Bill clears senate hurdle
Awaits McWherter's signature
by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

A concerted and coordinated effort on the part of individual citizens, health and social workers and the legal community appears to have paid off, according to Hedy Weinberg, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union/Tennessee (ACLU). The bill to reinstate HIV and AIDS in Tennessee's Handicap Statute is expected to be signed by Governor Ned McWherter within the next few days.

"We expect that Governor McWherter will sign the bill because he stated three years ago that the problem of people with infectious diseases being omitted from the handicap statute needed to be corrected," Weinberg said. If the bill is signed into law, it will give people with infectious diseases like HIV and AIDS protected class status under the Tennessee Handicap Statute. In 1987, members of the state legislature adopted wording that excluded people with HIV or AIDS from protection. The

Continued on page 6

ETSU students organize
Lambda Association gets approval
by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

What started out as a conversation between friends in early January has resulted in the official recognition of the Lambda Association of East Tennessee State University, an organization for lesbian and gay students, staff, faculty and alumni on ETSU's Johnson City campus.

"A couple of friends and I were studying together and started talking about organizing a group for gay men and lesbians on campus," said Lisa Tolliver, a senior philosophy major at ETSU. "It was just one of those things, everything jelled at that particular moment."

Tolliver said an unofficial first meeting attracted a dozen or so students interested in forming the group. After placing an ad in the school's student newspaper, TN EAST TENNESSEAN, other students joined the organization.

"We had no problem getting official University approval," Tolliver said. "Debbie Craig, director of the Student Activities Committee, was very helpful and extremely supportive of our efforts."

Campus response to the group's official recognition has generally been mixed, Tolliver said.

"There have been the usual predictable, negative letters to the editor by two East Tennesseans, but there have also been supportive letters," she said, adding that the paper's editors had written an editorial in support of the group's efforts.

"But it's hard to say what the prevailing attitude is on campus," Tolliver conceded. "Just when I'm ready to say that everyone on campus is very close-minded, something happens to prove otherwise."

Thus far, Lambda Association of ETSU has sponsored a speech by Johnson City psychologist Mike Miska, who spoke on homophobia, and members next month will hear Tennessee's AIDS Committee for Tennessee's Gay Lesbian Newsweekly. March 30, 1990

Volume 3, Number 13
Tennessee's Gay & Lesbian Newsweekly
March 30, 1990

Bill Gordon, assistant manager of The Chute, 2555 Franklin Road in Nashville, was treated for a severe cut to the head on April 4, 1988, after a foiled robbery attempt by two men at the nightclub.

Maxine Todd, Memphis radio personality, was among the local celebrities offering their time and talents as auctioneers at last Saturday's ATEAC Auction at the Memphis Hilton Inn. Some $25,000 was raised during the event, about $10,000 more than in 1988. — DARE PHOTO BY LISA PARRAM

AIMEE raises $25,000
Annual auction termed a success by organizers, surpasses 1989 figures
by LISA PARRAM
Staff Writer

Some $25,000 was raised during last Saturday's AIMEE Auction at The Memphis Hilton Inn. The auction was AIMEE's major fundraising event of the year. The 1990 auction was dedicated to its founder Peter Barrosse, who died from AIDS last year. The goal for this year's auction was $20,000, and it will be used to replenish the patient assistance fund.

The 1989 event raised some $15,000. According to Mark Whitehead, Auction co-chair, this year's auction raised $25,000.

Many local celebrities volunteered as auctioneers while other Memphians volunteered to organize the standing-room-only event which began with a corporate champagne reception with music by pianist Johnny Arnold. A cocktail reception followed with entertainment by Lambda Chorus.

The live auction began at 7:30 with the first celebrity auctioneer, jazz vocalist Joyce Cobb of WEWV radio. The other celebrity auctioneers were Susan Browning, WRGK-TV, Channel 3; Maxine Todd, assistant operations manager and air personality for WDAI radio; and Nancy Hart and Kim Hendrew, both of WMCTV, Channel 5.

Don Smith, a professional auctioneer, assisted the celebrity guests throughout the evening, then took over for the last phase of the auction.

There were approximately 130 businesses that donated items to the auction. Among the items were trips to the Bahamas and Las Vegas, legal services, silk floral arrangements, furniture, books, artwork and much more.

Reflections, a gay men's bar, donated their cover charges from the previous Friday evening, totaling $300. During the auction, two friends decided to try to raise "a quick grand" by donating $100 each, only if eight other people would do the same. Less than 30 minutes after the first announcement, Chris Miller told the crowd that they had received 13 donations of $100 each.

By 11 p.m., ATEAC had already raised over $16,000, but the auction was not over yet. By the close of the auction, $24,000 had been raised. An additional $1000 was raised in

Continued on page 4

Inside Dare

❖ Madonna speaks!
The pop music diva talks about
Sandra and stuff...
Loose Lips, page 15.

❖ Wonderful 'Wonderland'
A recipe for an intriguing new gay-themed movie,
Persistence of vision, page 6.

❖ Center Piece:
Magnet unmasks the double standard, page 8.
Saturday, March 31
Outing Out and About Memphis. Visit to Overton Park Zoo, followed by barbecue. Meet 11am at North Parkway zoo entrance. Info (901) 274-1847 or 276-3275.

Dubbo Off the Wall News. Host Sam Feldt and Dane publisher Stuart Lovin defend lesbian and gay rights against host Carolyn Lips and anti-gay preacher Mel Perry. Vanderbilt Video Productions. On Viacom Nashville Cable Channel 35. 6:30pm.

Chattanooga

**Chattanooga CARES** Closed support group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 206-2422.

**Gay/Lesbian AA** Open meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 N. 5pm. Info (615) 786-7867.

**Speaker Zoo entrance. Info (901) 274-1847 or 276-3275.**

Zoo, followed by barbecue. Meet 11am at North Parkway. Info (615) 353-4183 or 276-3275.

Clarksdale

**Clarksdale CARES** Support group for HIV+, ARC, AIDS, family and partners. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. 3pm. Info (615) 649-7730.

Knoxville

**aids Response Knoxville** PWA Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

**Gay Gratitude Group** Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Terre Haute Valley Unitarian Church, 2919 Kingston Pike. 7pm.

Tuesdays

**aids Response Knoxville** Circle of Love family and friends support group, 8pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

**Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UT** Weekly meeting. 8pm. Info (615) 598-6066.

Nashville

**Dickson CARES** HIV+ Support Group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

**UT Gay Christian/Non-christian Support Group** UT Humanities Building 53A, 3:00pm. Info (615) 598-6034.


**Sundays**

**Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 6:30. Corner Weisgarber & Loana. Info (615) 521-6546.

Memphis

**Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90.6, 7pm.

**Memphis Gay Coalition** Business meeting, 1st Monday RMA, Memphis Public Library. Peabody & Madison. Info (901) 324-4297.

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

**Tuesdays**

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

**Wednesdays**

**Agape New Life Church** Bible study, 7pm. Info (901) 276-1672.

**Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting.
Chattanooga

Little Theatre presents 'Bits of Broadway'

Chattanooga Little Theatre will present scenes from some of Broadway's biggest hits April 6-7, in combination with a silent auction. Seating, open bar and a post performance show with the cast. Reservations are recommended, call (615) 327-8534.

Nashville

Women's group forming

A new women's support group is forming to give unaccompanied women and women who may be unfamiliar with the Nashville scene a place to meet, exchange ideas on women's/lesbian issues and a place to socialize and offer support. Linda Welch, the organizer of the group, has been trying to interest others in forming a network to assist women with a broad range of concerns to women and lesbians. The first meeting is planned for Monday, April 2, at 7 p.m. If interested, call Welch at (615) 421-6475.

Zimmerman/Saturn Gallery slates new exhibit opening

Sculpture by Ken Butterfield and paintings by Robert Bird-Robinson and Michael Lokengard will be on exhibit at the Zimmerman/Saturn Gallery April 7-May 9. Butterfield combines motifs and images from popular culture into humorous, whimsical and colorful sculptures. Bird-Johnson paints his own New Mexico landscapes in impressionistic style, and Lokengard captures wildflowers in their natural beauty. An artists' reception will be held at the opening April 7, 6 to 9 p.m. For details, call (615) 255-8895.

Public forum planned for children with AIDS

Barbara Chamness will speak and moderate at the Vanderbilt AIDS Project's free public forum on children and AIDS. Chamness founded the first group for children with AIDS and advocates for children with AIDS internationally. The forum will be held Thursday, April 5, from 6-7:30 p.m. Room 202, Light Hall, Vanderbilt University Medical Center. For information call (615) 322-2437.

Memphis

Hilton McConnico designs on exhibit at Brooks

Hilton McConnico: Thirty Years of Design is a retrospective of designs by the artist now on exhibit at Memphis Brooks Museum of Art. McConnico, a native of both Memphis and McNairy County, has collected international awards of excellence for his designs in fashion, photography, film and television, furniture and dinnerware. The Brooks show, the first comprehensive showing of McConnico's art in the U.S., begins with drawings and sketches done during his early youth. Fashion sketches and finished fashions from his early career in New York and Paris with Vogue are also on display. McConnico gained international acclaim with his art direction of films such as Diva and Moon in the Gutter. The show runs through April 15. For additional information on this and other exhibits, call the Brooks Museum at (901) 722-3500.
Juanita's

1700 4th Avenue South, Nashville 615/256-9681

GO, ZIPPERS!
1st game Sunday, April 1. Come out and support us!
Yard sale & Car Wash $3 • Saturday, April 7, 9 am

Sunday 25¢ draft 4 pm - 8 pm
Monday $2.50 draft beer pitchers all day
Tuesday is Movie Night • 25¢ draft & free popcorn 8 pm - 11 pm
Beer Bust - $3 All you can drink

Wednesday 7 pm - 11 pm • Saturday 2 pm - 6 pm
Nashville's Sunday Night Party Place!

Juanita's

4-800-344-PALS (24 Hours)

Nashville CARES hires new education coordinator
by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

Nashville CARES, Tennessee's oldest community-based AIDS service organization, recently hired Sarah Gayle as its new education coordinator.

Gayle comes to Nashville from Austin, Texas, where she was coordinator of the wellness program at Breckenridge Hospital.

In addition to her experience in wellness programs, Gayle has several years experience in the area of AIDS including volunteering at AIDS Services of Austin. She has a master's degree in public health in community education from the University of Tennessee.

Gayle said that she believes that education is an ongoing process and that it is society's only defense against the disease right now.

Among the first things Gayle plans to do is "to meet with other agencies involved with working with people with AIDS to determine what types of education they are doing and what we need to be doing to help."

She said she feels that two important CARES programs she will tackle are the speakers' bureau and the CARELINE phone line.

...ATEAC auction

Continued from page 1
pre-auction revenue from corporate sponsorship.

"We are ecstatic right now, we made about $10,000 more than last year and it has brought our community closer together," said Auction co-chair Steve Solomon, who termed the evening a "large success."

"I am extremely pleased with the results of this year's auction and with the large increase over last year," said Allen Cook, the editor of buzz, the official newsletter of the Memphis Gay Coalition, and chair of the graphics committee.

A number of Memphis area businesses showed their support for ATEAC's efforts with advertisements in the event's program book, Cook said.

ATEAC was formed in 1985 as a response to the AIDS epidemic in Memphis and is a non-profit, federally tax-exempt volunteer agency dedicated to promoting AIDS education and to providing services and emergency assistance to persons with AIDS and their families and caregivers.

Since July, ATEAC has dispersed $25,000 to assist in housing, utilities, medicine and food for PWAs in emergency situations — $9000 more than the fund contained.

The only reason ATEAC was able to go over budget was due to a one-time grant from the Consolidated Federal Campaign which enabled ATEAC to create a reserve fund, that has since been depleted. Funds raised during the auction will help replenish the fund.
San Francisco
NGLTF, ACT UP join boycott of AIDS Conference
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) of San Francisco will boycott the Sixth International Conference on AIDS because of the U.S. Government's AIDS and gay and lesbian immigration and visitation policies.

In addition, NGLTF is calling on its more than 17,000 members nationwide, as well as other gay and lesbian organizations and individuals, to boycott the conference, scheduled for June 20-24 in San Francisco. NGLTF and ACT UP are encouraging activists to continue pressuring the government to repeal the policies.

More than 35 other national and international organizations have chosen not to participate, including the National Association of People with AIDS, the International League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Canadian AIDS Society, Shanti Project and the Names Project International AIDS Memorial Quilt.

New York City
Archives to host worldwide fundraising events in May
Leahy Herstory Archives is asking lesbians around the world to join them in a week of fundraising events, May 2-9, to raise funds for a building for The Archives.

One of the highlights of the week will be a series of house parties held in communities across the country. These intimate gatherings will share information about The Archives and ask for contributions.

Some cities will host dances and special events as well. The Archives is still looking for local organizers who would like to join in this effort.

The Lesbian Herstory Archives serves lesbians worldwide through its newsletter, bibliographies, slide shows, research assistance, as well as its crucial work of collecting and preserving the world's largest and oldest collection of lesbian materials. Unlike most archives, this collection is open to any lesbian who wants to explore her past and present.

For details, call The Archives at (212) 874-7232.

Los Angeles
New NGRA legal director calls it quits after 2 months
Bryan's resignation comes after several months of controversy at NGRA, which began with the firing of two staff attorneys and ultimately led to the resignation of O'Leary, the organization's then-executive director.

Bryan told reporters that his primary reason for his departure is that he and the NGRA board of directors "basically had very strong differences of opinion on the functioning of the legal program and my position as the head of it." Bryan declined to specify those differences, according to the Washington Blade.

Bryan's resignation comes after several months of controversy at NGRA, which resulted in the firing of two staff attorneys and ultimately led to the resignation of O'Leary, the organization's then-executive director. Bryan originally from Houston, previously was executive and legal director for the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

San Francisco
Video about black gay life available for bookings
TONGUES UNITED, an account of black gay life by Marlon Riggs, currently playing to crowds at San Francisco's Castro Theatre, is now available for bookings nationwide.

TONGUES UNITED is not only one of the first and most thoughtful films about the black gay experience," said Michael Lumpkin, director of San Francisco's annual International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

A collaboration between Emmy Award-winning director Marlon Riggs and black gay poet Essex Hemphill, TONGUES UNITED also features Alan Miller and Steve Langley and singer/composer Blackberri. For information contact Mark Finch at (415) 861-5245 or Britten Tennell at (415) 621-6196.

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Support the AIDS vaccine effort.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AIDS VACCINE EVALUATIONS

Volunteers must not have had a smallpox vaccination. Nashville.

For more information call (615) 343-AIDS

Person to person to person...

Free personals! Now through the end of April. See page 13 for details.

Chez Colette presents C.C. SHOOTERS
1st All Gay Women's Softball Team
OPENING DAY FESTIVITIES
Sunday, April 1st
COME JOIN US
Opening Day Games
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
at Whitfield Park
on Edmondson Pike

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Final weekend!

CIRCLE PLAYERS PRESENTS

THE SHADOW BOX

Written by Michael Cristofer
Directed by Robert Kiefer
Produced by James-Ben Stockton

"...an ensemble creation that is both heartwrenching and uplifting." — Dare

"...an evening of community theatre of a caliber Nashville hasn't seen in years." — Nashville Banner

"...the acting is exemplary..." — The Tennessean

at TPAC's Johnson Theatre
Thurs. — Sat. 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 2:30 p.m.
Ticketmaster (615) 741-2787

Wonderful 'Wonderland'


reviewed by FLYNNE MALONE
Staff Writer

Recipe for entertainment. Combine the basics of the man who knows too much and the character structure of MY BEAUTIFUL LANDLADY. Broil in luminous colors and spot lighting in settings of a drag bar and an amusement park. Add dashes of cocoon for ethereal aquatic delight. Project X or TURTLE DIARY for empathetic exploration of animals in captivity, and DAY OF THE DOFFIN for manlike twist and murderous intent. Let stand in suspense and then serve immediately. What you have is a recipe for WONDERLAND, a thoroughly satisfying cinematic meal.

Director Phillip Saville (MANDELA, SECRETS, RAIN) has concocted a fine cinematic fare with his new release. It is the story of Eddie, a private attorney as well, Weinberg said. "Because it makes sure that not all homosexuals bed each other.

They are a good match as friends who happen to both be gay, and a good example of the truth that not all homosexuals bed each other.

Continued from page 1

WONDERLAND has a homosexual theme, and yet it doesn't. Homosexuality figures in the motive for the original murder of the owner of the drag bar, Fruit Machine, and it makes the characters of Eddie and Michael more intertwined because they are already at odds with society and their parents to varying degrees. The fact that a killer is after them, which is the central action motif, only adds to their outcast status.

But at its core, WONDERLAND is a simple suspense movie that is also about the bonds among mammals, about the dreams of a sensitive, special person, and about the ties and influences of friendship.

It is of the cinematic type that is essential for gay assimilation into mainstream culture: entertaining first, homosexual by choice, not by necessity of plot. I'VE HEARD THE MERMAIDS SINGING is another example of the same rare genre that begs for this kind of good company.

Don't look for WONDERLAND in the theaters. You'll only find it in the home video market. It had a few theatrical and festival venues last year, but its distributor, Vestron Pictures, ended theatrical distribution as a result of financial difficulties.

That's a pity. Unlike some of the features that are now being made for the small screen, it's easy to envision WONDERLAND on the big screen.

Of memorable beauty are the sequences of underwater swimming. If you've ever fantasized about swimming with dolphins, don't miss this one and get the biggest video screen you can. There's some simply elegant footage that correctly exploits the luminous mosaic of light on underwater bodies.

Of special note in the performance of Emile Charles as the sweet, simple, aware Eddie, who dreams, sometimes darkly, of a handsome man, soaking wet. Charles plays his gay boy with a full complement of characteristic sensitivity and showbiz knowledge, who comes across as a simple, beautiful human.

His conniving sidekick Michael manifests the darker side of the outlaw. Forsyth does a good job as Michael, but his character does not generate the pure essence and adolescent appeal of Eddie. They are a good match as friends who happen to both be gay, and a good example of the truth that not all homosexuals bed each other.

Do watch the opening credits. They are against a deceivingly simple shot of reflection on water, pure color or light composed for abstraction, with a perfectly back-timed swish of a certain mammal's tale for a flourishing introduction into a world of dreams, murder, connections and change. A good movie, indeed, is WONDERLAND.

They are a good match as friends who happen to both be gay, and a good example of the truth that not all homosexuals bed each other.

Continued from page 1

bill cleared hurdle

bill cleared its last hurdle on its way to McWherter's desk when the state senate gave its approval last Thursday.

"This is a very important piece of legislation," Weinberg said. "Because it makes sure that people with infectious and contagious diseases are treated in the same way people with other handicapping conditions are treated."

"This means that if someone is fired from his or her job because of their handicap status, they have a cause of action to file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission. I also recommend that if this happens, they contact a private attorney as well," Weinberg said.

Although this bill is a major step forward, Weinberg said, "There's a lot more to do. This is just a beginning because this bill deals totally with employment and nothing else. We now have to go forward with other laws to get people with HIV infection and AIDS better treatment in housing, insurance and nursing homes."

Final weekend!
STEP RIGHT UP!
Enjoy our free Western Dance lessons with Jim, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Beginners are always welcome, and Jim reviews previous lessons every week to help everyone brush up.

Then show off a little Friday and Saturday nights as we throw open the Trophy Room for Western Dancing. And don’t forget video / disco dancing with our DJ Stephen, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights!

The Chute
Restaurant & Lounge
In the tradition of yesteryear, with the freshness of today

PLAY BALL, Y’ALL!
Sunday, April 1
Music City Sports Association Softball Season Opener
- Opening Ceremonies 1:00 p.m., Whitfield Park, Edmonson Pike
- Games begin at 1:30 p.m. Come on out and support your favorite team.
- Players & spectators who attend the games will receive free tickets to eat at the Cookout after the games at The Chute.
- Those who do not attend the games can still eat at the Cookout for $2. Serving from 5:00 p.m. as the Falls Courtyard officially opens for the season.
- No cover until 9:00 p.m.
- Mr. & Miss Music City Sports Association
Pageant Fundraiser at Warehouse Two, 10:00 p.m.

COMING Friday & Saturday, April 13 & 14
J.T. FREDERICKS,
live country music in the Trophy Room!

Yard Sale & Carwash RESCHEDULED!
Saturday, March 31
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Support the Nashville Numbers Softball Team and get a great deal.

Sunday Night Dinner Special, Sunday, April 1
Ocean flounder fillets, baked potato,
green bean casserole, cole slaw & hot homemade rolls, only $3.95

The Chute 2535 Franklin Road, Nashville (615) 297-4571
When a man is homosexual, it is assumed that he, of all things, is certainly not committed in marriage to a female partner.

To most members of both the gay and straight communities, the two just don't go together.

But there is one Nashville group which says it's okay to be a gay man and involved in a heterosexual union at the same time. MAGNET - the Married And Gay Network - is a support group for gay and bisexual men who, for various reasons, are married to or in a committed relationship with a woman and who want to continue that relationship.

MAGNET has provided assistance to gay married men since November, 1988. It is not a 12-step program, its brochure states, nor is it group therapy. Members make no moral judgments about one's situation and make no suggestions about the "right" way one should lead his life.

Members maintain they only offer support, understanding and love.

Dan, a gay married man with three children from a small community outside of Nashville, was the founder of MAGNET.

"Four years ago," Dan explains, "I had pretty much ceased to be sexual with my wife with no explanation. It was very unfair to her. But to me it reached the point that being sexual with her was being abusive to me. I had to stop."

"When I told her it was because I was gay, I fully expected our marriage to end, but it didn't. We didn't want it to."

"I soon discovered that there were no resources in middle Tennessee for gay married men. I felt there should be a group. Other states had such groups, so I wrote to them to get ideas on how I could get a group started here." the recommendation to keep it a men's group only.

"Married lesbians are not allowed to join the group. Personally, I don't have a problem with it, but the current members prefer to keep it men only," says Dan.

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"I received a lot of information and incorporated it all into this group. One piece of information, which still remains controversial, was the recommendation to keep it a men's group only."

"Married lesbians are not allowed to join the group. Personally, I don't have a problem with it, but the current members prefer to keep it men only," says Dan.

"Gay married men are very scared. It is difficult enough for them to even admit who they are, let alone to walk through those doors and attend their first meeting."

"There's definitely a 'gayer than thou' attitude that pervades the gay community. Many people have no regard for our feelings at all. They can be very abusive and very insensitive," says Joe.

"There are a lot of other reasons for being married than just sex. Being gay is not just sex. I don't feel that who I am should be so wrapped up in who I choose to have my primary relationship with."

"Nor does my primary relationship have to be sexual. Nor the only sexual relationship that I have. My wife and I have had 12 years together, 12 years of friendship and two children. That's a lot to consider giving up," says Joe.

"WHILE IT IS probably the hardest statistic to determine, MAGNET
estimates that there are easily thousands of gay married men in Davidson County alone, throughout Tennessee, the numbers are even greater.

MAGNET members also say that with the beginning of the age of AIDS, gay married men went through an extra intense trauma because of the double fear of possibly passing the HIV virus to their wives and ultimately being found out as homosexual.

"In my case, though, I think being married has spared me from becoming infected with AIDS because I got married very young. Had I not, I definitely would have had a lot more sexual partners. Today, I do not have any sex that I consider to be even remotely unsafe with either my wife or with anyone else," says Mark, a young married father of one whose sexuality is not known to his wife. He started coming to MAGNET meetings two months ago.

"I came from a small town and from a traditional family. Back then, getting married was just something that one did. Now, I have a lot invested in my marriage.

"I have a child, and I'm very involved in his parenting and nurturing. It's just not that simple to admit your sexuality and then say 'Okay, now I won't be married anymore.'"

"I just have not met anybody who would make me want to leave, who would give me the strength to leave. I have a lot of fear of the rejection I would face if I left and of how that rejection would affect my wife, our families and my child. I simply am not at a place yet to deal with that," Mark contends.

Eric has just entered his 24th year of marriage. He has raised two grown children with his wife and is a very happily married gay man.

"My wife has been very good to me in helping me to feel good about myself. Being gay and married is a lot to carry around because you have the fear that when your wife finds out, everything you have worked so hard for together is going to be snatched away. And in a lot of situations it is. I've been fortunate," says Eric.

"BEFORE MAGNET WAS formed, I felt like I was the only married gay man in the world. Now I know the world is full of them. I'm very lucky because not only do I have this group of people to talk to now, but I also have my wife. A lot of men in this group don't have that opportunity. They don't have that openness with their wives to say exactly what they're feeling," Eric says.

"Today, if a good looking man is walking down the street, instead of keeping it in, I can express my feelings. Sometimes my wife will even point them out to me and ask, 'what do you think of that one?'" he laughs.

I asked my wife just recently if she had a year ago, and she said no way. Because back then she didn't know what was going on. Now she understands and doesn't fear what she sees now."

"Since I've started coming to this group, the honesty of some of the people here has really challenged me. I don't live yet with anywhere near the degree of honesty that some of them do. Through MAGNET, maybe I can achieve that someday," Mark supposes.

"MAGNET has done a real service to the community. We've prevented a couple of suicides," Joe offers.

"We helped a guy through a blackmailing once. And all of us feel a lot better about ourselves. Again, if a man walks in here and is not out to his wife, we do not espouse that he come out to her. That is not what we're here for. We only try to comfort him, listen to him, and accept him at the place he is at right now."

"We want the gay community to understand what we're all about and not to judge us as good or bad people," Dan says. "People like us do exist and in very large numbers. There are some very brave people here, people who are more honest and open about their sexuality than most gay people I know."

As Mark said once, 'Most gay people I know are in the closet about something in their lives.' I am out to everybody I know."

"I doubt every gay person can say that. This is a very vitally needed group for both the gay and straight communities."

"A lot of our friends just don't understand these issues. All of my friends, both gay and straight, know I'm gay, and they all accept me, but they are confused about me."
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Remembering Charles Ludlam


Reviewed by Joe Marohl, Staff Writer

"The things one takes seriously are one's weaknesses," wrote Charles Ludlam in his Manifesto for the Ridiculous Theatre, Scourge of Human Folly.

In Ludlam's plays, produced since 1978 at the Ridiculous Theatre at One Sheridan Square in New York City, very little was taken seriously, and yet, though this is not widely acknowledged now, Ludlam is one of the most important voices in American theater in the twentieth century.

His medium was camp—the social aesthetic territory of Ronald Firbank, John Waters and the Rocky Horror Show—and as Philip Lowe wrote in his 1984 book on the subject, "Camp is always in the future; that is why the present needs it so badly."

To watch a play by Ludlam is to feel a nostalgia for a utopia that is yet to exist and to laugh at the present world through spectacles of millenial if sagacious irreverence.

No other writer/director/actor of this generation was so conscious of his theatrical roots or so aware of the wide array of influences into a coherent whole: Aristophanes, Euripides, Japanese Noh theatre, Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare, Moliere, Restoration drama, Punch and Judy, the circus, Charles Dickens, Emile Zola, Richard Wagner, Harry Houdini, Oscar Wilde, Gustave Flaubert, Luis Bunuel, James M. Cain, Bugs Bunny, the Living Theater and television.

The list goes on.

As a child, Ludlam first became enamored with theatre at the sideshows at a circus, where he saw a puppet play and "armless black dwarves painting pictures with their toes."

He paid his dues in the 60's, studying theater at Hofstra University, working with playwright Ronald Tavel and John Vaccaro at the original Play-House of the Ridiculous and doing stunts on the Candid Camera television program.

He came into his own in the 70's (a decade whose importance to lesbians and gay men in particular, and civil liberties and the art in general, is almost forgotten). It was his one-act play The Ventriloquist's Wife, performed by Ludlam, Black-Eyed Susan (his secretary at the time) and a dummy called Walter Ego, that finally gave Ludlam the financial resources to do his plays in the manner that best suited them, in a permanent setting.

Just a few years later critics were ready to predict the Ridiculous had already breathed its last, but a series of hits in the mid-'80s, including the quintessential Mystery of Irma Vep, established Ludlam's genius once and for all. Ludlam's genius.

Just a few years later critics were ready to predict the Ridiculous had already breathed its last, but a series of hits in the mid-'80s, including the quintessential Mystery of Irma Vep, established Ludlam's genius once and for all.
A sparkling ‘My Fair Lady’


Reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS** Editor

With a superb cast, expert direction, a sumptuous set and the lushly beautiful score by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe, Tennessee Repertory Theatre’s production of MY FAIR LADY is one of the most sparkling musicals to be staged in this, or any other, season.

Led by Karen Culliver as Eliza Doolittle and Myke Mueller as Henry Higgins, director Jack Going’s cast is a talented band of actors/singers/dancers who effectively translate the time-honored work with a contemporary flair that nonetheless captures the lyrical grace of the story. Performed amid Jeffrey A. Hall’s gorgeous sets (TRT somehow manages to outdo itself show after show), MY FAIR LADY offers a visual delight: Marianne Powell-Parker’s gorgeous sets and the lushly beautiful score feature some high stepping are likely to stop the audience in its tracks. But it’s Culliver, Mueller and company who really make this production of MY FAIR LADY the audience’s familiarity with the work. Almost everyone has either seen the movie version with Audrey Hepburn or enjoyed other stage productions. Thus, the show at any performance.

One of Nashville’s most winning talents, Mike Edwards, is cast as Alfred P. Doolittle, Eliza’s meeker do well father. Edwards, who could use some dialect coaching to sustain his agreeable cockney accent, is lovably funny and endearing. His onstage frolics with friends Jamie and Harry (Chris Harrod and Mark DeBarre in hilarious comic turns that features some high stepping) are likely to stop the show at any performance. Of course, the danger is presenting a show like MY FAIR LADY is the audience’s familiarity with the work. Almost everyone has either seen the movie version with Audrey Hepburn or enjoyed other stage productions. Thus, people tend to be somewhat protective of Eliza and her story. Thankfully, TRT’s splendid production remains faithful to our closely held memories of the Lerner and Loewe work, while giving it a new and fresh interpretation.

**Riveting and heartbreaking**


Reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS** Editor

Thanks to the thoughtful, yet provocative, performances of Lisa Truley and Julia Pennington, Shalom Theatre’s production of Barbara Lebow’s A SHAYNA MAIDEL is an honestly moving experience.

Lebow has created a quietly effective drama that relates the horrors of the Holocaust in eloquent terms, making the events more easily understood by contemporary audiences. Set in 1946 New York, in the aftermath of this World War II, A SHAYNA MAIDEL tells the story of two sisters who are reunited after the older of the two is liberated from a Polish concentration camp. It is difficult to tell of the horrors of the Holocaust without being didactic, but somehow Lebow manages to do so with her highly personal story of the Weiss family.

The play opens with an announcement from the family’s patriarch Mordecai that his eldest daughter Lusia (Pennington) is alive and on her way to America. The younger Weiss daughter, Rose (Truley), has been in New York almost 20 years and is thoroughly Americanized, her memories of her mother and sister vague.

During the course of the play’s action, we learn about the family’s tribulations and the truths about its forced separation. It’s a profoundly moving experience, one that manages to touch one’s heart. Director Smith has assembled a fine cast with Pennington and Truley giving luminous, heartfelt performances. Bryan Cahen, cast as the pair’s father, is ideal, his performance right on target. Ed Brown, as Lusia’s husband David, is romantic and dashing, although his accent is rather strange. Barbara Harmon is fine as the mother (seen in dream sequences). And young Eva Saks, playing the role of Lusia’s friend Hanna, is superb, her performance richly textured with the nuances of youth.

A SHAYNA MAIDEL provides a good history lesson with its excellent performances.
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Box 6402, Chattanooga, TN 37411
call (615) 266-2422

Aids to End AIDS Committee (ATEAC)
Box 48189, Memphis, TN 38174
call (901) 459-AIDS
24 hours call (901) 794-9401

Nashville Council on AIDS Resources, Education and Services (Nashville CARES)
Box 25107, Nashville, TN 37203
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- **New York: East Village** Bed & Breakfast for women. Large bedroom with adjacent private bath. For brochure write B-C Sellen, 252 E. 7th St, NYC 10009 or brochurewriteB - C Sellen, 252 E. 7th St , NYC 10009 or Bethlehem Ctr, 1417 Charlotte, Nashville. Need accommodation. Call (212) 272-1865.

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- **Help Wanted:** Still need writers, photographers statewide. Reply Dare, (615) 327-Dare, (800) 544-Dare.

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- **Knoxville Area:** Vocalist seeks musicians to form gay rock band. Heavily influenced by The Smiths. Must be open-minded and daring. Call (615) 955-6666.

- **You Like ‘Em! You Really Like ‘Em!** Dare classifieds are such a big hit, we've decided to extend our free PERSONALS offer again. Send a special message. Meet new friends. Or just your piece to lesbian and gay Tennesseans, and we’ll pick up the tab. Send us your personal ad (up to 200 characters) with the words "free personal" written across the top of the form and your ad is free. Don't just sit there — grab a pen and get personal! Ads must be postmarked on or before April 30, 1989. Don't forget to add $5 for response draw or bold caps. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad. Sorry, phone numbers and street addresses cannot be used in Personals. Offer not good for announcements, sales, roommates, real estate or commercial classified ads.

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**Personal**

- **Disguise our bondage as we will, to a woman, woman rules us still. You are my bondage, my lover, my friend. My forever girl. Love Lisa, 2yrs & going strong.**

- **Boy wanted: 18-24 to share love of art photography, travel, life, w/GWM 27. Pen pals, friends or possible more. Your photo / letter gets mine. Write me! Dare DRAWER 76**

- **Kim: Congratulations on getting accepted. I miss you. Trevor.**

- **GWM, 45, 5'11, 140lbs, br/bl attr, educ., musc. prof, ms monogamous, in-shape musc, life partner. Not into bars, drugs, smoking, excess alcohol. Photo/letter. Dare DRAWER 71**

- **GLGWM, HIV+, 26, healthy, in shape. Sks same 22-33. Friends 1st. Sincere/discard — must be independent. Outdoors / some sports. No hard drugs or alc. abuse. Enjoys living & being myself. No games. R U real? Dare DRAWER 69**

- **GWM, 38, Br/Bl, 5'11" sks straight acting buddy friend, next, well groomed like myself fun active week-end drives. Any age. Dickson County. I enjoy drives in your area. Dare DRAWER 55**

- **GWM, 43, 6', 240 lbs/br, hairy, into reading, music, cinema, movies. Love to laugh and cry, sunsets, sunrises, rainstorms and rainbows. Warm evenings on a slow-moving train. Dare DRAWER 68**

- **GWM clean cut giving high-caliber fun big educated prof. 29yos gay wanting relationship. 5'11" 160lbs ready for hot monogamous sex and fun times! Foto a must! Dare DRAWER 67**

- **GWM, 34, 5'11", 155 lbs, Br/Bl, straight, appr, button-down/Adams-type professional. Not into gay scene. Enjoys movies, travel, music, some sports. Sks similar GWM 26-37 for friend / possible relationship. Dare DRAWER 66**

- **Well, here we go: GM: 26, attractive, intelligent, straight-ahead, smooth, enjoys gd conversation, music, dancing and sun. ISO knowledge, mature, sincere and gdlf, passionate, clean-cut GM, prof, 23-30 similar interests for friendship into monog. No drugs / games. Foto & fon. Nashville. Dare DRAWER 65**

- **GWF, 30-something, new to Knoxville. Where are you, belated Valentine’s Day-45, gentle, affectionate, nature lover, animal lover, vegetarian, hopelessly romantic, I’m sick of waiting — are you on this planet? Dare DRAWER 64**

- **Boy, 28-30, well read, great sense of humor, partner / lover.**

- **Boy, 23-25,�� 59, not interested in some of the things you mentioned. You should be more monogamous, in-shape, and someone to deliver Dare in Jackson, our newest delivery area. GM: 26, attractive, intelligent, straight-ahead, smooth, enjoys gd conversation, music, dancing and sun. ISO knowledge, mature, sincere and gdlf, passionate, clean-cut GM, prof, 23-30 similar interests for friendship into monog. No drugs / games. Foto & fon. Nashville. Dare DRAWER 65**


Good news

The news from Johnson City is pretty good these days.

Of course, that’s not always been the case. Several years ago, the east Tennessee city was the site of one of the saddest verdicts ever handed down in a sodomy case involving two members of the same sex in the state’s history. The two defendants in that historic case were arrested on the campus of East Tennessee State University. One was a student, the other a visitor to the state from Virginia.

The ramifications of the case have long been felt throughout the state, but certainly more keenly in Johnson City. But now it appears that ETSU students have put the dark days behind them with the official University recognition of the Lambda Association of ETSU, an organization for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni.

An ETSU student told us that it would have been near impossible, to establish an official group even four years ago, when she entered the University. But now a new feeling exists on campus, a stronger sense of community.

The ETSU group is just the latest in a series of new student organizations on Tennessee campuses. It represents an upsurge in political activism and a growing interest on the part of the Volunteer State to shirk the status quo and to strive for a brighter future.

We congratulate the forward-thinking students there for their determination.

Living wills

Dear Dare:

I wish to add a few remarks to Ryan Shelley’s thoughtful commentary regarding the withdrawal of life support in those cases where the length of life is prolonged at the expense of dignity and quality of life.

First, I believe the choice of the word “euthanasia” may have given an inaccurate impression to some. Both the word’s definition of euthanasia and its contemporary use imply active means of ending life, as opposed to the withdrawal of heroic measures, which is what he was actually referring to.

Next, while there may be “nothing you can do to absolutely guarantee that your wishes will be honored should you become unable to control your own medical destiny,” Tennessee law does recognize the living will. This document spells out a person’s desire that “dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below…”

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of a living will may do so by contacting the Society for the Right to Die, 250 W. 57th Street, New York, New York, 10107.

THAI S CARR

Thompson Station

Increment AIDS spending now

by HOWARD ARMISTEAD

Executive Director
Gay and Lesbian Association Political Action Committee

Since the beginning of the HIV epidemic in 1981, AIDS has never received sufficient funding from the federal government, especially in comparison to the billions of dollars thrown away on fanciful military proposals like Ronald Reagan’s pet project, Star Wars.

This year, the most important thing you can do to help cure AIDS is to lobby your legislator in Washington for increased funding for AIDS in the federal budget.

The current Bush Administration proposal for AIDS funding for the 1991 budget is $1.72 billion, up from $1.6 billion for 1990.

This eight percent increase in funding will cripple local AIDS agencies around the country as they struggle to meet the burden placed on the health care system by a fifty percent increase in AIDS cases during the same period.

AIDS lobbyists in Washington are demanding a budget increase between two and three billion dollars in 1991, but Congress is unlikely to increase the President’s proposal when they vote on the budget in April unless we apply significant pressure. Only a well organized national phone campaign will achieve that. You can help.

You can help wake up Washington to the need and demand for increased AIDS funding by getting every member of your sports team, church, AIDS support group or other club or organization to spend five minutes on the phone calling their legislators. Calls to your Congressperson and Senators are inexpensive and are easy to make. If everyone who attended the historic March on Washington in 1987 calls, over half a million voices will be heard.

If every HIV positive person calls, a million and a half calls will go in. It has been proven time and again, the squeaky wheel gets the grease in Washington.

Nothing helps more than constituents from around the country flooding the Capitol switchboards demanding an increase in AIDS funding before the budget is voted on in April.

In order to motivate yourself and others to call, dedicate your determination to call to the memory of a friend who has passed away from AIDS or to friends who are living with HIV. The numbers to call are:

- (202) 224-3121 - for your Representative in the House;
- (202) 224-3121 - for your Senator;
- (202) 456-7659 - for the White House.

Before you call, plan what you want to say. When you call, ask to speak with the legislative staffer who handles health and AIDS issues. Be sure to tell them you live in the legislator’s district.

Then let them know the precise reason for your call and what you want your legislator to do about it. It is important to be brief and concise in your conversation. Be prepared to state your position and be ready to back it up with several supporting reasons. Try to limit your phone call to a maximum of five minutes. Respect the staff person’s time and be polite even, if your legislator is not sympathetic.

If you also want to discuss your support for the Hate Crimes Statistic Act, currently before the Senate, or drug issues like the release of the drug Did, make a separate phone call for each issue. Not only will that tally as an additional call on AIDS issues, but chances are a different staff person may handle that issue. Now, call your friends. Organize a group to call Washington. It’s a lot cheaper than traveling there. Until the next historic March on Washington, the least you can do is to make your voice heard via telephone.

Until the next historic March on Washington, the least you can do is to make your voice heard via telephone.

TENNESSEE’S LEISURE & GAY NEWS WEEKLY

"I am the love that dare not speak its name." — Lord Alfred Douglas, "The Two Loves," 1891

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ARCHIVES
Dare is available on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.
Madonna speaks...

"Sure, Sandra's very open. But this is another example of my throwing the stereotypes at you. I was in New York doing some new music and she was doing her show downtown. We were both stuck there for the summer. Sean [Penn] was in Thailand doing causes of war. I had a lot of evenings free and so we just started hanging out, slagging everybody off together. She was just what I needed. We became really good friends.

Then she asked me to go on the David Letterman show. I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Because I have that in-your-face attitude — and so does she — I had no idea going on the show together was going to be perceived as what it was perceived as. Then when we realized it, it seemed like everybody in America was in an uproar."

— Pop music diva Madonna, commenting on her friendship with comic Sandra Bernhard, in April's VOGUE PLEASURES.

"Madonna ordered a house salad and everybody else ordered a house salad. She said she didn't want dressing on it — or cheese. The others — except for Jennifer Grey, who was bold enough to order cheese — said they didn't want them, either. When the salads came, Madonna ate hers with her fingers; all the others ate theirs with their fingers, too. Weird. And she kept looking at me. Maybe she just liked my outfit, but she was so obvious about it. Like it was a dare. Or something."

— A waitress who worked at the downtown New York restaurant Odeon, remembering a night when Madonna, Jennifer Grey and five other women came in for a late-night supper.

"I want to do anything I can to promote AIDS education, awareness, prevention — whatever. I think because I am a celebrity, a public person, I have a responsibility to be a spokesperson. Next to Hitler, AIDS is the worst thing to happen in the twentieth century. The sad thing is that it makes people even more bigoted. It gives people a reason to vent their true feelings about homosexuality."

— Madonna, to Vanity Fair writer Kevin Sessums.

"I could take this home, Marilyn. This is something teenage boys might find of interest."

— Dan Quayle, just before purchasing a grinning South American Indian doll that, when lifted, displays an erection.

"Dan, you're not getting that. Oh, no."

— Marilyn Quayle, in an ill-fated attempt to present her husband from buying the doll.

"Have you stopped wearing your wife's lingerie? Have you stopped messing around with little boys?"


"It may give the girls something they seem to want. But it does so at the expense of the others, the men. Let ladies be ladies and men be men, at least those who want to."

— Col. Lee Nichols Jr., a 1947 graduate of Virginia Military Institute — in a newsweek story about state tax-supported military institute — waxing nostalgic in light of the proposal that VMI go coed in order to stay afloat.

Don't forget.

Spring cleaning is the perfect time to recycle your pre-read gay, lesbian and AIDS books at It's a Scream! We'll give you 20% of the value for your good condition fiction or nonfiction books. And we already have over a hundred titles in stock to choose from. So they can be re-owned, re-read and re-loved.

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this sunday, april 1

- **SPRING FEVER = SOFTBALL FEVER**
  - join the Music City Sports Association for the softball season opener at Whitfield Park on Edmonson Pike
  - **opening ceremonies** at 1:00 p.m.
  - **games begin** at 1:30 p.m.
  - **cookout** after the games at The Chute
  - **Mr. and Miss MCSA pageant** at WAREHOUSE TWO
    - pageant begins at 10:00 p.m.
  - **starring** MINNIE SQUIRREL, emcee
    DEJOUR SHOUNTO, miss gay south usa
    BIANCA PAIGE, miss gay tennessee usa
    and FLAWLESS, miss thing
  - **go warriors!**
  - **congratulations to** DANA ALEXANDER
    the first-ever Miss Cosmopolitan USA

- **WAREHOUSE TWO**
  - under new ownership
  - the tradition continues
  - nashville's premier gay dance bar
  at 2529 franklin road
  phone (615) 385-9689

Tuesday — closed for remodeling
Wednesday — Night Riders
Thursday — Drag Show
Next Sunday — Turnabouts