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Dare

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 6

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

FEBRUARY 9, 1990

Crone in Tennessee to promote NLC

by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

Founders of the first National Lesbian Conference (NLC), scheduled for April 1991, are organizing grassroots groups across the country to pull off what may very well be an historic event.

According to Michelle Crone, one of the founders of the NLC, the conference "is a means of providing a space and forum for lesbians of diverse backgrounds to find the common threads among us. We hope to develop a vision about what is truly important for lesbians and determine the important issues and concerns of lesbians. From this forum, we want to set goals for a lesbian reality and agenda."

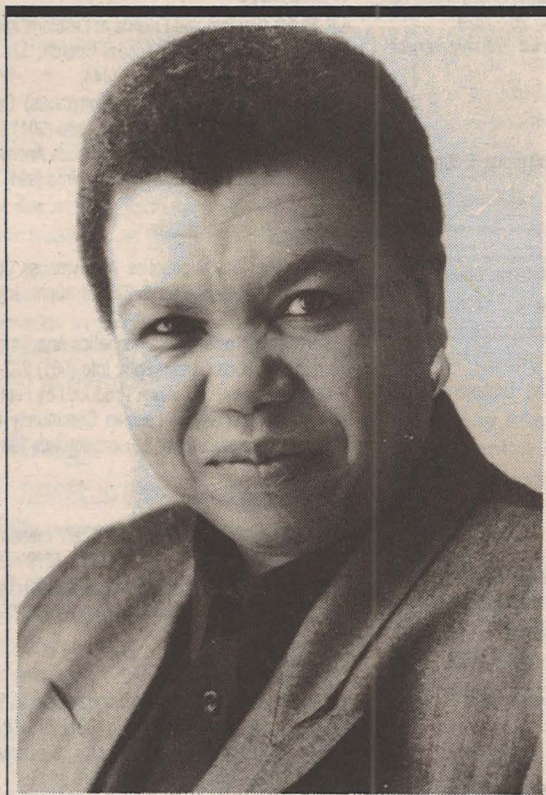
Crone was in Nashville recently to kick off and organize local efforts toward making the conference successful.

She said she expects around 5,000 women from all aspects of lesbian life to be in attendance, with particular efforts toward including lesbians of color and disabled lesbians.

"We want to create a space for those voices usually left out. When we talk about diversity in the conference, we mean it. We want to make sure we put into action what we put into rhetoric," Crone said.

Bootsie Abelson, the southern contact for the NLC, said, "The purpose of the conference is to create a

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Ivy Young, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Family Project, was among the lesbian and gay leaders taking part in last week's protest against the Coalition for Traditional Values in Washington. — DARE FILE PHOTO

Lesbians/gays protest

Civil rights groups demonstrate against Coalition for Traditional Values in D.C.

by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

Lesbian and gay organizations, along with other civil rights groups, held a press conference, rally and march in the nation's capital last week to protest the Coalition for Traditional Values (CTV), which was holding a symposium called "The National Task Force for the Preservation of the Heterosexual Ethic" in Washington.

An estimated 750 lesbians and gay men rallied against CTV and its leader, Louis Sheldon, at a demonstration against homophobia in Washington's Dupont Circle. The demonstration was sponsored by a coalition of Washington-based lesbian and gay groups and other civil rights organizations.

"Threats to the American family do not come from the desire of lesbians and gay men to create loving relationships," said Ivy Young, director of the Family Project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) during a press conference. "No, the threat to the family is poverty and economic injustice, ignorance and inadequate education, homelessness and hunger. Let Mr. Sheldon and the Coalition for Traditional Values put what energy and resources they have into combatting these scourges of American

family life. We would all benefit from that agenda."

The Dupont Circle rally was followed by a march up Connecticut Avenue to the Sheraton-Washington Hotel, site of the CTV symposium. Demonstrators sealed a main entrance to the hotel and held an impromptu rally followed by a candlelight vigil in memory of victims of anti-lesbian/gay hate crimes.

CTV and Sheldon's positions on creationism in the classroom, abortion and homosexuality have resulted in considerable media attention for the group. Sheldon has been referred to in the media as "the son of Falwell."

CTV was actively involved in the repeal last November of the domestic partnership referendum that had been approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, as well as the repeal of the lesbian and gay civil rights ordinance in Irvine, California.

William Allen, former chair of the United States Civil Rights Commission, was forced to resign amid controversy which followed his appearance at a CTV symposium. Allen spoke on "Blacks, Homosexuals, Animals: What is a Minority?" at the Orange County meeting.

In addition to Young, other

• continued on page 6

Schlaflly, Weddington debate abortion issue

Controversial debate at Memphis State attracts more than 1,200

from STAFF REPORTS

Some 1,200 people filled the grand ballroom of Memphis State University's student center last Thursday night for a debate between Sarah Weddington and Phyllis Schlafly.

Weddington is a leader of the fight for pro-choice forces, which includes pro-abortion and women's rights groups, and Schlafly is a symbol of conservative politics, such as the pro-life movement and the anti-Equal Rights Amendment forces.

Weddington began her opening statement by saying she was frightened by the way the winds of choice are blowing in the United States. She said that she felt the issue of choice and individual rights had been taken from the courtroom and brought into the political ring.

It is now up to each person to fight the battle for a woman's right to a safe and legal abortion, she said, "If you are silent, your silence will be heard."

Weddington was the lawyer who, at the age of 26 in 1973, originally argued the case of ROE V. WADE before the United States Supreme Court.

At the time of ROE V. WADE, she argued three key issues:

- Does pregnancy impact fundamentally upon a woman's life?

- Is there a right of privacy issue for the pregnant woman?

- Does the state have a compelling right/reason to regulate the pregnant woman?

Weddington emphasized that the WEBSTER V. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES case, just recently decided by the Supreme Court, allows issues of religion and private beliefs to be imposed upon the entire population. Instead, more resources ought to be put into preventive measures, such as education, housing and funding of human service programs, she said.

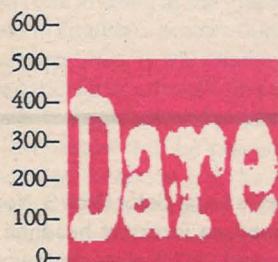
Schlaflly opened her argument with a few comparisons of how free choice is not allowed in the United States, citing such examples as: no smoking allowed in public buildings, drunk driving laws and laws against spousal abuse.

She claimed that pro-choice advocates support the "money making" operations of places like Planned Parenthood and abortion clinics.

The basis of her argument was

• continued on page 6

Just the facts:



Figures based on accepted industry readership formula over first 99 issues.

Tennesseans have read *Dare* more than 525,000 times in the 23 months since the first issue of the state's lesbian and gay newsweekly was published. — DARE STAFF GRAPHIC

INSIDE

Dare this week

Is there a Valentine for you?
Just personally speaking, of course.
Market, page 11.



Educating Roger...
with Michael Moore.
Screens, page 12.

Another timely topic from
Suzanne Sugarbaker
Loose Lips, page 15.



D A T E S

Big events



Black & White Men Together / Memphis

Saturday, February 10

Brunch / Outing Brunch at Applebee's, 2114 Union Av, Memphis. 1pm. Tour new Brooks Museum of Art, 2:30pm. Black and White Men Together / Memphis. Space limited, please register. Info (901) 726-1461.

Dance Gay Women's Social Group Valentine's Dance, Memphis. Cash bar, light refreshments. \$5. 7:30pm. Info (901) 327-6165.

Dance Party VALENTINE'S DANCE PARTY. Sponsored by University of Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Student Union. 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686.

Sunday, February 11

Covered Dish Potluck dinner. Sponsored by MCC / Tri-Cities, at Holston Valley Unitarian Church, Johnson City. 5pm. Info (615) 926-4393.

Fundraiser Valentine's show benefits Music City Sports Association. At The Chute, 2535 Franklin Rd, Nashville. 10:30pm and 12pm. Info (615) 385-9689.

Monday, February 12

Film THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK. At The Black and The Read, below Laurel Theatre, 16th & Laurel, Knoxville. Free. 8pm. Info (615) 522-0741.

Wednesday, February 14

VALENTINE'S DAY

Dance 3RD ANNUAL OUT AND ABOUT BALL. Sponsored by Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance. At Journey, 909 Church St, Nashville. 7:30pm. \$4. Info (615) 386-9211.

Friday, February 16

Open meeting ACLU's 1990 AGENDA. ACLU of Tennessee executive director Hedy Weinberg. At Holston Valley Unitarian Church, Johnson City. Free. 7:30pm. Info (615) 926-8340 or 929-6929.

Coffeehouse 3RD FRIDAY. With Harmony Gold, Adrienne Lawyer. Sponsored by Feminist Production Company, at Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, Memphis. \$2 donation. 8pm. Info (901) 276-0844.

Saturday, February 17

Potluck Dinner SO YOU BLEW IT: SECOND CHANCE VALENTINE'S POTLUCK. Black and White Men Together / Memphis. 7pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Free publicity!

Your nonprofit event can be listed free in Dates. Phone (615) 327-Dare or toll-free (800) 544-Dare, or write to Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422. Please include time, location, cost, sponsor, and a contact person's name with address and/or phone number for verification. Deadline is noon Monday for publication next Friday.

Chattanooga

Sundays

- **Lesbian & Gay CoDA** Co-Dependents Anonymous. Reflections, Harrison. 12:30pm. Info (615) 267-7824.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 3224 Navajo Dr. 6:30pm.

Mondays

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

Thursdays

- **Gay/Lesbian AA** Open meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. 8pm.

Saturdays

- **Gay/Lesbian AA** No-smoke meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. 7pm.

Clarksville

Thursdays

- **OSGL** Austin Peay State University 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.

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.

Tuesdays

- **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.

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 Codependents 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 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.

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

- **Agape New Life Church** Bible study. 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.

Just like clockwork

- **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.
- **Coffeehouse** 3RD FRIDAY. Produced by Feminist Productions. Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, Memphis. 8pm. \$2 donation. Info (901) 276-0844.

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 services, 11am & 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
- **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

Fridays

- **MTSU Lambda** Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. 6pm. Info (615) 352-7039

Nashville

Mondays

- **Nashville 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.
- **AI-Anon** Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
- **Nashville Women's Alliance** Meeting, at the Book Oasis, 2824 Dogwood Pl. 3rd and 4th Tuesdays only. 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.
- **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.
- **GCN** Viacom cable channel 35. 9pm.

Wednesdays

- **Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm.
- **Nashville CARES** Newcomers Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **One in Teen** Support group for lesbian and gay teens. 6:30pm. Info (615) 885-5054 or GALLIP Hotline (615) 297-0008.
- **Affirmation** Meeting for lesbian and gay United Method-

ists. 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 366-6448.

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

Thursdays

- **Family Support Group** Vanderbilt AIDS Project. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
- **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, MCC. 8pm.
- **Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

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.
- **Community Dinner** Metropolitan Community Church, all you can eat. 7:30pm. \$5. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **GCN** Viacom cable channel 35. 8pm.

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

- **Gay AA** 4pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 7pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Info (615) 926-4393.

Tuesdays

- **Support Group** Tri-Cities AIDS Project (TAP). 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 Coalition. For PWAs, ARC, and HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday only. Info (703) 985-0131.

Errata

- Last week's Local Color (Vol. 3, No. 5, p. 3) contained an incorrect headline. It should have read "ACLU plans skills workshop."

- In last week's Screens (Vol. 3, No. 5, p. 12) contained a nonsense sentence due to a proofreading error. It should have read: "Why choose such a script that looks at the lives of people who make no substantive change, reveal no vision, and, worst of all, give no entertainment?"

- We apologize for the errors and are glad to correct the record.

LOCAL COLOR

compiled from **STAFF REPORTS**

Memphis

Mr. Leather Tennessee to be chosen at April contest

The first Mr. Leather Tennessee contest, an official preliminary to the International Mr. Leather competition, will be held in Memphis April 6-8.

Contestants from throughout the mid-south are encouraged to enter the contest. Entrants must be at least 21 and a United States resident. All contestant applications must accompany a \$25 registration fee. Deadline for entries is March 31.

The winner will receive \$500 and other sponsor participation awards and be eligible to compete in the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago in May.

Emcees for the event will be Mister Marcus, columnist for the BAY AREA REPORTER and Mike Pereyra, International Mr. Leather 1988. Judges include Alan Selby, owner of Mr. S. Products in San Francisco; Guy Baldwin, International Mr. Leather 1989; Dustin Logan, Great Plains Mr. Drummer; Kirby, erotic artist known for his line drawings; Dave Rhodes, publisher of THE LEATHER JOURNAL; and Patrick Toner, International Mr. Leather 1985.

For details, write Drum Productions, Box 60306, Nashville, Tennessee, 37206. •

Lesbian/gay outdoor group seeks suggestions for name

Organizers of an outdoor recreation group for Memphis' lesbian and gay community are seeking suggestions for the group's name.

Persons with suggestions should call Tom Little at (901) 274-1847 or Dale Schaefer at (901) 276-0275.

The group is being formed to provide outdoor recreational opportunities (such as hiking, camping, and other sports) for lesbians and gay men in the mid-South. •

Nashville

Cultural arts lecture to consider "Jews in English Caricature"

The Jewish Community Center's Cultural Arts Department's 1990 Lecture Series opens Sunday, February 18.

Led by Vanderbilt University English professor, Dr. Frank Felsenstein, the program will look in detail at the graphic depiction of Jews in English caricature during the 18th and 19th centuries. It will examine the ability of the caricaturist to transform his subject matter by the exaggeration of particular features.

The lecture will be preceded by a coffee and bagel reception at 9:15 a.m. Admission is \$2 for JCC members and \$3 for non-members.

Felsenstein is a visiting professor from the University of Leeds. His most recent publication is the book A PARADIGM OF OTHERNESS: ANTI-SEMITIC STEREOTYPES IN 18TH CENTURY ENGLISH POPULAR CULTURE. •

Mardi Gras at 5 Points Depot

Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church will host its second annual Mardi Gras Ball at 5 Points Depot, 11th and Woodland Streets in Nashville, on Saturday, February 24

at 9 p.m.

Costumes are optional, although awards will be presented for best costumes, with the winners given the titles of King and Queen. Entertainment and dancing is also planned. A light buffet will be served after 9 p.m., with a special creole menu offered at the restaurant from 5 to 9 p.m.

For information, call Steve Russell at (615) 228-6988. •

GCN airs 'Forbidden Passions'

Gay Cable Network/Nashville will present the pilot for a new gay-themed soap opera, FORBIDDEN PASSIONS on Tuesday, February 27 at 9 p.m.

The controversial program will be aired on cable systems in major U.S. cities during the coming year. The GCN cablecast is on Viacom channel 35 in Nashville. •

Oak Ridge

ACLU hosts annual meeting

Nashville lawyer George Barrett, a cooperating attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), will speak about the ACLU of Tennessee's involvement with the Ku Klux Klan's efforts to march in Pulaski, during the annual meeting of the Oak Ridge chapter.

The Oak Ridge Chapter of the ACLU of Tennessee will host the event Wednesday, March 28, in Room B of the Oak Ridge Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. In addition, members of the chapter's board of directors will be elected at the meeting. For further information, call (615) 483-5680. •

Tri-Cities

Weinberg in Johnson City to meet ACLU members

Hedy Weinberg, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Tennessee, will be the guest speaker for a public meeting to discuss the ACLU's 1990 agenda at Holston Valley Unitarian Church in Knoxville, Friday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call (615) 926-8340 or 929-6929. •



Rob Daniel and Peg Allen star as Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine in THE LION IN WINTER, produced by Actors' Cooperative Theatre I (A.C.T. I) at Nashville's Looby Theatre, through Saturday, February 10. For details, call (615) 885-5821.— PHOTO BY PAUL FELTON

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CROSS COUNTRY

compiled from STAFF REPORTS



Minnie Bruce Pratt is among the writers awarded \$20,000 creative writing fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts. — DARE FILE PHOTO

**NEA announces 97
creative writing fellows**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Endowment for the Arts has announced that each of 97 grantees will be awarded \$20,000 creative writing fellowships for fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction. Among the recipients are lesbian writers Audre Lorde and Minnie Bruce Pratt, and Nashville resident James M. Brock.

"It is our hope that these grants will free writers to follow their vision, wherever it takes them," said NEA chair John Frohnmeyer. "By assisting so many writers from so many parts of the country, the Endowment hopes to play some small part in nurturing a literature that truly reflects the immense diversity of the United States." •

**Feminist health writers
sought for newsletter**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Women's Health Network, the only national organization devoted exclusively to women's health, is looking for writers for its bimonthly newsletter, THE NETWORK NEWS.

Prospective writers should: write reviews of books, films and other resources on women's health topics; write articles about women's health topics; write letters responding to articles in the newsletter; send them "health news tidbits" from other publications; and send them graphics, such as cartoons, photographs and line drawings.

Send contributions to: Editor, National Women's Health Network, 1325 G Street, N.W., Lower Level, Washington, D.C., 20005, or phone (202) 347-1140. •

**AIDS may be motive in
inmate injury**

NASHVILLE — Investigators are looking into the possibility that a state prison inmate injured by a bomb planted in a radio may have been attacked by inmates who thought he had AIDS.

Rickey Moorman, 41, underwent surgery to his right arm last week at Meharry-Hubbard hospital in Nashville.

Moorman was being treated for burns and

cuts to his right arm after an explosive device inside a portable radio blew up in his prison cell, THE TENNESSEAN reported.

Asked if Moorman may have been thought to have the AIDS virus, warden Jack Morgan said, "Step one is that has not been proven to be a fact. I don't know that he's been tested or know any reason why he should be tested." •

**Reagan does TV spot on
pediatric AIDS**

LOS ANGELES — Former president Ronald Reagan, criticized during his administration for his response to the AIDS crisis, says he's become more understanding about the disease.

"We all grow and learn in our lives," Reagan says in a public service announcement for the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. "And I've learned that all kinds of people can get AIDS. Even children."

The TV spot was directed by former STARSKY AND HUTCH star Paul Michael Glaser, whose wife and son have tested positive for the HIV virus and whose 7-year-old daughter died of AIDS. •

**Greensboro city council
reverses pro-gay vote**

GREENSBORO, N.C. — In an unscheduled vote three days after Christmas, the Greensboro city council reversed its decision to protect lesbian and gay city employees from job discrimination.

Leaders of the Guilford Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Equality, which waged a two-year fight to get the words "sexual preference" included in city personnel policy, say the group will mount an intensive campaign to reverse the vote, Miami's THE WEEKLY NEWS REPORTED.

"The outrage about this is massive," said Alliance spokesperson Marnie Thompson. "It isn't just the usual gay people who are mad about it." •

**Six arrested in Michigan
sting operation**

HOLLAND, Mich. — Sheriff's deputies—in an operation involving a gay informant, shirtless police officers, a teenaged decoy and a list of local homosexuals — have arrested four school employees and two other men near here, charging five of them under the state's "gross indecency" statute.

The operation began, sources say, several months ago when a gay man, Tim Van Denbelt, plea-bargained a sex offense case in exchange for a promise to help police find gay men who might be having sex with minors.

Among other activities, Van Denbelt reportedly provided police with a list of local gay men and arranged a party at the home of Garry Miller and Stanley Van Kolken. Miller works for the Ottawa Area Community Education Consortium and Van Kolken is a teacher in the Grand Haven Public Schools.

Representatives of the Michigan Organization for Human Rights (MOHR) and the American Civil Liberties Union have denounced the operation. •

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CROSS COUNTRY

compiled from **STAFF REPORTS**

Gay priest fired amid media attention

NEWARK, N.J. — At the request of the board of Oasis, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark with the lesbian and gay community, J. Robert Williams has resigned as executive director.

Williams has also been suspended from performing all priestly functions by his bishop.

Williams was ordained on December 16, 1989 by John S. Spong, Bishop of Newark, in a highly publicized service. The intense media attention was based on the mistaken notion that Williams' ordination was the first of an openly non-celibate gay man in the Episcopal Church. In fact, it was the first such in the Diocese of Newark.

During a conference in Detroit, Williams said that "monogamy is as unnatural as celibacy." The media coverage of his remarks led to the decision by Oasis to ask for Williams' resignation, citing "irreconcilable" differences. •

Transmitting AIDS could bring murder charge

FRANKFORT, Ky. — A person who gives an uninformed sexual partner AIDS, resulting in the partner's death, could be charged with murder under a bill introduced last month in the Kentucky House of Representatives.

The measure, House Bill 425, would also allow the Cabinet for Human Resources to detain people infected with sexually transmitted diseases in hospitals through court orders, the LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL reported.

The bill also calls for less controversial measures, including extensive education programs for state and local agencies and mandatory AIDS training for health professionals.

But Ron Jerrell, director of the Kentuckiana People with AIDS Coalition in Owensboro, said the sections calling for criminal charges and court-ordered detentions "don't make any sense. This will not help anyone with AIDS."

The bill is sponsored by Rep. Paul Mason (D-Whitesburg). His daughter, Belinda Mason, who contracted AIDS from a blood transfusion in 1987, is a member of the National Commission on AIDS.

Under Mason's bill, anyone aware of being infected with a sexually transmitted disease could be charged with a misdemeanor if she or he has sexual intercourse with someone who doesn't know of the infection. •

Maryland bill bans anti-gay bias in state jobs

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — A state senator from Baltimore has introduced a bill in the Maryland state legislature which would ban discrimination in state employment practices, based on sexual orientation, THE WASHINGTON BLADE reported.

Democratic Sen. Julian Lapidés said he introduced Senate Bill 413 at the request of a woman who called him after Towson State University asked her about her "sexual preference" on an employment application. He said

he did not work with any lesbian or gay lobbying organizations in drafting the bill.

Lapidés has supported gay rights initiatives before. He introduced a bill to repeal the state's sodomy statute following the Supreme Court's *HARDWICK V. BOWERS* decision. That repeal effort passed the Senate but failed in the House.

Lapidés said he "can't see any reason" why SB 413 should fail "other than homophobic reaction of legislative bodies in election years." •

Jones becomes NYC's first gay commissioner

NEW YORK CITY — Openly gay psychiatrist Billy E. Jones was named last month as the new commissioner of mental health by New York mayor David Dinkins.

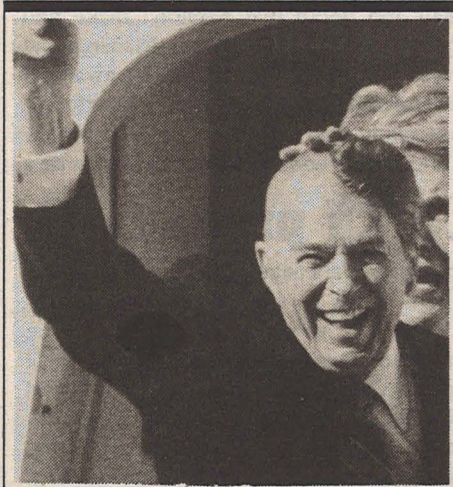
Jones, 51, serves as medical director of the Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center in the Bronx. A graduate of Howard University, Jones is credited with raising, through numerous academic writings and articles, important issues about mental health services for urban blacks. •

North Carolina group awarded 'safe sex' grant

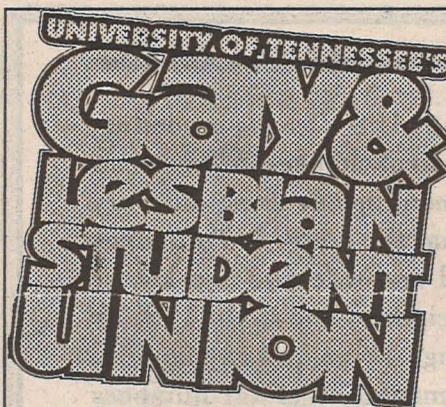
RALEIGH, N.C. — The state of North Carolina has approved \$37,745 from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to support an AIDS education project for gay and bisexual men that is being developed by the North Carolina Human Rights Fund, THE FRONT PAGE reported.

The grant proposal, submitted by the fund in April 1989, includes a three-part advertising campaign, a newsletter about AIDS programs and therapies, and the writing and designing of an AIDS risk-reduction brochure targeted specifically to the same populations. These efforts are to be closely coordinated with local AIDS service organizations and health departments.

"Our campaign, which is scheduled to being on Valentine's Day weekend is called 'Friends for Life,'" said Janelle Lavelle of Greensboro, grant administrator. "We will be using many different methods to reach the state's gay men with message that we are our own most valuable resource in this epidemic." •



Former President Ronald Reagan says his understanding of AIDS has deepened. For details, see page 4. — DARE FILE PHOTO



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¶ 1990. The once-in-a-decade U.S. Census is coming, and it could help bring about radical changes in American attitudes and law by documenting our lives, our very existence. ¶ Sociologists suggest that the *Leave It To Beaver* nuclear family of husband-and-wife-and-two-kids is outnumbered as much as eight-to-one in the U.S. by nontraditional families, including lesbian and gay families — our families. But we need documentation of our numbers to counter the spineless, hate-spewing politicians and indifferent mainstream media who continue to deny that we are here. ¶ When you fill out your 1990 U.S. Census forms, be sure to check the box marked “unmarried partners,” if you’re living with your lover or significant other. ¶ Stand up and be counted.

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Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly

...Michelle Crone

• continued from page 1

lesbian agenda, identifying our issues and developing strategies for achieving the goals; to celebrate our lives and lifestyles as working women struggling to find jobs and build careers as artists, mothers, jocks, lovers and the many other paths lesbians are pursuing as women and lesbians; and to show the rest of the world lesbians are not just spinsters tucked away here and there. We are plentiful. We are passionate. We are political. We are powerful. We are a force to be reckoned with.”

Crone said that grassroots groups are being formed across the country to determine the issues, goals, concerns and resources of as wide and inclusive a lesbian population as possible.

“The regional groups establish channels of communication that feed into the national conference level and impact the conference itself. We need to hear from lesbians across the country through these groups and also to find out what resources they have available. Resources include, of course, money and fund-raising ideas, but resources also include lesbians who are willing to work on committees and lesbians who want to perform or speak at the conference,” she said.

Anyone who has an idea for a workshop or would like to perform may send a brief description of the workshop or your performance to the national office for consideration.

“We are very interested in hearing about just about anything that focuses on lesbian issues or life,” Crone said.

Once the NLC office moves, in April, to Atlanta, the search will begin for two full-time staff members — one activist and organizer and one fundraiser. The salary range will be from \$16,000 to \$20,000 and the positions will be in Atlanta. Interested lesbians should submit information to the national office as soon as possible, at NLC, P.O. Box 3057, Albany, New York, 12203.

The conference is scheduled for April 24-28, 1991 at Atlanta's Civic Center and two large hotels. In addition to available hotel rooms, NLC organizers are looking for potential campsites, community housing and host housing for conference attendees.

The conference will also offer space April 24, for groups to get together to meet, as well.

“This would be a good opportunity for groups like, say, lesbian physicians or lesbian entertainers or lesbian social workers to get together and exchange information and ideas,” said Crone. “Networking is an important part of the conference and we hope by offering this space, the conference will help lesbians network.”

A job fair and information about how to get jobs, what it is like to work in traditionally male-dominated career fields and how to get into them will also be a part of the conference. And there may also be a national softball tournament, as well, according to Crone.

For more information about the conference and regional activities or to make a donation, contact Bootsie Abelson, 5716 6th Avenue South, Birmingham, Alabama, 35212, or call (205) 591-1162. •

...Schlafly/Weddington debate

• continued from page 1

the issue of fetus versus baby — is the point of conception the origin of human life?

Schlafly continued her analogies by comparing the environment of an astronaut in space to the environment of the pre-birth life form.

Schlafly said more than 4,000 abortions are performed in the United States each day.

She closed by comparing the Dred Scott case with abortions, stating that “...even the Dred Scott case, one of the worst decisions in the... United States, did not allow the owner to kill his slaves. It is the job of government to protect the newborn.”

During a five-minute rebuttal period, emotions among both pro-choice and pro-life forces reached their zenith.

“There is no surgery I would describe in detail and depth that wouldn't make you sick,” Weddington said, emphasizing that pro-choice advocates need to be aware of how organized and vocal the opposition is, particularly for a minority.

The fight, Weddington said, must start on a

personal level and bring together all people who believe in individual rights.

Schlafly's rebuttal came directly to the point of emotionalism by challenging Weddington's ability to address an abortion issue if she had never been pregnant.

She addressed the issue of fundamental impact upon life by stating that pregnancy is a fundamental right to the baby, and that the real issue is if there is a fundamental right to kill a baby.

Schlafly compared the killing machines of Hitler's Germany to the right to have an abortion and claimed that abortion is a money-making racket which is unregulated in this country.

“The abortionists are rejecting all limiting bills, even those which deal with time limits, or not allowing an abortion because of the sex of the fetus,” Schlafly said.

During a question and answer session which followed the debate, each speaker and her beliefs were challenged by an audience that seemed eager to score a point argumentatively for their own viewpoint. •

...CTV protest

• continued from page 1

participants in the press conference included: John Buchanan, chair, People for the American Way; William Sloan-Coffin, civil rights activist; Laurie Coburn, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG); Tim McFeeley, Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF); and Lynne Landsberg, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

“In California, CTV has urged its followers to oppose a state child care bill similar to the

federal measure that garnered overwhelming support in Congress,” Young said. “Does that stance by CTV aid the thousands of working parents in California who struggle daily to find adequate, affordable daycare for their children? Does it strengthen those families?”

Young compared Sheldon's tactics to those of former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace and former Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox during the struggle for black civil rights in the South during the 1960s. •

ONSTAGE

Going parking

TWICE AROUND THE PARK. By Murray Schisgal. Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre. Through March 3.
reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

MICHAEL EDWARDS and Pat McKinney Burton are such winning performers that they're bound to make even the most dreadful shows seem entertaining and the most entertaining shows seem wonderful.

With their performances in Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre's production of Murray Schisgal's *TWICE AROUND THE PARK*, Edwards and Burton prove my point admirably. Playing different characters in each act — each act being a different play, actually — they do their best with a script that could best be described as schizophrenic.

Act One, subtitled "A Need for Brussels Sprouts," casts the pair as Leon Rose, a somewhat down-on-his-luck actor, and Margaret Heinz, a police officer and upstairs neighbor to Rose. They meet when Margaret gives Leon two citations for disturbing the peace (he has an audition coming up that requires pantomiming an opera singer in a commercial for a non-fattening pizza).

As the two spar, sparks apparently fly (although you'd be hard-pressed to see any sparks between the two on opening night) and before you know it, they're in a liplock. And you know that before long, they'll be a romantic twosome. Writer Schisgal's comic one-liners seem forced and predictable — and not all that funny.

Despite one sight gag that was truly hilarious, it seems Edwards could have phoned in his performance in Act One, and Burton might actually have done that. That's what is most disappointing: Edwards and Burton are so likable it's hard to imagine any script that they can't make better.

The schizophrenia of Schisgal's script doesn't become apparent until Act Two. In "A Need for Less Expertise," the writer creates some very funny moments for his two characters.

Here, Edwards and Burton play Gus and Edie Frazier, a pair of affluent Manhattanites whose 26-year marriage has hit the doldrums. Attempting to enliven their union through meditation and Eastern-inspired philosophy, Gus and Edie flounder through some hilarious gyrations that are, despite their broadly drawn premises, very true to life.

OBVIOUSLY, Edwards and Burton are more comfortable with their second act characters and save the evening with their charming performances.

TWICE AROUND THE PARK is not great theatre, but it is entertaining in its way and contains some laughs. But, perhaps most importantly, it gives you the chance to enjoy two fine performers. Next time, maybe their material will be better. •

Henry and Eleanor

THE LION IN WINTER. By James Goldman. Directed by Greg Grimsley. Artists' Cooperative Theatre I.
Z. Alexander Looby Theatre, Nashville. Through February 10.
reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

DESPITE SOME anachronistic touches that prove to be truly bizarre, *THE LION IN WINTER* — the newest production from Artists' Cooperative Theatre I (A.C.T. I) — remains a tremendously entertaining work that is made all the more so by the performances of Peg Allen and Rob Daniel.

With capable, albeit uneven, support from the rest of the cast, Allen and Daniel present the story of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Henry II with a certain stylish wit and vivacity that transcends James Goldman's script.

Allen and Daniel bring to the play a winning cynicism that modernizes the story, effectively translating the work for contemporary audiences. Although not a classic work, in the most precise sense, *THE LION IN WINTER* nonetheless employs the techniques and rhythms of classical drama to tell its tale of court intrigue and machinations.

Set at Henry's palace at Chinon, France, during the Christmas season of 1183, the play focuses on efforts by the king to marry off his mistress to one of his sons. The mistress, Alaïs (played here by a spirited Melissa Bedinger, whom I never tire of seeing on any stage) is the sister of King Philip of France (played with conviction by the capable Tim Holder, who must overcome his somewhat comical beard and wig). Part of her dowry is a valuable piece of land in France that Henry longs to bring under his control.

Planning to wed Alaïs to his oafish son John (played rather broadly by Kirk Brown), Henry is upended at nearly every turn by the sleight of hand — and slight of tongue — of his consort, Eleanor, whom he has banished to her own castle and who has her own designs of marrying Alaïs to her son, Richard (Tom Mullins in a moving performance that is full of fiery emotion). Meanwhile, third son Geoffrey (Thom Byrum in rare form as the manipulative would-be chancellor) has plans of his own.

It is a richly drawn plot that features some delightfully decadent dialogue and effectively zinging put-downs.

But it is the performances of Allen and Daniel that make *THE LION IN WINTER* a truly worthwhile theatre experience. Both actors are engaging and charming, effusive in their delight, terrifying in their single-minded zealotry. Goldman's script, which he claims is not a comedy, fairly bristles with rapier-sharp wit, creating memorable characters and events.

The production's major shortcomings are the blatant anachronisms that underscore nearly every scene. The most obvious is the fake Christmas tree, festooned with red "sa-teen" bows and ribbons (Christmas trees, as we know them, weren't common until the 15th Century). It's a small quibble, but I still dream about that horrid tree. •

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PAGES

Mainstreaming gay/lesbian fiction

DEATH WORE A DIADEM. Iona McGregor. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1990. \$15.95, 220 pages.

reviewed by **Sherre Dryden**

Book Editor

THE MAIN characters in Iona McGregor's *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* are Eleanor Stewart, botany instructor at the Scottish Institute for the Education of the Daughters of Gentlefolk, and her pupil Christabel MacKenzie. The year is 1860, and the Empress Eugénie of France is to visit the school.

If this sounds like a rather routine historical novel, well, it is — except for one twist. Eleanor and Christabel, who are closer in age than the teacher-pupil relationship would immediately reveal, are also lovers.

If this twist still sounds rather routine — after all, the lesbian press has been publishing historical novels with lesbian protagonists for some time — the fact that this rather routine lesbian historical novel is published by mainstream St. Martin's Press is surely evidence of something.

Evidence of what is unclear. An immediate reaction is that, as publishers, writers, librarians and academics have predicted, more and more lesbian and gay characters will turn up in books from multi-market publishers. It seems logical that similar genres — historical romances and westerns, for example — where there is a committed readership will follow suit.

After all, it has not been long since publishers recognized that the apparently monolithic romance audience could be split into at least the "heaving bosoms only" and the "explicit sex, please" constituencies.

So, if *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* represents one of the first examples of a coming lesbian infiltration of genre fiction, what does it tell us about how the mainstream press views that trend?

One aside. St. Martin's is not exactly the typical mainstream press. They've been publishing books on lesbian and gay topics for years, and their backlist probably includes more lesbian/gay titles than those of all but the largest lesbian/gay presses. St. Martin's is, nonetheless, a mainstream press, motivated more by selling books and making money than by any idea of service to the community.

I'm sure that St. Martin's must think there's money to be made here. I'm also sure that the sort of lesbian/gay publishing they've practiced in the past — concentrating on contemporary fiction (where the readers tend to be liberals) and non-fiction, or by "ghettoizing" through series like Gay Books and Stonewall Inn Editions — is a lot safer than the kink of mainstreaming *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* represents. Therefore, I think it is significant that the lovers in *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* are women, not men; that the novel is set in 1860, not 1990; and that it has a semi-factual base.

It is usually assumed that the general public finds lesbianism more tolerable than male homosexuality. It is also assumed that women

are more tolerant of female or male homosexuality than men are. True or not, such assumptions might lead to a decision to test the waters with (less threatening) lesbian characters in a genre marketed at (less threatened) women readers.

Gay men are also more threatening, and more difficult to write about "safely" in terms of romance, because of AIDS.

It's pretty clear, too, that there are plenty of folks out there who aren't aware that lesbians have just about the lowest AIDS risk-factor of any sexually active group on Earth. So, women are safe, but women in 1860 (who do have sex, by the way, though its not explicit) are safer.

To make things safer still, *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* is very historical. As in many historical novels, fictional characters, events and places are mixed with actual ones. The Scottish Institute is based on a real school, the Empress Eugénie did visit Edinburgh in

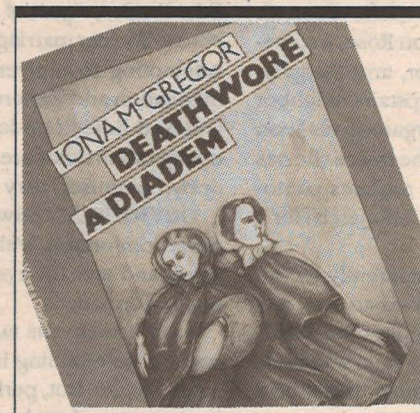
1860 and McGregor's retired detective James McLevy not only existed, but published two volumes of memoirs.

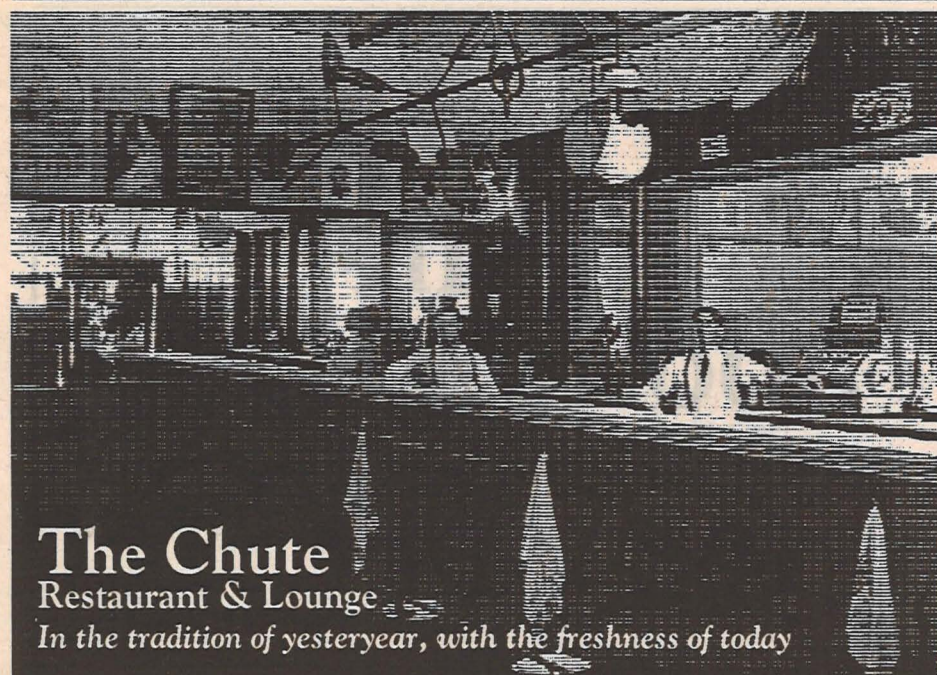
Eleanor and Christabel's story is cross-cut with actual passages from Scottish newspaper reports of Eugénie's movements in Edinburgh, and McGregor includes a historical note at the end of the book. As I said, there is nothing unusual about this aggressive historicity. But neither is it required, unless to further justify publishing a lesbian romance. This is real, doubtful book buyers may say when they find *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* on the shelf beside their favorite Eugenia Price, so it must be okay to write a book about it.

There could be other factors here that I'm not aware of, but can speculate about, like the possibility that women buy books more often than men, and are thus a more profitable market. Or that the historical romance audience is larger and more profitable than the audience of a genre marketed to men. Still, as impressed as I am with *DEATH WORE A DIADEM*, I'm going to be a lot more impressed when the latest Zane Grey features queer cowboys.

Impressed with the politics behind *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* or not, how is it as a book?

AS SOMEONE who grew up on lightweight gothic romances (*THE MOONSPINNERS* instead of *JANE EYRE*), but could not tolerate writers who insisted on throwing in the Plantagenet monarchs, too, I'm not sure how well *DEATH WORE A DIADEM* will meet the expectations of the die-hard reader of historical fiction. I am sure it will not do much for the "explicit sex, please" segment of the lesbian fiction market, though the "heaving bosoms" group will probably like it. It is a sweet story, well written, with all of the history lessons presented from a feminist perspective. Let's have more. •





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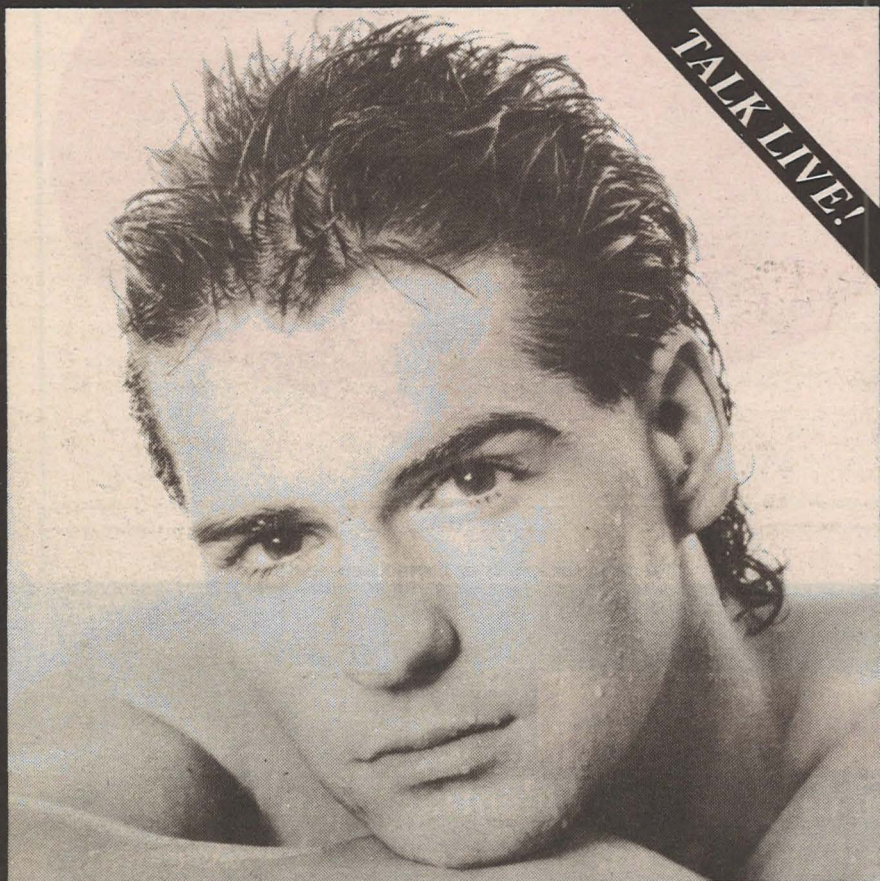
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• **Attention lesbians and gay womyn:** A nite to unite. Finding it difficult to meet others? Interested in forming a social group for support, discussion & social activities? Nashville. Write Dare DRAWER 48. Will reply!

• **POLITICAL? MOI?** You bet your sweet button! It's a Scream! has the best selection of gay, lesbian & choice buttons & bumperstickers in Tennessee. It's A Scream! 168 2nd Avenue North, Nashville. (615) 244-7346.

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Personal

• GWM, 6', 170lbs, BI/Br gd-lkng, honest. Great sense of humor. Truthful, independent, tired of the games. Lkng for same in Tennessee. Photo & letter will get an answer. Dare DRAWER 56

• DMc — I love you the most — Be my Valentine, forever? Denise.

• GWM, 19, Libra, student. likes aliens, vampires, Shirley MacLaine, fashion, Alice in Wonderland, Dead or Alive, Pet Shop Boys, the color violet, angels, poetry, sks GM near my age for friendship. Memphis. Dare DRAWER 53

• "Cheater" in G'town: Hope your Valentine's is as awful as your taste in clothes. Be lonely! You deserve it. — GS

• It is a Scream! or should I say moan! Thanks for 6+ yrs. Happy Valentine's Day!

• 29 mos, 2 hearts, 1 love 4ever. You're the best thing that ever happened to me. Happy Valentine's Day, from your Lord Gargantua. P.S. You get the raise.

• Lkng for someone special who wants more out of life than 1-night stands. I enjoy music, movies & gd comm. Hope to find 1 who enjoys same. Bars & attitudes getting old, need change. GWM, 23, 5'10", 175, Br/HZ. Foto/fone. Nashville. Dare DRAWER 54

• GWM, Texan, 42 Br/Br 5'11" prof., attractive, neat. Enjoys theatre, travel, tennis, fine dining, weekend trips. A good buddy, loyal friend to the right persons. Nashville area. Dare DRAWER 55

• Studmuffin, you're so sexy, let's elope and spend the rest of our life in ecstasy. I want to be the one in your eyes, I want you to be my Valentine forever. Say yes and you'll make me grin forever, Baby love.

• Beautiful Eyes: This is for you! Margaritas, Tea Rom, Thu. Limited, rushed, priorities. Park lunches, wild fun times and "hot, hot, hot" I do love U! Happy Valentine's Day! — Dizzy

• GWM not into gay scene. 5'10", 160lbs. Br/BI, 28. Outdoors, one on one, adventurous, friend and more. Discreet. Dare DRAWER 51

• GWM, 30s prof. seeks handsome hairy prof. for good

quiet times. College jocks can respond, too. 21-40. Photo, phone, please. Dare DRAWER 52

• Sleazella: 1-1/2 years to remember your name; 6 mos. til stage four; 3 years til little critters; 25 years til Paris. For this moment it's forever — you're mine, Valentine. — Slutella.

• Stacy — you're the love of my life. Happy Valentine's Day! — Jacki

• They were starving, trying to make a living singing in Cincinnati bars. Still, bereft at last, Wilma laughed until the tears would come no more.

• GWF, 23, attractive girl seeks feminine, petite young lady. Interests include music & romance. Dare DRAWER 50.

• Denise: I love you for believing in me. Thank you for 4 of the most influential years of my life!! — Trina, YHW

• GWM, 44, 5'10" BI/HZ, prof. Enjoys quiet evenings at home, movies and finer things in life. Sks someone 30-45 who enjoys same. Dare DRAWER 48.

• Dearest Sherlock — It's our 4th anniversary! Still as fresh & exciting as in the beginning. — Love forever, Howdy Doody.

• Happy, hairy, handsome, hunky, horny GWM, 6'1", 180lbs. Not sure what I'm looking for. Partial to teddy bears. Photo & phone. Discretion assured. Dare DRAWER 45

• To our nephews in Sunny South Florida: Keep making everyone and everything look more beautiful! We hope to see you soon. Lord Gargantua & Mr. Fatty.

• GWF, 34, 6'0" prof. Sports minded. I like scary movies, Far Side, Stephen King & travel. You: GWF w/ sense of humor, animal lover, likes 2 sleep late wknds & has it all together. Sights set on lasting friendship w/ possibility of 50/50 relationship. Dare DRAWER 46

• GWM, 31, 5'11" Br/HZ 175 enjoys walks, local/LD travel, advntur, occas. bars, outdts, crossword puzzles, security, frndshp, gd commun., no drugs, modert drink, smokr. Sks smlr 25-40. Foto/fone? Dare DRAWER 44.

• GWM, 53, BI/HZ, 5'10". Professional. Enjoys antiques, movies, cozy fires, theatre, walks, looking for one who enjoys same. Dare DRAWER 42.

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S C R E E N S

Educating Roger

ROGER AND ME. Produced, written and directed by Michael Moore. 1989.
reviewed by FLYNNE MALONE

Staff Writer

"PEOPLE COUNT for something. Society is better off if people are happy, valued."

Such is the basic philosophy of Michael Moore, the producer, director and writer of *ROGER AND ME* who was in Tennessee for an afternoon last week.

ROGER AND ME is an independent documentary that runs an hour and a half. In this, his first film, Moore takes about 30 minutes too long to reiterate the human tragedies caused by General Motors closing of the auto plants in Moore's hometown of Flint, Michigan, but I still heartily recommend that you see it.

First of all, it's funny, and autobiographical. It opens with the bliss of abundance and promise that sprang from the partnership of the people of Flint and GM. This is conveyed through home movies, stills and parade footage filled with silly images of larger than human-size spark plugs and the like.

The main structure, however, surrounds Moore's thwarted quest to interview Roger Smith, the president of GM. Intercut with this chase is a bizarre pastiche: evictions, Miss Michigan Kaye Lani Raye Rafka, Pat Boone, rat population statistics (exceeding the human population of Flint by 50,000), Bob Eubanks of *THE NEWLYWED GAME*, violent crime reports, welfare waiting, Anita Bryant, urban construction monstrosities, socialite parties, Amway sales sessions, the ultimate survivor "rabbit lady" and so forth. All in all, it's a marvelous and too often tragic collage of what is America.

What is America for Moore is the individual.

A real renegade at 35, Moore, who has a high school education, ran first for public office when he was 18. He turned to newspapers and published his own in Flint until *MOTHER JONES* lured him to San Francisco to edit the magazine.

This promising position soured and turned, eventually, into a lawsuit that was a source of funds for the film.

Moore also raised money by selling his house and having yard sales. Wackiest of all, bingo games organized for the film raised \$50,000 of the total \$260,000 budget. Grant money came last.

Entries of the finished film in a few festivals

caught the attention of distributors. Bidding started at \$50,000 and was won by Warner Brothers with a promise of \$3 million.

"I haven't seen any money yet, but they did give me this cap," said Moore, sporting his trademark baseball cap with a Warner Brothers logo on it.

He plans, among other things, to establish a fund for first-time filmmakers with one third of that money.

"If you've been rejected by the NEA [National Endowment for the Arts], NEH [National Endowment for the Humanities], CPB [Corporation for Public Broadcasting] and PBS [Public Broadcasting Service], then your chances are excellent with me," he said.

Moore has a wonderful, genuine quality about him. He's very likeable, and yet I could sense how hard and incisive he can be. When challenged on the sequencing of the film, he

was sharply aggressive, building a tough logic as to how and why he edited the film as he did. He maintained that although the work does not use chronological real-time order, it is true to the context of what happened to Flint.

For example, as Roger Smith delivers his pompous Christmas message to a warm crowd we see cold evictions of women and children. Close examination bears that the evictions came two days before the address, but so what? This might be dangerous "documentary" ground, but this isn't the 1950s anymore, folks. We all need to be hip enough to media to appreciate that this process happens all the time in documentaries, TV news, newspapers, and in every other source that seems to be "true" when you're sleeping.

What's really true is that, like Moore, we need to squarely embrace what is humane and refuse what threatens that which is sacred: the human being and

spirit. *ROGER AND ME* is a good education.

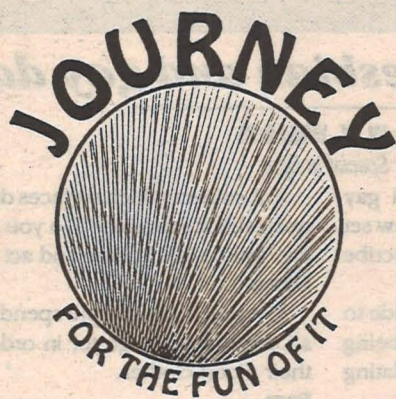
Moore sounded the call for us here, now:

"This is a story about Spring Hill, about Nashville, not about Flint. It's too late for Flint."

ROGER AND ME opens in Nashville on February 9. Go to school. •



This might be dangerous "documentary" ground, but this isn't the 1950s anymore, folks. We all need to be hip enough to media to appreciate that this process happens all the time in documentaries, TV news, and newspapers.



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VIEWS

Traditional values?

DURING THE past few years society has experienced a steady pull toward the philosophical right — a return, if you will, to traditionally-held values.

Last week, in Washington, a group of 750 or so lesbians and gay men staged a demonstration in protest of a group meeting in the nation's capital, the California-based Coalition for Traditional Values. People attending the symposium dealing with the topic of "the heterosexual ethic" once more listened to the hate-mongering rhetoric of homophobic, misanthropic Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.).

In Nashville last week, an estimated 4,500 people gathered at the Grand Ole Opry House at the Opryland amusement park complex to hear the rhetoric of Jerry Kirk, the leader of the National Coalition Against Pornography, as he exhorted Tennesseans to turn back the tide of pornography that he claims threatens to engulf the populace.

These two events, happening several hundred miles apart, represent two sides of the same coin: an attempt by someone who has seized power to incite the masses by using scare tactics.

Dannemeyer, spewing forth venomous tales of an oncoming gay blitzkreig (which he claims is better organized than Hitler's), inflames the feeble-minded and slack-jawed into a homophobic throng intent on destroying anything or anyone who fails to live up to "their" traditional values.

Kirk, reciting barely-attributed data, facts and figures, paints a bleak picture of a hedonistic society hellbent on destroying the family, while denying the viability of any viewpoint other than Kirk's own.

WHAT BOTH groups have in common, in addition to their scare tactics and careless use of facts, is the threat they pose to the freedom of speech, guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Both groups seek to limit the rights of others, invoking the time-honored tenets of American life: family, God and country.

But what they espouse is something no family should advocate, no God should validate and no country should allow. What they espouse is simply willful ignorance and an abiding hatred for those who don't agree with them or who don't measure up. •

BOX 40422

Thanks!

Dear Dare:

I felt compelled to thank you and your staff for producing one of the finest newspapers I have seen in quite some time. Your publication is pleasant to read, intelligently written and technically perfect in production. I wish you all the best success in the coming year and I thank you again for making my brief stay in Nashville an entertaining and informative one.

Thank you all.

Mark Murphy

Pompano Beach, Florida

Dare

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

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ARCHIVES

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

JUICY BITS

A glossary for lesbian and gay dating

by W.W. WELLS III
Special to Dare

THE EVOLUTION OF lesbian and gay dating has brought with it an entirely new set of definitions for the words we use to describe our dating rituals.

And certainly it would be dating suicide to enter the gay singles scene without being armed with the true meaning to today's dating jargon.

So, as a public service and with tongue firmly planted in cheek, I have compiled the following lesbian and gay dating vocabulary list:

Attraction

The intensity of attraction to a date is directly proportionate to the degree of horniness. To determine your horniness quotient, use the following equation:

$$\frac{(\# \text{ of days without sex}) + (\text{degree of desperation})}{(\text{Amt. of light in room}) - (\# \text{ of drinks consumed})}$$

Breaking up

The termination of a relationship. An event which usually occurs within the first month of dating when the supply of new sexual positions is exhausted and the fear of intimacy skyrockets.

Binge

The eating behavior of an overweight lesbian or gay man who, after eating nothing but carrot sticks for three months, discovers the hot number they had been trying to attract by shedding those extra pounds has fallen in love with their best friend.

Butch

A term used to describe any gay man who does not swish when he walks.

Call waiting

The telephone feature offered by the phone company which lets a man interrupt his conversation on a phone sex line to take a call from you.

Dancing

1. The imaginative mental process used by many lesbian and gay people during discussions with lovers to avoid telling the complete truth while discussing their past or what really goes on when they are not together;

2. A subject which surfaces during a lover's quarrel; for example: "Do you think you can just waltz right in here and act like that?"

Disco

The place gay people spend hours getting all dressed up to go to, in order to sweat in their nicest clothes.

Fart

The loud physical outburst that disappears during the first weeks of dating, only to return after you've moved in together and you no longer have any reason to impress each other.

Interior Decorating

Among gay couples, it is a competitive, indoor, tag-team sport which moves from home to home, much like the Pro Bowler's Tour.

Love

The irrational feeling which causes lesbians and gay men to drop all friends and lifelong interests in favor of spending time with a person they hardly know and who their friends can't stand.

Meditation

A moment of silence observed by spirituality-minded lesbian lovers prior to making love.

Mr. or Ms. Right

1. A person you once loved and later broke up with who fell in love with somebody else before you realized your mistake;

2. Your lover's status on any subject being discussed.

Net worth

Usually determined by adding the worth of designer outfits in a gay man's closet to the sum total of the credit limits of all his credit cards.

Roommate

Another word for lover. Often used while flirting or when describing your living arrangements to your straight boss.

Trick

A previous date you will try very hard to ignore the next time you see him.

Tummy Tuck

The act of sucking in your stomach to make yourself appear thinner. It is the leading cause of hernias for lesbians and gay men. •



— DARE CARTOON BY LESLIE GUERIN-HAINES

LOOSE LIPS

That darn Suzanne!



Delta Burke, DESIGNING WOMEN's Suzanne Sugarbaker
— DARE FILE PHOTO.

Suzanne: "I'm not sure, but I think Ian might be a homosexual."

Charlene: "Why? 'Cause he didn't flirt with you?"

Suzanne: "No, Charlene, 'cause his name is Ian, he's a waiter. In case you haven't noticed, the restaurant business is riddled with homosexuality."

Julia: "Thank you, Anita Bryant, for that very up-to-date and timely insight."

— **An exchange among Suzanne Sugarbaker (played by Delta Burke), Charlene Stillfield (Jean Smart) and Julia Sugarbaker (Dixie Carter) on Monday night's episode of DESIGNING WOMEN.**

"I was astonished when I saw the PBS series EYES ON THE PRIZE (about the civil rights movement). Astonished (that) people would get in front of TV cameras and say 'Someone should have rights and others shouldn't.'"

— **Actor Tom Hulce, who played civil rights martyr Mickey Schwerner in NBC's MURDER IN MISSISSIPPI. The 35-year-old Hulce, who starred in the film, AMADEUS, is one of the very few openly gay actors in this country.**

"Improved reporting of these [hate] crimes certainly is not going to end intolerance and hate-motivated violence in America."

As People for the American Way, a lobbying group that backs the bill notes, our schools, religious institutions, businesses, media and political leaders must join the effort. But better information is vital.

"It will help law enforcement officers spot links among the various crimes, determine whether they are being committed by organized groups or individuals, and indicate whether they are more common in certain sections of the country and in certain kinds of communities."

"Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel, a chronicler of Hitler's terrible crimes against the Jews, has written that 'unblinking exposure' is the first step in preventing and combatting intolerance."

"The U.S. Senate should waste no time in taking that step."
— **Syndicated columnist Carl Rowan, calling for the passage of the Hate Crimes Bill, currently pending in Congress.**

"I am a happily married heterosexual male. My wife and I have friends who are gay. They are decent, law-abiding citizens who do not molest children, nor do they run around spreading AIDS. They mind their own business and have no interest in converting others to their lifestyle. I find it strange that people who do not know these gentle souls should despise them so vehemently."

— **John C. of Chicago, writing to advice columnist Ann Landers about same-sex couples.**

"I remember you from Central High in Sioux City, and you are too smart to be taken in by the standard homosexual line. It may come as a surprise to them, but, theology aside, the ultimate purpose of mankind is the propagation of the human race. We were not given genitals so we could have fun. They were given to us for the purpose of producing progeny. Nature makes the experience pleasurable to ensure that this will occur. Homosexuals thwart God's ultimate purpose of man, which makes them unnatural and immoral."

— **Robert H. of Pensacola, responding to Landers' call for letters about the rights of same-sex couples.**

"You said the mail from readers about allowing homosexuals to marry ran 2 to 1 against. That figure doesn't reflect reality. Gays are organized while straights are not. This means the homos are able to band together and run up a much higher number on behalf of themselves. I'm sure the public sentiment is more like 20 to 1 against. Your readers should be told this."

— **A Landers reader from Memphis.**

"Sometimes you go off the deep end in your attempt to do good. I wish you'd lay off. your random sampling from readers who love to shoot off their mouths in print brings out the arrogant, misinformed, self-serving crap we have to put up with on a daily basis, not to mention the name-calling, finger-pointing and staring. I don't see why I should have to justify my sexual orientation to anyone."

— **A reader from Wichita.**

"And now, readers, how do I vote? Should homosexuals be allowed to marry? No. But any long-term monogamous relationship should be entitled to legal sanctions. It is unfair that same-sex couples who live together do not have tax benefits, housing breaks, hospital visiting privileges, corporate health insurance coverage and Social Security death benefits. This has nothing to do with sex, morality, religion or personal biases. It has to do with simple decency and fairness."

— **Ann Landers.**

"I don't care if you're gay as long as you don't try to rape me. I don't care what country you come from as long as, if you're living in America, you live like an American."

— **Axl Rose, lead singer for Guns N' Roses, reacting to criticism of the group's song "One in a Million" which includes racist and homophobic remarks, during the band's opening act for a Rolling Stones concert in Los Angeles.**

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Miss Gay Tennessee
USA Pageant

Sunday February 25
at Warehouse Two, Nashville

starring

Netasha Edwards, Miss Gay USA 1989
Diana Hutton, Miss Gay USA 1987
Rita Ross, Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1988
Monica Munro, Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1989
Neely O'Hara, Miss Gay Tennessee USA at Large 1990

\$1500 in cash and prizes,
including a complete jewelry set
from Dragon Lady

For information, phone (615) 385-9689 or 269-3679

Warehouse Two

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

99¢ cover, 50¢ draft all night

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

50¢ draft all night

Dance to your heart's content with our DJ Ed Denson

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Tea Dance Revisited

Happy Hour 2-for-1 cocktails 7pm—10pm

Buffet

2 shows at 11pm and 12:30am

Special guest Atlanta's own Cezanne

VALENTINE'S DAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

NASHVILLE LOVES PWAs

All admissions go to Conductors PWA Fund
Regular Cast Shows at 11pm and 12:30am

COMING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Mardi Gras comes to Nashville –
WAREHOUSE TWO'S MARDI GRAS PARTY



COMING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

BIANCA PAGE SPECIAL

COMING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Direct from Dallas

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