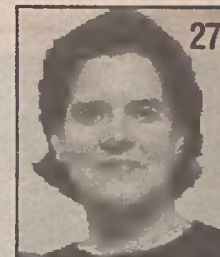


¡Para Todos!

Día Nacional Latino un
Prevención del SIDA 14

Teen idols turn queer in
'General Gayety'



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Serial rapist admits attacking teen

by David Moore
Q-Notes staff

Police in Grand Rapids, Mich. say 63-year-old James D. Moore has confessed to the attack on bisexual teen Justin Bogdanik and has told them he assaulted other teens he picked up on the streets of the city, but he has not given any indication of the number.

Q-Notes reported on the mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Justin Bogdanik this past July 8 (vol. 18, iss. 6).

Bogdanik had been a high school student who was kicked out of his family home and had subsequently dropped out of school, prior to taking up residency at a local YMCA. According to friends the young man was last seen climbing into a white tractor trailer rig that was similar to one driven by Moore.

"Justin was lovable, eccentric and one of the sweetest people you'd ever meet," Rachel Lukas, a friend and classmate of Bogdanik's told Q-Notes at the time. "He liked to listen to music and

enjoyed going to the park with his friends. He wanted to go into the military."

At press time Moore had not been charged in Bogdanik's death because a pathologist had not yet been able to rule it a homicide. Grand Rapids Police Detective Thomas VanderPloeg said he and Detective Ralph Bekker hoped to put together a case to charge Moore with the crime.

"We've been working with experts around the state, trying to determine the cause of death," VanderPloeg told Q-Notes. "Without that, I'd have to charge [Moore] with kidnapping [Bogdanik] with intent to kill. He's already confessed to the abduction and the assault.

"I don't want to charge [Moore] with kidnapping and intent because of double jeopardy. It looks like Jason caught pneumonia because of what happened to him, it went unrecognized by doctors, and that's what led to his death. He was assaulted and left in such a manner that he was unable to help himself. If we're going to charge Moore with murder I need to show that his death was a result of the assault."



After drugging and assaulting Justin Bogdanik (left), truck driver James Moore dumped him in a ditch on the side of an interstate highway. Bogdanik later died.

Some gay rights advocates feared a serial killer or rapist was targeting gay men for hate crimes after Bogdanik was identified as bisexual. But VanderPloeg said Moore, a soft-spoken married man

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Wes Culwell talks about his experiences on 'Boy Meets Boy'

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Transgenders under scrutiny from Homeland Security

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East Meck High in Charlotte starts gay/straight student alliance

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Aussie serial killers found guilty

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Audiophile: Rufus Wainwright on his latest CD and more

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South Carolina

Charleston College in hot water over gay studies program

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ONLINE
Q.POLL
www.q-notes.com

Would you be comfortable with the term 'civil union' instead of 'gay marriage'?

. Yes . No

Q.POLL RESULTS: 33

Tammy Faye is back in town!

Former televangelist is back in the place she calls home with a new novel, new TV projects and a lot of love for the LGBT community

by David Moore
Q-Notes staff

Tammy Faye.

It's all you really need to say. Even though her full name is Tammy Faye LaValley Bakker



Glad to be home again: Tammy Faye Messner. Chances are — if you're a North or South Carolina native — you'll know her by just the first and middle names.

Kind of like Cher or Elvis — no need for a last name at all because the persona is so strong — there's no one else like 'em.

Tammy Faye started off life as a little Minnesota girl and grew up to embody the per-

sonification of the flashy southern televangelist: big cars, giant houses, flamboyant jewelry, oversized hair and an abundance of make-up.

Along the way Tammy and former husband Jim Bakker created the PTL (Praise The Lord) network, which at one time was the largest Christian cable television network in existence. It grew beyond just a simple TV ministry and developed into an empire that included Heritage USA (in Fort Hill, S.C.) which spread out over hundreds of acres, boasting hotels, multiple private residences, a theme park and massive production facilities.

Then, of course, came the fall. Personal scandal and charges of embezzlement for Jim Bakker led to the failure of PTL and ultimately, the failure of his marriage to Tammy Faye.

Tammy hasn't forgotten about the negative experiences she had in Charlotte — but she has forgiven, she says.

"When I came first came back to Charlotte my husband Roe didn't really want to bring me back here because he was afraid people would be mean to me," Tammy recalls.

"But it was a decision I decided to make. Those hurtful memories — they weren't just unpleasant, they just about killed me. They were hurtful, horrible memories.

"I love people and to see people that you love do a flip-flop and turn totally against you with their whole purpose being to destroy you — it will just cut your heart into pieces. I felt like my heart was just a piece of liver that had been pounded raw."

But that's old news.

The latest scoop on Tammy Faye these days is that she's promoting a new book, she's hard at work on a handful of different television projects and she's back in North Carolina (in Matthews, a suburb of Charlotte).

Charlotte agrees to explore DP benefits

Four-month study commission expected to lead to NC Legislature decision in '05

by Taylor Braeden

Following heated debate in a previous meeting Aug. 25, Charlotte's City Council agreed Sept. 8 to form a study commission to look at the possibilities of making domestic partnership benefits available for gay and lesbian city employees.

The decision came after loud opposition from Charlotte Republican Mayor Pat McCrory.

"I disagree with the Mayor's reasoning that he opposes it because companies are cutting back on benefits and because it costs money," says MeckPAC representative Connie Vetter. "That's why we need the study committee. He's drawing a conclusion and I don't believe he actually knows what it costs."



MeckPAC member Connie Vetter feels the city already has the right to institute domestic partnership benefits.

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see BENEFITS on 4