

Dare

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3

TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

JANUARY 20-26, 1989

Crowd of 2500 celebrates life of Martin Luther King

by **DEBORAH BURKS**
Staff Writer

In celebration of the national and state holiday commemorating the birthday of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., a crowd estimated at approximately 2,500 people attended a rally held Monday at Nashville's Legislative Plaza.

King, who was assassinated in Memphis in 1968, would have turned 60 on Sunday, January 15.

Many of those attending the rally marched to downtown Nashville from nine sites including Tennessee State University (TSU), Jefferson Street Baptist Church, East Nashville and Vanderbilt University's School of Divinity. Although Metro Nashville schools were not closed for the King holiday, hundreds of school children participated in the day's activities.

Also in attendance at the rally were several skinheads carrying signs which stated "Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice" and "Keep the Dream".

Michael Martin, one of the skinheads receiving a good deal of attention, said that because of the participation of skinheads in the Klan march held in Pulaski this past weekend, he felt hostility and suspicion from the crowd at Legislative Plaza. Martin noted that he and the others were present to "get the real skinhead story out" and referred to the participation of the skinheads in Klan activities as "a new media package for an old hatred".

"I'm a straight-edged skinhead and we are opposed to racism and support nonviolence," said Martin. "There is a real lack of concern among the white working class regarding racism."

continued on page 4



Schoolchildren gather on Legislative Plaza to celebrate the memory of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. on the federal holiday recognizing the 60th anniversary of his birth. —DARE PHOTO DEBORAH BURKS

Anti-gay judge brought before Commission on Judicial Conduct

by **JEFF ELLIS**
Managing Editor

Almost one month after his published remarks sparked an "outpouring of outrage" among lesbian and gay activists worldwide, Dallas Judge Jack Hampton finds himself the target of an investigation conducted by the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Complaints filed against Hampton were heard last Friday by Commission members during a hearing in the Texas statehouse at Austin. The Jan. 13 hearing followed the Dec. 16 publication of a *Dallas Times-Herald* interview with Hampton in which the judge said he

had given a convicted killer a lighter sentence than was sought by prosecutors because the victims were gay men.

After Hampton's Nov. 28 decision to give convicted murderer Richard Bednarski a lighter sentence, a complaint was filed with the Commission by the Texas Human Rights Foundation (THRF).

No public announcement of any action on the part of the Commission has yet been made. Following the hearing, held behind closed doors, a spokesperson refused to comment on Hampton's case.

Outside the statehouse, some 25 to 30 activists

braved a freezing downpour to stage a protest against Hampton.

Hampton's published remarks prompted an "outpouring of outrage," according to Dallas Gay Alliance (DGA) spokesperson John Thomas.

"Instead of people getting tired of all the controversy, they still seemed concerned with the business of removing Hampton from the bench," Thomas said Tuesday.

Hampton gave Bednarski, 18, a 30-year sentence instead of the life sentence sought by prosecutors in the case. Bednarski was convicted in the shooting deaths of Tommy Lee

Trimble, 34, and Lloyd Griffin, 27.

"I'd put prostitutes and gays at about the same level, and I'd be hard put to give somebody life for killing a prostitute," the judge said. "I didn't much care for queers cruising the streets picking up teenage boys. I've got a teenage boy."

Hampton further indicated he would have given Bednarski a harsher sentence if his victims had been "a couple of housewives out shopping, not hurting anybody."

Amid the controversy which ensued following the publication of the interview, Hampton

continued on page 3

Volunteers needed in drug study

by **STUART BIVIN**
Editor

Vanderbilt University researchers looking for a cure for AIDS will try a modification of the smallpox vaccine, according to a report in Tuesday's *Nashville Tennessean*.

The researchers are looking first, however, for nine volunteers between the ages of 18 and 60 who have never been given the smallpox vaccine. The trials will study the effects of a new vaccine, called HIVAC-le. The vaccine was designed to cause an immune system response to HIV (human immunodeficiency virus, thought to cause AIDS).

The study will use smallpox vaccine carrying a piece of HIV genetic material into participants' cells. The material the vaccine carries will not enter the nuclei of the volunteers' cells, according to the study team.

The article quoted Vanderbilt professor of

medicine Barney Graham, part of the investigative team at the school.

Graham said that the team anticipated some difficulty in finding volunteers for the study.

"It's going to take a lot of interested people to find our volunteers," Graham told the *Tennessean*, although he added, "I believe we will eventually get nine volunteers."

The problem is that very few qualify to be volunteers in the study. Only those who have not been vaccinated for smallpox can participate. The group estimates that between 3% and 5% of the over-18 population were never vaccinated against smallpox.

Volunteers must also be involved in monogamous relationships, be unexposed to HIV and have a "low chance of exposure in the future," Graham said.

Women volunteers will be required to avoid pregnancy. •

I N S I D E

Dare this week



On your toes!
The Nashville Ballet has arrived, page 4.



Okay, we give up.
What's a snow fairy?
Snaps, page 8.

Whose silence equals death?
Soapbox, page 5.



Nashville CARES. Won't you care, too?

Nashville Council on
AIDS Resources, Education and Services
Box 25107, Nashville, TN 37202
Education call (615) 385-AIDS
For information on
individual or group counseling
call (615) 385-1510

Economy Interiors[®]

Antiques
Bric-a-Brac
Accessories
Buy and Sell
By the piece or houseful

1466 Madison Avenue
Memphis
(901) 725-9222

GAYELLOW PAGES

Informing the Gay Community Since 1973

Accommodations, AA groups, bars, baths, bookstores, businesses, counselors, dentists, doctors, hotels, lawyers, mail order, media, organizations, publications, religious groups, services, social groups, switchboards, therapists, travel agents, etc, etc... (area codes and zip codes, too!)

USA & CANADA \$10

SOUTHERN EDITION \$4.50; Alabama, Arkansas, N. & S. Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

Renaissance House, Box 292 PL Village Station, NY, NY 10014 212-674-0120. All books discreetly by first class mail; your name kept strictly confidential. To list a business or organization, or for further information, send stamped self-addressed business-size envelope. Please contact us for prices outside the USA.

Ask us about Gayellow Pages on mailing labels!

- Flowers • Gifts •
- Silk and Fresh Arrangements •
- Gourmet Baskets •
- We deliver anywhere in Metro Nashville •
- Phone orders with credit card •



Rebel Hill FLORIST

(615) 833-8555 • 4825 Trousdale (at Blackman)

Sanctuary*

When life gets a little too hectic, there's nothing more relaxing than a good book. We have a great selection in all three stores. And, we invite you to take your time while you're choosing the books you want. Browse at your leisure.

The next time you need sanctuary, come to Mills. We're even open nights and Sunday afternoons. And you can charge three ways - bank cards, American Express, or a Mills charge account.

*Sanctuary. By William Faulkner, Random House.

Making Nashville a Great Place to Read

Mills Book Stores

Hillsboro Village 615 383-5520 Brentwood Place 615 377-0460 Belle Meade Plaza 615 383-7002

Since 1892 - Nashville's full service bookstores.

MEMPHIS

Mondays

Gay Alternative Hour Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm.
Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Tuesdays

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Wednesdays

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Thursdays

P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group, St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. Info 901 761-1444.
Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30pm. Info 901 272-9459.
Into the Light (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 276-7379.

Fridays

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 10pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Saturdays

Twisted Sisters (ACOA) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info 901 276-7379.
Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

Sundays

Agape New Life Church Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship service, 11am. Info 901 276-1872.
Holy Trinity Community Church Worship service, 11am. 1216 Forrest Ave. Info 901 726-9443.
Into the Light (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info 901 276-7379.
Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info 901 272-9459.

NASHVILLE

Mondays

Gay Overeaters Anonymous Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.
Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Group, 6:30pm. ARC/AIDS Support Group, bimonthly. 6:30pm. Family Support Group, bimonthly. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.
Lambda Group Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.
MAGNET (Married and Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC. 8pm. Info 615-320-0288.

Tuesdays

Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni. President's House, Peabody Campus. 7pm. Info 615-385-4283.
AI-Anon Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
Nashville CARES ARC/AIDS Support Group. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.
Sober Sisters (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.
Gay Cable Network Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television). 9pm.

Wednesdays

Sex Addicts Anonymous Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm.
Nashville CARES ARC/AIDS Gay Couples Support Group. 5:30pm. ARC/AIDS Support Group. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.
MTSU Lambda Association Meeting for lesbian and gay Middle Tennessee State University students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Murfreesboro. 7pm. Info 615-890-3787.

Thursdays

Gay Overeaters Anonymous Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Info 615-327-4614.
Nashville CARES Visualization Group. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.
Alternatives (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8pm.
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Meeting. 8pm. Info 615-385-4776 or 615-352-5823.

Fridays

Sex Addicts Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
Gay Parents Support Group Meeting, MCC. 1st Friday only. 7pm. Info 615-831-2941 or 615-320-0288.
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30 pm.

Saturdays

Nashville CARES HIV/ARC Support Group, bimonthly. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.
Metropolitan Community Church Mortgage Meal, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5.
Gay Cable Network Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television). 8pm.

Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info 615-320-0288.

D A T E S

Special Events

Saturday, January 21

Party *Recoup from the Holidays*, movie and popcorn, Gay Women's Social Group, Memphis. 7:30pm. \$2 donation. Info 901 324-6949.

Saturday, January 28

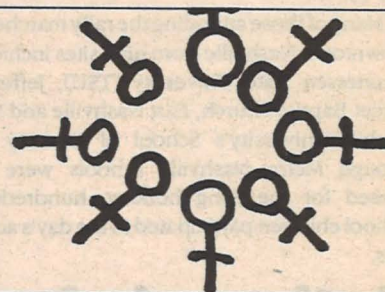
Spaghetti Dinner and Fish Fry Black and White Men Together, Memphis. 7-10pm. Info 901 452-5894.

Friday, February 3

Mardi Gras Ball Party and dance, Towne House Tea Room, 167-1/2 8th Av North, Nashville. Food, drinks, and costume contest. Sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church. 8pm-1am. \$5 donation. Info 615 228-8571 or 615 320-0288.

Saturday, February 4

Party Hors d'oeuvres, Memphis Gay Coalition. BYOB, potluck. Party room, Bryton Tower, 1271 Poplar, Memphis. 8pm-11pm. Free. Info 901 324-GAYS.



Sunday, February 12

Feminist Book Circle Discussion of Rita Mae Brown's *Rubyfruit Jungle*. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 5-7pm. Free. Info 615 385-4283.

Tuesday, February 14

Out and About Ball *Valentine's Day Dance* Warehouse 28, 2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville. Sponsored by Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance. 7:30pm. \$6 per person. Info 615 333-2215.

Saturday, February 18

Seminar *Loving Yourself Unconditionally*, Susan Taranto. Sponsored by Gay Women's Social Group, Memphis. 7:30pm. \$2 donation. Info 901 324-6949.

Your nonprofit event can be listed free in *Dates*. Write to *Dare*, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422, or phone 615 292-9623 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. Deadline noon Tuesday for publication next Friday.

Judge chides sex/porn D.A.

by JEFF ELLIS
Managing Editor

Crusading Davidson County assistant district attorney Richard Fisher incurred the wrath of Davidson Circuit Judge Walter Kurtz Tuesday after committing himself to prosecuting three cases in three different courts at the same time.

The scheduling conflict in Kurtz' court also led to Davidson Criminal Court Judge Tom Shriver's decision to continue until April two cases resulting from last winter's sex-for-pay sting involving then-15-year-old male prostitute Tony St. Clair.

In addition to his scheduled appearance in Shriver's court, Fisher was also slated to appear in the courtroom of Judge Ann Lacy Johns to prosecute another child sex-abuse case.

Kurtz summoned District Attorney-General Torry Johnson to his courtroom and ordered Fisher to pay some \$158 in costs for resetting the child sex abuse case which was on Kurtz' Tuesday docket.

"I've just about had it with your attitude toward your responsibility to this court," Kurtz said. "You have a long history in this court of coming in here not prepared and with conflicts."

"You may think there are special rules in this

court for you, Mr. Fisher, but there are none. If you think there are, I am going to teach you different."

Fisher said the scheduling conflict arose from "doing the state's business as best I can."

Johnson, alluding to past charges of disorganization and lack of preparation on Fisher's part, said, "It's no secret that organization is not Richard's strong suit, but you certainly couldn't argue with the results he achieved" in prosecuting child sex abuse cases.

In 1983, Fisher was removed from the prosecution team in a series of cases resulting from a massive crackdown on adult bookstores, video arcades and massage parlors. Then-district attorney Shriver was forced to reassign the caseload to another staffer after Chancellor Robert S. Brandt became angered by Fisher's untimely responses to defense lawyers' motions.

Before coming to Nashville in 1982, Fisher had served a ten-year term as district attorney general for Bradley, McMinn, Monroe and Polk counties in east Tennessee.

Since his arrival here, Fisher has been in the forefront of the news while prosecuting a number of high-profile cases, including cases resulting from the teen sex-for-pay sting conducted last winter. •

...anti-gay judge charged

continued from page 1

apologized "for (his) choice of words," but did not apologize for the light sentence given Bednarski.

Hampton's actions attracted media attention worldwide and focused attention on Dallas, which has long been called "the city of hate."

Dallas earned that dubious distinction in the aftermath of the 1963 slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) is among the national political leaders who have lent their support to efforts by the DGA to oust Hampton from the bench.

Last Thursday, in a press conference which followed the Dallas premiere of *Torch Song Trilogy*, writer and star Harvey Fierstein added

his name to the list of public figures lambasting Hampton.

"But it doesn't matter how many editorials are written in papers across the country calling for the judge's resignation," Thomas said. "The judge will not suffer from this. He could make much more money in private practice than he does on the bench."

Thomas said the continued feelings of outrage expressed by members of the Dallas lesbian and gay community indicate that efforts to remove Hampton from the bench will continue.

"But unfortunately we can become bogged down in the whole process. There's not a whole lot you can do to speed up the process," Thomas said. •

BRIEFS

Chicago gets les/gay rights ordinance

from STAFF REPORTS

BY A 28-17 VOTE, members of the Chicago City Council last month approved a lesbian and gay rights ordinance for the city.

The bill's approval followed some 14 years of defeat by the city council.

The bill adds sexual orientation to the Chicago human rights ordinance which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion and ethnicity. It provides for penalties of \$100-500 a day for violating the bill's anti-discrimination provisions.

"We have never been so popular," Laurie Dittman, co-chair of the gay and lesbian Town Meeting, a network of lesbian and gay groups working for the ordinance, told Gay Community News. "Every serious candidate for mayor lobbied for the bill and has been courting our vote. They know we can swing the election."

Dittman credited incumbent Mayor Eugene Sawyer for convincing several aldermen to vote in favor of the bill's passage. Alderman and independent mayoral candidate Timothy Evans also worked for the bill's passage.

According to opinion polls, Sawyer and Evans, both of whom are black, currently trail white mayoral candidate Richard Daley Jr., son of the late Chicago kingpin Richard Daley. •

Judy Eron, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Jim Siebold, PhD
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Individual and Couples Counseling
615 329-1656

Hands On Massage Clinic

Certified Massage Therapist
615 758-7458
Stress Management
AMTA Member

Roxanne Isham, R.N.

Vision of Hearts

presents

Party Time in '89

Saturday, January 28

9:30 p.m. \$3 cover

Every Thursday Beer Blast 7-10 pm
\$3.00 Cover
Free Draft Beer

The woman's choice.

RALPH'S

515 2nd Ave. S., Nashville (615) 256-9682

Permanent Hair Removal

Patricia McCaffrey
Electrologist, R.E.

Free Consultation
Individual Disposable Probes

(615) 333-1044 or 361-5464

Now two locations:

- Southern Hills Medical Center
- Murfreesboro Rd./Briley Pkwy area

ABBY R. RUBENFELD
ATTORNEY AT LAW

CHEATHAM & PALERMO
43 MUSIC SQUARE WEST
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

TELEPHONE
(615) 244-4270

proudly presents

LADIES' NIGHT

Every Sunday 7 to Close

Can beer \$1

Come Party with Jackie

Our New Luscious

Bartender

Victor/Victoria's

111 8TH AVE N, NASHVILLE / 244-7256



Salon

Michelle


Lauren

Mark Alan Henry
An Image Professional
Personalized Hair Design

also available: skin & nail care
Monday-Saturday 9 am till

1818 Division Street, Nashville, TN 37203 • (615) 327-3171
A DIVISION OF DANIELS ENTERPRISES, INC.

The CHUTE presents
WESTERN JAMBOREE NIGHT
Sunday, January 22
Coming Sunday, Feb. 5: Music City Rollers Fundraiser Show



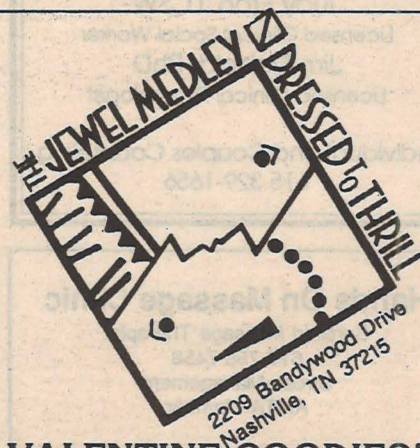
The CHUTE

DINNER SPECIAL SUNDAY JAN 22
NY Strip, \$5.95
EVERY DAY
2-for-1 Happy Hour 5 pm-8 pm
WEDNESDAY
50¢ Draft
Home of Billy Bob's Restaurant
& General Store
2535 Franklin Rd, Nashville (615) 297-4571



EMBASSY TRAVEL
We
specialize
in personal
service.

615 320-5202
TN Toll Free 800 548-1031
Parkview Towers
210 25th Avenue North, Suite 115
Nashville, TN 37203
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm



VALENTINE GOODIES!
Shop to your
heart's content.

2209 Bandywood Drive
Nashville, TN 37215

The voice in the wilderness.

What's up and coming on GCN/N?
Rona Barrett talks about Rock Hudson and AIDS in Hollywood.
Michael Kerns: Profile of an openly gay actor.
David Elliott: male nude photography.

Gay Cable Network/Nashville
Tuesday at 9:00 Saturday at 8:00
Exclusively on Cable Channel 35



GAY CABLE NETWORK

Nashville

615 254-8250

World Famous
Jungle
306 4TH AVE S., NASHVILLE

**1989
MISS
DAVIDSON
COUNTY
BEAUTY PAGEANT**
JANUARY 21, 1989
AT 8:00 PM
HUNDREDS IN CASH PRIZES
PLUS TROPHIES

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
NOW

**FEBRUARY 5
FUNDRAISER FOR ADVANCE**

Advance
the Political Action Committee of
the Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance



MCC Presents

The First
Mardi Gras Ball

February 3, 1989
8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
The Gas Lite Lounge
(Rear of
Towne House Tea Room
165 Eighth Avenue N.,
Nashville)
Crowning of the
King and Queen at 11:00 p.m.
Entertainment
and Costume Contest

\$5.00
All proceeds benefit
Metropolitan
Community Church

CURTAINS

Nashville Ballet

Reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Managing Editor

THERE ARE THOSE people who believe that there was dance before there was life. Those people will argue that one atom bouncing off another is as intriguing as a mazurka or a tarantella; thus, their contention that dance preceded life.

If that's true, then Nashville Ballet's first season a few years ago was an even longer time in coming than most balletomanes may think. But it was worth the wait.

Nashville Ballet once again affirmed its place in the local arts community with its winter series presented in the Polk Theatre of the Tennessee Performing Arts Center last week.

Presenting a program of two world premieres and two company premieres, the members of the young company performed a varied program that had something to please even the most hardened non-ballet fan. And even the most discerning ballet aficionado.

"Opus II," which featured Stephen J. Mato performing his original piano composition, highlighted the talents of eight members of the troupe who, despite one small misstep, performed admirably. The company's artistic director, Dane LaFontsee, choreographed the piece with an obvious eye toward accenting his dancer's strengths.

The second piece, set to the music of Ravel, was the world premiere of LaFontsee's "Remembrances." Performed "for everyone who has ever lost someone," the piece was touching and sweet in its evocation of an ill-fated love affair.

Danced with a mesmerizing blend of grace and power by the lovely Karen Portner and the dashing handsome Barry Thane Gager, "Remembrances" was perhaps the evening's most beautiful performance. Portner and Gager proved that, in a company that technically has no stars, they are the dancers whose talents approach the stratospheric.

The Edward Myers-choreographed "Dark

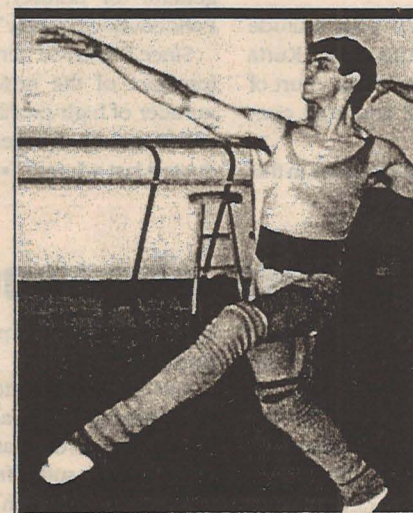
Reflection" had its world premiere in the series, danced by another eight-person combination of the troupe's members.

The modern dance influence was felt strongly in the piece and the dancers proved themselves worthy of Myers' choreography, despite a somewhat tentative beginning. "Dark Reflection" demonstrated the company's relative youth — youth not only in age, but in years of stage experience.

The evening's closing performance, perhaps the most anticipated, was Bryan Pitts' "Tangos," set to the sultry Latin rhythms usually associated with the sex-tinged tango.

But Pitts' choreography succeeded in doing something to a tango heretofore thought impossible — de-sexing it. Instead of a real tango, sizzling with Argentine sensuousness, Pitts presented the hot-blooded tango as comedy relief, reducing it to a series of cheap laughs and over-acting.

While "Tangos" was immensely entertaining — for its comedy relief — it was, nonetheless, the evening's only disappointment, marred by the macho



Nashville Ballet's Luis Cataldi—PHOTO DAVID PHILLIPS

posturings of Gager and Sylvain LaPointe and by the sheer waste of myriad possibilities.

Deborah Johnson's costumes for "Tangos," which were probably better appreciated up-close, proved to be tired and tacky from the orchestra.

The Mimi Shimmin-designed costumes for the earlier program, however, were lovely with special consideration given Portner's flowing white gown for "Remembrances." Lighting design — by J.R. Hutchins for "Opus II" and Scott Leathers for the remainder of the program — was appropriately moody or uplifting, engaging or dismissive.

For its spring series, Nashville Ballet will reprise its immensely popular production of "Cinderella." First performed last year to sell-out audiences, the ballet will be presented again in May. •

...civil rights leader remembered

continued from page 1

The rally program was held in the War Memorial Auditorium, which was filled to capacity. The theme of the 4th annual celebration was "The Struggle Continues."

Governor Ned Ray McWherter was scheduled to address the crowd, but was unable to do so because of illness. Nashville Mayor Bill Boner was on hand to remember King's contributions to the civil rights movement.

"The finest tribute to Dr. King is for each of us to dream about and work for what we ought to be," said Boner. "We can make this city and this nation a better place for all of us."

Speaking on the importance of teaching African American studies in schools, Tennes-

see State University professor Andrew Jackson noted, "A people without a history is like a tree without branches."

The keynote address, "The Courage to Hope," was given by Wallace Charles Smith, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill. The church has been a rallying place for Nashville's civil rights movement. Smith's speech contained many references to the "injustices" of the Reagan administration.

"We must hope that what Martin saw is still alive," said Smith. "With hope these last eight years will not hold us back."

Events planned in memory of King and in celebration of Black History Month will continue through January and February. •

The Construction of Homosexuality

The Construction of Homosexuality. David F. Greenberg. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 544 pp. \$29.95.

Reviewed by **SHERRE DRYDEN**

Book Editor

AS ONE WOULD EXPECT from his title, David F. Greenberg posits a constructionist interpretation of homosexuality. Sexuality, homo- or hetero-, he believes, is not determined by an individual's essential nature. It is, instead, a product of socialization.

The *Construction of Homosexuality* is a meticulously documented, scholarly account of the existence of homosexuality — mostly male — throughout time and civilization. Since Greenberg's position is that careful examination of the forms homosexuality has taken will demonstrate that it is a construct, driven by social, political and economic systems, the book is necessarily comprehensive. In Part I, "Before Homosexuality", Greenberg covers kinship-structured societies, archaic civilizations, early civilizations and feudalism. Part II, on modern homosexuality, includes chapters on the emergence of subcultures, the rise of market economies, medicalization of homosexuality and gay liberation.

Whether or not one agrees with Greenberg's theories, *The Construction of Homosexuality* is a fascinating overview. Although it is definitely not to be read casually — some pages have more notes than text and the bibliography is over a hundred pages long — the book's cross-disciplinary nature makes it accessible to readers with little knowledge of history or social theory. It is an important book as well, one likely to be the subject of heated discussions for some times to come.

Greenberg himself acknowledges that his views may not be popular:

"To some, the social-constructionist position has seemed troublesome because of its political implications. When heterosexual chauvinists have told homosexuals to change, essentialist theories have provided a ready response: I can't. When parents have sought to bar homosexual teachers from the classroom lest their children...become homosexual, essentialist theories have provided a seemingly authoritative basis for denying the possibility."

IN SIMPLISTIC TERMS, what Greenberg finds is that when homosexual acts are not stigmatized, people do not define themselves as homosexuals. Sexuality exists on a continuum, with all possibilities available to all people. As stigmatization — through ridicule, legislation, or violence — increases, so does the likelihood of the creation of a category of persons characterized by their participation in those acts. The "homosexual person," then, is a product of relatively recent forms of social organization.

Greenberg's strongest evidence points toward the growing stigmatization of male homosexuality (or homosexual acts) as undesirable because of a link with femininity as its is traditionally described.

He begins with kinship-structured societies and a curious correlation between the amount of power accorded women and male homosexual practices. He seems ready to lay the

credit (or blame) for male homosexuality at the feet of female dominance. Where gender constructs allowed females superiority through matrilineality or matrilocality, males needed something (archaic male bonding, perhaps?) to reassure them of their masculinity:

"HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONS are found, then, when they are most needed to solidify male power against challenges from women. They function to reproduce male-dominated gender relations where they are shaky."

This interpretation supposes male superiority as a norm with variations from that norm necessitating reactions. Greenberg admits that the anthropological information upon which he bases his theories is unreliable. Collection methods were not consistent, homosexual practices were often of only tangential interest to the original researchers, women were seldom involved at any level and interviewees were aware of Western taboos against homosexuality. Yet given these flaws, plus others, Greenberg never questions the assumption that the way these societies constructed gender defined their sexual practices and not the opposite. He cautions against equating modern homosexuality with the homosexual acts of other civilizations, but fails to follow the same logic when considering gender.

Stigmatization was, on the whole, progressive, and directly tied to the bureaucratization of society. As more and more men moved into bureaucratic environments — the military, business, government — homosexuality was forced farther and farther outside. Bureaucracy, Greenberg states, is defined by its maleness; the intolerable aspect of homosexuality was its femaleness.

Greenberg contends that a social constructionist interpretation of homosexuality does not preclude the legitimacy of homosexual rights. He suggests that by looking at race and the results of the civil rights movement in the United States we can see that, although racial classification systems have varied it does not follow that American blacks should stop thinking of themselves as black. Yet it was not the existence of difference — race — that was the construct; it was how we classified that difference.

The civil rights movement changed the construction of that classification. It did not repudiate the difference.

IT IS EASY TO JUMP on what will likely become the anti-Greenberg bandwagon, accusing him of giving ammunition to the enemy. It is, after all, fine for him to speak to an informed, academic audience that homosexuality's being a construct, somehow tied to the amount of power accorded women, does not mean that people are in practice able to choose their sexual orientation. But they have academics at Bob Jones University, too, and I fear that Greenberg has provided some powerful and dangerous words for them to use against us. •

Whether or not one agrees with Greenberg's theories, The Construction of Homosexuality is a fascinating overview.

BLOW THEIR SOCKS OFF

GUERRILLA GRAPHICS
ADVERTISING WITH IMPACT (615) 292-9623

Chez Colette

presents
A Touch of Class
9 pm – 1 am
and
GRACE PLUSHETTE'S BIRTHDAY
Midnight– 3 am
Saturday, February 4

407 1st Ave South, Nashville 615-256-9134

Taylor-made advertising.

Ann Taylor
Dare Advertising Manager
Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 352-5823

Dare

Co-Dependency Therapy Groups

for Gay Men and Lesbians

\$30 per session
12 weekly sessions
Group begins Thursday, January 19

Randy Buckner, M.Div.
Cynthia Grissom-Smythe, M.Ed.
615-356-9419 or 615-834-8498

2F

TUESDAYS
Dana Alexander's Talent Night
WEDNESDAYS
50¢ Draft, \$1.25 Bottles No Cover
THURSDAYS
Shows
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
Non-stop Dancing
SUNDAYS
Shows

Warehouse 28

WAREHOUSE 28 • 2529 Franklin Road, Nashville • (615) 385-9689

We're moving!

January 31

Re-opening February 6

1701 Portland Avenue, Nashville

(Hillsboro/Belmont)



Dragonfly Books



A Metaphysical Book Store

New phone: (615) 292-5699

Hours: Mon-Sat 11-7

Sun 1-5

For the Goddess
in each of us...

Dare

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

January 20-26, 1989
Volume 2, Number 3

Publisher & Editor
Stuart Blvin

Managing Editor
Jeff Ellis
Book Editor
Sherre Dryden
Staff Writers
Deborah Burks
Carole Cunningham
Joe Marohl
Jaan Sturgis
Contributing Writer
Patrick Hills

Advertising Sales Manager
Ann Taylor
(615) 352-5823

The Dare logo was designed by Rusel Brown.

Text is set in Garamond, with
Aachen Bold heads and
Helvetica Condensed Light subheads.

Dare is published weekly by
Pyramid Light & Power
Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422
(615) 292-9623



Subscription rate: \$32 per year, \$16 for six months.

Please phone (615) 352-5823
for advertising rates and information.

Postmaster: send address changes to:
Circulation Department
Dare
Box 40422
Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Dare and the Dare logo are trademarks of
Pyramid Light & Power
for its newspaper.

Entire contents and design
Copyright ©1988 by Pyramid Light & Power.
All rights reserved.

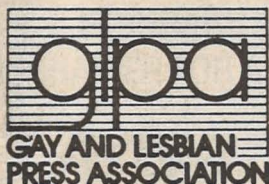
Reproduction, either in whole or in part,
is strictly prohibited without the
express written consent of the publisher.

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.
Letters will be assumed intended for publication
unless otherwise explicitly stated.

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, artist, speaker or writer,
and do not necessarily reflect the positions of Dare,
Pyramid Light & Power, staff members or supporters.

All letters received will be assumed intended for
publication unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Dare is an institutional member of the
Gay and Lesbian Press Association.



SOAPBOX

Decorum or Dignity: On working within the system

by CAROLE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

"Men are so necessarily mad, that not to be
mad would amount to another form of madness."
—Pascal

WE ARE TAUGHT from the time we are children that discretion is the better part of valor. Cool heads were a hallmark of the Reagan administration—so much so that badgering members of the press were more likely to become pariahs than the politicians and Reagan appointees whose ethical misconduct set new standards for slime.

Reagan, of course, had the coolest head of all. The buck never stopped at Reagan's feet because his feet were never on the ground.

Groups whose interests were marginalized during the Reagan years—everyone from gays and lesbians to welfare mothers and the homeless—found themselves in a curious position with respect to their causes: where righteous indignation had once done much to publicize the plight of blacks and other oppressed minorities, it had now become the dubious badge of terrorists and other "fanatics." Working within the system, the logic went, would diminish your marginality and better promote your interests. Sit-ins might get you in the newspapers, but to cool-headed bureaucrats, activism in the street would only get you one place: further down the street.

For the most part, gay and lesbian rights organizations and AIDS activists have kept in step with what is "expected": we have established local and national organizations with dues-paying members, presidents, co-directors, and board seats, all designed to promote our rights and convince our oppressors that we're as good at the politics game as they.

THE REAGAN YEARS tell us that the road to freedom is paved with good manners, not upraised voices. So when ACT UP (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power) first began mobilizing in cities like Boston, New York, and Los Angeles, their indignation, often scurrilous rhetoric and "unreasonable" demands, sent a shiver of fear through the "established" gay and lesbian activist community. How were more "cool-headed" groups going to respond to slogans

like "AIDSGATE" and "Silence=Death?" Whose silence were the upstarts referring to? "Theirs" or "ours?"

When an ACT UP chapter formed in Nashville over a year ago, its members and activities were met with cautious civility from most gays and lesbians and often outright hostility from members of AIDS education and service groups. Using direct-action models tested by other ACT UP chapters, a small band of gays and lesbians began organizing protests, pickets, and sit-ins in response to the inaction of local health authorities and Metro Nashville Mayor Bill Boner, to the threat of mandatory testing and reporting posed in the State Legislature, and to the testimony of U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-California) at a Nashville meeting of the President's Commission on AIDS.

*I see
that cooler heads—
mine included—have
often prevailed by
preserving decorum at
the expense of dignity,
civility at the expense
of civil rights.*

What makes queers and non-queers alike flinch at the mention of ACT UP is the fact that ACT UP members don't hide their sexual orientation, don't take cues from their oppressors about how to end their oppression, don't nod understandingly when bureaucrats blame their lack of leadership in the AIDS crisis on either the bureaucracy or on the electorate's squeamishness about sexuality and disease. And, to boot, ACT UP in Nashville and in most other cities had no charter, no constitution, no

officers, no board, no budget, no tax-exempt status.

But here in Nashville, what began with a bang ended with a whimper. Why? Most of us who attended ACT UP/Nashville meetings and ACT UP actions were the same people attending T-GALA meetings, serving on the board of Nashville CARES, working with the Vanderbilt AIDS Project. Pressure from the last two groups to silence ACT UP/Nashville certainly foretold the nature of ACT UP/Nashville's demise. Told they were doing more damage than good by not being well-mannered and respectable, members of ACT UP took a hard look at their purposes and their methodology. In fact, eventually, some of the same people who one day were marching in the streets with "AIDSGATE" signs were the next day donning their suits, tying their ties, and having coffee with the mayor.

NOW ONE YEAR later, despite the assurances of Those Who Know Best that working inside the system would promote gay rights, secure funding for AIDS education and support services, and buy us the legitimacy we all surely needed, the city of Nashville and the state of Tennessee have yet to allocate any funding directly and specifically for AIDS education and support services.

The almost frenzied attempts of AIDS service groups to de-gayify AIDS have not gotten lesbians and gays or persons with AIDS any closer to equal protection under the law from discrimination based on sexual orientation or HIV status. I wonder now what madness we live with in exchange for silencing the madness of anger, of grief, of righteous indignation.

When I and my political companions meet now with the mayor's office, health officials, and the press regarding AIDS funding and the insidious discrimination and outright violence against lesbians and gays, the weariness I feel is less with "them" than with myself. I have donned my suit and tied my tie once too often. I long for the madness of righteous angels while I lie in the den of the dissimulators and echo the reassurances of the straight world and much of the gay world that progress takes time, that I need my society's cloak of legitimacy while I beg for civil rights, that discretion is the better part of valor.

I see that cooler heads—mine included—have often prevailed by preserving decorum at the expense of dignity, civility at the expense of civil rights.

When ACT-UP/Nashville faded into the sunset, I was confident my pumps and polish could take its place. What I didn't see then was the vacuum its demise created in me. For the last year, I have hoped my forays into the halls of the "establishment" would be part of the solution.

I'm beginning to fear that I'm part of the problem. •

Dare encourages you to express your opinion in this space, and welcomes your letters. Submissions over 500 words will be considered for the Soapbox space. Names may be withheld on request. Unsigned letters and defamatory material cannot be published. Please write to Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422, and include signature, phone number and address for verification.

BOX 40422

"Read my lips, George!"

Dear Dare,
"Read my lips!"

Every time George Bush slapped us with this bullying quip during this past campaign I wanted to pull one of my man friends up close to me, smack a luscious kiss together and retort, "Read my lips, George!"

Despite the bad press and the dismal return on the money we pay our government, we all know that our lesbian/gay love, our sexuality, our relationships, our ways of seeing and being in the world are potent and powerful. We are also learning that our love empowers us when we let the world see it, alive, healthy, creative, even demanding!


Soon we'll be celebrating Valentine's Day, a

day of love and lovers. This year I'd like to inundate the White House, Congress, the Supreme Court, ABC, CBS, etc., with lesbian/gay Valentine wishes. So I invite you all to play along and head to your favorite lesbian/gay card shop, find your favorite postcards of men or women kissing, color them with a few red hearts, inscribe them with a "Read my lips!" and other quips you fancy.

Then send them off to George Bush, Justices Rehnquist or O'Connor or to whomever you'd like to read your lips. Let our collective lips daringly speak our love.

Do Be My Valentine!
Michael Neisen
Monte Rio, California

CIRCLE PLAYERS PRESENTS



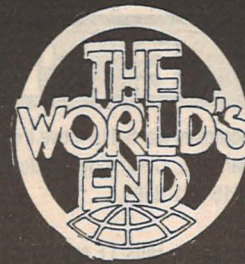
The Unsinkable MOLLY BROWN

Music and Lyrics by Meredith Willson
Book by Richard Morris

JANUARY 13-29

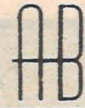
TENNESSEE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ANDREW JOHNSON THEATRE

TICKETMASTER 741-2787



\$1.50
well drinks
all night, every night

the world's end restaurant
1713 church street nashville, tn 37203
615-329-3480



ALLISON AND BECK

PERSONAL NUTRITIONISTS
REGISTERED DIETITIANS

1612 EIGHTEENTH AVENUE SOUTH, A
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37212
(615) 386-9745

Mardi Grease.



Fat Tuesday is coming up faster'n greased lightning.
Be sure you're ready for the big ball. We can supply everything
you need, from grease paint to the slickest costumes around. And
our professional staff can help you slip into your
Mardi Gras alter ego with advice on costuming and makeup.
Slide on in to Interstate. You'll be Mardi glad you did.

Interstate Cosmetic Company 1205 Church St, across from NES (615) 256-0070

Public displays of affection.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Say it out loud to the one you love with Public Displays of Affection,
our special Valentine's love ads. 2-3/8" x 1-7/16" for eight bucks.

Add two dollars for white on black, and four dollars for pink or red.

All ads must be in our hands by Monday, February 6,
for publication Friday, February 10. Larger ads available, of course.
Phone Ann Taylor at (615) 352-5823 for more information.

Dare

☐ Yes! I want a Public Display of Affection.

Pick 1 color: ☐ Black type on white \$8 ☐ White type on black \$10
☐ Black type on pink \$12 ☐ White type on red \$12
☐ Black type on red \$12 ☐ Red type on white \$12

Pick 1 typeface: ☐ Typeface 1: Franklin Gothic ☐ Typeface 2: *Brush Script*

Pick 1 border: ☐ Border 1: thin line ☐ Border 2: double line

Pick 1 dingbat: ☐ ♥ add \$1 ☐ ♥ add \$1 ☐ ▼ add \$1 ☐ No dingbat

Name _____
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____

(Evening) _____

Signature _____

WRITE YOUR MESSAGE ON A
SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER..
No order can be accepted without
phone number and signature for
verification.

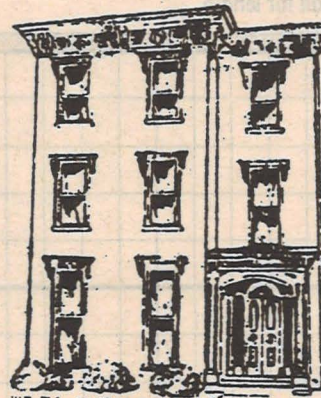
Please send check or money order
to: Dare PDA, Box 40422,
Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Juanita's B A R

Saturday, January 21
2nd anniversary party
Come see Juanita's new
facelift.



1700 4th Ave S., Nashville 615/256-9681



Mardi Gras Celebration
February 3
proceeds benefit
Metropolitan Community Church

The Gas Lite Lounge

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

167 1/2 Eighth Avenue North • 615 254-1278

MARKET

Announcements

• RFD is finally here! The gay men's country journal! at Dragonfly Books (see our ad, page 5) 615-242-1250.

• Own your own floral business. Flowerama, Hickory Hollow Mall in Nashville. Terms available. Chuck Nygren, 1-800-728-6004.

• **PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION** for Valentine's Day. Info Ann Taylor, Dare Ad Sales Manager, (615) 352-5823.

• Catch our new look! Watch GCN/Nashville Tuesdays at 9pm, Saturdays at 8pm. On Nashville's Cable 35.

• Help stop the proposed homophobic changes in Tennessee's crimes against nature law. Send your contribution to Advance, the political action committee of the Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance. Advance, Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202. Not tax-deductible. Info 615 385-4283.

• **LONG HOURS. HARD WORK. NO PAY.** Dare is accepting applications from writers. Learn community-oriented journalism, and be one of the best. Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, 37204 or phone 615-292-9623.

Homes

• Waverly-Belmont. 1Bdrm heat/AC/water furnished, \$250/month. Lease, deposit. 615-297-3865.

• Fab house, cool gals want LF rmmate. \$175/mo. Grt neighborhood, low utilities. No pets/smoker. 615-383-5619.

• Female roommate wanted to move into new Nashville apartment. Clean, tidy, stable. Nonsmoker 21-35. Call 615-391-3589.

• Great house Green Hills! LF seeks roommate for 2BR house. Available now. \$250/mo plus utils. No smoking. 615-292-0817, leave message.

Personals

• New to Nashville—Professional GWM, 34, 5'9", 155#, neat, clean, into church, music, art, modern collectibles and fitness. Wishing to make friends in the area with similar interests. DARE DRAWER 30.

• Bisexual WM, 32, ave looks, HIV neg, looking for female to have a child. Tom, P.O. Box 4012, Huntsville, AL 35815

• GWM, 20, 6', 150#, blond/blue. Very attractive. Working-nursing student. Seeks older, intelligent, caring GWM for friendship and lasting monogamous relationship. DARE DRAWER 29.

• GWF 4'11", 96 lbs. Attractive 19-yr-old. Sweet, gentle and loving. Looking for same in a mate. Write soon. DARE DRAWER 28.

All ads run two consecutive weeks and cost
• \$10 for up to 100 characters
• \$20 for up to 200 characters
• and so on.

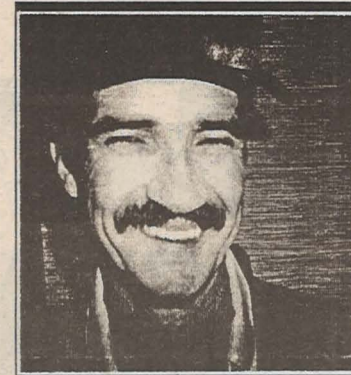
We reserve the right to edit ads, and to reject any ad. Sexually explicit or exploitative ads will not be accepted. No ad will be accepted without signature and advance payment in full.
Response drawers are available if you do not wish to use your own address.
To respond to a response drawer ad, write to:

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

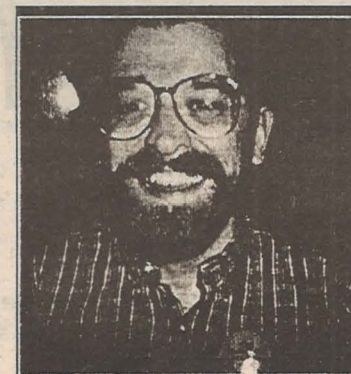
Ads received by noon Tuesdays will run the following Friday.
Questions? Phone 615 292-9623 or 615 352-5823 for information.

SNAPS

What will you do the first time it snows?



David Bullimer - "Stay home in bed."

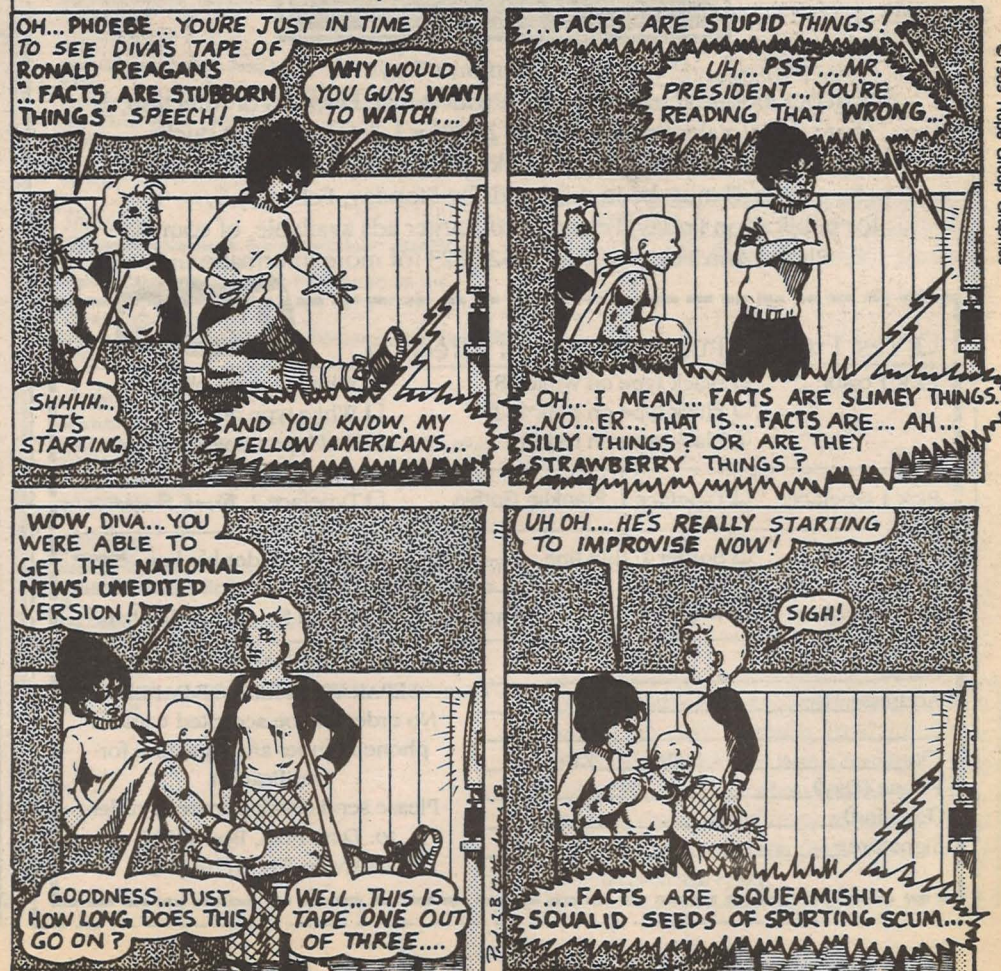


Rick Bray - "Make snow fairies."

TOONS

Cathartic Comics

by Professor I.B. Gittendowne



©1989 Rupe Group Graphics

Easy does it.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
ZIP _____

PHONE (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

I certify that I am the person named above. No ad will be accepted without signature.
Signed _____

Do you want a response drawer number? ☐ Yes. Add \$5 per two-week period.
Run this ad for ☐ 2 weeks ☐ 4 weeks ☐ 6 weeks ☐ _____ weeks

This ad costs ☐ \$5 PERSONAL SPECIAL ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$_____ for 2 weeks \$_____
+ response drawer charge \$ 5.00
+ BOLD CAPS charge \$ 5.00
= Subtotal \$ _____
x number of two-week periods _____
TOTAL COST \$ _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

I _____ D _____
V _____ R _____
A _____ M _____

☐ Yes! I'd like to subscribe to Dare for ☐ 6 months (\$16) ☐ 1 year (\$32) \$ _____

Ads received by noon Tuesday will run the following Friday. Please enclose check or money order for total amount, payable to: Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422.

Please print one character per box. A character is any letter, numeral, space or punctuation mark. We reserve the right to edit for length.

\$10

\$20