**CDC Predicts Fivefold Increase in AIDS Cases by 1992**

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

There will be an estimated 365,000 cases of AIDS in the U.S. by 1992, according to a report issued last week by the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control.

That figure represents a five-fold increase in the number of AIDS cases in the U.S. As of last week, some 72,766 AIDS cases had been reported to the CDC, of that number, 41,064 patients, or 56%, are already dead.

In Tennessee, some 552 cases of AIDS had been reported as of August 31, according to Scott Osten, director of education for Nashville CARES. Of that number, 313 deaths, 56% of all Tennessee cases, have resulted from AIDS.

According to the CDC report, by 1992 cases will hit the 365,000 mark with deaths totaling 265,000 or 82%. In Tennessee, reported cases are expected to exceed 2,600.

Predictions of increasing numbers of cases signal a need for more widespread AIDS education, Osten said.

"Education is one of the few institutional tools we have at our disposal as far as prevention goes," Osten said. "We will continue the basics and will be reaching out to communities outside the gay community — the heterosexually involved community, intravenous drug users, minorities."

Osten pointed to the fact that, among the gay population, the percentage of new AIDS cases appears to be dropping, perhaps as a result of education and awareness.

The CDC's predictions for 1992 came in its latest quarterly report on AIDS to the White House's Domestic Policy Council. In a report issued in 1986, the CDC predicted some 270,000 reported cases by 1991.

However, actual reporting of AIDS cases has run somewhat higher than predictions. The CDC predicted 15,800 cases for 1986 and 23,000 in 1987; actual totals showed 17,100 in 1986 and 25,200 in 1987.

The 172,000 people living with AIDS in 1992 will require medical care at a cost of anywhere from $5 billion to $13 billion.

An estimated one million to 1.5 million persons are believed to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), thought to be the cause of AIDS. Although that estimate has been criticized as being too low by some officials, the CDC sticks to its estimate based on a mathematical analysis by experts empaneled by the CDC in April.

**Circle K Backs Down from Controversial Health Care Policy**

By DEBORAH BURKS
Staff Writer

Circle K corporation announced last Friday that it has dropped a controversial plan which denied, based on "lifestyle decisions," health care coverage to certain employees, such as people with AIDS and those who suffer from drug and alcohol abuse.

In a memorandum to employees, Circle K president Robert Beade stated, "Effective immediately, we have cancelled implementation of these specific limitations due to widespread misunderstanding of both the intent and the specifics of the changes."

This decision comes after a month-long review of the policy by the management of Circle K, the nation's second largest convenience store chain. The plan, which took effect in January, was presented by the company as a money-saving effort. The policy did not receive widespread attention until August when it became the focus of complaints and demonstrations by civil libertarians and AIDS activists. On August 10, Circle K suspended the policy for review.

"The company's decision makes good business sense," said Robert Bray of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). "We commend Circle K for concluding not to discriminate against people with AIDS and other employees with drug and alcohol abuse problems."

Bray, who has been involved in the efforts to have Circle K reconsider its health care plan, believes that the company's decision to drop the discriminatory policy resulted from a continued on page 5

**Inside**


Dan Quayle: Haven't we heard this before? Jeff Ellis' analysis, page 7.
September

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**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 Alcohics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.

**Tuesdays**

**Vanderbilt Lambda Association**
Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni, Divinity Room G 23. 5:30pm. Info phone 296-9931.

**Vanderbilt Lambda CARES**
Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.

**Lambda Group**
Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.

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

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

**Sober Staters** (Lesbian Alcohics 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.

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

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

**Fridays**

**Saxoholics Anonymous**
Closed meeting, MCC-Nashville. 5pm.

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

Saturdays**

**Nashville CARES**
AIDS/ARC Support Group. 4pm.

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

**Sundays**

**Manna New Life Church**
Worship service, 11am. Info phone 833-8581 or 834-4491.

**Metropolitan Community Church-Nashville**
Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info phone 320-0286.

**Friday, September 23**

**Forging a New Foreign Policy for the '90s**

**Saturday, September 24**

**Gay Cable Network/Nashville**
Premier and celebration. Benefit for the Gay Cable Network/Nashville. Buffet and champagne, Warehouse 28. 7pm. $3. Info phone 385-9126.

**The Hotel Josephine!**
Musical comedy about "Mardi Gras in gay New Orleans." Sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church, Huntsville. Von Braun Civic Center Playhouse. 7:30 pm. $6 donation requested. Info phone (215) 539-4235.

**Saturday, October 1**

**Super Saturday**
Voter registration push. Project Vote and Nashville Voters Coalition. Edgehill United Methodist Church, 1502 Edgehill Ave. 9:30am–3:30pm. Free. Info phone 244-4353.

**Monday, October 3**

**Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance** (T-GALA) Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7pm. Free.

**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.
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Every Thursday,
Non-stop Dancing with Eddie Denson
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Every Friday and Saturday
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and Sunday, October 2
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Sunday, October 9
FINALS
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Nashville Women "Take Back the Night"

By DEBORAH BURKS
Staff Writer

Approximately 250 people participated last Saturday in Nashville's "Take Back the Night" march and rally, an event intended to focus attention on the prevalence of rape and violence against women.

The candlelight marches originated at two sites, 9th and Broadway and the Metro Employee's Parking Lot at the foot of the Woodland Street bridge.

Participating in the 9th and Broadway procession was a sizable contingent marching under the banner, "Nashville Lesbians Take Back the Night." That march continued down Broadway and merged with the other wing of the march at Riverfront Park, site of the evening's rally.

As darkness descended upon the Cumberland River, the rally opened with music by Marianne Osiel and Kat Graham. Billy Fields presented a proclamation from Nashville Mayor Bill Boner declaring September as "Domestic Violence and Rape Awareness Month." Keynoting the rally was Council member Pat Pye who related her own experiences with domestic violence.

An unidentified rape survivor retold the horror of her experience: "I'm here tonight to tell my story in hopes that this will never have to happen to anyone again." Lynne Cushing, an organizer of the event, termed the evening a success.

"I feel very positively about 'Take Back the Night.' We expected 150 people and we got a much better crowd than that," Cushing said.

Commenting on the evening's impact, Cushing said, "I hope the survivors in the audience were empowered by being here. I also hope that people who attended will do something to encourage public officials to increase police protection and to provide women and children with the help they need in dealing with problems of rape and domestic violence."

Jean O'Leary

Openly Lesbian Attorney O'Leary Appointed to DNC by Dukakis

From STAFF REPORTS

Lesbian activist Jean O'Leary was appointed by Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis in July as an at-large member of the Democratic National Committee.

O'Leary's appointment marks the first time in party history that an open lesbian has been made a member of the governing body of the national Democratic Party.

"I am proud to have received this appointment. This is another example of the commitment Mike Dukakis continues to demonstrate on behalf of our community," O'Leary said.

She termed her appointment to the DNC as "consistent with Dukakis' support of positive AIDS policies and civil rights for lesbians and gay men."

O'Leary added that her appointment "highlights the difference" between Dukakis and the Reagan administration "that has turned its back on the gay community for eight years."

O'Leary's comments were echoed by Boston attorney Vin McCarthy, a member of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"The appointment of Jean O'Leary confirms that Gov. Dukakis will have gay men and lesbians as a part of his team," McCarthy said.

For the past seven years O'Leary has been executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates, a non-profit, impact litigation firm, committed to promoting civil rights for lesbians and gay men.

"Mike Dukakis has said that gay men and lesbians would have more than just a foot in the door and would participate in policy making. Jean O'Leary is the kind of caring and qualified person that Dukakis hopes to attract to public service," said Tim McNeill, associate director of issues for the Dukakis campaign.

A 17 year veteran of Democratic Party politics, O'Leary most recently served as a Dukakis whip at July's Democratic National Convention in Atlanta.

During the Jimmy Carter administration, O'Leary was instrumental in organizing the first and only meeting of gay and lesbian leaders held in the White House. That meeting was followed by a series of meetings that changed policy regarding lesbians and gay men with key federal agencies, including the State Department, the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.
Groups

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
Hedy Weinberg, Director
Box 120160, Nashville 37212
256-7028
Lesbian & Gay Anti-Violence Hotline
256-7028

Conductors
Box 40261, Nashville 37204

Feminist Book Circle
Box 120372, Nashville 37212
298-9931

Metropolitan Community Church
131 15th Av North, Nashville 37203
320-0288

HIV/AIDS CARES
Sandee Potter, Director
Box 25107, Nashville 37202
385-1510
AIDS Crisis Line
385-4106

Nashville Women's Alliance
Box 120834, Nashville 37212
306-0555

National Organization for Women (Tennessee NOW)
Elizabeth Jamison, President
Box 120523, Nashville 37212

Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA)
Box 24181, Nashville 37202

Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF)
Box 24181, Nashville 37202

Tennesseeans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKAL S)
Box 120871, Nashville 37212
297-8540

Vanderbilt AIDS Project
Suite CCCC519 Medical Center North
Vanderbilt University, Nashville 37232
322-7265 or 322-7262

Vanderbilt Lambda Association
Box 121743, Nashville 37212

Women's Resource Center (YWCA)
1608 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville
385-3952

Clubs

Allen Gold's
1100 McCullie Av, Chattanooga

Cabaret
1711 Hayes St, Nashville
320-7082

The Chute
2635 Franklin Rd, Nashville
297-4571

Chez Colette
407 1st Av South, Nashville
256-9134

The Gas Lite
167 1/2 8th Av North, Nashville
254-1278

Crazy Cowboy II
2311 Franklin Rd, Nashville
269-5318

The Jungle
306 4th Av South, Nashville
256-9411

The Office
130 Franklin St, Clarksville
646-1157

Ralph's
105 2nd Av South, Nashville
256-9682

Tom's Place
1407 Market St, Chattanooga

Victor/Victoria's
111 8th Av North, Nashville
244-7256

Warehouse 28
2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville
385-8699

The World's End
1713 Church St, Nashville
329-9480

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**Nashville Women**

**“Take Back the Night”**

By DEBORAH BURKS

Staff Writer

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The candlelight marches originated at two sites, 9th and Broadway and the Metro Employee’s Parking Lot at the foot of the Woodland Street bridge. Participating in the 9th and Broadway procession was a sizable contingent marching under the banner, “Nashville Lesbians Take Back the Night.” That march continued down Broadway and merged with the other wing of the march at RiverFront Park, site of the evening’s rally.

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**...Armistead: “Sick and demented”**

*continued from page 1*

local sentiment: "I think the statements made by Mr. Armistead are not indicative of the way most people Nashville feel. There is a very broad spectrum of opinion in the community and I think Mr. Armistead represents the farthest end of the spectrum," she said.

Station manager Elliot Mitchell, quoted in the Tennessean, said if viewers call to protest "The impact we had on this decision was the greatest in the history of the council." Bray added: "If events like this don't happen, we won't be able to change things." Bray said: "I think the statements made by Mr. Armistead are not indicative of the way most people Nashville feel. There is a very broad spectrum of opinion in the community and I think Mr. Armistead represents the farthest end of the spectrum," she said.

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**...Circle K backs down**

*continued from page 1*

combination of the pressure applied to Circle K by the media and the impact of demonstrations and boycotts around the country.

"The media coverage helped to point out the absurdity of the policy and the demonstrations and boycotts informed potential customers about what was going on with Circle K," Bray said.

However, Ed Buck, the Phoenix activist who organized much of the movement to impeach former Arizona Gov. Evan Meacham, emphasizes the importance of negotiations with Circle K executives in the company's recent decision.

"The impact we had on this decision was the result of responsible discussion with Circle K," Buck contended. "Gay organizations, particularly Ben Schatz of the National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) and Robert Bray of HRGCF, came to the front and effectively put pressure on the company to change its policy." Buck, who personally met with Circle K representatives, said he explained to the company that the policy was illegal and if it were not reinstated, legal action against them would ensue.

Buck believes the fate of Circle K’s policy will influence other corporations that are considering implementation of health insurance plans which exclude coverage of people with AIDS.

"They are going to think twice or three times about such policies," Buck said. "They know the gay community will be effective in opposing it." Buck believes the fate of Circle K’s policy will influence other corporations that are considering implementation of health insurance plans which exclude coverage of people with AIDS.

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In the repeal of Circle K’s policy a statement on the gay and lesbian rights movement Bray thinks so.

"I think this outcome with Circle K is testimony to the power of the gay and lesbian movement in this country," Bray said. "We can respond quickly and effectively to a situation such as this." *

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By SHERRE DRYDEN
Entertainment Editor

From the end of World War I until just before the start of World War II, women — many of them Americans, most of them lesbians — went to Paris.

Living in Paris was cheap. There was considerable sexual freedom. There were bars and cafes for drinking and dancing and meeting friends. Beautiful and famous (or notorious) women held salons and parties. The city was gaining a reputation as a center for modern literature, art and music. As more women went there, surely Paris became known as a place where it was possible to work creatively within a community of women.

These women, and the community they constructed, have become symbols of our history as women and as lesbians. It is their names we list, their works we read and look at, their lives we think of when we need to know that someone was there before.

Some of the names are more familiar than others — Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, Natalie Barney, Renee Vivien, H.D., Colette and Radclyffe Hall. Others, just as important, may be less familiar: Djuna Barnes, Romaine Brooks, Sylvia Beach, Janet Flanner, Margaret Anderson, Jane Heap. They all knew each other, were one another's friends and lovers and enemies (sometimes all three); without their work and influence modern western literature and the arts would be vastly different.

Although many of the women had other things in common — education, family wealth, religion — what brought them together was sexual orientation. And two of them, Gertrude Stein and Natalie Barney, have come to represent lesbianism to all the world.

Their lives were very different.

Natalie Barney's place in history has been based almost exclusively on her sexual orientation. She dedicated her life to revising the image of lesbianism as inversion, illness, perversion, paranoia. This image was held not only by heterosexual society, but by lesbians as well.

Natalie objected to any mode of behavior that
seemed to validate the "scientific" theories of lesbianism dominant in her time, particularly the idea that lesbians were really men trapped in women's bodies. She objected to cross-dressing, preferring instead long hair and flowing gowns. Her salon in the heart of the Faubourg Saint-Germain became an institution, attracting everyone who was anyone on the Paris literary scene.

Both Natalie's mother, Alice Pike Barney, and her father, Albert Clifford Barney, had inherited considerable wealth, leaving them free to lead a fashionable social life. Natalie's first years were spent in Cincinnati and Washington, D.C. with summers in Bar Harbor and Europe. She and her sister Laura had a French governess and were sent to boarding school in Fontainebleau. Later there was a German-speaking governess, education at Miss Ely's School for girls in New York, a European tour and seven months in Germany learning fencing, dancing and violin. By the age of 18 Natalie had completed a proper young lady's education.

Natalie elected to spend the rest of her life in Paris, calling it the only city where one could live and express oneself as one pleased. In 1901 Liane de Pougy published Idylle Sapphique and Natalie's private life became suddenly very public. This thinly disguised autobiographical novel tells of the seduction of a bold, experienced courtesan (Liane) by a pretty American girl named Flossie (Natalie). It was hardly necessary for Liane to fictionalize Natalie's life to make it sensational enough to attract attention.

A second novel, Une femme m'apparut (1904) describes the passion of the author for the beautiful but cold Lorely. The author was Renée Vivien. Renée and Natalie had not only fallen in love but had begun to talk of forming a circle of women poets and living on Lesbos. When Renée died rumors held it to be caused by her unrequited love for Natalie.

Another of Natalie's conquests was Rémy de Gourmont, one of the leading French men of letters. His letters to Natalie were published after his death as Lettres intimes à l'Amazonne (1926). An earlier book, Lettres à l'Amazonne (1914) was a collection of essays, in the form of letters from Rémy to Natalie, based on their conversations. Lettres à l'Amazonne appeared regularly in a French literary magazine from 1912 to 1913, making Natalie famous almost overnight.

In 1909 Natalie moved to the house on the rue Jacob, where she began her salon. By the time World War I was over Natalie and her salon had a firmly established place in Paris literary life.

In 1927 she organized a series of meetings featuring women writers, the Académie des Femmes. Gertrude Stein was celebrated in one of these programs, the beginning of the friendship between the two that would last until Gertrude's death.

Other lifelong friends were Romaine Brooks, the Duchesse de Clermont-Tonnerrre and Dolly Wilde, all also former lovers. For Natalie, passion seemed brief but friendship endured — which did not mean abandoning love affairs as she grew older.

Pensees d'une Amazone set forth for the world to read her views on Sapphic love and she became "l'Impératrice des lesbiennes." Two novels of the period, Radclyffe Hall's The Well of Loneliness and Djuna Barnes' Ladies Almanack clearly present Natalie as the Amazon of the Amazons. Ladies Almanack is a bawdy spoof of some of the better-known lesbians of Paris, gathered at the home of heroine Evangeline Musset. A volume of Natalie's memoirs, Souvenirs indiscrets, is closer to autobiography than her other works. She recalls the literary history of her time with intimate sketches of the women who played major roles in her life: Renée Vivien, the Duchesse de Clermont-Tonnerrre and Colette and Lucie Delaure-Mardrus (who wrote passionate love poetry to Natalie).

When war broke out in 1939 Natalie stayed on. And after the war she tried to rejuvenate her salon, but the new literary lights found her old fashioned. She lived until 1972 but with the end of World War II her era had passed.
Blue Heaven


By JOE MAROH
Staff Writer

Like most farces, Blue Heaven is all plot and no obvious theme. But just like most farces, the crisis in the plot is based on a certain real imbalance in The Way Things Are.

In Blue Heaven, Joe Keenan's first novel, a gay man and a nongay woman decide to get married. Their motive is frankly materialistic. They want the lavish wedding presents their wealthy relatives will give them.

In the process, Gilbert and Moira must deal with a variety of problems that are not unusual for normal couples but become special when the relationship is so decidedly artificial. How to handle husbandly jealousy, for instance. He suspects she's being unfaithful to him and is hurt and angry, partly because she could bolt the entire scheme and partly because he feels deprived of the thrill of infidelity for himself.

What is on the surface a frothy comedy of manners may then also be viewed as a serious deconstruction of social mores. (The plays of Oscar Wilde are evidence of this in the highest form.) Blue Heaven, with its far-fetched plot complications and equally far-fetched solutions, manages also to uncover some pretty significant imbalances in the American family.

For the odd couple in the novel, monogamy, fidelity, the proprietary family and definitive gender role distinctions become necessary ruses to ensure the success of their scheme, hardly moral considerations at all. Thus alienated from their putatively ethical premises, though, the elements of the so-called traditional family appear materialistic and oppressive in their function. The frankly unnatural marriage in the novel tends to undercut marriage in general, revealing a certain artificiality at its center.

Late in the novel, the gay protagonist finds even homophobia to be a useful tool for him as he attempts to divert attention from himself and safeguard the plot. By the end of the novel, the institution of marriage has been trashed, along with a number of other honored institutions.

Take, for instance, Christmas. That most revered and elevated family-oriented holiday. In novelist Joe Keenan's hands, Christmas provides a grand opportunity not only to take pot shots at the extended family but also to expose the soft underbelly of the holiday itself - the materialism and commerciality that the Christmas season celebrates in the most cloyingly sentimental terms.

In the middle of the book, a Christmas celebration climaxizes with the accidental decapitation of the Three Wise Men bearing gifts to a plastic Jesus in a nativity scene. The incident encapsulates the book's cynicism towards Christmas, marriage and various other icons of American romanticism and normal "decentcy."

Not that Blue Heaven is overtly didactic or political. In fact, readers of this comic novel may find my reading of the text somewhat gratuitous. After all, one does not really expect to find serious social criticism in something as fatuous as Blue Heaven - or, for that matter, the considerably less fatuous The Importance of Being Earnest. Nevertheless, one does see it there whether one expects it there or not.

Blue Heaven is one of the funniest books in a while to blow up a sacred cow. The novel's sense of fun and play dominates the plot, all but entirely eclipsing the satire. The bizarre situation is milked for every possible laugh, and there are quite a few. And even as the repetitious volley of campy fallacy begins to turn brittle, as it does eventually, the book sustains reader interest in the events of the story and the lives of the unusually vulgar and despicable characters.*

Box 40422

Dear Sponsor,

You were one of the 36 individuals, companies, bars, restaurants, and organizations who donated prizes to the raffle for the Myron Z. Neel Education Fund of the [Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance] T-GALA. We would like to thank you for your contribution to its success.

The backing shown by sponsors like yourself has given our community a tremendous feeling of support. This type of endorsement was previously only to be found in the core group of businesses dealing with our community: gay bars. Trying to avoid going to the same well too many times, T-GALA reached out to a wider variety of people and found willing participants. This broader-based public support is an important step in expanding the climate of openness in Nashville. It sends a message to our community that our advocates are as diverse as ourselves, and are willing to stand up and be counted.

Over the eight weeks of advertising ticket sales, the names of sponsors went on flyers and posters touching thousands of people. Just over 2030 tickets were sold, but many more people were exposed to the name of the service, organization, or business establishment of the sponsors. Our hope is that you will directly gain from participating in this project and that you might be open to becoming involved in future projects.

If you would like specific details on how this education fund is being utilized, please ask for information to be sent. We will be glad to include you on the quarterly open newsletter mailing list.

Currently we have plans to sponsor several episodes of the new Nashville Gay Cable Network, to be aired prime time Saturday nights, on Channel 35. If you have suggestions on seminars, workshops, speakers, or other informational and educational items you would like to see in Nashville, please contact us.

Once again, thank you for joining with T-GALA as we continue our efforts to educate people about their power to change the world in which we all live. You have made a difference.

Terry Kevin
Scott Osten
Co-chairs T-GALA Finance Committee

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Chapters
Gay Cable Network: Better than Nothing

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

The Gay Cable Network/Nashville program, viewers will see an uneven program made up primarily of news from the New York area with a few reports from other locations across the country.

GCN/Nashville, aimed at the growing lesbian/gay community in Music City, will air every Saturday on Viacom’s community-access Channel 35 from 8 to 9 p.m. each Saturday.

A preview of the initial Nashville cablecast, held for members of the press Wednesday, gave a good indication of what will be seen by viewers in the weeks ahead.

And what will you see? Too many segments focusing on the Big Apple. Certainly, that is to be expected, since GCN is headquartered in New York City, but how will it play in the heartland? The first episode shown here opens with a news analysis segment with moderator Alan Hussman and three guests — Alan Dee, Rebecca Lewen and Phil Zwicker — for a discussion of a proposed anti-bias bill currently being considered by the New York legislature.

The bill’s future could have far-reaching ramifications and that segment is interesting, as was a taped Mario Cuomo speech on anti-gay violence. But the Cuomo “bite” was much too long and the subsequent discussion of New York street children — many of whom are lesbian or gay — will be of little interest to Nashvillians, due to the lack of background given for the story.

Technically, the camera work was rudimentary and amateurish.

“Lavender health,” the title of another segment, is fairly self-explanatory. This week’s topic is concerned with how lesbians can become better health care consumers.

A segment on the New York chapter of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) was far too localized to New York to engender much interest locally.

The Right Stuff, a sort of gay Entertainment Tonight, was probably, except for a couple of clever commercials and public service announcements, the most entertaining segment of the show with hosts Laura Lucas and Mitch Starr. The best part of the show was an appearance by Razor Sharp, a drag queen with a raiper wit who gives a scathing review of the recent Miss America pageant. She was fun!

Nashville audiences are likely to warm to the pair of Southern reports included in The Right Stuff: a backstage look at the Mr. Hotlanta pageant and a report on New Orleans’ gay Mardi Gras celebration.

Getting the local audience’s attention appears to be the biggest obstacle GCN/Nashville must overcome.

Of course, in time, local reports may air on the program. Until then, viewers must work to find something that catches their fancy in this uneven show.

The show’s production values are a bit shabby and the show has too much of a homemade look.

Still, bringing GCN to middle Tennessee is a courageous undertaking and one that will not doubt be appreciated by our community.

Scenes
A Month in the Country

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

A Month in the Country, Pat O’Connor’s new film set in 1919 England, is a beautiful, lush and lyrical production with an intimate focus on the emotional restraint and repression of the British people.

Set in the aftermath of World War I, “The Great War” as it was known to those who survived its horrors, A Month in the Country tells the story of Mr. Birkin (played by Colin Firth), an art historian and restorer suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), who ventures to the Yorkshire village of Oxgodby to restore a painted-over fifteenth century mural in a tiny chapel.

We first meet Birkin in the midst of a hellish nightmare of war, ravaged by its unending symphony of gunfire and anguished cries of impending death. The scene is a disturbing one.

Most of us, perhaps only vaguely aware of the first World War, are almost surprised by the notion that its survivors were traumatized by their battlefield exploits. Rather, we imagine those soldiers almost as the toy counterparts we played with as children. The harsh reality of their experiences is much different than play and as emotionally draining as Vietnam.

Joining Birkin in Oxgodby is James Moon (Kenneth Branagh in an especially affecting performance), an archaeologist looking for the remains of a nobleman — whose descen-
Republican History Repeats Itself

By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

On that hot August day in New Orleans when Republican presidential nominee George Bush tapped Indiana Senator Dan Quayle as his running mate, political pundits nationwide were caught unaware by the selection.

Within hours controversy and threats of scandal began to swirl around Quayle as more was learned about the man behind the "Robert Redford smile."

And what we learned was not exactly from the Party-approved script. But this is not the first time a presidential candidate's introduction to the nation's political spotlight has been clouded by controversy or disquiet.

The scion of a wealthy Indiana publishing family, Quayle's privileged upbringing was reported in newspapers from Bangor to Seattle following his nomination for vice president. Groomed to be a newspaper editor, J. Dandforth Quayle, found himself in the '70s being handicapped instead for a career in politics. It was at that time that a group of well-heeled Indiana Republicans met to choose a candidate for a congressional race - and the wealthy, good looking Quayle was the man for the job.

The Ohio-born Harding, known to many as a "small town sport and womanizer," was an all-too-common man singled out by fate for duties for which he was ill-suited. It was his marriage to the wealthy and politically well-connected Florence King that precipitated the rise of the newspaper editor political fortune.

Following a defeat in the 1910 Ohio governor's race, Harding rebounded and won a term in the United States Senate in 1912. But he enjoyed being in the Senate much more than being a Senator - he appeared for only one third of the Senate's votes. When, in 1920, Republican leaders sought a compromise candidate for their presidential nominee, the wealthy, good-looking Harding was the man for the job.

The similarities between 1988's Dan Quayle and 1920's Warren G. Harding are described as tall and good looking - and of interest only to the most casual politician. As the two positions of such organization. The opinions of this newspaper are expressed only in editorials. Any views expressed in any advertisement, signed column, letter, article or cartoon are those of the author of artist and do not necessarily reflect the positions of Dare.

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One in Teen
Teens, Sex and Morals

"One in Teen" is written by a gay 17-year-old who lives and goes to high school in Nashville. Because he is a minor, he writes under a pseudonym. - Editor
By PATRICK HILLS
Contributor
Hi! I was having a hard time deciding what to write about today, so I asked a couple of teachers for suggestions.
First, I asked my art teacher. "What!" she says as she jumps back from shock. She does not have any good ideas.
Next I ask a teacher I had two years ago and already knows I'm gay. She thinks for a few seconds. "How about sexual morals of gay teenagers?"
I thought, "Well, this'll be a hot topic."

As you already know, during adolescence, people are developing sexually and becoming curious about sex. For us lesbian and gay teenagers, of course, this is torture since we usually don't have anyone to share these feelings with. Since many lesbian and gay teens are isolated from other lesbian and gay teens, some choose to go to gay bars.

For example, a teenager who is gay might go to one of the local gay bars and leave with an older man.

I, personally, would feel very uncomfortable about doing this, because you do not know enough about this older man to get sexually involved with him. Also, it is likely that you, the gay teenager, would not see this guy again. For me, that would be extremely difficult to deal with. However, for some it might not.

As for me, I guess you could say I'm a hopeless romantic! However, I won't lie and say I have never fallen into a relationship of sex and no love. I did, and I did not like it.

My goal is to meet that someone where something just "clicks" and a relationship is gradually developed. Love first, sex later, is my philosophy. I think it would be so romantic to have a boyfriend with whom I can enjoy doing different things such as riding bikes or just talking.

Of course, this is all just my feeling, but I do think that lesbian and gay teens should avoid sex with people who they do not know very well.

As you may have noticed, this is mostly directed toward gay teens and not lesbian teens. This is true because, being a gay male, I do not know enough about what lesbian teens go through in this area to write about it.

Well, that's about it for today. Catch me again in two weeks.

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