



Vital Signs

274-0689

TRUCKS - VANS - WINDOWS - WALLS
WOOD - MURALS - RACE CARS
STYROFOAM LETTERS - SHOWCARDS
LOGOS - BANNERS - AWNINGS
PROMOTIONAL WINDOWS
SANDBLASTED SIGNS

1147 SWEETEN CREEK ROAD

Jewelry - Metal - Stone



Jewelry Design

63 Haywood Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Bye Bye Blues



SHADOWBOXING
WITH SCISSORS
LOVE

Kenneth

20 Battery Park Avenue
Flat Iron Building Suite 203
Asheville, N.C. 28801
(704) 251-9377

National Lesbian Conference April 24-28

by O. Angela Acevedo

The National Lesbian Conference will meet in Atlanta April 24-28. Over 5,000 women are expected.

The National Lesbian Conference is the first Herstoric conference to be conducted solely by, for, and about Lesbians. It is committed to 50% Lesbians of Color, 20% Lesbians with Disabilities, 5% old Lesbians, and ten other constituencies on the steering committee. The same percentages will be maintained in all visible leadership, entertainment, and support areas. We are committed to fighting racism, sexism, classism, ableism and oppression in all areas. We are the first organization to make this commitment to full participation of all Lesbians our primary priority. In order to insure that participation becomes a reality, we are funding scholarships for Lesbians in financial need.

By focusing on anti-oppression we believe that we will truly have the broadest scope of workshops relevant to the lives of all diversities of Lesbians that has ever been presented. Understanding the negative realities for economically disadvantaged Lesbians in a classist society, especially in the areas of advanced education, we value lived experience, self-education, and methodical analysis of the impact of politics on the personal reality of our lives. Thus we have chosen to honor women's knowledge by including workshops, lectures, roundtables, and performance works, based on Lesbian-centered experiential knowledge, instead of limiting the conference to presenters bearing formal degrees, which would of necessity have limited the scope of the conference to middle class, and mostly white, Lesbians, their class biases, and their constituencies. That would not be a "national" Lesbian conference.

The National Lesbian Conference brings together women of all colors from a multiplicity of cultures to engage in dialogue on work, politics, life experience, personal and group empowerment, and all vital concerns of all women that are, of course, included in such a broad gathering of Lesbians. The National Lesbian Conference will present tracks devoted to women's health, family issues, ageing, sexuality, environment, spirituality, business caucuses, legal issues, antiablism, anticlassism, deaf community, education, women's studies, writing, performance, entertainment, a vendors' market, and so forth.

The Nation Lesbian Conference will be the best tool and the greatest opportunity this Millenia for studying Lesbian, i.e., women's herstory, present, and, in consideration of the plenaries, it will also be a guide to the future. Your support of this herstoric event will be a boon to all Lesbians, and thus, all humanity.

For more information, contact Angel or Cindy at 251-0475. ▼

CLASSIFIED

FOR RENT: 2 BR house in N. Asheville.
FOR SALE: Mama Bear stove.
Call Hope Vail at 254-7374 after 7 PM.



The Pretenders are Nadine Bourg, Chris Moody (front row), Tony Porter, David Vance, Deb Thomas, and David Singleton (back row). Not pictured: Amy Springer
Photo by Ron Huskins

Pretenders Capture Season Title

by Ron Huskins

The Pretenders, Asheville's gay and lesbian volleyball team, finished in first place in the B-2 division of the Asheville Parks and Recreation Winter Volleyball Leagues. Their 10-2 record allows them to enter the league tournament with a first round bye, meaning they don't have to play in the first round match.

Both B-1 and B-2 divisions will

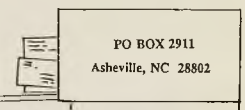
participate in a double elimination tournament that will be played on three successive Monday evenings beginning March 18. Games will begin at 7:00 PM.

In a double elimination tournament, a team must lose two matches to be out of the tournament. After one loss, a team is placed in what is called the losers' bracket, and still has a shot at winning the tournament by beating the winner of the winners' bracket.

Congratulations to the Pretenders on a job well done, and good luck in the tournament! ▼

Feedback...

Letters to the Editor



Dear Community Connections,

Just a short note to let you know I enjoy your newspaper. I moved out of NC to TN for a job. Well, I'm back on weekends but most of the groups meet during the week. So you are my contact to the real world. You let me know what's up and coming.

It is very commendable that you have people willing to speak out about being gay. I can't in public. I still fear coming out, and I think that in TN my fear is well-founded. Someday, in two years or less, I will be moving, hopefully in the right direction. Till then you are my contact to Asheville. *Lesbian Connection* (Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48826, a national lesbian newsletter) and *Smokey Mountain*

Women's Newsletter (PO Box 0972, Alcoa, TN 37701-0972) are also on my reading list.

Thanks for being there. Do you print articles from anonymous authors, as long as they fit your guidelines of content, subject matter, tastefulness, etc?

Enclosed is a request for a subscription. I've been picking up a copy at the book store, but they're starting to leave faster than I can arrive there. I am a contact person for my area and I tell people where I get my copy and that they can get one there too.

Again, thanks for such a good paper,

SW

Ed. Note: We do not accept unsigned articles or letters, but we will withhold the name upon request.