

SOUTHERN VOICE

Looks like
ABC will drop the
lesbian couple
from
HeartBeat
Page 16

Vol. 1, No. 24

Taking Pride in Our Culture

January 19, 1989

Lomax to Introduce Extensive Lesbian/Gay Rights Ordinance

Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax told *Southern Voice* in an exclusive interview on Jan. 11 that he is on the verge of introducing sweeping legislation that will ban discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV antibody status in the metro Atlanta county.

The broad language contained in a near-final version of the ordinance prohibits discrimination in "employment, housing, public accommodation, public transportation, public services, governmental services and health care services offered in any place in Fulton County, Georgia."

Although Lomax cautioned that a draft copy of the ordinance provided to *Southern Voice* by an anonymous source had not been given final approval, sources on his staff said that this version "closely approximates" what they predict will be introduced before the commission. The original version of the ordinance was written by members of the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition.

Lomax declined to speculate how his fellow commissioners would vote on the ordinance. Members of a citizen's lobbying group in favor of the ordinance, however,

feel that a favorable vote of 5-2 or 6-1 is almost certain.

Lomax said he had not discussed the matter with the other commissioners, but that he did feel that the ordinance would be given a fair hearing.

"This board has been very affirmative about human rights issues and anti-discrimination," he said. "My view is that the human rights initiative that we are going to undertake here around sexual orientation is not going to be differently viewed than others we have undertaken."

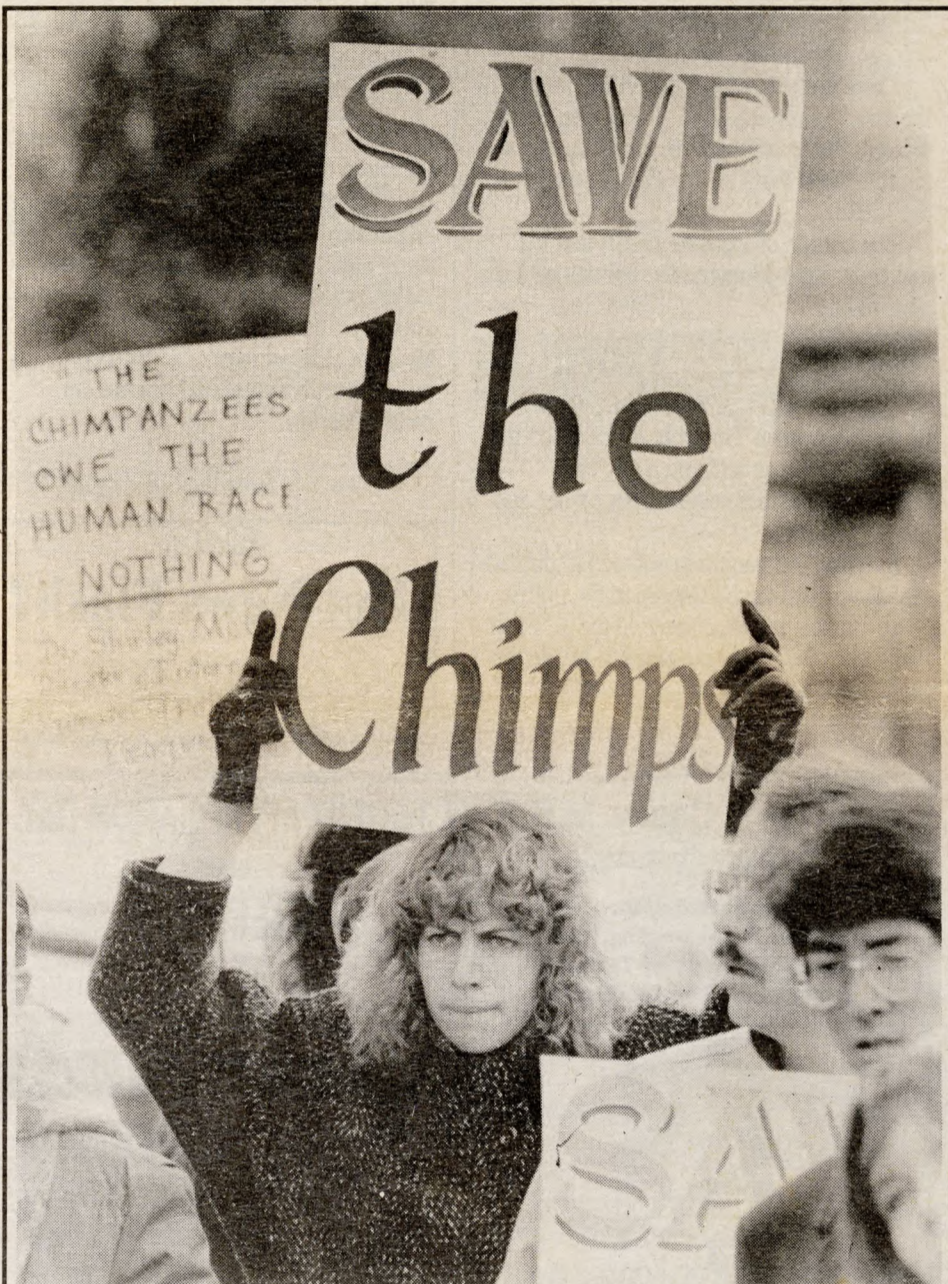
One of the most striking features of the ordinance is that it not only forbids discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV antibody status, but also forbids discrimination based on the perception of sexual orientation and HIV antibody status.

This provision would presumably remove the requirement that a person state their sexual orientation or HIV status in court in order to file a complaint. Under the ordinance as it is now written, a person would only have to prove that a defendant perceived them as a member of a protected minority.

Cont'd Page 11



Activist/Author Joseph Beam



Angry animal rights activists have stepped up their demand for the ethical treatment of animals. Scientists claim, however, that the use of laboratory animals is necessary for continued success in medical breakthroughs for humans. See Page 13.

Joseph Beam, Author/Activist, Dies at 33

The gay community lost one of its leading activists on December 27 with the death in Philadelphia of Joseph Fairchild Beam. The exact cause of his death was not immediately clear. Friends said, however, that he had been in ill health recently and had been extremely depressed for several months.

For many years, Beam had worked to create a stronger movement of black lesbians and gay men. He was the first editor of *Black/Out*, a magazine serving that community, and served three years on the board of directors of the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays (NCBLG).

"Joe was such a positive role model for black gay men and women alike," said Renee McCoy, executive director of the NCBLG. "He had a gentle, frank spirit and was an inspiration to gays and lesbians at all levels, from all walks of life."

In 1985, Beam began work on a collection of writings and artwork by black gay men. It was published eighteen months later, under the title *In the Life*. Although a number of works had already been published by and about black lesbians, Beam's was the first anthology ever to focus on the experiences of black gay men.

At the time of his death, Beam was compiling material for a second collection, *Brother to Brother*. According to his publisher, Sasha Alyson, "Joe already had made a great deal of progress on that book, and his parents were highly supportive of what he was doing. We still expect to publish it."

A Joseph Beam Memorial Scholarship Fund for creative writing has been established at Temple University. Interested parties may contact it in care of Marie Inyang, Esq., 12 South Twelfth Street, PSFS Building, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MCC Files Libel Suit

Atlanta—A libel suit has been filed by First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta (MCC) against a man who allegedly distributed handbills which "suggest that the MCC is responsible for [their] libelous content." The handbills were distributed on two occasions in late November and early December in the city's Poncey-Highland district.

The suit, filed on December 28 in Fulton County Superior Court by the church's board of directors, charges John Sidney Roland, of 1689 Blue Ridge Ave., Atlanta, with printing and circulating the handbills that name "four homosexual men" who are "selling drugs and spreading AIDS to our community and to our children."

The handbills urge "concerned citizens of the area" to call the MCC. "I'm sure people thought the handbills were circulated by the church," said Elisa A. Refghi, attorney for the MCC.

The church charges in its suit that the handbills have damaged its reputation in the community.

It's the "G" Word

Superior, Wis.—A magazine published by the Wisconsin Troopers Association has agreed to print an ad from a gay bar following talks between the bar owner and the publishers.

Initially, the magazine refused to publish the ad because the bar included the phrase "Gay Owned and Operated" in the ad's text. Bar owner Bob Janson agreed to revise the phrase to read, "Non-Heterosexually Owned."

MCI Adds Sexual Orientation to Policy

New York—A sexual orientation complaint filed by a former employee of MCI Communications was resolved last month by the New York City Human Rights Commission.

The employee, David Gatten, had charged that MCI fired him last January from his management-level job because of his sexual orientation.

As a result of the settlement, MCI said it will strengthen the wording of the company's existing policy to specifically prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Gatten also received an undisclosed financial payment from MCI.

"MCI responded responsibly not only to the claim that it violated New York City law (which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in the workplace)", said Paula Eitelbrick of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Gatten's attorney, "but also to the written requests of lesbians and gay men to adopt a company policy prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination."

—from the Los Angeles News

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FAMOUS FACES

Nancy Knows What Matters

Nancy Reagan had one more chance to tell the world what truly inspires her. The outgoing first lady was honored by the fashion industry earlier this month at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The Council of Fashion Designers presented her with the Lifetime Achievement Award, saying Mrs. Reagan, "Gave us pride, gave us hope, gave us style." Nancy told designers she would miss them, noting she was grateful for the opportunity to "Help an industry that is one of the most important in our country." Nancy wore a floor-length red gown designed by Oscar de la Renta for the event.

Too Bodacious for Bowling

Olympic gymnast Mary Lou Retton charges bowling officials dropped her as a spokesperson solely because of her body's development. Retton, who dazzled the world with her leaping and twirling talents during the 1984 games in Los Angeles and, as many of the country's athletic superstars, went on to Wheaties fame, has filed a \$250,000 suit against the National Bowling Council claiming she was dumped as a result of "Changes in her physical image caused by her maturing as a woman."

Landmark Arrest in Illinois

A major case was closed January 4th in Naperville, Ill., when officer Kim Johnsen nabbed the first felon captured under a brand new law. The perpetrator, a one-year-old, declawed tabby, did not resist arrest. The feline felon was sitting in the street grooming his tail, when the brave officer swiftly apprehended him on charges of violating the leash law. The orange-striped criminal did his time in the pound and was returned home after paying a \$10 fine. Under advice from his attorney he refused to speak to the press, but insiders report the furry ex-con purred loudly after reaching his bowl of Friskies.

—F.G.

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Ala. Judges Bar HIV Prisoners from Court

Birmingham, Ala.—Three Jefferson County judges last month asked prisoners who are HIV-positive to waive their right to appear at their own hearings and enter their pleas by telephone instead.

Judges Mike McCormick, Jack Montgomery and O. L. "Pete" Johnson said their bailiffs are fearful of contracting AIDS from County inmates who might become violent and bite or scratch them in the judges' courtrooms.

Charles Collins, a board member of Birmingham AIDS Outreach, said that AIDS experts agree that the chances of contracting the disease from a bite or a scratch are very slim.

So far, at least three HIV-infected inmates have agreed to the judges' request, including John Louis O'Neal, who said his lawyer "told me to do it over the phone because he didn't want to make the judge mad." O'Neal, however, is reportedly taking legal action to prevent the judges from continuing the practice.

New Travel Agency Opens for Lesbians

Atlanta, Ga. - Renegade Recreations, a new, Atlanta-based travel agency for women, was founded to offer comfortable, affordable travel opportunities to lesbians.

"When you look through the magazines or periodicals that reach gay clientele, there are a lot of 'getaway packages'—but they are almost always for men only," said Cindy Diamond, a former member of the Paper Dolls and one of the company's founders.

"We want to provide affordable travel opportunities for gay women to places that would allow privacy and the freedom for guests to be themselves. And what better way is there to meet other like-minded women?" asked Diamond.

Renegade Recreations' first trip will be "Hearts and Flowers: The Ultimate Valentine Weekend for Women Only" in the North Carolina mountains Feb. 11-12.

If you would like further information, please call Renegade Recreations at 404/523-4167 or write P.O. Box 50439, Atlanta, GA 30302.

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Passage of Human Rights Ordinance Expected This Week by City Council

Atlanta City Council member Bill Campbell predicts "virtually no opposition" to passage of a Human Rights ordinance that is expected to come before the City Council for a vote on January 17. The objective of the ordinance, Campbell said, is to "end discrimination in private and social clubs," which he said have a long history of membership exclusion based primarily on race, religion and sex.

The ordinance would prohibit discrimination based on "race, creed, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, physical handicap or sexual orientation," in Atlanta's private social clubs holding city liquor licenses. Campbell said that the ordinance could also be applied to for-profit establishments, including bars and restaurants, that sell alcoholic beverages.

The ordinance would empower the City Council to revoke or suspend the liquor licenses of those establishments and clubs found to be in non-compliance. "No private

A public hearing on the ordinance was held at City Hall by the Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee on January 4.

Campbell, who is the sponsor of both ordinances, admitted that sexual orientation was "not a part" of the statement of non-discrimination in the original draft of the Human Rights Ordinance, which he said has been under development for approximately the last six months. Council member Mary Davis caught the omission "about two months ago," Campbell said, and the words were inserted as an amendment to the final draft of the ordinance. Campbell said that the oversight was unintentional, as did Council member Mary Davis.

Cathy Woolard, president of the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Rights chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, expressed disappointment over the omission: "They (the committee) know we're here," she said, referring to the City's gay and lesbian community. "It's irritating that they (committee members) have to be reminded."

Gil Robison, lobbyist for the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition, said that the ordinances represent "an important step" to protect gay and lesbian rights in Atlanta. "This is one of the few cities that doesn't have something of this kind," Robison said.

There was no testimony opposing the ordinances at the hearing, but Campbell said he anticipates "a number of challenges", including one from an undisclosed private club he said has already indicated it will contest the ordinance if enacted. "I'm confident that it (the ordinance) will withstand any challenge", Campbell said.

Campbell said he and the Public Safety Committee might consider meeting with the Fulton County legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly to seek additional ways, including the possible introduction of legislation that could, he said, "go beyond lifting liquor licenses. We need to do that if possible."

- Matt Moline



RHONDA MENSEN

Atlanta City Councilmember Bill Campbell

club could exist without a liquor license," Campbell said.

A separate ordinance, which will also come up for a vote on January 17, would establish a three-person Human Rights Commission to investigate complaints filed by employees or patrons of establishments holding liquor licenses. The Commission would determine if complaints constitute grounds for license revocation.

Ga. Pacific Denies Homophobic Ad Policy

Atlanta-In a set of guidelines obtained by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Inc. (GLAAD), an advertising agency for the Georgia Pacific Corporation directed its media buyers to avoid television shows that "support homosexuals."

Sheila Weidman, spokesperson for Georgia Pacific said there was a misprint and the statement should have read "support discrimination against homosexuals." Furthermore, the material in question is only an explanation of the guidelines and was not widely circulated, she said.

"It is inconsistent with our policy, which is not to discriminate in any way," Weidman said.

After learning of Weidman's response to questions about the guidelines from *Southern Voice* last week, GLAAD contacted Georgia Pacific and requested a letter repudiating the viewpoint expressed in the statement.

Also, because Georgia Pacific's advertising guidelines and Equal

Opportunity Employment statements do not include sexual orientation, GLAAD is calling for this addition to be made.

"Major corporations should include sexual orientation in any kind of clause that they write. Because of a human rights law, it's patently illegal not to do so in New York," said Karen Schwartz, a member of GLAAD. Schwartz said she suggested to Weidman that Georgia Pacific consult its attorneys in both matters. According to Weidman, Georgia Pacific did so but had not made a decision as to what action to take when *Southern Voice* went to press.

Schwartz said there is a GLAAD member who is also a significant stockholder in the Georgia Pacific Corporation. Should Georgia Pacific refuse to initiate the policy statement changes, GLAAD will work with this person in developing a proposal to present to stockholders.

- Wendy Morse

Hate Groups Target Atlanta Again Counter-Demonstration Planned



Atlanta-White supremacists whose demonstration was thwarted at the Democratic convention in July have received permission to hold another rally in Atlanta this month, and a loosely built coalition of their opponents plans a counter offensive to neutralize the hate groups.

Richard Barrett, a disbarred Mississippi attorney considered one of the most dangerous leaders of this country's fascist movement, is one of the organizers of the January 21 event whose motto is "No King Over Us". Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 16.

According to Jim Harlow, a member of the All People's Congress, Barrett is a classic Nazi whose Mississippi group holds paramilitary training exercises for Skinheads in efforts to build a youth movement in the Hitlerian tradition.

Harlow says failure to neutralize their demonstration could encourage even more Skinhead attacks in Atlanta. A successful march for the white supremacists, according to Harlow, would embolden the hate groups in their crusade of bigotry.

"You know what the March on Washington did for us," noted Harlow on the landmark gay and lesbian rights march in 1987. "Unfortunately," he pointed out, "it works the same way for the right wing."

On Saturday, January 21, counterprotesters will assemble at 11:30 am in front of the State Capitol. More information on the protest is available by calling 688-7422.

- F.G.

It's This Simple!

The businesses that advertise in *Southern Voice* seek to reach well informed, conscientious and active consumers. They're also supporting the paper for the community's sake, but that only goes so far when money's concerned.

The Atlanta gay and lesbian Community has roughly \$60 million worth of purchasing power, to date, unrealized. We at *Southern Voice* are building a solid base of Advertisers who share in the concerns of the Community.

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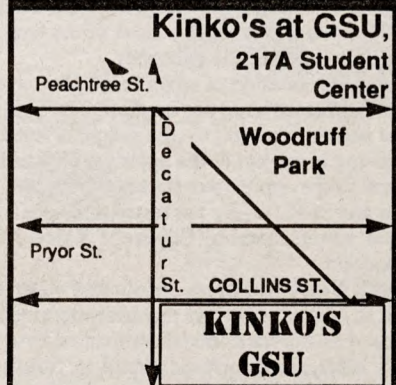
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VIEWPOINTS

Changes Bring New Potential for *Southern Voice* – And Its Readers

Southern Voice is a young newspaper. We began publication in March, 1988 with a commitment to serve both gay men and lesbians. Too often in the past, regional and national newspapers and magazines have leaned more toward men and, in our eyes, more toward sex than journalism and analysis. We wanted to bring our readers something better, something more. Something that reflected the new activism in the South which was born of The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and of our struggles with AIDS. Thanks to a lot of dedicated volunteers and the support of our publisher we have been able to provide Atlantans, and our growing numbers of readers throughout the country, with a newspaper both they and we can take pride in.

Now, we want to take our next step in bringing readers as complete a picture as possible of the particular world we live in as gay men and lesbians. Beginning with this issue of *Southern Voice*, we will be able to endorse political candidates and legislation – offering you our opinion of who and what to work for or against in the political arena. This type of information and commentary can do much toward moving our agenda forward within the political system – if we take advantage of it.

Our power as a movement is dependent upon our willingness to educate ourselves and to VOTE. The "religious right" is making the best of their voting power. Isn't it time that we do the same? There are critical elections ahead in all levels of government – in the city and the state. And the Georgia General Assembly is cranking up their current session that could see the introduction of key AIDS and human rights legislation.

We believe that you want to know what is going on in your own back yard. We take it

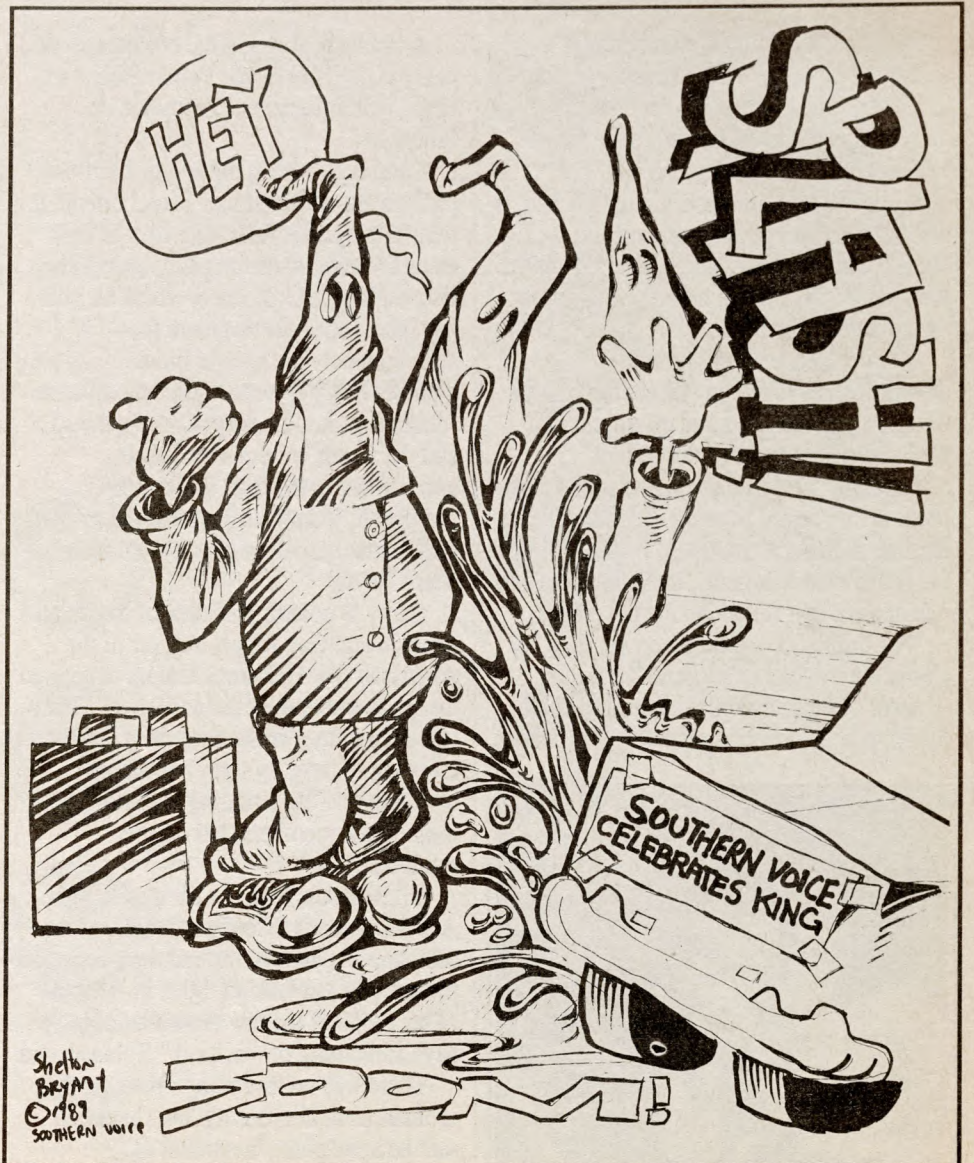
for granted that you, as a *Southern Voice* reader, give a damn. You are the ones who pay attention, gather information and take action. Our commitment is to assist you in that process.

In order for the paper to take on this added dimension, it was necessary to change the legal structure of *Southern Voice*. As a publication of SAME (Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project, Inc.) who is a 501 (C) (3) organization, it was not legal for us to endorse candidates or legislation. It also placed restrictions on conducting certain types of investigative pieces. As the paper grows, these restrictions seemed particularly limiting to us. Therefore as of Dec. 31, 1988 *Southern Voice* no longer has non-profit status and is now published by Ryan Publications.

Southern Voice is grateful to the board of directors of SAME, Executive Director Rebecca Ranson, and Assistant Administrator Gary Kaupman for their willingness to take the paper under their wings and help guide it through its first year. Their support helped make the paper the vital and growing publication it is. Also, SAME's ability to let us go and stretch our wings speaks well for the organization and all the people associated with it. We thank you for the opportunities you have made possible for the newspaper.

We are excited about our new status and our ability to bring you even more complete information. We are a bit scared, too. Although our legal structure has changed we continue to struggle, as all new businesses do, with expenses and problems that stretch us to our limits at times. We will continue to look to our community for the support and energy it has always given us. Without you, *Southern Voice* could not exist.

– Christina Cash



Coming Out – Pain and Sweetness

To the Editor:

As I sat and scribbled in my journal the other evening, highlighting the events of my life during 1988, I thought . . . how difficult it is to record pain . . . what a task to summarize the effects of isolation, of guilt and prejudice. But determined to "embalm" these events with syllables and words and sentences and paragraphs so that I could read them in years to come and delight in my growth, I scratched pages full of angry characters until the point of my erasureless weapon became a nub.

But then I boldly I documented the date, the day the hour I told my sister I was gay—that I was a lesbian.

I recalled the decades of "closet dwelling" and how I had longed to share my secret with one of the most important people in my life. But never had I dreamed of finding the intestinal fortitude to actually "tell" her—to risk losing her love, her friendship, her respect.

Why disappoint her? After more than forty years of sisterhood, why? WHY? For a very selfish reason, I needed my sister, my friend.

And how beautiful the feeling, when she, after patiently listening to me choke on the words "gay" and "lesbian," smiled and said that she had known I was gay—for more than a year. And during that time, she had loved me, understood and appreciated me more than ever before.

I shall always remember the events of that afternoon, sitting in the front seat of her car, parked on a one-lane asphalt road just outside the local cemetery in the small, southern town where she lives.

COMING OUT...How sweet it is!

– SM, Atlanta

If It's Gay, Is It Good?

To the Editor:

This is a letter to disagree with John R. Williams' criticism of Terry Francis' review of *Torch Song Trilogy*.

Mr. Williams doesn't seem to understand that a work in the arts that doesn't transcend being a period piece is already limited. And Mr. Williams insults drag queens when he charges that they're all sentimental in the self-absorbed stereotyped way that Arnold is in the film. Mr. Francis sees great diversity in the gay community; Mr. Williams does not, and his vision is far narrower.

Mr. Francis never says that being gay in 1988 is *not* different from being gay in 1972. Does Mr. Williams believe that being straight in 1988 is the same as in 1972?

Mr. Williams discusses the techniques used in the film and says they are "more of a New York art film than some Hollywood commercial movie." It was at this point that I thought his letter must be a put-on. Mr. Francis clearly points out that what Mr. Williams benightedly calls originality is actually just the same old cliches, the standard way of TV filmmaking, and a failure of imagination.

What Mr. Williams calls "unconventional cinematic techniques" have been pulled out of the cold storage of other films, like *Cabaret*.

The simple fact is that *Torch Song Trilogy* the "film" is a cliché-ridden mess, badly acted, and a debauchery by Fierstein of his own material. Thank you *Southern Voice* for not bowing to the pressure to praise anything and everything gay.

Yours truly,
James Jackson

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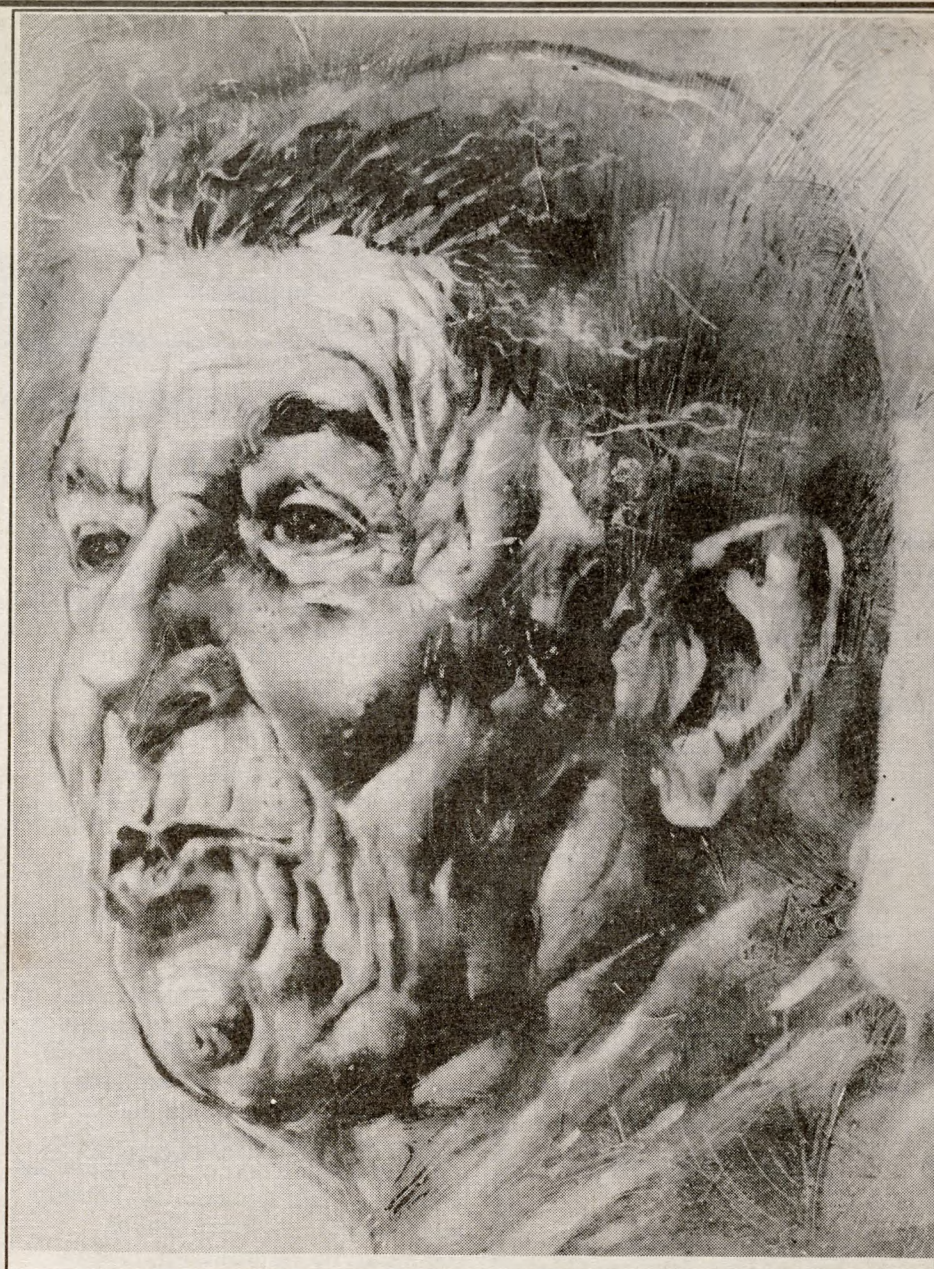
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It is neither surprising nor uncharacteristic that Ronald Reagan should choose the 60th anniversary of the birth of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to take a last venomous lunge at the civil rights movement.

In a taped interview with *60 Minutes'* Mike Wallace which aired on Jan. 15, the President of the United States charged that influential members of the civil rights movement were hampering the advancement of civil rights in order to add to their own personal income and prestige. When asked whom he meant - Coretta Scott King, Benjamin Hooks (President of the NAACP) or Jesse Jackson - Reagan grinned and told "Mike" to name the names, he was just happy getting the truth out in the open.

The truth?! Hearing the truth from a man who

believes that the homeless really like sleeping outdoors, is like learning about the Holocaust from a Nazi. (If you'll remember, Reagan said that the Nazi SS soldiers suffered as tremendously as the Jews who were interned in the camps.)

Under the eight long years of the Reagan administration, we have seen the President veto the renewal of the 1964 Voting Rights Act, lead a fevered attack on *Roe v. Wade*, ignore AIDS because it didn't attack the "pretty" side of society, distort the previous balance of the Supreme Court with ideological hard-line appointments, and effectively dismantle the Civil Rights Commission with do-nothing sycophants.

Reagan has forgotten that the United States is here for people who need help, not to protect the interests of those who have already "made it."

It really isn't surprising or uncharacteristic that Ronald Reagan, the man, would take a last minute jab at the people who daily stand for and fight for the freedoms first promised "We the People" in the Constitution. It is, however, shameful that Ronald Reagan, the President, would so sully the office whose sole responsibility it is to "uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America."

President-elect Bush, he of the "kinder and gentler nation," is said to be looking forward to renewed and improved relations with African-Americans once he is in office. Perhaps he could begin, today, by repudiating his boss's latest slur and explaining where he was during the last eight years when Reagan left King, Hooks and Jackson standing outside in the cold.

Guest Editorial Boycott? You Bet!

I decided this year to boycott my company Christmas party! Boycott the Christmas party, you say? What on earth for?

Well, today I realized just how "out" I'm becoming. I'm 29 years old and I came out (originally) over 10 years ago. I've demanded acceptance each step of the way. From my parents to the neighbors. From kids in my classes in college to my co-workers at my job. From straight friends to closeted gay friends.

First let me recap the Christmas parties past to explain why I took such a "radical" stand.

The first year I went with my new boyfriend. The fact that I was taking a member of the same sex was controversy enough for that year.

Year Two I was a little more settled and falling madly in love. I drug him to the event. We made an appearance for an hour, saw all the people I didn't want to see, and left.

Year Three I was still with the same guy. I had become so domesticated, I didn't even want to go. I offered to work so everyone else could go (our office stays open late at night).

Year Four (last year), I was so impressed that we had made it through 3 Christmases together, we just had to go. What a treat! I had

just been promoted and we (the same-sex couple) sat at a table with my counterpart and her husband and our manager and her boyfriend. What acceptance! Everyone knew and they were okay about it. At least to our faces. How lovely!

This year I've been through some changes. My four year relationship ended in July. Suddenly I was thrust into the insecure world of being single again. I've grown up a lot since then. I'm setting some goals for myself - finally. Friends tell me they've never seen me so self-assured. I love hearing that.

I made the decision to "boycott" the party because of one reason. It's supposed to be a party to thank the employees for their hard work all year. Some thanks when I can't even dance with the wonderful new man I met two weeks ago! Oh, I know I could dance with him. But I feel differently this year - I have some conflicts I didn't have 10 years ago. Back then, I would've said, "to hell with it" and danced to my delight. Today, I like to plan my career changes rather than have them handed to me on pink paper.

I wasn't real vocal at work about my decision. I told maybe 10 people. My straight friends and some gay friends were okay about it. But some of the gay people were furious! And why? They say, "Just go and have a good time, things will never change" and "Do you dance with or kiss your boyfriends in front of

your parents?" (As a matter of fact, I do.)

I couldn't understand where all this negativity came from until my officemate (a very close straight woman friend) had a talk with me yesterday.

"You've changed so much this year," she said. "I think it's wonderful. But your beliefs and ideas threaten them."

Deep down inside they know it's wrong, we agreed. But they're at a different place, and my vocalizing stirred up an uncomfortable subject. Namely, that this "fun" event we go to every year is bull! We can't even dance with our partners because of these rules.

Well, this year I made some people aware of how ridiculous these rules are. And next year, maybe I'll take it a step further and go public with this absurdity. Meanwhile, if anyone asks,

I tell them the truth. And I resolved my differences with my friends at work.

But do listen to this much. If you have a friend who seems to be a little more vocal than usual, and maybe even a little awkward about what they are saying, don't tune them out. If you at least listen to what they're saying, it may start to change things just a little. And who knows, in Christmas 2006 John may be holding Jim's hand as he introduces him to the boss while Sara and Marianne slow dance with all the other couples at your Christmas party.

Well, start visualizing social acceptance and keep your ears tuned to those "radical" friends with crazy ideas. Like dancing with someone you love at your Christmas party. Imagine!

- Philip C. Bahr

Viewpoints is part of a continuing effort to provide a forum for our community. We invite your ideas, comments and feelings and your responses to ideas expressed in this space.

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of **Southern Voice**. Submissions should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than four pages.

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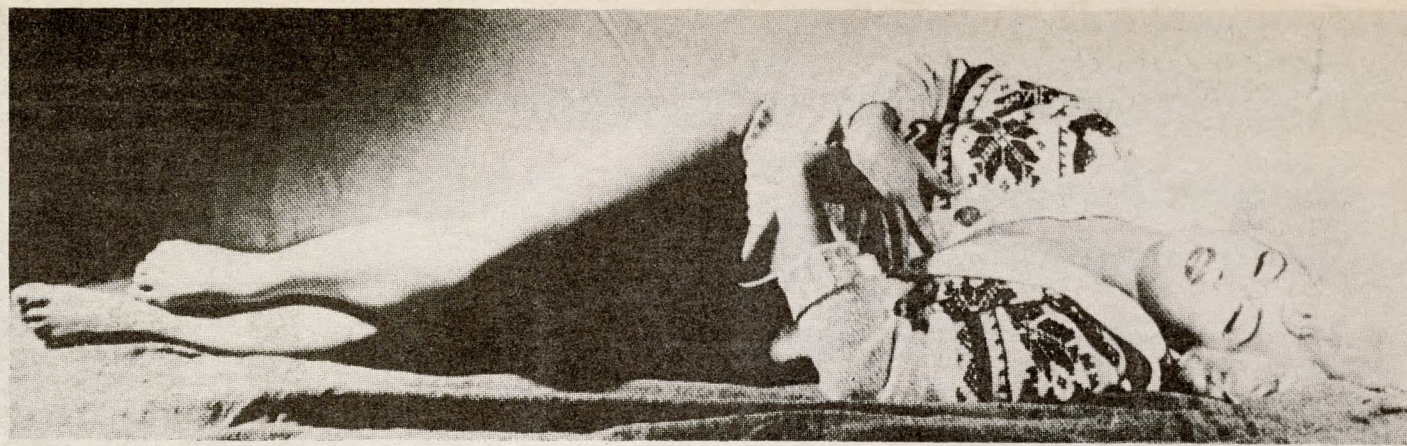
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He's Marilyn, and Much More, He's Jimmy James

Call him a drag queen - a character actor - an impressionist. Call him whatever you perceive him to be. "As long as they're being entertained and having fun, it doesn't matter."

That's the opinion of Jimmy James, born in Laredo Texas, and raised in San Antonio, who first realized his resemblance to Marilyn Monroe while working in a theatrical makeup class at San Antonio College. He worked with faces a lot and became aware of the many different bone structures--different yet similar. He discovered "Marilyn" on his own face through experimentation and a love of makeup. It would be two years later, however, before he discovered the Marilyn "within".

In April of 1986, James was doing a "Marilyn pantomime" at the Bally Hotel in Atlantic City when it was decided he wasn't needed anymore. He decided to go out on his own. Knowing his voice had always been flexible, he perfected the familiar whispers of his alter ego. He appeared on TV's *Donahue*, *Hour Magazine*, and twice on *PM Magazine* and he even won a brief appearance (as a bartender and as Marilyn) in the feature film *Too Outrageous*. He was determined to make a name for himself in the national spotlight.

Determination is exactly what it took for the boy in Texas to emerge as Marilyn Monroe. Although

he does not feel he is the reincarnation of the famous star, he does feel his show is unique. "In Las Vegas, I saw Marilyn Monroe at least four times on the street. None of them sounded like her."

Entertainment has always been his dream. Having already reached what he considered to be his "ultimate goal", a movie role, James would now like to move into other mediums of entertainment. Recording is one field holding his interest, so there may be a dance album in the future featuring celebrity impressions.

Actually, anyone who can vocalize like he can is nothing short of a miracle. He reaches down with his voice to bring out the likes of Eartha Kitt, Judy Garland and Cher, then just as easily he reaches up to find Diana Ross and Madonna, and last year's audience at Lavita's will remember a conversation he staged between Katharine Hepburn and Bette Davis. Not only does his voice change from star to star, so does his expression. As he turns his head back toward the audience, one could see the women on his face.

James does not exaggerate mannerisms or exploit anyone's memories. He merely recreates performances for the enjoyment of his audience.

Even though he's gained national attention with his vocal abilities, James remains the humble and somewhat shy person from small-town Texas. His family resides in San Antonio where he calls home. If you ask how his family feels about his career (which, by the way, is his only job) he'll tell you, "They love it". At first, they didn't understand why James wanted to get in a dress and look like Marilyn Monroe. But, like everyone else, once they saw how little of the show is actually done in drag, they realized what a talent they have in the family.

James gives about 250 shows every year. A good deal of his time is spent in Provincetown, but travel definitely becomes a daily regimen. Last year, about 60% of his shows were delivered in gay bars which, because of the set up and sound systems in place, offer a more conducive environment for his act. The other 40% were delivered in theatre-type settings.

"Are you gay?" is the question he is asked most often. Like many entertainers, James shies away from specific questions about his personal life. Unfortunately, the "wrong" answer could kill a star's career with part or all of his or her audience. When James appeared on *Donahue*, he answered the question by saying, "What

difference does it make? If I say I'm gay, I may lose part of my audience. If I say I'm straight, then the other audience won't believe me. You just can't win."

When asked about political activism, James admits to being curious and that he does a lot of "watching". Here again, he feels he must be



Jimmy James

Mr. Jimmy James

careful. The "wrong" cause could kill a career. James expressed a particular interest in child abuse prevention. His hectic touring schedule, however, does not permit him to make many benefit appearances required of a politically active celebrity.

Our one-hour conversation ended with some advice James wants to share with readers: "If you think you're handicapped or not good enough, work hard and make your goal special to you and things will go your way. I'm a perfect example of that."

James will appear in Atlanta on Jan. 28 at Center Stage Theatre. Make your reservations now for an evening with Marilyn and the rest of the cast named Jimmy James.

-Mark du Pont

Tickets are available for handicapped and deaf patrons, but may be purchased only from Center Stage. This show will be sign interpreted. Tickets are \$15.50 and may be purchased at Center Stage, Turtle's Records & Tapes, and all S.E.A.T.S. outlets. For more information, please call 873-2500.

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Southern Lesbians Will Meet at Emory to Prepare for National Conference

The first Southeast Region Organizing Meeting will be held January 28-29 at Emory University to establish an agenda and organize the region for the 1989 National Lesbian Conference.

Scheduled for the fall of 1989, the conference will be by, for and about lesbians and will be planned "according to feminist principals and process."

"So many lesbians are doing vital work creating change to better this world, yet our issues as lesbians are rarely in the forefront for social change," wrote regional conference organizers.

An ad-hoc group met in Washington, D.C. in September to discuss organizing the national conference. To ensure national input for the conference, organizers divided the U.S. into six regions, each of which will provide

representatives at a national planning meeting to be held in March.

"Our greatest strength is our diversity. Lesbians of every race, class, religion, ability and ethnicity must be involved in all aspects of planning the conference," said the organizers.

"As we learn to tap into the power of our community, we become an awesome force to be reckoned with."

The Regional Organizing Meeting will take place from 9:30-5:30 on Saturday, January 28 and 10-5 on Sunday, January 29. Registration begins at 9 AM Saturday at Emory's Winship Ballroom, Student Activities Building. A Friday night fundraiser and dance will be held at the Inman Park Trolley Barn at 8 PM. 377-8312 for more info.

Several Years in the Future Man With A Gun Is Big Brother with a Twist

Some years in the future the government has established a Department of AIDS, complete with its own Special Agents who wear dark suits, white shirts, dark ties and dark glasses. If you test HIV positive, two of these guards are assigned to you. Their purpose is to protect you from yourself, other people from you, and you from other people. They also serve notice to all that you are HIV positive. That's what happens to Caplan (Madison Rivers) in Jim Grimsley's *Man with a Gun*, one third of The AIDS Trilogy at Nexus Theatre.

At first glance this world "several years in the future" is not too different from our own: here's a young man employed by one of the Big Ten accounting firms; his wife (Amber, played by Brenda Porter) is a systems analyst; they've just bought their first house. The young man is HIV positive...see, he's been "playing with boys" since he was young—something Amber didn't know about, but learns in the course of the story, which brings up issues of infidelity and monogamy/nonmonogamy, maybe even trust in a relationship (but not safe sex: Caplan insists he was safe). Amber of course must be tested, and she becomes "gun-shy" when it comes to touching Caplan. But the most intriguing point is the Guards (Kathy deNobriga and Irv Wardlow). The Department of AIDS has apparently written up an entire Code, telling operatives how to behave, what to expect (when Caplan goes to work with the guards and confronts his employer, everything "goes by the book"), but in addition to fulfilling a couple of our worst

fears about what a government might do with PWAs, these Guards also protect Caplan's rights ("They wouldn't fire you as long as we're around"). Unfortunately, no laws can change people's attitudes, and Caplan comes home early from that first day at work (after the test results) wounded by his fellow employees' reactions to him and his Guards. But there's something unsettling about these Guards: Caplan is certain "one of them would shoot me if I asked them," and that choice of dying by the disease-gun or the bullet-gun is something Caplan must wrestle with during the course of the play.

The pace of the production on opening night leaned decidedly to the slow side, but Mr. Grimsley's even writing and director Pam McClure's sure grip on his words kept the play from grinding to a halt. Both Ms. deNobriga and Mr. Wardlow toyed with stereotype in their portrayals of the Guards, but both actors instilled enough individuality into their characters to avoid the traps of playing the "Government Agent Stereotype." Mr. Wardlow in particular added depth and personality to his Guard Sweetness so that his crucial actions later in the play were entirely believable. While the Guards gave a strong indication of how our future government may handle its people as AIDS continues its rampage, Caplan and Amber sometimes fall short of revealing how the intimate life of a couple is altered by AIDS. Ms. Porter starts the play a little rough, but hits her stride with the emotional changes Amber faces near the middle of the first act. Mr. Rivers, however, despite a magnificent stage presence, never



PAMELA J. COLE

Kathy deNobriga and Irv Wardlow, guards of the "Dept. of AIDS," in Jim Grimsley's *Man With A Gun*.

quite exposes Caplan's inner feelings. This weakens the final scene between Amber and Caplan, when Caplan discovers the Quilt panel Amber is sewing for him and goes from anger to understanding. The changes in both Caplan's and Amber's attitudes, and the result of those changes, are just not believable.

On the technical end, Ms. McClure directs with a clear and definite understanding of the material, keeping her actors steady and well-balanced, once again showing that she is perhaps one of the most underrated directors in Atlanta. John Williams' simple set design was neither too much nor too little, but his lighting was at times too harsh and at others too soft. Several lighting miscues did not help matters, and the stage manager's

repeated crossing between a break in the flats just offstage was very distracting. These items (and the show's pacing) should improve by the end of the run.

Man with a Gun is neither the best nor the worst of Mr. Grimsley's plays. It leaves some questions unanswered, and others un-asked; but then, so does AIDS.

-K.C. Wildmoon

The AIDS Trilogy, produced by Nexus and SAME, runs through January 29. *Man with a Gun* plays Jan. 21 & 27 at 8 pm, *Rebecca Ranson's Body to Body* plays Jan 19 & 28 at 8 pm, Jan. 22 at 5 pm, and *Bill Bagwell's Friday's Thanksgiving* plays Jan. 20 & 26 at 8 pm, Jan. 29 at 5 pm., all at Nexus Theatre.

AIDS Series Shows and Tells All

"I can't go to very many of these things...they make me think too much," John somberly announced, joining me on the steps outside the gallery.

I gently squeezed my friend's hand, turning slightly to conceal my own innermost thoughts.

We sat silently for some time, collecting our emotions as the cool night air cleared our eyes from the congested opening night reception inside. The drone of a dissipated heartbeat rang incessantly in my head and, even shut, my eyes repeatedly imagined a self-portrait among the memorialized.

John's jingling keys broke the trance. We rode home without speaking, save the occasional tender glance which said it all.

Later that night, alone in my bed, I laid motionless, yet awake, mesmerized by the evening's experience...wondering if John was still thinking too much.

I wanted to call, just to talk, but felt best about continuing to avoid discussing the subject which became a conversational taboo between us when John was diagnosed almost two years ago.

The experience this evening was an unforgettable tableau, a powerful multidisciplinary arts presentation addressing this century's most compelling social issue collectively labeled "the subject is AIDS." Nexus Contemporary Art Center's current month-long series of exhibitions and performances exposes the human impact of the deadly virus in gripping terms.

Combining art, theatre and dance, this is Nexus' boldest investigative effort since I discovered them six years ago. And, the statement they have made concerning AIDS will, no doubt, be quoted throughout the national arts scene for decades to come.

I am sure my friend John returned the next day to his professional role as a nurse with renewed dedication and to his personal battle with fresh hope. To witness your own struggle for survival played out on stage and canvas must be enlightening and, at the same time, frightening.

Examining our lives of virus victims through an innovative arts performance program, "the subject is AIDS" tells and shows the whole story. From the stereotypical relationship to the alternative lifestyle, all possible situations for virus candidates are explored.

I was glad to be able to share the examination with John. "Sharing the misery helps," according to the journaled monologue of "The Grief Suit," an evolving multi-media collaboration between choreographer Robert Stern and visual artist Ruth Gumnit from Blue Movers Performance Ensemble.

The interminable, monotonous sound of the amplified heartbeat faded to a darkened set concludes the confrontation between a mother mourning her son and the images in his journal. I shall hear that resounding final beat from "The Grief Suite" for a long time.

Cont'd Page 11

"TORCH SONG TRILOGY" IS A WINNER!

—Lisa Karlin, WABC RADIO

"Fierstein's given us the gay film of the decade, if not the 20th century."

—Steve Warren, ETC. MAGAZINE

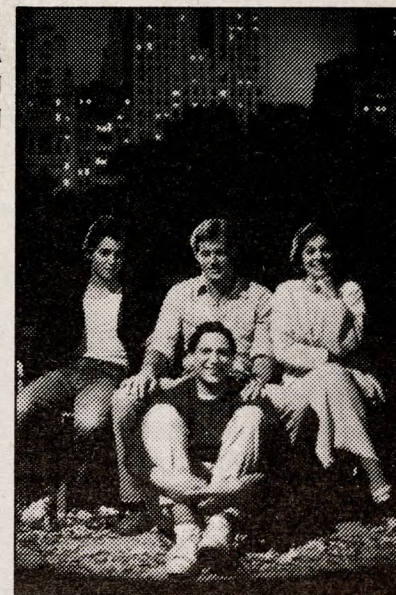
"As a social and political statement, it's head and shoulders above most films you're likely to see this year."

—Vito Russo, THE ADVOCATE

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SOUTHERN VOICE CALENDAR

This Week's Highlights

- **A Place With the Pigs** -January 18-February 5. The most recent play by Pulitzer Prize winner Athol Fugard, it is a comic parable based on the true story of a Russian deserter from WW II. Levi Lee directs Brenda Bynum and Del Hamilton. Seven Stages, 1105 Euclid Avenue, Atlanta. Wed-Sat, 8 PM; Sun, 5 PM. Tickets \$10. Call 523-7647.
- **Sayings From the Life and Writings of Junebug Jabbo Jones** -January 20-23. Celebrate black history via John O'Neal's folk character and hear tales of plantation owners, cotton pickers, stubborn mules and civil rights activists told with great skill and genius. Volume 1: Don't Start Me To Talkin' Or I'll Tell Everything I Know will be performed separately from Volume 2: You Can't Judge A Book By Looking At The Cover. By Jomandi Productions. Academy Theater. Friday, January 20, Saturday, January 21 at 8 PM; Sunday, January 22 at 3 PM. Individual tickets, \$10; buy both "Volumes" for \$16. For reservations and charge by phone, call 892-0880.
- **AID Atlanta Benefit Art Show**-January 20-February 24. An exhibit of works by English artist-illustrator Albert Wainwright, Philly sculptor Gary Weisman and Atlanta photographer Robert Attaway will be featured at Myriad Fine Art, a portion of all sales going to AID Atlanta. The show is open to the public without charge, including an opening night reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres January 20 from 6-9 PM. Myriad Fine Art, 800 Miami Circle, #200. Mon-Fri, 9:30 AM-5:30 PM; Sat, 1-5 PM. Call Roger Caplan, 364-0611.



THURSDAY

19 • "Women of Conscience-

Women Supporting Women in Need."

A detailed program on legal abortion services. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30 PM. Free.



FRIDAY

20 • **Sayings From The Life and Writings of Junebug Jabbo Jones.** Tonight thru Saturday night. 8 PM tonight and tomorrow. 3 PM on Sunday. \$10. 892-0880.

• **The Man in the Glass Booth.** Thru February 11th. Thurs-Sat at 8 PM, Sun at 2:30 PM. Deals with the difficulties of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust in the years following the war. Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland St. 897-1802.

SATURDAY

21 • **DEFEND THE MLK HOLIDAY AND PROTEST THE KLAN!** 11:30 AM. State Capitol. 688-7422.

• **Man With A Gun** - Part of the AIDS trilogy. Nexus Theatre. 8 PM. \$10. 688-1970. Also on January 27th at 8 PM.

• **"Art at the Edge: Houston Conwill."** Thru April 20th. High Museum, 1280 Peachtree St. 881-0452. Pictured: "The New Cakewalk" which incorporates a glass floor etched with a symbolic diagram of the dance, which is overlaid on a map of the South.

SUNDAY

22 • **Great Performances** Ch. 8. 2 PM. explores the life of opera star Nellie Melba, who spanned 40 years.

• **Body to Body** - Part of the AIDS Trilogy. Theatre. 5PM. \$10. 688-1970.

• **"A Justice Revival for Wade"** and speakers in a program to celebrate reproductive choice on the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. 2 PM. Russell B. Noyes Theatre. Sponsored by: Georgians for Choice. Call 377-2181 for more info.

26 • **"Lesbians and Spirituality."** Women-only program involving lesbians and their fundamental/universal religious beliefs.

Julia Perilla-Parker and Kathie Hennessy (co writers: "Dialogue on Spirituality") will lead discussion. Charis Books & More, 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30 PM. Free. Interpreted for hearing impaired.

• **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.** Thru January 28th. A concert featuring Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade" and Mozart's "Serenade #9." Kazimierz Lord guest conducts. Symphony Hall. 1280 Peachtree St. 8 PM. For more, call 898-1192.

27 • **A Woman's Dance.** Proceeds to benefit the National Lesbian Agenda Conference and NGLTF. Inman Park Trolley Barn. 8 PM. \$10. 377-8312

for more info.

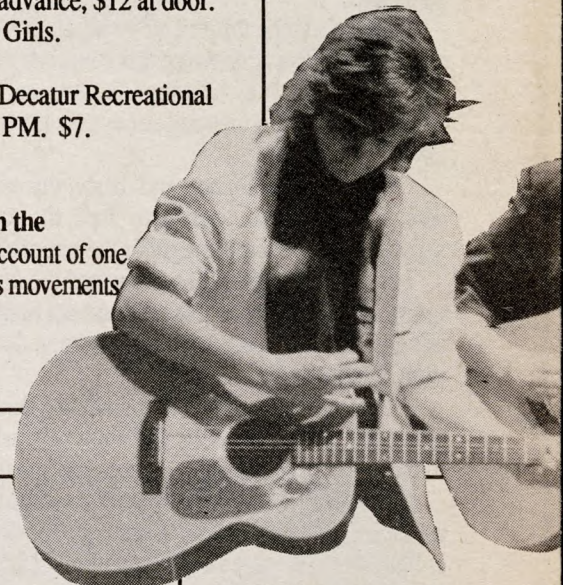
• **Mousetrap.** Thru February 4th. Agatha Christie's murder classic. Neighborhood Playhouse, 430 W. Trinity Place, Decatur. Thurs-Sat at 8 PM; Sun at 2 PM. 373-5311.

28 • **Indigo Girls, Caroline Aiken and Angela Motter** in a benefit concert for the Women's Resource Center of DeKalb County. Agnes Scott College, Presser Hall. 8 PM. \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. 688-9436. Pictured: Indigo Girls.

• **Dunk, Dribble & Dance.** Decatur Recreational Center, 231 Sycamore St. 8 PM. \$7. 523-8336.

• **The Women's Movement in the Philippines.** An eyewitness account of one of the most advanced women's movements in the world. Quaker House, 1384 Fairview Rd. 7 PM.

29 • **Friday's Theatre** AIDS Trilogy. Ralph McGill Theatre. 688-1970.



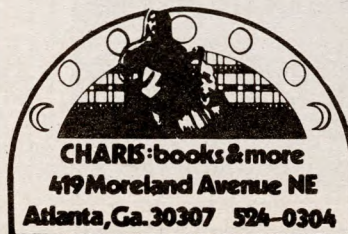
SOUTHERN VOICE

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The Gay Desk Calendar - 1989
John Preston

Historical notes in the Southern Voice Calendar are taken from The Gay Desk Calendar -1989, available from Alyson Publications.



S.E. Organizing Meeting for the Nat'l. Lesbian Conference
Jan. 28 & 29

377-8312 for info.

Celebrate Choice!

Jan. 24th at 7:30PM
Excelsior Mill \$3
Sponsored by COOR (Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue)
365-5311 for info

JANUARY 19-FEBRUARY 1

Next Week's Highlights

- **Benefit Concert for Women's Resource Center**—Saturday, January 28th. The Indigo Girls, Caroline Aiken, and Angela Motter are featured in a rockathon sponsored by Agnes Scott to aid the DeKalb County's shelter for battered women and their children. Agnes Scott's Presser Hall, 8 PM. Tickets—\$10 advance, \$12 at door. Call 688-9436 for more information.
- **Lesbian Agenda Conference**—January 28 and 29. The 1st Southeastern Region Organizing Meeting for a Lesbian Nation! "The need to know who we are nationally, how our energies are being used, knowing priorities, needing to work together" are some of the issues that will be addressed. Emory University, Winship Ballroom, Activities Bldg. Registration 9 AM and all day Saturday, the meeting is from 9:30–5:30, Saturday, and 10–5 on Sunday. (NOTE: Friday night, Jan. 27 there is a fundraiser and dance at the Inman Park Trolley Barn. 8PM. 377-8312 for more info.)
- **Dunk, Dribble & Dance for AIDS**—January 28th. A basketball game and sock hop will be hosted by ACT UP and started up by Decatur Mayor Mike Mears. Charlie Brown and his team of entertainers will square off against Friends Atlanta in a no holds barred tournament with halftime entertainment by the Marching Abominable Band, the Atlanta Jugglers Association, the Pride of Peachtree (the new gay & lesbian marching band) and the Armorettes. WGST radio talk show host Tom Houck is slated as celebrity referee. The game is followed by a sizzling sock hop featuring current dance crazes and favorites from the 50s. Proceeds benefit Project Open Hand, ACT UP and the Huggs Project. Decatur Recreational Center, 231 Sycamore Street, Decatur. \$7. 8 PM–Midnight. Tickets at Burkharts Pub, Charis Books, Boy Next Door and at the game. Call 286-6247.
- **Jimmy James**—January 28th. Impressionist/character actor James does Marilyn like she's never been done before, as well as uncanny vocal recreations of Eartha Kitt, Cher, Garland and more. James was here last summer and if you missed him, here's another chance! Center Stage Theatre. 7:30 PM–10:30 PM. \$15.50. All SEATS outlets or 873-2500.



Y MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

performances: "Melba." Four-part series of world-renowned soprano Melba whose career spanned the AIDS trilogy. Nexus Theater, 608 Peachtree Blvd. 5 PM. \$10. Call 688-9436 for more info.

"Women's Lives." Music to renew commitment to the 16th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. 75 Spring St. 8 PM. Free or Choice. Also, at 8 PM. A candlelight vigil.


23 • **War and Peace in the Nuclear Age.** A 13-part series which chronicles the changes and the history of the new era brought about since the first atomic explosion in 1945. Ch. 8. 8 PM.

On this date in 76 AD the Roman Emperor Hadrian was born. When his lover Antinous died at the age of 20, a new cult sprang up worshipping the young man as a god and spreading infatuation with boy-love throughout the Empire.

24 • **"Georgia Collects."** Thru March 26th. A major exhibit from private and corporate collections in Georgia, presenting many previously-unviewed works of folk art spanning seven centuries. High Museum of Art. 1280 Peachtree St. Tues–Sat, 10 AM–5 PM; til 9 on Wed. Sun, 12 Noon–5 PM; Closed Mon. For more, call 892-HIGH.

• **Pro-choice Party.** To celebrate the 16th anniversary of legal, safe abortions. Excelsior Mill. 7:30 PM–Midnight. \$3. Music by The Montanas, The Ellen James Society and a MYSTERY GUEST. Sponsored by COOR (Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue). 365-5311 for more info.

25 • **"Vision Night."** Original poetry and music features the work of local poet/rocker Jan Gibson, accompanied by Jan Riley and J.B. Sapp. Seven Stages Back Door Theatre. 8:30 PM. \$5. 378-0499.



Thanksgiving – Part of the Nexus Theater, 608 Peachtree Blvd. 5 PM. \$10. Call 688-9436 for more info.




30 • **Pride of Peachtree.** Atlanta's own Lesbian & Gay Marching Band. Rehearsals every Monday at 1st MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30 PM.

On this date in 1945, author Toby Marotta (The Politics of Homosexuality) was born.

31 • **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.** One night only. Part of Great Performers Series. Concert includes works by Faure, Mozart & Schubert. ASO Symphony Hall, 1280 Peachtree. 8 PM. \$12.50 to \$24.75, available at Woodruff Arts Center Box Office. 892-2414.

• **Myriad Fine Art Show to benefit AID Atlanta.** Thru February 24th. 800 Miami Circle. 364-0611. Pictured: Autumn Bronze by Gary Weisman.



1 • **"Homeless in America."** Thru February 3rd. An exhibit of 64 black and white photographs depicting the tragedy of increasing homelessness in our nation. Truly diverse in subjects and frightening in implications. Georgia Pacific Center, 133 Peachtree St. 11 AM–5 PM. Free.

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DEFEND THE MLK HOLIDAY and PROTEST THE KLAN

Sat., Jan. 21
Gather at the Capitol
at 11:30AM
688-7422 for info.

ORGANIZATIONS

AALGA- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance. 1st Sunday of each month. 4:00 PM. Quaker House. A political and social organization for black lesbians and gay men. PO Box 50374, Atlanta, Ga., 30302. 691-5921 or 297-8815.

ACLU/LG-ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter. 3rd Wednesday of each month. Peachtree Branch Library. 7:30 PM. Working for the civil rights of lesbians and gay men in the metropolitan Atlanta area. 231-5991.

ACT- Atlanta Couples Together. A non-political, non-religious, social organization whose purpose is to support the positive aspects of gay and lesbian relationships. Events and meetings vary. Info: A.C.T. Voice Mailbox, 365-2455, or write PO Box 723291, Atlanta, Ga., 30339.

ACT UP/Atlanta-AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held every Tuesday. 24-hr. info line - 286-6247. Outside Atlanta, call 800-342-7038 ext. 6247.

AFC- Atlanta Facrie Circle. 1st Sunday of each month. Location and time varies. Gay men who gather to support one another and explore their connections with the earth and white light. 622-4112.

AGC- Atlanta Gay Center. 876-5372. Operated primarily by volunteers, AGC offers services for lesbians and gay men as well as educational out-reach to society as a whole. AGC Help Line-892-0661.

AGMC- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus. A semi-professional community-oriented chorus of male voices. Membership open to all interested singers and non-singers alike. 378-9676.

ALFA- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance. 2nd Sunday of each month. 6:00 PM. A lesbian feminist organization which welcomes lesbians of all races, religions, political orientation, economic status, occupation and degree of openness. Write PO Box 5502, Atlanta, Ga. 30307 for more information and to request newsletter.

ALGPC- Atlanta Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee. 2nd Tuesday of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church. Needs volunteers to coordinate this year's lesbian and gay pride March to insure its success.

AMC- Atlanta March Committee- More Than a Phase. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. 7:30 PM. North Highland Branch Library. A community based activist organization that works toward promoting lesbian and gay rights through educational, social, cultural, and political events. 377-8312.

AVS- Atlanta Venture Sports. Activities and meetings vary. An association in which the membership enjoys recreational, social, educational, and sports activities. 242-4899.

AID Atlanta- A community-based, non-profit agency providing multiple services to all people with AIDS, their families and friends, and education to everyone regarding the disease and its prevention. 1132 W. Peachtree St. (Entrance 13th Street). 872-0600.

AIDS Information Line-876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide). Answers to questions about AIDS, referrals, etc., by trained volunteers staffing phone lines from 9:00 AM-9:00 PM daily. A public service of AID Atlanta and the Ga. DHR.

Atlanta Business & Professional Guild- A non-profit service organization comprised of both gay/lesbian and non-gay professionals and businesspersons. 2nd Tuesday of each month. Place varies. Membership and further information: 662-4202.

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus- A community- oriented choral group of women's voices. Membership is open to all women interested in singing. Chorus practice held each Sunday, 6:00-8:30 PM at the First Existential Church at 470 Candler Park Dr. 355-8894 or 435-4498.

Atlanta Lambda Chorus- A community-oriented choral group for both men and women. Membership open to all singers and non-singers alike. Rehearsals every Tuesday at MCC-Blessed Redeemer, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30 PM. 874-1622.

BWMT- Black and White Men Together. 1st Saturday of each month. 8:00 PM. Location varies. A gay inter-racial organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. 794-BWMT. Circle of Healing- 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. 4:00 PM. First Existential Church. The Circle is open to anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual.

Congregation Bet Haverim- Services 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 PM. Shabbat Seder, 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 PM. Quaker House, 1384 Fairview Dr. Proudly serving the lesbian and gay community. Synagogue information line: 642-3467.

ELGO- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization. Meetings every Wed. at 7PM. Room 363E Dobbs University Center. Box 23515, Atlanta, Ga. 30322. 377-7421.

Fourth Tuesday- A networking organization for lesbian professionals and entrepreneurs, operating through monthly dinner meetings and a variety of special social, sports and educational events. P. O. Box 7817, Atlanta, GA 30309, 662-4353.

First MCC Atlanta- Metropolitan Community Church. Sunday Services at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM evangelistic service. Mid-week services on Wednesday at 7:30 PM. 800 N. Highland Ave. Office hours Noon-6:00 PM, Tuesday-Friday. A Christian church proclaiming God's love for lesbians and gay men. Counsel-ing available by appointment for individuals and couples. Same sex Holy Unions performed. 872-2246.

Friends Atlanta- Activities and meetings vary. A social, recreational, and educational group for gays and lesbians. Volleyball, bowling, dinners, theater nights, and dances are among the activities. 634-2500.

GALA- Gay Atheists of America. Meetings social in nature and at members' discretion. To assure freedom of speech; freedom from religion; to defend the separation of church and state; to assist in obtaining civil rights for gays and lesbians, and to offer non-believers an alternate social scene. 875-8877.

GALA- Georgia Tech Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Every Thursday at 7:30 PM. 676-1339 or 352-9213. GALA, Programs Area, GA Tech, Atlanta, GA 30332.

GANG - Greater Atlanta Naturist Group. For gay men who enjoy nude outdoor and social activities. Not a sex club. Nude camping, swimming, parties, etc. several times per month. For info send SASE to: GANG, PO Box 7546, Atlanta, GA 30357.

GAPAC- Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition. Meetings vary. The gay and lesbian political action committee monitoring and acting in the local political scene. 885-0510.

GLPCI- Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church. A support group for lesbian and gay parents. 296-8369.

The Group- Thursday nights. Call the Gay Help Line at 892-0661 or write PO Box 15191, Atlanta, Ga. 30333. A support group for gay and bisexual men who are or who have been involved in marital-type situations with women.

Hotlanta Volleyball-Serious and amateur players are welcome to join. Members compete in tournaments and regulation league play. Clinics held during the year to learn and practice new techniques. Call 875-0700 for info.

Integrity- Gay Caucus of the Episcopal Church. 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. 7:30 PM. All Saints Episcopal Church-3rd floor of Ellis Hall. 875-2720.

LAMP - The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project. Second Monday of every month. 7:30 PM. N. Highland Branch Library. For info: 874-3107 or 872-7568. Address correspondence to: LAMP, PO Box 301, 1579 F Monroe Drive, Atlanta, GA, 30324.

LEGAL- Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians. 3rd Monday of each month. 7:00 PM. Peachtree Branch Library. The voice of lesbian and gay Georgians in the Democratic party. 289-6358.

LIFE- Lesbians in Fun Endeavors. Meeting times and locations vary. Bringing professional gay women together for the fun of it, giving them the opportunity to make friends and enjoy a wide variety of events. 493-3966.

Lutherans Concerned/South Carolina- A society of gay, lesbian and non-gay Christians. All denominations welcome. We work to foster a climate of understanding, justice and reconciliation among all people. 3rd Sunday of each month. 4:00 PM. 728 Pickens St., Columbia, SC. Contact: PO Box 90537, Columbia, SC, 29290.

MACGLO- Metro Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations. 3rd Thursday of each month. 7:00 PM. Peachtree Branch Library. A representative council of lesbian and gay organizations to facilitate the exchange of information. 242-2342.

MCC Southside-Serving the southside with positive Christian support for lesbians and gay men. 5:00 PM every Sunday. 575 Boulevard, SE. Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 10AM-Noon, and 1PM-4PM. 622-1154.

NAPWA- Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS. 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. 7:00 PM. 1132 W. Peachtree St. A political, social, and educational organization confronting the AIDS crisis.

Membership is open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV positive. 874-7926.

The Names Project/Atlanta- A National AIDS Memorial. Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church. Send correspondence to: 375 Georgia Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 30312.

P-FLAG- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. 3rd Sunday of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Committed to help parents learn what we have learned. To help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding, so all gay people can live with dignity and respect. 961-6085 or 296-0830.

PLGC- Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns/More Light. 3rd Sunday of each month. Gays and lesbians gather over light foods to celebrate their Presbyterian heritage. 373-5830.

Palmetto Gay/Lesbian Association - A support, education and civil rights organization in S. Carolina. PO Box 10022, Federal Station, Greenville, S.C., 29603. 24-hr. switchboard - (803) 271-4207.

Pride of Peachtree - Atlanta's Lesbian & Gay Marching Band. Every Monday night 7:30 PM-9:00 PM at First MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. Instrumentalists and colorguard still needed. For info call David at 434-7826 or Susan at 951-1591.

Project Open Hand - Prepares and serves meals to PWAs, PWARCs unable to do so themselves. Volunteers needed for organizing, kitchen and delivery. 248-1788.

SAME- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc. Utilizes the arts and media as tools for exploration, education, and change in human rights, especially those pertaining to the lesbian and gay community. 584-2104.

UULGC- Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Community. 2nd Thursday of each month. 8:00 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. A spiritual and social support group for religious liberals. Call for a copy of our newsletter. 634-5134.

WOW- Women of Wisdom. 3rd Monday of each month. 7:45 PM. North Highland Branch Library. Aims to facilitate women meeting together with other women in a pleasant atmosphere. Offers timely programs of interest to the community, reaches out to older women and women with special needs.

NEXUS CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER & SAME PRESENT

the subject is

■ **Man With a Gun** by Jim Grimsley
January 21 & 27 at 8pm

■ **Body to Body** by Rebecca Ranson
January 19 & 28 at 8pm
January 22 at 5pm

■ **Friday's Thanksgiving** by Bill Bagwell
January 20 & 26 at 8pm
January 29 at 5pm

Tickets are \$10 and may be reserved by calling 688-2500
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Performances are at Nexus Theater, 608 Ralph McGill
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*The development and performance of these plays was funded in part by grants from
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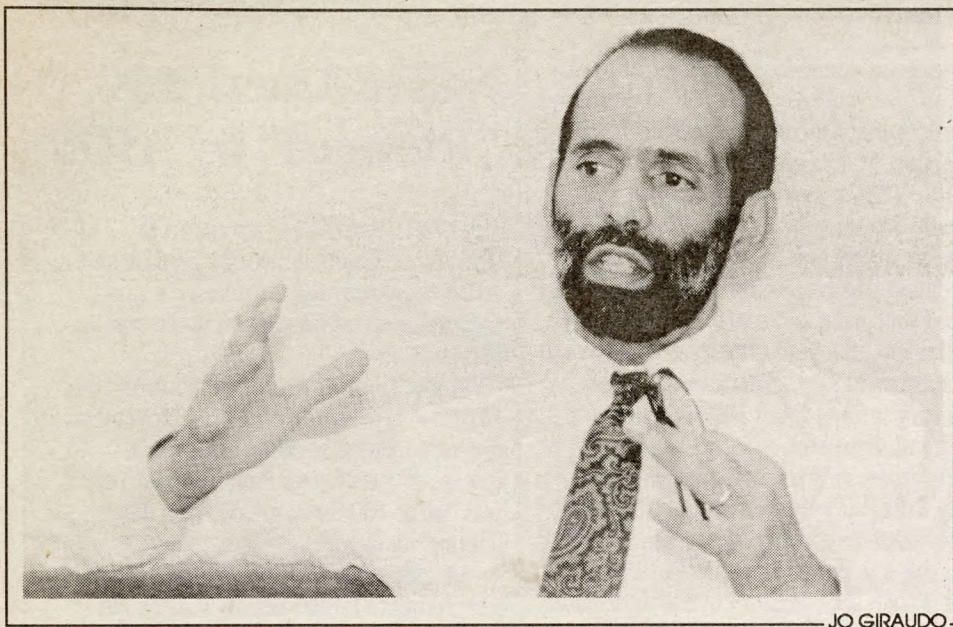
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Lomax Human Rights Bill

Cont'd from Page 1



JO GIRAUDO

Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax has confirmed his intention to introduce a sweeping human rights ordinance to protect individuals from discrimination based on their sexual orientation or HIV antibody status. Saying that he believes the ordinance is in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Lomax shrugged off worries that such pro-active legislation would harm his mayoral campaign.

Other provisions of the ordinance as it is now written, include:

- a finding that discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV status "contribute(s) to the County's indigent care costs;"
- across-the-board AIDS education beginning with age appropriate information at the kindergarten level;
- a continued commitment to providing free, anonymous HIV antibody testing sites;

- AIDS education for inmates at the County Jail and for all new and current County police officials;
- mandatory pre- and post-test counseling for individuals having an HIV antibody test, as well as written consent to perform the test at non-anonymous sites (such as a doctor's office);
- criminal penalties for divulging an individual's HIV antibody status;
- a maximum waiting period of 30 days

the subject is AIDS

Cont'd from Page 7

Somehow, the intensity of the subject was more palatable in the provocatively explicit yet abstract dance work, "Dis-ease," choreographed by Anthony Phillips. Challenging the audience to sever any remaining misconceptions of AIDS as a homosexual issue, the work is performed by a man and a woman who are, for the most part, nude throughout the acapella piece.

The inevitable question, "Why?" provided the impetus for a four-movement dancework by Jim Chappelleaux, designed to demonstrate that AIDS can be dealt with on a nonhysterical level. Beginning with "love" that exposes the character to the condition, Jim follows with themes of "isolation," "temporary satisfaction" and "memories of the past" through his debut in the Atlanta dance community.

Before we could respond to Chappelleaux's query, Jim Grimsley's newest play, *Man With a Gun*, provided an answer. "I don't know why...I don't know anything anymore," admits the shattered husband when forced by authorities to reveal his HIV positive status and his closeted bisexuality to his wife.

The comfort in realizing that we are not the only people vulnerable to the plague continued in Rebecca Ranson's *Body to Body*. Following the lives of an infected interracial couple, Ranson dramatizes the courage and compassion of a social worker and an ordinary citizen who cry out in rage about the abandonment of babies who no one wants.



PAMELA J. COLE

Ross Mielke, Rick Rogers and Greg Hall in *Friday's Thanksgiving*.

on paper work entitled "Dead Man's Shoes" and Tony Greene's "The Valley of Unrest," a mixed media installation. Some pieces are disturbing. Like Dui Seid's "AIDS-The Test," a collage formed out of medical supplies, fiberglass and plastic and spelling out A-ccuse, I-solate, D-iscriminate and S-elf righteous. Some are beautiful. Like Alan Long's "Surrender" and Michael J. Paulson's "Sebastian," two of the more realistic human form drawings. All of the pieces are enlightening.

Stopping for a final viewing of E.K. Huckaby's "Reflection Denied," an installation comprising a medicine cabinet set into the wall with a small sink positioned below it, I glanced at my image through chains crossing the mirror and saw it was time to leave.

The unseasonably autumnesque night brushed my somber mood as I sat alone, waiting for my friend John. When he emerged from the gallery, similarly entranced, I gently squeezed his hand, knowing he would probably think too much.

- John Blizzard

"the subject is AIDS" exhibition continues at Nexus Gallery, 608 Ralph McGill Blvd., through February 11. Plays in the AIDS Trilogy run through January 29. Check the centerfold calendar for performance details.

before complaints brought under the ordinance are heard by the Court;

- a refusal by the County to contract for insurance with any carrier that requires an HIV antibody test for health or disability insurance applicants.

According to records provided by Lomax's campaign staff, he was an early and strong proponent of a judicious, non-discriminatory policy toward the AIDS epidemic.

He was arguably the first elected official in Georgia to mention AIDS as a "potential health crisis" in 1982, and under his leadership, the County began funding AID Atlanta in 1984, and an anonymous, free, HIV antibody testing site at the Atlanta Gay Center in 1987.

It should come as no surprise, therefore, that the populist candidate for mayor does not view the far-reaching ordinance as harmful to his cross-cultural campaign.

"I'm hopeful, that as a result of (the ordinance), we are not going to get a bunch

of hate-mongers coming down here and bothering the Board," he said. "But, if that's the case, we will just take them on a case-by-case basis.

"One of the things that I've had to explore personally as I have been in public office over the past 16 years is the issue of values versus expediency - self-preservation versus idealism," he continued. "I run for office not necessarily just to hold the office, but to accomplish something that I believe in, in the office."

Lomax currently plans to introduce the finalized version of the ordinance to the full Board of Commissioners sometime in February, with eventual passage in March or April of this year. Both he and the Citizen's Lobbying Committee believe that a strong presence of gay/lesbian and AIDS-affected people at public hearing and Commission meetings will serve to hasten and insure the ordinance's passage.

-Chris Duncan

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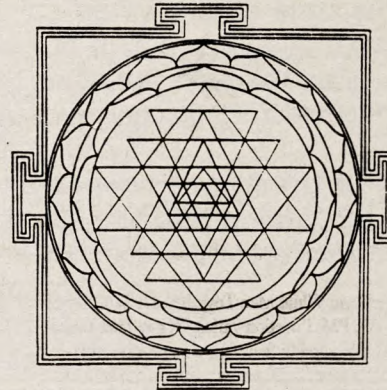
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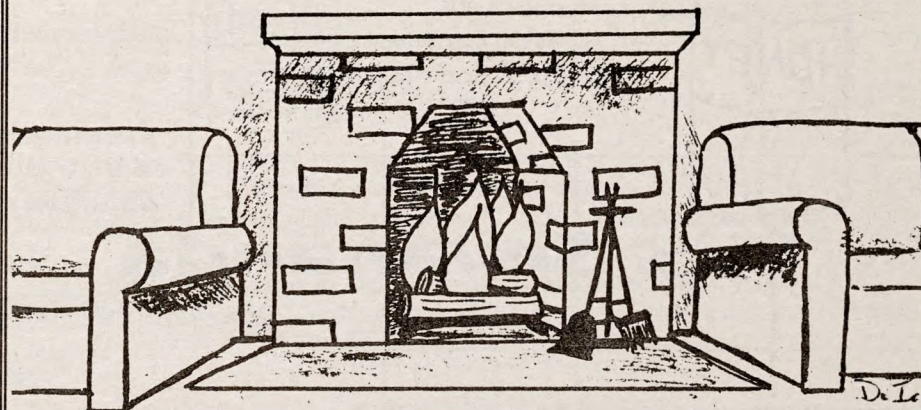
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Living With AIDS

With Crisis Comes Opportunity

In the Chinese language, the symbol Ji represents both Crisis and Opportunity. They are just different sides of the same coin. It is a belief that when you are confronted by a problem, that there is also an opportunity for growth, though sometimes hidden.

This has been my experience since my diagnosis in 1987. At times I have wanted to give up, to take a lot of pills, get drunk, anything to take away the pain and fear. And yet, at other times I thank God for the gifts of Love, Friendship, Self-acceptance, and Health that I have grown to appreciate.

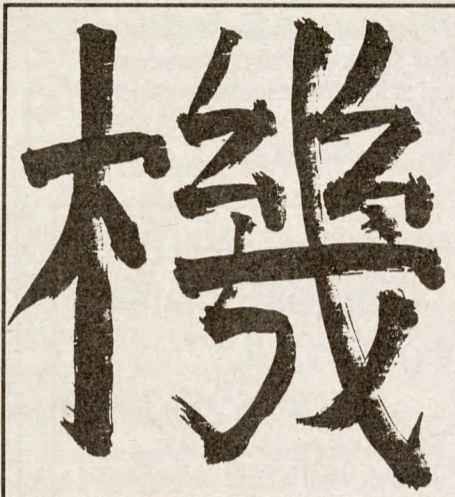
It is this joy, this opportunity, which I feel holds the promise for everyone's futures. We hear more everyday about people with ARC/AIDS that are living long and living well. Just think about how in the last five years there has been a dramatic decrease in the fatality rate of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. Though there is no guarantee, and many of us have left our bodies, I can't help but look at those who are leading quality lives as a sign of hope.

Today I see more people discovering ways to increase their chances of living a fulfilled life, however long that may be. They are changing the way they view the world with the likes of Louise Hay, Bernie Segal, and/or the Simontons. They sometimes use concepts of Religion,

Spirituality, a Higher Self, or Institution as a stabilizing and grounding force.

Many people are getting tremendous results with nutrition. I believe that totally changing my diet has had a significant effect on regaining my health. What you feed your body does make a difference!

In addition to the benefits received from prescribed drugs, some are trying one or more of the following: massage,



In Chinese, the symbol Ji represents both "crisis" and "opportunity."

acupuncture, chiropractic, Chinese herbs, homeopathy, nutritional supplements, or experimental drugs. This is only a partial list. The options are many. Whatever they choose, people are benefiting from an improved quality of life.

I invite you to look at the AIDS

challenge in your life, or the lives of those around you, and see what you can do to find the opportunity there. Read a book, pick up the phone, go to a health food store, go to a library. Then begin to make choices, take action! Try some of the ideas mentioned above or others you have heard about. If something doesn't feel right or work after an agreed time, stop and make another choice. Realize too, that your choices do not have to cost a lot of money. There are many people with very limited funds improving the quality of their lives.

Yes, there is much that can be done today. We don't have to wait for the Magic Bullet to create a better life, to flip the coin from crisis to opportunity. We can begin right now to seek mastery over this disease instead of remaining its helpless victims.

— Jeffrey Shinn

Jeffrey Shinn leads store tours of Sevananda Natural Foods Grocery in Little 5 Points. He is a spiritual and nutritional counselor.

"Living With AIDS" is written by those personally affected by the AIDS crisis. PWAs, PWARCs, HIV-positive persons, their family and loved ones, health care professionals, teachers, attorneys, and anyone in the community who has been touched by this epidemic are urged to submit to "Living With AIDS" by writing Southern Voice, P.O. Box 54719, Atlanta, GA 30308. The HIV status of any author of this column, unless specifically stated by the author, should not be assumed.

Native Americans "Ravaged" by AIDS

San Francisco, Calif.—An expert on sexually transmitted diseases predicts that AIDS "could ravage the relatively small native American population in the coming decade".

Philip Tingley, writing in the *American Hospital Association News* last November, reported that the sexually transmitted disease rate for native Americans in 1985 was "10 to 100 times greater than the national average".

Tingley said that the federal government's Indian Health Service has been slow to address the issue, charging the agency with ignoring the potential AIDS threat among native Americans. According to Tingley, the IHS stated as late as August, 1987, during a Centers For Disease Control (CDC) conference, that, "AIDS is not an Indian problem."

Tingley insisted that funds must be made available for: AIDS case-management services; emergency, transitional and permanent housing for Native American with AIDS; home health care services that are culturally sensitive; and peer counseling and culturally appropriate psychotherapy.

Tingley is the new president of the National Indian Social Work Association and serves on the board of the American Indian AIDS Institute in San Francisco.

The Centers for Disease Control currently reports about five dozen cases of AIDS among native Americans.

What's more important to us than our health?

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Animal Rights: Protestors Push for Reforms, Scientists Point to Results

Twelve animal rights activists were arrested recently as they demonstrated at Emory University's Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center. Over 100 members of In Defense of Animals, a national animal rights group, gathered during work hours on a week day to protest animal research at Yerkes.

"What a change," said local coordinator Ginger Redmon. "A year ago we couldn't have gotten 15 people to come out for this."

Yerkes administrator, Frederick King, called the demonstrators "a weird bunch" and in *Newsweek* magazine, he accused animal activists of having "a bizarre elevation of a touchy-feely, do-gooder's view of the world."

The demonstration was the result of an animal rights movement that has gained enough momentum since 1980 to be taken seriously by researchers, police, Congress, and some research center administrators. In 1980, Alex Pacheco and Ingrid Newkirk founded PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals). This group, along with In Defense of Animals, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Humane Society, and some 7,000 other groups are fighting against the inhumane treatment of lab animals and "the frivolous, unnecessary, and repetitive experiments" which are costing millions of dollars and millions of animal lives.

They are also fighting the "sacred cow" of the medical and scientific research community. Until recently, animal research has been accepted, applauded, and federally funded without question. But animal rights activists believe that researchers are "abusing the privilege of trading animal lives for human ones," and that "the practice has gone beyond moral bounds."

"Resistance to change is one of the biggest problems," says Redmon. "They just haven't really looked at the alternatives to animal research, it's been done so long."

Activists charge that research animals are subjected to extreme torture, isolation, and inhumane treatment; and the detailed reports of researchers prove this to be true. One vivid experiment was conducted with baby monkeys who had been removed from their own mothers and placed in the care of a mechanical monkey mother. The mechanical mother would eject sharp metal spikes each time the babies hugged it. The published report on the effects of "child abuse" to young monkeys told how the baby monkeys would back off until the spikes were retracted, then rush in and hug the mechanical mother, again and again until

they were killed.

While stories like this are well-documented, it is also true that virtually every medical breakthrough, every surgical procedure, every drug prescribed in modern times is the result of animal research. And when treatment and prevention of the AIDS virus is discovered, it will probably be because of animal research being done right now.

For instance, Sema Inc., a government contract lab in Rockville, Maryland is using rhesus monkeys for AIDS research. (Conditions at Sema are notorious for being especially inhumane.) Yerkes, one of the few places that successfully breeds chimps in captivity through artificial insemination, is reportedly breeding chimps without immune systems for AIDS research. And researchers in California are using a special breed of mouse with no immune system to study the AIDS virus.

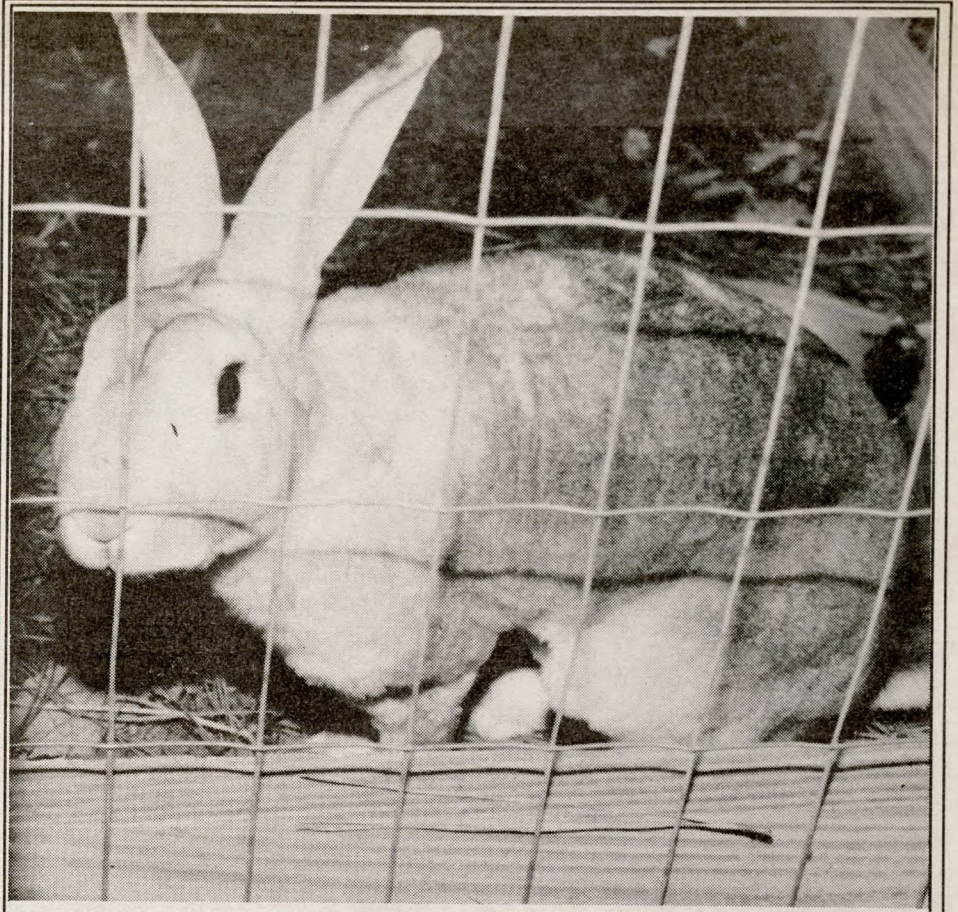
About 85% of the 17 million animals used in research each year are mice. After mice, the most popular animals for research are rabbits, guinea pigs, chimps and monkeys, cats, and dogs (12 million animals were also destroyed in animal shelters last year).

Gay men and lesbians seem to take a special interest in animal rights. Sources say a third to a quarter of people involved in animal rights are homosexual.

"As homosexuals, many of us remain childless and adopt the animals in our life as our children," said one psychologist involved in the movement. "Our pets receive the love and care that we would have given to our children and become just as important to us. We are especially appalled by the mistreatment of our 'children.'"

"I think we have a peculiar understanding of being disregarded, a sharp sense of justice and injustice," said lesbian animal rights activist Maria Dolan.

"I think there's a unique appeal in that animals do not have a voice of their own. They can't ask for their own rights," she continued. "Slavery was a tradition too, and what we are talking about is out and out slavery. Most animal research is bogus bullshit, welfare for researchers."



Conservative estimates by the federal government place the total number of animals used in scientific research between 17 million and 22 million – 554,000 of which were rabbits. Other animals in high demand by scientists include dogs (180,00), cats (50,000), primates (61,000) and millions of mice and rats.

Rabbits are especially used in research into coronary disease and product safety. Although Procter & Gamble has joined other firms in a pledge to halt animal testing as soon as alternatives become available, they continue to use the Draize test for irritancy. The Draize test involves squirting high concentrations of cosmetic and household products into the eyes of rabbits to determine their irritancy level.

There's no denying that animal rights is a hot topic right now. Celebrities Bob Barker, Robert Redford, and Carol Burnett have been outspoken in their support of animal rights. The whole world watched recently as rescuers in Alaska tried to free three whales trapped inland by ice. And certainly, Sigourney Weaver has popularized the plight of the gorillas of Africa with her portrayal of well-known gorilla researcher Diane Fossey in the hit movie "Gorillas in the Mist."

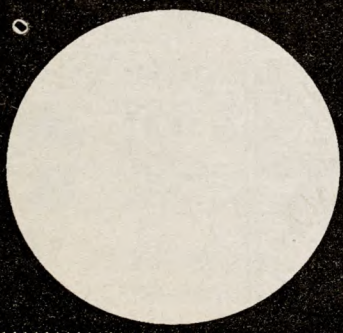
Fingers are pointing madly in this tug of war over the voiceless victims. The question that everyone seems to be asking is

– who's right? Do animals have rights? Are humans a superior animal? Do the ends justify the means?

Although most die-hard activists insist on the liberation of all research animals, most people involved in the animal rights movement would settle for far greater selectivity and sensitivity on the part of the scientific establishment. If research scientists keep hiding in their ivory towers, however, they may find the rising tide of anger will flood them out.

– Pamela J. Cole

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by Martia Proba
January 17-30, 1989

Mercury turned retrograde in Aquarius on the 15th and will return to Capricorn before turning direct on February 4th. There will probably be more than the usual power failures. Patient endurance is the way to handle the communication breakdowns you're sure to encounter.

AQUARIUS Do not argue with a Leo on the Full Moon of the 21st. Your personality should shine now. A Gemini could be fun on the 17th.

PISCES After the 19th, the Sun in your 12th house will help you do what you like best - isolate and dream. A Virgo can bring you down to earth on the 24th.

ARIES Go out with all your friends, have parties and generally enjoy yourself. If you must continue working on your career plans, the 22nd is a good day to work out with a Scorpio.

TAURUS Mars and Jupiter combine with the Sun to produce a wonderful opportunity for job gains. Keep it legal on the 25th with a Virgo.

GEMINI The Sun and Mercury suggest you travel in search of enlightenment and education. If you get delayed on the 22nd, find a Libra to share secrets with.

CANCER If you haven't yet committed to a relationship, now is the time. After the 19th, your romance and partnership interests are highlighted. Join with a Virgo on the 26th.

LEO Your domestic and partnership issues will benefit from Mercury stimulating creative solutions to thorny problems. Take a Sagittarius to lunch at work on the 26th.

VIRGO Now is the time to focus on getting yourself into great physical shape. The Sun and Mercury transit your 6th house of health. Work out with an Aries on the 24th.

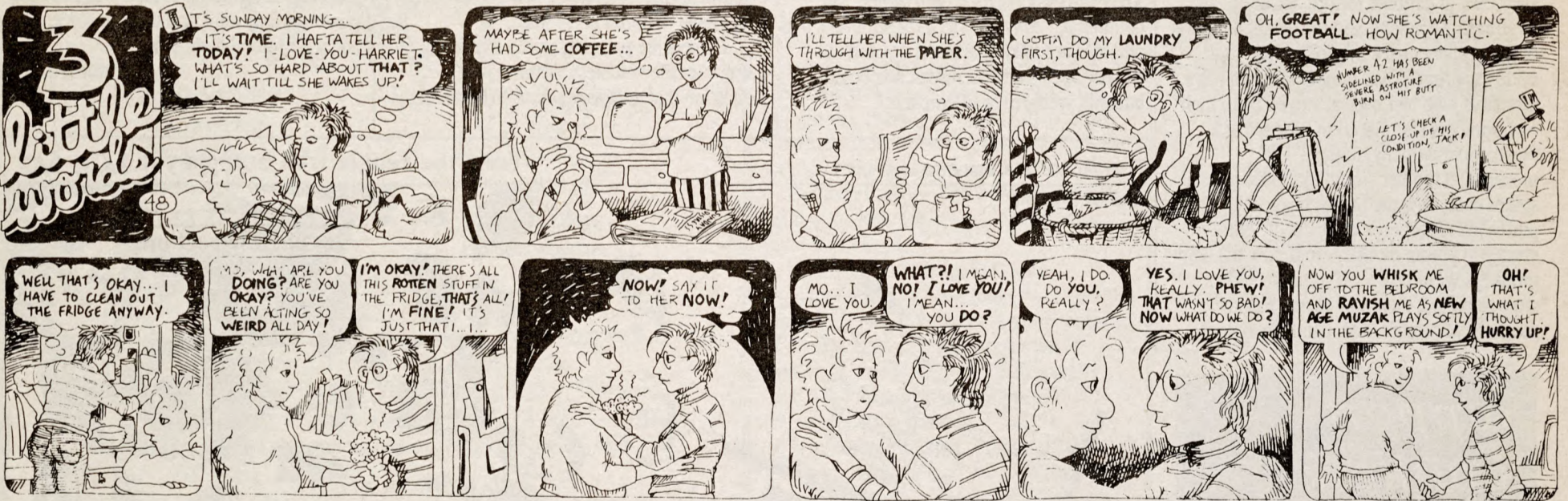
LIBRA Romance is in the air. The 21st's full moon is the wrong time to argue with your mate about money. A Pisces adds to your indecision on the 27th.

SCORPIO Stay at home and be insightful. Your relatives may be on your mind also. Self-searching should be rewarding. A Sagittarius helps on the 26th.

SAGITTARIUS Mars drops in after the 19th and provides you with the energy needed to take care of yourself. Communicate with an Aquarius on the 19th.

CAPRICORN If you must deal with money with your mate, do not talk finance on the 21st. Jupiter brings you romance on the 26th. Perform for a Virgo on the 24th.

Dykes to Watch Out For



bittersweet

by Charles Haver



*AIDS-Services & Education

"AIDS 101" Weekend - Jan. 28&29. Required of all AID Atlanta volunteers, and open to all interested persons who wish to become better informed about AIDS. Ga. Mental Health Institute, 1256 Briarcliff Rd. 9AM-5PM on Sat., and Noon-5PM on Sun. 872-0600 to register. (V1#24)

AID Atlanta Support Groups - Bereavement: Mon. 7-9PM; Families, Friends, Partners I: Mon. 7-9PM; Families, Friends, Partners II: Wed. 7-9PM; A PWA in the family: Wed. 7-9PM; The Worried Well: Tues 6-7:30PM; Women with AIDS/ARC: 2nd & 4th Wed. 12-1:30PM; Chemical Dependency PWA/PWARC: Thurs. 3:30-5PM; Minorities with AIDS/ARC: Thurs. 7-8:30PM; Lymphadenopathy/ARC I: Mon. 7-9PM; Lymphadenopathy II: Thurs. 7-9PM; PWAs: Wed. 7-9PM; PWA Weekend Group: Sat. 4-5:30PM. Call 874-6517 for locations, other details. (V1#24)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come to the "Night of the Living Lesbians" starring Jimmy James. Jan. 28 at 7:30PM and 10:30PM. Center Stage Theater. \$15.50 available at the box office, Turtles and all SEATS outlets. 873-2500 for more info.

TENNIS INSTRUCTION AVAILABLE. Now you no longer have to go outside the community for tennis lessons. Help the community by keeping the funds in our circulation and I'll help you improve your game. Call Paula Gore at 659-2301. (V1#26)

Help a PWA and the environment with one phone call! Will pick up and recycle your aluminum cans if you call me at 252-4325. V1#24)

*CHILD CARE

Mature, responsible, loving mother will care for your child up to 5 days per week. Part-time/full-time. Wholesome environment. Family atmosphere. Lots of love. 378-5162. Excellent references. (V1#24)

Babysitter needed for 18-month old boy. Loves other children and pets. Call Gwen Johnson at 523-2560 between 6:30 and 3:30. (V1#24)

EMPLOYMENT

Southern Voice is ready to BOOM and we need experienced sales people now! If you have a knack for sales, be it food, cars or jacuzzis, and you'd like to move into a ground floor position with a newspaper that's ready to take quantum leaps, call me. Jessi McVay - 827-9678. I'm looking for 3 special people to sell our paper. No sex, no slime. No stepping back - only moving forward, setting new trends in advertising. Be a part of this new team - call now for more info.

Accomplished, published writer/editor planning to relocate to Atlanta. Seeking publications job.

Pleasant personality; require congenial work environment. Bob Swisher, Box 298, Capitol Station, Richmond, Va. 23202. Phone evenings/weekends (804) 353-4556. (V1#25)

Clifton Presbyterian Church is looking for a part-time secretary and a part-time choir director/pianist. Call 373-3253 and ask for Patty. (V1#24)

FOR RENT

3,000 sq. ft. home on 16 acres with horse barn. 1 mile from golf & swimming. You'd have 2 rooms with separate deck and bath. Pets okay. Central heat & air. \$325/month + half utilities. Call Pat at (404) 464-3713. (V1#26)

LITTLE FIVE POINTS - 1 Br. duplex apt., high ceilings, hdwd floors, dishwasher, central heat, LR, DR, lg. deck, front porch, off st. parking. \$400 includes heat, water & cooking gas. \$300 deposit. No pets, non-smoker. 474-5655, 584-8622 evenings. (V1#26)

Provincetown - Wonderful P'town apt. on water. 5 rooms, fully furnished, warm, plants, sun. Get away now! Utilities included. Winter or year-round. \$425. Bargain! Only \$300 to share when I return. Call Gail at (404) 633-5781. (V1#26)

*ORGANIZATIONS

The GSU Gay and Lesbian Student Alliance, a social, educational, and semi-political group meets weekly on the GSU campus. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call 352-4570. (V1#24)

Co-ed recreational volleyball every Saturday from 7-10PM. Morningside Recreation Center, 1053 East Rock Springs Rd. Call 875-0700 for information. (V1#24)

HOUSING NEEDED for out of town guests for the Regional Planning Meeting for the National Lesbian Agenda Conference. If you are willing to share space in your home, call Karen Geney at 881-8329. (V1#24)

PERSONALS

GWF, 28 - Wanting to meet an independent, adventurous, self-assured woman. Age is not an issue. I am attractive, androgynous, intelligent, funny and much more. Would like to meet other women for friendship. Reply to SV Box # 2246. (V1 #26)

GWF, 32, feminine, well-educated, professional seeks same for dining, dancing, conversation...casual dating? New to Ga. Enjoy dining out, intelligent conversation, fine wine, good food, long walks, movies, the arts, the beach, travel, and music. Don't know a soul here - want to meet others for friendship and/or more. Reply to SV Box # 2242. (V1#26)

GWF, 31, attractive, sense of humor, creative, well-educated, well-read seeks same. Enjoy film, literature, computers, vegetarian food, newspapers, the ocean. No drugs, alcohol, tobacco. Send photo and letter to SV Box #2240. (V1#24)

GF.Let's add sparkle to these coming winter months. I enjoy arts, outdoors, even TV. Would like to meet attractive woman 44-54 with sense of humor. Reply to SV Box #2232. (V1#24)

REAL ESTATE

Grand old 2-story. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, partially renovated. Original, unpainted woodwork & pocketdoors. Huge lot. Could be legal duplex. Intown neighborhood. \$115,000. JO GIRAUDO, 14 West Realtors. 874-6357, 588-1069.

CANDLER PARK and LAKE CLAIRE real estate specialist. I can show you any home for sale in these neighborhoods. Is it a good time to buy or sell? Call me for advice. JO GIRAUDO, 14 West Realtors. 874-6357. (V1#24)

LEON ALLEN, 14 West Realtors. 15 years experience selling and listing property in Atlanta's close-in neighborhoods. Call me for all your Real Estate needs. Realtor, friend and neighbor. (H) 874-0923, (O) 874-6357. (V1#24)

ROOMMATES

Grant Park - Lesbian professional seeks same to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Pets welcome. \$375/month and half utilities. Call 921-2103. (V1#26)

Gay professional woman seeks same to share 2-bedroom house. \$355 + half utilities. Call 378-6640. (V1#24)

Two lesbians looking for third to share Va./High house. We are non-smoking, non-drinking vegetarians but don't mind if you're not (within moderation). There are several cats and one dog. Central heat and air. Nice house! \$300 month includes utilities, non-food supplies. 874-6765. (V1#25)

*VOLUNTEERS

GEAR UP FOR THE SUMMER! Join the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and get your ideas in on what will make this year's Pride celebrations better than ever. An open meeting will be held Tuesday, February 9, 1989, at 7:30 PM in the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Call 662-6748 after February 1st for more details.

Project Open Hand is looking for drivers to deliver hot meals with love to Atlanta PWAs. Call 248-1788 for information. (V1#24)

Southern Voice is looking for volunteers in the following areas: production, office management and distribution. Become a part of the fastest-growing publication in Atlanta. We need you - and so does your community. Call Chris Duncan at 827-9678.

Merchants Directory

Animal Doctors, 736-A Ponce de Leon Ave. Atlanta, Ga. 872-2423.
 Karen J. Benjack-Burke, 7000 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd., Bldg. 6, #350. 977-6154.
 Stephanie Blackton, 1799 Briarcliff Rd., Atlanta, Ga., 30306. 872-1094.
 T. Lavonne Casey, MBA, Business Consultant, 624-4401.
 Charis Books & More, 424 Moreland Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 30307. 524-0304.
 Deana's One Mo Time, 1980 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 874-0980.
 Dan Easton, 2920 Brandywine Rd., #250, Atlanta, Ga., 30341. 457-0087.
 Dr. David Epstein, 427 Moreland Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 30307. 525-7333.
 ETC., 427 Moreland Ave, Suite 700, Atlanta, Ga., 30307. 525-3821.
 HLM Services Inc., 535 Oakdale Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 659-0315.
 Charles Haver, L.M.T., 524-8221.
 Brenda L. Hawkins, ED. D., 1518 Monroe Dr. #600, Atlanta, Ga., 30324. 872-9016.
 Deborah E. Keefe, 1535 La Vista Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 634-3835.
 Kinko's, Ga. State University. 217-A Student Center. 681-3955.
 Optical Stores, 2441 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 636-9727 or 636-9811.
 Sevandana, 1111 Euclid Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 681-2831.
 Sharon J. Sanders, 1549 Clairmont Rd #108, Decatur, Ga. 373-0278.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS!!

Southern Voice offers free classifieds in these categories:

- Employment
- Child Care
- Volunteers
- Organizational Announcements
- AIDS Education and Services

Southern Voice wants to offer the best read classifieds by our community in Atlanta.

Join us!

Space is limited to 35 words. Free ads will run for 3 consecutive issues. Check appropriate box for category on order form. Southern Voice is published every other Tuesday. Deadline: One week prior to Tuesday publication date. Mail to: Southern Voice! Free Classifieds PO Box 54719, Atlanta, Ga. 30308. Or call (404) 827-9678 Mon.-Fri., 9AM-5PM. We accept VISA and MasterCard.

Classified Directions

1. Print your classified or personal on a separate piece of paper and enclose order form. We must have your phone number to verify the ad.
2. Style Information
 Southern Voice will make the first five words bold, italicized, or all CAPS, for \$1.00 per style, per issue. Or ALL THREE FOR \$3.00 per issue.
3. Personal Ads Can Be Confidential
 Boxes are available for replies to your personal. Southern Voice will forward all replies to you if you check the forwarding box on the order form and enclose \$1.00 for each issue in which your personal ad is to appear.
4. To Respond to a Southern Voice Box Number Is EASY
 Put your reply in a stamped sealed envelope and write the box number on the lower left corner. Mail your reply envelope in a separate envelope to Southern Voice, PO Box 54719, Atlanta, Ga., 30308. We will forward your reply to the appropriate party.

Next Deadline: January 24, 1989

Personals \$3.00 for 30 words for 3 issues.

Minimum charge \$3.00
 Over 30 wds. at 25¢/wd. _____
 Forwarding Box _____
 Style charge _____
 Total Amt. Enclosed _____

Style Choices

- Bold (\$1.00 per issue)
- Caps (\$1.00 per issue)
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Classifieds \$7.00 for 40 words per issue

Minimum charge \$7.00
 Over 40 wds. at 25¢/wd. _____
 Style charge _____
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 x _____ issues (Multiply subtotal by # of issues)
 Total amount enclosed _____

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

(for phone verification)

Free Classifieds Check Box.

- Employment
- Child Care
- Volunteers
- Organizational Announcements
- AIDS Education & Services

ABC Drops Lesbian Relationship From *HeartBeat*

Producers of the ABC series *HeartBeat*, succumbing to negative viewer pressure, are no longer portraying the lesbian relationship between nurse practitioner Marilyn McGrath and her lover, Patti.

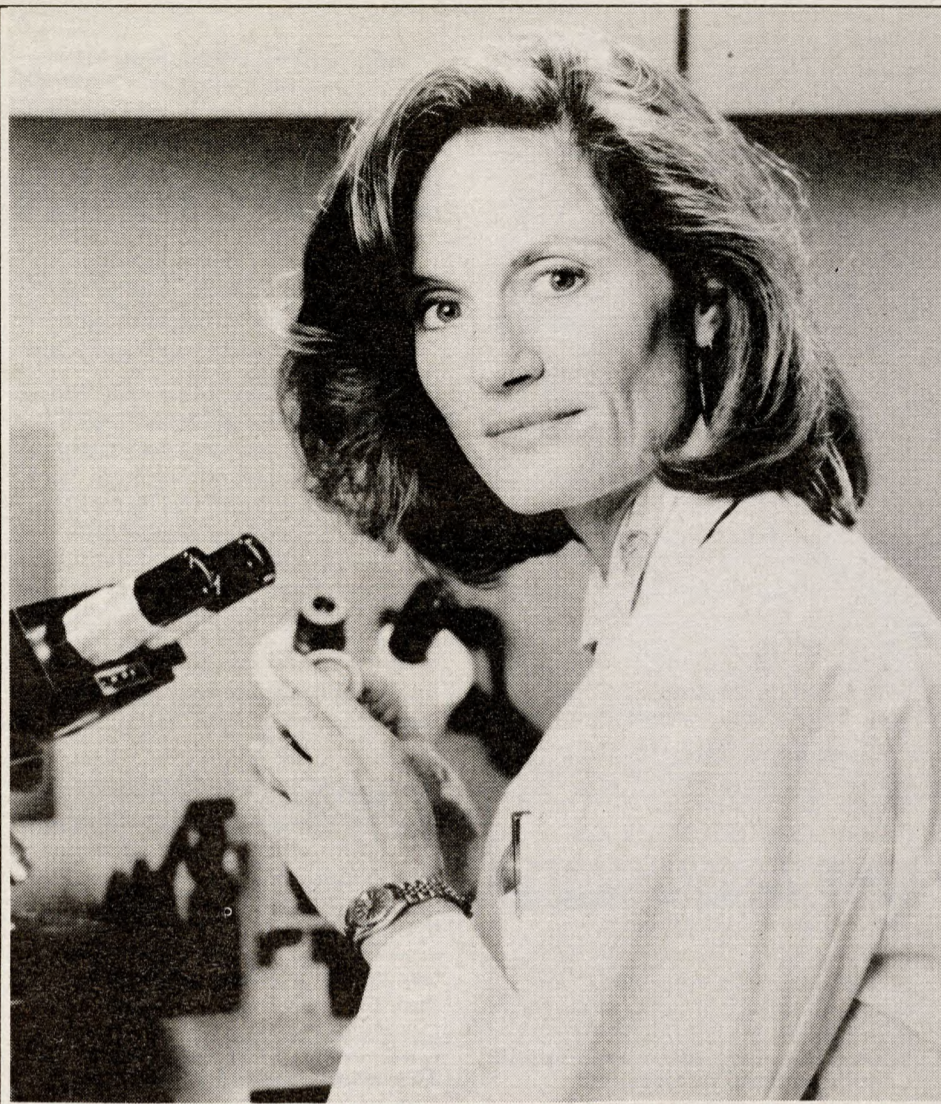
HeartBeat, now in its second season, is set in a women's health clinic and is refreshingly progressive in spirit. Last season, the show specifically addressed the relationship between Marilyn and Patti in a realistic, sensitive manner.

Since then, ABC has received 1,000-1,500 negative letters each week from Christian fundamentalists demanding that the lesbian characters or the series be cancelled. Also, some of *HeartBeat*'s sponsors have reportedly received pressure to advertise elsewhere. Though ABC has continued the show and the character of Marilyn, Patti (played by Gina Hecht) will not appear until the sixth episode of this season. During the pilot aired last summer, Patti was a regular character and Hecht's name appeared in the credits preceding each episode. This season, however, her name has not appeared.

Hecht told *Southern Voice* that she finds it sad so many people in America are adamantly opposed to the portrayal of a homosexual couple.

"It feels like the Dark Ages to me. I just quite frankly find it surprising. I'm not ignorant, but it still surprises me," said Hecht.

According to Hecht, Marilyn will most



Gail Strickland plays nurse practitioner Marilyn McGrath on ABC's *HeartBeat*. Last season, Marilyn was introduced as a lesbian living with her lover Patti, but negative viewer reaction has led ABC to put this couple back in the closet.

likely be continued as one of *HeartBeat*'s main characters, but her romantic and home life will be excluded. ABC's official statement is that they have not decided if they will "further develop" Marilyn's character but have no plans to phase her out or discontinue the show.

"I think it's silly that it can't be continued in a very strong fashion," said Hecht.


"Television unfortunately is ruled by the dollar sign. Viewer mail dictates to a certain degree what's going on. I think it's sad-it's a sad comment that there is a comment at all."

There has been some positive viewer feedback, but it has not been comparable to the tremendous negative response, Hecht said. Southern California Women for Understanding, the largest lesbian organization in California, and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Inc. have both launched national letter-writing campaigns in support of *HeartBeat* for what they believe is an entertaining and educational attempt to present a positive image of lesbianism.

- Wendy Morse

Those interested can write to ABC-TV, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019 or Aaron Spelling Productions, Warner/Hollywood Studios, 1041 N. Formosa Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90046.

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Friday, January 27, 1989
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For more information: 377-8312

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Partial proceeds will go to benefit The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force

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