Leslie goes to therapy!
page 10



VOLUME 2, NUMBER 42

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

OCTOBER 20 - 26, 1989

Austin Peay les/gay students organize

by JEFF ELLIS Editor

More than a decade after lesbian and gay students at Clarksville's Austin Peay State University first took the Tennessee Board of Regents to federal court to win the right to organize on campus, a new group has been formed to address the needs and concerns of lesbian and gay students.

The new Organization for the Support of Gays and Lesbians (OSGL) is "getting off to a good start, but a slow one," according to the group's co-president Alan Flanders, a graduate student in sociology.

With only 12 active members, OSGL leaders are finding themselves battling homophobia and fear of discovery among other students who might be inter-

"The more exposure we get on campus, it will prove to people that we're not just a flash in the pan," Flanders suggested. "People who are afraid to join because of homophobic repercussions will realize that it's safe to join. We're still trying to hammer out the direction the organization should take. We're checking into joining larger organizations such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA)."

Flanders said that on-campus reaction to the organization had been low-keyed, marred only by one incident - "Someone had written derogatory remarks on a poster," he said.

Interest in the new organization grew out of a series of articles about homosexuality on campus which appeared last spring in the student newspaper, THE ALL

"They were very supportive," Flanders said. "And those stories encouraged me to check into starting a new organization."

Administration support of the OSGL "has been really good," Flanders said. "All the way up to the Dean of Students, everyone's been great. The President [of



Alan Flanders, co-president of Austin Peay State University's OSGL. - DARE STAFF PHOTO

APSU] is not too hip on it and has passed the buck to someone else so he doesn't have to deal with it."

An organization for lesbian and gay students had remained dormant since 1980. Prior to that, APSU students, administration and the state board of regents were embroiled in a controversy which ultimately led to the battle in federal court.

Then known as the Student Coalition for Gay Rights, the organization had won the support of the student government association, but was denied recognition by the administration on the grounds that sanctioning the group could lead to increased homosexual activity on

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

continued on page 4

Community services gain

GALLIP readies hotline, community space

by MARK LAWRENCE

Staff Writer

Gay and Lesbian Lives in Progress (GALLIP) will begin training volunteers for Nashville's new Gav and Lesbian Switchboard this weekend, said Penny Campbell, GALLIP coordinator.

Approximately 20 people will go through the first training session this Saturday and Sunday. Campbell said she was pleased with the number and quality of the vol-

"It's gone very well. I've been real pleased with the response," said Campbell. The volunteers include nurses, social workers, and many people with previous counseling experience. Equal numbers of men and women applied to work on the

Campbell was also glad to get workers who had not previously been involved in the lesbian and gay community.

"It's an entirely different group of people," she said. "That tells me that this is an area where people want to volunteer."

The trainees will go through sessions on legal issues, AIDS, dealing with young people, and "telephone counseling techniques and crisis intervention.

"All of the training is being provided by people in our community," said Campbell. "We do have so much skill in our own commu-

Although the hotline is not yet officially in service, the number has already received a number of calls. continued on page 4

Memphis Community Center opening set

by JEFF ELLIS

Editor

Members of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) board have set December 3 for the Center's official opening.

The opening follows months of planning and preparation by board members who just last month signed the lease on the building which houses the Center at 1291 Madison Avenue in Midtown. A town meeting is planned at the Center this Saturday, Oct. 21, starting at noon.

A fund-raising potluck luncheon held at the Center October 1 was termed a huge success by board member John Stilwell, who said the event attracted "a large group of people, many of whom we had not seen at other community events."

Stilwell said that organizers hoped attendance at the luncheon indicates the level of support in the Memphis lesbian and gay community for the Center, support which is continued on page 4

UNHS clinics offer alternative health care

Provides services in four Tennessee locations

by JACKI MOSS Staff Writer

Even though the first clinics of United Neighborhood Health Services (UNHS) was established 15 years ago, the name still doesn't ring a bell with many people.

"That's because we try to do our mission in a quiet, caring way," said executive director Mary Bufwack.

The quiet-but-important mission being carried out by the United Neighborhood Health Services' four clinics is to "serve the poor and medically underserved," according to Bufwack. There are two clinics in Nashville and one each in Wilson and Trousdale counties.

"These kinds of clinics were es-

tablished about 15 years ago to provide health care to people who were uninsured and to supplement the existing health care system," she

The clinics offer people who cannot receive health care services elsewhere direct, primary ambulatory health care. The three physicians provide a variety of services such as primary care, dentistry, preventive care, child immunizations, care for the elderly, identification and treatment of sexuallytransmitted diseases, and HIV testing and care for people who are HIV-positive.

"Our mission dictates that we always be responsive to our community and that certainly includes changing to meet the need as new health care issues arise and to meet new health care initiatives such as HIV infection," Bufwack said. "Not only do we try to meet that need, but we also try to meet in the most caring, compassionate way pos-

The UNHS offers confidential HIV testing, as opposed to anonymous HIV testing.

"The Metro Health Department offers anonymous testing, so we feel that by offering totally confidential testing, we can determine if there is infection and then begin giving that person care immediately • continued on page 12

出 Dare this week

Double jeopardy: what it's like to be black and gay. Centerpiece, page 6.

0 0 0 BLACK & GAY



Two *Chicks, a Lullaby* and a *Daisy.* Curtains, page 8.

Gays, Goo-Goo Clusters and Grits: the miniseries? Loose Lips, page 12.



ABBY R. RUBENFELD ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Just like clockwork

Chattanooga

Metropolitan Community Church Worship service, Unitarian Church, 7:30pm.

Mondays

Chattanooga CARES Closed support group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 266-2422.

Thursdays

Gay/Lesbian AA Open meeting. Unitarian Church. 8pm.

Clarksville

Thursdays

Gay Academic Union Austin Peay State Un iversity group for lesbians and gay men.Room 313, Joe Morgan University Center. APSU, 4:30pm, Info (615) 648-7107.

Knoxville

Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church Worship service, 6pm. Corner Weisgarber & Lonas. Info (615) 521-6546.

Mondays

aids Response Knoxville PWA Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Gay Gratitude Group Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 3219 Kingston Pike. 7pm.

aids Response Knoxville Circle of Love family and friends support group, 8pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS

Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UTK Weekly meeting. 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686. Knoxville's Ten Percent Monthly meeting, 2nd Tuesday only, 8pm. 1320 N. Central. Info (615) 521-6546.

Wednesdays

aids Response Knoxville HIV+ Support Group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Gay Gratitude Group Alcoholics Anonymous. MCC / Knoxville, 1320 North Central. Noon

Memphis

Mondays

Gay Alternative Hour Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm.

Memphis Gay Coalition Business meeting, 1st Monday. Rm A, Memphis Public Library, Peabody & Maclean. Info (901)324-4297

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous)
Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center.
8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Wednesdays

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center.

8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.

Seriously Sober (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.

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) 272-9549.

Murfreesboro

Thursdays

MTSU Lambda Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. 7:30pm. Info (615) 352-7039

Nashville

Mondays

Mashville CARES ARC/AIDS Support Group, 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. 7:30pm. Info (615)320-0288.

Tuesdays

Nashville CARES HIV+ Support Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.

Vanderbilt AIDS Project Story and Poetry Support Group (for PWAs), West End United Methodist Church. 6:30pm. Info (615) 322-

Al-Anon Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm. Nashville Women's Alliance Meeting, at the Book Oasis, 2824 Dogwood Pl. 2nd and 4th Tuesdays only. 7:30pm. Info (615) 292-7100

P-FLAG Meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitarian Church, 7:30pm, Info (615) 662-0332. Sober Sisters (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, MCC. 8pm.

Wednesdays

Sex Addicts Anonymous Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm. Nashville CARES Newcomers Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.

Affirmation Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists. 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 366-6448.

Gay / Lesbian Addictions Anonymous Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church.

Thursdays

incest Survivors Anonymous Closed women's meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd 6:30pm

Nashville CARES Visualization Group. 7:15pm. Info 615 385-1510.

Alternatives (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men,

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

Fridays

Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting. MCC. 5pm.

Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30 nm

Saturdays

Incest Survivors Anonymous Open meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd, 5:30pm

Metropolitan Community Church Community Dinner, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5, Info (615) 320-0288.

Sundays

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

Incest Survivors Anonymous Closed meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd,

Tri- Cities

Metropolitan Community Church Worship service, 7pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Info (615) 926-4393.

Support Group Tri-Cities AIDS Project. For caregivers / families of PWAs, HIV+ and ARC, 6:30pm, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays only: Info (615) 928-6101 or 753-9647

Thursdays

Support Group Appalachian AIDS Coaltion. For PWAs, ARC, and HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday only. Info (703) 985-0131.

Your nonprofit event can be listed free in Dates. Write to Dare, Box 40422, Nashville. TN 37204-0422, or phone 615 327-Dare and leave a message. Please include infor-mation 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

Big events



Saturday, October 21 Costume Party Gay Women's Social Group Halloween Party. \$2 donation. BYOB. 7:30pm. Info (901) 327-6165.

Saturday and Sunday, October 21 & 22

Hotline Training Training program for volunteers for GALLIP's Nashville Gay Switchboard. Please register. Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 2-6pm. At It's A Scream, 168 2nd Ave North, Nashville. Info and registration, (615) 297-0008.

Monday, October 23

Planning meeting Pride '90 meeting. 1523-B Ashwood, Nashville, 7pm, Info (615) 297-4653 or 297-4293.

Consciousness Raising Memphis 2000. Discussion group. Sponsored by Black and White Men Together / Memphis. Main Library, Peabody & MacLean, Memphis. Info (901) 726-1461.

Tuesday, October 24

Poetry Reading Luz María Umpierre reading from her THE MARGARITA POEMS. Sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda Association. At Peabody President's House, 18th Ave South & Edgehill, Nashville. Free, 6-9pm, Info (615) 343-6043.

Annual Meeting Nashville Women's

Alliance, 7:30pm, Info (615) 883-4833.

Saturday, October 28

Organizational meeting Meet to organize lesbian parents group. 10amnoon. At Book Oasis, 2824 Dogwood Place, Nashville, Info (615) 883-4833. Halloween Party Metropolitan Com-

munity Church/Nashville. 131 15th Ave North, Nashville. Dinner \$5, 7:30pm; party \$3, 8:30pm; both \$7. Info (615) 320-0288.

Halloween Benefit Sponsored by Univ. of Tenn. Gay & Lesbian Student Union. Music, dancing, live entertainment, prizes, refreshments. Benefits GLSU, aids Response Knoxville and the American Cancer Society. At Laurel Theatre, 1538 Laurel Ave, Knoxville. \$4admission, 8pm, Info (615) 595-8686.

Halloween Dance Sponsored by Nashville Women's Alliance. At Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. \$4 donation at the door. 8:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.

Dare

BRIFS

compiled by MARK LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

HRCF sends videos

WASHINGTON — The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) has launched a national "videogram" lobbying project to show lawmakers the faces and voices of their lesbian and gay constituents.

The videograms will feature one to two minute messages from constituents to members of Congress, who will be able to play them back on their office VCRs. Issues to be addressed in the videograms include extending anti-discrimination and fair employment laws to lesbians and gay men, the Hate Crimes bill, and AIDS treatments.

"Congress tends to think in abstract terms regarding AIDS and gay and lesbian rights issues," said Tim McFeeley, HRCF executive director. "But the videograms will bring the issues home to lawmakers, showing them how their decisions impact the lives of their constituents."



Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Washingtonbased Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the nation's largest lesbian and gay political action committee. — DARE FILE PHOTO

NGRA produces legal guide

SAN FRANCISCO — National Gay Rights Advocates has produced the nation's first legal guide for HIV positive foreign nationals who want to visit the United States.

The guide was produced in anticipation of next year's International AIDS Conference set for San Francisco.

"By publishing this manual we hope to make it as easy as possible for foreign nationals with HIV to circumvent our arcane and unworkable requirements," said Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project.

"However, this must only be a first step in a broader effort to eliminate our nation's ban on visits or immigration by persons with HIV."

The Immigration and Naturalization Service currently allows foreign nationals with HIV to visit the U.S for 30 days to attend conferences, visit relatives, conduct professional business or seek medical treatment. Officially, a 1987 law bars HIV positive foreign travelers from the U.S.

The guide is available from NGRA for \$10 plus postage. For more information, call (415)863-3624.

Festival zapped by protestors

WEST STOCKBRIDGE, Mass. — Four disabled lesbians blocked the path to the First Annual East coast Lesbians' Festival in order to protest what they claim was a lack of accessibility for differently-abled lesbians at the festival.

The women asked those going to the festival to demand their money back and leave, according to OUT WEEK.

Police allowed the protestors to stay at the side of the road and negotiate with festival organizers, as long as they stopped blocking traffic.

"Able-bodied women are not dealing with the fact that we are lesbians who are being excluded because we can't be here—the land isn't safe," said Bonnie Louison, one of the wheelchair-bound protestors, to over 100 women who gathered nearby.

New Orleans urged to up help to PWAs

NEW ORLEANS — A forum by Mayor Sidney Barthelemy's Advisory Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues urged the the mayor to increase city assistance to PWAs, end alleged police harassment of lesbians and gays and support laws to protect the rights of homosexuals.

The committee released the results of a survey it conducted, in which 63 percent of the men and 53 percent of the women responding said they have been verbally harassed because of their sexual orientation. Also 28 percent of the men and 10 percent of the women said they have been physically assaulted because of their homosexuality.

Barthelemy appointed the 16-member committee in July 1988. He had supported an ordinance to protect lesbians and gay men in 1986, but it was voted down by the city council.

L/G comics sought

NEW YORK — The Museum and Archive of the New York Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center is seeking submissions for an exhibition of cartoons and comic strips relating to lesbian and gay experience.

The exhibit, to be called THECARTOON SHOW will be mounted as part of an ongoing series of exhibits by the Center's National Museum of Lesbian and Gay History. It will be curated by Mark Johnson, a member of the museum governing committee, and cartoonists Jennifer Camper, Burton Clarke and Howard Cruse.

The exhibition will be held at the Center from April 12 to May 25, 1990.

For more information about the exhibit, write THECARTOON SHOW, The Center Museum and Archive, 208 W. 13th St., New York, NY 10011

Border to border, cover to cover.



Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly





OSAT Productions presents



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Tuesday is Movie Night

25¢ draft & free popcorn 8 pm - 11 pm

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Wednesday 7 pm - 11 pm

Saturday 2 pm - 6 pm Nashville's Sunday Night Party Place!





... Austin Peay organized

continued from page 1

Attorneys for the Coalition refuted the evidence submitted by the Board of Regents. Sociology professor Glenn Carter, faculty adviser to both the Coalition and the newlyformed OSGL, said attorneys presented findings that showed no increase in homosexual or criminal activity on campuses which had already approved such groups.

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

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

It was in July, 1980 that federal district court Judge Thomas Wiseman issued the historic ruling giving official recognition to the Coalition, only a few months before the group's leaders graduated or left school.

"A group like this depends on its leadership and when our leaders graduated, those who were left just weren't leaders. The Coalition

just floundered around waiting for new leaders. Then it just folded," Carter told "Dare last

The court victory won by the APSU students changed a State Board of Regents ruling that student organizations in state colleges and universities had to be "recognized" by the school. Now they must simply register as an organization on campus.

Wiseman's 1980 ruling paved the way for student organizations at Murfreesboro's Middle Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Memphis State University and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Groups at MTSU and UT-K remain active after more than a year of organization, while students at UT-C continue to discuss the feasibility of organizing. Memphis State's lesbian and gay student group has been inactive for the past few years.

Just last year, when asked why APSU students had been reluctant to reactivate a campus group, Carter said "it seems our gay and lesbian students are content now to remain in

GALLIP volunteers train

• continued from page 1

"I didn't realize until after it got hooked up that as soon as you get a number, you're in directory assistance," said Campbell. "I've already gotten quite a few calls."

Callers have ranged from people seeking information on AIDS to people moving into Nashville who "want to know where the gay areas are." Calls have also come in with questions about other cities and towns in the area.

The calls have come in despite "virtually no advertising, except to recruit volunteers," Campbell said. When the line officially becomes active, she hopes to publicize it to as widely as possible. Her efforts include trying to get the number placed under a "Gay and Lesbian Services" heading in the Yellow

"We're in the process of trying to get a new heading," she said.

Operating hours for the switchboard will be determined by the staff after training. Callers will also be able to leave messages on an

answering machine. When people call the line now, they often do not leave a message.

"I don't know what that means at this point," said Campbell, but added that the switchboard is "a safe place to leave your telephone number and your name."

In addition to the switchboard, GALLIP is renovating a "community meeting space" at 168 2nd Avenue North.

"The long range goal for GALLIP is to be a community center for the gay and lesbian community," said Campbell. "My hope is that the room down there will become a meeting place for the community."

Campbell's goals also include establishing a speaker's bureau, support services for lesbian and gay youth, and information to support a lesbian and gay rights ordinance in Nashville.

For more information on the switchboard or other GALLIP projects, call (615) 297-0008. The hotline will begin offering complete services on Nov. 1, Campbell said.

...Memphis center opening set

continued from page1

vital to the Center's success.

Ken Horton, Board chair, said the Center has already made major strides in uniting the various segments of the community.

'We've been getting a lot of volunteer help for the Center," Horton said. "And we are making plans for the future."

Work on the Center began several months ago when, during the annual meeting of the Memphis Gay Coalition (MGC), Horton claimed it as a prime goal of the Coalition. Reaction from city officials was much better than anticipated, although board members did encounter some difficulties when talking to realtors about space for the Center.

"But we were fortunate to find someone who would work with us and now we have a really good landlord who owns a lot of property all over town and who has been great to work with," Horton said.

Already, the MGC has committed to having 24 meetings at the Center, including its popular "Gay Rap" series, Stilwell said.

Established as a "completely independent" organization, the Center's space will be offered to a variety of groups and organizations for meetings and special events.

"It opens up all sorts of opportunities for people who are either too young to go to bars or who choose not to go to bars," Stilwell said.

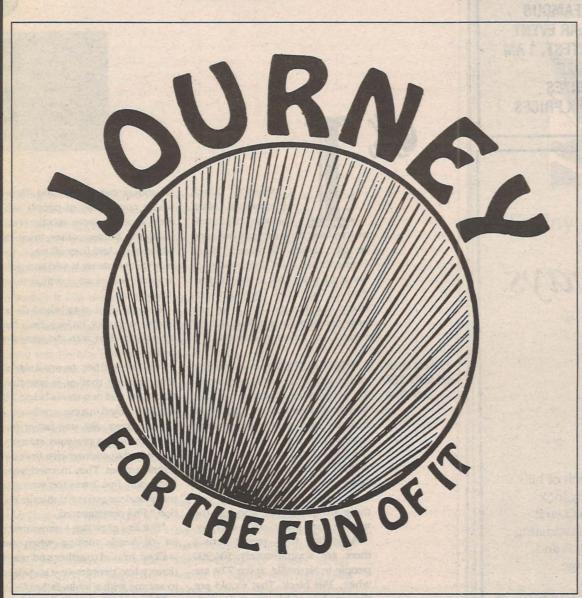
Horton said, however, that bar owners in the Memphis area have been supportive of the board's efforts to establish the center.

"The bars have been an enormous help, allowing us to hold our fund-raisers. In fact, we raised \$5,000 in fund-raisers at various bars in the city," Horton said.

Organizers have compiled a "wish" list of things needed for the Center, Stilwell said, including VCRs, a large screen television and kitchen appliances.

Interest has also been expressed in starting the Memphis Gay Men's Chorus, Horton said, and the Center is seeking a rehearsal piano for that group. .

Opening in November



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CENTER

Double jeopardy.

BLA & G

t wasn't 'Black Homosexual Male' that was yelled at me as I walked down school hallways or city streets...It wasn't 'Black Homosexual Male' that made me cry at 11 years old. It was 'faggot.' And it's faggot that I will now embrace like the prodigal...we can now decide what it will or will not mean."— R. TIMOTHY JACKSON

First in a series by **LAURA TEK** Staff Writer

1989.

what is it like to be both gay and black, to be doubly oppressed? To encounter double trouble, double discrimination? And to encounter hate, fear and prejudice from within, of all communities, the gay and lesbian community?

Phil (who spoke on condition his last name not be used) is a black man living in Nashville. He says there are other men who feel the way he does, black, white and gay.

According to a recent census there are approximately 504,900 people in Nashville. Some 77% are white, 23% black. That would put the number of blacks at approximately 116,127. And if we pay heed to Alfred Kinsey's somewhat dated research, that means that more than 11,000 Nashville blacks are gay or lesbian.

"It's true that a lot of gay blacks don't socialize within the gay community here. There are only a few, the same few," Phil said. "Most gay blacks will not take any issue at all with gay rights. They feel that it's not for them because they feel that they have much more to lose than the young, pretty little white boys, who, regardless of what they do, are still white and because of that, will still have the upper hand."

If there are so many gay and lesbian blacks in Nashville, where are they? They're certainly not at the predominantly white gay bars or white gay-oriented and sponsored activities.

"I personally don't know of any black lesbian or gay bars or organizations in Nashville. The black gay community, instead, has what I call an underground," Phil said. "It is a whole community of people who meet at other places, mostly at one another's homes, other than the white bars. And they all hope and pray that whatever is said and done in those homes stays within those boundaries."

Because Phil was raised in an interracial family, he feels he is better able to deal with the issues of prejudice.

"My step-father is an Austrian Jew, and my mother is one-third Cherokee and two-thirds black. My real father died in a car wreck when I was young. My step-father had children from a previous marriage so we had to connect two very different families. They married when I was only five. I was too young to really understand racial discrimination," Phil remembered.

"But as I grew up, I remember a lot of heads turning when we walked around together and many times when people were surprised to see me with a white father."

Phil says that prejudice is not confined to only one group. Both the gay and the black communities are guilty.

"In the black community, there is not such thing as being gay or homosexual, those are words that are 'white' oriented. There is a great deal of denial within the black community. There are men who have on-going relationships with other men but who will not admit that they are gay. Most parents play what I call 'charades.' They tell themselves that their lesbian daughters or gay sons are just going through a phase. The black community has always been very familyoriented. So if you move away from that, you'll lose all of your support," Phil said.

WHAT IS IT LIKE coming out to a black family?

"Coming out to a black family,"
Phil said. "Let alone, to the black
community, is extremely difficult,
more difficult I'd think than a white

gay coming out to his white family because it's a culture that still believes that anything gay is weak. So black gays and lesbians are very reluctant to put themselves in a further oppressed situation.

"The black community is very chauvinistic. It has definite ideas about what is 'manly' and what is not. If a son was thought to be growing up a little feminine the family's comment was 'Put him in the Army, the Army will make a man out of him.' Black parents play a great deal of denial.

"A lot of black gay men will try marriage, sometimes more than just once. Or they'll go out and father kids just to prove and reassure their manhood.

"And I think that's because even though the man is supposed to be my parents would never tolerate a the dominant one, historically, it's always been the black woman who has brought and held the black family together. She was always the one that you loved and respected. The father was just there to provide the financial support and not much else. It was the mother who did all of the disciplining. So the mother sees it as a weakness if her son 'turns' gay. She'll tell them that it's a hard and unhappy life. She'll tell them about the high suicide rate among gays, especially among black gays. And she'll end it with 'and you want to live like that?""

How did Phil come out to himself and to his family?

"I've known I was gay since I was 13. I'm 30 now. I was very confused as a teenager because I remember seeing stereotypical gays in the media or just hanging around, and thinking 'Well, I know I'm different, but I'm not that different' and I couldn't relate to that. There were just no positive gay role models at that time. Unfortunately, this is still true," Phil lamented.

"So I'd go down to the only place I thought I could go, and that was the public library. I'd go there all by myself, go through the card catalog and look for anything that dealt with and gay men throughout the state.

homosexuality. I'd end up staying there for hours just reading. One of the first gay-themed novels I ever read was James Baldwin's Gio-VANNI'S ROOM. I must have read that a hundred times

"And although my mother was a clinical counselor, and had some books like that at home. I was too afraid to read them because then she'd wonder why I wanted to read about such a subject.

"One of the first clues that I had growing up that told me I was different was my involvement in heavy contact sports like tackle football and wrestling. I enjoyed them a lot. I used to actually play football on the street, which is a lot different than playing on grass.

"I was conscious of the fact that swishy, feminine person in their home, although they did actually have a couple of older gay friends. But the words 'gay,' 'queer,' 'homosexual' or 'faggot' were never used in our house. Instead, the word was 'different.'"

PHIL AND his parents have never actually sat down and talked about his homosexuality.

000 BLACK E. CAY

"When I started to do a lot of AIDS advocacy work, they noticed how adamant I was about it and that I didn't care about the stigma attached to it. They've never asked me about it. In fact they've been very supportive," he said. "So they are aware of my involvement in the gay community, but I think they only feel comfortable with it because my involvement is only through AIDS advocacy." •

Editor's note: Next week. Phil talks further about racism and interracial dating in the gay community. In coming weeks, Laura Tek examines the issues affecting black lesbians

HALLOWEEN KTACIILAR



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Monday, October 30 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL and TRICK OR TREAT

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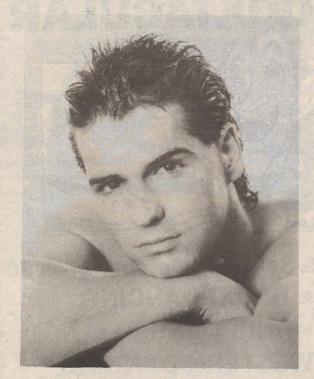
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URTAIN

Sittin' and talkin'

A COUPLA WHITE CHICKS SITTING AROUND TALKING. by John Ford Noonan. Directed by Robert Kiefer. Actor's Playhouse of Nashville, Inc. Through Oct. 21.

reviewed by JEFF ELLIS

WITH A TITLE like A COUPLA WHITE CHICKS SITTING AROUND TALKING, you know the show's gotta be a little bit off the beam.

Off the beam it is: John Ford Noonan's play is a funny, touching, raucous, down-right good time about a mismatched pair of women who you know are destined to become good friends given a little time.

Although at times the script seems to be moving headlong toward predictability and cliché, Noonan manages to surprise you by detouring the action into unknown - and unexpected - territories. The plot turns and twists enough to keep you thoroughly engaged in the shenanigans on stage.

The show is presented by an endearing pair of talented ac-

tresses, each of whom exhibit a flair for broad comedy and sweetly-touching pathos. The two play off each other as naturally and effectively as any two opposite personalities who are destined to become friends.

As Hannah Mae Bindler, the transplanted Texan who has invaded the Westchester County, New York home of her next door neighbor in hopes of finding a friend and soulmate, Rita Frizzell makes the most of her role, playing it big and brassy (just like Hannah Mae) but keeping just the right amount in reserve to prevent her character from becoming a cartoonish harridan. Hannah Mae is an ebullient personality whose voice is as loud as the clothes she wears, and whose heart is as big as Texas.

In this role, Frizzell shines, perhaps coming

into her own as a fine character actress. Too often she's been cast in romantic ingenue parts that just don't ring true. In WHITE CHICKS, however, she's entertaining as hell - you just can't help liking her Hannah Mae.

Melissa Bedinger, who plays the uptight Westchester matron Maude Mix as a Stepford

wife clone, is just as effective as Frizzell. Her stiff movement and deliberate delivery seems at first to be caused by her stage presence, yet her deft portrayal belies a carefullycrafted performance of a woman whose icy reserve is slowly melted by the loudmouthed, eager-to-please Hannah.

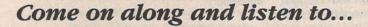
The power of Bedinger's performance is more keenly

felt as her character evolves into a fun-loving, independent woman learning to stand on her own two feet.

Rick Harrell's set, a BETTER HOMES AND GAR-DENS-inspired Westchester kitchen, is amazing, making use of every square inch available in the small Actor's Playhouse space. Actually, the staging area seems anything but small, given a sense of expansiveness by Harrell's design.

Robert Kiefer's direction is thoughtful and somewhat restrained, the perfect blend for a script that calls for a catfight and histrionics, quiet rage and tears.

Special attention should also be given to Thom Byrum, Helen Aiken and L.B. Gaiters who serve as dressers and who are largely responsible for the play's pace. •



THE LULLABY OF BROADWAY. Directed by Katie Gladfelter. Rave Revues, Backstage at the Barn. Through Nov. 4. reviewed by JEFF ELLIS

Fditor

vues to come up with an imaginative new way to showcase recent Broadway musical standards. The result is a funny, well-sung evening of music that's truly a delight.

THELULIABY OF BROADWAY, directed by Katie

Gladfelter, features some of the most memorable music to come from the Great White Way in the past few years. Although many of the songs have been heard countless times before, Gladfelter's cast presents them in such an entertaining package — throwing off the constraints of a typical musical revue, replacing it with a laugh-filled night of improvised lunacy - that

it seems as if you're hearing the tunes for the first time.

In the loose framework of the revue, the audience plays an important role: secret guests at the "dress rehearsal from hell." The

LEAVE IT TO the creative team at Rave Re-talented quartet of singer/actors who bring the stage to life with their superb performances include the bitchy diva (Rave Revues stalwart Martha Gabel at her musical and comedic best), the eager-to-please ingenue (Opryland veteran Jodi Collins-Adkison, who

may be the first actress who can match Gabel note-fornote, laugh-for-laugh), the handsome baritone who's fed up with the diva (Stephen Randolph in a pleasing turn) and the lyric tenor who's struggling with the director's choice of music (Tim Fudge, whose beautiful voice helps make the final act a triumph).

During the show's three

acts, the quartet on stage is given ample comedic support by "director" Michael Bouson (whose ad-libs are hilarious) and wardrobe mistress Blanche, a would-be

continued on page 9



Dare

CURTAINS

Experiencing Miss Daisy

DRIVING MISS DAISY. By Alfred Uhry.

Directed by Ron Lagomarsino. TPAC Broadway Series. Jackson Hall. Through Oct. 22.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**Editor

ALFRED UHRY'S DRIVING MISS DAISY is a lyrical comedy with naturally dramatic undercurrents, evocative of both the old south and the encroaching new age.

Starring the almost-legendary Julie Harris and Brock Peters, the play is a moving experience, cuddling and cajoling in its humanistic humor, heart-tugging and sweetly emotional

in its more serious underpinnings. Although the plot is somewhat slight, with a running time right at 90 minutes, DRIVING MISS DAISY nonetheless delivers a deeply felt message in the guise of entertaining comedy. And its power derives from the playwright's ability to

tell his story in that hour and a half, leaving the audience satisfied, their cheeks tear-stained, their hearts full.

Uhry's story follows a quarter-century in the lives of an aging Jewish matriarch and her chauffeur in the Atlanta of 1948-1973. The playwright creates his characters knowingly, investing in them the traits only a Southerner could truly appreciate and recognize.

In the course of those 25 years we share with Miss Daisy Werthan and Hoke Coleburn, we are offered brief glimpses of the social changes and upheavals that accompanied the approach of the New South. In Uhry's story, amid the sweetly evocative story of deep South customs and morés, the recurring theme is prejudice — racism and anti-semitism..

In a prologue, before curtain's rise, we learn that 72-year-old Miss Daisy has had a history of automobile accidents, causing her insurance company to deny coverage. Her

... come on along

continued from page 8

Broadway legend. In fact, the real show may be what happens off-stage between acts, wicked improvisation that knows no bounds and takes no prisoners.

But amid all the crazy goings-on and hilarity, Rave Revues once again produces a show that's a true winner (although act two needs a little trimming). THE LULLABY OF BROADWAY has everything a musical revue should have—and more.

Not the least of those things is the presence of Martha Gabel, who over the past months has entertained audiences with a string of performances unequaled by any local actress. In this show, Gabel obviously relishes her role and treats the audience to some beautiful music, including "I Dreamed A Dream" from LES MISÈRABLES, "Ladies Who Lunch" from COMPANY and the title song from CABARET.

Collins-Adkison, new to the Rave Revues stage, plays her Opryland caricature to the hilt, high-kicking her way into the audience's collective heart. Her exquisite voice is given

son Boolie (Stephen Root) insists she employ a driver, much to Miss Daisy's consternation. It is into that mother/son argument that Hoke enters, initially seen as an interloper by Miss Daisy, but eventually becoming a trusted and valued friend.

Their story is told in a series of vignettes which enlighten the audience to the subtleties

and nuances of the characters—the layers of warmth, spirit and grit that belie both characters' outward independence. The characters' relationship is told against a backdrop of the civil rights movement and the changes it brought about in the South.

For Southerners, the experience is an even more personal one: we've all known Miss Daisy and Hoke at some time or another. They are likely to be found in any small Southern town or along the quiet residential streets of some sprawling urban area.

Julie Harris is an exquisite Miss Daisy, her performance luminous and richly drawn. As she ages from 72 to 97, the multiple Tony award-winning actress displays a range and talent that's startling, giving truth to her impeccable acting reputation as she gives voice to her expertly-crafted character.

As Hoke, Brock Peters delivers a performance that's remarkably restrained yet ultimately powerful and mesmerizing. Peters breathes such life into his role that Hoke becomes a paragon of dignity.

In the often overshadowed role of Boolie, Stephen Root is superbly cast. He presents a respectful, loving son forced to make difficult choices for the care of an aging parent. •

full recognition in her songs from MACK AND MABEL and THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA and "Suddenly, Seymour" from THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS.

Act three's spotlight falls on Fudge, who in earlier acts only gives the audience hints about his wonderful voice.

His "Music of the Night" from PHANTOM and "One Day More" from LES MISÈRABLES WERE STUNNING.

Randolph is given his chance to shine in "Corner of the Sky" from PIPPIN and "Song on the Sand" from LACAGEAUX FOLLES, and proves himself adept at comedy throughout the show.

Nathan Burbank's piano accompaniment is a superb display, a virtually non-stop performance that provides the perfect complement to the antics on stage.

And, in the cameo performance that tops all cameo performances, Joe Correll, a Rave Revues regular, almost steals the show. We won't spoil it by telling you just what it is that he does, but he'll have you in stitches.



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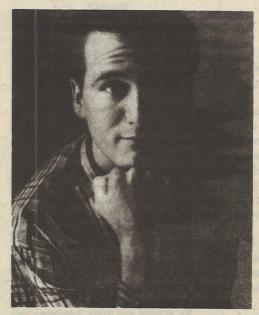
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Do You Talk About AIDS On The First Date?



Phillip: I sure do.

That surprises me. A lot of people don't like to talk about AIDS.

<u>Phillip</u>: Nobody talks about it. But everybody's afraid of getting it.

Are you afraid?

Phillip: Of AIDS—yes. Of talking about it—no.

What sort of reaction do you get when you mention AIDS?

Phillip: It certainly gets their attention.



Chaltanooga Council on AIDS Resources, Education and Services (Chaltanooga CARES) Box 8402, Chaltanooga, TN 37411 call (615) 266-2422 aids Response Knoxville (aRK) Box 3932, Knoxville, TN 37927 call (615) 523-AIDS

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a public service message from Dare and Tennessee Responds to AIDS

VIEWS

Good work!

LESBIANS AND GAY men in the Memphis and Nashville areas have reason to rejoice!

Community-oriented activists in both cities will soon open centers designed to provide meeting rooms, reading areas, rehearsal spaces and "safe" places for members of the lesbian and gay community. The centers, long hoped for and worked toward, are finally opening thanks to the dedicated efforts of small, hard-working groups of people in each city.

Memphis, for several years, has had a lesbian/gay switchboard in operation, along with a number of active, committed organizations. The community center, which will have its official opening on December 3, marks the natural progression of the community, providing an alternative to current offerings.

Nashville, working at hyper-speed since the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights to augment earlier efforts in the area, will soon have a lesbian/gay switchboard, run by volunteers, to assist visitors and residents alike to become better informed about the community. The switchboard will be followed by the establishment of a community center in the state's capital city, both sure signs of a renaissance in the lesbian/gay community.

We're certain the state's other cities will take the lead and we'll see lesbian and gay community centers throughout Tennessee.

That idea is not so far-fetched. Who would have ever thought, only a few short years ago, that four of the largest universities in the state would have student organizations for lesbians and gay men? Now they do and the Volunteer State is all the better for it.

Keep up the good work! •

Bette Davis

AN ERA IN MOVIE-MAKING ended last week with the death of Bette Davis, the archetypal "bitch-goddess" who for the greater part of this century, entertained audiences the world over with her screen performances.

Unlike any actress before her, Davis embodied the modern woman both on-screen and off, an independent firebrand, determined to experience all that life offers, refusing to be satisfied with a plate that's half-full, a pay envelope that's half-empty. She set the stage for the liberated, liberating woman of the '70s, '80s, '90s and beyond.

And unlike many of those who have followed in her wake, Davis' screen portrayals are a compendium of memorable characters, each indelibly etched with her particular blend of theatricality and dramatics.

During her illustrious career — recognized by multiple Academy Awards, Golden Globes, critics' citations and an American Film Institute salute - Davis created film characters that will live forever in the hearts and minds of her devoted fans. Her on-screen words have become standard issue in the repertoires of the witty, the calculating and the urbane.

While Davis herself is gone, we are left with her cinematic legacy. And, for that, we will be eternally grateful.



TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

"I am the Love that dare not speak its name."

— Lord Alfred Douglas, "The Two Loves," 1892

October 20 - 26, 1989 Volume 2 Number 42

Dubliche STUART BIVIN

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Dare logo designed by RUSEL BROWN



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

ADVERTISING

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$32 per year, \$16 for six months. Postal Service: send address changes to: Circulation Department Dare Box 40422 Nashville, TN 37204-0422

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ARCHIVES

Dare is available on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

SOAPBO

Questioning coming out

by CAROLE CUNNINGHAM Staff Writer

Although it's topped the best seller lists for over a year, only recently did I skim through a copy of Robert Fulghum's ALL I NEEDED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN.

Being a no-so-closeted literary snob, I thought the title sounded too much like WHAT COLOR IS YOUR PARACHUTE? and the author's name too hypnotically similar to "L. Ron Hubbard" to be taken seriously.

So only in the relative safety of Waldenbooks (a bookstore in which I never shop and would never expect to be discovered by those I know or respect) did I sheepishly open Fulghum's book. What I found is, of course, what millions of other readers have found: essays of insight and humility speaking in plain language the truths we've always known but got too big to believe.

I think sometimes as writers, and sometimes just as human beings, we're aggravated not by how much there is to write about, but how little.

The subject about which I am exclusively asked, is one and only one. That subject, of course, is "coming out."

I've wanted my answers to questions about coming out to be complex, maybe even evasive, but the answers needn't be so. Most questions about coming out take one of three forms, and I was asked each of these questions during the week of National Coming

"Do you really think people who stay in the closet hurt the cause of gay rights?" Absolutely. We suffer nothing greater as gay men and lesbians than our own literal self-effacement. And, yes, that does mean I think everyone "should" come out of the closet. Saying we should all try to come out and value coming out is saying nothing more than "try to be honest, try to care about yourself."

"Do you think it's okay to come out for other people - politicians, friends, country music sensations?" No, I don't. This issue is a stubborn one. I think the extent to which it occupies our thoughts or efforts is a sign of our fatigue or our frustration, or maybe just boredom. By pointing to the demon we believe writ large in the form of a talk show host or rock star, we ignore the thousands or

millions of demons here at home, and our often prurient interest in the lives of the allegedly closeted "powerful" gives them a power they don't deserve.

Coming out to our boss, our mother, our rabbi, to our lover, does more to advance gay and lesbian rights than a Helms or Dannemeyer could do to hinder them. Futhermore, I don't think it's possible to come out "for" someone anyway: all you can do is accuse. And in accusing, you use the homophobia you hate as a weapon, the sexuality you defend to defame.

"So, you must think anyone less 'out' than you is in the closet. Isn't that intolerant?" It's true that while I try to understand the reasons people say they need to stay in the closet, I don't think those reasons are excuses. Shaw says in MRS. WARREN'S PROFESSION: "People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances." Neither do I. Or to put it another way, "I believe in people, not in circumstances."

I don't think anyone can measure for anyone else what being "out" means. If we're moving somewhere, the line we cross in moving "out" is always moving with us, just ahead, and receeding proportionately into the distance. So it's my line, no one else's. What I'm not "out" about now is different than what I was in the closet about some years ago. For that reason, I think all of us, no matter where we are, are "coming out," just like we're "growing up" but are never, thankfully, quite there. The better expression is probably just "growing."

There will always be something to say about coming out, and a new voice to say it.

When I'm asked what I think about an issue like coming out, the question often begins, "So you're saying. . . ." In closing for now, in homage to Robert Fulghum, I would like to recall with a gentle, but firm twist, something my mother liked to say when I was growing

with a wry smile she would say, "Heed what I say, not what I do." What I wanted to hear, and what I hope I can live in my own coming out and much more, is to "heed what I do, not what I say."



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Personal

- To Nicky: Why not have Germantown's best? You know you're worth it, if you just had the nerve. I'll be waiting for your answer. And you know how impatient I am
- Blue corn toe-tilla chips ain't the only thing we miss about the Distick, honey.
- Personal to Cathereeene Shanté, Tom, Steven, Mark and Eric: Didn't we see you folks hanging out with some homosexuals at O'Charley's last week? And what's this about photos not being taken at the Block because of cops waiting around? For the answers to these and other compelling questions, tune in to the CBS miniseries THE STEVE GOBIE STORY.

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LOOSE LIPS

Shut up and kiss me, comrade

"Many homosexual men move from small towns to cities, such as Atlanta, New Orleans and Key West, which have large homosexual subcultures. However, many small towns have a 'town queer' who is the focus of the covert bisexuality of the local youths."

— From the "Gays" section of the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SOUTHERN CULTURE. That section can be found right next to "Goo Goo Clusters" and "Grits." All tasty treats, we think.

"I refused to bash homosexuals."

Former United States surgeon general C.
 Everett Koop, in an interview on the PBS series

NOVA, discussing his handling of the AIDS crisis. Koop said former President Reagan expected homilies on sexual abstinence. Instead, he came out for more sex education, including recommendations for using condoms.

"Arguments over whether homosexuality can be punished, prayed away or conditioned out of people rage on, but common sense should tell us that as a group gays and lesbians make up a permanent minority. They

ans make up a permanent minority. They
Erich Honecker: this is "glasnost." — DARE FILE PHOTO
are not going to go

away. And society can reap considerable persecution and humiliation of thousands of

away. And society can reap considerable reward from encouraging them, like the rest of us, to remain faithful to stable, monogamous relationships, particularly now in the age of AIDS."

— Syndicated columnist Clarence Page in a treatise on domestic partnerships and what the hell to do about all these queers who want to get married and move in up the street and buy a

Winnebago and go to the Lawrence Welk Retirement Village in Escondido, Calif., when they get old.

"The ACLU will go to court and fight till dusk for a tax exemption for men who band together for the purpose of sodomy, then return to court a day later to have the tax exemption taken away from men who have banded together to play golf."

Arch-conservative syndicated columnist
 Patrick Buchanan, running off at the mouth again, this time about a Maryland country club being forced to admit women and end its long

history of discriminatory practices. What we want to know is: Where are all these country clubs for sodomites? We've always loved golf, but never found a country club that quite suited us.

Now we know what they mean about a hole-in-one.

"Meanwhile, nothing gets said about the intolerance ingrained in our culture that makes life hell for those like [Barney] Frank who discover they are different, about the legacy of

persecution and humiliation of thousands of gays and lesbians, about the occasional physical attacks and the deeper, unremitting assault on their sense of self-worth faced by those who choose to lead a gay life in America."

—An editorial in support of embattled U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) from the Oct. 9 issue of THE NATION.



... UNHS offers health care

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if they need it," Bufwack said. "We like for people to use the services we offer and to get them into care as soon as possible. We think that our confidential testing offers a higher standard of care for people who test HIV positive."

"We do encourage our clients who appear to be at risk to be tested for HIV infection so they may know and we may know how best to care for them. Part of what we do is also prevention and education, as well," noted Bufwack.

In addition to offering HIV testing and medical care, the clinics also offer dental services for people who test HIV-positive.

"We have found that many people have been rejected by their regular dentist, so we are able to meet their dental needs instead," Bufwack said. The dental services include preventive hygiene care, tooth saving and restoration of teeth.

To initiate services within the clinic system,

prospective clients need to call for an appointment.

Once someone comes into the UNHS family, they are assigned a physician who serves as their primary physician and oversees all their treatment. After the initial appointment, patients may come to the clinic during walkin hours which are maintained five days a week and two evenings.

The fees are based on a sliding scale according to income. Charges range from a minimum fee of \$3 per visit to standard charge. If a patient has insurance, that will be taken into account and appropriately billed and the remainder of the fee will be based on the sliding scale.

"It's important that people realize that the old saying that 'health care for the poor is poor health care' doesn't apply here," Bufwack said. "The quality of care here is excellent and it is provided with a much more loving touch."

For more information, phone (615) 226-