

# FROM THE HEART OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH Dare

**FREE**

VOLUME I, NUMBER 4

THE LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSPAPER

APRIL 13 - 19, 1988



KELLEY EDWARDS AND LEA DELARIA will appear in *Dos Lesbos* Saturday, April 23, 8 pm, at Underwood Auditorium. The show benefits the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

## Teen Abortion Bill *Parental Permission Required*

By CAROLE CUNNINGHAM

The Tennessee Senate last week passed a bill that would prohibit doctors from performing abortions on minors without the notarized, written consent of both parents.

The bill passed on the floor of the Senate Tuesday by a 24-5 margin. Supporters of the bill argued that minors do not have the maturity and judgment needed to make decisions about abortion.

Referred Wednesday to the House General Welfare Committee, the bill is sponsored in the House by Rep. Ray Davis, D-Milan. Davis argued that the bill protects young girls from feeling "pressure from older boys to have abortions." The bill was approved Tuesday by the House committee, which has traditionally killed anti-abortion legislation.

Rep. Lois DeBerry, D-Memphis, led the fight against the bill in committee.

"I hope when you read in the paper about girls being sent to quacks and other alternatives, you'll realize what this bill has done," DeBerry said.

Cathy Fenner, of Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKALS), expressed disappointment over the committee's approval of the bill.

"The majority of teens already involve parents in the abortion decision," Fenner explained. "This bill will affect a group of minors who simply cannot go to their parents about this decision - girls from homes affected by incest, alcoholism or physical abuse."

Fenner said the supporters of this bill are "anti-choice legislators attempting to legislate 'good family communication.' It's one thing to want good family communication, and another to try to legally enforce it."

If passed by the full House, the bill will allow a minor girl who does not wish to involve her parents to go to Juvenile Court and explain her case to a judge who would decide whether the girl understands the consequences sufficiently.

The minor would also be allowed to appear in Juvenile Court with an attorney should she and her parents disagree about the decision.

Fenner said it is "highly unlikely" that most girls would take advantage of judicial bypass: "The girls are already very scared. I doubt most of them would trust the court system or be willing to appear before a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Tennessee AIDS Committee Meets

By JEFF ELLIS

Employers who screen applicants' blood for the presence of the AIDS virus, then use it as an excuse for not hiring the applicant, were officially "frowned upon" last week by the state advisory committee on AIDS.

The committee, which will meet for the last time in May at Tennessee State University, to complete their report for submission to Jim Word, Tennessee's Commissioner for Health and Environment.

Committee members also recommended that hospitals and other health care facilities should not test a patient's blood for the AIDS virus without the patient's consent.

"Any informed consent obtained for an

HIV test should include the information that the results of the test shall be kept confidential," the committee suggested.

The committee's recommendations on AIDS testing also said that results should be kept confidential unless the patient authorizes disclosure, or if the information is being given from one doctor to another for treatment of the patient.

Further, the committee recommended that any staff member who breaches the confidentiality should be subject to immediate "termination."

However, the committee did recommend that hospital consent forms should indicate that a patient's blood will be tested in the event an on-duty health care worker is

injured and such information is needed to properly treat the injured worker.

Last week's two-day sessions marked the ninth such meeting for the committee members since they were impaneled last August by Commissioner Word. Their report will include recommendations for AIDS policies in schools, prisons and mental health institutions, along with suggestions for AIDS education, testing and counseling, discrimination, confidentiality and housing.

The committee is chaired by Metro health director Fredia Wadley, who has termed "good news" recent findings that AIDS still seems to primarily affect gay men.

## "...As it is in Heaven": Divinity Faculty and Civil Rights Leader Confer

Second in a three-part series  
By STUART BIVIN

Black, Women and lesbian and gay students at Vanderbilt University's Divinity School (VDS) celebrated last week a decision by the school's faculty to meet two of the group's demands.

The faculty agreed to meet first with the minority coalition and then with the Rev. Dr. C. T. Vivian, a renowned civil rights

educator, Director of the Basic Black Action Strategies and Information Center in Atlanta, and executive staff member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The students had earlier asked the faculty to address concerns about racism, sexism and homophobia in the school's curriculum and classrooms.

VDS faculty responded by attempting to meet black student leaders separate from and without other members of the student

coalition.

The black students, members of the school's Black Seminarians, refused to divide the coalition and joined women and lesbian and gay students in demanding that the faculty deal with the coalition as a whole.

"Wherever anyone is oppressed, that's where our work is. The same mentality that leads people to do violence to someone because she is a lesbian or he is a gay man is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### INSIDE

News  
Views

Reviews  
Box 40422

Listings  
Dates



# Dates

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

### 13 Wednesday

Vanderbilt Lambda Volleyball. 5 pm.  
Transcendental Meditation Program  
Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, lecture, Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel. Free. 7:30 pm.  
ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7 pm.

### 14 Thursday

Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8 pm.  
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Phone 385-4776 or 352-5822 for details. 8 pm.

### 14-17

#### Thursday/Sunday

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

### 15 Friday

New Attitude Income Tax Night. 4 pm - 2 am.  
Gay Parents' Support Group Phone 833-9252 for details.  
Warehouse 28 *Charlie Brown*, show. 11 pm.

### 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.

Chez Collette *Legends*, show. 10 pm - midnight.  
The Chute *Dena Kaye Show*, country-western singing. 10:30 pm and midnight.  
Warehouse 28 *Charlie Brown*, show. 11 pm.

### 17 Sunday

New South Softball League Co-ed softball, Whitfield Park. Noon - 5 pm.  
Nashville Numbers v. Juanita's Zippers, 3 pm.  
The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park. 1 pm.  
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.  
Vanderbilt Lambda Volleyball. 2 pm.  
Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.  
Juanita's Softball cookout. 5 pm.  
Warehouse 28 Anniversary party, champagne buffet. 7 pm.

Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.  
The Chute Western Jamboree, live western band. 9:30 pm.

### 25 Monday

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

### 26 Tuesday

Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting. 5:30 pm.  
Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30 pm.  
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8 pm.

### 27 Wednesday

ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7 pm.

### 28 Thursday

Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8 pm.  
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Phone 385-4776 or 352-5822 for details. 8 pm.

## May

### 1 Sunday

The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park. 1 pm.  
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.  
Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4 pm.

### 2 Monday

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

### 3 Tuesday

Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting. 5:30 pm.  
Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30 pm.  
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8 pm.

### 4 Wednesday

ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7 pm.

### 5 Thursday

Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8 pm.  
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Phone 385-4776 or 352-5822 for details. 8 pm.

## Listings

#### RESTAURANTS AND CLUBS

NASHVILLE		
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

#### CLARKSVILLE

The Office	130 Franklin St	645-1157
------------	-----------------	----------

#### 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, <i>President</i>	
	Box 120523, Nashville 37212	
Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA)		
	Box 24181, Nashville 37212	
Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF)	Carole Cunningham, <i>President</i>	
	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	<i>Attorney</i>	227-3958
Irene K. Ratner, Ed.D	<i>Psychologist</i>	
	Suite 234 B, 4004 Hillsboro Rd	298-5369

#### RELIGIOUS

Metropolitan Community Church	Rev Paul Tucker, <i>Pastor</i>	
	131 15th Av North	320-0288

### 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 Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8 pm.

### 20 Wednesday

ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7 pm.

### 21 Thursday

ACT UP Nashville Protest government inaction on AIDS issues, outside the Cordell Hull Building, 5th and Union. 8 pm.  
Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8 pm.  
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Phone 385-4776 or 352-5822 for details. 8 pm.

### 22-23

#### Friday/Saturday

Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance Yard sale, 1401 Cedar Ln. 8 am - 6 pm.

### 24 Sunday

The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park. 1 pm.  
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1 - 3 pm.



## "...As it is in Heaven"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the mentality that leads people to think it's all right to do violence to someone because he is black," said Moses Dillard, a student leader and president-elect of the school's student government.

Dillard said that Penny Campbell, the only openly lesbian member of the student coalition, has received anonymous letters expressing support for her work, but no public support thus far from other gay and lesbian students.

"Many students are still dealing with fear," Dillard said. "Although this [VDS] is a fairly liberal institution, these folks must still return to a church and a world that are not."

No VDS faculty member has yet publicly acknowledged being lesbian or gay.

During the first meeting, the faculty agreed to meet with Vivian. The civil rights leader visited the school Friday to discuss methods for confrontation of racism and bigotry. About 40 students attended an open meeting with Vivian before he met privately with the faculty.

Vivian, too, compared homophobia with racism, and said that bigotry must be confronted before it can be dealt with.

"There is power in facing discrimination. That is the only way to effect a change," Vivian said.

The student coalition has asked that sexual orientation be added to VDS's catalogue anti-discrimination statement.

## IRENE K. RATNER, Ed.D.

Psychologist

Individual and Couples Therapy

Hypnotherapy

Gay and Lesbian Affirmative

Green Hills Court Suite 234 B

4004 Hillsboro Road

Nashville, TN 37205

(615) 298-5369

First American National Bank and Ingram Industries Inc.

## NASHVILLE BALLET

production of

## Cinderella



April 29, 8 pm April 30, 2 pm & 8 pm

Polk Theatre, Tennessee Performing Arts Center

Set to the captivating score by Prokofiev, this ageless tale of a girl's overnight leap from rags to riches will warm the hearts of young and old alike in an enchanting all new storybook production choreographed by Edward Myers. The Nashville Ballet Company will be augmented by students from the school of Nashville Ballet and other area ballet schools. Don't miss this full evening of entertainment and fun for the entire family.

Tickets: \$15.00 and \$13.00 evenings

\$13.00 and \$10.00 matinee

Available at all Ticketmaster locations. Call 741-2787

nashville  
ballet

Don LaFountain-Artistic Director

## Rebel Hill FLORIST

- Award-winning Designers •
- Balloon Bouquets • Fruit and Gourmet Baskets •

# 833-8555

4825 Trousdale (at Blackman)

## Gay Student Group Gone

### APSU Students Back in Closet after Historic Ruling

By JEFF ELLIS

Flashback: July, 1979. Gay and lesbian students at Austin Peay State University file suit in federal court against the State Board of Regents, which has ruled against their right to organize on the Clarksville campus.

After several months of discussion, argument and litigation, the Student Coalition for Gay Rights is granted recognition as an official student organization at the school.

Fast forward: April, 1988. Gay and lesbian students at APSU, after their much-heralded court victory over the State Board of Regents, appear to have retreated into the closet and the Student Coalition for Gay Rights has been disbanded, according to Glenn Carter, associate professor of sociology at Austin Peay and the faculty adviser to the Coalition at its inception.

"The victory we won in federal court changed a State Board of Regents ruling that student organizations in state colleges and universities had to be 'recognized' by the school. Now they simply have to register as an organization on campus," Carter explained.

However, he pointed out, the Coalition has not registered with the university for several years now because "no one wants to be involved with it anymore."

"A group like this depends on its leadership and when our leaders graduated, those who were left weren't leaders," Carter said. "The Coalition just floundered around, waiting for new leaders. This it just folded."

The Coalition's two primary leaders graduated just after the federal court ruling. One, a man, moved to Nashville after graduation, Carter said, and has since lost touch with the professor. Another, a woman,

was killed in an automobile accident while a graduate student in Indiana.

"It seems our gay and lesbian students are content now to remain in the closet," Carter said.

The court battle in 1979 followed months of heated discussions among APSU students, faculty and administration. The Student Coalition for Gay Rights had won the support of the student government association, but was denied recognition by the administration on the grounds that sanctioning the group could lead to increased homosexual activity on the campus.

State Board of Regents chancellor Roy Nicks upheld the school administration's ruling, citing evidence that indicated the group's recognition could have led to increased criminal behavior and endangerment of students with sexual orientation problems.

The Coalition's attorneys refuted the evidence submitted by the Board of Regents. Carter said attorneys presented findings that showed no increase in homosexual or criminal activity on campuses which had already approved such groups.

"We intended from the beginning to go to court," Carter said in a July, 1979, interview. He questioned the credibility of several witnesses in the hearings, suggesting that the state's star witness was a religious fundamentalist and "not an authority on sexuality."

After the Coalition was denied recognition by then-vice president for student affairs, Charles Boehms, the decision was upheld by then-APSU President Robert Riggs who said in 1979, "I don't believe a gay rights coalition would enhance the educational environment."

Following Riggs' denial, the group appealed to the State Board of Regents.

It was in early 1980 that federal District Judge Thomas Wiseman issued the historic ruling giving official recognition to the Coalition, only a few months before the group's leaders graduated, Carter said.

Since then, he said, "there's never been a move to rekindle the organization."

## Teen Abortion Bill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

judge. Worst of all, court delays, delays spent seeking an attorney, could increase the health risk of having an abortion. Time is of the essence. Judicial bypass could do more harm than good."

Fenner said TKALS, along with American Civil Liberties Union-Tennessee and Planned Parenthood will continue to lobby against the bill this week.

In 1986, 30 girls age 14-15 and 662 girls age 16-18 received abortions in Tennessee.

## Chez Collette

PRESENTS

## Legends

Saturday, April 16  
10 pm - midnight

407 1st Avenue South  
256-9134

Open Noon-3am



25-CENT DRAFT  
Wednesday 7 pm - 11 pm

BEER BUST  
Saturday 4 pm - 8 pm  
Sunday 3 pm - 7 pm

2311 FRANKLIN ROAD, NASHVILLE • 269-5318



## Briefs

From STAFF REPORTS

### Women Marines Under Fire *Corps Looking for a Few More Lesbians*

Five women Marines have been charged with various counts including committing "indecent acts" as officers for the Law Center at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, S.C., continue an investigation of lesbianism in the Corps.

Two other women who were to have hearings with an administrative board have asked for discharges from the Marines.

Of the more than 20,000 recruits undergoing basic training at Parris Island each year, approximately one-fourth are women. Parris Island is the only base which provides basic training for women.

The Naval Investigative Service currently has ten women under investigation and the surveillance is expected to expand shortly to involve an even larger number of women suspected of lesbianism, according to Marine sources.

Some 90 women and 219 men have been dismissed for homosexuality during the past three federal fiscal years, according to figures supplied by the Department of Defense. More than 40% of those discharged are women, who represent only 5% of the Marine Corps' strength.

Defense Department data also shows that 662 cases of homosexuality have been investigated during the three year period. About a third of those cases involve women.

### NGRA Goes After Tennessee Company

National Gay Rights Advocates February 1 filed suit against a Florida and Tennessee company which refused to allow a gay couple to participate in a vacation sweepstakes.

Filed in the United States District Court in San Francisco, the suit was filed against Vacation America, a company doing business in the two Southern states.

Ed Patrick, 33, of Sebastopol, Calif., last August received a post card from Vacation America congratulating him for winning a Sweepstakes Clearinghouse vacation. After Patrick's acceptance of the prize, Vacation America sent him a receipt along with a statement of "Terms and Conditions" of the sweepstakes.

Among those terms was that the trip was only open to "married or co-habiting heterosexual couples and unrelated women arriving together." Patrick's companion was to have been his lover of seven years.

NGRA is a nonprofit, public interest law firm involved in litigation to advance the civil rights of lesbians and gay men throughout the country. The San Francisco and West Hollywood-based NGRA is headed by Jean O'Leary, executive director.

In addition to *Patrick v. Vacation America*, NGRA has filed four other new lawsuits.

### CARES Raises \$11,000 in March

Nashville CARES raised "almost \$11,000," during March, according to Jacki Moss, who chairs the AIDS service organization's public relations committee.

Nashville mayor Bill Boner proclaimed March Nashville CARES Month in Metro, and the group organized fundraisers in local gay and mainstream clubs and businesses.

Cats Who Care, a Broadway revue staged by cast members of the touring company of the musical *Cats*, raised over \$5,000 for Nashville CARES, according to Thom Carpenter, a CARES volunteer and Warehouse 28 employee who helped coordinate the event.

## Take a Dare.

AVAILABLE FREE AT THESE NASHVILLE LOCATIONS:

Cabaret  
The Chute  
Chez Collette  
Crazy Cowboy II  
Crystal Castle

Glad Day Books  
Boston, MA

Davis-Kidd Booksellers  
Dragonfly Books  
The Gas Lite  
Juanita's  
The Jungle  
MCC

Giovanni's Room  
Philadelphia, PA

Mills Bookstore  
New Attitude  
Ralph's Rutledge Hill  
Rare, Foreign & More  
Warehouse 28

Lambda Rising  
Washington, DC

AND NOW AT:

The Office  
Clarksville, TN

*More locations soon!*

## Games

### Numbers Stop Streak Cold; Zippers Split Twin Bill

By JACK BURDEN

BIRMINGHAM -The Nashville Numbers smashed Bama Express' 2-year, 22-game winning streak Sunday in a come-from-behind 11-9 barn-burner.

The Numbers were down 8-0 before coming back to topple the New South Softball League's perennial powerhouse in league play at Birmingham's George Ward Park.

In the first half of a double-header, the Numbers rolled 21-3 over the Quest Cowboys.

Juanita's Zippers split a twin bill, falling

16-4 to Mabel's Beauty Shop and Chainsaw Repair before trouncing the Gamecocks 34-6.

The New South Softball League is a co-ed league of five Birmingham teams, the two teams from Nashville, and one from Huntsville.

Five league teams will compete in Nashville this Sunday, April 17, at Whitfield Park. The park is on Edmonson Pike next to Ellington Agricultural Center.

Five games are scheduled into one-hour slots beginning at noon. Admission is free and open to the public.

## Subscribe.

Don't miss a single issue of DARE.  
Send your name, address and check or  
money order for \$31.20 to:

DARE  
Box 40422  
Nashville, TN 37204

We'll send you DARE for a full year.  
Whaddya waitin' for?

## NEW ATTITUDE

MON All domestic beer \$1  
TUE Harvey Wallbanger \$2.50  
WED Manhattan \$2.50  
THU Cuba Libre \$2  
FRI Cuervo Mockingbird \$2  
SAT Johnnie Walker Red Rob Roy \$2.50  
SUN Blue Kamikaze \$2

TUE-THU Bloody Mary Salads \$5

1803 Church Street 320-5154  
Seven days 4 pm - 2 am

## Juanita's

B A R

Open 11 am - 3 am

Beer Bust

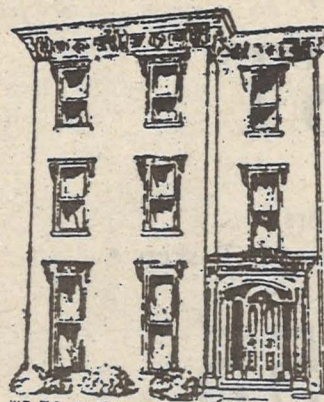
Wednesday 7 pm - 11 am

Saturday 2 pm - 6 pm

Sunday 5 pm - 8 pm

25-cent draft

1700 4th Avenue South 256-9681



## The Gas Lite

4:30 pm - 1 am Monday - Thursday  
4:30 pm - 3 am Friday, Saturday  
Noon - 3 am Sunday

167 1/2 8th Avenue North • 254-1278



# Reunion: *A Family Comes to Terms With AIDS*

First in a five-part series  
By JEFF ELLIS

When I was two years old, my mother almost died of cancer.

Although my only memories of that time center on trips to the Memphis Zoo after visiting her in the hospital, it had a profound effect on my life. It created a very deep bond between us - the woman who almost died and the toddler she was forced to leave in the care of her oldest daughter while she awaited the doctor's verdict if she would live or die.

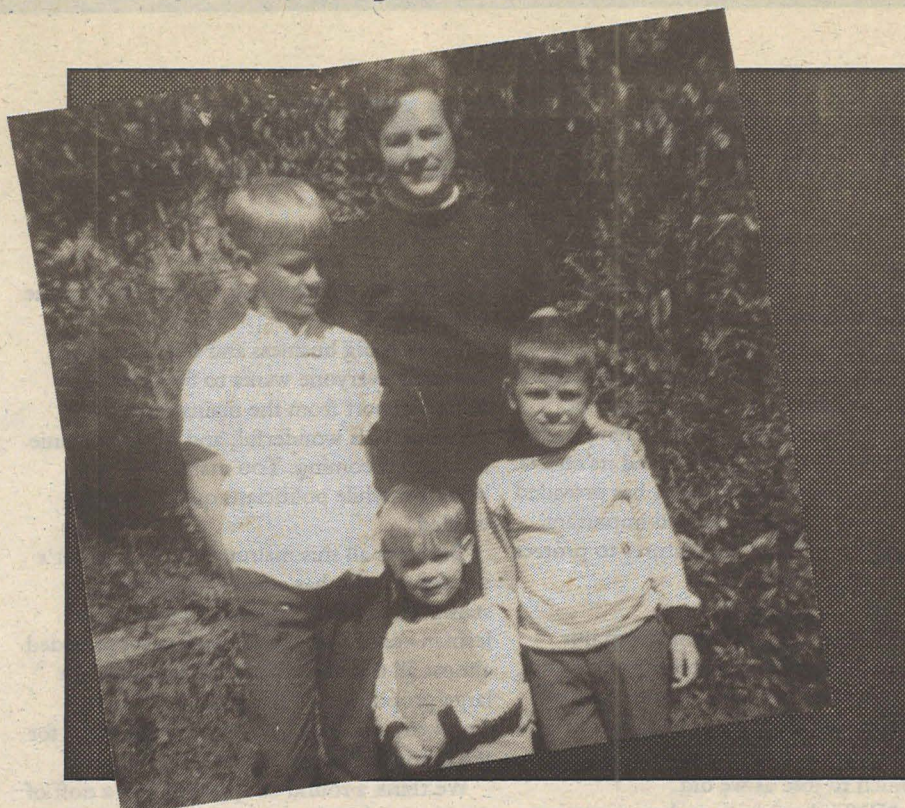
When I was five years old, my sister gave birth to my nephew Jamie. He was my parents' first grandchild and although my memories about that event have clouded with time, I do remember being jealous.

My mother is now 68 years old, though you could hardly tell it by her youthful, vibrant personality and demeanor.

My nephew celebrated his 25th birthday a few weeks ago - a birthday the doctors told us might never come.

My nephew has AIDS. It's killing him, we're told. And like my mother's cancer, it is changing our lives. Especially Mama's.

Jamie's condition was first diagnosed 18 months ago. Some months earlier, we had feared he had AIDS because of mysterious pains he suffered in his legs, ankles and feet. But when the symptoms went away, we thought our amateur doctoring had been



MOTHER'S DAY, 1968 - Jeff, Mama Ellis, and Jamie, with Scottie in front.

wrong. We heaved a collective sigh of relief.

Jamie and his lover, Lee, moved to New York and were ecstatic about living in the most exciting, sophisticated city in the world. For Jamie, it was a dream come true, a chance to fulfill his fantasies - a rather heady

experience for someone who grew up in a rural west Tennessee town of less than 1,500.

Jamie went to work in an art gallery and became a fixture of the downtown scene. You doubt me? Go to New York and mention Jamie. They'll know who you're talking

about.

Like Cher, his childhood role model, my nephew is known all over the country by his one-word moniker. And, quite frankly he'd have it no other way.

But it was in New York, Jamie's own version of Shangri La, that he was diagnosed as having Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Within hours of hearing the doctor deliver the news, he called me.

"What should I do?" he asked. "Who should I tell? Should I call Mother? What will Mama Ellis think?"

To be sure, I did not want to think of this. This couldn't happen to anyone in my family, I was certain. Although Jamie, his younger brother Scott and I were all gay, I thought we were smarter than AIDS. It couldn't get us.

"What would Mama think?" I asked myself. There was no way in hell that I could tell her that her firstborn grandchild had been sentenced to death. That's what the news meant to me 18 months ago - imminent death.

Although I tried to calm Jamie's fears by feigning hope, I was filled with a sense of dread - dread of the day when our secret would have to be told to the world and to our family.

And to Mama.

*Next week: The Boys Move to Memphis*



**THE  
DENA KAYE  
SHOW**  
COUNTRY MUSIC AT ITS FINEST

**THE  
CHUTE**

PRESENTS

**The  
Dena Kaye  
Show**

Saturday, April 16,  
at 10:30 and 12:30

The Chute welcomes the New South Softball League

Party with us Saturday the 16th and go to the games  
Sunday the 17th at Whitfield Park  
Five games beginning at noon.

2535 Franklin Road, Nashville 297-4571



# Views

## Cheers for Queers

Gay and lesbian political activism is not new. It is, however, improved. Since the October March on Washington, gay men and lesbians across the country have found anew the resources and personal strength to get out into the trenches and fight for our personal and legal rights.

And an integral part of the fight is, like it or not, about AIDS - funding for research, funding for services, funding for education, protection of the civil rights of those with AIDS, and those who are perceived to have AIDS.

Because AIDS first came to public notice as it struck gay men in this country, the disease has been labelled a "gay disease."

Anyone with any sense knows that that's ridiculous on its face.

AIDS is caused by a virus that doesn't - *can't* - recognize sexuality. Viruses don't recognize sexuality. People do.

And that's why we have a "gay disease."

Homophobia and ignorance have prevented local, state and federal governments from helping fight the disease.

Because government has done little or nothing, a lot of people out there have had to do a lot of work fighting AIDS and its effects. Volunteerism in our community has provided services, money for research and important work urging courts and legislatures to protect everyone's civil rights.

All of this work is valuable.

And almost all of it has come from our community, from lesbians and from gay men, because no one else cared, no one else had the commitment that comes from seeing friends and loved ones die, and no one else had as much to lose as we did.

Now AIDS is beginning to become more commonplace in other communities, and the whole world is starting to come to grips with

the fear that we have had to deal with for the last six years.

AIDS is big business and big news, and suddenly everyone wants to be an expert. Now, support from the mainstream community is wonderful, and it's about time it was forthcoming. Too many lives have been lost while politicians quibbled and waffled.

But with all this mainstream interest, let's not forget who has cared all along in a stampede for mass approval. The gay and lesbian community have, until now, provided almost all the services and lobbying, and a large proportion of the money - can you count the dollars raised by drag queens? - for the battle against AIDS.

We think a round of applause and a doff of the hat are due those who have labored long.

We're glad they're gay, and proud to be like them.

## 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, DOUBLESPACED 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.

Dear DARE:

In your first press issue, you reported that several people went to Mayor Boner's office to make some concerns and demands known concerning gay issues in Nashville.

Dare seems much more informed than I as to the issues discussed and I appreciate your

reporting on the activities in our community.

I did, however, notice an omission in the article. It failed to identify the affiliation of those people who approached the Mayor's office. They were there as concerned members of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

The only reason I felt the need to point this out is that the Alliance has formerly been criticized as not being an active, effective group, and I feel it important to let others know we are both.

The Alliance has been growing up since its strong reformation after the March on Washington, and we are taking on Nashville and Tennessee's legislation and litigation of

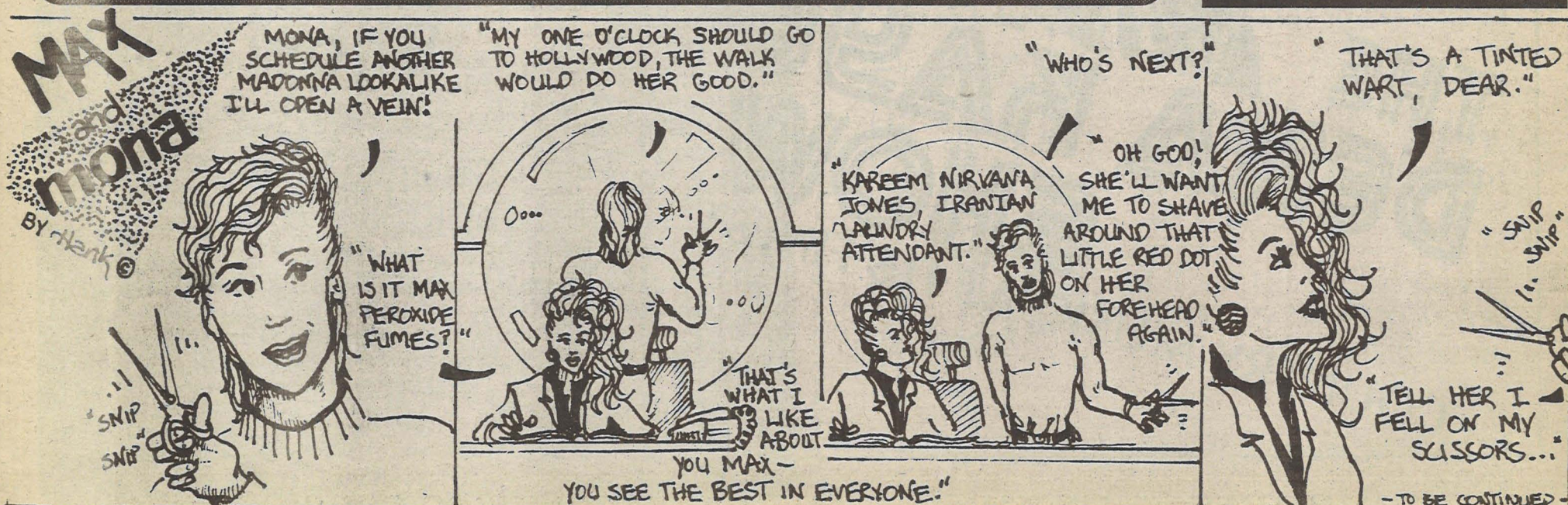
our rights.

Nashville is going to have to face the fact that its gay population is not going to stay in the closet any more. We are a vocal, tax-paying, property-owning, actively voting consumer group that will have to be heard and dealt with.

The Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance plans to be a strong leader in that fight for recognition. I would appreciate you letting people know who we are when we make our presence known and confront the straight society. Thank you,

TERRY KEVLIN  
NASHVILLE

## Max and Mona™



## Dare

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

APRIL 13-19, 1988  
VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

EDITOR/PUBLISHER  
STUART BIVIN

NEWS EDITOR  
JEFF ELLIS

STAFF WRITERS  
CAROLE CUNNINGHAM  
SHERRE DRYDEN  
SPENCER JENKINS

THE DARE LOGOTYPE WAS DESIGNED BY  
RUSEL BROWN.

DARE COPY IS SET IN GALLIARD, WITH  
AACHEN BOLD HEADS AND HELVETICA  
CONDENSED OBLIQUE LIGHT SUBHEADS.

DARE IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY PYRAMID  
LIGHT & POWER, BOX 40422, NASHVILLE,  
TENNESSEE 37204-0422, (615) 292-9623.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$31.20 PER YEAR. PLEASE  
PHONE FOR AD RATES. POSTMASTER: SEND  
ADDRESS CHANGES TO: DARE, BOX 40422,  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37204-0422.

DARE AND THE DARE LOGO ARE TRADEMARKS  
OF PYRAMID LIGHT & POWER. ENTIRE  
CONTENTS AND DESIGN OF DARE COPYRIGHT  
©1988 BY PYRAMID LIGHT & POWER. ALL  
RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION, EITHER IN  
WHOLE OR IN PART, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED  
WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF  
THE PUBLISHER.

PUBLICATION OF THE NAME, PHOTOGRAPH OR  
OTHER LIKENESS OF ANY PERSON OR  
ORGANIZATION IN DARE IS NOT TO BE  
CONSTRUED AS ANY INDICATION OF THE SEXUAL,  
RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL ORIENTATION,  
PRACTICE OR BELIEFS OF SUCH PERSON OR  
MEMBERS OF SUCH ORGANIZATION. THE  
OPINIONS OF THIS NEWSPAPER ARE EXPRESSED  
ONLY IN EDITORIALS. ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED IN  
ANY ADVERTISEMENT, SIGNED COLUMN, LETTER,  
ARTICLE OR CARTOON ARE THOSE OF THE  
AUTHOR OR ARTIST AND DO NOT NECESSARILY  
REFLECT THE POSITIONS OF DARE.



## Desert Fabuloso / Desert Fabu-so-so

### The Book

When Santa Fe real estate whiz John Aaron disappears one summer afternoon, the city's habitués insist it is the most interesting thing he had done in years.

But when John returns with one Bradley Roberson III in tow, everyone agreed their initial reaction was wrong. Bringing Bradley to "the city different" was John's *coup de*

*grace.*

Thus, the stage is set for Lisa Lovenheim's *Desert Fabuloso*.

John's sudden flight from Santa Fe takes him to Miami for his father's funeral. To escape the rather gloomy atmosphere of south Florida, he flies to New York.

And once there, his life is changed. He meets Bradley, the scion of a Wall Street family and by Lovenheim's description, "a dashing, silk-drenched New Yorker."

The two return to Santa Fe, where amid the sun-dappled adobes, they live, love, laugh and fight. But John's sudden disappearance is not without repercussions: "I stood up six people. Do you know how that translates into the number of parties to which I will not be invited this year? Where I live, the penal code commands an exponential ratio of crimes to penalties."

The two, along with various and sundry neighbors and friends, make the most of Santa Fe's social season and the reader goes along for the ride.

### She Likes It

By SHERRE DRYDEN

Readers who want to "care" about characters will find Lisa Lovenheim's *Desert Fabuloso* unsatisfying. Creating human beings is not Lovenheim's purpose. Instead she seeks to expose the superficiality of the glamour and wittiness of modern materialistic life through superficiality itself.

Lovenheim never lets the reader forget that her characters are fiction. Her constant attention to setting the stage, to colors, clothes and interiors establishes an atmosphere of coolness and detachment.

Lovenheim dresses John Aaron, Bradley Roberson III and the others in the latest fashions and places them, like Barbie dolls, in rooms straight from *Architectural Digest*. We recognize the characters as just a few more decorative objects.

Lovenheim also uses interior space to signify characters' inner states. At first Bradley merely fails to fix up the crumbling walls of his new house. Later, he degenerates. Although on the surface he appears healthy - he continues to attend to his wardrobe - we know that his insides are foul: "Sylvia opened Bradley's back door, releasing into the night air a stench the strength of which made her stop in her tracks."

Clothing and interiors remain important through the final scenes. We get clues of Bradley's recovery in a scene where he is dressed only in "a little strap of

red that covered his privates." He is reborn, stripped of the symbols of superficiality.

The rebirth continues as, in a kind of redemption-through-interior-decorating, Bradley begins renovation on his house.

Finally, both Bradley and John survive: "They loved, and as the water bed rocked them, pain floated away on the tiny, packaged sea...Bradley, drew his comforter way up over their heads. . ."

John, through Bradley, also throws off the superficiality and they return to a natural, womb-like state. Importantly, Lovenheim reminds us ("Bradley forced John's mouth open with his own.") that these two survivors are gay men who survive only because they establish a loving, sexual relationship.

### He Likes It Not

By JEFF ELLIS

Have you ever read a book that you really wanted to like because it was about a subject that greatly interested you, but you found out, after a couple of pages or so, that regardless of how endlessly interesting you find the subject, the book bores you silly?

Well, do I have one for you, book fans!

*Desert Fabuloso*, Lisa Lovenheim's gay-themed novel about people you would scarcely care to meet at a cocktail party, much less spend several hours with, fits the description right down to the last page.

As a matter of fact, pages one through 269 fit the description.

No matter how interesting I find the trials and tribulations of gay life in these United States, I want to feel some affection for the people I'm reading about.

Unfortunately, I didn't find it

here in the deserts and vistas of Santa Fe. I do love their decorating techniques. It's their banal, vapid lives and unendingly self-pitying conversations that make me gag.

What's the book about? I've been asking myself that question since I first picked it up. I have to admit that the cover (featuring a sensitive-looking type leaning against the entryway of an adobe house, gazing across the way at Lord knows what, probably Georgia O'Keeffe's digs) done in what decorators refer to as the season's fashion colors is the real reason I picked it up.

As far as I can tell, the people in Santa Fe don't work much - unless they're bartering real estate or exploiting native American artisans. Oh yeah, they go to the opera. Opera is real big in Santa Fe. We see our heroes, John and Bradley and their respective dates and their fat friend Marissa, in the audience at *La Bohème*. It's not my favorite opera. Maybe that's why I didn't like that part.

The parts I did like were when Lovenheim described her *House Beautiful* interiors. I got a lot of good decorating ideas from this book. Let's face it, the Southwestern look may someday be big in Nashville and I'll get a raise.

Actually, I wanted to like all parts of this book. But, oops! I didn't. But you might.

However, if not, don't come running to me, asking for your money back. Perhaps you should read *Gone With the Wind*. The story moves better, you'll like the characters and they wear pretty clothes, including some made from draperies, thus satisfying your decorating urges. Besides, I always did think Scarlett O'Hara was really a drag queen.

*Desert Fabuloso* by LISA LOVENHEIM. 269 pp. PLUME CONTEMPORARY FICTION. \$7.95, PAPER.

### Dragonfly Books

112 Second Avenue North  
Market Street Emporium  
Nashville, Tennessee 37201  
(615) 242-1250

### A Metaphysical Book Store

Shamanism	Tarot decks
Health	Brazilian crystals
New Age	Mysticism
Religions	and a few other things, as well.
Indian, Japanese, Tibetan and Native American incenses	

### Store Hours:

Tu-W 10-6 Peace and Blessings!  
Th-Sat 11-7 Laurie

### The Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance Presents

**LEA DE LARIA**

**KELLEY EDWARDS**

**LDOS LESBOS**

WRITTEN BY  
**TERRY BAUM AND CAROLYN MYERS**

### A MUSICAL COMEDY BY, FOR, AND ABOUT PERVERTS

\$5 at the door

Saturday, April 23, 8 pm

Underwood Auditorium next to Vanderbilt University Law School  
off 21st Avenue South across from Planned Parenthood  
For information phone 383-1041 or 333-2215

## Mills BOOKSTORE

We have a large selection of lesbian and gay books. And if we *don't* have the book you want, we'll special-order it for you at no extra cost.

Mills Bookstore Hillsboro Village  
1817 21st Avenue South 383-5520



**The 10th Anniversary Celebration**  
April 15, 16 & 17

Friday &  
Saturday  
11 pm Show



Starring  
**Charlie  
Brown**

Sunday  
**Anniversary Party**  
Doors open seven pm  
Champagne Toast  
Buffet

**Ten  
Years  
of Music**  
All Weekend  
**WAREHOUSE 28**  
2529 Franklin Road • 385-9689