MTSU Students Organize to Fight Anti-Homo Backlash

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

Spurred on by what they perceived to be a strong anti-gay backlash on their campus, a group of lesbians and gay men at Middle Tennessee State University have begun efforts to organize an on-campus group called "MTSU Lambda Association."

MTSU President Sam Ingram said the group's efforts to become a recognized student organization will probably be successful as long as proper procedures are followed.

"I do not see there being a problem with these students organizing. If they meet the same conditions as anyone attempting to organize a new student group they will be approved," Ingram said.

State colleges and universities which are governed by the State Board of Regents already have guidelines for guaranteeing fair treatment of lesbian and gay student groups.

In early 1980, federal District Court Judge Tom Wiseman issued a ruling giving official recognition to a similar group at Austin Peay State University. Wiseman's ruling followed a lengthy and costly court battle waged by lesbians and gay students on the Clarksville campus who had been refused official status by then APSU-President Robert Riggs.

"I haven't been asked to pass judgment on this group," Ingram said.

"We'd like to see in place lesbian and gay support group, a place where lesbians and gay men are accepted and allowed to interact and project a better public image than the one presented by the student newspaper," said Daniel Webster, student spokesperson for the MTSU group.

The prevailing anti-gay sentiment on the Murfreesboro campus is the result of an article which appeared in Sidelines, the student newspaper, which purported to chronicle gay life among the 13,000-member student body.

But instead of presenting a balanced view of lesbian and gay life at MTSU, student Richie Smith said the published account portrayed gay men as "obsessed with bathroom sex."

The story, written by Sidelines staff writer Tony Stinnett, told of university attempts to curb sexual activity in restrooms by removing the doors to restroom stalls in Keathley University Center and the Kirksey Old Main building on campus.

Campus restrooms have long been targeted for "tea room sex," the story reported. That claim was backed up by examples of sexually-themed graffiti on the walls.

Stinnett's story, which brought a rash of angry letters to the editor of the student paper, followed a sting operation conducted last summer by Murfreesboro City Police. The sting focused on sexual activity in the city's Old Fort Park.

Following the local media coverage, students began to discuss the possibility of forming a support group for lesbian and gay students.

"Actually, we had thought about it before all the media hype, but when it happened we decided we should do something immediately," Smith said.

"Timewise, MTSU is back in 1982, not continued on page 4

Bragg, Shocked, Come to Nashville

By DEBORAH BURKS
Staff Writer

Several "politically correct" musicians from around the globe will be appearing at The Cannery on the evening of October 14.

Billy Bragg, considered one of Britain's most progressive musicians, will be the feature. Bragg was a founding member of Red Wedge, a group of left-wing musicians connected with the Britain's Labour party. He has been in the United States recently with his "Save the Youth of America" tour, urging his audiences to register and vote.

The Democratic Left notes that Bragg believes "both the ballot and the barricades are important strategic tools." Activists from several action groups, including ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), were involved with this tour. Bragg has also toured with The Smiths, musicians well-known to many gay and lesbians.

Also appearing at The Cannery will be Michelle Shocked. Shocked's recently released album Short Sharp Shocked (Mercury) has garnered some much-deserved recognition for this east Texas folk singer.

The album contains an odds-and-ends assortment of political songs ranging from "Graffiti Limbo," a song based on the police slaying of black New York graffiti artist named Michael Stewart, to "When I Grow Up I Want to be an Old Woman," a kind of children's rhyme satirizing procreation. Through a voice somewhere between those of Joni Mitchell and Rickie Lee Jones, the feminist, anarchist, lover and skateboard rider in Shocked can all be heard.

Also appearing at The Cannery will be Michelle Shocked, a complex and sophisticated talent " by Musician magazine, will join fellow "politically correct" musician Billy Bragg and the 7-member Nicaraguan band Mancatal for a Nashville concert appearance next week.

Armistead Not Disciplined

By STUART BIVIN
Editor

Reports that the Nashville Board of Realtors has lodged a complaint against Metro Council Member George Armistead for his remarks about homosexuality and the Gay Cable Network are untrue, according to Grace Fairbanks, executive vice-president of the Board.

Armistead is a member of the Nashville Board of Realtors.

Fairbanks said that the Board of Realtors does have a code of ethics requiring members to adhere to a professional standard of conduct, which includes a prohibition against bias and discrimination, but added that formal grievances must be filed with the Board before it can take action.

"This office does not investigate until a written complaint is received," Fairbanks said last week, noting that all such grievances come across her desk.

"There may have been telephone calls complaining against Mr. Armistead," Fairbanks said. "But the Board has not received any written complaints, and the Board can only act if there is a written complaint."

The Board's Code, like those of other professional, sets a standard of conduct for its members. Citizens who feel that a member has violated one or more of the canons of the Code can make a formal, written complaint to the Board, which will investigate through its Grievance Committee.

Members found guilty of violating the Code can be punished or expelled by the Board.

INSIDE

The Amazon Trail: an amazing tale, page 5

All about coming out, page 6
Mondays

Nashville CARES
AIDS/ARC Support Group. 6:30pm. HIV Education Support Group. 6pm. Family Support Group. 6:30pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Lambda Group
Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians. Unitarian Church. 8pm.

MAGNET (Married and Gay Network)
New group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC-Nashville. 6pm. Info phone 320-0288.

Tuesdays

Vanderbilt Lambda Association
Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni. Divinity School, Room G 23. 5:30pm. Info phone 298-9931.

Al-Anon
Open meeting. MCC-Nashville. 6:30pm.

Nashville CARES
HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Sober Sisters (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous)
Closed meeting, MCC-Nashville. 8pm.

Wednesdays

Sex Addicts Anonymous
Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC-Nashville. 5:30pm.

Nashville CARES
AIDS/ARC Support Group. 6:30pm. HIV Support Group. 7pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Thursdays

Nashville CARES
HIV Support Group. 6:30pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC-Nashville. 8pm.

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)
Meeting. 8pm. Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5823.

Fridays

Sex Addicts Anonymous
Closed meeting, MCC-Nashville. 5pm.

Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

Saturdays

Nashville CARES
AIDS/ARC Support Group. 4pm.

Metropolitan Community Church-Nashville
Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. $5.

Gay Cable Network
Cablecast, Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television). 8pm. Free.

Sundays

Manna New Life Church
Worship service, 11am. Info phone 833-6581 or 834-4911.

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

Sunday, October 9

Feminist Book Circle
Meeting. Discussion of Over the Hill: Reflections on Ageism Between Women, by Baba Cooper. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd. 5-7pm. Free. Info phone 298-9931.

Tuesday, October 11

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY
Direct Action
Protest nonrecognition of lesbian/gay relationships at Marriage Bureau, Howard School, 2nd Ave South. Info phone Penny Campbell, 297-4293, or Gary Bellamy, 885-2665.

Family Celebration
Music, food and dance. Sponsored by Nashville National Coming Out Day Committee. Gas Lite Lounge, 1671/2 8th Ave North, Nashville. 7:30pm. $2 donation requested. Info phone Gary Bellamy, 885-2665 or Penny Campbell, 297-4293.

Sunday, October 16

Pride Week '89 Committee
Planning meeting. 1401 Cedar. 1pm. Info phone 297-4293.

Saturday, October 29

Halloween Party
Talent show and raffle, follows Mortgage Meal. MCC-Nashville. 8:30pm. Dinner & party, $5. Party only, $3. Info phone 320-0288, 885-8202 or 391-0222.
Sodomy Revision Attacked

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

Recently proposed revisions in the Tennessee Criminal Code which would specifically consider heterosexual "crimes against nature," but would criminalize all sexual acts between two persons of the same sex, are likely to come under fire in the coming months.

"We should be removing the sodomy statute from the criminal code, not revising the wording," said Hedy Weinberg of the American Civil Liberties Union in Tennessee.

Weinberg said the ACLU nationwide is committed to the repeal of all sodomy laws and Tennessee's statute is likely to come under fire in the coming months.

"We must begin mobilizing," Weinberg said. "Tennesseans must begin talking to their legislators. We must convince them that this law should be repealed."

"We cannot allow pandering to the homophobic attitudes we might see in the months ahead," Weinberg said.

Susan Kay, of the Vanderbilt Legal Clinic, who last year spoke on the current sodomy statute's technicalities and to an organizational meeting of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force, refused to comment on the Commission's recommendations.

"I haven't followed the changed recommendations by the commission, so I really have nothing at all to say about them," Kay said.

One-third Volunteer Contact Tracing

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

State health officials report that one-third of the Tennesseans testing positive for AIDS in the past five months have asked authorities to contact their sexual partners to tell them they may have been exposed to the disease.

John Fortune, coordinator for AIDS counseling and testing for the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment, called the partner tracing "an important tool" in the state's fight against the disease.

"It is possible to find people in the community who are infected, but don't know about it," Fortune said.

Fortune explained that the partner tracing program is "non-threatening and non-frightening," given the guidelines used to administer the program.

Since May, when the program went into effect under federal guidelines, about 50 people have been contacted and told they are at risk of having the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), widely believed to be the cause of full-blown AIDS.

After persons who have tested positive for HIV infection are contacted, they are counseled on the methods of informing past sexual partners.

"We stay away from anything about guilt in this situation," Fortune said. "We might do a little role playing even. We try to help the person decide how to tell their partner(s) themselves."

If requested, state health officials will contact the partner.

"We attempt to contact them, based on information given by patients. If possible, we get them to come in for testing and counseling," Fortune said. "If there are infected people out there it helps to give them information about how to protect themselves and others."

In the five months since partner tracing began, patients who test HIV-positive have given authorities the names of 68 sexual partners who are at risk. The number of patients does not equal the number of partners reported. Fortune said one patient reported 14 contacts over an extended period of time.

CELEBRATE!
Your next step

The anniversary of the March on Washington
Direct action at the Marriage Bureau
Our history-making year in Nashville
Our lives as lesbians and gay men
Friends and lovers
Your commitments
Your relationships
Yourself

What's your next step?

Same-sex couples needed:
Friends, lovers, comrades, for direct action at the Marriage Bureau, Howard School.
Tuesday, October 11.
For information call Penny at 297-4293 or Gary at 889-2665.

Juanita's
BAR
1700 4th Avenue South 256-9681

Juanita's Cap Week
Monday, October 10
COLUMBUS DAY
PARTY
"Come Discover!"
FREE BUFFET 7 to 9

What's your next step?

Family Celebration!
NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY
Tuesday, October 11
7:30 p.m.
Gas Lite Lounge
$2 donation requested
Music, Food & Dancing

Saturday, October 15
Puttin' on the Hits
9:30 p.m.
$3 cover
continued from page 1
keeping step with political times. It lags far behind in acceptance of new social issues," Webster said.
John Weaver, another of the students involved in organizing MTSU Lambda, said the mood on campus has changed little since he first attended the school in 1977.
"There have been some changes in morals and a lot of people are much more accepting than in the past," Weaver said, indicating that a fear of AIDS has influenced the opinion of many people.
"There is a definite need for this type of organization," Weaver said. According to the students, MTSU Lambda—if approved by campus officials—could help to sway public opinion. Already in the works are plans for AIDS education workshops, counseling sessions and a proposal for a lesbian/gay hotline for members of the MTSU community.
"This kind of organization would be a better atmosphere than a bar for young gay people to get together," Webster said. "Bars can be overwhelming and frightening. An organization like this would be a more appropriate, more affirming setting."
The students have until mid-October to submit their constitution to appropriate campus authorities who will then rule on the proposal. The constitution must bear the names of five charter members to be eligible for recognition from the university.

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The voice in the wilderness.
Watch Gay Cable Network / Nashville Saturday, October 8 8 p.m.
GCN Special Report Part Two Republican Convention
Exclusively on Nashville Cable Channel 35.
Poison May Fight AIDS

By STUART RIVIN

Scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have suggested that an altered form of a natural poison may seek and kill HIV-infected cells.

The discovery may lead to a new method of therapy that could limit the spread of the virus within the bodies of those who carry the virus, according to a report published in the British journal Nature.

The poison, pseudomonas exotoxin A, is so strong that an amount the size of a salt grain could kill a human, the article said. The poison is produced by a soil bacteria.

Researchers say that the drug ignores uninfected cells in test-tube experiments.

"We're encouraged...by the low amount of drug which is effective," said NIH researcher Bernard Moss.

The drug works by killing infected cells before they can produce more viruses.

There is evidence to suggest that, though the

Pages

Amazing Amazon


By SHERRE DRYDEN

Entertainment Editor

If you're ready for a little light reading with a serious message, this collection of Lee Lynch's syndicated columns is a good point. Just warn your roommate that you're likely to start giggling uncontrollably at some point. In fact, you might consider setting aside some time to read passages aloud and share the giggles.

The Amazon Trail (the column has the same name) assemble of Lynch's essays, arranged in categories like "Gay Lit," "Gay Rites" and "The Geography of Gay." The "amazon" in the title might lead men to pass Lynch by, but many of the essays are just as pertinent for men as for women.

The first, "Becoming Her," is the sad/happy/funny story of Lynch's transformation from late 50's baby butch to "Her," the first full-grown lesbian professional Lynch encountered.

"This slight, dapper woman with short salt-and-pepper hair and the plain stamp of lesbian in every line of her face, every move of her body, was In Publishing. Oh my, she was perfect...I've become Her at last, the future I chose thirty years ago."

In many cases, it is the glimpse of an earlier time, of Being Gay in the sixties, that makes The Amazon Trail particularly interesting. In "A Place For Us: Gay Bars" Lynch moves from a discussion of why gay bars are important to a nostalgic description of her first bar, the Swing Rendezvous in Greenwich Village.

Somehow, knowing that Andy Williams' song "The Good Life" was adopted by gays, or that The Ace of Spades was a Provincetown lesbian bar in the sixties ("The Notorious Ace of Spades") bridges the gap between what we know about lesbian and gay history and today's culture. And it is the knowledge that there is, indeed, a past that helps validate the present.

Lynch not only makes being a gay teen-ager in 1959 seem like fun (when it really must have been more like hell), but she also makes the hard questions of 1988 seem answerable. She has the ability to make fun of us without being derisive. In "Cravat Caveat" Lynch takes a semi-light-hearted look at the old question of femme/butch role-playing:

"I love wearing ties. If I had the money, I'd probably dress like something out of G.Q. Girlfriend is delighted when I wear my brown leather flight jacket and tweed snap-brim cap."

In "Second Hand Posh" she discusses the genesis of that lesbian tradition, the thrift shop:

"The next phase in my thrift-store career was among the guilt trips from the dentist, vet or ObGyn, lay a gay newspaper...I looked over my shoulder to see who might have noticed this accusing envy. It was probably the month's copy of Sissies Speak Out, or worse, Raging Bulldogger Rag. Even if it was the more discreet OCELANE, the headlines had done me in with the postal service."

Some may argue that issues like role playing and coming out are devalued by irreverence, that we shouldn't ourselves take seriously the very things we struggle to have taken seriously by society at large. But Lynch doesn't ridicule those who take these issues seriously, just as she refuses to be ridiculed for her own lifestyle.

Instead, she demonstrates that it is possible to use humor, and by laughing at ourselves defuse the destructive situations that can arise when lesbians (or gay men) find themselves on opposing sides.
Growing Out of Room

By DEBORAH BURKS
Staff Writer

close-at (klâz ‘it) n. [L. Claudere, to close] 1. a small room or cupboards for clothes, supplies, etc. 2. a small room for conferences or meetings. -v.t. to close up in a small room for confidential talk.

Considering Webster's definitions, a closet doesn't sound like a suitable place to spend one's life. Based on my own experience, I can verify this.

Yet, as we all know, many gay men and lesbians do live there — 'in the closet.' I'm struck by several aspects of this definition of a closet, those descriptions which also apply to the "closet" constructs we gay men and lesbians use to protect ourselves. First of all, closet is derived from a Latin word, meaning to close. That's exactly what we do by choosing to live in the closet — we are closed off from other gay men and lesbians, the rest of society and, most importantly, ourselves.

Secondly, "small" is a key descriptive in defining a closet. Have you ever found a closet big enough for its purpose? Well, I've certainly never had one spacious enough for my clothes, or my linens, or my life. Our "closets" are indeed small.

My closet was never big enough to hold all the lies which were necessary to conceal and "protect" myself. It grew too crowded in there with all the shame and fear. Questions like "What will happen if my mother finds out?" or "Will I lose my job because I'm a dyke?" occupied too much space and little was left for me.

So after several years of this crowded arrangement, I moved out of that closet. I finally realized how unnecessary and damaging it is to live there. I decided that there is nothing wrong with me — the wrong is with a society which encourages us to deny who we are and thus live in the closet.

Closets restrict our growth as individuals and as a community. The smallness of the closet confines and defines our happiness — we as gay men and lesbians can never be happy if we continue concealing who we are.

The third feature of this definition is interesting: the verb transit form of closet implies a temporary situation. For example, we closet for a meeting. This does not mean permanent residence, but rather a temporary state.

I'm tired of all the excuses people use for staying in the closet. I understand the need for a closet may be necessary for some people at some given time, but the time comes when we all have to move outside the closet's confines. Next Tuesday as we celebrate National Coming Out Day we are given a unique opportunity to take our next step in emerging from the closet. Use this day to start your move — or to continue — forward.

You'll be happier.

I'll bet my pink triangle on it!

Let's use closets for what they are meant — to store things, instead of people's lives.

And some of us are the boss.

Robert didn't catch on, so next Tuesday I'm gonna tell him that I saw what he did and I think he's an asshole.

He does a good job and we need him to continue to do so. But I think it's time that Robert realized that we are everywhere.

And some of us are the boss.

---

Coming Out with a Vengeance

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

With National Coming Out Day fast approaching, and after much urging to "take my next step," I find myself in a quandary of sorts.

What's your next step when everyone knows already?

My family knows, my friends know, my employer knows, my co-workers know, my neighbors know, my childhood Sunday School teacher knows. Hell, everybody knows! So what do I do?

Then something happened Monday that prompted me to decide what my next step is going to be.

In my day job (being Dare's managing editor is certainly not my primary source of support), I have two assistants in each of my store's three locations.

Because of how my job functions, I rotate for a room. "Dykes unite." There

I haven't seen before — 'Dykes unite.' There

I laughed and said, "Yeah, but have you seen the rubber stamp on my desk at home?"

"No," said my mother with a slight bit of puzzlement. "What does it say?"

I laughed and said, "Yeah, but have you seen the rubber stamp on my desk at home?"

"No," said my mother with a slight bit of puzzlement. "What does it say?"

"I saw it," my grandmother called out from her stall. "It says: 'Lesbian Money.'"

"What?"

"Lesbian Money," Lyda repeated.

"I just stamp it on my big bills," I said tentatively, and we all screamed with laughter. The other woman at the sinks tried to pretend we didn't exist.

Since then there has been little discussion. There have been some moments of awkwardness, usually in social situations where they feel uncertain. Although we have not explored the "it," the shift in our relationship is clear.

When I go home it is with my lover and she is as relieved as I to finally know who I was.

When I go home it is with my lover and she is as relieved as I to finally know who I was.

Then she said (not breaking her rhythm since we all know timing is everything), "Here's one I haven't seen before — 'Dykes unite.'" There was that profound silence again, as if the frames of my life had ground to a halt. We were in a freeze-frame and options played themselves out in my head in rapid succession: Say nothing? Say something? Say what?

Then something happened Monday that prompted me to decide what my next step is going to be.

Then along came Robert. He's new. And a jerk. And homophobic.

I realized that the other day when I happened upon Robert making not-so-veiled references to my orientation, demonstrating his distaste for my lifestyle with an appropriately stereotypical limp-wristed gesture.

When I walked up, catching Robert off-guard, he was rather non-plussed. And obviously flustered at least, that I had seen his actions. He began to chatter incessantly, quite unlike his usual lack of conversational ability. He thought, I think, that by this diversionary tactic I would translate his actions as being about someone else or I would just forget that I was mad and that I wanted to beat the shit out of him.

So, for the remainder of the afternoon, I let Robert sweat it out. Literally and figuratively. I made him move two bedroom groupings and change two monstrously heavy dining rooms, while I plotted my revenge.

The following morning I pointed out the physical demands of retail display work and how most people think decorators are sissies. "But I could beat the hell out of anyone," I told him. "Even while choosing just the right colors for a room."

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I Lost It at the Movies

Excepted by permission from Testimonies: A Collection of Lesbian Coming Out Stories, ed. by Sarah Holmes, Boston: Alyson Publications, 1988, $7.95, paper. By JEWELLE GOMEZ

My grandmother, Lydia, and my mother, Dolores, were both talking to me from their theatre. I was washing butter from my hands at the bathroom stalls in the Times Square movie theatre. I was washing butter from my hands at the bathroom stalls in the Times Square movie theatre. I was washing butter from my hands at the bathroom stalls in the Times Square movie theatre.

I laughed and said, "Yeah, but have you seen the rubber stamp on my desk at home?"

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More Mail, But Not Enough

One in Teen is written by a 17-year-old high school student. Because he is a minor, he will use a pseudonym.

By PATRICK HILLS
Contributing Writer

Hey! Well, I got a sudden spurt of mail a few weeks ago—a sudden spurt being three letters.

Unfortunately, due to school and other obligations, response time is quite slow. However, I'm working on it. So, if you've written and have not heard from me, I apologize. You'll be hearing from me soon.

Today, at his request, I am going to tell you a little about the thoughts and troubles of one of the gay teenagers I have met recently. He is black and has only come out to his mother and his friends may suspect that he is gay, but don't lose his friends.

He is probably not ready to face the possible consequences of coming out in high school.

One problem he faces—as all of us have, at one time or another—occurs when he goes out with a guy or does something else "gay":

Lying

Lying often becomes necessary to eliminate any possible suspicions about what he is doing. This can be a very risky habit.

Dear Dare,

The panning of the premier broadcast of the Gay Cable Network in Nashville and the generally low-key attention paid to the local efforts to bring the cable series here (p. 9 in Dare) deserve comment. The impression left by the article was that the Gay Cable Network should be judged solely by its artistic merit, by its "professional" production values and by the degree of local content of its programming.

This approach trivialized the real meaning and importance of GCN by completely ignoring the political step forward the broadcast implies as well as the efforts of its local producers, Krzysztof Kravoviak and Diane Easter. One would think that the effort to bring the cable broadcast here deserved some attention as a news story apart from the content of the videos themselves. Yet this organizing effort, the work that went into it and the struggles involved were omitted from the story completely. I know that a lot of hard work and sacrifice went into that effort which for the first time will bring gay broadcasts—produced by gay people—to Nashville. History was made last week, yet Dare was content to describe events as merely "Better than Nothing."

The assertions that gay political developments in New York would be of little interest to Nashvillians border on the Natavistic. We are a national movement and indeed the first show did feature stories from the South. I, for one, am interested in New York street children who might be gay, or the progress of the ant-bias bill in New York. What is there about New York that is such a turn-off for the Dare reviewer?

And why should we be expected to look more favorably on those segments featuring "Mr. Hotlanta" than those dealing with struggles against discrimination? If one's residence or geographical region were to determine our interests, what is the Dare reviewer saying about the readers judgment and values?

Finally, the joy of turning on the TV and watching the local producers and other supporters so thoroughly turn back George Armistead's pathetic efforts to stop GCN marks the turning point in gay liberation organizing (I have lived here for 18 months). Can there now be any doubt that we are a strong proud movement in this city? Or that we have political power? Gay Nashvillians be advised: the political victory brought to us by the organizers of the Gay Cable Network—by discerning bigotry in the pages of the Tennessean and on all the TV channels (for several nights in a row)—is historic. Armistead was elected as an at-large candidate with great backing and he was no match for us. I don't care if the "carmen work was rudimentary and amateurish"—there was nothing out of focus about our local organizers or the significance of their work. We owe them a little more than that. We should never trivialize political and social breakthroughs by giving an unbalanced amount of attention to relatively minor considerations like form or regional locus.

Sincerely,
Gerry Scopettuolo
Nashville
Announcements

- Gay or lesbian teenagers who would like to meet others and are interested in forming a support group in Nashville: write Box 156802, Nashville, TN 37215-0082. All correspondence held in strictest confidence. 
- Missed a Dare? Back issues mailed to you (except V1 #2 and V1 #4) Send $1.50 with name and address to Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204
- Married and gay? Support group forming, 320-0288 or write MCC/MAGNET, 13115th Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37203

New: business notes – a 1/32 page notice display ad at a special introductory rate. Let the community know you’re there for pennies per reader. Ann Taylor, Dare Advertising Sales Coordinator, 352-5823.

Roommates

- Mature lesbian needed to share 3BR house with 2 other people. Belmont area. $180 + util/month. 383-6540.
- Female roommate wanted, furnished bedroom, utilities furnished. $50 a week. Ask James, 366-0145. Non-smoker.
- Male roommate wanted. Furnished or unfurnished bedroom, no pets, utilities furnished $50.00 a week. Harding Mall area, 331-0381.
- Reliable female to share 2BR / 2BA apt. Honest and reliable need only call. After 6 pm 366-1041.
- GWF needs roommate, Smyrna area BR+ bath $200/mth+ 1/2 util. M/F dependable must like animals. 459-7614

Personals

- GWM, 27. 5’6”, 140. Very attractive. Smart. Creative. Witty. Student. Seeks similar high caliber guy to love. DARE DRAWER 20
- Same-sex couples needed. Friends, lovers, comrades for direct action at Marriage Bureau, Howard School. Tuesday, Oct. 11. For info call Penny 297-4293 or Gary 889-2665.

All ads run two consecutive weeks and cost $10 for up to 100 characters $20 for up to 200 characters $30 for up to 300 characters $40 for up to 400 characters $50 for up to 500 characters and cost $5.00 for up ID 100 characters for up ID 200 characters for up ID 300 characters 

Please print one character per box. A character is any letter, numeral, space or punctuation mark. We reserve the right to edit for length.

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Saturday, Oct. 8, is the last day to register to vote in the Nov. 8 general election. If you’ve never been registered, or if you haven’t voted in the last four years, or if you’ve moved in the last four years, you must register by Saturday, Oct. 8.

You can register any weekday at the Election Commission at Howard School on 2nd Avenue South [phone 259-6031], or phone Deborah Burks [298-9931] for more information. Special registration sessions will be held at Ralph’s Thursday, October 6 and at the Warehouse, Friday, Oct. 7.