 213. Tionest: PA 165+3-0213.

Aug 9-Lilith Fair in concert (Pittsburgh) Sarah MacLachlan, Daraious Jackson, Natalie Merchant & others Tellers from Count Eagle

Aug 10—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm. Well Being Cri. 314 Beammont Info Deb Monobon 838-0123.

Aug 11-HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

Aug 11—*Inside Story: The Real Full Monty* A&E 9 p.m.. Takes viewers behind the scenes in the real world of male strippers. Straight focus.

Aug 12—8YKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Aug 13-16—Book Drop-Off for Scapers Book Sale (See page 8 or store for Jetails). 2508 Peach.

Aug 14—Culture Club in concert (Pittsburgh) Also Human League. At Coca-Cola Star Lake Amphitheatre. Tickets at Giant Eagle.

Aug 14-16—Jones Pond: Levi & Leather (Angelica NY) "'Pity Party' and Mr. Jones Pond Contest. (716) 567-8100"

Aug 14-16—Cleveland Black Pride (Cleveland) Speakers entertainment, vendors. Keynote speaker is Mandy Carter national field director for the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum. Check Gay People's Chronicle, or call Jasper 216-556-4704.

Aug 15–10% Network meets (Jamestown, NY) 7 PM at the Unitarian Church in Jamestown, 1225 Prendergast Ave. Socializing and planning future meetings. For more info, call John at (716) 484-"285

Aug 15-Janis lan (Cleveland) Cam Park

Aug 15—Rock Hudson (1990) Lifetime 2pm. Biopic about the actor who was the embodiment of masculinity in the 1950's and early 1960's He also became known—reluctantly so—as the man who put a face on AIDS.

Aug 16—Open Book: John Berendt "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" A&E 10:30am. The author talks about his bestseller.

Aug 16-Behind the Music: Madonna VH-1, 8pm.

Aug 17—Eilen (Pilot) On Lifetime, 6pm. The Lifetime Channel will be running episodes from the entire series. This is the first one, and for those who weren't around from the beginning, be prepared for a somewhat different show. Pilot repeats on 8/23 at 1 am. The episodes will be running weeknights at 6 and 6:30pm, after the pilot airs.

LOVE! VALOUR! COMPASSION!

JULY 24

AUGUST 22

A PLAY BY TERRENCE MCNALLY

FRIDAYS
AND
SATURDAYS
8 P.M.

The film version of this insanely funny play was released in 1997 starring Seinfeld's Jason Alexander. Again, as with our production of JEFFREY (1996), we offer theatregoers a chance to experience the more outrageous stage version of a highly acclaimed, gay-themed play. Terrence McNally is one or producing the area's most gifted and celebrated playwrights. His frank, humanistic approach on provinging the lives of today signy population has placed his work at the forefront of the fight for tole to one and understanding. Add to that a distinctive flare for comedy, and McNally's work. ALPS IN the "PFE, TEETH MART" represents among the most enjoyable and thought provoking plays of our time. So bring the first and share a wild length with us this summer at Terrence McNally's

LOVE! VALOUR! COMPASSION! ROADHOUSE THEATRE, 145 W. 11th St. • BOX OFFICE 456-5656 • BYOB

Aug 20-23—Scapers Community Book Sale (See page 8 or store for details), 2508 Peach.

Aug 21-Rascals: Hardbodies of Ohio Male strippers at 10 PM, \$3 cover, 701 North Main St, Jamestewn N. (716) 484-3220

Aug 21-23-Ohio LeatherFest (Cleveland) Spensored by Ohio Leather Coalition. 440-835 6049, ohlthrfest@aol.com, web address http://members.aol.com/OHLthrfest

Aug 21-23—Jones Pond: Bears and Cubs in the Woods "Foot-o-Cross Rally (716) 567-8100"

Aug 22—Erie Community Pride Organization Meets at the Mikes, organizing Erie's first Pride Rally. If you'd like to be involved call 456-9833.

Aug 22—Concert: The Suffragette Sessions Tour (Cleveland) Indigo Girls, Jane Siberry, Kate Schellenbach (Luscious Jackson?) others. Ticketmaster. Performing at Agora Theater.

Aug 25—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

Aug 25—The Murmurs in concert (Cleveland) Peabody's Down Under.

Aug 26—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Aug 27-30—Scapers Community Book Sale (See page 8 or contact store for details). 2508 Peach.

Aug 28—Ani DiFranco on *Hard Rock Live* On VH-1, 7pm. Aug 28—The Murmurs (Pittsburgh) Rosebud 412-261-2232.

Aug 28-29—Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival of Pittsburgh featuring works of area artists and craftspersons. Info: Russell Bliss at 412-276-8718

Aug 28-30—Jones Pond: Lockerroom Fantasy "Jock Contest. (716) 567-8100"

Aug 31-Live From Lincoln Center: William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night Production by gay director Nicholas Hytner, starring Helen Hunt, Paul Rudd and Kyra Sadgwick, WNED (PBS Buff (Ch 17) Spm.

Sept 2-Biography "Steve Rubell: Lord of Disco" World promises, A&E 8pm. Profiles the interesting and short life of the Brooklyn kid who opened Studio 54, the night-club of the late 1970's. Includes interviews with his lover, his brother, and several friends and associates.

Sep 3—PFLAG-Erie meets 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

Sept 3—Biography "Billy Jean King" World premiere, A&E 8pm. Profile of one of the most important female athletes ever. Includes interviews with Martina Navratilova, Elton John, Chris Evert, and others. King recently finally came out.

Sep 4-In The Life 10 pm. WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch.54) Nationally syndicated GLBT newsmagazine.

Sep 4-7—Jones Pond: Labor Days Celebration "400 Block Hat Party, Pool Closing. (716) 567-8100"

Sep 5-Womynspace date change, see Sept. 11

Sep 11—(Note: that's a Friday!!!)—Womynspace: Mask Making (part 1) "Please note that we are meeting on a FRIDAY and not Saturday for September only. The activity is mask making, supplies provided, donations as always accepted. Those not interested in making masks are welcome to come and watch, socialize, listen to music, etc. Encourage folks to make masks which may be fun to wear a the upcoming Pride Rally festivities. For further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com."

Sep 7-Labor Day

Sept 7—Pittsburgh Labor Day Picnic Tickets at Scapers, 2508 Peach St. See ad page 20





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Sep 9—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Sept 12—Ohio Lesbian Festival (Columbus OH) 614-267-3953. Music, workshops, vendors, activities.

Sep 11-13—Jones Pond: Red, Hot & Spicy "400 Block Hat Party. Pool Closing. (716) 567-8100"

Sep 12-Menspace At Paul's. Call Michael at 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net

Sept 13-NOCI We Are Family Picnic (Cleveland) Wildwood Lake, 216-371-0325. Reservations recommended. Benefits gay and AIDS groups.

Sep 14—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm, Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

Sep 19–10% Network meets (Jamestown, NY) 7 PM at the Unitarian Church in Jamestown, 1225 Prendergast Ave. Socializing and planning future meetings. For more info, call John at (716) 484-7285.

Sept 21—Investigative Reports: Transgender Revolution World premiere, A&E 9 pm, 1am.

Sep 21—Happy Rosh Hashanah

Sep 22—Mahon at UU 7:30 pm. Pagan holiday celebrated by lesbigay/trans-friendly Coven of Brighidshaven at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Wear green, bring a drinking vessel for the ritual and a dish to pass for the potluck feast following. Info: Contact Sharon at medhbh@velocity.net

Sep 22—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

Sep 22—Janet Jackson, Usher (Pittsburgh) Coca-Cola Star Lake Amphitheatre. Ticketmaster.

Sep 23—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Sep 25-27—Jones Pond: Haunted Halloween "600 Block Costume Party (716) 567-8100"

Sep 30-Happy Yom Kippur

Oct 2-4—Jones Pond: Camp Closing "Saturday Pot Luck Dinner (716) 567-8100"

Oct 3—Womynspace: Mask Making (part 2) "Supplies provided, donations as always accepted. Those not interested in making masks are welcome to come and watch, socialize, listen to music, etc. Encourage folks to make masks which may be fun to wear a the upcoming Pride Rally festivities. Or for any other occasion. For further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com."



Oct 3—Friends from the Heart Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser "The Matriarch Mayhem/Stromboli Family Beunion" 6 PM Social Hour, 7 PM Dinner and Murder, at Stephany's Grove, 1099 Wyoming Avenue, Erie PA. For ticket info, call Becky Palmer at (814)838-1547

Oct 11-3 Rivers Boat Cruise (Pittsburgh) Tickets will likely be available at Scapers.

Festivals and conferences

Nov 11-15—NGLTF Creating Change Conference Pittsburgh. Write to Creating Change, Local Host Committee, PO Box 91739, Pittsburgh PA 15217-0739 or call (412) 242-9966.

April 30, 2000—Millennium March on Washington Organizers are planning a national event on the capital. For more information visit the Metropolitan Community Church at http://www.ufmcc.com, email MMOW2000@aol.com or call 818-891-1748.

Women's Sports

Bowling: PWBA ESPN 8/6 3:30am, 8/14 3:30am, 8/21 3:30am

Golf: **US Women's Amateur Championships** ESPN 8/14 3pm, 8/15 2pm. State Farm Rail Classic ESPN2 August 28-30 4-6 pm

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Repeating TV Programs

Change of Heart (1998). On Lifetime. If your well-meaning Aunt Mimi is trying to get you to try to become straight and "learn" to fall in love with your opposite-sex spouse, make her watch this drama. It focuses on the experience of a woman who learns her husband of 20 years is gay. The wife, naturally, is shattered, and this story shows how straight people can also be hurt by society pressuring gay people to be something they are not. 8/8 4pm, 8/23 noon.

Line's On Showtime. This new original series will feature a recurring African-American lesbian character. In the series premiere, she comes out to her father. The show is seen several times throughout the month (check listings for dates and times), but the premiere can be seen 8/1 (10:05pm), 8/3 (12am), 8/6 (10pm).

Mother, Mother On Encore, 8/4, 8/11, 8/12. "A young man with AIDS confronts his mother."—
TV Hot

Trevor On HBO. Story about a gay teen dealing with who he is. 8/11, 8/14, 8/16, 8/20, 8/24.

TV listings are retrieved from the following sources: TV Host, The Ultimate TV Web site, GLAAD Alert, A&E/Biography, Comedy Central Programming Schedule, Washington Blade, Q'd In (WQLN), Western New York Broadcasting schedule, the online episode guides of various television shows, and RockOnTV, (which requires us to list it as "RockOnTV-the ultimate guide to music on television http://www.rockontv.com")

Listings are compiled and original blurbs are by Deb Spilko.

Permission is granted to publications and Web sites to use these listings, but because of the amount of time and effort spent in locating them, we request that credit be given either to Deb Spilko or the Erie Gay News.

Readers are encouraged to check the information in this calendar against the schedules in their newspaper or TV Guide.

Michael dithers

by Michael Mahler

Well, there they go again. I am flabbergasted that the Religious Right is trying the "Let's slam gays to get votes for conservative Republicans" shtick again. OK, so they're repackaging it as this bad pseudo-compassionate therapy stuff, but I think that most people see it for the bigotry in sheep's clothing it is. When I looked at an online poll at the McLaughlin Group's web site, the survey was overall something like 93% thinking that it wasn't possible to change sexual orientation to 7%. Even among respondents who placed themselves in the 65 and over age group, the results were something like 80% thinking that it wasn't accurate to say that gays could be changed.

Am I the only person who remembers how well the more raw version of this went over at the 1992 Republican National Convention? These people seem to be desperate for someone, anyone to paint as the big bad boogeyman and since the bottom has fallen out of the communist threat market, we seem to be it. I am guessing that this will probably end up backfiring on them.

One of the things that bugs me is that this is really a shallow and materialistic view of what sexual orientation is. They only look at the physical layer to see what people are doing and apparently never consider that the only way to understand the phenomenon is to look at what this means to someone and what their sense of identity is. The folks who think of themselves as the definers of what it is to be spiritual seem to be unable to look past the flesh and see the human being beyond.

On a happier note, Micheal and I had a really nice 4th wedding anniversary in June and a nice week of vacation later. We wore the robes he had airbrushed for our wedding, listened to the music that we walked down the aisle to, and spent a very nice time being affectionate and snuggly. I didn't choose to be gay, but I did choose the best human being possible to spend the rest of my life with! (And gosh, is he wonderfully romantic and cute!)

Things are really starting to come together for the Pride Rally in October. It should be quite exciting. Because of a scheduling problem, we will be running the Family Portrait taken at the June 13th Pride Picnic in the October issue.

Cruise for Life

The tickets for the Cruise for Life were sold in matter of weeks—before we had a chance to publicize it. Although you probably can't get tickets, we wanted to publish this info from the cruise's organizers, regarding the reason for holding the event.

The Cruise for Life is a privately sponsored event to celebrate life and remember those infected and affected with HIV/AIDS in our community.

All net proceeds will be donated to St. Martin Center and Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry and will be used to directly assist those individuals with whatever needs as may be deemed reasonable and prudent in keeping with their policies. These organizations have proven to be dedicated to providing services and improving the quality of life of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The event is being organized by Roy Whetstine.

This event is an attempt to eliminate the bureaucratic red tape which binds the hands of case workers & makes availability of funds nearly impossible to access.

It is the hope of the organizers of this event that we can heighten awareness in the Erie community at-large and in turn help prevent more people from suffering from this plague which continues to devastate not only the infected individuals but also the financial, physical, and emotional well-being of their families and friends.

While there are various sources of funding available for it HIV-positive clients, there is no funding for the non-medical related expenses such as a general costs, be-reavement counseling for the families and friends of victims, funeral travel expenses, and general expenses of the most basic of personal needs which we take for granted, including toiletries, hair cuts, and transportation to and from grocery stores, utility companies, drugstores, etc.

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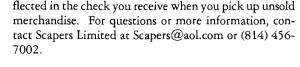
Local nevvs

Scapers Hosts Community Book Sale

Scapers Limited (2508 Peach) is holding a Community Book Sale during the month of August. This is an opportunity for you to get rid of your old GLBT books and magazines and pick up some new ones. If you're interested in selling books or mags, decide on a price you want for each item and take them to Scapers Limited during the weekend of August 13-16 (Hours Thurs & Fri: 5 PM-9PM, Sat & Sun Noon-5 PM). You'll get a "receipt" for your books/mags when you drop them off.

The articles that have been dropped off for sale will be sold during the weekends of August 20-23 and 27-30. The unsold items and a check for those items sold will be available for pick-up on the following weekend (September 3-6) at the store (be sure to bring your receipt).

Scapers Limited is charging a 10% fee for this service based upon items sold; the 10% will be deducted from the total amount and that deduction will be re-



New Support Group

HIV/AIDS Education and Training of the Erie County Department of Health will be starting a support group for gays, lesbians, transgendered and transvestites at the STOP-IN Center located at 348 West 18th Street, This group will be consumer driven, issues and concerns addressed as a group with a facilitator, snacks and refreshments provided by the HIV/AIDS Education and Training.

The first meeting will be held on Thursday, August 6 from 1:00 until 3:00 PM.

Erie marches in Cleveland Pride

Many thanks to Jeff, who made an absolutely wonderful banner with the brand new ECPO logo that people from Erie marched behind in the Cleveland Pride Parade.

Artists Exhibit call for entries

In celebration of National Gay and Lesbian History Month, the Fine Arts Committee of ECPO is holding an exhibition of local artists' work entitled "The Voice from the Other Room." The exhibit is open to artists producing work of LGBT interest in all media (please take into account a limited gallery space).





The Exhibit will be held at The GallERIE at Scapers, 2508 Peach, during the month of October. Artists interested in exhibiting work should submit no more than two gallery ready pieces. Work must be hand delivered to: Scapers, 2508 Peach, Erie, PA from September 24 to September 27 during regular business hours.

An entry fee of \$5 per piece will help to cover expenses for the exhibit. Scapers is donating the gallery space and the usual 20% commission collected on works sold will be donated to ECPO as well.

There will be more information regarding the exhibit in the next EGN and at Scapers. Please call Pat at 453-3083 or Scapers at 456-7002 if there are any questions.

Western NY news

by Greg Rabb

I may have lost the election last November but in June I was appointed by recently-elected (November 1997) Chautauqua County Executive Mark Thomas to a vacant position on the Chautauqua County Planning Board as the first openly-gay appointee to a Chautauqua County board or commission in Chautauqua County history. I'm looking forward to serve and I appreciate Mr. Thomas' willingness to make sure that everyone in Chautauqua County has a place at the table including gays and lesbians.

Research and Planning for Human Services of Chautauqua County, Inc. in a letter dated July 2 announced that the Jamestown Community College GLB Support Group and Club (Greg Rabb, advisor) will receive a \$1,000 grant in support of our work to combat the spread of HIV among young glbs in Chautauqua County by supporting our work to help young (high school to col-



lege age) glbs develop in healthy, self-accepting, open adults. Among the activities we hope to fund with this grant are the development of a web site (linked to JCC) for glbs to find helpful information on coming to terms with their sexuality, a video featuring young glbs talking about what it is like to be glb in Chautauqua County, signs on campus and in the community letting people know of the support group, web site, and safe zones for glbs threatened/harassed verbally, physically, essay and poster contest on campus, etc. This is the first time any openly-gay activity in Chautauqua County has received funding from a local, non-gay organization in support of positive glb activities.

Rainbow Pride hours change

Please note that the 175 Hodge Street location of Rainbow Pride in Buffalo will be closing August 1 and will reopen Aug 18. That location will also be expanding its hours effective Sept 1. The new hours will be Tues-Fri 10 AM to 9 PM. Sat 1 PM-9PM. Sun 1 PM-5PM. The other location inside Buddies will neither be closing for vacation nor changing its hours.

Rainbow Pride Gift Shop

Now with 2 locations to serve you better. 175 Hodge Ave. at Klawood - 881-8126 31 Johnson Park in Buddies - 855-0222

Hours:	Hodge Avenue	Baddies
See.	Noon to 5:00	Closed
Mon.	Closed	Closed
Tues.	5:00 to 3:00	5:00 to 2:00
Wed.	5:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 2:00
Ther.	5:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 2:00
Fri.	5:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 3:00
5 mt.	1:00 to 3:00	5:00 to 3:00

175 Hodge store closed Aug 1-18 for vacation. Expanded hours in Sept.

Buddies location will remain open and will not be changing hours.

Buffalo's Pride Headquarters

Visa - Mastercard - American Express - Discover Card Accepted

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

Check out the details on the art exhibit at Scapers (page 8)

Wow! The tickets for the Cruise for Life/cocktail party really flew! I guess this shows there is support for this sort of activity. They may be sold out by now. Hopefully this activity will happen again in the future.

Lifetime will be airing episodes of **Ellen** starting August 17. Fans of the show will find it interesting to watch the changes it went through. If you're a serious fan you might want to print out a copy of the online Ellen Episode Guide from http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Hills/4290/ellens04.

Film and video releases have a good bit of transgender interest this summer. Playing in theaters now is the Disney film **Mulan**, in which a young Chinese girl passes as a male to take the place of her ailing father to keep him from being drafted into the army. She is also one of the few female action heroes in film, and goes on to become a great leader. Out now on video are Ma Vie En

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Rose (the widely acclaimed story of a young boy who wants to be a girl, handled with sensitivity and humor), and Different for Girls (two men who had been attracted to one another meet again, but now one is a postoperative transsexual).

HBO's new TV series Sex and the City which looks at sex and dating in New York City has had a number of lesbian and gay characters. Two of Showtime's new shows offer lesbian and same-sex characters. Rude Awakening just features the whole same-sex thing as part of everyday life. Check your listings for dates and times. Line's, set in a predominately black bar, will feature a recurring character who is a lesbian (see "Repeating" programs listing in calendar for times and dates). Linc's episodes also will be shown several times during the month.

If you're into Hollywood's recent reliving of disco, you might want to rent two big disco movies from that era: Saturday Night Fever and Thank God It's Friday. The latter movie often inspired utterances of "Thank God it's over" when the movie ended, and pushed its great soundtrack to the background of its pseudo-camp, dumb story. Point of interest for all you young'uns: Disco came out of the gay, black and Latin dance club scenes...but you'd never know it from Hollywood's white straight disco stories.

New sports stuff for Pittsburgh Labor Day Picnic on Sept 7. First, the Steel City Softball League will play an exhibition game. Also, Tony and Joe of Liberty Saloon will be organizing volleyball games. For more info contact either one at (412) 338-1533.



Review

Love! Valour! Compassion! by Terrence McNally

at the Roadhouse Theatre through Aug 22nd Reviewed by Michael Mahler

My husband Micheal and I were fortunate to see the Roadhouse Theatre's production of Love! Valour! Compassion! recently. (Ironically, there were 8 gay male characters on stage and 8 of us gay men sitting together.) The play is a deeply moving and ultimately uplifting work about the lives and loves of 8 gay male friends and lovers over the course of 3 summer weekends.

There are some aspects which probably make the play difficult to pull off technically; one of the characters is blind; one of the actors stutters and one of the actors has to play twin brothers. There is also a fair amount of nudity, which is dealt with matter-of-factly. The play also consists of 3 acts, each of which lasts about an hour.

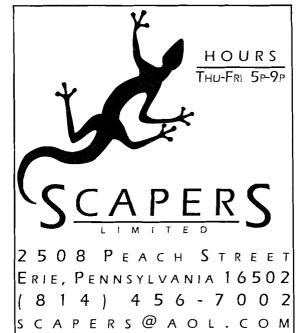
I wholeheartedly recommend this performance! The characters were written and performed as 3 dimensional human beings. They deal with falling in love, staying in love, AIDS, death, aging, friendship and a host of issues in an incredibly real and human way. Ultimately, this is a play that everyone can find some kind of connection with.

The play is set in one of the character's Victorian home and the set design is minimalist, which works.

The actors include Lon Jenkins as Gregory Mitchell, Joe Thornton as Arthur Pape, Michael Weiss as Perry Sellers, David McNeil as John Jekyll and James Jekyll, Jerry Gill as Buzz Hauser, Matthew J. Kraft as Bobby Brahms and John Champagne as Ramon Fornos and the play is directed by Rich Davis.

Roadhouse Theatre for Contemporary Arts is located at 145 W 11h Street. The play runs at 8 PM on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through August 22nd. Contact the box office at 456-5656. Do yourself a favor and catch this. You'll be glad you did!

Join us for the Pride Rally in Perry Square, Oct 10!





Erie Times-News on local support groups

A few weeks ago, the Erie Times-News Weekender ran an article about P-FOX (Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays), a predominantly Christian group that claims to help homosexuals "reform." The group is meeting for the summer at the Chautauqua Institution near Jamestown. The event that triggered the initial article was a guest speaker at the July 1 meeting of Chautauqua Alternatives. The speaker was a Catholic priest from Erie, Rev. James W. Peterson, who is the spiritual director for a Catholic "homosexual reform" group in Erie called Courage. Peterson started the Erie chapter of Courage two years ago with the approval of Bishop Donald Trautman.

The initial article discussed P-FOX's aims and referred to some gays who had been "cured".

A follow-up article entitled "Mom's attitudes to gays changes" appeared on the front page of the Saturday, July 18, 1998 Erie Times-News Weekender that primarily focused on "Mary", an Erie Catholic mother of a gay son who has been active with the local chapter of PFLAG for the past year. Mary's son came out to her May of 1995.

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She found PFLAG-Erie after calling an 800 number for Boy's Town, which frequently gets calls about social issues and makes referral to other agencies and organizations.

In the article, Mary said, "I just want to make sure that other parents won't have to go through what I've gone through. I want to be able to tell parents that they need to keep on loving their children, to stand by them and support them."

The article mentioned that Mary had approached the pastor of her parish and her anger and frustration when he ignored her offer to start a support group for parents.

As a result of contact with Monsignor Mike McGraw, the Catholic diocese is planning to form a support group for parents of gays. McGraw noted that Bishop Donald Trautman supports the formation of such a group.

Mary is also working with Erie resident Jerry Mc-Cumber to form an Erie chapter of Dignity, a GLBT support/advocacy group specifically serving Roman Catholics.

Mary and her son say that they have remained good Catholics. The article also referred to the recent pastoral letter, "Always Our Children", in which Catholic Bishops of America appealed to parents to "place support for gay and lesbian children above moral condemnation of homosexual activity."

Mary and her family are still working through the process of dealing with a gay family member, but have made much progress.

A sidebar article listed books and resources suggested (separately) by both PFLAG and P-FOX. Ron Wasielewski wrote both articles.



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Random thoughts about the WNBA

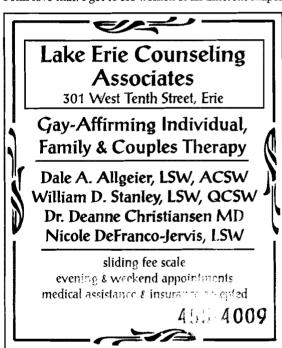
by Claire

I love the NBA. Now, I am not an avid sports fan by any stretch of the imagination. As a matter of fact, I dread the beginning of the football season, mostly because it ended a few weeks ago, didn't it? So I wait pretty much all year for my short time in the sun, my 28 or so games where I don my WNBA T-shirt and sit immersed in the joy of the season. The following is a little list of what I think about the WNBA and its players:

- First and foremost, I love that this is how God or James Naismith—or whoever it is that you attribute your being to—intended the game to be played. On the floor. With really cool passes, and little inside street moves and real live plays that don't involve the same incredible, outstanding player every single time. College basketball still has this, but the NBA is a huge bore. Dunk. Run to the other end... Dunk... Run to the other end. Dunk. Run to the other end. For two hours? No, thanks.
- What I love about the WNBA is that any young girl with a little talent and a ton of drive can get there. You don't have to be born a giant. With the men's game, there seems to be this attitude that if you grow freakishly tall, there's a place for you in the league. Don't you worry about a thing. They'll teach you to dunk, run to the other end, dunk, run to the other end, dunk, run to the other end and so on. Certainly, the women's league has its fair share of height. But there are also plenty of women who measure in at a very average 5'7" and 5'8". Because the women's game usually utilizes more than one game strategy, there's a place for everyone's gift. And that makes it attainable for all the young women who are interested in playing, not just the circus freaks. (Note: For those who read this that think I must certainly mean Dennis Rodman when I say circus freak, I do not. I actually think that Rodman is very funny, very gutsy, an excellent player, and a media pig.)
- These players are extremely approachable when you have the good fortune to run into them. Except for Michelle Timms, which I'll get into in a bit. In a scason and a half, I have managed to get every autograph for every person that has asked me and all of the players have been extremely gracious about it. And imagine this... Not one player has asked me for money for their damn

signature. What a concept. Their annual salary is one gajillionth of the men's and they still managed not to ask fans for money for a signature.

- Going to the games is really fun. For starters, it's affordable. You can even take kids and not feel like you have to take a second mortgage on the house. And the games are really fun for them because all of the little promotional things they do at the game are aimed at the under-16 crowd. They shoot T-shirts into the crowd, they shoot hot dogs, (kind of gross to me, but the kids love that one!) They have shooting contests, loud bangs, confetti, really loud music—basically a ton of crowd participation things. Even if the game is not a particularly good one, the entertainment is worth it. The closest team is in Cleveland, but that is a bearable road trip for me because we're there before everyone starts getting antsy and has to go to the bathroom.
- And for you grown-up children, there is a funny little "I know you know" thing going on at the games between the women. You know, no matter how old I get, I still love that. I get to see women of all different shapes



and sizes and colors and we are all really nice to one another in that knowing kind of way. It will also give you a good idea of what the well-dressed lesbian will be wearing at the softball games this summer...

- For once, you get to see the older women out. I often wonder where all lesbians over fifty go. We just don't have any images of them and I know in my heart that they're out there, having good lives in nice houses. (Probably some of the nicest on the block). I believe that. But society, actually gay society, is so very youth conscious. Well, now I know. They're at the WNBA games.
- It's the only time you can literally fall over at the sheer beauty of a play and comment on a player's hair style. That is the essence of women and sport—to appreciate the game and yet be catty about the players.

A Tale of Timms

From this point on, I'd like the opportunity to get really random and tell my Timms story. Michelle Timms, for those of you who haven't noticed, is a very attractive guard for the Phoenix Mercury. This girl also plays some fine basketball, by the way. Now, when the league began last year and all of my friends were aligning themselves with teams, I was aligning myself with Timms. I had just never seen anyone play basketball with such an intense style and, did I mention that she was awfully cute? So I start watching her, though my heart is really with the New York Liberty. Long story short, my girlfriend and I make it all the way to Madison Square Garden in New York City for a Liberty game and who the heck do you think they're playing but the Phoenix Mercury. I am truly the luckiest gal on earth, I think. After the game, I'm just standing around while the aforementioned girlfriend sniffs around for Theresa Witherspoon (to get the proper effect, you have to turn down the corners of your mouth and say it real slow) for an autograph and I look

down on the empty court and there is Timms. Just standing there chatting as if she's waiting for someone to come along... Anyway, I digress... With some encouragement from my friends, I start the walk down the 6,000 stairs with my palms sweating. I walk over to where she's standing and I say something really stupid like, "You play a really beautiful game. That was a tough loss... if you wouldn't mind, could I have your autograph..."

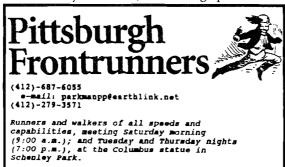
At that point, Timms turns to me and I wait for our eyes to meet in that "I know you know" way I discussed earlier. Instead, this is what I see. She turns to me and starts to sign with no acknowledgment at all and then looks right on up and through me and in her eyes I see "This is the biggest dork I've signed for all might. This is a chubby from Podunk in a loud shirt." I swear to you, she said that with her eyes. Now I've got the autograph, but in one glance, she stripped me of all self-esteem.

On the 6000-stair climb back up, I decide I've got way too many acres in one basket here. I decide never to worship at the athletic altar again. And I remember that my sweet girlfriend, in spite of her sick adoration of Weatherspoon, never looks right through me like that.

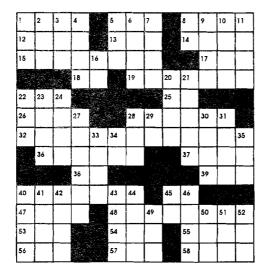
Now, when I see Timms playing, I think of our chance meeting and the ways in which she disappointed me. But I also think of the two nine-year-old girls who were behind me in line and how Timms knelt down while she signed for them and asked them if they played basketball had told them that they could play here someday, too, if they just kept believing and practicing... Okay, so one of us had our priorities in the right place

And now you know why I love the WNBA.

Note: Information on the WNBA, schedules etc. can be found at their Web site: http://www.wnba.com/



Family Portrait will appear in our special October issue for Erie's first Pride Rally on Oct 10!
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Across: *Themed clues

1 East coost goy mecca ____ lsland*

- 5 King Kong, for example
- 8 Florida resort Key
- 12 Type of sex at high risk of HIV infection, if unprotected
- 13 Componies, for short
- 14 '78 Village People hit
- 15 Gay Travel Planner publisher*
- 17 Make-up mayen ____ Factor
- 18 George Clooney vehicle
 19 Places for Men and Places for
- Women publisher*
 22 '41 Davis, Woolley camp classic The ____ Who Came to Din-

- 25 Unitarian Universalist, for short
- 26 Hunk of meat
- 28 Gay Address Book publisher*
- 32 "Classified directory of [LGBTfriendly] services, businesses, resources, etc. in USA & Canada"*
- 36 Tropical terminus for future same-sex newlyweds?*
- 37 Word with lovers' or Quantum
- 38 Sm. state
- 39 Equal Rights Amendment
- 40 Georgia's gay hot spot*
- 45 Associated Press, to staff writer
- 47 Nickname for Remington
- 48 Texas' happening gay area*
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Down:

- 1 NY based toy store ____.__. Schwartz
- 2 Independent, for short
- 3 Word with sugar or sting
- 4 Otherwise
- 5 Highest card
- 6 Epithet for effeminate goy mon?
- 7 Latin being
- 8 Cheyenne's state, to postmaster
- 9 Howard's End actress Thompson
- 10 Old wound
- 11 Cab
- 16 Elder namesake, for short
- 20 Butt
- 21 In the country
- 22 Monosodium glutamate, an a

Chinese menu

- 23 God of Islam (var.)
- 24 Bottled water brand
- 27 To unintentionally spill the beans (archaic)
- 28 Dept. of the Interior
- 29 Sound at a pity party
- 30 Curved molding in crosswords
- 31 Women's folk musician Holly
- 33 Has rested in a horizontal position
- 34 51, to Caesor
- 35 Resort or mineral boths
- 40 Cockney posterior
- 41 Trendy blue-green color
- 42 K-P connector
- 43 Govt. agent
- 44 Numero uno
- 45 In the location of
- 46 Hunter's quorry
- 49 Slangy negative
- **50** Spanish gold
- 51 Knight's title
- **52** Cry of fright

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Poll: Most Americans disagree with recent attacks on gays

from the Human Rights Campaign

WASHINGTON, DC, June 30 —Anti-gay comments made by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott in June do not reflect the majority opinion in this country, says a new poll released by the Human Rights Campaign.

The survey, conducted by Lake Snell Perry, asked 931 registered voters: Trent Lott, the Republican majority leader, recently made a statement that said homosexuality is a sin and compared it to alcoholism and kleptomania. Others say that homosexuality is inherent and not a choice, and that all Americans should be treated equally and fairly by lawmakers. Which of these statements comes closer to your own opinion? 24% said homosexuality is a sin and a disease; 55% said that homosexuality is inherent and that all Americans should be treated fairly; 14% said neither or both; 4% said don't know; and 3% refused to answer.

These numbers cut across party lines with 62% of Democrats, 57% of independents and 41% of Republicans saying that homosexuality is inherent and gay Americans should be treated equally. 18% of Democrats, 21% of independents, and 35% of Republicans saying that homosexuality is a sin.

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This is an abbreviated version! The full version is on our web site. You may also request a complete version by mail. All phone numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Not all resources are necessarily gay-owned nor serve primarily lesbigay people; some may be just gay-friendly

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Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Sun. Drag show, DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nite	elv specials.
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2am. DJ Fri & Sat. Sundays drag shows 11 PM-2 AM \$2 cover.	
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Pittsburgh (412) 422-0114 (M-F 6:30-9	
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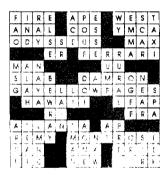
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BYKOTA- Be Ye Kind One To Another 734-3	
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Social Organizations	
10% Network ▼(71	(6)484-7285 (John)
Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 3rd Sat of the month 7- Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol.	
	457 0000 (M:-LI)

An olcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a theme, topic or activity for each month. Meet 1st Sat at 7:30pm. at Unitarian Univ Congreg of Erie. aichess@hotmail.com.

Student Organizations/Youth



Crossword Solution:

csglbp(Tidlies et:
Close! Culture 800-6528 (Mark)
Open to any testings grow or his extent 22 or volunger in Enterting and a larger
Write to FC Box 529, Edinbaro PA 17412. Case City 3 co. Lim
Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999
Identity 5
Unix 374 Dearboin Hall, Edinboid PA 16432
Jamestown Comm. College Grp ▼
or 664-9174 (Greg Rabb)
Open to college & non-college people. Write to JCC, 525 Falconer St, PO Box 20,
Jamestown NY 14702-0020. Emoil Greg at rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.
Mercyhurst College Gay/Straight Alliance ▼824-2700 (Tara)
Write to Mercyhurst GSA, 501 W 38th St Box 145, Erie PA 16546-0001. Email to
Tara ot tsamios@hotmail.com or Barbara at bwotters@mercyhurst.edu National Runaway Switchboard
SUNY-Fredonia GLBSU
Meets Tuesdays at 10 am in Williams Center All welcome. Email to
11 0000 CT 1 1 1
giosuouvo@ireconia edu. Teen Hotkine
Trigon (Penn State Behrend) 7898-6030 or (Sue Daley) 898-6164
Meeting open to the public. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College,
Station Rd. Erie, PA 16563. trigon behrend@hotmail.com http://
www.clubs.psu.edu/trigon
Support Groups
Erie Sisters
Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday,
newsletter. Write: Érie Šisters, 1903 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505. esc@csonline.net http://www.geocities.com/Wellesley/1614/
Lambda Group—Gay AA ▼
Alcoholics Anon for Lesbigays. Open discussion. Meets Sunday at 8:00 pm at Uni-
tarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway, Open to all Lesbigays
who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone.
Partners(814) 664-7090 (Luella)
Support group for lesbigay people and their supporters in Corry PA area. Call for
meeting time and place. PFLAG (Porents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) see below
PFLAG-DuBois PA
Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month at St. John's Oklahoma Lutheran Church at the
corner of Maple Ave & Shaffer Road in DuBois. Write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Trea-
and lake Dulleis DA 15001 allered phase Character and

sure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 pflagdubois@key-net.net

Ema | Ela ne H | at loislane@velct ty net

PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184
Meets 1st Thurs 7:00 pm at Unitarion-Universalist Congreg of Erie. Write to PFLAG-

Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508.

Sexual Compussives Anonymous (SCA) 453-5656 (Crie Hothine)

theers likesions also are in the amother for looking maddle into a while

Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24 hour Hotline	
(Sexual Assault as well)	
Women's Services of Crawford County (24 hour) ▼ (814)333-9766	
National Domestic Violence Hotline (800)799-SAFE (7233)	

HIV/AIDS Directory

National	
AIDS Factline 1-800-324-AIDS	
National AIDS Hotline	
Spanish AIDS Hotline	
Ashtabula OH/Ashtabula County	
HIV+ Support Grp(216)350-2554	
Erie PA/Erie County	
Case Manager - Sandra Decker 456-8849	
Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart 814-764-6066	
Case Manager - Cheryl Weber825-1085 or 455-3786	
AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233	
AIDS Bereavement Support Group 452-3779 (Sue Kuebler)	
Sponsored by HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Poul.	
For families, portners, spauses, friends & caregivers with laved anes/friends who	
have died with AIDS. Coll for info. Meets. At St. Paul's Cathedral, 134 W 7th St. "In	
our church there will be no outcosts"	
AIDS Network Information	
Friends from the Heart	
Direct Client Services. Valunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, tronsporta-	
tion, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Donations greatly oppreciated.	
Meets 2nd Monday of the month at Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont.	
GEGASHI 451-6784 (Caryn) or 451-6727 (Fran)	
Gays/Lesbians Educating Gays/Lesbians About Sexual Health Issues. Sponsored by	
Erie County Department of Health (ECDH). Email gegoshi@aal.com.	
HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cath. of St. Paul (Episcopal)452-3779	
NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie Ofc) ▼ 456-8849/(800)400-AIDS	

1001 State St, Suite 806, Erie PA. nwpaaids@erie.net

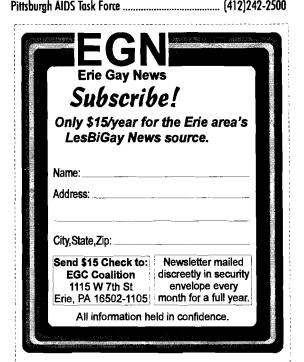
Jamestown NY/Chautaugua Co.

Case Manager - Margaret Geer, RN	(800) 743-1940	
AIDS Community Services ▼	(716)664-7855	
South County Support		
For HIV infected and affected people. Meets 1st Thursday at the home of Hop and		
Cindy Chase, 1115 Prendergast Ave in Jamestown.		

Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Sue Bobosky	(800)359-AIDS
Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition	337-3241

HIV+ Support Grps	Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800	
Venango/Fore	est County	
Venango-Forest AIDS Support		
Case Manager - Sue Bobosky		
Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart	(800)359-AIDS	
Warren (County	
Case Manager-Deb Monohon	838-0123	
Case Manager-Andrea Cathcart . 1(8	00)359-AIDS or (814)764-6066	
HIV/AIDS Counseling and 1		
Free, confidential counseling, testing		
(Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health	663-3891	
(Erie) Erie Co. Dept. of Health		
Call for info on CD4 and Viral Loa		
(Erie) MHEDS	453-6229 or 453-4728	
Jamestown or Buffalo		
Meadville PA	(814)332-6947	
Pittsburgh	(412)578-8332	
Sharon PA		
Youngstown OH	(216)747-4805	
HIV/AIDS Anonymous Testing Sites		
(Ashtabula) Family Planning Assoc		
Painesville OH		
	(412)242-2500	



National Gay and Lesbian Task Force The Eleventh National Conference for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Movement November 11-15, 1998 Westin William Penn Hotel Pittsburgh, PA

CREATING LANGE OF ER EN CE

For details regarding the Conference, including information on registration, volunteering, and housing, call (412)-242-9966

or write

Creating Change Local Host Committee P.O. Box 81739 Pittsburgh, PA 15217-0739



Tickets \$7 in advance \$20 at the gate.

Available at Scapers, 2508 Peach St. and at area Pittsburgh bars.

Disco and Country dancing

Steel City Softball League will play an exhibition game.

Volleyball being organized by Liberty Saloon.



For more info about this, call Joe or Tony at (412) 338-1533

Sponsored by Delta Foundation