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Border to border, cover to cover.

Dare

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3 | TENNESSEE'S GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSWEEKLY | JANUARY 19, 1990

MCC/Nashville taps Bragg as new pastor

by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

Members of Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church last Sunday approved by a two-thirds majority the hiring of a new pastor to lead the congregation.

Rodney Bragg, a graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan University and the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Theological Seminary, will move to Tennessee in February, conducting his first service as pastor of the church on Sunday, February 18. He succeeds Paul Tucker, pastor at MCC/Nashville for seven years, who resigned last September to join the pastorate of MCC in Dallas.

"I'm very excited about the move to Nashville," Bragg said in a telephone interview Monday. "During college I had spent some time in Nashville and really loved it. I told a professor then that someday I would live in Nashville."

Originally from the Charleston, W.Va., area, Bragg, 34, previously served for six years as a minister in the United Methodist Church and currently works as a professional funeral director in Pittsburgh.

Bragg said that his "call" to the Nashville church will help to spread the message to lesbians and gay men that "God loves them just as they are." He said that his personal goals as a minister are the same as the stated mission of MCC/Nashville.

Bragg said that coming to the Nashville church presents a number of challenges: "Primarily, our challenge is going to be continuing the search for a larger building. We're looking toward purchasing something to fulfill our needs and to provide the space called for."

Joining Bragg in his move to Nashville will be his lover, John Bash, 36.

"John is very excited, very committed to the move and to MCC," Bragg said. "Coming from the North to the South is very interesting. People in the South relate to each other differently. People are much more open in the South."

MCC/Nashville is the largest congregation in the denomination's Gulf–Lower Atlantic District. The congregation has been meeting at its current location, 131 15th Avenue North, for several years. An increase in membership has resulted in the congregation outgrowing its quarters and a search for a new building.

Bragg also said he hoped to work toward "integrating the talents and creativity of individual members" in an effort to sustain the church's "ongoing emotional and spiritual healing process."

"I see a congregation that is very concerned about their church and eager to explore the possibilities

• continued on page 4

Holly Uyemoto, author of REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE, a first novel that is "a good way to say goodbye to the '80s and hello to the '90s." Worth reading? See Pages, page 10.— DARE FILE PHOTO

California police nab trio

Murder suspects may have link to October slaying of Volunteer State professor

by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

The arrest in California Sunday of three people charged with the murders of four people in New York and Mississippi have Goodlettsville police investigating the possibility the trio could have been involved in the October, 1989, slaying of a Volunteer State Community College professor.

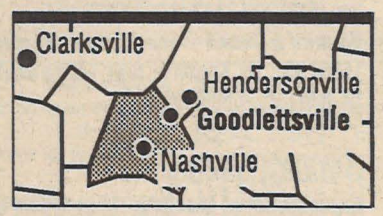
Currently being held without bond in the San Clemente, California, jail are Keith Goodman, 30, Jon Mead, 22, and Tracy Lynn Holland, 21, all of Anderson, Indiana, charged with the murder of three people in Itawamba County, Mississippi, and one person in New York.

Goodlettsville police have been investigating the murder of Bob Sibert since October 22. Clad only in his underwear, he was found in the bedroom of his home on Heathcote Court in Goodlettsville, apparently dead of a gunshot wound to his right temple. Sibert's body was discovered by police after his ex-wife reported him missing when he failed to pick up their son for an outing that day.

Sibert had taught at Gallatin's Volunteer State Community College for three years prior to his death.

Although homicide detectives could not confirm at the time of the slaying that Sibert was a regular patron of The Jungle Lounge, a gay nightclub at 306 Fourth Ave., South, in Nashville, *Dare* learned that the professor was a sometime patron of the club. Detectives later conceded they had investigated that information, seeking to establish a lead in the case.

San Clemente Police Chief Al Ehlow told *Dare* Wednesday that all four victims in the other cases being investigated in Mississippi and New York were gay and had been pen pals of Goodman's when he was in an Indiana prison from



1979-1988.

"It's a con game," Ehlow said. "They try to solicit money from the pen pals, who are often very lonely people."

A .380-caliber automatic pistol, believed to be similar to the weapon used to kill Sibert, was among the six weapons discovered when authorities arrested Goodman, Mead

• continued on page 4

AIDS Update: gearing up for the '90s

Publication of Commission's report brought about by activists

by **JACKI MOSS**
Staff Writer

The National AIDS Commission released its first report to President Bush somewhat early in response to pressure from the gay and lesbian community.

The report, issued eight months early, called the current health system "singularly unresponsive" to the crisis faced by thousands of people who are HIV-positive or have AIDS or ARC. The committee acknowledged that statistics show that the number of people with AIDS, about 112,000 will double in the next 12 months, but offered very little new information or solutions to the growing epidemic.

The report cited a number of obstacles that must be overcome before a comprehensive AIDS policy, and subsequent response, from the federal government could be enacted.

Among the obstacles noted were the overall shaky and disorganized national health care strategy at all levels and the lack of effective efforts to halt the spread of HIV among IV-drug users.

The report listed several steps to address the AIDS problem:

• initially recognize that there is a crisis situation in many cities;

• develop mechanisms and programs to treat people who have both HIV infection and drug addiction;

• design and implement a care system that is flexible, comprehensive and patient-oriented;

• institute regional centers to care for people who have HIV infection.

A federal judge recently ordered the release of a federal prisoner with AIDS because the U.S. Bureau of Prisons failed to provide him with adequate medical treatment. The decision prompted several prisoners' rights activists to consider a class action suit on behalf of all federal prisoners who have HIV infection.

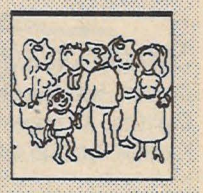
U.S. District Court Judge Eugene Spellman released Leonard Botero Gomez pending trial in his challenge of the mandatory sentencing statute. According to Gomez's attorneys, his incarceration without adequate medical treatment

• continued on page 4

INSIDE

Dare this week

aRK's AIDS 101, BWMT's CR group and more from all around.
***Local Color*, page 5.**



Doing the Texas two step: on stage and in class.
***Centerpiece*, page 8.**

Cigarette, Al? Andy? Jon?
***Loose Lips*, page 15.**

DATES

Big events

Friday
Friday
3rd Friday
Friday

Friday, January 19

Coffeehouse 3RD FRIDAY. Produced by Feminist Productions. At Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, Memphis. Nonalcoholic. Smoking section. Doors open at 8pm, music begins at 8:30pm. $2 donation goes to MGLCC. Info (901) 276-0844.

Saturday, January 20

Workshop WHAT CAN YOU DO TO KEEP ABORTION LEGAL AND SAFE? Political skills workshop.Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 9am – noon. Info (615) 320-7142 or 327-0821.

Women's Dance WINTER DANCE, at Laurel Theatre, 1538 Laurel Av, Knoxville. Beer, setups available. 8pm. $4. Info (615) 688-3428.

Sunday, January 21

Organizational Meeting Meet to form lesbian/gay outdoor/sporting group. At Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, Memphis. 2:30pm. Info (901) 274-1847 or (901) 276-0275.

Outing GO JAMAICAN. Black and White Men Together / Memphis. At Spice of the Islands, 775 South Highland, Memphis. 6pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Monday, January 22

Video Update on the National Civil Rights Museum. Discussion follows. Black and White Men Together / Memphis. At Main Library, Peabody and McLean, Memphis. 7:30pm. Info (901) 726-1461.

Saturday, January 27

Musical TEXAS TWO-STEPPING WITH THE GIRLS, benefit for GCN. At Unitarian Church, 1808 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville. 7pm. $8. Info (615) 254-8250.

Sunday, January 28

Concert INDIGO GIRLS, benefit for Knoxville Pro-Choice Coalition. At Planet Earth, 121 W. Jackson Av, Knoxville. 8pm. $15. Info (615) 637-3861 or 428-2186.

Free publicity!

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

Just like clockwork

Chattanooga

Sundays

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

Mondays

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

Thursdays

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

Saturdays

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

Clarksville

Thursdays

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

Knoxville

Sundays

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

Mondays

• **aids Response Knoxville** PWA Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
• **Gay Gratitude Group** Open, nonsmoking Alcoholics Anonymous. Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 3219 Kingston Pike. 7pm.

Tuesdays

• **aids Response Knoxville** Circle of Love family and friends support group, 8pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.
• **Gay and Lesbian Student Union/UTK** Weekly meeting. 8pm. Info (615) 595-8686.

Wednesdays

• **aids Response Knoxville** HIV+ Support Group, 6:30pm. Info (615) 523-AIDS.

Fridays

• **Gay Gratitude Group** Alcoholics Anonymous. MCC / Knoxville, 1320 North Central. Noon.
Lesbian Codependents Anonymous At aRK offices. 8pm. Info (615) 933-8393.

Memphis

Mondays

• **Gay Alternative Hour** Radio show, WEVL-FM 90, 6-7pm. Memphis Gay Coalition Business meeting, 1st Monday. Rm A, Memphis Public Library, Peabody & Maclean. Info (901)324-4297.
• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

• **Agape New Life Church** Bible study. 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Thursdays

• **P-FLAG** (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Support group. St. John's Episcopal Church, 322 S Greer. 1st Thursday only. Info (901) 761-1444.
• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
• **Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 276-7379.

Fridays

• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 5:30 and 10pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
• **Seriously Sober** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.
• **Coffeehouse** 3RD FRIDAY. Produced by Feminist Productions. Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, Memphis. 8pm. $2 donation.Info (901) 276-0844.
Z

Saturdays

• **Twisted Sisters** (ACOA) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Sundays

• **Agape New Life Church** Sunday School, 9:30am. Worship services, 11am & 7pm. Info (901) 276-1872.
• **Into the Light** (Women's Alcoholics Anonymous) Meeting. Memphis Lambda Center. Noon. Info (901) 276-7379.
• **Phoenix** (Gay Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting. Memphis Lambda Center 8pm. Info (901) 272-9549.

Murfreesboro

Thursdays

• **MTSU Lambda** Support group for lesbian and gay students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee State University. 7:30pm. Info (615) 352-7039

Nashville

Mondays

• **Nashville CARES** ARC/AIDS Support Group. 6:30pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
• **Lambda Group** Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.
• **MAGNET** (Married and Gay Network) Support group for married gay men. 1st & 3rd Mondays only. MCC. 7:30pm. Info (615)320-0288.

Tuesdays

• **Nashville CARES** HIV+ Support Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
• **Al-Anon** Closed meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
• **Nashville Women's Alliance** Meeting, at the Book Oasis, 2824 Dogwood Pl. 3rd and 4th Tuesdays only. 7:30pm. Info (615) 883-4833.
• **P-FLAG**. Meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 4th Tuesday only. Unitarian Church. 7:30pm. Info (615) 662-0332.
• **Sober Sisters** (Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous) Open meeting, MCC. 8pm.
• **GCN** Viacom cable channel 35. 9pm.

Wednesdays

• **Sex Addicts Anonymous** Closed meeting for gay men and lesbians. MCC. 5:30pm.
• **Nashville CARES** Newcomers Group. 6pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
• **Affirmation** Meeting for lesbian and gay United Methodists. 4th Wednesday only. 7pm. Info (615) 366-6448.
• **Gay / Lesbian Addictions Anonymous** Meeting, Belmont United Methodist Church. 8pm.

Thursdays

• **Family Support Group** Vanderbilt AIDS Project. Info (615) 322-AIDS.
• **One in Teen** Support group for lesbian and gay teens. 6:30pm. Info (615) 834-9186 or GALLIP Hotline (615) 297-0008.
• **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Closed women's meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd, 6:30pm.
• **Nashville CARES** Visualization Group. 7:15pm. Info (615) 385-1510.
• **Alternatives** (Alcoholics Anonymous) Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8pm.
• **Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics** (ACOA) Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

Fridays

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

Saturdays

• **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Open meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd, 5:30pm.
• **Community Dinner** Metropolitan Community Church, all you can eat. 7:30pm. $5. Info (615) 320-0288.
• **GCN** Viacom cable channel 35. 8pm.

Sundays

• **Metropolitan Community Church** Worship services, 11am and 7pm. Info (615) 320-0288.
• **Incest Survivors Anonymous** Closed meeting. First Church Unity, Franklin Rd, 6pm.

Tri-Cities

Sundays

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

Tuesdays

• **Support Group** Tri-Cities AIDS Project (TAP). For caregivers / families of PWAs, HIV+ and ARC, 6:30pm. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays only. Info (615) 928-6101 or 753-9647

Thursdays

• **Support Group** Appalachian AIDS Coaltion. For PWAs, ARC, and HIV+ in southwest Virginia, including Bristol, TN. 3rd Thursday only. Info (703) 985-0131.

Errata

• In last week's story on T-GALA's new board of directors (Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 1), the name of board member Devie Levin was inadvertently ommitted.

• Last week's Centerpiece on One in Teen (Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 6) did not list all the adult sponsors of the group for lesbian and gay teens. The sponsors are Debra Alberts, Robert Boring and Penny Campbell.

• Last week's Miss Gay Tennessee USA at Large ad (Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 7) should have read, "Diana Hutton, Miss Gay USA 1987." The Warehouse Two ad (Volume 3, Number 2, page 12) should have read, "Sunday, January 14, 7p.m. – 10 p.m. 2 for 1 mixed drinks."

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

CROSS COUNTRY

compiled by **MARK LAWRENCE**
Staff Writer

Bon Jovi apologizes

DUBLIN, Ireland — Rock star Jon Bon Jovi has apologized to the gay community for anti-gay comments he made at a Jan. 7 concert.

Bon Jovi was quoted in the Irish media as referring to the New York Giants football team as "a bunch of fucking faggots" after they lost a game to the Los Angeles Rams. Ireland's National Gay Federation asked police to investigate the matter as a possible violation of Irish anti-hate legislation, which took effect in December.

"I at no time meant to cause any hatred or had any intent to cause any animosity towards the gay community," Bon Jovi said in a written statement. "Please understand that my reaction was not at all geared towards gays, but simply was a reaction to a losing football score." •

NGLTF to celebrate intro of l/g civil rights bill

WASHINGTON — The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the introduction of the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill on March 25-27 with a series of commemorative events and a post card campaign in support of the bill.

The bill, currently known as the Civil Rights Amendments Act of 1990, was originally introduced in 1975 by then-Representative Bella Abzug. The act would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of affectional or sexual orientation in the areas of housing, employment, credit, public accomodations and federally assisted programs.

"NGLTF was there at the birth of this important bill 15 years ago," said Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF executive director. "Now, we are calling on our community and allie to rededicate and commit ourselves to enacting this law in the 90s." •

Activists seek repeal of 'sexual misconduct' law

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Lesbians and gay men from around Missouri traveled to the state capital to urge passage of a bill repealing the state's sexual misconduct law, which criminalizes lesbian and gay sex.

More than 80 people from 15 cities presented petitions demanding repeal of the law to their elected representatives. The petition project was sponsored by the St. Louis-based Privacy Rights Education Project (PREP), which also solicited endorsements from 56 other organizations around the state.

"This is a historic event for the state of Missouri," said Deb Law, spokesperson for PREP. "Never before has an organized group of Missouri citizens mobilized to lobby its legislature for gay and lesbian rights." •

64 arrested in Atlanta

ATLANTA — Sixty-four activists, including members of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force staff and the Atlanta chapter of AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP), lay down in the street in front of the state Capitol Building on Jan. 8 to protest Georgia's anti-sodomy laws.

The demonstration marked the opening day of the 1990 state legislature. The same day, state representatives Jim Martin and Cynthia McKinney announced new legislation to exempt all consenting adults from the law.

McKinney's father, also a state representative, is introducing a bill to exempt only heterosexuals.

"The demonstration served notice to legislators that the lesbian and gay people of Georgia will not rest until their equality is won," said Sue Hyde, director of NGLTF's Privacy Project. •

Election recall of openly gay man defeated

FREMONT, Calf. — A conservative religious group has failed in its efforts to force a recall election of Robert Stipichivich, an openly gay member of the Fremont Unified School Board.

The Fremont Family Alliance was formed after Stipichivich came out in May 1989. The group originally failed to collect the required 12,218 signatures needed by July 5, 1989 to put a recall measure on the June 1990 ballot, and also failed to collect enough signatures to meet another deadline on Jan. 10.

Stipichivich is expected to run for re-election in November. •

Paper's series on homosexuality draws fire

WILLIAMS BAY, Wis. — Approximately a dozen area residents attended a meeting of the local scool board to complain about articles in the Williams Bay High School newspaper dealing with teenage homosexuality.

The December issue included a two-page center spread with an interview with an unnamed gay graduate of the school, material on gay people from the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association, an article on lack of counseling for homosexual teens, and an article on a New York City high school for gay students.

"We didn't intend for this to be shock journalism," said Jennifer Knight, co-editor of the newspaper. "This is a student newspaper; these are student issues. Our intention was to be informative. We weren't encouraging or promoting."

McCoy resigns as NCBLG executive director

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Renée McCoy has resigned as executive director of the National Coaltion for Black Lesbians and Gays.

A former pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church in Harlem and founder of a church for black lesbians and gay men in Detroit, McCoy resigned to take a position working for the Detroit Department of Health's AIDS unit, Boston's GAY COMMUNITY NEWS reported.

McCoy was keynote speaker for Pride Day '89 festivities in Nashville. •

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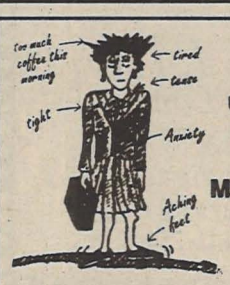

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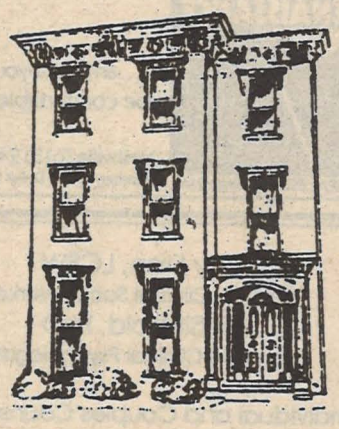

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...police arrest three

• continued from page 1

and Holland.

San Clemente authorities claim that Goodman and Mead met in an Indiana prison in 1988 and are believed to have traveled throughout Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York and Oklahoma since their release from prison.

Goodman, Mead and Holland are charged with the December 17 death of Harold Williams, 60, in

Windsor, N.Y.; and the January 7 deaths of R.C. Vaughan, 47, Richard Thomas, 30, and Tommy Mayhall, 37, in Fulton, Mississippi.

Last November, Goodlettsville police said they had established a motive in the Sibert murder.

A suspect in the slaying was seen using Sibert's credit cards in Nashville the day after the victim's body was found. Later, police reported they had found Sibert's blue 1987 Toyota, believed stolen during the crime, in an east Nashville parking lot.

Descriptions of the suspect given by merchants who had accepted the credit cards were used by police for a composite drawing. The suspect is described as a stocky white man between 5 feet 8 inches and 6 feet 1 inch tall, with sandy brown hair, and weighing around 200 pounds. •

...MCC calls Bragg

• continued from page 1

ahead," Bragg said. "They are very committed to the best ministry they can have."

Bragg said that one of his first goals after the move to Nashville will be visits to each member of the church, "to get to know them as individuals and to begin building trust levels."

Following Tucker, whose seven year tenure at MCC/Nashville is one of the longest in the denomination's history, will help to ease the transition for Bragg, he said.

"I welcome the chance to follow someone whose ministry was so positive. It makes my job easier," Bragg said.

MCC/Nashville search committee member Bob Clark said that Bragg has "a very promising future in Nashville," and that the membership is "very excited about him coming here."

Church treasurer Jac Gregory said Bragg's educational background and theological training were especially impressive: "I was very pleased with his selection. He has a good educational background, including specialized studies in feminist work which is important to MCC, as we hope to attract more women to our congregation."

"You could feel the excitement in the church," Clark said. "Board members were thrilled. Everyone seems ready to have a pastor."

Clark said Bragg is devoted to the church's goals of visitation, work with people with AIDS, and an active role in the lesbian/gay community.

"He seems very committed to lesbian and gay rights and the political aspects of the gay and lesbian community," Clark added.

Gregory agreed, adding that Bragg "assured us that MCC is still alive and well. He wants to work closely with other agencies and organizations in the lesbian and gay community."

Bragg was one of three candidates considered by members of the search committee, who unanimously recommended his selection to the Church's Board of Directors.

Bragg was in Nashville earlier this month, conducting both morning and evening services on Sunday, January 7. The church membership voted on Bragg a week later.

MCC is an international fellowship of lesbian- and gay-affirmative congregations. Although not limited to lesbian and/or gay members, the majority of the church's members are lesbian or gay. •

...AIDS update

• continued from page 1

constituted cruel and unusual punishment.

Although Gomez received AZT, his response to it was not monitored closely. He was unable to see a physician when he wanted or needed to and then when his responses to his condition or the drug became severe, he was simply shipped to the local public hospital.

It was also stated that Gomez received no counseling about his HIV infection while in prison and that his only counseling was centered around drug addiction.

A group of Boston activists contend that Greyhound buslines discriminates against people with disabilities by requiring that people with disabilities provide a note from their physician that they are able to ride and by demanding that people with disabilities ride with an attendant.

According to the Boston group, Greyhound does not provide wheelchair lifts or electric wheelchairs.

Greyhound actively lobbied against the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities, including people who are HIV-positive.

The ADA is due to be voted upon by the House and is expected to pass.

If you watched the Rose Bowl Parade New Year's Day, you probably saw a disruption of sorts in the coverage but were unaware of exactly what happened. Exactly what did happen was a protest by an AIDS activist group called Stop AIDS Now or Else (SANE).

AIDS Update

Fourteen members of the group disrupted the parade by staging a protest in front of the "First Symbols of America" float. They carried banners stating, "Emergency. Stop the Parade. 70,000 dead from AIDS."

They were immediately whisked away to jail and charged with unlawful assembly, failure to disperse and resisting arrest and were released eight hours later.

Although an estimated 325 million viewers watched the parade, only ABC chose to actually show any of the protest. •

LOCAL COLOR

compiled from **STAFF REPORTS**

Chattanooga

'I'm Not Rappaport' opens at CLT

The 1986 Tony Award winner for Best Play, I'M NOT RAPPAPORT, will be presented in Chattanooga, January 26-February 17 at the Little Theatre of Chattanooga, 400 River Street.

The comedy by Herb Gardner (author of A THOUSAND CLOWNS) concerns the relationship between two elderly men. One, a Jewish ex-Communist, is a habitual liar, though he insists that his stories are only "alterations." The other, a black man working as a building superintendent, though he can barely see anymore.

The cast features Bernie Sellman and Arthur Moran. For reservations, call (615) 267-8534. •

Knoxville

AIDS 101 seminar scheduled

aids Response Knoxville (aRK) will hold its first quarterly 1990 seminar, AIDS 101, Saturday, February 17, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the offices at 1320 N. Central Street.

AIDS 101 covers such topics as the virus, stages of HIV infection, transmission and risk reduction, psychosocial effects, treatment and support issues. A $15 registration fee covers the cost of materials for both AIDS 101 and its companion course, AIDS 102: Buddy Training.

Persons interested in attending the seminar on February 17, please contact aRK at (615) 523-AIDS. •

Memphis

BWMT to discuss honoring King with civil rights museum

Black and White Men Together/Memphis will meet for its second Consciousness Raising session of the new year on January 22 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Memphis/Shelby County Public Library, McLean and Belvedere.

"An Update on the National Civil Rights Museum" will be the topic of discussion and will feature a video presentation and a discussion of "Is this the most appropriate way to honor Dr. [Martin Luther] King [Jr.] in Memphis?"

For further information, call BWMT/Memphis at (901) 726-1461. •

Gay Men's Chorus planning 1990 performance season

Memphis' newly formed Gay Men's Chorus, under the direction of Don Griesheimer, is planning its upcoming 1990 season.

The chorus, organized late last year, meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the recently opened Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison. Griesheimer said more voice are needed in all sections of the chorus.

For more information, call the Memphis Gay Switchboard at (901) 324-GAYS. •

Nashville

NOW plans pro-choice ad

Nashville's chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) is planning a signature ad in THE TENNESSEAN to demonstrate the majority's support for the right of women to choose abortion or childbirth.

The ad will say that "[t]he Tennessee Constitution guarantees, in part, 'that no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.' We, the undersigned citizens of Tennessee; members of the clergy, the medical, legal, music, business, nursing, labor, services, education and student communities, support the availability of legal and safe abortions for the women of Tennessee."

For details, call Nashville NOW at (615) 269-7141 or send a $10 check payable to "Choice Ad" and your printed name to Box 120523, Nashville, Tennessee, 37212. •

MTWSA celebrates fourth anniversary

The Middle Tennessee Women's Studies Association (MTWSA) will meet January 27 to celebrate its fourth anniversary with a program beginning at 10 a.m. at the Belmont Mansion on the Belmont College campus in Nashville.

The program will be presented by students enrolled in "Women in Nineteenth Century America," a course taught by Belmont College faculty members Corrine Dale and George Sim.

Composed of faculty, students and staff from area colleges and universities, MTSWA meets eight times a year. New members should call Diane Eberhard at (615) 322-8435 for information. •

Donations requested for new MCC food bank

Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church has started a food bank for congregation members and PWAs in the area who are unable to buy food.

Contributions — both of goods and money — may be made to the food bank by interested individuals. For more information, call MCC at (615) 320-0288. •

Dana Lynn Caruso sings the part of Eponine in an encore run of LES MISÉRABLES at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Nashville, Feb. 13-18. Performance time is 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, with Saturday-Sunday matinees at 2 p.m., Sunday evening performance at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call (615) 741-2787.. — DARE FILE PHOTO

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ONSTAGE

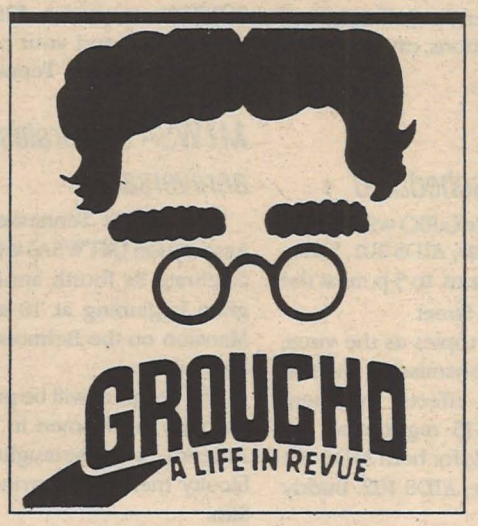
Remembering Groucho

GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVUE. By Arthur Marx and Robert Fisher. Directed by Sheila Bailey and Michael Bouson. Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre, Nashville. Through February 3.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

IF THERE WAS EVER any doubt that Brian Russell is one of the best actors around the mid-South, his performance as Groucho Marx in the current Chaffin's Barn offering of GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVUE will put to rest any doubts.

Russell's performance intelligently eschews caricature for character, interpreting the ribald funny man with deep feeling, eloquently capturing the paradoxes of Groucho's personality while remaining faithful to our cherished memories of those off-the-wall Marx Brothers comedies.



With a wonderful script by Groucho's son Arthur Marx and Robert Fisher, the always funny, sometimes dramatic comedy with music is sure to be an audience pleaser, examining, as it does, the life and times of one of America's most favorite comedians. In a tone that's "half-serious, half-comic," much like Groucho's real life, Marx and Fisher have crafted a play for a small cast that's peopled by a multitude of characters.

Tracing the lives and careers of the five Marx boys — all the way from third-rate Vaudeville to Broadway, from ANIMAL CRACKERS TO YOU BET YOUR LIFE — with a deft blend of humor and pathos, dealing somewhat obliquely with anti-Semitism and prejudice, the show is laced with healthy doses of time-honored gags and tells the real story of how Chico became Italian and Harpo stopped talking onstage.

Somehow the show manages to skirt slapstick, teetering on the edge of insanity, while maintaining a respectful regard for its subjects.

Russell's multi-hued performance is stunning, showing us in graduated steps, Groucho's aging process. Difficult and tricky as the role may be, Russell excels, winning the respect of audience and critics alike.

Russell is ably supported by Martha Gabel, whose reputation as a wonderful comic actress/singer is illuminated by her performance in a variety of female roles in this show. She proves the depth of her talent by giving a performance that resonates with warmth and charm, underscored by her exquisite voice and superb timing.

As Chico, Brian K. Hull is charming and savvy, raunchy and sly. With a mischievous grin that could melt hearts, he becomes the character, imbuing him with layers of meaning.

In several small, but altogether essential and important, roles is Sean McGinty, another fine comic actor, who makes the most of his small role.

And while the show *is* enormously entertaining, the second act seems to go on for too long, disrupting the almost-choreographed feeling of the show's flow. That one small quibble aside, GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVUE is a satisfying evening of theatre made all the more remarkable by a quartet of superb performers. •

Vintage Wasserstein

ISN'T IT ROMANTIC. By Wendy Wasserstein. Directed by Jeffrey Corvin. Nashville's Jewish Community Center's Shalom Theatre, Nashville. Through January 21.

reviewed by **JEFF ELLIS**
Editor

YOU KNOW YOU'RE in for a good time when you're going to see a Wendy Wasserstein comedy. Add to that actress Jill Bates in the lead and you know it's going to be a great time.

That's exactly what you get in Shalom Theatre's production of ISN'T IT ROMANTIC, a quintessential Wasserstein urban comedy of modern manners, a laugh-filled looked at life, love and sex in the '80s.

Director Jeffrey Corvin has assembled a talented cast that effectively brings to life Wasserstein's script that fairly crackles with zinging one-liners and Jewish homilies. Certainly, Bates is the best of the lot, her timing and delivery right on the mark, but she's given strong support by an adept cast.

The play concerns the comic misadventures of Janie Jill Blumberg (Bates), a free-lance writer struggling for both professional and personal recognition in the jungles of New York, along with her best friend Harriet Cornwall (Lorie Hollabaugh in a somewhat tentative performance that grows as the action progresses), a yuppie on the fast track trying to succeed in business while really trying to have a personal life of her own.

Into this milieu, add Janie's parents Tasha (Ruth Klar in a wonderful performance as "my mother, the interpretive dancer") and Simon (Sig Litoff in a good turn), Harriet's mother Lillian (Maggi Bowden as a businesslike barracuda with some pretty good one-liners of

• continued on page 10

200 HAPPY FEET

Join the crowd (more than 100 people last week!) Tuesday evenings for free Western dancing lessons with Jim, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Start any time — beginners are always welcome.

TALK ABOUT POPULAR DEMAND!

Beginning Thursday, January 25, Jim will hold free lessons twice a week, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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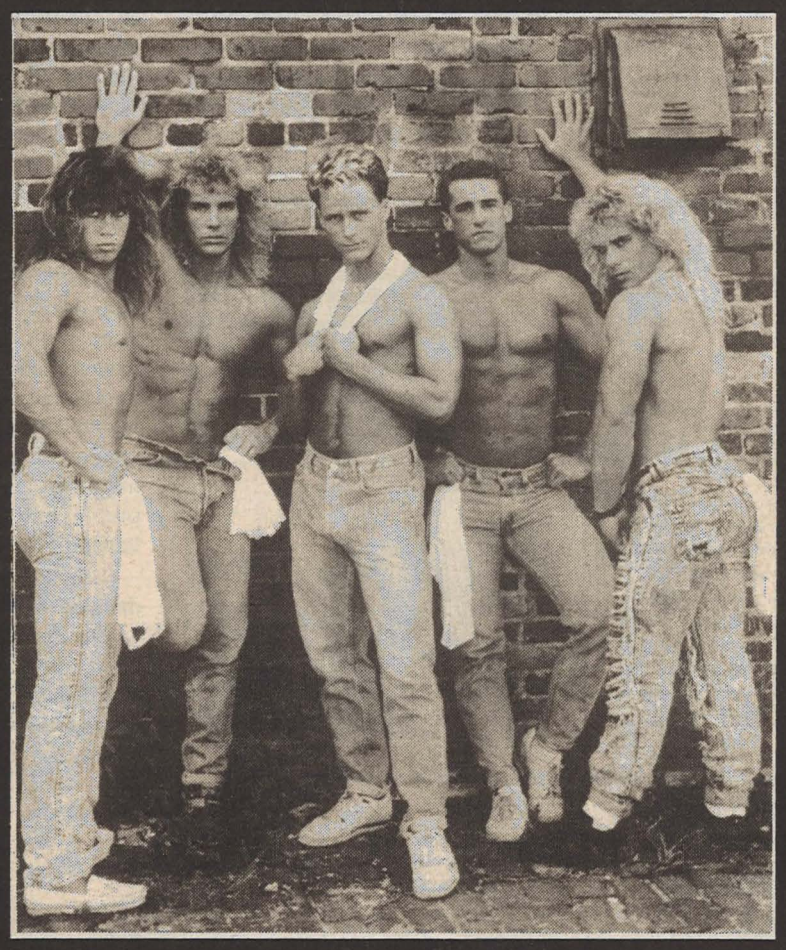
THEN GET READY FOR A SUPER SUNDAY

January 28 as we crank up the big screen TV for some Super Bowl action, followed by the Super Hot Men of the Hollandales, direct from Florida. The show starts at 11:00 p.m. Afterwards, the Hollandales will join the audience for side-stage dancing.



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CENTERPIECE

Forget Madonna and George Michael. Say hello to Reba McEntire and Hank Williams Jr.

Doing the Texas two step: on stage and on

by
JEFF ELLIS
Editor

Looking for a new dance craze for the gay '90s? One that's got the showmanship of '70s-flavored disco and the allure of '80s-tinged partner dancing?

Then how about western dancing? Visit any number of lesbian and gay bars across the nation — as well as some so-called "straight" dance places — and you're likely to find people doing the tush push, the matador, the Cotton-eyed Joe and that stalwart of the country-western dance hall, the good ole Texas two step.

Although interest in the two step and other western dances may have been piqued when the feature film URBAN COWBOY was released, it's taken the creativity of a number of people to make western dancing a favorite with lesbian and gay crowds.

From Los Angeles to New York, Atlanta to Detroit — and right here in the Volunteer State — you'll find western dance devotées kicking up their heels and strutting their stuff to a beat different than you might expect to hear in lesbian and gay bars.

Forget Madonna and George Michael. Say hello to Reba McEntire and Hank Williams Jr. Today's dancers, according to a popular Williams' song, are "born to boogie."

That's exactly what Atlanta-based playwright Rebecca Ransom, artistic director of Southeastern Arts, Media and Entertainment (SAME), found when she walked into a bar in her hometown. Transfixed by the artistry and symmetry of line-dancing, she found herself translating the experience, capturing the creativity of western dancing in play form.

Originally written with an all-male cast in mind, Ransom adapted her play for an all-woman cast. And the result? TEXAS TWO STEPPING WITH THE GIRLS, acclaimed by critics and audiences alike during its Atlanta run, a "rowdy stomp and swing with the lesbians."

And, according to transplanted Tennessean Lenny Lasater, a member of the original Atlanta cast, the play is "a fun look at our diverse lesbian personalities."

Mid-South audiences will have a chance to see what all the fuss is about for themselves next Saturday, January 27, when Gay Cable Network/Nashville presents the Atlanta production of TEXAS TWO STEPPING for one performance at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1808 Woodmont Boulevard.

RAISED IN WEST TENNESSEE (Union City's her hometown), Lasater is no stranger to Nashville, having lived in the state's capital city for several years during the '80s. In Atlanta for just over two years, she jumped at the chance to become involved in theatre once more, playing one of the roles created by Ransom for TEXAS TWO STEPPING.

"I did some acting in college, but decided that it was too much work," Lasater confesses. "But now, as an adult, I love being on stage."

As a member of the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus, Lasater is given a chance to perform, but as Emily in TEXAS TWO STEPPING, she has a chance to act and to dance.

"You'll see every stereotype in the lesbian community in this particular cast. You have the butch lesbian who wants a monogamous relationship; the political activist; the artist; the flighty clothes designer; a therapist; an older woman who's done everything; and the black lesbian looking for love," Lasater says.

These true-to-life characters — and the situations into which they're put — make the show accessible to all audiences, she claims, and during the performance you're likely "to see people in the auditorium beginning to nod when they see themselves and their friends on stage."

The play's premise brings together a group of women, with little more in common than a love for the Texas two step, to prepare for an upcoming contest. The plot allows for "a little Peyton Place," Lasater says, but it's "definitely a comedy, although there are moments when you won't be laughing."

Any show that's about a specific dance form requires the folks on stage to appear to be near-experts. Although mostly made up of novices, the cast has won rave reviews ("People were laughing, people were crying, stomping their feet.") for their skillful interpretations of western dances.

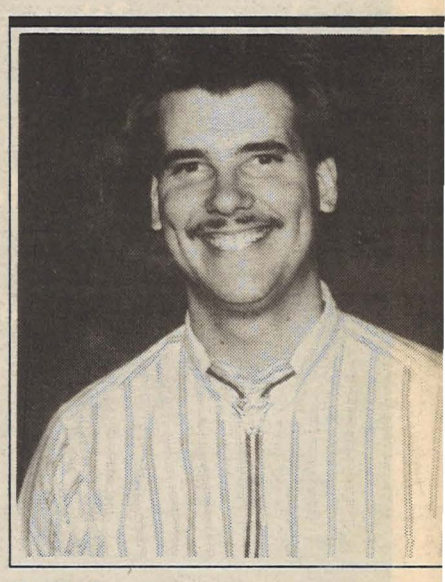
"It was fun for me to learn the dances, but it was difficult for some of the others," Lasater says. "I never liked country/western music when I lived in Tennessee. I guess that getting away from Nashville helped me to appreciate it more."

WESTERN DANCING IS "HOT" in Atlanta, Lasater contends, and each week you can find hundreds of women and men dancing the matador, the slap leather or the country swing — all to a Nashville sound.

And in Nashville, almost a hundred western dancers can be found perfecting their craft during weekly dance lessons at The Chute, a lesbian/gay bar at 2535 Franklin Road. Conducted by Jim Lipsky, himself a former Atlantan, the popularity of the classes has astounded everyone — from the bar's owners to the dancers to even Lipsky.

"I started western dancing in 1985

Lenny Lasater — DARE STAFF PHOTO BY JEFF ELLIS



Jim Lipsky — DARE STAFF PHOTO BY JIMMY CHILDERS

the dance floor

Drilling Company," Lipsky recalls. "Of course, some people took it more seriously than others. When I was transferred to Nashville, the owners of the Chute asked me to teach the classes."

Expecting "maybe 15 or 20 people" to show up for classes, in just a few months interest has grown so much (Lipsky calls it "basically a stampede") that now more than 100 people are likely to be at the club for its regular Tuesday night dances. In fact, so popular have the classes become that a second night has been added to the slate. Beginning January 25, classes will also be held on Thursdays.

WHY THE SUCCESS?

"I'd like to think that it's because I take time to work with new people," Lipsky says. "But I think people just enjoy the showmanship and the fun of it. It gives people a chance to perform.

"Many people don't want to put on pearls and sequins. They'd rather wear boots and cowboy hats. Western dancing gives them a chance to do that."

Although a number of people are reluctant at first — preferring to view the dancing from atop a barstool, sipping a beer — after an hour or so, Lipsky says, they usually head to the dance floor, experiencing western dancing for themselves.

Lipsky divides the classes into two sessions: the first hour is devoted to the Texas two step, the second hour to line dancing. During line dances you'll find the showiest, most flamboyant moves.

So far, dancers have tried their hands — okay, their feet — at the two step, the three step, the ten step, the Cotton-eyed Joe, the tush push, and the Elvira, with the Matador up next.

Eventually, Lipsky hopes to teach some 17 different dances in the classes which will be held year-round.

Despite Nashville's rather late entry into western dancing, Lipsky predicts that "eventually Nashville will catch up to L.A. and Atlanta. The interest in country music will grow, and as it does, so will the interest in western dancing." •

Southern Country Nashville Dancers practice a line dance.
— DARE STAFF PHOTO BY JIMMY CHILDERS

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a public service message from *Dare*

PAGES

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE. By Holly Uyemoto. New York: Crown Publishers, Inc. 1989.
194 pages. $17.95, hardcover.
reviewed by **TERRY J. VANDER HEYDEN**
Special to Dare

PACK UP THE MERCEDES, kick back by the backyard pool, and do lunch at a trendy restaurant that serves food arranged artistically on the china. It's the lifestyles of the rich, the famous and the not-so-famous in REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE, Holly Uyemoto's first novel.

A Californian herself, Uyemoto takes us through the fast-paced yet sometimes dull-minded lives of teenage boys living on the edge — of their parents' pretentious homes. We're introduced to a bevy of characters, but the story centers around two childhood friends. Christian Delon serves as the narrator, and we get to know him well. A senior in high school, he is the son of a mentally distraught mother and a gay father now living with another man.

The other main character is Thomas Bainbridge, a handsome teenager who has everything: a successful international career as a model, the choicest movie roles — and AIDS. The novel is built around the relationship of Bainbridge and Delon, and the experiences the two share and have shared all of their lives.

We're not talking your typical nights cruising the town, or escapades at high school football games. The teens jet to New York for coke parties, zip around southern California for high-powered lunches with producers and managers, and basically waste their lives on drugs and alcohol while the world passes — make that zooms — by them.

Uyemoto does a thorough job of describing the fast life for us. Her detail to surroundings and ability to convey in writing a person's emotions in those surroundings are at the heart of the book. By the time readers get to the last chapter, they are worn out by the endless parties, petty arguments, drugs, booze, food, sun, fun and everything else that is done to excess in the Californians' lives.

Uyemoto also throws in every colloquial expression, trendy slang, and '80s-'90s anecdote imaginable.

That's okay; it gives her writing a dose of humor and fits right in with the southern California tale.

Another nice touch of authenticity to the book is a blurb before the start of each chapter referring to superstar Bainbridge. These are attributed to quotes usually taken from talk shows, men's fashion publications or gossip magazines:

"Hollywood superhunk Thomas Bainbridge has a sexual encounter with the ghost of a casino worker from Winnemucca, Nevada. ('Thomas was deeply moved,' his psychic reported after the seance — page 8.)"

The superficiality of Christopher and his movie star friend wears thin after a while, however. We soon get the message that these poor little rich boys have little to do outside of spending mommy and daddy's money. That may be Uyemoto's message, but she seems to have trouble keeping the story from being predictable. Her uses of flashbacks come with no warning, and can be confusing until the reader rereads the passage and realizes the scene is 10 or more years old.

One of these flashbacks, however, shows the author at her best when she describes a Christmas dinner at which Christopher's mentally ill mother and drunken father have it out across the table in front of their young son and an array of embarrassed relatives.

THE AUTHOR doesn't dwell on Thomas' AIDS. In fact, the almost casual attitude he has to having the disease makes a powerful statement to the reader.

His friend Christopher's concern reflects what many friends would feel for someone they can see losing ground. Yet Thomas almost ignores his bleak future, being only concerned with how the disease is affecting his good looks and modeling career.

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE is a good way to say goodbye to the '80s and hello to the '90s. It is a story — sometimes flawed, sometimes funny — about youth, their thoughts, and values, or lack thereof. And it's a start for Holly Uyemoto. We'll wait and see what she has to offer readers in the new decade. •

...isn't it romantic

• continued from page 6

her own) and the men in Janie and Harriet's lives.

Janie's dating Marty Sterling (Paul Felton, whose performance is funny and touching), a doctor specializing in kidneys whose father owns a restaurant chain.

Harriet's involved with a married man from Colgate-Palmolive (Bill Herrick as a perfectly dreadful jerk).

And then there's Vladimir (a funny Allen Egel), a Russian playwright cum cab driver who's sort of interested in Janie.

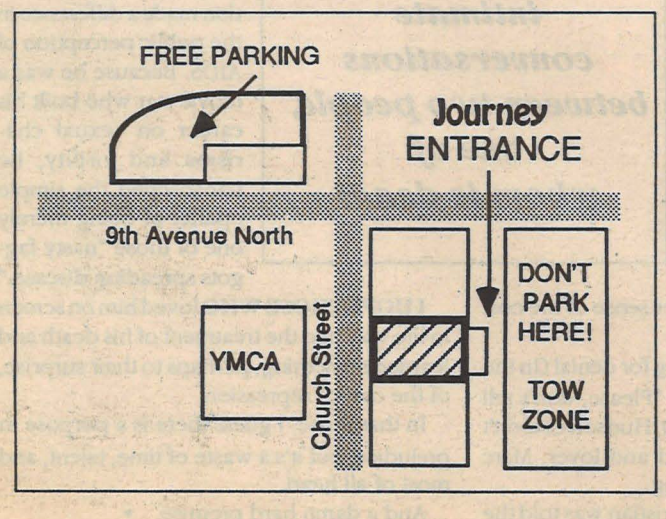
It's all great good fun — vintage Wasserstein stuff ("You look like a Vermeer, I look like an extra from POTEMKIN," Janie tells Harriet), opening with a series of telephone messages and a hilarious rendition of "Sunrise, Sunset" from Tasha and Simon.

Despite some technical glitches, the show's pace is good — the crew makes set changes rather swiftly — but the first act seemed to run too long. That may be attributed, of course, to first night jitters. •

Opening Friday January 19, 1990 8:00 p.m.

JOURNEY

FOR THE FUN OF IT



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ADULTS ONLY 75¢ A MINUTE, 95¢ FIRST MINUTE

SCREENS

Hearing the dead

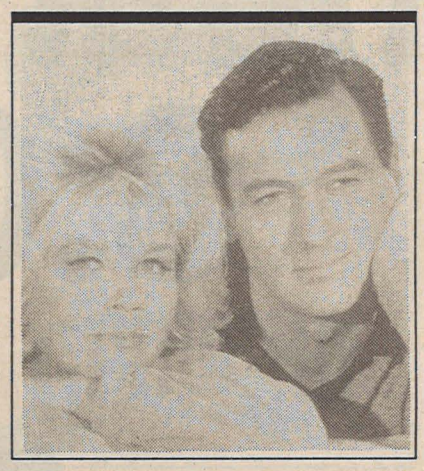
ROCK HUDSON. Directed by John Nicolella. Written by Dennis Turner.
ABC Made for TV movie. 1990. Starring Thomas Ian Griffith.
LIBERACE: BEHIND THE MUSIC. Directed by David Greene. Written by Gavin Lambert.
CBS Made for TV movie. 1988. Starring Victor Garber.

reviewed by **FLYNNE MALONE**
Staff Writer

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED on the way to writing this column. At the job that currently provides me a living, I was pressured about using my name here. So now I am trying to sense a purpose in prejudice and repression. I am having a hard time of it.

So did Rock Hudson and Liberace.

One was the quintessential masculine he-man hunk movie star, the other notoriously effeminate and enormously musically talented.



Both died of AIDS-related illnesses.

Both were closeted in the extreme for fear of losing their livelihoods.

Hudson's disclosure came before his death, Liberace's after (a surprise to virtually no one). Both have had TV movies of the week made of their lives.

There's an inherent problem in TV movies not to be overlooked here. How can we believe a television screen that purports to make us privy to intimate conversations between two people, one of whom is dead?

I believe it's important, therefore, not to look at the details of Hudson's and Liberace's lives as presented in docudrama form.

It's important, rather, to assess the overall atmosphere of honesty and of the portrayed cost of repression. I am not advocating graphic or lurid sexuality.

LIBERACE: BEHIND THE MUSIC goes so far as to firmly establish the homosexual gossip surrounding the man and his denial of its veracity.

After two hours, Liberace (played by Victor Garber) has spoken of "friends" and has shaken hands tenderly with another man.

ROCK HUDSON, written by Dennis Turner, a gay man who is now open about his life, has a difference in screen treatment that is heartening, if tragic. This work has a much more explicit, keener sense of the cost of containment.

So strong was his training for denial (In the last five minutes, he says, "Please, don't tell them until after I've gone."), Hudson couldn't even tell his closest friend and lover, Marc Christian, that he was dying.

We are led to believe Christian was told the way the rest of us were, by television reporting of Hudson's search for treatment of AIDS in Paris.

According to the executive producer of ROCK HUDSON, Frank Konigsberg, Hudson was tremendously promiscuous, sometimes experiencing as many as three men a night. While this degree of promiscuity is not communicated, we at least see Hudson hugging a man in a swimming pool and sharing a bed with another man. This picture makes sense without exploitation.

Time after time, we see the frustration of Hudson, a screen idol for many, many women.

As he tried to live his life "against type" he was told, "Remember somebody's always watching. One slip and it's all over." Sound familiar? It does for me.

We are to assume that Liberace chose his end of denial, still assured that it would mean the end of something if he were publicly identified as a homosexual.

Similarly, in ROCK HUDSON we are led to believe that Hudson (played by Thomas Ian Griffith) did not want the disclosure of this homosexual life and death from AIDS.

> *There's an inherent problem in TV movies not to be overlooked. How can we believe a television screen that purports to make us privy to intimate conversations between two people, one of whom is dead?*

In the script, he tells Marc Christian (played by William R. Moses), "They said it would kill me, and look, it has."

He wasn't speaking of his homosexuality; he was speaking of his need to hide it.

Sometimes it is the message of an unwilling messenger that can make a difference. Hudson's real life revelation made a difference in the public perception of AIDS. Because he was a movie star who built his career on sexual charisma and virility, he transcended the simple epithet of being merely one of those "nasty faggots spreading disease."

I HOPE THOSE WHO loved him on screen in life watched the treatment of his death and learned something, perhaps to their surprise, of the cost of repression.

In that sense, I guess there is a purpose in prejudice, but it's a waste of time, talent, and most of all heart.

And a damn hard premise. •

MARKET

Announcements

• Established art firm headquartered in Nashville expanding. Looking for creative career-minded individuals to grow with us. Commission plus incentives. Tasteful flair a plus. Call Tues.–Fri. (615) 662-2666.

• Harvey's Cleaning Service. Dependable, affordable. Get a clean start for the '90s. Call (615) 228-3060. Nashville.

• **GAY PENTECOSTAL GROUP** forming. For info write to Dare DRAWER 43.

• Help! Let me breathe again. I'm allergic to my beautiful, orange, long-hair, male, 6-month-old cat. He's very sweet and lovable. Please give him a home. Call Laura at (615) 831-2941 and leave message. Nashville.

• Nashville CARES is seeking a full-time AIDS Educator. Person selected for position needs strong background and education, good writing and speaking skills, and the ability to communicate with a variety of groups. Phone Peggy at Nashville CARES (615) 385-1510 for complete job description. Send résumé and salary requirements to Sandee Potter, Nashville CARES, Box 25107, Nashville, TN 37202. EOE.

• **CHASE AWAY THE WINTER BLUES:** We're proud to announce **FREE PERSONALS**. Meet new friends. Start a reading group. Or just say your piece to lesbian and gay Tennesseans, and we'll pick up the tab. Send us your personal ad (up to 200 characters) with the words "free personals" written across the top of the form below, and your ad is free. Don't just sit there — grab a pen and get personal! Ads must be postmarked on or before January 31, 1990. Don't forget to add $5 for response drawers. We reserve the right to edit or to refuse any ad. Offer not good for announcements, sales, real estate or commercial classified ads.

• It's a Scream! We now have books for men and women and lots of stuff you won't find anywhere else. They're here! Black long-sleeve t-shirts with pink triangle. It's A Scream! 168 2nd Avenue North, Nashville. (615) 244-7346.

• **WANTED:** If you're reliable and conscientious, we're looking for you for commissioned ad sales in Knoxville and Memphis. We're also looking for distribution points and someone to deliver Dare in Jackson, our newest delivery area. Great part-time pay, perfect for students, 2nd job, etc. Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, 37204 or phone (615) 327-Dare.

• **LONG HOURS. HARD WORK. LOW PAY.** Dare is accepting applications from writers in Chattanooga, Clarksville, Jackson, Knoxville, Memphis, Murfreesboro, Nashville, the Tri-cities and around Tennessee. Learn community-oriented journalism, and be one of the best. Dare, Box 40422, Nashville, 37204 or phone (615) 327-Dare.

Real Estate

• 2BR, 1BA brick home. Great assumption. $55,000. Kathy Douglas, TEAM Realty & Auction, Nashville. (615) 228-2189 or 333-3330.

• Roommate — Male — Share 2 BR, 1-1/2 bath. $200 month + 1/2 util. Ref. Harding Mall area condo. (615) 834-0500. Nashville.

• **1 BLOCK OFF CHURCH ST.** Versatile commercial bldg. Nashville Central Business District. $80,000. Kathy Douglas, TEAM Realty & Auction, Nashville. (615) 228-2189 or 333-3330.

Personal

• Oh God. Would she leave during giraffe hours or stick it out at the bar, drinking absinthe. Mother! I stormed out quietly, raging at beauty and kindness of heart.

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

• Penny had a birthday, Penny had a birthday.

• GWFF, 42, attractive, wants to meet GWFF, '30s–'40s lifemate. (615) 895-6468 after 3pm. Murfreesboro.

• There was nothing good about being stuck in an elevator, no matter what anyone said. She thought about her mother, and what she would have done in this situation.

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

• GWM paraplegic, 37, seeks gentle, understanding companion. Send photo, phone to Dare DRAWER 41.

Name .....
Address .....
..... Zip .....
Phone (Day) ..... (Evening) .....
I certify that I am the person named above. No ad will be accepted without signature.
Signed .....

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❑ + **BOLD CAPS** charge	$ 5.00
= SUBTOTAL	$.....
x number of two-week periods	.....
= **CLASSIFIED AD TOTAL**	$.....
+ ❑ 3rd-class $20 subscription	$.....
+ ❑ 1st-class $35 subscription	$.....
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	$.....

• All ad prices are for two consecutive weeks: $10 for up to 100 characters, $20 for up to 200 characters and so on.
• Please print one character per box. A character is any letter, numeral, space or punctuation mark.
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Nashville, TN 37204-0422.
• Questions? Phone (615) 327-Dare.

$10

$20

Chase away the winter blues with FREE personals!

Meet new friends. Start a reading group. Or just say your piece to lesbian and gay Tennesseans, and we'll pick up the tab. Send us your personal ad (up to 200 characters) with the words "free personals" written across the top of the form at left, and your ad is free.
Don't just sit there — grab a pen and get personal!

Ads must be postmarked on or before January 31, 1990. Please add $5 for response drawers. We reserve the right to edit or to refuse any ad.

Dare
Tennessee's Lesbian and Gay Newsweekly

Support the AIDS vaccine effort.
▼ ▼ ▼
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AIDS VACCINE EVALUATIONS
Volunteers must not have had a smallpox vaccination. Nashville.
For more information call (615) 343-AIDS

BOB'S CRAZY COWBOY II
We're proud to serve Miller Lite, Michelob Light and Bud Light on draft.
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HUNDREDS IN PRIZES!
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BEER BUST AND FINGER FOODS $3

VIEWS

We need your help!

Coming up fast on our second anniversary, at *Dare* we're thinking of ways to improve our product.

That is, what can we do to make the newspaper you're now reading even better?

Our job is made more difficult, yet certainly more challenging, by the fact that because we are a statewide publication, we have an obligation to readers from all over Tennessee. Although our offices are in Nashville, we still have a commitment to covering news events and personalities from across the state.

Often, we miss things — not because we plan it that way, but because there's no way we can be aware of everything.

That's where you come in. If you know of a news event, call us. If you know someone who's got an intriguing story to tell, call us or write us about them, including information about how we can reach them. If there's a meeting, a performance, a gathering that other readers might like to know about, tell us.

And, of course, we're always interested in working with new writers and stringers, as you can see from the staff box at right.

We'll make a deal with you. Each week, we'll see to it that you remain informed about the ideas and issues affecting lesbians and gay men throughout Tennessee. And you keep us informed about what's going on.

It's really pretty simple, isn't it? •

Steve Smith

As many Nashvillians have no doubt noticed, Warehouse 28 has become Warehouse Two.

Wayne Prince, longtime manager at the lesbian and gay club on Franklin Road, and partner Ted Raper purchased the Warehouse from Steve Smith and Michael Wilson earlier this month. [See next week's *Dare* for more complete information on the sale.]

We would be remiss not to note the role played by Smith in the community. Without him, there very well might not be a *Dare*. He was one of the very few, along with Bob Simrell, owner of the Crazy Cowboy II; Ron Watson, owner of Mills Bookstore; and John Hunt, owner of the Towne House / Gas Lite, who believed in the idea of a weekly newspaper for our community, and supported that belief with advertising commitments when *Dare* was still just an itch and a name.

Smith, who with his partners still owns several female impersonator pageants and the balloon store Airplay, was early and generous with his support, at one point even offering to underwrite the cost of a staff trip to the Gay and Lesbian Press Association convention.

With hard work, help and support from the community, and much luck, *Dare* has grown and prospered in the last two years.

Although we haven't always seen eye to eye with Smith on every issue, we have been impressed with his belief in our community and his willingness to support community organizations and activists by digging deep.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Steve Smith for his confidence in us and his support of the community, and wish him the best of luck in his new ventures. •

Dare

TENNESSEE'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSWEEKLY

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

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LETTERS

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

All letters become the sole property of Pyramid Light & Power and will be assumed intended for publication unless otherwise explicitly stated.

ARCHIVES

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

SOAPBOX

Funny money

by **JACKI MOSS**
Staff Writer

IS IT JUST ME, or are some mainstream businesses beginning to look a little festive lately? Have they finally realized that gay and lesbian money is big money and that if they want us to give it to them, they have to give us some kind of sign that they know we're important?

Maybe my "gaydar" is working overtime or I'm simply obsessed with visions of pink triangles dancing in my head, but I seem to be seeing more gay symbols and innuendo everywhere.

My most recent and scariest sighting is a Coors commerical, of all things. There sits Leslie Neilson, dressed in a grey suit touting Coors while sporting pink fuzzy bedroom slippers. His explanation for the footwear is "sometimes I just like to feel pretty." He says this while holding his fuzzy festooned foot skyward and admiring it. Is this the campiest things Coors, or any other beer commerical, ever did?

> ***If we are to make the gains we hope for in the '90s, we need to put our money where our mouths are.***

While the great debate over tastes great/less filling rages, the most homophobic beer company known is sending at the very least a mixed message. I'm floored every time I see it and I see it a lot during the macho football playoff games. Have we finally made an impact by boycotting them? We can hope. This is my favorite explanation.

I see other things, besides confounding beer commercials. I see pink triangles on sportswear, shoes, posters, menus and billboards and I don't know how to react, or if I'm even supposed to react. If they are indeed going after our attention, they need to come out of the closet and let us know so we may show a full appreciation of their efforts.

Maybe it's all a mistake. A geometric phenomenon. Maybe they (whoever "they" is) have subliminally incorporated these symbols into their products because they too have had abundant pink triangle sightings and think it is the geometric form of the future. Or maybe they just like the shape and it's easier to draw than the confetti and squiggles motif so popular lately. Or maybe there are some sisters out there pulling a great big fast one on homophobic America.

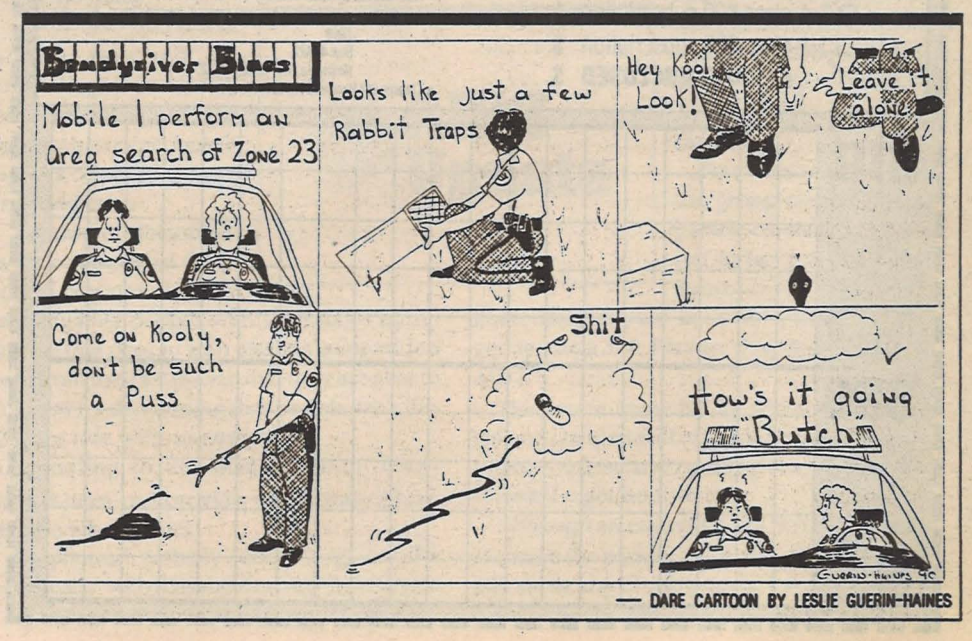
This is my second favorite explanation. I'd like to think that some of us are out there working diligently, albeit subversively, to let us know we are indeed everywhere, including Madison Avenue writing beer commercials for Coors and getting them on the air before anyone is the wiser.

My least favorite explanation is based on the premise that if you give a chimpanzee enough computer time she can write DESERT HEARTS, or something like that, so sooner or later people were bound by some deep evolutional drive to recognize the power of pink triangles and incorporate them into mainstream culture (is this an oxymoron?).

Still, there is hope that the adage that money talks will work when human values, decency and common sense fail. If mainstream American realized the buying power of Gay America, they'd plaster pink triangles on everything from gum to high rises.

Some estimates say that gay money is in the $400 billion range. That's a lot of bucks to ignore. But, as they say, if logic prevailed, men would ride sidesaddle.

IMAGINE if we decided to withhold our gay money from non-openly gay businesses for a day. Sales of fresh pasta and comfortable shoes would plummet. The clothing stores would call it the "Day the Hem Fell Out of the Garment Business." Fanny packs and fancy socks would hit an all time sales low and the blip in the cars, homes and jewelry markets would be felt around the world. It's just a thought, but one to be pondered. If we are to make the political, legal and social gains we hope for in the '90s, we need to put our money where our mouths are. •



— DARE CARTOON BY LESLIE GUERIN-HAINES

LOOSE LIPS

Cigarette, Al? Andy? Jon?

"Lucile Culp finds the claim of homosexual couples to be same status as heterosexual couples unfounded. Our 'status' is not determined by something inherent in our relationships, but by heterosexist society's refusal to recognize any but state-licensed, opposite-sex unions. Gay activists do not seek to 'normalize' our relationships, which occur naturally with or without the law's help. We seek to ensure our equal right to freedom, which is denied if we must choose between being ourselves, with limited rights, or repressing ourselves to live like and among those who enjoy full civil liberty..."
— Elizabeth A. Cronkhite, of Hawaii, in a letter to the editor of CIVIL LIBERTIES, the official publication of the American Civil Liberties Union.

k.d. lang — DARE FILE PHOTO

"The country industry is traditional regarding the looks and roles of men and women. It would be detrimental for me to compromise. I sing because of the way I am. I don't want to endanger my soul and my voice because of my physical looks. It wouldn't be worth it."
— Grammy nominee k.d. lang, to GLAMOUR magazine.

"I like to pretend I'm a farmer and sort of dress for chores. Always ready to feed the cows, drive the tractor, fix the truck."
— More from country music diva k.d. lang to GLAMOUR magazine.

"They turn out pansy butts. They duplicate academics like themselves who know the law as a textbook but have no understanding of human nature."
— "High Plains" lawyer Gerry Spense, writing in M magazine about the state of American law schools.

"I'll think about that while I'm saying my wedding vows in the prison chapel to a guy named Rock."
— Al Bundy (Ed O'Neill) of Fox TV's MARRIED WITH CHILDREN, in a recent episode about Al's pending prison term for income tax evasion.

"Did you pack cigarettes, kids? I'll need lots of cigarettes for my new boyfriend."
— That darn Al!

"Well, Al, if he only smokes after sex, half a pack will do him."
— Peggy Bundy's (Katie Sagal) reaction to husband Al's rantings about prison.

"I feel the same way about homosexuals as I do about cigarette smokers. I wouldn't want to spend much time in a small room with one but they don't bother me otherwise."
— 60 MINUTES pundit Andy Rooney. But how does he feel about Al Bundy?

"After reading the articles written about this unfortunate situation I feel I owe the National Gay Federation an apology. I at no time meant to cause any hatred or had any intent to cause any animosity towards the gay community. Please understand that my reaction was not at all geared towards gays, but simply was a reaction to a losing football score.
"— Signed...a loyal Giants fan."
— Rock singer Jon Bon Jovi, responding to adverse reaction to anti-gay remarks made during a concert in Dublin, Ireland, in January. Bon Jovi maintained that his remarks about "a bunch of fucking faggots" referred to a loss by the New York Giants of the National Football League.

"How fitting that SPIN, the same SPIN that confirmed our gayest suspicions that Sandra Bernhard is a lesbian, be the magazine to crush those very same dreams. In this month's interview with Michelle Shocked, the writer manages to mention Michelle's 'boyfriend' no less than five times. Some media assassins would be prompted to caution (in both cases), 'Don't believe the hype.'"
— New York lesbian/gay newsmagazine OUTWEEK's Victoria Starr.

"Terry and I find that we have more and more straight friends these days because many gay people we know do not live up to our standards of being out, and I find that intolerable. I can't spend time with a person who is obviously slightly ashamed of his friendship with me...
"I will say I do not believe in keeping those secrets because I think to be secretive, even about the homosexuality of other people, is to encourage the very homophobia that makes life difficult for us all. If I'm not ashamed of my homosexuality, I feel no compunction to be discreet for the benefit of others.
"If we're going to eliminate homophobia and eventually get around to treating each other as human beings on the planet, we have to start being matter-of-fact about homosexuality. We have to stop acting like it's a dark and dangerous secret, and the only way to do that is on an individual basis."
— Author Armistead Maupin, in an interview in Los Angeles' FRONTIERS magazine.

"Do you think he might be gay?
"No, last night in the car we sang show tunes and he didn't know the lyrics to 'Send in the Clowns!'"
— An exchange between two characters on DEAR JOHN.

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Pageantry for the '90s

M.S.M. presents

Miss Gay Tennessee USA at Large 1990

Sunday, January 28, 1990
Warehouse Two, Nashville 10 p.m. sharp

starring
Carmella Marcella Garcia Miss Gay USA at Large 1989
Diana Hutton Miss Gay USA 1987
Rita Ross Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1988
Monica Munro Miss Gay Tenneseee USA 1989

Over **$750** in cash and prizes!
Call (615) 385-9689 or 269-3679 for details.

Coming Sunday, February 25, 1990
at Warehouse Two in Nashville
Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1990

5 POINTS
EAST NASHVILLE
DEPOT
FOOD ★ SPIRITS ★ MUSIC

Women's Night at 5 Points Depot
with guest artist P.M.S.
Thursday, January 25, 1990 9:30 p.m. No cover

Hours: Tue. – Sat., 4:30 p.m. – 1:30 a.m.
Sun., Noon – Midnight
Dinner served 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. daily
Sing-a-long at the piano 9:00 p.m. – Midnight each evening
Sunday Brunch Noon – 3:00 p.m.
Major credit cards accepted

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Warehouse Two

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

WAREHOUSE TWO EMPLOYEE BEACH PARTY

Come out and party with the staff of WAREHOUSE TWO.
Costumes are encouraged but not required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

50¢ DRAFT ALL NIGHT

Dance with our award-winning DJ, EDDIE DENSON.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

7pm – 10pm , 2-for-1 mixed drinks • Buffet
WAREHOUSE TWO welcomes home

the Mouth of the South

CHARLIE BROWN

2 shows 11pm & 12:30am
with DIANA HUTTON, BIANCA PAGE and MONICA MUNRO

STARTING TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

WAREHOUSE TWO will open at 7pm each night with 2-for-1 Happy Hour on mixed drinks from 7pm–10pm. There will be no cover charge before 9pm, so get here early.
Cast shows will continue on Tuesday and Thursday with your cast:
DIANA HUTTON, MONICA MUNRO, RITA ROSS, BIANCA PAGE and DANA ALEXANDER.
Wednesdays, enjoy DIANA HUTTON and THE NIGHT RIDERS, WAREHOUSE TWO's own male strippers.

REMEMBER SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

MISS GAY TENNESSEE-USA AT LARGE PAGEANT

with CARMELLA MARCELLA GARCIA, reigning Miss Gay USA at Large
DIANA HUTTON, Miss Gay USA 1987
RITA ROSS, Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1988
and MONICA MUNRO, Miss Gay Tennessee USA 1989
Several states will be represented at this contest. It's an official preliminary to Miss Gay USA at Large. Contest begins at 10pm.

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP • THE TRADITION CONTINUES
NASHVILLE'S PREMIER GAY DANCE BAR • 2529 FRANKLIN ROAD • (615) 385-9689