Starting next week: eightysomething – an eight-part look back at the 1980s

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 45



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TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY

NOVEMBER 10 - 16, 1989

Chattanooga to host Quilt

by DAVID McCOLLOUGH Contributing Writer

Chattanooga CARES and Miller Plaza will sponsor a showing of portions of the NAMES Project National AIDS Memorial Quilt at Miller Plaza, November 26 through December 3.

The Chattanooga display is one of the first showings of portions of the Quilt after its final complete display October 5-7 on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C.

The Quilt panels, each three by six feet in size, displayed in Chattanooga, will represent 208 people from throughout the southeast who have died from AIDS.

The opening will be Sunday, November 26, at 4 p.m. (EST) with a memorial and prayer service at Miller Plaza. Following the service, the unfolding ceremony will take place in the Pavilion of the Plaza. Members of the NAMES Project's Atlanta chapter will lead the ceremony.

The showing schedule, all times EST, for the week is: Sunday, November 26, 4-7 p.m.; Monday through Friday, 8a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, December 3, 12:30-4:00 p.m. The display is free and open to the public.

Portions of the Quilt were displayed earlier this year in Nashville on two separate occasions, first at Vanderbilt University's Benton (615) 266-2422.



Chattanooga CARES will co-sponsor a display of the NAMES Project National AIDS Memorial Quilt later this month at Chattanooga's Miller Plaza, the Quilt's first East Tennessee display.— DARE FILE PHOTO

Chapel during Pride Week festivities in June and again in September, during the annual meeting of the International Society for AIDS Education (ISAE) at the Nashville Convention Center.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Quilt's showing. Interested persons should contact Chattanooga CARES for information at (615) 266-2422.

Group, clergy go after porn first Ex-ambassador Rodgers leads Nashville anti-porn forces

by JEFF ELLIS

Editor

In what was termed the largest such meeting of its kind ever to be held in Nashville, some 400 members of the clergy — representing Catholics, Protestants, Jews and Mormons — vowed Tuesday to support efforts by the Joe Rodgersled Nashville Coalition Against Pornography (NCAP) to rid the state's capital city of hardcore pornography.

Clergy members promised NCAP leaders they would circulate petitions and help raise some \$300,000 earmarked for a media campaign to rid the city of what was termed "obscene videos and child pornography."

Led by former U.S. Ambassador to France Rodgers, NCAP has as its goal the closing down of adult bookstores and video arcades and the removal of sexually-explicit videotapes from the shelves of Nashville's 90-plus "family" video rental stores.

Plans call for the launch of the media campaign early in 1990, according to NCAP spokespersons. Clergy members taking part in Tuesday's meeting agreed to address pornography in their sermons slated for the week of January 14, 1990. A rally to be held February 1 at the Grand Ole Opry House was also supported by those in attendance.

Some 278 local congregations were represented at the breakfast meeting at the posh Opryland Hotel. The coalition of churches to fight pornography has been likened by some observers to a group which was instrumental in defeating the horse racing referendum in Metropolitan Davidson County in 1987 and 1988.

Jerry Kirk, head of the Cincinnati, Ohio-based National Coalition Against Pornography, praised local efforts, calling Nashville's "the best organized anti-pornography campaign I know of."

"It's a citizens' campaign, not a religious campaign," Kirk said, apparently disregarding the 400 clergy members at the meeting.

The Nashville effort has been gaining steam since early 1989 when NCAP was first organized. Local leaders looked to the success of a similar group in Chattanooga for inspiration in planning their offensive, according to NCAP • continued on page 4

Knoxville workshop focuses on homophobia

by MICHAEL SANDERS

Staff Writer

A Catholic nun and priest who have been speaking and writing on the topic of homosexuality in the U.S. and abroad since 1971, stressed a distinction between homophobia and what they termed "homonegativity" at an October 30 seminar in Knoxville.

The seminar on "Homophobia and Religion in Society" at Knoxville's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church also addressed the issue of the effects of homophobia and homonegativity on lesbians and gay men. Jeanine Gramick and Robert Nugent, the facilitators, defined homophobia as an irrational fear of homosexuals and homosexuality. A homophobic reaction, then, is a very strong negative emotional response to the idea of homosexuality as well as to all perceived homosexual behavior.

Gramick and Nugent cited the example of a recent District of Columbia incident in which a heterosexual couple were attacked because the woman was mistaken for a man. They said that people suffering from homophobia are likely to engage in active homosexual persecution and that they do so because they've been told homosexuality is wrong.

In contrast, Gramick and Nugent defined homonegativity as being a less strong and less damaging form of prejudice. They said homonegativity is "a more subtle • continued on page 4

Number of HIV-positive homeless growing Mobile Outreach Team warns of need for attention, education

by JACKI MOSS Staff Writer

As if the homeless don't already have enough to contend with, there seems to be a growing number of them who may be HIV-positive.

The numbers are not firm, nor are they astronomical, experts say, but all things considered, the number of homeless people who are HIVpositive will probably skyrocket in the future.

According to Sharon Byers, a psychiatric nurse clinician with Nashville's Mobile Outreach Team, there is an approximately three-toone ratio of men to women on the streets of Nashville.

"We usually deal with a popula-

tion that has a history of mental illness and drug abuse that cause dementia, but recently we have seen a couple of cases that got our attention because there didn't seem to be a background of mental illness. It just looks like their lives fell apart after an illness," Byers said.

"We have met a couple of people who have told us that they are HIVpositive and they showed symptoms of dementia which we suppose to be AIDS-related," she added. "We see many other people who show signs of HIV infection. When we talk with them we look for the ARC or AIDS-related changes and always try to persuade them to be tested." Byers' team tried to help both individuals who claimed to be HIVpositive, but were unsuccessful. One refused assistance and the other disappeared.

An abundance of high-risk factors among homeless people places them at extreme risk for ARC and/or AIDS

"There are a lot of risk factors among the homeless. Intravenous [IV] drug abuse is very common and they share needles and use dirty needles very often. Some of their sexual practices are certainly less than safe and they often prostitute for drugs or whatever it is they need to survive that day," she said. • continued on page 4



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Just like clockwork

Chattanooga

Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church Worship service, Unitarian Church. 7:30pm. Mondays Chattanooga CARES Closed support group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 266-2422.

mous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 276-7379. Thursdays Gay/Lesbian AA Open meeting. Unitarian Fridays Church 8pm

Clarksville

Thursdays OSGL Austin Peay State Un iversity Organization for Support of Gays & Lesbians, group for lesbians and gay men. Rm 4, Archwood, APSU. 4pm. Info (615) 648-7107.

Knoxville

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

Mondavs

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.

Tuesdavs

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.

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

Noon Lesbian Cedependents Anonymous At aRK offices. 8pm. Info (615) 933-8393.

Memphis

Mondays Gay Alternative Hour Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm. Memphis Gay Coalition Business meet-

ing, 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.

Tuesdavs

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

Wednesdavs

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

Wednesdays

P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians Sex Addicts Anonymous Closed meeting and Gays) Support group. St. John's Episco-pal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm. Nashville CARES Newcomers Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510. Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Affirmation Meeting for lesbian and gay Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. United Methodists. 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 366-6448. Into the Light (Women's Alcoholics Anony-

Gay / Lesbian Addictions Anonymous Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church. 8pm.

Thursdays

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

Serieusly Soher (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549. Nashville CARES Visualization Group. 7:15pm. Info 615 385-1510. Alternatives (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men. MCC. 8pm. Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics

(ACOA) No-smoke meeting. 8pm. Info (615) 264-7220.

Fridays

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

Saturdays

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

munity 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, 6pm.

Tri- Cities

Sundays

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

Tuesdays

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 information about time, location, cost, sponsor, and a contact person's name with address and/or phone number for verification. Deadline noon Tuesday for publication next Friday.

Big events

Tuesday, November 14 Meeting Music City Sports Association general meeting, at Warehouse 28,

2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville. Free. 6:30pm.

Sunday, November 19

Seminar Caring for Persons with AIDS in the Home. Sponsored by aids Response Knoxville (aRK) and the American Red Cross. At Red Cross Bldg, Knoxville, \$15 registration, 12:30-5pm, Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Monday, November 20

Consciousness Raising The RACE (Racial Attitudes and Concerns) Series. Discussion group. Sponsored by Black & White Men Together/Memphis. Free. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Thursday, November 23 THANKSGIVING DAY

Potluck Dinner Sponsored by Black & White Men Together/Memphis. 4pm. Info (901) 452-5894.

Monday, November 27 Planning meeting For Pride '90 celebration. At 1523-B Ashwood Ave, Nashville: Info (615) 297-4653.

Thursday, November 30

Film Cruising. Discussion follows. Sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda, at Heard Library Classroom, 21st Ave South, Nashville. \$1 donation. 8pm. Info (615) 292-5554.

Saturday, Exember 2

Craft Show Women artisans, sponsored by Nashville Women's Alliance. at Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. Free admission. 2-6pm. Info (615) 269-9670.



DATES

Dare

Thursdays

Info (901) 761-1444.

Saturdays

276-7379.

Sundays

276-1872

(901) 726-9443.

Thursdays

Info (615) 352-7039

Nashville

Nashville CARES

Unitarian Church, 8pm

Mondays only.

6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.

(615)320-0288.

Tuesdays

2252

4833.

Mondays

Noon. Info (901) 276-7379.

Murfreesboro

5:30pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Phoenix (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 10pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Twisted Sisters (ACOA) Open meeting.

Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info (901)

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

Agape New Life Church Sunday School,

9:30am. Worship service, 11am. Info (901)

Holy Trinity Community Church Wor-ship service, 11am. 1216 Forrest Ave. Info

Into the Light (Women's Alcoholics Anony-

mous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Lenter.

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

MTSU Lambda Support group for lesbian

and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni, of

Middle Tennessee State University. 7:30pm.

Group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 385-1510.

Lambda Group Closed Alcoholics Anony-

mous meeting for gay men and lesbians,

MAGNET (Married and Gay Network) Sup-

port group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC. 7:30pm: Info

Nashville CARES HIV+ Support Group.

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 PI, 3rd and

4th Tuesdays only. 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-

P-FLAG Meeting of Parents and Friends of

Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitar-

ian Church. 7:30pm. Info (615) 662-0332.

Sober Sisters (Lesbian Alcoholics Anony-

mous) Open meeting, MCC. 8pm.

ARC/AIDS Support

GROSS GOUNTRY

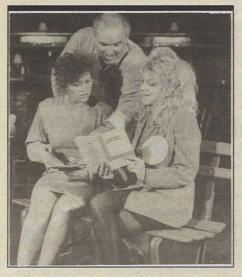
compiled by MARK LAWRENCE Staff Writer

HRCF supports pro-choice march

WASHINGTON — The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), a national advocacy group for lesbian and gay rights, has joined a coalition of groups supporting the Mobilization for Women's Lives, a pro-choice event planned for this Sunday, Nov. 12.

Plans for the event include a march on Washington and actions in individual states. Supporters of the Mobilization include the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Organization for Women, and the National Abortion Rights League.

"To a large extent, women's rights issues are gay and lesbian civil rights issues," said Tim McFeeley, HRCF executive director. "By working in coalition with women's and civil rights groups, we not only advance efforts toward equality in general, but specifically for gays, lesbians, and people with AIDS."



Director Mike Edwards talks with Donna Wright and Grand Ole Opry star Jeannie Seely, the stars of EVERYBODY LOVES OPAL, now playing at Chaffin's Barn in Nashville. — DARE FILE PHOTO

Dignity bead blasts Catholic AIDS statement

WASHINGTON — Pat Roche, the president of Dignity/USA, a national organization of lesbian and gay Roman Catholics, has criticized shortcomings in the recently approved statement of the American Catholic Bishops on AIDS and HIV. The statement, entitled "Called to Compassion: A Response to the HIV/AIDS Crisis," was formally approved at a meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops this past week.

"The statement's position on condom education is neither compassionate nor responsive," Roche said of the statement's position that chastity is the proper means of limiting the spread of HIV. "If the bishops are the pharmacists, young people are the patients, and chastity the only prescription, there will be a lot of unfilled prescriptions and a lot of needless deaths."

He also criticized the bishops for preparing the study without any input from lesbian and gay Catholics. "The fact that no lesbian or gay Catholics were apparently consulted is one more painful example of a church that preaches inclusion and practices exclusion," Roche said.

Settlement reached in insurance suit

insurance sua

NEW YORK — United Services Life Insurance Company has settled out of court in a lawsuit brought by a student who alleged that he was asked to pay a higher premium for a life insurance policy because he was perceived to be gay.

"John Doe," a heterosexual graduate student, claimed he was asked to pay more because he fit a gay demographic profile. United Services Life said it had no policy of discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation, and claimed they asked Doe to pay a higher premium because of an elevated liver enzyme test.

In the settlement announced by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which helped represent Doe, the insurance company agreed to follow the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' "Guidelines for Underwriting AIDS," which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. However, the company did not admit Doe's claims were true and said it settled only to avoid the costs of a lawsuit.

Bigotry lures recruits

ATLANTA — A report from the Center for Democratic Renewal (CDR) ties increases in violence against lesbians and gays to far right and white supremacist groups that are using anti-gay bigotry to attract new recruits.

The report, entitled QUARANTINES AND DEATH: THE FAR RIGHT'S HOMOPHOBIC AGENDA, was written by CDR research director Leonard Zeskind and noted human rights activist Mab Segrest.

"The Christian new right maintains [AIDS] is a punishment sent by God for the sin of homosexuality," said Zeskind. "Whatever the perception, a steady stream of murders and assaults has been the result."

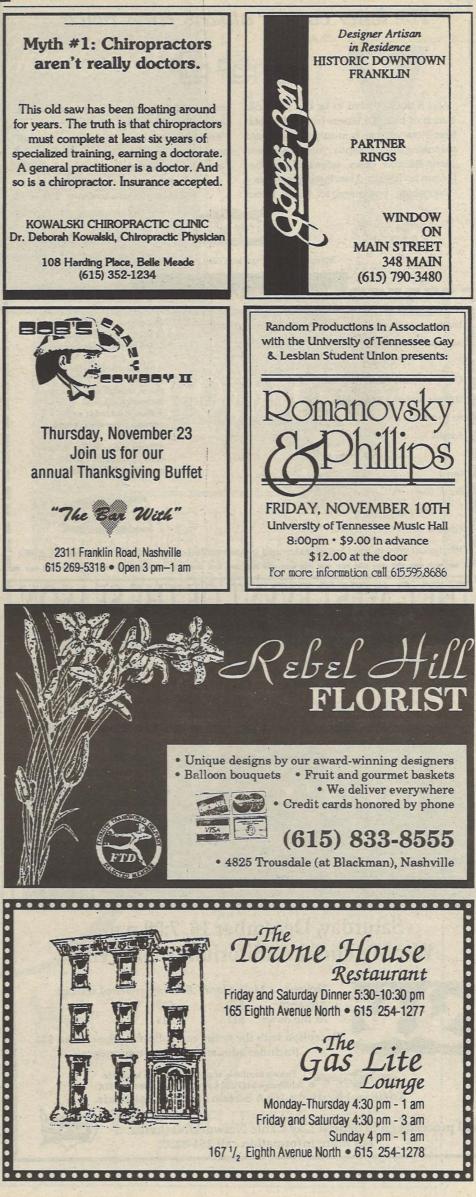
According to Daniel Levitas, CDR executive director, the 40-page report "describes the theoretical framework of the far right's homophobic agenda and outlines the basic steps needed to confront anti-gay bigotry." •

Pride coordinators meet

VANCOUVER, Canada — The International Association of Lesbian/Gay Pride Coordinators (IALGPC) held its Eighth Annual Conference here to discuss issues and make plans for future Lesbian/Gay Pride events.

The organization set up a helpline for individuals interested in establishing Pride events in their communities. Those who call (612) 336-4111 will be put in touch with IALGPC members with expertise in planning marches, parades, festivals and rallies.

The group also chose "Look to the Future" as the Lesbian/Gay Pride slogan for 1990, and began plans for a international Pride rally on June 26, 1994 to mark the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots. They also confirmed their support for the boycott of Coors products and the right of choice in regard to abortion.



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...group targets porn

• continued from page 1 spokesperson Diana Maas.

Dare

The Chattanooga group was responsible for closing down that city's adult bookstores and video arcades. After that, the group focused its attention on attempts to close the city's lesbian and gay bars, sources say, although they were unsuccessful. Some adult bookstores have reopened in the Chattanooga area but they do not have private video viewing booths. Nashville efforts experienced a setback earlier this year when a federal judge ruled unconstitutional a Metro statute that required the removal of doors from private viewing booths and required adult bookstores to follow the same closing hours as establishments that serve liquor.

Following that ruling, most adult bookstores in the city changed their hours of operation and replaced doors on private viewing booths.

....Knoxville homophobia seminar

• continued from page 1

form of discrimination and exclusivity" that is usually justified by religious beliefs.

A homonegative attitude is one that would accept homosexuality, but would see it as "non-normative," Gramick and Nugent explained. A person engaged in homonegativity might suggest that while homosexuals are okay ("Some of my best friends...") the actual acting out of homosexual impulses is not okay. This person might suggest that homosexuals should remain celibate or that homosexuals should never express affection in public, the two said.

This attitude would also include a refusal to equate the value of heterosexual and homosexual relationships.

Homonegative people were further characterized by Gramick and Nugent as likely to be authoritarian, fundamentalist in religious matters, status conscious, intolerant of ambiguity and hold traditional attitudes toward

...HIV among homeless

continued from page1

Byers explained that the IV drug-using population as a whole is usually not interested in learning or embracing a healthier lifestyle, making them among the most difficult to help.

"We have found that the gay population cares if they live and most have made changes in their lives to minimize their chances of getting HIV infection, but the drug-users are in denial about their drug problem and therefore, the potential for HIV infection," Byers said. "Drug users also see HIV infection as so far down the line that they feel it poses no real threat to them. And then there are the ones who say that even though they use IV drugs and are prostitutes and have all these risk factors, that they can't get AIDS because they are not gay."

Not only are the homeless people placing themselves at great risk for AIDS, but those who support themselves by prostitution place others at risk as well.

"We know many women and young men who prostitute regularly and the people who pick them up are not always other street

AIDS civil disobedience planned

from STAFF REPORTS

The World AIDS Day Coalition, an ad hoc group of lesbian and gay and AIDS service and advocacy organizations, announced plans for a major civil disobedience action at the White House on Friday, Dec. 1, to call attention to failures in the federal response to the AIDS epidemic.

The coalition released "A Call to Action" with demands that include "Leadership from President Bush, Secretary of Health and women, family and sexuality in general. Such people would likely view all deviate behavior as immoral, they added.

Gramick and Nugent also said it was not uncommon for lesbians and gay men to hold homonegative attitudes toward themselves and other homosexuals since they are products of a predominantly homonegative society.

Gramick and Nugent stressed that the seminar, sponsored by the Center for Homophobia Education (CHE) in New York, is designed for people who might be able to disseminate the information provided in the course of their work. Individuals in the clergy, educators, counselors, and peace and justice activists might be especially interested in hosting seminars in their community, they said.

Information is available to interested groups by writing to CHE, Box 1985, New York, New York, 10059. •

people. We hear from them that 'men in big cars' pick them up and they say that many of their clients are either middle class or upper middle class men," Byers said. "Many of the men who prostitute are not gay, but they say they can prostitute easily and make the money they need off these other men with money."

Byers said that in general homeless people who place others at risk for HIV do not mean to hurt people.

"How they see things is very messed up and they have needs that they have to meet in some fashion, so they use these means to that end," she said.

The Mobile Outreach Team is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to provide aggressive outreach to people who are chronically mentally ill and homeless. The services range from psychosocial assessment and counseling, to physical health, housing assistance and education.

"We do try to teach people about AIDS and how to use bleach and clean their works [drug-using apparatus]. We also give out condoms," Byers said. •

Human Services Louis Sullivan and the Congress..." and "Access to necessary treatments ince and early interventions NOW for all people with HIV infection regardless of sex, race,

> "Only leadership at the highest levels of our government can command the resources to address the ever growing crisis," claims the document. December 1 has been declared World AIDS Day by the World Health Organization.

sexual orientation, age or economic status."



Saturday, December 16, 7:00 p.m. War Memorial Auditorium • Nashville



Tickets:Main FloorBalcony(preferred seating)Advance\$10\$13At the door:\$12\$15

Reception with the entire cast following the concert \$25 (includes admission to the performance)

Tickets available at all Ticketmaster locations. Telecharge MC/VISA 741-2787 or 1-800-333-4TIX Additional locations: It's A Scream and The Book Oasis.

All proceeds go to benefit Gay Cable Network/Nashville For more information call 254-8250.



LOGAL GOLOR

compiled from STAFF REPORTS

Chattanooga

MCC commissioned

The Chattanooga congregation of Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) were told late last month that their church has officially been commissioned by the denomination's governing board.

The Chattanooga group has been meeting for several months, preparing for the official recognition. MCC is a predominantly lesbian and gay denomination with other Tennessee congregations in Knoxville, Nashville and Johnson City.



Romanovsky & Phillips will perform a concert tonight in Knoxville. — DARE FILE PHOTO

Knoxville

Romanovsky & Phillips to perform

Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips, called by one critic "the traveling troubadours of the gay experience" will be presented in concert in Knoxville tonight, Friday, October 10 at 8 p.m. at the University of Tennessee Music Hall.

Co-sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Student Union (GLSU) and Random Productions, tickets for tonight's concert are \$12 at the door.

Romanovsky and Phillips are in the midst of a 45-city nationwide tour. Last night, they performed in Nashville.

They are best known for their albums, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE TALLER and EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER. The pair last played dates in the Volunteer State in 1988.

Memphis

Circuit opens holiday show

This year's holiday theatre offerings get an early start when Circuit Playhouse premières THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE.

The show opens November 9 and continues through December 23.

Based on the story of the famous First Narnian Chronicle classic by C.S. Lewis, the musical, a blending of song and fantasy, pursues the theme that unselfishness towards others is a rewarding trait of human nature. Directed by Jay M. Kinney, tickets for the show are available by phoning the theatre box office at (901) 726-4656.

BWMT board meets

Members of the newly-elected board of directors of the Memphis chapter of Black and White Men Together (BWMT) met last month to set the organization's agenda for the coming year.

The ad hoc grants/finance committee reported its first objective was to apply for taxexempt status and was in the process of pulling together the necessary components for the application. The health committee reported that the K-A-B survey for the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention was completed locally with much success.

Members will meet Monday, November 27 at the Memphis Public Library's main branch at Peabody and McLean to assemble the group's December newsletter. •

Nasbville CARES benefit set

The show features Jonelle Mossier, Rufus Thomas, Anthony Crawford, Holly Farris, Smith and Petty, Lester Maddox, Kim Morrison and others, and will benefit Nashville CARES, a community-based AIDS services organization. The benefit, set for Sunday, November 12, at 7 p.m., at the Ace of Clubs, 114 2nd Avenue, South.

Tickets are available at any TicketMaster location and are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. \bullet

Sports association formed

Nashville's Music City Sports Association, founded in late August, will soon become part of the 23-city North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance.

In addition to providing area softball players with an opportunity to compete in the Gay World Series, considered one of the most spectacular gay sporting events in the world, creation of MCSA will open the door to future gay sports leagues in volleyball, tennis, wrestling and other sports.

Already, MCSA includes a 12-team bowling league (with league champions being determined next March) and a softball league featuring four teams representing The Chute, Warehouse 28, Juanita's and The Cabaret.

The next general meeting is set for Tuesday, November 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Warehouse 28, 2529 Franklin Road, Nashville. The meeting is open to current MCSA members and others interested in joining.

Kowalski honored, chosen for advanced study

Nashville chiropractor Deborah Kowalski was honored in Atlanta last month for distinguished service in the field of chiropractic. Kowalski also has been selected as a participating doctor in advanced study by Practice Consultants, Inc.

Kowalski has been active in the lesbian and gay community, serving as a volunteer for Gay Cable Network/Nashville.





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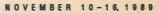
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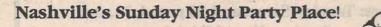
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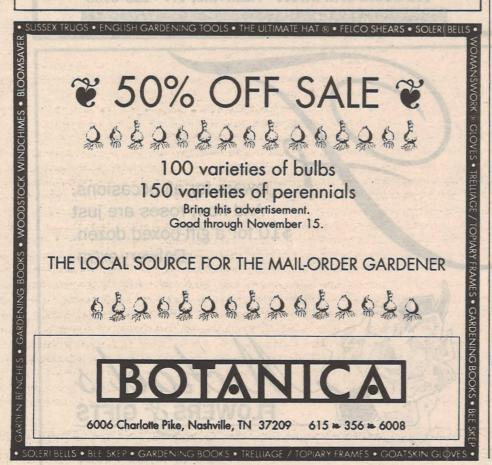
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Your silence will not protect you Our speaking is stopped because we fear the visibility without which we can not really live. — Gloria T. Hull



Fourth in a series

by LAURA TEK

Staff Writer

uthor and essayist Audre Lorde has written that it's like being "a triple outsider." Others have called it a phenomenon that's

have called it a phenomenon that's difficult to explore — being black, female and lesbian.

Jean (who spoke only on condition her last name not be used) is a 40-year-old black lesbian who has lived in Nashville all of her life. And she has experienced the double jeopardy of being black and gay.

"My relationships have been with both white and black women. Although most, however, have been with women who weren't lesbians, meaning that they were never previously involved sexually with other women," she says. "Right now I'm not involved in a relationship but I think that if I were she'd probably be white because all of my close friends are white."

Earlier in this series, Phil, a black man, noted that it's more difficult to be a black lesbian than it is to be a black gay man within the black community. Does Jean agree?

"Yes, simply because it's a lot harder for all women, not just black women, to stand up and say who they are and say what they want. For so many years women were taught that they had a set role in society," Jean says.

"Straight black men are probably the most homophobic group of people around. When they're around a black lesbian they feel as if they're being shunned and denied something. So most black men will take the attitude of being the ones who are going to 'straighten out' this black lesbian.

"Straight black men view black gay males as something less that men. But they'll slur black lesbians quicker than they will a black gay man. They'll say stuff like 'she's out of it physically' and get real angry about it. A black lesbian can try to ignore that stuff but if things suddenly go bad, if she's attacked...a man, even a gay man, can still defend himself against the violence. But a woman has little defense against a man.

"BLACK STRAIGHT men have always been hell on black women. That's because black women have always been the power in the black family. Black women have always had to take a lot of shit from them. So you can only imagine what a black straight man might do to a black gay woman. She wouldn't stand much of a chance. I've known some nasty things that have happened to black gay women."

Jean's acceptance of her lesbianism and her subsequent friendships with white lesbians all came about through her entry and involvement in the 12-step recovery process.

"For the past seven years, I have been in recovery. I attend 12-step meetings. Before I became involved in the 12-step program, I didn't know any white lesbians. It's only been through the program that I met and was able to become close to white lesbians," she claims.

"So, as I stated before, all of my close friends now are white.

VOLUME 2. NUMBER 45

Dare

PIECE **black and gay** outsider

ACK

GAY

They're who I primarily socialize with. I didn't plan it that way, that's just how it ended up."

Didn't Jean feel out of place entering an all-white 12-step program?

"No, because at that time I had so many things to look at in my life that race was not a priority or an issue to me. Please don't be mistaken and think that the program is meant to be an all-white program. It's not. That's just how it was when I got there," she says.

"I feel very secure and accepted now by my white lesbian recovery friends. I love them all very much." But is that enough?

"Outside of them," Jean admits. "It's very difficult and lonely for me in this community because I have a lot of fear, the fear that I'm sure most other black lesbians have, of seeing, being attracted to, and approaching a white lesbian and having them reject me simply because I'm black. Believe me, it's the most difficult type of rejection you can imagine. "So despite my recovery and as close as my friends and lare. I still at

close as my friends and I are, I still at times feel different from them because I don't think they can possibly understand this kind of fear.

"FOR INSTANCE, do you know how hard it is for a black lesbian to simply ask a white woman to dance? It's terrifying. I feel very insecure when I find myself attracted to a white woman because it's almost impossible for me to let them know of my interest. I think most black lesbians have this insecurity. They just don't feel comfortable enough to approach a white lesbian and start a conversation with them. I don't think my white lesbian friends understand this fear." Often, that fear is exacerbated by the lack of other black faces at social events or in the crowds at gay and

lesbian bars in town. "I used to go into bars and attend events here in town all by myself, not to ask for dates, but just to hang out, and it was horrible because not one person ever walked up to me and simply said, 'Hi,' except for maybe the owner or manager," Jean remembers.

"When you're the only black face in the crowd, it's a terrible feeling. All I wanted was to feel accepted and they treated me as if I didn't even exist. Think about it. How would you react to that? How would you like to be the only white woman in a black lesbian bar? And

you're just there to be somewhere and nobody acknowledges your existence? How would you feel?" BUT DESPITE the past heart-

aches and the lingering fear of not fitting in, Jean does see a gradual, however slow, improvement in the status quo for black lesbians.

"Things are getting better," she offers. "Gay and lesbian blacks are definitely coming out more. I see a lot more, especially the younger ones, going into the white gay and lesbian establishments than I used to. The kids seem to be more confident. They're quicker to say who they are and what they are. They're less ashamed of themselves and are quicker to acknowledge their homosexuality."

Next week: Wrapping it up.

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GURTAINS

Barefoot in Murfreesboro

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK. By Neil Simon. Directed by Ralph Smith. Murfreesboro Little Theatre, Through November 18. reviewed by JEFF ELLIS Fdito

SINCE IT WAS FIRST produced on Broadway, some 25 or so years ago, Neil Simon's BAREFOOT IN THE PARK has been done all the world, in countless dinner and community theatres, as a television sitcom and as a successful movie that starred Jane Fonda and Robert Redford

It's a laugh-filled two acts about newlyweds and life after the honeymoon, nosy neighbors and possessive mothersin-law. Laugh for laugh, Simon is probably the comedy boxoffice champ. But BAREFOOT, what with all its incarnations, has begun to show its age.

Dare

That doesn't deter the cast of Murfreesboro Little Theatre's current mounting of the show from doing their best to

breathe new life into the tired characters and situations. They succeed more often than not, but it might take a complete transfusion to make this creaky old warhorse of a play truly satisfying.

Luckily, though, there is that winning cast, a group of new faces and veterans that make you remember what community theatre has always been about. Director Ralph Smith puts his five member ensemble through any number of hijinks and hilarity and they succeed in being very likable and pretty entertaining. Yet something seems to be missing - energy. You can't fault any of the actors they each give credible performances - but often their interpretations of the play's action seemed to be too individualized, not enough of the ensemble creation sought.

For those people who've been stranded on a deserted island and don't know what the show's about, here it is in a nutshell: Newlyweds Corie and Paul Bratter, after six days of marriage, have moved into a one-room walkup in Greenwich Village. Their building is full of crazies, including their eccentric upstairs

neighbor Victor Velasco. Corie's over-protective mother, Ethel Banks, has trouble cutting the apron strings and often drops in unannounced for a visit. It's all typical sitcom lunacy, marked by pratfalls, belly laughs, a drunk scene and a few tears

Smith's cast includes a winsome Elisabeth Dugger as the impetuous Corie; a confident Robin Overbey as the re-

served Paul; Jon Friedman as the slightly offthe-beam Victor; Dorothy Harrison as the staid Mrs. Banks; and Michael Fletcher as an acerbic telephone repairman.

Dugger captures the essence of her character with a sweetly winning performance that rings with a natural resonance. She's altogether believable as Corie. Overbey is a good Paul - horrible wardrobe notwithstanding - and certainly knows how to milk an audience for its laughs. Friedman's on-the-mark performance is ideally suited to Victor Velasco's slightly skewed personality, playing Victor with just the right amount of craziness. Harrison plays Mrs. Banks with her expected style and grace, but displays enough confidence to take comedic chances, imbuing her character with wit and charm.

Gbosts

GHOSTS. By Henrik Ibsen. Directed by F. Elizabeth Parker. Epiphany Players. At Moorman Auditorium, Nashville. November 3-4. reviewed by JEFF ELLIS Fditor

PROBABLY THE MOST difficult thing a theatre critic is faced with is the occasional review of a production's dress rehearsal: there is an old theatrical adage, "bad dress rehearsal, good opening night." There's the rub

- it's not really fait to base one's assessment on a dress rehearsal, even if it's billed as

But if the old adage holds true, then opening night for the Epiphany Players' production of Henrik Ibsen's GHOSTS was wonderful. The dress rehearsal I saw, however, was dismal, full of dropped lines and miscues performed by an eager-to-

the task of creating believable Norwegian characters.

The blame cannot be heaped upon the director, the cast or the crew (well, I guess it



could, but I like to sleep nights) since they were beset by the flu which sidelined several members throughout the rehearsal period.

Presented as a benefit for Vanderbilt AIDS Project, the production's heart was definitely

in the right place and I've no doubt that director F. Elizabeth Parker is a fine director (that was apparent in the show's pace and blocking).

Set in Norway in 1881, GHOSTS tells the story of the dysfunctional Alving family and the people who venture into their lives. There is Helene (Linda Sparks), the matriarch, struggling to provide a welcome for her son,

please cast that was, unfortunately, not up to Osvald (Jay Cave), who's an artist suffering from syphilis. Not very far away, either in the words of the characters or in the portrait hanging above the fireplace, is Helene's late • continued on page 9



Darre

PAGES Another tale of the city

SURE OF YOU. Armistead Maupin. New York: Harper and Row, 1989. 288 pages, \$18.95. reviewed by TERRY J. VANDER HEYDEN Special to Dare

There are

no surprises in

Maupin's style, and

that's probably

exactly what his

fans want...Still,

readers can't belb

but get pulled

into it.

THEY'RE BAAAACK!

That's the warning to all aficionados of Armistead Maupin's TALES OF THE CITY Series. In sure of you, his sixth and final entry, Maupin takes one last swoop at involving his readers in the lives of his San Francisco zanies.

Maupin keeps up his usual pop writing style, casually dropping in items to identify the late 1980s: several characters have beepers to remind them to take their AZT, there are references to popular talk show hosts, characters drink Calistoga. In all of Maupin's stories, such references help include readers in what the characters are doing, and date the books to fit the series.

There are no surprises in Maupin's style, and that's probably exactly

what his fans want. We go back to Barbary Lane and Mrs. Madrigal, where the original book began. Her tenants from the 1970s are now scattered about San Francisco and England, and Maupin brings them back for a tale of love, disappointment, reconstructed lives and impending death.

Much of SURE OF YOU centers around Mary Ann Singleton and her husband Brian. Mary Ann is now a successful talk show host over her head in interviews with people like the woman who has her pets stuffed - and brings a specimen with her to the show.

We're also treated to glimpses of Mary Ann and Brian's daughter Shawna, inherited from Mary Ann's high school friend Connie. Maupin does a persuasive job of making us feel sorry for the little girl, who doesn't seem to see enough of her star-struck mother, while also showing us a brat who knows how to manipulate her yuppie parents.

Just across the street from Mary Ann and Brian's penthouse apartment, Mrs. Madrigal is packing to go off to Greece with her daughter Mona. Their adventure gives Maupin a chance to develop an entirely different story, a technique he uses successfully in each

... Gbosts

• continued from page 8

husband, a drunken, womanizing tyrant who made life hell for his wife and child. Trying to keep up appearances, Helene has endowed an orphanage that is to be dedicated in his name.

Pastor Manders (Lane Wright), who has been Helene's business adviser through the years, has come to the estate to take part in the ceremonies. Into this milieu, add the characters of Regina Engstrand (Michelle Thompson), a young maid in the Alving household, and her father Jakob Engstrand (Dan McMillin), a carpenter working on the orphanage.

What transpires is an often hard to follow

book. The trans-Atlantic tale is balanced well with what goes on in the various San Francisco lives, even though Maupin spends much less time getting us involved with Mrs. Madrigal.

Instead, he uses her as a diversion from the San Francisco story, and as a means of including as many of his previ-

ous characters as possible. As usual, however, Mrs. Madrigal comes to the rescue of the sane and rational by the end of SURE OF YOU.

Michael Tolliver is also back, living with Thack, the South Carolina man he met while touring Alcatraz in SIGNIFICANT OTHERS. Maupin develops Thack's character especially well, giving us someone highly critical of prominent gays who stay in the closet. He uses

Thack to show Mary Ann's phony side, too, and plays him against Michael when it comes time for the characters to pick sides.

SURE OF YOU is quick, fun reading. All of Maupin's six books produce some good laughs as well as poignant moments. But could sure of you be enjoyed by someone who hasn't read the other five?

Maybe, but the uninitiated reader will be left out of many of the passing references Maupin drops into the story. In fact, some of the references are so obscure that even the biggest TALES OF THE CITY fan may miss them. Maupin would have served his readers better by including a prologue updating us on what has happened to the Barbary Lane gang since they first appeared in SIGNIFICANT OTHERS.

STILL, READERS CAN'T HELP but get pulled into another story of the adventures and misadventures of people we all seem to know, would like to know or are are glad we don't know

Getting to the last chapter is like saying good-bye to long-time friends who probably won't keep in touch after they leave. In this case, at least we have six great volumes covering over ten years of TALES OF THE CITY.

story that delivers a rather potent historical message, a chilling reminder of how much things remain the same despite the changes of the past 100 years. Unfortunately, the performances were so uneven that learning that important history lesson is painfully difficult.

Lane Wright delivers, by far, the best performance of the evening, although at times he seemed far too reserved - even for the pastor. Linda Sparks' somewhat tentative performance is marred by her sometimes shrill delivery and the melodramatic overtones of her character. In the pivotal role of Osvald, Jay Cave was much too self-conscious, giving a performance that's affected and stilted, ruined by an arch staginess. .

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VIEWS

Thirtysomething else altogether

by **JEFF ELLIS** Editor

DID YOU SEE THIRTYSOMETHING this week? If not, you missed what may have been a first for a continuing television dramatic series a natural, frank, honest portrayal of a gay male relationship.

Heretofore, television's portrayals of lesbians and gay men have been one-shot episodes that treated the subject as an "issue of the week" or as little more than a tagline or description for an otherwise unremarkable, and not very gay, character.

But in Tuesday's THIRTYSOMETHING episode, the writers created situations and dialogue that were fairly ringing with truth.

The episode dealt with Russell, the gay artist friend of series regular Melissa Steadman (Emmy winner Melanie Mayron), a character introduced last season and seen rather sporadically in subsequent episodes. Last year, he mainly played the foil and confidant to Melissa's somewhat bohemian photographer character. This season, however, the writers have chosen to delve more deeply in Russell's character, and in so doing, they are presenting a more provocative consideration of lesbian and gay life.

The situation presented Tuesday night had Russell meeting an attractive, and gay, art director named Peter at the ad agency where series lead Michael Steadman (Melissa's cousin) works. Melissa immediately picked up on the attraction between the two and urged heterosexual Michael to "fix them up."

"What do I do?" Michael asked.

"I don't know," Melissa answered. "Something that's the equivalent to 'look at those hooters!"

So he did. And Russell and Peter had dinner, talked about art and ended up in bed. That's right. The men in bed. Together. On network *telev*

But what was ost remarkable was not that they were in bed, but that they were having a conversation two gay men would probably have during the "afterglow."

THEY TALKED ABOUT their realization they were gay, about coming out, about gay relationships and about AIDS. Although I hate to use the term — mainly because it will make the whole thing sound hopelessly maudlin it was really sweet.

Melissa and Russell, during their talk about the date, had a wonderful conversation filled with things real queers say like, "Do you think he's too queeny?" and "I look like a faggot with a paintbrush." That self-deprecation was appreciated because we knew where it was coming from.

Where Russell and Peter's relationship is going, we don't know and the producers aren't yet telling. But, hopefully, we'll see more of them as the season progresses.

Obviously, the producers and the ABC television network have felt some heat from the fundamentalist right-wingers who like to make these things their business. Maybe we should make it our business by letting the folks at THIRTYSOMETHING know what we think about it!

Dare

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TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

"I am the Love that dare not speak its name." -- Lord Alfred Douglas, "The Two Loves," 1892

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GOPING

Making it through the bolidays

by **STEVEN DAVIDSON** Contributing Writer

THIS IS THE TIME of year when most of us are considering such festive things as decking the halls and donning gay apparel. But for some the holidays may not be very "gay" after all.

Seasonal holidays such as Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's Day seem to carry emotional intensity for many people. We are socialized to expect these occasions to be happy times filled with lots of warmth, fellowship and family love. The reality, however, may often be very different.

Many factors influence our mood and our attitude at this time of year. Memories of previous holidays, good and bad, will affect how we deal with these same holidays in the present and future. We may find ourselves reflecting on losses of loved ones through death or the break-up of relationships.

If you are anticipating that the holidays will be difficult, then plan now to make them as pleasant as possible. Surround yourself with people who care about you and can be supportive and understanding. Let them know that this is a difficult time for you. Perhaps they have shared in your loss and will welcome your support as well.

Don't struggle to pretend you are happy if you are not. Grief and sadness are normal emotions and are a natural part of recovering from a painful loss. Suppressing these feelings may only prolong your emotional healing. Some people may even try ignoring the holidays by pretending they don't exist. This isn't the healthiest of options and certainly not the easiest, but it is an option.

To make this choice a success, treat the holiday like any other day. Plan activities that aren't holiday oriented, such as reading a book or catching up on housework. Eat nontraditional foods like pizza or hamburgers instead of foods like turkey and dressing. You might consider avoiding restaurants and shopping malls. Holiday reminders (decorations, music and the occasional fat man in a red suit) are everywhere.

Another big issue is how to deal with family. Many lesbians and gay men will feel obligated to be with family during the holidays and often their families don't know about their sexual orientation or aren't accepting of it. Unfortunately, many lesbian/gay couples will spend these holidays apart in order to meet the obligations of their individual families

Imagine it's Christmas day and here you are again, listening to the racist, sexist comments of your brother-in-law and thinking of creative answers to questions like, "Why isn't a nice 35-year-old man like you married?" or "Would you like to meet my nephew, he's an accountant and you be the perfect woman for him?"

Would you like to change the scenario? Make it different. Here are some suggestions:

• If you want to be with relatives at holiday gatherings, this year tell them you will be bringing a friend along. You don't have to be totally upfront about the nature of the friendship and this could be a good way to gradually help your family begin to accept the relationship.

• Invite the folks to your place. This way you and your lover could host the holiday celebration on your own turf.

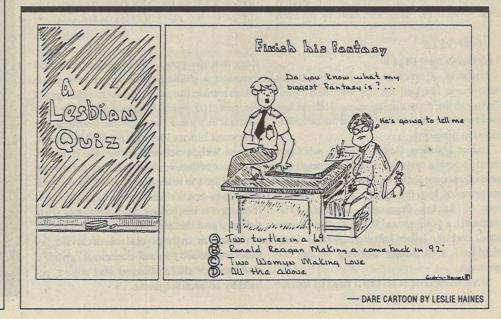
• If the whole idea of your family meeting your lover is too overwhelming, then tell the folks that you have made other holiday plans and spend that time with your lover or with friends.

• If you will feel too guilty for spending time with people who love and accept you for who you are instead of people who love and accept you for who they want you to be, then at least decrease the amount of time you spend with family and set aside time for yourself with your lover or friends.

REGARDLESS HOW GOOD or bad past holidays have been, you do have the option to make this year's holidays — and the ones in the future — better. Start by imagining how you would like to spend the holidays and see what you can do to make it happen.

If the holiday blues seem too severe to resolve with these simple suggestions, then consider seeking professional help. It sometimes takes an objective party to help us see ourselves and our situations more clearly.

Remember that you do have options and that choices are your's to make.



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• I love you Angel and enjoy being with you. Let's get married. - the Beast, Jungle Lounge.

• Photographer sks WMs 19-29 with athletic bodies for nude photo study. Confidential. Jackson. Phone Chris, (901) 423-1609.

• Heart tearing / slicing / fraying / sliding into / strings of / dis-ease / silent equality / death / sould and mind / endless agony / misery unseen / friends / suicidal heartstrings / breaking / upon sands of life / I / care not / who / gives a damn / where / when starting / annihilation an race asunder / children crying / drugs unseen / sea to shining sea / why me / why me / racing in a time / fools of indecision / illeteracy / blacks / greys / whites / all races in misery / child or adult / matter not to / AIDS death / stalking / upon each mind / unseen / string / strings / my heartstrings / broken / who cares / who / gives a damn / you / and / me!! – Rusty Slesinger, Aug 15, 1989.

CLASSIFIED ADS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS Π Name OFFICE USE ONLY Address D..... V..... R..... I certify that I am the person named above. No ad will be accepted without signature. A..... M..... All ad prices are for two consecutive weeks: \$10 for up to 100 characters, \$20 for up to 200 characters and so on.
 Prease print one character per box. A character is any letter, numeral, Run ad for 2 weeks 4 weeks Please print one character per box. A character is any letter, numeral, space or punctuation mark.
 We reserve the right to editads, 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. Responses will be mailed two weeks after the last appearance of the ad. To answer a drawer ad, write to: Dare Daver # _______ Box 40422 Nashville, Th 37204-0422
 Ads received by noon Tuesday will run the following Friday. Please weeks Ad cost per 2-week period \$..... + response drawer charge \$ 5.00 + BOLD CAPS charge \$ 5.00 = SUBTOTAL \$..... x number of two-week periods Ads received by noon Tuesday will run the following Friday. Please enclose check or money order for total amount, payable to: = CLASSIFIED AD TOTAL \$..... Dare + 1 vear \$20 subscription \$..... Box 40422 Nashville, T Nashville, TN 37204-0422. • Questions? Phone (615) 327-Dare. AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$..... 31 Str. 1

LOOSE LIPS

Where y'all from, Yankee?

"Sometimes I want to slap her. But then I want to hug her."

— Fashion designer, and king of the bugle beads, Bob Mackie, on working with Cher, who looks fabulous in his sequined gowns, but apparently can be a brat if she wants to.

"This southern woman was at this really fancy dinner party in New York. She turned to a northern woman seated next to her and said, 'Where are y'all from?"

"The woman answered coolly, 'We're from a place where we don't end a sentence with a preposition.'

""Oh, well, then,' the southerner replied. 'Where are y'all from, bitch?"

— Charlene Frazier, the pride of Poplar Bluff, Mo., on an early episode of CBS' hit comedy series, DESIGN-ING WOMEN.

"So Julia says, 'I don't see what all the fuss is about. Wilma Flintstone's been wearing that outfit for years."

- DESIGNING WOMEN'S Suzanne Sugarbaker, repeating Julia Sugarbaker's reaction to the fashion buzz about Nancy Reagan's costume (a one-shoulder Galanos gown and string of pearls) for her husband's first inaugural ball, in a recent episode.

"I don't want to be on a best dressed list. You know who's on it? Nancy Reagan. I don't want to share a column with her!"

— The inimitable, and obviously forthright, Whoopi Goldberg, who's been named to Mr. Blackwell's annual worst-dressed list more than once, to comedian/chatfest host Joan Rivers, on the latter's new syndicated series.

"Dan Quayle thought ROE V. WADE was a debate about how to cross the Potomac." — Comedian/musician Robin Tyler, quoted in Miami's THE WEEKLY NEWS.

"And for every 1,000 paragraphs you read about those suffering from AIDS, you are unlikely to find a single paragraph the burden of which is: Why is the name of God did this dope addict or this sex-driven gay take such chanses as he now suffers the consequences of?"

— William F. Buckley, in his syndicated column. His wife, society poo-bah Pat Buckley, is among the A-list members scurrying to curry favor with gossip columnists by lending their names to AIDS fundraisers.

"This category should have been called 'best lesbian vocalist."

 Michelle Shocked at the New Music Awards show in New York City, accepting her award for the folk album of the year category, in which she was nominated with Phranc, Tracy Chapman, Nanci Griffith and The Indigo Girls. The rumor that George Michael, Michael Jackson, Richard Marx, Elton John and Boy George were nominated for "best gay vocalist" has not been confirmed.

"Do you fear or dislike lesbians?

"Dahling, it's such a ridiculous question. There are even lesbian actresses, sometimes, so why should I dislike them? I just don't like when a woman lets herself get fat or ugly —

there's no excuse and then they become jealous of me, because I work hard at my job and keeping my looks.

"You like women less than men, as people?

"Some of my best friends are women, dahling, but women can be such awful bitches! I like men much more — men are my kind of people."

-Zsa Zsa Gabor, in a NEW YORK NATIVE INTERview with Boze Hadleigh, in the wake of her conviction in a Beverly Hills court room, but before she

reports to the slammer to do time.

"Steve Huygens, 25, spent 17 hours (and \$800) over a six-month period in a South Sioux City, Iowa, tattoo parlor for a tattoo of James Dean that stretches across most of his back, beginning at mid-thigh. Said Huygens, 'It starts lots of conversations." He also said it hurt to have it done."

— From the syndicated News of THE WEIRD. Yes, Steve, we're sure it hurts. Ever tried K-Y?

"Republican National Chairman [sic] Lee Atwater is scrambling to reassure conservative hard-liners that he does not consider their opposition to homosexuality "bigotry." A few weeks ago, Atwater caused a furor among conservatives when he praised California Republican leaders for defeating antigay resolutions at their state party convention. "There's no place in our party for bigotry," Atwater was quoted as saying.

"Now, in a letter to conservative activists Paul Weyrich and Gary Bauer, the chairman says press reports of his California remarks were a 'gross mischaracterizaton,' and he reaffirms his 'lifelong advocacy for traditional family values.' Hard-liners remain skeptical." — From the "Washington Whispers" column in U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. For his next act, Atwater, who's been seen lately on Nashville's Music Row recording his first blues album, will talk out of the other side of his mouth, while drinking water, whistling DIXE and burning an American flag.