

# Dare

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 9

TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

MARCH 3-9, 1989

## Activists will protest state Kinison performance

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

While lesbian and gay activists nationwide protest comic Sam Kinison's act, both on stage and on record, the controversial comedian will present a Nashville performance Tuesday, March 14.

The contents of Kinison's recently released album, *Have You Seen Me Lately?*, has provided much of the focus as three national lesbian/gay rights and women's organizations have launched the Campaign for Fairness in Entertainment (CFE).

Kinison's controversial comedy routine has drawn the fire of members of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the New York City chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Craig Davidson, executive director of GLAAD, told *Dare* last week that his organization has started a letter writing campaign directed at Kinison's record label, Warner Brothers Records, and has advised local groups on the forms of protests to be held at Kinison concerts.

In Nashville, activist Penny Campbell said some sort of protest will be held, but plans are still being developed.

"We're definitely going to do something, but we're not certain yet what kind of protest will be staged," Campbell said.

Kinison's record "reinforces prejudice against gay men, lesbian and people with AIDS," Davidson said.

"We are drawing attention to this record because Kinison is on tour and will soon be

appearing in communities around the country. The Warner label continues to promote this hate mongerer shamelessly," Davidson said. "No apology by Kinison was ever issued, and he continues in his routines and public interviews to insult and defame gay men, people with AIDS and women."

Davidson said GLAAD previously has advised groups to stage informational pickets, describing what he referred to as "angry pickets" as "unrealistic and unwise."

In addition to the campaign against Kinison, CFE has directed attention toward the removal of anti-lesbian/gay portrayals in television and film, a move prompted by an episode of the NBC/Lorimar Productions' series *Midnight Caller*.

In that episode, a bisexual man with AIDS was shown continuing to engage in unsafe sexual behavior. Originally, the episode concluded with the man being shot by a former female lover.

Efforts by GLAAD culminated in the script being toned down, Davidson said, but he still "objected to the show as it was aired, although it was an improvement over the original script."

The nationally-circulated *TV Guide* last month called the producers' decision to tone down the script, "The Cop-Out of the Season," a move which resulted in complaints from GLAAD activists.

"The show was mis-informative, leading people to think that gays and bisexuals were wantonly spreading AIDS," Davidson said.

Last year, GLAAD representatives met with officials at ABC-TV to protest the airing of a Mr. Belvedere episode in which a young boy was



Minnie Bruce Pratt, lesbian feminist, poet and author of *The Sound of One Fork*, prepares to speak and to read from her work to a crowd of 70 women and men at Vanderbilt University in Nashville last week. Story on page 3. —DARE PHOTO BY ROBIN CONOVER

sexually molested by a male camp counselor.

"We were disturbed that almost all television treatments of child sexual abuse is male/male. Statistics show that the majority of cases involve male adults and female children. We felt the producers were simply trying to paint yet another bad picture of gay men by blurring the lines between pedophilia and homosexuality," Davidson said.

Last week's issue of *TV Guide* carried a brief story about the Mr. Belvedere episode, saying it was being used by counselors in treatment of child victims of sexual abuse. •

## Court gags Wolf results

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

In a surprise move Monday, Nashville physician John Stuart Wolf, Jr. was placed on probation on reduced charges of attempting to molest his son during a secret, closed-door session in Davidson County Criminal Court.

Length and terms of the probation order were not disclosed under the orders of retired Court of Criminal Appeals Judge William S. Russell. Russell told attorneys in the case not to discuss the details of the settlement or how it was reached.

Prosecutors had agreed to drop earlier charges of aggravated sexual battery against Wolf, for which the doctor had been convicted and received a 20-year "alternative sentence." In return for that charge being dropped, Wolf agreed to pre-trial diversion — which will allow Wolf to continue his medical practice while avoiding another trial.

Wolf previously spent 4-1/2 months in Metro Jail before being sentenced to a 25-year prison term by Criminal Court Judge Ann Lacy Johns. She suspended the sentence and placed Wolf on a 20-year probation.

Monday's developments come some 18 months after Wolf was first indicted on 20 counts of raping and fondling his son, now 9, and his daughter, now 7, in 1986 and early 1987.

Prosecutors had dropped seven of the 20 counts, involving Wolf's daughter, and the jury acquitted Wolf on all but one count during the course of the trial last March. Wolf was found guilty of aggravated sexual battery of his son.

However, when Johns' bailiff, Jesse Jenkins • continued on page 3

## Nashville group to stage AIDSWALK

by DEBORAH BURKS  
Staff Writer

In an effort to raise money for local AIDS service agencies, a Nashville group has organized a walkathon, AIDSWALK, for Saturday, March 18.

AIDSWALK Nashville, a nonprofit organization, was started as the result of informal meetings of people involved in the city's major AIDS service organizations who were concerned about increasing caseloads and providing education to prevent the further spread of the disease, according to Mary Donnet, president of AIDSWALK Nashville and a board member of Nashville CARES.

"We wanted to create a way to funnel funds to people working with AIDS but we didn't want to be restricted to helping just our four groups so we became our own entity," Donnet said. "We worked together very well because we all have this as our common goal."

Donnet said the group chose a walkathon as a way to raise money because it's visible and "has the potential to create enormous awareness about this disease with one event." The proceeds from AIDSWALK will be divided equally among Nashville CARES, the Vanderbilt AIDS Project, Minority AIDS Outreach, the Meharry Medical College AIDS Support Initiative and other groups not yet determined but which may include Alive Hospice and the Red Cross.

As with other walkathons, participants are asked to get sponsors to pledge a specified amount of money per mile. Donnet said AIDSWALK organizers hope to raise \$75,000 in pledges. While she acknowledged that in-kind contributions (such as the design and printing of the group's brochure) to the effort have been "tremendous," Donnet noted that the group has "encountered a brick wall with

• continued on page 3

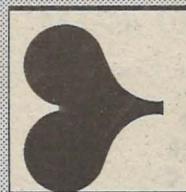
## I N S I D E

this week's Dare

Child sexual abuse:  
How to deal with it.  
*Sex in the 80s*, page 4.

*Sex  
in  
the 80s*

*Incline Our Hearts*, the  
newest in English fiction.  
Pages, page 7.



What they're saying  
about us now.  
Quotes, page 8.

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Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly

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## D A T E S

### MEMPHIS

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**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

#### Tuesdays

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

#### Wednesdays

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

#### Thursdays

**P-FLAG** (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group. St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. Info 901 761-1444.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30pm. Info 901 272-9459.  
**Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 276-7379.

#### Fridays

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 10pm. Info 901 272-9459.

#### Saturdays

**Twisted Sisters** (ACOA) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info 901 276-7379.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

#### Sundays

**Agape New Life Church** Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship service, 11am. Info 901 276-1872.  
**Holy Trinity Community Church** Worship service, 11am. 1216 Forrest Ave. Info 901 726-9443.  
**Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info 901 276-7379.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

### NASHVILLE

#### Mondays

**Gay Overeaters Anonymous** Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.  
**Nashville CARES** HIV+ Education, Support Group, 6:30pm. ARC/AIDS Support Group, bimonthly, 6:30pm. Family Support Group, bimonthly, 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Lambda Group** Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.  
**MAGNET** (Married and Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC. 8pm. Info 615-320-0288.

#### Tuesdays

**AI-Anon** Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.  
**Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**MTSU Lambda Association** Meeting for lesbian and gay Middle Tennessee State University students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Murfreesboro. 7pm. Info 615-890-3787.  
**Sober Sisters** (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.  
**Gay Cable Network** Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television). 9pm.

#### Wednesdays

**Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm.  
**Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.

#### Thursdays

**Gay Overeaters Anonymous** Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.  
**Nashville CARES** Visualization Group. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Vanderbilt Lambda Association** Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni. President's House, Peabody Campus, alternates weekly with Film Series (see Special Events). 7pm. Info 615-297-5352.  
**Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8pm.  
**Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Meeting. 8pm. Info 615-385-4776 or 615-352-5823.

#### Fridays

**Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.  
**Gay Parents Support Group** Meeting, MCC. 1st Friday only. 7pm. Info 615-831-2941 or 615-320-0288.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30 pm.

#### Saturdays

**Nashville CARES** HIV/ARC Support Group, bimonthly. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Metropolitan Community Church** Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5.  
**Gay Cable Network** Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television). 8pm.

#### Sundays

**Metropolitan Community Church** Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info 615-320-0288.

### Special Events

#### Saturday, March 4

**Fundraiser** 2nd Annual Roundup on the River, casino and auction to benefit Memphis Lambda Center, 241 N. Cleveland (above United Paints), Memphis. 9:30pm. \$5.



#### Saturday, March 11

**Concert** Nashville Women Sing for Choice, benefit for Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKALS). Exit/In, Elliston Place, Nashville. 8pm. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Info 615-297-8540.

#### Sunday, March 12

**Feminist Book Circle** Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 5-7pm. Free. Info 615-297-5352.

#### Monday, March 13

**Hearing** Don Hall, Vanderbilt professor of law, will discuss criminal law and homosexuality. Ellwn Clayton, Vanderbilt professor of law, will discuss constitutional issues and homosexuality. 118 Sarratt Ctr, Vanderbilt, Nashville. 4pm. Free. Info 615-322-2591.

#### Tuesday, March 14

**Reading** Common Women and the World, Judy Grahn, author of Another Mother Tongue, will read from her work. Sponsored by Middle Tennessee State University Women's Week. Arena Theatre, Bountwell Dramatic Arts Building, MTSU, Murfreesboro. 7:30pm. Free.

#### Thursday, March 16

**Film** Silkwood, sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda Association. 220 Garland Hall, Nashville. 7pm. \$1 donation. Info 615-297-5352.

#### Friday, March 17

#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

#### Saturday, March 18

**Fundraiser** AIDS Walk Nashville, pledge walk fundraiser for local AIDS service organizations. Registration cards available at Rm CCC-5319 Medical Ctr North, Vanderbilt University, Nashville. Walk begins at Vanderbilt Track. 8:30am. Info 615-322-2437.

Your nonprofit event can be listed free in Dates. Write to Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422, or phone 615 292-9623 and leave a message. Please include information about time, location, cost, sponsor, and a contact person's name with address and/or phone number for verification. Deadline noon Tuesday for publication next Friday.

## Crowd hears author Pratt

by **ROBIN CONOVER**  
Staff Writer

Author Minnie Bruce Pratt drew a crowd of over 70 to her reading and lecture at Vanderbilt University in Nashville last week.

Pratt, a widely published author, read several selections during her 45-minute presentation, *Books in the Closet, Books in the Attic: A Lesbian Writer Talks about Racism and Homophobia in the South*.

Pratt, a professor of women's studies at the University of Maryland and at George Washington University, lives in Washington, D.C. Her newest book, *Crimes Against Nature*, is due out in the spring of 1990.

Much of Pratt's writing and poetry deals with racism and white heterosexual patriarchy in the South. Like many Southerners, she said that she grew up still fighting the Civil War.

As a child in Alabama, Pratt was an avid reader. "We had closets everywhere with all

kinds of books," she said. "I spent hours, days, years reading, trying to escape the uncertainty of my own life."

Pratt said that, growing up in the Bible belt, the only accepted answers to life's questions were always in found in the Bible. "None of the secret contradictions were mentioned," she said, adding that, throughout the South, the Bible is viewed as the only story, from creation to judgment, from heaven to hell and everything in between. Pratt, however, in a life of confronting racism, sexism and homophobia, has written of another world, one in which we are free to create our own endings. "We must learn how to change the sorry endings by loving ourselves and not conforming," Pratt said. "The power of words can change reality."

Pratt's appearance was sponsored by the Vanderbilt Women's Studies Committee and the Vanderbilt Students for Women's Concerns. •

## Women sing for choice, TKALS

by **STUART BIVIN**  
Editor

Ten women singers will join for the seventh annual *Nashville Women Sing for Choice* benefit concert for Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKALS) at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 11 at Nashville's Exit/In.

"This year's concert carries a pro-choice message at a crucial time in our history—a time when every pro-choice voice is needed to show that reproductive freedom must not be tampered with," said Cathy Fenner, executive director of TKALS. "As part of this mobilization

effort to protect a woman's right to choose, we will be collecting signatures on petitions for the national 'Millions of Voices – Silent No More' campaign."

Artists will include pop-rocker Marianne Osiel, jazz pianist Beegie Adair, rocker Nanette Bohannon-Britt, R&B singer Pebble Daniel, songsmith Judy Eron, country-jazz artist Maude Gold, singer Kat Graham, writer Jennifer Kimball and pop-rocker Amy Runyeon. Soul singer Vickie Carrico will emcee.

For more information, phone (615) 297-8540. •

## ...Wolf plea bargain

• continued from page 1

admitted to an intimate relationship with one of the jurors during the trial, Johns declared a mistrial. The Tennessee Supreme Court ordered Russell, Johns' father, to hear any retrial of the case.

The minutes of Monday's proceedings said the new charges were "disposed of pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-21-109, in a manner and under conditions contained in an order of the court...placed under seal by the court's order over objection of the state."

Furthermore, the minutes indicated that "the court orders, on its own motion, and over objection of the state, that no person, except by express permission of this court, shall disclose to any other person, the contents or

substance of the order entered herein under seal."

Both defense attorneys and prosecutors refused to comment on the terms of the probation, but speculation is that Wolf agreed to stay away from his two children, now living with their mother in Helena, Arkansas.

The initial charges against Wolf followed in the wake of a bitter divorce trial between the doctor and his wife, who charged that her husband was a homosexual who had hired his lover as his medical assistant, providing the younger man with financial support.

Throughout the court proceedings, Wolf steadfastly refused to confirm any homosexual orientation, calling his relationship with the younger man one of "emotional support." •

## ...AIDSWALK Nashville

• continued from page 1

corporate support" of AIDSWALK. Consequently, the committee members have used their personal resources to cover organizational costs. Donnet said money is still needed for buttons, shirts and other items. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to AIDSWALK Nashville, Box 121796, Nashville, TN 37212.

Efforts to include the gay and lesbian community in AIDSWALK, according to Donnet, have included distribution of information and pledge brochures to local bars and organizational newsletters.

"It's important for us to get everyone involved," said Donnet. "We know they [gay men and lesbians] will be the backbone of this effort."

AIDSWALK registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., with opening ceremonies and aerobic warmups at 9:00. The 6.2 mile walk will start and end at the Vanderbilt University track at Natchez Trace and Blakemore Avenue, and will encompass downtown and Riverfront Park. Free refreshments and commemorative buttons will be provided for all participants. Those delivering more than \$250 in pledges by the morning of the walk will receive a free AIDSWALK t-shirt. Participants with pledges totaling at least \$500 will receive sweatshirts, and a grand prize will be awarded to the walker with the most pledges. Wheelchairs and other services will be available for the physically challenged. Pledge brochures may be obtained at Nashville bars or by phoning (615) 385-AIDS. •

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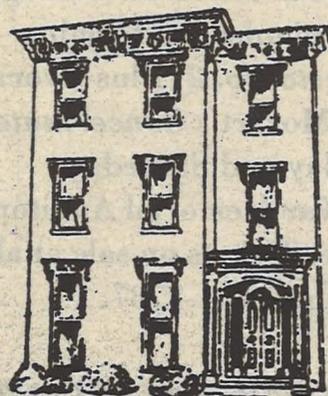
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# CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

## Dealing with the Past

Between the

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

**IT WOULD USUALLY HAPPEN AT NIGHT.**  
And it made me feel bad.

That is what I remember today about the sexual abuse I endured at the age of nine.

That and the smell of my brother's breath.

My brother was a handsome, seemingly well-adjusted 19-year-old, popular with girls. He drove a shiny blue Plymouth Road Runner and he could do the most uncanny vocal impressions of Gomer Pyle.

That's what I have always remembered about my brother.

But somewhere, in the deepest part of my mind and the most private place in my heart, I knew there was something else, something I seemed to have trouble remembering or recalling.

Then, one day it all came back to me — the sleepless nights, the pain, the shame.

My brother had been away from home for several months, working in a shoe factory in Milwaukee. He had grown homesick and returned home to a too-small house with not enough bedrooms. In addition to my parents, two of my sisters and I stilled lived there, so my brother and I had to share a bed.

I'm not exactly certain when the sexual episodes began and I'm still a little vague about what exactly happened.

**AS WELL AS I CAN REMEMBER, I WOKE UP** once and my brother was holding me tightly, kissing me and fondling me. At first, I thought I was still asleep and dreaming, but somehow I realized I was awake and it was really happening.

I could feel the things he was doing to me. I could smell his breath. And I had never been that close to my brother before.

Afterwards, nothing was said and we went back to sleep. The following morning I knew intuitively not to mention the episode to my mother or to anyone

the same sex.

Experts agree that any child who is neglected and starved for affection becomes a high risk for sexual exploitation by adults. For example, children who are deprived of the love of a father may turn to sex with men to obtain the fathering they never had, according to Robert L. Geiser, counselor and author.

Incest is legally defined as sexual intercourse between persons so closely related that marriage is prohibited by law. "Psychological incest" involves a violation not of a biological barrier, but of an emotional bond that exists between people who call

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

**WHEN A CHILD IS SUBJECTED TO** sexual abuse — whether by a parent, a sibling, a family friend or a total stranger — the repercussions are felt far beyond the moments during which the incident occurs.

Instead, victims of sexual abuse must carry both a physical and emotional load throughout the rest of their lives. The scars of childhood sexual abuse are much deeper and longer lasting than the scars of a playground accident.

In order to effectively treat the victims of sexual abuse, counselors must first examine ten impact and treatment issues that are central to cases of sexual abuse:

- The "damaged goods" syndrome (the victim considers her- or himself "dirty.")
- Guilt
- Fear
- Depression
- Low self-esteem
- Repressed anger/hostility
- Impaired ability to reason
- Blurred role boundaries (often, if the perpetrator is a parent, the other parent might enter into a sort of rivalry with the abused child for the attentions of the offending parent.)
- Pseudomaturity coupled with failure to accomplish developmental tasks (sexual precocity and an adult-like attitude toward life in general, sex in particular.)
- Self-mastery and control

The first five issues listed are likely to affect all children who have been sexually abused, regardless of the identity of the perpetrator. Sexual abuse by anyone — known or unknown, family member or non-relative — can be expected to have these effects.

The second five issues are much more likely to be evident in intra-family child sexual abuse victims.

**CURRENT DATA SHOWS NO STRONG** correlation between the occurrence of child sexual abuse and a victim's subsequent adult sexual orientation. However, a number of lesbians and gay men have indeed been victims of sexual abuse, sometimes from members of the opposite sex, sometimes from members of

Sex  
in  
the 80's

Sex  
in  
the 80's

# U A L A B U S E

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else.

I figured it was a part of being "different." I had realized I was different much earlier, but didn't know that being different had a name until I was in sixth grade.

I got what I deserved. Or so I thought. Then it happened again.

I remember thinking, "He must be dreaming he is with one of his girlfriends or something."

Surely, my brother wouldn't consciously do these things to me. Later, I realized he knew what he was doing.

But I was still afraid to tell.

**INSTEAD, I WOULD GO TO BED, PRAYING** that I would be able to sleep that night, frightened at the prospect of what might happen. Eventually, I would fall asleep.

Then, I would smell my brother's breath.

On those mornings after, I would feel ashamed and dirty. But I never told anyone what was happening.

My brother joined the army and left our home. And the episodes stopped. I never admitted those things, to myself or to anyone else, until I was 27 years old.

One day the memories began to come back, to flood my body, to fill my senses. I felt nine years old again. Ashamed and dirty.

And I could smell my brother's breath.

I don't think the sexual abuse I endured as a child had any bearing on my sexual orientation. That had already been determined. But it no doubt played a role in developing my self image.

My brother, now 41, is married and the father of two daughters. I've never worried about him abusing either of my nieces. Intuitively, I know he wouldn't do that.

But we've never discussed what happened between us when I was nine and he was 19.

Maybe that time has come. •

of all sexual interactions between siblings and may produce few or no ill psychiatric effects. Some investigators suggest that sibling incest does not involve the stressful ties that are apparent in parent/child incest, so it may go unnoticed and undetected.

Mother/daughter incest is a relatively unknown area, with psychologists reporting few, if any, cases of that nature.

Are sexual attacks on children of the same sex as the perpetrators considered homosexual assaults? Yes, if one is referring to same-sex acts. But that is not what is usually meant by homosexuality, which is a sexual orientation toward members of the same sex.

**MOST ATTACKS ON MALE CHILDREN** are not committed by homosexuals, but by men whose primary sexual orientation is heterosexual. In spite of the fact that the perpetrator selects a male victim, he does not consider himself to be a homosexual.

A study conducted among prisoners by staffers at the Indiana University Institute for Sex Research found that 25% of those prisoners sentenced for committing sexual offenses with young boys also had committed offenses with young girls. Less than 25% of those prisoners were exclusively attracted to young boys, the study shows.

The study further indicated that only 9% of the men convicted for homosexual offenses with adults had ever had sexual contact with children.

But what can be done for the adult who endured sexual abuse in childhood? Experts say that the first step must include a willingness on the part of the victim to seek help.

"Feelings of guilt or shame may persist into adulthood," said Geiser.

Therapy for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse focuses on changing the person's self-image, sharing information on how abuse happens and helping the person to work through the old feelings of depression, guilt, shame and anger that have simmered since the attacks began.

If the woman or man is in a committed relationship, unique problems must be dealt with, including those having to do with sexual dysfunction. •

themselves a family.

It is important to note that many sexual contacts between adults and children do not involve intercourse.

**THE MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED** type of incest is parental, usually involving father and daughter. However, the most common form of incest may be among siblings — brother and sister, brother and brother, sister and sister, according to psychologist Carlos M. Laredo, director of counseling services at Austin (TX) Community College.

Some studies have indicated that brother/sister incest is the least damaging

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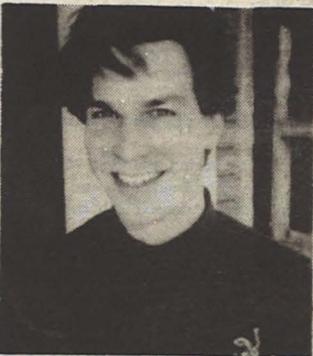


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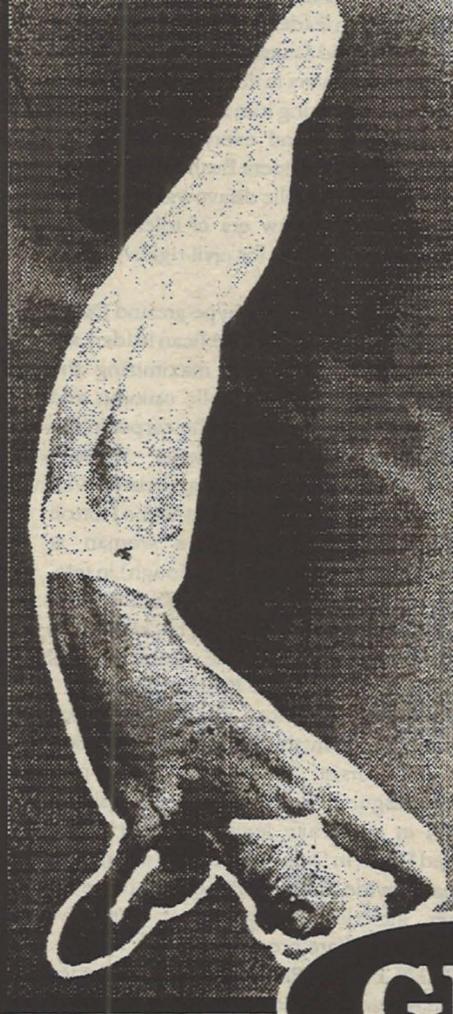
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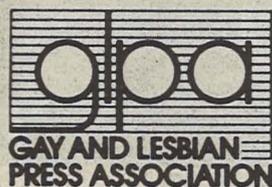
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## S O A P B O X

## David Duke, the RepubliKlan

by CAROLE CUNNINGHAM

Staff Writer

**LIKE MOST EASY TARGETS** transformed from pariahs into scapegoats, David Duke is now a metaphor. Duke, former grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, took a seat in the Louisiana legislature after a slim victory over his Bush-endorsed opponent.

Before his victory, Duke was simply an aberration. Having exchanged his white robes for a blue suit, few observers believed this wolf in sheep's clothing would be elected in the face of stiff opposition from his own party, the newly elected President, and a host of civil rights groups.

But Duke was elected. And now, the man once fancied an ideological charlatan has become a metaphor for everything the Republican party fears may hurt it in future elections. Anticipating a backlash from blacks they have so awkwardly courted, Republican National Committee (RNC) chair Lee Atwater called upon the party to publicly ostracize David Duke and withhold from him all future RNC financial and technical assistance.

This withdrawal of support from Duke might have been damaging had Duke depended on RNC support during his recent campaign. Yet Duke won a seat in the Louisiana House on the Republican ticket without the support of the RNC and with a majority of votes in his 99.6%-white district.

**THEIR BEHAVIOR** in recent weeks indicates Republican leaders do indeed have an investment in David Duke: they have invested extraordinary powers in this less-than extraordinary man by making him a metaphor for racism, intolerance, and everything the new "kinder, gentler" President Bush will not abide by. But does this public disavowal of support for Duke herald a new era of tolerance for difference and support for civil rights?

Hardly.

What the recent media hype around David Duke does signal is that Republican leaders are as shrewd as ever about maximizing the media's ability to sway public opinion and sweep old metaphors under the carpet in the wake of a more tantalizing image. So Bush escapes the political liabilities associated with his use of Massachusetts convict Willie Horton (a black man who raped a woman at knifepoint while on a prison furlough) in television ads aimed at siphoning off white votes from Mike Dukakis—escapes a backlash from blacks by making David Duke a public symbol of the racism he, George Bush, abhors.

By equating American racism with Duke, George Bush's myth of a "kinder, gentler" nation can persist. What the Republican plan cannot disguise, however, is the persistent racism in the white legislative district that elected Duke, in Duke's thousands of supporters nationwide, in the GOP policies Duke endorses, including elimination of affirmative action and welfare programs.

**WHEN PRESIDENT REAGAN** supported the dissolution of affirmative action, he did so while proclaiming the dawn of an era in which racism had disappeared in our country. In keeping with the Reagan myth, Republicans do not call David Duke a racist because of the policies he supports, but because of his former Klan membership.

Duke didn't leave the Klan because he's no

longer a racist; he left the Klan because Reagan created a perfect climate for enacting racist policies at the legislative levels of government.

**WHY LYNCH ONE BLACK PERSON** when you can effectively strangle millions by eliminating affirmative action, welfare benefits, and programs aimed at improving the condition of economically underprivileged blacks? Republicans have not publicly disavowed support of Duke's policies or branded as racist the thousands of voters who elected Duke: Duke becomes an easy icon of racism.

It's easy to believe that the only racists left in this country wear (or used to wear) white robes, burn crosses, march in Pulaski, and throw chairs on *Geraldo*. And that's what the Republicans and their ideological kinsman Duke would like you to believe.

Because if you believe, as they do, that the only face of racism is hidden beneath a white

sheet, you won't see the racism that lurks behind pin-stripe suits, the racism that allows Republicans to scold Duke out of one side of their mouths while the other demands the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, again holding hostage the millions of poor and black women who will be most affected by the decision.

**THE QUIET BRUTALITY** of racism the GOP endorses does not hide its face behind a white sheet, but boldly proclaims itself in the bureaucratic by-ways of Washington in white-washed policies that do more to enslave blacks to poverty than most members of the Klan ever dreamed possible.

Washing our hands of David Duke does little to cleanse the racism in all of us. Bigotry never begins and ends in a person, but in a culture. What our culture most needs in this quietly depraved time is not a washbowl, but a mirror. •

## B O X 4 0 4 2 2

## How did you know?

Dear Dare,

Is Dare a front for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the Nashville KKK, or maybe some outfit started by Ed Meese, William Dannemeyer or Phyllis Schlafly? Your series of feature columns on sexual addiction prompts my question. I can't figure out any other reason for a publication supposedly aimed at gays and lesbians to run pieces that could have come from New Age neo-pietist reactionary conformity mongers. You named the series right: "Sex in the 80s." The fundamental message hammered at gays this gloomy decade from the Pope to the Reagans to your aunt across town has been: "If you'd just stop the sex part, we could accept you." Sounds awfully British, come to think of it, and look what the Thatcher government has done to gays.

When I think what helpful information you might have provided us with, I am appalled that you used your precious space to promote the views of some group (defining themselves with a high-toned, authoritative kind of name like National Association blah! blah!) which presumes to tell gays and lesbians how to lead their [sex] lives and how much sex is enough. If you think they have the knowledge or the right to dictate normal behavior for gays and lesbians, your faith is misplaced and you become their accomplice against us. To cast doubt on the general validity of our sexual nature is to do gays and lesbians grave disservice. And to discuss anonymous and repetitive sex, moreover, without reference to the societal forces and values informing and affecting (if not effecting) that behavior suggest to me singular ignorance or dubious intent on your part.

How can you naïvely suggest that gays — well, you do rather grudgingly admit that breeders can have this problem also — might need help because they are preoccupied with getting it on? Have you never been in a locker room of breeders? Do you never look at a magazine stand or watch TV? Whether we like

it or not, whether it is good or bad, our whole society is preoccupied with sex (— maybe addicted — since it is the label buzzword this season). But you are worried that gays and lesbians think about sex too much, do it too much. Really!

Your columns, however, don't refer to this general milieu at all. Interestingly, they also fall just short of condemning pornography outright, being careful to quote directly any damning comments. This stance is puzzling since surely even a mindset as prim and conservative as yours could recognize that the only difference between so-called pornography and the Madison Avenue -slick sex stimuli we are bombarded with constantly in this mediated age is that it is explicit rather Calvin Klein coy. Pornography does not nudge-nudge-wink-wink at sex; it is not "cute." It doesn't sell anything but itself. Its directness and celebration of what is "supposed" to be naughty and suggested only is what "tasteful" America cannot stand.

[I was not surprised, incidentally, that you wove Ted Bundy into your homily. He will be quoted endlessly by those wishing to control our behavior. The man who was a pathetic and horribly sick monster in life has become a great oracle to be heeded in death because he confessed that he used to get revved up on pornography sometimes. As you might expect, the righteous ones are eager to believe this part of his highly tenuous, but voluminous "last" remarks.]

Your editorial decision to feature this half-baked topic and your tone throughout the pieces betray what I consider a questionable voice for one in a position to affect the lives of gays and lesbians. You give us a message that is not helpful to the community which hears the same kind of crap all the time from the straight world. Do us a favor in future editions. If you cannot add anything constructive in shaping gay and lesbian issues and values, just run a pretty picture. We'd all be a lot better off.

NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

Knoxville

## PAGES

*Incline Our Hearts**Incline Our Hearts*, by A.N. Wilson. New York: Viking, 1989. \$17.95. 256 pp. cloth.reviewed by **JOE MAROHL**

Staff Writer

THE ENGLISH HAVE A KNACK FOR writing quirky books which become small classics every thirteenth year or so, and then disappear into shadows for a time until again they circulate widely, reminding us to love them. *Incline Our Hearts*, A.N. Wilson's tenth published novel, has the markings of that sort of masterpiece, joining other small classics like *The Loved One*, *We Think the World of You* and *The Flower Beneath the Foot*.

It's refreshing to discover this new one, the first installment in a projected trilogy, one that promises to rival Robertson Davies's *Deptford* novels in richness of characterization and imaginative plots.

The story centers on the growing-up process of Julian Ramsey, a war orphan who aspires to be either an actor or a writer. He experiences the pangs of first love, the brutality of English public schools, life abroad in France (where, appropriately, he discovers sex), army life (where, ironically, he discovers the meaning of love) and the unnerving prospect of becoming a responsible adult in society.

As condensed above, the novel seems straightforward, only ordinary for fictional autobiography. Something about the writing, however, always reminds the reader it is a book of memory. Flashforwards and the mature narrator's editorial digressions keep the story from settling for long in the illusion of a historical present. The reader, then, never really gets the sense of witnessing the events first-hand, but rather of hearing them told.

Lest we forget, the narrator conscientiously presses home his themes, which are love—including its permutations in lust, friendship, marriage, toadyism, infatuation, etc.—and storytelling. In the course of the novel, these themes gradually converge to only one theme: how love is a process of narration, developing like a plot, and how we are authors of our affections.

**JULIAN'S FIRST TASTE OF PASSION** IS through his uncle, an Anglican priest, and his obsessive interest in the Lampitts, an aristocratic family with whom the uncle has some social connection and about whom the uncle is continuously spinning tales. Gradually, Julian learns also of the other kinds of love and the kinds of "stories" they too inspire. In the end, the themes converge at the publication of a scandalous and unauthorized biography of James Petworth Lampitt, a homosexual man of letters, whose death is announced in the novel's first chapter.

Of some interest, there are three homosexual figures who dominate the several clear divisions of the novel (there are possible other such figures I will say no more about), and it is a credit to Wilson that he clearly distinguishes the homosexual characters from each other.

First, there is Petworth Lampitt, whose half-closeted sexuality was, in his lifetime, only hinted at in his misogyny and purplish prose

style. Then there is Binker, the sadistic ped-erast who terrorizes the boys' school where he teaches geography. And then there is Bloom, Julian's promiscuous army buddy, who breaks military decorum during march commands by gushing asides like, "Isn't this sheer *Aida*?"

**OF INTEREST TO ME** WAS THE frequently sympathetic characterization of homosexual males by a "heterosexually-identified" male author. The effect is notably different from gay writing about gays, or even straight females writing about gays, but it was not demeaning or phobic, not laudatory either.

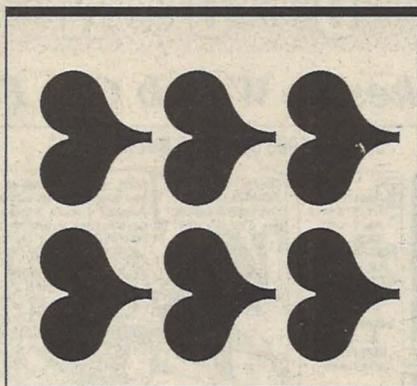
Religion, too, seems a prominent aspect of the book. It would even be reasonable to call Wilson's book "Christ-haunted," as was said once of Flannery O'Connor's short stories. Anglicanism and Catholicism constitute such a major part of the novel's "setting" that they often leap to the foreground as if to say here is what the story is all about, after all. (On the contrary, the same thing might be said of the novel's homosexual element, at times.) But, as the narrator observes at one point, religion "is only possible in a world where most people take it for granted." It gets lost in analysis, so Wilson chooses rather to describe the changeable moods of religious feeling, which, I suspect, is the most truly autobiographical aspect of the book. Religion, then, is sublimated to the larger discourse of "love" and "story."

Being told the story by the now-mature protagonist sometimes draws attention away from the events themselves and emphasizes the narrator's tone. The reader becomes conscious of the book as a treasury of good sentences. Perhaps not the grandest praise for an author; but in an age of clipped, journalistic prose (elegant in its way, too), a reader finds few artists of the complete sentence (subject, verb and enclosed

idea), who write sentences to surprise and delight like this: "The idea of Felicity, a poorly co-ordinated girl, being a welcome member of any rowing crew was one which maternal love allowed to take its place in Aunt Deirdre's brain, but it was an incredible one." Or this: "The actual deprivations and hardships of an English school may be worse than a Soviet labour camp, and the food about on a level."

**WHATEVER LITERARY SUPERIORITY** WE Americans may have in "dirty realism," the English, at least, can make English syntax leap through hoops, sometimes of fire. They are also, on the whole, damned good at evoking a complex sense of character—of course, their heritage being Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens. Wilson resists simplification into stereotypes, and, as a result, we get to meet more than a few highly individual personalities.

For anyone interested in the beauty of ideas and language, I recommend this small novel, which, it is probably enough to say, is a wise and good book. •



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WARRIORS



# Dare

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 10

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

MARCH 10-16, 1989

## Shoes tied to sex sting

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

Carolyn St. Clair, whose 15 year-old son Tony was used by Nashville Metro police as bait in a sex-for-pay sting conducted in late 1987, testified Tuesday that her son turned to prostitution so he could afford nice shoes like his friends wore.

St. Clair's comments came during the first day of the Criminal Court trial of George L. Michaud, who is accused of soliciting the teenager for sex during the undercover operation.

Of the more than 40 men snared in the sex-for-pay sting, Michaud is the first to stand trial. Some 30 men already have pleaded guilty and received suspended sentences and terms of probations ranging from one to eight years.

Michaud was charged with two counts of promoting the prostitution of a child under 16, one count of solicitation of a minor to engage in sodomy and one count of solicitation to commit a crime against nature.

St. Clair testified that when she discovered her son had \$8 for a pair of shoes, he first told her he had stolen the money.

"He said, 'I'm going to tell you the truth. I have been going out with men and they're picking me up,'" St. Clair testified.

St. Clair said she then approached police in an effort to stop the trafficking in boy prostitution which she claimed flourished near Edgefield, an east Nashville neighborhood.

She testified he was offered \$100 for sexual favors during his first experience on the street.

Assistant District Attorney Richard Fisher said the St. Clairs agreed to allow their son to work with police and wear a transmitter police would monitor "to ferret out these men who  
•continued on page 6

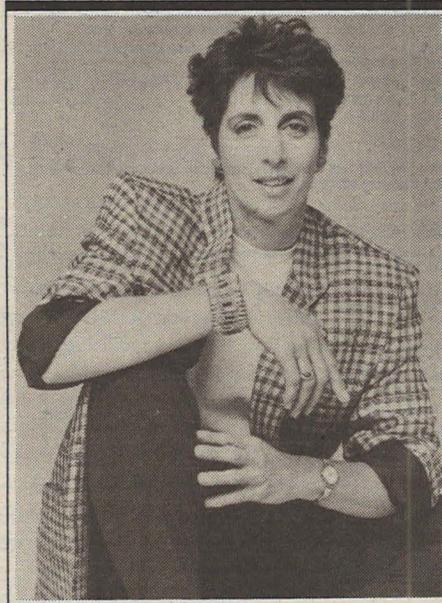
## Memphis Lambda Center raises cash, awareness

by JAY DeROSSITT  
Contributing Writer

In a nondescript building in midtown Memphis last Saturday night, Lambda Center hosted its second annual Las Vegas Night, netting almost \$500 for the Center's treasury.

Lambda Center is the first facility focusing on the need in the lesbian and gay community for 12-step addiction programs. Las Vegas Night is one of three fund-raising events to be included in the third annual "Round-up on the River," Lambda Center's convention drawing participants from throughout the country to deal with topics especially pertinent to addiction in the lesbian/gay community.

Brooks (because of the anonymity prom-  
•continued on page 3



Allx Dobkin, the lesbian singer the FBI has called "[a] dissenter type, argumentative...a troublemaker," will perform in a Nashville concert Saturday, March 25. Tennessee's own Ruby Slipper will open. —PHOTO COURTESY LADYSLIPPER RECORDS

## Memphis, Nashville to get theater classics, gay shows

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

A trio of new offerings of theater classics are being presented on Memphis and Nashville stages during the next month.

In Memphis, theater-goers will be treated to a new gay community production of *The Boys in the Band*, while in Nashville, Tennessee Repertory Theater continues its season with the Pulitzer Prize-winning *You Can't Take It With You* and Actors Playhouse presents *Bent*.

Some 21 years after its initial Broadway performance, Mart Crowley's *The Boys in the Band* will be presented in Memphis April 2, 3 and 4.

The new production of Crowley's play, heralded during its first New York performances as theater of historic proportions, was first presented in Memphis by Circuit Playhouse in 1971.

The upcoming production will be directed by Dennis Massey, with businesswoman Sharon Wray serving as producer. The cast includes actors known throughout the mid-South for other performances on Memphis stages.

"This is community theater in the largest sense of the word," said Vincent Astor who will play Emory in the new production. "Dennis first spoke to Sharon about alternative entertainment for the city and this production was born."

*The Boys in the Band* was first presented in 1968 and was lauded for its frankness and honesty in its portrayal of male gay life. The action centers on a birthday party attended by seven men and the straight interloper who precipitates much of the evening's action.

## State halts AIDS-cure scam

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

A Chattanooga man agreed last week to stop claiming he could cure AIDS in a 13-week diet and mind control course.

John Calvin Eades signed an "assurance of voluntary compliance" in Davidson County Chancery Court last Friday in which he denied any wrongdoing, but agreed "not to offer any course to persons" living with acquired immune deficiency syndrome or AIDS-related illnesses. State consumer affairs director Elizabeth Owen, called Eades' course "a very grandiose scheme."

Last fall Eades sent letters to AIDS services organizations and gay-related businesses and publications throughout the country, claiming his 13-week course could cure people with the AIDS virus through a series of diet and mind control classes. The letters said that for \$5,000 in tuition and an additional \$2,000 for lab fees, the program could be administered to a person with AIDS.

The letters further indicated that persons

whose T-cell counts did not improve during the course and whose "AIDS virus count did not fall," would be refunded the \$7,000 under a money-back guarantee.

"It is our goal to establish classrooms in every state in the continental United States," Eades wrote. "We seek graduates of our 13-week, non-medical course to become teachers and instructors as we expand nationally."

The courses were to be held in undisclosed locations, Eades wrote, in order to evade "nosy reporters." Eades' plan was operated under the name Non-Medical Research Systems, Inc., but an investigation by the state consumer affairs office showed that "no such corporation" exists in Tennessee.

"We're glad we were able to stop something that we felt would be deceptive to consumers," Owen said. "Because of the prevalence of AIDS in this country there will be a lot of rip-offs and phony tests."

Should Eades "knowingly violate" the assurance of voluntary compliance, he could be fined up to \$1,000. •

Astor, who is cast as the flamboyant decorator Emory, said his preparation for the role is really quite easy: "What Emory and I have in common is that Emory is the one who hides nothing. He — and I — get very tired very fast of all the double entendre. He is the one most secure in his sexuality."

The show opens Sunday, April 2 and continues for a three-night run. Tickets for the Sunday and Tuesday shows are \$4 (with a limit of 100 tickets available) and tickets are \$5 for Monday night's special AIDS benefit. Tickets are on sale at WKRB in Memphis.

Another theatrical milestone — in terms of its treatment of homosexuality — will be pre-

sented by Nashville's Actors Playhouse.

Martin Sherman's *Bent*, an emotionally-charged account of the treatment of homosexuals under Hitler will open Thursday, March 16 and continue with Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances through April 8.

The action of Sherman's play, nominated for the Best Play Tony for its Broadway production starring Richard Gere, chronicles the plight of homosexuals during the Holocaust. Set in 1934, just after "The Night of the Long Knives," during which all homosexual members of Hitler's elite S.A. troop were murdered,  
•continued on page 3

## I N S I D E

this week's Dare

Margaret Anderson.  
Next in a series.  
*Lesbian Paris*, page 4.



*A Simple Suburban Murder:*  
subtle homophobia.  
Pages, page 6.

What's Frank  
up to now?  
*Sociables*, page 8.



D A T E S

MEMPHIS

**Mondays**

**Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 8pm. Info 901-272-9459.

**Tuesdays**

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 5:30 and 8pm. Info 901-272-9459.

**Wednesdays**

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 8pm. Info 901-272-9459.

**Thursdays**

**P-FLAG** (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group, St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer, 1st Thursday only. Info 901-761-1444.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 5:30pm. Info 901-272-9459.  
**Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 8pm. Info 901-276-7379.

**Fridays**

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 5:30 and 10pm. Info 901-272-9459.

**Saturdays**

**Twisted Sisters** (ACOA) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, Noon. Info 901-276-7379.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 8pm. Info 901-272-9459.

**Sundays**

**Agape New Life Church** Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship service, 11am. Info 901-276-1872.  
**Holy Trinity Community Church** Worship service, 11am, 1216 Forrest Ave. Info 901-726-9443.  
**Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, Noon. Info 901-276-7379.  
**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center, 8pm. Info 901-272-9459.

NASHVILLE

**Mondays**

**Gay Overeaters Anonymous** Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.  
**Nashville CARES** HIV+ Education/Support Group, 6:30pm. ARC/AIDS Support Group, bimonthly, 6:30pm. Family Support Group, bimonthly, 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Lambda Group** Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church, 8pm.  
**MAGNET** (Married and Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC, 8pm. Info 615-320-0288.

**Tuesdays**

**Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group, 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Al-Anon** Closed meeting, MCC, 6:30pm.  
**P-FLAG** Meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitarian Church, 7pm. Info 615-662-0332.  
**MTSU Lambda Association** Meeting for lesbian and gay Middle Tennessee State University students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Murfreesboro, 7pm. Info 615-890-3787.  
**Sober Sisters** (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting, MCC, 8pm.  
**Gay Cable Network** Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television), 9pm.

**Wednesdays**

**Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC, 5:30pm.  
**Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group, 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.

**Thursdays**

**Gay Overeaters Anonymous** Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.  
**Nashville CARES** Visualization Group, 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Vanderbilt Lambda Association** Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni. President's House, Peabody Campus, alternates weekly with Film Series (see Special Events). 7pm. Info 615-297-5352.  
**Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC, 8pm.  
**Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Meeting, 8pm. Info 615-385-4776 or 615-352-5823.

**Fridays**

**Sexaholics Anonymous** Closed meeting, MCC, 5pm.  
**Gay Parents Support Group** Meeting, MCC, 1st Friday only. 7pm. Info 615-831-2941 or 615-320-0288.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist, 7:30 pm.

**Saturdays**

**Nashville CARES** HIV/ARC Support Group, bimonthly, 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Metropolitan Community Church** Mortgage Meal, all you can eat, 7:30pm. \$5.  
**Gay Cable Network** Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television), 8pm.

**Sundays**

**Metropolitan Community Church** Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info 615-320-0288.

Special Events

**Saturday, March 11**

**House Party** Hot, Horny and Healthy. Safer sex instruction, Black and White Men Together, Memphis. 7:30pm. Free. Space limited. Info 901-726-1461.

**Concert** Nashville Women Sing for Choice, benefit for Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKALS). Exit /In, Elliston Place, Nashville. 8pm. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Info 615-297-8540.

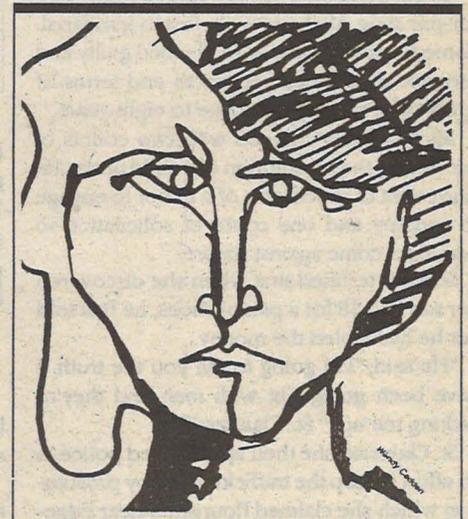
**Sunday, March 12**

**Playshop** Hot, Horny and Healthy. Community Outreach, Black and White Men Together, Memphis. 9:30pm. The Apartment, 343 Madison. Free. Info 901-327-3753.

**Feminist Book Circle** Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 5-7pm. Free. Info 615-297-5352.

**Monday, March 13**

**Hearing** Don Hall, Vanderbilt professor of law, will discuss criminal law and homosexuality. Ellwn Clayton, Vanderbilt professor of law, will discuss constitutional issues and homosexuality. 118 Sarratt Ctr, Vanderbilt, Nashville. 4pm. Free. Info 615-322-2591.



**Tuesday, March 14**

**Reading** Common Women and the World, poet, playwright, and novelist Judy Grahn, author of Another Mother Tongue, will read from her work. Sponsored by Middle Tennessee State University Women's History Month. Arena Theatre, Bountwell Dramatic Arts Building, MTSU, Murfreesboro. 7:30pm. Free.

**Thursday, March 16**

**Film** Silkwood, sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda Association. 220 Garland Hall, Nashville. 7pm. \$1 donation. Info 615-297-5352.

**Friday, March 17**

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**Potluck Dinner** Black and White Men Together, Memphis. 7pm. Info 901-452-5894.

Your nonprofit event can be listed free in *Dates*. Write to *Dare*, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422, or phone 615 292-9623 and leave a message. Please include information about time, location, cost, sponsor, and a contact person's name with address and/or phone number for verification. Deadline noon Tuesday for publication next Friday.



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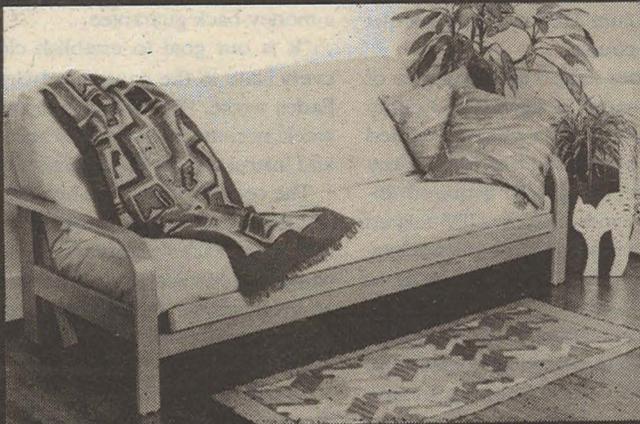
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## ...state gets gay theater

•continued from page 1

*Bent* traces gay history of another era. "This role is difficult because of coming from where we are now, knowing what we know now of the Nazi regime and going back to a time of innocence when no one knew what to expect of Hitler," said Scott Osten, who will play the role of Rudy in the Actors Playhouse production.

"Coming from a Jewish background, I have long been aware of the horrors of the holocaust," Osten said. "It's a difficult role to leave behind after rehearsal. It is a very deep, very emotional experience. There are a lot of different levels to these characters, they are very naive but become very worldly during the

course of the play."

*You Can't Take it With You*, TRT's new offering, made history during its initial 1936 Broadway run which culminated in its authors, George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart winning the Pulitzer Prize for drama.

The play opens Thursday, Oct. 16 at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center and stars soap opera veteran Fred Scollay as the eccentric head of the Vanderhof clan. TRT veterans Joe Mahowald and Shelean Newman play the romantic leads in the production.

*You Can't Take it With You* is a comic look at American life, taking jabs at governmental interference in private life, according to a TRT spokesperson. •

## ...Memphis Lambda fundraiser

•continued from page 1

ised persons involved in 12-step programs, not last names are used), a co-director of Las Vegas Night, credits Lambda Center with being the only facility in the mid-South to focus on alcoholism and other addictive diseases in the lesbian/gay community.

While recognizing that addiction is a universal problem, he sees the center as having a unique role in the lesbian/gay community.

"Although we welcome anyone into our meetings," he said. "We do tend to deal with issues pertinent to our members, a large number of whom are lesbian or gay. Some meetings that may be all we talk about, other times we may not even mention it."

Although other fund-raising events have not yet been decided upon, Brooks said he was "sure one of them will be a drag show." A riverboat ride is also being considered.

Phoenix, the gay Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) group, the largest of its kind facilitated by Lambda Center, has some 60-70 members and

is open to anyone. Also meeting at Lambda Center are an Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) group and Into the Light, an all-woman AA group, the only Lambda Center group which is not an open meeting.

People from all the groups were present and, during the evening, some 85 people paid the \$5 cost of admission.

Most of the people who participate in Lambda Center's recovery groups, said Chip, co-director of Las Vegas Night, "eat and sleep their recovery program, doing something, either talking on the phone to a friend or going to a meeting. We're never bashful in turning to one another for support."

"Once you go to a group, it's your home," said Leanne, a Las Vegas night reveler who has since moved to Arkansas. "Even though I'm moving this will be home to me. That's why I came — to be with the people, my family."

Proceeds from Las Vegas Night will go to benefit Lambda Center and Round-up on the River. •

## BRIEFS

from STAFF REPORTS

### Dallas judge to be investigated

THE TEXAS STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT last week said it would begin formal proceedings against Dallas Judge Jack Hampton who, late last year, said he had given convicted killer Richard Bednarski a lighter sentence because his two victims were gay men.

The Commission's decision means the state's Supreme Court must appoint a "Master," who will conduct a hearing and issue a report to the Commission, which can then recommend to the Supreme Court whether Hampton should be removed from the bench.

"This decision is certainly more than we expected," said Martine Torres-Aponte, spokesperson for the Texas Human Rights Foundation, a gay/lesbian group that had protested Hampton's actions and demanded his removal from the bench. "Since Hampton comes up for re-election in 1990, they might just drag this thing out and then he wouldn't run."

Torres-Aponte said the Commission could decide to prolong the investigation, but indicated their decision last week could be considered a strong statement about the weight of opposition to Hampton's remaining on the bench.

"We don't have statistics for 1988, but of the 515 disciplinary actions considered by the Commission in 1987, only one case resulted in formal proceedings," she said. •

### Belgian corporal confesses to murders

A BELGIAN ARMY CORPORAL confessed in Ft. Lauderdale last month to the execution-style murders of two gay men which he committed as an act of revenge against his former male lover.

Rudy Van den Borre, 25, a Washington, D.C., Belgian embassy clerk and driver, is currently being held without bond at the Broward County Jail on two counts of first-degree murder.

A jogger discovered the body of Ft. Lauderdale TWA flight reservationist Michael Eagan, 36, dead from a gunshot wound to the head on a secluded beach early morning Sunday, January 8.

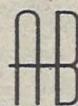
At 7:25 a.m. the following morning, the body of Hollywood, Fla., cab driver Gerald Simons, 52, was found dead from two shots to the head by a security guard on another secluded stretch of beach several miles north of the first site.

Belgian officials have granted Van den Borre a limited waiver of immunity pending further governmental review so that American proceedings may begin. •

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MARCH 7 & 11

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Turner's daughter, talks about her  
new book *Detour: A Hollywood Story*

MARCH 14 & 18

—"The Survivors" A report on longterm  
AIDS survivors  
—A look at famous gay couples

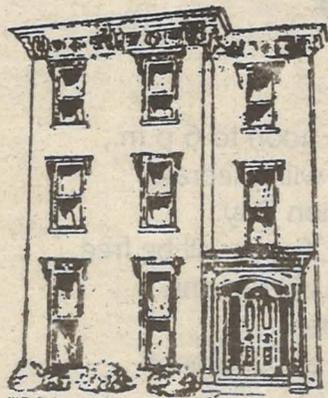
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by **SHERRE DRYDEN**  
Book Editor

**MARGARET ANDERSON'S PASSION** WAS conversation and she believed the most stimulating sort took place among artists. In 1906 she left her parents' prosperous home in Columbus, Indiana, for Chicago — then a center for many young writers devoted to new ways of self-expression and new art forms.

In 1914 she began the *Little Review*, which she intended to fill with "the best conversation the world has to offer."

Morrill Cody said Margaret was "a 23-year-old woman of little literary education and almost no experience in magazine publishing. She was, however, a fountain of exuberant enthusiasm. Everyone felt Margaret's dynamic presence. Mostly it induced intense admiration and love, but sometimes distaste, envy, irritation and even fear."

In 1916 Margaret met Jane Heap, "a skillful but sluggish writer and a born editor," who became Margaret's lover and the magazine's associate editor. Margaret called Jane "the world's best talker." Jane gave the *Little Review* its code: "To express the emotions of life is to live. To express the life of the emotions is to make art."

In 1917 Ezra Pound, invited by Margaret to give his opinion of the *Little Review*, began his transforming association with the magazine. He supplied subscriptions and monetary support (mostly from lawyer John Quinn) as well as work by William Butler Yeats, T.S. Eliot, Wyndham Lewis and himself.

The serialization of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, an

undertaking which ensured the magazine's lasting reputation for excellence, began in 1918. Margaret called *Ulysses* "the most beautiful thing we'll ever have! We'll print it if it's the last effort of our lives," as her friend pianist Allen Tanner said, it almost was.

**DURING THE THREE YEARS** *ULYSSES* ran, U.S. postal authorities seized four issues, calling Joyce's work obscene. The *New York Times* refused to accept publicity for *Ulysses* and called Margaret and Jane "purveyors of lascivious literature: In 1920 the Society for the Suppression of Vice brought them into court after the Washington Square Bookshop sold a copy of the magazine to a teenage girl.

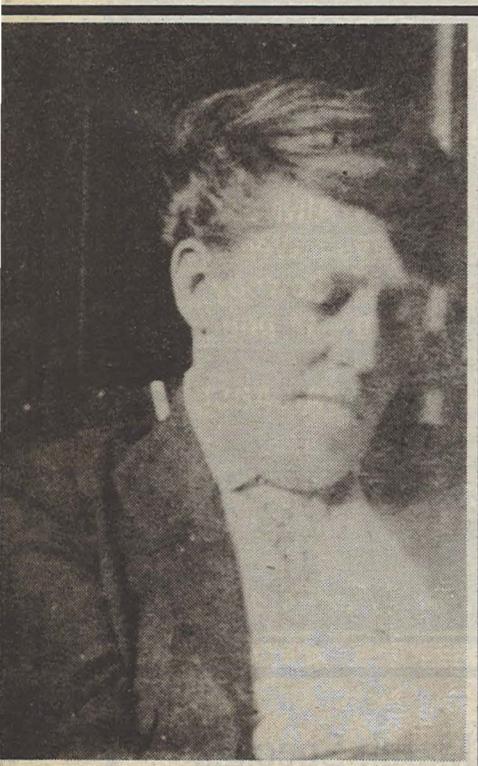
With John Quinn for their defense, Margaret and Jane were tried, found guilty and fined \$100. One of the judges had refused to allow the obscene passages to be read in front of Margaret and Jane, supposing that although they had published the text they probably did not understand its "significance." Margaret was disappointed — she had hoped she'd be sent to jail.

Margaret had begun to feel restless and to think perhaps the *Little Review* should be allowed to expire when Allen Tanner introduced her to Georgette Leblanc. Georgette was a singer and actress and the former companion of writer Maurice Maeterlinck. For Margaret (and evidently Georgette), it was love at first sight.

The two became practically inseparable.

A N D E R S O N

us Literature



charming but "one of those women a man loves forever and hopes one day to take effectively by the throat."

**THEY MET GERTRUDE STEIN AND** became close friends with Solita Solano and Janet Flanner. They also saw Djuna Barnes, whom they had known in New York. Ernest Hemingway reportedly fell in love with Margaret and became so "gooey" that she had to avoid him. Ten years later Hemingway wrote to Janet Flanner that he had never met "a nicer or more flutter-brained legendary woman, nor a prettier one...than Margaret."

Margaret and Georgette lived together until Georgette's death, drifting from Gurdjieff's Institute to Paris hotel to an abandoned lighthouse above the river Seine. They both wrote, hoping to support themselves with royalties. When money was tight, Solita helped out by giving Margaret clothes and records. Georgette sold her furniture and Margaret sold her copies of *Ulysses* and Frank Harris's *My Life and Loves*. They ate only brown bread and butter, lettuce and soup.

Margaret's memoirs, *My Thirty Years' War*, were published in 1931. The reviews were good, but the book brought in little money. In 1939 Georgette discovered that she had cancer. Margaret moved her to the Chalet Rose, a little house above the sea, where Georgette died in October 1941.

Jane wrote to Margaret:

"I read and reread her last days as you tell them and I think I know what she was trying to do and say. 'As we go, so we come again.' Georgette will never perish." •

Margaret went with Georgette, who was nearly twenty years older, to musicales, dinner parties, even appointments. According to Hugh Ford, Georgette "...kept her in a state of continuous rapture. She transformed Margaret's life into a dream."

Jane, predictable, was jealous. She pointed out Georgette's flaws. For one thing, Georgette was too practical. Margaret made up her mind definitely to give the Little Review to Jane, perhaps because she truly was tied of it, perhaps from guilt.

**IN EARLY 1923 MARGARET, GEORGETTE** and Jane attended a program of sacred Tibetan temple dancers, supposed to contain "exact esoteric knowledge" transmitted to the audience through the performers. The organizers of the performance were the Russian-born mystic Georgi Gurdjieff and his disciple Alfred Richard Orage.

Orage, Margaret said, convinced them that Gurdjieff's teachings would fulfill their desires for knowledge. Gurdjieff was returning to France where he operated the Institute for the Harmonious Development of Man. Margaret, Georgette and Jane followed him.

Upon arrival in Paris someone - either Ezra Pound or Robert McAlmon - introduced them to James Joyce. Margaret said Joyce reminded her of her father as a young man. She said Joyce has "less escape from suffering about irremediable things than anyone I had ever know."

She also met Nora Joyce, whom she found

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From the Heart of the American South

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**A Simple Suburban Murder**

*A Simple Suburban Murder*, by Mark Richard Zubro. New York: St. Martin's, 1989. \$15.95. 215 pp. cloth.  
reviewed by **SHERRE DRYDEN**  
Book Editor

ONE MORNING TOM MASON UNLOCKS his high school classroom and discovers the body of his colleague, Jim Evans. Evans has been brutally murdered, his face beaten in with a blunt instrument.

Tom becomes involved in investigating the murder when the police suspect Evans' son Phil, a former student of his. Evans was no saint - he abused his wife and children, particularly Phil - but Tom doesn't believe Phil murdered his father. When Phil disappears, probably aided by Daphne, the lesbian owner of the sleazy hustler bar The Womb, Tom sets out to find him.

Tom has an advantage over the police - he's gay and has useful contacts within the gay subculture. He also has a useful boyfriend.

Professional baseball player Scott Carpenter starts tagging along on the investigation when it looks like someone wants to keep Tom from learning anything. Scott handily chases off the bad guys when they try to kill Tom, and distracts the police by offering them autographed baseballs when they want Tom to quit messing in their business. Other than the idea of a gay high school teacher and a gay, professional baseball player solving a mystery about hustlers, prostitutes and gambling requiring more than the usual suspension of disbelief, *A Simple Suburban Murder* seems to be a well plotted and well written murder mystery.

Seems to be? What's wrong with this book? **WELL, FOR A BOOK ABOUT A MAN WHO** doesn't let threats of revealing his gayness deter him from his quest for justice, *A Simple Suburban Murder* is homophobic in a particularly insidious way.

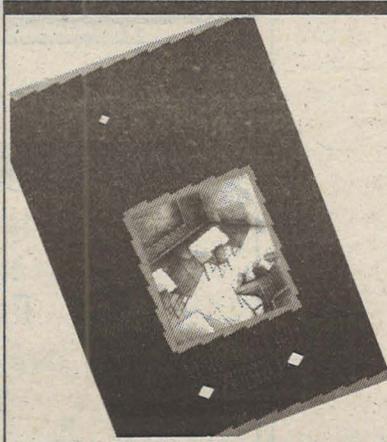
With the exception of Tom and Scott, the straight-acting gay good guys, every gay or lesbian character in the book is portrayed negatively. They are evil and predatory at worst, weak and willing victims at best.

I do not mean to sound as though I demand that all gay characters be good. What I object to in *A Simple Suburban Murder* is the opposition of good gayness, which is white, male and traditionally masculine, with bad gayness. Bad gayness is anything stereotypical or femi-

nine, male or female.

Even an ostensibly "good" character - in the sense that murder mystery characters can be categorized as either "good" or "bad" based on whether or not they assist the sleuth - becomes an example of bad gayness because he is not sufficiently masculine.

Tom seeks help from drag queen and gay activist Neil Spirakos. By giving Tom information, Neil places himself at risk and makes it possible for Tom to solve the mystery. Tom claims to trust Neil, and there are no intimations that Neil is either dishonest or involved in any criminal activity. Yet Tom's clear distaste for Neil's way of life (references like "His looks came more often now



from a bottle," or "His voice dripped the acid of a vicious queen on the attack,") undermines Neil's goodness.

At the same time, Tom's (and Scott's) distance from stereotypical (bad) gayness is repeatedly stressed. His lack of knowledge of the bar scene ("I hadn't heard of the place."), for example, or where he likes to eat (Taco Bell) or where he lives ("in a farmhouse in the middle of one of the last cornfields in southwestern Cook County") reinforces the equation of goodness and masculine gayness.

**THERE IS ONE CHARACTER, ASIDE FROM** Tom and Scott, given completely positive treatment - Meg. She's the crusty librarian who gives Tom the inside scoop on the faculty-lounge gossip. She's smart, tough and not about to be pushed around by unscrupulous school administrators.

Meg's characterization is interesting, because her role parallels Neil's. She takes risks, too, to give Tom essential information about the other of the two subcultures involved in the mystery. Tom is also distant from the teachers and must rely on Meg, another insider from a world he belongs but does not belong to, for help.

Unlike Neil's, Meg's goodness is not undermined by Tom's aspersions. But Meg is traditionally masculine, even though she's a woman - she even talks sex with Tom. It is, after all, masculinity that triumphs in *A Simple Suburban Murder*.

**...new shoes and sex sting**

•continued from page 1

derive their sexual gratification from the financial need of those less fortunate in the community."

Fisher said the tape recordings prove that hotel busboy Jerome R. Edmondson brought Tony St. Clair to Michaud for the purpose of sexual solicitation.

Charles Ray, attorney for Michaud, argued that the tapes do not prove that his client intended to solicit sex that night. Ray did, however, agree that a conversation about sex acts and rates took place, but he said the tapes

show that Michaud declined St. Clair's offers. Originally, both Michaud and Edmondson were charged in the same indictment, but the cases were later separated. Still pending are two solicitation charges against Edmondson.

Since the undercover operation came to light in early 1988, Tony St. Clair has undergone extensive sex therapy and drug treatment at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

His mother said Tuesday that her now 16-year-old son has a girlfriend and is abiding by a 7 p.m. curfew in an effort "to straighten out his life."

**Chez Colette**

PRESENTS  
MARCH 25  
Grace's One-Year  
Anniversary  
and  
Collette's 23 Years in U.S.A.

BEER BUST  
Wednesday and Sunday  
7 pm - Midnight  
25¢ Draft, \$3 Pitchers

ENTERTAINMENT  
7 Days a Week  
Wasilla Cowboy  
5 pm - 11 pm

FOOD AVAILABLE

407 1st Ave S, Nashville 615-256-9134

**March Specials**

MONDAY  
50¢ Draft  
TUESDAY  
Bottle Beer \$1  
WEDNESDAY  
50¢ Draft - \$1.25 Bottles  
THURSDAY  
Beer Drinking 7 to 10 \$3  
FRIDAY  
Pitchers \$3  
SATURDAY  
Beer Blast 4 to 8 \$4  
SUNDAY  
Beer Blast 4 to 8 \$4

SERVING ON DRAFT  
Lite - Bud - Bud Light



2311 Franklin Road, Nashville  
615 269-5318 • Open 3 pm-1 am

# BENT

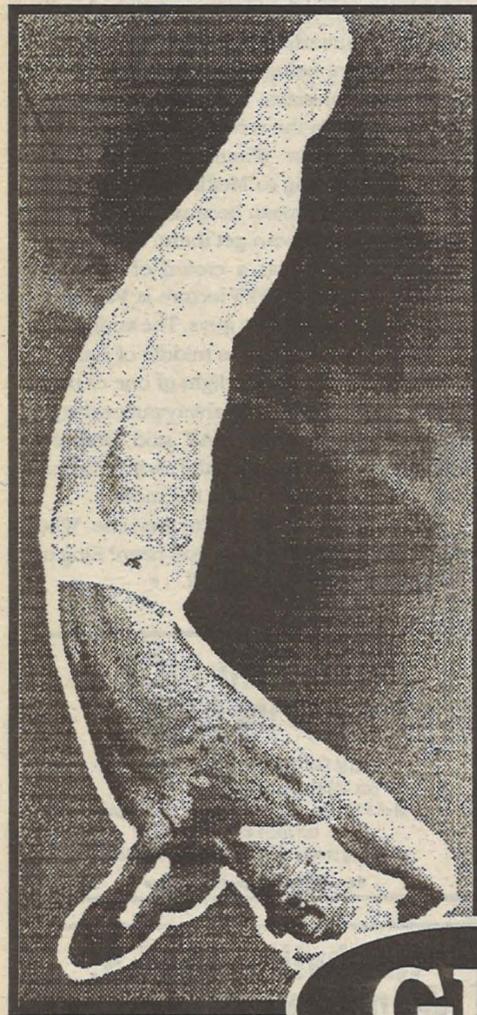
by MARTIN SHERMAN  
directed by dennis ewing

A controversial and deeply moving play about the persecution of homosexuals in Nazi Germany.

March 16 - April 8  
Thu·Fri·Sat 8:00 pm

ACTORS' PLAYHOUSE  
2518 WEST END AVE.  
327-0049

TICKETMASTER 741-2787



**Wednesdays**  
Talent Night  
\$90<sup>00</sup> to Winner  
\$2<sup>00</sup> Cover  
\$1<sup>00</sup> Optional Beer Blast  
8 pm - Midnight

**Thursday, March 23**  
Male Dance Contest  
Back by Popular Demand  
\$150<sup>00</sup> Cash Prize to Winner  
\$3<sup>00</sup> Cover  
\$1<sup>00</sup> Optional Beer Blast  
8 pm - Midnight  
And Drink Specials



On the River  
287 S. Front St, Memphis  
Phone (901) 526-1038

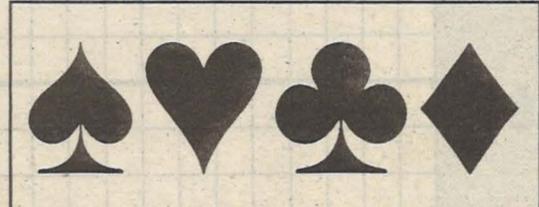
♥ **SUNDAY, MARCH 12**  
"Diana Hutton Presents"  
starring  
Morticia DeVille  
Bianca Paige  
Scarlet Fever  
and Diana Hutton  
Shows at 11 and 12:30

♣ **SUNDAY, MARCH 19**  
the First Annual  
Miss Gay Mid-South USA Pageant  
Doors open at 8  
Pageant begins at 9

WE'RE DEALING A WHOLE NEW HAND!

- ♠ **MONDAYS**  
Your Host: Steve  
\$3 Beer Bust No Cover
- ♥ **TUESDAYS**  
Shows with our New Cast  
Shelly Stone  
Monica Munro  
Bianca Paige  
Dana Alexander  
Troy Constantino  
Shows at 11 and 12:30 \$2 Cover
- ♣ **WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS**  
50¢ Draft, \$1.25 Bottles All Night  
No Cover
- ♦ **FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
Non-stop Dancing with  
Tennessee's DJ of the Year,  
Eddie Denson  
50¢ Draft, \$1.25 Bottles 9 till 11
- ♠ **SUNDAYS**  
A Variety of Entertainment

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