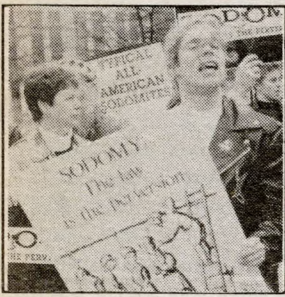


DEMONSTRATIONS

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CLOSETS



Sodomy & the CDC

ACT UP, with its up-front style of politics, gets in the face of the Ga. legislators and the folks at the CDC.

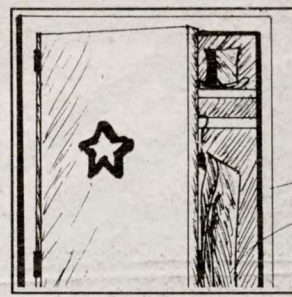
3



Jim Grimsley

Atlanta's bad boy playwright takes a poke at St. Paul in his latest, *The Lizard of Tarsus*.

9



Hollywood Style

Armistead Maupin names closeted gays in Hollywood, and tells us how they hurt all of us.

28

SOUTHERN

VOICE

Vol. 2, No. 24

"Taking Pride in Our Culture"

January 18, 1990

A DANGEROUS DEAL FOR GAY MEN

Does Jack want your heart — or your life?



Atlanta's gay murders are said to point to the tip of a deadly iceberg of homophobic violence.

Page 4

PWA Shot Dead in LA Hospital

Los Angeles - A terminally ill man with AIDS was shot to death in his Los Angeles hospital room late Tuesday by a "very close friend" who then fatally shot himself, reports the *San Francisco Sentinel*. Los Angeles County Coroner's spokesman Bob Dambacher identified the slain man as Steven Jenkins, 35.

The gunman also was a patient at the hospital and had tested positive for HIV, Cedars-Sinai AIDS researcher Dr. David Ho said.

Jenkins had been hospitalized for about three weeks and was suffering from "multiple complications" including pneumonia, according to hospital official. He was first diagnosed as having AIDS about a year ago, they said.

"I heard three shots," said a patient in a nearby room who spoke of the condition of anonymity. "His wall and my wall are together. I heard he was real sick. I went in and saw him lying there in a bed on his side. The friend was on the floor lying right by the chair."

Tightened security will be considered by hospital staff but the facility well not be turned into "some kind of armed camp."

The shootings occurred just a month before Cedars-Sinai is scheduled to open a 24-bed, \$2.5 million AIDS treatment center. Currently AIDS patients are treated in numerous units throughout the hospital.

In addition to medical care, the new facility also will provide a host of counseling services for AIDS patients and those close to them, according to Wise.

College Paper Inserts Condoms in Issue

Chattanooga, Tenn. -- The editor of a college newspaper that's distributing free condoms in its latest issue says it's simply an effort to make people more aware of the dangers of AIDS. "We felt that AIDS probably would have the most impact - in the next decade and on into the 21st century - on everyone," said Candice Corneliussen.

The staff of *The Echo*, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's student newspaper, inserted condoms in 3,000 issues that hit the stands Dec. 8. "We're not necessarily putting condoms in the paper because we felt that it's our job to make sure everybody on campus had a condom," said Corneliussen. "And it's not our business what the students do with them....It's just a statement; not much more than an editorial cartoon or a real effective news story. It just enhances our message."

Corneliussen said the *Echo* devoted its editorial page entirely to AIDS, which she called an important issue for everyone, but especially among college-age adults and single people.

The effort in the newspaper's final issue of the 1980s came as a surprise to UTC Chancellor Frederick Obear, but he downplayed its significance. "I don't see this issue, the AIDS awareness article and the inserting of condoms as an issue that we would take any action on," Obear said. "I don't know whether they're trying to increase circulation or increase awareness, or create what they think is an embarrassing situation for the university."

Tension High Between Chicago's Gays and Mayor

While Chicago has been experiencing a record cold winter, tensions between Mayor Richard Daley and the Windy City's gay and lesbian community have remained hot. The problems arose early in the new administration when four community leaders were scheduled to pass out humanitarian awards at a banquet honoring an alderman who had once made ref-

erence to gays as "animals." When community leaders were made aware of the alderman's insulting attitude towards gays, they tried to move the Mayor to drop the presentation of the award. Seeking an easier political solution, the Mayor's office chose to cancel the entire affair.

Relations further deteriorated when an "I will not get AIDS" billboard campaign was scrapped in December. Frustrated and disappointed by a lack of communication between Daley's "special assistant," Nancy Reiff (who has publicly called herself: "a Daley employee first and a lesbian second"), and the gay community, activists chose to vent their anger through the media. T.V. reports prominently featuring the Mayor's "alienation of this powerful voting bloc," brought the message home to the Daley administration.

Responding to the bad press, Mayoral aid Frank Cruz tried to defuse the situation by meeting with gays. But before tensions could ease, a proposal that would have placed the Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues under auspices of the Mayor's Human Rights Commission had to be dropped. This proposal, "would have filled the commission with Daley hacks," according to *Windy City Times* reporter, Dan Pereten.

While relations remain strained between gays and the Mayor's office, the recent meetings have furthered a more relaxed climate for positive change. Daley has recently promised more funds for AIDS Education and has assented to appointing a larger number of lesbians and gays to Boards and Commissions.

USS Iowa Sailor Denies He Is Gay

"They turned me into public enemy number one," complained Navy Sailor Kendall Truitt at a December News Conference held by *Penthouse* magazine. Truitt's comments were made in response to Navy allegations that he was involved in a homosexual relationship with Clayton M. Hartwig, the current Naval scapegoat for the April 19, 1988 U.S.S. Iowa explosion. Naval investigations have centered around both sailors who were aboard the U.S.S. Iowa when the April 19th blast killed forty-seven sailors including Hartwig. The January *Penthouse* article seeks to shed new light on the circumstances surrounding the explosion aboard the Iowa and why so much media attention has been focused on the friendship between the two men.

According to Truitt, the two gunners mates were taunted repeatedly by other sailors about their supposed relationship. While the surviving sailor claims the taunts didn't bother him, "it bothered Clay a lot more. Sometimes (he) would joke around and say that if the other guys didn't stop picking on him, he was just going to end it all one day."

Truitt claims that Hartwig "was only joking" and that his suicidal comments, "didn't mean a thing." But other witnesses told naval investigators about the threats and this caused the Naval authorities to focus on Hartwig.

Denying reports that their relationship was homosexual, Truitt said that their friendship was based on interests they had in common.

But Naval sources during the investigation repeatedly linked the two together and implied that Hartwig's despondency over his fellow sailor's treatment of his homosexuality was the motivation behind his intentional tampering with the gun, resulting in the deadly explosion.

"I still think that I deserve an apology," Truitt said at the news conference. Truitt, whose wife stood by his side at the news conference said that the attacks on his character had undermined his marriage.

Though the Navy must still undergo the scrutiny of the Armed Services Committee, a Naval spokesperson said, "we do not feel that an apology was in order for we made no allegations. We recognize with regret the anxiety some press reports...may have placed on family members as well as with the crew itself."



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300 Protest Sodomy Law, 63 Arrested

Repeal, Restriction Measures Introduced

by Cliff O'Neill

Atlanta - Over 300 gay and lesbian activists converged on the Georgia State House on the opening day of the 1990 legislative session January 8 to call for the repeal of that state's sodomy law. Sixty-three demonstrators were arrested as part of a civil disobedience action.

For over two hours, the protesters, over half of which were from outside the state, chanted and heard speeches from a wide array of gay/lesbian, abortion, prostitutes' and disability rights leaders.

"Gay, straight, Black, White. Sodomy's a basic right," the crowd chanted as it made its way down Peachtree Street, pushing a bed on wheels on which lay two naked, life-size, inflatable rubber dolls. Arranged to simulate simultaneous oral sex, the dolls represented one of several sex acts made illegal by the Georgia sex statute.

Sodomy laws, as they are called, "prohibit" private consensual sex acts between adults in 25 states and the District of Columbia. In seven of the states, the laws are limited to same-sex partners. Although the laws are not routinely enforced, activists state, they are regularly used by law enforcement and politicians to harass and intimidate lesbians and gay men.

The Georgia law penalizes both homosexual and unmarried heterosexual adults for up to 20 years in jail for any of

a variety of sex acts. As the demonstration took place outside, Georgia Rep. Billy McKinney introduced a bill to repeal the law only as it applies to heterosexuals. Ironically, his daughter, Rep. Cynthia McKinney introduced another bill the same day which would repeal the law entirely.

The Georgia statute was upheld in 1986 in the landmark *Hardwick v. Bowers* decision by the Supreme Court, which cited a "millennia of moral teaching" as grounds for its ruling.

"Whose morality are they talking about?" asked Sue Hyde, director of the Privacy Project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force at the day's function. Quoting from Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun's blistering dissent in the decision, Hyde said, "The freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much, that would be a mere shadow of freedom. The real test of its substance is the freedom to differ as to things that touch the heart of the existing order."

Local residents' reactions throughout the day ran from supportive—as evidenced by a handful of construction workers cheering atop a nearby building—to confused—as seen on the faces of most passers by.

Yet, what was most in evidence throughout the Monday demonstration,



BARBARA SNELL

however, was the scarcity of Atlantans attending the lunchtime rally.

With over 120 members travelling to Atlanta from the New York chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP/NY), and other contingents from Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Washington, D.C., save for the members of Atlanta's ACT UP, proportionately few locals attended the event.

Prior to the gathering, a schism had formed within the Atlanta gay and lesbian community, with many locals fearing the demonstration by "outsiders" would only serve to alienate otherwise friendly lawmakers. The controversy was alluded to several times throughout the demonstration.

"There are lesbians and gay men who disagree with this action," stated Sabrina Sojourner, outgoing chair of Atlanta's African-American Lesbian and Gay Alliance. "They believe that the publicity will cause those who would otherwise be our friends and supporters to abandon us. Well, let me tell them something as a Black person, still fighting racial injustice: With friends like that you don't have to worry about enemies 'cause they're right in your own front yard. Human rights—doing what is right and just—should not be based on which way the wind blows."

Still, the demonstrators did routinely

Continued on page 10

AIDS Activists Arrested at CDC

Protesters Demand Wider Definition of Disease

by Cliff O'Neill

Atlanta—Forty-nine AIDS activists were arrested at the headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control here Jan. 9, as part of a mass demonstration calling on the federal agency to widen their definition of AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex.

Most of the arrested were charged with criminal trespass or interfering with government property and were released on \$240 bond. According to police at the action, CDC officials are seeking to press charges against the demonstrators.

Approximately 300 protesters seized control of the building's front entrance for three hours, lambasting the agency for tracking AIDS cases and deaths and not tracking HIV infections and infection routes.

Despite repeated requests from reporters through the building's glass doors and to CDC employees standing outside, the CDC had no comment on the demonstration.

Holding signs calling on the agency to widen investigations of AIDS in children, women in general, and lesbians in particular, the demonstrators tagged the CDC moniker as standing for "Careless Demographic Counting".

After a two-hour standoff with over 30 DeKalb County police officers—who virtually all wore rubber gloves—waves of demonstrators began challenging the law enforcement agents with a series of actions designed to call attention to their specific demands.

At one point, a group of six women—sever-



EVETT BENNETT

al of whom identified themselves as HIV-positive — took to the building's front entrance to place blood-red palm prints and a large sign reading "CDC Leaves Out Women" on the walls and to speak about their lack of access to drug trials based on the CDC's narrow definition of AIDS.

"Since I don't have their definition of AIDS," said one woman, "I can't get treatment." By their side, three male protesters chided the CDC by covering their ears, eyes and mouths, mocking the agency's alleged reluctance to count many HIV-infected

Continued on page 18

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FEATURE

A DANGEROUS DEAL FOR GAY MEN

Gay men are being attacked with increasing frequency by casual sexual partners

by Chris Duncan

Just wearing a condom doesn't make sex safe for gay men anymore. According to police and community activists, 1989 showed a dramatic rise in the number of reported attacks on these men by their casual sexual partners.

Metro Atlanta police are aware of at least four murders and one vicious assault on gay men by men they picked up for sex in 1989. Using sex to lure victims away from public view and in some cases into the victim's home is an old trick, but this blueprint for crime is becoming more common as the community's visibility grows and more criminals become aware of the vulnerability inherent in the sexual habits of some gay men.

"There is an epidemic of violence against gay men," acknowledged Cathy Woolard, president of the Georgia ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter, "particularly surrounding the gay pick-up spots."

Thomas Germain (a pseudonym) lived a quiet life in Atlanta until several months ago, never a part of the organized gay community and never dreaming he would ask for its help. Seeing himself a law-and-order conservative, Germain could not have imagined the way his belief system would be turned topsy-turvy after being attacked by a man he picked up at a local bar last fall.

The same man that fit Germain's image of the perfect partner — tall, handsome and well-spoken — brutally slashed and stabbed him, without provocation or warning, over breakfast the morning after they met.

Germain's memories of the night he met

his assailant at the now defunct Pharr Library are clear. "I wanted to meet Tony (one of several aliases)," recalled Germain. "He was very handsome and looked out of the ordinary. He was the type of person I like: About 6'2", weighed 190 lb., had a tan, wavy hair and a nice smile. He was very masculine looking, I'll say that."

The two men decided to leave the bar shortly before midnight, stop at Germain's home to pick up some prescription sleeping pills, go to a private party and then head their separate ways. Their decision to remain at his apartment has left Germain scarred for life and wrecked havoc with his previously placid existence.

According to Germain, the two fell asleep about 2 a.m. after a quiet evening that included a tour of his antique collection. His attacker expressed a particularly keen interest in a 200-year-old "very sharp" ceremonial knife.

As Germain continues to relate his story, his voice lowers and tightens to control the sea of emotions apparent in his eyes.

"(The following morning while we were eating breakfast) I went back into the kitchen to get some more (food) and when I came back (into the living room), ... he had the blade in his hands."

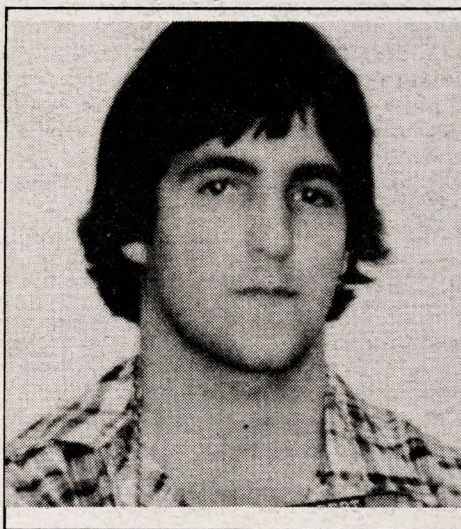
His attacker lunged across the room, and Germain staggered backwards while raising his arm in self-defense.

"He slashed my whole hand," Germain remembered. "Two of my fingers were hanging down like chicken bones, my wrist was cut open, my elbow was broken and I was in a

state of shock.

"He had not gotten mad, it wasn't like (he was) yelling 'you're a fag' or we had had a fight. There was no anger," Germain said. "(He had an) almost Manson-like look in a sense of just doing it." As he attacked, the man bragged in vivid detail of having killed 158 other people. "He was very descriptive about how he did it."

Germain suffered stab wounds to the head and chest in two other parries with his attacker before he finally escaped.



Richard S. Shannon, Jr. (photo is 10 years old) is accused of trying to murder a gay man. He has failed to appear in court and is wanted by Atlanta Police. Call Lt. Horace Walker 658-6818 if you have information or knowledge of his whereabouts.

About an hour and a half after they received the first call for help from Germain's neighbor, Atlanta police arrested the man they have charged with the attack. Richard S. Shannon, Jr., 32, was apprehended getting out of a Yellow Cab in front of the Pharr Library, where Germain had warned police he might be returning to retrieve his car. Shannon's shirt was reportedly covered in blood at the time of his arrest.

Shannon was released on \$5,000 bond shortly after his arrest but has failed to appear at any other court proceedings. At the time of his release, police knew that he had previously lived outside of Georgia, had an arrest record in three states and had bragged in detail of killing others to Germain.

Repeated attempts by *Southern Voice* to contact Shannon have failed. Both his mother and attorney stated that they have no way of locating him. "(Richard) is on the road all the time and I don't know how to get in touch with

him," his mother said. "He hasn't lived here (at home) for years." She also said that Shannon had proclaimed his innocence to her and added that he "really didn't know (Germain)."

Since his failure to appear in court, a bench warrant has been issued for Shannon's arrest and his bond raised to \$100,000. Police now consider him a fugitive, and there appears to be no immediate hope of his apprehension. Atlanta Police Lieutenant Horace Walker evaluates the situation with these words, "If he's around in his normal habitat we'll get him eventually."

According to Kevin Berrill, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Anti-Violence Project, similar attacks are common, and apparently increasing.

"It is an opportunistic crime ... motivated by the perception that the victim is an easy target and unlikely to report the crime to police," Berrill said.

"The perpetrators go into gay bars, represent themselves as gay, try to make friends and then the victim may invite them back home," Berrill explained. "Some may do it just for the money, some may be deranged and some are deeply disturbed about their own sexual identity and act out on their fears in violent ways. A person can even engage in sexual relations with a member of the same sex and still have a deep and abiding hatred of gays."

It is just this pattern that local activists fear is appearing in crimes throughout the metro Atlanta area. In addition to Germain's assault, they are aware of at least four murders that seem to fit the pattern, and they're unwilling to hazard a guess about the number of similar, unreported incidents. Woolard feels that the known crimes are "only the tip of the iceberg."

In late April of '89, the ACLU's Police Advisory Committee became aware of the murder of David Paul Thompson in his apartment at the Darlington. He was found in his bed, nude, with a kitchen knife stuck in his back. Thompson had last been seen at the Cove the night before his death.

Germain says he found a kitchen knife in his bed after returning from the hospital, but the police have ruled out the possibility of a connection between the crimes because of differing physical evidence in the two cases.

Other murders the Police Advisory Committee is looking at include: Ezra Collins, who was found smothered with a pillow in his bed June 8, 1989 at the Berkley Square Apartments in DeKalb County; Michael

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Carlton who was stabbed to death on Penn Avenue October 14, 1989; and the case of James Dean Perry, found dead with his pants around his ankles after being missing for more than a month. None of these cases has been solved at press time.

Nationwide reported violent crimes against gay men include the rape of two men – one a PWA – in Seattle and attacks by Boston's Drug Mugger who slipped knock-out drugs into his victim's drinks before persuading them to take him home.

Besides abstaining from casual pickups, a slow pace and extreme caution are the only advice that activists can offer to gay men who go home with people they have just met.

"I went on what I knew," explained Germain about the man he took home. "If he had seemed strange or whatever when I met him I wouldn't have talked to him. Sometimes I still wonder if I just shouldn't have noticed something about him. That's the self-blame part of what I've been dealing with."

Drinking is one of the factors that makes gay men more vulnerable to this crime scenario, according to Berrill. Although he was cautious not to blame the victim, Berrill did point out that "The more drinks someone has had the less likely they are to make a good judgement" about the people they take home with them. "One of the things the victimizer counts on is the victim not being able to make decisions that are in their best interest."

"We have information on how to protect ourselves from AIDS," Berrill noted. "We need a similar plan on how to make ourselves safe from violence. Your chances of being victimized are greater when your mind is altered by substances."

Long-term behavioral changes in the community will have the most effect in protecting

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individuals from crimes of this type, according to Berrill and Woolard. Both urge people to avoid going home with someone when you first meet them, and advise dating several times before making yourself vulnerable to a violent crime by taking a criminal home.

"Often," Berrill noted, "the perpetrators won't have the persistence to go to those lengths (of dating), but will move on to the next, more likely victim."

Berrill advises that men unwilling to use the dating routine introduce the person who they are taking home to the bartender or a friend who might be in the club. "That way the criminal knows they have been spotted with the victim is less likely to commit a crime," he said.

But most important, Berrill said, is a willingness to "pay attention to your instincts. If you feel unsafe it's okay to change your mind, ... even in the midst of sex it's still your pre-

rogative to say no."

Germain has spent the majority of his time since the attack in physical therapy and trying to monitor the criminal justice system's handling of the case against Richard Shannon. Bitter after feeling ignored by what he now sees as a homophobic system, he waits daily to hear of any new details case from the numerous public officials he has contacted.

"Somehow, if you're in this situation and you survive," he said, you have to put your all into it from the second it happens. You're the only one that's going to help yourself. Don't assume that the prosecutors, the sheriff's deputies and police work for you – you're just a bother to them. They will tell you they just don't have time to help you."

Meanwhile, Thomas Germain wonders what if ...? What if he hadn't approached his attacker? What if the man comes back? What if the justice system is unable to protect him?

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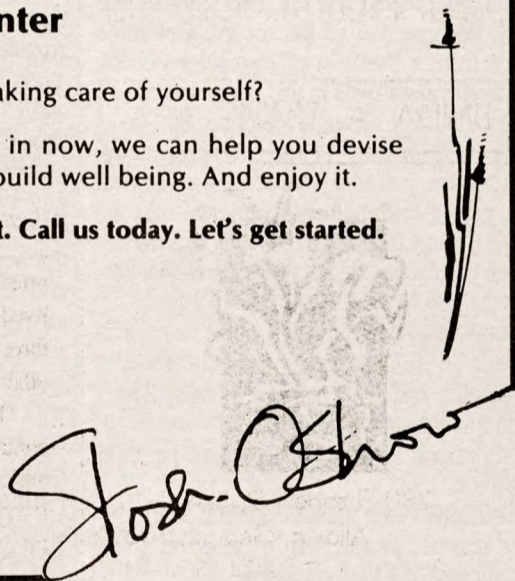
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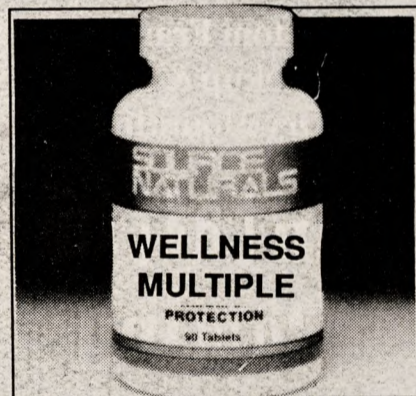
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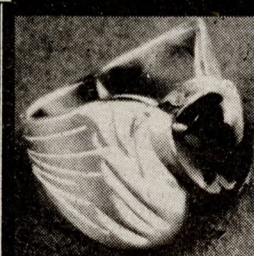
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Staff Editorial

The New Safe Sex ?

Chris Duncan's story on page 4 about gay men who are being attacked and murdered is, at the very least, troubling. At worst, the scenario that it suggests is terrifying.

If you haven't read it, please do so.

It doesn't take particularly heightened awareness to sense that our streets are not particularly safe. And that lesbian/gay bashing is on the rise. So are other hate crimes. Women, people of color and those with non-WASP religious beliefs are all far more likely to be harassed and attacked because of who they are than are white, heterosexual men — the self-appointed norm of our society.

But we all know that. Have for years. And activists and politicians are working on the problem by trying to get hate crimes legislation passed. But if you read this paper you know *that* too.

Are the these murders and attacks being perpetrated by non-gays so insecure in their own identity that they must bash gays in order to feel ok about themselves ? Or are they being done by gay men who are consumed by self-loathing or filled with some psychotic rage. The fact is we don't know.

And it probably doesn't matter.

What does matter is that violence towards gay men by their tricks appears to be on the rise. (Off the record one member of a metro police department confirms that is the case.) But we say *appears* because there have always been stories about this kind of violence, but the unwillingness of survivors to report (or have made public) the details of such attacks has made it difficult to verify the rumors. We commend, Thomas Germain, the subject of much of Duncan's story for his bravery in coming forward, demanding justice and sharing his story with our readers.

It is human nature to find ways to distance

ourselves from the victims of crimes such as these. To say that because "I am a lesbian", or "don't pick up people in bars", or "surround myself in a circle of white light" or "don't attract that kind of energy" that this can't happen to me. Wanna' bet that everyone of the victims mentioned in Duncan's story had a similar line about why it couldn't happen to him ?

Many gay men have gone through a similar kind of denial about possibility of getting AIDS. It doesn't work. Only abstinence or a combination of condoms and good sense will prevent the transmission of HIV.

Are there similar formulae for the prevention of attack from tricks/potential lovers ? Given the fact that humans thrive on contact, just saying no to the pursuit of sexual intimacy seems a near impossible and unhealthy as hell solution.

And there is no known body armor (psychic or physical) as light and transparent as a latex condom.

Sorry, guys and gals, the only answer here is caution. And making ourselves as vulnerable as we do when we hop into the sack with a potential new girl/boy friend only minutes after having met, simply cannot be called cautious.

Please, before you make yourself that vulnerable, make a date for lunch tomorrow or dinner and a movie on Wednesday. Take a walk in the park. And eat/walk/watch without the benefit of alcohol or drugs. Trust your feelings. Then, if the attraction is still there, go (safely) for it. Have fun. Do it like rabbits. Wake the neighbors with your yodels of ecstasy. Take a day or week off from work to get it on with your new beloved.

There are some other things you can do too.

If you've been attacked or threatened by a trick, report it and get some help. Call the Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU at 231-5991 and tell your story so that it will become part of the record. Get some advice from a therapist or counselor—check the ads and classifieds in this paper and/or call the Atlanta Gay Center's Helpline, 892-0611 between 6pm and 11pm for references. Trusting that you will be treated with respect after such a humiliating experience may be difficult, but it is much easier than bearing the burden of an attack alone and a damn site better being laid out on a slab in the morgue..

Many of us have friends who've mentioned violence in this and other contexts. Usually we're polite and don't push for details. If you fall in this group, encourage your friend to tell you more and to get both legal and personal assistance.

Southern Voice values each and every one of its readers; please help us to write about your success, not your obituary.

Guest Editorial

Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Conference: Opportunity for Atlanta's Gay People of Color

by Pat Lewis

A movement has begun! Black gays and lesbians are vigorously mobilizing ourselves to take charge of our lives, as a people, and as individuals. It's about time! Historically, there hasn't been a strong, recognizable organization specifically for our people to turn to for guidance, support and solace. There have been and still remain fragmented groups and associations scattered across the country. These are local and regional alliances with little or no communication with other organizations of its kind beyond their own city limits or state borders. In some areas, there are no organized groups for gay and lesbian people of color.

However, there are strong, recognizable organizations for the larger gay community, such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP), who address our needs as gays and lesbians, but cannot effectively address our special needs with being doubly different. I appreciate and applaud all that is being done by my white brothers and sisters to further advance the rights and liberties of our community as a whole. But now, there has come a time when we must make our own significant contribution to the cause. Now there has come a time when we must empower and strengthen ourselves. Unlike the larger Black community with its National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and National Urban League, we must start from zero and build.

Atlanta will get its chance to become a cornerstone in the movement. February 16-19 at the Hyatt Regency, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum will sponsor the 3rd annual Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference and Health Institute. It's the first time the event is being held outside of Los Angeles. The Forum—with choices like New York, Philadelphia, the District of Columbia, and Chicago—chose Atlanta. All of Atlanta should be proud of this recognition as a progressive city with a large, politically active gay community. Atlanta's own African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance (AALGA) is the host organization, of which I am a proud and active member. AALGA is a political/social organization for all black lesbians and gay men.

The past two conferences were successful with more than 400 people attending. The LA conferences received widespread support from both the straight and gay communities. Political activist and author Angela Davis, Councilwoman Maxine Waters, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Chaka Khan, and Whoopi Goldberg are some of the well-known people who have

attended and supported the cause. Also, well-known gay and lesbian leaders such as the Rev. Rene McCoy, the Rev. Carl Beam, Asotto Saint, and the late Joseph Beam have been avid supporters and participators. For this year's conference, Ruth Waters is serving as chairperson. She is also co-chair of the Forum, along with Phil Wilson.

This is a personal call by the members of AALGA to every gay and lesbian person of color in Atlanta to support and attend the conference and the other events that will be going on during that weekend. You will leave with a sense of a stronger community and with the skills and knowledge to make this a reality. You will have the rare opportunity to share and discuss with your brothers and sisters, your experiences and opinions on what it means to you to be a gay or lesbian African American. You are being given the opportunity to learn about the lives of people like you from other areas of the country and from our own diverse local community.

As African Americans we have a unique culture and history. As gays and lesbians we also have a unique culture and history. When the two are coupled, the result is a bountiful, talented, resourceful, and beautiful group of people. We are mothers and fathers, doctors and nurses, educators and philosophers, journalists and salespeople. We contribute economically and culturally to the larger society. We are good, law-abiding citizens who deserve the right to live our lives as closed or as open as we choose without being constantly told by mainstream America that there's something wrong with us.

This is a huge challenge. It will not be easy, nothing worthwhile ever is. The journey to a freer, more open society for us will be a long one. The planning and preparation starts at home, with ourselves. The decision to be the navigators of our own lives must be made, now!

In doing so, we must come together to share ideas and communications and take a clear look at our own prejudices and become more accepting of those in our own "family."

All of these things can and will be done at Atlanta's conference. Come out and take part in setting an agenda of where we want to be by the end of this new decade.

Unfortunately, most of our people are living "closed" or closeted lives. They will read this or hear about the conference and think only "open" gays and lesbians can attend. This isn't so! It will be a safe and anonymous environment where you can enrich yourself, others, and your community. We are a vital, thriving, and beautiful part of this world. I think we deserve the recognition we're looking for and working toward. Don't you?

Southern VOICE

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Photographers:
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAPWA and ACLU Will Form Committee to Defend Scroggins

The National Association of People with AIDS/Atlanta Chapter and the Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU of Georgia will be holding a meeting for all persons interested in forming a Legal Defense Committee in support of Gregory Scroggins and Paul Murray. Scroggins, a PWA, was recently convicted of attempted murder by biting a police officer in Cobb County. Murray was convicted of obstructing an officer and participating in an affray. Both have been denied bond pending their appeal and are imprisoned in state correctional institutions. The initial organizing meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 30. For more information call NAPWA at 874-7926.

ACLU To Present Awards

The Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU of Georgia will be holding its annual Martha Gaines Humanitarian Award reception on January 17 at 6:00pm. The reception will be held at the new ACLU of Georgia office at 233 Mitchell St. SW.

This year's Martha Gaines Humanitarian award will be presented to attorney Judd Herndon, an active member of the Chapter and the ACLU of Georgia. Life-time achievement awards will also be presented to Judy Colbs, Linda Lowe, and Kurt Rahn.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and acknowledge the outstanding contributions these citizens have made to our community. For information or directions, please call the ACLU office at 523-5398.

See You in 1992

Dear *Southern Voice*,

I just wanted to take the time to write you and say "Thanks for serving the community!" If I didn't live with my mom, I'd have the paper delivered to my apartment. And hopefully when I get a car, I can help you guys out the summer of 1992, when I finish high school.

I love *Southern Voice* newspaper, and want to praise you guys for doing such a great job on informing the community about events that we otherwise wouldn't have known about. So, see you guys the summer of 1992! And thanks again, you've done a great job so far, keep up the GREAT work!!

With love,
(name withheld by request)

The Decade in Preview

by Paul Varnell

Did you get enough of the "Decade in Review"? In newspapers and magazines across the nation, retrospective stories abounded. It was the decade of Reagan, of Gorbachev, of AIDS, of junk bonds and leveraged buyouts, of New Age music and post-modern architecture, of — well, quite a bit, actually.

What we need to do now, having fondled the past, is to set goals for ourselves as individuals and as a movement, to try to determine what we would like to achieve in the next year, the next five years, the next decade. It is all very well to say (with an eye to old Samuel Gompers) that gays simply want "more" — more equality, more clout, more policy input — but if we don't have some sort of strategic plan, some sort of Step A, followed by Step B followed by Step C, we won't get very far. Our goal, after all, is to become part of the context that *other people* have to take account of. I don't think we are that now.

Do our national gay and lesbian organizations have such plans for the 1990s? Have they told us what they would like to do during the next decade such that we should send them money? Not that I know of. [*Windy City Times*] gets a bundle of press releases from national gay organizations, but I have yet to see one about long-range planning. But if we do not know what they plan to try to do, how can we — somewhere down the line — judge the quality of their performance? If they do not tell us their goals, how can we say that they did or did not effectively reach those goals? In other words, what kind of performance standards can we hold them to?

This "problem" of national gay organizations (and local ones too, for that matter) is going to be of increasing importance in the '90s. For one thing, we desperately need them. For another, there is far more potential support for effective ones now than there was in 1980: after AIDS there is certainly more of a national gay consciousness than before, a greater sense that we are somehow "in this together." For a third, I suspect that a lot of people who moved from early gay activism to AIDS activism will be returning to gay activism and — accompanied by a large number of people who cut their teeth on AIDS activism — they will bring not only knowledge and skills but demands to achievements and successes.

But the recent widely publicized difficulties at the National Gay Rights Advocates, with the departure at one time or another of almost every significant staff member, suggest that the quality, the amount, and the type of work done was not being monitored at all well. You may recall director Jean O'Leary's fundraising tactics were assailed, the percentage of income designated for litigation was surprisingly low, O'Leary may have had conflicts of interest as a member of the steering committee of the national Democratic Party (however gratifying such an appointment may have been to all of us as evidence of our own significance), and O'Leary apparently used NGRF funds for partisan political purposes. Just as troubling was the fact that the NGRF's Board of Directors seemed wholly unequal to the task of stepping in and setting affairs aright until a disastrous blow-up occurred.

But none of these problems was new: they had happened at other gay organizations. The Human Rights Campaign Fund, led by Vic Basile, startled people not so long ago by revealing how little of its total income it was spending on direct contributions to candidates. Maybe their resource allocation was valid, but it was not well-known and, after all, HRCF did promote itself primarily as a political action committee. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force for many years (intermittently) was plagued with charges of inept management and internal conflict. And faithful Democrat that she was, director Virginia Apuzzo engaged NGLTF in partisan politics in a vigorous way when she had the task force endorse Walter Mondale. But the point of gay advocacy is not whether Mondale was better than Reagan, but that national gay organizations are supposed to try to work with whoever wins and not get themselves frozen out by endorsing the (massively and predictably) losing side.

So Boards of Directors, as Boards of Directors, seem regularly to be missing the essential element: competence. We'll have to fix that in the '90s.

Electorally, we have several projects. As always we need to elect friends and defeat enemies. I suspect that most of us would be enormously gratified by the defeat of Dornan, Helms, Dannemeyer, and others (Gordon Humphrey of New Hampshire is taking an early — and rather prudent — retirement). But it is not clear if involvement in those races will benefit us as much as involvement in closer races. Yet eventually our goals must be to make the expression of homophobia politically impossible. Whatever their private feelings, no national legislator publicly expresses disdain for Blacks and Jews. We must make that true for us.

Take Jesse Helms, the Manuel Noriega of the Carolinas. Helms has enormous power partly as a result of his seniority on the Agriculture and Foreign Relations committees. He is not defeatable by gays on gay issues. In fact, probably most of his North Carolina constituents agree with him about homosexuals. So what can we do?

Well, he may be vulnerable on other issues, so we will want to offer considerable financial support to a challenge by and (credible) opponent. But we cannot do this through gay organizations or Helms will use that fact to his advantage. (In fact, HRCF should probably contribute to Helms rather than to his opponent.) With the decline of the Cold War, Helms as a leading Hawk may find that he has become less important. That leaves tobacco and homosexuality / obscenity as his major topics. We might then weaken him by a flank attack — on tobacco subsidies and privileges. At the same time, if we can make tobacco lose battle after battle, then Helms' constituents may come to see Helms as increasingly ineffective on one of the main economic issues for which they voted for him. And the recent clever ads placed by People for the American Way, claiming that Helms is "soft on crime," suggest an additional angle of attack.

WANTED

Have you seen this man?



Wanted for harassing women
LUIS VASQUEZ
 For months Vasquez has been harassing healthcare workers at the Feminist Women's Health Center.
 If this man harasses YOU, call 911 — Atlanta Police

Who Are Those Masked Men?

To the Editor:

I don't know whether to thank you or cuss you out. I mean, am I the only one who's *more* confused now that I've read all the articles about trying to repeal the sodomy law in the last two issues of *Southern Voice* and the last *Creative Loafing*?

The problem seemed pretty simple at first. The law needs to be changed and there are two schools of thought on how to do it: Zap the legislature or work with the folks inside.

If you go with the Zapping theory, things are pretty easy I guess. But, unlike the majority of those in your poll, I don't like that route. I suppose that means that I agree with Chris Hagin's methods, but when I read comments like his "only 25 players involved and that was too many" it makes my blood boil. And then (in *CL*) Jeffrey Laymon ups and says, "The wheeler dealers in the gay political community were not consulted at all." Talk about arrogant! Who are these guys anyway, what gives them the right to wheel and deal in my behalf and why should I trust them?

At least ACT UP, much as I dislike what they're doing, offers me the chance to do something about the law. But nowhere do I see mention of a benefit for the works of Hagin, Laymon and the people like me who aren't demonstrating. Where's the phone number to call them and offer my money or help? And who are they anyway? Maybe I didn't read closely enough, but neither your numerous articles nor the one in *CL* said which organization was working on the inside to try to repeal the law. Is there a Repeal the Sodomy Law Coalition, or is Mr. Hagin doing this good work on my behalf all by himself?

I've spent years reading articles about how not enough people are involved and the apathy of Atlanta's gay community and yearly ask myself if I should become more involved. If the kind of dissension and confusion that the sodomy law issue has brought up is typical of the so-called Gay '90s, I think I'll be spending the decade quietly in my condo.

A Reader
 Smyrna

Where Were the People on Jan. 8?

Fellow Lesbians & Gays,

The March that took place on January eight was very interesting. I have never been exposed to ACT UP before the march on Monday. At first I felt out of place, then joined in the march. I thought that some of the signs were a bit graphic, not to mention the chants that were vocalized. I felt that the people at home would see this and classify all gays as radicals. Don't get me wrong, I think that ACT UP is doing a great job in the streets for OUR rights and for OUR lives.

What I don't understand, where were all the people who frequent the bars? If the ones who go to the bars would have been there our numbers would have looked greater. My friends, if you do not get out and fight for yourself and others, there won't be any bars to attend, much less anyone alive to meet. When will the mainstream gay population get out and protest to make the changes that are so desperately needed? Yes, this was my first time to march, but not my last.

I would like to mention that a friend was marching with his father. The father feels that the sodomy law is wrong. If a heterosexual man took the day off from work to protest alongside his son, why didn't you get out and march?

Atlanta, WAKE UP! How many more deaths and funerals will you attend before you get mad and do something for YOUR rights and for YOUR life.

Signed,
 Angry mainstream gay male.

VIEWPOINTS is part of a continuing effort to provide a forum for the lesbian and gay community. We invite your ideas, comments and feelings and your responses to opinions expressed on these pages. Submissions should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than four pages. We reserve the right to edit for space. Mail your letters to:

Southern Voice / Viewpoints
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The Roches speak...listen



(L-R) Terre, Maggie, Suzzy

TIMOTHY WHITE

Some artists hit the scene quick and vanish quicker. Good artists, too—they get lost in whatever fad is at the top of the charts this year. 1989 brought a lot of strong women to the forefront, and as so often happens in the music world, some very good women performers have gotten lost in the shuffle. The Roches could have fallen into that category.

Lucky for us, that's not the case. Maggie & Terre & Suzzy, sisters from New Jersey, have released a new album that continues the tradition they started with their first album in 1979. Full of odd, unpredictable harmonies and rhythms, plus the Roches' own peculiar perspective on the universe, *Speak* (Paradox/MCA Records) is a welcome addition to 1989's musical legacy.

I love the Roches. Listening to their records make me happy, very very happy. Even when they sing sad things like *I have no way of knowing how much healing time erases/certain of these secret broken places*. It doesn't matter. It's their voices I think. They don't sound like anybody else, unless you consider 2 Nice Girls, but then since the Roches have been around about 10 years longer than 2NG, it's

probably the other way around. They sound a bit like some madrigal singers from the middle ages accidentally dropped into the minds of three girls from New Jersey. Maggie provides a sultry bottom to the trio, with Terre singing the soprano parts, and Suzzy providing everything in between.

Did I mention that they write their songs? They do perform *some* cover tunes (their version of the Hallelujah Chorus is a show-stopper, to put it mildly), but everything on *Speak* is written by one or more of the Roches. The single exception is the lyrics to "Cloud Dancing," written by Huang O in the 16th century and put to sensuously delicate music by Maggie in the 20th.

Maggie is the most prolific songwriter on this album. Her songs provide an almost (but not quite—this is the Roches) somber backdrop to some of the other songs, like "Big Nuthin'," all about how things aren't always as big a deal as we think they are (*I guess I just never knew how big nuthin' could be*).

The truth behind even the more subtly outrageous tunes on this album are accentuated by those incredible harmonies. The rendering of

if you are a sexist pig then i have got to dislike you for the rest of my life in "The Anti Sex Backlash of the 80's" is nothing short of remarkable, as is the almost gospel-ish rendering of "Losing Our Job." This song has a country feeling that could have been intolerably silly in the hands of almost any other group.

Speak is admirably produced by Maggie & Terre & Suzzy and Jeffrey Lasser, who also engineered. The sisters' vocals are clean and very separate, an essential characteristic of a good Roches recording. The instrumentation is simple and unobtrusive, provided mostly by the Roches. Vince Cherico adds seamless percussion, and Libby McLaren perfectly augments Maggie and Suzzy's synthesizers.

I do like the Roches. I am blissfully blind to any problems this album may have, and I feel better just knowing they're still singing. I think you will too.

Windstorm Productions brings *The Roches to The Roxy, 3110 Roswell Road, on Saturday, January 27 at 8:30 pm.*
Ticket info: 577-9600.

Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus Opens Auditions for New Members

The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus is seeking qualified singers in all male voice parts for the remainder of its 1989-1990 season. Auditions must be held and singers accepted for membership prior to February 1 in order to sing during the spring season and in the Chorus' June concert.

Auditionees should bring a prepared work and be ready to sight read unfamiliar works. Many AGMC members do not have extensive musical backgrounds although most have sung in school, college, or church choirs. AGMC is a volunteer, semi-professional male chorus committed to musical excellence and community service.

Rehearsals are held on Thursday nights. Auditions are with the Musical Director; accompanist can be provided. For more information or to schedule an audition, contact AGMC Musical Director, at 297-9779.

Chastity a Lesbian?

That paradigm of popular, polemic journalism, *Star*, reports in yet another of its celebrity exclusives that Chastity Bono is a lesbian.

According to a "family friend", mama Cher is "devastated," "emotionally wrecked" and "may never recover for the rest of her life."

But despite the *Star's* histrionic adjectivizing, another insider claims the family seems well on its way to healing the slender star's reported hysteria. Both mom and daughter are in therapy together. And Cher's own mom is reportedly at ease with both Chastity's sexuality and her alleged beloved.

Sonny Bono is said to be merely "uncomfortable" with the news that his daughter is also a daughter of Sappho. A feeling many have shared when seeing Sonny perform.

In addition to the fact that Chastity has evidently taken the biggest of her coming out steps, there's more good news: *Star* ran a side bar to the story with answers — provided by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays — to nine questions about newly come-out sons and daughters.

Next?

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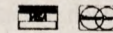
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Grimsley Takes on The Church

Lizard of Tarsus uses humor and drama to examine roots of homophobia and other evils



Atlanta's perennial bad boy playwright Jim Grimsley takes a sip of wine and says, "I'm finding out that a lot of people don't like Saint Paul — especially gays and women...He just took over the church. And as a result Church life today is based far more on his teaching's than Christ's. Paul is the one who codified misogyny and homophobia."

Southern Voice's Candace Wiggins talks to Grimsley about this, his new play and the future of the arts in Atlanta.

Jim Grimsley's new play *Lizard of Tarsus* opens Wednesday, January 31st at Seven Stages Theatre in Little 5 Points. It deals with controversial, albeit humorous, subject matter. That's what theatre-goers have come to expect from Grimsley, the soft-spoken winner of New York's 1988 George Oppenheimer Award for best new playwright for his *Mr. Universe*, a gay-themed mystery comedy-drama.

After *Universe* came the dark, disturbing and homoerotic *Math and Aftermath*. Next, Grimsley's *Man With A Gun* played as part of a trilogy of AIDS plays at Atlanta's Nexus Theatre.

The chaotic and all too life-like *White People* was Grimsley's last Atlanta production.

SV: Tell us what you've been doing lately.

JG: My last play was *White People*. At the time, we already had scheduled this production. I have rewritten *Tarsus* once since we got out of *White People* and spent the rest of last year relaxing and trying to see how much money I'm going to have next year; if I can live on it. I've also worked on some fiction. And, I sold my first novel! *Winter Birds* is a book I finished about four years ago. I've sold it to a German language publisher and hope to sell it to an English language publisher soon. (It) should be out in 1991. Odd it should be bought in German before English.

SV: A prophet without honor...

JG: Really. (laughs)

SV: This brings us closer to *Lizard of Tarsus*. Tell us about what gave you the idea.

JG: It's set at the time of the second coming of Christ; Saint Paul is still mysteriously alive and is head of the Church. He has detained Christ for questioning so that the Church can find out what Jesus has to tell the multitudes. The play is about Paul's inquisition of Christ. I got the idea from a lifelong resentment of Saint Paul. I'm finding that a lot of people don't like him — especially gays and women.

He just took over (the Church). And as a result, Church life today is based far more on his teachings than Christ's. Paul is the one who codified misogyny and homophobia.

Tarsus is my attempt to come to grips with the way I was brought up as a Southern Baptist and the whole concept of spirituality in a modern setting. It's also a bit of rebellion against the current idea of the bible as inerrant; a concept that gives us 100 rules for daily living. That's just crap.

SV: Good. But what is there in *Tarsus* that would make your typical gay or lesbian want to go see it.

JG: This play should have direct appeal to any lesbian or gay man who has ever been in a Sunday School class, who has ever been in Mass or a church service. I'm speaking directly about our own religion, our Christian mythology and I'm doing this in a way very few writers have done. This is not something theoretical, I think this is a very vital subject and it's very, very funny.

SV: Kinda' like Durang's *Sister Mary Ignatius*; if you can't laugh at something, you end up not really thinking deeply about it.

JG: Exactly. People too rarely apply their sense of humor to the Bible, to Christ, to all of that stuff. It's such a relief to do that.

Everyone who has heard the play read — and I've read it several times — rolled over laughing at certain parts. It's such a relief to be able to laugh at all the things we've been taught to revere.

SV: Do you see the theatre, gay theater and other arts opening up in Atlanta in the '90s?

JG: I sure hope so! It seems the world could be going in any of several directions. What I really hope is that public, live performance is going to become very important again. It hasn't been. The important mediums have been TV and films.

Ultimately, that's a very deadening way of "getting your art." What I hope for the '90s is that theatre and live performance and concerts will become more important.

It's possible because Atlanta should begin to mature soon. For years people have been moving here, establishing themselves. Now we're going into a phase where they are beginning to care about their culture.

SV: It's like it's breaking down into citystates.

JG: Right. That's a good trend to encourage. There's absolutely no reason to homogenize this metropolis.

SV: What's next for you?

JG: I'm trying to finish *Belle Ives* and I've got a play called *Borderland* to shop around. Seven Stages is also going to do a retrospective of my plays in the summer of 1991. They'll be reviving *Mr. Universe* here.

I'm looking forward to seeing it again. There's also a possibility I'll be taking some plays to Poland. There's a university over there that's interested in doing some one-acts of mine as part of an exchange agreement with Emory.

SV: Thanks for the interview. And for *Tarsus*.

JG: Thank you.

•For information on, or reservations for, *Lizard of Tarsus* call Seven Stages Theater at 523-7647.

•For information on play writing and directing classes taught by Grimsley (as well as SAME's Rebecca Ranson, Barbara Lebow, Frank Wittow and Michael Machinot) contact the Academy Theater, 873-2518.

Texas Two Stepping With the Girls

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We're Bigger & Wilder & on our way to NASHVILLE

Sodomy Law Protest

Cont'd from page 3

break into chants unprintable in mainstream newspapers, much to the dismay of many of those entering the State House building. Also one New York activist prominently displayed a sign reading: "Man Boy Love Now," featuring a close-up photo of an act of anal intercourse.

"Hello all you sodomites and all you straight people who like a more *interesting* sex life," bellowed brash lesbian



BARBARA SNELL

comic/activist Lea Delaria, opening the day's rally. "If the people in the state building are *so* interested in what I do with my genitals," she added, "I'd like to tell them that I'm not wearing any *underwear*."

A block away, a group of about 12 anti-gay counter-demonstrators carrying signs reading, "Gay is Sad," were also made the object of ridicule at the demonstration. "Racist, sexist, anti-gay," the crowd chanted. "Your souls will burn in hell one day."

Also attending the rally was a rather concise state legislator, Rep. Jim Martin, who commented on his discomfort at the rally, but voiced his support regardless. "I don't know who feels more out of place here [you or me]," he stated. "But isn't that the point? My sexual orientation and my feelings about morality are my own. And what happens in our own bedrooms among consenting adults, based on our own sense of our own selves, is what individual liberty is all about. And the state has no right making that determination for any of us."

After nearly two hours of speeches, the throng moved to a nearby intersection in attempts at blocking traffic, only to be held back by a phalanx of police officers.

After a small group carrying bedclothes ran into the intersection in front of moving cars, police arrested the group and stepped up their crowd control efforts. That caused the activists to scatter to no fewer than two other intersections to block the midday traffic.

Despite being mocked for the practice in an earlier skit featuring activists as the "sex police," at least four arresting officers were seen wearing rubber gloves. A handful of others were reported to have been seen wearing them under their winter gloves.

As with most anti-sodomy law demonstrations, which have become her specialty, NGLTF's Hyde closed her speech by urging event participants to break the lambasted state statute, adding that it is no kind of a deterrent.

"Really," she said. "How many of us this weekend said, 'I'd love to honey, but there's a sodomy law in Georgia.?'"

Appreciating Cultural Differences

Hattie M. Johnson-Nalls, Ph.D., a counseling psychologist, will begin a series of anti-discrimination workshops entitled Anti-Racism Through Prejudice Reduction on February 1, 1990, at Partners in Health and Chrysalis Women's Center. These workshops are designed to teach people how to recognize their own racism and combat it through recognizing prejudiced attitudes we have learned simply by growing up in a racist society.

"Social procedures, policies, and decisions methodically subjugate non-majority individuals, groups and cultures to lesser status," says Dr. Nalls, who has a Ph.D. in Counseling and Educational Psychology from the University of Mississippi and a M.S. in Guidance and Counseling from Delta State College.

Racism "fosters internalized oppression and feelings of learned helplessness while destroying self-concept, self-image, motivation, and potential successes," Dr. Nalls explains. "Society ultimately suffers. The inability to recognize, acknowledge and accept the authenticity of alternate cultures makes cross-cultural communication more difficult. The larger population tends to devalue cultural issues that differ from those of the majority." This devaluation is applied to anyone who deviates from the majority, whether by race, ethnic group, culture, sexuality, or gender.

Dr. Nalls speaks warmly about the need for combating prejudice in ourselves: "All of us carry with us our own set of prejudices and bigotries. The question is not 'are we (prejudiced)?' but rather 'to what degree?'"

The workshop consists of lecture, discussion, role-playing, and an individual attitudes assessment and interview at the beginning and again at the end. Assertiveness is also included, as well as the development of communications skills and appropriate modes of interactions, according to Dr. Nalls. "Each person learns to reduce internalized oppression and their own self-hatred, as well as how to adapt and use the model, not only at work, but in their personal lives as well."

In the workshops, Dr. Nalls uses her Index of Intercultural Awareness and Attitudes. This is 'an assessment instrument that measures personality, temperament, communications style, and attitudes.' She applies it at the beginning and again at the end of the workshop. Including an individual interview, the Index "is mutually beneficial and personalizes the process," says Dr. Nalls. "Each person moves at their own pace, and a person can be assessed at any point in the process."

The workshop is open to all persons. Dr.

Nalls believes this is best because "a diverse group is more representative of the world we live in. We live in a society made up of many kinds of people. This is not a workshop to fix white people. It's not just to address black and white racial issues. But it is to teach us to learn to appreciate cultural differences and diversity. It is intercultural, so persons from all groups should be represented."



Hattie Johnson-Nalls, Ph.D.

Dr. Johnson-Nalls brings a background in counseling and educational psychology to her workshops, as well as over 17 years of counseling experience. She has conducted multicultural workshops since 1986. Dr. Nalls is the founder and Executive Director of Consulting and Psychological Change, a private multi-disciplinary national network based in Atlanta. Dr. Nalls, who has recently joined the staff of Partners in Health and Chrysalis Women's Center, specializes in the treatment of women with regard to depression, sexuality, domestic violence, chemical dependence, relationships and couples, and ethnocentric diversity.

She has written over 50 articles, pamphlets, workbooks and training guides. She has produced and eight-volume monograph series entitled "Psychology in Black America: An Africentric Approach to an Integrated Positive Self-Image."

The workshop is targeted toward professionals, but is suitable for anyone. All sessions will take place at Partners in Health and Chrysalis Women's Center at 2045 Manchester St., NE, Atlanta. For more information and seminar registration materials, call 881-6300.

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The Word From GLAAD

Who to call once you've decided the way to end homophobia is to confront it.

Here's the latest from the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's January/February "Bulletin:"

Musical Fag Bashing

Sebastian Bach, lead singer for the double platinum, heavy metal "Skid Row," appeared in a recent *Metal Edge* magazine wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the words "AIDS Kills Fags Dead" with the AIDS styled like the logo for Raid insecticide.

Metal Edge's editor responded to a complaint by GLAAD /LA with regrets for printing the pic and a promise to say so in print next issue. Bach, however, offered lamer apologies on MTV suggesting that the "Fags" his shirt referred to were "little bundles of wood" not living, breathing people. He went on to say that he does not "know, condone, comprehend or understand homosexuality." In response MTV News anchor Kurt Loder called Bach "Mr. Sensitivity."

Demand that Atlantic, Skid Row and Bach issue a real apology directed at the same heavy metal audience who saw the magazine article.

Write to Mr. Ahmet Ertegun, Chairman, Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019.

On a Brighter Note

Billboard reports that at a "Rolling Stones"/"Guns N' Roses" concert, a member of one of the opening acts, Vernon Reid of "Living Color" said to the audience. "If you don't have anything against gay people, don't call them faggots. If you don't have anything against blacks, don't call them niggers."

Send a congratulatory note to Reid for his courage in speaking out against bigotry in what could be unsympathetic circumstances.

Write to Vernon Reid/Living Color, P.O. Box 407, Bushwick Finance Station, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11221.

Sullivan Slips

A document prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide*, concluded that gay/lesbian youth are three times more likely than other young people to attempt suicide and that gay/lesbian youth comprise 30 percent of completed youth suicides annually. The key to ending gay teen suicides, the report says, is ending discrimination against young people based on their sexual orientation.

Seems smart to us, but everybody's fave homo-hater Congressman William Dannemeyer (R-CA) contacted President Bush and HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan and demanded that

they reject the portion of the report dealing with gay suicides because it is against "traditional family values." (Wouldn't you just love to blow those words right off the face of the earth?)

Sullivan, rather than ignore Dannemeyer's bigotry, fell right in step writing to him, "I am strongly committed to advancing traditional family values....In my opinion, the views expressed in the paper run contrary to that aim."

The NGLTF has sharply criticized Sullivan calling his statements alarming, insensitive and frightening. They have also asked for a meeting with the Secretary.

Tell Sullivan that, as a citizen and a taxpayer, you demand that he stop trying to suppress the report and that he get some education on gay and lesbian matters. Agreeing to a meeting with NGLTF would be a good way to start.

Write to: Louis W. Sullivan, MD, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue., SW, Washington, DC 20201.

Saturday Night Wrong

"Wayne's World," the recurring skit on *Saturday Night Live* about Wayne (written and played by Michael Myers who also runs his own public access TV show) has replaced last season's epithet of choice, "fag," with a kinder, gentler but still baiting "homo."

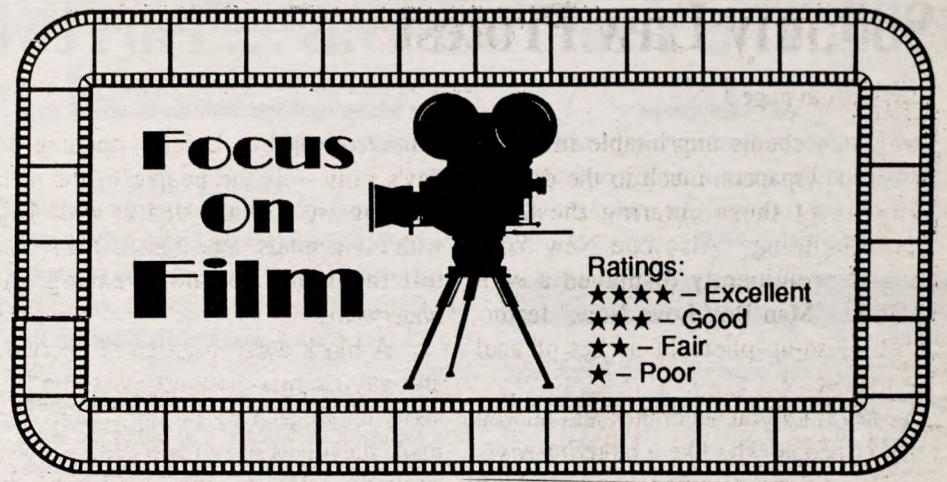
Another recent skit on *SNL*, called "The Big Bitch Bulldyke Breakout!" spoofed Zsa Zsa Gabor and Leona Helmsley breaking out of jail to escape beatings by an overweight lesbian.

Funny? Sure. But remember that *SNL*, doesn't use words like "nigger," "kike," "coon," and "spic." If they are that conscious already, it doesn't seem like it should take much to get "fag," "dyke," and "homo" removed from their repertoire.

And while they're at it, they might want stop making gays the butt of gay humor and direct the venom towards homophobes. That way teenagers might just get the idea that gay-bashing isn't particularly cool.

Write to: Lorne Michaels, Executive Producer, *Saturday Night Live*, NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10112. Send another to writer Michael Myers at the same address.

Want to know more about GLAAD? Give them a call at (212) 966-1700 and ask to be put on their mailing list. Better yet, ask them how to help start an Atlanta Chapter.



"Glory" and the Best of the 80's.

by Terry Francis

★★★1/2

First, a note on a fine new film called "Glory," the thoughtful, concussive account of a black regiment in the Union Army, and then a deluge of film titles, drawn from the 1980s and representing (in my view) the finest films released in the last ten years.

Edward Zwick's "Glory" (Tri-Star) centers on a young white Union Army captain named Shaw (Matthew Broderick), who is commissioned to form the 54th Massachusetts out of black volunteers.

The film's emphasis soon expands and deepens to render the details of the black volunteers' lives: their formation, training and courage on the battlefield; their souls.

Apart from the miscast Broderick, the rest of the cast penetrate their roles with conviction. Especially fine are Andre Braugher, Morgan Freeman, Jihmi Kennedy, Denzel Washington and Cary Elwes. Dreadful music by James Horner, evocative photography by the celebrated Freddie Francis, and more than promising direction by Zwick, whose second film the splendid "Glory" is.

Some critics consider the practice of compiling a list of the year's best films to be a silly, egotistical pursuit. I never see the problem. For two reasons: James Agee did it, and anyway egoism is a necessary attribute in all artists, especially critics. We would crumble without it.

Herewith, then, in order of preference, my opinion of what constitutes the finest films of 1989 and the 1980s.

The Best of 1989:

Do the Right Thing, Casualties of War, Yaaba, The Fabulous Baker Boys, Batman, Queen of Hearts, Chocolat, True Believer, Drugstore Cowboy, and sex, lies and videotape.

The Best Films of the 1980s

(English language):

Blue Velvet, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Hope and Glory, Melvin and Howard, Shoot the Moon, My Beautiful Laundrette, Sid & Nancy, The Unbearable Lightness of Being, Dreamchild, Housekeeping.

Other notable films:

High Tide, Comfort and Joy, The Dead, Dressed to Kill, High Season, Blow Out, The Untouchables, Under Fire, Do the Right Thing, Casualties of War, A Passage to India, Atlantic City, Married to the Mob, House of Games, Beetlejuice, The Purple Rose of Cairo, Roxanne, Sammy and Rosie Get Laid, and The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne.

The Best of the 1980s (Foreign language):

Berlin Alexanderplatz, The Night of the Shooting Stars, The Home and the World, Pixote, Three Brothers, Diva, Law of Desire, The Makioka Sisters, the Hour of the Star, Summer.

Other notable films:

My Life As a Dog, Matador, Women On the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, What Have I Done To Deserve This?, L'Argent, After the Rehearsal, Vagabond, Man Facing Southeast, Parsifal, Boyfriends and Girlfriends, and Ran.

FILM CLIPS

Born on the 4th of July ★★★★★ This movie is taken from Vietnam vet Ron Kovic's autobiographical novel of the same name and is given superb treatment by everyone involved.

Tom Cruise as Ron Kovic will surely land an Oscar nomination for his searing portrayal of the good all-American love it or leave it boy who loses his legs in the war and almost everything else upon his return to the states.

The events in Vietnam are the first steps in Kovic's loss of innocence and true blue idealism; but it is the brutality of the V.A. hospital and the juxtaposition of the Sixties' politics that galvanize him into action.

Aided by John Williams' majestic score and Oliver Stone's taut, no-holds-barred direction, this film shows the dark side of what happened when Johnny came marching home. It is an overwhelming story of patriotism and idealism amidst betrayal, neglect, indifference and outright hostility. It is a story of a real hero who not only picks up what pieces are left but uses them to provoke change in himself and ultimately his country.

Tango and Cash ★★ Sylvester Stallone (Tango) and Kurt Russell (Cash) are Thing One and Thing Two in a funnybone male bonding police drama. Sly wears Armani suits and uses big words; plus, he has a *stockbroker!* Russell is the big brash denim and beer type. Set up by drug kingpin Jack Palance, they get sent up the river where most of the criminals in the joint were put by either Tango or Cash. They escape or seek justice while trying to stay alive.

The dialogue is funny, action is slow-mo make believe violence, and there are a couple of attempts at treating a female character as more than just a - well, a female character complete with removable clothing.

I can think of worse ways in which to spend two hours. Average direction, average script, average everything.

- Candace Wiggins

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FEATURE

1989, The Year That Was ... Part two of a two part series

by Gary Kaupman

Last issue we reviewed some important local happenings in the areas of AIDS, community, the law and our enemies. This week a recap of culture and politics in 1989.

Counterculture

January

SAME and Nexus collaborated to bring three new plays, three pieces of performance art and a gallery full of visual art about AIDS to Atlanta.

February

Presented by SAME, *Dos Lesbos*, a near hysterical musical comedy "by for and about perverts" and starring Kelley Edwards and Lea Delaria, blew into town and packed Nexus Theater. It's true, dykes and fags really do have more fun!

March

The Indigo Girls, everybody's fave from local performances, broke into the bigtime with a new album on the Epic label. The album later went gold, the duo opened for an R.E.M. tour and, after a sold out AIDS benefit at the Fox, toured Europe. Way to go Girls!

• Lucie Blue Tremblay brought her unique whistling and delicate yet potent song styling to town and charmed her way right into the hearts of the audience. Locals Jackie and Joyce opened, earning raves and a hoard of new fans in the process.

• SAME brought the controversial *Jerker*, a play by Robert Chesley, to Atlanta for a second run. Despite better production values and performances than the first run, the show failed to generate the excitement that it did three years ago.

April

The six month-old Pride of Peachtree Lesbian and Gay Marching Band marches off to sunny Fort Lauderdale to participate in the 14th National Conference of Gay and Lesbian Marching Bands of America. March on!

May

Enfant terrible of the New York literary scene, David Leavitt misses a scheduled reading and autographing of his latest book, *Equal Affections*, because of illness. His publicist swears it isn't AIDS.

• On a brighter note, Alice Walker does make it to town and Charis Books is mobbed by fans seeking a glimpse of and word with the outspoken author whose latest is *The Temple of My Familiar*.

• Cris Williamson and Teresa Trull do it together at Center Stage. Times they are a changin'. Used to be it was major news when a

gay or lesbian performer hit town, now it happens almost monthly.

June

Local photographer Billy Howard's stunning new book, *Epitaphs for the Living: Words and Images in the Time of AIDS*, rolls off the presses and draws raves from critics, the public and the 75 plus PWA's who collaborated on the project.

• The first of Southern Voice's 40 plus distribution boxes hit the streets. The boxes are black with white lettering. And read all over. SV continues the celebration of Stonewall's 20th with an Open House featuring the sounds of Angela Motter and Jacque & Joyce.

• Jomandi's wickedly funny and eerily accurate *The Colored Museum* features Miss Roj, a Black drag queen whose rap is alternately hilarious and terrifying. Is this the first portrayal of a gay character in Atlanta's mainstream Black theater?



Amy and Emily nominated for two Grammys

• Suede's in town again. The sultry, funny songstress packs 'em in again. Atlanta can't seem to get enough of her!

• And Diane Davidson and her band whoop it up at the Buckhead Roxy. See what we mean?

• Jim Knoll's touching comedy based on his experiences as an AID Atlanta Buddy, *Fly High*, appears in its first full length public presentation at Onstage Atlanta.

July

The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus joins over 50 other similar groups at the Third Festival of Gay and Lesbian Choruses in Seattle, Washington. They bow to not one, but two standing ovations."

• *Different*, last year's hit musical, returns in a new and more polished format, including a live orchestra, and draws raves from audience and critics alike. Author Pruitt and Composer Hutchison are said to be working on a musical set in the time of Harvey Milk.

• SAME's long awaited first video, *Promise*

of Life, focusing on PWA's who outlive expectations premieres.

September

Rita Mae Brown hits town to autograph the newly released paperback edition of *Bingo*. Her comments, in a *Creative Loafing* interview, about the US Congress being the world's largest faggot club raise at least a few eyebrows. Go get 'em Rita Mae."

• Atlanta photographer Roger Rutherford, late of Houston, died of complications from AIDS. Rutherford was a well known teacher whose art/erotic nudes drew much comment whenever they were shown. Proceeds from a sale of Rutherford's remaining photos went to benefit NAPWA/Atlanta and Project Open Hand."

• Eighteen months after it began publication, *Southern Voice* has doubled its circulation to over 10,000 copies bi-weekly. Available at more than 100 distribution points including 40 street boxes. And it's still free.

• Texas Two-Stepping with the Girls, SAME's new musical about the evolution of a series of lesbian relationships, opened to shouting, stomping crowds of women (and a few men) at Seven Stages. Slap leather!

October

Very Out Lesbian Folksinger Phranc was in town to promote her new album, *I Enjoy Being a Girl*, and told *Southern Voice's* KC Wildmoon that too often the press makes a bigger deal of her lesbianism than her music. Such are the wages of truth.

November

Everybody's fave Armistead Maupin was in town to autograph his latest and final book in the Tales of the City series, *Sure of You*. Lines were long and applause was loud, but there was an air of apprehension about what Maupin will do next."

• Kate Clinton's moved uptown! Her November concert was held at the Buckhead Roxy. Not unlike Dan Quayle, Kate gets funnier and funnier every time we hear her—the crowd barely has a chance to breathe between laughs. Kate for President in '92!

• Give a hand to SAME and Image Film and Video for producing the second ever Lesbian and Gay Film Festival in Atlanta. Organizers say the event is on again for next year. Good news!

• Lea Delaria and Kelley Edwards (of *Dos Lesbos* fame) returned to town for two shows of *Girl Friday* (with Richard Weinstock). Despite technical glitches galore, their "lesbian/gay answer to Saturday Night Live" played to packed houses.

Politics

January

Once again not afraid to support rhetoric with action, 5th District Congressman John Lewis signed on to H.R. 709, the so called Gay Rights Bill in Congress. It was Lewis' first official action in the 100th Congress. In November Lewis became a co-sponsor of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act designed to provide more housing for homeless PWA's. Thanks, John.

• Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax said that he was on the verge of introducing an ordinance banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV status. It's been almost a year Michael, what's happenin'?

March

In his first major public appearance before a lesbian/gay group, Mayoral Candidate Maynard Jackson announced that hate crimes would be a high priority of his administration. Jackson also made a strong case for his long term support of the gay community, suggesting, but not saying, that opponent Lomax's new found attraction to the cause was politically motivated. Both major candidates courting the gay vote? Time to celebrate!



Miss Roj: The "Colored Museum's" Drag Queen from outer space

March

Local activist Tad Gardocki is chosen as a Legislative Intern for 5th District Congressman John Lewis. Later, Gardocki is named to a one year term as a Board Member of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, becomes Director of LEGAL (legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians) and helps organize a gay soccer



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Lomax crashed and burned, allowing Jackson an easy slide to victory. But don't ask about Woolard (L) and White (R).

team. And he's got great legs, too.

April

You might have suspected that Congressman John Lewis would come out well in the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's evaluation of the 100th Congress, but Buddy Darden? The Congressman from Georgia's 7th District earned a creditable 96% on his NGLTF report card. Gingrich got a miserable 31%. Senator Fowler managed 50% and Nunn did none to well with 46%. If you live in the 7th call Darden and say, "thanks, Buddy."

May

Mayoral Candidate Michael Lomax outlines a platform for the the gay and lesbian community at a LEGAL meeting as gay support for Jackson grows. Insiders are already saying that no matter how good he sounds, Lomax can't win and therefore supporting Maynard is the

politically astute thing to do.

- Representative Thomas Crosby Jr of Waycross—a tire dealer in real life and Chairman of DHR's subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee in elected life—snatched funding for 21 women's shelters away from the Georgia Network Against Domestic Violence allegedly referring to the GNADV as "just a bunch of lesbians" because it includes sexual preference in its affirmative action statement. Smart dude, huh?

- Democratic Whip Tony Coelho (CA) speaks at the HRCF Dinner in Atlanta. The evening is a financial success, raising mega-bucks for the PAC, but Coelho's recent ethics problems make him a less than rousing choice as featured voice for the evening. The real fun is post-dinner dance music provided by the Fabulous Dyketones.

- Lomax and Jackson appear before a 4th Tuesday meeting. Maynard has a scheduling problem, leaves early and campaign staffer Rev. Tim McDonald, attempting to make, nice puts foot in mouth. Lomax supporters cheer.

June

Mayoral Candidates Lomax and Jackson addressed the 2000 plus attendees at this year's Pride Rally in Piedmont Park. Each candidate's supporters claimed that their man was the clear cut winner.

July

The Atlanta City Council has passed a Bias Crimes data collection ordinance introduced by Councilmember Barbara Asher. Pressure from the lesbian/gay community is largely responsible.

- Michael Lomax and the gay community are mainstream news as the *Atlanta JIC* gives air to a series of quotes, misquotes and misunderstandings on adding gay, lesbian and HIV discrimination to Fulton County's contract compliance program. Lomax is accused of pandering to the gay community. And only Maynard is smiling.

August

Much ado about the historic Mayoral Candidate Debate to be co-sponsored by LEGAL and the SCLC. Lomax has yet to accept, Jackson is saying that he wants a broader range of groups sponsoring.

- Skip the details, Lomax, acknowledging that there's no way he can win, throws in the towel.

September

Covering all his bases, de-facto Mayor Maynard Jackson, throws a reception for the lesbian and gay community and thunders, "First promises, then action."

- Overshadowed 'til now by the Mayoral Campaign, City Council races begin to get some coverage as charges of homophobia are

leveled against Post 15 candidates Charles Huddleston and Shelia Brown. GAPAC takes more than a little heat for its endorsement of Huddleston, active in a 1985 zoning decision that effectively put Illusions, a drag bar, out of business.

November

Despite Mayor-elect Jackson's statement that his transition team would include a Committee on Gay and Lesbian Concerns, no such group has evolved and the ad-hoc group that is meeting to ensure that Jackson's lesbian/gay platform is enacted asked a *Southern Voice* reporter to leave one of their meetings.

- In response to lobbying by lesbian and gay Georgians, Senator Sam Nunn signed on as a co-sponsor to S. 419 the Hate Crime Statistics Act. Senator Fowler remains a hold out. Call the former's office and thank him; ring the latter at (202) 224-3643 and express your concern at his lack of support for this important legislation.

- On the other hand, Fowler is willing to support S. 47 which would add affectional or sexual behavior to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act while Nunn dances delicately away from it like the politician/Presidential Candidate that he is. Reverse the instructions above on S. 47.

December

DeKalb County Commissioner Sherry Sutton introduced the strongest hate crimes ordinance in the state which, if passed, will mandate a minimum sentence of 60 days in the slammer and a \$500 fine for those convicted of malicious harassment based on race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, creed, color, national origin, color, marital status, physical or mental disability or infection with HIV. If you live in DeKalb call your Commissioner and lobby hard for passage of Ms. Sutton's holiday gift!



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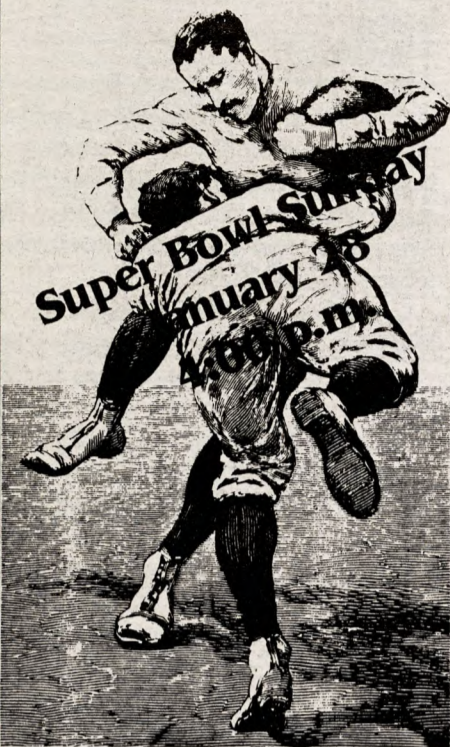
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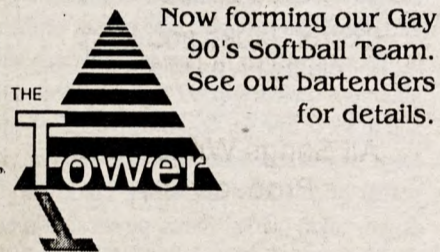
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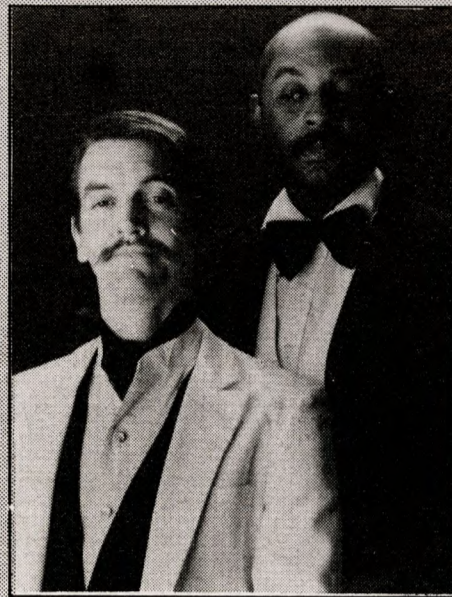
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tion and reservations.

Meetings

MACGLO. Thurs., Jan. 18. Council of Atlanta
gay and lesbian organizations. 7PM. Peachtree
Branch Library. 242-2342.

CONGREGATION BET HAVERIM. Fri.,
Jan. 19 with Rabbi Kleinbaum. Gay/lesbian
synagogue holds services the first and third
Friday nights of the month. Call 642-3467.

PFLAG. (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and
Gays). Sun., Jan. 21. Support group meets the
third Sunday of every month. 5-7PM. Unitarian
Universalist Congregation. 1911 Cliff Valley
Way. Call 691-4729, 961-6085, 296-0830, or
333-0352.

BWMT. (Black and White Men Together).
Mon., Jan. 22 and Mon., Jan. 29. A gay multi-
racial organization for all people. Rap groups
every Monday. (Potluck the 1st Saturday of
every month.) Call 794-BWMT.

4TH TUESDAY. Tues., Jan. 23. Rev. Karen
Wolfson of the Atlanta Church of Religious
Science will speak about discovering a potential
for creative self-discovery. Downtown Holiday
Inn. Call the Hotline for reservations & more
info. 662-4353.

LEGAL. Mon., Jan. 29. City council member
Mary Davis to speak on how the gay community
may be affected by issues facing the council this
year. Open to the public. LEGAL is a grass-roots
community political action organization.
Peachtree Branch Library. 7PM. 286-7476.

CHRYSALIS WOMEN'S CENTER. Pro-
vides professionally led support group for lesbi-
ans every Friday night from 7PM til 8:30PM.
Call 881-6300 for directions and information.

FIRST MCC AIDS MINISTRY. Committee
meeting every Sun., 12:30PM. First MCC, 800
N. Highland Ave. Call 872-2246 for more info.

Metaphysical

THE PATH TO PEACEFUL POWER. Mon.,
Jan. 22. This beginning class covers basic
(meditation) techniques & practices to allow
you to create your own personal spirituality
program. 7PM. A 6-week class. \$80. MAAS
Pyramid Building. 2054 Harobi Drive. Call
250-8088 and ask for Mary.

MEDITATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS.
Sat., Jan. 27. A four-week beginning meditation
class specifically designed for young adults, 13-
18. Techniques for managing stress, developing
concentration & using intuition, enhancements
of personal energy field. 10AM-12:30PM. \$60.
MAAS Building. 2054 Harobi Drive. Call 250-
8088 and ask for Mary.

Music

REUBEN ANDERSON. Thurs., Jan. 18. With
Kodak Harrison. Colorbox. 1040 N. Highland.
Call 874-3082 for more.

DEDE VOGT. Fri., Jan. 19. Opens for Lost
Angels. \$4. 8PM. The Point. 820 Moreland.
577-6468.

FACE OF CONCERN. Sat., Jan. 20. The Point.
820 Moreland Ave. \$4. 577-6468.

BOINK DEEDINK. Mon., Jan. 22. Musicians
Appreciation Night. \$3; \$2 for musicians. 8PM.
The Point. 820 Moreland. 577-6468.

THE ROCHESES. Sat., Jan. 27. This trio of
singing sisters from New Jersey are on the
comeback trail with a great new record and show
that highlights their music and their wit. Go see
'em! \$13.50, \$15. 8:30PM. The Roxy Theatre.
3110 Roswell Road. 874-2232.

TINSLEY ELLIS. Fri., Jan. 26. Cotton Club.
1021 Peachtree St. 10PM. \$5.96. 874-2523.

JOHNNY WINTER. Tues., Jan. 30. Franken-
stein! This man is still good! 8:30PM. \$14.50.
Center Stage. 1374 W. Peachtree St. 873-2500.

THE RAMONES. Tues., Jan. 30. The Mas-
querade at Excelsior Mill. 9PM. \$15. 577-9600.

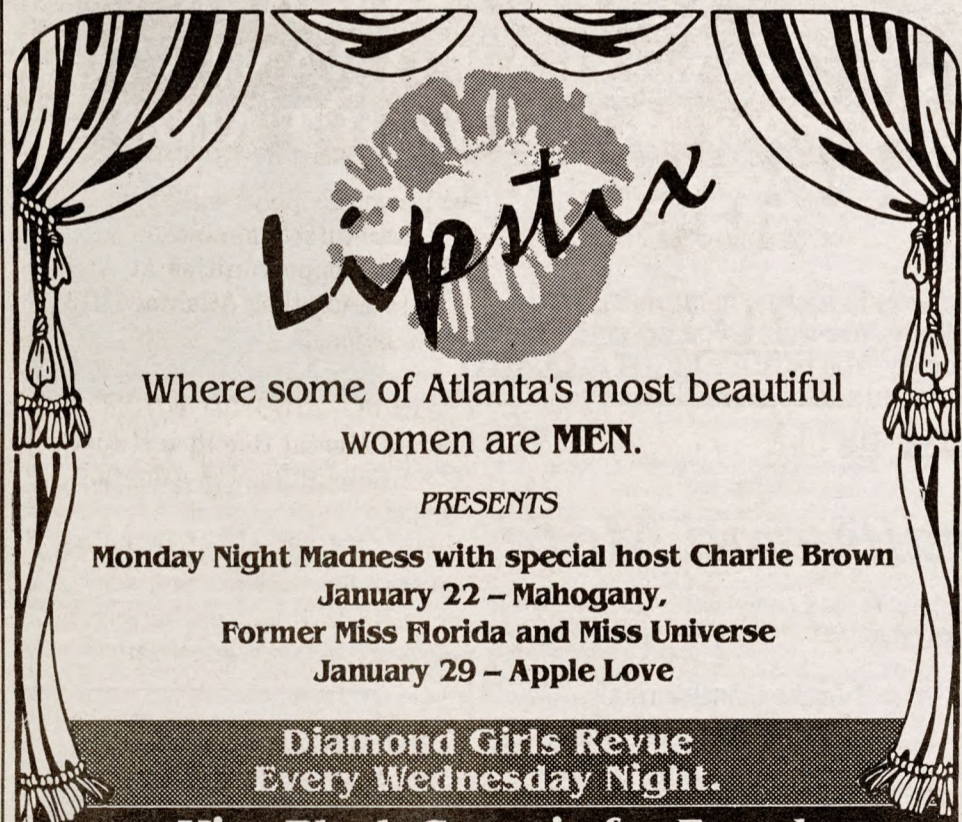
Photography

GRAFFITIART: The Berlin Wall Talks. Thru
Feb. 1990. One hundred color photos by Ber-
liner Heinz J. Kuzdas document graffiti on the
now-defunct Berlin Wall from 1983 to 1988.
Free. Georgia Tech Student Center Gallery.

Radio

All of the following programs are heard on
Radio Free Georgia - WRFG-89.3 FM.

THE GOOD EARTH: Tues., 1PM-1AM. New
Wave and Alternative Music with Eric Price.



Where some of Atlanta's most beautiful
women are **MEN.**

PRESENTS

Monday Night Madness with special host Charlie Brown
January 22 - Mahogany.
Former Miss Florida and Miss Universe
January 29 - Apple Love

Diamond Girls Revue
Every Wednesday Night.

Miss Black Georgia for Female
Impersonators January 17

Our Lipstix Cast

Bertha Butt • Ziggy Stardust • Tina Devore • Lily White
Charlene Rose • Ashley Cruz • Jaimie Monroe
Lauren Michaels • Brandy Dover • Ron Sanford

• **Reservations Suggested** •

Shows MON, WED, THURS, FRI, SAT - 11 PM & 1 AM
2329 Cheshire Bridge Road • Atlanta • 404-633-0452

Art

AIDSART ACTION. Thurs., Jan. 18 thru Feb.
10th. Ten multi-media collaborative projects by
Georgia artists and Persons Living With AIDS
(PWAs). Organized by SAME. Opening recep-
tion is from 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Atlanta Col-
lege of Art Gallery. Woodruff Arts Center.
1280 Peachtree Street. For more information,
call 898-1157 or Stebbos Hill at 584-2104.

"SET IN MOTION." Thurs, Jan 18 thru Jan.
31. New paintings, drawings and sculptures by
Carline Montague. Four-Star! Abstein Gallery.
558 Fourteenth Street. Call 872-8020 for more.

Auditions

WEDDING BAND. Sat., Feb. 3-Sun., Feb. 5.
Open. Prepared 2-minute monologue preferred,
but not required. 7 PM. Onstage Atlanta, 420
Courtland St. Show runs Mar. 16 thru Apr. 7.

Bars

THE TOWER. The theme bar of the Gay '90s
presents these weekly activities: The "original"
Monday night madness with Rhonda; Wednes-
day mellow-out with Gloria; weekend high
energy music with Kathy, Jaimie and Sandy.
735 Ralph McGill Boulevard. 688-5463.

PHOENIX COUNTRY WESTERN BAR.
Join us all weekend, every weekend starting
with our Friday Shooter Party 4PM; Saturday
tacos and margaritas 4PM; Sunday spaghetti
4PM. 567 Ponce de Leon Avenue. 892-7871.

Benefits

MASQUERADE PRO-CHOICE BENEFIT.
Thurs., Jan 25. A pro-choice benefit featuring
Atlanta bands. Features Ellen James Society,
Jody Grind, Right As Rain, She Said, and others.
18 years and older, please. Drinks provided if
proof of legal age is available. 9:30PM. \$4. The
Masquerade in the Excelsior Mill, 695 North
Avenue. 239-8016.

Film

LONG SHADOWS. Fri., Jan. 19. Academy
Award-winner Ross Spears brings his film on
the Civil War to Atlanta, a conflict he calls
"cataclysmic". He sees it as an unended struggle,
its imprint manifested in present public policies
and private psyches. \$3-2. 8PM. High Museum
of Art, Rich Auditorium, 1280 Peachtree Street.

Literature

ROZ PERRY ON ROSE PENSKI. Thurs.,
Jan. 25. Celebrating the release of her first
novel, former Atlantian Roz Perry will read se-
lections from *Rose Penski*. This warm, charm-
ing story introduces us to two endearing, quirky
women who love one another, cook, fight, and
face breast cancer together - and alone. Free.
7:30PM. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland
Ave. 524-0304.

January 18 - January 30

SOUNDINGS: Thurs., 1-2PM. Topical music and talk with socially concerned artists, hosted by Franklin Abbott and Lanier Clance.

STILL AIN'T SATISFIED: Thurs., 5:05-7PM. Music and public affairs from a Heretic Woman's view. *This Way Out*, the Lesbian and Gay Radio News, at 6PM.

THE SEEKER: Sat., 5-8PM. Music and information which preserves, promotes and advances the true history and culture of African-American people. Coltrane, Marley, Nina Simone, Fela, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, book and film reviews, interviews, news, poetry readings and much more. Hosted by W.S. Tkewene.

GAY GRAFFITI: Sun., 8-9PM. Good music and good talk by and about Atlanta's lesbian and gay community.

LES CHANTEUSES AFRICANES: Mon., 1-6AM. A unique radio exclusive! Featuring musician & literary voices of black women. Strong ethnic/lesbian flavor. Alicia Banks hosts.

Television

SALLY JESSY RAPHAEL. Fri., Jan. 19. Scheduled topic: "Learning one's son or daughter is gay." Should be interesting, huh, troops!? 9AM. Ch. 2. Tell 'em Chastity sent you.

Theatre

LAUGHING WILD. Extended thru Jan. 20! Christopher Durang's blistering satire on contemporary issues is well-presented. The Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth Street. 221-0831.

FENCES. Thurs., Jan 18 thru Feb. 17. August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play about the broken dreams of an embittered former Negro League baseball player, set in the 50's just before the civil rights era. Tickets are \$13-\$28. Alliance Theatre, Woodruff Arts Center. 1280 Peachtree St. 892-2414 for more information.

PANTOMIME. Thurs., Jan 18 thru Feb. 17. An ironic two-character play of wits with a Calypso beat, this is a satirical version of the Robinson Crusoe legend with roles reversed. Tickets are \$10-\$20. Shows: Wed.-Fri., 8PM; Sat., 8:30PM, Sun., 3PM. The Academy Theatre. 173 14th Street (across from Colony Square). 892-0880.

DIE, BROCK MOLAR DIE! Thurs., Jan 18 thru March 31. Evotek Theatre, The World's First Science Fiction Playhouse, ushers in the 90's with this swashbuckling space odyssey. The play follows the adventures of neurospace pirate, Brock Molar, whose precious cargo is 1000 disembodied souls. Performances are on Fri. and Sat. at 9PM. \$8.50. Evotek is located at 3078 Roswell Road. 642-3379.

TEXAS TWO STEPPING WITH THE GIRLS. Fri., Jan. 19 and Sat., Jan 20. Rebecca Ranson's musical comedy returns. 8PM. \$8. 1st Existentialist Congregation. 270 Candler Park Drive. 584-2104.

THE LIZARD OF TARSUS. Wed., Jan. 31 thru Mar 4. Atlanta playwright Jim Grimsley's newest play focuses on the Second Coming of Christ and His inquisition by the Church's main leader, Paul of Tarsus. Sure to be a hit. Wed.-Sat., 8PM; Sun., 5PM. \$10.60. Seven Stages, 1105 Euclid Ave. 523-7647.

Upcoming

A GRAND LOVE AFFAIR. Wed., Feb. 14. A Valentine's party to benefit the Council on Battered Women. Cocktail buffet, light jazz, & a silent auction. \$75 per person/\$150 per couple. Call 237-6795 or 237-9085.

OLIVIA RECORDS. Feb. 12-16, 19-23, 1990. This company has just released a limited number of cabins for their cruise to the Bahamas. Call today to reserve fun, sun & music with 600 women about the S.S. Dolphin IV. (800) 631-6277. Accommodations for single or double occupancy available.

WINTER MADNESS DANCE. Sat., Feb. 3. Sponsored by ALFA/Boogiewimmin and 4th Tuesday. All women, female kids & boys under 12 are welcome. 8-12PM. Tickets, \$8. Cash bar. First Existentialist Church, Candler Park. Call 662-4353 or 627-5616 (TTY).

THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL BLACK GAY/LESBIAN CONFERENCE. Feb. 16-19. "Celebrating Our History, Creating Our Future" is the theme. Hyatt Regency Atlanta. For more details, call 755-7731. African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance.



Atlanta playwright Jim Grimsley's new play, "The Lizard of Tarsus", focuses on the second coming of Christ and His inquisition by Paul of Tarsus. A must see. Opens January 31 at Seven Stages Theatre, 1105 Euclid Avenue. 523-7647 for information and reservations. Pictured: Faye Allen.

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January 13 - February 10

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FRI-SAT: 11-8

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A WEEKEND SEMINAR FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT AIDS

AIDS
101

THE WEEKEND

Saturday, 27 January

8:30-5:30

Sunday, 28 January

11:30-5:00

General Sessions. There are many facts and myths about the AIDS Epidemic. AIDS 101 General Sessions will educate you about the differences. Sessions include: Medical Overview and Psycho-social Issues; Risk Reduction and Drugs; Playing Safe vs. Playing With Your Life.

Special Interest Sessions. Design your own weekend to suit *your* needs. These session topics range from general information to specific issues critical to PLWA's.

Services. Displays will be set up to introduce services and volunteer opportunities at AID Atlanta and other Atlanta AIDS organizations.

Location. AIDS 101 is held at Georgia Mental Health Institute, 1256 Briarcliff Road in Atlanta.

Costs. The Registration fee is \$30 (\$15 for students and senior citizens) which includes reference materials, snacks and Saturday lunch.

CALL TO REGISTER
(404) 872-0600

AID
Atlanta

1132 W. PEACHTREE ST. NW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309
(404) 872-0600

REGISTER NOW -- SPACE IS LIMITED

AALGA- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance. 1st Sunday of each month. 4:00 PM. Ashby and Gordian Street. 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 at 7:30 PM at 131 Ponce de Leon, Suite 233. 24-hr. info line - 286-6247. Outside Atlanta, call 800-342-7038 ext. 6247.

AFC- Atlanta Faerie Circle. 1st Sunday of each month. Location and time varies. Gay men gathering for support and to 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 gays men as well as educational out-reach to society as a whole. 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.

AGLA- Athens Gay & Lesbian Association, at the University of Georgia. All welcome at meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month; call 404/548-0580 for more information.

ALACC- Atlanta Lesbian Agenda Conference Committee. A diverse group of lesbians helping to organize the 1st National Lesbian Agenda Conference to be held in Atlanta in 1990 or 1991. For info call 378-9769.

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 info 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.

APAC Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee - Join Atlanta's newest abortion-rights activist group in defending women's health clinics. A non-profit, non-partisan, nonviolent broad-based organization created to support the right to reproductive freedom for all people. 239-8016 for information. Our bodies, our lives, our right to decide.

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 Info Line- 876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (Statewide). 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 info: 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, 4:30-7:00 PM at the First Existentialist Church at 470 Candler Pl. Dr. 355-8894 or 435-4498.

Atlanta Lambda Chorale- 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. 7:30 PM. First Existentialist Church. The Circle is open to anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual. 378-5570

CODA-Codependents Anonymous-Lambda. A 12-step program of recovery from codependency for gays and lesbians. Meetings Tues. & Wed. at 8 PM. For info and locations call: 239-1657.

Chrysalis - A women's center providing social, educational and informational programs and services for the community. 2045 Manchester. For info call (404) 881-6300.

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. All Saints Episcopal Church. Proudly serving the lesbian and gay community. Info line: 642-3467.

Delphi- A fraternity of gay men, offering recreation, fellowship, and idealism. P.O. Box 14591, Atlanta, GA 30324.

ELGO- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization. Meetings every Wed. at 7:30 PM. Room 362E Dobbs University Center. Box 23515, Emory Univ., Atlanta, Ga. 30322. 727-6692.

First MCC Atlanta- 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. Counseling available by appointment for individuals and couples. Same sex Holy Unions performed. 872-2246.

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.

Friends Atlanta- Activities and meetings vary. A social, recreational and educational group for gays and lesbians. Volleyball, bowling, theater nights, and dances are among the activities. 662-4501.

Friends of Zoo Atlanta- Support organization for Zoo Atlanta. For info regarding corporate sponsorship, membership, volunteers

and adopt-an-animal call (404) 525-9936. Mon.-Fri., 9AM-5PM.

GAA- 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. Weekly meetings. 676-1324. GALA, Programs Area, GA Tech, Atlanta, GA 30332.

GLSA- Ga. State Gay and Lesbian Student Alliance. Day meetings on Wed. 10:10am, Rm 904 General Classroom Bldg. (Nov. 8 mtg. in 804 GCB). Info: 651-3636 or 352-4570. GLSA, Box 506 University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303.

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. 368-7420.

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.

Gay & Lesbian Pride March-1990- PO Box 5643, West Columbia, SC 29171. (803) 796-3615, 252-9455, 271-4207.

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.

Human Rights Campaign Fund- (HRCF-Atlanta) The nation's largest Lesbian & Gay political & lobbying organization. P.O. Box 8594, Atlanta, GA 30306, Phone 365-8766.

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. 7:30PM. N. Highland Branch Library. For info: 874-8969. Address: LAMP, PO Box 301, 1579-F Monroe Drive, Atlanta, GA, 30324.

LEGAL- Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians. A voice for lesbians and gays in the Democratic party. Mtgs. on 3rd Mon. of the month. 7pm at Ptree Branch Library. P.O. Box 54167, Atlanta 30308. (404) 286-7476.

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. 938-2009.

Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta- A Christian Ministry for Lesbian and Gay Understanding. Please contact us at P.O. Box 13673, Atlanta, GA 30324. 636-7109.

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. 4:00PM. 728 Pickens St., Columbia, SC. Contact: PO Box 90537, Columbia, SC, 29290. (803) 732-0838.

MAAS- Metro Atlanta Astrological Society. A networking educational/research organization for both amateur and professional astrologers. Usually meet the 4th Wed. of each month. 622-5661

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 info. 242-2342.

MCC All Saints- Serving metro Atlanta 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. Regular meetings and events. 131 Ponce de Leon, Suite 233. 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 6:30PM 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. 5-7 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, Greenville, SC, 29603-0022. 24hr. switchboard(803) 271-4207.

Pride of Peachtree - Atlanta's Lesbian & Gay Marching Band. Every Monday night 7:30PM-9:00PM at First MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. For info call 434-7826.

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

SESA - The Southeastern Sports Alliance is a fundraising, awareness and organizer for sports and cultural events leading up to Celebration '90 Gay Games & Cultural Festival, Vancouver, British Columbia. 875-0700.

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

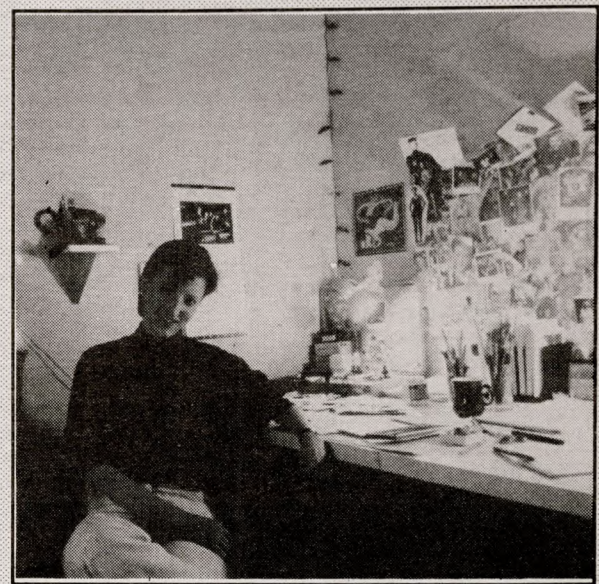
Southern Country Atlanta- A social organization which promotes country/western dance and activities. We sponsor country/western dance nights at three locations in Atlanta and some out-of-town activities. Call 231-0805 for further info.

Speak Out- Provides the voter, an opportunity to let your congressional representatives know how you feel concerning AIDS & Civil Rights Matters. P.O. Box 8594, Atlanta, GA 30306. Phone 365-8766.

WOW- Women of Wisdom. Usually every 3rd Monday of each month. 7:30 PM. N. Highland Branch Library. Facilitates 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. 984-9929.

OUT LINES

Age: 29
Hometown: Newark, Delaware
Relationship Status: Married, but not dead!
Book currently reading: *Oscar Wilde*, by Richard Ellmann
Favorite politician: Harvey Milk
Organizations involved with: ACT-UP, Project Open Hand
Goals: To make a living through my art.



Karen Chance: Mixing Art with Action

Art and politics definitely mix for Karen Chance. Like many young artists, Karen speaks with modesty and self-deprecation about her work. But she speaks with articulate intensity about her commitment to gay activism.

Karen lives in Little Five Points in a sunny top-floor apartment with lots of light, high ceilings, simplicity, bright colors, a sense of space. Fulton furniture, a comfortable rocking chair. A hint of incense hovers in the air, a tabby cat named Ben sits in quiet attendance. A table gets maximum light. Over the table hangs a huge bulletin board like a collage, full of popular-culture images - Elvis and Priscilla Presley, a picture of a Janie Geiser puppet, one of the Rev. Howard Finster's little overall-clad figures, fresh-faced, innocent, deceptively childlike.

Also prominently visible is the painting Karen did for Dede Vogt's album cover, "Goliath Dreaming." In the picture, a nude lavender woman curls asleep on a violet mattress on a red bedframe. A green-faced figure in a hat and yellow shirt leans through a window and plays a red accordion. A yellow animal lies under the bed beside a pair of lavender boots.

Karen speaks modestly about her art: "My art isn't intellectual. It isn't cutting edge stuff. It's influenced by Southern folk art: kind of primitive, brightly colored, flat - a lot of detail, and small. I like to work small; I don't like working on a large scale." The album cover for Dede Vogt is her first, although she hopes to do more. "I'd like to be able to support myself by making images. I'd like to do more magazine illustrations, album covers, maybe children's books." At present, she does freelance illustrations for the *Journal Constitution*, and is planning a show of her paintings in the spring with a local woman photographer.

Karen's work uses autobiographical images, images from gay sexuality. "I try to work my politics into my art," she explains. "People seem to enjoy my art; it's visually pretty, and that makes people look at it. Then they see that the message is darker than you might expect at first glance."

An example is *Parallax*, a small art book about homophobia that Karen created using offset lithography. "It's one story on one side, sort of a paranoid dream sequence of a straight man. Then you turn it to the other side and see a gay man and how he sees straight people. Then at the end, the two men have to share a space together. I don't put any comment about whether they liked doing that, only that they had to."

"There was a little bit of controversy about the book because of its gay content. The promotional card was a drawing of two men kissing and a policeman in the background."

Karen is political not only through the images she uses in her art, but also by the action she takes in her life. She participated in the ACT-UP demonstration against the sodomy law on January 8 and was one of the demonstrators to be arrested.

She found the experience a positive one: "Three men and myself wore pajamas over our clothes, and put rubber shackles on our wrists and shackled ourselves together, and lay down in the street and blocked traffic. We had just barely lain down when the police grabbed us."

Karen decided to take part in the ACT-UP demonstration almost at the last minute: "I had been thinking that I wanted to do it. A little more than a week ago I lost a really good friend to AIDS, and that cemented my desire to participate."

"Our group was the John Howell group, named after a neighborhood activist who died of AIDS over a year ago, for whom a park in Virginia Highlands has been named. He was a man I met in Washington at the March. I talked with him there, and I liked him a lot, and so I chose that group."

Karen feels that direct action is valuable, not only for the political results it may have, but also for the effect it has upon the people who participate: "I think it's important to do something, not only for the cause, but for your mental health as well. Demonstrating felt like a good thing to do. It was a way to channel my anger about the law's invasion of privacy."

"At a march, there's something about the numbers that makes you feel less alone. Dealing with people about gayness can be really draining, really exhausting. Especially if your friends don't feel the same way you do about gay rights, even if they are gay. And so it's nice to find people who feel the way you do, and who act on it."

Karen hopes to do more political work in the future. She plans to become a member of ACT-UP: "They're really a wonderful group of people. The Atlanta group is really solid. Small, but they're intelligent, articulate, passionate." And she expects to continue to work and to grow as an artist: "I want to try different media. I'd like to push my drawing skills, and really stretch my limits."

Pushing limits is one of the things Karen does best. We can expect to see her bright colors and vivid dreamlike images in many places in the future, and to see Karen herself wherever committed gay activists can be found.

- Charlene Ball

OBITUARIES

W. Michael Barkley

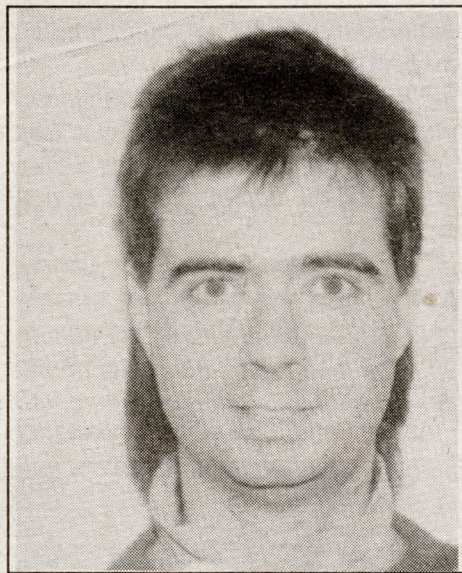
W. Michael Barkley, 33, died recently at West Paces Ferry Hospital of complications from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Michael was born in Myrtlewood, Alabama and made Atlanta his home since 1979.

He was active in various AIDS organizations, played on the Armory softball team for three years, and was a member of All Saints Episcopal Church. He was a Tax Examiner with I.R.S. and also employed by Bennigan's.

Michael loved to entertain and make people laugh, whether on the camp drag stage as CHLOE ROCKS, or at home with a few friends gathered around the Wurlitzer organ singing "Amazing Grace."

Michael's persistent good humor, his warmth, his openness, and his genuine enthusiasm for living has touched (and enriched) the lives of all those who had the good fortune to know him.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, January 21 at 3:00 at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 48 M.L.K. Jr. Dr. S.W. Father Alan Dillmann



officiating. Donations should be made to Project Open Hand, Atlanta Gay Center Services For P.W.A.'s, All Saint's Shelter or Tuesday Night at the Shrine dinners.

Surviving are P. LaMar Skinner, Clara and Bill Bozeman, and Daniel Moon. Also are his parents, two sisters, and one brother, all of Alabama.

Kirk Edington Bruce

Kirk Edington Bruce, a graphic artist and painter, died December 28, 1989, at the age of twenty-eight.

An Atlanta native, Kirk was a graduate of the Atlanta College of Art. It was during his student years that Kirk formed many lasting friendships. Kirk entertained and enlightened us with his quick wit and sharp insight. He was, among other things, an avid collector of a fascinating array of images dealing with fine art, advertising, and the print media. He possessed a keen and discerning eye for clean lines and beautiful objects.

Kirk created many memorable images in advertisements for Weekends, Club Rio, Occasion and numerous other businesses and publications. While continuing to paint and draw, Kirk increasingly began integrating his "found object" sensibility into his art through clever manipulation of the "image" as enhanced by the computer.

Kirk left with all his family and friends a beautiful legacy of his work and in his teaching us to dare to be true to who we are. He also taught us courage and dignity in the face of death.

We will love you always.

OBITUARY POLICY

Southern Voice prints obituaries as both news and a community service free of charge. In most cases, we depend on relatives or friends of the deceased person to notify us of a death and provide us a photo, information about the deceased's involvement in the community, and plans for a funeral or memorial service.

To place an obituary, write to us at: Southern Voice, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316 or call 876-1819.

City Council Member Mary Davis to Speak at Next LEGAL Meeting

On Monday, January 29 at 7 p.m. LEGAL (Legislate Equality for Gays And Lesbians, Inc., a non-profit grass-roots community political action organization) will have as its special guest Mary Davis, member of the Atlanta City Council (District 6).

Ms. Davis will address the membership on her agenda for the City Council in the 1990s, with an emphasis placed on how the lesbian and gay community will be affected by possible issues facing the council. Further, Ms. Davis will field questions from the floor.

Ms. Davis is the first member of the City Council to be invited by LEGAL to address the organization on her plans for the future. LEGAL will be inviting other members of the council to address the organization in the coming months. Ms. Davis was selected to inaugurate a 'Programme of Dialogue With City Councilpersons' because of her work in

ensuring that all citizens of Atlanta are treated with equality, dignity, and compassion regardless of their race, religion, creed, colour, sex, sexual orientation, physical ability, ethnicity, age, or HIV status.

Some of the previous elected officials who have addressed LEGAL include the Honorable Maynard Jackson, Mayor of Atlanta, Michael Lomax, Chair of the Fulton County Commission, and Senator Alan Cranston of California.

All meetings of LEGAL are opened to the general public and are held at the Peachtree Branch of the Atlanta-Fulton County Library which is located at the corner of Peachtree Street and Sixteenth Street (across from the High Museum).

For further information please contact: Padraig McManus-McLaughlin at 286-7476.

April Will Feature Gay Carnival to Benefit 1990's Gay Games

by Matt Montgomery

The Southeastern Sports Alliance (S.E.S.A.) is planning a two-day festival to benefit gay organizations, businesses and individuals in the Atlanta area.

Planned for Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, "Ga-le-bration" is designed to raise money for participating gay organizations. As the host organization, S.E.S.A. hopes to gain support and funds for the Gay Games '90 Southeastern athletes.

The celebration will feature a carnival with concessions, games, entertainment and booths sponsored by local gay groups. Retail businesses will have stands to display their products and restaurants will offer food.

Areas for vendors will consist of an arts and crafts section for local artists, photographers and craftsmen as well as booths for civic groups to raise funds to benefit and promote their cause.

Organizations which have expressed interest in participating in the festival include the Hotlanta Volleyball Association, Atlanta Team Tennis, Friends Atlanta Fourth Tuesday, Atlanta Venture Sports, and Project Open Hand.

Deana's One Mo' Time is one of the local businesses which has pledged support to the event by hosting a Gay Games fundraiser on April 22. Deana's plans to offer a "games"

drink as part of their celebration.

In order to promote excitement for the carnival, the organizing committee plans to have a "bar raid" at area bars on Friday, April 27 to inform the gay community about the festival.

Highlights of the carnival will include daytime festivities with evening dances and entertainment. The organizers are optimistic about the plans.

"Once the gay community hears about it, they will respond with positive support," said Tim Mills, Chairman of the executive steering committee.

Mills who feels that the event will become an annual celebration said that he expects a showing of the region and not just local support.

A planning meeting will be at the Peachtree branch library on Tuesday, February 1 to discuss the logistics of the carnival. Interested businesses, artists, entertainers, and volunteers should contact Tim Mills at (404) 874-6102 or Larry Lucas at (404) 875-0700.

The Celebration '90 Gay Games and Cultural Festival will be in Vancouver, British Columbia August 4 - 11, 1990. Local athletes and artists who need information about the games should contact Larry Lucas, Southeast Coordinator at (404) 875-0700.

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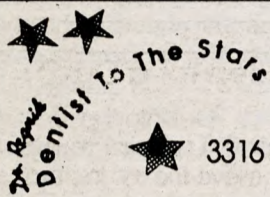
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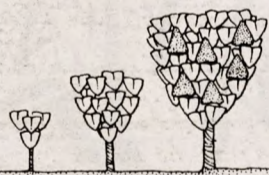
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CDC Cont'd from page 3

women who have a variety of opportunistic infections which do not fall into their definition of AIDS or ARC.

"R.I.P.," read one woman's tombstone-shaped sign as she and the others lay in front of the building's entrance. "Another woman dead of HIV not counted. Died of cervical cancer."

"The CDC doesn't even want to consider the possibility of woman-to-woman transmission of HIV," stated Emily Nahmansohn of New York's AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP/NY).

Among the demands of the demonstrators

demand by pounding loudly on the building's glass doors while shouting, "Hey! Hey, CDC! Give us 200-T", much to the shock of the curious occupants of the building.

Tossing handfuls of round cardboard cards and plastic ping-pong balls marked as "T-cells", the demonstrators sought to draw attention to their demand that the CDC also alter the AIDS definition to include all persons with under 200 T-cells.

T-cells, key indicators of a body's immune system function, range in healthy individuals from 800-1,200. Although the CDC has guidelines calling on all persons with under



BARBARA SNELL

was that the CDC stop classifying AIDS patients in "risk groups", as they may identify themselves, but instead segregate cases into transmission routes, which they insist would provide a clearer picture of how the disease is spread and how to educate against it.

Part of that, the activists demanded, is a listing of what HIV infections were spread by

200 T-cells to immediately begin taking medications intended to stave off AIDS-related infections, they do not classify those with under 200 T-cells who have not yet had those infections as having AIDS. That, the activists state, closes out hundreds of thousands of HIV-infected people from the CDC's definition and, consequently, from most treatment protocols and financial and housing assistance.

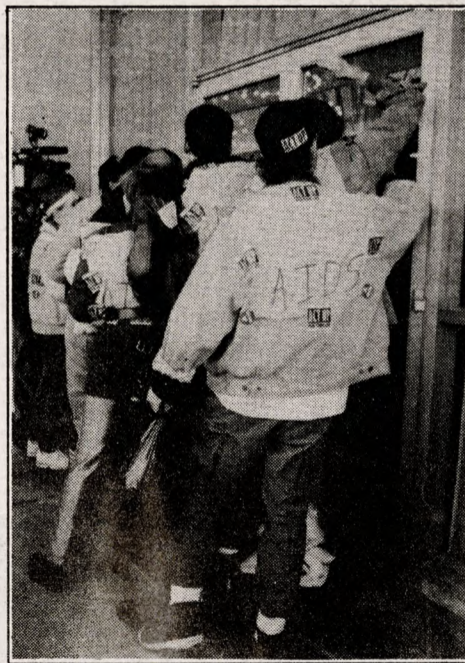
After police declined to arrest the "T-200" group once they lay down in the street—as they had already closed off the street to traffic—the group then moved to an adjoining CDC office building and took over a small office where they then held a cramped press conference.

Halfway into the demonstration, a group of ten demonstrators climbed a ladder to the roof of the main building to hang a banner reading, "CDC Kills". As they had taken the ladder up with them and had previously staked out the building, they managed to leave the roof before police could reach them by the stairs.

Another group—called the "Costas", after a member who died recently—climbed the ladder to the building, but were detained by police who then took the rest of the afternoon in negotiating how to lower the protesters to awaiting paddy wagons.

Causing mild consternation for some of the protesters, three anti-gay counter-demonstrators stood in the thick of the action carrying signs saying "Gay is Not OK". When one of the men sought to place himself in the line of sight of cameras shooting the protesters, a group of activists surrounded him with their own signs, following him up and down the street as he tried to escape them. After a brief "kiss-in", the group disbursed.

Earlier, one protester, Marty Robinson of ACT UP/NY, was seen being arrested on battery charges for allegedly assaulting one of anti-gay counter-demonstrators after a verbal altercation.



BARBARA SNELL

An "affinity group" called "200-T" sought to drive home another demand by pounding loudly on the building's glass doors while shouting, "Hey! Hey, CDC! Give us 200-T"

what specific sexual acts. To call attention to that, another group of the demonstrators ran a large black banner up the building's flagpole reading, "Cunnilingus Counts. AIDS Won't Wait".

"CDC, tell us why you sit back while women die?", they shouted.

Another "affinity group", this one called "200-T", later sought to drive home another

President Visits With Adults, Children With AIDS

Pre-Christmas Visit Marks First Time Talks With U.S. Leader

by Cliff O'Neill

Rockville, Md. — Marking the first such visit by an American president now nearly nine years into the epidemic, President George Bush held a discussion with a group of adults infected with HIV at the National Institutes of Health here Dec. 22.

As part of larger visit which included a tour of a ward for children with AIDS and another meeting with a support group for families of AIDS patients, Bush, his wife and son, Health and Human Services Secretary Louis W. Sullivan and his wife met for a half hour with seven openly gay men in various stages of HIV infection.

In a statement read afterwards, Bush praised the work of the federal agency. "You're helping to improve the health of millions of Americans," said Bush. "And even more, like those soldiers in Panama — those heroes — you're giving the greatest gift imaginable: the gift of life. And nowhere is this gift more evident than in your work to combat AIDS."

Although his comments were overshadowed by the overthrow of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, which happened during the visit, and the continued American occupation of Panama, Bush did devote the second half of his statement to "HIV" and "persons with AIDS."

"Only together can we all wage our war against this terrible killer," Bush said, adding that his meetings with the groups reminded him "of the need for compassion and understanding."

"And by that," he added, "I mean the compassion that moves us to care for all those infected with the HIV."

Although this marks the first time that, as President, Bush has met with people with AIDS, as Vice-President, Bush met with a handful of AIDS patients two years ago in the same building.

"This is definitely a positive sign," said Robert Bray, public information officer for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, of the pre-Christmas Bush visit. "We hope that the President will be moved to take more leadership and take the dramatic, personal testimonies he heard from these adults and translate them into leadership and effective policy."

Among the adults taking part in the visit was Len Jackson, an HIV positive, asymptomatic Baltimore resident. "We didn't really know until it was underway what the president's purpose was," said Jackson. "And with all the breaking events Panama and Romania, we really didn't expect it to happen until it was underway."

The meeting followed a five minute photo session for the discussion participants and the President. Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institutes for Allergies and Infectious Diseases, moderated the meeting. Talk was limited to the men's personal stories at Fauci's request, according to Jackson.

"President Bush didn't have a great deal to say," said Jackson, "but he listened actively, and I think sincerely. Mrs. Bush particularly was visibly moved by some of the discussion about discrimination."

Although the men with HIV were asked to keep the short talk on a non-confrontational level, the discussion reportedly took a spirited turn when Bush asked a question about AIDS discrimination termed as "naive" by Jackson.

"He asked why [discrimination exists]," said Jackson. "He asked if maybe there are people out there who still don't understand about transmission [of AIDS] and are afraid."

"We told Bush how insidious that discrimination is and that it comes even from the most educated people, even from those inside the medical establishment," Jackson added. "That was the first opportunity in which we were able to say, 'Be a leader. Set an example for the world.'"

Jackson noted that, although the subjects of health care financing and drug accessibility were not able to be discussed due to the brevity of the meeting, he would be bringing them up in detail in a letter he is writing to Bush.

Coming at the same moment as the continuing upheaval in Panama and Romania, the visit garnered little national attention, save for Bush's hugging of a young boy with AIDS.

"While we all avoided articulating indictment for his taking so long to meet with us," stated Jackson. "The number of times and ways he was thanked got across a lot. This meeting was on sort of a diplomatic level. However, I feel that slowly some wheel will turn because of it."

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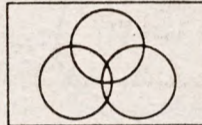
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Project Open Hand/Atlanta Announces Plans for Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball

Project Open Hand/Atlanta, our local meals-on-wheels program serving people with HIV Disease, has announced plans for Masquerade '90, their first annual Mardi Gras Costume Ball to be held on Saturday, February 24, 1990, in the Egyptian Ballroom at the Fox Theatre from 9:00pm til 2:00am. Tickets are priced at \$40 per person and include food, soft drinks, and special entertainment with a cash bar.

Ball chairman Martin Reece said, "The Board of Open Hand has decided to sponsor only one major fundraiser a year within the community, and the bleak month of February seemed to be the time of year when we all most needed something festive to happen to help

us get through the winter. We want this event to be as big and as much fun as anything in New Orleans or Key West. We want it to be not only a fundraiser for the Project but also something we can give back to the lesbian and gay community in Atlanta that has been so generous and supportive of the work of Open Hand this past year. Believe me, this is going to be the party no one will want to miss!"

Tickets may be ordered by calling (404) 522-0172 and charging to your Visa or Master Card. Orders paid by check can be sent to Project Open Hand/Atlanta, P.O. Box 50439, Atlanta 30302. All donations are, of course, tax-deductible.

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Ruling Planets

January 18 - January 31
by Mary Bailey-Rule

The Sun goes into Aquarius on January 20th. Aquarius is a fixed air sign which is associated with independent and innovative thinking, sometimes rebellious attitudes and the ability to communicate within groups.

ARIES A spring fire sign ruled by Mars is usually assertive, impulsive, and energetic. Your 9th and 10th houses are active now, clarify and evaluate next year's education and career goals.

TAURUS The spring earth sign traditionally ruled by Venus is considered to be sensual and stubborn, deliberate and dependable. Venus in your 9th house emphasizes your interest in education, travel, traditional values.

GEMINI A mutable air sign ruled by Mercury. You are curious, often easily excitable, good at making friends. Mercury in your 8th house goes direct on the 19th, communications improve.

CANCER The first sign of summer is a water sign ruled by the Moon. You are usually nurturing, warm and sympathetic, and very sensitive to the feelings of others. Your 7th house is very active now, so make time for yourself.

LEO The summer fire sign, ruled by the Sun, is noted for its confidence, generosity, and sometimes imperial attitude. Mars is currently in your 5th house, firing up your creativity and passion, so have fun.

VIRGO This mutable earth sign, is ruled by Mercury and very good with details and organization. The Sun in Aquarius will be in your 6th house of health and responsibility, so be careful about taking on too much at work.



LIBRA A fall air sign, ruled by Venus is very diplomatic, usually cooperative, but often has difficulty with commitment. Jupiter is moving through your 10th house of career, watch for opportunities to grow, expand.



SCORPIO The intense fixed water sign, ruled by Pluto. You are intuitive, instinctive about human nature and demanding in personal relationships. The Sun is in your 4th house emphasizing home and family relationships.



SAGITTARIUS The fire sign ruled by expansive Jupiter. You are often adventurous, optimistic, and idealistic, making it difficult to keep your feet on the ground. Venus in your 2nd house is improving material resources.



CAPRICORN A winter earth sign ruled by Saturn. You appreciate structure, planning, and usually like being in charge. Saturn in your first house may be causing extra stress, so take time to play and relax.



AQUARIUS A winter air sign, ruled by Uranus, the planet of individuality and innovation. Happy Birthday! It's your turn to shine and enjoy your month. If you are carrying too much responsibility, give yourself a well-earned vacation.



PISCES A water sign, characterized by compassion, sensitivity and a dreamy approach to life. Illusion and inspiration are two sides of the same coin, so trust your gut feelings, especially with the Sun in your 12th house.

Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in birth chart analysis, relationship charts, and astrological career counseling. For more information or an appointment, call 250-8088.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLORETH

Dykes to Watch Out For

The Session

©1989 BY ALISON BECHDEL

DUNTED AFTER THREE UNSUCCESSFUL VENTURES, MO DETERMINES TO TRY ONE LAST THERAPIST.

GREAT. THIS ONE'S LATE. IF SHE'S NOT HERE IN ONE MORE MINUTE, I'M BAGGING THE WHOLE DEAL.

AH! YOU MUST BE MO! SORRY I'M LATE! I WAS DOWNTOWN AT A DEMONSTRATION!

UNFORTUNATELY, WE DECIDED TO BLOCK TRAFFIC AT THE VERY INTERSECTION WHERE I'D PARKED MY CAR! HA HA! COME IN, COME IN!

YOU WERE AT THE EL SALVADOR DEMO? I DIDN'T THINK THERAPISTS DID STUFF LIKE THAT.

AH! WHAT KIND OF STUFF DID YOU THINK WE DO?

UH... I DUNNO. PLAY BRIDGE. HAVE POTLUCKS. GO TO SEMINARS ON CODEPENDENCY. THAT SORT OF THING.

WELL, SOMETIMES I DO THOSE THINGS TOO.

OH.

YOU SEEM UPSET.

OF COURSE I'M UPSET! THAT'S WHY I'M HERE!

AH. WELL. WHY DON'T YOU TALK MORE ABOUT THAT.

SNIFF.

I'M NOT CRYING!

YOU'RE NOT GONNA MAKE ME PUNCH ANY PILLOWS OR TALK TO A CHAIR, ARE YOU?

MY DEAR, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING. YOU CAN JUST SIT THERE IF YOU LIKE.

UH, COULD I HAVE THE KLEENEX BACK, PLEASE? I SEEM TO BE HAVING SOME KIND OF WEIRD ALLERGY ATTACK!

bittersweet

by Charles Haver

HEH, BUZZ! WOULD YOU MIND CLARIFYING FOR US WHAT CONSTITUTES A SISSY?

CERTAINLY! A SISSY IS A GUY WHO LIKES PINK! SISSIES LIKE TO PLAY DRESS-UP WITH THEIR MOTHERS CLOTHES! SISSIES LIKE TO COOK! SISSIES SLEEP WITH TEDDY BEARS!

SISSIES SAY "BLESS YOU" WHEN SOMEBODY SNEEZES! SISSIES TAKE BATHS—REAL MEN ALWAYS TAKE SHOWERS! SISSIES LIKE TO PLAY WITH GIRLS! THEY LIKE TO PLAY HOUSE, HOPSCOTCH AND JACKS! SISSIES LIKE TO JUMP ROPE AND PLAY WITH DOLLS! SISSIES DON'T LIKE TO PLAY BALL! SISSIES STOP TO SMELL THE FLOWERS—REAL MEN JUST WALK ON 'EM!

SISSIES SIT ON THE TOILET TO PEE! SISSIES LOOK AT THEIR FINGERNAILS FROM THE BACK OF THEIR HAND! SISSIES CRY! AND WHAT'S WORSE, THEY GO CRYING TO THEIR MOMMIES WHEN THEY GET BEAT UP! SISSIES SKIP! SISSIES GIGGLE! SISSIES CLUTCH THEIR BOOKS IN FRONT OF THEMSELVES WITH BOTH HANDS! SISSIES BLUSH! SISSIES HAVE LIMP WRISTS! AND SISSIES WIGGLE THEIR BUTTS WHEN THEY WALK!

WOW! THAT'S QUITE A COMPREHENSIVE LIST! WHAT DO WE DO NOW, REGINALD?

DON'T MOVE!



FAMOUS FACES

Mel Watching in Montana

It may soon become a little easier to catch a glimpse of Mel Gibson in the flesh. Instead of trekking to the land down under to see the Australian superhunk, panting fans can try riding up to Montana. The star of "Lethal Weapon," among other films, plans to make a little addition to his ranch there. The manager of his property says the famed landowner usually stays in Australia. But maybe the expanded holdings will be more enticing. Gibson plans to add some 5,000 acres to his estate.

Michael's Social Life

Those who call Michael Jackson weird and antisocial should hear how the rocker spent the first Saturday of the 90's. The former child star invited 80 abused children to his 3,000 acre California ranch. He gave them the grand tour, cooked hot dogs and burgers for them and then turned them loose in his toy room. A couple of Michael's most faithful companions helped host the event. His chimps Max and Alexandra played with the kids. They were fully attired for the occasion, but opted against sequined gloves.

Peter Pan Gets Her Dues

The woman who gained fame as an adorable boy is about to become the object of a yearly tribute. Mary Martin, also known for her Broadway role in "The Sound of Music," will be honored every year with an annual concert by the Dallas Symphony. "Dallas" bad guy Larry Hagman, the son of Mary Martin, has contributed \$150 thousand to the project. The first concert is scheduled for May 4th and Ms. Martin is expected to attend.

Roll Over Chucky, You Bad Boy

The legendary performer of "Roll Over Beethoven" is being sued for some pretty embarrassing habits. Hosana Huck, a former cook at Chuck Berry's Southern Air restaurant in Wentzville, MI charges the rock and rolling boss with secretly videotaping her and other women at the lady's room of the eatery. The suit says that Berry's action, to say the least, caused Hosana humiliation and emotional distress.



Tasting Key West

M: To escape the end of December chaos, J and I went to Key West for the holidays. Off we went with great expectations of warm weather, laid back atmosphere, and good food. The food was wonderful. There are no longer great restaurant bargains in Key West, but we didn't regret a penny we spent.

J: I expected Key West to be filled with mostly gay and lesbian tourists. Wrong again. The city was flooded with Europeans and mostly straight Americans who unloaded daily from big cruise ships and brought their children along. However, most of the service personnel in this funky resort mecca are gay, and so, I felt at home.

M: We walked, talked, looked, fished, danced, listened to music, wiled away the time, and sampled restaurants which is exactly what everyone else does in Key West. So here's a partial list of some of the great and not-so-great places to eat.

J: On Christmas night, we dined in the Savannah on Duval Street (the noisy main street in Key West). The food is nouvelle Southern/Caribbean/Cuban. I ate the specialty of Key West, sauteed yellow tail snapper. It was a mild, delicious fish. I also loved the Cuban/Southern biscuits.

M: While J was munching away, I was eating a wonderful, fresh grouper and totally getting into the decor. Savannah advertises itself as serving Southern cooking, and I don't have the faintest idea why. Imagine yourself sitting in a grand old two-story conch house dining on the front porch or in one of the gardens. Imagine it is 1955, and you're eating old Miami Beach seafood cooking. It's simple, fresh, and mildly seasoned. That's Savannah.

J: The next evening, we dolled up in our only cold weather outfits to eat in the tres elegant Buttery restaurant on Simonton Street. Simonton is my favorite street in Key West, because it's not crowded and has the finest architectural renderings of Key West homes of the 1880's. The Buttery has an excellent wine list that accompanies the continental food fare. Again, I ate yellow tail snapper along with escargot, salad, and the famous Poor Richard chocolate pie. The current owners paid 10K for the pie recipe which consists of four different chocolates. The pie tasted like a bland mousse to me and I give the Buttery a B+ rating overall.

M: The Buttery has been praised by *Gourmet*, the *New York Times*, and *Bon Appetite* as one of the great restaurants in South Florida. I agree. The food is perfect, as is the service and the charming country European decor. I ate a seafood medley of scallops, shrimp, and snapper seasoned with a dill, basil light cream sauce. I also fork fought with J across the table over who was going to eat the most of the chocolate pie. I did.

J: Our next stop was lunch at La Te Da. As the name implies, you might find characters from La Cage Aux Folles dining in this quaint, patio poolside restaurant. Unfortunately, I was grumpy from having visited too many art galleries on an empty stomach at M's insistence. The 45 minute wait for my green and red chicken dish seemed interminable. When it arrived, there were thin strips of chicken served with aiola sauce and fried tomatoes. The food was worth the wait and I enjoyed watching the gayish, elderly clientele.

M: I had a wonderful pasta seafood soup and blah salad. The service at this very gay restaurant definitely fits the name, La Te Da. While J was bitching, I asked if the chef was on drugs. Also, there is a charming gay and lesbian bar and cafe upstairs, The Crystal Cafe, that charges \$8.00 for a glass of wine. Shame, shame on you boys for having the highest priced drinks on the island.

J: That evening, we dined at Antonias, a posh Italian restaurant. My linguini entree of salmon and scallops in a cream sauce were nirvana. We asked the chef, Philip, for the recipe. He promised



La-Te-Da in Key West

to deliver it to us but never showed. Don't miss this restaurant if you go to Key West. It's my pick of all of them.

M: Actually, J's special, a salmon, scallop, sage, basil, tomatoe linguini was fantastic. But for me, this restaurant was a little too New Yorker. When I'm in Florida, I don't want uptown Nouvelle dress-up cuisine. I want laid-back funk. But, I have to be honest, Antonias is worth the visit for the food.

J: A number of Key West restaurants are New York offspring such as our next one, Cafe des Artistes. This was the most pricey restaurant of all. I ate duck with raspberry sauce that was a little too fat for me. The salad, however, was delicious, and I liked the decor. I wouldn't go back, because the food isn't worth the cost.

M: Hmm. Even though Cafe des Artistes is the priciest restaurant in town, I would rate the food comparable to the Dining Room at the Ritz Carlton in Buckhead. J's duck (which I ate) and my seafood pasta with sherry sauce and the chocolate torte were incomparable. You also have to go just to see the decor that is a charming mix of California, French, and Key West. A+ for this one.

J: In our never ending suicide of death by the fork, we stumbled into the Pier House restaurant for brunch where I gobbled up raw oysters. I watched M eat conch salad served with a real (huge) conch. This is a neat place to visit, if you want to hang out and let the harbor waters hypnotize you.

M: J is right. The view is great. The food prices are reasonable, and our lesbian waitress kept laughing at our discussion of the local women's bar, the 416 on Applerouth Street.

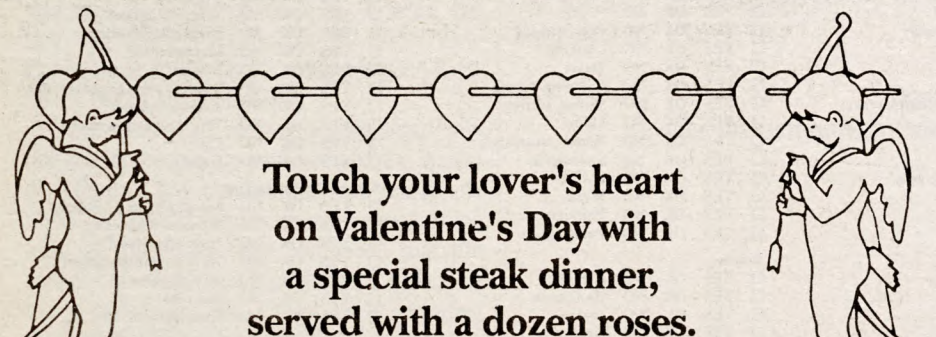
J: Many key lime pies later, I dragged my blimpy self into the Bagatelle, which is touted to be the best Caribbean restaurant via local ads. I was on sugar overload, and all I remember is that the food was good. Bagatelle means trifle, something my body wasn't even close to at this point in our trip.

M: J didn't mention that we were eating at Bagatelle after a day of deep sea fishing on rough waters. Imagine what mango chutney looks like swimming around on top of your fresh snapper after having spent the whole afternoon rocking on a boat. I had to keep swallowing hard every time I looked at our plates. If both of us had not been on tourist overload, I probably would have raved about the fantastic Caribbean dishes served on the porch of this wonderful old house that Tennessee Williams visited for parties.

J: When you're leaving Key West, a great last stop is the Marriott on the beach. This is a lovely, old hotel that was originally built in 1912. We ate on the open patio overlooking the ocean surrounded by lush subtropical foliage. I almost cried in my last piece of key lime pie (and the best of all), because I had fallen in love with Key West.

M: Key West is a wonderful, tropical Caribbean/American island designed for the sole purpose of hanging out. Go, if you haven't been. Go back, if you have been. And when you go, if you try all of the restaurants, take along an extra pair of sweat pants with an elastic waist band for the trip back.

Happy New Year, M & J



Touch your lover's heart on Valentine's Day with a special steak dinner, served with a dozen roses.

\$65.00 per couple

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All orders and dinner reservations must be made by Feb. 7, 1990 875-4395 1821 Piedmont Rd.



Buddies 'n' Pals 'n' Partners

A gay dating service

A Hunt/Storck Group Companies, Inc.

Local Maryland 301-383-6144
Nationwide 1-800-344-PALS

Who are we?

Formed in 1986, **Buddies 'n' Pals 'n' Partners** is a computer dating service. Our goal is to help you meet someone compatible, both socially and sexually, as a friend or a lover.

How does your service work?

When your application is received it is entered into our computer system, the computer assigns you a client number. It then compares each of your attributes to those of all the other clients currently in our data base, eliminating those members having too many traits you have classed as undesirable and retaining those that meet your requirements.

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

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

How much does it cost?

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

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

What else do I need to know?

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

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

How do I fill out the Application Form?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Computerized Application Form

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

Membership Information

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

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Fill out the form completely and mail, along with a check or money order for \$35 payable to **Buddies 'n' Pals 'n' Partners, P.O. Box 13326, Baltimore, Maryland 21218.**

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

Contact Information

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

(please print) _____

Disclaimer

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

Signature _____

Date _____

Geographical Area

- YES OK NO Atlanta area
- YES OK NO Remaining 404 call area
- YES OK NO 912 call area (Ga.)
- YES OK NO 704 call area (N.C.)
- YES OK NO 919 call area (N.C.)
- YES OK NO State of South Carolina
- YES OK NO State of Alabama
- YES OK NO Nashville/ Knoxville/615

Type of Relationship

- YES OK NO Lover (monogamous)
- YES OK NO Lover (nonmonogamous)
- YES OK NO Buddy (sexual)
- YES OK NO Buddy (platonic)
- YES OK NO One night stand
- YES OK NO Romantic fling
- YES OK NO Affair
- YES OK NO Pen-pal

Age Range

- YES OK NO 18-21
- YES OK NO 21-25
- YES OK NO 25-30
- YES OK NO 30-35
- YES OK NO 35-40
- YES OK NO 40-50
- YES OK NO 50+

Build

- YES OK NO Bodybuilder
- YES OK NO Muscular
- YES OK NO Average
- YES OK NO Slim
- YES OK NO Stocky
- YES OK NO Heavy
- YES OK NO Very Heavy

Height

- YES OK NO 5'6" or less
- YES OK NO 5'6" - 5'9"
- YES OK NO 5'9" - 6'
- YES OK NO 6' - 6'3"
- YES OK NO 6'3" or taller

Hair

- YES OK NO Black
- YES OK NO Dark Brown
- YES OK NO Light Brown
- YES OK NO Auburn
- YES OK NO Red
- YES OK NO Strawberry Blond
- YES OK NO Blond
- YES OK NO White/gray
- YES OK NO Bald

Eyes

- YES OK NO Blue
- YES OK NO Green
- YES OK NO Gray
- YES OK NO Hazel
- YES OK NO Brown
- YES OK NO Black

Facial/Body Hair

- YES OK NO Smooth
- YES OK NO Clean Shaven
- YES OK NO Mustache
- YES OK NO Beard
- YES OK NO No body hair
- YES OK NO Smooth chest
- YES OK NO Hairy chest
- YES OK NO Very Hairy

Race

- YES OK NO Caucasian
- YES OK NO Asian/oriental
- YES OK NO Black
- YES OK NO Latin
- YES OK NO East Indian

General Appearance

- YES OK NO Very goodlooking
- YES OK NO Attractive
- YES OK NO Average
- YES OK NO Below average
- YES OK NO Yuppie/preppie
- YES OK NO Young executive
- YES OK NO Mature executive
- YES OK NO Trendy
- YES OK NO Collegiate/jock

Dress

- YES OK NO Casual (t-shirt, jeans)
- YES OK NO Sometimes sloppy
- YES OK NO High fashion
- YES OK NO Semi-formal
- YES OK NO Drag

Occupation

- YES OK NO Financially independent
- YES OK NO Self-supporting
- YES OK NO Nonself-supporting
- YES OK NO Unemployed
- YES OK NO Student
- YES OK NO Office/clerical
- YES OK NO Service/hospitality
- YES OK NO Sales
- YES OK NO Construction
- YES OK NO Technical
- YES OK NO Self-employed/entrepreneur
- YES OK NO Managerial
- YES OK NO Professional
- YES OK NO Health Care
- YES OK NO Entertainment/arts

Substance Use

- YES OK NO Smoker
- YES OK NO Non-smoker
- YES OK NO Heavy drinker
- YES OK NO Social drinker
- YES OK NO Non-drinker
- YES OK NO Non-drug user
- YES OK NO Light drug user

Personality

- YES OK NO Assertive
- YES OK NO Easy-going
- YES OK NO Outgoing
- YES OK NO Publicly affectionate
- YES OK NO Not publicly affectionate
- YES OK NO Shy reserved
- YES OK NO Very masculine
- YES OK NO Fairly masculine
- YES OK NO Somewhat feminine
- YES OK NO Very feminine
- YES OK NO Closeted

- YES OK NO Doorway
- YES OK NO Openly gay

Social Activities

- YES OK NO Spectator sports
- YES OK NO Working out
- YES OK NO Movies
- YES OK NO Live theatre
- YES OK NO TV/video
- YES OK NO Concerts
- YES OK NO Arts events
- YES OK NO Dining out
- YES OK NO Parties
- YES OK NO Bars/dancing
- YES OK NO Cooking
- YES OK NO Travel
- YES OK NO Camping/hiking
- YES OK NO Sailing/surfing
- YES OK NO Skiing
- YES OK NO Tennis/racquetball
- YES OK NO Swimming
- YES OK NO Cycling
- YES OK NO Music
- YES OK NO Photographer
- YES OK NO Painting art

Beliefs

- YES OK NO Catholic
- YES OK NO Protestant
- YES OK NO Jewish
- YES OK NO New age
- YES OK NO MCC
- YES OK NO Very religious
- YES OK NO Somewhat religious
- YES OK NO Not religious
- YES OK NO Politically liberal
- YES OK NO Conservative
- YES OK NO Social democrat

Sexual Preferences

- YES OK NO Kissing
- YES OK NO Cuddling
- YES OK NO J/O
- YES OK NO French active



BUSINESS CLIPS

Trussell Will Ease Your Mortgage Fears

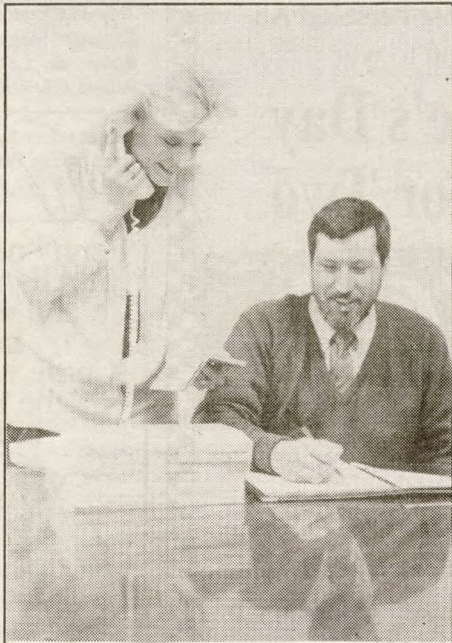
Have you and your lover ever dealt with trying to obtain a mortgage, or second mortgage? For the past year Daniel Trussell and Associates have been helping people through what can be a very stressful situation.

Because they are a small company they can give personal attention to each individual or couple.

As Daniel says, "We walk people through the loan process instead of handing them a stack of papers." They also know which mortgage companies don't discriminate against same-sex couples. "I feel very strongly that it is a matter of dignity, everyone should be treated with respect."

Account Executive Deirdre Chancey also has experience as a real estate agent, so she has a working knowledge of all phases of a home purchase. Working with over forty lending sources, they can guide your application to lenders who are not homophobic as well as shop around for you for the best rates and terms.

So when the time comes to quit paying someone else's mortgage and apply for your own, call a company that will treat you with the respect you deserve, Daniel Trussell and Associates.



EVETT BENNETT

Deirdre Chancey and Daniel Trussell of Trussell and Associates

Wild Woman of Graphics: Looking Good on Paper



EVETT BENNETT

KC Wilmoon, owner of Hayslope Graphics

Yes, this is the KC Wildmoon who produces and hosts "Still Ain't Satisfied" on WRFG, channels None of That Funny Stuff Productions, played guitar with Moral Hazard, occasionally DJs dances, and writes music reviews and Heterodoxy for *Southern Voice*. But from 9 to 5 (well, something like that) she can be found behind the computer at Hayslope Graphics doing what she does to pay the rent: typesetting and design from resumés to newsletters to books and beyond.

"It's important these days to look good on paper...initial impressions and all that...and then after that keeping interest. That's what I do."

And KC has done it. She joined with Escapadia Press to produce the first edition of Kay Hagan's *Internal Affairs: A Journalkeeping Workbook for Self Intimacy* and produces WRFG's program guide, *Headset*, as well as ads and flyers for everyone from computer companies to theatre groups.

From her office overlooking the busy staffers of *Southern Voice*, KC can handle whatever type and graphics work you need. Give Hayslope Graphics a call at 874-1588.

Steve Berman's Dreams Come True with "Somewhere"

Let the Music Play first opened in 1984. Owner, Steve Berman, had a dream and a goal. "My goal," says Steve, "was to bring dance music back to Atlanta after being lost to Top 40. My dream was to establish the Let the Music Play record label." Steve has accomplished both.

His record store has just opened in a more expansive location and his first record release, "Somewhere," by Vicki Shepard is currently #12 on the high energy dance chart and climbing.

"Music is my main motivation," explains Steve, "It is my life." It has taken Steve six years to make the right connections and do the foot work necessary to launch his record label. "You can not make it alone in the music business," he explains.

Let the Music Play boasts the largest selection of dance music in the Southeast and employs specialists in each unique music category.



Vicki Shepard, recording artist



Lindbergh Plaza 239-9366

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874-1588

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CLASSIFIEDS

* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

AIDS Care Coordinated is offering free hospital beds to people with AIDS who need them. Call Alice Brown at 371-9433.

GSU to offer Group Therapy for HIV+ and HIV- Men. Ten weeks, open format, discussions based on the concerns of the participants. Two therapists per group of six to eight. Meetings on Wednesdays beginning January 10, \$30 for all ten sessions (no one turned away for lack of funds). For further info contact Jim Burke at 377-6387.

HIV+ individuals interested in forming exercise classes - respond with name and address to 892-1249 - info will be sent - Exercise - "a natural immune booster", and it's free!

The People Project - Ready to assist PWA's in locating services that are available in the community. This is a people-for-people program. Call Ron at 371-0819 or the Atlanta Gay Center at 876-5372.

AIDS Information Line - 9AM-9PM weekdays, 9AM-5PM, weekends for confidential, factual answers on risk, transmission, testing, medical and other referrals in Ga. and elsewhere. Atlantans call 876-9944, other Georgians dial toll-free 1-800-551-2728. Hearing-impaired callers access via TTY 876-9950. Spanish-speaking operators available. A service of AID Atlanta and the Ga. Dept. of Human Resources.

AIDS Care Coordinated is a new service for PWA's in need of housing and assisted living. Call for more info at 371-9433.

ATLANTA GAY CENTER Clinic - M,T,W, 5:30-9:30 pm. Anonymous HIV antibody screening and treatment, \$15.00. Free STD screening. Arrive by 9:00 pm, please. Call 876-5372 for more information.

P.O.O.H. - Positive Outlook On HIV+ is a supportive network of HIV+ persons who share positive health attitudes and want to meet similarly oriented people for social and emotional interaction. For more information call 874-6102 or 351-1824.

GAY GAMES '90

T-SHIRTS - \$10.00
 BUTTONS - \$1.00
 CULTURAL BUTTONS - \$2.00
 SCHOLARSHIP LAPEL BUTTONS - \$3.00
 Contact Larry 875-0700

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lunch, Dinner or Late Night enjoy delicious burgers, sandwiches, salads, soups, chili, chicken dishes, daily specials, desserts, beer and wine at Midtown Pub & Grill at 1027 Peachtree across from Theatrical Outfit. Free Parking in rear. 872-6166 (V2,#24)

To Honor Our Dreams...To Heal the Child Within... Therapy group for Lesbian Survivors of sexual abuse. Starting late January. For information contact Marsha J. Davenport, MS, Beverly Buthwoman, MS. T. Partners In Health. 881-6300. (V2,#24)

GAY MALE WRITING SEMINAR. Hone your skills while getting critical feedback. Meet people with your interests. Starts 1/11/90. 8 wks/\$100. Send writing sample, phone number and SASE. Chuck. SV Box 2288 (V2,#24).

The People Project is looking for clothing space for Atlanta's PWA's. Small but easy to get to. Intown contact Ron at 371-0819.

Hotlanta (gay) Soccer is now organizing a co-ed team. For more info, call 264-7173. (Also, information on Gay Games '90.)

WOMEN IN RECOVERY - Non-smoking women's support group for all substance abusers based on 12-step program meets every Wednesday and Friday nights at 8pm. North Cobb County. For more information call Diane at 974-0468 or leave message at 974-4907.

AUTOMOTIVE

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288-9415

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KENT CURRY 659-3673 876-6630



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Valentine's Day Dinner for Two

Place a personal ad in Southern Voice between January 18 and February 6 and be eligible to win a Romantic Dinner for Two at **Mama's Italian Cuisine.**

Winners will be contacted by phone February 9 and announced in the February 13 issue of Southern Voice. For More Information, Contact Bill Medlock at 876-1831

AUTOMOTIVE

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"The Atlanta Volvo Alternative"

New '90 740 Sedan Power windows, central locking system, delay wipers, auto trans, AM/FM cassette, air, driver air bag, heated seats, tachometer, much more. \$20,600

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* EMPLOYMENT

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Like to talk on the phone? Why not work on The Party Line? P/T Call 723-1713. (V2, #24)

Penny needs help in Atlanta's new and upcoming hair salon. Come work with the best crew in town and help us continue to grow.



Call TUES.-SAT. 321-5775

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SELL SOUTHERN VOICE Atlanta's fastest growing publication Hiring full time advertising salespeople. Sales experience, transportation required. Commission, base pay, plus bonuses. Work in an innovative, family environment. Call 876-1819 Ask for Jessi

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* EMPLOYMENT

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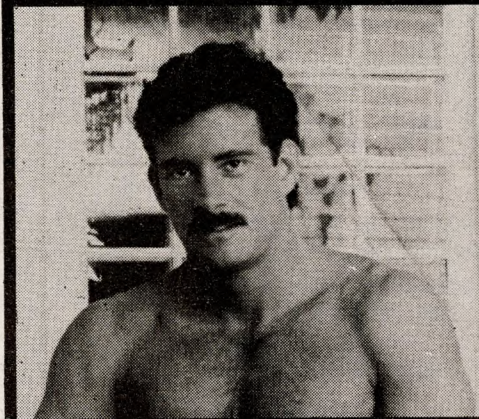
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METAPHYSICAL

MAAS - Metropolitan Atlanta Astrological Society. A networking educational/research organization for both amateur and professional astrologers. Usually meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. 622-5661.

Innerquest - Spiritual/Metaphysical group starting for Lesbians and Gay men. Group will meet every Sunday from 3 to 5pm. Meetings will consist of channelers, psychics, Native American Indians, and other topics that interrelate with metaphysics, and or spirituality. If interested please call Atlantis Connection, 881-6511. Leave message for David. (V2,#24)

MISCELLANEOUS

Southside Unit - League of Women Voters meets 1st Sat. of month, 11:30am at Greenbriar Picadilly Cafeteria. Work for progressive southside development. 761-1718 (V2,#26)

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Needed: Jerusalem House, a residence for people who have AIDS, is developing a team of volunteers to provide personal care on a weekly and on-call basis. If interested, please call Susan Karlip at 923-5784 between 9am and 9pm.

*** VOLUNTEERS**

PROJECT OPEN HAND which provides meals to PWA's NEEDS volunteers to do cooking, driving, office work and fund raising. It's a true service to the community and an opportunity to work with and for wonderful and caring people. Call Mon-Sat 8-2, 248-1788.

Help promote wellness in DeKalb County while developing new skills and meeting new people. Positions include counselors, health screeners, and receptionists/clerks. Facilities throughout county. For more info. call Beth Ruddiman, DeKalb County Board of Health, 294-3792.

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5. Free Classified Space is limited to 35 words. Free ads will run for three consecutive weeks unless otherwise requested. Check appropriate box for category on order form. Southern Voice reserves the right to refuse or edit all classifieds. Sexually explicit ads will not be accepted.

by Steve Warren

Armistead Maupin recalls a Hollywood maxim from the period when multimillionaire Merv Griffin had a daily talk show: "You don't get on *Merv Griffin* unless you get on *Merv Griffin*!"

Maupin is the author of the *Tales Of The City* series. When he and his lover, Terry Anderson, stayed at the Griffin-owned Beverly Hilton recently, Maupin says, "The place was under construction, it was really somewhat of a mess. As we were leaving we found a comments card on which we were asked to place any suggestion...about how the hotel could be improved. And Terry wrote, 'Hotel is under construction and Merv is in the closet; so finish hotel and have Merv come out.'"

"We left the card and two weeks later we received a [form] letter from Baron Hilton himself, saying 'Thank you very much for your comments about our hotel. We have spoken to our staff and we are taking measures to correct the situation...' I was imagining the staff being lined up and told, 'Now listen, we've got to do something about Merv taking Eva Gabor to events.'"

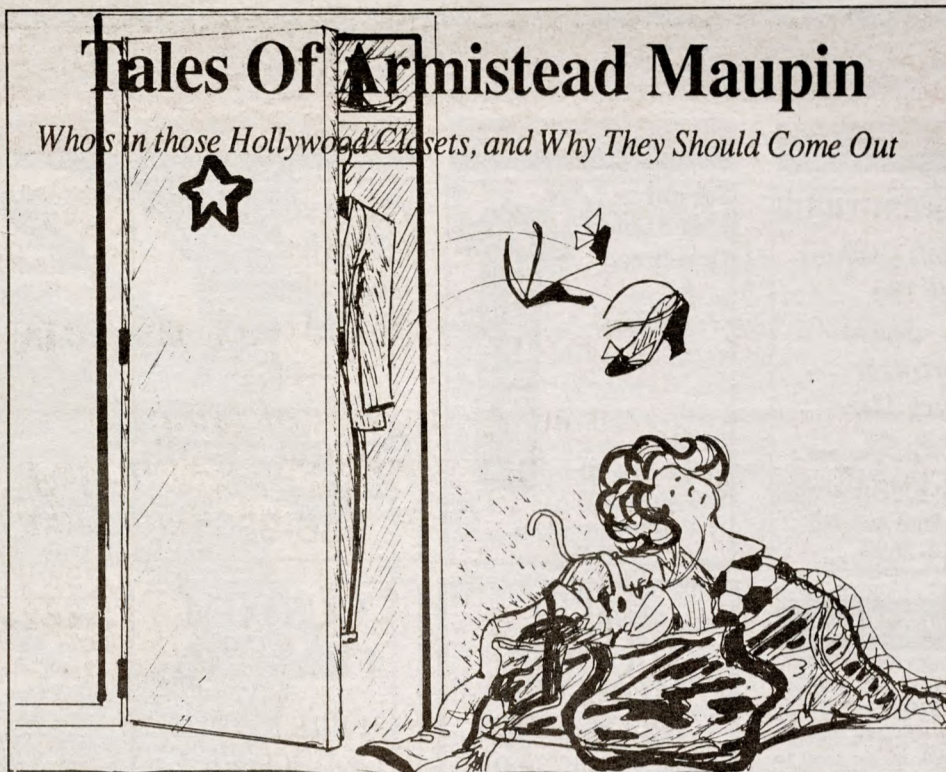
Maupin has been friends with a number of gay celebrities both open (Quentin Crisp, Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy) and other wise. He says he began urging Rock Hudson to come out in 1976. "I think it would have been quite possible at that point. He had all the money in the world, he was already playing older leads."

"Ian McKellen will tell you this is the happiest time of his life. He's not creeping around in fear anymore; he's in charge of himself. People can't say nasty things about him in the tabloids because he's already exploded the sensationalism of it by announcing himself in a calm and happy manner."

Maupin thinks all gay men and lesbians should come out, for their own good and the good we can do each other; but celebrity closets are his pet peeve.

"I don't buy this 'working for us on the inside' line," Maupin continues, "because they've been doing that forever and the world isn't getting any better. Hollywood still creates the impression that homosexuals do not exist. I guess I've become more strident about this as I've become more famous because I see more and more instances of hypocrisy. I didn't know who was gay years ago, I was buying the line that Hollywood was giving me; but the more contact I've had with the people who run things there the more I realize to what degree this is an enormous lie that's being told to all of us."

Told that the late puppeteer Wayland Flowers once said to a close associate, "If I said those three little words - 'I am gay' - it would cost me a million dollars a year," Maupin responds, "He's got no choice in the matter [now]...that combination of greed and self-loathing is not particularly attractive...the man was working gay cruises...making



money off the fact of his homosexuality."

"I've worked the same bookstore circuit as Lily Tomlin. She has as many homosexuals standing in line at her book signings as I do. But god help you if you ask her why."

"For Wayland Flowers to say he'd lose a million dollars if people found out he was gay is no more acceptable than for an actor to say, 'if they knew I was Jewish I wouldn't make as much money as I do, so please keep quiet about it.' Imagine a Jewish person saying that to another Jewish person, and imagine the response of that second Jewish person."

"We have to go to the very source of this problem," Maupin maintains, "which is the homophobia itself, and the only way to attack the homophobia is to refuse to maintain the secret of homosexuality, either your own or anyone else's. And that means expressing your impatience to other gay people who are in the closet, telling them you feel that they have a moral responsibility to be more honest about their lives because it will make the world a better place for everyone."

"I realize that that's a process that takes some people longer than others, and I'm willing to wait, as long as I see some movement on the part of my friends."

Maupin, who appeared on Oprah Winfrey on National Coming Out Day, Maupin refers to the event when he says, "The whole premise of National Coming Out Day is 'take the next step.' What I'm saying is, take the next step, Lily and Jane. Take the next step, Barry Diller. Take the next step, Merv Griffin."

The author of a recent "Playboy" interview, Maupin notes, spent half a page trying to draw Barry Diller out about his sexuality, but Diller kept the door firmly closed.

"I feel someone should be in a position to pressure the people who are really in power,"

the writer goes on. "Homosexuals are not some sort of oppressed minority. We are in fact in charge of a lot of places. Eddie Murphy's boss is a gay man. (Actually, Barry Diller has left Paramount for the top spot at Fox, Inc.) Someone could have told Eddie Murphy 'this is inappropriate' when he made those horrid AIDS jokes, but we have an enormous number of gay people out there who have no conscience when it comes to the issue of homophobia. They're perfectly willing to let it ride because they're afraid of blowing their own cover and making less money."

"The pressure can't be put on by Joe blow in the street," Maupin says, "but if I were in a room with Barry Diller I would tell him that. I do this. I made the same speech to Tim Curry last year after reading (in an interview by this writer) that his private life involves watching ducks on the Thames."

"Tim looked me up when he came to town because he had read the [Tales of the City] books, and I was flattered because he's a certain cultural icon to me. We hit it off tremendously, had dinner on three or four occasions, and partied together. One night I made it clear to him I felt he should be open about his sexuality, and I didn't hear from him again. Here is a man who spent the greater part of the '70s running around in a garter belt and a merry widow - I don't know what he's trying to protect, but he doesn't have half the guts Ian McKellan does."

"Ian had trepidation about coming out," Maupin acknowledges. "He had people telling him not to do it. Now I've actually heard people saying, 'Oh, it's easy for him because he's at the top of his field.' Then I hear quite the opposite - they say, 'I can't do it because I'm not famous enough yet.'"

"I've heard every excuse in the world," Maupin sneers. "It really just boils down to

coming to grips with your own life."

Peppering his diatribe with anecdotes, Maupin tells of a young, little-known actor friend who once called excitedly to say he had a date with John Travolta, who had invited him out through a mutual acquaintance. The excitement was gone when the actor called back with the post-mortem: Travolta had taken him to a Scientology presentation! "They've got him pimping for them" Maupin laughs.

The writer/activist had hoped AIDS would make things better in the movie industry. When Rock Hudson died, for instance, "I thought that Hollywood's sensible response to that whole situation would have been to gather 30 of its top stars in a room and have someone step forward and say, 'Half of us are gay and half of us are not. If doesn't matter to us and it shouldn't matter to you.' But we haven't even gotten that close."

Maupin considers Selleck "today's Rock Hudson," tracing his career through adventure films and light comedy to his current serious drama, and recalls an advertisement the actor appeared in shortly before the success of *Magnum PI*. "He was the perfect clone," Maupin says. "People couldn't believe they'd use someone so gay-looking in an ad."

Reminded that he's speaking for the record, Maupin has no desire to censor himself. He is skeptical, however, that his works will ever be published: "What invariably stops a story like that from even making it into print is that a lawyer comes along and says this is libelous. Why is it libelous? If I'd said they were Jewish or black, would it have been libelous?"

"Malice is usually required to prove libel," Maupin points out. "I would challenge anyone to find malice in my action, because I'm happy about being gay and I celebrate the other people that are gay - and most gay people do. That's why we have something like the *Gay Engagement Calendar* that brags about the people who are gay, because we're proud of these people."

Unaware that Tom Hulce has joined the short list of openly-gay actors, Maupin is happy to hear it and not too surprised; "He seems to have the kind of character that would make that possible."

"One of the unwritten laws of gay life," Maupin sighs, "is where you reach a certain level of fame you shut up about your homosexuality. You're not told this by straight people, you're told it by other famous homosexuals who are ushering you into the pantheon of the right."

"And for somebody like me who's relatively new on the scene and who's making a big noise about it, you make people extremely uncomfortable...everyone compromises at one point or another, and I've resolved to be the one who doesn't. If my career doesn't go any further than this, I don't give a damn. The joy I'm having is in living my life completely openly and sharing everything about myself that I want to share."

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