

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 sexfor-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 promcontinued on page 3



Alix 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

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 ripoffs and phony tests."

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

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

"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.

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."

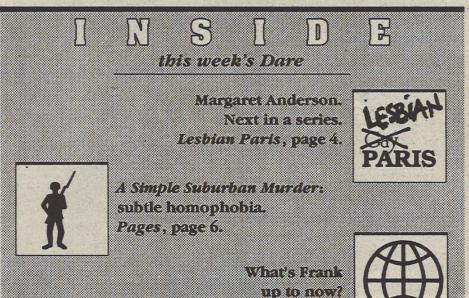
The show opens Sunday, April 2 and continues for a three-night run. Tickets for the Sunday and Tuesday shows are \$4 (with a limit of 100 tickets available) and tickets are \$5 for Monday night's special AIDS benefit. Tickets are on sale at WKRB in Memphis.

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



Sociables, page 8.



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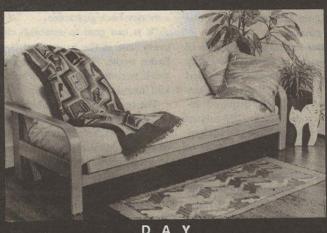
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Mondays

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Ray Alternative Hour Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm.

Plecentx (Cay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center.

8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Tuesdays

Pheenix (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

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group. St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. Inlo 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 Comminto 901 726-9443. mity Church Worship service, 11am, 1216 Forrest Ave.

Into the Light (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, Noon, Info 901 276-7379.

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

NASHVILLE

Gay Overeaters Anonymous Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters.

MCC, 5:30pm. Into 615-327-4614.

Meabville CARES HIV+ Education/Suport Group, 6:30pm. ARC/AIDS Supplementally, 6:30pm. Family Supplementally, 6:30pm. Info 615

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.

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.

MT3U Lambda Association Meeting for lesbian and gay Middle Tennessee State University students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Murfreesboro. 7pm. Info 615-890-3787.

Sober Sixtaers (Lesbian Alesballa, 1)

890-3787.
Seber Sisters (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting, MCC, 8pm.
Say 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

Cay 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.

Vanderhilt 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. 8 cm.

men, MCC. 8pm.
Leshian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Meeting. 8pm. Info 615-385-4776 or 615-352-5823.

Fridays

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. Spm.
Gay Parents Support Group Meeting, MCC. 1st Friday only. 7pm. Inlo 615-831-2941 or 615-320-0288.

us Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United

Saturdays

Nashville CARES HIV/ARC Support Group, bimonthly. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.

Metropolitan Community Church Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm.

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 Vanderbut 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.

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 10

...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 allwoman 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. •

BRIFS

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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The serialization of James Joyce's Ulysses, an

MARGARET

Peddler of Lascivion



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-yearold 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.

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 Tanter introduced her to Georgette Leblanc. Georgette was a singer and actress and the former companion of writer Marrice Materlinck. For Margaret (and evidently Georgette), it was love at first sight.

The two became practically inseparable.

NDERSON

us Literature



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

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 are 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

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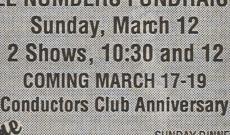


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Alix Dobkin in concert with Ruby Slipper

Saturday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville Tickets \$6 advance, \$7 at the door

For more information, phone Terry Kevlin (615) 333-2215 or Devie Levin (615) 297-4293

Tennessee's Gay and Lesbian Newsweekly From the Heart of the American South

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> Dare is an institutional member of the Gay and Lesbian Press Association.



7 H

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.

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 stereoptypical or femi-

Originally, both Michaud and Edmondson were charged in the same indictment, but the cases were later separated. Still pending are

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 16year-old son has a girlfriend and is abiding by a 7 p.m. curfew in an effort "to straighten out his life." •

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 Tom becomes involved in investigating the 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

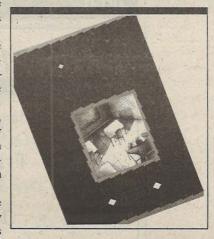
from a bottle," or "His voice dripped the acid of a vicious queen on the attack,") undermines Neil's goodness.

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 facultylounge 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

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

econtinued from page 1

derive their sexual gratification from the financial need of those less fortunate in the com-

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.

two solicitation charges against Edmondson. Since the undercover operation came to

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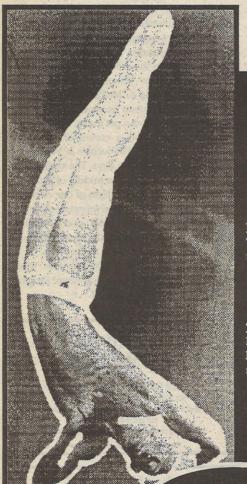
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SOFIABLE

Gossip? Who, me?

by JAAN STURGIS Staff Writer

Where was FRANK ASHE off and about to recently? I never would have guessed, and some of us are still gasping, but (please tell you heard it here) he went to Timberfell Lodge in Greenville, Tennessee. The lodge, um, shall we say, specializes in supplying hospitality for people with less than traditional (!) tastes. To clarify, slings are available in certain rooms.

Who's the innkeeper, you say? A spiritual leather man named DAVID YODER runs the place which he purchased about ten years ago after he, his lover and THEIR wives fled L.A. to the peace and quiet of the eastern part of our fair state. Eventually, all was not blissful for the cheery four, and David bought them out. For those of you who have a hankerin' for a getaway weekend, David can be reached at (615) 234-0833. (An interesting aside is that David is former president of the Bed and Breakfast Association of East Tennessee - my!) Frank reports his hair is growing back and that his bruises are healing.

What's the latest at Nashville CARES? Well. their first social worker, DAN RAMEY, has moved on to a job at Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute. Dan will be missed by the many CARES clients.

Making my quarterly round to the pubs recently, I met a chatty young man who danced up a veritable storm with me. His name was HOBART PAYNE. Says he commutes from Clarksville daily to perform duties as Art Director at an undisclosed Nashville business. 'The friendliest boy, I do declare. If you see him, be sure to tell him I said "Hi!"

Did anyone else see K.D. LANG on the Grammies? I hear she's a particular favorite of at least two Dare staffers.

Off to the Empire State recently were the omnipresent couple from Bowling Green (in the K-Y state), BILLY ISAACS and TIM ROBERTS. Tim got a sterling 730 on the English portion of his GREs and visited NYC where he's considering attending Columbia University. Billy says that NYC certainly gets his vote, and he may even attend Bloomingdale Usnapping up those bargains that every boy must have. However, they also stopped to examine Boston U. My, executive decisions. The verdict will be in about the first of April when both schools announce that a handful of students can come to their schools this fall.

I would be remiss not to send our condolences to REG LASWELL at the passing of his lover TRACE GODBY. A sadness came over my heart when I learned of Trace's recent departure form this world. We will truly miss him! But...after the memorial service at Holy Spirit Catholic Church last Saturday in Bowling Green, I attended a "Goodbye" party to end themall. Truly a celebration of Trace's life, Reg was overheard saying that Trace would have loved the lively and convivial gathering. Who did I meet there, from around the globe - well, at least the South - among the mourners and those who remembered Trace.

DENNIS EILAND, now planted in Hotlanta, says he works for Delta Airlines as a computer programmer. With his husband, whom I'm sure he keeps in tow, he loves dining out at his favorite restaurant: the Peasant. Apparently, two gay men run this little Atlanta-based chain which has become exceedingly popular. And Dennis loves the new bar Lipstick where a whole new meaning has been given to the work "drag."

Former Atlantan RON CULVER - now of Denver - attended Trace's Goodbye party. Named Miss Gatlinburg in previous years, his other hobbies include matchbook collecting, listening to music and playing tennis.

The chattiest of the out-of-towners was DENNIS SHEARS from Houston. He nearly talked me into moving there when he reiterated what I already knew: that the big houses in Houston are being given away! Dennis is a residential real estate salesperson, says he's been seen out in the world as a DOLLY PAR-TON impersonator. When not all Dollied up, he enjoys traveling to Mexico and the Bahamas, expecially Nassau because of the beautiful straw bags you can get there. Go figure.

Word is there was a crowd of 70 at the MINNIE BRUCE PRATT lecture at Vandy last week, including a dozen guys. The auditorium lights went out during the middle of her talk, leaving her with only the light of one of those little aquarium lamps they alway put on the podium. The inimitable MAT said later that Minnie herslf had bumped the switch by accident. Still, it certainly made the mood.

Well, dearhearts, that's it for this time. Who, what, where and how have you been? Ring up - (615) 226-4034 - and tell all. •



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