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Volume 3, Number 15

Tennessee's Gay & Lesbian Newsweekly

April 13, 1990

Bush ends AIDS silence

Vaid interrupts president's speech by KAREN MATHIS Editorial Assistant

George Bush spoke to a gathering of about 400 business and labor leaders at a conference sponsored by the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS held in late March, at the Crystal City Gateway Marriott Hotel near Washington.

The speech, Bush's first major address on the AIDS health crisis, was covered extensively by national and international media.

Outside, about 80 AIDS activists carried signs that said, among other things, "Wake Up George -Where's The Plan?" and "Nine years of AIDS + 80,000 Dead + One Lousy Speech = A National Disaster."

Bush's address was interrupted when Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), stood and held up a sign that read, "Talk Is Cheap - AIDS Funding Is Not" and "Remember Gay People With AIDS."

Vaid then challenged Bush directly, saying, "Mr. President, you don't understand. We need your · Continued on page 4

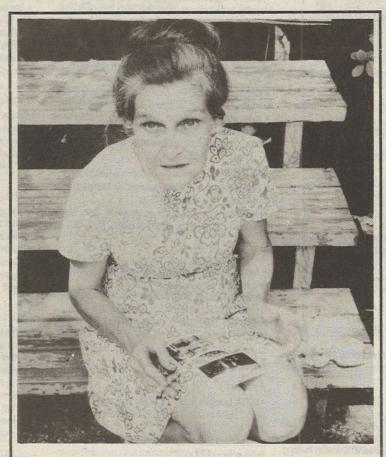


Two years ago...

From April 20, 1988

Anyone who knowingly donates HIV-infected blood could be charged with a felony if recently proposed federal legislation becomes law. The bill was introduced by Sixth District Rep. Don Sundquist (R-Tenn.) of Memphis.

♣ Chattanooga street preacher Dan Martino read from the Old Testament as he maintained a vigil across the street from Alan Gold's, a gay bar.



Florence, 1973, a silver print photographic portrait by openly gay Knoxville photographer Jan Lynch, is the first in a series of his fine art photographs to be published in Dare. For details about how you can order prints of Lynch's work, see the ad on page 3. - DARE PHOTO @ 1973 BY JAN LYNCH

AIDSWALK set for April 21

Planners target \$75,000 goal for 1990

by JACKI MOSS Staff Writer

The second annual AIDSWALK, to be held April 21, promises to be even more successful than last year's if planning has anything to do with it.

According to AIDSWALK president Victoria Harris, planners have set a goal of \$75,000 for the event and have high hopes of reaching it.

"This year our goal is \$75,000, and it's important for people to know that this will be money that, except for exactly what it takes for us to actually make the event happen, will go directly to helping people with AIDS," said Harris. "This means that there are no administrative costs taken out, no staff money taken out and no money for office space. Just the costs directly associated with putting the event on and a little bit of 'seed' money to

make sure we can begin next year's event will be deducted from the money raised."

Assisting in this year's effort are nationally known celebrities and local celebrities as well. Honorary chairpersons Minnie Pearl and Janis Ian will be celebrity walkers, and Kathy Mattea has donated her time for a public service announcement for the event.

Local celebrity walkers include Bob Mueller of WKRN-Channel 2, Bud Hedinger and Lee Ann Soowal of WTVF-Channel 5, Glenn Davis, Andy Shookoff, Marietta Shipley, Kenneth Schermmerhorn and Tish Hooker Schermerhorn, Dan Burton, Herbert Fox, Teeny Hooker Buchtel and Ed Sanders.

There are a couple of things different about this year's AIDSWALK. Instead of having pre-designated agencies that will benefit from the ♣ Continued on page 4

Cops: 'still no suspects'

Overstreet murder, Adams attack still under investigation

by JEFF ELLIS Editor

Although Nashville police contend that there are no new leads in the Aaron Overstreet murder case, Dare has learned from other sources that authorities are investigating a claim that Overstreet's lover, David Adams, hired two men to "rough up" Overstreet only weeks before his death.

"I don't think it would be proper for me to comment on that," Murder Wednesday morning.

Overstreet's body was found in Percy Priest Lake in the early morning hours of Monday, March 5. Overstreet had been stabbed and shot several times. He had been reported missing by Adams on Saturday, March 3, who told authorities he had last seen Overstreet on Monday, February 26.

Last week, Adams was attacked by a still unknown assailant who handcuffed him to his bed, bound him with duct tape and set fire to his duplex on Lakeford Drive in Donelson.

Adams escaped from the burning house after he was able to break the bedpost to which he was hand-

Although police have discounted theories that linked the attack on Adams to the Overstreet murder, rumors have persisted that the two incidents are indeed connected.

Most recently, a Nashville man, who asked that his name not be used, said that he suspected a link between the two cases. The man, questioned by police because of his friendship with Adams, said he was shown several mug shots by detectives whom, he claimed, told him Squad detective Mike Smith said Adams had attempted to hire two men to "rough up" Overstreet.

"They said David had hired these two men to rough up Aaron because he had stolen some jewelry and other property from David," the man said.

According to the source, police showed him a picture of Edward Osborne, currently being held in Metro Jail on other charges. Osborne late last year gained media attention when he faked an obituary in Nashville's THE TENNESSEAN.

The man claims that he was told by police that Osborne was one of the men hired by Adams to rough up Overstreet.

In an exclusive interview with · Continued on page 4





+ Nothing to do?

From big events to weekly meetings, we have it all! Mark your calendar, page 2.

Suzanne Sugarbaker's girlfriend

Those 'Designing Women' meet a lesbian beauty queen! Persistence of Vision, page 6.

+ Co-dependency...

Why is it such a problem for us?, page 7.

+ Big events



Women's Issues Network & Support

Monday, April 16

Consciousness Raising HOW IS YOUR LIFE AFFECTED BY HETEROSEXUAL SOCIETY. Black & White Men Together / Memphis. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Thursday, April 19

Organizing meeting PRIDE '90. 1401 Cedar Ln. 7pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

Saturday, April 21
Fundraiser AIDSWALK Nashville. Registration 8:30am, opening ceremonies 9am, warmup 9:15am. Info (615) 329-6473.

Seminar AIDS 101, Covers AIDS as disease, treatment as support issues. Limited space, please reserve. aids Response Knoxville (aRK), 1320 North Central, Knoxville. 9am-5pm. \$15. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Organizing Meeting WINS (Women's Issues Network & Support) New support &talk group for lesbian, bisexual women. Newcomers welcome. At 1710 Hayes St Suite 301, Nashville. 3-5pm. Info (615) 421-6475.

Sunday, April 22

Outing OUT & ABOUT MEMPHIS OUTdoor group. Outing to Shelby Forest. 11am. Info (901) 278-3460.

Installation Of Rodney Bragg as new pastor of MCC / Nashville. At St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Woodland Ave at South 5th St, Nashville, Music, 6:55pm, service at 7:15pm. Reception follows. Info (615) 320-0288.

Monday, April 23

Maeting . CRIME WATCH: PERSONAL SAFETY AND SELF-PROTECTION. Black & White Men Together / Memphis. At Main Library, Mtg Rm A, Peabody & MacLean, Memphis. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Free publicity!

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+ Just like clockwork

Chattanooga

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.

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

Clarksville

Mondays

• Clarksville CARES Support group for HIV+, ARC, AIDS family & partners. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. 3pm. Info (615)

Knoxville

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.
- UT Gay Christian / Nonchristian Support Group UT Humanities Bldg 53A. 7:30pm. Info (615) 584-6934.

Fridays

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

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

Sundays

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

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 (Gav 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)
- 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.

Murfreesporo

Fridays

• MTSU Lambda Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. 6pm. Info (615) 895-9749.

Nashville

Mondays

- 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. AIDS/ARC Support Group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- Women's Support Group Vanderbilt AIDS Project. 1st & 3rd Tue only. 6:30pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
- · Al-Anon Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
- Caregivers' Support Group Vanderbilt AIDS Project. 1st & 3rd Tue only. 7pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS.

 • 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 Support/Education Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- One in Teen Support group for lesbian and gay teens. 6:30pm. Info GALLIP Hotline (615) 297-0008.
- · Affirmation Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists. 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 254-7628.

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.
- Family Support Group Vanderbilt AIDS Project. 1st & 3rd Thu only. 7pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
- AIDS / ARC Men's Group Vanderbilt AIDS Project. 7pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS
- 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.

- Sexaholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.
- Mashville CARES Family & Caregivers Together Sharing. Alternate Fridays. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30 pm.

Saturdays

- Being Meeting Co-Dependents Anonyomous. At 1682nd Av North. 4pm. Info (615) 244-7346.
- 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.
- · Music City Sports Association Softball league. At Whitfield Park, Edmondson Pike. Games at 1, 2 & 3pm. Info (615) 385-9689.
- · Women's Chorus At Bethlehem Center, 1417 Charlotte. 4-6pm. Info (615) 353-1336.
- Incest Survivors Anonymous Closed meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd, 6pm.

Tri-Cities

- LETSA Lesbians of East Tennessee & Surrounding Areas social / support group. 1st & 3rd Tue only. Info Box 905 Mountain Home, TN 37684.
- · 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.

Fridays

- · Women's Night Metropolitan Community Church, 7pm. Info (615) 926-4393.
- · Men's Night Metropolitan Community Church, 7pm. Info (615) 926-4393.

Sundays

· Gay & Lesbian AA 4pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church.

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



compiled by KAREN MATHIS Editorial Assistant

Chattanooga

Corey to discuss children's theatre

Internationally recognized theatre educator, producer and publisher Orlin Corey will visit Chattanooga area schools and Chattanooga Little Theatre, Thursday, April 19.

Corey will attend a special evening presentation of the Youth Theatre's production of BAMBOOZLED and address a special audience of community leaders and educators about the value of theatre and arts education.

For information about the BAMBOOZLED presentation and lecture call Rodney Van Valkenburg at (615) 267-8534. •

Little Theatre presents '42nd Street'

42ND STREET, one of the longest-running shows on Broadway, will be presented at Chattanooga Little Theatre April 27-May 26.

The musical comedy, based on the 1933 novel and film of the same name, is under the direction of Ted Strickland, artistic director, Mike Lees, musical director, and Ginger Tidwell, guest choreographer.

The box office opens April 16 for subscribers and April 23 for the general public.

For reservations, call (615) 267-8534. •

Memphis

Reger becomes first Mr. Leather Tennessee

Vance Reger was chosen Mr. Leather Tennessee in the first contest for that title last Saturday at The Studio, a theatre facility on Beale Street.

First alternate was Tim Brokaw and second alternate was John J. Poole.

Reger will compete for the title of International Mr. Leather 1990 in Chicago later this

A crowd estimated at more than 250 attended the event, sponsored by the Pipeline, Memphis, and Drum Productions, Nashville.

The panel of judges was composed of leather title holders and influential leather personalities from across the country. Coemcees were Mr. Marcus, columnist for the BAY AREA REPORTER, and Michael Pereyra, International Mr. Leather 1988.

A highlight of the evening was a short address by Guy Baldwin, International Mr. Leather 1989, in which he spoke of the concept of brotherhood in terms of tolerance and acceptance of the diverse lifestyles within the gay community. •

Playbouse celebrates Memphis in May

A FLEA IN HER EAR, the comic farce by George Feydeau, the famous French playwright, will be presented by Playhouse on the Square, under the direction of Ken Zimmerman, as part of this year's Memphis in May celebration.

This year's Memphis in May honored country is France

Opening Friday, April 27, at 8 p.m., the play will run Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. through June 3 at the Playhouse, 51 S. Cooper.

Tickets are available by calling (901) 726-

Nashville

MCSA softball season moves into second week

In the second week of softball competition in the inaugural season of the Music City Sports Association, three games were held Sunday at Nashville's Whitfield Park.

Scores from Sunday's action were: Juanita's Zippers 14, CC Shooters 3; Warehouse Warriors 12, Nashville Numbers 10; Music City Storm (formerly 5 Points Stars) 21, C.C. Shoot-

Current league standings: Music City Storm, 2-0; Warehouse Warriors 2-1; Nashville Numbers 1-1; Juanita's Zippers 1-1; and C.C. Shooters 0-3.

Softball action resumes Sunday, April 22, at Whitfield Park following a one-week layoff in observance of the Easter holiday. •

JCC schedules photo exhibit and piano recital

Upcoming events at the Jewish Community Center include the photographic exhibit THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN NASHVILLE, April 15-May 6, along with the dedication of the needlepoint mural of the historic Jewish religious institutions in memory of Norma Tavalin who was the inspiration behind its creation.

Pianist Akiko Hirono will present a solo performance April 26 at 1 p.m.

Hirono will perform works by Chopin, Bach-Busoni, Scarlatti and Ravel. The performance is free and open to the public.

The Nashville Recorder Consort and Renaissance Dancers will perform April 29 at 2

The group will also present lecture demonstrations from the period, 1200-1700.

For information regarding any of the events, call Bryan Cahen at (615) 356-7170. •



Raymond Kinnard stars as Miss Roj in the Actor's Playhouse of Nashville staging of THE COLORED MUSEUM, through April 14. A special "pay-what-you-can" matinee is slated for Saturday at 2 p.m. For reservations, call (615) 327-0049. — DARE PHOTO BY STUART BIVIN

fine art photographs by jan lynch

for details contact: jan lynch Box 8196, Knoxville, TN 37996

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Juanita's

Yard Sale & Car Wash

\$3 • Saturday, April 14, 9 am Great selection of magazines & books! All donations welcome.

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April 22 • 5:00 p.m. 'til? Come support Zippers softball Hamburgers \$1 • Hot dogs 50¢

Sunday 25¢ draft 4 pm – 8 pm

Monday \$2.50 draft beer pitchers all day

Tuesday is Movie Night • 25¢ draft & free popcorn 8 pm – 11 pm

Beer Bust – \$3 All you can drink

Wednesday 7 pm – 11 pm Saturday 2 pm – 6 pm

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1700 4th Avenue South, Nashville 615/256-9681

ATDS Uplate

+ CARES expands nutrition program

by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

Nashville CARES has received three grants to expand its nutrition program for people with HIV infection and AIDS. According to Sandee Potter, executive director of CARES, "CARES has developed a nutrition program to meet the needs of individuals from the time that they have discovered they have been exposed to the AIDS virus through the time that they have been diagnosed with AIDS and must cope with the multitude of difficulties accompanying that diagnosis."

The three grants come from very divergent sources, according to Potter. AETNA Life & Casualty Foundation granted \$3,000 as a part of a national effort in collaboration with the National AIDS Network to promote better nutrition among people with HIV infection.

A portion of the funds will go toward the printing of NUTRITION AND HIV: YOUR CHOICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE, a publication sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment AIDS Program, Tennessee Office of the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center and the Tennessee Hospital Association. The publication was written by Peggy Wickwire of the Department of Health and Environment and will be made available to CARES' clients.

Broadway CARES granted \$1,500 to assist with obtaining ENSURE and other nutritional assistance, and the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Hunger Relief Fund granted \$6,000 for food. This grant was made possible through a request by Nashville's Immanuel Baptist Church.

For more information on CARES' Nutrition Program, you may call (615) 385-1510. •

...Vaid interrupts Bush

Continued from page

leadership. We need more than one speech every 14 months. We need more funding for AIDS education, research and prevention. We need you to end the discriminatory immigration policy."

Secret Service agents instructed Vaid to remove the sign and sit down.

But a few minutes later, she again stood to address the President, who up to that point in his speech had not revealed any new substantial administration initiatives for fighting the epidemic.

Vaid was then escorted out of the hotel and told she would be arrested if she reentered.

Bush paused to address Vaid, saying, "Let me say something about this. I can understand the concern that these people feel.

"And I hope if we do nothing else by coming here, I can help them understand that not only you care, but we care too."

During his speech, Bush urged compassion for people with AIDS. He mentioned education, "AIDS babies," confidentiality, the "war on drugs," and praised Allstate Insurance Company, Fortune Magazine and General Motors for fighting the disease.

Among other things, Bush touted his administration's response to AIDS.

"The epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system," said Bush.

"The Federal response is unprecedented."
Bush also renewed his support for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which he said must be immediately passed to ban discrimination against people with AIDS and HIV.

Bush said the administration had asked Congress for \$3.5 billion in 1991 for AIDS. But AIDS advocates sharply criticized that figure, saying after Medicare and Medicaid entitlements, Defense Department testing costs and other miscellaneous expenses are factored out, the actual Bush AIDS budget request for Labor, Health and Human Services expenditures is \$1.75 billion.

...AIDSWALK

♣ Continued from page 1

proceeds, the AIDSWALK board decided to open an application process for interested and qualified agencies to receive money from the event. "We would like to give many more agencies an opportunity to tell us what they need to care for people with AIDS. We are encouraging any organization that provides direct services to people with AIDS to apply," said Harris.

The first AIDSWALK was organized by concerned citizens who wanted to raise money for AIDS support services because

state and local government money does not usually cover direct services. "Our priority is direct service for people with AIDS. By direct service I mean assistance with food, emergency money, money for medications or whatever it takes to help someone live with AIDS," Harris said.

The AIDSWALK will begin Saturday, April 21, at Vanderbilt Stadium. Registration is at 8:30 a.m., opening ceremonies begin at 9:00, and the walk begins at 9:30. Pledge cards are available at Nashville CARES, Vanderbilt AIDS Project, or by calling 329-6473.

...investigation continues

♣ Continued from page 1

Dare on the afternoon following Overstreet's funeral, Adams admitted that the two had broken up on several occasions, but had reconciled several weeks prior to the murder.

Sources have also told *Dare* that in late October, 1989, Adams asked several friends

to help him "get rid of Aaron" by convincing Overstreet to move out of the apartment the two men were sharing at the time.

Since the time of his initial interview with Dare on March 8, Adams has not returned phone calls from the newspaper and was unavailable to comment on the allegations.



compiled by KAREN MATHIS

Editorial Assistant

San Francisco

DiDonato joins embattled NGRA staff

Paul Di Donato, a graduate of Harvard Law School, has been appointed staff attorney at National Gay Rights Advocates.

Di Donato joins the firm with extensive experience in federal, constitutional and civil rights litigation, including experience in the areas of gay and lesbian, disability, race and gender rights.

While an associate attorney with the San Francisco firm of Rosen and Phillips, Di Donato served as sub-class counsel with the ACLU of Northern California for HIV seropositive prisoners, challenging California's HIV segregation policies in Gates v. Deukmejian.

Di Donato is currently on the faculty of the New College School of Law in San Francisco and has lectured extensively on gay and lesbian legal issues.

Estes Park, Colo.

Catholic lesbians to hold conference

Lesbians from all over the country will gather at Estes Park, Colorado, to celebrate the fifth national biannual conference sponsored by the Conference for Catholic Lesbians (CCL).

The conference theme will be "power and empowerment," and workshops will be offered on topics such as homophobia, empowering relationships, feminist process, feminine eros, women's health issues, images of the Goddess, "coming out" and ecofeminism

Sessions about social justice, lesbian mothers, lesbian nuns, sexual and substance abuse and women in management will also be offered.

For more information write to Conference Coordinator, CCL, Inc., P.O. Box 436, Planetarium Station, N.Y. 10024, or call at (212) 562-8922.

Cambridge

Massachusetts gay/lesbian foster parent ban reversed

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis announced April 4 that the state policy which effectively banned gay men and lesbians in 1985 from becoming foster parents would be reversed.

The new policy, which will go into effect in 45 to 50 days, will no longer include sexual orientation as a factor in the placement of children in foster homes.

A lawsuit initiated by gay rights and civil liberties organizations, challenging the policy which commenced in 1986, reached an out of court settlement just prior to the Governor's announcement.

"Sooner or later, people have got to realize that being a good parent has nothing to do

with one's sexual orientation," said David LaFontaine, lobbying director of the Massachusetts Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights. •

San Francisco

Court order upends dial-aporn amendment

In a court order issued in response to a suit challenging the government's most recent attempt to control dial-a-porn companies, U.S. District Judge Fern Smith declared that phone sex is constitutionally protected speech.

The suit filed by three California companies offering sexually oriented telephone services, seeks a preliminary injunction against the Helms Amendment to the Communications Act of 1934 which calls for Federal Communications Commission regulations that would require users of phone sex services to be subscribers of these services.

Because of billing technicalities, such an arrangement would effectively eliminate dial-aporn companies.

Attorney Leonard Graff argued that "sexually explicit telephone communications may play a positive role in curbing the AIDS epidemic" and "deserve first amendment protection if they may help save lives by deterring or replacing life-threatening behavior."

Washington, D.C.

ASNE study says papers 'bospitable' to gays/lesbians

A study conducted by the American Society of Newspaper Editors finds that newspapers are largely hospitable to gay and lesbian journalists, although there is an undercurrent of bias in the newsroom.

The survey respondents indicated that their newsroom colleagues frequently make derogatory comments about gay men and lesbians.

According to the ASNE report, respondents overwhelmingly gave their newspapers a grade of "mediocre" on coverage of gay and lesbian issues. Respondents feel best about coverage of AIDS and worst about coverage of gay and lesbian lifestyles and politics.

The survey also finds that many of the respondents' gay and lesbian colleagues are closeted and suggests that many gay and lesbian journalists live with and tolerate a "not-so-subtle homophobia."

New York City

NYU Medical Center sets new PWAS admission policy

After discussions with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York University Medical Center has established new admissions policies giving patients with AIDS access to semi-private rooms.

The Center had previously restricted people with AIDS to private rooms, intensive care units or the special Cooperative Care facility.

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+ 'Designing' a friend for Suzanne

"Suzanne Goes Looking for a Friend." April 9 episode of Designing women. Directed by David Trainer. Starring Delta Burke, Dixie Carter, Annie Potts, Jean Smart, Meshach Taylor and guest starring Karen Kopins. Written by Dee LaDuke and Mark Alan Brown. 1990.

reviewed by FLYNNE MALONE Staff Writer

I heard the "L word" nine times on prime time network television Monday night.

The word "lesbian" was clearly articulated ninetimes during the "Suzanne Goes Looking for a Friend" episode of DESIGNING WOMEN, but who's counting?

I am, obviously, and not without good reason. In any given treatment of homosexuality in the media, rare enough, lesbians are somehow dropped from sight.

For example, NEWSWEEK magazine has devoted two covers to homosexuality in the



last four years. In 1988, we were "an invisible segment of American society." Finis. In 1990, we are a sidebar, a journalistic term which translates as "Oh, and by the way, here's a nice little companion piece..."

BROTHERS, the sort-of-homosexual comedy series, ran on Showtime for years and only had one or two lesbian episodes.

Even with the splendid, funny, honest, progressive script of this episode of designing women, entertainment weekly saw fit to give the blurb to Murphy Brown's episode on practical jokes. The tip about designing women was that Hal Holbrook's character will be killed off this summer.

I take heart, though, knowing that a lot of people in America saw the budding of understanding and friendship between Suzanne Sugarbaker, played with creamy, rich perfection by Delta Burke, and Eugenia Weeks, played by Karen Kopins.

Eugenia is an old acquaintance from the beauty "pageant zone," who once gave Suzanne her fire batons when Suzanne's had mysteriously disappeared.

Eugenia has since come out. To this, the egocentric Suzanne replies, "What do I care if she's the world's oldest living debutante?"

And then, "That's ridiculous! Whoever heard of a debutante lesbian?"

Eugenia Weeks is a complete character. A television "weather girl" [sic] whose forecast is forever wrong, and she shares a good portion of Suzanne's "beauty queen" values: flawless manicures and getting what she wants out of a relationship. She's also direct about her sexuality, physically attractive, successful professionally, minus a lover, and nowhere near suicide or murder, the traditional fate.

The show had lots of revelations along the way, all delivered in DESIGNING WOMEN'S usually effortless style. They ranged from "the PTA could be full of 'em" [lesbian mothers] to the concept that lesbian bars might not be filled with "women in gangster suits dancing the tango with pictures of tennis stars all over the walls."

I am not surprised to see this theme appear well treated on DESIGNING WOMEN, and assuming that the executive producers Linda Bloodworth-Thomason and Harry Thomason had something to do with it, I wholeheartedly applaud them.

Apparently, these producers are still trying to integrate television images with the reality of life, lesbian life at that.

My God, that made Southerners as sharp and snappy as the rest of the world. Maybe dykes are next!

I have a serious proposition for this very funny series. Suzanne should come to the realization that she's a lesbian. She has never had very satisfactory relationships with men, dating old ones to get their money. She loves animals and children. She's a little lonely. She could meet a friend of Eugenia's and fall quietly and sweetly in love. (Well, maybe not quietly.)

The producers could do an episode or two and then drop it as the main theme. Just have her be! Be her funny, egomaniacal, naïve, ultimately good self. Her lover could drop by, just like Charlene's husband does. They could all go on trips together. The same kind of plot lines could continue, except we'd have a weekly comedy featuring a prime time lesbian who wasn't perfect, but who was definitely and purely proud. •

...co-dependency

♣ Continued from page 7

groups that are somewhat isolated, because that behavior may help that group to grow and to gain strength," says Stere.

What are the benefits of having a Co-Dependents Anonymous group for the gay and lesbian community?

"Co-dependency meetings address rela-

tionships, and for many gay men and lesbians, it is a burden for them to talk about their relationships in a 'regular' meeting," says Stere.

Eron agrees: "There's already enough shame in just attending a meeting at all.

"Gay meetings would just make them feel





+ Why are we co-dependent?

by LAURA TEK
Staff Writer

A need for additional 12-step recovery programs for the gay and lesbian recovery community has resulted in the creation of Co-Dependents Anonymous (CODA), a program tailored specifically for that community.

CODA is a program that has only been in existence for four years. It is the latest in the ever evolving 12-step programs, designed to help people gain a feeling of self-worth and sense of spirituality.

Co-dependency is a pattern of living, coping and problem solving created by a set of dysfunctional rules within the family or social system that are learned in childhood and maintained in adulthood.

These rules interfere with the normal process of emotional, psychological, behavioral and spiritual development and destroy a person's ability to form a trusting relationship with themselves and others.

Just what are co-dependents and what is classified as co-dependent behavior?

Co-dependents are people who grow up in dysfunctional homes, and who have learned destructive patterns of living and never developed a sense of self. They define themselves through others, only needing something or someone to help them achieve a feeling of self-worth or they lose their identity.

They also frequently abuse food, sex, alcohol, drugs or people in an attempt to fulfill their needs.

Co-dependents believe that they exist only to please others. They want to fix everything, do everything perfectly, make everybody happy and have everybody love them.

They also feel the need to control everything and everybody. They manipulate others and believe that they must be "needed" in order to have a relationship with others.

Judy Eron is a licensed clinical social worker in private practice and has a significant number of gay and lesbian clients. She addresses the co-dependent issues that are specific to gay men and lesbians.

"Gay people, especially lesbians, have a great capacity for relationships, for getting close, enmeshed and intertwined. Sometimes they get too close, too involved and they lose themselves," explains Eron.

"This is also true within gay male relationships because gay men's feelings are not as tempered as straight men's are. For gay men it's more okay to cry, to be close and to ask for affection," she adds.

Linda Stere, also a licensed clinical social worker agrees: "The fears and pressures that force gays and lesbians to be closeted and their concerns about rejection sometimes force their relationships to become intense and overdependent, thus creating problems."

"Lesbians are especially vulnerable to this because they get too easily involved, developing an emotional closeness that touches each other at very deep, primitive emotional levels. That's why break-ups are especially hard on lesbians, because they lose this very close oneness that they experienced," says Stere.

"Self-esteem," says Eron, "is another issue specific to gay and lesbian co-dependency. It's harder for gay people to get and maintain self-esteem because many as children may have been raised in families where their emotional needs were not met. Many may have come to believe they weren't worthy of love and affection and that they were bad people."

"Today, as adults, gays and lesbians are still being told by many churches, politicians and society in general that they are still bad people. So it's harder for gay people to feel good about themselves because they lack society's support, and in some cases, to be an individual, much less to be involved in a relationship," says Eron.

"This is even true for a gay person who was not brought up in a dysfunctional home. Growing up gay in America does a lot of wrenching to one's self-esteem."

Co-dependents believe that they exist only to please others.
They want to fix everything, do everything perfectly, make everybody happy and have everybody love them.

"Hiding their feelings," Stere points out, "is another problem. Gays and lesbians have learned that in order to survive in the straight world, they have to submerge certain feelings. They've learned not to be open and honest with their families and to automatically not say certain things. This is, unfortunately, carried over into their intimate relationships as well. With their partners they have this pattern of shutting off certain feelings and not being as open and honest as they should be, and it ends up destroying the relationship."

"And that's co-dependency to a T, scared to death to deal with what and how you really feel. For gays and lesbians, the straight world reinforces that fear all the time," says Stere.

Stere suggests, however, that labeling certain behaviors co-dependent is very relative.

"Building a gay and lesbian community and having friends and relationships is very hard because the choices are fewer. Lesbians, in building and maintaining their community will tend to make old lovers their best friends. Their designing and creating their world this way really works for many of them," explains Stere.

"In the heterosexual world, however, it would be seen as co-dependent behavior for women to hang around their ex-husbands. A behavior that is labelled dysfunctional to one group may not be in another, especially to • Continued on page 6

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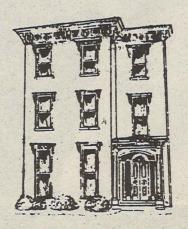


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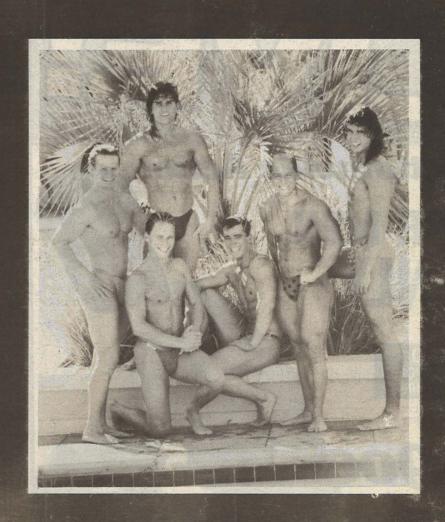
s, Sunday, April 29.

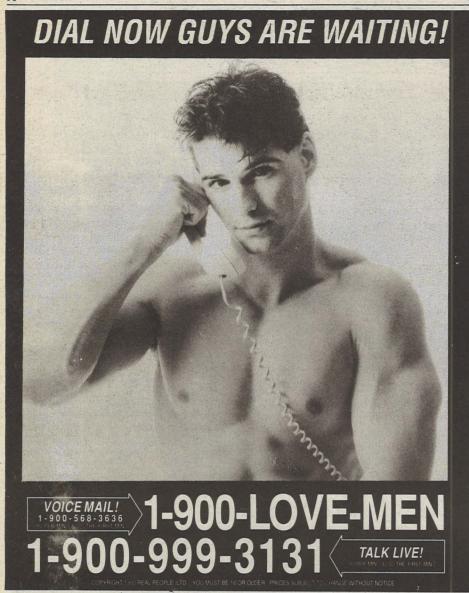


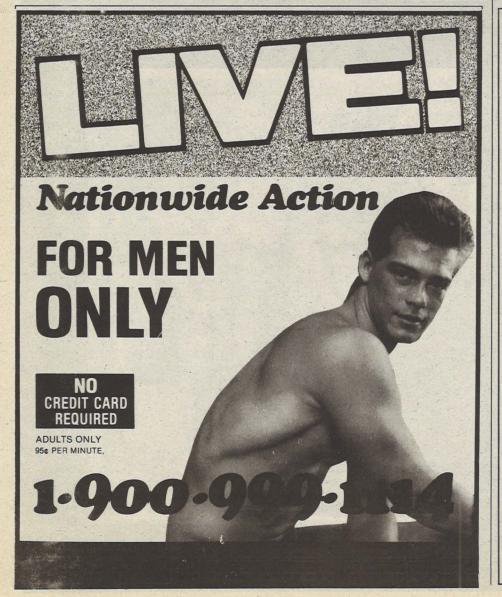
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- YOU LIKE 'EM! YOU REALLY LIKE 'EM! Dare classifieds are such a big hit, we've decided to extend our FREE PERSONALS offer again. Send a special message. Meet new friends. Or just say your piece to lesbian and gay Tennesseans, and we'll pick up the tab. Send us your personal ad (up to 200 characters) with the words "free personals" written across the top of the form below, and your ad is free. Don't just sit there - grab a pen and get personal! Ads must be postmarked on or before April 30, 1990. Don't forget to add \$5 for response drawers or bold caps. We reserve the right to edit or to refuse any ad. Sorry, phone numbers and street addresses cannot be used in Personals. Offer not good for announcements, sales, roommates, real estate or commercial classified ads
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+ Personals

- · Congratulations, Miss Rita! We always knew you'd break their faces! Love, The Manly Men Who Love Womanly Men
- . GWF, 23, attractive & intelligent. Seeking fem, petite partner who enjoys love & romance. Are u there? Dare
- The obsession: parts 4-7. The fantasy continues, but I don't need to explain, because you were there, too. May your dreams bring you to the place where you belong! Are you sure, honey? I am. Waiting for 8!
- . Dog-face of the East: Say what you like, but you'd better like what you say, because I'll see to it that you eat your words, Miss Trash.
- GWM 25, 5'6", bl/bl, sks someone 4 poss., relationship in Nashville area. Phone, photo a must. Dare DRAWER 82
- GWM, 5'8", 140 br/bl, 42, not into bars sks someone sincere who enjoys life, fun, travel. No drugs, to age 38, for friendship & poss. monogamous lasting relationship, Letter, photo pls, Dare DRAWER 81
- . Jeff M. of Morristown: Too many times I've seen the rose die on the vine. Somebody's heart gets broken; usually it's mine. I still love you. You still love me? -Craig
- · Spring is here and the tulips are in full bloom. Congratulations to: Mike & Jimmy; Bill & Richard; Jim & Tommy; Bob & Dane.
- BiWM 34, 5'8" br/br prof. Sincere & descreet enjoys music, dancing, travel, movies. Sks sim, for mature friendship/relationship. Photo/letter. Nashville area. Dare DRAWER 80

- Trina, 4give, it was a joke! You're my 1 & only. Stick w/ me, I'll give u matching towels, Xmas in Co, & make u feel so much love. 143 enuff! Let's go cruising! Y.B.G.
- . GWM, 32, 6'1", 190, br / bl, new in Nashville lkg for special friend, 18-30, for friendship, maybe more. If you too are tired of lonely nights, send photo & phone & let's see what happens, All answered, Dare DRAWER 79
- BiWM married, sincere, needs more out of life, lkg 4 same 4 discreet fun, friendship & understanding, 5'6", 135lbs, 33 yo, avg lkng. Photo, phone, letter pls. All contacts answered. Nashville. Dare DRAWER 78
- . GWM 36 lkg 4 big men 200 lbs & up. I luv bear hugs. foto, fone Dare DRAWER 77
- · Disguise our bondage as we will, 'tis woman, woman rules us still. You are my bondage, my lover, my friend. My forever girl. Love Lisa, 2yrs & going strong.
- PLEASE DON'T FORGET to put the Dare DRAWER NUMBER on your responses to Personals.
- . Boy wanted: 18-24 to share luv of art, photography, travel, life, w/GWM 27. Pen pals, friends or possible more. Your photo / letter gets mine. Write me! Dare DRAWFR 76
- · GWF, 32, enjoys outdoors, quiet evngs at home, music, movies, gd conversation. Prefer GWF 28-40 w/ similar interests who's tired of bars & one-night stands.

No drugs / hvy drink. Photo, phone. Dare DRAWER 75

- Robin Z How are things in Knoxland? Have you ket all the fun people & found all the good places? We miss you here in Nashville. Our best to your Dad. Hang tough, baby. Love you! - Anne & Holly
- GWF: not perfect. Lkng 4 GWF who's a friend, teacher, lover & partner 4 as long as love is there 4 each other. Someone 2 share hopes, dreams & fantasies. Mtg halfway in relationship & loving that person 4 who they are. Dare DRAWER 74
- GWM, 5'11", 160, br/bl, 29, top wanting to try bottom (maybe forever) with right stud! Sks 20-35, photo a must. Relationship oriented. Dare DRAWER 73
- . Darren, you know I love you, but I never want to live with you again. Call me if you ever get your head together, and know "what you want." - Carroll
- · Teddy bear sks same for major cuddle time. Frndship 1st, then, whatever happens. GWM, 33, quiet, shy, romantic; no one-night stands. You should be strong, silent, sensitive type, or at least close. Dare DRAWER 72
- Travis, thanks a million for all the wonderful thoughts. times & feelings. Thanks to you my life is now complete & fulfilled. I'll love & worship you forever & ever with all my love & respect. Kevin
- Trina, for nearly 5 years, you've been my lady, my lover & my best friend. I want you to know, as proof of my love, as long as I have a face, you'll always have a place to sit. What? Kill me? Denise

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The report you receive will contain the following information about your matches: A client identity number, a mini-profile listing all the attributes the client used to describe himself, as well as the authorized contact information provided by the client. Our double screening process ensures that you meet the other clients' requirements.

Your client number is used to allow us to verify your identity when you call our office, you are the only one who should know this code.

How much does it cost?

Our service fee is currently \$35, which includes a one time processing charge and your print-out of the top 15 matches from our current data base. As well, you automatically receive a six month membership during which other members may be matched with you; they will receive the authorized contact information you have provided. You can know of these matches only when they contact you.

You may also order our MatchPlus service for \$55.00. This fee includes 30 client matches and a 6 month membership for MatchPlus service customers. You may update your contact information at any time without charge.

What else do I need to know?

Members agree that the information they provide is complete and accurate. As well, that any information they receive from us is confidential, for their personal use only, in accordance with the objectives of the service.

We reserve the right to decline applications for any reason, if an application is declined a full refund will be issued. We also reserve the right to terminate any membership without refund if the information provided is found to be deliberately incomplete, untrue or

How do I fill out the Application Form?

We know you hate reading instructions, but in order for us to provide you with the best possible service, please read these instructions carefully before filling out your Buddies 'n' Pals 'n' Partners Application Form.

At first 191 questions may seem a bit overwhelming, but, in fact, filling out the Application Form is really not that difficult if you follow these four steps:

STEP 1: Fill in the section entitled Membership Information (For office use only). Enter your name, full mailing address, zip code, phone number. (We will contact you by phone only if you include a phone number here). A mailing address is required for sending march lists.

STEP 2: Complete the Contact Information section and sign the disclaimer. The contact information you provide here will be given to members who match with you. The contact information should include your first name and phone number or a contact address. Use this section to tell members something about yourself, information that would not normally be included in the mini-profile. The use of this section is entirely up to you. However, giving out work phone numbers or home address is strongly discouraged!

STEP 3: The Boxes on the left hand side of each column are used when the indicated attribute applies to you. Check at least one box per section, only one box in sections which are mutually exclusive (i.e., Age, Height, Hair, Location).

STEP 4: The words YES, OK and NO to the left of the attribute name describe the type of person you would like to meet. Circle YES when the attribute is strongly desired in a match. Indicating a YES will never disqualify a potential match. Circle OK if it doesn't matter one way or the other. Circle NO if you would not like this attribute in a match. A NO acts as a vote against the person, it does not automatically disqualify them.

__ Computerized Application Form _____

Dear Buddy: Please read the instructions carefully so that your match list is not delayed due to errors on your application. Your application must be complete or it will be returned to you for correction. For best results, please indicate at least one of your own traits in each of the main sections of the application form (i.e. Age, Build, Race).

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Please provide the following confidential information to help us service your membership. (All correspondence to members is mailed in plain envelopes.)

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Note: Mailing address required for sending match lists. Please allow one to two weeks for us to process

Contact Information

☐ Option 1: Contact information written below will be given out to members matching up with your profile. Contact information should include your first name and a phone number or some contact address. Work numbers and home address are discouraged!

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By signing I agree that neither the computer dating service nor its agents has any liability and cannot be held responsible for any actions of its members as a result of the release of the authorized contact information indicated above. I also state that I am of legal age.

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Go see this show!

rected by Jackie Welch. Actor's Playhouse of Nashville. Through April 14.

reviewed by IEFF ELLIS Editor

THE COLORED MUSEUM is probably the best play of the season, so call now and make your reservations!

You've simply have to go see the Actor's Playhouse production of George C. Wolfe's work, performed by a multi-talented fivemember cast directed unerringly by Jackie Welch. It's an on-target assemblage of comedic sketches, underscored by generations of oppression and repression, that pokes fun at various historical events and figures - no one is sacred - in African-American history.

Starting with the rhythmic beat of African drums, Miss Pat (Stella Reed) takes us aboard Celebrity Slave Ships for a fantastic journey, showing us the history of black people in America, from the time the first slave ships landed in the colonies all the way to the world wars, Martha and the Vandellas, Malcolm X, "JULIA starring Miss Diahann Carroll," five little girls in Sunday School in Alabama and the break-up of the Supremes.

Reed's ever-smiling flight attendant sets the tone for the evening's entertainment, presenting a history lesson with tongue-in-cheek abandon that manages to stay within the parameters of the textbook. And, as in the sketches that follow, playwright Wolfe has fashioned an enormously entertaining work that is, nonetheless, an indictment of society's racism and prejudices.

Wolfe's skewering pen isn't filled with vitriol directed toward white society - that would be much too easy and far too predictable. Instead, he saves his best writing for the sketches that lambaste black society's adherence to white middle-class dictates.

For example, in "The Last Momma-on-the-Couch Play," Wolfe slams Lorraine Hansberry's A RAISIN IN THE SUN and every allblack musical ever produced. Not only does the sketch include Wolfe's best writing, but the best acting in the show. Helen Shute-Pettaway (as Momma) is marvelously funny

THE COLORED MUSEUM. By George C. Wolfe. Di- in her portrayal and is given superb support from Alex Stadaker (as her son, Walter-Lee-Beau-Willie Jones), Patti Nicole Wheeler (as her daughter, Medea Jones), Reed (as Walter-Lee-Beau-Willie's wife, the lady in plaid) and Raymond Kinnard (as the narrator).

All five members of Welch's cast are fine actors - and just why in the hell haven't we seen them before? - and each is given a chance to shine. If anyone's star shines brighter, then it must be Pettaway's. From her Aunt Ethel (think Aunt Jemima meets Eartha Kitt) to Janine (a loud-mouthed and proud Afro wig), from Momma to Lala Lamazing Grace (an expatriate singer who's a star in France and who is back home for an American tour), she presents a richly-textured, gorgeously hued performance that's to be

As wonderful as Reed is as Miss Pat, she's even funnier as LaWanda (another talking wig) and as the lady in plaid and heartwrenching as Normal Jean Reynolds in "Permutations." Stadaker is endearing and oddly comforting as Junie Robinson, the "soldier with a secret" and overacts admirably as Walter-Lee-Beau-Willie.

Wheeler and Kinnard are all frozen smiles and forced poses in "The Photo Session," as they live life in EBONY magazine and Wheeler is delightful as Topsy Washington in the show's finale.

And who will ever hear a finger snap and not think of Kinnard as Miss Roj, an African-American drag queen who's proud to be who he is and presents a strong, convincing portrait of bravery and courage. ("God created black people and black people created style," Miss Roj says.) Kinnard's performance is both hilarious and poignant, as Miss Roj rails against bigotry, racism, homophobia and classism. Kinnard's is a performance that is rich in its shadings and nuances.

But the most praise should be heaped upon director Jackie Welch for assembling such a talented ensemble and for directing Wolfe's work so painstakingly.

Welch's deft directorial hand is felt most keenly in the show's pacing and in the unexpected moments that are most emotionally charged. •

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* Keeping house for laughs

The Housekeeper. By James Prideaux. Directed by Michael Edwards. Chaffin's Barn. Nashville. Through April 28.

reviewed by JEFF ELLIS

For a show full of laughs and featuring two charming performers, there's no better value for your entertainment dollar than Chaffin's Barn's production of James Prideaux's THE HOUSEKEEPER, which marks the return to the Nashville stage of local favorite A'Leshia Bre-

Brevard is at her best in the role of Annie Dankworth, a light-fingered would-be housekeeper to the repressed middle-aged writer Manley Carstairs, played with aplomb by newcomer Bobb James, a likable chap who stands toe-to-toe with the irrepressible Brevard. As in most comedies of this sort, Annie and Manley start out at odds, but you just know they're going to fall for each other.

And when Annie enters wearing a dropdead look and a sequined cocktail dress, dripping with jewels, you know old Manley is done for. Sure enough, the two wind up in a clinch and they both live happily ever after...

Brevard and James are both wonderfully gifted comedians and never before have I seen anyone so much in command of an audience as Brevard. She's something else. 4

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+ Speaking out

Editor's note: In response to a lack of coverage about AIDS in time magazine's decade-ending retrospective issue, Date staff writer Jacki Moss wrote the magazine's editors to protest their decision. Included here are Moss' letter and her reply from time.

Dear TIME

I was amazed and appalled in what seemed to be your year-end and decade wrap-up of January 1, 1990, that the issue of AIDS was ignored.

The issue did cover just about everything else from the man of the decade to a ridiculous car that no one in their right mind would consider an important aspect of the past decade.

It is unconscionable that a magazine of your stature would ignore an issue that in the last decade killed more Americans than those killed in the Viet Nam War. Aids is the most important medical and human interest issue of the decade and will make an extreme impact on medicine and the economy in the future, as well.

People with AIDS, their families, their loved ones and those of us who work in the war against this disease number in the millions and we will not forget that you ignored us.

I have enclosed a local newspaper recap of the decade of AIDS for your information. If you do not care to enlighten your readers, maybe you can enlighten yourselves.

JACKI MOSS

Nashville

Dear Ms. Moss:

We are sorry if you were disappointed in not seeing AIDS represented in the January 1 issue. Frankly, however, we fail to see how it would have fit into a context that took note of "the best" or "the most" of the decade like other sorrowfully incomplete entries in the ledger of the human condition—the continuing affronts to racial equality, for example, or the escalating moral and physical depletions wrought by the drug war - there is no victory to celebrate, no advance to be proud of. On what "best" or "most" list, then, should it, or could it, have appeared without trivializing its seriousness? But if it is Time's response to the disease that concerns you, we think our extensive and continuing record of reporting on every aspect of AIDS over the past seven years (a record that includes four cover stories and countless stories in a variety of contexts) provides the more logical frame of reference for an appraisal. We have unfailingly drawn attention to the impact of the disease and to the need for recognizing it as an awesome challenge to our national resources, both human and scientific.

Thank you for writing. We appreciated the opportunity of acknowledging your candid interest in *Time*, and we send you best wishes from the editors.

GLORIA HAMMOND

Time Magazine
New York City

Dare

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN & GAY NEWSWEEKLY

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

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

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Publisher
R. Stuart Bivin, III,650

Jeffrey Ellis

Book Editor

Staff Writers

Curtis Balls • Mark Lawrence • Flynne Malone Joe Marchi • Jacki Moss • Lisa Parham Michael Sanders • Laura Tek • Ben Yissak

> Editorial Assistant Karen Mathis

Staff Cartoonist
Lesile Guerin-Haine

Staff Photographer
Jimmy Childers

Contributors

Susan Bruninga • Nancy Lyn Define • Chris Freeman

George Graham • David McCollough • Andrea Natalie

Jim Roche • Ryan Shelley

Advertising Sales
Angela Bryant

Dare logo designed by Rusel Brown



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+ Realizing you're different

by MONTRAVIL ANDERSON
Special to Dare

Around the age of 13, I felt different from all the other kids.

Even though our society's images of teenagers are those of kids wearing gigantic earrings, jeans filled with rips and tears, doing drugs and traveling through the city with loud music blaring from within their dark-tinted windows, there is, in reality, a great number of young people who aren't interested in becoming gang members or listening to music with violent lyrics.

Instead, there are those of us with a desire to find that special person to share feelings, hopes and fears with. If there had been a counselor, a hotline or community rap sessions available when I was growing up, maybe I could have found enough courage to tell someone I was having feelings for the same sex and that I was, worst of all, a victim of childhood sexual abuse. Because of the fact that there was no one, I went to great trouble hiding the fact that I was gay, or at least thought I was.

Some of the words my friends used, such as "gay," "queer," "tinkerbell," "faggot," "punk" or "freak" didn't help the situation. As a matter of fact, it caused my self-esteem to be even lower. I created my own world, which only caused me to become anti-social, to withdraw

from my family for support and to believe the things my friends would say.

Being angry, confused, alone and hurt, I allowed people to abuse me physically, mentally and sexually. Spending all of my time at home after school, instead of going to the movies, skating or to the mall was my way of avoiding rejection. I believed that because I was "different." I had to act or pretend to be someone I really wasn't.

In a world where AIDS exists, where you can be harassed because of your sexual orientation, where there's the danger of contracting sexually-transmitted diseases, it makes being a lesbian or gay teenager even more difficult. We're usually not accepted by our peers.

From one teen to another, I would recommend that — if you think you might be lesbian or gay — you talk to someone you trust. There are many of us out there — in the malls, in the parks, in the schools, maybe just around the corner. If you are a lesbian or gay teenager, or even just think you might be, talk to someone.

Remember that despite lawmakers' refusal to provide adequate education about sexuality or to establish public gathering places for teenagers, there are still people who are understanding and willing to help. Tell yourself that you're special; you're not weird, queer or abnormal, no matter what others might say. Believe in yourself. It's okay.





+ Washington confidential

"The great untold tale of Capitol Hill may be the sham marriages entered into by gay congressmen. She gets the prestige name; he gets a wife and kids and in so doing looks like an electable bet. He also gets a family dog to use as a beard while he walks around Capitol Hill's gay neighborhoods checking out the local talent.

"According to sources, the percentage of gay congressmen is in line with the 10 percent figure usually given for society at large, and the congressional men's gym was recently closed on Saturdays, reportedly because it had become a hot weekend trysting spot. Unlikely? Perhaps; an environment where one might, at any moment, glimpse Alfonse D'Amato or Howell Heflin in the nude hardly suggests erotic possibility. But don't forget: gay or straight, it's still Washington."

— Writers Charlotte Hays and Charlotte Low Allen, in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington and Fondles Anything That Moves" for the May issue of spy magazine.

"It's not hard. All the girls in Washington have crushes on handsome Joe — as does Barney Frank, who, according to one published account, said while the two were at a House softball game that he wanted to 'do it' with Joe."

— Hays and Allen writing that everyone in D.C. has hot pants for Rep. Joe Kennedy (D-Mass.) who, according to one observer, "doesn't cat around too much."

"A woman with Terence Trent D'Arby's lips, Michael Jordan's dunk and Wayne Gretzky's slapshot."

— Actor Griffin Dunne, on the ideal woman, in us magazine. Sounds like he's looking for a drag queen to us.

"And how big is this powerful homosexual empire? Go back to the front page TENNESSEAN of Feb. 19. The article, 'Not as sexually active as thought,' was a scientific survey taken by the prestigious University of Chicago. One per cent (1%) claimed to be homosexual. ONE PERCENT, folks!

"Never have so many paid for so much for so few. Something is screwy."

— Homer R. Dodson, trying to sound articulate by paraphrasing Winston Churchill, in a letter to Nashville's THE TENNESSEAN

"On the one hand, I believe that what a couple of consenting males choose to do with their genitalia is their own concern so long as they don't do it on my front porch, in the company lunchroom, in the middle of Michigan Avenue or at home plate during the singing of the National Anthem. In other words, they should be discreet and respect the sensibilities of others. After all, the rest of the nation doesn't hold parades and cry: 'Impotent pride' or 'Premature ejaculation power.'"

— Syndicated columnist Mike Royko waxing bigoted on the practice of "dragging gays out of the closet" by what he terms "some militant homosexuals."

"Thank you for your editorial on the homo-



SPY magazine goes on location to Washington, D.C., to dish up all the dirt. — DARE FILE PHOTO

sexual movement. Perhaps one day soon you might assign some investigative reporters to study the reality of homosexual behavior in America. You might even get them to interview those of us who believe special civil privileges should not be granted to Americans on the basis of what they do in bed."

— Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-California), in a letter to newsweek, doing what he does best — ranting and raving.

"We have this battle going on about our lips. She can have the title, though. For me, music comes first, comedy is for later. You need to establish credibility first."

— Singer Taylor Dayne, reacting to comic Sandra Bernhard's jibes, in DETAILS.

"Bullshit. Are you serious? Do I look like..."

"A dvke?"

"What do dykes look like? I've never seen one. Anyone who throws a comment out like that has never seen me. Is Barbara Streisand a dyke? Bette Midler? Tina Turner? It's not fair. Determined women are always bitches and dykes. Can you believe this?"

— Hub-ub. We've never thought Taylor Dayne was a dyke. Besides, she doesn't have enough style.

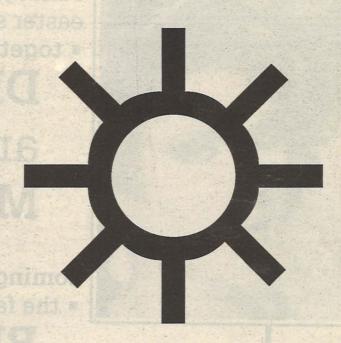
"I'm glad you came out. I don't know why you didn't do it in your teens, but better late than never, that's what I always say."

— Suzanne Sugarbaker (Delta Burke) to her new friend Eugenia Weeks (Karen Kopins) in Monday's episode of DESIGNING WOMEN, in which Suzanne became friends with a lesbian.

"Excuse me, but I don't happen to be up on my homosexual history or lesbian lingo!"

— Suzanne explains why she's never heard of Sappho, when everyone else—Julia, Mary Jo, Charlene and Anthody — tries to explain how you can tell if someone is lesbian or gay.

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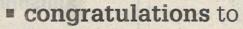
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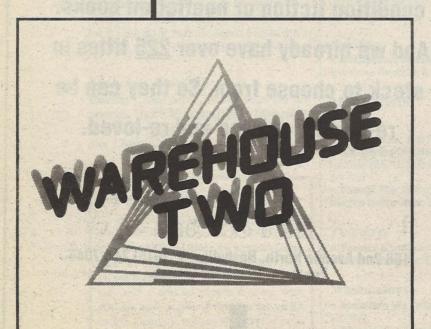
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