



Volume 3, Number 22

Tennessee's Lesbian & Gay Newsweekly

June 1, 1990

Ethics panel: no decision

from STAFF REPORTS

The House of Representatives' ethics committee is struggling to reach a consensus in their investigation of Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), a case that involves the openly gay lawmaker's sexual life.

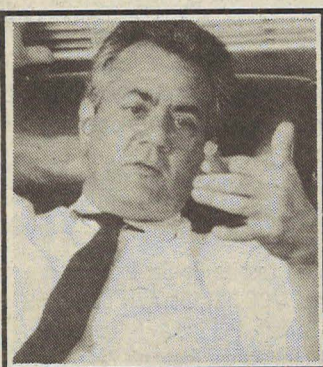
After the committee ended its latest meeting earlier this month without any announcement, chair Julian C. Dixon (D-Calif.) said he had been too hasty in predicting a decision was near.

Dixon acknowledged it was difficult to interpret House rules in the Frank case. He did not immediately schedule a new meeting of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Capitol Hill sources have privately said some Republican members are urging a united front that could withstand a promised challenge to their report on the House floor.

Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.) has said that after the committee issues its report, he will move to expel Frank.

The committee is not expected to recommend a severe punishment for Frank, and based on



Rep. Barney Frank—DARE FILE PHOTO

past experiences, insiders say expulsion will not be considered in this case.

The case centers on Frank's relationship with a male prostitute, Steve Gobie. Frank admitted paying for sex with Gobie and later hiring him with personal money to serve as a housekeeper and aide.

Frank announced on April 17 he would seek reelection regardless of the committee's decision. The case formally began September 11, 1989, when the committee began a preliminary investigation.

Several weeks earlier, THE WASHINGTON TIMES had reported news of the relationship between the five-term representative and Gobie. ♦

Police continue to investigate Hodges

Midstate group to begin documenting hate crimes

by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

While police from Knoxville, Goodlettsville, Nashville and several other states continue to investigate possible links between unsolved crimes and confessed murderer Henry Eugene Hodges, the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA) is attempting to document hate crimes perpetrated against lesbians and gay men.

Hodges, 23, last week confessed to two murders in Nashville and one in Atlanta after he was apprehended in Shelby, N.C., attempting to break into the home of his Atlanta victim.

Hodges, being held in the Atlanta Pretrial Detention Center, will be arraigned later this week on charges he killed Michael Whisnant, 32, in his room at the Atlanta Hilton. Whisnant was found strangled, bound and stuffed under a hotel room bed.

When Hodges and his companion, 15-year-old Trina Brown, were arrested last week, police found a .22-caliber hand gun and several items of jewelry which linked them to the Nashville slaying on May 15 of Ron Bassett, 36, at his Centennial Park area duplex.

Spurred to action by recent developments in the Hodges case, as well as increased reports of hate crimes directed at lesbians and gay men, staffers of the Nashville-based T-GALA have begun collecting data, according to executive director Penny Campbell.

"We are collecting this information so that we can have documentation to effect legislation," Campbell said. "If we can show that these crimes do exist, we can build a better case in our efforts to lobby local and state lawmakers for hate crimes legislation."

Campbell said that while T-GALA realizes that collection of data won't necessarily deter criminals, it

might help victims—both past and future—in dealing with the aftermath of hate crimes.

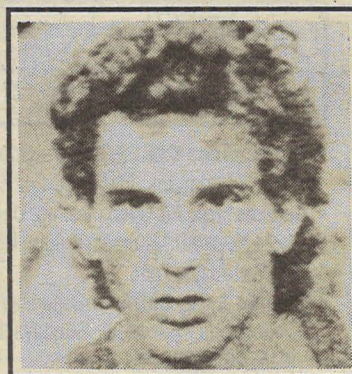
"These crimes won't stop, we realize that, but if we can prove to our elected officials that we are victims of crimes because we are gay or lesbian, then it may help," Campbell said. "Another reason for this documentation is to let people know there is someone out there who is concerned, someone who cares about them after they've been victimized."

Campbell said T-GALA officials will continue to try to set up a meeting with authorities to lay to rest any misconceptions about the lesbian and gay community's reluctance to become involved in criminal investigations.

"We've been trying to set up a meeting with police officials," she explained. "We talked to a secretary last week who told us she would set up an appointment for us. We called her again today [Tuesday] and she said she would let us know when something could be arranged."

In interviews conducted with mainstream media, police officials have claimed their efforts have been stymied by a lack of cooperation from members of the lesbian and gay community.

Investigations into the killings of several gay men in



Henry Hodges—DARE FILE PHOTO

Proposal would make drugs easier to get

If accepted, experimental AIDS treatment would be accessible

by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

A proposal to make certain experimental AIDS drugs available before they have undergone the entire rigorous and lengthy Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process is in the works.

If the proposal is accepted, experimental AIDS drugs would become more available to people with AIDS who have exhausted all other means of therapy and failed them.

It would also allow pharmaceutical companies to provide experimental drugs for ill people who cannot participate in clinical trials because of geographic problems or because of not fitting original

medical criteria for the clinical trials on a drug. An estimated one million HIV infected people in the United States are thought to have no viable therapy for their AIDS under the current system.

Understanding that clinical trials are not treatment regimens, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announced last week that a proposed parallel track program would allow AIDS patients, their private doctors and their advocates to advise the government on what drugs they need to be treated.

The experimental drugs that may be used may be some that have had only preliminary testing for safety. The government would then set up a private monitoring system to track

the drug use, safety, effectiveness and outcome for the patients.

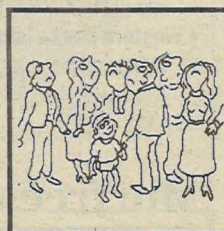
Some researchers caution that the proposed system may sidetrack the mechanism by which drugs are deemed both useful and/or harmful. They also worry that use of the parallel track program would negatively impact enrollment in clinical trial programs.

DHHS officials said that there are enough safeguards in the proposal to determine when use of a drug should be halted. Drugs would be used first in small studies before going on to the parallel track program.

They also stated that the proposal calls for a stop to the parallel track program if clinical trials cannot

♦ Continued on page 6

Inside Dare



♦ What's going on?

All around Tennessee,
things are happening!
Local Color, page 4.

♦ James Baldwin

An exciting documentary illuminates the life of
the gay literary giant. Centerpiece, page 8.

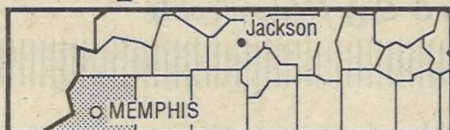
♦ Making a political statement.

A columnist speaks out. Gaybriefs, page 14.

Resources

+ Friends, neighbors and networks

Memphis



- **Agape New Life Church** Wednesdays: Bible study, 7pm. Sundays: Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
- **Coffeehouse** Produced by Feminist Productions. Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Friday only, 8pm. \$2 donation. Info (901) 276-0844.
- **Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90. Mondays, 6-7pm.
- **GayRap** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Monday, 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.
- **Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Thursdays, 8pm; Sundays, noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
- **Lambda Men's Chorus** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.
- **Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center** Board meeting, 1291 Madison. 3rd Saturday, 11:30am. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Memphis Gay Coalition** Business meeting, Rm A, Memphis Public Library, Peabody & Maclean. 1st Monday. Info (901) 324-4297.
- **P-FLAG** (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group. St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. Info (901) 761-1444.
- **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meetings. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Mondays, 8pm; Tuesdays, 5:30 & 8pm; Wednesday, 8pm; Thursdays, 5:30pm; Fridays, 5:30 and 10pm; Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
- **Potluck dinner** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st Saturday, 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Seriously Sober** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Fridays, 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
- **Twisted Sisters** (ACOA) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Saturdays, noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
- **Video Night** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 8pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Western Dance lessons** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

Murfreesboro



- **MTSU Lambda** Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. Fridays, 6pm. Info (615) 896-9541.

Nashville



- **Affirmation** Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists. 4th Wednesday, 7pm. Info (615) 254-7628.
- **AI-Anon** Closed meeting. MCC, 131 15th Ave North. Tuesdays, 6:30pm.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist, 2007 Acklen Ave. Fridays, 7:30 pm.
- **Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians & gay men. 131 15th Ave North. Thursdays, 8pm.
- **Being Meeting** Gay & Lesbian Co-Dependents Anonymous. Thursdays, MCC, 131 15th Av N, 6:30 pm; Saturdays, It's a Scream, 168 2nd Av N, 4pm.
- **Dayspring** Christian fellowship. Tuesdays 7pm. Info (615) 664-3891.
- **GALLIP** Gay & Lesbian Lives in Progress Switchboard. Operates 7-11pm. (615) 297-0008.
- **Gay/Lesbian Addictions Anonymous** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church, 2007 Acklen. Wednesdays, 8pm.
- **Incest Survivors Anonymous** First Church Unity, 5125 Franklin Rd. Thursdays: Closed women's mtg, 6:30pm. Saturdays: Open mtg, 5:30pm. Sundays: Closed men's & women's mtg, 6pm.
- **Lambda Group** Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men & lesbians, Unitarian Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd. Mondays, 8pm.
- **Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Belmont United Methodist Church, 2007 Acklen Ave. Thursdays, 7:30pm.
- **MAGNET** (Married & Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. MCC, 131 15th Av North. 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** 131 15th Av North. Saturdays: community dinner, all you can eat, \$5. 7:30pm. Sundays: worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **Music City Sports Association** Softball league. At Whitfield Park, Edmondson Pike. Games Sundays at 1, 2 & 3pm. Info (615) 385-9689.
- **Nashville CARES** Tuesdays: HIV+ support group, 6pm; AIDS/ARC support group, 6:30pm. Wednesdays: newcomers support/education group, 6pm. Thursdays: visualization group, 7:15pm. Alternate Fridays: family & caregivers together sharing, 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **Nashville Women's Alliance** At Book Oasis. 3rd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.
- **NLC** Channel 35. Tuesdays, 9pm. Saturdays, 8pm.
- **One in Teen** Support group for lesbian & gay teens. Wednesdays, 6:30pm. Info (615) 297-0008.
- **P-FLAG** Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays meeting, 4th Tuesday. Unitarian Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd. 7:30pm. Info (615) 662-0332.
- **Sex Addicts Anonymous** At MCC, 131 15th Av North. Wednesdays: closed meeting for gay men & lesbians, 5:30pm. Fridays: closed meeting, 5pm.
- **Vanderbilt AIDS Project** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays: women's support group, 6:30pm; caregivers' support group, 7pm. Thursdays: AIDS / ARC men's group, 7pm. 1st & 3rd Thursdays: family support group, 7pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
- **Women's Chorus** At Bethlehem Center, 1417 Charlotte. Sundays, 6-8pm. Info (615) 353-1336.

Chattanooga



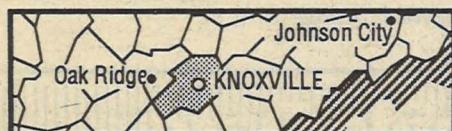
- **Chattanooga CARES** Closed support group. Mondays, 6:30pm. Info (615) 266-2422.
- **Gay/Lesbian AA** Open meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. Thursdays, 8pm; No-smoke meeting Saturdays, 7pm.
- **Lesbian & Gay CoDA** Co-Dependents Anonymous. Reflections, Harrison. Sundays, 12:30pm. Info (615) 267-7824.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 3224 Navajo Dr. Sundays, 6:30pm.

Clarksville



- **Clarksville CARES** Support group for HIV+, ARC, AIDS, family & partners. 1st & 3rd Mondays, 3pm. Info (615) 648-7730.

Knoxville



- **aids Response Knoxville** Mondays: PWA support group, 7-8:30pm. Tuesdays: Circle of Love family & friends support group, 8pm. Wednesdays: HIV+ support group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
- **Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UTK** Weekly meeting. Tuesdays, 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686.
- **Gay Gratitude Group** Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Mondays: Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 3219 Kingston Pike, 7pm. Fridays: MCC / Knoxville, 1320 North Central, noon.
- **Lesbian Codependents Anonymous** At aRK offices, 1320 North Central. Fridays, 8pm. Info (615) 933-8393.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service. Corner Weisgarber & Lonas. Sundays, 6pm. Info (615) 521-6546.
- **UT Gay Christian / Nonchristian Support Group** UT Humanities Bldg 53A. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 584-6934.

Tri-Cities



- **Appalachian AIDS Coalition** Support group for PWAs, ARC, & HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday. Info (703) 985-0131.
- **Gay & Lesbian AA** Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Sundays, 4pm.
- **LETSA** Lesbians of East Tennessee & Surrounding Areas social / support group. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. Info Box 905 Mountain Home, TN 37684.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Fridays: Women's Night, 7pm; Men's Night, 7pm. Sundays: worship service, 7pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Info (615) 926-4393.
- **Tri-Cities AIDS Project** (TAP). Support group for care-givers / families of PWAs, HIV+ & ARC, 6:30pm. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. Info (615) 928-6101 or 753-9647.

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Hot Dates

+ Big events

Saturday, June 2

Yard sale To benefit Nashville CARES. At 700
Craighead, Nashville. 8am-4pm. Info (615) 385-1510.

Concert WOMEN FOR PRIDE. Benefit for Nashville Pride
'90. At Woodbine Community Ctr, 222 Oriel Av,
Nashville. \$5. 8pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

Monday, June 4

Board meeting Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance
(T-GALA). At 2000 Richard Jones Rd, Suite 150,
Nashville. 7pm. Info (615) 269-6778.

Consciousness raising Black & White Men To-
gether / Memphis. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

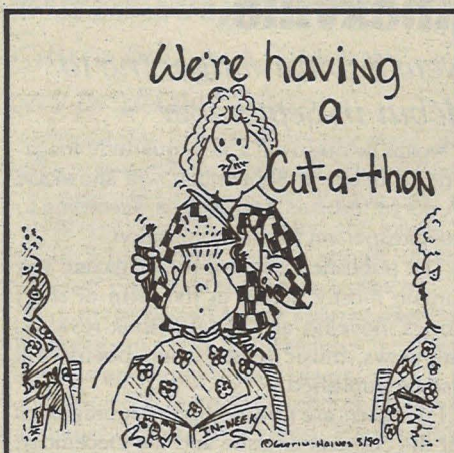
Saturday, June 9

AIDS 102 Buddy training. aids Response Knoxville.
1320 N. Central, Knoxville. \$15. 9am-4pm. Info (615)
523-AIDS.

Yard sale To benefit Metropolitan Community Church
/ Nashville. At 1420 Stratton Ave, Nashville. Donations
welcome. Info (615) 320-0288 or 385-9636.

Saturday & Sunday, June 9 & 10

Southern regional meeting Organizing for
National Lesbian Conference. At Bethlehem Center,
1417 Charlotte Av, Nashville. Dance Saturday, 8pm.
ding scale. Info (615) 269-9670.



Sunday, June 10

Cut-a-thon To benefit Nashville Pride '90. At
Warehouse Two, 2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville. Haircuts
and blow-dry, \$8. 3-7pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

Thursday, June 21

Interfaith worship Sponsored by Metropolitan
Community Church, Nashville. Edgehill United
Methodist Church, Edgehill Ave, Nashville. 7pm. Info
(615) 297-4293.

Stonewall reunion Onstage reenactment of the
Stonewall Rebellion. At Cabaret, 1711 Hayes St,
Nashville. Benefits T-GALA, NLC and Lentz HIV+4
Clinic. \$5. 10pm. Info (615) 885-5054.

fine art photographs by jan lynch

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jan lynch

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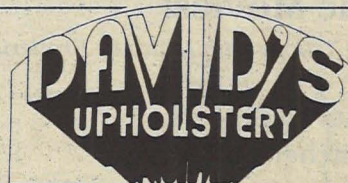
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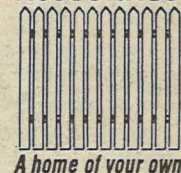
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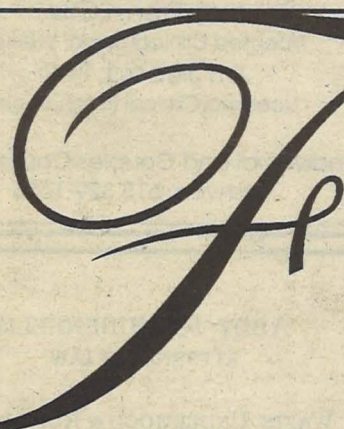
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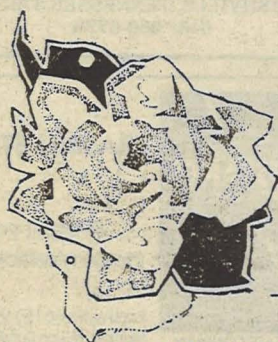
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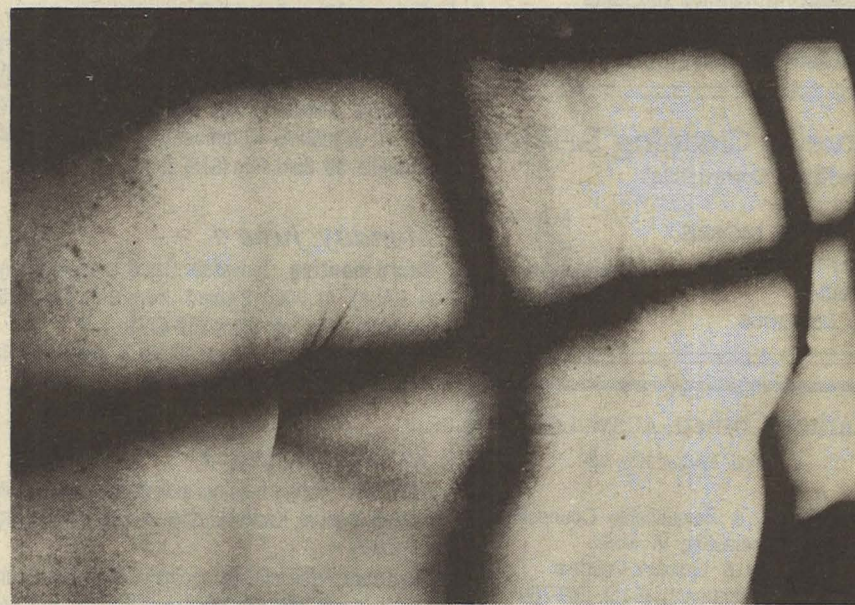
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Local Color



Knoxville photographer Jan Lynch created this untitled photographic silver print as the latest in his series of photographic art works for *Dare*. — PHOTO © 1989 BY JAN LYNCH

compiled by **CURTIS BALLS**
Staff Writer

Knoxville

New lesbian magazine to debut in September

WORDS OF OUR OWN, a new quarterly magazine to debut in September, will showcase works by lesbians, for lesbians, according to a spokesperson for the publication.

The publishers say that the magazine will contain mostly fiction in the form of short stories, novellas and serials. Book reviews, interviews, music reviews and poetry will also be published.

Publishers are now accepting submissions for the September issue and the December, 1990, edition. Submissions should be sent to: w.o.o., Box 5131, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37928-5131. ♦

Memphis

Playhouse sets 'Rocky Horror' as season finale

Playhouse on the Square will close its 1989-90 season with the stage version of the cult movie classic, *THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW*.

Tamera Tweedy will play newlywed Janet opposite Michael Detroit as Brad. Mark Chambers plays the lust-crazed, transvestite genius Dr. Frank N. Furter, and Chip Hunter is the lusted after Rocky.

Opening night is Friday, June 15 at 8 p.m. Showtimes afterward will be Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. through June 29. For reservations call (901) 726-4656. ♦

BWMT hosts Phill Wilson

BWMT/Memphis will host Phill Wilson, the Los Angeles-based black gay activist and AIDS educator, as guest lecturer at the Public

Library, Main Branch, on Saturday, June 2, at 1 p.m. in meeting room A. For details call (901) 327-3943. ♦

Nashville

NLC schedules Southern regional meeting

The Southern regional meeting for the National Lesbian Conference will be held in Nashville Saturday and Sunday June 9 and 10.

According to organizers, some of the two-day conference highlights will be an anti-racism workshop, self-defense workshop and a Saturday night dance sponsored by the Nashville Women's Alliance.

The event is co-sponsored by National Organization for Women/Nashville. For details, call (615) 383-8776. ♦

Invitational softball tourney set at Cedar Hill Park

The fourth annual Minnie L. Bowden Invitational Softball Tournament will be held at Cedar Hill Park beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday June 16 and concluding on Sunday, June 17.

For further information about the tournament, call (615) 259-6399. ♦

Osiel and Sullivan at Pride benefit concert

Marianne Osiel and Kat Sullivan will perform at a benefit performance Saturday June 2 at the Woodbine Community Center.

Proceeds from the concert will go to support Nashville's Lesbian and Gay Pride Week celebration.

Refreshments and pride merchandise will be available. Doors open at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5.

The Woodbine Community Center is located at 222 Oriel Avenue.

For more information about the concert, call (615) 383-8776. ♦

Cross Country

compiled by **KAREN MATHIS**
Editorial Assistant

Albuquerque

Man pleads no contest in lover's murder

An Albuquerque man pleaded no contest to second degree murder in the shooting death of his male lover, who he said was using blackmail to garner sexual favors.

Steve Charles Hail, 24, faces up to 26 years in prison for the October 1988 slaying of Sam Maestas.

Hail's attorney, Ron Koch, said Maestas was using a videotape of sex sessions to blackmail his client.

"Maestas was in the practice of seducing people...and taping their sessions without the partners' knowledge or consent," Koch said.

Maestas allegedly blackmailed Hail for sexual favors by threatening to expose the tape to all Hail's friends and associates.

On the night of the slaying, Hail had been drinking, went to Maestas' home, shot him in the head and stole his sports car and several electronic items, including a television and stereo system.

He also faces charges of aggravated burglary, larceny, tampering with evidence, receiving stolen property and auto theft. ✚

Chicago

Michelle Shocked won't admit to being a lesbian

Singer Michelle Shocked, in an interview by OUTLINES, Chicago's gay newspaper, acknowledged that she has had sexual relationships with women but refused to call herself a lesbian.

"I resent like hell that I was maybe 18 years old before I even heard the 'L' word...it would have made all the difference for me had I grown up knowing that the reason I didn't fit in was because they hadn't told me there were more categories to fit into."

Shocked granted the interview to OUTLINES in order to clarify her position on "outing," which she criticized from the stage during an April 20 concert in Chicago.

ACT UP members attended the concert and reportedly demanded that Shocked make an announcement about an upcoming demonstration.

Shocked finally read the announcement but prefaced it with, "If you want to support and organization that drags people out of the closet..."

In the interview Shocked described outing as "unethical" and "destructive."

"It's a cannibalism," she said, "yet I perfectly understand the frustration." ✚

Limestone, Ala.

Public defender protests restraints for HIV+ peopole

Public defender Jim Moffatt recently protested the use of a 200-pound steel chair to restrain HIV-positive individuals in the state circuit courtroom.

The chair, which resembles an electric chair, was built on a judge's orders after an HIV-positive detainee broke free during his trial and threatened to bite anyone who came near him.

Moffatt argued that anyone who is placed in the chair will be denied a fair trial because "a jury is going to see...a rabid dog in a cage." ✚

New York

Controversy drives up price of Mapplethorpe's photos

As attacks on the works of late Robert Mapplethorpe have escalated, so have the prices of his photographs.

Michael Ward Stout, president of the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation said, "Jesse Helms has helped make Robert's name a household world. The attempts to close the show in Cincinnati have made him even more famous."

The prices of his works, including his explicitly sexual photographs, have as much as tripled. The publicity has also fueled the sale of catalogues, T-shirts and posters as well as dinner plates and a table he designed. ✚

Philadelphia

City to host two different gay pride parades

Philadelphia will have two gay pride parades on two different dates this year. A June 2 parade will be hosted by "Parade '90," a coalition of community groups, and a June 3 parade is being organized by activist Robert Rowland, organizer of last year's parade.

Part of the reason for the two parades is a disagreement over inclusiveness between Rowland and Pride '90 organizers.

"The agenda of Pride '90 tends to incorporate what is politically correct. It's time this well-meaning segment realizes it does not speak for what they think is the majority of the gay community," Rowland said. ✚

Seattle

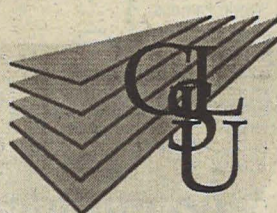
FBI charges supremacists in gay-bar bombing

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has charged three members of the Aryan Nations, and Idaho-based white-supremacist group, with plotting to bomb a Seattle gay bar May 12, a night when more than 400 patrons were expected at the establishment.

Robert Winslow, Stephen Nelson and James Baker were arrested only hours before they planned to detonate a pipe bomb at Neighbors Disco and were charged with conspiracy to destroy a building with an explosive device and three counts of possession of unregistered firearms and bomb components.

FBI agents learned from monitored telephone conversations between members of the group that they were confident the bombing would result in a "high body count."

The affidavit said the planned bombing was to be the first in a series. ✚



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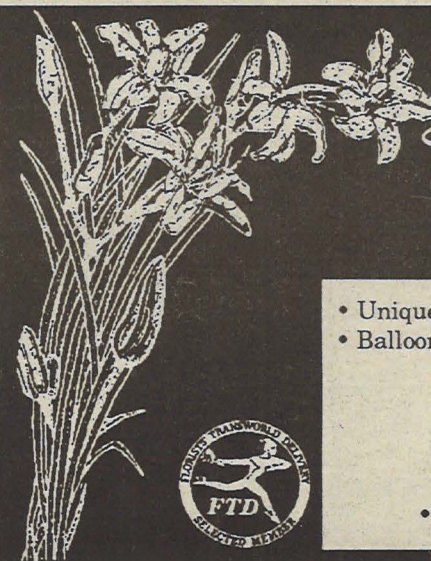
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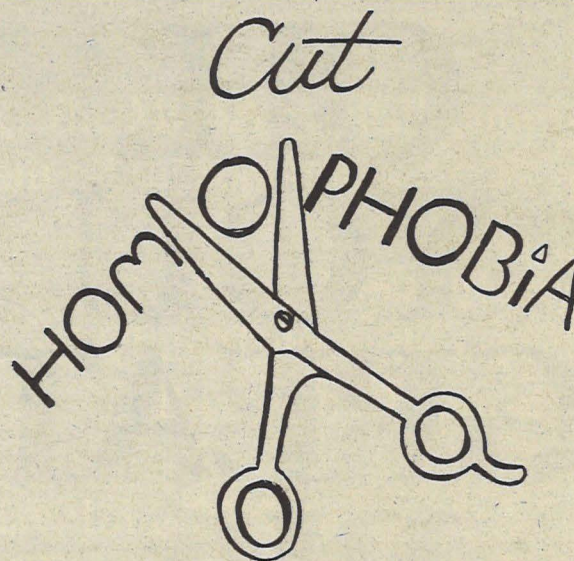


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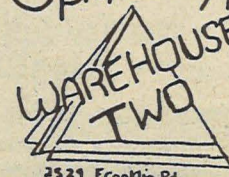
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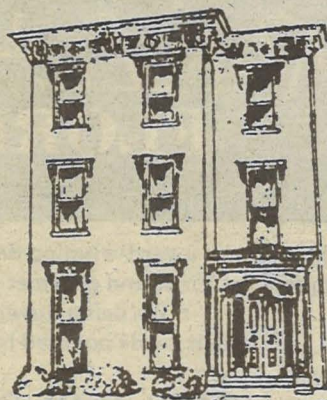
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BIG
TEES.**

Coming Pride Week, 1990.



Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly

'Stonewall Remembered'

Reenactment part of Nashville Pride Week

by **MARK LAWRENCE**
Staff Writer

A reenactment of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion will be staged at the Cabaret Thursday, June 21, as part of the celebration of Nashville's Pride Week '90.

The performance, entitled "Cabaret Reunion/Stonewall Remembered," is sponsored by Nashville Lambda Communications and the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

The reenactment is intended "to give something back and also to say, 'Thank you,' to the people who started our gay rights movement," said Phil Thomas, writer and coordinator of the event.

Thomas got the idea for the reenactment after he conducted an informal survey and discovered that many people do not understand the significance of Stonewall.

"They have no concept of what Stonewall is all about," he said, noting that lesbians and gay men of all ages are often unaware of the significance of the riots, "not just younger gays."

The performance will include "educational and politically correct" skits on how the riots began, and performers will make "short statements" about how lesbians and gay men were harassed during the period.

"I want to let people know this isn't always

like it used to be," said Thomas.

At the time of the riots, even going to a gay bar could be dangerous, he said: "Since we don't see it, we don't have any concept of it."

Thomas hopes the performance will also encourage greater unity within the lesbian and gay community by showing the important roles played in the rebellion by lesbians and transvestites, two groups that he believes are sometimes ignored within the gay community.

"Even within our own community, we have the tendency to look the other way and act like we don't know someone who does drag," he said. "We're sort of drifting away from any unity at all."

Thomas wants the show to be "entertaining as well as getting the message across."

One scene will feature a dance scene between lesbian and transvestite rioters and police that is similar to the fight sequence in *WEST SIDE STORY*.

The show will include performers from both Tennessee and out of state, some of whom have been doing female impersonation since 1969. Seventeen performers have been confirmed. The performance starts at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$5, with proceeds going to benefit T-GALA, NLC and the Lentz HIV+4 clinic.

For details, call (615) 885-5054. ♦

...Hodges

♦ *Continued from page 1*

the Nashville area have shifted into high gear following the arrest last week of Hodges.

During questioning in Shelby, Hodges allegedly confessed to the murder of Bassett as well as the killing of Barry McDonald after police produced evidence that linked him to that July, 1989 murder.

Police said fingerprints found in McDonald's Inglewood area home linked Hodges to that crime. McDonald, a nurse at St. Thomas Hospital and a native of Canada, had been stabbed 30-40 times, prompting one police official to call it, "the most violent crime in this city's history."

Police have also been examining leads that would link Hodges to the murders of three other gay men in the state's capital city:

- Vernon Lester Larkin, found dead on September 7, 1988, in his Hickory Valley area apartment.

- Robert Sibert, found dead in his Goodlettsville apartment on October 22, 1989.

- Aaron Overstreet, found dead from gunshot and stab wounds, on March 5, 1990.

Bassett had apparently been killed

sometime on Monday night, May 14, according to the medical examiner's office. Police have not yet been able to pinpoint Hodges' movements following the Bassett murder.

Apparently, Hodges went to his home in Smyrna, loaded his car and headed for Atlanta. However, police thus far have only been able to place Hodges in Atlanta on Thursday, May 17, when he checked into a room at the King's Motor Inn in Forest Park, Georgia.

Hodges' car was located by police in the motel's parking lot. Bassett's car, believed to have been taken after his murder, was found in Smyrna.

Following the 1988 murder of Vernon Lester Larkin, his car was found abandoned in midtown Atlanta. At that time, Metropolitan Nashville police were looking for a suspect who had been living at the Nashville Union Mission.

Hodges, released after four years in Tennessee State Prison on charges of kidnapping and armed robbery, told investigators he had moved into the Mission after his parole. ♦

...AIDS drugs

♦ *Continued from page 1*
accrue patients quickly enough.

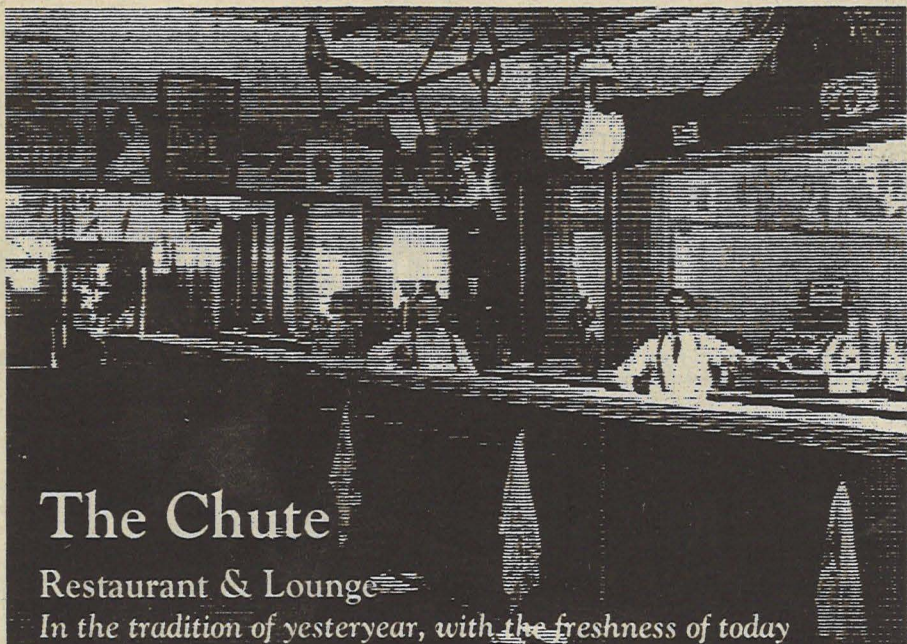
AIDS activists and advocates for people with AIDS said that the parallel track program proposal sends a clear message to the pharmaceutical companies that the government is serious about getting more AIDS drugs into the hands of people who need them, especially to people who are dying.

There is no word yet on when the proposal will be acted upon.

According to *THE MESSENGER*, a newsletter

by the state of Tennessee AIDS Program, a new antifungal drug has been approved by the FDA. Full approval was given to fluconazole, which is used to combat AIDS-related infections such as cryptococcal meningitis, esophageal candidiasis and disseminated histoplasmosis.

The drug is marketed under the brand named Diflucan and is available in a once-a-day dosage and IV forms. Other antifungals used to treat AIDS-related infections include amphotericin B and ketoconazole. ♦



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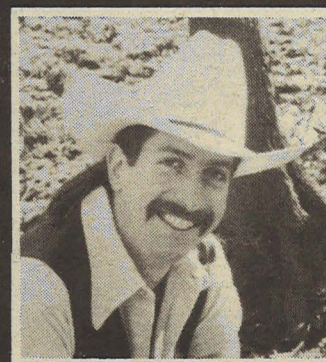
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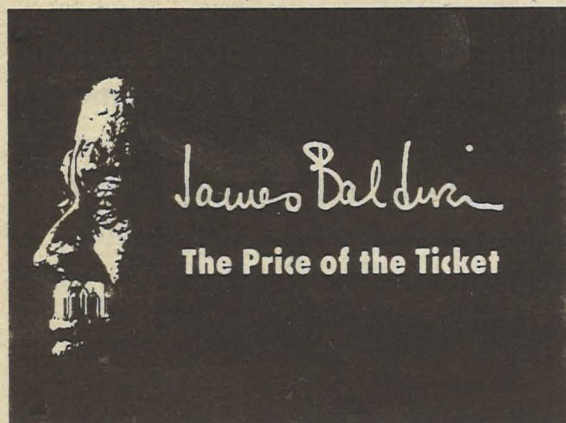
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A startling new documentary about James



JAMES BALDWIN:
THE PRICE OF THE TICKET.
Directed by Karen Thorsen.
Produced by Karen Thorsen
and William Miles.
Written by Karen Thorsen
and Douglas Dempsey.
1989.

reviewed by
FLYNNNE MALONE
Staff Writer

When you were starting out as a writer, you were black, impoverished, homosexual. You must have said to yourself, 'Gee, how disadvantaged can I get?' " "Oh, no, I thought I'd hit the jackpot."

I have seen THE PRICE OF THE TICKET three times. Three times I have been moved to tears at the passion and plan for love set forth by the extraordinary, ordinary humanity of James Baldwin. My passion is to persuade you to see it at least once.

The art of documentary filmmaking doesn't get any better than this moving, motivating, eloquent tribute to the black, homosexual writer and civil rights activist.

As I have said before, the first strength or weakness of any work is the simple, critical choice of subject, and Jimmie Baldwin is one helluva subject.

His presence on screen is riveting. This is due in part to what he is saying, speaking with the self-assured forthrightness of truths radically, manifestly, and starkly right. It is also due in part to his

compelling face and manner of movement—large eyes, as soft as his carriage.

As was spoken at his funeral in 1987, "...ever expanding and ever more conscious, big world absorbing eyes like his, never closed."

His funeral in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine frames this seamless vessel.

A small man in stature, it would take such a place to hold his immense and precious spirit and the admiration and love of his friends. Contrapuntal, lively African drumming is oddly juxtaposed and then, perfectly placed for a man who so keenly knew his blackness and so keenly wanted to move beyond all the divides people.

"From my point of view, no label, and no slogan and no party, and no skin color, and indeed no religion, is more important than the human being."

My notes are full of such sentiments as these—at once simple and challenging in the extreme. It is true that non-sexist language was not his forte, and it is also true that his sphere of influence was primarily in matters of skin color.

It is also true that to fail to extrapolate his obviously necessary message of equality, which must include denying differences of gender or sexual preference, is to sell short to those of us still living and trying to learn how to love.

Baldwin was homosexual, unapologetically so. "I think the trick is to say 'Yes' to life....It is only we in the 20th century who are so obsessed with the particular details of anybody's sex life. I don't think the details make any difference. I will never be able to deny a certain power that I have had to deal with, which has dealt with me, which is called love. And love comes in very strange packages. I have loved a few men and I have loved a few women, and a few people have loved me. I suppose that is all that has saved my life."

A tremendous strength of this film is the "testimony" provided by the "witnesses" who loved "Jimmie" very much.

There is no personally absent voice-over narrator here, but instead literary notables such as Maya Angelou, William Styron, and Ishmael Reed (originally from Chattanooga), and intimate

personalities such as his brother David, his friend Bobby Short, and his lover Lucien Happersberger, all of whom knew Baldwin in work or life.

Director Karen Thorsen has structured the film brilliantly, making deep use of excellent pictorial research. An apparently astonishing amount of footage exists of Baldwin. Some of it is obviously from television appearances and speaking engagements, but a lovely amount is more private—walking the streets of Paris anonymously (almost), arising in the garden in his house in St. Paul de Vence, France.

This footage has the innermost feeling of home movies, but home movies very well shot.

The most interesting technique uses stock footage and the voice over of Baldwin, usually, or a "witness" to import the generic images live into Baldwin's world.

Street scenes of Harlem in the '20s, or ornate gates opening to the splendor of the Eiffel Tower, are shown as though he was presently seeing them. Of course, in reality, this is not so.

In no small measure this is due to

sion

es Baldwin



*The art of documentary
filmmaking doesn't get
any better than this
moving, motivating,
eloquent tribute to the
black, homosexual writer
and civil rights activist.*



the editing that moves the film unswervingly forward as though on sweetly silent tracks, gliding at soaring emotional speeds. Sparse touches of period music fulfill the mood effortlessly.

The powerful circumstances and choices of his life are here: early life in Harlem; the oldest of nine children; the one who "dealt with Daddy...who frightened me so badly so that I had to fight him so hard that nobody has ever frightened me since;" the teenage years in the pulpit; the self-imposed exile to France, Switzerland, and Turkey; the civil rights activism; the critical acclaim; the falling out of fashion, dignity; and, finally, death by cancer.

His writing is represented too, read by himself or by witnesses, enacted on the Broadway stage, or reenacted for various productions.

Without a stuffy pedantic approach, we learn how the various works were conceived and received. Of particular interest is GIOVANNI'S ROOMS, a homosexual novel written in 1955, indicative of the social ground that Baldwin, at risk, continually cultivated to augment understanding and

diminish fear.

I am so moved by this man and this work that it is tempting to try to tell the whole film to you, but, of course, that would not do it justice. Justice was of primary concern to James Baldwin.

As I grow older, and, with hope, wiser, justice has grown in importance to me. I have been "accused" of being devoted to homosexuality.

Rather, having learned much from the feminist and civil rights movements, I am devoted to the human rights movement, the final, full frontier.

IN THE FIRE NEXT TIME Baldwin wrote, "...the value placed on the color of the sin is always and everywhere and forever a delusion. I know what I am asking is impossible. But in our time, as in every time, the impossible is the least that one can demand..."

I would adapt it to say that all conditions which divide us as humans, minute and splendid as we each are, are always and everywhere and forever delusions. We must "now dare everything." Please begin by seeing this film. ✦



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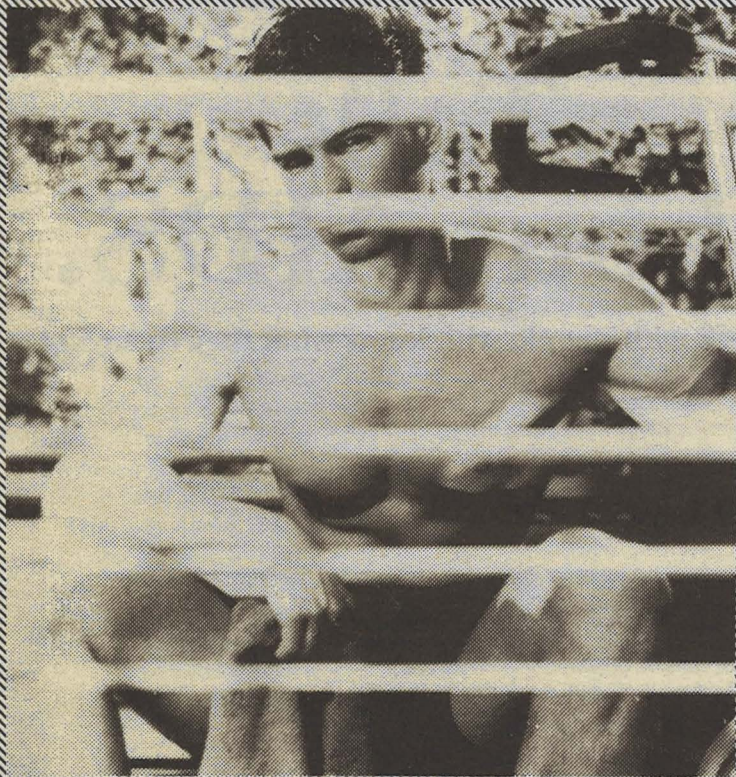
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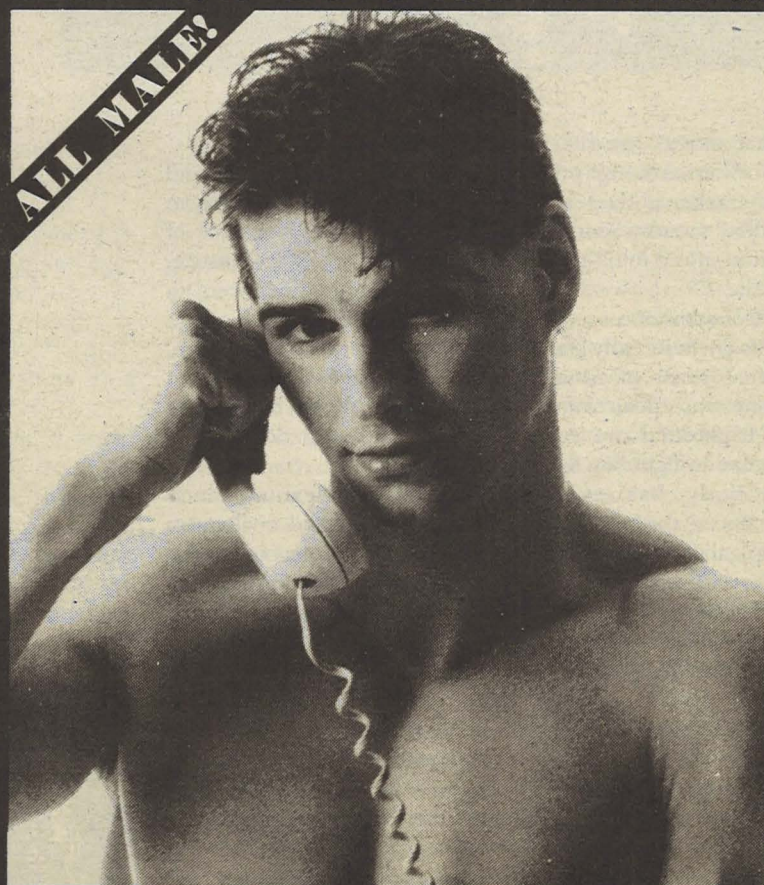


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• Nice lkg GWM, 29, 165 lbs, bl/br, tall, educ, intel, witty. Varied interests inc hiking, biking, gd music, movietheatre, travelling. I'm skng masc GWM, 21-35, w/sim ints 4 frndship, poss relationship. No drugs, pls. Prefer light to nonsmoker. Photo w/ phone. Proper consideration given to responses. Nashville. Dare DRAWER 98

• Nash. Educ. Prof. GWM, 40, attr & in shape sks healthy masc. educ. GWM (28-40) as monog life partner. Not into drugs, smoke, bars. Photo / ltr. To P.O. Box 333, Fairview, TN 37062

• Two snaps up, girls. No, no, make that the hitherto-unknown Zorro snap in classic Z-formation. Yessss. I'd like to meet that Mr. D.

• Wheelchaired GWM Nashvillian. 40, sks loving, passionate mate. Photo, phone to Dare DRAWER 97

• GWM, 27, 5'8", 170lbs, sks penpals. MJR, P.O.Box 1701, Bristol, TN 37621-1701

• GWM, 32, 5'10" 160, into working out and fitness, healthy well-built masculine, well-educated. Sks 22-40 for friendship / good times. Photo / letter gets mine. Dare DRAWER 96

• GWM, 22, sks GWM 18-40 not into bar scene and likes romantic evenings, has good sense of humor. Full-length photo would be nice. No druggies. I'm lonely. I'll be waiting 4 you. McMinnville. Dare DRAWER 95

• Yo gigoio KY: Just say no!!

• GWM 41, 6ft, 200 work out regularly, don't smoke or do drugs; grad student in English, finishing degree. Masc, quiet, healthy, not into bars, out looking for serious-minded man for friendship, maybe more. Reply: RHA, Box 4465 B, Nashville 37235.

• GWM, 29, 5'8" 140lbs, br/gr very attractive (Monty Clift type) smart, sincere, honest healthy hi-caliber Vandy guy sks similar 22-32 for 1-on-1. Do you exist? Pls be gay, single, masc smoker in good shape. No photo, no reply. Dare DRAWER 94

• Holly—North to Alaska - Feh!! Go, do, see, experience, work, travel, play - Come home. Say "Hi!" to Mom & Dad & do a humpie for me! I love you, Anne. P.S. Don't forget my t-shirts, prints, puppy...

• GWF, 32, outdoorsy, athletic, artistic, prof., sks similar. Loves lazy days sharing each other. Is there a caring, bright, sensitive woman anywhere? Dare DRAWER 90

• SWM, 29 —Female impersonator, attractive, thin, adventurous, I'm looking for friends and one real relationship. I'm submissive, so send me your demands and I'll see how I can serve you. Dare DRAWER 94

• GWM, 43, was gay in 'Nam. Lkng for same to share where we were, where we've been and where we can go. All answered: this is for support group. Dare DRAWER 93

• Lonely GWM, 22, 5'5", 120, dark brown hair, blue eyes, sks GWM 18-40 who enjoys romantic evenings, not into the bar scene & who likes to cuddle, with a good sense of humor. Full length photo pls. No drugs. Dare DRAWER 92

• GWM — very hairy, 37, chubby but handsome sks chaser age 25-45 also GWM for fun, friendship & possible more. I don't drink or drug, own my home & wish to share. Tony, Box 4636 Nashville 37216.

• GWM, 26, 5'8", 155, br/bl, tired of bars. Enjoy a quiet evening at home, movies, theatre. Sks GWM 25-40 who enjoys the same. Prefer well-built masculine man. Photo, phone. Dare DRAWER 91

• GWM, 26, 5'8-1/2", lkg for sincere male who loves life, music & fun. Want totally monogamous relationship. If you live in Knoxville & want the same, write me. Photos appreciated, but not necessary. Phone # must. Dare DRAWER 89

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Onstage

+ An enigmatic heroine

ANASTASIA. By Marcelle Maurette, English adaptation by Guy Bolton. Directed by Abigail Crabtree. Cumberland County Playhouse, Crossville. Through June 17.

reviewed by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

With a pair of bravura performances from Ginger Hulbert and Mary Crabtree, Cumberland County Playhouse's production of Marcelle Maurette's *ANASTASIA* is a chillingly effective historical drama told in such vivid detail that it is sure to please even today's most hardened videophile.

Maurette's drama, translated into English by Guy Bolton, is actually a composite of stories that circulated throughout Europe following the Bolshevik Revolution about the possible survival of the Grand Duchess Anastasia.

Several women came forward claiming to be the last surviving daughter of Tsar Nicholas III, although none of their claims were ever recognized by either the courts or other Romanov survivors.

The very suggestion that Anastasia could have survived the firing squad is perhaps ludicrous. But our romantic belief in the Anastasia legend persists—all common sense, logic and historical accuracy notwithstanding.

The Crossville production of *ANASTASIA* offers a stirring prologue in explanation of the demise of the Tsar's dynasty. In stunning tableaux we are made aware of the excesses of the Imperial court and the onslaught of Communism. The tableaux are elegantly choreographed glimpses into history, marred only by the weak sound of recorded

gunfire—it would have been so much more effective if the gunshots had only sounded more real.

But in a production as elegantly acted as this amid such sumptuous surroundings as the sets created by Ron Keller, it's merely quibbling to point out the show's weak points.

Directed by Abigail Crabtree with a restrained and intelligent hand, *ANASTASIA* is a stylish blend of history and fantasy.

Much attention is given to period detail (the story is set in 1926 Berlin) and Keller's simple, yet somehow opulent, set provides the perfect backdrop for the play's action.

Ginger Hulbert (cast as Anna, the young woman of dubious Slavic origins who is the pretender to the title of Grand Duchess) is stunning as her character transforms from a confused and frightened foundling into the haughty and regal would-be Anastasia.

In the role of the Dowager Empress Maria Federovna, Playhouse veteran Mary Crabtree proves Hulbert's equal with a fully realized portrait of an aging woman aching for her dead family and her home country which is now lost to her forever. Crabtree delivers the Empress' scathing rejoinders with relish, investing in the character a much-needed believability.

As the trio of con artists who are attempting to foist the pretender upon Europe's White Russian community as the real thing, Steven Patrick, Charles R. Miller and Mikael Byrd are at turns amusing in their ineptitude and frightening in their zealotry.

Playhouse stalwart Terry Schwab is effective as Prince Paul, Anastasia's childhood sweetheart, although he is plagued by bad hair and an anachronistic wristwatch. +

+ Of manners and malapropisms

WHISPERS, WIGS AND WENCHES. Book and additional lyrics by Michael Bouson and Joe Correll. Music and lyrics by Kathy Shepard. Directed by Michael Bouson and Joe Correll. Rave Revues. Through June 9.

reviewed by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

There's always a certain amount of risk-taking involved when updating a theatre classic. Turning that classic into a musical is an even bigger challenge.

Working within the framework of Richard Sheridan's comedy, *THE RIVALS*, the trio of Michael Bouson, Joe Correll and Kathy Shepard—the same team that brought us last year's hit, *ALMOST A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*—have created *WHISPERS, WIGS AND WENCHES*, the story of Jack Absolute and his wooing of Lydia Languish, of Sir Anthony Absolute and Mrs. Malaprop, and various and sundry other memorable comic characters.

The result is an uneven blend. Some of the comedy works—certain scenes are riotously funny while others are lame and uninspired. Shepard's music is pleasant enough, made even better by some wonderful singers, but

none of the music seems memorable enough to recall after the curtain has fallen.

Condensing Sheridan's classic comedy—a tale of duplicity and mistaken identities, of gossip being spread and corsets a'poppin'—is difficult to be sure, but the creative team is largely successful. Although at close to three hours, the show's running time is at least half an hour too long, the nine-member cast nonetheless packs a whale of an entertaining punch.

Jamey Green's musical arrangements are ideally suited to both Shepard's songs and the play's time frame. Janet Addis' sumptuous costumes, on loan from Vanderbilt University, are exquisitely tongue in chic.

All nine members of the ensemble seem remarkably well-cast, with no one performer outshining another. Certainly Katie Gladfelter is stellar as the language-mangling Mrs. Malaprop, but everyone else shines in this show as well. Brian Russell, Martha Gabel, David Biddison, Renée Wilson, Bill Hood, Joe Correll, Michael Bouson and Tom Bartlett all perform with gusto.

Like most works in progress, *WHISPERS* is not perfect. Yet. But with some tightening up, it could well be on its way. +

Pages

✦ About Indians in England

THE BUDDHA OF SUBURBIA. Hanif Kureishi. New York: Viking, 1990. \$16.95. 188 pages.

reviewed by **JOE MAROHL**
Staff Writer

In MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE, playwright Hanif Kureishi gave the movie-going world what is arguably one of the ten best screenplays of the '80s, an intelligent essay on love and free enterprise, cleverly packaged as East/West social comedy.

The movie, directed by Stephen Frears, gave us Paki-consciousness and Daniel Day Lewis in one sitting.

Kureishi's next effort, SAMMY AND ROSIE GET LAID, also directed by Frears, similarly found romance in the mores of the English working classes (and gave us Roland Gift in his acting debut).

Kureishi's Indian immigrants have become even more English than the English, who now grovel after ersatz Eastern mysticism on the one hand and the greener myths of American free enterprise on the other.

But we had to wait until THE BUDDHA OF SUBURBIA, Kureishi's first novel, to see a fuller treatment of the more provocative themes in the screenplays: family, friendship, charlatanism, betrayal, sexuality, ethnicity.

Like Omar in LAUNDRETTE, the self-absorbed but generally winsome protagonist of the novel, Karim Amir, is "an Englishman born and bred, almost."

His father is an Indian dabbler in Buddhism who, sometime in the early '70s, catches on with the white, middle-class pseudo-intelligensia of South London, becoming the mockingly named title character. He is also having an affair with the WASP mother of Karim's adolescent hero, Charlie, a would-be rock-and-roller.

Karim's mother is a white English woman of limited imagination and rather conventional values. When, in the first half of the novel, Karim's father leaves the boy's mother, Karim moves in with his father and his father's mistress, more to be near Charlie than to declare any allegiance to his father.

Kureishi's major characters define

themselves by their ambitions. Whereas Kamir's father wants to be God, Kamir aspires only to be an actor on the stage.

In pursuit of his chosen career, Kamir finds himself caught between his perception of himself as "Englishman" and other people's perception of him as Mowgli in Kipling's jungle stories.

Partly in imitation of his father's charade as a guru, a position for which he qualifies a priori by race, Kamir pursues a career playing white England's versions of Indian identity.

Kamir discovers himself to be half-caste no less in sex than in nationality.

"It was unusual, I knew, the way I wanted to sleep with boys as well as girls. I liked strong bodies and the backs of boys' necks. I like being handled by men, their fists pulling me; and I liked objects—the ends of brushes, pens, fingers—up my arse. But I liked cunts and breasts, all of women's softness, long smooth legs and the way women dressed. I felt it would be heart-breaking to have to choose one or the other, like having to decide between the Beatles and the Rolling Stones."

However liberating the '60s were, England in the '70s is still largely unprepared to let some lines be crossed—or worse, criss-crossed.

Kureishi's novel is an entertainingly written mix of melodrama and social comedy. The first half of the book is especially successful, full of surprising disclosures of character and ribald situations.

When Kamir and cast move to the city in the latter half of the novel, however, much of the initial charm is lost as the story wanders less successfully toward the picaresque.

The characters change too quickly, maneuvered heavy-handedly towards a preconceived disclosure of theme, and we end up being forced to cast judgements on moral blemishes which are, at the worst, only human.

What is most impressive in this novel is its description of a period of recent history largely ignored: the transition from flower child to punk in the early 1970s.

The setting is pre-Thatcher England, which Kureishi captures with a tone of apocalyptic dread. Charlie, the beautiful young man of Kamir's infatuation, is the touchstone of most of these changes, moving from Jim Morrison clone to Ziggy Stardust clone to Johnny Rotten clone.

Kureishi's England is an empire sweetly though decidedly in decay. Its oldest and most revered traditions are upheld only by immigrants who wish to preserve the golden myths that used to be unreachable for them.

Kureishi's Indian immigrants have become even more English than the English, who now grovel after ersatz Eastern mysticism on the one hand and the greener myths of American free enterprise on the other.

Kureishi pictures England in the '70s, like the U.S. at the same time, on the brink of a social revolution that got bought out by the big corporations. It is the last gasp of good old muddily liberal England, on the eve of its transformation to just another sheeny, Epcot version of its vanished national glory. ✦

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Dare

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN & GAY NEWSWEEKLY

"I am the Love that dare not speak its name."

— Lord Alfred Douglas, "The Two Loves," 1892

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GayBites

+ Challenging the conventional wisdom

by JIM ROCHE
Contributing Writer

Politics as usual? In New York, politics can be not only dirty but down right filthy.

Mayor David Dinkins reached out to the lesbian and gay community when he needed them as part of an electoral coalition of minorities to push him over the top during his primary and general election bids.

It's well known that without the lesbian and gay vote, Dinkins wouldn't be mayor today. As part of the coalition that brought Dinkins to final victory, lesbians and gays were promised a number of things.

Put simply, that mayor Dinkins would be genuinely sympathetic to their cause. That he understood what the AIDS crisis was doing to the gay community. That he recognized the real consequences of homophobia and wouldn't stand for it in New York City.

He promised a lot, but after four months as mayor, he has failed to follow through on any of these promises.

Dinkins started to turn on the gay community with his appointment, above protests from not just the lesbian and gay communities but civil rights activists as well, of Woodrow Meyers as health commissioner.

After the Meyers appointment fiasco, Dinkins then failed to respond to the bias-related murder of a gay Staten Island man, using the excuse that he wasn't invited to either the funeral or subsequent march against anti-gay violence.

The mayor proceeded to downgrade the Office for the Lesbian and Gay Community (a city-wide liaison office for lesbian and gay concerns), putting it under the control of other minority groups. Since then, he has further failed to appoint a new liaison to replace outgoing Lee Hudson who, in another dirty move, was told of her ousting as director the night after Dinkins' caustic presentation at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

AT THE MEETING in February, concerning the historic case that New York City school teachers have in the State courts requesting equal spousal benefits, the mayor said that his decision (he could simply make an executive order which would grant equal benefits to lesbians and gay men) would be made only after his counsel studied the economic consequences of such action.

When asked if we could only have cheap justice, if gay justice wasn't worth the same price as that of other minority groups, he said nothing. He then failed to offer any plan to answer questions concerning housing for people with AIDS, a strategic promise he had made to the community during his election campaign.

The latest blow to the lesbian and gay community has been the mayor's failure to appoint any lesbian or gay members to the city's redistricting committee which will redraw lines for the upcoming council elections. It is now doubtful that lesbians and gays will be considered when the districts are redrawn, even though the redistricting will be

taking into consideration the empowering of other minority groups. Lesbians and gay men won't be considered a true minority. At least not one that matters or deserves a political voice.

What have local lesbian and gay political leaders said to all of this? Surprisingly little.

The president of one local lesbian/gay political group stated in an interview that if we couldn't get representation on the redistricting committee itself, perhaps a lesbian or gay man would be hired for the staff! What's wrong with this story?

In 1970, in Milwaukee, the Nazi Party began to distribute anti-Semitic literature in front of many Jewish-owned stores. When the Jewish community tried to come up with strategies to deal with this crisis, it couldn't.

IN A LOT OF WAYS, this situation is just like our own today. Some want to protest and take action. Others fear that public confrontations with the mayor would incite him or the general public to retaliation.

No one will listen. Those who said they would stand by us (like the mayor) will distance themselves from us. That as usual, anti-gay acts and defamation will be dismissed as being lower on the scale of oppressions.

That might be true. However, one wonders

what would have happened if, during the black civil rights movement, blacks had been afraid of public opinion, of white backlash and remained docile, continuing to take the crumbs they were offered. There never would have been a civil rights movement at all.

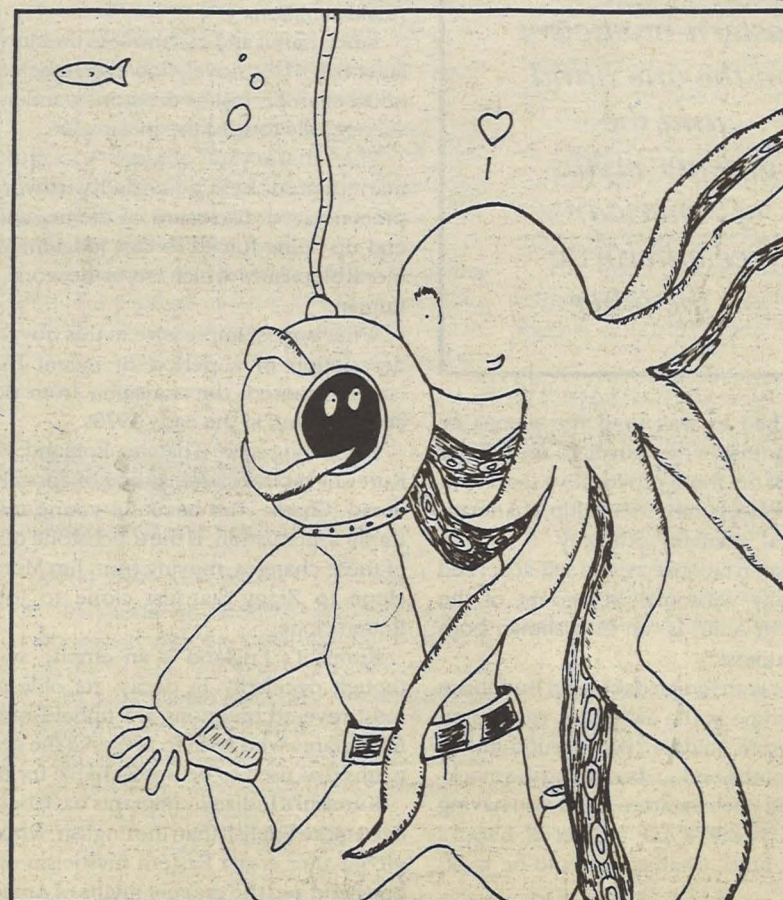
By definition, the fight for minority rights has to ignore the wishes and will of the majority. This was never meant to be a popular contest.

THE AIDS CRISIS SEEMS to be the only time we as a community have been willing to stand up and say enough is enough. The first time we have been willing to say you can only go so far before we fight back. You can't treat other human beings like that. To succeed we have to start out by *expecting* to be treated fairly, decently and with equality. We have to act as if we are equal already if we want to be treated as equals.

The response of the New York lesbian and gay community shows clearly what the greatest problem confronting us is. We lack self-respect. That's where we have to start.

The horror of New York politics is repeated daily around the country for lesbian and gay people. When we try to decide what steps to take, let's remember we don't have to be satisfied with anything less than equality, fairness and justice. ✚

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DEFIANT LOVE RAN DEEP

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— CARTOON BY ANDREA NATALIE

Loose lips

+ Did you hear about...

compiled by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

"I cannot end this week's segment of the journal without mention of the National Census. It reminds me that many years ago the British government conducted a similar snooping assault upon its victims. When news of this reached the ears of a friend of mine, he phoned me and, snorting with indignation, said, 'I'm not going to stand on my doorstep giving the details of my private life to a total stranger with a clipboard. Do you blame me?'"

"From the tone of his voice I could tell what my reply was supposed to be, but my reaction to this official interrogation was not the same as his. In fact, the census man had already called at our house and, when he asked me about my past, he wished he'd never begun."
— *Quentin Crisp, writing in his weekly NEW YORK NATIVE column, "The Diary of Quentin Crisp for the week ending April 5, 1990."*

"When [New York Gov. Mario Cuomo] began listing those who are being unfairly discriminated against in this world, he started with gays and lesbians. Then he added African Americans, Jews, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans and other groups, including women."

"He said that things have never been this bad among the races in America."

"He's right..."

"Let's stop laughing at hatemongers masquerading as comedians."

"And as difficult as it may be for some people riding their moral high horses, it is time to stop discriminating against people because of their sexual preference."

"A cursory review of who's-done-what would show that no group has a monopoly on 'sinful' behavior. And an open-minded review of the world's religions should remind us that no group has a monopoly on truth."

— *NASHVILLE BANNER columnist Ruth Ann Leach, reacting to a commencement address delivered by Mario Cuomo to graduates at the State University of New York at Stony Brook earlier this month.*

"Instead of spending \$5 million on attitude surveys and public relations consulting, why doesn't the Catholic Church fund an awareness campaign to prevent unwanted pregnancies?"

"Or how about using it to train teenage mothers to care for their children?"

"Or give the money directly to those who care for unwanted babies?"

"I'm sure \$5 million would be a big help to crack-addicted or AIDS-infected babies."

"If we don't feel right about preventing a child from being born, we should do something to give unwanted children a chance."

— *Susan G. Swanson of Ardmore, Pennsylvania, writing in NEWSWEEK magazine.*

"If you need a larger penis, I hope you have found one and can hold on to it."

— *Sex therapist and syndicated columnist*



Quentin Crisp: social critic, writer, raconteur. We can just imagine what he had to tell the census taker, can't you? — DARE FILE PHOTO

Ruth Westheimer, answering a reader who disagreed with her contention that penis size has no bearing on the quality of sex.

"How could something backfire when you get caught by the police for having sex in [London's] Hyde Park? There's not much more they can do to me after that."

— *Openly gay pop singer Jimmy Somerville, formerly of the Bronski Beat and the Communards, replying to a question from an interviewer from London's NUMBER ONE magazine about his sexual orientation.*

"I didn't like the Lady Bird story. I'd rather read about Vanna White. Have you guys ever run into her in a campground? I'd be interested if so. I wonder if she shares my love of pit toilets..."

— *Chuck Woodbury, of Sacramento's OUT WEST newspaper, writing a letter to MONK, a New Age magazine for queers. We've heard rumors that Vanna does, indeed, have a pit toilet fetish.*

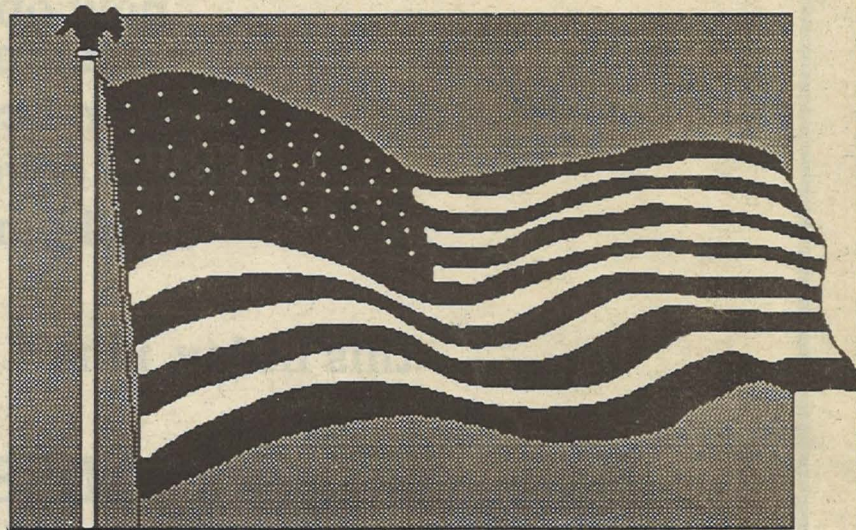
"Now that Peter Duesberg has cast doubt on the tightly guarded and financially lucrative thesis that the HIV virus causes AIDS, and Jon Rappaport has persuasively argued that AIDS is an umbrella term for a whole slew of diseases with multiple and often unrelated causality, what are we poor panacea-hungry Monks to do?"

"If a virus is not the cause, what is?"

"Of course, lots of anal-retentive people argue that 'lifestyle factors,' such as poppers, white sugar, caffeine, pesticides, frequent anal intercourse, dairy products, antibiotics, Hot and Hunky hamburgers are the cause of acute immune-suppression."

"This is true up to a point. But as clean living decalcified uptight Macroneurotics with a sad history of sexual denial, we don't buy it."

— *From "Did Disco Cause AIDS?" a treatise that appeared in MONK, number 8.*



Homo—the brave.

Never fear.

It's a Scream is proud to present, in cooperation with Dare, Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly, a self defense class designed for gay men and lesbians.

Lesbian fifth degree black belt Damien Hardin will conduct the class for men and women. She'll cover such basics as how to use common items on your body for self defense, when to run, and how to recognize and avoid dangerous situations. The class will last about two hours.

Classes are Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17, at 1:00 a.m. in our community room, 168 Second Avenue North in Nashville. Please call (615) 244-7346 to register before noon, Friday, June 15. \$5 per person.

A non-profit community service from
It's a Scream and Dare, Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly.

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this friday, june 1 ■ VIOLA WILLS live in concert

this sunday, june 3 ■ **MISS TENNESSEE CONTINENTAL**
with **RITA ROSS**
GINGER LAMAR
and **LAKESHA LUCKY**, miss continental 1989-90
■ contest starts at 10 p.m.

next sunday, june 10 ■ comedian **MARK PETERS** entertains

coming events in june:

friday, june 15 ■ **EMPLOYEE SUMMER STAFF PARTY**
with special dj **WILLIE VELA** of petrus in atlanta

sunday, june 17 ■ porn star **BEAU BEAUMONT** live on stage ■ two shows

June is a busy month for WAREHOUSE TWO. Watch *Dare* for all the details.

* excludes special shows and benefits

