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Dare

Volume 3, Number 16

Tennessee's Lesbian & Gay Newsweekly

April 20, 1990

Mapplethorpe exhibit mired in controversy as Ohio grand jury returns indictments

Cincinnati D.A. says photography obscene

by JIM ROCHE
Contributing Writer

The opening of the Robert Mapplethorpe Retrospective at the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center drew over 6,000 people, including members of a county grand jury who returned to their courtroom to issue warrants which charged the museum director, Dennis Barrie, and the museum with two misdemeanor counts of pandering, obscenity and using minors in pornography.

The nine member grand jury based its findings on seven specific photographs depicting homoerotic acts and partially clothed children.

Police arrived at the museum and cleared the galleries. Over 1,000 protestors stood by in protest chanting "Fascists!" and "Gestapo Go Home." Many said they were not surprised by the

♦ Continued on page 4



Larry and Bobby Kissing 1979, a photograph by Robert Mapplethorpe, is an example of the art created by the controversial, openly gay photographer. An exhibition at Washington's Corcoran Gallery was censored last June and a grand jury in Cincinnati recently returned indictments charging a museum curator with pandering and exhibiting obscene materials. — PHOTO © 1979 BY ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE

Tennesseans celebrate Lesbian/gay pride week observances planned around state in June

by JEFF ELLIS
Editor

San Francisco city supervisor Harry Britt will be the keynote speaker for Nashville's celebration of Pride Week '90 as lesbians and gay men throughout Tennessee choose from a variety of events during next June's traditional observances.

Events scheduled for the 1990 celebration, which commemorates the 21st anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, include Memphis' tenth annual River Ride; Nashville's rally, festival and parade; and a volleyball tournament to be held in Knoxville.

Knoxville's Metropolitan Community Church will host its first Gay Pride Volleyball Tournament on Saturday, June 23, beginning at 10 a.m. at Frozen Head State Park.

Registration fee is \$30 for each nine-member team (with one alternate). Trophies will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams. Proceeds from the tournament will go to support MCC/Knoxville, according to organizer James Tallent. For information, call MCC at (615) 521-6546.

Memphis' Pride Week Commit-

tee is sponsoring a logo contest to develop a design to be used on buttons, posters and booklets this year. The winner of the contest will be introduced at the kick-off party on Saturday, June 17, at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

The Memphis committee's next meeting will be Saturday, April 21, from 3 to 5 p.m. at MGLCC, 1291 Madison. Committee co-chairs are Nan Lemmons and John Prowett.

Some eight days of activities are planned including the tenth River Ride and GayFest IV, featuring food, volleyball and live entertainment, to be held at Mud Island. For further details, call MGLCC at (901) 276-4651.

A fundraiser for Memphis Pride festivities was held on April 8 at WKRB in Memphis, 1528 Madison Avenue. Produced by B.J. Hefner, the Parade of Stars "brought back the stars of yesterday to entertain today to help with our tomorrows."

Britt, who holds the city supervisor seat once held by Harvey Milk, will be the featured speaker during Nashville's June 23 rally to be held at the Centennial Park bandshell, according to Pride Committee

♦ Continued on page 4



Two years ago...

From April 27, 1988

♦ Ordination of homosexual clergy will be among the issues considered as United Methodists meet during the next two weeks at their national convention in St. Louis.

♦ Two New York City men who claim to have healed themselves of AIDS through a regimen of spirituality and nutrition told a Nashville audience last week that the disease is not an automatic death sentence.

Nutrition guide published

Tennessee booklet receives recognition

by JACKI MOSS
Staff Writer

A collaborative effort between the AIDS Program of the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment, East Central AIDS Education and Training Center (ECAETC) and the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA) has produced a hands-on nutrition education booklet for people with AIDS.

NUTRITION AND HIV: YOUR CHOICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE, written by Peggy Wickwire of the state Department of Health and Environment, gives user friendly, hands-on information and education.

"Nutrition plays an important role in our health and is especially important for someone whose immune system is compromised," said Wickwire.

"We hope by giving people information that is usable, they and the

people who care for them will be able to better understand how nutrition really affects them and explode some of the longstanding information about food that may not necessarily apply to someone with HIV."

Matt Nelson, director of AIDS Education with the state AIDS Program, agreed.

"Depending on how the virus decides to manifest itself, you have to design your food and eating habits around your personal situation. For instance, if you are losing weight, the last thing you need to do is buy into the body beautiful concept of no and low calorie foods. You need to eat foods with high caloric content in as much quantity as you can," Nelson said.

Wickwire said that people with HIV need to be careful not to adhere to what they see and hear everyday

♦ Continued on page 4

Inside Dare



♦ A royal movie

Kenneth Branagh scores a triumph in 'Henry V'!
Persistence of Vision, page 6.

♦ More tabloid trash

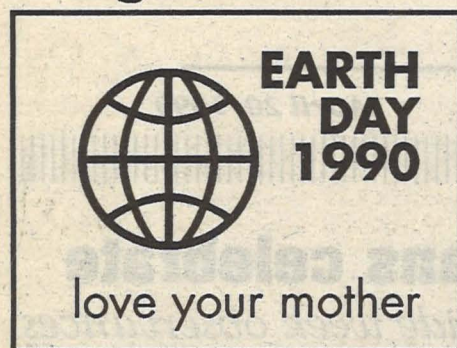
Now you don't have to block the supermarket check-out lines or speed read. Loose Lips, page 15.

♦ About bisexuality...

Double your pleasure? Centerpiece, page 8.

Mark your calendar

+ Big events



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.

Organizing meeting Memphis Pride Committee. At Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3-5pm. Info (901) 454-1411 or 324-GAYS.

Sunday, April 22

EARTH DAY

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

Special Worship EARTH DAY. Metropolitan Community Church / Knoxville. Corner Weisgarber & Lomas. 6pm. Info (615) 521-6546.

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

Meeting 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.

Thursday— Sunday, April 26-29

Outing GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE. Nashville Outdoor Women's Network. Info (615) 834-4517.

Saturday, April 28

Yard Sale Benefits PRIDE '90. At 1401 Cedar Ln, Nashville. 8am-5pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

Party SPRING FLING. Black & White Men Together / Memphis. 8pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Women's Dance Random Productions. At Laurel Theatre, 1538 Laurel Ave, Knoxville. 8pm. Info (615) 688-3428.

+ Free publicity!

We'll list your nonprofit event free in our calendar. 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.

+ 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) 648-7730.

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 & Lomas. 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.

• **GayRap** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Mon. 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.

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

Tuesdays

• **Lambda Men's Chorus** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.

• **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.

• **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.

• **Western Dance lessons** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 2nd & 4th Thur. 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

• **Video Night** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st & 3rd Thur. 8pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

• **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

• **Board meeting** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Sat. 11:30am. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

• **Twisted Sisters** (ACO) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info (901) 276-7379.

• **Potluck dinner** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st Sat. 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

• **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) 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.

• **AI-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.

• **Being Meeting** Co-Dependents Anonymous. At MCC. 6:30pm. Info (615) 320-0288 or 646-2238.

• **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.

Fridays

• **Sexaholics Anonymous** Closed meeting, MCC. 5pm.

• **Nashville 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 Anonymous. At 1682nd Av North. 4pm. Info (615) 244-7346 or 646-2238.

• **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

Tuesdays

• **LESA** 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.

Local Color

compiled by **CURTIS BALLS**
Staff Writer

Knoxville

Volleyball tournament set for Pride Week

Metropolitan Community Church of Knoxville, is inviting all interested persons to form their best volleyball teams to compete in the first Gay Pride Volleyball Tournament.

Trophies will be awarded for first, second, and third place winners, in addition to a rhinestone tiara for first place. There is a registration fee of \$30 for teams of nine players and one alternate.

All proceeds, including concession sales, will go to support MCC/Knoxville. The tournament will be held at Frozen Head State Park, June 23 beginning at 10 a.m.

For details, call (615) 521-6546. ✚

Legal rights seminar scheduled for May 1

Knoxville attorney Alan Everett is offering a two-hour seminar on legal rights in order for gay couples to protect themselves in the event of medical crisis or death of a partner.

The seminars include discussion of partnership agreements, living wills, leases, investments, and vehicle ownership.

The next seminar will be May 1, at 7 p.m. on the third floor of Patrick Sullivan's, Central Avenue in the Old City. Seminar fee is \$20 per person in advance and \$25 at the door.

For further details, call (615) 524-9940. ✚

Memphis

Out and About announces upcoming events

Memphis' new outdoor organization, Out and About Memphis, will host a picnic at Shelby Forest State Park's Pavilion 2 on Sunday, April 22 at 1 p.m.

The park offers cycling, hiking, swimming, and horseback riding. Soft drinks will be provided but persons attending will need to bring their own food. All activities are free of charge.

Other events planned include Saturday and Sunday morning or afternoon bicycle rides which are planned for later in the spring/summer.

The rides will be just for fun and not speed, organizers said.

For more details, and for directions to Shelby Forest Park call (901) 276-0275 or (901) 274-1847. ✚

Nashville

ACT I to present 'Streetcar' at Looby Theatre

Actors' Cooperative Theatre I (ACT I) will stage Tennessee Williams' A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE as their third production April 27-May 12.

Director Bill Stanley's cast includes Cinda McCain as Blanche, Ginny Burke as Stella, and Brian Hull as Stanley.

Tickets are \$7, and group discounts are available.

For information call (615) 885-5821. ✚

Stop Aids program set for Nashville, May 4-6

Nashville CARES and the Vanderbilt AIDS Project will host Stop AIDS in Nashville, May 4-6.

Stop AIDS is an AIDS prevention program which has been used successfully in San Francisco, New York and Chicago.

The program trains a core group of lay volunteers who are members of specific target groups, who in turn do the training in their respective community rather than professional "experts."

The program incorporates behavior modification and social marketing to reduce the risk of spreading HIV.

Issues addressed include: clarification of thoughts and feelings about AIDS, how others are adapting to the epidemic, transmission of HIV, prevention, HIV testing, treatment and lifestyle changes occurring as the result of the AIDS epidemic.

Once trained, the volunteers will spread the information in their communities through a series of small group meetings.

Those interested in participating in this program should call (615) 385-1510. ✚

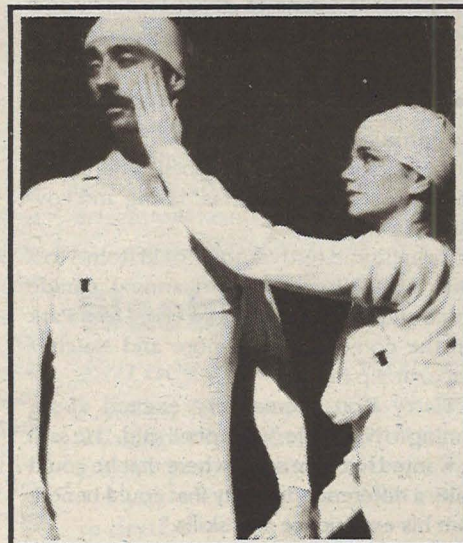
Planning under way for Summer Lights 1990

Summer Lights 1990 will take place May 31-June 3 in downtown Nashville.

The \$1 million event will showcase local musicians of national and international stature, visual arts exhibits throughout the city, along with the best in Nashville cuisine.

The festival is produced by the Metro Nashville Arts Commission in cooperation with city and state agencies, corporate and civic leaders, professionals in the visual and performing arts and the entertainment industry.

Admission is \$2.00; children under 12 are admitted free, and Friday noontime is free. ✚



Knot I Land by Charles Copenhaver (starring Mark Cabus and Denise Hicks) will be revived by Nashville Shakespeare Festival on Sunday, April 22, at the Z. Alexander Looby Theatre, curtain at 8 p.m. The presentation is a part of Nashville's observance of Earth Day 1990. — DARE FILE PHOTO

fine art photographs by jan lynch

for details contact:
jan lynch
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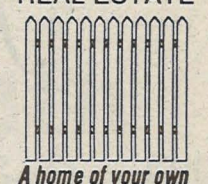
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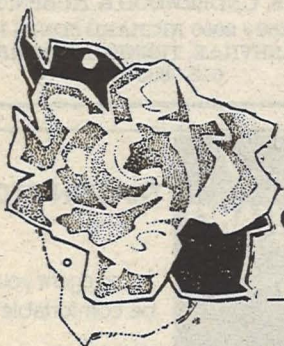
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Monday \$2.50 draft beer pitchers all day

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

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

...nutrition booklet

✦ *Continued from page 1*

in relation to foods and nutrition. "Some things that are great for many people may actually be harmful to a person with HIV. When your immune system is intact and healthy and you're otherwise in good shape, it's fine to eat salads that have few calories. It's also fine if you're in good health to eat fiber, but if you have HIV, fiber can contribute to diarrhea.

"Some foods may also interfere with or adversely affect medications, and medications can affect how our bodies utilize food," said Wickwire. "These are all important things for someone with HIV to know. It's also important for someone with HIV to find ways that he or she can prepare food and make eating more enjoyable."

The booklet includes chapters on nutrition and eating problems like ulcers in the mouth, nausea, weight loss, poor appetite and fatigue; drug and food interaction; hints for helpers; commercial diets; food safety and selected recipes.

In the chapter about feeling tired, the booklet suggests, "If you are going to spend the day in bed, put some favorite foods and drinks in a cooler with ice beside you. A food warmer or crock pot could be used in the same way to keep hot foods hot at your bedside."

The chapter on commercial diets recom-

mends, "Try 'Carnation Instant Breakfast.' It is very similar to the more expensive canned (nutrition) formulas, but lower in cost."

The booklet also suggests, "Try not to just stand in the kitchen and eat out of the pot. Take time to put your food on a plate and sit down at a table to eat. You are worth it!"

"We are not saying that nutrition will cure HIV, but that it plays an important role in helping keep your immune system as healthy as possible and making someone feel as good as possible," said Wickwire.

The booklet was reviewed by several AIDS and nutrition professionals, as well as a person with AIDS. ECAETC paid for the printing of the booklet which THA printed.

The state has received dozens of requests for permission to print the booklet from other state AIDS agencies, the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, Shanti Project, AIDS Project of Los Angeles and the National Minority AIDS Council, among many other community based organizations.

The state AIDS Program has made the plates to print the booklet available to all state-recognized, community based organizations, and the booklet is in each county health department.

Anyone wanting to receive a copy of the booklet may ask their local AIDS agency, their county health department, or may call the state at 1-800-525-AIDS for information. ✦

...Cincinnati exhibit

✦ *Continued from page 1*

action, as the show had already been the target of a national anti-pornography group based in Cincinnati, the National Coalition Against Pornography.

The coalition staged a letter writing campaign which had mustered 300 letters of protest against the showing. Cincinnati laws do not allow for any adult bookstores, movie houses or the rental of X-rated videos.

In response to the police action, other museum directors have given Barrie full support and expressed astonishment at the action taken against the photographs, referred to as "virginal pictures" with no relationship to child pornography.

The action was taken against the showing despite clear warnings given to all visitors

about the show's content.

Persons under the age of 18 were not allowed in the galleries.

To be considered pornographic, works must, "taken as a whole, lack serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

As a result of the actions, the membership at the Contemporary Arts Center has increased by over 500.

After the cancellation of the Mapplethorpe show at Washington's Corcoran Gallery last June, the Retrospective had a highly successful showing at the Washington Project for the Arts, breaking all previous attendance records for the gallery.

The Mapplethorpe Retrospective will travel from Cincinnati to Boston for its next showing. ✦

...Pride 1990

✦ *Continued from page 1*

spokesperson Penny Campbell. The theme for this year's celebration is "Living and Loving in Nashville."

The rally and festival, to be held from 4 to 8 p.m., will follow the third annual parade which steps off from Fannie Mae Dees Park (on the corner of Blakemore and Natchez Trace) at 3 p.m.

"Harry Britt seems very excited about coming to Nashville," Campbell said. "He said he wanted to come somewhere that he could make a difference, to a city that could benefit from his experience and skills."

Other events planned in Nashville include a dance to be held on Friday night, June 22, to be co-sponsored by the Pride Committee and One in Teen, an organization for lesbian and gay youth, and an ecumenical worship service to be held Thursday, June 21. Rodney Bragg, pastor of MCC/Nashville, is coordinat-

ing the worship service. On Sunday, June 24, Nashville's annual Pride Picnic will be held at Percy Warner Park.

Campbell said that financing the weeklong event is the biggest obstacle facing Pride Committee members. However, she pointed out that some 12 leadership sponsors have already signed up to support the effort.

In addition, several fundraisers are planned, Campbell said, including a rummage sale to be held April 28-29, and a country/western dance marathon planned for Sunday, May 6, at The Chute, 2535 Franklin Road. Still to be scheduled are a cut-a-thon and a coffeehouse, she said.

Last year's parade attracted a number of participants from around the state, and Campbell said Nashville organizers this year are hoping for more participation by persons from other Tennessee cities. For information, call (615) 297-4293. ✦

Cross Country

compiled by **KAREN MATHIS**
Editorial Assistant

Washington, D.C.

Bush administration relaxes travel restrictions

Last week the Bush administration relaxed the travel restrictions for foreigners infected with the AIDS virus who want to attend certain conferences in the United States.

The decision was a result of protests against the immigration policy, which prompted a boycott of the upcoming international AIDS conference.

"The administration is committed to ensuring that persons seeking admission to the United States are treated with fairness and compassion," the Immigration and Naturalization Service said.

People applying for the new 10-day visa will not have to reveal whether or not they are infected with HIV or the AIDS virus, but they will have to meet all other immigration restrictions.

The visa will be available only to those traveling to professional, business or scientific conferences deemed to be in the public interest. ♦

Indianapolis

Ryan White succumbs to AIDS at age 18

Ryan White, 18, died April 8 after a five and a half-year struggle with AIDS.

He contracted the disease in 1984 through a blood-clotting agent used to treat his hemophilia.

White spent his last years fighting for his rights and being a national spokesman for children with AIDS.

White had been hospitalized since March 29 with an AIDS-related respiratory infection. He was on a ventilator, heavily sedated and never regained consciousness before his death. ♦

Minneapolis

Creating Change '90 set

Gay and lesbian activists from around the country will meet in Minneapolis next November 9-12, for the third annual Creating Change conference, sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Leading activists from the national and grassroots gay and lesbian scene will be featured speakers. Workshop issues include sodomy law repeal, hate crimes reporting, lobbying, media activism, "outing," bisexuality and gay politics, mainstream and direct action tactics, domestic partnership and civil rights protections. ♦

Washington

HRCF looking for interns

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is looking for interns for its office in Washington, D.C. Interns work in all program areas including field, development, political,

legislative, lesbian issues, administration and public relations. Interns must work at least 20 hours per week for three months. Each is under the direction of a staff member and receives a stipend.

Interested persons should contact Eric Rosenthal at (202) 628-4160 or write to the HRCF, 1012 14th Street, NW, 6th floor, Washington, D.C., 20005. ♦

Madison

Suit filed against state of Wisconsin

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) has filed suit against the state of Wisconsin Personnel Commission for denying Jerri Phillips, an employee of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), the right to obtain health insurance for her domestic partner, Lori Tommerup.

The state of Wisconsin is one of the few states with a statute banning employment discrimination based on marital status and sexual orientation.

In October 1986, Phillips filed an application with DHSS to change her health insurance coverage from individual to family coverage, for the purpose of adding Tommerup. The application was denied based on the rationale that since she has no "eligible dependents," she is only eligible for single coverage. ♦

Atlanta

'Masculinity' conference set

The 15th Annual Conference on Men and Masculinity is scheduled for May 31-June 3.

The theme of the conference is "Ending Men's Violence: Pathways to a Gender-Just World." The conference is sponsored by Men Stopping Violence, an Atlanta organization dedicated to ending violence against women by confronting the social norms that encourage it.

Through a series of workshops, discussions and entertainment, the conference will address the issues of racism, sexism and homophobia and the personal and institutional behaviors that support them. A sub-theme will be the personal concerns — sexuality, livelihood, relationships, self-esteem and identity — of those men working to end oppressive behaviors. ♦

Washington

Barney Frank to run again

Betting that a sex scandal which rocked Washington last summer will not cost him his job this year, Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) Tuesday announced his intention to seek re-election.

Frank's announcement comes as the House Ethics Committee continues its investigation into Frank's relationship with Steve Gobie, a male prostitute. Frank had said he would await the committee's findings before making his decision. Deadline for filing for re-election is May 8.

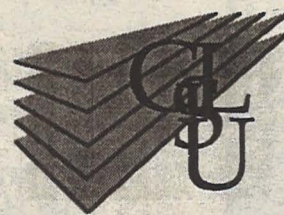
Frank made the announcement "after consultation with friends and supporters." ♦

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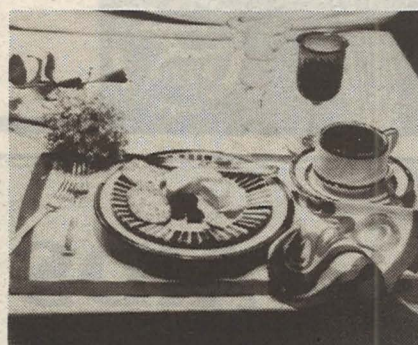


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Persistence of Vision

+ An exquisite, luminous 'Henry V'

HENRY V. Directed by Kenneth Branagh. Starring Kenneth Branagh, Paul Scofield, Derek Jacobi and Ian Holm. Adapted from the play by William Shakespeare. 1989.

reviewed by FLYNNE MALONE
Staff Writer

*"And let us, ciphers to this great accompt,
On your imaginary forces work...
Think, when we talk of horses, that you see
them
Printing their proud hoofs i' th' receiving
earth;
For 'tis your thoughts that now must deck
our kings..."*

Watch the light. It oozes and swirls into the atmosphere of fifteenth century France and England. It bounces from underneath to shade faces of smelly souls. It rakes across cobblestones in moonlight defining white horse and rider that defy defeat. In midnight it consumes an arched entrance in fires, surely, from hell. Daylight dims in pouring rain. Campfire and candle have turns, too.

*At Agincourt, in gross
engrossing detail,
we watch the cinematic
realities of Henry's
stunning victory
against the French
in the face of
one human
being against ten.*

All illuminate the profound, lingering cinematic realization of HENRY V.

In spite of language whose meaning has fallen to only serious students of any age, the great human themes are cogently communicated in every scene: commitment, passion, betrayal, courage, divine awareness, comradeship and death.

Thanks be to upstart Kenneth Branagh's unfailing direction and spell-binding acting.

Shakespeare's reconstruction of Harry, played by Branagh, forces a personality and style that are irresistible. In close-up or long shot, his altogether kingly humanity constructs a rich puzzle of action.

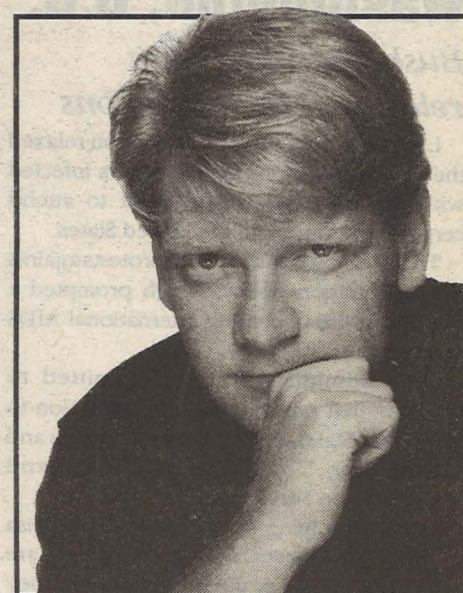
Henry hung his hat in English history at the Battle of Agincourt, France in 1415, when he was 28, the approximate age of Branagh.

At Agincourt, in gross engrossing detail, we watch the cinematic realities of Henry's stunning victory against the French in the face of one human being against ten.

Volley upon volley of arrows sizzle down sudden, random death or, more likely, plain pain.

The battle drones hollow and in slow-motion, modern message.

Mud makes humans into humanoids who



struggle in the dream-like reality of life and death. Yet, for its precise detail, the film somehow doesn't push the grit beyond good taste.

Horrorific reality is rendered without the cheap terror of heads flying or eyeballs bleeding.

The toll of such conflict is toted plainly enough in the last shot of the mesmerizing sequence.

At sorrowful close of battle in an abiding tracking shot with holy chant underneath, Henry carries the body of a young boy across his shoulder.

In seven years Henry, too, will be dead at age thirty-five from a mysterious illness. He will leave his heir to the throne, nine-month-old Henry VI.

Here, though, is Henry at his prime: adjudicating fairly, dispensing leniency and punishment with wisdom beyond his years, listening hidden to the hearts of his men, instilling purpose in the face of near-certain death and ever so sweetly tipping his hand in love.

Branagh plays Henry widely and well, unafraid of close-up or spit from the screen.

Branagh cast the superb Derek Jacobi (I, CLAUDIUS and BREAKING THE CODE) as the Chorus, but with risk, he has dressed him darkly and contemporaneously for us. The effect is to leap the void of time and sweep forward the action onto the plain of parallel realities.

This made visual in a technically masterful shot, Jacobi walks toward the camera in perfect follow-focus while the hurling of bodies forward into battle blurs before and behind, present and past.

Now! He, singly, is the dark stalker, the guidepost through Hades to our spirits. Powerless to stop the carnage, we can but learn from the beauty of such pledge and inspiration that Branagh sprawls before us.

We are one in ten, as was Henry at Agincourt. May our Agincourt come and be a peaceful crucible.

May we find the courage, so capably made manifest in this fine film, to surge forward in history, each of us bearing responsibility to keep our intent pure and our consciences clean.

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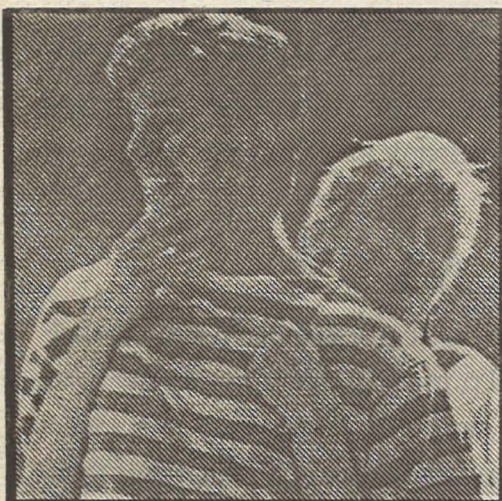
from her smash tour — including stops on the West Coast, the Love Boat and at Carol's Speakeasy in Chicago — Sunday, April 22 for two shows at 10:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.



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"There is no codification of rules in our marriage. If we're feeling an attraction to someone else, we talk to each other about it. If we see that it is something that needs to be explored further, then we'll determine if a course of action needs to be taken or not. Allan and I talk a lot about our feelings. We communicate very well," says Diana.

+

by **LAURA TEK**
Staff Writer

WOODY ALLEN DREW AN interesting, if tongue-in-cheek, conclusion about bisexuality, "It doubles your chances of getting a date on Saturday night."

Bisexuals, it's been said, if there really *are* such people, are simply sexually confused swingers, people not willing to admit and accept the responsibilities of either a straight or gay lifestyle.

Well, bisexual people do exist. Some even get married and prefer to stay at home watching *SESAME STREET* with their children rather than spending an evening out on the town.

Allan, 28, and Diana, 26, both bisexual, have been happily married for more than five years and spend most of their time with their three-year-old son.

"Diana and I met in college while doing a theatre scene together. I was just getting over a relationship that I'd had with another man. We were aware of each other's bisexuality but fell in love anyway and eloped three weeks later. It was very impulsive. Our friends were shocked but very supportive.

"I think the reason why we got married so quickly was because we both had been in a lot of relationship, both gay and straight, and never connected with anyone before. When we met, we just knew it was right," says Allan.

"After two and a half years into the marriage, though, we started to

go through some changes. We weren't drifting apart, we just felt that nothing very exciting was happening anymore. The subject of our pasts came up one night, and we acknowledged to each other again our feelings for the same sex. It was a relief to come out to each other," says Diana.

"FOR CERTAIN ISSUES, I'VE never been able to require absolutes or accept simple answers. Like my sexuality. One answer was just not enough. I don't require that I be a heterosexual or a homosexual. Nor do I require that of Diana. Things are just not that simple," says Allan.

"There is no codification of rules in our marriage. If we're feeling an attraction to someone else, we talk to each other about it. If we see that it is something that needs to be explored further, then we'll determine if a course of action needs to be taken or not. Allan and I talk a lot about our feelings. We communicate very well," says Diana.

"Men and women' to me is like comparing apples and oranges. They're just different. Since I was a child, I've always felt that way. Gender has never entered the picture. Diana's and my sexuality is 50-50. When we're in the mall together or in the park, we're equally likely to turn our heads. There is a lot attractive about both sexes. People put too much emphasis on the sex and not enough on the sexuality. They trivialize sexuality. Diana is the person I fell in love with and the person I want to be with. I didn't marry her genitalia, I married the whole person," says Allan.

"People who are either totally gay or totally straight have a hard time

believing that there really are people who are equally attracted to both sexes. I have a hard time believing that people can be anything else," Diana laughs.

"Diana and I never had a plan as to how we were going to construct our relationship. I don't like the term 'open' to describe our marriage, I prefer the term 'nontraditional.' We make the distinction between relationships, sexuality, and sex. It's unrealistic to me to believe that a couple could be completely exclusive forever. Maybe ten years from now I'll think differently, but right now I don't see it that way," says Allan.

"Contrary to what people may think Allan and I both have had only a few homosexual experiences outside the marriage, not an endless parade. We're not swingers, into group sex or any weird stuff. When I'm with somebody I only focus on that one person. There are people in this world who are just plain sexual and will go after and get it anyway and from anyone they can, but we're not that way," says Diana.

"My few encounters outside the marriage have never been planned. I'm a musician, on the road a lot and sometimes the opportunities just presented themselves, a falling together of many elements, as many modern sexual things tend to be," says Allan.

"The encounters I have had outside the marriage were just taken at face value. I hate the term 'one-night-stand,' but there wasn't any emotional involvement on either one's part. I think this is probably easier for men than it is for women. Women usually want a deeper and more involved relationship. That's why I've only gone outside the marriage a few times. I don't want to hurt anybody," says Diana.

Piece

Sexuality:

ure, double your fun?

"I REALLY DISLIKE THE TERM

'bisexual.' It has such a bad connotation because we're seen as opportunistic people. I am not opportunistic. I don't go out looking to see what I can get. I don't plan what I do, act irresponsibly or lie to anybody," says Allan.

"The sex does not make me jealous nor concern me. What concerns me is someone being adversely affected. We're very careful not to hurt people's feelings and play with their emotions. Anything we've done in the past and may do in the future has been done and will be done with honesty. We're always up front about what our intentions are," says Diana.

The couple have found other ways to help them deal with and nurture their other sexual identities.

"There are times when Allan just wants to be with guys, that's why he's joined MAGNET. And I've just gotten involved in a newly formed lesbian and bi-sexual women's support group (WINS — Women's Issues Network and Support). For right now, that's enough for us," says Diana.

NEITHER HAS EXPLAINED their sexuality to their families.

"My parents live in Texas and do not know about our lifestyles. Although I remember my mother was surprised and relieved when I got married. We don't want them to know because we're afraid they'll think we're too bizarre to take care of our son and try to take him away from us. We don't want to risk that. Our son is very important to us," says Allan.

"We intend to explain our sexuality to our son someday when he's old enough to understand. We want to be honest with him. We don't believe in leading secret lives and having him find the truth out later."

says Allan.

"Our child is being raised in an open environment. We're teaching him to accept different things, people, and sexuality. We want him to have a non-judgmental frame of mind. He's very fortunate in that he has many positive gay role models in our friends," says Diana.

How do they feel the gay community receives them?

"The gay community here is very supportive, just for the fact that a group like MAGNET here exists. I think gay people are a lot less judgmental than straight people are. They're equally confused, but less judgmental. They gay people we know are very open and very accepting of us. Diana and I go to gay bars together and we have many gay friends. We're also both involved in the gay community," says Allan.

"I see myself a member of both the straight and gay communities, although I don't think I'm easily accepted by either one. I can hide better in the straight community, although every once in a while I'll slip and say something and then I'll get worried. I think that's a problem for most bisexuals. If I was just totally gay or totally straight, I wouldn't be so concerned about what straight people thought," says Diana.

"Personally, it was a lot easier for me to be out to people when I was in a gay relationship then it is now, simply because of the uniqueness of our situation and the explaining I have to do about it," says Allan.

"I know our situation is very different; *too* different for most people. It's even more different

than a committed same-sex relationship. Sometimes I think the world's just not ready for us yet. But Allan and I love each other, and a part of that is realizing and accepting the whole person. Part of him is gay and a part of me is gay. I think that makes me more interesting to him, and him to me. It was kind of strange, meeting somebody exactly like me who had just as many gay and straight relationships as I had. I don't know any other marriages where both spouses are bisexual. One spouse, yes, but not both," says Diana.

"I don't feel that there is this large void or something missing in my life. I'm very happily married. I feel very safe and secure with Diana. She's my best friend. She's very intelligent, funny, and has a wonderfully open mind. I can talk to her about anything. I never keep anything from her, especially now in the age of AIDS. I'm very AIDS conscious," says Allan.

"WHERE IS ALL OF THIS heading? I don't know if it really needs a direction. I don't think it has to be forced into one way or another. We're very comfortable with the way things are. We're sexually active together and satisfy each other except for very, very few times," says Diana.

"And when those times happen, we talk about it. He says I'm stuck with him. So I think we'll be together for a long time," she adds. And means it. ✚



LIVE!

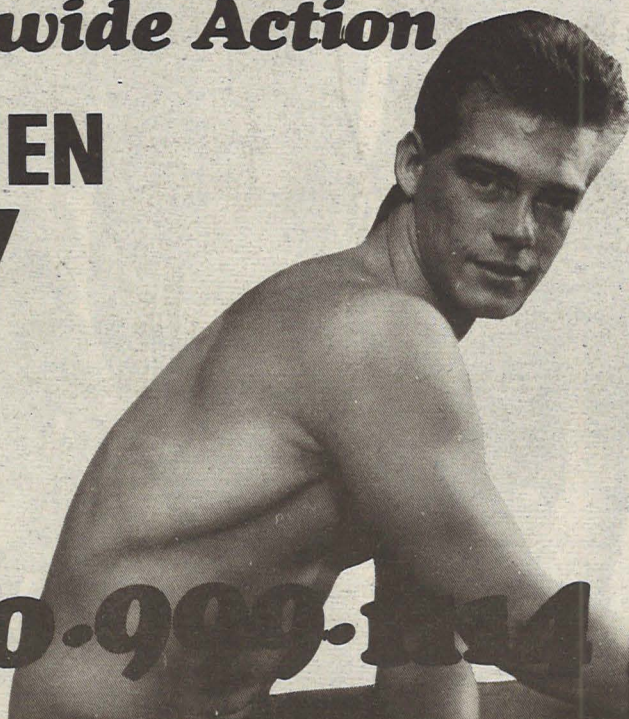
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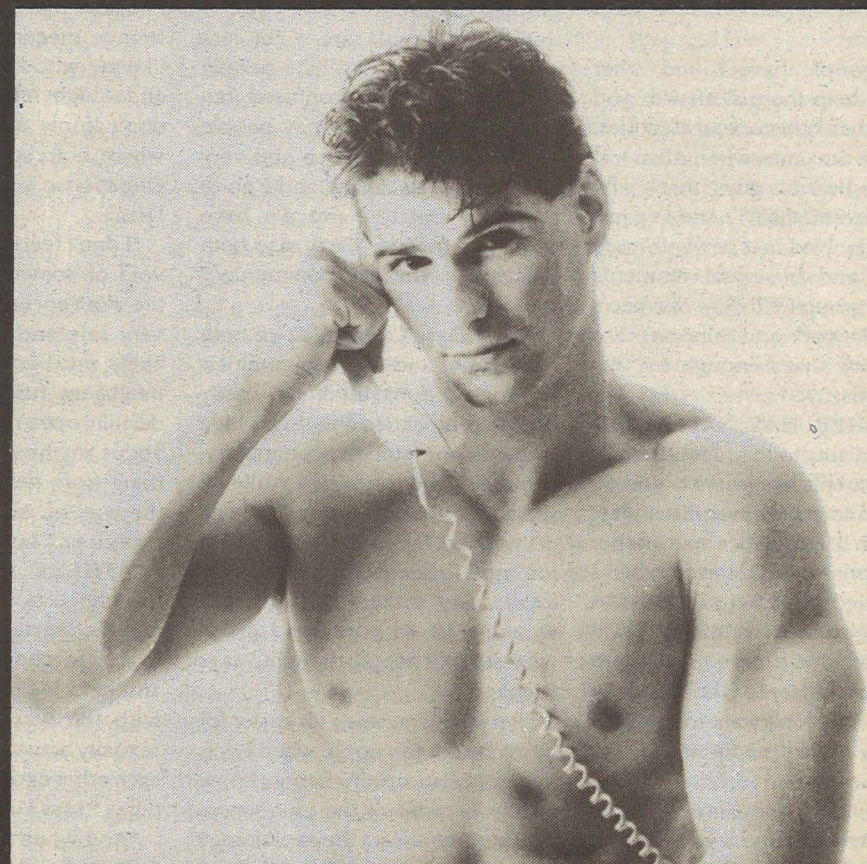
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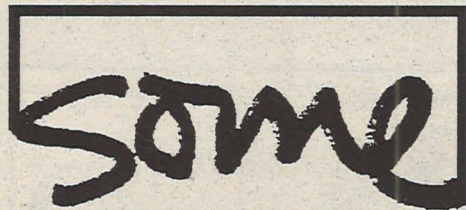
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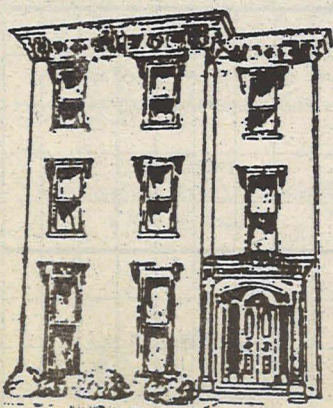


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Pages

✦ Addiction of a different sort

CANNIBAL KISS. Daniel Odier, translated by Lanie Goodman. New York: Random House, 1989.

reviewed by **JOE MAROHL**
Staff Writer

A Parisian boy steals the gown of a black American diva and inadvertently stumbles onto a white slavery ring.

An entomologist imprisons an adolescent girl in an elaborate damsel fly costume so that he can have sex with her, insect-style.

A new wave band of motorcyclists called the Vampires terrorize the citizens of the French countryside.

For years now, I have gulped Delacorta's slim suspense thrillers the way other people devour chocolates. No, I snorted them like cocaine — a better metaphor because it suggests sex, euphoria, insatiety and something probably not good for you.

The books, six in all, very French and very nouvelle vague, center on the decidedly unwholesome and deliciously preposterous intrigues of the altruistic criminal mastermind, Gorodish, and his pretty and precocious moll, Alba, a teenage kleptomaniac with a heart of kitsch.

One of the books, *DIVA*, was made into a successful film by Jean-Jacques Beineix in 1982.

The books are, in the words of one reviewer, "a product of the same French gourmet kitchen that brought us Camembert cheese, Dom Perignon and the Marquis de Sade."

Reading any one of them, one is immediately impressed that they are either horribly or brilliantly conceived. I'll be damned if I can figure out exactly which — and I'll be further damned if I care, because reading these perverse bon-bons is fun.

Delacorta may be to Proust as styrofoam is to Spode, but you can take Delacorta with you to the beach.

The most recent of these books to be translated into English is *ALBA*. It concerns an international conspiracy of blind criminals, and there doesn't seem to be much point in saying any more about it except that, like the others, it is a fantastic and perverse read.

Imagine my pleasure, then, when I discovered that there was yet another brand new novel by Delacorta, this one published under his real name, Daniel Odier.

The book is called *CANNIBAL KISS*. Written in the same pop art and jazz-influenced style of the Delacorta books, this novel is as pretentious as it is decadent — and I mean both those things as compliments.

It would be difficult to imagine a novel more self-reflexive than *CANNIBAL KISS*. The

first sentence is the last sentence of a novel Odier, his own narrator and protagonist, has just completed.

No sooner does he place the final period than Bird, the 15-year-old fictional heroine he has just invented (and destroyed in a suicide leap), appears at his beach bungalow in Pensacola to assert her existence in actuality.

A page later, she settles down to read a short story by Odier in *THE VILLAGE VOICE*, a story in which she herself not only appears

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but is viewed mailing a yellow envelope containing the typescript of Odier's novel *CANNIBAL KISS*.

In Bird's fictional travels across the United States, Odier imagines an American landscape with as little to do with the real country as Baron Munchausen's moon.

It is partly inspired by William S. Burroughs and partly by Marvel Comics. The book contains the usual characters one expects of the author of the Gorodish/Alba series. A coprophiliac albino. The "half" child of an invisible man and a visible woman. A family of cannibals whose sole male member impregnates his female progeny and devours the male. A cat-like prostitute who works in her sleep. A mad musicologist who inserts microphones into every orifice of Bird's body in order to record its music.

If we can say that the Delacorta books play cat and mouse with the idea of plot, we can say that, in this book, Odier carries it twitching in a bloody maw. But plot is the least part of this kaleidoscopic and lyrical cartoon.

CANNIBAL KISS is a fugue on personal freedom, traversing the mythical Land Of The Free, Home Of The Brave, and, indirectly, contrasting the sensualist individualism of the anarchist Bird with the so-called "liberties" of the 1980s America, now regrettably desiccated as the glass-entombed Constitution or the fragile onion-skin pages of a Protestant bible. ✦

...Glengarry Glen Ross

✦ *Continued from page 13*

almost touching in his desperation.

The always-watchable Greg Welsch is superb as Williamson, the put-upon office manager whose scruples are somewhat questionable. John E. Davis and Forrest

McFarridge, as Moss and Aaronow, are also notable, although Doug Odom (as Roma's would-be customer, Ling) and Robert Kelsey (as Baylen, the detective called in when the real estate office is burglarized) seem miscast. ✦

Visions



501's, a photographic silver print by Knoxville photographer Jan Lynch, is the second in a series of images created for *Dare*. For information on how you can get reprints, please see the advertisement on page 3. — PHOTO © 1986 BY JAN LYNCH

Onstage

✦ Making the sale

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. By David Mamet. Directed by Paul Moss. Actor's Playhouse of Nashville. Through April 21.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

David Mamet's Pulitzer Prize-winning tale of real estate salesmen and their high-pressured world of commissions and closings is brought to vivid life in the Actor's Playhouse production of *GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS*.

Director Paul Moss' ensemble of actors is well-cast, each man breathing life into his character, thus presenting the salesmen with an honest grittiness that rings all too true.

Mamet's script, at times, seems to be a tough-talking stream of expletives that may prove daunting to the audience member. But it is that language that hits most closely to home.

Mamet's characters, you see, talk like real people caught up in the pressure-packed sales world, where closing the deal is the most important thing. Screw ethics, screw good manners and screw the customer. That is the

theme for this crew. As the program states, "Always be closing!" is the motto for this somewhat motley crew.

Presented in two acts, *GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS* tells the story of five members of a real estate sales force and the trials and tribulations of their careers.

Act One's three scenes take place in a Chinese restaurant, where we learn about the difficulties of making cold sales calls and dealing with customers who may or may not be interested in buying some property.

Act Two takes us to the real estate office in the aftermath of a burglary, the planning of which the audience is privy to in Act One.

Director Moss' group of actors certainly look their parts and deliver their lines with vigorous aplomb (there may even be a closet salesman among the group).

Ben Harville, as the smooth-talking Roma, and Irv Kane as Shelly Levene, who's down on his luck and dreaming of clinching that one big sale that will return him to the top, are both wonderful.

Harville is smarmy and smooth, Kane

✦ *Continued on page 12*

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

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

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Book Editor
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Staff Writers
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Joe Marohl • Jacki Moss • Lisa Parham
Michael Sanders • Laura Tek • Ben Yissak

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Contributors
Susan Bruninga • Nancy Lyn Deline • Chris Freeman
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Jim Roche • Ryan Shelley

Advertising Sales
Angela Bryant

Dare logo designed by
Rusel Brown



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Gaybriefs

+ We should be our own leaders

by Jim Roche
Contributing Writer

After what spokespersons referred to as an exhaustive nationwide search, the Fund for Human Dignity (FHD), the nation's sixth largest gay organization, has selected a new executive director, Robert Brading, a heterosexual man.

FHD is the leading program for educating the public about lesbian and gay issues. It runs the National Gay and Lesbian Crisisline (whose director has resigned in protest), a national clearing house for lesbian and gay educational materials and a special media campaign which attempts to place pro-gay advertisements in the mainstream press.

It is reported that FHD failed to place any position announcements for its new executive director in America's lesbian and gay press.

Now there was a lot of flak at FHD about all this. The staff, as of this writing, are still considering a strike. Many have resigned. Some members of the board of directors have resigned. There has been a call for the resignation of the entire board. Locks have been changed. People fired. The Fund is in total disarray. Its budget now runs in the red and all its future plans are on hold.

The board is refusing to budge, soon it appears there will be no one left at FHD to protest.

Should FHD have hired a heterosexual? As one writer to New York's OUTWEEK magazine said, "Anyone opposed to Robert Brading's hiring [as executive director] because he's straight is guilty of precisely what gay activists all over the world are fighting — namely discrimination and persecution based on sexual orientation."

Ann Wilson, the chair of the board, accused staff and volunteers who objected to the appointment of "bigotry and reverse discrimination."

Are they right? Are those of us who are opposed to the hiring of heterosexuals to head lesbian and gay organizations guilty of discrimination and bigotry?

What if someone claimed the National Organization for Women was sexist if it didn't hire a male as its director?

Or what if the NAACP wouldn't hire a white person or Asian person for its director? There wouldn't be any concern about discrimination.

Minority communities need to be lead by members of their own constituency.

Blacks need to lead black organizations, women should lead women's organizations and lesbians and gay men need to provide their own leadership.

This seems to be so obvious you wonder why we have to even say it. What's the reason something so obvious needs to be said?

The reason some people, including members of the board of FHD, are so quick to jump on the anti-discrimination/inclusiveness bandwagon is simple: internalized homophobia.

There is clearly a double standard when it comes to lesbian and gay rights. The

standards and logic that any other minority group can expect to be held to, to have the right to chose its leadership from among its own members, isn't acceptable when it comes to lesbians and gay men.

To be lesbian or gay isn't something that would be considered a viable qualification for any job, even heading a gay organization. It seems to be something that we want to overlook.

One's gayness is denigrated and devalued.

Isn't the experience of living as a gay or lesbian worth something when applying for a position as executive director of a homosexual organization?

Isn't it the most important experience that can be brought to this position?

It can't support any organization which seems to laugh at the significance of our own oppression.

For too long we have put lesbian and gay people on a lower level of the hierarchy of the oppressed.

We don't consider our experience to be the same as that of women, blacks or other minorities. How often do you hear civil rights leaders saying "you can't compare being a homosexual with being black"?

To the board of FHD our need for real models and leadership that understands the lesbian and gay experience comes after the need to be fair to heterosexuals.

Like other people who have suffered from

oppression lesbians and gay men have been systematically stripped of our history, stripped of our sense of community and finally stripped of our own leadership.

We have little enough to call our own. It seems absurd to give away this position of lesbian and gay leadership and visibility to someone who isn't a member of our community (or a community that supports FHD, or am I mistaken in assuming the majority of FHD's operating funds and volunteer staff come from the gays and lesbians who it is suppose to serve?).

This action by FHD is undignified. Oppressive. Homophobic.

It reminds me of all the excuses we hear, insults thrown in our faces, about AIDS education funding that must not be used to promote homosexuality, or the arguments against including gays and lesbians in state anti-discrimination laws because we will not promote homosexual lifestyles, or the ever recurring theme that anti-bias laws shouldn't include lesbians and gay men because we aren't fit to be considered a real minority.

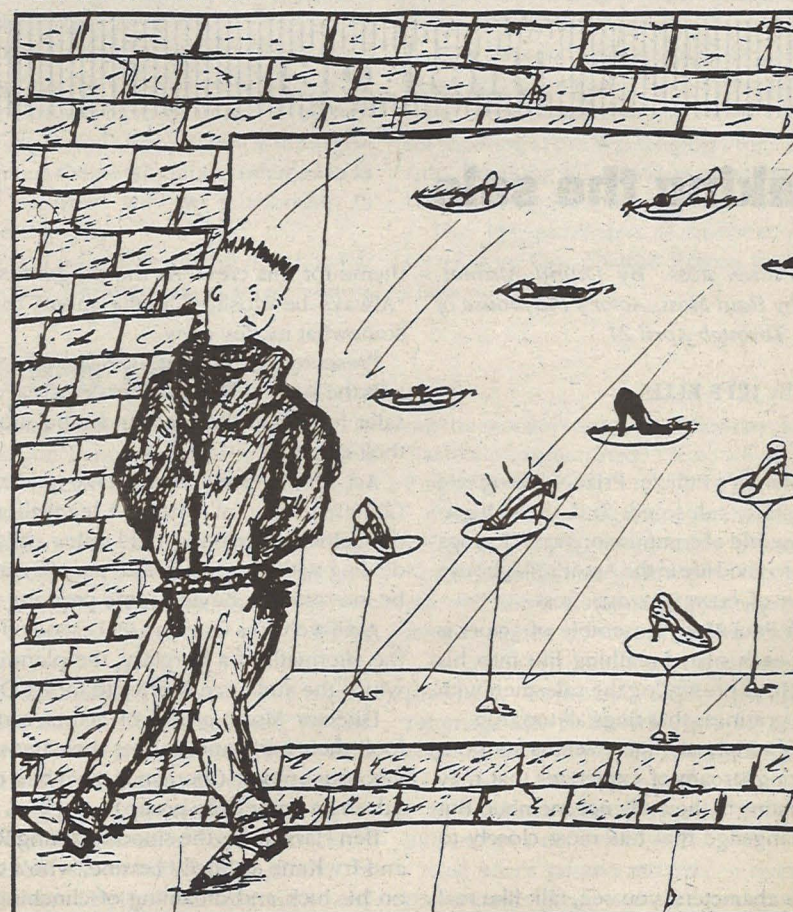
It's about time we were taken seriously, but first we have to take ourselves seriously.

A heterosexual male (or female) is totally unacceptable as the leader of any national lesbian and gay organization.

Period.

Only someone who can say, "I'm gay and proud to be gay" will do. ♦

STONEWALL RIOTS



LATELY CONNIE WAS STARTING TO QUESTION
HER BUTLH ROLE-IDENTIFICATION.

— CARTOON BY ANDREA NATALIE

Loose Lips

✦ On line at the supermarket

"We felt that the group would be in total conflict with what we were trying to accomplish. It was an extremely difficult decision. David Geffen is an important person, and you never want to offend a major donor."

— *Katherine DeShaw, director of development for the Gay Men's Health Crisis, commenting on a decision by GMHC to rescind an invitation to Guns N' Roses to appear in a rock music benefit for AIDS, because of homophobic lyrics in one of their songs.*

"I don't care what their record was. If you need a blood donor and the only person who can give you a transfusion is Adolf Hitler, you take the blood."

— *Record industry mogul David Geffen, reportedly a closet case, responding on GMHC's decision to disinvite Guns N' Roses, reported by ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY.*

"I'm tired of life in New York. Most of my friends are dead. It's this damned AIDS thing."

— *Fashion designer Halston, to a business associate just before he moved from New York City. Halston, noted for the pillbox hat he designed for Jackie Kennedy for her husband's presidential inauguration and for his friendships with Liza Minnelli, Bianca Jagger and Elizabeth Taylor, died of AIDS earlier this month.*

"The point is that I've heard almost everything. The most outrageous are always sexual stuff. It's all so insane. But that's because our culture is so weird. If this was Europe, it wouldn't be that way. There is something peculiarly Protestant here."

— *Actor Richard Gere, to us magazine.*

"You mean you would have no problem saying, 'Yes, I fucked a chicken,' if it were true?"

— *Writer David Rensen, in an interview with Richard Gere.*

"All right, I fucked a chicken. I know lots of guys who've fucked chickens out here [laughs], and it's not hurt them at all. Seriously, of course it would hurt. If you want to get into it, frankly, it's still insane that there are gay men and women in this town who can't say that they're gay because it's going to hurt their careers. Sadly and interestingly at the same time, Rock Hudson's AIDS drama did more to open people to compassionate emotions towards homosexuals than probably anything in the last 50 years. [It's insane] insisting homosexuality is some disease, something unnatural. But we are very chauvinistic about our ideas."

— *Richard Gere, who's currently starring in the movie PRETTY WOMAN with Julia Roberts. God, does he look good.*

"New book charges...Elvis had gay affair."
— *From the April 17 issue of the "fun...fascinating...factual" GLOBE. Yes, we've been reading the tabloids again.*

"Hill Street Blues' star dies of AIDS — the untold story of his secret gay life."

— *More tabloid trash from the supermarket checkout line. This comes from the NATIONAL ENQUIRER.*

"Tammy Faye shattered by ugly gay smear: 'That terrible new rumor is destroying me.'"
— *From "America's fastest growing weekly," the NATIONAL EXAMINER.*



Halston seemed to typify the term "celebutante" during the high-living '70s. — DARE FILE PHOTO

"Cagney & Loony...TV star Sharon Gless tells of her terror as rifle-wielding lesbian fan storms Hollywood home."

— *Yes, every tabloid seems to have a story with a lesbian/gay angle, even THE STAR. And we reiterate, we do not have subscriptions to all these rags. We're just naturally curious people, that's all.*

"THE BOY WHO WOULD BE KING, co-authored by Elvis' own cousin Earl Greenwood, accuses the rock 'n' roll legend of a homosexual relationship with the late Nick Adams, star of THE REBEL TV series, and a well-known member of Hollywood's fast, young gay crowd."

"That swinging set included Sal Mineo, James Dean and Rock Hudson, who co-starred with Dean in the 1951 movie GIANT."

— *From THE GLOBE's exposé about the King.*

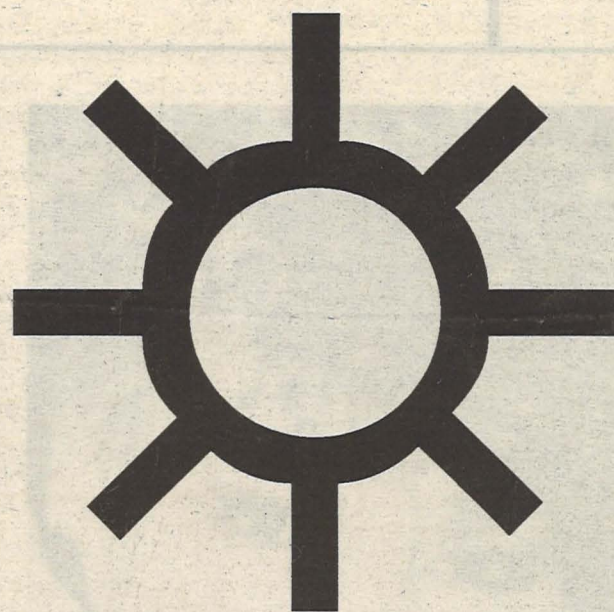
"HILL STREET BLUES star René Enriquez died of AIDS — taking to his grave the secret of a gay life-style [sic] he knew would have publicly humiliated his proud Hispanic family."

— *From THE NATIONAL ENQUIRER.*

"Tammy Faye is heartbroken and devastated by the wicked gay smears that are bombarding her almost daily and turning her life into a living hell!"

— *From the NATIONAL EXAMINER. And, while we're on the subject, we're getting tired of reading this trash all the time. Of course, we only do it for our public.*

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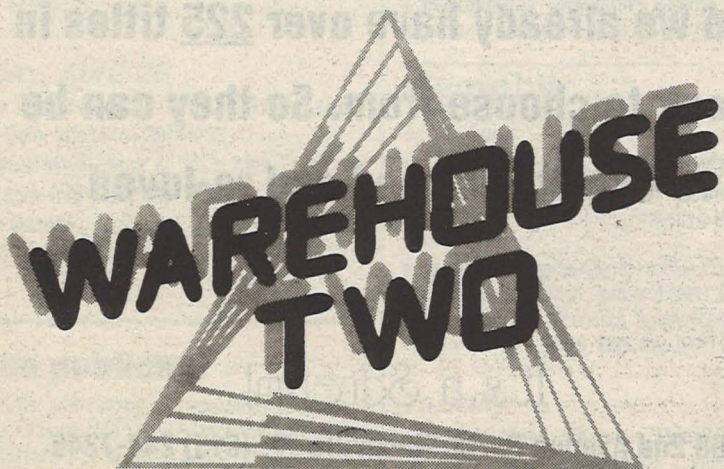
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