

Happy Holidays
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Dare

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 51

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

DECEMBER 22 - 28, 1989



Members of ACT UP and WHAM! (Women's Health Action Mobilization) block traffic on New York's Fifth Avenue in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral to protest the anti-gay and anti-choice policies of New York's Roman Catholic John Cardinal O'Connor. — DARE PHOTO BY JIM ROCHE

Church dumps C-GALA

Controversy surrounds Chattanooga group

by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

Following the Friday night broadcast of a story on local television station WTVC, Channel 9, a holiday gala planned by the recently-formed Chattanooga Gay and Lesbian Alliance (C-GALA) was cancelled due to protests by members of the church at which the event was to be held.

Parishioners at Chattanooga's Christ Episcopal Church, learning about the holiday gala via their televisions, inundated the church office with phone calls, demanding the C-GALA event not be held on church property.

The holiday gala, a fund-raiser for the Chattanooga Fire Department's Toys for Tots campaign, was planned as the first official public function for C-GALA, a recently-formed group for lesbians and gay men in the southeastern Tennessee area.

But when WTVC broadcast a story about the recent arrests of eight men for having sex in a public restroom, mention of the holiday gala sent Christ Episcopal Church members to their phones in protest.

According to WTVC reporter Lauri Perry, she interviewed C-GALA spokesperson Andrew Gilfoil about the organization's reaction to the arrests. During the course of that interview, Perry said, Gilfoil told her about the group's

Saturday night gala and during her report — in an effort to better explain what C-GALA is and how it functions — she mentioned the group's event.

"The first I heard about the church backing out was when a co-worker called and asked me how to reach Mr. Gilfoil," she said.

Gilfoil, however, cried foul when Perry's report was aired.

"My comments were taken out of context," he said, resulting in the church members' protests.

Gilfoil said Perry's report was edited in such a way that it led viewers to believe that C-GALA and Chattanooga police were at odds over the arrests of the eight men.

A transcript of Friday night's 11 o'clock news report indicates that Gilfoil said, "I sometimes think the police can be abusive...and possibly, accounts of these activities have been blown out of proportion."

The eight were arrested as a result of complaints that men were having sex in a public restroom at the Radisson Read House hotel in downtown Chattanooga. The news was first broadcast over another TV station on Thursday night, the result, sources say, of an anonymous tip from authorities.

After the rector of Christ Episcopal Church contacted C-GALA members of the cancellation, the

Spong ordains openly gay Episcopal priest

from STAFF REPORTS

In a move which sparked protests and controversy among traditionalist Episcopal bishops, Bishop John Shelby Spong, head of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, N.J., last week ordained an openly gay man as a priest.

The ordination of the Rev. J. Robert Williams at All Saints Episcopal Church in Hoboken was opposed by a group of six bishops, who argued the ordination violated scriptures and a 1979 church resolution against

the ordination of "practicing homosexuals."

Williams, 34, has lived with his male lover for the last four years and since June has headed a special ministry for lesbian and gay parishioners at All Saints.

One of the church's most controversial and outspoken figures, Spong has enraged conservative elements in the church by urging the acceptance of homosexuals in the denomination and the ordination of gay priests.

"Christian moral standards have changed quite

• continued on page 4

Alive Hospice offers alternatives for PWAs

Nashville firm striving to improve quality of life: Kozil

by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

Most people think of Nashville's Alive Hospice in terms of helping someone who has terminal cancer, but as the AIDS epidemic takes its toll, Alive Hospice has responded by helping people with AIDS.

According to chief executive officer Iris Kozil, "We certainly do not claim to be a leader, in terms of numbers, in helping people with AIDS, but we are always ready to help anyone who needs us."

Kozil said Alive Hospice's caseload of people with AIDS is about eight percent.

"Our goal as an organization is to help people live as fully as possible until they die. For some people this

means staying home. We try to help that person with all of the services necessary to make their stay at home possible. We are on call for that person 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It gives them a sense of security knowing if they get in trouble at night or on a weekend, there's always someone who will help. We can also prevent a lot of hospitalizations this way, too," she said.

"Medicine has made progress in helping people with AIDS live longer by developing things like AZT, but equally importantly, there has been an improvement in the quality of life, as well. Now we can hope for more time and that time is better," Kozil added.

Kozil recommends that someone

who might be interested in Alive Hospice's services get involved with the organization as early as possible.

"It's better to become involved early so we may get to know someone before a crisis situation. This way they know us and their families and significant others know us and we can do support all along. This gives a more comfortable and supportive atmosphere for all involved," she said.

Although Alive Hospice's goal is to keep someone at home as long as possible, from time to time someone may need to go to the hospital for a specific procedure or treatment, but this does not drop them

• continued on page 4

I N S I D E

Dare this week

Eightysomething:
The March on Washington.
Centerpiece, page 6.



'Twas the Night Before:
The latest from Nancy Lyn.
Definitions, page 10.

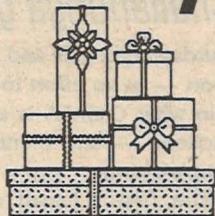
Just in time for the holidays:
Jim Bakker in the slammer.
Loose Lips, page 12.



D A T E S

Big events

Happy Holidays



Friday, December 22

Benefit For Conductors PWA Fund. At Warehouse 28, 2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville. \$4. Info (615) 385-9689.

Saturday, December 23

HANUKKAH BEGINS

Sunday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Dance Clean and Sober. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr, Chattanooga. 8pm. Info (615) 267-7824.

Dance Gays and Lesbians in Recovery. Belmont United Methodist Church, 21st & Acklen Ave, Nashville. 9:30pm - 1am. Info (615) 292-6894.

Monday, January 1, 1990

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Monday, January 8

Meeting Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance reorganizational meeting to consider new bylaws. At It's a Scream, 168 2nd Av North, Nashville. 7pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

Saturday and Sunday,
January 13 and 14

Volunteer Training Vanderbilt AIDS Project, Nashville. Info (615) 322-AIDS.

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Chattanooga

Sundays

- **Lesbian & Gay CoDA** Co-Dependents Anonymous. Reflections, Harrison. 12:30pm. Info (615) 267-7824.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 3224 Navajo Dr. 6:30pm.

Mondays

- **Chattanooga CARES** Closed support group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 266-2422.

Thursdays

- **Gay/Lesbian AA** Open meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. 8pm.

Saturdays

- **Gay/Lesbian AA** No-smoke meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. 7pm.

Clarksville

Thursdays

- **OSGL** Austin Peay State University Organization for Support of Gays & Lesbians, group for lesbians and gay men. Rm 4, Archwood, APSU. 4pm. Info (615) 648-7107.

Knoxville

Sundays

- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 6pm. Corner Weisgarber & Lonas. Info (615) 521-6546.

Mondays

- **aids Response Knoxville** PWA Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
- **Gay Gratitude Group** Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 3219 Kingston Pike. 7pm.

Tuesdays

- **aids Response Knoxville** Circle of Love family and friends support group, 8pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
- **Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UTK** Weekly meeting, 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686.

Wednesdays

- **aids Response Knoxville** HIV+ Support Group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Fridays

- **Gay Gratitude Group** Alcoholics Anonymous. MCC / Knoxville, 1320 North Central. Noon.
- **Lesbian Codependents Anonymous** At aRK offices. 8pm. Info (615) 933-8393.

Memphis

Mondays

- **Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm. Memphis Gay Coalition Business meeting, 1st Monday. Rm A, Memphis Public Library, Peabody & Maclean. Info (901) 324-4297.
- **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Tuesdays

- **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Wednesdays

- **Agape New Life Church** Bible study. 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
- **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting.

Just like clockwork

Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.
- **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) 272-9549.
- **Seriously Sober** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.

Sundays

- **Agape New Life Church** Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
- **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) 272-9549.

Murfreesboro

Thursdays

- **MTSU Lambda** Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. 7:30pm. Info (615) 352-7039

Nashville

Mondays

- **Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group. 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. 7:30pm. Info (615) 320-0288.

Tuesdays

- **Nashville CARES** HIV+ Support Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **AI-Anon** Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
- **Nashville Women's Alliance** Meeting, at the Book Oasis, 2824 Dogwood Pl., 3rd and 4th Tuesdays only. 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.
- **P-FLAG** Meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitarian Church. 7:30pm. Info (615) 662-0332.
- **Sober Sisters** (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, MCC. 8pm.

Wednesdays

- **Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm.
- **Nashville CARES** Newcomers Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **Affirmation** Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists, 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 366-6448.
- **Gay / Lesbian Addictions Anonymous** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church. 8pm.

Thursdays

- **Family Support Group** Vanderbilt AIDS Project. Info (615) 322-AIDS.

- **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Closed women's meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd. 6:30pm.
- **Nashville CARES** Visualization Group. 7:15pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8pm.
- **Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

Fridays

- **Sexaholics Anonymous** Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30 pm.

Saturdays

- **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Open meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd. 5:30pm.
- **Community Dinner** Metropolitan Community Church, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5. Info (615) 320-0288.

Sundays

- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Closed meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd. 6pm.

Tri-Cities

Sundays

- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 7pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Info (615) 926-4393.

Tuesdays

- **Support Group** Tri-Cities AIDS Project (TAP). For caregivers / families of PWAs, HIV+ and ARC. 6:30pm. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays only. Info (615) 928-6101 or 753-9647

Thursdays

- **Support Group** Appalachian AIDS Coalition. For PWAs, ARC, and HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday only. Info (703) 985-0131.

Statewide

- **Note** Most student groups suspend meetings when schools are not in session. Please contact groups directly for complete information.

Errata

- Due to a typesetting error, the advertisement for Warehouse 28 in last week's paper (Volume 2, Number 50, page 9) incorrectly listed Christmas Eve as Sunday, December 25. The correct date is Sunday, December 24. We apologize for the error and are glad to correct the record.

- Due to an editing error, the phrase "AIDS victims" was used to describe people with AIDS, the preferred term, in the essay "Witnessing a Controversy," in last week's paper (Volume 2, Number 50, page 15). We apologize for the error and are glad to correct the record.

CROSS COUNTRY

compiled by **MARK LAWRENCE**

Staff Writer

Commission says change immigration policy

WASHINGTON — The National Commission on AIDS urged the Bush administration last week to stop asking foreign visitors if they are infected with the HIV virus and to quit marking passports of those who are.

Current policies infringe upon human right and dignity "and they reinforce a false impression that AIDS and HIV infection are a general threat," said June Osborn, the commission's chair. "In fact they are sharply restricted in their mode of transmission."

The commission said the Immigration and Naturalization Service routinely questions some visitors to the U.S. to learn if they are infected by HIV, which is believed to be the cause of AIDS.

Travel restrictions for people with HIV began two years ago with Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) succeeded in adding HIV to a list of dangerous contagious diseases considered by the INS.

Some 36 national organizations, including the American Bar Association, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the American Civil Liberties Union have endorsed a new immigration resolution introduced by the commission. •

AIDS activists arrested

WASHINGTON — Dozens of AIDS activists were arrested Dec. 1 as they sat in the street in front of the White House to mark World AIDS Day. Seventy-eight people, including officials of AIDS groups from around the country, demonstrated against the Bush administration, shouting "Where is George?"

At a rally the same day, Tim Sweeny of the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York said, "Rhetoric is not what we need. Action is what we need."

More than 50 organizations participated in the demonstration, including executive directors of the leading AIDS and lesbian and gay community service and activist groups.

"The action successfully brought together activists and service providers in a strong, highly visible statement against government AIDS inaction and neglect," said Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, one of the activists arrested. •

Gay inmates wear red armbands in Florida jail

BARTOW, Fla. — Gay inmates at the Polk County Jail are being forced to wear red wristbands to distinguish them from heterosexual prisoners, according to a report in THE WEEKLY NEWS.

Officials of the sheriffs office said lesbians and gay men are segregated from the rest of the prison population to prevent them from being beaten by heterosexual inmates. Polk County Sheriff Lawrence W. Crow, Jr. calls the system "pink tags." Capt. Dale Tray said the tags are actually red, and do not come in pink, "But if they did, we'd buy 'em in pink," said Tray.

The decade-old practice was given public

attention by Robyn Blummer, executive director of the Florida chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. "I can understand the need for protection," said Blummer, "but not the stigma attached to pink tags." •

Gay man crowned homecoming king

SANTA ANA — Link Schrader, founder of the Rancho Santiago College's lesbian/gay group, became the first openly gay man ever selected to be the school's homecoming king.

Orange County, where the college is located, has been the site of considerable anti-gay activity during recent months. Religious groups attempted for months to get the Santa Ana City Council to revoke the permit for the county's first lesbian/gay pride celebration. The area also played host to the Traditional Values Coalition's "West Coast Symposium on Homosexuality and Public Policy Implications."

"With all the negative stuff going on," said Schrader. "Homecoming was just a really neat experience." •

Games IV host sought

SAN FRANCISCO — Although Celebration '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival is still eight months away, the Federation of Gay Games has already begun the site selection process for Gay Games IV in 1994.

Proposal guidelines are now available for organizations interested in hosting Gay Games IV in their city and country. Cities in North America, Europe and the South Pacific have inquired about hosting guidelines.

"In terms of establishing an international image for gay- and lesbian-positive events, hosting Gay Games IV is a tremendous opportunity," explained Richard Dopson, chair of the Federation Site Selection Committee.

Gay Games III is set for Vancouver, British Columbia, August 4-11, 1990. Organizations interested in hosting Gay Games IV can obtain site selection proposal guidelines by writing: The Federation of Gay Games, 584 Castro Street, Suite 343, San Francisco, California, 94114. •



Gay Games III, a sporting event and cultural festival is set for Vancouver, British Columbia, August 4-11, 1990. — DARE FILE PHOTO.

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

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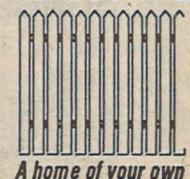
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NGLTF announces plan for '90s

from STAFF REPORTS

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's board of directors have announced the adoption of a strategic plan which they hope will strengthen the organization's administrative operations and provides a method of evaluating NGLTF's projects.

John D'Emilio, activist and professor of history at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro, was named male co-chair of the board.

He joins female co-chair Geni Cowan,

executive director of the Western Addiction Services Program of the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center in Santa Barbara, Calif.

"Twenty years after Stonewall and 15 years after NGLTF's inception, our organization and our movement are at a pivotal juncture—one that requires of us more forceful advocacy," said Urvashi Vaid, executive director. "The NGLTF strategic plan has a far-reaching vision, and calls for a more responsive and regionally-based organization through the '90s." •

...C-GALA

• continued from page 1

search was on for an alternate site. No such site was ever found and the gala never took place.

"We have no way of knowing how many people we would have had or how successful the gala would have been," said a C-GALA spokesperson.

After the church cancelled, Gilfoil was asked to appear on Channel 9 once again. He agreed, he said, only on the conditions that his statement be aired in its entirety.

Instead, a transcript of Saturday night's 6 o'clock report indicated that Gilfoil attributed the cancellation of the gala to the fact that "I

feel there's still a lot of fear and people are afraid of what our organization means to Chattanooga."

WTVC weekend reporter Bruce Moore was on assignment in South Carolina and was unavailable for comment and a spokesperson for Christ Episcopal Church declined comment.

Despite last weekend's turn of events, a spokesperson for C-GALA said her group is not accepting defeat: "We're not going to die, we're going to keep working. It's been gratifying that so many people have become enraged by the cancellation. They've now realized what we're up against." •

...openly gay priest

• continued from page 1

dramatically. We had slavery in a Christian nation. We had oppressed women. I think that our world is more Christlike when it is open to all of God's children," Spong said prior to last week's ordination of Williams.

"We believe that the church needs to be honest. We have gay priests in every diocese."

Opposition to Williams' ordination was led by the Episcopal Synod of America, led by Bishop Clarence Pope of Fort Worth, organized last June to combat what is considered to be deviation from traditional Christian teachings, including the ordination of women and homosexuals.

The Synods' protesting bishops argue that

the ordination of a sexually active unmarried person violates a resolution passed by the governing body of the Episcopal Church, the General Convention, which rejects non-celibate gay people or single heterosexuals as priests.

In 1977, an openly lesbian Episcopal candidate, the Rev. Ellen M. Barrett, was ordained by Bishop Paul Moore Jr. of New York.

Williams has refused to downplay his sexual orientation throughout the ordination process.

"Opening the church closet is a major part of what the ministry is all about," Williams said last Friday. "Everybody knows there are a lot of gay clergy. What's different here is telling the truth about it." •

...Alive Hospice

• continued from page 1

from service. Once they are at home, they continue to receive services as usual.

In general, the criteria for assistance from Alive Hospice is a life expectancy between six to nine months. People may contact the organization directly, or their doctor may make a referral. Upon contact, someone comes to the home and makes an assessment.

"The first thing we do is a physical assessment. We work on any pain and discomfort problems first," Kozil explained. The intake usually takes place in about two work days from referral.

Then the client is assigned a primary nurse who will be in charge of taking care of that person most of the time. From there, a team of medical and psychosocial professionals become involved. The team includes social workers to help "work through financial difficulties and make sure you get what you deserve" from the government and other companies, according to Kozil. There are also chaplains and a psychosocial nurse. The team works closely with families, significant others and people from other organizations who are

helping the client.

No one is denied services due to lack of funds and Hospice takes care of billing insurance companies when insurance is available.

"We think at this point in people's lives, money should not be something they should have to think about," she said.

Medicare does have a hospice benefit, but, said Kozil, "most of our people with AIDS are not eligible because they are either too young or haven't been sick for the two years requirement."

Kozil, who is also the immediate past president of the National Hospice Organization, said she feels there is much more to be done for people with AIDS.

"AIDS is not going away. You don't see as much about it in the newspapers anymore, but it is not going away. We need to have services available that work well and work together to provide for the people in the future we know will need us."

Alive Hospice serves Davidson, Williamson and part of Sumner Counties. Anyone interested in finding out more about their services may call them at (615) 327-1083. •

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LOCAL COLOR

compiled from **STAFF REPORTS**

Chattanooga

'Clean and Sober' dance set

Members of the Chattanooga lesbian and gay recovery community will ring in the New Year and the decade of the gay '90s in style this year, with a "Clean and Sober" New Year's Eve Dance.

According to a spokesperson, the event is set for Sunday, December 31, at 8 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Drive, Chattanooga. For details, call (615) 267-7824. •

Chattanooga CARES plans no special fund drive for PWAs

Chattanooga CARES, a community-based AIDS services organization, is not conducting "any particularly special fundraising campaign for PWAs over the holidays," according to Kenton Dickerson, executive director.

"However, if anybody would like to send us money, we'd be glad to accept it," Dickerson said.

For more information about Chattanooga CARES, call (615) 266-2422. •

Memphis

BWMT holiday festivities continue

Members of the Memphis chapter of Black and White Men Together (BWMT) will fight the post-Christmas blues with a consciousness-raising group discussion of "Suppose the specific genes that control gayness were discovered?" on Tuesday, December 26, at 7:30 p.m..

Following that meeting, the BWMT Open House will be held Monday, January 1, a chance for members and friends to "refresh, relax and renew for the New Year, as we all have survived 1989," according to a group spokesperson. That event is set from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BWMT's board of directors will meet Sunday, January 7, to plan the group's 1990 agenda. For details, call (901) 726-1461. •

Nashville

Auditions set for NPT production

Director Dorothy Marie Robinson has announced open auditions for the upcoming Nashville Public Theatre production of EXECUTION OF JUSTICE, the award-winning play by Emily Mann about the assassination of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk.

The multi-media production is based on actual trial transcripts, reportage and interviews surrounding the assassinations.

The play will be presented February 23-March 10 at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Boulevard, Nashville.

Auditions will be held at Family and Children's Services, 201 23rd Avenue, North, on Friday and Saturday, January 5-6. Roles include one for a female impersonator.

For information about auditions or to volunteer to work on the production, call (615) 383-8861. •

VAP to host training session for volunteers next month

Vanderbilt AIDS Project will host its 20th AIDS training conference January 13-14, 1990.

Volunteers are needed to assist in providing AIDS education and prevention programs; to serve as buddies and volunteers for persons with AIDS and ARC; and in the office.

For information, call (615) 322-2437. •

Lawrence's internship ends

Mark Lawrence, who has been serving an editorial internship with *Dare* since August, has been named a staff writer for the weekly newspaper, according to editor Jeff Ellis.

Lawrence, an undergraduate at Vanderbilt University, will return to studies full-time in January, thus completing his internship with the paper. However, he will continue his relationship with the publication as a staff writer. •

Nashville Ballet presents premiere of 'The Nutcracker'

Tickets are still available for Nashville Ballet's premiere production of THE NUTCRACKER. The ballet is choreographed by artistic director Dane LaFontsee and accompanied by a full orchestra under the baton of musical director Stan Tucker.

The timeless holiday classic, performed by Nashville Ballet's resident company and a large number of student dancers, will be presented in TPAC's Jackson Hall, Friday and Saturday, December 22 and 23 and again next week on Friday and Saturday, December 29 and 30.

Although the production follows the traditional storyline, LaFontsee's adaptations make the ballet unique to Nashville. Costume design is by Mimi Shimmin, with scenic design by Craig Spain.

Tickets are available through TicketMaster by calling (615) 741-2787. •



Fiona Fuerstner (left), assistant artistic director of Nashville Ballet, and resident costume designer Mimi Shimmin (background) make last minute changes in a Snowflake costume worn by company dancer Sharyn Wood for the premiere of THE NUTCRACKER. — PHOTO BY TOMMY LAWSON

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Marching...for loby LAURA TEK
Staff Writer

doubtless there are few gay men or lesbians alive today who, when reminiscing about the 1980s, don't recall the historic October,

1987, March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

On that cool fall day, an estimated 750,000 people gathered for the single most important event in the history of the gay and lesbian movement. It has touched the lives of many, leaving a mark that won't soon be erased.

During that October weekend, Washington, D.C. played host to almost three-quarters of a million gay men and lesbians from all over the country, including about 300 from Tennessee. They came on buses, in cars or by plane, sleeping as many as six to a room, all for a chance to be a part of history in the making.

LONGTIME NASHVILLE activist Penny Campbell remembers how the ball got rolling in Tennessee.

"I had attended the Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival in Cleveland, Georgia, in May, 1987. It was there that I had first heard about it. When I got home I put an announcement that I had picked up there in the Nashville Women's Alliance's A NEWSLETTER. Our first meeting had only four people," Campbell says. "This whole idea of having this mass demonstration at the nation's capital really drew my interest. It was in June of 1987 that I decided to work on the March at the national level. I went to D.C. and stayed for six weeks.

"When I returned to Nashville in July, the whole town was in full swing. The original group of four had grown to 25 and was now called the Tennessee March on Washington Committee. Fundraisers started to be held, three buses were chartered, T-shirts and flyers were made up, and the bars were assaulted every night by committee members handing out information, taking down names, all in an effort to promote the October March. A press conference was held on television, too. It was wonderful. There was a real activist spirit in the air. There was so much momentum."

Up until the time of the March on Washington, the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Coalition [now known as the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance] was pretty much inactive, Campbell said.

"But on the bus going up to the March, Stuart Bivin was handing out this wonderful flyer he had made. It got a lot of people's attention because when we returned to Nashville after the March, the next Coalition meeting had over 80 people. That was the kind of impact the March had on everybody," she explains.

"Personally I had ridden up to D.C. on one of the chartered buses that went up that Friday night. I just can't describe the feeling. Everyone was just so pumped up. Everyone was

singing, being raucous, and just generally acting up.

"For me, the high point was not the March. The high point was working in Washington on the National March Committee for those six weeks.

"My best impression of the entire experience was when the bus was coming into D.C., you could just tell that all of the other cars and buses out there filling the highways contained people who were coming to participate in the March. Getting there and walking around on the streets, the sidewalks were just filled with people that I knew from other states. That was the most exciting, to know that so many people were coming together like this.

"The entire weekend was perfect, but I have to say now that I think we all made one mistake, and that was we shouldn't have left. We all should have stayed there until all of our demands were met."

GREG FISHER, now a member of the board of directors of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), was a member of the Tennessee March Committee that organized statewide efforts.

"The March on Washington was the most significant event in gay rights history since Stonewall," he maintains. "It mobilized people who, prior to that, were never involved at all in the fight for our emancipation.

"Organizers of the March really had no idea that over 750,000 people would show up. It was just unreal to witness what a strength and force we really were.

"Prior to the march I was never involved before in the struggle for gay rights. In fact, I had not yet even out and identified as gay yet. My introduction into the movement occurred when I went to what was then called the Nashville Gay Pride Picnic in Centennial Park in June, 1987. Sue Hyde of NGLTF had come to town and spoke about the Privacy Project. It was here that I started to become interested.

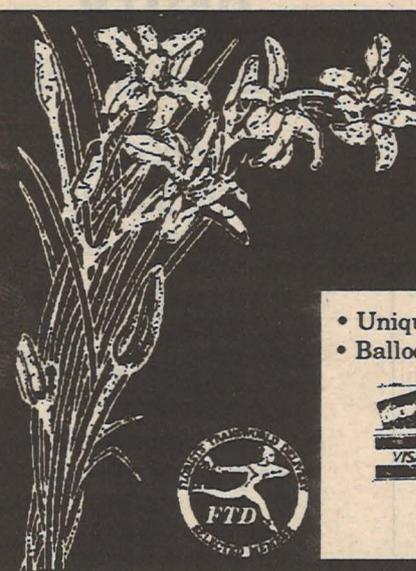
"In D.C., at the March, we were just everywhere, we dominated. We realized a dream come true. We all walked down the streets, singing songs, shouting slogans. It was a sense of exhilaration you just can't get anywhere else.

"The most significant thing about the March was that it gave birth to new gay rights organizations, new movements, new systems, and instilled a new sense of pride in gay men and lesbians.

"The many people who were there, ones who had never previously made a statement before, found that it was safe for them to do so, even out in public, because there were just so many of us that they could still maintain a

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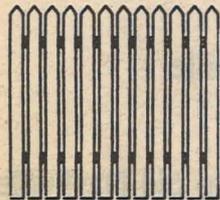
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sense of anonymity.

"There will definitely be another March. After this one, how could there not be?" he asks.

EMILY WHITCOMB, a member of the Nashville Women's Alliance, also has memories of the March.

"My partner at the time and I flew up to D.C. and back all in 24 hours. We wanted to stay longer but we have children and we couldn't get anyone to stay with them longer than that. It was a whirlwind and an exhausting trip, but one I never regret making. Our only evening there was spent touring the D.C. bookstores and clubs.

"Right before the March, I got the sense that many of the people there were very hesitant, almost afraid of what they were about to do. The attitude was like, 'oh-oh, what am I really doing here? Should I really be doing this?' A lot seemed really fearful of exposure by the media. But once they saw the immense crowd and that the chance of that happening was very slim, their fears dissipated and they got into it. They became exhilarated. They saw that what they were doing was good and right," Whitcomb remembers.

"The March was a historic moment. I was very proud to have been a part of it and to have helped carry our banner from Tennessee. Everybody was loving everybody, having lots of fun.

"I hate the laws as they stand today, laws that disallow our existence. But the March gave me a lot of hope. It showed me that society was changing and could change, that the world wasn't so bad. I'd love to see another March. I'd love to see an event like that occur every two years."

RAY ANKROM, whose history includes being in New York during the 1969 Stonewall riots, has yet another impression of the March:

"I have a wonderful memory of the March. My decision to go was not a long planned-out one, but a last minute one," he recalls.

"Prior to the March I hadn't been living in Nashville for very long. I had moved here from San Francisco, where I had been involved in gay liberation for years, and was quite used to parades and festivities. When I moved to Nashville, I felt very out of place. It felt like never-never land to me here.

"But going to the March, for me, was like being in San Francisco all over again. Hearing Jesse Jackson speak and being with so many people from Tennessee really began to put me at ease."

ANOTHER MEMBER of the Tennessee March Committee, Gerrit Wilson also re-

members that historic weekend.

"The March was the most affirming experience I've ever had. It showed me that everything I'd ever suspected was true, that we were really everywhere. We proved to ourselves that we were plentiful, that our number was great. Everyone I saw was just thrilled by the great turnout. It was a very emotionally charged experience. We all laughed and cried together," he says.

"The Tennessee contingent was by far the biggest hit of the March itself. We were the most vocal and the most outspoken group there. We marched in groups according to states and regions and so we marched along with all the other southern states. We were so loud and exuberant and wanted to make the other states more so, so we started this Red Rover game with whatever state was in line with us at the time. It was great seeing these huge groups of people running up to each other and hugging each other. We really got everyone going!"

FORTENNESSEE March Committee member Sam Adams, memories of the 1987 event still brings "goose bumps."

"I still get those goose bumps when I think about it," he says. "For once, that one weekend, we were the majority in a city. We were the mainstream. We could walk down the streets and hold our lover's hand it was okay, it was normal and natural. We dominated and the straights, this time, were the minority. And some looked so uncomfortable.

"During the actual march, I had a rush of many emotions. The crowded streets and masses of people remain in my memory. The people in the march and the people on the sidelines. We would travel from block to block for several miles. Each block would bring hundreds of faces that greeted us. The majority all welcomed us and cheered our arrival. They would recognize and applaud our southern spirit. Their approval was very addictive; the more they applauded, the more we performed. It was like we were suddenly on stage. I felt like the entire audience was waiting for Tennessee. We gave them our very best."

During the excitement of that weekend, in the euphoria of the festivities, one moment stands out for Adams:

"We all saluted a security patrolman on horseback. He was perched atop some tall steps. Our timing was perfect; on the count of 1-2-3, hundreds of Tennesseans turned to the patrolman, tipped our hats and gave him a loud Minnie Pearl-style 'How-dee!' And better than our giving was his receiving: with a big smile, he tipped his hat and gave us a salute."

And time—carrying with it hundreds of gay and lesbian Tennesseans—marched on. •

1990

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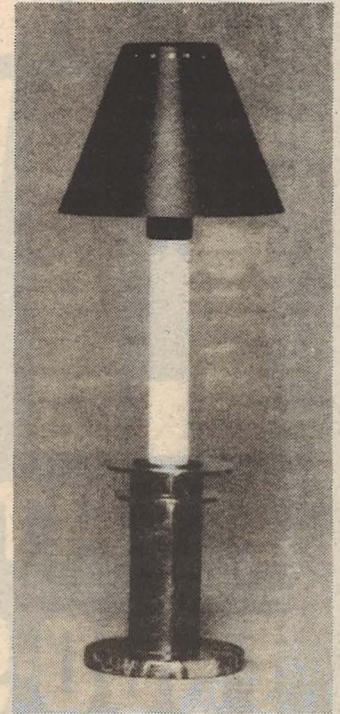
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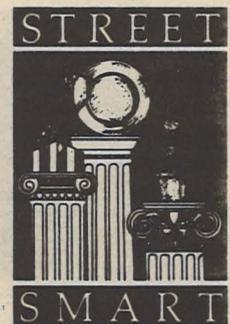
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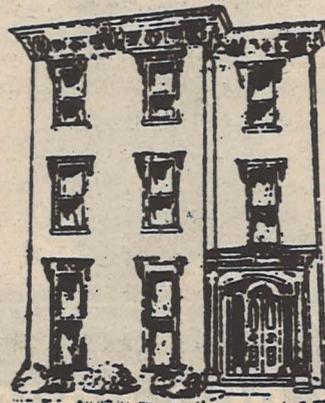


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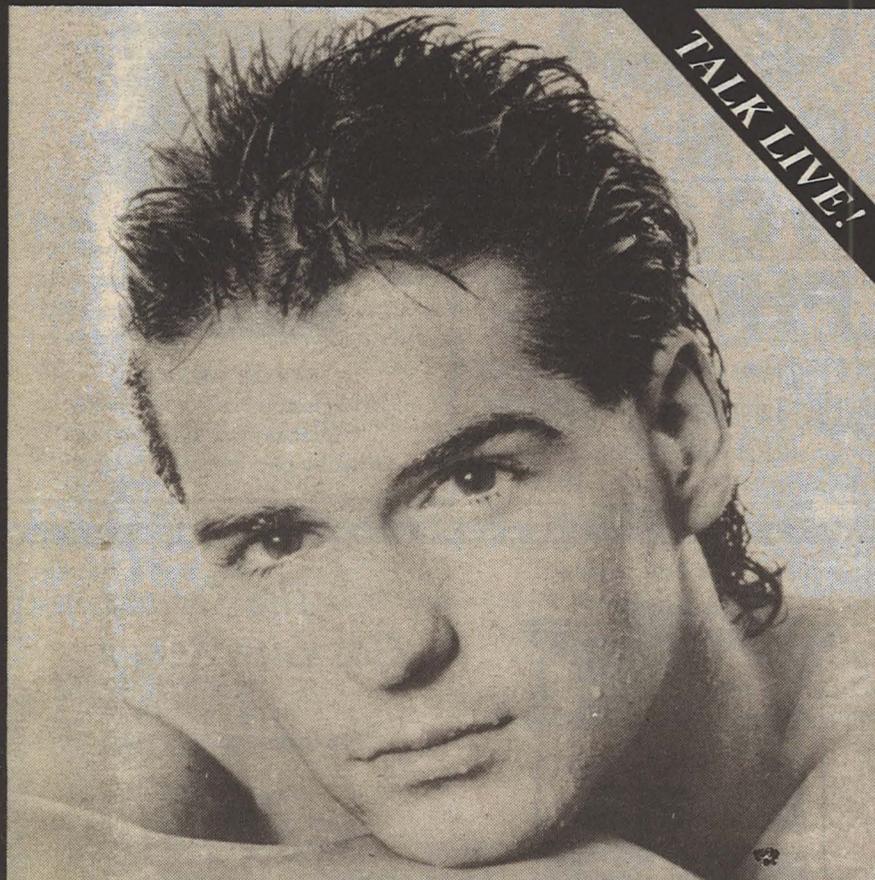
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CURTAINS

A 'wonnaful, wonnaful' show

SEASONED GREETINGS 1989. Special material by Michael Bouson and Kathy Shepard. Directed by Katie Gladfelter. Rave Revues. Backstage at the Barn. Through December 31.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**

Editor

LEAVE IT TO KATIE Gladfelter and all the other crazies at Rave Revues to give a holiday musical revue a new twist.

The result? A laugh-filled entertaining two acts of musical fun that perfectly captures the holiday spirit, the perfect antidote to hours of shopping, endless TV specials and relentless Muzak.

During those 90 minutes, the six member cast (along with musical accompanist Jamey Green) give new and inventive interpretations to even the oldest of holiday chestnuts.

Opening with a tongue-in-cheek tribute to those champagne music-makers with "A Lawrence Welk Kind of Christmas 1975," the six performers tackle a bevy of roles, becoming all the members of the Welk musical family. It's a holiday gift wrapped in lots of filmy chiffon and blue eye shadow, forced smiles and brocade tuxedos.

The first act fairly sparkles with Katie Gladfelter as Welk's "Champagne Lady," and Sandi Griffiths (How does she manage to sing amid all those laughs?); Joe Correll as the "wonnaful, wonnaful" Welk; Kathy Shepard as Ralna Hovis and Anacani; Su Hyatt and Mark DelaBarre as Cissy and Bobby, those dancing fools; Michael Bouson as Myron

Floren; and Green in drag as a ragtime piano-playing Joanne Castle. It's deliciously funny stuff, an innovative presentation of holiday standards like "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "The Christmas Song" and "Let it Snow."

There are some delightful take-offs on holiday classics like "The 12 Days After Christmas" and "Mr. Santa Man" — all performed with a polka beat.

Act Two is "A Down Home Kind of Christmas," featuring scenes from the Burnwood Elementary School Holiday Pageant (with the six cut-ups as some cute kids singing, among other songs, "It's a Marshmallow World") and A Country Christmas that features some truly moving musical moments.

ALTHOUGH ACT ONE is much funnier, the second stanza is certainly more heartfelt, a touching remembrance of true holiday spirits. Director Gladfelter has fashioned a show that's enormously entertaining, both devastatingly funny and sweetly uplifting — no small feat — that's performed by a winning cast. And she's selected songs that are among my favorites ("Children, Go Where I Send Thee" and "I Wonder As I Wander").

Here's hoping that next year we'll be treated to SEASONED GREETINGS 1990. •

BACKSTAGE
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Seasoned Greetings 1989
A Holiday Musical Comedy Extravaganza

Just laugh at the jokes

WIFE BEGINS AT 40. By Arne Sultan, Earl Barret and Ray Cooney. Directed by Janelle Cochrane. Chaffin's Barn. Through December 30.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**

Editor

You know you're in dinner theatre hell when most of the jokes in a stage comedy deal in some fashion with penises and vasectomies. Oh, it's harmless stuff — not really offensive or anything — it's just sophomoric humor on a slightly grander scale than a junior high school lunchroom.

Chaffin's Barn's December offering, **WIFE BEGINS AT 40**, a sprightly suburban comedy by Arne Sultan, Earl Barret and Ray Cooney, deals with penises, vasectomies and extracurricular affairs in a comic style that's entertaining despite its flaws. In other words, it's perfect for holiday crowds: they don't have to think much, just laugh at the jokes. And laugh they do, despite the fact that most of the jokes are lame and warmed-over — sort of a burlesque act gone awry.

The plot concerns "the 17 year itch," a mid-life crisis in the lives of George and Linda Harper, an attractive middle-class couple for whom sex has become a three-letter word.

Linda's frustrated, George is confused and everyone else is just befuddled. Grandfather Bernard is slightly addled, teenaged son Leonard is wrapped up in his own life, and the neighbors have problems of their own.

Roger, for example, is carrying on with a cocktail waitress and claims sex has never been better since his vasectomy. That gives George an idea: for their 17th anniversary, he presents Linda with news of his own snip-snip, while she gives him his walking papers. You can probably guess what happens. There are plenty of gags about painful penises and pent-up passions.

The enthusiastic performers save the show from being completely disastrous, giving their all to win the audience's approval. There's the charming Donna Wright as Linda; Mike Montgomery as George; Steve Abbott as Roger; Betsy Bisson as Betty; a droll Joe Keenan as Bernard; and a boyish Robin Daugherty as Leonard. •



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— the staff

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Limited seating. Reservations must be made by 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 29.

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Our dining room will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and will reopen as usual Tuesday, December 26.

AIDS UPDATE

Year-end discoveries

by **JACKI MOSS**
Staff Writer

NAC may treat HIV infection in the future

A recent study infers that NAC (N-acetylcysteine) may be useful in treating people with HIV infection. The study confirmed that glutathione is usually abnormally low in people with HIV infection and infers that since NAC is known to boost glutathione levels, there may be future hope for it as an AIDS therapeutic.

Right now, the drug needs much more testing and is available in the United States only in aerosol form which is not suitable for treating HIV infection.

AZT may cause cancer in lab rats

Although they say it may have limited application to humans, Burroughs Wellcome, makers of AZT, alerted thousands of physicians that lab tests show that AZT causes cancer in rats.

The cancers caused by AZT so far have only shown up in the reproductive organs of female rats, and there is speculation that otherwise AZT may be no more harmful than originally known.

The implication so far is that women, especially pregnant women, may want to carefully weigh the benefits of AZT against the possible risks.

America number one — a dubious distinction

Once again America is a world leader, but this time it is a dubious honor. According to recent statistics released by the World Health Organization (WHO), America leads the world in the number of AIDS cases at 70% of all the world's cases.

The report states that Brazil is the number two ranked country for AIDS cases, followed by Canada, Mexico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

It is known that AIDS is in 177 countries and territories and that only 25 nations have yet to report an AIDS case. The WHO says that figures are probably only representative of about one-third of the actual cases in the world. •

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Dare

TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

"I am the Love that dare not speak its name."
— Lord Alfred Douglas, "The Two Loves," 1892

December 22 - 28, 1989
Volume 2, Number 51

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Dare logo designed by
RUSEL BROWN



Dare is published weekly by
Pyramid Light & Power
Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422
(615) 327-Dare

ADVERTISING
Please phone for ad rates and information.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$35 first class, \$20 third class.
Postal Service: send address changes to:
Circulation Department
Dare
Box 40422
Nashville, TN 37204-0422

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DEFINITIONS

'Twas the night before...

by **NANCY LYN DEFINE**
Contributing Writer

IT'S THE NIGHT BEFORE Christmas and you feel like a louse. You jump everytime you hear hoofs by the house. Your friends have all hung up their stockings with care. But you know that you had better not dare.

What if this thing about naughty and nice — is not only true, but really checked twice? Just the thought makes you tremble with dread. Cause you know in that case you're pretty much dead.

So you sit in a chair all alone in the dark; and you think of your lover asleep like a lark.

Well, you really can't blame anyone but yourself for staking your life on the words of an elf. Too many drinks, your tongue started to wag; you announced to the world Barbara Bush was a hag. You said William Buckley wore a locket that stressed, he was Bette Davis in drag (in a dress).

You mocked Vanna White as the goddess of sex; you swore Jimmy Swaggart wore telescope specs. You called Dan Quayle a moronic quack; then suggested he gave Maragaret Thatcher a whack while they romped in the sack.

You referred to the Pope by all kinds of names; and implied that O'Connor, well, wasn't quite sane. And then to cap off your curmudgeony day, you said that you thought good St. Nick might be gay.

So now here you sit as the hours take wing; and you wonder how soon you'll hear sleigh bells ring. No fireplace here so you watch the door; which after a while is really a bore. When what to your wondering ears should be heard; a noise in the kitchen; but that's clearly absurd.

Still, you check it out thinking what the hell; if it's really weird, you can always yell. But

you're stuck in your tracks, and you curse all your drinks; and stare as Santa comes in through the sink! He turns around and he gives you a wink; and you realize that he's dressed all in pink! You shake your head, you close your eyes. Wow, talk about a major surprise.

Mr. Claus says, "Oh, don't act so stunned. Honey, my work has just begun. When everything is said and done; Christmas is for everyone. It's whatever you want and it's always fun."

He laughs when he asks about Buckley and all; he told all the gang at the pole, he recalls; then he grabs you as you begin to fall. You wake up and cautiously look around; but he seems to have left without making a sound.

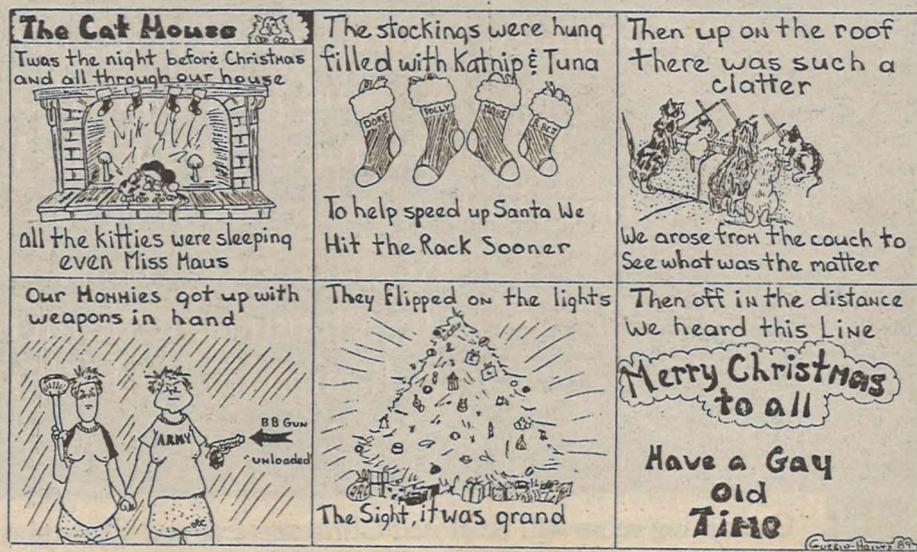
You check under the couch and behind the toy boats; then you throw open the closet and grab your coat. You run out to the porch where you find a note.

"Would have loved

to stay and gossip and gab. I think your apartment is really fab. But I have lots of other places to go. And as you can see, it's beginning to snow. By the way I'm not hetero, homo or bi; I'm however I'm seen through believing eyes. Any my suit isn't pink or red or white, it's really the color of dazzling light.

"AND I DON'T judge who's been good or bad by some pompous religious conservative fad. As long as you do what you think is best, don't worry, I'll handle the rest. Give me some credit, Santa's no fool. Santa is kinda extremely cool. Best wishes from Rudolph and Donder and Blitzen; enjoy Christmas dinner will all of the fixin's. Oh, before I forget and fly off like a kite, Merry Christmas to all — and to all a good night!" •

"Oh, don't act so stunned. Honey, my work has just begun. When everything is said and done; Christmas is for everyone. It's whatever you want and it's always fun."



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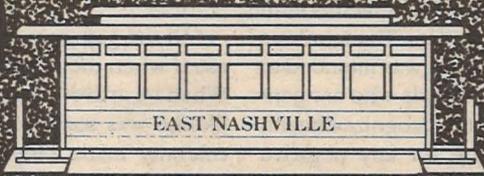
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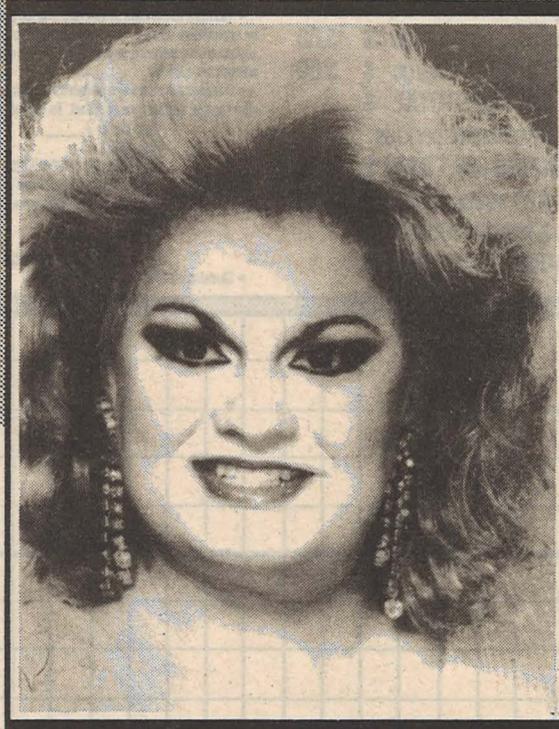
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