



# Dare

Volume 3, Number 21

Tennessee's Gay & Lesbian Newsweekly

May 25, 1990

## Police apprehend Tennessee hustler in North Carolina

*Hodges, 23, confesses to Bassett, McDonald murders, implicates self in string of other killings*

by JEFF ELLIS  
Editor

Police are investigating claims by a 23-year-old male prostitute that he has murdered six or seven gay men in the past two years after he confessed last week to two murders, including that of Ron Bassett, 36, found strangled last Tuesday night in his West Nashville home.

Metro Nashville Murder Squad detectives, after interviewing the man—Henry Eugene Hodges—in Atlanta where he is being held for the murder there last Thursday of a North Carolina man, said Hodges had confessed to the July, 1989, brutal stabbing murder of Barry McDonald in his Inglewood home.

Hodges closely resembles a composite drawing created from the description of a suspect in the McDonald murder, which may have led to his questioning in that case.

Authorities are also investigating the possibilities that Hodges could be responsible for the murders of three other gay men in the state's capital city.

Hodges last week confessed to Bassett's murder after he was apprehended by North Carolina authorities as he and his 15-year-old girlfriend, Trina Brown, attempted to break into the home of Michael Whisnant. Whisnant had been found strangled, his body stuffed under the bed in his room at the Atlanta Hilton.

Bassett was found strangled to death last week in the bedroom of his home at 3133-A Parthenon Avenue in Nashville. Hodges' other apparent victim, McDonald, was found stabbed to death in his East Nashville home

last July.

A detective in the McDonald case told *Dare* last July that the murder was "one of the most violent crimes in this city's history." McDonald's assailant had apparently stabbed the St. Thomas Hospital nurse some 30 to 40 times.

Prior to Hodges' confession, Metro police had refused to comment on whether Bassett's slaying could have had anything to do with his sexual orientation.

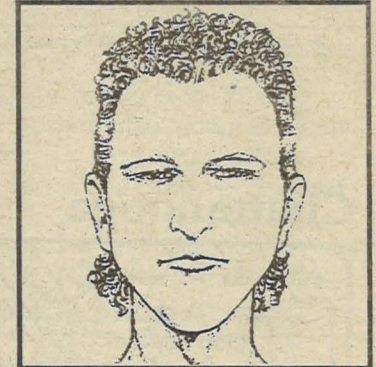
Hodges supposedly confessed to both the Bassett and Whisnant slayings while in custody in North Carolina and, at that time, told police he had killed four or five other people since he was released from Tennessee State Prison on August 8, 1988. Hodges had spent four years in prison on charges of armed robbery and attempted kidnapping in the Chattanooga area in 1983.

"He said that if you people don't think I'm a criminal, just wait until 10 tomorrow [Friday] morning. I guess he figured we'd find all this out," said Dale Ledbetter, Shelby police commander.

Goodlettsville police are searching for clues that would help them implicate Hodges in the October, 1989, slaying there of Volunteer State Community College professor Robert Sibert. Sibert was found dead as the result of a bullet wound to the head, according to medical examiners.

Authorities are also investigating whether Hodges could have been involved in the September 7, 1988 murder of Vernon Lester Larkin in his Hickory Valley area apartment.

♦ *Continued on page 6*



Henry Eugene Hodges, left, was apprehended in North Carolina last week and has confessed to two Nashville murders. On the right is a police composite drawing of the suspect in the McDonald case. — PHOTO COURTESY THE NASHVILLE BANNER

## Memphis ordinance under fire

*Lawsuit filed to challenge constitutionality*

by MARK LAWRENCE  
Staff Writer

A stringent new Memphis city ordinance banning minors from any live performance involving nudity, violence, or sexual conduct received its first test at a rock concert last Saturday.

Vice squad officers attended the performance of the heavy metal group Aerosmith, and were prepared to make arrests if the group violated the ordinance, which bars minors from "live performance

which is harmful to minors" or includes "excess violence, nudity, sadomasochistic abuse, sexual conduct or sexual excitement."

No arrests were made for violations of the law, according to a spokesperson for the show's promoters, Mid South Concerts.

The ordinance allows for fines of up to \$50 for promoters, performers, producers, directors and parents who allow minors to attend.

Before the concert, city officials and concert promoter Bob Kelley

♦ *Continued on page 6*

## Protestors target Anita Bryant in Franklin

*Singer's anti-gay rhetoric sparks controversy*

by CURTIS BALLS  
Staff Writer

Carrying placards reading "Anita, can you say AIDS?" and "Anita, Do Unto Others," a group of 14 lesbian and gay activists last Thursday protested the Franklin appearance of Anita Bryant during a fundraising event for Biological Therapy Institute (BTI).

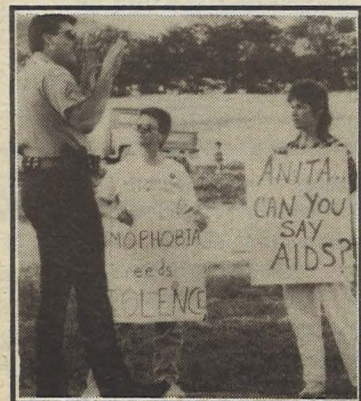
Bryant, who was performing at a fundraiser for BTI, has been an outspoken critic of lesbian and gay rights and was instrumental in the 1977 overturn of the Dade County, Florida, anti-discrimination ordinance protecting lesbians and gay men.

BTI is a Franklin-based cancer research institute founded by Robert Oldham.

The protest was organized after an article appeared in Nashville's

THE TENNESSEAN in which Bryant reiterated the same anti-gay views she has espoused since the mid-1970s.

When protestors arrived at Oldham's Franklin estate, they



Williamson County Sheriff's Deputy David Beard (left), Jacki Moss and Penny Campbell. — DARE PHOTO BY STUART BIVIN

were met by deputies of the Williamson County Sheriff's Department who had apparently been tipped off to the protest. Sheriff's deputies threatened the protestors with arrest if they did not leave the side of U.S. 431, which runs by Oldham's LookAway Farm.

"I will haul your asses in. Don't smart off to me, I am the law," Sheriff's Deputy David Beard is reported to have said.

The protest broke up after about 15 minutes when organizers decided that the protest, however brief, had been effective.

A spokesperson for the Sheriff's Department denied that the officer made the threat and said it was not common practice for the department to talk to citizens in that way.

But, the spokesperson added, "we have the right to enforce all the

♦ *Continued on page 6*

### Inside Dare



#### ♦ Art of the Possible

Memphis photographer Ben Fink is stretching the limits...  
Centerpiece, page 8.

#### ♦ The way we were...

Author Alan Berube uncovers the truth about lesbians and gay men in WWII, Pages, page 13.

#### ♦ Sinéad O'Connor speaks out.

Everybody's talking! Loose Lips, page 15.



# Resources

## + Friends, neighbors and networks

### Memphis



- **Agape New Life Church** Wednesdays: Bible study, 7pm. Sundays: Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
- **Coffeehouse** Produced by Feminist Productions. Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Friday only, 8pm. \$2 donation. Info (901) 276-0844.
- **Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90. Mondays, 6-7pm.
- **GayRap** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 3rd Monday, 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.
- **Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Thursdays, 8pm; Sundays, noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
- **Lambda Men's Chorus** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS.
- **Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center** Board meeting, 1291 Madison. 3rd Saturday, 11:30am. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Memphis Gay Coalition** Business meeting, Rm A, Memphis Public Library, Peabody & Maclean. 1st Monday. Info (901) 324-4297.
- **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 meetings. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Mondays, 8pm; Tuesdays, 5:30 & 8pm; Wednesday, 8pm; Thursdays, 5:30pm; Fridays, 5:30 and 10pm; Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
- **Potluck dinner** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st Saturday, 7pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Seriously Sober** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Fridays, 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
- **Twisted Sisters** (ACOA) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center, 241 North Cleveland. Saturdays, noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
- **Video Night** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 8pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.
- **Western Dance lessons** Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7:30pm. Info (901) 324-GAYS or 454-1411.

### Murfreesboro



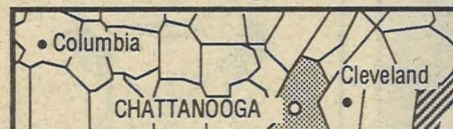
- **MTSU Lambda** Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. Fridays, 6pm. Info (615) 896-9541.

### Nashville



- **Affirmation** Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists. 4th Wednesday, 7pm. Info (615) 254-7628.
- **Al-Anon** Closed meeting. MCC, 131 15th Ave North. Tuesdays, 6:30pm.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist, 2007 Acklen Ave. Fridays, 7:30 pm.
- **Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians & gay men. 131 15th Ave North. Thursdays, 8pm.
- **Being Meeting** Gay & Lesbian Co-Dependents Anonymous. Thursdays, MCC, 131 15th Av North, 6:30pm; Saturdays, It's a Scream, 168 2nd Av North, 4pm.
- **GALLIP** Gay & Lesbian Lives in Progress Switchboard. Operates 7-11pm. (615) 297-0008.
- **Gay / Lesbian Addictions Anonymous** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church, 2007 Acklen. Wednesdays, 8pm.
- **Incest Survivors Anonymous** First Church Unity, 5125 Franklin Rd. Thursdays: Closed women's meeting, 6:30pm. Saturdays: Open meeting, 5:30pm. Sundays: Closed men's & women's meeting, 6pm.
- **Lambda Group** Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men & lesbians, Unitarian Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd. Mondays, 8pm.
- **Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)** Belmont United Methodist Church, 2007 Acklen Ave. Thursdays, 7:30pm.
- **MAGNET** (Married & Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. MCC, 131 15th Av North. 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** 131 15th Av North. Saturdays: community dinner, all you can eat, \$5. 7:30pm. Sundays: worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
- **Music City Sports Association** Softball league. At Whitfield Park, Edmondson Pike. Games Sundays at 1, 2 & 3pm. Info (615) 385-9689.
- **Nashville CARES** Tuesdays: HIV+ support group, 6pm; AIDS/ARC support group, 6:30pm. Wednesdays: newcomers support/education group, 6pm. Thursdays: visualization group, 7:15pm. Alternate Fridays: family & caregivers together sharing, 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
- **Nashville Women's Alliance** At Book Oasis. 3rd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.
- **NLC** Channel 35. Tuesdays, 9pm. Saturdays, 8pm.
- **One in Ten** Support group for lesbian & gay teens. Wednesdays, 6:30pm. Info (615) 297-0008.
- **P-FLAG** Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays meeting, 4th Tuesday. Unitarian Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd. 7:30pm. Info (615) 662-0332.
- **Sex Addicts Anonymous** At MCC, 131 15th Av North. Wednesdays: closed meeting for gay men & lesbians, 5:30pm. Fridays: closed meeting, 5pm.
- **Vanderbilt AIDS Project** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays: women's support group, 6:30pm; caregivers' support group, 7pm. Thursdays: AIDS / ARC men's group, 7pm. 1st & 3rd Thursdays: family support group, 7pm. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
- **Women's Chorus** At Bethlehem Center, 1417 Charlotte. Sundays, 6-8pm. Info (615) 353-1336.

### Chattanooga



- **Chattanooga CARES** Closed support group. Mondays, 6:30pm. Info (615) 266-2422.
- **Gay/Lesbian AA** Open meeting. Unitarian Church, 3224 Navajo Dr. Thursdays, 8pm; No-smoke meeting Saturdays, 7pm.
- **Lesbian & Gay CoDA** Co-Dependents Anonymous. Reflections, Harrison. Sundays, 12:30pm. Info (615) 267-7824.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service, 3224 Navajo Dr. Sundays, 6:30pm.

### Clarksville



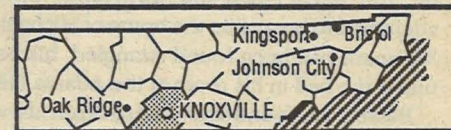
- **Clarksville CARES** Support group for HIV+, ARC, AIDS, family & partners. 1st & 3rd Mondays, 3pm. Info (615) 648-7730.

### Knoxville



- **aids Response Knoxville** Mondays: PWA support group, 7-8:30pm. Tuesdays: Circle of Love family & friends support group, 8pm. Wednesdays: HIV+ support group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
- **Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UTK** Weekly meeting. Tuesdays, 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686.
- **Gay Gratitude Group** Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Mondays: Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 3219 Kingston Pike, 7pm. Fridays: MCC / Knoxville, 1320 North Central, noon.
- **Lesbian Codependents Anonymous** At aRK offices, 1320 North Central. Fridays, 8pm. Info (615) 933-8393.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship service. Corner Weisgarber & Lonas. Sundays, 6pm. Info (615) 521-6546.
- **UT Gay Christian / Nonchristian Support Group** UT Humanities Bldg 53A. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Info (615) 584-6934.

### Tri-Cities



- **Appalachian AIDS Coalition** Support group for PWAs, ARC, & HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday. Info (703) 985-0131.
- **Gay & Lesbian AA** Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Sundays, 4pm.
- **LE TSA** Lesbians of East Tennessee & Surrounding Areas social / support group. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. Info Box 905 Mountain Home, TN 37684.
- **Metropolitan Community Church** Fridays: Women's Night, 7pm; Men's Night, 7pm. Sundays: worship service, 7pm. Holston Valley Unitarian Church. Info (615) 926-4393.
- **Tri-Cities AIDS Project (TAP)**. Support group for care-givers / families of PWAs, HIV+ & ARC, 6:30pm. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. Info (615) 928-6101 or 753-9647.

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**Hot Dates**

**+ Big events**

**Friday, May 25–Monday, May 28**  
**Anniversary celebration** 8TH ANNIVERSARY. Black & White Men Together / Memphis. Full schedule of weekend events in conjunction with Memphis in May celebration. Info (901) 726-1461.



**Saturday, May 26**  
**Fun run** 2 miles. Sponsored by Out and About / Memphis. At Crump statue, Overton Park, Memphis. Continues 2nd & 4th Saturdays. 8am. Info (901) 274-1847 or 276-0275.

**Monday, May 28**  
**MEMORIAL DAY Observed**

**Monday, June 4**  
**Board meeting** Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA). At 2000 Richard Jones Rd, Suite 150, Nashville. 7pm. Info (615) 269-6778.  
**Consciousness raising** Black & White Men Together / Memphis. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

**Saturday, June 9**  
**Yard sale** To benefit Metropolitan Community Church / Nashville. At 1420 Stratton Ave, Nashville. Donations welcome. Info (615) 320-0288 or 385-9636.

**Saturday & Sunday, June 9 & 10**  
**Southern regional meeting** Organizing for National Lesbian Conference. At Bethlehem Center, 1417 Charlotte Av, Nashville. Info (615) 269-9670.

**Sunday, June 10**  
**Cut-a-thon** To benefit Nashville Pride '90. At Warehouse Two, 2529 Franklin Rd, Nashville. Haircuts and blow-dry, \$8. 3-7pm. Info (615) 297-4293.

**Thursday, June 21**  
**Interfaith worship** Sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church, Nashville. Edgehill United Methodist Church, Edgehill Ave, Nashville. 7pm. Info (615) 297-4293.  
**Stonewall reunion** Onstage reenactment of the Stonewall Rebellion. At Cabaret, Hayes St, Nashville. Benefits T-GALA, NLC and Lentz HIV+4 Clinic. \$6. 10pm. Info (615) 885-5054.

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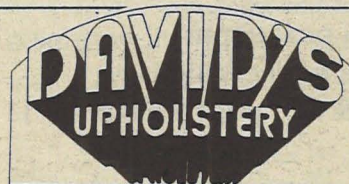
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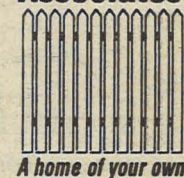
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## Support the AIDS vaccine effort.



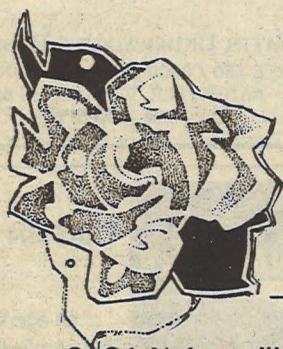
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compiled by CURTIS BALLS  
Staff Writer

## Chattanooga

*AIDS memorial service held at Miller Plaza*

About 125 people attended a candlelight memorial service for victims of AIDS held at Miller Plaza, Sunday, May 20, sponsored by Chattanooga CARES, a community-based AIDS services organization serving clients throughout southeastern Tennessee.

The sermon was delivered by Don Ciesielski, and music was provided by Miriam Gelfer, Gail Dooley and Walker Breland.

Kenton Dickerson, spokesperson for Chattanooga CARES said, "there was a lot of support from the community at large in addition to the gay and lesbian community." ✦

*Lesbian/gay AA group to sponsor dance*

Key to Freedom, the Chattanooga area's lesbian and gay Alcoholics Anonymous group will sponsor a dance on Saturday, June 16 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Drive, in Chattanooga.

The dance will begin immediately following the 7 p.m. Key to Freedom meeting. Admission is free. ✦

## Knoxville

*aRK announces second quarter "Buddy Training"*

a.i.d.s. Response Knoxville (aRK) will hold its second quarterly "Buddy Training: AIDS 102" on Saturday, June 9, at the aRK offices at 1320 North Central Street in Knoxville from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The training is designed to prepare people to be supportive friends and resource persons to someone suffering with AIDS.

According to an aRK spokesperson, people who are interested in becoming buddies also need to take AIDS 101, aRK's other regularly offered seminar. These classes can be taken in any order.

There is a \$15 registration fee which covers the cost of materials for both AIDS 101 and Buddy Training: AIDS 102. Space is limited to 20 people, and the classes are offered four times a year.

For further details on courses offered, or if you are interested in volunteering with aRK, call (615) 523-2437 or write aRK at P.O. Box 3932, Knoxville, Tenn., 37927. ✦

## Memphis

*Memphis leather clubs have country outing*

About 40 members and friends of three Memphis leather clubs participated in a country outing on Saturday, May 12.

Members of Tsarus, Wings and Women of Leather gathered at the home of two Wings members for the all day affair.

According to spokespersons for the groups, Wings president Chuck Saylor and

Tsarus president Sharon Wray, spoke enthusiastically about the groups and expressed hope that there will be "more opportunities for the clubs to share each other's company at community service functions and social events." ✦

## Nashville

*Nashville CARES will host parking lot sale*

Nashville CARES will host a parking lot sale at 700 Craighead Street, Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Persons who have something to sell should bring it to the Nashville CARES office at 700 Craighead Street, Suite 102B, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, between May 29 and June 2. All proceeds will go to benefit clients of Nashville CARES. For additional information, call (615) 385-1510. ✦

*Symphony performs at the Jewish Community Center*

Nashville Symphony Orchestra will present a special outdoor "Concert in the Glen" at the Jewish Community Center on Thursday, June 7, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 per family (up to six people), \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors, and can be purchased in advance at JCC. For details, call (615) 356-7170. ✦

## Old Hickory

*'Octette Bridge Club' held over at Lakewood*

Lakewood Village Theatre, at 2221 Hadley Avenue in Old Hickory, will hold over THE OCTETTE BRIDGE CLUB through Sunday, April 27.

The comedy-drama, directed by Melissa Bedinger, features a nine-member cast including Helen Aikins, Vickie Wonders-Foltz and Donna Stephenson.

For reservations, call 847-0934. ✦



**Athena Parthenos**, artist Alan LeQuire's massive 42-foot tall sculpture based on a 5th Century work was unveiled at Nashville's Parthenon last Sunday during gala grand opening ceremonies. Athena is now on regular display in Centennial Park. — DARE PHOTO BY CURTIS BALLS



# Cross Country

compiled by **KAREN MATHIS**  
Editorial Assistant

## Albany

### Appellate court upholds dismissal

A New York appellate court in Albany has upheld the dismissal of a lawsuit brought by four physician groups that sought to require the New York State Department of Health to permit testing without consent of those suspected of carrying the HIV virus and to collect names of those who test positive.

The suit, brought by the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York State Society of Surgeons and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, demanded that the Commissioner of Health designate both AIDS and HIV infection as "sexually transmissible" and "communicable" diseases under the state Public Health Law.

Under such circumstances, names of all person with HIV seropositive results would be reported to the Department of Health. In addition, physicians would have the authority to test anyone suspected of being positive, sexual partners would be notified by the State about the possibility of infection and isolation and quarantine provisions would be triggered. ✚

## Austin

### Unfair employment practice suit filed in Texas

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund has filed a suit against the state of Texas, the city of Dallas, and the chief of the Dallas Police Department (DPD) for denying a lesbian employment as a Dallas police officer solely because of her sexual orientation.

DPD refuses to hire gay men and lesbians and cites as a basis for its policy of discrimination Section 21.06 of the Texas State Penal Code which criminalizes certain "homosexual conduct." Lambda's lawsuit also challenges the constitutionality of that law which, by its terms, specifically discriminates against gay people.

Plaintiff Mica England claims she was subjected to intrusive questioning about her personal life and private sexual activity during an interview with the DPD and was not permitted to complete the application process because of her statement that she is a lesbian. Police Chief Mark Vines told England that the DPD "doesn't hire gays."

Lambda's suit contends that the law interferes with England's constitutional and legal right to be free of unwarranted government intrusion into her personal sexual conduct with another consenting woman in the privacy of her home. ✚

## Cincinnati

### Gay priest with AIDS expelled from parish

A Roman Catholic priest has been expelled from his parish, St. Christopher Church, because parishioners objected to him publicly

discussing his homosexuality and his case of AIDS.

Robert Apking talked about coming to terms with his homosexuality and described his battle with AIDS in an interview published May 6 in the DAYTON DAILY NEWS.

He refused to discuss how he may have contracted the disease.

Apking, who has said Mass and performed other pastoral duties at St. Christopher for the past two years while running a private office for pastoral therapy near the church, said that his public comments resulted in a backlash from parishioners. "...As long as I've been quiet, it's been okay, but the spectrum of publicity is very scary." ✚

## San Francisco

### Survey indicates decline in safe sex among gay men

A recent survey of 517 men conducted by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Communication Technologies indicates a decline in the number of gay men engaging in safe sex.

The survey also found that a greater percentage of men between the ages of 18 and 29 reported engaging in unsafe sex than gay men in other age groups.

George Lemp, chief of the San Francisco Health Department's AIDS Surveillance Branch, said he fears the result may be a "second wave" of the AIDS epidemic which will show its greatest impact on the younger age group. ✚

## St. Louis

### Gay/lesbian group to take part in Episcopal meeting

The "Under One Roof" Conference will be held by ten Episcopal Church organizations, including Integrity, the gay and lesbian justice ministry of the Episcopal Church, in St. Louis, June 21-24.

Integrity will hold its own convention as part of the conference together with various social, justice and pastoral networks of the Church. For information about the conference, call (212) 255-9185. ✚

## Washington, D.C.

### Barbara Bush offers support to P-FLAG

First Lady Barbara Bush has written Paulette Goodman, president of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), that "we cannot tolerate discrimination against any individuals or groups in our country."

The letter came in response to Goodman's plea to Bush to "speak kind words to some 24 million gay Americans and their families."

"I appreciate...your encouraging me to help change attitudes," Bush wrote. Discrimination, she said, "always brings with it pain and perpetuates hate and intolerance."

Bush has frequently made clear her distaste of discrimination based on sexual orientation, according to the Associated Press. ✚

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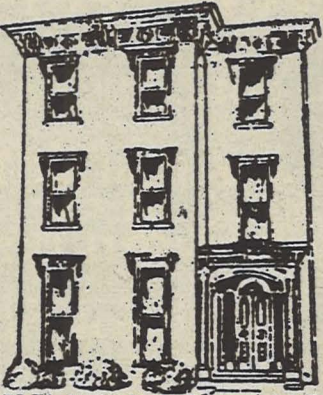
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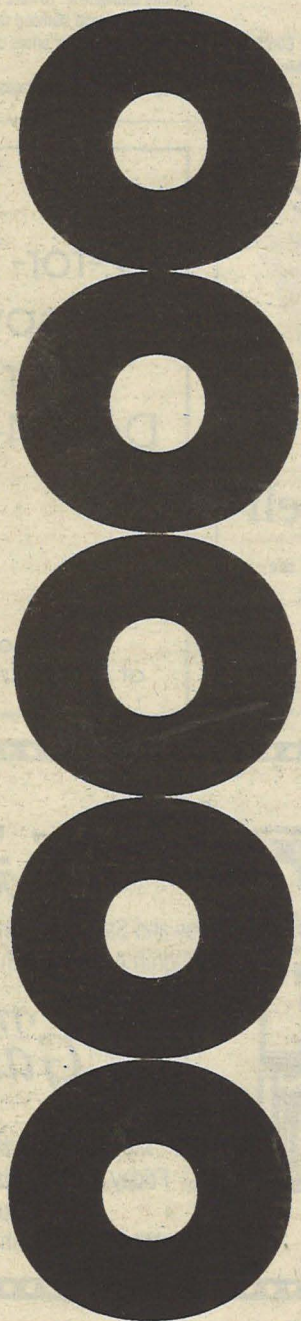
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## ...Hodges confesses

✦ *Continued from page 1*

Police are also looking for possible links between Hodges and the March 5 murder of Aaron Overstreet, 21, who was found in Percy Priest Lake. Overstreet had been shot and stabbed.

According to reports from Atlanta, Hodges was well-known among that city's gay bar clientele as a hustler. In fact, he had been banned from one bar—the Gallus—because of his reputation as a prostitute.

However, research by *Dare* failed to turn up anyone in Nashville bars who could accurately identify Hodges' photograph, although some people did say he looked familiar.

Hodges told police he had met both Bassett and Whisnant in gay bars.

A friend of Bassett's, who asked not to be identified, said that Bassett did not frequent Nashville's gay bars, preferring instead to cruise the city's Centennial Park and the Percy Priest Lake area for sexual partners.

Bassett, described by another friend as "real low-key, an all around good guy," had earlier been the target of a burglars on April 21.

As a result, he had bought a .22-caliber handgun for protection, friends said, and had been attempting to establish a crime watch program in his neighborhood.

When Hodges and Brown, a runaway from Ohio, were caught in North Carolina early Friday morning, police found Bassett's gun and some jewelry taken during the murder in

Whisnant's stolen vehicle.

Bassett's stolen car, a 1987 Chevrolet Nova, had been found earlier that day in Smyrna, where Hodges had supposedly been living.

After Hodges was arrested in North Carolina, he waived extradition and was transferred to Atlanta. Nashville police—and Goodlettsville police investigating the Sibert slaying—were en route to Shelby at the time the transfer was made to interview Hodges.

Hodges is being held without bond at the Atlanta Pretrial Detention Center awaiting a June 2 arraignment.

Brown is expected to be transferred to Nashville sometime this week if Tennessee and North Carolina authorities can reach an agreement. Brown is charged in Tennessee court documents as an adult. North Carolina courts do not recognize adult warrants in cases involving juvenile offenders.

Mainstream media reports have suggested that Brown and Hodges were regular customers at the Jungle Lounge, 306 Fourth Avenue South, in Nashville. Jungle employees, however, said they did not recognize Hodges' photograph and had never heard of Brown until the media reports were published.

A spokesperson for the District Attorney's office in Nashville said it may be a year or more before Hodges is brought to Nashville to be arraigned and to stand trial. Hodges must first be tried in Georgia for the Whisnant murder before he can be turned over to Tennessee authorities and brought to trial here. ✦

## ...Bryant protest

✦ *Continued from page 1*

laws of the State of Tennessee."

"We are not going to let Anita Bryant get away with her anti-gay statements without a protest, wherever she appears," said Abby Rubinfeld, co-chair of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T-GALA).

"Ignorance and oppression breed violence, and we want to live in a safe community. Violence directed at gays and lesbians is on the increase with five gay-related murders over the last 18 months in Nashville alone. Anita Bryant needs to understand that her attitudes contribute to this violence," said Debra Alberts, T-GALA's development director.

Penny Campbell, executive director of T-GALA, added: "We want BTI to know that we don't approve of their choice of fundraiser, but we are concerned about cancer too. Oldham came and saw our protest, so perhaps he will be more careful in his choice of fundraisers in the future."

BTI spokesperson Kathy Oldham defended BTI's efforts and said, "It was not

the intention of BTI to offend anyone. We were totally surprised about the protest. Bryant and I have never discussed her views on gays and lesbians, nor have I seen any newspaper articles. Her views are her own. BTI has no political affiliation."

Claiming that she and BTI "abhor violence," Oldham said, "We have much to protest for in terms of health care."

As to the possibility of future protests against Bryant, Alberts said, "We would be willing to meet with her and discuss these issues in order to educate her and sensitize her to gays and lesbians. We think it is important to educate people because ignorance and homophobia lead to violence."

Bryant was unavailable for comment during the protest and subsequent phone calls to her at her Nashville office, located at 2325 Crestmoor in Green Hills, were unsuccessful in obtaining a statement from the singer/evangelist.

A spokesperson for Bryant said the former Miss Oklahoma was "out of town until the end of the week." ✦

## ...Memphis ordinance

✦ *Continued from page 1*

indicated that they did not expect any violations at the concert.

"I understand from what I heard Aerosmith is pretty low key," said City Council Chair Jimmy Moore.

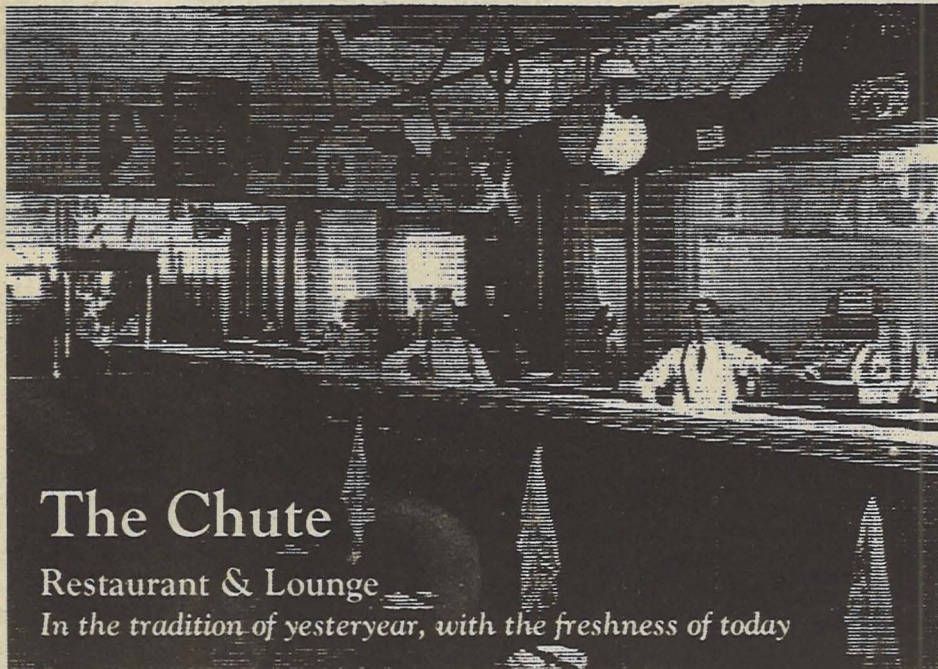
Kelley was not available for comment at press time.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee had already filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the law. The suit—MCDANIEL V. HACKETT—charges that the

ordinance deprives parents of the right to control what performances their children may attend. It also claims the ordinance is overly broad and does not provide reasonable notice of what performances are proscribed. The suit was filed by ACLU cooperating attorney Bruce Kramer on behalf of Larry McDaniel and his minor children of Memphis.

The ACLU sought an injunction to prevent the city from enforcing the ordinance, but on May 17 a federal judge declined to issue a restraining order. ✦





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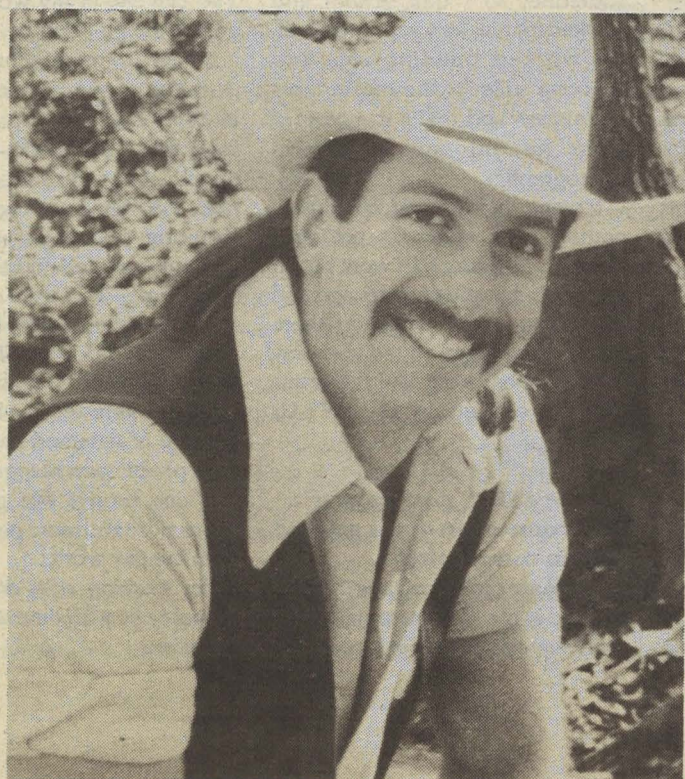
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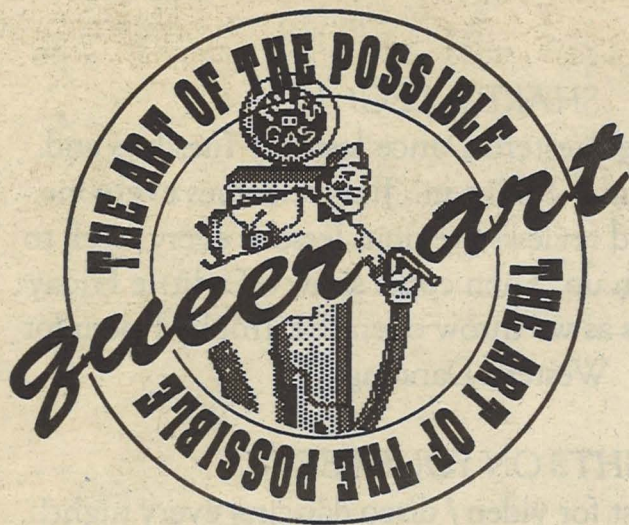
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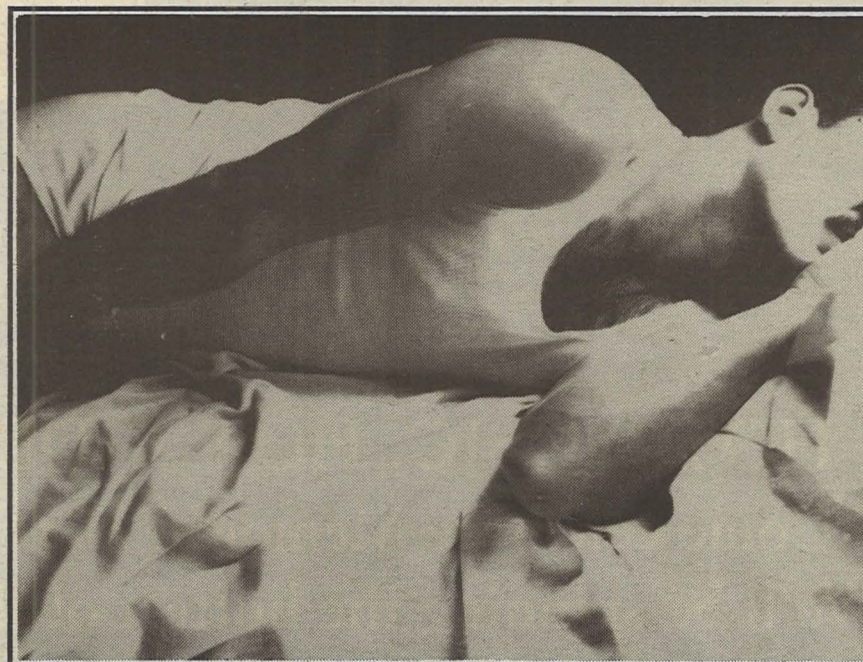


## + Ben

*This Memphis artist is redefining*



*I do some graphic images very much like Mapplethorpe's and yet they are soft and dreamy. They grow out of my desire to break down stereotypes and say that gay lovemaking is sensual.*



Interview by  
**VICTORIA MIKLOSKY**  
Staff Writer

Photography by  
**BEN FINK**

**A**mong the more exciting contemporary artists in Tennessee and the Mid-South is photographer Ben Fink of Memphis.

Widely known for his ATEAC (Aid to End Aids Committee) Auction poster designs and extensive commercial photography, Fink is gaining recognition for his art photography. *Dare's* Victoria Miklosky spoke with him in his Memphis studio.

**How did you first get into photography?**

Well, I started out at Memphis College of Art where I painted for three years, but I left to go to Memphis State where I took courses like graphic design because I knew I was going to have to make a living. I was bored sitting behind a desk all the time, so I took a couple of photography classes and loved them and just got more and more interested in it. Then a friend who

was working for a New York photographer moved here and she was going to quit her job. I decided that I wanted to try working for someone, so I quit school and worked for him for a year and a half. He worked building sets and shooting stills for the movie *Close Encounters* and that's the type of work he did—special effects photography.

I went in knowing absolutely nothing and ended up getting a photography douche. I went out on my own a couple of years ago and did a few things here and there commercially and started to do my own personal work like the prints that were used in the ATEAC posters.

**Are the ATEAC posters your only connection to the gay and lesbian community?**

There are periods of time that I've worked in the gay community but I don't stay submerged in it because I

don't think that's conducive to my well-roundedness. I don't isolate myself in any community and once I get enough of one thing I move on. You can see in my work that I've gone through periods.

When I was in school I did a documentary on a black family here in Memphis. I went to weddings, funerals—I practically lived with them. Then I went through a leather period, hanging out in gay bars and shooting people—trying not to upset anyone and make it fun at the same time. The third series I've started grew out of the first ATEAC poster that I did. The ATEAC posters feature serial photography.

I was interested in showing the passage of time and how AIDS affects people psychologically. From that one project I've gone on to shoot more and more people, many from the gay world.

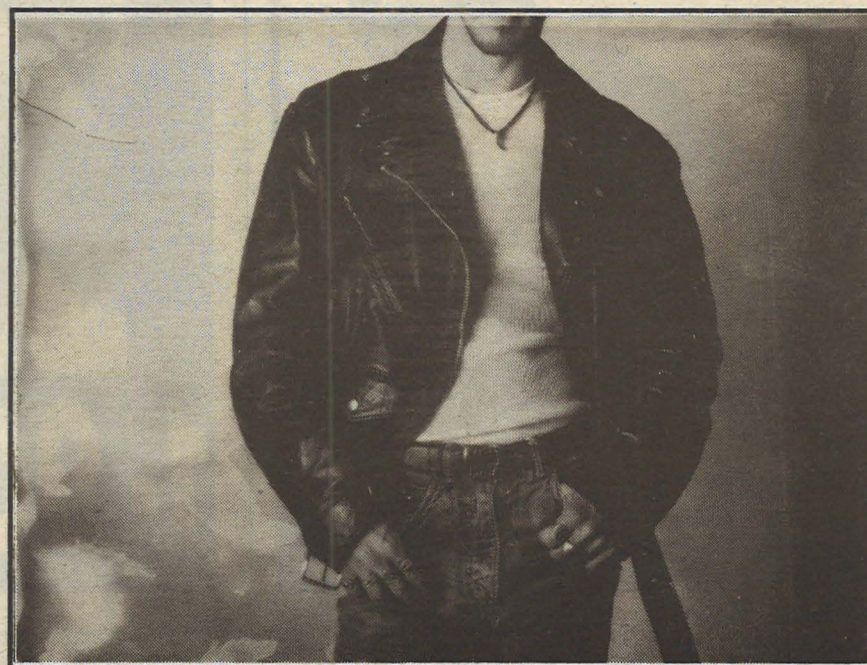
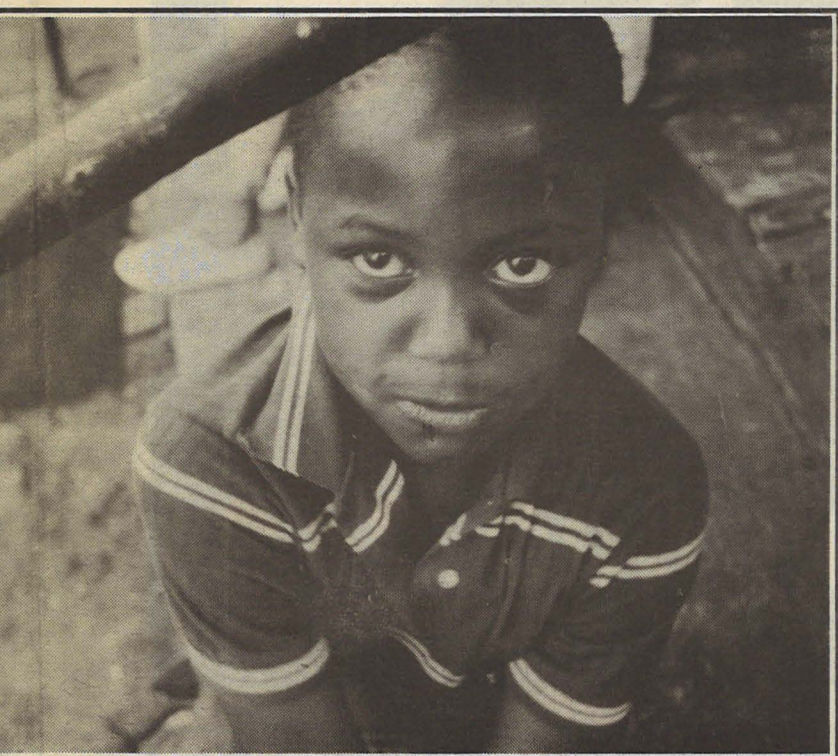
I'm working now on what will probably be a lifetime series of gay portraits.



Piece

# Robert Mapplethorpe

Pushing the limits of 'gay' photography



## What artist has most influenced your work?

Robert Mapplethorpe—because of his guts. I look at his work and then try to use it in my personal work. When I was in college, I told my professor that I wanted to do some gay-oriented photographs. He showed me a book of Mapplethorpe's work and it just wiped me out—I didn't think I was that serious.

I said to myself "oh no, somebody's already done this." A lot of his art came out of his commercial work for *VOGUE* and I think his slickness is derived from that commercial work. We share that. But I'm looking for another way of showing the gay community. I want to emphasize the sensitivity with gay images that could appeal to anybody.

## So how would you describe your work?

I do some graphic images very

much like Mapplethorpe's and yet they are soft and dreamy. They grow out of my desire to break down stereotypes and say that gay lovemaking is sensual.

Other work of mine is very personal and full of personality, but the printing on all of my new work is soft and beautiful, a multi-layered effect that I achieve with chemicals in the darkroom. I'm always looking for sensual images that the observer might want to reach out and touch.

If I shoot a man lying across a bed, I want the photo to be very soft. I want him to be as soft as the cloth he's lying on. I also look for nurturing feelings with some fantasy thrown in. I've done some work shooting women in factories which turned out to be really beautiful dichotomies. Mine aren't the sharpest images in the world.

Film is getting so refined now and photographers are rebelling against that high resolution and moving

toward softer images. In the last year I've been experimenting with decay process in the darkroom, scratching negatives and ripping prints. We're going through some pretty rough times right now mainly because of AIDS, and my work reflects that, sometimes indirectly.

When I realized what I was doing I pushed it to its limits. In some of my work there's a feeling of real torture. The people in the pictures aren't in pain but the prints are affected by something they have no awareness of. Some of the prints look dirty or tainted and it's definitely an invading presence.

Lately I've been looking for something that makes a big statement. I'm moving toward monumental or statuesque images and I'll continue with that.

## What's in the future for you?

I had a piece shown at Brooks Museum here in Memphis when it reopened in December. It was sold

at silent auction with the work of artists like Clift and Eggleston who are fairly well known. That was my first showing in a large museum, and as I go on, that will be more and more of a goal. Recently the Memphis Center for Contemporary Arts asked me if they could show my work, so I'll be having a show of this new work I'm doing now in the near future.

For right now this is a great place to be doing what I'm doing. There's a lot of opportunity here and a lot of things to be photographed. And I think I'm going to be around awhile. I'm pleased with my work now, but in six months I probably won't be. I'm becoming more comfortable with the evolutionary process, and I'm still a young photographer.

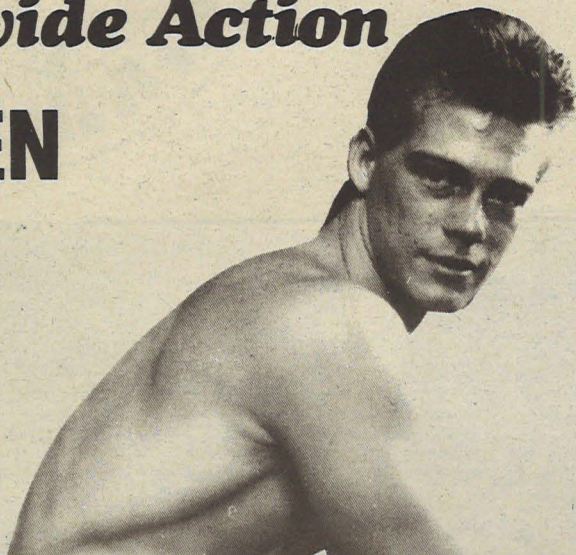
I hope I never get bored with it, but if I do, my natural instinct is to move on. I'm taking it one step at a time and growing in different ways each time I take a picture. ♣



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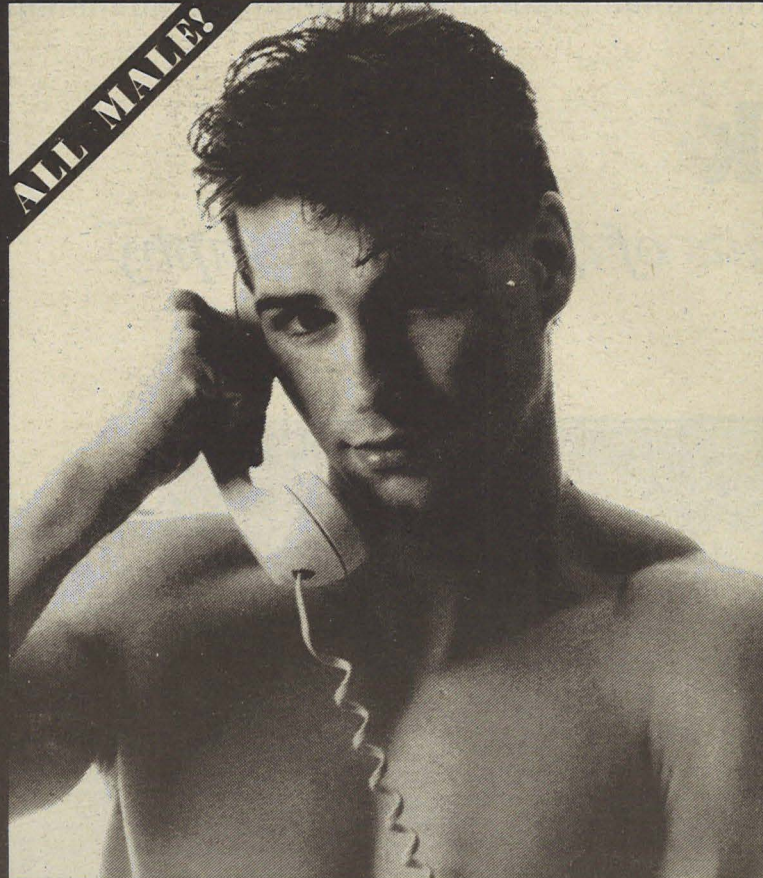
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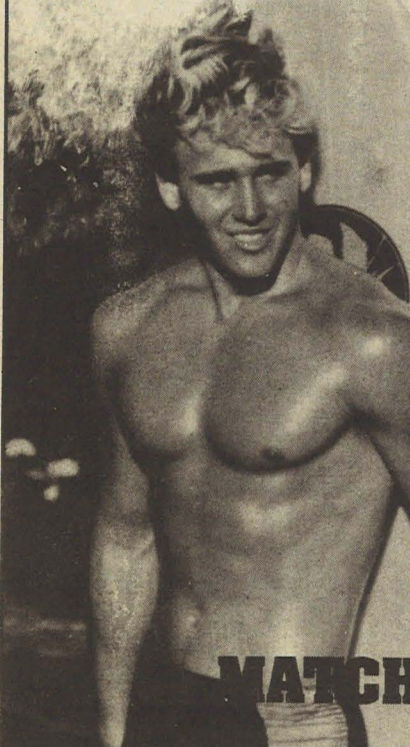
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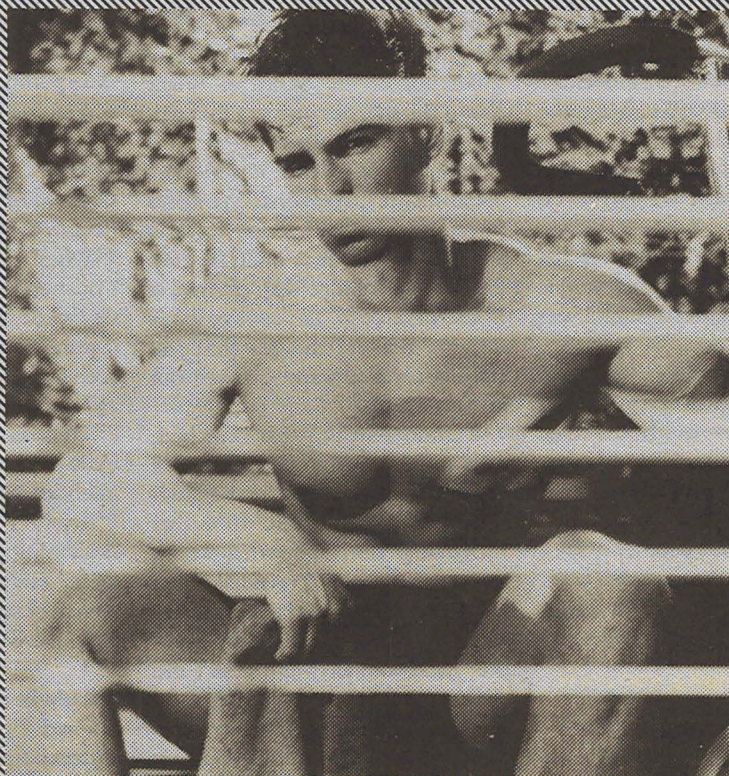
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• GWM, 22, sks GWM 18-40 not into bar scene and likes romantic evenings, has good sense of humor. Full-length photo would be nice. No druggies. I'm lonely. I'll be waiting 4 you. McMinnville. Dare DRAWER 95

• Yo gigolo KY: Just say no!

• GWM 41, 6ft, 200 work out regularly, don't smoke or do drugs; grad student in English, finishing degree. Masc, quiet, healthy, not into bars, out looking for serious-minded man for friendship, maybe more. Reply: RHA, Box 4465 B, Nashville 37235.

• GWM, 29, 5'8" 140lbs, br/gr very attractive (Monty Clift type) smart, sincere, honest healthy hi-caliber Vandy guy sks similar 22-32 for 1-on-1. Do you exist?

Pls be gay, single, masc smoker in good shape. No photo, no reply. Dare DRAWER 94

• Holly—North to Alaska - Feh!! Go, do, see, experience, work, travel, play - Come home. Say "Hi!" to Mom & Dad & do a humpie for me! I love you, Anne. P.S. Don't forget my t-shirts, prints, puppy...

• SWM, 29 — Female impersonator, attractive, thin, adventurous, I'm looking for friends and one real relationship. I'm submissive, so send me your demands and I'll see how I can serve you. Dare DRAWER 94

• GWM, 43, was gay in 'Nam. Lkng for same to share where we were, where we've been and where we can go. All answered: this is for support group. Dare DRAWER 93

• Lonely GWM, 22, 5'5", 120, dark brown hair, blue eyes, sks GWM 18-40 who enjoys romantic evenings, not into the bar scene & who likes to cuddle, with a good sense of humor. Full length photo pls. No drugs. Dare DRAWER 92

• GWM — very hairy, 37, chubby but handsome sks chaser age 25-45 also GWM for fun, friendship & possible more. I don't drink or drug, own my home & wish to share. Tony, Box 4636 Nashville 37216.

• GWM, 26, 5'8", 155, br/bl, tired of bars. Enjoy a quiet evening at home, movies, theatre. Sks GWM 25-40 who enjoys the same. Prefer well-built masculine man.

Photo, phone. Dare DRAWER 91

• GWF, 32, outdoorsy, athletic, artistic, prof., sks similar. Loves lazy days sharing each other. Is there a caring, bright, sensitive woman anywhere? Dare DRAWER 90

• GWM, 26, 5' 8-1/2", lking for sincere male who loves life, music & fun. Want totally monogamous relationship. If you live in Knoxville & want the same, write me. Photos appreciated, but not necessary. Phone # must. Dare DRAWER 89

• GWM, 41, 6ft, 200, works out regularly, doesn't smoke or do drugs; grad student in English, finishing degree. Masculine, quiet, healthy, not into bars, out, sks serious minded man for friendship, maybe more. RHA, Box 4465 B, Nashville 37235

• Janice, oh ye matron of Clark Hall: It's a thrill to hear again. Don't forget to call when you're in town.

• Jeff M. of Morristown: Do you remember that wonderful time when we...oh, never mind, that wasn't you. Next time, you can be the man. Craig,

• GWM, 35, bl/bl, attr, quiet sks sim who enjoys quiet evening at home, walks in the park, animals, home-cooking & want to share these. Not lking 4 1-night stand or the bars. Positive friendship, poss relationship only. Photo/phone. Dare DRAWER 88

• Lisa baby, you keep me going! Believe me summer is looking wild. I'll meet you here, there & everywhere. — T

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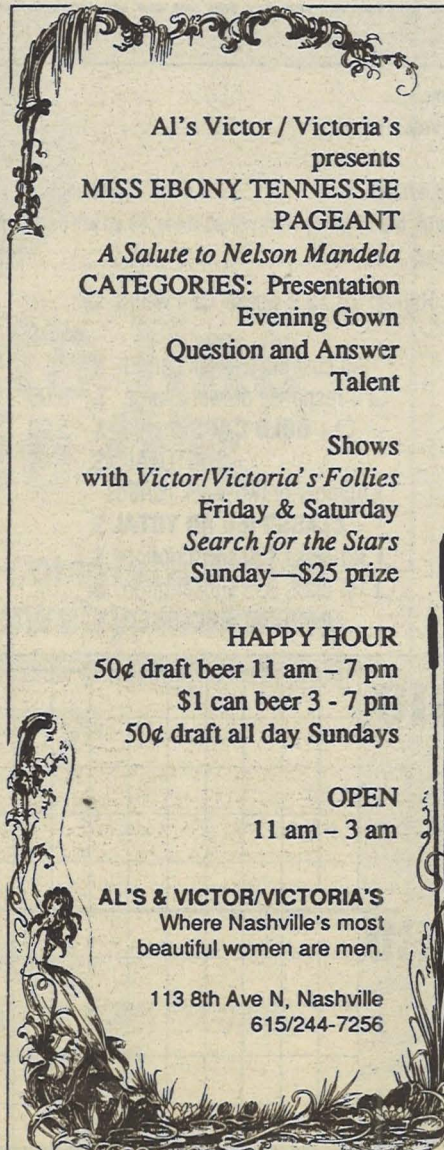
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## Persistence of Vision

### ✦ The wondrous 'Camille Claudel'

*CAMILLE CLAUDEL. Starring Isabelle Adjani and Gerald Depardieu. Adapted for the screen by Bruno Nuytten and Marilyn Goldin from the work by Reine-Marie Paris. Directed by Bruno Nuytten. 1988.*

reviewed by **FLYNNE MALONE**  
Staff Writer

For almost three hours *CAMILLE CLAUDEL* recreates industrial, industrious Paris from 1885 to 1913.

It is often painted with dark, drizzly beauty and, in the end, the pain of 30 years confinement in a mental institution for the sculptress, lover-model-collaborator of renowned Auguste Rodin.

Claudel was extremely accomplished and unrecognized. She could "make the clay more alive than the model."

Isabelle Adjani (*THE STORY OF ADELE H.*), of French and Algerian descent, labored to deliver Claudel's story. She gave it healthy financing, as uncharacteristically did the French government.

Adjani's beauty and skill are fitting to play the artist and her subtle descent into paranoid obsession.

When Adjani, as Claudel, "makes love to the mud" that will become Rodin's favorite portrait, every motion is believable and every emotion is true. It is ironic that Adjani's lover, Bruno Nuytten, directed the film.

Nuytten is a cinematographer by training and it shows. His tightly composed shots lend a disorienting mystery and tension. Especially when Rodin is present, the images recall the exquisite Alfred Steichen platinum photographs of Rodin and his blasphemed *BALZAC*—no detail, all form and dark passion.

Nuytten's lighting is unflinching in grace with cold, blue days and warm, yellow nights. His Paris is real with rain and steam, smoke and sweat.

The story of Claudel and Rodin is true. She was about twenty and he forty when they met. He respected her talent always, and she is credited with revitalizing his work and his ardor.

There are varying degrees of creative attribution, but it is certain that she worked constantly, and was formally credited with virtually nothing. Two of Rodin's most famous works, the *GATES OF HELL* and the *BURGHERS OF CALAIS*, were created during this era and the film gets at Claudel's hand in these.

For all his involvement with Claudel, however, Rodin had another lover, Rose Beuret, whom he finally married but weeks before they both died. He would not choose Claudel, and so she chose to leave him.

Gerard Depardieu (*GET OUT YOUR HANDKERCHIEFS, JEAN DE FLORETTE*, etc.) is Rodin's brooding hulk with a core of weakness clearly revealed. He withdraws from Claudel yelling, "I don't want any more complicated emotions!"

In her expanding isolation, Claudel grew more and more convinced that the "Rodin gang" was trying to steal her work. This paranoia, coupled with her bitterness at his

choice of lovers, produced a diagnosis of at least eccentricity and at most mental illness.

She attends an exhibition of her work with face of haphazardly applied garish white powder and red lips askew, her shapeliness disguised in a crazy quilt dress she fashioned for the occasion.

She lives with several cats and is depicted as unaware that her neighborhood has been evacuated in the face of a rising river.

It is important not to trust the dramatic details of such a film as this, even though it is based upon the biography written by Claudel's great niece.

It is also important to grasp the frightening universal reality that was Claudel's life.

*Camille Claudel  
was a woman  
of talent  
at least equal  
to the man  
who some consider  
the genius  
of the century,  
a man she loved  
and wanted  
for family.*

She was a woman of talent at least equal to the man who some consider the genius of the century, a man whom she loved and wanted for family.

She was committed to an asylum against her will by her mother and her brother the noted playwright, poet, and diplomat Paul Claudel.

Remembering her in youth Paul wrote that she "had an impressive air of courage, of frankness, of superiority, of gaiety—the air of someone who has received much."

She was a "mystery full of light."  
After 22 years in the asylum, she wrote a friend, "I live in a world that is so curious, so strange. Of the dream which was my life, this is the nightmare."

She died after decades of virtual imprisonment, probably of malnutrition from eating only raw eggs and potatoes with the sins on that were safe from "the Rodin gang."

There is no evidence in history or in the film that she was dangerous to anyone.

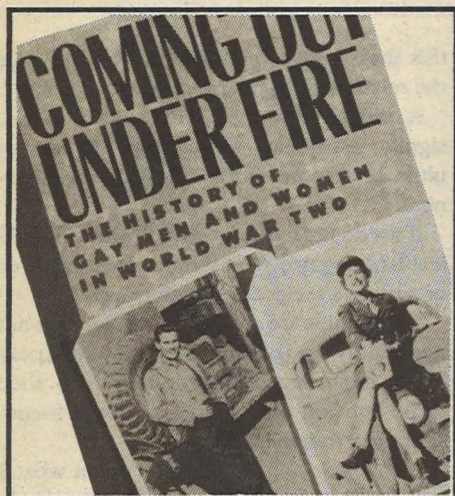
It is the dim nightmare of many, many women to lose the helm of their lives and to be forced adrift, alone, without the relative calm of solitude.

It is tempting to say today that Claudel had choices, but I wonder what it was like for monumental female talent a century ago. I recommend that you see the terrible beauty of *CAMILLE CLAUDEL* and assess how far, if at all, we have come. ✦



Pages

✦ The way we were



COMING OUT UNDER FIRE: THE HISTORY OF GAY MEN AND WOMEN IN WORLD WAR TWO. Alan Berube. New York: The Free Press, 1990. 377 pages, \$22.95.

reviewed by CHRIS FREEMAN  
Contributing Writer

Alan Berube's well-researched, incredibly inclusive study of the involvement of lesbian and gay men in World War II is a major contribution in many fields.

It documents a part of our history that has heretofore been silenced. By our history, I mean both American history and gay history.

U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.), a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, is quoted on the book jacket praising COMING OUT UNDER FIRE: "As the public debate heats up over whether the military should continue its antihomosexual policies, this...is must reading for members of Congress, military policy makers, veterans and every American who is interested in how the events of World War II still affect our lives today."

These comments suggest the overtly political character of Berube's book, but what is perhaps more interesting is his conclusion that the lesbian and gay GIs who were involved in World War II were the founders of gay liberation.

Berube argues that the military policy of screening potential personnel forced recruits to recognize the possibility that they might be lesbian or gay. This generation of Americans, Berube claims, were the first to be confronted so directly about their own sexuality, and this confrontation was enabling for many. It allowed them to realize the possibility of their own "difference," at the same time naming that difference.

Until the World War II era interrogations, many men implicated by the army as homosexual had never before really heard the word. Women recruits, according to Berube, were not subjected to such invasive screening early on: "Only gradually did [military psychiatrists and officials] define what they perceived to be a lesbian problem, waiting until the end of the war to issue directives specifically aimed at excluding lesbians from the armed forces."

Coming out of Foucault's notion of the

historically-constructed nature of sexuality, Berube argues that military psychiatrists' screening policies, "developed...to discover and disqualify homosexual men, introduced into military policies and procedures the concept of the homosexual as a personality type unfit for military service and combat—a concept that was to determine military policy for decades after the war."

Of course, in the midst of such strict policies were endless hypocrisies. Chief military psychiatrist Henry Stack Sullivan, for example, "lived...with his devoted male companion" and "was particularly sensitive to sexual stigmas."

Berube's book includes material from interviews he conducted with over one hundred veterans. These anecdotes are perhaps the most effective parts of the book because they make it personal and real; military regulations weren't just on paper, and these people's stories make that point loud and clear.

The last three chapters COMING OUT UNDER FIRE deal with the postwar consequences of military anti-gay policies. Though he might be subject to charges of setting up a false causal relationship between military policies and the gay liberation movement, Berube's cogent argument that there is a direct connection between these two historical realities is convincing.

Gay veterans who had been dishonorably discharged — and these Section VIII's will make any reader rethink his or her perceptions of M.A.S.H.'s Corporal Klinger — fought, and failed, to get military benefits.

Berube reports that "in 1950 the Mattachine Society was organized in Los Angeles in response to the anti-homosexual campaigns in Washington, police arrests in Los Angeles, the state sexual psychopath panics [and] the treatment of homosexuals by the military...Charles Rowland recalled that he and most of the other founders of the Mattachine Society had been veterans."

During the reactionary 1950s, many young gay publications ran features on gays in the military, including such titles as "Homosexuals in Uniform," "Homosexual Servicemen" and "Undesirable Discharges." Furthermore, Berube says that "in 1966 the first nationwide protest by gay male and lesbian organizations in the United States was one that opposed the military's discrimination against gay personnel and veterans."

Such evidence leads me to believe that Berube's is a far-reaching study that could affect the lives of millions of people. Straight veterans could get an interesting re-vision of many of their former cohorts by reading COMING OUT UNDER FIRE.

Berube reports that, since 1941, almost 100,000 men and women have been discharged from the military because of their sexual orientation.

His book tells us that they have not taken this kind of abuse quietly.

Because of the efforts and voices of many of these people, we can have voices today, and we can continue to fight for the rights that gay people have been denied for too long. ✦

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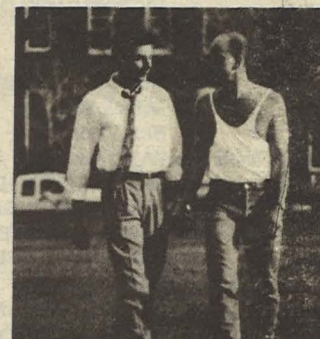
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Dare

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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In Focus

Looking at some of life's difficulties

by CARLTON CORNETT Contributing Writer

All of us face problems in living: anxiety, depression (defined in terms of "the blues" now and then), relationship struggles and interpersonal conflicts.

Lesbian and gay people, however, face some added difficulties, because of our place in society, which compound the average and expectable "crises" of life.

John Fortunato writes in his spiritually oriented book, EMBRACING THE EXILE, of the need for lesbians/gay men to acknowledge their differentness from the rest of society, to accept that our place is not a part of the heterosexual societal myth (i.e. two children and a dog named Spot), to grieve the losses that arise from this and then to find joy in the freedom this differentness affords.

Sounds easy, but it's not. There are stresses and difficulties inherent in navigating the path of being lesbian or gay.

I've heard that lesbians and gay men are more likely to be alcoholic or addicted than straights and that this is related to the idea that bars are the heart of the gay subculture. True?

Yes and no.

It does seem that the incidence of alcoholism and other addictions is higher for lesbians and gay men. A recent review of ten studies of the incidence of alcoholism in lesbians and gay men places the range of alcohol abuse and dependence at 18 to 38 percent for gay men and 27 to 35 percent for lesbians. These figures are well above those of the general population.

This type of data suggests that there is a higher incidence of alcoholism (and presumably other types of chemical dependence) among lesbians and gay men.

However, what such descriptive evidence does not tell us is etiology.

As a therapist, I have heard other therapists, both straight and gay, suggest that this "bar scene" is responsible for these figures. There may be some limited truth to that because there is a significant amount of socializing that takes place in bars, obviously around alcohol.

However, what is most important to remember in regard to chemical dependence is that it is a disease fueled by shame and guilt.

At the core of all addictions is a pervasive sense of shame and self-reproach.

Chemical dependence is genetic in two ways: first, there does seem to be a physiological predisposition toward chemical dependence that is based in our inherited genes (from addicted parents and grandparents); and second, parents who are addicted raise their children in an atmosphere in which they are taught to feel ashamed of themselves.

Add to this the subtle and not so subtle rejection and condemnation that a lesbian woman or gay man faces throughout her/his development and the potential for guilt and shame is massive.

As a means of dealing with this guilt, shame and self-hatred many lesbians and gay men

medicate themselves through alcohol or some other chemical.

One of the ultimate answers to the problem of alcohol and drug abuse in the gay world is developing the capacity to love and accept ourselves so that there is less pain to medicate.

Simplistic slogans like "Just say no" miss the point, although they seem to placate some politicians. As lesbians and gay men we can help with the whole issue of chemical dependence through our efforts to provide an accepting and loving milieu for each other.

Part of such a milieu is caring enough to confront another's chemical dependence and directing them to appropriate help.

I'm finding it hard to develop friendships with other gay men. They don't stay around after we have sex. If I don't want to have sex they don't stick around to get to know me. What should I do to develop friendships?

This is a question often asked and it is important to remember that relationships are a collaborative effort.

Trouble finding friendships among other gay men may mean that you have some conflicts, possibly out of your awareness, around your own desire to have gay male friends.

Difficulties with any area of interpersonal relating generally means that we have our own difficulty with that area.

We play out our scripts in our relationships and generally find co-stars who help us create a predictable outcome. There could be many reasons for a difficulty in developing or maintaining friendships.

It is obvious that sex figures highly into the equation.

Often, it is difficult to negotiate the initial sexual tension in a relationship with someone we find attractive. Being clear that we desire to get to know someone before sex (if that is the desire) helps to keep from introducing

this massively complicating dimension into the relationship at its most vulnerable stage.

A difficulty initiating friendships may also signify some fears we have of intimacy or ultimately, some issues around our own gayness.

If we do not feel good about who we are as lesbians or gay men, it is difficult to enter into or sustain a reciprocal relationship.

Friendships are reciprocal, while sex is not necessarily so. Looking at our family experiences regarding closeness may help shed some light on our behavior in both friendships and romances.

Also, exploring our feelings about what it means for us to be lesbian or gay may help clarify difficulties in finding suitable friendships.

Sex can be one of the most impersonal of all activities, certainly not requiring much in the way of emotional closeness.

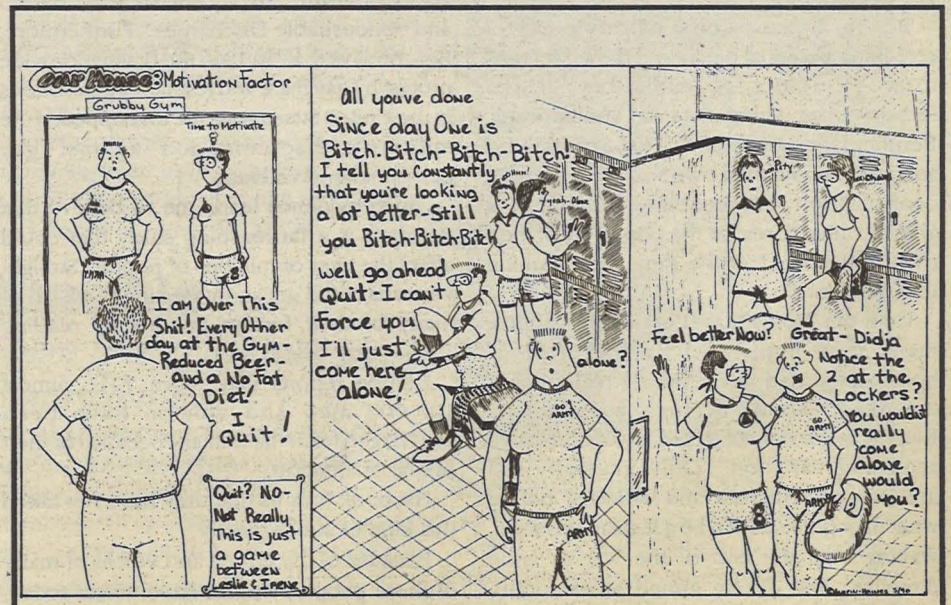
Friendships require much closeness and reflect, through interactions involving sharing, conflict, anger and love, images of ourselves.

Most of all, friendships with other lesbians or gay men provide continual confirmation of our homosexuality. If this is threatening (and it can be on many levels) then there is some investment in avoiding this experience.

As in all relationship concerns, the best place to begin looking for answers is internally. ✦

Editor's Note: Carlton Cornett is a clinical social worker in private practice, providing individual, group and family psychotherapy for adult and adolescent patients. Although his comments in "In Focus" are not meant to take the place of personal therapy — and is not published as such — we do invite your questions or comments.

Send your letters to: Carlton Cornett, c/o Dare, Tennessee's Gay and Lesbian Newsweekly, Box 40422, Nashville, Tennessee, 37204-0422. All letters will be kept confidential.



DARE CARTOON BY LESLIE GUERIN-HAINES



# Loose lips

## ✦ Everybody's talking...again

compiled by JEFF ELLIS  
Editor

"I'm repelled by all those stupid girls that are merely products of someone else, singing all these words that aren't their own. I hate things like Milli Vanilli."

— *Singer Sinéad O'Connor on the state of pop music today.*

"If there is anything to be learned from the Holocaust, it is that there can't be any institutional tolerance from places like NBC and NEWSDAY for hatred of any group."

— *THE BOSTON GLOBE's Ed Siegel, writing about the recent appearance of would-be comic Andrew Dice Clay on NBC's SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE.*

"Earlier in the week, cast member Nora Dunn had announced she wouldn't perform on the show. Dunn, the only current cast member whose work has consistently evinced a feminist political sensibility, called Clay 'a hateronger.' Musical guest Sinéad O'Connor also canceled, replaced by two acts, the Spanic Boys and Julee Cruise."

"The best thing about the Clay debacle was what it revealed about hip-TV-comedy relations. At first, SNL producer Lorne Michaels told reporters he respected Dunn's gesture of protest; as Saturday neared, however, Michaels was saying things like, '[Dunn's] contract was up; this was the end. We're in the process of making some changes...'

"Agent Bernie Brillstein, who represents Michaels as well as cast members Dennis Miller, Dana Carvey, and Jon Lovitz, told THE WASHINGTON POST, 'I know what I'd do if I were the producer. [Dunn] would be history.' Gee, I guess Andrew Dice Clay's attitude toward women isn't that unusual after all."

— *From an ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY review of Clay's appearance on SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE.*

"President [Jerry] Vines would have welcomed the president and wanted him there. I'm disappointed that it didn't work out. Some felt it was controversial, but I feel it was more controversial to invite gay leaders to the White House."

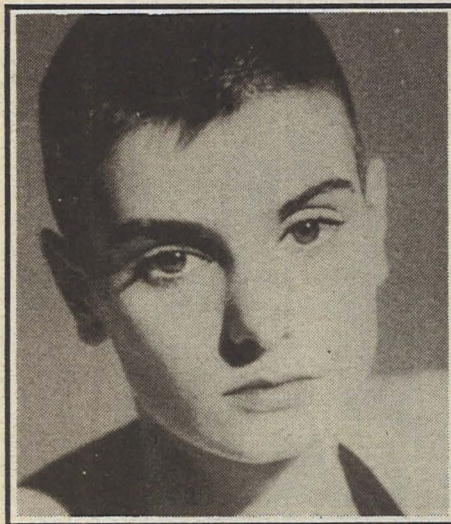
— *Speaking of haterongers. Doug Wead, liaison officer to Southern Baptist Convention president Jerry Vines, on President Bush's declining of an invitation to speak to the group's summer convention. Wead referred to leaders of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) as "anti-religious bigots."*

"He's not picky. He told someone he wanted to go to bed with me to see what I'm really like."

— *Gossip columnist Liz Smith on Warren Beatty.*

"If he wasn't in entertainment, maybe he would be the smartest and best-looking boy who ever ran a gas station — and I mean that as a supreme compliment."

— *Filmmaker John Waters, on Johnny Depp, star of Waters' latest film, CRY-BABY.*



**Sinéad O'Connor.** The pop music star takes a stand on Milli Vanilli and the hate-mongering comedy of Andrew Dice Clay. — DARE FILE PHOTO

"I was really awed at first — William Hurt! He's such an incredible actor. But he looked at me and [with his tongue out] just went 'Thththwww!'"

— *Actor Keanu Reeves on meeting Oscar winning actor William Hurt.*

"So what could I do? You look at Keanu's face and you've got to do something! He's so pretty that you've got to break that mold."

— *William Hurt on meeting Keanu Reeves.*

"[North Carolina Senator Jesse] Helms doesn't live in the same world as most Americans. Anything Helms finds nasty or objectionable is to be banned from the face of the Earth. Such an attitude runs contrary to mainstream thought in America but Helms remain undaunted."

— *From an unsigned editorial published recently in the KINGSPORT TIMES-NEWS.*

"Recent studies indicate that some students experience discrimination and harassment because of their sexual orientation. ASCD believes that schools should demonstrate respect for the dignity and worth of all students and that all students should be treated equitably. ASCD opposes discrimination and supports policies and programs that promote equity."

"Therefore, ASCD urges its members to develop policies, curriculum materials, and teaching strategies that do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. ASCD encourages schools to provide staff development training and materials to enable educators to better work with this at-risk student population. Finally, ASCD encourages its members to collaborate with other professional organizations toward this goal."

— *From "Resolutions 1990" of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), an organization for school administrators.*

# WOMEN FOR PRIDE

Featuring some of Nashville's hottest new performers!

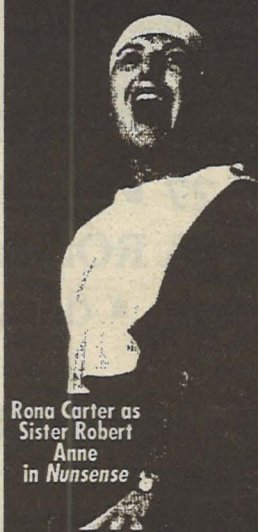
Saturday, June 2nd  
Woodbine Community Center  
222 Oriol Avenue  
Doors open at 8:00  
Admission \$5.00

Take 1-440 to Nolensville Road  
Go south on Nolensville Road to  
Peachtree (1st street on the left)  
Turn left on Burbank, then go two  
blocks and turn right on Oriol Ave.

Proceeds from this coffeehouse benefit Nashville's Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Celebration. Refreshments and Pride merchandise will be available.

## Don't you just wanna be a star?

The *First Night* Theatre Awards



Rona Carter as  
Sister Robert  
Anne  
in *Nunsense*

Sunday, September 9, 1990  
Z. Alexander Looby Theatre, Nashville  
A benefit presented by Pyramid Light & Power

# Talk about AIDS.

But talk with people who know what they're saying.

Clarksville Council on AIDS  
Resources,  
Education and Services  
(Clarksville CARES)  
Box 336, Clarksville, TN 37041  
call Crisisline (615) 552-INFO

Chattanooga Council on AIDS  
Resources,  
Education and Services  
(Chattanooga CARES)  
Box 8402  
Chattanooga, TN 37411  
call (615) 266-2422

aids Response Knoxville (aRK)  
Box 3932  
Knoxville, TN 37927  
call (615) 523-AIDS

Aids to End AIDS Committee  
(ATEAC)  
Box 40389  
Memphis, TN 38174  
call (901) 458-AIDS  
24 hours call (901) 762-8401

Nashville Council on AIDS  
Resources,  
Education and Services  
(Nashville CARES)  
Box 25107  
Nashville, TN 37202  
call (615) 385-AIDS  
(615) 385-1510

Tri-Cities AIDS Project  
(TAP)  
Box 231  
Johnson City, TN 37605  
call (615) 928-6101  
or (615) 753-9647

a public service message from Dare



open every night at 7  
2-for-1 happy hour 7-10  
7 days no cover til 9



open every night at 7  
2-for-1 happy hour 7-10  
7 days no cover til 9

this sunday, may 27 ■ DANA ALEXANDER's grand finale  
with RITA ROSS and BIANCA PAIGE  
10:30 p.m. ■ doors open at 7 ■ buffet

this monday, may 28 ■ MEMORIAL DAY buffet and amateur night

mondays amateur night—\$25 to the winner! 50¢ draft

tuesdays cast shows 11 & 12:30

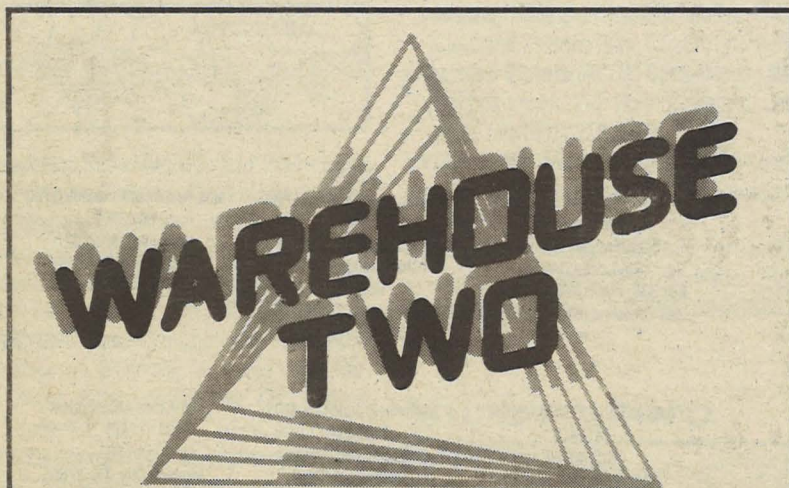
wednesdays amateur strip night—\$50 to the winner! fresh meat! mid-week dance break \$3 beer bust 7-1

thursdays cast shows with our male dancers 11 & 12:30

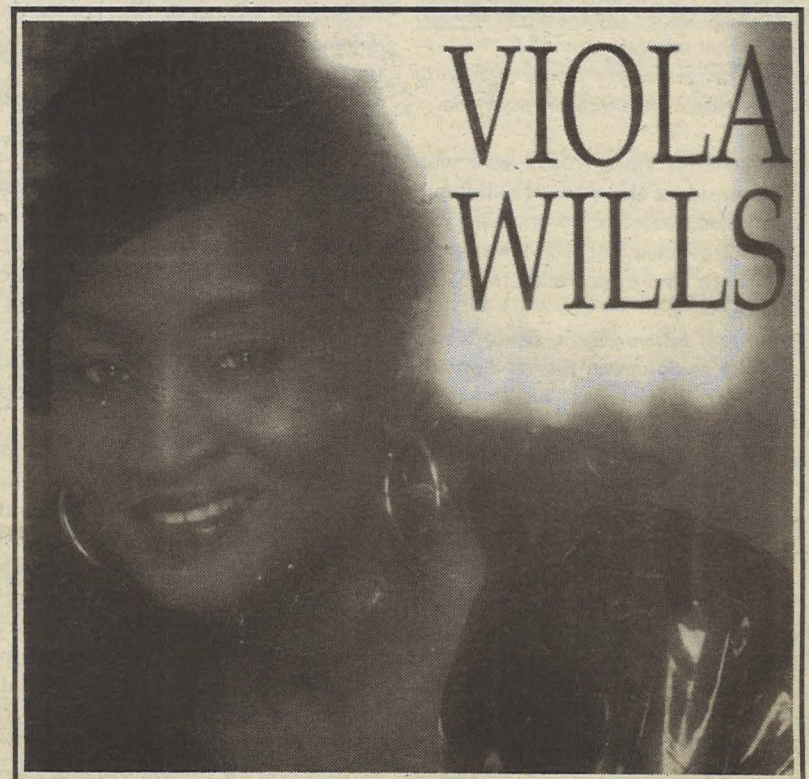
fridays and saturdays dance night

sundays special shows call bar for details

coming sunday, june 3  
MISS TENNESSEE CONTINENTAL  
pageant, 1990



■ WAREHOUSE TWO  
the tradition continues  
■ nashville's premier gay dance bar  
at 2529 franklin road ■ phone (615) 385-9689



coming friday, june 1 VIOLA WILLS  
live in concert \$6 cover