

# Dare

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 12

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

MARCH 24-30, 1989

## Feds charge gay filmmaker

by JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

An "adult-film" director and his distributor are set to stand trial in Tennessee May 1 on charges of distributing obscene materials through the mail.

Steve Toushin, accused of running one of the nation's largest mail-order pornography businesses from his Chicago theater, and David Rosen, a film director from New Windsor, N.Y., are charged in a federal indictment for aiding and abetting the national distribution of pornographic materials through the U.S. mail.

"What the jury here will have to decide is if the defendants were involved in a conspiracy to send pornographic materials through the mails," said Nashville attorney Don Dawson, defense counsel for Rosen.

The charges against Rosen and Toushin resulted from a 1985 complaint filed by the late Richard Kemp of Nashville who told postal inspectors he had received flyers from Toushin's mail-order business on at least two occasions.

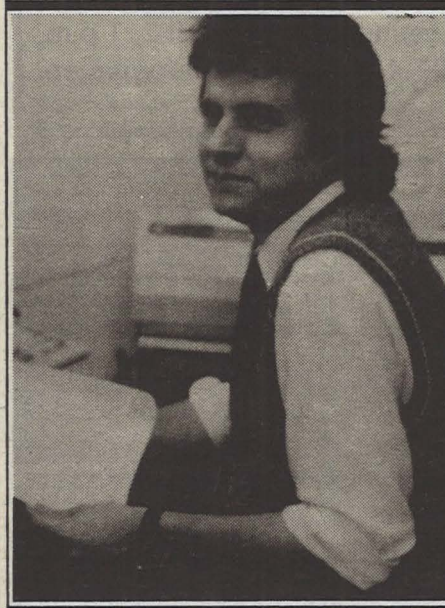
Complaints filed some time later in Salt Lake City, Utah, against Toushin's business prompted postal inspectors there to contact local authorities who, in turn, ordered videotapes from the mail-order departments of Slave and Master Video Inc. and Entertainment and Amusement Inc.

Inspectors set up a post office box in Brentwood, a Nashville suburb in Williamson County, and ordered the videotapes. After receiving the tapes, inspectors traveled to Chicago and raided Toushin's Bijou Theatre. That action came after federal authorities cracked down on pornography operations in eight states.

According to local sources, Kemp was "extremely ill" at the time the complaints were filed. It is believed that his sister, with whom he was staying during his illness, intercepted his mail and filed the complaints on her brother's behalf, sources said.

"Apparently Kemp's name was on some sort of gay mailing list which Toushin bought and

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Marty Katz is operations manager for Memphis' Aid to End Aids Committee (ATEAC). The nonprofit group will hold its second annual auction fundraiser Saturday, March 25, at the Memphis Airport Hilton—DARE PHOTO JAY DEROSI TT

## ATEAC plans auction

by JAY DeROSSI  
Contributing Writer

When a merry prankster dialed Rita Underhill at the Memphis Aid to End AIDS Committee's (ATEAC) AIDS Hotline asking for "step-by-step instruction" on how to put on a condom, he gave himself away by laughing. She refused.

"Obviously not an easy man to deter," she remembers. "He called almost ten times." Underhill, ATEAC's Educational Programs Director, finally offered to send him some instructional pamphlets, if he would only give her his name and address. "I'll even throw in a couple of extras," she added. He never phoned again.

Fortunately for ATEAC, such buffoonery doesn't often stand in the way of business, of which there is plenty for Memphis' first and largest AIDS service organization.

Founded in March of 1985 by the now-defunct gay social club Queen's Men, ATEAC expanded rapidly when AIDS hit Memphis head-on. Most services offered by ATEAC involve "direct contact with people with AIDS," according to Marty Katz, ATEAC operations manager, one of the organization's two paid employees. "The largest of these would have to be the buddy program and the support groups," he said, both of which primarily involve volunteer time. Most of ATEAC's budget, however, goes to patient aid, which includes helping out with living expenses and medication costs, as well as hospital and doctor bills.

A recent \$19,000 grant from the Consolidated Federal Campaign, announced at the March ATEAC board meeting, has boosted ATEAC into a position of relative financial

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## NOW to march on Washington next month

by CAROLE CUNNINGHAM  
Staff Writer

Site of the largest civil rights march in U.S. history on October 11, 1987, Washington D.C. has long been the rallying site for groups hoping to bring national attention to their issues. On April 9, 1989, the National Organization for Women (NOW) will sponsor a March on Washington for Women's Equality, Women's Lives.

Local and national organizers expect the April 9 march to be the largest in NOW history. The March for Women's Lives, a pro-choice march sponsored by NOW in 1986, drew

200,000 marchers to the nation's capital. Lynn Cushing, Nashville march organizer, speculates as many as 500,000 marchers could converge on Washington this April 9.

Sue Hyde, Privacy Project Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), told *Dare* that the Task Force and other gay and lesbian organizations have strongly encouraged NOW to have at least one designated gay or lesbian speaker at the rally after the march.

NGLTF has endorsed the April 9 march, as have the National Gay Rights Advocates, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Lambda

Legal Defense Fund, the Lesbian Rights Project, and the National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski. Celebrities attending the event include Alice Walker, Jane Fonda, Tyne Daly, Glenn Close, Judy Collins, Holly Near, and Marlo Thomas. Confirmations from additional speakers are expected in the next week.

Cushing said the march hopes to draw attention to the need for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and to the need to save the rights of privacy guaranteed by the landmark *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. The court will consider the argu-

• continued on page 6

## AIDSWALK overcomes rain, cold

by DEBORAH BURKS  
Staff Writer

Over 300 people endured cold morning rainshowers to participate in AIDSWALK Nashville, a 6.2-mile (10-kilometer) pledge walk held this past Saturday to raise money for local AIDS service organizations and educational efforts.

Mary Donnet, AIDSWALK president, was philosophical about the weather. "The rain was good — no one will forget that they walked. And, we saw how deep the commitment to this effort is," she said.

AIDSWALK was organized and, for the most part, funded by a group of concerned Nashvillians. Donnet felt the group's efforts paid off.

"I'm very, very happy with the way things turned out," said Donnet. "Everything we [AIDSWALK organizers] were responsible for was a huge success. We just couldn't control the weather."

AIDSWALK proceeds will be divided among community AIDS service agencies. Nashville CARES, Vanderbilt AIDS Project, Minority AIDS Outreach, and Meharry Medical College's AIDS Initiative will each receive 20% of the total raised. Approximately 8% will be used to cover event expenses. The remainder will go to Alive Hospice and the Red Cross.

Donnet commended the members of the AIDSWALK committee for their hard work and dedication. In addition to Donnet, the committee members include Tom McCamy, Lois Wagner, Victoria Harris, Chris Heard, Melora Zaner and Beverly Brown.

Though not all contributions have been collected, Donnet estimates that AIDSWALK has already raised \$18,000. "Due to the weather on Saturday, people who planned to participate didn't and they haven't turned in their pledge money yet," said Donnet.

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## INSIDE this week's Dare

The spring theater explosion is upon us. Curtains, page 4.



These boots are made for walkin'... Sociables, page 7.



Can they say that about us? Quotes, page 8.

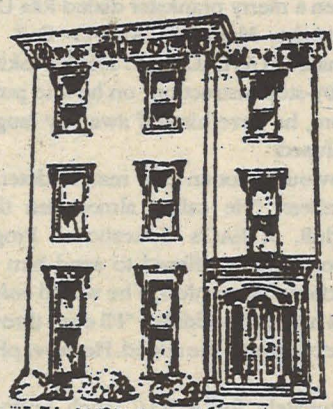




## Pride Week '89

This year, Renée McCoy, executive director of the National Conference of Black Lesbians and Gays, will speak at the Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade, and Deidre McCalla will sing at the rally.

Join in the fun, and help plan the biggest and best Nashville celebration of Pride Week yet.  
Next meeting Sunday, April 2, 1 p.m.  
Phone (615) 297-4293 for more information.



### The Towne House Restaurant

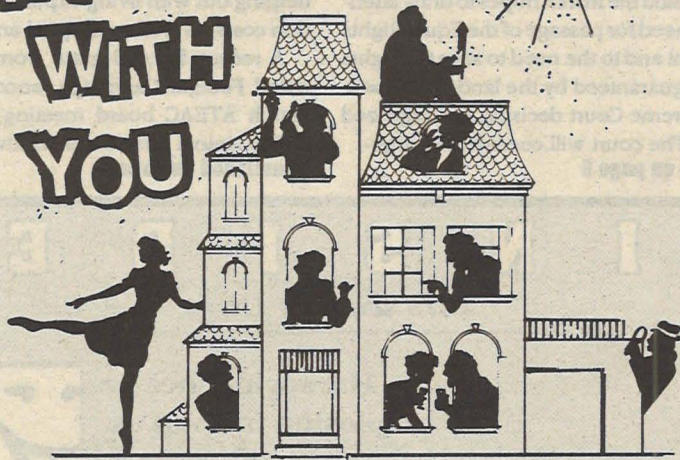
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## D A T E S

### 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

**Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group. 4pm. Info 615-385-1510.  
**Al-Anon** Closed 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, faculty, staff, and alumni. Murfreesboro. 7pm. Info 615-  
890-3787.  
**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 Support Group. 6:30pm. Info 615-385-1510.

#### 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.  
**Vanderbilt Lambda Association** Meeting for gay and lesbian Vanderbilt  
students, faculty, staff and alumni. President's House, Peabody Campus, alternates  
weekly with Film Series (see Special Events). 7pm. Info 615-297-5352.  
**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.

### Special Events

Friday, March 24  
**GOOD FRIDAY**

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 Uni-  
tarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nash-  
ville. 7:30pm. \$6 advance, \$7 at the door. Info 615-333-  
2215.



ALIX DOBKIN

Sunday, March 26  
**EASTER**

**Easter Services** Agape New Life Church, Memphis.  
11am. Metropolitan Community Church, 131 15th Ave  
N, Nashville. 11am. Info 615-320-0288.

**Brunch** Nam King Restaurant, 5122 Summer Ave.  
Black and White Men Together, Memphis. Info 901-726-  
1461.

Thursday, March 30

**Film** Caravaggio, sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda As-  
sociation. 220 Garland Hall, Nashville. 7pm. \$1 dona-  
tion. Info 615-297-5352.

Saturday, April 1

**First Amendment Celebration** A public celebration  
of freedom of speech and of the press and discussion of  
the problems of censorship, featuring Banned Book Sale  
and presentation by Norma Klein, author of banned  
books. Sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union. At  
Davis-Kidd Booksellers, 4007 Hillsboro Road, Nashville.  
2:30pm. Free. Info 615-320-7142.

**Anniversary Celebration** MCC Roast of Paul Tucker  
on his sixth anniversary as pastor. 8:30pm, following  
Mortgage Meal. Metropolitan Community Church, 131  
15th Ave N, Nashville. Info 615-320-0288.

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, spon-  
sor, and a contact person's name with address and/or  
phone number for verification. Deadline noon Tuesday  
for publication next Friday.



## ...filmmaker indicted

• continued from page 1

used for distributing his flyers," Dawson said.

Toushin and Rosen were indicted by federal grand juries in Nashville and Salt Lake City last summer and an indictment is pending in Nebraska on similar charges, according to Dawson. Defense attorneys last week complained to U.S. District Judge John Nixon that the charges should be dropped because of "vindictive multiple prosecution."

However, a Justice Department lawyer argued that the films seized by Nashville postal inspectors do not merit constitutional protection because they depict sado-masochistic acts, beatings and scatological acts in defiance of "accepted community standards."

"The material in this case is presumed protected until proven obscene," said Justice Department attorney John Micheli. "This case in the Middle District in Tennessee involves the distribution of hard-core pornography, not so-called soft-core pornography."

Rosen, whose films include *You Said a Mouthful* and *Please Sir*, pled not guilty in federal court before U.S. Magistrate Joe Haynes during arraignment proceedings last summer.

Despite the other charges awaiting Toushin and Rosen in Utah, Nashville has been named the "lead district," Dawson said, because of local anti-pornography sentiments.

"It is clear that these cases are being handled in the way they are because the government is

convinced that a Nashville jury is more likely to find the material obscene," Dawson said. "From personal experience, I've found that federal juries are generally more conservative than state juries."

Currently pending before the federal court in Nashville is a motion calling for a change of venue from Tennessee to Chicago.

"The venue here in Nashville was created by agents of the government who ordered the videotapes mailed to a local post office box. The proper venue would be the city where the films were produced," Dawson said.

Toushin's attorney, Louis Carbonaro of Chicago, has contended throughout the proceedings that the films are not pornographic, but instead are "adult" material.

Last October Toushin was convicted of tax evasion by a Chicago jury. An Internal Revenue Service agent described the Bijou Theatre as "a combination adult theater and gay orgy room."

Sources in Chicago privately have indicated to *Dare* that the Bijou has been raided for selling possibly pornographic materials but not for on-site lewd and lascivious conduct. The Bijou does attract a sizable gay clientele, the sources said, despite the fact that Toushin is allegedly heterosexual.

If found guilty of violating federal obscenity laws, the defendants face a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a possible \$250,000 fine on each of the counts. Also charged are Toushin's business associates Sean O'Connor and Randy Larsen. •

## ...AIDSWALK succeeds

• continued from page 1

She strongly encouraged those who may still be holding pledges to turn them in as soon as possible. Pledges or other contributions may be sent to P.O. Box 121796, Nashville, TN 37212. Donations will be accepted until March 28.

Realtor Trasbin Stoner won the grand prize for raising the most pledge money. Stoner, whose pledges totaled \$804, received a compact disc player for his efforts.

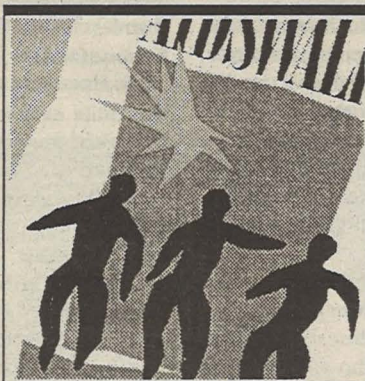
In addition to raising money, Donnet was pleased that AIDSWALK achieved another of its organizers' goals: the involvement of people from all aspects of the community in a

project dealing with AIDS.

"I was pleased with the diversity of people participating," Donnet commented. "Our effort to open a door for the community to show their commitment to the struggle against AIDS worked."

Donnet complimented press coverage of the event, especially the extensive work of Diane Easter and Gay Cable Network / Nashville (GCN). She said plans are being made with GCN to produce a video of the walk.

This Wednesday night, the AIDSWALK committee will meet for a celebration dinner and to discuss their plans to make AIDSWALK an annual event. •



## BRIEFS

from STAFF REPORTS

### Frank proposes immigration bill

**OPENLY GAY U.S. REP. BARNEY FRANK** (D-Mass.) has introduced a bill into the House of representatives that would remove the part of the immigration law that allows officials to prevent the entry into the U.S. of gay men and lesbians.

"Currently, if you are a lesbian or a gay man you can be denied entrance or a visa to the United States. Even if you are just visiting, you can be excluded on grounds of 'sexual deviation,'" said the human rights campaign fund's (HRCF) Robert Bray.

The regulation now on the books, passed in the early 1950s during the McCarthy era, has not been used since President Jimmy Carter signed an executive order banning its use.

Bray, citing the recent cases of two Dutch gay men who were denied entrance to the U.S. by an immigration officer at a Minnesota airport and of Canadian lesbians who were denied entry on their way to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, told *The Weekly News*, "The law is still on the books and it's still being used arbitrarily by immigration officers. What would be better than a stop-gap measure, such as another executive order, would be to legislatively repeal...this law. It's still quite blatantly homophobic." •

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# CURT

by JEFF E  
Managing E

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TUESDAY  
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WEDNESDAY  
50¢ Draft - \$1.25 Bottles  
THURSDAY  
Beer Drinking 7 to 10 \$3  
FRIDAY  
Pitchers \$3  
SATURDAY  
Beer Blast 4 to 8 \$4  
SUNDAY  
Beer Blast 4 to 8 \$4

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## Bent defines the pink triangle

WHENEVER MENTION IS MADE OF THE Holocaust, my memory takes me back to a childhood memory of meeting a friend of my father's — a Polish refugee who had survived several years in the concentration camp at Treblinka.

As he showed me the numbers tattooed on his arm and recounted the horror of losing all his family save one uncle, the Nazi terror was brought vividly close to home. But instead of being frightened by the vision, I've always felt oddly ashamed — ashamed that an unbelieving world let the Holocaust happen.

I thought of my father's friend last week as I watched the Actors' Playhouse production of Martin Sherman's *Bent*, a gut-wrenching retelling of the horrors endured by homosexuals during the dark days of the Third Reich.

Under Dennis Ewing's direction, the cast presents the troubling, provocative play in gripping fashion, transporting its audience to an earlier world filled with hate, distrust and anguish.

The play's action begins the June, 1934, morning after the "Night of the Long Knives," during which the homosexual members of Hitler's brown-shirted Storm Troopers were massacred. The unexpected purge is brought vividly to life in the apartment of the unsuspecting Max and Rudy — gay lovers who one time too often have entertained the wrong man, this time in the guise of a Storm Trooper named Wolf.

As the Gestapo traces Wolf to the apartment, aided by Rudy's drag-queen employer Greta, the innocents are hurled mercilessly into life on the run from the authorities. They find themselves living with thousands of other unemployed Germans, digging ditches and making deals in order to eke out a meager existence while dreaming of flight to a neutral Scandinavian country.

The action of *Bent* closely follows the chronology of the Third Reich's rise to political preeminence in Germany, from the establishment of the first concentration camp at Dachau in 1933 to the internment of "enemies of the state" which began in 1934. It tells without embellishment the story behind the colored triangles and their symbolism of the concentration camps' pecking order — red for political prisoners, yellow for Jews and the lowest, the pink triangle, for homosexuals.

*Bent* is a disturbing experience. Presented in the close confines of the Actors' Playhouse theatre, it takes on an even more menacing tone, involving the audience intimately in the lives portrayed only a few feet away. Watching a performance of *Bent* is like driving by an automobile accident on the freeway — you don't want to look, but you don't dare look away.

Ewing's direction is taut and the action rivets you to your seat. Sherman's dialogue, although a bit cumbersome at some points, is almost lyrical, presenting the monotony of the concentration camp with near-operatic pacing.

But what really breathes the life into this play are the men who become the characters onstage. More than once, I was moved to tears

by their performances.

Jim Conrad's Max was a bit tentative in the early going, but by the time the play's focus shifted to Dachau, he seemed in firm control of the character. Unfortunately, Conrad was never able to shake the cloak of "actor" and so never was able to really "become" Max. He did, nonetheless, act with emotion and fervor, bringing it to a feverish pitch in the play's final scene.

G. Scott Osten, as Rudy, was ideal in the role of the naïve dancer, bringing to Rudy a sweetness and innocence that is essential in making the character truly believable. Osten's only misstep was Rudy's moment of hysteria after being told by Greta to leave Berlin. Instead of fear, Osten as Rudy appeared petulant and pouty.

Among the supporting players, Mel Toombs, in the role of the drag queen impresario Greta, was stunning. His Greta was perfectly cynical and pragmatic, his "illusion" akin to his namesake Greta Garbo.

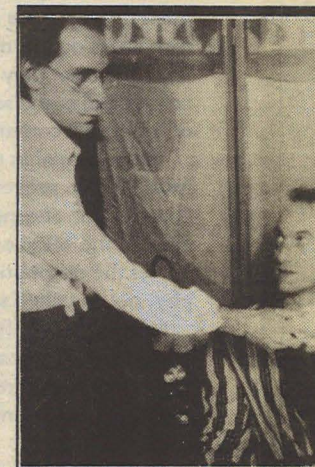
But while the production was top-notch in all respects, it was Rick Harrell as Horst who truly transcended the stagebound requirements of the script. His performance was seamless — he didn't just act the role, he *became* Horst.

His Horst was a dreamer, a hopeful realist. It was quite easy to see how Max could fall in love with him; perhaps we all fell a little in love with him.

In other supporting roles, Dan Hayes as Wolf and Roger P. Freeman as Uncle Freddie were well-cast. And as Nazi officers and guards, Jim Busby, Mike Gilliam, Barry Lindsey, Charles Miller and Scott Moreno were properly menacing and frightening.

In its evocation of the horrors inflicted on homosexuals by the Nazis, *Bent* is compelling history in the form of a moving play. It should be required viewing for anyone who today wears a pink triangle to signify pride in being lesbian or gay.

But, be forewarned: *Bent* is truly disturbing, an emotionally-charged evening that may well leave you drained. But you must not miss it! •



**Rudy** (G. Scott Osten) reluctantly Max (Jim Conrad) to Wolf (Dan Hayes) moments of Martin Sherman's *Bent* PLAYHOUSE

## APRIL

MARCH 28 & APRIL 1  
—National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference  
—A Tribute to Sylvester

APRIL 4 & 8  
—Local coverage of several Nashville events, including AIDS WALK

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## A I N S

JEFF ELLIS  
Managing Editor

its story of a family's eccentricities and its members' zest for living beyond the constraints of conventional society.

The Hart-Kaufman collaboration, one of the richest in theater history, was at its zenith with the creation of the wacky Vanderhof family who are enlivened by their unique sensibilities and unbridled enthusiasm for living.



uctantly passes a cup of coffee across  
(Dan Hayes) in one of the lighter  
n's Bent — PHOTO COURTESY ACTORS'

Scion of the family is Grandpa, who one day left his office and decided never to return to the rat race of the world of high finance. Instead, he chose to live off the income of his holdings while pursuing his passion for college commencements, funerals, raising snakes and entertaining a plethora of off-beat guests who venture into Casa Vanderhof.

Rivaling Grandpa's *joie de vivre* is that exhibited by his daughter Penny, a sometime playwright/artist and all-time gracious hostess. She, along with her

husband, Paul Sycamore (who manufactures fireworks) have raised two daughters amid the hilarity and all-around zaniness that pervades the Vanderhof household.

Their oldest daughter, Essie, is a slightly long-in-the-tooth ballerina whose arabesques and tour jetes are just too clumsy for words. With her husband, Ed, an aspiring printer, vibraphonist and mask-maker, she makes and sells chocolate candies, packed with such Trotskyite truisms as "God is the state. The state is God."

The youngest daughter, Alice, is supposedly the only "normal" member of the family — she works in a real job outside the home and falls madly in love with her boss' handsome son, Tony Kirby.

It is Alice and Tony's love affair which precipitates much

of the play's action, capped by a riotous dinner party into the which the high society interlopers, the Kirbys, find themselves invited for a meal of frankfurters, canned corn and beer.

But what with all the merriment and fireworks, the antics and pratfalls, *You Can't Take It With You* packs one helluva potent political message about governmental interference in the personal lives of the people. Certainly, some of the references to Hattie Carnegie, Schrafft's drugstore, the Czar and Rasputin might be considered dated by some people

whose point of reference only goes as far back as Sally Field's Gidget, the play nonetheless entertains with its broad humor and slightly suggestive innuendoes.

Fred Scollay, the New York actor brought in by TRT to play the role of Grandpa, does so in a relaxed, laid-back fashion — no wacky old man here, but rather an eccentric grandfatherly type.

As his daughter Penny, Kathleen Butler is delightfully natural in a broadly-drawn role that could be unbelievable in the hands of a lesser talent.

As the romantic leads Alice and Tony, Shelean Newman and Joseph R. Mahowald are forced to play the two "straight" roles, remaining calm among the frenzy of the Vanderhofs. Mahowald, of the jutting chin and porcelain-like teeth, is certainly handsome enough to be a matinee idol, but Newman unfortunately is afflicted with fledgling-actress-gesture syndrome, pointing here and there to emphasize her lines in order to make up for her limits as an actress.

Very nearly stealing the show are Denice Hicks and Mark Cabus as Essie and Ed, mugging and pratfalling for all their worth, bringing a touch of lunacy to the already zany antics.

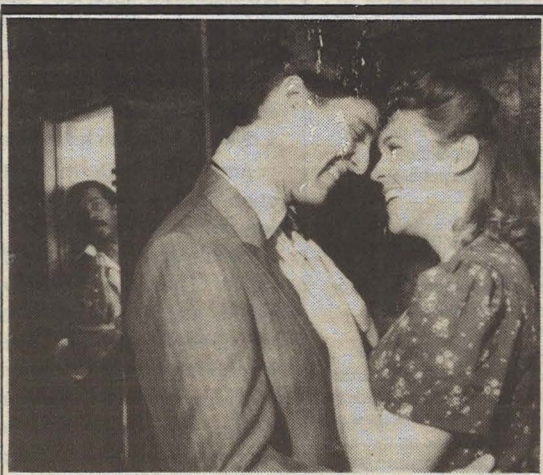
But the title of show-stealer must go to Myke R. Mueller, who turns in a wonderfully comic performance as Essie's Russian ballet master, Boris Kolenkhov. He portrays Kolenkhov as a charming, down-on-his-luck Russian expatriate with an accent only Boris Badinov (of Rocky and Bullwinkle fame) could love.

Sandy Bates' design of the Victorian-Gothic-Italianate-Federalist Vanderhof mansion is stellar, with such attention to detail given that you'd actually believe such an eccentric lot of people would live there.

Jean Nagy's costumes are passable, with some shining examples of good design along with some that are merely pedestrian.

And Thomas Allan Bullard's direction is truly first-rate, his craft exemplified by the riotous goings-on in the Vanderhof mansion — goings-on that sometimes called for a referee or traffic cop rather than a director — but Bullard rises to the occasion.

*You Can't Take It With You* is fine entertainment, a respite from the crazy days of 1989. •



Donald (Barry Scott, left) happens on Tony (Joe Mahowald) and Alice (Shelean Newman) as they share a romantic moment. — PHOTO COURTESY TENNESSEE REPERTORY THEATRE

*Bent* runs through Saturday, April 8, at Actors Playhouse. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m.

*You Can't Take It With You* runs through Sunday, April 2, at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center's Polk Theatre. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m., with a 2:00 p.m. Sunday matinee. —Editor

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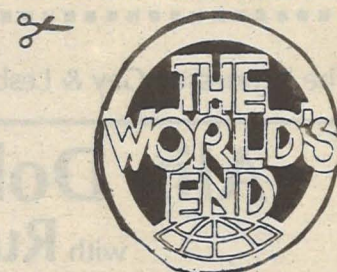
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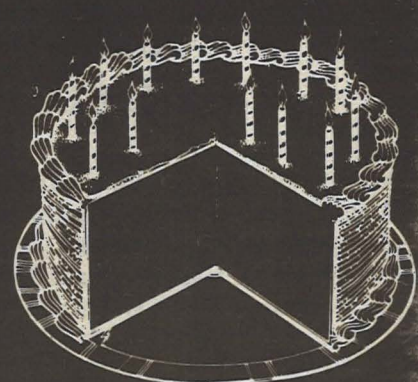
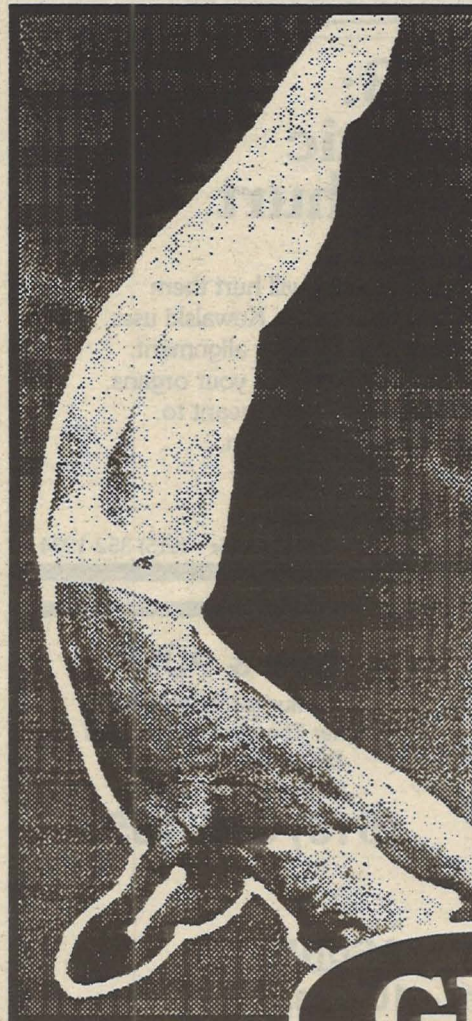
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Sunday, April 2**

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# S O C I A B L E S

## These boots are made for walkin'...

by JAAN STURGIS  
Staff Writer

Where were you Nashvillians last Saturday? Not at AIDS WALK? Shame on you! Although the weather was a bit on the nippy side, a healthy contingent walked the six-plus miles from the Vandy campus to the downtown area and back. Walkers included **Paul Tucker, Debbie Neeley, Lois Wagner and Deen Thompson** plus a host of others whom I didn't recognize. A big hand to all those walkers!

I hear that **Geel Scott Osten** illustrious AIDS Education Coordinator for Nashville CARES, is being seen in the current production of *Bent* at Actors Playhouse on West End Avenue in Nashville. Although I haven't had a chance to see him and the other fine cast members, I hear the live drama is well worth the time. Maybe I'll see you there when I go.

All of my friends are excited about the upcoming Academy Awards. Since I haven't been to a movie since I was a youngster (sometime last year) I can't make a stab at which movie will be named last year's best. But **Harrison Hicks, Kenny Folkes** and **Mitchell Patton** all think that *Rain Man* will get the nod. Perky **Terry Ralston** casts a vote for *Mississippi Burning*. Hmm...I guess we'll just have to wait and see.

**Alan Coates** of Bowling Green had a memorable gathering at his house recently. Partygoers included **Karen Wills, Autumn Manning, Tom Moody, Reg Laswell** and the ubiquitous and ever-questioning **Austin Stough**. Hailed a success by all the partygoers, I'm anxious to attend a picnic since Alan's nearly finished a 24' x 12' deck which even has party lights on the supporting posts.

And speaking of parties, were you at **Jack Gregory's** and **Frank Ward's** recently when they threw the Sunday afternoon bash of the early spring? Prominent (and not-so-prominent) attendees included **Tim Quain, Bob Clark, Bill Winters, Jimmy Capps, Bud Blackwell, Wayne Harper, Mark Brown, James Holland** and a host of others (or was that a cast of thousands?)

To work off all the good food that was served, a handful of us went out for a tour of the

neighborhood and **Mark Brown** and I gleefully discussed the architectural styles to a fair-thee-well. **Bill Winters** even opened his house for a quick but fascinating tour.

Speaking of eating or roasting or cooking or whatever, are you attending the Sixth Anniversary Dinner for **Paul Tucker** at Metropolitan Community Church April 1? Word has it that *Dare* editor **Stuart Bivin** and one other undisclosed staff writer will roast Tucker. Wouldn't you just love to hear all? Phone the church office — (615) 320-0288 — for more details.

A recent weekend found me in the eastern part of our fair state — Kingston to be exact.

Visiting former Nashvillian **Jim Wattles**, I really had the time of my life! I immensely enjoyed walking the streets of nearby **Harriman**, once a city where strict temperance was the rule, a city which still boasts more than a few late Victorian structures.

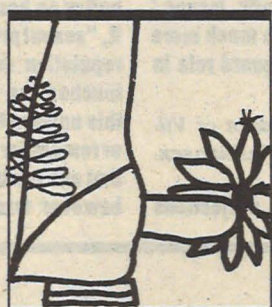
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We went to two gay pubs in Knoxville. There's the **Carousel**, of course, and now a new one downtown, called **Traditions**.

However, the next day was a delightfully lazy one spent sitting on the boat dock at **Jim's** year-round lake home. Such a relaxing and warm Sunday. Ah, the good life.

Well, dearhearts, another *Sociables* has come to a close. Y'all enjoy wearing your Easter bonnets and let me know what you did with the Easter bunny. Call me up and tell all: (615) 352-7405. •



## ...ATEAC auction

• continued from page 1

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ATEAC's largest and most ambitious undertaking is its annual auction, which will take place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Memphis Airport Hilton.

ATEAC's second such auction, this year's event promises to bring over \$6000, with "bigger and better items," according to **Underhill**. "We've got trips to Paris, Key West and Las Vegas, and if they're out of your league, there's the weekend stay at the Airport Hilton."

Works of art and gift certificates have also

been contributed by area merchants, who have responded to the wide publicity which the auction has received.

Almost forty volunteers are working to bring the auction about, and over 400 are expected to turn out for the event. As chairperson for the auction and Director of Fundraising for ATEAC, **Mark Whitehead**, at the last board meeting, expressed the feelings of many ATEAC supporters when he described the promotional poster that was being used.

"It shows people coming out of a shadow, into the light," he said. "That's what we're doing, and that's what we're continuing with projects such as the auction. When we have a success like this, it puts us one step closer to our ultimate goal — ending AIDS."

For more information about volunteering for the auction or contributing items, phone (901) 725-4311 or (901) 458-AIDS. •

## The Chute celebrates our 5th Anniversary and Grand Opening of "The Trophy Room"

THIS WEEKEND  
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

Sunday, March 26  
The DENA KAYE Show  
• Shows at 10:30 & Midnight



The  
CHUTE

SUNDAY DINNER SPECIAL  
March 26 New York Strip, \$5.95  
WEDNESDAY 50¢ Draft Night  
EVERY DAY 2-for-1 Happy Hour 5 pm-8 pm

2535 Franklin Rd, Nashville (615) 297-4571



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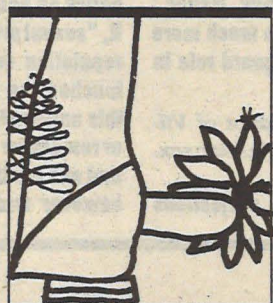
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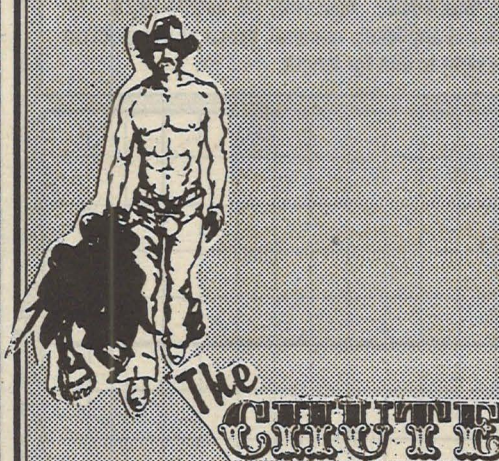
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WEDNESDAY 50¢ Draft Night  
EVERY DAY 2-for-1 Happy Hour 5 pm-8 pm

2535 Franklin Rd, Nashville (615) 297-4571



## M A R K E T

## Announcements

• **PRIVATE THERAPY** Mary Jane Thompson, M.A. 615-264-3717.

• 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.

• Help fight proposed new homophobic changes in the law. Donate to, volunteer for, Advance, the political action committee of the Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance. Advance, Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202.

• **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 community-

oriented journalism, and be one of the best. Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, 37204 or phone 615-292-9623.

## Homes

• Male roommate wanted to share twtns 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.

## Personals

• The weather prods, the body remembers. I miss our walks and talks.

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

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:

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Nashville, TN 37204-0422

Ads received by noon Tuesdays will run the following Friday.  
Questions? Phone 615 327-3273 for information.

## Q U O T E S

## Loose lips

"My wonderful brother died of AIDS. I think it is just terrible that whenever this word appears in the newspaper it is printed in capital letters, like this: AIDS. No other disease is treated in this way. I have never seen where anyone died of **CANCER.**"

— An unnamed Jackson, Miss., reader in a letter to syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers.

"Gay sexual practice at this time is more conservative than heterosexual behavior. And in the future, heterosexual sex is going to get kinkier while gay sex gets more and more plain vanilla. The big issues will be the rights of couples, adoption, laws involving inheritance and real estate — the so-called 'gay family issues.' Conversely, lesbians will move to a much more audacious image and take the vanguard role in sex."

— Richard Goldstein, senior editor of *Village Voice*, on the future of gay and lesbian sex.

"We are facing in microcosm the projections that are occurring nationally. We are not an AIDS epicenter, but there are cases in Tennessee, people who reside here and people who come here to live.

"We're increasing the life span of people afflicted with AIDS, and I trust the death rate will diminish as well. And, we're changing AIDS slowly into a quasi diabetes, a chronic, long-standing disease.

"We do not expect a successful vaccine for some time, so our best attack remains education."

— William Schaffner, chair of the infectious disease and preventive medicine departments at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, in an address to Nashville's Downtown Rotary Club.

"Dear Ann Landers:

"You've printed several letters in the last few months about transvestites. What's all the hulla-balloo about?

"There are plenty of straight guys who wear ruffled evening shirts, formal shoes with bows, fur coats, gold chains around their necks and bracelets. They get their hair styled, use blow-

dryers and hair spray. Can you explain why transvestites are considered so different? — Charleston, S.C.

"Most men don't experience sexual excitement from putting on makeup, wigs, panty hose and imitating women. That's the difference.

"Special note: the names of the two AIDS tests mentioned in this column of March 14 were switched around. The most reliable AIDS test is the Western Blot."

— Letter to syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers, and her reply.

"...[W]hen you change or seek to change basic University public policy in such sensitive areas as official approval / disapproval regarding the policy on homosexuality or, as you euphemized it, 'sexual preference,' you may have trod on my reputation or a part of it. You may have also touched the reputations of other graduates of this university. The general public does not note or remember when policy changes. It does recall that one is a Vanderbilt graduate. It may assume, however wrongly, that most graduates agree with current public policy...

"We cannot but give proper respect to ancient religious texts, whether they be Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian or Muslim. All strictly forbid sexual perversion (and let's call it what it is) to include all the disgusting varieties of homosexuality."

— John W. Kudlman, a self-described alumnus of Vanderbilt University, in a letter to the editor of

*The Vanderbilt Hustler*, the student newspaper, protesting the school's consideration of the addition of a sexual-orientation protection clause to its anti-discrimination policy.

"Now aside from the injustice Judge Higgins paid his office, I ask, where is the justice of treating male and female in separate manner?"

— Wyleen Ricks, in a letter to the editor of the Nashville *Tennessean*, taking issue with Judge William Higgins' remark to convicted drunk driver Nancy Sue Brakefield that he did "not know that you're not worse than a prostitute." •

## Easy does it.

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PHONE (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

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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 ☐ \$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 \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes! I'd like to subscribe to Dare for ☐ 6 months (\$8) ☐ 1 year (\$16) \$\_\_\_\_\_

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

## P E R S O N A L

30-year-old enlightened gay male seeks one who is courageously sensitive for emotional involvement. A radical soul living in a reactionary world, idealistic, willing to grow and experience joy who enjoys the unusual. A seeker of bliss. Please reply Dare DRAWER 36.



**Friends  
Flowers  
& Gifts**

**Celebrate Easter  
with fresh spring flowers.**

Park Place  
2817 West End Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37203  
(615) 321-5969