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M E M P H I S
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"WITHOUT A JOURNAL, A NEWSPAPER OF SOME KIND, YOU CANNOT UNITE A COMMUNITY."

- M. K. GANDHI -

Memphis Rugby Team Forges Ahead

by Rebekah Hart

The Memphis women's rugby team, the Lady Blues, are well into their season and are anticipating a tough home game against Nashville this month.

Coach Andrea Cerbin is excited about this year's team, stating that the morale and attitude of the players has dramatically changed since last year. "The players are much more self-challenged to play well rather than coach-driven. Now that they know and understand the meaning of 'play,' they're much more apt to perform on the field

better," Cerbin said.

Even though the players want to improve and win their games, they don't allow it to inhibit them having fun on the field.

"Playing rugby is, in a sense, elegant violence," Cerbin continued. "This is the only sport where any body type can play, any level of skill can play."

Rugby is not only a form of exercise and promotes mental wellness, but also, according to Cerbin, "brings serenity" into one's life. Each person sees rugby as an outlet and emotional catharsis in her own way.

Player Carmen Mills stated, "I have a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and I still didn't feel safe with myself until I [began] playing rugby."

Coach Cerbin pressed that rugby truly is for everyone. Currently on her team are former cheerleaders, softball players, gymnasts and martial arts professionals. Practices are adapted to each player's skill level, and new players are immediately welcomed into the sisterhood and family of the Lady Blues.

For more information on how to become involved, contact Carmen Mills at pr@memphiswomensrugby.com.



Rugby is a rough-and-tumble game and not for the faint of heart..
Photo provided by Memphis Lady Blues



Players of the Memphis Lady Blues rugby team batter it out in a recent game. Photo provided by Memphis Lady Blues

S.P.I.T. Tournament Slated

by Chris Haskins

The 13th annual St. Patrick's Invitational Tournament (S.P.I.T.) will be held on March 17-19 at the Bartlett Lanes. The Invitational is sponsored by Brothers and Sisters Bowling League, a local gay bowling association.

The tournament offers several chances to win cash. The events will be broken into singles, doubles and team competitions. Local bowlers will take on some

of the nation's best gay and lesbian bowlers.

After the Invitational, an awards banquet will be held at the Appling Manor, Sun., Mar. 19, at 6:30 p.m.

The Brothers & Sisters Bowling League has its league play on Sunday nights at Winchester Bowl at 6 p.m. All entries are welcome and must be received by Fri., Mar. 3.

Details for the Invitational can be viewed at the tournament's website: www.spit.cc.

Softball Teams Set for Tourney

by Chris Haskins

Several local teams will be leaving for a kick-off tournament in Birmingham, Ala., Easter weekend for the Southern Shootout.

The Shootout is one of gay America's longest running softball tournaments and provides quality softball with the gay man's touch of elegance.

Teams that will be representing

Memphis will be the Memphis Hobos, the Memphis Heat, the Memphis Neons, and the Memphis Misfits.

The teams representing Memphis will be competing along with twenty other teams. Fans are welcome to join.

For more information on playing in the tournament visit the Bluff City Sports Association's website at bluffcitysports.net.

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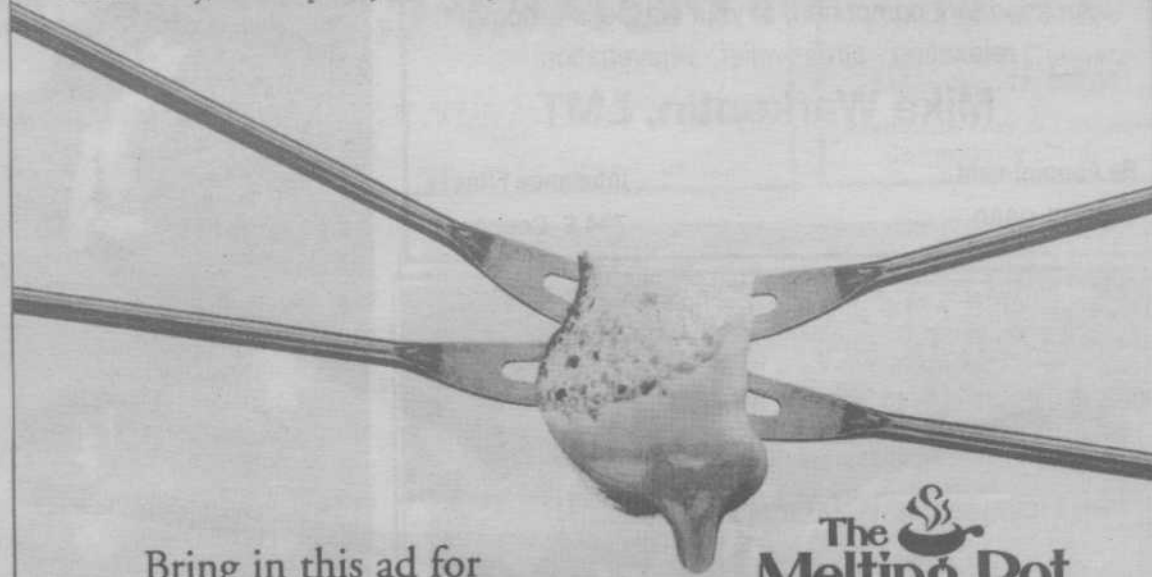
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