

Dare

FROM THE HEART OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH

FREE

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 15

THE LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSPAPER

JUNE 29-JULY 5, 1988

"You better walk"

*Over 200 brave 102° heat to march
in Nashville Pride Parade*

By **JEFF ELLIS**
Managing Editor

Nashville lesbians and gay men, along with many straight supporters, marched more than 200 strong down the streets of the city Saturday as Pride Week '88 climaxed with a parade, festival and rally in Centennial Park.

Pride Week organizers were calling the weeklong celebration "a stunning success" following Saturday's festivities. Pride Week's official end came Sunday afternoon with the annual family potluck picnic at Edwin Warner Park, this year attended by more than 100 people.

Led by a banner proclaiming, "The Volunteer State Marches," and a pink and aqua balloon arch, some 200 people traveled the parade route from its starting point at Fannie Mae Dees Park to 24th Avenue to Capers to Natchez Trace and on to Centennial Park.

Several floats, including one from the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance, along with a contingent from Short Mountain Sanctuary were among the parade's more colorful units. Marchers chanted, "We are everywhere. We will be free!" and "What do we want? Gay rights. When do we want them? Now!" as they wended their way toward Centennial Park.

Ironically, Centennial Park, site of the Pride Week rally and festival, was last year the site of other events etched in the minds of Nashville's lesbian and gay community. It was at Centennial Park, as well as Cedar Hill Park, that Metro park rangers, in a three month-long undercover operation, arrested more than 300 people for soliciting sex or for performing illicit sex acts in the parks.

However, Saturday's festive atmosphere appeared to overshadow any threat of gloom from past incidents or from counter-demonstrators.

Greeting the revelers at the entrance to Centennial Park was Madison minister, the Rev. Mel Perry, along with a male companion, carrying placards urging the marchers to repent because "AIDS is God's judgement against practicing homosexuals."

Richard Roberg, a Mennonite bible teacher and minister, carried a sign reading, "No rain for Sodom." He was referring to the drought in the midstate which he said was the result of a *Tennessean* story about Pride Week activities.

The presence of the three counter-demonstrators was the only threat of incidence during the six-hour celebration, according to peacekeepers for the Pride Week committee. However, they pointed out that the three men did not attempt to stop the parade or to otherwise interfere with the day's events.

Once at the Centennial Park bandshell, festival-goers were treated to a variety of entertainers and speakers during a two-hour stage show, which opened with the debut of "Come Out to Play," the anthem composed for Pride '88 by Gerrit Wilson. Among others performing were folk singer Judy Eron and singer-songwriter Greg Fisher.

Keynoting the rally, Jeffrey Levi, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, urged listeners to continue grassroots organizing and to work toward achieving lesbian and gay rights guarantees from local and state governments.

Metro council member Stewart Clifton, representing the 18th district, addressed the crowd, decrying homophobia and urging his audience to work through the political process to bring about social change.

Holly Spann, representing the National Organization for Women, recalled NOW's 20-year struggle for equal rights "for women and for lesbians and gay men." In her introduction of Spann, emcee Deborah Burks applauded NOW's national organization for its efforts to make last October's March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights a success.

It was the March on Washington, organizers agreed, that provided the impetus for the renewal of activism throughout Tennessee, which resulted in last week's festivities.

Pride Week celebrations throughout the country commemorate the June, 1969, riots at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York's Greenwich Village, which are viewed by historians as the beginning of the modern lesbian and gay civil rights movement in this country.

Coverage by local mainstream media of Saturday's parade, rally and festival was widespread, with all three network television affiliates represented by reporters and camera crews. Sunday's *Tennessean* featured a front-page story, complete with color photographs of the parade.



The Pride '88 Parade stepped off from Nashville's Fannie Mae Dees Park Saturday with an estimated 200+ people. Marchers braved 102° heat to show their support for lesbian and gay rights.

Pride Speakers Encourage Crowd to Come Out

By **HARRISON HICKS**
Staff Writer

Despite a record-breaking heat wave that sent temperatures soaring to 102 degrees, more than 200 people endured the Saturday afternoon sun of Centennial Park to listen to the program of speakers and entertainers for Pride '88.

After the performance of "Come Out to Play," a song written by Gerrit Wilson for the festivities, emcees Deborah Burks and Jeff Ellis welcomed the first speaker of the day, Metro council member Stewart Clifton.

Clifton welcomed the crowd after it was noted by Burks and Ellis that he was the only city official present of all those invited to attend. Of the invitation, Clifton joked, "I guess the major practical benefit of this is that it's helped me sound very convincing to my wife and family about how I have no higher political aspirations on the metro council."

Clifton spoke of more serious matters afterwards, noting the issues of homophobia and human rights.

"The problem of the status quo is manifested when people are denied jobs because of their sexual orientation, and

we've gone further in Nashville," Clifton said. "We deny entry into whole professions and sometimes even not because of their sexual orientation, but because they have the wrong opinion about it."

Speaking on the issue of silence of many people on the subject of gay and lesbian

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rights, Clifton noted, "The problem manifests itself when generally tolerant and humane people, people who would be visibly upset if someone made a racist comment in their presence or a sexist comment in their presence, these same people often don't know what to do with the problem of gay and lesbian rights. If they do anything at all with it, it's to deal with it with very nervous humor, but mostly they ignore it."

The Rev. David Maynard of the Unitarian Universalist Church spoke of the importance of freedom from discrimination and fear. Noting the existence of homophobic people within his congregation, whom he said were in the minority, Maynard emphasized that religion should play a part in the lives of gays and non-gays alike, adding that his church professes the importance of freedom for all oppressed peoples.

The most anticipated speaker of the day, however, was Jeffrey Levi, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, who delivered the keynote address.

Citing the growth of lesbian and gay organizations outside of large, urban areas, Levi said, "This is the sort of thing that's making history, history for our community locally and nationally, because whatever the media may say, the center of our community isn't in New York or San Francisco, it's in places like Nashville. It's where people are willing to come out and be open where it takes a good deal more courage to march down the streets in Nashville than it does in the streets of San Francisco or New York."

Levi also noted the effects of the AIDS crisis, calling it a crisis that has brought tragedy to us all. "We've mobilized in response to AIDS that gives new meaning to the notion of Reagan Republican volunteerism," Levi said. "We've responded in the best spirits of Reagan Republican volunteerism and don't understand why he doesn't respond in kind."

Continued work in the political arena is needed, asserted Levi. "Our capacity to mobilize around the country will determine our strength in Washington," he said.

"We have to take the political strength and visibility and the economic resources that are open and there for the taking New York and California and bring them back to places like Tennessee, and build our strength here because until we have done that we will not be truly free," Levi said.

"Freedom is not just the right to be left alone but the right to live a lifestyle considered equal to that of the majority. That's the message of this pride. We are in crisis and we will overcome that crisis. We have not lost a vision of a society that is truly free for gays and non-gays. And as long as our community keeps growing and growing up, as it is here today in Nashville, then we will indeed prevail and we will indeed be free," Levi concluded.

Echoing the problems of oppression were representatives of several other groups. Jane Fleischner spoke of American policies in Central America and of La CASA's opposition to them. Also speaking on the need to be involved in issues not directly related to gay and lesbian issues was Holly Spann of Tennessee NOW, the National Organization for Women.

Jason Anderson, a representative of the Nashville Youth Network spoke on the problems faced by younger people in the process of coming out, touching on a subject considered controversial even within the gay and lesbian community - outreach to youths under the age of 18.

"The Nashville Youth Network is an organization of diverse individuals who today are supporting the diversity of the lesbian and gay community," said emcee Ellis in his introduction of Anderson.

MCC Auction a Success

By HARRISON HICKS

Staff Writer

Art was the attraction Saturday night as more than eighty people gathered to bid on works by contemporary and traditional artists in a benefit for the Nashville Metropolitan Community Church.

The auction, the first for Nashville's MCC, was rated a success by the Rev. Paul Tucker, pastor of the church.

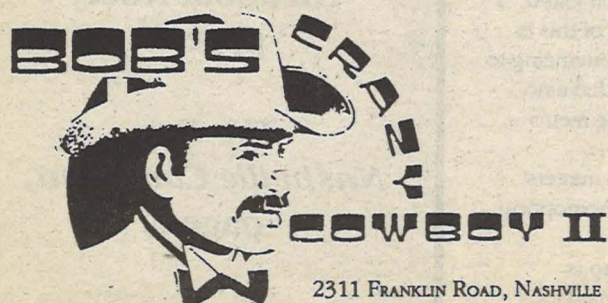
"It exceeded our expectations," Tucker said.

Gross sales from the auction, held at the First Unitarian Church on Woodmont Boulevard, totalled over \$8,500, with individual pieces selling for as much as \$500 or as little as \$20. Of the \$8,500 collected, Tucker estimated that MCC would net approximately \$1,800 after expenses.

A representative for Art Auctions, Inc., which presided over the auction, stated that the proceeds were "a little above average" for smaller organizations such as MCC, noting that subsequent auctions by sponsoring organizations usually increase their sales from 50 to 100 percent.

Profits from the sale are expected to be used in a variety of ways, Tucker said.

"I suspect a portion of it (the profits) will go to our new building fund, which is in its early planning stages," he said.



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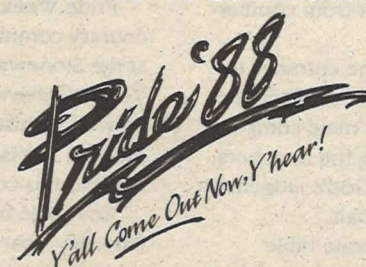
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And, finally, thanks to everyone who came out and supported the events. You are what **Pride '88** was all about.

With Pride and Purpose,
the **Pride '88** Committee



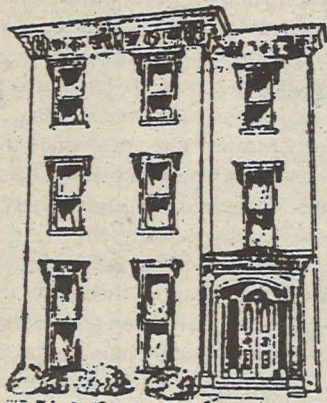
Pride Week '88

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Lesbians and Gays to Converge on Atlanta for Convention

By **DEBORAH BURKS**
Staff Writer

If you're gay or lesbian and a Democrat, then Atlanta is the place to be in July as Atlanta hosts the Democratic National Convention July 18-21.

More openly gay delegates than ever before will attend the convention and national leaders are busy making plans to ensure visibility at the convention.

According to Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), the Gay and Lesbian Voters Organized In Coalition for Election '88 (VOICE '88) has been created to promote a lesbian and gay presence at both the Democratic and Republican conventions. This nonpartisan coalition consists of NGLTF, Human Rights Campaign Fund, and for the Democratic Convention, the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs which will hold its Annual Political Conference July 15-17 in Atlanta.

Organizers of the coalition hope to

include local gay and lesbian Republican associations for that convention in August.

"Out of this structure we hope to liaison with the mainstream press and the delegates for our community. We want to provide a mechanism for gays and lesbians to tap into at the convention," Vaid said. "What we want is to show that lesbian and gay rights are a part of the larger civil rights movement."

The VOICE '88-coordinated press conference scheduled for Tuesday will deal with AIDS and then on Thursday, the gay and lesbian vote will be the subject of the press conference.

"We want to explain what the gay vote is and why it's important," Vaid said. "Our community needs to realize the how important our vote is in this election."

The Democratic Party Platform proposed for the convention includes ending discrimination based on sexual orientation. "An advantage to getting this included in the platform was the dedication of the Jackson campaign to this issue," Vaid said.

AIDS Update

International AIDS Conference and the Face of AIDS

By **A. GENE COPELLO**
Special to *Dare*

This week's AIDS Update will address some of the major themes from the Fourth International Conference on AIDS which was held June 12-16 in Stockholm, Sweden. I was fortunate to attend the meeting as both a presenter and as a representative of the International Society for AIDS Education. The conference was very busy: over 7,000 participants, 3,100 papers and presentations and over 200 countries and organizations represented.

Unlike the Third International Conference on AIDS, held last June in Washington, the Stockholm meeting addressed a wide spectrum of issues related to the epidemics of AIDS and HIV infection. Papers and workshops dealt with biomedical, psychosocial, public health, preventive, legal and ethical, and policy aspects of the topic. In addition, a special program of the conference entitled "The Face of AIDS," provided informal and unstructured time for people to gather and discuss human rights, the needs of people with AIDS and preventing burnout among AIDS workers. I was pleased with the more holistic flavor of this conference.

There were three major themes I was able to identify during the meeting. First, it was repeatedly said that, while AIDS is a devastating disease, it is also providing certain opportunities. Various national departments and ministries of health are cooperating in AIDS prevention and research in ways that would have been unthinkable only a decade ago. Participants also discussed how, at regional and local levels, various groups and individuals are working together in AIDS education and service delivery. This networking is essential to AIDS education, research and service delivery.

Second, the need for anti-discrimination efforts at global, national, regional and local

levels is critical. Jonathan Mann, director of the Global Programme on AIDS (GPA) of the World Health Organization (WHO), stressed during the opening ceremonies the need for protecting the rights of persons infected with HIV. This theme was reinforced during the meeting by scientists, educators and AIDS service workers. The GPA has recently issued an anti-discrimination statement. It reflects the same needs for anti-discrimination initiatives outlined in the final report of the U.S. Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic.

The third theme regarded the need for increased funding. More funds are needed for biomedical research, psychosocial services, medical treatment and prevention programs. It was expressed that funding will need to come from government sources (national, regional and local) as well as from the private sector. Last year the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences issued a similar call for increased funding.

In closing, I need to mention an important upcoming event. The GPA has declared Dec. 1 as "World AIDS Day." Regional awareness and educational events will take place that day throughout the world. Events are being planned by WHO, International Society for AIDS Education and other groups. Vanderbilt AIDS Project has been asked to organize the regional event for Middle Tennessee. Anyone interested in helping to organize the event should call Vanderbilt AIDS Project at 322-AIDS or 322-2252. There was much hope in Stockholm that World AIDS Day will help in enhancing our understanding of AIDS and the cooperation needed in our struggle against this disease.

A. Gene Copello is a professor of medical ethics at Vanderbilt Medical School and director of the Vanderbilt AIDS Project. He currently serves as president of the Nashville CARES Board of Directors. This August he assumes the presidency of the International Society for AIDS Education.

That Strange Girl:

Third in a three-part series

By **SHERRE DRYDEN**
Entertainment Editor

It's hard to say how Alice Mitchell would have been treated at Western State Hospital, the institution to which she was committed on orders from the judge and jury in her insanity hearing.

Patient records are available only to family members, so it is impossible to know how Alice reacted to institutionalization. Speculation, based on knowledge of psychiatric theory of the period and a few actual reports of Alice's life after the sanity hearing, is possible.

According to an article in the *Journal of the Tennessee Medical Association*, Tennessee was in the forefront of change and progress in psychiatric treatment in the nineteenth century. The days of mechanical restraint were past and most psychiatrists advocated the humane treatment of patients.

At Alice's hearing, Dr. John H. Callender, gave some indication of recommended treatment: "Seclusion from excitement and systematic attention to her physical health...may improve her mental tone in some degree, and retard the progress of the brain and nerve degeneration commenced in the attack of insanity which culminated in the fearful storm which led to the tragedy."

Her stay at Bolivar would probably have been characterized by an emphasis on treatment and respect for her dignity and rights. Treatment would have included the use of freedom and non-restraint, the provision of judicious diet, regulated exercise and directed amusements.

One newspaper account after her death described Alice's life at Bolivar as quiet, that she was obedient and gave no trouble. "Those who came in contact with her soon learned to love her...her life at the asylum was that of an innocent child."

She evidently was given some degree of freedom. Dr. Sim commented in the *Memphis Medical Monthly*: "The last heard from Alice

Mitchell, she was sitting on the piazza of the Insane Asylum at Bolivar playing on a French harp."

In 1898 the Bolivar *Bulletin* reported, "Friday evening after the patients dance a dance (sic) was given at the Western Hospital to Miss Blanche Wood of Bolivar...Alice Mitchell, the slayer of Freda Ward, who is a patient at the institution, was present at both dances." Alice refused to dance with men other than the male attendants from the hospital.

"No, I don't care to dance or have anything to do with the Bolivar boys, for I know they want to meet me merely from curiosity," she said.

Shortly before, her attendant went with her to Whiteville, where she went to the wedding of a former attendant, Rosa Burford.

During the insanity hearing, "medical experts" never used the word lesbian and took pains to explain that Alice and Freda's relationship had not gone too far.

Sim wrote, "There has been submitted to this court no evidence of sexual depravity...there is no evidence before the court to show that the sexual system played any part whatever in the insanity. I therefore regard the feeling existing in this instance as purely platonic love."

B.F. Turner testified that "the impression I

got was that the relations between her and her companion were not marked by anything that could compromise either of them."

Although Dr. E.P. Sale thought the type of love that existed between Alice and Freda was pathological, itself indicative of insanity, other doctors disagreed.

Michael Campbell, a Knoxville physician who submitted written testimony never introduced in court, thought one woman loving another would be insane only depending upon the extent of the passion.

Turner testified that one woman's passionate love for another was not in itself proof of insanity. Only when Attorney General George Peters threw in another factor did Turner concede somewhat.

"Well, but suppose that love went to the extent that one of the girls wants to marry, without any view to raising children...does that indicate insanity?" Peters asked.

"I would consider it as indicative of an insane tendency," Turner said. "Though it would not be conclusive proof by any means."

It appears that Alice's sex may have had more to do with the declaration of insanity than her sexual orientation did.

The doctors who testified were all certain she was incurably, progressively insane. The one overriding reason was that her mother

had been insane. They believed the tendency to insanity was inherited, more often from the mother, more often by female children.

Other reasons were given as well. She did not care that marriage to Freda would preclude having children. She had always preferred traditionally male activities, like playing baseball and riding horses. One side of her face was larger than the other. Her menstrual periods were not "normal."

Not only was Alice a woman, and women's nervous systems "even when sound are more...easily thrown into perturbation." She was the female child of an insane mother. And she had consistently failed to conform to the doctors' ideas of proper womanhood.

Alice died at Bolivar in 1898. Newspaper reports of her death first state that causes could not be ascertained, later that she died of consumption at 7:00am March 31.

There is no hint of anything amiss in contemporary reports, but an article in the *Commercial Appeal* in 1930 contends that "those closest to her knew, however, that she had taken her own life by jumping into a water tank on top of the building." This theory is given some credence by the fact that, although newspapers of the day say Alice was buried April 1, cemetery records show burial was March 31.

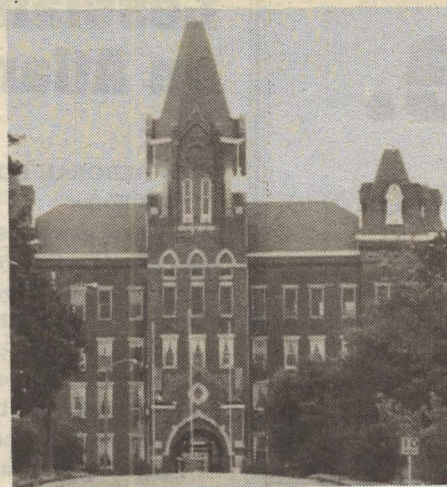
Given the fact that Bolivar is at least 50 miles from Memphis, then news of Alice's death would have been telegraphed and the body transported by train, burial the day after death seems hurried. To have accomplished it on the same day, and to have the burial date erroneously reported, seems suspicious.

Perhaps the Bolivar *Bulletin* was suspicious, too. The April 9, 1898 issue included, without comment, an April 1 story from the St. Louis *Chronicle*. Alice, said in reports of her death to have been ill for months, attended two dances the Friday before she died.

Her emaciation is noted, but the reporter comments that it is not so pronounced as it had been several weeks before. At the dances Alice "seemed to be in social and genial humor, chatting and dancing gaily with the visitors."

When Alice was told, in January 1892, where Freda's body was, she asked, "Oh mama, if I could only see her. Please let me go to see her. If I could only lie down by her side I would be so happy."

When told she couldn't go, Alice cried. That summer she was allowed to visit Elmwood Cemetery and place flowers on Freda's grave. On March 31, 1899, she was buried there, too.



Western State

The Alice Mitchell MURDER CASE

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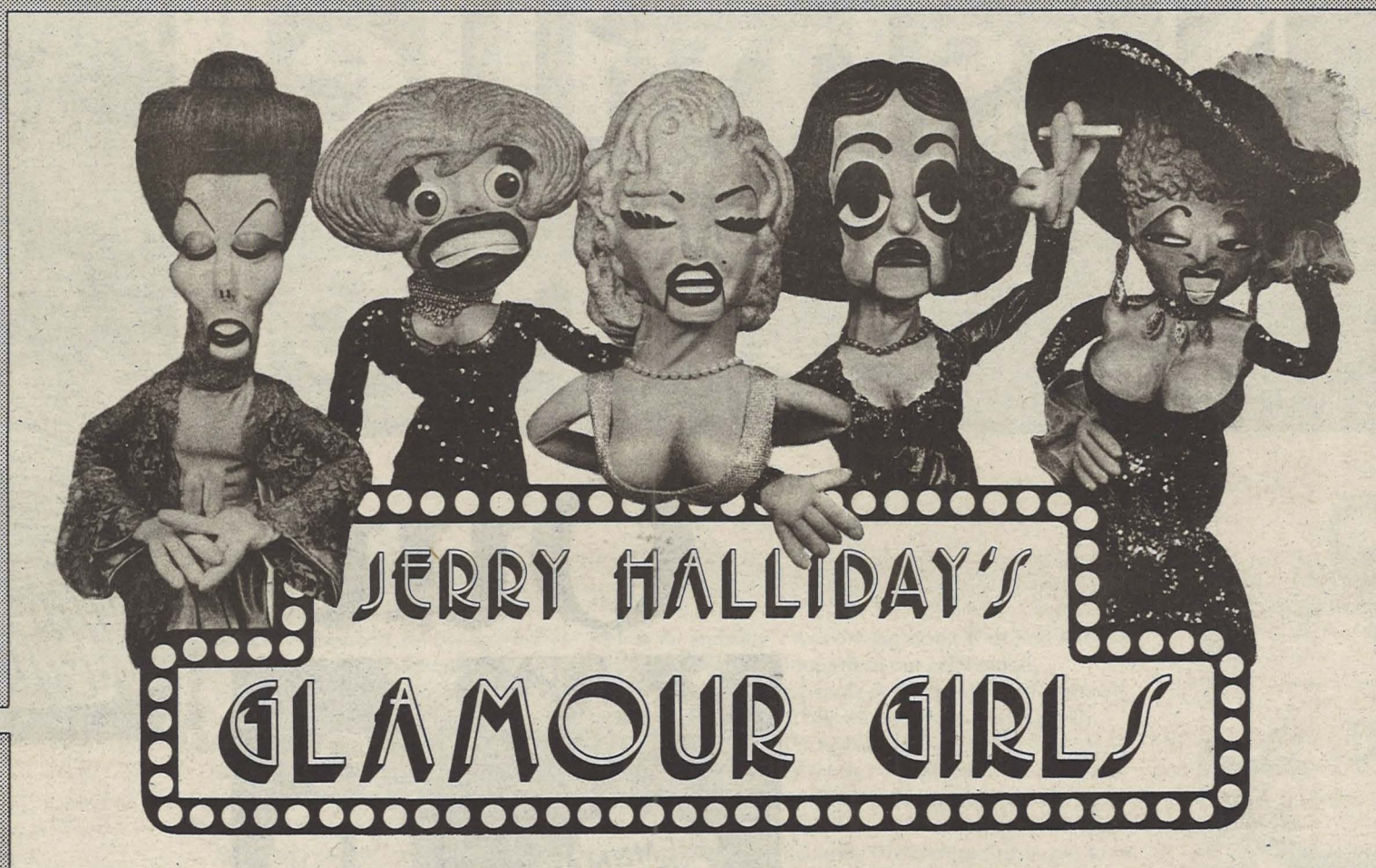
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The Day Nashville Came Out



Margaret Coble



Margaret Coble

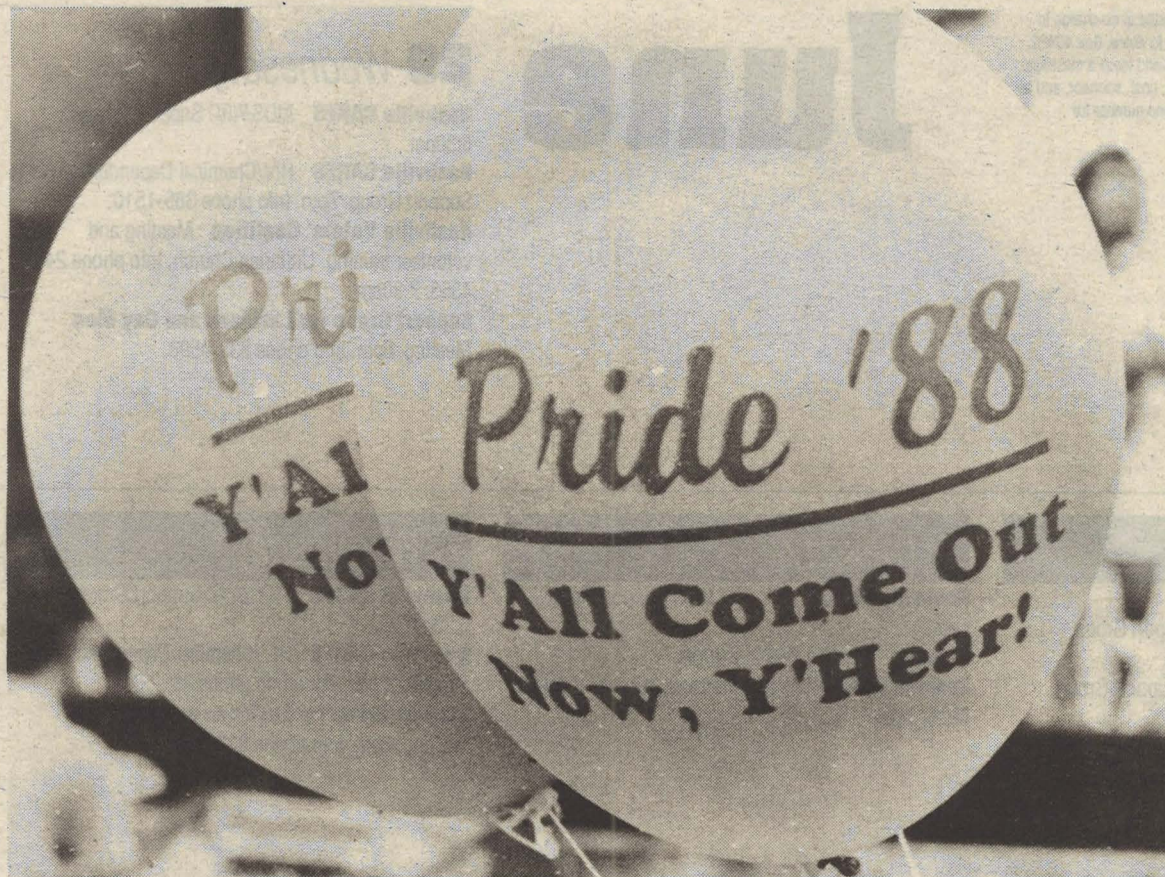
Pride
Y'all Come Out N



Carole Cunningham



Margaret Coble



By JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

Saturday afternoon, following the Pride '88 festival and rally, I was driving along West End Avenue and saw three small children playing with the pink and aqua balloons from our celebration.

I didn't recall seeing the children, or the man with them, in the parade or at the rally, so I assumed they were unaware of the significance of the balloons they held. They were just kids playing with some helium-filled balloons and probably weren't that interested in lesbian and gay pride.

Still, in their hands they held our emblems. Though they probably can't comprehend the ramifications of what "being out of the closet" means, the children were nonetheless doing their part to further our cause.

Saturday's parade, rally and festival were nothing short of miraculous. When plans first began to be made for the celebration, there were a lot of detractors - "It just won't fly in Nashville, the KKK will be there, all the religious fanatic kooks will be there, blood will be shed some Saturday in June." - but the week just past proved all those people wrong.

Arriving at Centennial Park Saturday morning was innervating - you know the way you felt as a kid when your parents took you to the county fair and you saw all the rides and the lights and the balloons and the cotton candy - well, that's how I felt when I saw the festival grounds. Thanks to the radical faeries from Short Mountain, who had transformed the park into an array of colors, I felt transported.

The camaraderie and *esprit de corps* exhibited by all the folks awaiting the parade's start at Dragon Park was a first-of-its-kind exhilaration for Nashville's gay and lesbian community. From the contingent of Unitarian Universalists to Clarksville's P-Knutts, from the people of MCC to the many straight people marching to show their support of our causes, the parade provided an inspiration for us all. The parade and festival was a courageous attempt to make our presence felt in the city.

Courage - that's the stuff heroes and dreams are made of. And that's exactly what the more than 250 people who took part showed the city of Nashville.

"We are everywhere. We will be free," that's what the marchers chanted.

And someday we will be free. Saturday's public acknowledgement of who we are, where we've been and where we're going will be the spark that will light the fires that will lead us to freedom.

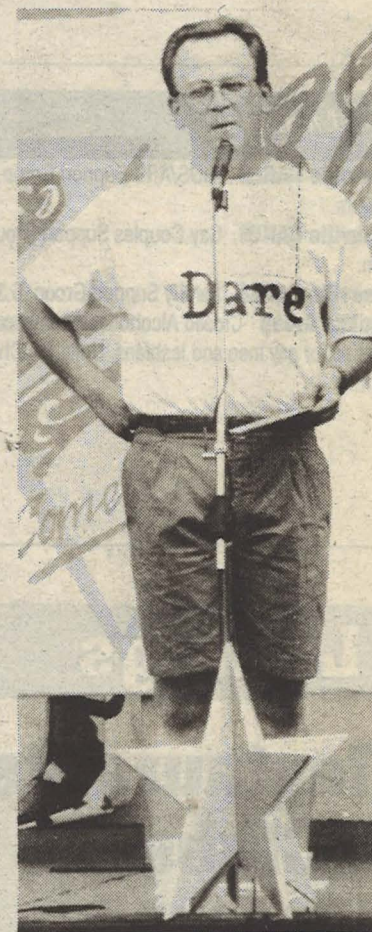
We have the people to lead us - women like Penny Campbell and Diane Easter, and men like Paul Tucker and Sam Adams - and with the support of many more individuals, Nashville can effectively lead the way for lesbian and gay civil rights well into the next century.

Personally, Saturday helped to reaffirm the direction of my own activism. Throughout the week, I wrestled with the question of whether I am active because of my own convictions, or if, in essence, I am active because of my lover's activism? Now, I am certain - I am active because it is vital to survival - not only my survival, or my lover's survival, but the very survival of us all.

The three children, playing with the pink and aqua Pride '88 balloons, could well be homosexual. If so, perhaps they will remember that hot Saturday afternoon in June, 1988, and the men and women who gave them the brightly colored balloons. It might make coming out of the closet easier for them.

Of course, the children could also be heterosexual. If so, perhaps they still will remember those pink and aqua balloons on that humid June Saturday in 1988 and the men and women who were marching to the park. And maybe they will help to alleviate the heterosexism prevalent in our society.

Either way, we, and the children, can dream. Can't we?



Margaret Coble

Pride '88
Y'All Come Out Now, Y'Hear!



Dates

Your nonprofit event or organization can be listed at no charge in *Dares* or *Listings*. Just drop 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.

June

29 Wednesday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 6:30pm.

Nashville CARES HIV/Chemical Dependency Support Group. 7pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Nashville Voters' Coalition Meeting and volunteer training. Unitarian Church. Info phone 244-4353. 7:30pm.

Support Group for Lesbians and Gay Men Meeting. 8pm. Info phone 833-4598.

30 Thursday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5pm.

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

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5823. 8pm.

4 Monday

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5:30pm.

Nashville CARES Gay Couples Support Group. 6pm.

Nashville CARES Family Support Group. 6:30pm.

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

5 Tuesday

Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm.

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

Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.

6 Wednesday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 6:30pm.

Nashville CARES HIV/Chemical Dependency Support Group. 7pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Support Group for Lesbians and Gay Men Meeting. 8pm. Info phone 833-4598.

7 Thursday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5pm.

Nashville Voters' Coalition Wine and cheese reception and fundraiser to send NVC delegates Kate Monaghan and Paul Slentz to the Democratic National Convention, Woodmont Terrace Apts Clubhouse, 910 Woodmont Blvd. Info phone 292-9623. 6-8pm. Donation requested.

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

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5823. 8pm.

11 Monday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5:30pm.

Nashville CARES Gay Couples Support Group. 6pm.

Nashville CARES Family Support Group. 6:30pm.

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

12 Tuesday

Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm.

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

Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.

13 Wednesday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 6:30pm.

Nashville CARES HIV/Chemical Dependency Support Group. 7pm. Info phone 385-1510.

Support Group for Lesbians and Gay Men Meeting. 8pm. Info phone 833-4598.

14 Thursday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5pm.

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

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5823. 8pm.

Listings

Restaurants & Clubs

Juanita's

1700 4th Av South
Nashville
256-9681

Ralph's Rutledge Hill Tavern

515 2nd Av South
Nashville
256-9682

Allen Gold's

1100 McCallie Av
Chattanooga

Chez Collette

407 1st Av South
Nashville
256-9134

The Jungle

306 4th Av South
Nashville
256-9411

Victor/Victoria's

111 8th Av North
Nashville
244-7256

The Cabaret

1711 Hayes St
Nashville
320-7082

The Gas Lite

167 1/2 8th Av North
Nashville
254-1278

New Attitude

1803 Church St
Nashville
320-5154

Warehouse 28

2529 Franklin Rd
Nashville
385-9689

The Chule

2535 Franklin Rd
Nashville
297-4571

Crazy Cowboy II

2311 Franklin Rd
Nashville
269-5318

The Office

130 Franklin St
Clarksville
645-1157

World's End

1713 Church St
Nashville
329-3480

Dates

1 Friday

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

2 Saturday

Metropolitan Community Church Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5.

3 Sunday

Metropolitan Community Church Worship services, 11am and 7pm.
The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park, Clarksville. 1pm.
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1-3pm.

8 Friday

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

9 Saturday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 4pm.
Metropolitan Community Church Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5.

10 Sunday

Metropolitan Community Church Worship services, 11am and 7pm.
The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park, Clarksville. 1pm.
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1-3pm.
Feminist Book Circle Discussion of Radclyffe Hall's *The Well of Loneliness*, Dare Library, 164 8th Ave North, Suite 202. Info phone 298-9931 or 383-4986. 5-7pm.

15 Friday

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

16 Saturday

Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 4pm.
Metropolitan Community Church Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5.

17 Sunday

Metropolitan Community Church Worship services, 11am and 7pm.
The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park, Clarksville. 1pm.
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field. 1-3pm.

July

Listings

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union
 Hedy Weinberg, *Director*
 Box 120160, Nashville 37212
 256-7028
Lesbian & Gay Anti-Violence Hotline
 256-7028

Conductors
 Box 40261, Nashville 37204

Metropolitan Community Church
 131 15th Avenue North, Nashville 37203
 320-0288

Nashville CARES Sandee Potter, *Director*
 Box 25107, Nashville 37202
 385-1510
AIDS Crisis Line
 385-AIDS

Nashville Women's Alliance
 Box 120834, Nashville 37212
 366-0555

National Organization for Women (Tennessee)
 Elizabeth Jamison, *President*
 Box 120523, Nashville 37212

Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance
 (T-GALA)
 Box 24181, Nashville 37202

Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF)
 Carole Cunningham, *President*
 Box 24181, Nashville 37202

Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe
 (TKALS)
 Box 120871, Nashville 37212
 297-8540

Vanderbilt AIDS Project
 Suite CCC5319 Medical Center North
 Vanderbilt University
 Nashville 37232
 322-AIDS or 322-2252

Vanderbilt Lambda Association
 Box 121743, Nashville 37212

Women's Resource Center (YWCA)
 1608 Woodmont Blvd
 385-3952

Views

Pride: That's What It's All About

It's all over but the memories now.

The marchers have marched, the speakers have spoken, the singers have sung, the bigots have demonstrated. The dust has settled and the reminiscences have already begun.

Pride Week '88 was not a success. It was a smash hit. Imagine over 200 people marching through Nashville in support of lesbian and gay rights. Was it really only a year ago that organizers were having difficulty

generating enthusiasm for the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights?

The wonderful turnout, in spite of the naysayers, in spite of the oppressive heat, in spite of the nagging fears and misgivings that we all had, was encouraging and affirming. The hard work of the Pride Week '88 committee and of everyone else who helped paid off and paid off big.

Those who weren't entirely comfortable marching in the parade waved from the

sidewalks or joined the marchers at the rally. No one was hassled by the police, the press was (mainly) very supportive and positive, and a lot of straight people came out to support us. What more could anyone ask?

Kudos to the Pride Week committee, the sponsors and everyone who participated.

If you weren't there, you missed out. But it's not necessarily too late.

Where do we sign up for next year?

Between the Lines

Media Report Cards

By STUART BIVIN
Editor

Once you get into the news business, believe me, you start paying really close attention to the way others cover issues and events that interest you. No one's perfect, and reporters and editors betray their prejudices, not only in the way they cover news, but in their choice of what to cover.

Although Pride Week '88 didn't get a lot of coverage in the mainstream press before Saturday's parade and rally, nearly all the primary local newsgatherers got in on the action this weekend.

How did they do?

First, an A+ to the *Tennessean* for LaCrisha Butler's front-page story on the parade and for Robert Johnson's and Heather Stone's excellent photography. Butler's sensitive and careful reporting didn't step on anyone's privacy, yet, like any good reporter, she still managed to convey the essence of what happened and the mood of the event.

You can just imagine how easy it would have been to use the heat as an excuse to beat a retreat back to the air conditioner. Not Butler. She put in plenty of time ferreting out the story and finding out what people had to say, rather than succumbing to the temptation of relying on press releases and a quick look around.

Television news, I think, is particularly

susceptible to substituting flash for substance, and I'm always a little nervous about what local reporters and camerapeople will do with a lesbian and gay event. Fortunately, the parade provided plenty of great video.

ABC affiliate WKRN (Channel 2) deserves a solid B for their work, as does CBS affiliate WTVF (Channel 5). Both handled the events objectively and sensitively. I couldn't tell whether anyone at either station supported or opposed the gay and lesbian civil rights movement, and that's the way it should be.

NBC affiliate WSMV (Channel 4) gets a C-, and it's not a D- only because they chose to cover the events at all. Weekend anchor John Seigenthaler Jr. made his distaste for our community obvious with his narration of the station's footage of the parade and rally. Channel 4, which some regard as the premier news operation in Nashville, really could have done much better.

And, finally, the *Nashville Banner*. A heavy sigh is probably more appropriate here than a grade, but since I've already started, I may as well get on with it.

Since I can't really give an F-, I'll have to settle for an F. This is not journalism, it's just a shame. First of all, try to figure out why the story of a Lesbian and Gay Pride parade and rally was assigned to a medical writer, Rex Graham. Could this have anything to do with AIDS hysteria?

The poor man was so worked up and so confused that he actually thought the parade was on Sunday, rather than on Saturday. Or could it be that he didn't actually attend the event he was supposed to be writing about?

The article mentions the parade in the first paragraph, but then talks only about AIDS. Even that doesn't really address topical AIDS issues in any positive way. Instead, Graham talks about how irresponsible homosexuals - and to him that must only mean men - are recklessly passing around AIDS. He even has the gall to quote Vanderbilt AIDS Project's Gene Copello and state AIDS Education Coordinator Matt Nelson to support his contention that the homosexual community has not done anything to help stop the spread of AIDS. This is a little like quoting Martin Luther King to support a contention that black people are inferior and deserve to be deprived of their basic civil rights.

And this is a medical writer! Why couldn't the *Banner* have assigned someone like Jan Read to the story? She has shown herself to be fair-minded and objective when covering our issues.

All in all, though, it was a well-covered event. The good coverage shows that Nashville media are waking up to the fact that our community has many faces and many voices.

That, in itself, is news.

Dare

The Gay and Lesbian Newspaper
From the Heart of the American South

June 29-July 5, 1988
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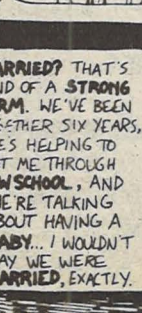
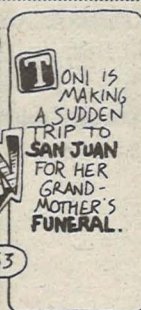
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Dykes to Watch Out For™



Soapbox

Dare invites your letters and opinions, and this space is intended to serve as an open forum for the free exchange of ideas. *Soapbox* submissions must be typed, double-spaced and between 300 and 800 words. 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.

By GREG FISHER

In recent weeks, a great deal of discussion and, yes, hostility has been generated among Nashville's lesbian and gay community concerning this publication's decision to include a social column. Even though the column, as the editors and others close to the paper have told me, is meant to be fun, it seems many are not amused.

The column also is meant to provide important information to its readers concerning social events that would not be covered otherwise, since **Dare** wants to be a "serious" newspaper for the lesbian/gay community. But more than anything, the column is expected to help develop a sense of family in the community. Its gossipy tone says, "We know each other well enough to call each other by name."

Herein lies the problem. While persons in other communities are flattered to be mentioned in social columns, (just ask Catherine Darnell. The *Tennessean* wouldn't continue to run her drivel if *everyone* was offended. The people who are regulars in her column love it.) a great number of people in our community find such exposure to be an invasion of their privacy and a breach of trust

- a very real threat to their jobs, family lives and personal safety. Just because we are "out" to our community doesn't mean we are "out" to our families, straight friends or employers.

Newswriters say that public events, gay or otherwise, are newsworthy and anyone who participates should know that they may be included in the coverage. After all, you cannot report on an event without mentioning the names of the people who were there. But public events for our community are not easily identified.

Is a barbecue in someone's backyard a public event? Does the fact that it is being advertised in gay bars alter its status?

How do I know if persons attending the function are there as community members or reporters? Should I change my behavior or, better yet, leave as soon as the **Dare** folks arrive for fear that I may be next week's headline. Do I have a right to ask the reporter/editor to exclude my name from coverage of an event that I choose to attend?

What about the editors and reporters who are only trying to do their job of providing a communications and social link for our community? A link that is, to my way of thinking, sorely needed? What about First Amendment rights, libertarianism and social responsibility?

And what about men versus women? Is that part of this whole debate or just a left-over argument that gets dragged out by some

quasi-separatists in our community every time a person who happens to be a man does something they don't like?

These are all tough questions that we as a community are going to have to answer. When I started writing this article I thought I had some answers. Closer examination tells me I'm not so sure.

But I do know this. We need one another and we must stop accusing, fighting, devouring. The time to start talking to one another and really listening with the belief that the other person's opinion is important is long overdue.

If we are angry at the paper or its staff, know that our anger (or is it grief?) is probably misdirected. Shouldn't these emotions be directed at our own homophobia, or better still, at a heterosexist society that continues to make coming out so incredibly difficult for all of us? The complexity of continually having to make the decision to come out day after day is extremely frustrating.

And know this: no one is "privileged" to come out. It's as tough for me today as it was the first day I chose to stop lying. There is a great risk involved every time any of us

refuses to conform to the expectations of the straight world. Sorry.

It is not enough to accuse the editors or writers of this paper of insensitive handling of "top secret" information. We have applauded them for providing a good, accurate and useful tool for Nashville's gay and lesbian society. Their job is a very difficult one. If you believe you can help improve the paper and its policies, then ask how you can be involved in a constructive way.

Bringing Nashvillians, both straight and gay, to a mature understanding and acceptance of our lives as gay men and lesbians will be difficult for a long time still. It means that all of us must choose and keep choosing to come out of our individual closets as well as the ghetto (our collective closet) that has existed for years.

Sometimes we assume that if we are in the ghetto we are out of the closet completely. Hasn't it been shocking lately to find out that none of us are as "out" as we thought we were? We still have a long way to go together in our coming out process.

Greg Fisher, a singer and songwriter, is a former reporter for the *Tennessean*.

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, double-spaced 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**:

I am writing in response to the editorial, "Naming Names is our Job." My name appeared two times in a previous article without my permission and without forewarning. Upon reading this I began phoning the other people in the article to see if they had been checked with before publishing. Some had, some had not. Specifically, several other women had not been checked with. What I find particularly offensive is that at least two males had been checked with and

at least one other male had asked that his name be left out and his request was honored! I might add it was honored without launching a personal attack in the form of an editorial toward him. His request was honored - I was not even asked. He was not ridiculed for asking - I was.

My follow-up phone conversation of which you printed part of the text was an attempt to negotiate with you something we both could live with without further damage to me professionally and personally. Neither of these goals were achieved.

In my personal situation I can not do the political work I want if I must have my name in the paper because of it. I wish this were not the reality of the situation but I can not live in a dream world and survive. Coming out is a personal issue. It is wreckless (sic) classism to print names with wild abandon as if no one in Nashville, Tennessee cares - people are harassed (sic), lose their jobs, lose their homes and kids, and are victims of violence. I can not do work to help end oppression if I fall prey to one of these as a result of my name being in print. I am a flesh and blood huwman being - I need a job and I need physical safety. Who left you in charge of deciding who can keep the things they need to survive and whether their level of commitment to the cause is sufficient.

I request that you retract the editorial "Naming Names is Our Job." As a lesbian I deserve the same considerations granted the gay males of our community. Due to the two articles I have already suffered personally and professionally, please reserve your policy.

Name withheld by request.

Every Tuesday, 11:30 pm
STARS '88 Talent Search
Starring Alexis Spaulding

Every Wednesday, all night
50-Cent Night
50-cent draft, wells, wine and schnapps

Every Thursday, 11:30 pm
Summerstock

Coming Events

Sunday, July 3
Free buffet
Doors open at 7:30

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15 Christopher Street, New York City 10014

We're proud to introduce *Notices*, our new classified section.

All ads run two consecutive weeks, and cost \$10 for each 100 characters (including letters, numerals, punctuation and spaces) or part thereof. For example: Up to 100 characters cost \$10 for two weeks, 101-200 characters cost \$20 for two weeks, 201-300 characters cost \$30 for two weeks, and so on. We reserve the right to edit ads for length, and to reject any ad. Sexually explicit ads will not be accepted.

No ad will be accepted without payment in full in advance.

Blind drawers are available for *Personals* if you do not wish to use your own address. Please check the blind drawer space on the order form, and add \$5 for each two-week period. We will assign you a drawer number. Responses addressed to a blind drawer will be forwarded to you for four weeks after the last appearance of your ad.

To respond to an ad using a drawer number, write lo:

Dare
Drawer # _____
Box 40422
Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Send your ad on the form below with a check or money order for the full amount to:

Dare
Box 40422
Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Ads received by noon Thursday will run the following Wednesday.
Questions? Phone 292-9623 for information.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Do you want a blind drawer number? ☐ Yes. Add \$5 per two-week period. ☐ No

Run this ad for ☐ 2 weeks ☐ 4 weeks ☐ 6 weeks ☐ 8 weeks ☐ 10 weeks ☐ _____ weeks

This ad costs ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$50 for 2 weeks \$_____

x number of two-week periods _____

+ blind drawer charge \$_____

Total cost \$ _____

Please enclose check or money order for total amount, payable to **Dare.**

Send to: **Dare**

Box 40422

Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Ads received by noon Thursday will run the following Wednesday.

• The Gerber-Hart Library is looking for archival material from the early lesbian/gay movement. If you have any publications or memorabilia you would like to donate, please contact the library at 3238 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657, 312/883-3003, or contact the Dare office, 292-9623.

•The new Dare Library is accepting donations of new or used books of interest to lesbians and gay men. Look for our opening soon. Phone 292-9623.

• Experienced floral designer, min. 1 year experience. Group insurance, major medical. Kim, 833-8555.

• Notice - Room & bath for rent by week or month. No deposit. For more information you can call 781-8136.

- LWF seeks female roommate for great house in Green Hills. \$250 + half utilities. Non-smoker, no pets. 385-9126. leave message.

• I would like to correspond with gays like myself for mutual friendship and get togetherness. I am quite lonely and sometimes feel abandoned by my fellow man. I would like to hear from someone who would like intimate relations later on if it turns out we are compatible. Would like phone number if possible. Reggie Huet, Box 40851, Nashville, TN 37204

• We danced at the Warehouse 3/19. You: short light hair. I was in a black dress. We danced, talked about theatre & our kids. Let's do it again. Box 40422, Drawer 7, Nashville, 37204

- Happy Anniversary to G.M. and D.O'K. May life's pink flamingos keep you festive. Yea yea yea.



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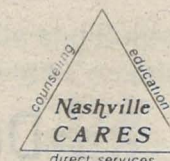
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3415 West End Ave, Suite 1

Nashville, TN 37203

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm

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Nashville Council on AIDS Resources, Education and Services
Box 25107, Nashville, TN 37202
615 385-1510