

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 11

TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

MARCH 17-23, 1989



Martin Vanderhof (Fred Scollay, left), daughter Penny (Kathleen Butler) and perennial house guest Donald (Barry Scott) prepare to test one of the family's homemade fireworks in Tennessee Repertory Theatre's new production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Kaufman and Hart comedy You Can't Take it With You. The show runs through April 2. - PHOTO COURTESY TENNESSEE REPERTORY THEATRE

Michaud convicted

by JEFF ELLIS Managing Editor

George L. Michaud was found guilty by a Davidson County Criminal Court jury last week on two charges of soliciting sex from a 15-year-old boy used as bait by Nashville Metro Police in an undercover sex-for-pay sting operation.

Although no sentencing date was set, Michaud could face up to three years in prison for soliciting crimes against nature and three to six years in prison for promoting prostitution of a child under 16, both felonies under Tennessee statute

Michaud was one of 43 men arrested as a result of the sting - conducted in December, 1987 and January, 1988 - but is the first to stand trial. Some 31 men have already pleaded guilty to charges and have been given suspended sentences and terms of probation ranging from one to eight years.

"This is the first jury trial from the sting," said Assistant District Attorney Richard Fisher after the verdict was read. "I hope it sends a message

The terms of Wolf's probation - which are

similar to those included in a 20-year alterna-

tive sentence imposed by Criminal Court

Judge Ann Lacy Johns last August - include

requirements that the internist limit his medi-

cal practice to adults, attend meetings of Alco-

holics Anonymous at least once weekly and

refrain from using alcohol, marijuana and

In addition, the settlement requires Wolf to

pay for future psychiatric treatments for his

son, now 9, and daughter, now 7, as well as

\$1,200 a month in child support and some

"unauthorized controlled substances."

to street hustlers and the adults who prey on children that this will not be tolerated."

Charles Ray, co-counsel for Michaud, indicated an appeal would be filed.

Jurors deliberated for three hours before asking Criminal Court Judge Thomas Shriver to rehear a taped conversation between Michaud and Tony St. Clair.

St. Clair testified he began having sex for money when he was 14 years old in an effort to acquire funds to buy fashionable shoes like those worn by friends.

Carolyn St. Clair, the youth's mother, earlier testified she learned of her son's involvement in prostitution when she found \$80 he planned to use to purchase new shoes. Carolyn St. Clair said she then approached police in order to stop the trafficking in boy prostitution which she claimed flourished in east Nashville.

The boy was outfitted with a listening device and used as a decoy during the two month sting operation.

Jerome Edmondson allegedly picked up St. Clair and drove him to a meeting with Michaud. Originally, both Edmondson and Michaud were charged in the same indictment, but the cases were later separated. Still pending are two solicitation charges against Edmondson.

Edmondson testified last November that he, during a long-term relationship with Michaud, procured young boys for sexual liaisons with Michaud. He said that on Dec. 29, 1987, he drove downtown, where he met St. Clair.

St. Clair, who was wired with a body transmitter, discussed a possible meeting with "George" at a later time, according to the transcript.

St. Clair, who apparently was uncertain of his next move, asked an undercover police continued on page 4

Wolf pled no contest: unsealed court record

by JEFF ELLIS

Managing Editor Nashville physician John Stuart Wolf, Jr., was placed on six years of probation after pleading no contest to charges he sexually abused his son, unsealed court records showed Monday.

The records were ordered sealed Feb. 27 by presiding Judge William S. Russell at the request of Wolf and his attorneys. However, attorneys for The Tennessean, the Nashville Banner and two Nashville television stations had filed motions to have the records made public

Wolf, in response to media coverage of the unorthodox proceedings, then asked Russell to unseal the documents. In an affidavit released last week. Wolf said that he wanted the charges against him "resolved privately" because of "grossly unfair and distorted media coverage" of his trial last year. He called media criticism of the closed proceedings "unjustified.'

"I earnestly hope that this ultimate act of disclosure will satisfy once and for all the almost morbid curiosity of the media, and that hereafter they will leave me, my family and the court alone," Wolf said.

Lesbian singer Alix Dobkin to perform

by ROBIN CONOVER Contributing Writer

Alix Dobkin, a nationally-acclaimed lesbian feminist vocalist, will appear in concert with Nashville's popular new band Ruby Slipper on March 25, at 7:30 p.m. The concert, a benefit for the Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA), will be Dobkin's first Tennessee performance.

New York City's WomaNews has said Dobkin is "creative and courageous...[She] left us all with new strength and courage, our minds reeling once again with unanswered questions and the excitement of discovery ... and [sent] chills through the audience."

Dobkin's newest album These Women/ Never Been Better is her fifth and "most ambitious project to date," according to her record label, North Carolina's Ladyslipper.

Dobkin has been a political activist since the

sixties, when the FBI compiled a dossier on her, describing her as a "dissenter type...argumentative...a trouble maker." Dobkin's opinion of the FBI is indicated by the inclusion of the quotation in her press materials.

Praise for Dobkin's work comes from all over. Chicago's Gay Life called her work "A very warm and personal performance...subtle politics," while Washington, D.C.'s The Blade said "Alix Dobkin has been a thunderbolt in feminist circles since she entered them in the early seventies."

Tickets for the concert are \$7 at the door or \$6 advance at Metropolitan Community Church, 131 15th Ave. North, the Nashville CARES office, or by phoning (615) 333-2215 or (615) 297-4293.

The concert will be held at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, in Nashville.

continued on page 4 Special First Anniversary Issue

Dare: after the first year. What now? page 6.

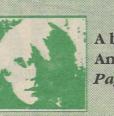


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A bunch of new books on Andy Warhol. Pages, page 9.

Playing the numbers, Soapbox, page10.







MARCH 17-23, 1989

Tennessee.Natural beauty.



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Tennessee is a land of great natural beauty. From the Great Smoky Mountains to the mighty Mississippi, we're lucky to have one of the most varied, scenic and unspoiled landscapes in America. But there is ugliness afoot here. The radical right has proposed a law that would specifically criminalize same-sex lovemaking -"homosexual acts."

We're Advance, the political action committee of the Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance. And we're preparing a massive lobbying effort to try and stop this repressive proposal. But our already-meager resources are stretched to the limit. In order to mount an effective campaign against the proposal, we need money. You can help. Your contribution will help us support fair-minded legislators, and to rally opposition to intrusive and bigoted legislation. There isn't much time. Please help.

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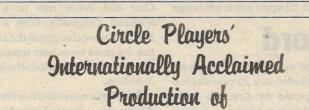
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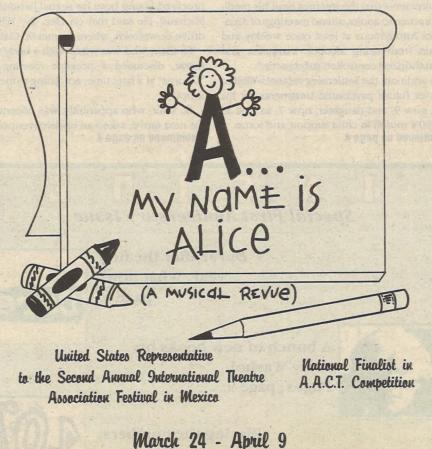


Signature_ Please send your non-tax-deductible contribution to Advance, P.O. Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202. Advance is a political action committee (PAC) registered with the state of Tennessee.

(Evening)

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Mondays

Dare

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.

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

Thursdays

PFLAG (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.

Sundavs

Agape New Lite Church Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship service, 11am. Into 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.

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

NASHVILLE

Mondays

IVIOII02/S Gay Overeaters Anonymous Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm, Info 615-727-4614. Nashville CARES HN+ Education/Support Group, 6:30pm, ARC/AIDS Support Group, bimonthly, 6:30pm, Info 615-385-1510. Lambda Group Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church, Bpm. MAGNET (Married and Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC, Bpm. Info 615-320-0288.

Tuesdavs

Al-Anon Glosed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm. P-FLAG Meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitarian Church. 7pm. Info 615-662-0332. MTSU Lambda Association Meeting for lesbian and gay Middle Tennessee State University students, lacuity, staff, and alumni, Murfreesboro. 7pm. Info 615 890-3787.

boro. 7pm. Info 615-

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 Newcomers' Group. 6pm. ARC/AIDS Support Group. – 6:30pm. Into 615-385-1510.

Thursdays

Cay Overeaters Anonymous Open meeting for lesbian and gay overeaters. MCC, 5:30pm. Into 615-327-4614. Nashville CARES Visualization Group, 7:15pm. Into 615-385-1510. Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and alumni. President's House, Preabody Campus, alternates weekly with Film Series (see Special Events). 7pm. Into 615-297-5352. Alternatives (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men MCC 8m. men, MCC, 8pn

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Meeting. 8pm. Info 615-385-4776 or 615-352-5823.

Fridavs

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm. Gay Parents Support Group Meeting, MCC. 1st Friday only. 7pm. Into 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. Gay Cable Network Viacom Channel 35 (Community Access Television), 8pm.

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

Special Events

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Friday, March 17

7

ST. PATRICK'S DAY Potluck Dinner Black and White Men Together, Memphis. 7pm. Info 901-452-5894.

Saturday, March 18

Fundraiser AIDSWalk Nashville, pledge walk fundraiser for local AIDS service organizations. Registration cards available at Rm CCC-5319 Medical Ctr North, Vanderbilt University, Nashville. Walk begins at Vanderbilt Track. 8:30am. Info 615-322-2437

Church & Community Forum Detecting from Poland to Love, Krzysztof Krakowiak will speak on his experience crossing the Iron Curtain. Metropolitan Community Church, 131 15th Ave N, Nashville. 8:30pm, follows Martgage Meal. Info 615-320-0288.

St. Patrick's Party Black and White Men Together, Memphis. Cash bar. 8:30pm. Info 901-327-3753.

Sunday, March 19

Palm Sunday Service Metropolitan Community Church, 131 15th Ave N, Nashville. 11am. Info 615-320-0288

Thursday, March 23

Seder Gay/lesbian interpretation of Seder, Jewish Passover meal and worship. Metropolitan Community Church, 131 15th Ave N, Nashville. Info 615-320-0288.

Friday, March 24 **GOOD FRIDAY**



Aid to End AIDS Auction 1989

Saturday, March 25

Auction Aid to End AIDS Auction 1989. All funds to benefit ATEAC's PWA fund. Airport Hilton Inn, Memphis. 7:30pm. Info 901-458-AIDS.

Concert Alix Dobkin, with Ruby Slipper. Sponsored by Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA). First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 7:30pm. \$6 advance, \$7 at the door. Info 615-333-2215.

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.

CIRCLE PLAYERS

P 0) 7

from **STAFF REPORTS**

AIDS benefit drops Guns 'n' Roses

NEW YORK CITY'S GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS (GMHC) has revoked its invitation to the heavy metal band Guns 'n' Roses to participate in "Rock in a Hard Place," and AIDS benefit concert.

GMHC, the world's first organization formed to deal with AIDS, withdrew the invitation because of anti-gay lyrics on some of the band's songs. Guns 'n' Roses was dropped "on the basis of the songs' misinformation about AIDS," according to GMHC's Carisa Cunningham.

The group's song One in a Million contains these lyrics:

Immigrants and faggots

They make no sense to me

- They come to our country and think they'll do as they please
- Like start so many a rebellion and spread some fuckin' disease.

Cunningham said that the lyrics of One in a Million "came to our attention" after the group was invited, adding that GMHC hoped that the group would be educated about AIDS and refrain from spreading misinformation about the disease. •

AZT can create resistant mutant virus

WIDESPREAD USE OF AZT has created new strains of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), according to a new study that will appear in the next issue of the journal Science. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) AIDS program, said that, although the new strains are resistant to AZT, there is still no reason to change the way the drug is used.

"So far, the resistance has not been proven to have clinical significance," Fauci said. There is not yet enough evidence to determine whether the mutations allow the virus to cause AIDS more easily, or whether the changes have decreased their ability to cause disease.

"People who are on AZT and are currently benefitting from AZT should not panic and consider this a major setback. Just because one can isolate a resistant strain from a patient doesn't mean AZT is not effective in combatting most of the viral replication in the patient," Fauci said. •

Arsonist attacks Dallas Gay Alliance

A SIX-ALARM FIRE DESTROYED THE OFFICES of the Dallas Gay Alliance (DGA), the AIDS Resource Center and a number of gay-oriented businesses, causing an estimated \$750,000 damage and interrupting services for several hours.

The February 23 fire, which the Dallas Fire Department's Arson Investigation Unit has determined to be arson, was evidently set to cover up the theft of files and records from DGA. DGA President William Waybourn said that computers, printers and some records were

tampered with or were missing. "I would say they were after files more than money or equipment," Waybourn said, adding that

records of DGA's lawsuit against Parkland General Hospital regarding its treatment of AIDS patients had been searched.

Temporary space a block away from the offices was set up by employees and volunteers within hours.

Poppers made illegal

SALE OR PRODUCTION OF ISOBUTYL NITRATE ("poppers") is now illegal in the United States. Former President Ronald Reagan signed the new regulation, which took effect quietly February 18 as part of the Consumer Product Safety Act.

Butyl nitrate, marketed as a room deodorizer, enjoyed widespread popularity among gay men as an intoxicating inhalant until a few years ago, when there was evidence linking the drug to immune system weakness and AIDS.

Western International, which makes Locker Room brand butyl nitrate, has filed suit against the government seeking to have the ban lifted. Meanwhile, manufacturers plan to release soon propyl nitrate, a similar substance not covered under the ban.

While there are no penalties for possession of the drug, fines for production or sale of butyl nitrate range up to \$2000 per bottle with a maximum of \$500,000.

New shows open in Memphis, Nashville

LES MISÈRABLES, THE AWARD WINNING MUSICAL, will open an eight performance engagement Tuesday, May 2, through Sunday, May 7, as the last show in this year's First American TPAC Broadway series at Nashville's Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC).

Tickets for all performances go on sale Monday, March 20 at 10 a.m., and range in price from \$16.50 to \$37.50. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, Les Misèrables is an epic saga that sweeps through three turbulent decades of French history, chronicling the fictional struggles of fugitive Jean Valjean and his nemesis Inspector Javert.

The show opened on Broadway in March, 1987, and claimed eight Tony Awards. Written by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg, the score features the haunting "I Dreamed a Dream" and "One Day More."

Memphis' Circuit Playhouse will present the American première of The Pied Piper, the hit London musical that translates Robert Browning's poem, Thursday, March 30 at 7 p.m. The show will run Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons through April 30.

The American première of The Pied Piper comes to Memphis after a year of negotiation and preparation, led by Circuit Board of Directors President William B. Clark Jr. •

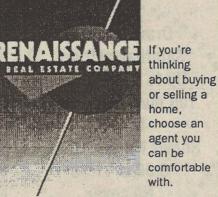


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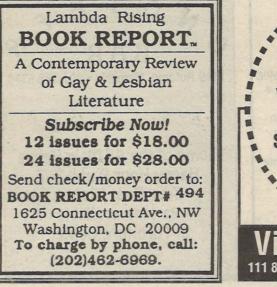
MARCH 17-23, 1989

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Judy Grahn speaks at M7 by SHERRE DRYDEN Book Editor

Lesbian poet Judy Grahn read from her work to an audience of nearly 130 Tuesday night at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

Grahn, who was at MTSU as part of the university-wide celebration of Women's History Month, read selections from her poetry, fiction and prose for about an hour, then took questions and requests from the audience. Included in her reading were sections of her new novel, *Mundane's World*, poems from the

Common Womansequence and The Queen of Wands and a portion of Another Mother Tongue.

In addition to reading, Grahn talked about her latest project, a play in performance in San Francisco, and her involvement in the lesbian feminist movement. Grahn was one of a group of activists who established a women's bookstore and one of the first lesbian feminist presses in the United States.

At the request of an audience member, Grahn ended the reading with "The Marilyn Monroe Poem." •

Southeastern Conference on the way

from STAFF REPORTS

Time is running out for those who have yet to make their reservations for the fourteenth annual Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men, planned this year for Dallas.

The Conference, a non-profit educational organization, will celebrate this year's theme of Southeast Meets Southwest the weekend of April 13 through 16 at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers in downtown Dallas.

The Southeastern Conference was begin in 1976 by a group in Chapel Hill, N.C. The conference now includes members from throughout a 14 state area, including the states of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland, Texas and the District of Columbia.

Keynoting the conference will be addresses from Renee McCoy, executive director of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays; Virginia Apuzzo, vice chair of the New York State AIDS Advisory Council; David Scondras, openly gay city counsellor from Boston; Stephen Beck, former executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS and currently the associate director of the Design

...Michaud convicted

continued from page 1

officer what he should do. According to the transcript, the officer told the boy to "get him to come down here."

That, according to defense attorney Ray, amounted to entrapment of his client.

Ray told Shriver that police instructed Tony St. Clair to "go out and snare this citizen." He argued that this resulted in a violation of the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees due process of the law.

According to a transcript of the tape, Michaud asked the boy to perform oral sex on

...Wolf result released, no contest plea • continued from page 1 20-year "altern

\$13,000 in court costs.

Russell will determine any future visitation between Wolf and his children, now living with their mother in Helena, Ark.

Wolf has maintained since his arrest last year that the charges were the result of his ex-wife's efforts to gain revenge for what she considered a less-than-fair divorce settlement.

Libby Wolf charged that her ex-husband had raped and fondled his then-6-year-old son and 4-year-old daughter. She further accused Wolf of being involved in a homosexual relationship with a medical assistant.

Last August, a jury found Wolf guilty of one count of sexual battery and he was sentenced by Johns to 25 years imprisonment. Johns suspended that sentence and placed Wolf on a Industries Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA).

More than 500 lesbians and gay men are expected to attend the weekend long conference, according to Nashvillian Sam Adams, a member of the group's Board of Directors. The annual conference will be filled with more than 65 workshop sessions and panel presentations as well as social and cultural events.

Among speakers at the conference will be Jeff Levi, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF); Vic Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF); Sue Hyde, director of The Privacy Project; and Sabrina Sojourner of the African-American Lesbian and Gay Alliance in Atlanta.

Opening the conference will be a reception on Thursday night, April 13, highlighted by an address by HRCF's Vivian Shapiro. Turtle Creek Chorale and the Oak Lawn Symphonic Band will perform Friday night, followed by a guided bus tour of Dallas nightlife. Saturday evening entertainment will be provided by Kitty Barber and Romanovsky and Phillips. Other events are also scheduled.

Further information is available by calling (214) 471-6040.

him for a payment of \$15. Michaud also questioned St. Clair about the size of his genitals, which prosecutors said was soliciting a crime against nature. Michaud also told the boy that his roommate, Opryland Hotel harpist Lloyd Lindroth, would pay \$20 for oral sex, according to the tape transcript. Michaud works as Lindroth's business manager.

Since details of the sting operation became public in early 1988, Tony St. Clair has had extensive sex therapy and drug treatment at Vanderbilt Medical Center's Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Treatment center. •

20-year "alternative sentence," authorized under the Community Corrections Act.

That verdict was thrown out, however, when it was learned that Johns' bailiff had an "intimate relationship" with a female juror during the course of the trial.

Russell, a retired Criminal Court judge and Johns' father, was appointed by the state supreme court to hear any retrial of the case.

In the order releasing the court documents Monday, Russell said that Wolf pleaded *nolo contendere*, or no contest, to the reduced charges of sexual battery on Feb. 27.

"No judgment of conviction would be entered at the time of the entry of the plea, but instead a strict and demanding program of probation, restitution and rehabilitation would be put in place," Russell said.

BEHIND THE PINK TRIANGLE: Nazis persecuted homosexuals

by **JEFF ELLIS** Managing Editor

WHEN THE NAZIS WERE SWEPT INTO power in Germany in 1929—largely as a result of the stock market crash and the ensuing depression throughout the world—their plan for world domination was set into action, a plan that called for the extermination of all those peoples not considered suitable for the master race Adolf Hitler hoped to create.

Jews, gypsies, Jehovah's Witnesses, Russians, communists and homosexuals were all marked for eradication during this "final solution," as it was called by the architects of Hitler's reign of terror.

It is in that historical milieu that Martin Sherman's critically-acclaimed play, *Bent*, is presented. Nashville's Actors' Playhouse last night opened its new production of the drama, under the direction of Dennis Ewing, with Jim Conrad, Rick Harrell and G. Scott Osten in the leading roles. (The Nashville production is not the mid-south debut of the play, however; Memphis' Circuit Playhouse offered the drama as part of its 1981-82 season.)

The original Broadway production, starring Richard Gere and David Dukes, won a Tony Award nomination for the best play of 1980.

THE ACTION OF BENTBEGINS THE JUNE, 1934, morning after "The Night of the Long Knives" — carried out after an order issued by Hitler to purge the German Army of homosexuals. More than 200 Storm Trooper leaders were rounded up in Berlin, along with their leader Ernst Rohm (a notorious homosexual who was a close friend of Hitler), and executed.

Rohm's death ended a sort of protected limbo for German homosexuals who, until that time, had lived rather openly despite both Hitler's intense distaste for homosexuality and the existing laws.

The Night of the Long Knives, and the reign of terror which followed, were the culmination of Nazi Party hatred of minorities in general and

homosexuals in particular. As early as 1928, the Party had issued its official views on homosexuality:

"IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT YOU AND I live, but it is necessary that the German people live. And it can live if it can fight, for life means fighting. And it can only fight if it maintains its masculinity. It can only maintain its masculinity if it exercises discipline, especially in the matters of love. Free love and deviance are undisciplined. Therefore we reject you, as we reject anything which hurts our people. Anyone who even thinks of homosexual love is our enemy."

Yet during that same year, a committee of the Reichstag (Germany's parliament), by a 15to-13 vote approved the Penal Reform Bill which abolished all homosexual crimes.

As early as 1871, when Kaiser Wilhelm established the Second Reich, "lewd and unnatural behaviour" was outlawed, carrying prison sentences ranging from one day to five years. And in 1910, the government proposed a ban on lesbian acts, but the bill failed to pass.

In 1919, homosexual rights activist Magnus

Hirschfeld opened his Institute for Sexual Science in Berlin. Later, in 1921, Berlin's first homosexual theatre, the Eros, was opened and in 1923, Hirschfeld premiered his first prohomosexual film Anders als die Anderen (Different from the Others) in Vienna:

Dare

But once the Nazis were in power, the days were numbered for the country's homosexual population. In July, 1934, only a month after Rohm's execution, activist Kurt Hiller was sent to Oranienberg concentration camp.

Later that same month, a law was passed condoning the sterilization of all homosexuals, schizophrenics, epileptics, drug addicts, hysterics and those born blind or malformed. By 1935, some 50,000 people had been sterilized under the law.

ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE Night of the Long Knives, ten possible homosexual acts became punishable under revisions of the Bavarian Code, including a kiss, an embrace or even homosexual fantasies.

In 1936, Heinrich Himmler issued the party's definitive stand on homosexuals: "In our judgment of homosexuality — a symptom of degeneracy which could destroy our race — we must return to the guiding Nordic principles 'extermination of degenerates."

As a result, "protective custody" — interment in concentration camps — began for civilian offenders, including homosexuals. The first concentration camp, at Dachau, was set up in 1933, and it, like the others, served as a detention center until 1940 when they became extermination camps.

Most homosexuals sent to concentration

camps were men. Very few women were ever arrested for being lesbians, although historians have discovered a few such cases. But the people who wore the pink triangle - the badge which indicated the prisoner's ranking in the camp's pecking order were probably the most reviled members of the camp population, considered lower than the communists the

Jews, the gypsies and even the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Conservative estimates indicate that nearly half a million homosexuals died in concentration camps, although the exact number will never be known. When the camps were liberated by the Allies in 1945, the laws of the Bavarian Code governing homosexual behavior were continued as functioning law.

Those who had worn the pink triangle and who survived the war, could not reveal the cause for their incarceration without risking being imprisoned once again for their sexual orientation.

IN 1969, THE LAW WAS ABOLISHED, BUT the courts ruled that imprisoned homosexuals were still to be considered criminal, not political, inmates and not entitled to restitution.

The Actors' Playhouse production of *Bent* runs through April 8, with Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances at 8 p.m. Further information and reservations are available by calling the Playhouse at (615) 327-0049. Actors' Playhouse is located at 2318 West End Avenue in Nashville. 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 this ad is a public service of Dare

Help us help. Aid to End AIDS Committee (ATEAC) Box 40389, Memphis, TN 38174-3089 M-F 3:30 pm – 11 pm Sat, Sun 7:30 – 11 pm

Aid to End AIDS.

M-F 3:30 pm -11 pm Sal, Sun 7:30 - 11 pm call (901) 458-AIDS Answering service 24 hours call (901) 762-8401 this ad is a public service of *Dam*

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 sanc-

tuary, 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.

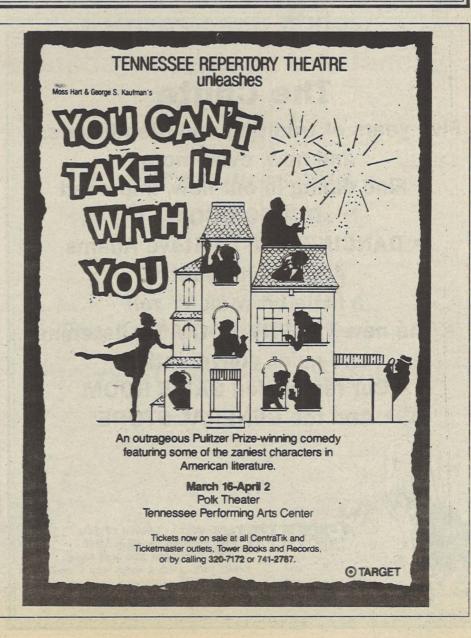
*Sanctuary. By William Faulkner, Random House.

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The Chute

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Fine dining in our new, improved DINING ROOM
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The new TROPHY ROOM for listening and quiet conversation
Our remodeled GAME ROOM
And the GENERAL STORE

> WEDNESDAY 50¢ Draft Night EVERY DAY 2-for-1 Happy Hour 5 pm-8 pm

SUNDAY DINNER SPECIAL

2535 Franklin Rd, Nashville (615) 297-4571

from **STAFF REPORTS**

Dare

WHEN DARE FIRST APPEARED IN MARCH, 1988, it marked the culmination of months of preparation and planning.

And when the first issue appeared late that Wednesday afternoon, members of the midsouth's lesbian and gay community were treated to their first professional weekly dose of news, information, opinion and features.

Now, as *Dare* celebrates its first anniversary of publication, members of the editorial, reporting and advertising staffs celebrate their one year together of producing a weekly newspaper.

Dare was born, according to editor and publisher Stuart Bivin, out of a desire to "create an artificial meeting space for the community, a space in which the exchange of news and ideas would be possible" — a sort of community center on newsprint.

Several months prior to the publication of the paper's first issue, Bivin, along with Carole Cunningham and Jeff Ellis sat down around a kitchen table to discuss the possibilities of establishing a weekly newspaper.

"We felt that the growth of activism here, coupled with statewide efforts, and the growing spirit nationally following the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, pointed to a need for a lesbian and gay newsweekly published here by Tennesseans and for Tennesseans," Bivin said.

Not only were editorial direction and story ideas discussed during those kitchen table meetings, but a name had to be selected. "Dare" was selected because of the famous Oscar Wilde line about, "The love that dare not speak its name."

"Well," according to an editorial in the première issue, "we *Dare*!"

And, with that, *Dare* was off and running. "I didn't think we would get this far," Cunningham said. "I thought we might go for a few

months, then it would just fizzle out." But far from fizzling out, *Darec*aught on, not only with staff members, but with readers and advertisers as well.

"Probably the first real indication we had that the paper was being well received was when we went to the Karen Thompson lecture at Vanderbilt," Ellis remembered. "Stuart and I walked into the auditorium and Robyn Kevlin greeted us and said everyone inside was reading *Dare*. Sure enough, when we walked in it looked like everyone had a paper in their hands. It was extremely gratifying."

Book editor Sherre Dryden was among the first staffers to come on board, contributing a story to the first issue.

"I became involved with *Dare* primarily because it seemed like it would be a lot of fun and I would be able to read, and write about, a wide variety of books and authors," Dryden said.

After the success of the first issue, the Dare staff was confronted with perhaps its largest stumbling block to date — the refusal by Nashville's Mid-South Publishing Company to print the paper again.

"They had agreed to print the paper on a weekly basis, but seemed to have a problem when we arrived with the boards for the second issue. They told us they couldn't print that issue or any future issues," Bivin said.

WITH THAT DECISION BY OFFICIALS AT the printing company, the challenge was to find a printer who could produce the paper by the Wednesday afternoon deadline promised to advertisers.

"We couldn't let down our advertisers. They had gone out on a limb for us and we couldn't

THE FIRS

How we got bere, and u



"We'll have to cover new statewide. When we can do accomplished our goal of prov a link, for lesbian and gay T when the real work u

fail to hold up our end of the bargain," Bivin said.

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW PRINTER LED to Wilson County, home of the *Lebanon Democrat* and its publisher Yvonne Wallace. Dorothy Harrison, director of public relations at Middle Tennessee State University and Ellis' former employer, longtime friend and journalistic mentor, suggested Wallace and the *Democrat* as a possible remedy for the problem.

"For 48 hours I was going crazy just trying to find someone to print the paper. I went on a wild goose chase, from one place to another, when Dot suggested I call Yvonne Wallace at the *Democrat*. She agreed to print the paper and, since then, everyone there has been extremely helpful and supportive, in spite of the fact that they lost some subscribers and had to deal with a number of irate callers because they had printed a newspaper for homosexuals," Bivin said.

After the printing problem was solved, the next major issue facing the *Dare* staff centered on the publication of names and the possible repercussions of such publication.

"It was a very touchy issue. I had always been taught that 'names mean news.' It opened a whole new can of worms that we were forced to deal with," Ellis said.

IN THE END, DARE WEATHERED THE storm. But names remain an important part of the paper's coverage and focus.

"From a purely journalistic standpoint, if someone places themselves in the middle of a news story or a public event, they make themselves participants and likely to be included in coverage," Ellis explained. "But we don't just print someone's name because we know they are lesbian or gay. They must first do something newsworthy. And we know what repercussions could ensue if the wrong people discovered the right people are lesbian or gay."

Advertising sales manager Ann Taylor joined the paper's staff last summer, following her involvement with Pride Week '88 festivities. Since then, ad revenues have risen draS.T. YEAR where we're going



r news effectively do that, we will have providing a safe space, ay Tennesseans. That's ork will begin."

matically, as evidenced by the increase in the number of advertisers in each issue.

"The biggest challenge to me in the past months — besides finding a parking space has been to show demonstrable return to advertiser," Taylor said. "It's clear that gay men and lesbians show patronage to our advertisers, but only a handful indicate they've seen the ad in *Dare*. My hope would be that a larger number of our readers would express that they have seen an ad in *Dare*."

Taylor joined the staff, she said, in order to earn a living while working on her masters thesis in clinical counseling and psychology at MTSU.

Staff writer Deborah Burks joined the staff in order to help balance the paper's focus.

"I SUPPOSE THAT ORIGINALLY I DIDN'T think the interests of lesbians were being adequately covered," Burks said. "I thought I could help the balance of gay and lesbian issues covered by the paper. And I always had the fantasy of writing for a newspaper.

"But really it just happened. I never really said, 'Today, I start writing for *Dare*."

That gradual shift happened with others, too. "At first I was reluctant to work on the paper. I thought my best contribution would be in an advisory capacity," Ellis said.

His background includes various editorial stints during his undergraduate career as a journalism major at MTSU and some four years writing for a news bureau.

"But when we got started and I wrote a review of *Maurice*, I discovered I had been bitten by the bug again. And there's been no turning back," he said.

"I think," said Cunningham. "That the biggest contribution *Dare* makes to the gay and lesbian community is something none of us really see until we are at a coffeehouse or a fundraiser and we talk to someone who says that the event is the first 'gay' thing they've ever attended. And they are there because they read about it in *Dare*.

"What we sometimes forget is that Dare is sometimes the first connection to the gay and lesbian community that a lot of people have. The paper can be a catalyst for those people's lives."

Dare

Taylor agreed: "I'd like to see the paper continue to grow as a vehicle for the gay and lesbian community to communicate and learn about itself."

"IT'S EXTREMELY GRATIFYING TO BE somewhere and hear someone remark that they've read something you've written and they enjoyed it. It makes having to meet dead-lines much more bearable," Dryden said.

Burks echoed that point, saying that her new journalistic fantasy is "writing something so wonderful and powerful that it would change the lives of those who read it. But isn't that what we want to do with each story?"

What will the coming years bring to Dare? "I'd like to see us increase our opinion writing, including more editorials and analysis

pieces. On a more personal level, I'd like to do some light-hearted, entertaining features. Sometimes I'm afraid people might perceive us as being stodgy or staid because we tend to do very serious features," Ellis said.

Burks said that she, too, hoped to write more "entertaining" features, possibly more personality profiles.

"I like writing about people more than writing news stories," she said. "I hope everything I do has an impact, but I'd like to do some big investigative piece exposing corruption or prejudice."

Dryden, who with staff writer Joe Marohl writes the bulk of literary criticism for the newspaper, marveled at the technological advances in production brought about by computers.

"It's amazing what computers can do these days," she said. "But in the coming months, I hope we'll be able to do more author interviews, along with book reviews. Instead of just one review in each issue, perhaps we'll be able to include reviews of three or four works. And I would like to get more people involved in doing book criticism, even for just one-shot efforts."

Cunningham said increasing the number of writers on the newspaper's staff would be her hope for the coming years.

"I would like to see an increase in the size of the staff and in the size of each issue, more pages," she said. "And I'd like to see a clearer sense of the personality of the paper. Week to week it seems to be the compilation of people's work. I'd like to see stronger editorial positions and to see the dust fly a little more than it has in the past few months."

WITH THE PAPER'S INTRODUCTION into the Memphis market late last fall, the dream of a statewide lesbian and gay newspaper could well come true.

"I'd like to see us distributed throughout the state with strong advertising and editorial support from east to west," Taylor said.

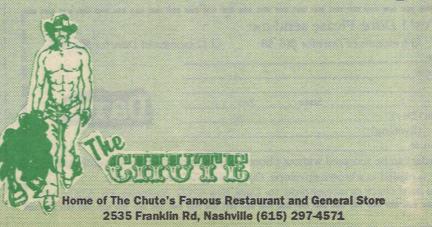
"The bottom line is that we will have a truly statewide newspaper, a statewide forum for lesbians and gay men in Tennessee. That's been the goal all along, and it looks like we'll be there soon," Bivin said.

"Dare is already one of the best, most professionally-run publications in the national lesbian and gay community, especially given our limited population and resources," he said. "The challenge for us all now will be to serve the whole state, not just accept ads and deliver newspapers. We'll have to cover news effectively statewide. When we can do that, we will have accomplished our goal of providing a safe space, a link for lesbian and gay Tennesseans. That's when the real work will begin." Grand Opening!

The Chute proudly announces OUR 5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION and GRAND OPENING of "The Trophy Room"

March 24, 25, and 26 • Prizes each night • Sunday afternoon tea dance 3:00 p.m. No cover Hors d'oeuvres and an anniversary toast

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MARCH 17-23, 1989



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It's our birthday. But you get the gift. Half off our regular subscription rate. Get a *Dare* subscription and celebrate! Reliable news, informed opinion, literate reviews and fascinating features. Everything you need to know about lesbians and gay men in the mid-South, in one birthday package.

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Image: Image:

66

"Why should homosexuals be discriminated against in society today?

Dare

"Why are they considered stupid or gross? Don't they have feelings and hearts just as heterosexuals do? They do. Homosexuals are just as important as anyone and their sexual preference should make no difference."

-Hannah Crowell, a Nashville student, in a letter to the Nashville *Tennessean*.

"If all the gays moved out of Atlanta, it would close half the city. And if the gays moved out of Birmingham, the one hairdresser left would be booked solid."

-- "Tim" in Southern Magazine's February story about being gay in the South.

"Barnyard animals in Sweden have more rights than gays in America. Society has to have some core values by which it identifies itself, and it has decided that its standard form and standard bearer will be heterosexuality. So, I guess, for gays, it's 1857, and the Civil War isn't coming... [The correct strategy for now is] not to assimi-

late, not to compromise, but to be assertive, and in that very assertiveness to manifest dignity."

—University of Illinois philosophy professor Richard D. Mohr, author of *Gays/Justice*.

"We're like any other married couple. Gays have the same likes and dislikes as straights. In Birmingham, you're accepted in society if you're not a flaming queen. Here, as long as you have good taste, don't show up in drag in public, or have

a strip show at your party that might offend your straight guests, your sexual preference is your own business."

-- "Tim" in *Southern Magazine's* February story "The Apollo Ball, R.S.V.P." discussing social assimilation of gay men in Birmingham straight society.

"The first thing my wife and I had in common was that we both loved Bert Jones. I liked his arm, she liked his butt."

-Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Boomer Esiason on his idol, former Baltimore Colts quarterback Bert Jones.

"For once, we agree with the British tabloids. What exactly is it that Mr. Blackwell does for a living, besides wear makeup, have plastic surgery and release lists of worst-dressed people?"

-Chicago Tribune columnists O'Malley and Gratteau.

"Bush blue; three strands of pearl; grey hair on both men and women; charm bracelets; the hood scarf, wearing cheap clothes with expensive ones; fur hats; lace blouses; rustic Russian decor, as seen at Yves St. Laurent's Deauville dacha; suspenders and white oxford shirts on women; cowboy boots; Harley Davidsons; batiks and dye prints; and the 1940s and 1970s."

--What's "in" for 1989, according to W magazine.

"Reagan red; borrowing clothes from designers; the Le Cirque look — the fresh face-lift, the suit and the matchstick legs; black-tie; anything to do with the Duchess of Windsor; socialites on the mastheads of magazines; bright stockings in crayon colors; ponytails and earrings for men; period rooms; ripped jeans; purple; and suffocatingly tight dresses."

-What's "out" for 1989, according to W magazine.

"Arguably his sins of omission are every bit as damning as his accomplishments are impressive. He was agonizingly slow, for instance, to recognize the gravity of the AIDS menace."

—Miami Herald editorial evaluating Ronald Reagan's eight years in office.

"A hex on you, *Bay Windows*...It is time...to raise only females. Men are killing us physically, emotionally, economically and politically. Our separatism and desire to raise only females is a 'relic' of a time when Goddesses and women ruled the world, and did so without war and gra-

> tuitous male violence. Amazonian senaratism is a sacred relic to be cherished and revived in order to save females from the destruction at the hands of men: biological mutants, carriers of the damaged 'Y' chromosome. Have you ever stopped to consider why men with double Y chromosomes are habitually and criminally violent? It is because they carry a double dose of maleness. itself a deficiency that must be weeded out or at

least controlled... You are a part of the male problem, 'traditionally aggressive,' biologically inferior, and ripe to be deposed... SCUM wholeheartedly supports Tobe Taylor's decision to abort a male fetus. SCUM blesses Tobe Taylor."

-Letter to the editor of Boston's *Bay Windows* from a group calling itself SCUM (Society for Cutting Up Men). SCUM members were affronted by a recent editorial questioning a lesbian's choice to abort a fetus because she learned it was male.

"And then there's Jessica Hahn. That actress. I guess you could call her an actress if she actually made out with Sam Kinison."

-Comic Sandra Bernhard on the Feb. 3 episode of Late Night With David Letterman.

"There's no choice. You have to be in love with women. But I was pissed, I said I'm gonna use women like Shake 'n' Bake bags."

-Sam Kinison on the role of women, from his album, Have You Seen Me Lately?

"I met this little lesbian, about this tall. I was out in California where you can meet women like that. She was, like, the first really gentle pretty one I'd ever met. Most lesbians are, like, 'Hi there. My name's Alice. I own my own security business.' Fucking big bitches, man, have an ass bigger than yours."

—Sam Kinison on lesbians, from his album, Have You Seen Me Lately?

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실 (H 문 Andy Warbol

by SHERRE DRYDEN Book Editor

ANDY WARHOL'S NAME IS LIKELY TO Bills. produce, in most people, recollections of the man himself. The wispy silver wig. The naïve, almost childlike personality. The enigmatic, of man reticent Andy of the sixties and seventies.

2

But Warhol is also the personification of the Pop Art movement: one of the most influential artists of the twentieth century. Everyone has been affected by the impact Warhol had, on art, on commercial art, on movies, on society.

Both of these images of Andy Warhol will be enhanced this spring. At least five new books published to coincide with the first comprehensive retrospective exhibition of Warhol's work since his death in 1987, at the Museum of

Modern Art in New York. Andy Warhol: A Retrospective will be in New York until May 2, then at the Art Institute of Chicago June 3 – August 13, before beginning a European tour.

The Andy Warhol Diaries. Edited by Pat Hackett. NY: Warner Books. \$29.95. May. Excerpts from a diary Warhol started in 1976.

Andy Warbol: A Retrospective. Edited and with an introduction by Kynaston McShine. Bos-

ton: Little, Brown. \$60.00. March. Essays by Robert Rosenblum. Benjamin H.D. Buchloh and Marco Livingstone. This summation of the artist's career was written to accompany the exhibition.

Andy Warbol: The Factory Years. Nat Finkelstein. NY: St. Martin's. \$19.95. April. More than 160 photographs documenting the heyday of American Pop

culture. Popism: The Warhol Sixties. Andy Warhol with Pat Hackett. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. \$12.95. April. The world of Warhol and the scene that surrounded his studio, The Factory.

Warbol: A Personal

Photographic Memoir. Christopher Makos. NY: NAL Books.\$22.95. March. Makos, a photojournalist friend of Warhol, presents his candid photographs.

Finally, Abrams will offer a Warhol calendar (\$9.95) for 1990.

AFTER GRADUATING WITH A Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1949, Andy went to work as a commercial artist until 1957, including a stint as an illustrator at *Glamour* magazine in 1949-1950. But by the time he won the Art Directors Club of New York Medal (for shoe advertisements) in 1957, Andy was moving away from his commercial career.

The work that first received attention from the art world was sculpture — the *Campbell's Soup* cans shown at the Ferus Gallery in 1962, *Brillo Boxes, Coca-Cola Bottles* and *Dollar* Andy concentrated on the repetitive images and throwaway products with which so much of modern life is occupied by reproducing the items themselves: Endless rows of Coke bottles, for example, arranged as they might be on supermarket or in a TV commercial.

One throwaway, commercial product lead to another, and Andy turned to an examination of contemporary American icons, from Elvis Presley to Jackie Kennedy. With the assistance of the groupies at his studio, the Factory, Andy turned out the memorable screenprinted portraits of public personalities like Elvis and Jackie, Elizabeth Taylor and Marilyn Monroe.

His artistic process became more mechanical, further eliminating the personal signature of the artist.

Dare

-

-

IT ALSO BECAME chic. Rich collectors paid many times more for Warhol portraits of their wives than they would for conventional ones, even though the portrait was no more than a blown-up photograph screenprinted by a Factory member. Andy became a celebrity.

tors, failed poets, anyone beyond the limits of normal society. Andy condemned nothing and seemed to find any odd manifestation of human behavior fascinating. He had a camera and a tape recorder which he carried around at

> parties, snapping and taping the guests. Art critic Mark Stevens called him the "shiny surface that reflects the goingson around him."

> In the late sixties he began making movies, filming friends and Factory members like Viva, Ultra Violet, Joe D'Allesandro and Holly Woodlawn. He continued the emphasis on machine production

characteristic of his earlier work, deliberately keeping the movies rough and amateur, leaving in all the mistakes, stopping when the film ran out.

The seventies and eighties were years of validation and mainstream acceptance. In 1971 there were retrospectives at both the Tate and the Whitney galleries., In 1976 there were retrospectives in six European cities. In 1981, Nancy Reagan was on the cover of Warhol's magazine *Interview* and in 1984 Andy's portrait of Michael Jackson was on the cover of *Time*. Everyone, even people who weren't anyone, bought Absolut vodka.

According to Kynaston McShine, senior curator at the Museum of Modern Art and director of *Andy Warhol: A Retrospective*, "The real Andy Warhol...was the great romantic chronicler of our times." The Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance presents

Alix Dobkin in concert with Ruby Slipper Saturday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville Tickets \$6 advance, \$7 at the door

For more information, phone Terry Kevlin (615) 333-2215 or Devie Levin (615) 297-4293

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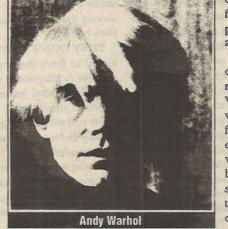
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Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly From the Heart of the American South

> March 17-23, 1989 Volume 2, Number 11

Publisher & Editor Stuart Bivin

Managing Editor Jeff Ellis Book Editor Sherre Dryden Staff Writers Deborah Burks Carole Cunningham Joe Marohl Jaan Sturgis Contributing Writers Jason Anderson **Robin Conover Jay DeRossitt**

color.

causes me concern in this age of AIDS. I firmly

believe that statistics have their place in AIDS

education today. These numbers can certainly

illustrate the magnitude of this illness. With a

few moments and a calculator it is even pos-

sible to determine such handy facts as number

of cases diagnosed per day or per hour as well

as deaths per such time frame. But I find myself

asking, what do these numbers really mean?

Centers for Disease Control office in Atlanta

can give any numbers you could ever want.

Number of cases to date, number of deaths to

date, number of cases by mode of transmis-

sion, by ethnic category, by date of diagnosis, by state, by opportunistic infection first re-

BUT AGAIN, WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS

really mean? We have watched as these num-

bers increase exponentially, we have watched

as cases have increased disproportionately in

people of color, IV drug users and hemophili-

acs and, even more painfully, we have

ported and so on and so on and so on.

A call to the Nashville CARES office or the

Advertising Sales Manager Ann Taylor (615) 327-DARE

The Dare logo was designed by Rusel Brown.

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



Dare is published weekly by Pyramid Light & Powe Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422 (615) 327-DARE

Subscription rate: \$32 per year, \$16 for six months. Please phone for advertising rates and information.

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

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We welcome your letters. Submisssions over 500 words will be considered for publication in the Soapbox space. Letters must be signed and include the writer's address and phone for verification. Names will be withheld on request. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. No defamatory material

will be published. All 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 advertisers

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



 \mathbb{P} \mathbb{R} \mathbb{Q} Playing the numbers

Dare

by G. SCOTT OSTEN

Education Coordinator, Nashville CARES

IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH watched as more and more people plan more a friend last week, our discussion turned in the and more memorial services. We have direction of AIDS statistics. In the eighth year of watched as reporters attempt to write more this epidemic, we know that such statistics and more articles citing these numbers. Then come in all sizes, shapes and colors. As with we have watched more and more articles cite most other factual information, these statistics more and more different numbers until nobody can really tell what the correct numbers have the uncanny ability to mix and match themselves in order to demonstrate every are. We have watched numbers used to predict imaginable aforementioned size, shape and the course of this disease. We have watched these numbers rise, and recently we have It is precisely this manipulation of data that watched them fall.

> But tell me, what do these numbers really mean? Do these numbers show you faces and lives and wants and needs and pain? Do these numbers show you the lost jobs and the empty apartments? Do these numbers show you the families torn apart or the families reunited at a young person's deathbed? These numbers don't show the social security check barely large enough to pay rent and utilities, much less to buy food, or gas, or a special treat on a special occasion. These numbers don't show you the injections and the treatments, or the diaper and the catheters. These numbers don't show you the public housing apartments or the food stamps. They don't show the Kaposi's sarcoma lesions or the pain of a headache caused by cryptococcal meningitis.

> Numbers have their place, but they don't always show reality. They give us the vehicle to put distance between ourselves and the needs of the PLWAs in our midst every day.

However, there are several things that these numbers should show you. These astounding numbers should show you the need to act. you should see that the time is now to stand up and help those that need you. Your involvement is the only way that AIDS service agencies can continue to offer our services to our community. This can mean volunteering your time to help in the office or to be be a buddy to make life better for the PLWAs in our area. This may mean attending a benefit to give your \$5.00 that would normally be spent your dinner or a cocktail, so that we can make life a little brighter for someone who may have so little left. This may mean using your talents to help plan that benefit in order to continued that funding that we all are in such desperate need of. It may mean something as simple as writing a check to an AIDS service organization.

You see, these numbers don't show the absence of state money or the absence of city money that hampers our movement to make lives better.

THEY DON'T SHOW YOU LEGISLATION aimed to force those persons who are HIVpositive or diagnosed with ARC further away from those vital benefits anyone with HIV infection should have access to. They don't show you the federal government continuing to drag its feet in the areas where lives could still be saved

So you see, while these numbers say so little in some ways, in others they scream loud and clear. They say this is the time, this is the place, you must get involved. Without action, they are just numbers. •

Celebrating the birthday, sort of

by CAROLE CUNNINGHAM Staff Writer

LIKE MOST ANNIVERSARIES, THE anniversary we celebrate this week is somewhat arbitrarily chosen. While Dare was indeed published for the first time one year ago, the spirit of Dare was born at least two years ago-and born fittingly in the midst of a controversy surrounding the editorial decisions of another publication, Vanderbilt's student magazine Versus.

Stuart Bivin, then a law student biding his time until graduation, appeared before the Vanderbilt Student Communications (VSC) Board to take issue with a Versus piece that referred to the "muggers and faggots" who could be counted on to roam Centennial Park every evening after dusk, chilling the heart of the (very) young narrator. As he spoke to the VSC board (using his name and not a pseudonym), Stuart did not represent Vanderbilt Lambda or T-GALA. Lambda would not be established for another semester and T-GALA was hardly a shine in anyone's eye at that time.

What Stuart did represent was a principle: the principle that if you're attacked-in print, or anywhere else-you are duty-bound to speak out for yourself and for anyone else who might similarly become the subject of harassment, bigotry, or plain old stupidity.

The sensation Stuart created on campusnot only by using his name for the benefit of reporters at the meeting, but by giving them a signed, written copy of his statement-resulted in several letters to the editor of the student paper and dozens of obscene phone calls to Stuart's home. But my friend was as convinced then as now that the price paid from a little publicity was well worth being able to stand firmly by what he believed in and to say so with no apologies made.

Like the editor of the student magazine he took issue with, Stuart as editor of Dare has been under fire from time to time for his own editorial policies-fire from readers and fire from writers like me. Dare's quality and endurance will be measured, I think, by its ability to assimilate good criticism and to analyze and respond to criticism it deems unreasonable.

THE STUART BIVIN WHO STOOD BE-FORE the VSC board two years ago realized the incredible power a misused phrase, a brazen stereotype could have over the mind of Versus readership. He claimed the use of the language was harmful not only because it was derogatory but because it did not do justice to the gay community.

Yet if the that same Versus editor were to have read Dare during the last few months, he might rightly conclude that gay people are people who rape adults and molest small children, some of whom are their wards, some their own sons. When I wrote a letter to the editor weeks ago protesting the inclusion of such stories in a lesbian and gay newspaper, I received more support for my position on this

issue than for anything I've written in Daresupport in the form of comments to me at coffeehouses and dances. But no one, to my knowledge, has written to Dare expressing that support.

The skirmishes with the readership Dare enjoyed during its first months in production showed how important the paper was going to be to this community, and how much it would challenge and push us all to consider where we were, where we were going, where we had been. And those battles, however ill-fought they were, made me proud to be part of something so alive that it would be so threatening.

I LOVE A GOOD FIGHT WHEN IT'S fought over principles, ideas, attitudes, actions - and while neither Stuart nor his staff were ever able to lock horns with the Nicaraguan soldiers of fortune he had been assured would stop the production of Dare, the threats themselves were a sign we were on the right track: not by trampling over rights of privacy, but by forcing everyone to think about the fine line between "privacy" and being in the closet.

If Dare can continue to provoke its readers with ideas and policies that challenge our minds and our assumptions, it will be true to the principles its publisher and editor began with two years ago. And knowing my friendly editor, he is as consistent as he is committed. Happy anniversary, Dare. May the romance never end. •

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Finding a Place

by **JASON ANDERSON** Contributing Writer

In visiting both

schools, there were

many factors of each

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While it is not the

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One in Teen has been running intermittently in Dare for several months. Until now, the column has run under a pseudonym because the author, a Nashville high school student, was a minor. As a part of his coming-out process, and in keeping with our policy of using real names whenever possible, Jason Anderson writes this week, for the first time, under his real name. We applaud and support his decision. —editor

AS USUAL, I HAVE BEEN NEGLIGENT IN my writing for this column. Like everyone else, I have been sick the last few weeks. I haven't accomplished much since I last wrote except for a college visit. We had a four-day weekend from school a week or two ago and I took advantage of this and went on a college visit to

Rice University in Houston. Rice and another school, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), are the two schools at which I am seriously looking. Both have excellent engineering departments.

Rensselaer, however, is located in Troy, New York. I say "however" because I prefer Houston to Troy. I had already visited both schools once, but I felt I needed to give Rice a second look.

In visiting both schools, there were many factors of each school to examine. While it is not the biggest factor, the attitudes towards lesbians and gavs at each

school and its city is very important. Also, what on the the campus and in the city is geared toward lesbians and gay men?

To try to discover students' attitudes and the involvement and visibility of lesbian and gay students is a tough job. Both schools have organizations for lesbians and gay men. But how active are these groups? How many members are there?

I DID LEARN THAT LAST YEAR AT RICE there were around 25 members in the group; I am not sure if that's good or bad. Rice has about 2500 students; that figures to one per cent of the student body. I know there are more lesbians and gay men at Rice than that. Is it normal for a school to have so few in such an organization? Beyond that, I know nothing about either school's gay life.

As well as the school, I am also concerned about the city at which each school is located. For those who have been to Houston, you might be aware of the area near Westheimer and Montrose. In this area, there are a lot of lesbian- and gay-oriented places. Some straight-owned businesses even claim to be gay owned and operated! This is good, but many of these places are either adult bookstores or bars. I still have a few years left before I'll be bar age.

When I visited Rice, I explored this area and found little that interested me. Of course, as a visitor, I might have been at all the wrong places. As far as I know, Troy has nothing for lesbians and gay men; the city has no listings in the *Gayellow Pages*.

You might ask why I would be interested in a school in Troy, New York. When I visited Rensselaer, I found the school very interested in me. Plus (and a big

> plus), Rensselaer's anti-discrimination policy includes sexual orientation. From my visit, I got the impression that Rensselaer and its students are more liberalminded than Rice and its students.

Dare

THIS LEAVES ME VERY CONFUSED about choosing which school I should go to for the next four years. As far as gay issues go, I would choose Rensselaer. But Houston is where I'd rather live.

Because I bicycle so much, I would prefer the warm weather of Houston over the blizzards of Troy. If Rensselaer

was in Houston, I would not have any problem deciding where to go to school. Unfortunately, this is not so.

I want to be active in lesbian and gay rights and issues wherever I go. At Rice, I know I will have opposition from their Campus Crusade for Christ group. My brother is active in this group. If I went to Rice, we would be pitted against each other. I am not sure if I want to be put in that position.

THE WORST PART IS THAT I WILL HAVE little time to choose between schools after I find out if I have been accepted to both schools. If anyone reading this knows anything about either school or city that you would be willing to share with me, please write me at P.O. Box 158002, Nashville, TN 37215-8002.

And if any lesbian or gay teens are reading this, please write me to find more about my efforts to form a youth group for Nashville-area lesbian and gay teenagers.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19 the First Annual Miss Gay Mid-South USA Pageant starring

Miss Gay USA Tommy Ross Miss Gay Alabama USA Rita Ross Miss Gay South Carolina USA Shelly Stone Emcee Ginger Lamar Doors open at 8 Pageant begins at 9

WE'RE DEALING A WHOLE NEW HAND! ▲ MONDAYS **Pool Tournament** Your Host: Steve \$3 Beer Bust No Cover ▼ TUESDAYS Shows with our New Cast **Shelly Stone** Monica Munro **Bianca** Paige **Dana** Alexander **Troy Constantino** Shows at 11 and 12:30 \$2 Cover WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS 50¢ Draft, \$1.25 Bottles All Night No Cover FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS Non-stop Dancing with Tennessee's DJ of the Year, Eddie Denson 50¢ Draft, \$1.25 Bottles 9 till 11 ▲ SUNDAYS A Variety of Entertainment



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Announcements

• WORKSHOP: HEALING THE INNER CHILD Transformation and healing on a subconscious level, by Mary Jane Thompson, M.A. Group and/or individual therapy. 615-264-3717. Medical Ins. Accepted.

• Private collection art exhibit "SAG" – "Spirits, Angels, Goddesses and Warriors" (Oil, Acrylic, Ink) Framed and unframed. Capitol Towers 615-242-6424. By appt only

• PLEASE NOTICE our new phone number: 615-327-DARE [327-3273]. Our mailing address is still the same: Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422.

• Great suction! Portable vacuum cleaner for sale. \$15. Call 615-352-5823.

• EARN BIG MONEY At home in your spare time. Honest Money Making System can free you from debt! No other investment. Guaranteed. Send \$5 to Fortune, Box 30721-MM, Memphis, TN 38130

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

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

Homes

 Male roommate waqnted to share twnhs in west Nshvil. \$225/mo + half utils. Avlb now. 615-269-9446. • Housemate wanted. Large house in Hillsboro/ Belmont area. \$150/month + 1/4 utilities. If you like dogs, music and happening folks, we're your house. No smokers/no dopers. 615-298-2218.

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• Romantic reflections: turn-of-the-century Transitional Victorian has wraparound porch, oak floors & mantles, feather-grained woodwork, china cabinet w/ curved glass front. \$36,900 w/assumable loan. Chris Clarke, Hutton Realtors. 615-822-7411 or 822-7614.

Personals

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• GWM 6'1" 175 lbs, professional, well-built, handsome, quiet & reserved. 30s, Send letter and number, photo if possible, to DARE DRAWER 35

Wheelchaired GWM, 41, needs live-in attendant.
 Must be mature, neat, dependable nonsmoker.
 References, valid drivers license required. Write
 Boxholder, P.O. Box 121011, Nashville 37212

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

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. We assume no responsibility for advertisers' claims. Response drawers are available if you do not wish to use your own address. To respond to a response drawer ad, write to:

Response drawers are available if you do not wish to use your To respond to a response drawer ad, write to: Dare Dawer # _______ Box 40422 Nashville, TN 37204-0422 Ads received by noon Tuesdays will run the following Friday. Questions? Phone 615 327-3273 for information.

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Thanks for Dare-ing.

You made our first year possible. Our heartfelt thanks to all our advertisers, our contributors and, most of all, our readers. Here's to a happy birthday. And many more.



Tennessee's Gay and Lesbian Newsweekly

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