

FROM THE HEART OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH Dare

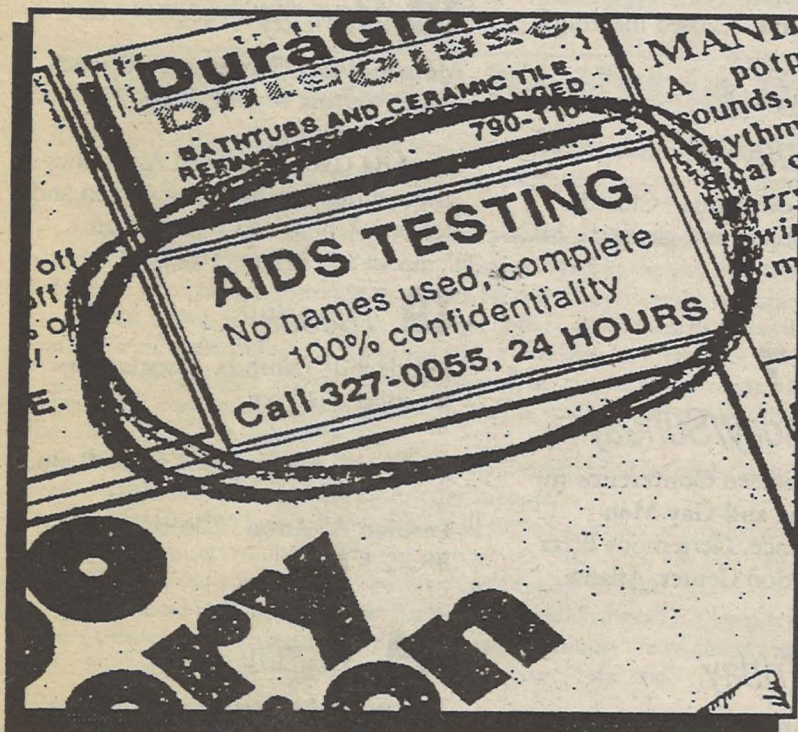
FREE

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 3

THE GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSPAPER

APRIL 6 - 12, 1988

Testing, No Counseling Called Criminal



THIS AD RUNS REGULARLY IN THE *Tennessean's* Sunday "Showcase" section.

"Confidential" Ad Could Prove Misleading

BY STUART BIVIN

Nashville area residents seeking human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) antibody testing face a wide range of available service and prices, including some practices that have been labeled irresponsible by AIDS activists.

"The Clinic," a clinic that advertises "confidential" AIDS testing in the *Tennessean's* Sunday "Showcase," charges \$75 for what appears to be the ELISA test for the presence of HIV antibodies in the blood.

The clinic does not provide counseling for those submitting to the test, an omission that Thom Carpenter, a Nashville CARES volunteer, calls "criminal."

Some area physicians make the test available for as little as \$35.

Lentz Public Health Center, which provides the test free, asks those making appointments for the test to allow at least an hour for counseling at the time blood is drawn. Lentz also will not give out test results over the phone, requiring a second personal visit. While Lentz requires patients to register with a

name and address, blood samples are identified only with a numerical code.

Anyone who takes the test should be advised about the test's accuracy, about the possible interpretation of the test's results, about safer sexual practice and about further counseling and services available should the test show the presence of the antibodies, Carpenter said.

Sandee Potter, the director of Nashville CARES, maintained that, although testing without counseling is "unethical," the practice has not been strictly a local one.

Potter conducted a nationwide telephone survey of 20 hospitals in early 1987 as part of her postdoctoral work with the Vanderbilt AIDS Project. One of the survey's purposes was to determine how HIV testing was being conducted in American hospitals.

In every hospital surveyed which tested patients for the presence of HIV antibodies, counseling was either provided routinely or was available at the physician's discretion.

Tennessee law requires neither the name-and-address identification of blood samples for HIV testing nor the reporting of positive test results.

"...As it is in Heaven": Angry Divinity School Students Fight for Equality

First in a three part series.

BY JEFF ELLIS

Seeking an end to what they perceive as a tradition of racism, sexism and homophobia, angry students at Vanderbilt Divinity School (VDS) are engaged in a struggle with members of the school's faculty to achieve equality for all.

Six students, representing a coalition of blacks, women and gay and lesbian students, are demanding faculty action on a number of points. The six, speaking for some 45 students who recently met to decry what they called the years of hypocrisy in Divinity School policies, are seeking an end to the inequities which exist at the school.

Despite its liberal reputation, VDS and its faculty stand accused of taking "inadequate" steps to alleviate the problems the students say are prevalent in the institution's make-up.

However, "student leaders have been told by the faculty that they don't represent the feelings of the students," according to Penny Campbell, the only openly lesbian student on the six-member council which is seeking faculty recognition of the problems at VDS.

Accused by the faculty of "being confrontational," the six student leaders have presented specific proposals that they feel will help to eliminate the racism, sexism

and homophobia at VDS.

Regarding curriculum, the students have asked for the inclusion of black, womanist/feminist and lesbian/gay perspectives as "authentic, legitimate and essential components of courses." The council suggests that all students be required to take at least one course in black theology, one course in sociology "as related to liberation theologies," one course in comparative religion and one course in womanist/feminist theology.

They also recommend that courses in black theology, black liberation ethics, black Christian tradition, womanist/feminist theology, homosexuality, liberation theologies and racism, sexism and homophobia should be offered on a regular basis.

Specific action was requested in the area of faculty affirmative action plans in regards to the three areas of dispute. The students have also asked that faculty members take part in seminars on the subjects on an annual basis," Campbell said.

The students' demands have been heard on several occasions, including two faculty meetings. In addition, the students have formally submitted written proposals so their demands may be known.

"We've been in dialogue with the faculty for a couple of years," Campbell said.

"However, the faculty seems to concern itself only with the racism issue, to the exclusion of sexism and homophobia."

Students have decided, Campbell pointed out, to reject faculty overtures in one area if the other two areas of concern are ignored.

Faculty members say they are indeed making efforts to address the students' concerns. Last week, the faculty released an eight-point letter which outlines their actions.

Gordon Injured in Chute Robbery

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The assistant manager of The Chute was treated for a severe cut to the head last Monday after a foiled robbery attempt by two men.

Bill Gordon, assistant manager of the nightclub at 2535 Franklin Road, was treated at Southern Hills Hospital following the incident which occurred shortly after 12:30 p.m.

Berry Hill Police Sgt. Dan Smiley was also injured when he was jumped by the two gunmen after responding to the disturbance call. The two robbers stole Smiley's gun after they strong-armed him as he entered

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Calendar

YOUR EVENT OR ORGANIZATION CAN BE LISTED AT NO CHARGE IN CALENDAR OR DIRECTORY. JUST DROP US A POSTCARD OR LETTER TO DARE, Box 40422, NASHVILLE, TN 37204-0422, OR PHONE 292-9623 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. PLEASE INCLUDE INFORMATION ABOUT TIME, LOCATION, COST, SPONSOR, AND A CONTACT PERSON'S NAME WITH ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE NUMBER FOR VERIFICATION.

APRIL

6 Wednesday

ACT UP Nashville AIDS action group meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7 pm.

7 Thursday

Metropolitan Community Church Gay and Lesbian Seder Passover Meal (potluck) and Worship Service, MCC. 7:30 pm.

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

8 Friday

Conductors Anniversary Show repeat benefit for Conductors PWA Fund, the Chute. Donation. 11:30 pm.

10 Sunday

Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.

Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.

The Chute US Male Revue, \$2 cover. 10:30 pm and

11 Monday

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

12 Tuesday

Vanderbilt Lambda Association Share meeting. 5:30 pm.

Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30 pm.

Lesbian Al-Anon Closed meeting, MCC. 8 pm.

14 Thursday

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

softball, Birmingham League.

17 Sunday

Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.

Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.

18 Monday

Metropolitan Community Church Share, *Getting Beyond AIDS*. 7:30 pm.

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

19 Tuesday

Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting. 5:30 pm.

Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30 pm.

Lesbian Al-Anon Closed meeting, MCC. 8 pm.

24 Sunday

Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.

Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.

The Chute Western Jamboree, live western band. 9:30 pm.

May

1 Sunday

Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.

6 Friday

Nashville Ballet *Cinderella*, Fine Arts Theatre, UT-Chattanooga, \$12 and \$15. 8 pm.

7 Saturday

Nashville Ballet *Cinderella*, Fine Arts Theatre, UT-Chattanooga, matinee \$10 and \$13, evening \$12 and \$15. 2 pm and 8 pm.

Directory

RESTAURANTS AND CLUBS

The Cabaret	1711 Hayes St	320-7082
The Chute	2535 Franklin Rd	297-4571
Chez Collette	407 1st Av South	256-9134
Crazy Cowboy II	2311 Franklin Rd	269-5318
The Gas Lite	167 1/2 8th Av North	254-1278
Juanita's	1700 4th Av South	256-9411
The Jungle	306 4th Av South	256-9411
New Attitude	1803 Church St	320-5154
Ralph's Rutledge Hill Tavern	515 2nd Av South	256-9682
Victor/Victoria's	111 8th Av North	244-7256
Warehouse 28	2529 Franklin Rd	385-9689
World's End	1713 Church St	329-3480

ORGANIZATIONS

American Civil Liberties Union	Hedy Weinberg, <i>Director</i> Box 120160, Nashville 37212	256-7028
Conductors	Box 40261, Nashville 37204	
Nashville CARES	Sandee Potter, <i>Director</i> Box 25107, Nashville 37202	385-1510
	AIDS Crisis Line	385-AIDS

Nashville Women's Alliance

Box 120834, Nashville 37212

National Organization for Women (Tennessee)

Elizabeth Jameson, *President*
Box 120523, Nashville 37212

Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA)

Box 24181, Nashville 37212

Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF)

Carole Cunningham, *President*
Box 24181, Nashville 37212

Vanderbilt AIDS Project

Hotline

322-AIDS

Vanderbilt Lambda Association

Box 121743, Nashville 37212

Women's Resource Center (YWCA)

1608 Woodmont Blvd

385-3952

SERVICES

Jane Parkey Attorney

227-3958

Irene K. Ratner, Ed.D. Psychologist

Suite 234 B, 4004 Hillsboro Rd

298-5369

RELIGIOUS

Metropolitan Community Church

Rev Paul Tucker, *Pastor*
131 15th Av North

320-0288

14-17

Thursday/Sunday

Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men Conference, Pierremont Plaza Convention Center, Atlanta.

15 Friday

Gay Parents' Support Group 833-9252 for details.

15-23

Friday/Saturday

WDCN-TV Action Auction Fundraiser. 259-2100 for details.

16 Saturday

American Society of Interior Designers Designers' ShowHouse. 297-6194 for details.

Metropolitan Community

Church Church and Community Forum, *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*. 8:30 pm.

The Chute Dena Kaye Show, country-western singing. 10:30 pm.

16-17

Saturday/Sunday

Nashville Numbers Men's

I Took the "AIDS Test." Now What?

By SPENCER JENKINS

Every week in the "Showcase" section of the Tennessean, there is an ad for "AIDS testing."

The ad assures that the testing is completely confidential and that no names are used. The name of the agency is not given, just a phone number. The phone number is answered 24 hours, although the clinic only performs the test during business hours Monday through Saturday.

I went to the clinic one Saturday afternoon to find out how accurate the ad was and how complete the service was.

Anonymity, surely a crucial factor to anyone answering this ad, was absolute. No

"I was not told what kind of test I was getting, how reliable it was, or what the result might mean either way."

names or addresses were asked for. No one asked to see any identification whatsoever. I was asked first about money, and then about my age. The receptionist then asked me to choose a code that I would use for identification when I called in for the test results.

The clinic was clean and the manner professional. I was greeted cordially by the

receptionist, and the courtesy did not disappear after I announced the reason for my visit.

A medical assistant competently took a blood sample, taped my arm, and sent me on my way. The entire visit was over in less than ten minutes. At no time was a physician present.

I was not told what kind of test I was

getting, how reliable it was, or what the result might mean either way. Even though I specifically asked more than once for "the AIDS test," I was never corrected. No one ever told me that the test was actually for the presence of HIV antibodies rather than for diagnosis of AIDS itself.

No other information, either about the test administered or about AIDS, was volunteered.

I called the clinic for my results, and, after some time on hold, was told that my test was negative, and the conversation was over. Had I been told that the test was positive, I might well have been left with the impression that I had AIDS.

T-GALA Throws Its Hat in the Ring

Hoping to gain a foothold on the state's political turf, members of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance are making plans to form a political action committee, according to the group's politics committee chair.

Deborah Burks said the TGALA "membership thinks it is important to form a political action committee (PAC) so that we can fully participate in the political arena."

Such an organization, Burks said, will enable the group to make endorsements of political candidates, as well as contribute to campaign coffers. She contended that the power of a full endorsement could have been felt in the recent Presidential Preference Primary.

"If we had been able to make a full endorsement, it would have made a big difference in helping the Jesse Jackson campaign and in getting our members to work in the campaign," Burks said.

Further, she suggested that delegates to the Democratic National Convention could have been elected if a PAC were in place to offer support.

"The way for us to bring about changes in society is by becoming involved in the electoral process. By getting members of our community elected, or by electing people who are sympathetic to our concerns, we can get things done," she said.

Burks pointed out, however, that "impacting these changes" is a long-term project. "We must concentrate on coalition building with other groups. We've already made some inroads in the black community that will pay off in the future," she said.

"...As it is in Heaven"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

school's black students, rejects their request for a two-day workshop, conducted by noted black theologian C.T. Vivian, as "not what the community needs."

The faculty suggests that Vivian be invited to the school for a one day visit to "consult with the faculty."

"This is inadequate," Campbell said. "The white faculty cannot tell this man how to do his job."

Faculty proposals for a series of sessions during the next academic year "to deepen our understanding of racism, sexism and homophobia" have also been rejected by the students because of the faculty's stand that leadership for the sessions be drawn "from within and beyond the Divinity School."

"The faculty's response has been extremely vague, offering no time line for their

proposals to be enacted," Campbell said.

The major sticking point, she suggested, is the faculty's reluctance to seek outside help to ease the tension.

"They have the disease," Campbell said. "But they don't know how to cure it."

The other five student leaders include Flora Wilson-Bridges, co-convenor of the school's Black Seminarians organization; Jon Carlock; Shirley Majors-Jones; Gary Martin; and Janet Wolf, a heterosexual woman denied ordination by the United Methodist Church because of her views on homosexuality.

Denied ordination by the UMC Ordinations Board because "she acts on her convictions," Wolf is characterized by Campbell as "a gifted speaker" who has the highest grade point average in the Divinity School. The VDS faculty has been asked to protest the Ordination Board's decision concerning Wolf.

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Robbery at the Chute

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the dimly lit club. According to Bob McGhee, manager of The Chute, Gordon apparently left the door open as he was performing routine tasks at the club.

"Normally, no one is in the club at that time of day, but because Bill was going out of town for his mother's funeral, he was taking care of some details before he left," McGhee said.

While the two managers were talking on the telephone, the two robbers entered the building. While Gordon turned, he was confronted by the two gun-wielding men.

McGhee heard scuffling on the other end of the phone, then silence as one of the gunmen hung up the phone. When he called back, McGhee said, a stranger answered and told him he had the wrong number.

McGhee called Berry Hill police and Smiley

responded to the call. As he walked into the club, he heard Gordon's voice, then was overpowered by the two men who grabbed his gun and threw him against the wall.

The two men, carrying the officer's 9-millimeter automatic pistol, ran out the club's back entrance and down an alley.

McGhee speculated the two had been watching the establishment during the previous weekend, which was especially busy.

"Usually, no one is here at that time of day, so they must have been watching and saw Bill enter alone and leave the door open," he said.

The two suspects, believed to be in their early- to mid-twenties, were described as being about 5-feet, 7-inches tall and wearing blue jeans.

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Same-Sex Couples Can't Marry in Tennessee

Attorney General Cody Delivers the News

By JEFF ELLIS

Same-sex couples in Tennessee hoping to acquire a license to wed will be refused, according to an attorney general's opinion released in late February.

Even if one of the two has had a sex change operation, a license will "probably" not be issued, according to the opinion by Attorney General W.J. Michael Cody.

"It is the opinion of this office that two people of the same sex may not obtain a valid marriage license in Tennessee," the opinion says.

Furthermore, the opinion states that a Tennessee court might find that a person's sex under Tennessee law is determined at birth. Thus, sex change surgery will not alter a person's sex for the purpose of obtaining a marriage license.

Tennessee statutes do not specifically prohibit or authorize marriages between two persons of the same sex. However, language is included in the statutes which refers to "the female and male applicants."

According to the attorney general's opinion, "the statutes therefore appear to envision a marriage between a male and a female...therefore, it is the opinion of this office that Tennessee's marriage statutes do not authorize a marriage between persons of the same sex."

There are no Tennessee cases or statutes which address the issue of sexual reassignment. However, citing three cases outside this jurisdiction, the attorney general's office found that "sexual reassignment surgery would not alter the sex of a person for purposes of marriage."

"The sex of an individual will not be changed on the original certificate of birth as a result of sex surgery," the opinion reads. Because of that,

Tennessee statutes do not specifically prohibit or authorize marriages between two persons of the same sex. However, language is included in the statutes which refers to "the female and male applicants."

transsexuals could not be allowed a marriage license.

Only three states - Arizona, Louisiana and Illinois - have statutes that allow the birth record of a person undergoing sexual reassignment surgery to be changed. Twelve other states will allow a transsexual's post-operative change of sex to be designated on a birth certificate.

Presently, only the states of Virginia and Utah have statutes which specifically forbid same-sex marriages.

The opinion was requested by State Rep. Dick Clark (D-Nashville), who said he had been asked by county clerks in his district about same-sex marriages. Clark currently works in the office of Davidson County Court Clerk Bill Covington.

There are no records available from the Davidson County Court Clerk's office which would enumerate requests received for marriage licenses from same-sex couples.

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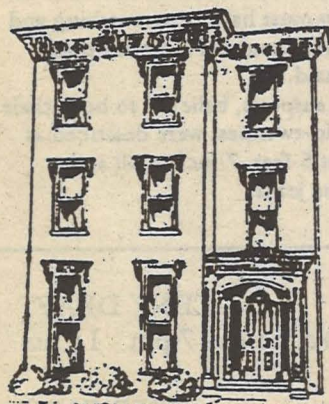
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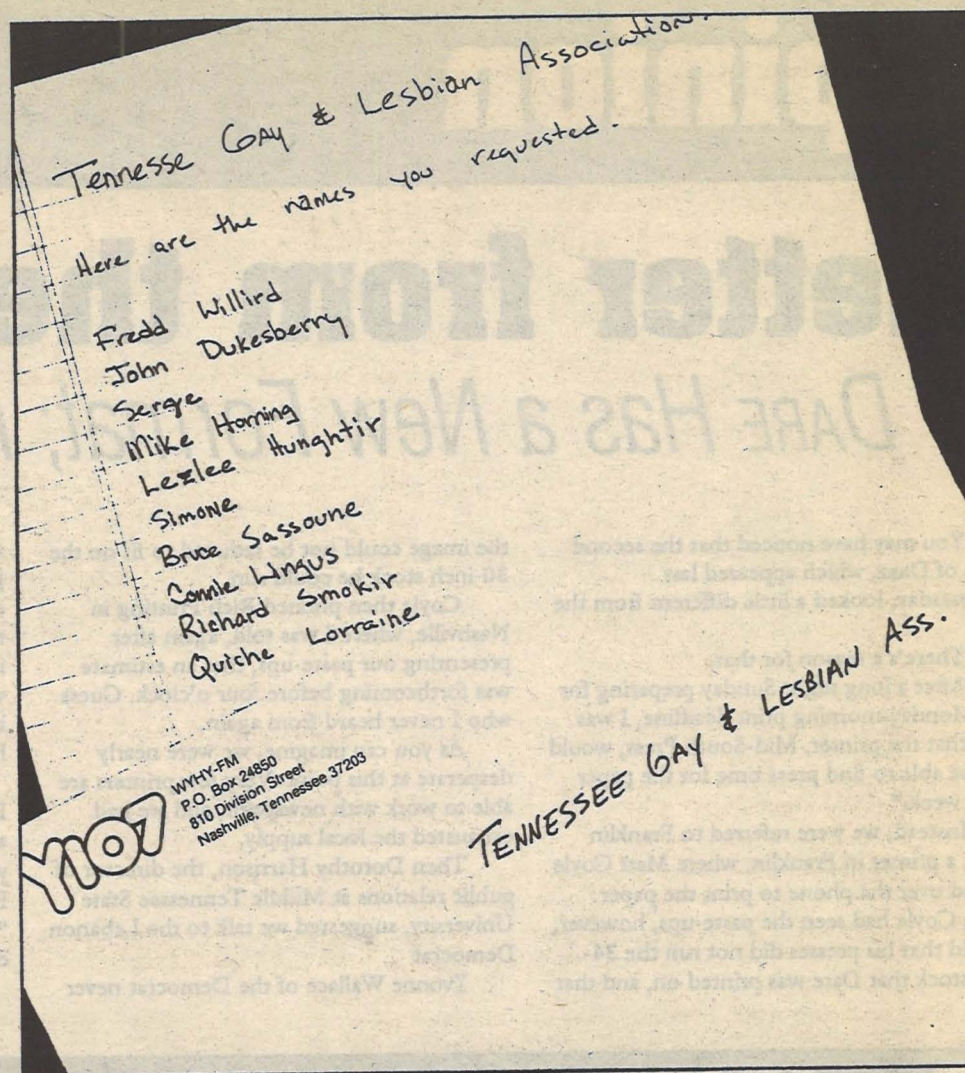
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Y-107's MARK CHASE gave this list of names to T-GALA's Dianne Easter when she asked for a list of those who had phoned the radio station to complain about anti-gay remarks last week.

Radio Station Draws Ire

T-GALA Complains About Remarks and Response

BY STUART BIVIN

Nashville radio station WYHY-FM (Y-107), which bills itself as "the outrageous FM," has angered gay and lesbian rights activists with antigay and anti-woman remarks made by on-air station personalities.

Dianne Easter, of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA), said that Y-107 deejay Gary Jeff Walker, in the course of on-air remarks about AIDS, said that he would

"kill" any "homo" who touched him.

When the remarks were brought to the attention of T-GALA's Media Watch Committee, the watchdog group alerted the organization's telephone tree to bring complaints to station officials.

Mark Chase, Y-107 program director, the next day issued an on-air apology for the remarks. However, according to Easter, the sincerity of the apology was at best questionable because Chase then read a list purporting to be the names of those who had phoned the station to complain.

Easter then asked Chase for a copy of the list of names, she said. When she picked up the list from the station, she was angry to find that it contained such names as "Connie Lingus" and "Serge".

"We will discuss this at the Alliance meeting Monday night [April 4]. I don't know what the Alliance will do, but a lot of people are really angry about Y-107 and their homophobic remarks," Easter said.

Terry Kevlin, co-chair of T-GALA's Finance Committee, complained directly to the station manager, but said that he claimed to be mystified about the controversy. She quoted him as saying that the station's personnel "make fun of everybody", and that he could not understand why the group would be upset.

At press time, T-GALA had not decided on a course of action, although pickets, a letter-writing campaign, a challenge to the station's FCC license, and boycott of selected Y-107 advertisers had been discussed, Easter said.



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Opinion

Letter from the Editor

DARE Has a New Format; Here's Why

You may have noticed that the second issue of DARE, which appeared last Wednesday, looked a little different from the first.

There's a reason for that.

After a long night Sunday preparing for the Monday-morning print deadline, I was told that the printer, Mid-South Press, would not be able to find press time for the paper "this week."

Instead, we were referred to Franklin Web, a printer in Franklin, where Matt Coyle agreed over the phone to print the paper. Once Coyle had seen the paste-ups, however, he said that his presses did not run the 34-inch stock that Dare was printed on, and that

the image could not be reduced to fit on the 30-inch stock he could run.

Coyle then phoned Rich Printing in Nashville, where I was told, again after presenting our paste-ups, that an estimate was forthcoming before four o'clock. Guess who I never heard from again.

As you can imagine, we were nearly desperate at this point. Very few printers are able to work with newsprint, and we had exhausted the local supply.

Then Dorothy Harrison, the director of public relations at Middle Tennessee State University, suggested we talk to the Lebanon Democrat

Yvonne Wallace of the Democrat never

asked what kind of newspaper we were publishing. Instead, she asked how soon I could get to Lebanon. Within an hour of the time she answered the phone, she was interrupting the Democrat's production team with our boards, and DARE was printed and bundled within four hours - no questions, no hassles and no censorship.

And by the way, Mr. Coyle, the Democrat's presses run 28-inch stock. That's a full two inches narrower than the 30-inch you said Dare would not fit on. I guess Benjamin Franklin was right when he said, "Freedom of the press belongs to those who own one."

Box 40422

DARE INVITES YOUR LETTERS AND OPINIONS, AND THIS SPACE IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS AN OPEN FORUM FOR THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS. LETTERS MUST BE TYPED, DOUBLESPOCED AND NO LONGER THAN 300 WORDS. LONGER SUBMISSIONS (300-800 WORDS) WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE SOAPBOX SPACE. ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE SIGNED AND INCLUDE THE WRITER'S ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER FOR VERIFICATION. THE WRITER'S NAME MAY BE WITHHELD IF REQUESTED. DEFAMATORY MATERIAL WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED.

Dear DARE:

I was startled last week when, before Karen Thompson's speech, someone shoved at me the first issue of Dare. I looked at my friend quizzically.

"It's a gay newspaper," she responded.

I was confused. It certainly didn't look like *Esc*. A photograph of the Dannemeyer protest was on the front page; this was a local effort I was holding! Tearing it open, I searched for sophomoric opinions, warmed-over news and complete coverage of the drag contest circuit. None was to be found.

Hats off to the staff for a well-done, promising, and much-needed publication. How often have we heard comments such as "I didn't hear about that march last week." Or "I don't see why everybody is so upset. My life is fine."

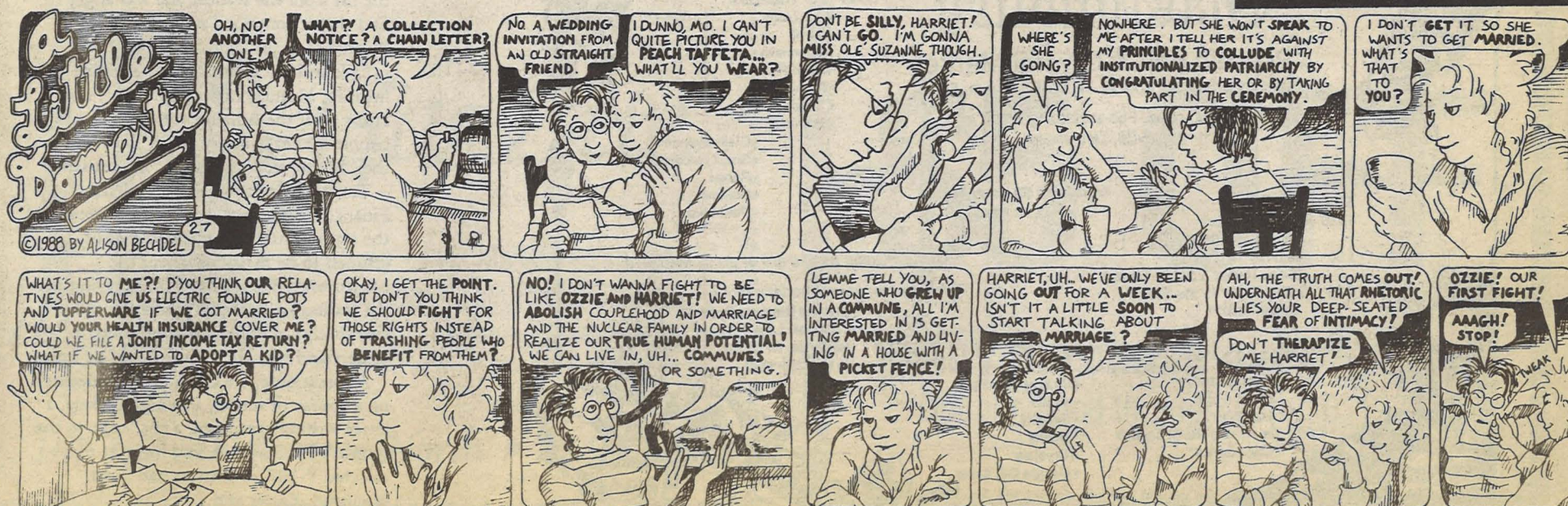
DARE can be an important means to bring home to the gays and lesbians of middle Tennessee the fact that many issues, as well as an active political and cultural "gay life," are

found right in their own back yard. We can now perhaps more easily "know what's going on." As a forum for much that is ignored or misrepresented in the mainstream press, DARE can be invaluable.

Though it is important for any group to have its leaders and spokespeople, our strength and ultimate freedom will come about in the end not just through the work of a handful of articulate activists but also through the self-assertiveness, political awareness and "mini-activism" of all gays and lesbians. A local gay press can only solidify and organize our community.

Olin J. Nettles
Nashville

Dykes to Watch Out For



Dare

THE GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSPAPER
FROM THE HEART OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH

APRIL 6 - 12, 1988
VOLUME 1, NUMBER 3

EDITOR/PUBLISHER
STUART BIVIN

NEWS EDITOR
JEFF ELLIS

STAFF WRITERS
CAROLE CUNNINGHAM
SHERRE DRYDEN
SPENCER JENKINS

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Pages

BY CAROLE CUNNINGHAM

Susan Griffin, in her previous work (including *Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her* and *Pornography and Silence*), has been known for creating a highly-charged, revolutionary, idiosyncratic discourse within which to engage, dissect, dismember and disturb the history of political/cultural violence and the violence of Western politics and culture.

Griffin has been lauded by feminists, philosophers and lesbians for her incisive analysis and irreverent methodology while others deride her work for what they perceive as indulgent diatribe. Griffin's work seems always to spark controversy, with her staunchest promoters disagreeing as much as her detractors.

Yet few, I think, will disagree that Griffin's newest collection of poems, *Unremembered Country* marks the emergence of a new vision of Griffin's thinking - one as equally profound, intelligent, questioning and challenging as her vision in earlier works, yet conveying now the urgency of her message through a contemplative voice whose passion is most keen in its stillness.

Most extraordinary about this collection of poetry is the magnificent range Griffin displays through the four major sections of

the book. *Poems 1978-1983* contains a series of love poems I would only dare compare with the finest poems of Olga Broumas. "Knowledge of the Body" and "Knowledge" lay bare the beauty and fragility of lovers not by using the body as metaphor, to peak of something other, but by speaking of and to the body as the most mysteriously immediate articulation of being:

This is knowledge of the body,
how holding is like being held
how being held is like holding.
Miracles enter my body,
miracles enter your body.
How the sign of two bodies holding
comes into the body seeing
so that what is held back
would be given to the air
as tears or softness.

Even when the short lines, free verse and conversational idiom of the early poems shifts to the rhyming stanzas of "She Goes Away From Me," Griffin lets the body of the poem itself speak of the loss, disorientation, nostalgia one feels for a lost lover, as if to say that a halting rhyme, a stiff stanza are the only sense of order, control, the lover has left.

Remembrance and the need to remember as a necessary barrier against pain and madness are introduced in this first section at the level of the personal and intimate, yet always with some gesture toward a greater "political" body.

In the short poem cycle "Our Mother,"

which comprises the second section of the collection, Griffin shifts to a barer, sometimes nearly primitive voice in her poems. These are poems that remind the reader more of first translations from a second tongue than poems in a first language.

Griffin uses this technique with not surprising alacrity. "Our Mother" certainly

curiously scattered or entangled in often brutal, horrifying ways: in "Under," Griffin tells us there are terrors even terrorists fear - "Under the exploded building, / nothing, rooms, / a hand, a child's bed" - and that when time, when memory stops, terror begins.

To put these pieces back together, to learn

*"This is knowledge of the body,
how holding is like being held
how being held is like holding.
Miracles enter my body,
miracles enter your body."*

speaks as "mine" and "yours," but most significantly as ours, as the mother we might call "nature" would speak to us all - or how, were we all wiser, we would choose and know how to speak to ourselves.

Unremembered Country speaks not of the impossible but the possible - of the utter miraculous contingency of choice. Griffin's poems remind us that at the heart of "remembering" is the difficult task of "putting back together again," that remembering is in its very "parts" speaking of the body, of members that have become

that the mind changing is as eruptive and creative as bombs are destructive, is, Griffin suggests, the reason for her "wild and raging love of the world," and the only chance for its survival.

No contemporary poet I have recently read has so artfully and intelligently and passionately plead for a re-reading and remembering of our terrifying, violent and often miraculous human history.

Unremembered Country, by Susan Griffin.
Copper Canyon Press, 1987. 137 pp.

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"Cats Who Care" Brings Broadway to Nashville

BY JEFF ELLIS

Warehouse 28 claimed its place as a decidedly off-Broadway theatre Friday night when "Cats Who Care" took to the stage in a high-spirited, exciting musical revue.

The production, featuring the talented members of the touring cast of the smash Broadway musical *Cats*, provided an upbeat end to "CARES Month" in Nashville, four weeks of entertainment and festivities to raise

funds for Nashville CARES.

It was a song and dance-filled concoction of humor and sadness, of triumph and tragedy, performed before more than 500 Nashvillians who witnessed the extraordinary event.

Steven Bland, the raucous Rum Tum Tugger of the company, started the evening off right with the very appropriate "Rhythm of the Night," which set the tone for the show with its energy and verve. His well-timed and charming presence was ideal as he shared hosting duties with Paul Clausen, a *Cats* understudy, who sang the entertaining "Love I Hear," by Stephen Sondheim.

Another understudy, Linda Leonard, was joined onstage by Jack Noeseworthy for "Suddenly, Seymour" from the off-Broadway musical *Little Shop of Horrors*. The pair sang with power and an almost achingly sweet sense of humor and gave us one of the night's highlights.

Michelle Murlin-Gardner's "In My Solitude" was nice, but not quite as torchy as I would have liked. Still, her hair won raves from the crowd.

Perhaps the most beautiful singing in the show came from Richard Nickol (Old Deuteronomy) and Bryan Landrine (another understudy) on "Starlight Express," from the show of the same name. Felicia Farone and Lindsay Dyett's "I Have a Love" from *West Side Story* was obviously one the audience's

favorites as they were rewarded with warm, long-lasting applause.

Without doubt, the evening's funniest moment came during Michelle Kelly's "Heaven Hop" from *Anything Goes* which featured her tap dancing en pointe. Yes, that's right. Tap dancing en pointe.

Also memorable was "At the Ballet" from *A Chorus Line*, one of my personal favorites, performed by Leigh Webster, Felicia Farone and Helen Frank (who was drop-dead gorgeous, thank you very much.)

Donna Lee Marshall, the glamorous Grizabella and the mastermind behind the series of AIDS fundraisers by the company, was exceptional on "Unexpected Song" from *Song and Dance*.

The only weak number in the show was "The Time of My Life" by Linda Leonard and Roger Faymen. Quite frankly, I thought it was terrible.

My only other complaint about the show is that it seemed rather heterosexist at times. And that bothered me.

But, still and all, it was a wonderful production, featuring some very talented professionals and our hats are off to the people responsible for bringing it to us.

All of us here in Nashville should feel grateful, not only for the high caliber of the performance we witnessed, but also for the thousands of dollars raised for Nashville CARES.

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