**Surreptitious HIV-test suit proceeds**

*"John Doe" sues Nashville's Baptist Hospital and mandatory-HIV-testing advocate, doctor John Lamb*

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

A lawsuit originally filed last December charging Nashville's Baptist Hospital with testing a patient for HIV-infection without his knowledge or consent was recently re-filed by attorney Abby Rubenfeld.

The patient, referred to only as "John Doe," in court documents, claims that hospital officials had no right to test him. The test was performed on Dec. 27, 1987, when the man visited the hospital's emergency room for treatment of a broken leg sustained earlier in the day.

Attorneys for Baptist Hospital have yet to respond to the suit, although sources have told *Dare* privately that the hospital will consider changing its policies regarding HIV testing, but does not feel financially obligated to the man.

Lamb has since been a vocal advocate of mandatory testing, espousing the policy during heavy media coverage of the case. Baptist Hospital spokesperson John Kitchen.

The policy also calls for patients who test positive to be counseled.

John Doe maintains that he was not offered any type of counseling, although his medical charts list counseling as part of the procedure. Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, nationally known for its pioneering work in AIDS-related law. Some portions of the criminal code have been in place for almost 200 years.

If adopted, TSC's proposal would change the current prohibition of "crimes against nature" to a specific ban on all homosexual acts.

The proposal being considered by legislators calls for a reduction of homosexual crimes against nature to a Class C misdemeanor, carrying a sentence of not more than 30 days and/or a fine of $25.

The Tennessee criminal code currently prescribes a sentence of not less than five years and not more than 15 years to be levied for committing a crime against nature.

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**Tennessee Senate passes homosexual acts prohibition**

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

By a 29-3 margin, the Tennessee Senate last week approved revisions in the state's criminal code, including a change in the state's crimes against nature statute.

The test for HIV-infection is usually ordered for those Baptist Hospital patients "known to be at increased risk for the human immunodeficiency virus, as well as those patients whose clinical illness suggests AIDS or other recognized HIV-related syndromes," according to hospital spokesperson Aileen Katcher.

The policy also calls for patients who test positive to be counseled.

John Doe maintains that he was not offered any type of counseling, although his medical charts list counseling as part of the procedure. Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, nationally known for its pioneering work in AIDS-related law and as the author of the first AIDS legal guide.

**Dare this week**


Evita and Hunting Cockroaches reviewed. *Curtains*, pages 7, 8.
Volunteers needed.

Pride Week '89 needs volunteers: coordinators, security, stage crew, sales, promotion and much more. Please join us at our weekly planning meetings, Sundays at 1:00 p.m.

To volunteer or just to find out more, phone (615) 297-4293.

Have fun. Have Pride. Nashville Pride Week '89

Talk About AIDS

Do You Talk About AIDS On the First Date?

Phillip: I sure do.
That surprises me. A lot of people don’t like to talk about AIDS.

Phillip: Nobody talks about it. But everybody’s afraid of getting it.

Are you afraid?

Phillip: Of AIDS—yes. Of talking about it—no.

What sort of reaction do you get when you mention AIDS?

Phillip: It certainly gets their attention.

"AIDS Response to AIDS" (ARATAC) provides free information and resources about AIDS and HIV prevention. Call (901) 458-AIDS for more information.

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Education call (615) 385-AIDS
For information on individual or group counseling call (615) 385-1510

Aid to End AIDS Committee (TEAC) Box 43399, Memphis, TN 38174-0399
M-F 3:00 pm – 11 pm Sat, Sun 7:30 – 11 pm call (901) 458-AIDS
Answering service 24 hours call (901) 762-4401

a public service message from Dare and Tennessee Responds to AIDS
Loving life, cheating death

by JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

DESPITE SEVERAL CLOSE CALLS with death, Kevin Winters remains in love with life. Since he was first diagnosed in 1986 with AIDS, the 24-year-old man has beaten death at its own game at least three times, most recently battling back from a bout with pneumonia. Now he is somewhat of a legend among the staff at Nashville's Park View Hospital.

Just days ago, Kevin "slipped away," as he referred to it, only to be revived by the nurses and doctors at Park View.

"I went into a dark tunnel and I swear to God I saw a really bright light," he remembers. "The spirits were with me — my grandmother and my grandfather were there. I can't say if it was the medication causing me to hallucinate or if it really happened, but I believe it did."

"He had been sick the day before, and that night he just gave up and decided his time had come," said Janice Haugk, a licensed practical nurse at Park View.

Last July, Kevin needed another miracle to save him from the severe pain resulting from a high fever, an abdominal abscess and swollen lymph nodes. "We didn't expect him to survive," said Robert Alford, Park View's medical director.

"We started a four-drug regimen and four days later he was sitting on the side of the bed eating. The point is, you can't give up on these people."

Kevin has certainly refused to give up. Although he was first diagnosed three years ago, Kevin maintains that he probably showed signs of AIDS as early as 1982. Then, when very little was known about the disease which ravages the body's immune system, he was diagnosed as having a retrovirus. After that initial illness, he was not sick for another five years.

Last January he was hospitalized with meningitis, another of the opportunistic infections which attack the body's immune system as a result of AIDS.

Now at 117 pounds, Kevin has gained 10 pounds since he left the hospital last week. His normal weight is 145.

And since leaving the hospital, he is now involved in a campaign to educate the public about his fight against the disease and about the financial and economic consequences of AIDS. Kevin's only income is $338 per month in social security supplemental income. Medicaid will pay the bulk of his hospital expenses, but he will be unable to pay the balance.

His recent 18-day stay at Park View resulted in a bill exceeding $50,000.

IN ADDITION TO ORTHODOX medical treatments, Kevin said he may try holistic methods to fight AIDS. His primary physician, Larry Michell, is considering possible use of the newly-approved drug GOQ-223, which is derived from the cucumber plant and was discovered by researchers in the People's Republic of China. The drug is said to have killed the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in test tubes. HIV is believed to be the virus which leads to full-blown AIDS infection. "I've started educating myself as well about other healing techniques," he said. "I've read some of Louise Hay's books about her battle against cancer and how she was able to cure herself."

"I'm not saying I'm cured yet, but I could be in remission for quite a while." 

...Evita

• continued from page 7

wonderful evocations of Diort's post-war New Look and the tattered rags of the poor. Her costumes for Evita outshine any previous TRT effort.

As expected, Brian J. Laczkos' lighting design was near perfect, a skillful guide through the intricate maze of Earl Swensson's set. The set, also typical of TRT's level of excellence, was even better than expected from neophyte stage designer Swensson, known heretofore for his architectural designs. His imposing columns and constantly moving platforms and stairways were far and away better than the hotel architecture for which he is known in Nashville (which ranges from the mundane Vanderbilt Plaza to the garish Opryland Hotel).

All of the parts add up to a glorious whole. Evita is a spectacle not to be missed.

BRIEFS

from STAFF REPORTS

AIDS activist halts hunger strike

ATTORNEY STUART MCDONALD has stopped his four-and-a-half-month hunger strike in protest of California Governor George Deukmejian's anti-gay policies. McDonald began his hunger strike January 2 and escalated it to a water-only fast at the end of April in order to bring pressure on the governor and the state's legislature and Congressional delegation.

The San Francisco attorney, who has AIDS, sought a statewide educational program and legislation addressing anti-gay and AIDS-related discrimination.

McDonald said that he felt he would be more effective alive than as a martyr.

Texas House okays no-consent HIV tests

THE TEXAS HOUSE of Representatives has passed a bill that would allow doctors to test patients for HIV exposure without informing them or getting their consent. Supporters of the bill said that the measure is necessary to avoid doctors' confusion about when consent is needed.

Civil rights and AIDS activists have opposed the bill, noting serious civil rights concerns, especially in housing and employment.
Thursday, May 25
Miss Southern Belle Pageant
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$50 entry fee
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Phone (901) 526-1038
Broken

Ellis' report on his
of fundamentalist Christian
on change therapy

WHILE THE ACTIVIST in me was outraged
by some of the beliefs espoused by Promise—
that being happy and homosexual was a
contradiction in terms — I was, nonetheless,
forced to admit that others were well within
their rights to disagree with my assessment.

And before that first meeting, I made a
promise to myself — and to the other men
of Promise — that the names of the participants
would remain confidential.

As with any support group, the initial order
of business was introducing ourselves and
"telling how the past week has been and where
you are spiritually," according to the group's
facilitator.

The months preceding that meeting did little
to prepare me for the emotional outpourings
of the eight men searching for answers.

"My name is William and today has been a
really difficult day for me. It was my day off—
I'm a preacher — and I wanted more than
anything to just go out and pick up some guys," the
first man said. "But I didn't do it. I feel like
I'm at a crossroads in my life."

William, in his mid-30s and pastor of a fun-
damentalist congregation, is married and the
father of two. He had unsuccessfully fought his
attraction to other men, finally confessing his
feelings to his wife, who had remained sup-
portive throughout. He turned to Promise in
order to salvage his marriage and his spiritual
and religious selves.

"My name is Steve and the past week actu-
ally been a pretty good one for me," the second
man said. "But the next few weeks are going to
be difficult. My divorce will be final soon."

Steve told a story of a failed marriage, the
consequence of illicit sexual encounters with
other men throughout the years. After his wife
discovered his "other" life, he was forced to
move out and relinquish his family.

"I went from living with my parents to living
in a fraternity house while in college. Then we
got married right before graduation and I
moved in with my wife. She had a child from a
previous marriage, so we never really had any
time together alone. Now, for the first time in
my life, I'm living by myself in an apartment," he
said. "I hope I'll be able to change. I've given
up hope of ever reconciling with my wife. But
I hope I'll be able to have a relationship with
my children... if I change."

John, a businessman in his late 40s, attrib-
uted his involvement in the group to his
brother's insistence he seek help and his own
belief that only through change could he know a
true Christian existence.

"Whenever I see some man who I just lust after,
I pray for him — I pray that he'll come to know
Jesus Christ as his lord and saviour," John said.

Another man, Brad, a graduate student in a
local college, had never acted on his same-sex
desires, but was feeling tempted to succumb to
those desires.

"I've had a good week, nothing major has
happened," Brad said.

"You look real good."

"You've really been on my mind this past
week, Brad. And I prayed that you would
come back tonight," Steve admitted.

"One of the men told stories of struggles
and battles waged against sexual desires for
others of their own sex. They reiterated the
themes of salvation and redemption as they
sought their promised land of heterosexuality.

At least three men claimed Don Fento, pas-
tor of Nashville's Belmont Church, as their
spiritual counselor. Fento is a member of the
board of directors of the Tennessee Coalition
for Traditional Values, an organization re-
cently formed to fight the three "evils" of abortion,
pornography and homosexuality.

"He's a great man," the facilitator said. "He's
sort of like our guru."

Then it was my turn.

The story I told, as Richard, was one of
the young woman, he sought help to eliminate
his homosexual tendencies.

"And I had been doing well, actually, until
the session had gone on for two hours, the fac­
itator adjourned the meeting.

As it turned out, Richard, was one of a
young man, currently involved with a woman,
who in the past had experienced sexual re-
lations with other men. Now, hoping to marry
the young woman, he sought help to eliminate
his homosexual tendencies.

"And I had been doing well, actually, until
last Wednesday. After I left therapy I drove
straight to a bookstore and picked up a man
and had sex with him," I said.

The other men, none of whom had strayed
over the line during the past week, reacted
differently from the way I expected.

William nodded understandingly; Steve
shook his head; John's face turned red, Brad
seemed oddly embarrased; and the facilitator
looked as if he wanted to hit me.

"I have to question your commitment to
change," he asked.

"I think my being here should indicate my
commitment to change," I responded.

"DEBATE ENSUED ABOUT Richard's ac-
tions and his fitness for the group. Finally, after
the session had gone on for two hours, the fa-
cilitator adjourned the meeting.

My misgivings about attending the meeting
and possible discovery of my true identity
were, at least momentarily, assuaged.

Then, as I started to leave, William ap-
proached me:

"I think I know you. You look awfully fami-
iliar to me," he said.

My undercover assignment, it seemed, may
have been cut short.

Note: This is the second in a series on sexual
orientation change therapy.
**VIEWS**

**Our new sodomy law**

IT IS INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS that the Tennessee Legislature is going to pass the Sentencing Commission's nasty little revamp of the state Criminal Code, including that package's Neanderthal attack on the human rights of Tennessee's lesbian and gay citizens.

Governor Ned Ray McWherter has already said that he will sign the bill into law, so there is little hope of a reprieve by principled veto. The slobbering homophobes of the radical right are no doubt rubbing their blood-stained claws in glee at the prospect of a direct prohibition against homosexual acts. And well they should. After all, what better could they have asked for? The law as it stands now is seldom used directly, because it is a little vague ('crimes against nature'), because it applies equally to heterosexual acts and homosexual acts, and because its heavy penalties (felony — imprisonment for not less than five years and not more than 15 years) make it difficult as a practical matter to get a jury to convict.

For now, most of us must learn to think of the possibilities! A misdemeanor conviction, with a slap-on-the-wrist $25 fine and a measly 30 days in jail at the most, and specific encouragement to publicity-seeking district attorneys and politically-ambitious small-town sheriffs to get out and nail some queer with an antigay law against homosexual acts. Perfect!

It is not a simple matter to try and focus our anger on those we think are responsible for this barbaric assault. There are the self-righteous buffoons on the Sentencing Commission who voted to keep a sodomy statute in their proposal to the Legislature. There are the spineless wimps in the Legislature who have refused to exercise the provision from the Commission's bill. And there is the same Governor who signed legislation to specifically remove AIDS from the state's handicap-protection law, who will now blandly sign away our right to be free from government intrusion into our homes and beds.

Which deserves our anger most? None of them.

We should be angry with ourselves, because it is our silence, and our silence alone, that lets this and other repressive measures pass.

We don't stand up and say "No!" when the religious kooks try to cram their perversions on us. We don't stand up and tell the politicians that we are their constituents, and that we want to be able to live free. We don't demand that for us or for our neighbors, for our co-workers, our friends and neighbors.

IF WE EVER SPEAK UP, we can get the truly free America we were all promised in high school civics. If we ever speak up. Until then, we, and we alone, are to blame.

---

**WAVES**

The boyfriend's back, and he's not pleased

by LAURA TEK

Contributing Writer

I was disgusted when I heard these figures. That's an awful lot of people who, in effort to ease their rush hour tension, listened to and laughed at a swishy-mouthed "faggot" singing a warning to another "faggot" about the perils he was going to face when the first one's "magnificently strong" boyfriend returned.

NOW, I THINK PAROODES, if done with harmless intent, can be funny. We all like to laugh at ourselves once in a while. If this particular parody had been performed by one of our own, it would certainly have gotten a chuckle out of some of us. But this parody was created by a rock 'n' roll station. It was created and nurtured by an industry that is one of the most sexist and homophobic in entertainment today. WKDF's here does not simply amuse. Instead, the song provokes a reaction much deeper and stronger — a reaction that, I believe, might lead to violence.

WKDF's demographics, or the demographics of any rock and roll station, support this belief. WKDF is the number one Arbitron-rated radio station in Nashville among young adults ages 18-34, with an astounding 60-percent share of that market. Its target audience is young, white, heterosexual males (and in my opinion, those with an IQ below 50). What better audience is there for this than the one already guilty of perpetrating the most violence against gay men and lesbians?

WKDF SHOULD STOP playing this vile thing because its continuing to do so is only confirming and encouraging its audience's already virulent homophobia.

The power that radio stations, especially rock stations, have is frightening. They have the power to influence decisions and to control young and ignorant minds. WKDF is using that power very irresponsibly. It's misusing its powerful 100,000-watt transmitter tower to spread a dangerous message all the way from southern Kentucky to northern Alabama, from Cookeville all the way to Clarksville.

Let WKDF know that you protest its participation in the perpetuation of anti-gay prejudice, and insist on an apology. It's a simple thing. A note will do, a postcard or even a phone call. Just say that you don't appreciate this anti-gay song, and that you want it stopped. Write to:

SLATE (yes, that's his full name)
WKDF MUSIC DIRECTOR and/or
KIDD REDD, WKDF PROGRAM DIRECTOR
506 2ND AVENUE SOUTH
NASHVILLE, TN 37210
or phone (615) 777-Rock or 737-Roll
And let them know we're listening.
GINGER NEWMAN'S striking portrayal of Eva Peron is reason enough to see Tennessee Repertory Theatre's (TRT) production of the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Tim Rice opera *Evita.*

But Newman's performance is just one part — through a major one — of the record-setting production currently running at Tennessee Performing Arts Center's Polk Theater. TRT's fifth-season-ending *Evita* is both a musical and artistic triumph, the highlight of this Nashville theater season.

For any theatrical company, *Evita* is a challenging, back-breaking undertaking. Under guest director Steven Kent's skillful hand and Stan Tucker's deft musical direction, however, TRT finally meets its potential as a regional professional company to be reckoned with.

*Evita* tells vividly of the meteoric rise of Eva Duarte de Peron from the squalor of her childhood to the international fame she enjoyed as the iconoclastic first lady of Argentina. The opera follows Eva from age 15 to her death from cancer in 1952, age 33.

Webber's music and Rice's libretto tell the astonishing — almost unbelievable — story of Eva from a decidedlly skeptical perspective, viewing her with the practiced eye of a seemingly impartial observer.

Webber and Rice, with their British sensibilities, acknowledge Eva's legend but hasten to point out her human frailties and characteristic shortcomings. Yet despite the obvious skepticism inherent in the work, their portrayal of Eva betrays a grudging admiration of the woman. *Evita* is told in flashback, beginning with her death and the near riotous mourning that followed. As the second wife of Argentine dictator Juan Peron, Eva was the almost-defined symbol of hope and glory for the country's lower classes.

**OUR FIRST GLIMPSE** of Eva is as anything but a deity. She is seen as an opportunistic schemer plotting to escape the stifling confines of her village of Junin. By clutching wildly at the coattails of a fading singer named Augustin Magaldi, she gains her freedom, reveling in the neon spectacle that is Buenos Aires.

Once in Buenos Aires, Eva's calculating plan for fame and fortune is set in motion — a song from the original score calls her "the greatest social climber since Cinderella." As she moves from one lover to another, her eyes remained fixed on the ultimate prize: Juan Peron.

Peron, a member of a military junta which overthrew Argentina's government, is a decadent playboy whose interests include sex and polo. When he first meets the enterprising Eva, she is enjoying moderate success as an actress.

Realizing they are both cut from the same cloth, the two marry. But a union between the two is much more of a business merger than a love match. Under Eva's guiding influence, Peron displaces the other members of the junta and is elected president of Argentina. Peron's popularity, however, is minuscule when compared to the ardor and devotion accorded his first lady.

As she continues her crusade to bring down the country's aristocracy, Eva's loyal des­camisadoes ("the shirtless ones") look to her for inspiration and guidance. But power cor­rupts and that proves to be Eva's fatal flaw.

Faced with the daunting task of portraying Eva, Ginger Newman proves her mettle. Her glorious soprano does beautiful justice to Webber's score and her phrasing infuses Rice's lyrics with vigor and life. She is totally convinc­ing as Eva — all the way from her wild teenaged days to her thrilling Euro­pean tour as first lady.

**SHE GIVES US** an Eva who is elegant even among the most humble surroundings, and humble even among the most elegant.

When Newman takes to the balcony outside the Casa Rosada and sings "Don't Cry For Me, Argentina," she manipulates her audience with her superb artistry, captivating and captivating. Noted from one lover to another, her eyes remained fixed on the ultimate prize: Juan Peron.

Providing a counterpoint to Eva — in the manner of a Greek chorus — is the fiery revolutionary Che, whose distaste for the Perons is apparent. Performed by James J. Stein Jr. (standing in for a regretfully flu-stricken Louis Padilla), Che is the cynic in the street, giving voice to Eva's critics. Stein, who has played the role both on Broadway and on tour, is obvi­ously comfortable in the role which he per­forms spiritedly.

Myke Mueller's Juan Peron at first seemed to be a caricaturish, cartoonish portrayal — not unexpected, considering Mueller's reputation for flamboyant, almost comical, performances. Thankfully, by act two, Mueller seems to have hit his stride, giving us a Juan who is multi-dimensional and perhaps even sympathetic.

Sheleen Newman, in the minor role of Juan Peron's mistress, performs exquisitely the touching song, "Another Suitcase in Another Hall." Her voice is rich and beautiful, full of emotion.

Yet without the support of the 21-member company the production would be lackluster. Performing in the various roles of peasants, aristocrats and generals, the company provides the pulse that radiates from the heart of *Evita*.

Kent's direction is miraculous. He presents Eva with all the glamour and glitz that one would expect from Broadway, coupled with the musical excellence one would expect from Nashville.

Andrew Krichels' choreography is a theatrical mélange of tangos and flamencos, an imaginative mix of movement of color. Marianne Powell-Parker's costumes are

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- **WANTED:** Reliable and energetic people to help deliver Dare in Knoxville, Memphis and Nashville. Write Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204 or phone 615-327-DARE.

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- **LONG HOURS, HARD WORK, NO PAY.** Dare is accepting applications from writers. Learn community-oriented journalism, and be one of the best. Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204 or phone 615-327-DARE.

Homes

- **Vegetarian artist & 2 cats seek quiet M or F housemate, $125, huge yard w/ veg. gardens, nice neighborhood. Leave message 615-226-8313.**

- **East Nashville 1932 Spanish Mission bungalow, 2br $650/month. Security deposit. Jane Parkley, 615-269-6304.**

- **Male roommate wanted to share home in Green Hills, available now. $225/month + half util. No smokers/no dopers. 615-298-2422. Please leave message.**

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**AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

The theme of the Outsider who is unable to succeed or even function in an unfamiliar world is an old and well-worn one. It is one, moreover, with which many, if not all, of us can identify. Hunting Cockroaches, which opened May 13 at Memphis’ Circuit Playhouse, is a new play about the problems faced by those who emigrate to the United States from the Soviet bloc.

Written by Janusz Glowacki and translated by Jadwiga Cosicka, Hunting Cockroaches takes place in a one-room,roach-infested apartment on New York City's lower east side. Here two recent Polish émigrés, Anka (Ann Marie Hall) and Jan (Tony Isbell) Krupinski are having yet another of their sleepless nights. Anka opens the play by addressing the audience. She is sitting in the dark on the edge of the stage. In Poland, she tells us, she was a famous actress, a star of stage and screen, but in America, she cannot find work because people accuse her of having an accent. She denies this and proceeds to do Lady Macbeth’s “out, out damned spot” monologue, apparently unaware that she sounds like a lost Gabor sister.

In fact, both Hall and Isbell do an excellent job with their Polish accents; they keep them believable and sustain them consistently throughout the show.

Anka’s husband Jan is also a former Polish celebrity. He is a writer whose work ran afoul of government censors. Here in America, however, he is reduced to teaching in a community college, trying to instill a passion for Kafka in students who drive to school in sports cars. He is suffering from both writer's block and insomnia. After two years in America, he has published nothing.

Anka believes Jan’s problem is an insincere smile. “All Americans have sincere smiles,” she observes.

John, however, believes the key to American-style success is to sleep well. The secret, he argues, is either to be a sound sleeper or to befriend those who are. Their one attempt at befriending rich, powerful, attractive, sound-sleeping Americans was ruined, Jan feels, by his wife’s unsophisticated behavior.

Both Hall and Isbell are superbly suited to their roles. And both give convincing, haunting performances.

As the Night wears on, flashbacks and nightmares take place in both their minds. Acorns crawl from beneath the Krupinski’s bed to act out their memories and anxieties.

Michael Bobhne and Mark Pergolizzi are Polish police; Barclay Roberts is the U.S. immigration officer who demands to know if they plan to assassinate the President or to carry V.D.

Jo Lynn Palmer is wonderful as a bag lady who tells them they’ll soon be living in the park with her.

Steve Butler and Augusta Palmer are also delightful as the “limousine-liberal” Thompsons who come to welcome the Krupinski’s to America.

C. Stuart White’s set is appropriately claustrophobic and seedy, but the bed, which moves about the stage attached to the ceiling like a trolley, is just plain distracting.

Hunting Cockroaches isn’t just about the disillusionment many feel upon discovering that America isn’t perfect. It is more fundamentally a play about the alienation felt by many artists trying to make a living in a capitalist society. •

Quotes

"The article concerning the life-style of well heeled gays in the South was interesting only because of the subject with which it dealt. Should we watch for the next installment, in which the life-styles of the less affluent in that community are presented? One wonders what the percentage of the gay community is that can afford to live in the style of Cox and his friends?"

— John D. Murray Jr., of Little Switzerland, North Carolina, in a letter to the editor of Southern Magazine.

"In your article Billy Cox and his friends came across as very frivolous. Where are the gays who are giving their spare hours in hospitals and nursing homes, helping the men who are dying? Where are the 'Mother Teresa's' of the gay community in Birmingham? Would these gays be more likely to give of themselves if they would face AIDS as a 'gay disease'?

— An anonymous reader of Southern Magazine, in a letter to the editor decrying the idea that AIDS is not a "gay disease."

"Some people in Grand Rapids, never quite approved of the way Frances Gunn (a.k.a. Judy Garland) lived her adult life, nor were they comfortable with the reason the family left town so long ago.

"Some didn't approve of her drinking, drug-taking and divorcing. Others remained outraged at her father, Frank Gunn... Some residents remember Gunn had been asked to 'leave town because of some homosexual indiscretion.'"

— The Minneapolis Star-Tribune, on Grand Rapids, Mich. plans for a Judy Garland festival.

"They're Typhoid Marys. But they survive."

— Comedian Phyllis Diller, on HIV-positive people who don't take precautions against spreading the virus.

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