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Knowledge is all that's available when it comes to lesbians and breast cancer.

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News
Gay group at
Georgia Tech gets its
funding...well, sort of.



Flicks at the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Good news from the NEA, too.

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SOUTHERN

Vol. 3, No. 19

"Taking Pride in Our Culture"

November 8, 1990

Safe Streets!!!



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New York's Pink Panthers are tired of gay-bashing. Here's what they're doing about it.

TECH GAYS GET FUNDING FOR TRIP TO CONFERENCE

But only after last minute intervention by graduate senate

Atlanta—An October 22 demonstration by a group of about 30 lesbian and gay Georgia Tech students and their supporters brought much attention to their organization's dilemma but had little influence on the school's Undergraduate Student Council(USC).

The USC had refused to fund a \$482 request from Tech's Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) despite the support of GALA from the school's administration and the Graduate Senate. GALA requested the funds to attend a lesbian/gay/bisexual conference in Boston.

While various excuses were given for the USC's refusal to fund the trip, homophobia was generally agreed to be at the root of the problem.

A 50 person crowd stood on the sidelines of the October 22 demonstration. Many of them cheered the protesters, but comments like "Kill the faggots," and "I wish I had my shotgun" were also heard. Several shouting matches between homophobic students and GALA members occurred after the demonstration.

Hoping that the demonstration had made its point, GALA, on October 23, introduced a slightly different funding bill to the USC, but a vote was delayed until Oct. 30—after the conference for which the group was requesting funds.

Following that USC meeting a pellet from a high powered air pistol smashed the window in GALA member Kyle Rogers dorm room. Rogers was not in the room and campus officials claim that the incident had nothing to do with GALA's request, the demonstration, or Rogers sexual orientation. Members of GALA say that there is not enough evidence to prove that the incident was definitely a hate crime, so they will not pursue the matter further.

After the USC's second refusal to fund GALA's trip to Boston, Michael Wileman, Treasurer of Tech's Graduate Senate, and others wrote a bill which paid for GALA's travel expense to the conference. The funds came from the Graduate Student Senate's own funds, which are usually reserved solely for Graduate School activities.

Five students made the trip to Boston. "It was very informative and very empowering,"

said GALA member Steve Jones. "Given what they [the USC] has funded in the past I think it was a very good value for the school.

Wileman says he felt that the entire student body could benefit from GALA attending the conference, not just the Graduate School. But, "it was obvious from the debate in the USC that they seem to focus more on morality issues than the narrative."

The USC's revote on GALA's bill has been postponed again—this time until Nov. 6. GALA members remain adamant in their resolve to see their trip funded by the undergraduate student government.

A review of policies at other universities and colleges in the area reveals that many mention sexual orientation in their harassment clauses and human rights statements, which are not legally binding. But only Morehouse College has taken the step of including sexual orientation—along with race, religion, sex, age, and national origin—in its legally enforceable non-discrimination clause.

the measure in lieu of inclusion in the non-discrimination clause "a little disappointment... but a small victory".

In response to S.V.'s question about adding sexual orientation to the school's non-discrimination clause UGA President Knapp replied, "The real question is whether it is appropriate for this institution, through internal policy, to attempt to cut off these entities (the Department of Defense and private businesses who discriminate based on sexual orientation) from access to our campus programs and graduates. I do not support such an action."

After a long drawn out battle, The

University of Georgia's Gay and Lesbian asso-

The *real* question, of course, is whether our institutions of higher learning are willing to let gays and lesbians be treated as second class citizens.

UGA President Knapp also said "to pretend the University can dictate to state and federal governments on this issue would raise serious legal questions. And, as indicated above, we would in effect be cutting the University off from many important outside

ciation has managed to push a "Human Rights Statement" through its student government association. The statement acknowledges that harassment of lesbians and gays is undesirable, but does not protect them from from discrimination. A representative from UGA's Gay and Lesbian association called passage of the measure in lieu of inclusion in the non-discrimination.

institutions."

But while President Knapp is spouting rhetoric, the UGA law school has, in fact, added sexual orientation to its non-discrimination clause. That's because the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) has recently taken a similar action and all members schools are obligated to match their standards with the bylaws of the AALS. One small, private law firm and the Judge Advocate General Corps (JAG Corp)—the law branch of the US military—do not recruit at UGA's law school because they refuse to sign the school's new nondiscrimination clause.

President Knapp failed to clarify what legal

Like Georgia Tech and UGA, Emory University, in 1988, amended its discriminatory harassment policy to include sexual orientation.

Representatives from the Emory Law School Admissions Office say they conform with with AALS policy. But, when asked whether it was written in a nondiscrimination clause or in official policy, a representative from the Law School replied, "We [go] with the spirit of the policy rather than the strict letter." They conceded, however, "[although] we haven't printed it yet; it will be written down next fall when we send out our next mailing".

Georgia State University does not include sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination policy, but its Law School—as a member of the AALS—does require those individuals who interview on campus to sign a nondiscrimination by sexual orientation statement. The JAG Corps will not sign this statement and therefore does not recruit at Georgia State Law School.

Spelman College (no law school) does not have sexual orientation in its non-discrimination clause.

Representatives from Clark Atlanta University admitted confusion over the issue, claiming policies were unclear due to their recent merger. They, however, felt that sexual orientation was not listed in their non-discrimination clause.

Despite the fact that Morehouse College is the only area college that publicly and officially includes sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination clause, a spokesperson for the school seemed confused about whether the policy was actually good or bad and thus declined to comment about it.



EVETT BENNET

GALA's Shawn Badinger addresses the crowd

SPATE OF POSITIVE LESBIAN/GAY/AIDS BILLS PASS IN LAST HOURS OF 101ST CONGRESS

Historic AIDS housing and immigration measures top the list; NEA is safe but some say the compromise is unacceptable

By Cliff O'Neill

Washington—In a last minute flurry of lobbying, compromise and cajoling the 101st Congress passed four bills with substantial impact on the lesbian/gay and AIDS communities. And, while the case can be made that all could have been stronger, the four bills represent the largest and most comprehensive group of such legislation ever passed by Congress at one time.

Immigration: Perhaps the biggest surprise and least publicized victory of the session was passage of a broadbased immigration measure which includes a removal of the federal bans on immigration by gays and lesbians as well as people with AIDS.

The bill, which includes the largest revision of the quotas of foreign nationals allowed into the U.S., is strongly supported by President George Bush.

Among the plethora of provisions in the legislation is a removal of the decades-old ban on immigration by communists, the mentally ill and gay men and lesbians.

Dating back to the McCarren Walter Act of 1952, the federal ban on immigration by "sex-

ual deviants" and "psychopathic personalities" had been used sporadically over the years to keep lesbian and gay immigrants and visitors out of the country.

Although the gay exclusion was informally voided by the Carter Administration in the '70s, it was reinstated by the Reagan Administration and used on rare occasion. Most recently, a widely publicized government memo suggested that the ban be enforced to bar foreign lesbian and gay visitors from entering the U.S. for the 6th International Conference On AIDS, held in San Francisco last June. Although the gay ban was not enforced, it did draw renewed attention to the legislation.

"It was obnoxious to just have it on the books," commented Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), who sponsored the removal of the gay ban and shepherded it through Congress. "I think we now have the American statute books clean. There are still obnoxious policies, like in the military, but there is nothing statutory that I am aware of now on the federal level that is anti-gay."

"It really is a message of a terrible period

in our history," added Tim McFeeley, executive director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "I'm glad it's gone."

Unlike the bill's changes in the immigration quotas, the change in the gay-exclusionary policy goes into effect with the President's signature. The change affects both visitors and long-term immigrants.

AIDS Housing: Equally under-publicized in the near hysteria surrounding the battle of the budget was passage of two-year \$57.4 billion plan expanding the federal government's commitment to public assisted housing; it includes the nation's first-ever AIDS-specific housing set asides. The measure now goes to the President for his expected signature.

The massive bill includes in it a series of provisions from a House proposal which authorizes \$238 million to be spent for AIDS specific housing programs over the 1991 and 1992 fiscal years

"This is a 'makes sense' proposal that provides better options for people living with AIDS while reducing health care costs for tax-payers," stated bill co-sponsor Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif) on the bill's passage. "It is compassionate and cost-effective."

The AIDS provisions of the bill are intended to ease the burden on the estimated 8-10,000 people with AIDS living on the streets of nearly every city and town in the U.S., according to AIDS and homeless advocates.

The legislation is also intended to lift some pressure off public hospitals in areas disproportionately affected by AIDS, as with specific housing set aside for homeless people with AIDS, they may not have to turn to public

hospitals or crowded, inhospitable shelters for housing.

The measure is also intended to help prevent homelessness among people with AIDS by assisting them with rental and perhaps mortgage payments and offering funds for new information and referral programs.

AIDS CARE: After a series of maneuvers and battles that saw the Ryan White AIDS Care Act overwhelmingly approved by both the House and Senate only to later be totally de-funded by a Senate appropriations subcommittee, the measure emerged from the 101st Congress with \$350.6 million in funding for fiscal '91. Total federal AIDS funding for the year is nearly \$1.9 million, a 20 percent increase over 1990 levels.

Stunned when the bill was not funded by the Senate appropriations subcommittee, AIDS activists launched a forceful campaign to effect implementation of the bill in the current fiscal year which began Oct. 1.

The original AIDS CARE bill authorized \$4.4 billion to be spent over five years in areas disproportionately affected by the epidemic. Metro Atlanta was originally scheduled to receive \$4.5 million in relief in fiscal '91.

According to Gary Cox—project coordinator for the HIV Health Services Planning Council which will decide where Atlanta's share of the money actually goes—the metro Atlanta area will be eligible for a total of \$2.4 million in fiscal '90.

Cox says that he has been told \$1.2 million will be available within 90 days. Fulton County, which is legally responsible for

Continued on page 24

NEWS

PALM BEACH SEPTUAGENARIAN ACTIVIST GETS **BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Norman Aaron, 71, is the first openly gay man ever appointed to a government position in Palm Beach County; he will serve on county's Fair Housing Board. Aaron was part of a group that has worked for two years to add sexual orientation to the fair housing ordinance, thus making it illegal for owners or sellers of housing to discriminate against lesbians and gay men. Fines for repeat offenders can reach up to \$50,000. Palm Beach is the first Florida county to extend such protection to its citizens. Aaron's current project is the enactment of an ordinance that would assure equal access for all—including lesbians and gay men—to private sector employment. Aaron attributes much of his group's success to its ability to raise substantial sums of money from Palm Beach's well-to-do, albeit often closeted, lesbian and gay retirees.

Baptist Church to Take Responsibility for Open Hand Route: It's a first for Atlanta's Project Open Hand. Another organization—in this case Antioch Baptist Church—will take full-time responsibility for delivery of meals to Open Hand's clients on one of its 17 daily delivery routes. Antioch's members will deliver meals Monday-Saturday to 18 of Open Hand's approximately 200 clients. It is hoped that this will be only the first of several delivery routes that can be handed over to other community organizations, thus allowing volunteers to spend more time with the agency's clients.

GLAAD Launches Atlanta Chapter and National Organization: Members of and observers from eight cities with or planning Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation Chapters have agreed to form GLAAD/USA a national organization "dedicated to confronting public expressions of homophobia or heterosexism and to promoting the fullest possible understanding of the breadth and diversity of our lives. Until this time GLAAD's most active chapters—N.Y. and L.A.—have acted on a national level. Twenty people attended GLAAD/Atlanta's first meeting last week. The chapter will meet regularly at 7p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the Peachtree Branch Library across from the High Museum.

Powell Regrets Sodomy Vote: Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Powell has said that he "probably made a mistake" when he voted with the majority to uphold Georgia's sodomy statute in the infamous 1986 Bowers vs. Hardwick case. Powell went on to say that one of the reasons he voted the way he did was because the case was "frivolous" and added that "it's just part of my past and not very important." The Atlanta Constitution responded to Powell's admissions by once again calling for repeal of the archaic statute.

Maryland Highest Court OK's Hetero Sodomy: Maryland's heterosexuals-married or not-can engage in all the oral sex they want in the privacy of their homes, but lesbians and gay men can still be arrested and prosecuted for similar acts in their private abodes. The Maryland Court of Appeals voted 5-2 to exclude straights from prosecution under the state's perverted practices law.



Gay Flag Flies Over California Capitol: In honor of National Coming Out Day, the rainbow flag flew over the state capitol building in Sacramento Calif. for a few hours on Oct. 11. Members of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post reacted immediately by calling government offices and demanding "get that queer flag down or we'll shoot it down." Gov. George Deukmejian evidently agreed and ordered the flag removed, calling its display "inappropriate." The multi-color flag also flew over Sacramento City Hall for a period on Oct. 11 creating a storm of controversy on radio and TV talk shows. Both displays, negotiated by local activists, were fully legal.

Seattle Walkathon Raises \$900,000: Surprising even its most optimistic organizers, Seattle's Fourth Annual "From All Walks of Life" AIDS Walkathon has produced more than \$900,000 in pledges for the Northwest AIDS Foundation. More than 11,000 people participated in the event, soliciting pledges from in excess of 60,000 contributors, including 10 corporate sponsor who donated a minimum of \$5000 each. Last year's event raised \$650,000 for NWAF.

Cocaine Spurs AIDS: Researchers in Minneapolis have discovered that cocaine speeds the growth of HIV. When cells affected by the virus-generally assumed to cause AIDS-was exposed to cocaine in a test tube it grew three time faster than normal. The researchers warn that similar results could result when HIV-infected individuals use cocaine.

GMHC Caps New Client List: In a move that AIDS service organizations around the country fear may be a wave of the future, N.Y.'s Gay Men's Health Crisis has said that it will begin accepting only 100 new clients a month in December. The cap will remain in effect for 6 months while the \$15 million organization evaluates its effects. Full funding of the AIDS CARE (see page 2) bill would have helped, but not alleviated the group's budget woes, spokesperson Carisa Cunningham told the Washington Blade.

Gay Games '94 Date Set: Organizers of "Unity '94" have announced that edition number four of the Gay Games will be held from June 25-July 4, a period which includes the 25th anniversary celebration of the Stonewall Riots. New York Mayor David Dinkins has pledged city support for the effort which is expected to attract 10,000 athletes and 200,000 spectators. Organizers say that the Gotham games will include increased outreach to non-gays, people of color, differently-abled individuals and PWA's. Write New York in '94, Times Square Station, P.O. Box 202, New York, NY 10036 for more info.

Northrop Bombs Patriotic Condoms: Claiming that the word "Stealth" (when attached to a brand of red, white and blue condoms) is "likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive," defense contractor giant Northrop Corp. is taking legal action against condom manufacturer John Hughes of Taylor, Tex. Northrop also claims that Hughes' tongue-in-cheek slogan for his line of condoms, "They'll Never See You Coming," could bring the huge company "into disrepute." Hughes told the Washington Post, "We offer a heck of a lot more protection than the Stealth bomber, at a lot less cost." Northrop executives declined to comment.

Bias Crimes Report: Four incidents have been reported since our last issue. Three involve physical assaults on gay men in the Ansley and Midtown areas. In one case a limousine filled with college-age men began verbally harassing two gay men; the limo then stopped and several occupants got out and attacked the men. Southern Voice received two posters from a group called Magnum. The posters called for attacks on "faggots" and "AIDS carriers," specifically on Halloween night. If readers have any knowledge of a group using this or a similar name we would appreciate them calling us at 876-0789. Please remember to report all bias incidents or crimes to 286-BIAS.





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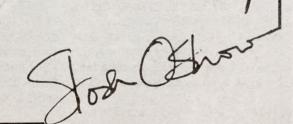
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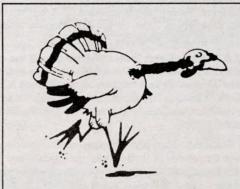
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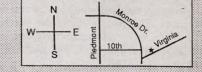
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HALLOWEEN TREAT

Meeting with Mayor produces movement in two areas

most gay of our traditional holidaysappears to have produced some positive movement between activists and Mayor Jackson.

The October 31 meeting between the Mayor and his three lesbian/gay Senior Advisors was also attended by Jeffrey Laymon, mayoral aides John O'Callaghan and Sue Ellen Cross-Lea, and Police Chief Eldrin Bell. Cross-Lea has been appointed to the position of Special Assistant to the Mayor formerly held by O'Callaghan who will become the city's Special Assistant for State Relations

Advisor Maury Weil reports significant movement on two agendas: Police Comissioner Bell has agreed to meet with the three mayoral advisors in order to discuss areas of concern to the lesbian and gay community. Weil said that his group intends to include members of the Lesbian and Gay Police Advisory Committee in that meeting.

Bell had previously refused a general meeting with the Advisory Committee according to committee chair Cathy Woolard. According to Woolard, a representative from Chief Bell's office told her that Bell would be willing to discuss particular policy issues or problem areas, but that he was not willing to continue the regular meetings with committee members and zone commanders that have occured with previous police chiefs, Woolard told the representative that her committee was not willing to change a

Atlanta-Halloween-certainly the routine that had been in place for ten years without face to face discussion between the Chief and members of the

Bell also told the group that the city will begin advertising for police officers in lesbian and gay publications. A similar promise was made in 1986 by then Comissioner Napper. The city then ran at least one ad each in Etcetera and The

Laymon was invited to attend the meeting because he had expressed a desire to expidite the city's review of the possible enactment of domestic partnership legislation. Weil said that Laymon's offer was accepted by the advisors and the Mayor, with the agreement that Laymon would be doing his volunteer work on behalf of the city.

Asked if the senior advisors and Mayor Jackson would be amenable to volunteers willing to work on other lesbian/gay agenda items, Weil responded with a resounding, "Yes. We can use all the help we can get. We are more than willing to be the conduit for creative ideas that will benefit the community."

Those interested in doing such work are asked to call Weil (894-6344), Joan Garner (577-3178), or Jay Neely (523-6823); all daytime numbers.

Mayor Jackson and the senior advisors had previously announced their interest in having openly lesbian/gay individuals serve on the City's numerous Boards and Comimssions.



Valerie and Maynard Jackson at Pride Prom '89.

Because these openings come up on a non-regular basis, the most effective way to gain appointment is to have a resume on file with the mayor's office. Interested community members may contact any of the senior advisors at the above numbers or a letter of intrest and resume to: Senior Advisors to the Lesbian and Gay Community, c/o Sue Ellen Cross-Lea, Office of the Mayor, City Hall, Atlanta,

What follows is an abbreviated description of Atlanta's Board/Commission structure.

The Mayor has citizen appointments to over 40 Active Boards and Commissions. Most boards receive their authority from Council legislation while others are chartered through state law. The Mayor also makes appointments to ad hoc citizen task forces such as the recent Arts Congress and is asked to suggest names for board slots by several community nonprofit organizations.

Specific qualifications vary from board to board. One common requirement is that all board appointees must live in the City of Atlanta.

Meeting times and responsibilities also vary. Some boards provide a per meeting stipend.

While several boards have existing vacancies most are currently full. Terms vary from one year to life and vacancies frequently come up unexpectedly. Interested persons are encouraged to send a resume which will be kept on file.

Most boards fall into three broad cate-

 Appeals & Review Boards provide formal recommendations to the Mayor and Council or have final authority on important City decisions. Appeals & Review Boards make recommendations on city liquor licenses, zoning matters, and hear appeals for housing code violators and City employees subject to disciplinary actions: Board of Ethics; Civil Service Board; Contract Compliance Hearing Officer; Housing Appeals Board; In REM Review Board; License Review Board; License Fee Review Board; Tree Preservation Review Board; Vehicles for Hire Hearing Officer; Urban Design Commission; Urban Homesteading Application; and Zoning Review Board.

·Technical Boards usually require their members to have specific technical expertise. These boards advise appropriate City staff on related matters and in some instances render technical opinions on rulings and decisions made by City staff: Board of Astrology Examiners;

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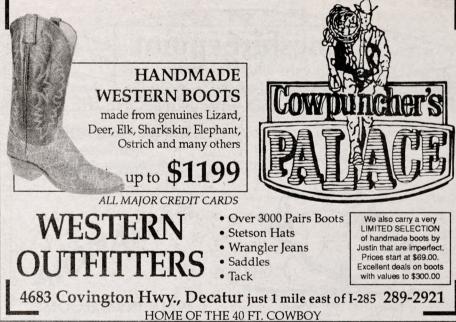
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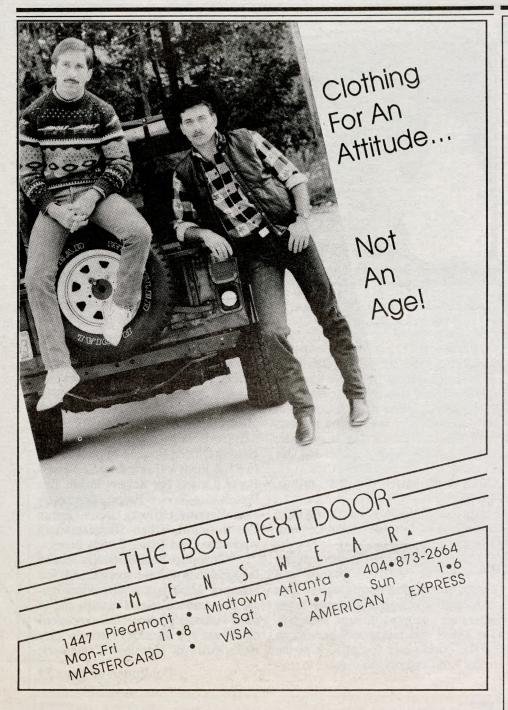


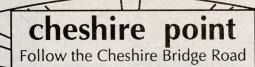
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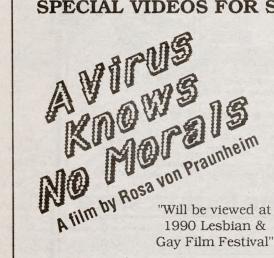
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Sex, Film and Videotape

Festival will screen works that present the lesbian and gay world in its own terms

by David Salyer

Over the past fifteen years, lesbian and gay film festivals have evolved from their meager beginnings as part of pride week celebrations to complex and ambitious events. Chicago has one. New York had two last year. The Los Angeles festival continues after eight years even though it has experienced major film studio shut-

Not surprisingly, San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival is the oldest and largest of its kind in the world—this year hosting almost fifty visiting gay and lesbian filmmakers, the largest gathering of such artists in history. And in Berlin, you won't find "gay" or "lesbian" in the official festival title, but that city's annual event offers a tremendous selection of lesbian and gay films.

Last year, Atlanta's Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival was born. Actually that's reborn; activist Charlie St. John was instrumental in putting together a small showing of gay films in the early '80s. This year, IMAGE Film/Video

Center and SAME presents their Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival, Nov. 9-11 and 16-18. The Festival is part of a larger event called "Against the Tide," co-sponsored by Image SAME, Nexus Contemporary Art Center, and TULA Galleries. "Against the Tide" is a multi-disciplinary project intended to survey the evolution of visual imagery associated with the homoerotic.

For this year's festival, the words "second annual" also mean "short infancy." This Festival grew up fast. It had to due to restrictions placed on the use of 1990 National Endowment for the Arts funds by Congress. This year's festival is supported by IMAGE's diverse earned income sources, including local gifts, membership dues, workshop revenues, ticket sales and a grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Actually, the sponsor's concerns about the use of their NEA funds for this project may have turned out to be premature; see the story at the bottom of this page for good news about the NEA and lesbian/gay films.



"Tiny and Ruby: Hell Divin' Women "will screen at 8pm Saturday Nov. 18.

NEA Reveals its First Obscenity Investigation

San Francisco lesbian and gay film fest exonerated

The National Endowment for the Arts has conducted an investigation of its 1990 grant made to Frameline, the national lesbian and gay media arts organization that presents the annual San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The investigation began in July 1990 after allegations from conservative legislators and religious groups that the grant was being used to fund obscene

The investigation was the first to be undertaken by the NEA to determine if a grantee had violated the Helms amendment to the 1990 NEA appropriations bill. That amendment stated that NEA funds could not be used to promote homoerotic materials which "when taken as a whole, do not have serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

"This investigation did not come as a surprise," noted Frameline executive director Tom DiMaria. "Homophobia has been the central issue behind the NEA debate. To the right-wing, Frameline represents the increased visibility of lesbians and gay men in society. Efforts to silence us reflect intolerance for the diversity of American culture."

But Frameline was exonerated by the

NEA after the arts agency's review determined that the organization presented works of artistic integrity. An NEA official concluded, "the festival was considered to be one of the premiere ones in the world.'

"I hope the outcome of this investigation sends a clear signal to arts organizations across the country," added DiMaria. "Homoeroticism does not equal obscenity. We urge all arts administrators to show their full support for the NEA's findings by presenting and promoting works by lesbian and gay artists.'

"If you care about contemporary media, you have to care about the work that gay and lesbian media artists are producing. It's at the cutting edge," offered Ruby Lerner, Executive Director of Image Film and Video in Atlanta.

Frameline has been a consistent leader in the field," she continued "and this vindication is a clear cut case of the victory of tolerance and respect for diversity over the vicious evils of oppression. I hope we will be able to look back and see the NEA's decision as one of the turning points in this battle."

FEATURE

In light of all the hassle, a second annual gay and lesbian *anything* is almost a miracle. Yes, Atlanta got the Olympics, and our participation in and hosting of those games will be, without question, of vast importance. But this Festival must be considered a milestone of more immediate significance. Despite the closing of financial doors, right wing opposition and NEA funding woes, more voices of lesbian and gay video and filmmakers will be heard this year.

Ruby Lerner, Executive Director of IMAGE, believes the role of a media arts center is to ask "what voices are not being heard?" Lerner and others involved with IMAGE observed that some of the most exciting works appearing in the Center's events over the years were contributed by gay and lesbian artists. Lerner maintains that the idea for a gay and lesbian film festival grew naturally out of IMAGE's desire to be a hub where as many interests and concerns in the community as possible are represented.

According to Lerner, last year's Festival was successful beyond anyone's expectations. And she feels the festivals are something of a barometer for the lesbian and gay community. Gay men and lesbians rarely have the opportunity to share in a feeling of community together. An undeniable need is met by festivals screening both lesbian and gay features. Says Lerner, "The extraordinary response to last year's Festival proves that."



"Mala Noche" will be shown at 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 10.

The most difficult part of planning Atlanta's festival turned out to be the selection process revealed Lerner. "The artistic supply is overwhelming and the hardest part was narrowing it down." To accomplish that, IMAGE's selection committee took the advice and recommendations of other festival directors and considered a diversity of aesthetics when choosing. Lerner acknowledges that San Francisco's festival provides the model for Atlanta primarily because Frameline, a film distributing company closely associated with that city's festival, has been very generous and supportive.

Lerner is clearly excited about the changes in this year's Festival. Last year all films and videos were screened over a single weekend; this year the event has been expanded to two weekends. Earlier this year, IMAGE unveiled its new, sloped screening room with advanced sound and projection quality. Lerner expressed deep regret that people had to be turned away last year due to lack of seating.

For 1990, in addition to the new 80seat screening room, only one set of films will be shown each night or afternoon. Additional screenings will be added to meet audience demand. As soon as the first screening sells out, tickets to a second showing—two hours later—will go on sale. If that show sells out, too, a third time will be added. But you still are urged to order tickets in advance.

A diverse mix of films and videos will be screened this year. Shorter pieces and more narrative works will be presented, but the experimental films and videos emphasized last year have not been forgotten. And the work of local artists takes center stage on the final evening of the festival, November 18th.

Among the offerings Nov. 9-11 are Roger Stigliano's "Fun Down There," Gus Van Sant's "Mala Noche," and Rosa von Praunheim's "A Virus Has No Morals." "Fun Down There" is a macabre black comedy about AIDS. Prolific Berlin director Praunheim has created a controversial, sometimes offensive film sure to incite lively conversation.

The following weekend, Nov. 16-18, is a showcase for works by women producers and directors. "DiAna's Hair Ego: AIDS Info Upfront" and "Party Safe! With DiAna and Bambi" are humorous takes on AIDS education and safe sex. Director Ellen Spiro will be present at the screening and conduct a workshop on activist video Saturday, November 17th. Call IMAGE at 352-4225 for details.

The evening of November 17th features films by Greta Schiller and Andrea Weiss. Their films, "International Sweethearts of Rhythm" and "Tiny and Ruby: Hell Divin' Women," document the history of a women's jazz band of the 1940's and two of its lesbian members, Tiny Davis and Ruby Lucas.

On Sunday afternoon, November 18th, "Salut Victor!" by Canadian filmmaker Anne Claire Poirier will be shown. Poirier's film is an upbeat tale of two older gay men who meet in a nursing home and rediscover friendship and love.

The success of the '89 Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival and the interest generated thus far for this one make Lerner ready and willing to compile a wish list for future festivals. She wishes IMAGE had the resources to bring in and host visiting video and filmmakers. "Bucks is the prohibitor; we just don't have the resources to take a lot of risks yet." San Francisco's festival utilizes real theatres and Lerner's optimistic that one day some of Atlanta's mainstream movie houses will be involved as this event grows and the audience for it becomes more visible, she says.

Lerner is also hopeful that as the Festival grows it can accommodate special series, theme nights, revivals, and retrospectives. One idea is to screen several older Hollywood films containing negative gay and lesbian stereotypes and compare them to contemporary efforts. New York already includes camp classics and retrospectives of audience favorites. San Francisco served up a "Lesbians in Prison" series this year and managed to dig up a print of the camp melodrama classic from 1950, "Caged."

The Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival will screen works that present the lesbian and gay world in its own terms. Not films conspicuously designed to cross over and reach a mainstream audience coveted by Hollywood. It is impossible, of course, for this Festival to reflect the entire community, so why demand it bear that burden? At their best, gay and lesbian festivals can incorporate a sense of history, cultural perspective and a celebration of our community's diversity. They give us an opportunity to sit in safe space and share our identities freely. Perhaps the sense of community fostered by these festivals is as important as the films presented. Don't ignore this event.



The Second Annual
IMAGE & SAME
Gay & Lesbian
Film and Video Festival

Nov. 9-11 and 16-18

The Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival will be screened at IMAGE Film/Video Center November 9-11 and 16-18. The Festival is co-sponsored by IMAGE Film/Video Center, SAME (Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project) and Southern Voice.



Friday, Nov. 9, 8 pm Remembrance — Jerry Tartaglia
Fun Down There — Roger Stigliano

"Growing up as I did, watching movies," says filmmaker Jerry Tartaglia on the soundtrack of *Remembrance*, "I naturally assumed that life was glamorous, friends were charming and witty, and, style being everything, of course, that parties were elegant and sophisticated." Repeated scenes from *All About Eve* and his own home movies only prove him partly wrong.

Roger Stigliano's first feature is a fresh, comic coming-ofage drama about Buddy, a young man from upstate New York, who arrives in New York City and falls into love affairs with two men at the same time. One of Stigliano's greater achievements in making Fun Down There is his realistic incorporation of sexual acts into everyday life.

Saturday, Nov. 10, 8 pm Mala Noche — Gus Van Sant

Mala Noche is a 1985 work by the director of the acclaimed Drugstore Cowboy. This gritty, realistic film is about Walt, a romantic young man who works in a grocery in Portland, Oregon's skid row. Walt falls in love with a Mexican migrant teenager and begins a doomed, one-sided affair. Walt is one of the most balanced, believable gay male characters ever put on film.

Sunday, Nov. 11, 3 pm A Virus Has No Morals — Rosa von Praunheim

About AIDS, A Virus Has No Morals, is as controversial as its subject. A macabre, sometimes offensive, black comedy by Rosa von Praunheim. Von Praunheim's response to the health crisis is social satire, a cruel mockery of a tragic situation that has, as yet, no solution in sight. A lively, tough film.

Sunday, Nov. 11, 8 pm I Like Girls For Friends — Julie Zando She Must Be Seeing Things — Sheila McLaughlin

Julie Zando has become known for exploring difficult subjects — female masochism, erotic obsession, and victimization. Her tapes look frankly at relations of power and submission between women as lovers, friends, and mothers/daughters. In I Like Grils For Friends the audience is seduced by the female narrator, while at the same time repelled by her need for love and approval.

She Must Be Seeing Things, Sheila McLaughlin's first feature is both very personal and nearly universal in its understanding of the dynamics of intimate relationships. Funny, touching, and very real, the story of Agatha, a lawyer, and Jo, her filmmaker girlfriend, is a deft exploration of jealousy's effect on a lesbian relationship.



from Fun Down There

Friday, Nov. 16, 8 pm
DiAna's Hair Ego: AIDS Info Upfront
Party Safe! With DiAna and Bambi
Video of Vancouver Gay Olympics
— Ellen Spiro (Artist will be present)

In DiAna's Hair Ego: AIDS Info Upfront, you'll meet the dynamic DiAna DiAna of Columbia, South Carolina. Recognizing the paucity of information available on AIDS prevention in the Black community in Columbia, cosmetologist DiAna DiAna and her partner Dr. Bambi Sumpter, took on the task of AIDS education right in the front of her South Carolina beauty salon.

In Party Safe! Ellen Spiro has taped one of DiAna and Bambi's safe sex parties. If you have already seen DiAna's Hair Ego, you know this promises to be both fun and informative. If you have not met DiAna and Bambi, now is your chance to get to know them at their best.

Saturday, Nov. 17 Workshop on Activist Video — With Ellen Spiro Call 352-4225 for details

Saturday, Nov. 17, 8 pm
The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
Tiny and Ruby: Hell Divin' Women
— Greta Schiller and Andrea Weiss
Affirmations — Marlon Riggs

In the two films, The International Sweethearts of Rhythm and Tiny and Ruby: Hell Divin' Women, filmmakers Greta Schiller and Andrea Weiss seek to rediscover and recognize, and document the history of a women's interracial jazz band of the 1940's, and of two of it's members, Tiny Davis and Ruby Lucas. Through interweaving of interviews, 1940's film footage, still photos and music, the infectious spirit of the band is captured.

Tiny and Ruby documents an openly lesbian relationship made invisible only by Tiny and Ruby's own invisibility; that is, the question of being out is not even a question until someone knows you. And it is so good to know Tiny Davis and Ruby Lucas who, when this film was made, had been living together 42 years.

Affirmations is Marlon Riggs' latest tape and exploration of Black gay male desires and dreams, ranging from the droll retelling of a first-time sexual experience to the driving wish for reintegration in the larger African American community.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 3pm Salut Victor! — Anne Claire Poirier

This delicate and straightforward tale of two older gay men, Victor and Phillipe, who meet in a nursing home at the end of their days, is just about perfect. Poirier's film explores the growing friendship and love between a crusty, bitter old man who feels that his life is over and an equally crusty but mischievous gent who conducts wheelchair races, hides cognac, and occasionally cops a feel from the window washer. Based on Edward O. Phillip's book, Matthew and Chauncy.

Sunday, Nov 18, 8 pm Local Work

Local work will include V-Mail by Doug Bonner. Bonner, a gay filmmaker, tries to look objectively at an assemblage of photographs taken during World War II of his father. The images evoke a strong sense of homoerotica, bringing up feelings of desire for male intimacy and revealing a deeper repression of emotion. V-Mail is Doug's second independent work. His first, Days Around the House, was named Best Comedy/Erotic Film in 1984 by the Cincinnati Film Society.

For Information and Tickets Call 352-4254

COMMUNITY COMMENTARY

VIEWERS DISAGREE ABOUT WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE

We've told you about the Against the Tide exhibit now at Nexus and TULA. We also told you about The Kiss and Tell Collective's photo series, "Drawing the Line." If you have not yet seen both exhibits we urge you to do

The photo printed here seems to be the most controversial of those included in the series at Nexus. Below are some of the comments that women have written on the wall around this photo. Remember, the exhibit is making a direct commentary on the censorship of homoeroticism and AIDS information. In light of this fact a few of the comments are particularly interesting. Notice, for instance, the comment that recommends this type of eroticism be confined to the bedroom. How many times have lesbians and gay men been told by straight society "Do whatever you want to in your bedrooms, just keep it off the streets"? Also notice the comments that say this photo is not art because it is violence. No one seems to be making the same complaint about the "Hate Crimes" paintings in the exhibit.

Censorship is censorship, no matter who is doing it!

-No, no no no no no no no no

-Must we fantasize about being victims? Don't we have enough reality to take care of that need.

-To be on the knife edge of sensation::::live it -This is scary and sickening at same time

-This series is the most upsetting to me using

a female figure to represent a man in the act of what appears to be a rape: If this is meant to be some kind of a turn on, keep it in the bedroom. Don't shoot women in the feet by showing the victim who is being raped by a "man" in the throws of ecstasy

-Do you really think men are the only ones who have sado-masochistic tendencies?

-Why do you assume she represents a man? Men have been imposed on these photos by too many women viewers

-Not one bit sexy, see a therapist baby -Yuk get this outta here

-Maybe a fantasy role-play enjoyed by some women—doesn't have to represent all women

-No, of course women don't want to be raped, but exploring sexuality—without boundaries imposed by polite society-means playing with danger. In some ways S&M sex among lesbians can be seen as affirming our womanhood, not absorbing the violence around us, because it is done with consent.

(with arrows to previous statement)

-Yes-if this is happening between two women who have communicated before-hand, are communicating during the act, know each other's fears and limitations, this can be very affirming and liberating and empowering for

-This is where I start to draw the line. I hate these images—it represents for me all the bad things society has handed women's sexuality.



I am glad that it is my choice to look or walk

-To me this is a male myth of what women want or more to the point what they deserve. Yes (with arrow to above)

-To me this is an example of the eroticism of fear involved in sexual play-Play games like this only with someone you trust, who loves

-This series of photos is depicting a different kind of passion-anger. Even though it looks staged-it does happen. Only the individuals involved should feel free enough to "draw their own lines" in their sexuality.

-Fear is erotic—but play safe with women you

-This concept is both disturbing and "unhealthy." Women [symbols] may learn this as "victims." -(arrow to above) It becomes disturbing when the inherent notion of humiliation of the feminine which has been an ever-present component of pornography to date-become fetishized, internalized by its victims and played out for us as viewers.

-I agree. The stuff below is bullshit-violence "affirms" our womanhood??? Gimme a break-the boys have taught you gals well!!! (And what is this "play" shit??!!)

-We're not a little repressed, are we? Think of it as: sex as a first amendment issue.

-I think you're oversimplifying!

Men at the exhibit are invited to write their comments about "Drawing the Line" in a book; here are a few of those comments.

-So many "all men" comments on the wall. As if all men were straight. Funny, being here, to a gay man.

-The art for me is ruined by the politics involved. I am a man-a gay man and would like to write on the wall. If this was a MEN ONLY exhibit-we would get hell for being sexist, if women do it, suddenly it's OK'-well, it pisses me off.

-I understand your desire to have the wall space as women's comments only. It is only natural considering the abuses and overwhelming oppression. But some of the comments hurt my feelings. I am a heterosexual male, and married with a child. My mother is a lesbian...I just am hurt by the depiction (in the comments on the wall)-of males (all males) as hateful and oppressive...

Against the Tide remains on exhibit through Nov. 23. The exhibit at TULA (75 Bennett Street) is open 11a.m.-5p.m., Thurs-Sat. Call 351-3551. The Nexus ehibit (57 Forsyth St. in the Healey Building) is open 11 a.m.-5p.m., Mon-Fri. The Exhibit will also be open 11-5 on Sat. Nov. 17; a panel discussion on censorship will also be held that day at 1p.m. For info 688-2500.

YEA TEAM

Dear Southern Voice

On behalf of Nexus Contemporary Art Center, SAME, Seven Stages and The TULA Foundation, I want to thank both the community and Southern Voice for its support of "Against The Tide." Through contributions of interested individuals and through the overwhelming response to our performance event featuring Tim Miller, Jim Chappeleaux, and Jim Grimsley, we have been able to fund entirely the exhibition "Against the Tide: The Homoerotic Image in the Age of Censorship and Aids.

Our success suggests that the arts can depend on the community it serves for support, and that we can continue to present important visual and performing arts without restriction. Thank you.

Sincerely yours, Louise E. Shaw, Executive Director Nexus Contemporary Art Center

RALLY 'ROUND THE RAGE

Congratulations to Treble Yell for saying out loud what most of my friends have been whispering for some time. The Names Project Quilt is a wonderful testament to our losses and to the loving concern with which many have responded. As an expression of grief it is without parallel.

But it's time to get over our grief and get on with some action. The Quilt should either be turned into a rallying point for our rage or it should be enshrined in a permanent hall.

William Alfredson

HELP STOP THE MURDER

Open letter to

Howard Walter/New Order owner

What in the hell is your problem and what's up with the B.O.A.'s attitudes. You constantly keep coming up with lame excuses why you won't join the Miller-Marlboro boycott, yet you haven't said why you are supporting Helms and causing the death of thousands of PWAs, why you support censorship, and why you are anti-choice. I say this because you are supporting this "selfgloried" senator by selling these products. Mr. Walters you say, and I quote, "We believe that boycotts are an individual choice and must be implemented on a personal level," but have you made any attempt to educate your customers or are you yourself not educated enough on this man and his genocide to PWAs. I appeal to you, check with the bars and restaurants that are in the boycott, you will find that they are not losing customers and are not losing money. Help stop the murder of our people.

Signed, Brad Harden

WAKE UP AND SNIFF THE...

Get serious. On the spur of the moment, at a concert, some entertainer says she'll submit to an interview later. When it comes down to actual talking-with-gay/lesbian-newspaper time, and the paper in question is published in the conservative South, her higher instincts take over. Speaking through (as you delicately put it) "her management team," the singer decrees that she now only does it for major dailies. Upshot? Southern Voice gives her a full page and a picture anyhow.

Wake up and smell the bullshit from this creature and her kind. Rich is what they want to be.

Elliott Mackle

The Windy City Times, where the interview in question originally appeared, is a gay/lesbian paper.—Ed.



"NOTHING COULD BE FINER THAN TO BE IN CAROLINA IN THE MO-ORNING!..."J

heterodoxy,n.

the quality or fact of being an opinion contrary to that which is established or generally received.

a monthly column by KC Wildmoon

TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES

Language is vital to people who write. To put words down on paper is a responsibility not to be taken lightly. I think very carefully about every word, every comma, every capital letter, that I put into this old word processor. And for me, that intense scrutiny extends into the words I say out loud, because consistency is important. This column is not written in a vacuum.

I don't know about other languages since I don't speak any well enough to write in them, but I know that English poses some peculiar problems. There are so many subtle differences in word meanings, like the difference between envy and jealousy, or reaction and response. Too many of us take those differences for granted and use those words interchangeably. But the *truth* is life would be much less confusing if we thought about what we said each time we opened our mouths, or picked up a pen and paper.

Ah, truth. Now that's a big little word, and so terribly misunderstood. Let me ask you to think for a minute about truth. What do we know about truth, about honesty? I'm not talking about cash register honesty here, or your mother's admonitions to never lie, cheat or steal. What I know about truth is that I can never know for sure anybody's truth but my own, unless that anybody tells me. And that's where language comes back in.

I spent years talking what I wanted to believe was truth. I carefully considered each word, but the difference was that I was meticulously picking out the

ones that showed me in the best possible light, never mind if the impression was not exactly true. It was just a question of semantics, I said. And besides, everybody else is doing the same damn thing, so what's the Big Deal?

The Big Deal is that I wasted a lot of time trying to figure out what other people were *really* saying to me, as well as how to keep those same people from figuring out what I was really saying to them. Words were a game then, a convoluted dance of inaccuracy and deception.

The result was that no one trusted me, and I trusted no one. I completely disregarded what people told me, because I knew better. I even went so far as to discount facts that I could have easily checked out if I didn't believe them. I already knew the real score. This was not a healthy way to live.

Truth is, I often don't know the score. And there's no shame in saying so. But I want to know, so I'll ask you, I'll ask myself, I'll read, and most importantly, I'll listen. Tell me the truth, don't be afraid. If you don't know, say so. If you don't tell me the truth, it'll come out eventually. I'm not going to insult your integrity by imposing what I think I know onto what you tell me.

We live in an ugly world. The people we ought to be trusting, in government, religion, corporate offices, have made a mockery of language and truth by twisting words to put themselves in the best possible light. We don't have to act in kind. We can start right now, by telling one another the truth, and listening to each other and to ourselves.

That's how we can start to effect change. The key element in that change is a rigorous honesty. And the only way we can express the truths we know is with a careful consideration of the language we use. What comes after that is unknown for now. But it's got to be a far sight better than what's come behind

CARBON COPY

Newsweek 444 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022

Dear Editor:

I am furious at Eric Zorn's "My Turn" column in the Nov. 5, 1990 issue of Newsweek entitled "Please Return the Word Gay." Newsweek's long history of cover articles and sympathetic stories implies a sensitivity to gay and lesbian issues that is completely destroyed by this nasty, brutish and none-too-short trashing of gay people.

First, our use of the word "gay" is not capricious, as Zorn implies by comparing it to an imaginary request from blacks to change their term of description to "cool" or Asians to "perfect." Some authorities (such as Yale historian John Boswell) can cite evidence that traces the word "gay" all the way back to the Greek "gai." Newsweek should avoid the use of amateur etymologists, especially if they cannot keep their petty bigotries out of their articles.

Next, Zorn selects only the defini-

tions of "gay" that match his closedminded point of view. Contrary to his "opinion," there is an established definition of "gay" that is completely appropriate to and descriptive of gay people. That definition implies a joy tempered by the sadness that life can offer--for example, the "Gay Divorcee," a woman who survived a broken relationship, and yet can still find gaiety in her life. In W.B. Yeats' "Lapis Lazuli" (the poet specifically cited by Zorn in his article), that exact meaning is evident. In the poem, the ancient Chinese figurines that Yeats is musing upon are about to embark on a long and treacherous journey to the top of a mountain. Yet even with an enormous and difficult task looming before them, Yeats notes that "Their eyes, their ancient glittering eyes,

Consider that we gay people can lose our jobs, the love of our families, perhaps even our residences and careers, simply for choosing to live our lives with integrity. Consider that many of us can count fifty or more friends dead within the last ten years. And yet we keep coming out of the closet and affirming the truths of our lives. I can

think of no word that more appropriately describes our existence-the gaiety in our nature is self-evident.

Zorn then "offers" a replacement word—"fabulous." How generous of him. This "offer" is then immediately betrayed as degrading when he acknowledges that he sees the word as "pretentious or silly." Is that what makes this word appropriate for the gay community? Zorn's tongue-in-cheek humor does not make his bigotry any less offensive. And the utter futility of his "cause" does not in any way mitigate his message, which is one of exclusion and intolerance.

If Zorn really wants "gay" back, he then he should work to address what causes it to be giggled at by seventh graders. That is the bigotry directed toward the gay community, which society is only starting to acknowledge, address and correct. That bigotry causes violence against our community which has been sufficiently documented to convince the Congress and President to enact hate crimes legislation. Our own government is documenting the inability of gay men and lesbians to walk down the street without bashers attacking us.

Zorn's article feeds directly into this tradition of violence against people who are different, and it is completely unworthy of a magazine such as *Newsweek*.

I enjoy and respect Newsweek. Unlike some of my friends, I did not cancel my subscription after your failure to report about the 600,000 people who attended the largest human rights demonstration in the history of this country—the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. But this is the most offensive article I have ever seen in your magazine. If it is not followed within one month by a response from a gay person refuting Zorn's vitriol, I intend to cancel my subscription, which is in its fifth year.

If you desire to retain my subscription, I must see a satisfactory response from you very soon. I encounter far too much bigotry that I don't have to pay for to endure spending money on a magazine that delivers it directly into my home.

Respectfully, Al Cotton

cc: Southern Voice OutWeek

Viewpoints is intended to provide a continuing forum for the lesbian and gay community. We encourage you to share your ideas, comments and feelings on these pages.

Submissions should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than two pages. We are happy to offer anonymity when letters are printed, but all submissions must be signed. Please also give us your phone number in case we have questions. We reserve the right to edit for space. Mail your letters to:

Southern Voice/Viewpoints
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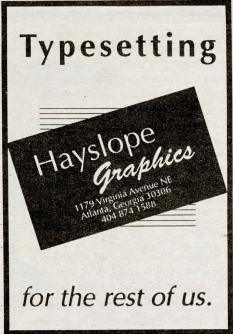
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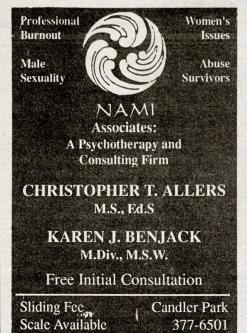
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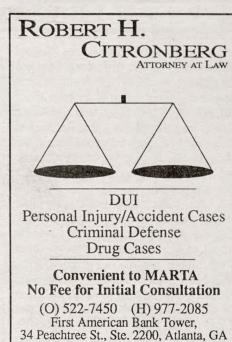
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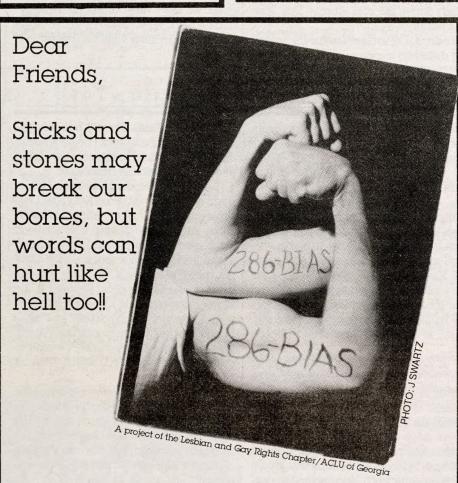












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Pink Panthers: Concerned Queers Patrolling Streets

by Rich Flowers

New York—A gay bashing in progress comes over the radio, all units are called to respond. About twenty lesbians and gay men with neon pink triangles on their black T-shirts, blowing whistles, come running up the street. Everybody on Christopher Street stands back and stands still — the energy is intense. When someone from the sidelines shouts, "Go Girls!" the crowd realizes it's the Pink Panthers. Everyone starts screaming and cheering and shouting. For some the scene is frightening; they remember all the shit that they've had to put up with: in high school; at work; with AIDS; with everything.

One observer says that, for just a second, he almost feels sorry for the basher. Almost. And just for a second.

Increasingly, it isn't safe for gays and lesbians to walk the streets. A tidal wave of crime is sweeping the country bringing with it an increase in anti-gay violence.

"I've lived here all my life and I've never seen so much bashing," said Joe Ruscito, 33 and a lawyer. "Even on the trains to Fire Island, the conductors have been harassing gay people. It's a real problem." Bias related assaults—gay bashings—are up 82 percent in the first seven months of 1990 (316 cases) according to the New York Anti-Violence Project. Gay-bashing is an aspect of the overall increase in violence at its most terrifying—being attacked by a stranger. The randomness of the violence strikes an added note of horror and accentuates assault's senseless cruelty.

What's going on here? Sociologists say many things contribute to the increase in anti-gay violence: recession; lack of job opportunities; and an alarming increase in drug use-crack in particular. Greenwich Village is home turf for gays and lesbians. Add dozens of bars on every block, interaction at all hours—this is the city that never sleeps—and a mecca for tourists and you've got the setting for most of the Big Apple's reported cases of anti-gay violence. Then there's the fact that, "As gays and lesbians gain more political power and visibility, gay bashing will increase as more people feel threatened. It's definitely a backlash," commented Brigitte Weil, 25, a Panther member and pastry chef.

In response to the increase in bashing, and fueled with outrage at the city's indifferent response, a citizen foot patrol was organized by gay and lesbian activists. Their first patrol took place August 4.

The Pink Panthers take to the streets in coed groups of 8 or 12, Friday and Saturday nights from midnight until 3 am. Patrollers wear black T-shirts with a paw print in a pink triangle on the front and "Patrol" in English, Spanish, and Chinese on the back. The T-shirts are definitely eye-catching. "We've always been perceived as well dressed," quips one member. Each patrol member has a specific duty: one carries a walkie-talkie and maintains contact with the home base; another is responsible for calling 911; still another photographs and records incidents. Everyone carries whistles while walking the beat.

The Pink Panthers patrol unarmed. Though all members receive martial-arts training, they don't perceive their duties to include dealing with weapons. When an assault does involve weapons, the police are notified immediately. The Panthers' primary goal is to defend the

person who is being attacked, not necessarily to go after the attacker. When a passerby calls them "Faggots", the Panthers are likely to respond in the affirmative and engage in some form of dialogue. A second patrol group may encircle the provoker and ask different questions rapidly from different sides of the circle ("When was Joan Crawford born?!") in the hope of disorienting the person and leaving him/her dazed and dumbfounded.

"Right now, the Panthers are equally divided between women and men," said Weil. Some join because it's cool. Still others because they feel it's politically correct. All are genuinely concerned. Panther member Carol Anastasio, 28, a public relations director remarked, "I've personally escorted lesbians, not because I wanted their phone number but because I was concerned for their safety."

Anyone can join the Pink Panthers. The only requirement is a firm time commitment to patrolling. "It isn't like a comfy planning meeting in a friend's apartment or a one time 'zap' or a letter writing campaign. It's getting out on the streets and putting your own safety on the line," said 6' 2" Phil Montana, 27, a gourmet cook and Panther member. Unlike their counterparts, the Guardian Angels—a straight foot patrol that stakes out the same area—the Pink Panthers make themselves walking political statements by openly identifying themselves as gay and lesbian. They see the patrol as an opportunity for participants to affirm their gay/lesbian identity, their community and to raise consciousness.

"As far as wearing our sexuality on our shirts, I think that's important," said Montana, "We've traditionally been targets and they think that we won't fight back. That's wrong. We will fight back." When asked about wearing her sexuality so openly, Panther member, Gerri Wells,

32 and construction contractor thought for a moment and replied, "Well, um, I feel I do that all the time anyway."

Zealous newcomers are encouraged to check out the patrol before attending the weekly Tuesday night meeting.

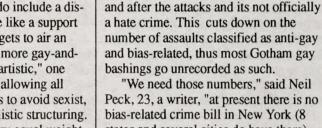
The Panthers feel it's important for people to realize they're a

patrol, not a discussion group. But the Tuesday night meetings do include a discussion group—run more like a support group—where everyone gets to air an opinion. "We need to be more gay-andmilitaristic, not gay-and-artistic," one member commented. By allowing all opinions, the group hopes to avoid sexist, homophobic and paternalistic structuring. But all opinions don't carry equal weight. Priority is given to members who actively patrol. "I don't want people who are not actively involved having input into it," said Montana, "We want the people who make decisions to be the people who are out there patrolling.'

The Panthers don't generally seek help from the police, though New York's Finest are generally supportive of the group. "They're an excellent group. Anybody who is willing to go out on he streets and fight crime is OK in my book," said a police officer from the Sixth Precinct, which covers the Village. The police have even offered to make the Panthers a part of the auxiliary police but the group turned them down. "We voted against it," said Wells, "a lot of us have been strip-searched. In a way, we don't trust them." As it is, the Panthers feel the Police Department needs sensitivity training but that the lesbian and gay community doesn't have the time to wait for them to get sensitized.

The Panthers also feel the police don't respond fast enough to reports of anti-gay violence. "They aren't quick about it," said Weil, "sometimes they wait before jumping into an assault in progress because they think the attacker is right, on some level they are living out one of their fantasies. This attitude is prevalent." The police sometimes have a hard time separating their professional duties from their personal feelings. Most police officers know how to handle bias-related assaults and don't. Or they don't classify the assault as bias-related unless a prominent gay activist is involved, say Panther members.

According to the New York
City Police Department, for an assault to be classified as biasrelated, an epithet must come from the attacker prior to the assault. The attacker can shout "die faggot" or



"We need those numbers," said Neil Peck, 23, a writer, "at present there is no bias-related crime bill in New York (8 states and several cities do have them) and in order for a bias-related crime bill to pass, we need to show there is a strong need. And the fact that we don't have such a law sends out the message that it is OK to bash gays and lesbians."

other epithets to his heart's content during

Patrolling the Big Apple's streets hasn't exposed the Pink Panthers to much trouble. A lot of patrons of Village businesses are familiar with the group, and most everyone relates to the name they've chosen, the Pink Panthers, in a favorable way—an unexpected plus. It's not easy to start a fight with a group that's named after such a likable and popular cartoon character, although members insist that the group's name alludes more to militant groups like the Black Panthers of the '60s and the Gray Panthers of the '70s.

The association with the cartoon character should be a welcome one–except for copyright infringement issues. Inspector Clousseau is always foiled in his attempts to bash or sabotage the Pink Panther and the voiceless cartoon kitty is never deterred from his duties. The Pink Panther theme is a catchy one too. Once, a group of rowdy drunks came across the Panthers on patrol. When they could make out the group's name, a smile came across their faces and they proceeded to sing the Mancini theme song while walking away imitating a panther pacing. Prevention=safety.

The coed patrols also help defuse anger. Puffed up young men (almost all bashers are male between 15-26 years of age) seem less willing to attack either men or women when a member of the opposite sex is present. The mixed patrols don't keep people from commenting though. One patrol came across an angry man yelling anti-gay cliches. As a straight bodybuilder and his Farrah-Fawcetted girlfriend passed by, he looked back grinning and smirked, "I could take them all on and wouldn't break a sweat."

But for the most part the Panthers get a lot of spontaneous praise and admiration. Sometimes a group will cheer from across the street or an admirer will shout encouragement from a passing taxi. Once a married telephone worker repairing lines under the street peered up as the Panthers passed by and said to his coworker, "Will you look at that. That's the Pink Panthers, they're all gay and they're out protecting the streets for everybody. Isn't that something." The two workers smiled at each other and then went back to work.

Talk of gay/lesbian citizen patrols in Atlanta, especially in Midtown, has been in the air for some time. According to organizers of Atlanta's new Queer Nation chapter, that group may look into the possibility of Pink Panther-like patrols as part of its agenda. Queer Nation meets at 7pm on Mondays at the Little 5 Points Community Center.



Southern Voice: From the vantage point of a psychotherapist, are there any specific issues that your clients tend to bring to you right now?

Franklin Abbott: Yes. The two major things I've heard from gay men over the last five years are intricately connected. One: Relationships. How do we get into a relationship or keep our relationship going or get out of an unhealthy one? Two: Health. The AIDS crisis has put a special charge on our relationships.

One problem we have is that the model we have for intimacy comes from the patriarchal tradition of monogamy and romantic love. Webster defines monogamy as "having one wife," which doesn't describe too many of us. Thousands of years ago, when we shifted from a matriarchy to a patriarchy, a need to know one's lineage through the father developed—monogamy makes that more possible. Since we don't breed, however, lineage is a moot point for gay men.

To support monogamy, the notion of romantic love was incorporated into patriarchal mythology—with one person and only one person in the world for you. I don't know that this is something all gay men are suited for.

Also, we are working around a polarity of monogamy and promiscuity, so that promiscuity is connected to monogamy. You're either being a good boy by being monogamous, or deliberately a bad boy by being promiscuous. You're either in cahoots with the patriarchy or in rebellion against it. What we as gay men have to do is to establish something outside of it. We have to change our ways of thinking about love and relationships. We have to change our minds.

We especially need to change how we

Men & Intimacy

The second part of Al Cotton's two part interview about men, monogamy, sex and AIDS with author, editor and psychotherapist Franklin Abbott

deal with intimacy, since gay men are really struggling to find ways of being with each other that are emotionally and sexually fulfilling. We have been programmed in the romantic tradition, where there is jealousy and turf-guarding and "Leave my man alone" stuff. There's a great deal of work to be done in that area.

SV: For the early gay movement, promiscuity was practically a right worth fighting for; now we've progressed far enough to see it as counterproductive.

FA: It's not always a good thing to become totally sexually vulnerable with someone you have no previous knowledge of. Do you let strangers drive your car? Or invite them into your house to browse around? And yet we let them into our bodies. That doesn't make sense. It is a problem that results from the twin concepts of patriarchy and monogamy, and we need to get away from it.

This problem is made worse by the fact that relationships are of highlighted importance for gay men because of the reaction we get from our families. My family, for instance, has sort of "de-familied" themselves, taking really no interest in my life. I am not "familiar" to them anymore. The reason our lovers and friendships are so important to us is that we find out who is willing to learn about us.

SV: And AIDS complicates these problems further by bringing death into

this mix of emotions.

FA: AIDS has put a real twist on relationships, because again most of us were raised with at least a modicum of religious guilt; and most of us, somewhere inside us, still believe our behavior can explain why we are sick. Lots of gay men come in and say "I hate condoms" or "I'm scared to death to touch anybody." I think this is a secondary effect that the health crisis has brought to us, and it highlights how difficult relationships are.

As young and middle aged men, we are not prepared for death. What happens in a normal situation around death is that we see our grandparents die and see our parents deal with that; then we see our parents die and we deal with that; then we deal with the death of people 10 years older than us; finally, when we get up there, there is some sense of readiness, some knowing of the terrain. AIDS has ripped that natural progression to pieces.

We are dealing with a shattering experience of death coming to our own generation, perhaps wondering why we were spared. Many gay men have a stress syndrome similar to what Vietnam vets felt in coming back, except it's not post-traumatic stress because the trauma of the war is not over. It's all a part of the baggage people bring to therapy. Fear, stress, vulnerability.

I also see people hardening themselves to their grief, and that is a potential source of substance abuse. Our primary way of dealing with grief is to avoid it. A lot of gay men haven't learned how to grieve—they lost a lot in coming out and haven't grieved for that yet.

SV: You mentioned that we need to change our minds, and I like that image a lot. How do we start to do that?

FA: First of all, we have to move beyond the definition heterosexual culture has given to us—that homosexuality is all about sex—and to recognize that there are a good many other things that it is about. One way we can do that is to work with heterosexual men, so that we can learn what we have in common with them and what we don't.

There is a burgeoning men's movement in this country, one that is beginning to attract a lot of interest. The National Conference on Men and Masculinity was held here in June. There were about 400 men and women who participated in this conference, which focused on the theme of men's violence against women, which is epidemic at this point.

One of the leaders of a more popularized men's movement is Robert Bly, a poet who conducts workshops on men's issues and recently had an interview on PBS with Bill Moyers—A Gathering of Men—it's rentable at some video stores. Bly and his cohorts deal with the predicament of the heterosexual man caused indirectly by the women's movement. Increasingly, educated, sensitive men living in cities are having to deal with women who have embraced feminism. These women are not willing to play second fiddle to their man, to play wife and mother. And since it's no longer possible to support their lifestyle on one income, when these women get home and say "I



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FEATURE

need a little help here in the kitchen or with the kids," the guy's response is "Gee, what does that mean?"

SV: What's the source of this prob-

FA: Well, most men in our culture have a real difficulty in not having been well fathered. Because of the work ethic of the '50s, summarized by "Ozzie and Harriet" and "Leave it to Beaver," most men lived in a family where Mom stayed home and Dad worked. He had very little psychic energy left over for relationships, so Mom took care of his emotional needs; she became his emotional reality. This has affected not only straight men, but all men in our society. In a psychic sense, many of us really are fatherless.

SV: Learning how to work with strong women on an equal basis—isn't that a lesson that gay men can teach to straight men?

FA: For sure. I think one of the short-comings of Bly and his men's movement is that they have failed to draw on the experience and wisdom of gay men. We have an awful lot to offer, in terms of how to be close to other men, how to work with women, how to deal with the "female side" that men have.

SV: Is that because of their homophobia? Are they afraid of us?

FA: I think so. And there is a more insidious problem among many men, who claim they are not prejudiced and yet are really very heterocentric. Like white people who think that simply because they say "I'm not prejudiced," black people are going to want to affiliate with and befriend them. Racism has to do with a world view; just being nice isn't enough.

It's ok that straight men being to work on their stuff—I like that they have a

place to start taking care of each other in a deeper way. But I'm not particularly drawn to participate in it. I feel like I would end up as the sort of "substitute woman" in the relationship. They think I'm the one who wants to know how they're feeling. That's fun for about fifteen minutes.

In the gay community, we are starting to differentiate between homophobia and heterosexism, homophobia being an active hatred and heterosexism, or heterocentrism, as a passive assumption that being straight is the preferred mode of existence.

so relentlessly promoting it?

SV: Aren't we, as gay men, just as guilty of ethnocentrism when we're dealing with women's issues or racism or ethnic differences?

FA: White gay men in general have a lot of work to do on their racism. Not many gay men know much about lesbian culture, either—they don't know who Jane Rule or Audre Lorde or Adrienne Rich are. And yet lesbians have been just phenomenal in their response to AIDS. It is something they really don't share with us; they are not affected by AIDS personally. That is something we should notice

prime years of a person's life, don't have a lot of room for other things. We're part of that solution. As gay people, we have the time and energy to put into the arts or the healing and helping professions.

It doesn't seem to be accidental that so many of us are in the job of beautifying the world or taking care of people in need. In earlier societies, like Native American and others, gay people often had better defined roles like shaman or priest or berdache. You were a helper and you were seen as a boon to your tribe, not a detriment.

Gay men and lesbians are in a unique position as outsiders to view our culture critically and to help change it. We are always the forerunners when it comes to style, an area that has been considered safe and superfluous by the wider society. Hopefully in the years ahead we can use our position to influence politics, gender roles and spirituality. We can bring to other aspects of society what we know about beauty, balance and love. The world has never so needed our gifts.

Franklin Abbott will read from and sign copies of his new anthology *Men* and intimacy at Borders Book Shop, 3655 Roswell Road, on Thurs, Nov. 8 from 7-8:30p.m. Call 237-0707 for information.

"Coming to the Edge: A Workshop on Differences for Gay and Straight Friends," conducted by Lanier Clance and Franklin Abbott will be presented at the First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive, Nov. 17 from 11a.m.—4p.m; it is open to both men and women. Bring a straight friend. Cost is \$30 per pair. Call 378-5570 for reservations.

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Gay men are easily turned off from participating in some of these things because of basically tolerant straight people who don't do the work necessary to enrich themselves and their perspective, like reading gay literature, getting to know gay people in more than just a social context. It is almost as if there is somewhere propagandizing heterosexuality. Why do they have to prop it up that way? Why do they scream about heterosexual prerogative if it is such a damn natural part of everything? If so many people are so heterosexual, why are they

and use for inspiration.

SV: Do you see a "special role" for gay men in society?

FA: One of the things that I got from listening to a tape by John Boswell [the gay Christian historian] is the notion of genetic altruism, which supposes that nature intentionally created a 10% surplus in the adult population to do things other than raise children. Suddenly so many things made sense to me. Why are there generally more children than parents can take care of? People who are in the procreative process, which takes 20 to 30

by Pat Lewis

The small but comfortable room is filled with natural light that filters through a large curtainless window at its end. The setting sun's light allows for a clear view of each of the faces gathered. Some are long and thin, others round and plump. The faces are clean and bearded. They shine with the knowledge of age and experience. They glow with the tenderness of youth.

We smile warmly as old friends greet old friends and we acquaint ourselves with new ones. Occasionally a loud roar of laughter rises above the soft chatter to signal the end of a funny story or the punch line to a familiar joke. We reminisce, we hug and we kiss as only family would.

At first glance this seems to be one of only hundreds of small gatherings given weekly by someone in the city. At first glance it seems to be another "A" list party where only superficial socializing and the exchange of phone numbers will take place.

But soon a small, thin man in his early thirties calls for our attention. He announces that the "discussion" is about to begin.

Methodically and without hesitation, each person takes his seat in the circle. The host folds his legs beneath him as he addresses the 30-plus men gathered. His voice is soft and low, his words controlled and deliberate: "Thank you for coming. This is the August meeting of the Atlanta Men's Caucus. To be in this room, you need

Examining Our Lives

"We are Black men who are proudly gay.
What we offer is our lives, our love, our visions.
We are risin' to the love we all need."

-Joseph Beam

only meet three important criteria. You must be a man, you must be Black, and you are gay. Your age, your income level, educational background or job status does not matter. Only that you are a Black gay man."

The Atlanta Men's Caucus has existed for the past three years. We gather monthly or, when whenever schedules can be arranged, to talk about a specific topic or concern, maybe an event that directly affects our lives as Black gays.

The subjects range from relationships to health; from our role in politics to the role of Black gays in the church. They are honestly painful and exhilarating discussions about our lives.

Those who attend exemplify the pluralistic make up of our community. There are "light browns," and "medium browns," and "dark browns." There are tall brothers, short brothers, big brothers and petite brothers. They are butch and they are fem. Some are coupled and some are not.

We talk about our relationships with our parents, our siblings, our co-workers, and our neighbors. We share individual insight into the myriad of complex issues that define racism and homophobia. There are many groups such as the Atlanta Men's Caucus forming around the country as Black gay men come together in increasing numbers to share ideas and stories about their lives.

I am reminded of two such meetings last February at the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference here in Atlanta. At each meeting more than 50 brothers talked about, and sometimes cried about, what it is like to grow up Black and gay. And although we were all from very different backgrounds, from across the U.S. and Jamaica, our stories of frustration, rage, joy and love sounded hauntingly similar. The realization bonded us because we know our individual struggles are reflective of the struggles of our brothers.

We disagreed and agreed on coming out of the closet, fathering children, and being politically active as gays. We laughed and joked about our old loves, our new loves, our mannerisms, and our unique African-American Culture.

As gay men of African descent we are taking more control of our lives. We realize that we must reach beyond our own closets to other brothers to share and thereby enhance the meaning

of our lives. Bonding by discussion helps us to understand where each is coming from and where we are going. It lends insight to our personal issues and makes life's journey a little less painful when we realize that we are not the only one thinking and dreaming of a better place for Black gay men to live and love.

We are the first generation to openly challenge society's myths about what it means to be a Black gay man. We are the first to realize the importance of self-actualization and to step beyond the fears of hatred, assault and exclusion by our straight Black brothers. We challenge the accepted standards of sexuality by living our lives as positive, productive and spiritual citizens who love our families, our community and our country.

We challenge society's accepted standards by shaping the perception of younger Black males of what it truly means to be a man. It isn't who one sleeps with, it is what one does with his life for the betterment of himself and his people.

I think of a brother who said to his nephews—who were 17 at the time and had spent much of their lives around him—after a basketball game, "...you guys know the time, don't you?" They both smiled at him, nodding affectionately and answering, "Yeah, Uncle Bobby, we know the time."

When I think of myself and brothers and our movement of love I know somehow the dream will become a reality.





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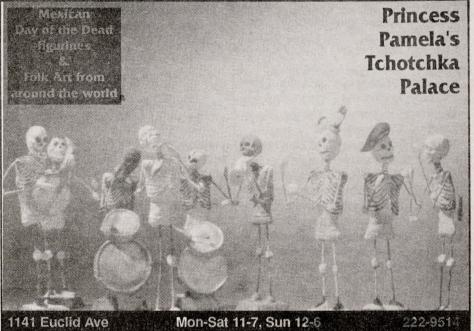
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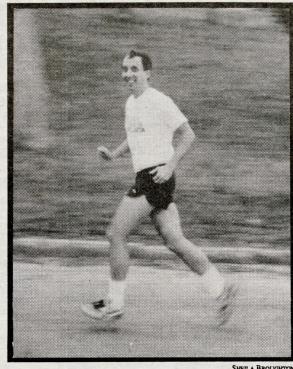
Occupation: Certified Public Account Age: Recently turned 30 Book last read: Dave Pallone's Behind the Mask (would not recommend) **Favorite pastimes:** Running, swimming, camping Status: Single with a capital "S" and yes, he is looking Hometown: Albertsville, Alabama Distressing thing that was recently noticed in the

newspaper: The Atlanta

Dick Tracy. "I've written in

to them and they better not cancel Mary Worth."

paper no longer carries



SHELTON HAYNIE: Front Runner

and the Atlanta Federal Prison, Shelton Havnie lives in an "in-process" house-not to be confused with an in-process outfit, hairdo or relationship, none of which Haynie has.

An average morning for this certified public accountant consists of granola and yogurt for breakfast at his Grant Park home, a swim at Georgia State University and reading the newspaper from cover to cover. And that's before work-in Buckhead.

There's nothing halfway about his life. Haynie has a masters degree in accounting from Georgia State University and says he enjoys the satisfaction of knowing that he is recognized at his office for his devotion and hard work.

Haynie is also devoted to having a full personal life. Organizing the Atlanta chapter of Front Runners is part of that full life; looking for a significant other is another. Shelton's beau ideal is an athletic nonsmoker, someone who shares his affinity for outdoor activities like camping.

When Haynie talks about what he likes in a man he's not being dreamy, he is very aware of what he does and does not like. He says that he never eats at fast food places but isn't a "health freak." either. Two of his lunchtime favorites are The Rice Bowl and the Silver Grill because they meet his requirements of being cheap and fast.

This past New Year's Eve, Haynie decided that there was another area of his life that he wasn't comfortable with and he went about working on it. He says that he is very close to his family and so he made a New Year's resolution to come out to his parents. That action taken, he continues to have a good relationship with them. "They think I'm an activist because I'm involved in community activities," he adds.

One of the reasons that Haynie wanted to let his parents know about his sexuality was because he was to be part of a historymaking event that might have, but did not, make it into the mainstream media: the 1990 Gay Games in Vancouver. He was part of Atlanta's swimming team.

Shelton is a member of Atlanta Venture Sports, a gay outdoors group and the cofounder of Front Runners/Atlanta, a gay/lesbian running club.

There are numerous other Front Runners groups around the nation although there is not a national organization which unites them. The name derives

Somewhere between Casanova Street from the book, The Front Runner by Patricia Neal Warren a classic gay love story set and published in the early '70s. Warren's book is a favorite of many gay men, though it has been criticized as melodramatic and narrow in its portrayal of gays. There is no argument that its positive portrayal of gay characters at a time when gay men's literature was invariably either suicidal or criminal or both was a tremendous boost for the community.

> The Atlanta Front Runners chapter currently draws about 25 people for weekly runs of up to an hour in Piedmont Park at 6:30 every Wednesday. "That's 6:30 sharp, "Haynie says, "we never start late." There are also Saturday runs at Chattahoochee Park. And walkers are welcome. Not all of the members are "marathon runners" adds Haynie.

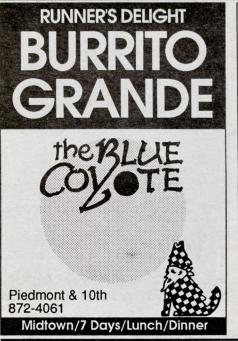
> Because there are varying degrees of skill among the runners, they run in small groups. But they try to get everyone together after the run at the Blue Coyote or Fellini's for dinner and some socializing.

> Even though the group has grown since its creation, Haynie hopes to reach all aspects of the gay/lesbian community and organize the first Atlanta Pride run. He said that he hopes more lesbians will get involved to buoy the small but regular group of women who now run with the group. "We will continue to be an organization even with the small representation of women that we have, but in order to really represent our community, we need more," he said.

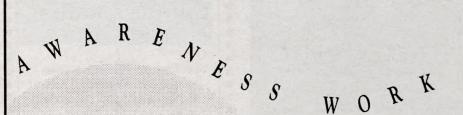
> Some runners drive from Gainesville, Jonesboro or Cobb County for the social aspect of the run. "They could run anywhere," said Haynie. He describes the weekly run as "a very positive atmosphere. It's a chance to socialize with other gays and lesbians while taking care of your body," he said.

> Haynie's serious approach to health, fitness and work are only some examples of how he plans and organizes his life. He has even bought land in Asheville, North Carolina for his retirement home. Then there's his concern with others. Haynie says that by starting health-conscious groups like Front Runners he wants to make a difference in other's lives by encouraging them to change a sedentary lifestyle into an active healthy, fulfilling

> > -Matt Montgomery







Awareness Work is valuable for anyone in self-discovery and is especially beneficial for those working with abuse issues, pain, death and dying or grief.

It is an approach to psychotherapy which integrates mind-body knowledge, including breath-work, body-work, imagery, and mindfulness meditation.

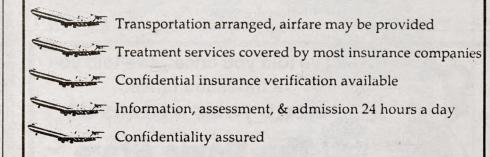
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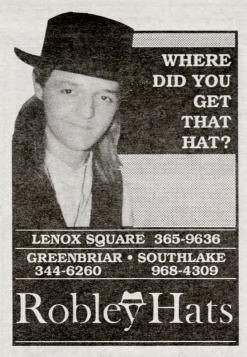
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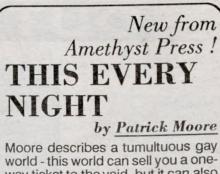
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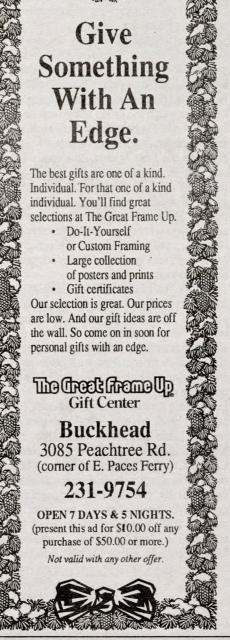
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Metzger Goes "Between the Sheets"

Her musical look at love styles combines wit, commentary and philosophy

by Gale Reter

Janet Metzger is a familiar face to Atlanta theatre crowds. I first met her working with The Other Voices collective and have since seen her performances move many audiences.

Janet's voice is one of her most outstanding talents; just listening to the mezzo soprano message on her answering machine is a pleasure. It makes me wish they would choose her's as the welcoming voice at the Atlanta airport; she'd certainly be a big improvement over the electronic bimbo who currently has the job. And a more friendly voice would surely ease the culture shock for those flying into our (in at least some ways) fair city.

Since you're not likely to hear Janet at the airport any time soon, may I suggest catching her at the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park November 16-18; there are two evening performances at 8 pm and a Sunday matinee at 2:30 pm. "Between the Sheets" is the name of this special concert offering and Janet assures me: "The 'Sheets' refer to sheet music, of course."

Janet's most recent duet concert "Two on a Song" with Elise Witt was a good prelude to this solo performance. The evening's offerings will include bits of cultural commentary and philosophy, and, knowing Janet's solemn wit, there should be some good laughs as well. Especially intriguing is an offering of five Dorothy Parker poems set to music; I love that Parker woman's writing, even if she never could house break her dogs.



Janet Metzger's voice is outstanding, just listening to the mezzo soprano on her

The music Janet has chosen reflects a changing attitude towards love in our society and ourselves. In growing up, we move from the idealized image of the Perfect Lover, to a more realistic expectation from Aphrodite's fickle finger. Janet's musical choices reflect on all the extremes of love and it is amazingly easy to fill in the gender to suit your taste.

Tickets for Janet Metzger's concert are available at Charis Books (Little Five Points), Wuxtry Records (N. Decatur and Clairmont) and Let the Music Play! (Lindberg Plaza). \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Call 378-3447 for more information.

answering machine is a pleasure. Another musical treat, this one com-

ing up on December 1, is the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus holiday concert. Their music, too, has reflected on the love styles of the Lesbian Nation. Be it the joys of connubial bliss or the sweet seduction of the single life, the Chorus has given us music for the sound tracks of our

Did you ever find yourself singing along to the radio and realize that you were exchanging "she" for "he" in all the sexy songs? The Chorus does it better than you ever could, even in your very best voice. Close your eyes and imagine

all those women, under Linda Vaughn's baton, singing "You make me feel like a natural woman," to get a preview of the

Another selection for the upcoming concert is "Greetings" by Brahms. The complexity of this classical selection artfully demonstrates the progress the chorus has made through all those weekly rehearsals. I like the fact, too, that the chorus has added instruments as needed and has not been afraid to try music from every source. Whether it is a dozen dykes in tuxedos singing "Hey, Big Spender," or the soulful yearnings of Billie Holiday, the Chorus has not blushed at borrowing from the classics or Motown, and everything in between.

There are a number of talented soloists who are sometimes featured and I often wish they would sing two songs each instead of just one. The Chorus, too, makes me wish I could take them home with me for one final 3-part harmony before bedtime. They probably wouldn't fit in my bedroom, but I am just a greedy girl wanting more.

Tickets to the Chorus' holiday Concert are available at Charis, the Atlantis Connection and The Boy Next Door. The Chorus will also be holding a fund raising dance, to celebrate the Gay '90s on November 10 from 6:30-10:30 on Bishop Road near the Water Works off Howell Mill Road. For more information call 961-7164.

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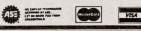
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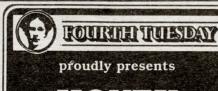
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The next Experience is November 9, 10 and 11. For more information, or to attend a guest event, or to register, call (404) 873-9616 today. Art

TOTEMIC OBJECTS. Through Nov. 10. A transdimensional show of spiritually derived crafts features artists such as James Baxter, Woody Brooks, Lainey Papageorge, Tsonakwa, David Van Nostraud, and Yolaikia. Illumina Gallery, 1529 D Piedmont at Monroe.875-7617 "OH, THOSE FOUR WHITE WALLS." Thru. Nov. 14. A unique display in which the artists, the medium and the message collide to comment on the display of art as well as the current public funding controversey. At the Atlanta College of Art Gallery, Woodruff Arts Center, call 898-1157 for info.

AGAINST THE TIDE: HOMOEROTIC ART IN THE AGE OF CENSORSHIP AND AIDS. Thru Nov. 24. Images of love among lesbians and male bonding are sprinkled liberally in this exhibition that deal specifically with sexual politics, gender identity, and the impact of AIDS. Definitely funded without Jesse's help. At Nexus Gallery, 57 Forsyth St. and Tula Art Center, Bennett St. Call 688-2500 for info.

GRAPHICS BY IBOS. Thru Dec. 1. Graphics by the infamous French Opera costume designer who studied under Erte. Ou la la, At BurnNoff Gallery, Piedmont at Monroe. 875-3475.

ANDY WARHOL'S CELEBRITIES. Thru Jan. 6, 1991. 45 lithograph portraits of everyone from James Dean to Einstein. An exclusive show to be seen only in Atlanta. Where else would you find Mickey Mouse, Mick Jagger and Santa Claus on the same bill? At the High Museum; 892-3600 for information.

REUBEN NAKIAN: SCULPTOR, Fri. Nov. 9-Dec. 7. Sculptures, etchings and watercolors from the fine hands of the Roosevelt administration's official portrait painter. His mythical work touches the psychic centers. At the Trinity Gallery, 249 Trinity Ave. 525-7546. DESIGNER JEWELRY INVITATIONAL. Fri. Nov. 16-Dec 24. Works from designers around the country including Denise Wallace. Artists reception Sat. Nov. 17,7-10pm. Illumina Gallery, 1529 D Piedmont at Monroe. 875-7617. SOUTHERNSTYLE: A DIFFERENT KIND OF ART. Sat. Nov. 17, 10pm. A showing of a collection of photographs—also available as cards and posters—that honors the 20th century southern lesbian. Sounds like a must to us! Gallery 253, 253 Trinity Ave. For info call 851-

Events -

FRANKLIN ABBOTT. Thurs. Nov. 8, 7-8:30pm. Will read from and sign his new anthology, *Men and Intimacy*, personal accounts exploring the dilemmas of modern male sexuality. At Borders Books, 3655 Roswell Rd. 237-0707.

SHAY YOUNGBLOOD. Thurs. Nov. 8, 7:30pm. The hot Ms. Youngblood returns to read from her novel-in-progress. Whatever she reads, this woman can shake the mess out of my misery anytime. At Charis Books, 419 Moreland, 524-0304 for info.

AIDSCHAIM. Thurs. Nov. 8, 22, 7:30-9pm. The Atlanta synagogue serving the gay and lesbian community offers another service to the needs of people with HIV, ARC and AIDS, their friends, lovers, and family members in this support group with a focus on living with, rather than dying from AIDS. Call Robin Brown at

THE 3RD ANNUAL MARQUIS D. WALKER HUMANITARIAN BANQUET. Fri., Nov. 9, 8 pm. This award banquet held by

African-American Lesbian Gay Alliance is one of the most important events of the year for the city's black gay and lesbian community. "A Vision of Love" is this year's theme; Kenny Leon is the keynote speaker. For information, call the African-American Lesbian-Gay Alliance at 349-3739.

CREATING CHANGE-A GATHERING TO SET THE POLITICAL AGENDA FOR THE GAY '90s. November 9-12. Workshop issues will include sodomy law repeal, hate crimes reporting, "outing," bisexuality and gay politics, mainstream and direct action tactics, domestic partnership and many more. Kate Clinton, popular feminist humorist will add a lighter note to this extremely important conference. Will be held in Minneapolis; Call NGLTF at (202) 332-6483 for particulars.

DANCE TO REMEMBER THE NEW GAY '90s. Nov. 10, 6:30-10:30pm at the the Atlanta Waterworks. The Feminist Women's Chorus throws a party. You can be sure the music will be good, and if the chorus is there, the company is bound to be sparkling. Wear your dancin' shoes. Call Jackie at 961-7164.

LEAF DROP. Sat. Nov. 10—Dec. 9. Recycle your tree debris into valuable mulch for the public Piedmont gardens. Enter the Garden at The Prado and follow the signs. Atlanta Botanical Garden, 876-5859.

CENSORSHIP OF ART. Mon. Nov. 12, 12 noon. Lawrence Hetrick explores who should set the agenda in this very timely topic. At the Woodruff Circle Room in the Memorial Arts Building. 898-1157 for info.

RESEARCH: FREE & CHEAP. Weds. Nov. 14, 7:30-9pm. Open to all, especially those who are interested in contibuting to Southern Voice. At the Ponce de Leon Public Library, 980 Ponce de Leon. 876-0789 for info.

POETRY WITH DEBRA HIERS. Thurs. Nov. 15, 7:30pm. Local author of *Movin' On* will read some of her new work and may even bring the infamous clarinet. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

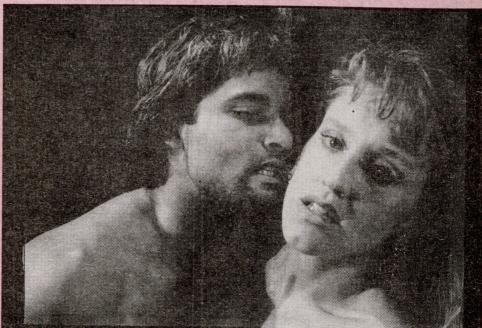
G. GORDON LIDDY. Thurs. Nov. 15, 1-2pm. Here to sign *The Monkey Handlers*. Given the administrations he has worked for, he should certainly know how. At Oxford Books, 360 Pharr Rd. 262-3333.

CHALLENGING RACISM AND BIG-OTRY: THE AGENDA FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE 90'S. Nov. 16, 17 and 18. Human rights advocates from across the Southeast come together to learn, plan, and strategize together to promote constructive, non-violent responses to hate violence and the white supremacist movement. For more info, call the Center for Democratic Renewal at 221-0025.

COMING OUT TO THE EDGE. November 17, llam-4pm. Comparative lifestyles in the 90's explores the differences between the heterosexual and homosexual communities, gay history and the roots of homophobia in a sharing, caring atmosphere. At the First E. Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive. Reservations requested, 378-5570.

SACRED SEX SEMINAR. Nov. 17 and 18. Learn things about sex they never taught you in gym class. A spectacular approach to safe sex can be fun. For men only. For brochure and information, call 659-5175.

ANNE RICE. Tues. Nov. 20, 7:30-9pm. From vampires, to mummies, to witches with ease, this startling lady turns her pen from occult to kinky with aplomb. See if she'll sign your copy of Exit to Eden. At Oxford Books, 360 Pharr Rd. 262-3333



"The Dreamer Examines His Pillow" is one very sultry and sensual play that includes all kinds of pillow talk. At Actors Express through Nov. 30.

NOVEMBER 21

ORPHAN PARTY. Wed., Nov. 21, 9 pm. Funny That Way headlines a party for those who are staying in town for the holidays. Laughter is often the best cure for loneliness. \$3 cover, Court Bar and Grill, ll4 Trinity Place, Decatur. 373-4573.

Film/Video

ATLANTA LESBIAN AND GAY FILM FESTIVAL. Fri. Nov. 9-Sun. Nov 18. See feature story this issue for details. Image Film and Video, 75 Bennett Street, 352-4225.

Music .

GIAN CARLO MENOTTI's: FOR THE DEATH OF ORPHEUS. Thurs, Nov. 8-10. Robert Shaw directs the ASO and chorus in this world premier by one of America's most versatile composers. Dvorak's *Te Deum* and Janacek's *Slavonic Mass* round out the program. At the Woodruff Arts Center, call 892-2414.

ROBERT CUNNINGHAM IN CONCERT. Fri. Nov. 9 at 7:30pm. Harold Sharpe (on flute) and Darrell Harris (on oboe) join Rob who composes and plays (on piano) some very, very fine music. At the Piano Gallery of Atlanta, 2140 Peachtree Rd.

DEDE VOGT. Mon. Nov. 12, 8:30pm. The lady and her licks are hot. Even solo she fills the air with mighty music. The Oxford Acoustic Cafe, 360 Pharr Rd. 262-3333 for info.

JANET METZGER: BETWEEN THE SHEETS. Fri. Nov 16-18. The talented and versitile Ms. Metzger entertains us with fantasy, wonder, adventure, anger, despair and love in this musical potpourri containing everything from cabaret to contemporary art songs. Cynthia Davis plays along on piano. At the First E Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive. Advance tickets (\$8) at Charis, Wuxtry, and Let The Music Play! and at the door (\$10).

MICHELLE MARTIN, Mon. Nov. 19, 8:30pm. Music by the band leader for Boink Dee Deek. The Oxford Acoustic Cafe, 360 Pharr Rd. 262-3333 for info.

Sports

FRONT RUNNERS. Weds. Nov 7,14, 21, 6:30pm in Piedmont Park. Also every Saturday 9am at the Chattahoochee River off Powers Ferry Rd. Call Shelton Haynie (622-0739) or Lynn Patterson (438-1421) for info.

SOUTHEAST WOMEN'S RUGBY. Practice every Weds. at 6:30pm in Piedmont Park across from Grady Stadium. No experience is necessary, but spirit is. Call Beth at 761-8939 for more info. Come scrum with us.

AVS BOWLING. Every Monday, (except Christmas and New Year's eves) 8:30pm. The teams are already formed but substitutes are always needed and welcome. So are spectators. Come down down and have a ball. Express Lanes, Monroe Drive. Call Steve at 361-1286 for info.

ATLANTA TEAM TENNIS ASSOCIATION. Sun. Nov. 18, 7pm. Come play or watch a game in which the word love has a major role. Play is now indoors at Eastlake Tennis Center. And the newly formed women's division plays at the same time. Call 892-8335.

Theatre

GLASS HEARTS. Thru Nov. 11; Thurs-Sat, 8pm, Sun. 5pm. Bill Bagwell's newest play is an examination of bi-sexual relationships loosely based on the life of John Cheever. Directed by Patrick Gaffney; presented by SAME. At 14th Street Playhouse, Juniper and 14th streets. Call 584-2104 for info and reservations.

EASTERN STANDARD. Thru Nov. 17. A sparkling romantic comedy with substance explores the relationships between a straight and a gay couple. With the help of a bag lady, they attempt to answer some of the conumdrums that make up the fabric of modern urban living. Horizon Theater, on the corner of Euclid and Austin Aves. in Little 5 Points. For reservations, 584-7450.

ELEEMOSYNARY. Thru. Nov. 18. The title means charitable which is probably necessary when three generations of mothers and daughters live in the same house. Theater in the Square, 11 Whitlock Ave., Marietta. For tickets, 422-8369

THE DREAMER EXAMINES HIS PIL-LOW. Fri. Nov. 2-30; Thurs-Sat, 8pm, also Sat. at 5pm. A touching, romantic fable masquerading as an urban battle-of-the-sexes written by John Patrick Shanley, author of "Moonstruck" and "Joe Versus the Volcano." At Actors Express, 221-0831 for infor and reservations.

FIVE GREAT SONGS FROM FIRST GRADE. Sundays, Nov 4-Dec. 2, 2pm & 5pm. A suite of dances choreographed to some of the best music from the late sixties and early sev-



"Southern Style: A Different Kind of Art" promises to be a different kind of gallery opening, too. Images of six southern lesbians in various pursuits are available as photographs, posters and greeting cards. Saturday, Nov. 17 at Gallery 253 which is located at the same address on Trinity Ave. Photo: Joie DeVivre.

enties. Dance and dialogue offer a look at growing up in another time which was not so long ago and far away. At Actors Express, 221-0831 for info and reservations.

SAINT JOAN. Opens Weds. Nov. 14. In repetory with *MuchAdo About Nothing*. Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern, 499 Peachtree. 874-5299 for tickets and info.

FUNNY THAT WAY, GAY AND LESBIAN COMEDY TROUPE. Fri., Nov 16th, 10 pm Spontaneous madness and merry making from a group who puts the gaiety back in gay. \$3 cover, Court Bar and Grill, 114 E. Trinity Place, Decatur. 373-4573.

TV

PROSTATE CANCER. Fri. Nov. 9, 7:30 pm, Sat. Nov. 10, 5:30 pm, on GPTV, Ch. 8. A life saving lesson in how early detection, radiotherapy and modified surgical techniques can help men avoid the impotence and incontinence they fear from the disease that kills more than 24,000 men yearly.

ALL ABOUT EVE. Fri. Nov. 9, 9:30 pm, Sat. Nov. 10, 5:30pm. on GPTV, Ch. 8. Anne Baxter, Bette Davis, Marilyn Monroe and George Sanders star in this fine 50's film. The tooth and nail of backstage melodrama at its classic best.

Upcoming

SODOMY REPEAL BENEFIT: Thurs. Nov. 29, 9pm. at Masquerade, 695 North Ave. The incomprable Opal Fox and Ellen James Society will open for Jody Grind at this politically, socially and morally correct benefit to help lick Georgia's most stupid law. Be there! Tickets are \$5 at the Boy Next Door. Call the Georgia Privacy Coalition for info, 286-2358.

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS. Sat. Dec. 1, 7pm and 9pm. To hear them is to love them. Fine voices blend in musical selections that are usually uniquely feminist and occasionally funny. Moving music and the best chance to see Atlanta's loveliest lesbians both on stage and in the audience. At Southside High, 801 Glenwood Ave. Advance tickets (\$8) at Charis, Atlantis Connection and The Boy Next Door, or \$10 at the door. Call Charlene at 523-7455 for info.

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY. Dec. 1-23. Tom Key's exquisite reading of Truman Capote's most touching work is a holiday must-see for anyone who grew up feeling different. At the Alliance Studio Theatre. 892-2414.

ARTS FOR PRIDE FESTIVAL. Sat. Dec. 2, noon-6pm. Local artists and crafters show off their wares for Christmas or Soltice gift giving. A raffle and home cooked Sunday Dinner will help raise funds for Atlanta's own gay arts organization. A good time for a good cause. At the Inman Park Trolley Barn. Call 584-2104 for info.

NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE. Apr. 24-28, 1991. 5000 lesbians from all over right here in Atlanta. The conference needs dollars now, so early registrations are welcome. Write NLC, PO Box 1999, Decatur, GA. 30031, or call (404) 373-0000 for info.

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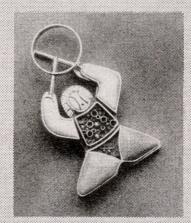


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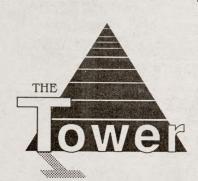
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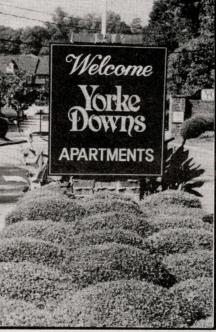
Here he comes to save the day...Will Bragg, the Lone Ranger of of Atlanta Laundry and Drycleaners. The Bragg family has a long history of cleaning clothes in this city and Will brings the family's hallmark of quality and service up to date with a distinct service that's just right for the 1990's.

"I realized early on that everybody's cleaning needs are unique," he explains, "For example, you may be shopping at the Boy Next Door in thirty minutes and I'll meet you there to pick up your clothes. I have one customer who calls me from his car phone and we meet at I-285 and Atlanta Road. We've been doing business for ten years now."

Convenience is just one

Convenience is just one of the service factors in Will's development of long term business relationships. He also has come to this vital realization, "Over the years I have observed that my gay customers appreciate more than most the value of affordable quality care for their clothing." Service, quality and a Hi-Ho Silver away.

Service on a Personal Level



BILL MEDLOCK

A bright spot on the apartment horizon— York Downs gets 2 snaps up! 200 26th Street, 873-1973. Renting an apartment can be an unpleasant experience, but there is at least one bright spot on that horizon: Yorke Downs Apartments is an older apartment community that is under complete new management.

Under the guidance of Darlene Zia Shakeei, they are striving to give the best customer service, office staff and maintenance personnel in the industry. Darlene has taken the reins at many apartment complexes and effectively turned them into apartment communities. Morningside Chase and Sutton Place are just two examples which reflect her belief-service is the most important part of making her residents happy—and policy —"to always be as flexible as possible, enabling us to treat each resident as an individual and address their needs on a more personal level.'

Yorke Downs already has a large gay population and is looking for more good gay residents. The complex offers English Tudor style, great location, free utilities, four pools, a volleyball court, furnished corporate units and one of the best management staffs in Atlanta.

Says Darlene, "We're like a big family, and I'm the den mother."

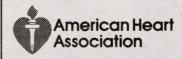
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Petty's Songs Offer a Personal Response to Madness

by Dave Hayward

Five Great Songs from the First Grade may not mean Elvis or Connie Francis or "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" to some people. To 28-year-old New York performance artist/dancer Stephen Petty—recently transplanted to Atlanta's Actor's Express—such songs mean Johnny Rivers wailing "Welcome Back Baby" to an over orchestrated wall of sound in "Poor Side of Town," circa 1968.

Petty's other school ballads with a bullet include "We'll Sing in the Sunshine," "Cry Baby," "Make it Easy on Yourself," and the achingly unforgettable "Yummy, Yummy, Yummy (I've Got Love in My Tummy)." Partly developed with his company of four women, Songs "uses our childhood to organize our adulthood" says Petty, as the ghosts of parents and first boyfriends and girlfriends face the present.

Best friends from first grade also come in, many of whom are now dead from AIDS. "If I am gay then I must say I am gay in my work" insists Petty in a customary mode of animation and intensity. "I am going to talk about the death of my friends and what is happening to me as a gay man.

"The weirdest feeling is so many young people die and we all have to assess our lives" he continues. "I wonder why I don't have AIDS, I wonder when I will contract it, I continue to think about my own death often. It would be interesting to be able to be 30 years old."

As a precocious, sleazy 16 in Dallas, Petty used to slather his pimples with makeup and hit the bars with his buddies. Now believing they were the last "naive generation," Petty blurts "we ran around, snorted poppers, and were going to the baths!" Somehow he comes up HIV negative while his friends succumb.

Five Great Songs is Petty's personal response to the madness, as he holds performance art to be more like a diary than a political diatribe. "Let go of guilt, take each day as

if it's a cool thing" Petty offers in a stream of consciousness jag. "Let the hair fall off your head, you're alive. This cosmetic weirdness some gay men have annoys me. I say yay, let's all try to be 60!"

Five Great Songs' company includes Actor's Express stalwart Elizabeth Minnis along with Karen Beyer, Sharon Caplan and Erica Yoder, who also contribute dance and dialogue about the former men in their lives. Two for one postcards are available at the box office at 280 Elizabeth Street, admitting two for \$12. Performed Sunday only at 2 pm and 5 pm through December 2.

This weekend is your last chance to eavesdrop—on stage anyway—on a bisexual love triangle. Glass Hearts at the 14th Street

angle, Glass Hearts at the 14th Street Playhouse. For some the listening seems to be stirring, but for me it was stupefying. It's sad because from their program notes the intentions of playwright Bill Bagwell and director Patrick Gaffney are touching.

It's hard to believe author John Cheever-Pulitzer-Prize-winning-author, we're reminded-felt or acted much like the self-pitying boor we see here. Glass Hearts' John is glorified in his abusive alcoholism, and his

unbelievably long-suffering wife and ambitious young protegee/lover exist simply as satellites around his sodden star. Nevertheless, Bagwell commands a sharp turn of phrase and writes some wryly funny as well as tender dialogue.

Director Gaffney stunts the play's potential growth, placing his actors as if they were bowling pins easily shattered lest they move unduly. Greg Hall nearly chomps at the bit to uncoil as the anxious young lover, but he still manages a characterization that's affecting and credible. Theo Harness has a haunting monologue about a long-departed love and brings craggy charm to a thankless part. Rebecca Ranson is undone by bitter lines, leaden direction, and ponderous delivery.

Production values are good-Kurt Rahn's rambling beachscape and his and Randal Cox's versatile lighting.

Glass Hearts continues through Nov. 11 at 14th Street Playhouse. Call 584-2104 for reservations.

The potential for much vitality in the Atlanta gay theatre scene is evident in "Funny That Way," the gay/lesbian comedy troupe currently playing at Decatur's Court Bar and Grill. Overseen by a sometimes slave-driving Deb Calabria, "amuse me!" she rasps. "Funny's" changeable corps of players produce hilarious impromptu sits as well as duds, which are quickly snuffed. Outrageous stuff included kinky sex with Mom and Dad, the boys in the back room and the sisters at the convent, as well as catapulting peasants and demented rickshaw drivers. The material could be gayer and the troupe tighter. But go, see, it's only three bucks. "What's the risk?" to paraphrase the soft-spoken Ms. Calabria.

Call The Court at 373-4573 to confirm times and dates.



DAVID ZEIGER

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101st Congress

Cont'd from page 2

administering the funds, will then have to submit a proposal for the remaining half of the funds. The Health Resources Services Administration will review these proposals from 17 affected metropolitan areas around the country and then decide how the money is to be distributed.

'Considering issues of timing and fiscal constraints, this is a good start," said Jeff Levi, lobbyist for the AIDS Action Council. "But I think all of us who are familiar with this problem think this is only a beginning. We'll be back for more next year.

The NEA: Finally, Congress passed a funding bill containing a proposal to allow the National Endowment for the Arts to exist for three years without imposing specific restrictions on the content of the art it may

Approval of the three-year package came as a surprise in the closing moments of the session after the House had approved both a three-year and a temporary one year plan reauthorizing the agency, but the Senate had only approved a the one-year proposal.

Onlookers had given the three-year plan little chance for passage by the Senate, as Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), one of the Endowment's loudest critics, was blocking it from coming to the floor.

The bill that was finally approved closely resembled the compromise package approved by the House that does not contain specific restrictions on the content of art. The plan does significantly restructure the agency to allow the Endowment chair vastly more power over the grants process and funnels more money to state and local arts agencies. Both changes were strongly opposed by the arts community.

To address the touchy subject of funding art that might be obscene, the bill allows the NEA to recoup grants made to art which is

later found to be obscene in a court of law.

After several failed attempts to derail passage of the bill Helms successfully attached an amendment barring the funding of art which "denigrates religion," to the Senate version with a voice vote in a nearly empty chamber. It was stripped from the bill's final

The measure, supported by a broad base of both Republican and Democratic lawmakers, was nonetheless torn apart on the House and Senate floors by the Endowment's strongest critics as not being strong enough to bar the funding of work by artists Robert Mapplethorpe and Andres Serrano, two of the artists whose work helped ignite the firestorm

A handful of liberal House members from a dozen major urban centers also opposed the proposal on the grounds that it went too far in restructuring the Endowment and giving the NEA broader powers.

We did not support the compromise on either the House or Senate side," commented National Gay and Lesbian Task Force lobbyist Peri Jude Radecic. "We understood the politics of it, that it certainly was better than living under a Helms amendment. But I still feel that gay and lesbian artists and artists whose work may contain gay and lesbian themes are going to continue to have a difficult time receiving Endowment funding.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, which in two batches mailed over 30,0000 pre-approved constituent messages to Congress supporting the compromise, had only praise for the measure that was finally

Well known New York Producer Joseph Papp has already refused to accept \$323,000 in NEA grants under the new conditions. At a news conference on Nov. 1 Mr. Papp said, "[the new law] introduces a moral tonewith the implication that the arts need to be watched, that the arts are inextricably bound with immorality, with obscenity."

Halloween Treat

Cont'd from page 5

Building Code Advisory Board; Electrical Advisory Board; HVAC Advisory Board; Plumbing Advisory Board; and Procurement Appeals Hearing Officer.

·Authorities and Community Service Organizations: The Mayor has appointments to multi-jurisdictional authorities such as MARTA and The Atlanta Fulton County Stadium Authority. Other Community focused organizations such as the Atlanta Economic Development Corporation and the Atlanta Clean City Commission have all or a portion of their board appointed by the Mayor: Atlanta Clean Air Commission; Atlanta Economic Development Corporation; Atlanta Fulton County Library Board; Atlanta Fulton County Recreational Authority; Atlanta Sister City Commission; DeKalb Board of Health; Downtown Development Authority; Economic Opportunity Atlanta; First Source Advisory Board; Judicial Commission; MARTA; People Television Advisory Board; and Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Here are descriptions of 10 key boards.

•The Atlanta Housing Authority Board of Directors provides oversight to the Atlanta Housing Authority which is responsible for providing safe and sanitary dwellings to persons of low income.

•The Board of Ethics renders advisory opinions based on real or hypothetical sets of circumstances.

•The People TV Board of Directors

provides oversight to the City of Atlanta's public access program.

 Members of the Civil Service Board meet up to four days per month to hold hearings on proposed employee demotions, suspensions, and dismissals.

·The First Source Jobs Policy Advisory Board was created in 1989 to help identify and recruit city residents who would benefit from this job placement and training program.

 The Atlanta Judicial Commission is made up of six attorneys

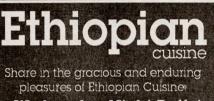
and two persons appointed by the Mayor who are not attorneys. The Board nominates three persons for each vacancy that occurs on the City of Atlanta Municipal Court. The Mayor makes his judicial selection from these three names.

•The License Review Board reviews and makes recommendations to the Mayor for all permits issued under the police powers of the City (except work permits and taxicab permits). Most of the licenses issued are for beer and wine or liquor by the drink.

•Three Procurement Appeals Officers review and determine protests related to issuance of City contracts. Hearing officers must meet stiff technical requirements and cannot have an interest in any contracting firm doing business with the City.

·Taxi Cab/Vehicle for Hire Hearing Officers Review charges brought by the City's Bureau of Taxi Cabs and Vehicles for Hire against individuals in violation of City regulations. One third of the members must be attorneys.

•The In REM Review Board conducts hearings for owners of property determined to be unfit for human habitation. This board clears all city condemnations of unsafe buildings.



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Reversal of Fortune is Icy, Smashing Entertainment

If you're rich enough, and white enough, is it possible to get away, literally, with murder in this country?

by Terry Francis

Icy, smashing entertainment. Barbet Schroeder's Reversal of Fortune $(\star\star\star1/2)$ contemplates the mystery of the Claus von Bulow affair of a few years back, in the period just after the enigmatic Dane was tried and convicted for the attempted murder of his wife, troubled Newport heiress Sunny von Bulow.

Seeking to have his conviction overturned, von Bulow (Jeremy Irons, scathingly right) sought the assistance of Harvard Law School professor Alan Dershowitz (Ron Silver), who agreed to defend him against charges that he injected Sunny (Glenn Close) with a massive dose of insulin intended to kill her, but which left her in a persistent vegetative state instead.

The film's themes are simple and clear. Do we live in an age in which people, because of personal demeanor and social standing (or lack of it) are tried and convicted in media kangaroo courts? Have the ethical standards of our legal system bottomed out completely? And if you're rich enough, and white enough, is it possible to get away, literally, with murder in this country?

Defects in the film are few and therefore obtrusive. The character of Dershowitz, a respected human rights attorney, is apparently homophobic, equating drag queens with drug pushers, with

He also oozes a particularly odious brand of liberal piousness, the sort which confers moral superiority and innocence white. As conceived here, Dershowitz is unwittingly a self-righteous bigot who seems to long for the days of lynchings in Alabama so that he might go South and demonstrate to us his superior moral char-

Dershowitz seems to believe that racial injustice exists solely in the South, and his sympathies don't appear to extend to gay and lesbians or other minorities.

The film draws an unfortunate parallel between Dershowitz's willingness to accept von Bulow as a client and the proposition given him in a dream of

first on those whose skin is any color but defending Hitler. The parallel is false and pathetic. The truth of the von Bulow case will be known only to its two participants. Whereas the world watched Hitler annihilate Jews, homosexuals, gypsies and others, before coming to its senses. (Dershowitz comes off as a self-aggrandizing, holier-than-thou jerk.)

> Yet Reversal of Fortune works as a first-rate entertainment. In every aspect of its being this is a beautifully crafted piece of work. Director Schroeder brings a melancholy eloquence to his view of the material, an end-of-the-road lassitude that implies life lived at the upper reaches of

society carries its price.

In tone, the picture has a stately, suffocated grandeur that is perfectly realized in the performances of Jeremy Irons and Glenn Close. Irons' portrayal is a masterpiece of ambiguity and restraint. Close is by turns resigned, burned out, enraged.

In one scene, which suggests that Sunny might have attempted suicide, Close stands before her bathroom mirror after downing God knows how many pills. She simply stands there and waits for the first feelings of rush to register on her

And Close, through sympathy and absolute comprehension of her character, through sheer artistry, makes us understand that this woman is perfectly aware that she is standing on the precipice of her life, that she is exhausted to the soul by circumstances of her existence. Standing before her mirror and feeling the first waves of her lethal overdose coursing though her veins, a smile of resignation gently spreads across her deathly white face. She smiles gratefully, almost sweetly, the film giving her a moment's peace before her descent into nothingness.

Splendid, too, are Luciano Tovoli's camera work (he shot The Passenger for Antonioni), Mel Bourne's old money production design, Milena Canoner's expressive costumes, the flow of Lee Percy's editing, and the brilliant Mark Isham (Mrs. Soffel, The Life and Times of Harvey Milk) score, which endows the film with an anxious mesmerized, poisoned air.



Lifestyles of the rich and nasty; Sunny and Claus toy with a tiger cub.

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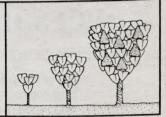
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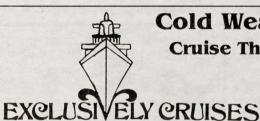
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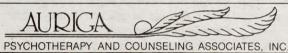
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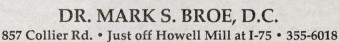
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The Business of Breast Cancer

With bias rampant in research and publication, women are fighting for their lives.

by Cynthia Moore

Conclusions about the risks and causes of breast cancer are elusive, one fact about the disease is not: breast cancer is on the rise.

Indisputably, research is a male domain. Stories of big business playing footsie with the huge health organizations litter the press. Publication politics spin viable studies into the black hole of censorship.

The unavoidable conclusion is that we only know what the establishment permits us to know.

According to endless studies, increased breast cancer risk can at least be associated with, and occasionally linked to: alcohol consumption; dietary fat intake; early onset of menstruation; late onset of menopause; oral contraceptives; hormone replacement therapy; obesity; and higher education.

Some claim mammograms are saving women. Others are certain the radiation is deadly and that women's breasts are bearing the lies of the nuclear industry's pervasive P.R. campaign. There are qualified scientists, substantial data, and much research money to thoroughly explore and to support every angle of just about every speculation anyone can pose about breast cancer.

In Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book, Dr. Love points out how risk factors can be misleading. A woman with none of the commonly-cited risk factors, i.e. no personal or family history of cancer, onset of menstruation after 10, menopause before 55, or first full term pregnancy before 30, has a one in thirty risk of breast cancer. But 70% of breast cancer patients possess none of the classical risk factors. And different types of risk calculations yield different numbers. The common statistic for white women is one in 10. Women of color are at slightly lower risk. Risk factors are not easily interpreted, and they are often taken out of context.

"By virtue of being women, we are at risk for breast cancer," says Love.

Among the litany of accepted highest risk factors for breast cancer are history of breast cancer in a mother, sister, or daughter and increased age at first full-term pregnancy—or, of course, bearing no children at all.

The well-established elevated risk of breast cancer with increasing age of a woman at her first live birth is of particular interest to lesbians since most do not become pregnant, ever. From the start, this raises our risk of breast cancer 2.5 times that of child bearers.

Every lesbian owes it to herself to select a physician carefully. And then it is our obligation to resourcefully put the relationship to use.

Lesbians are less likely than straight women to have routine health care. Maybe we are uncomfortable—prone in our disposable, front-slit paper-plastic blend gowns—with the idea of sitting up tall in our stirrups and looking our probably-straight gynecologist square in the

eye while confidently answering the inevitable birth control question. The fact is that he or she really does need to know information as important as the nature of our sexual behavior. If confiding this strikes fear or even considerable discomfort in your heart, you probably need to consider a different physician.

Or perhaps our reluctance to commit to systematic health care is due to misguided rationale about not engaging in heterosexual sex, therefore not needing to consult a gynecologist about birth control or pregnancy. Or maybe somewhere in our collective consciousness we suffer from the same delusion we use to fool ourselves about AIDS: that we are protected by the Goddess.

Or maybe lesbians, a highly educated group who inexplicably earn far less

money than expected given our education, do not use those minds to assign health care a top priority. Data from a survey of more than 1900 lesbians reveals the most common mental health concern to be the anxiety about money problems. And the primary reason women avoid mammograms is financial.

Perhaps women will change the things they can, such as the responsibility with which they address their own health and the people they elect to make the laws pertaining to their health care.

Early detection is of supreme importance in reducing mortality from breast cancer. The Feminist Women's Health Center offers its Well Woman exam for only \$55. This includes a pelvic exam, a pap smear, a breast exam, and thorough guidance about breast self-exam.

Dr. Love suggests that women learn to perform breast self-exams but that they not allow them to become anxiety-producing. "Much more important than breast self-exam for early detection are techniques such as mammograms that can detect breast cancer before it's palpa-

ble." she says.

Substantial controversy exists over the effects of radiation on breast tissue. But mammograms do reduce mortality, especialas women age. Guidelines for asymptomatic women differ little from source to source: regular clinical breast exams; baseline, or first, mammogram by 40; follow-up mammograms thereafter every one to two years as recommended by physician; annual clinical exams and screening mammograms for women 50 and older.

If problems are found, a second opinion is an absolute necessity.

Research does not provide conclusive evidence about many of the commonly mentioned risk factors. This alone deems them worthy of attention.

Many women are delaying childbirth in exchange for career aspirations. This probably explains the association of breast cancer with higher educational levels.

Early onset menstruation and late menopause are generally associated with increased risk of breast cancer. These associations provide support for a hormonal role in the discussion of the cause of breast cancer. That raises the controversy over oral contraceptives and post menopausal hormone replacements. While doctors dole both out like party favors, no definitive link has been associated with

either. One study reported that women who had received post-menopausal estrogen therapy for more than nine years experienced a doubled risk of breast cancer!

In most studies, no substantial correlation between breast cancer and dietary fat intake has been found. Some scientists speculate, though, that dietary fat reduction may be important in reducing risk because a causal relationship is "biologically plausible."

Definite evidence does exist to support that the intake of alcoholic beverages is associated with higher risk of breast cancer. Disagreement over the amount that actually causes harm comes as no surprise. Researchers are careful not to assume a cause-and-effect relationship. It seems the link is not clear enough to encourage women to curtail all imbibition in light of other research indicating that some alcohol ingestion may carry with it other health benefits.

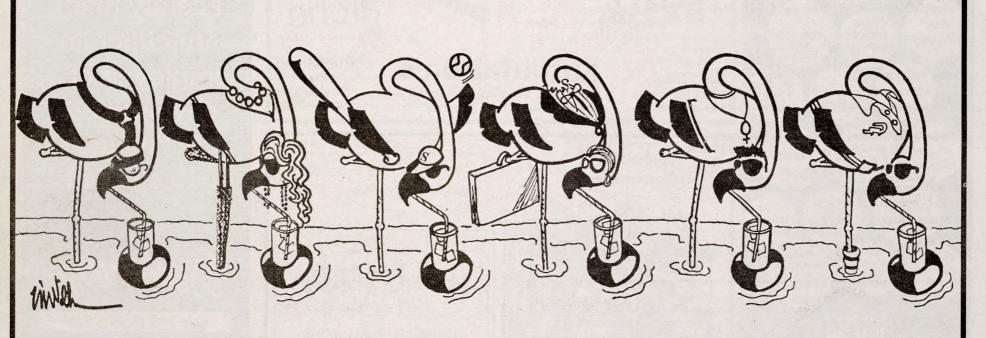
Mortality from breast cancer is higher among obese women. This is thought to be true because tumors are diagnosed later among obese women. Interestingly, though, rates among the heaviest 20% of these women are about 40% lower than among their thinner, but still obese sisters. But that's before menopause. After menopause the relationship is not clear.

What quickly becomes clear is that almost nothing is clear about causes of breast cancer. Something is terribly wrong. Duplicity in published research is staggering. Through the media we are besieged with results from selected studies. Our doctors seem to possess no more clarity than we, though they charge us lots of money to scribble licenses for trial and error.

With the sticky fingers of the straight-white-male establishment's mascot—that business/medicine, money-mongering mutant—pilfering our dollars and choking our life lines, let's face the facts at hand. Cancer is money. Greed prevails. It's the American way. With big business in cahoots with cancer, cancer is not going anywhere.

TOLL-FREE CANCER HOTLINES: National Cancer Institute: 1-800-4-CANCER and 1-800-638-6694. American Cancer Society: 1-800-227-2345.





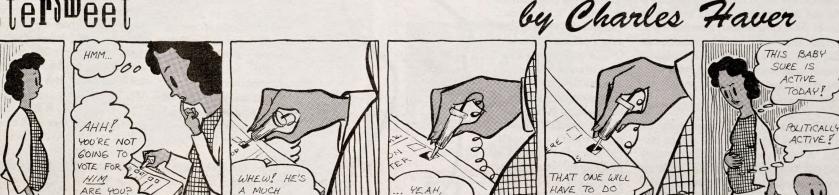
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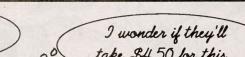
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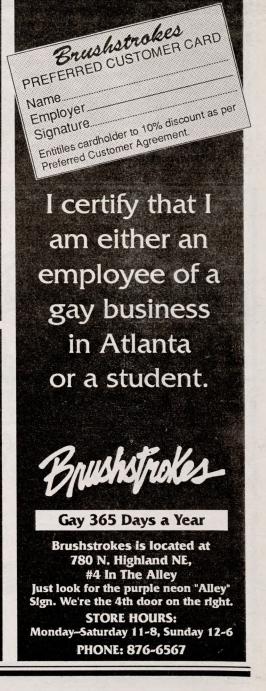
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DISH

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Towards More Perfect Words: Dish notes with some amusement that—in the same week we ran our story about the use of the word queer—the makers of the popular word processing software WordPerfect have announced that the thesaurus in their latest release of the program no longer contains synonyms (or antonyms) that have to do with sexual orientation for "queer.".

S.C. Successes: Dish continues to be amazed (and not a little envious) of the organizational progress of our neighboring state's Gay and Lesbian Pride March Committee. The same folks who pulled off S.C.'s first and hyper-successful pride march have now managed to find a gubernatorial candidate who will publicly state that he supports equal rights for the Palmetto State's lesbian and gay men. GLPM has rewarded State Senator Theo Mitchell with a check for \$500 and offers of campaign support. Though you already know whether Mitchell won or not, this issue went to press before the elections, so Dish doesn't. What Dish does know is that lesbians and gays in Greenville, SC held that city's first ever public gay rally...more than 100 attended a candlelight vigil on Oct. 6. A handful of skinheads protested, but police sent them on their way.

Jesse in a Jar: Were it not for the tasty food, smiling faces and encouraging attitude offered at Stone Soup just up the road from our offices, Dish would likely crash and burn even more regularly than we do. Today, for instance, we saw a Soup employee wearing a t-shirt bearing the image of Jesse Helms submerged in a jar of urine. With all proper apologies to Andres Serrano, this is a much more fitting and appropriate use for piss. And thanks Stone Soup—for the food and the art.



EVETT BENNET

Tasty Homoeroticism: Dish seldom visits the drawing rooms of the A set, not because we have objections to such, you understand. But in honor of the final—and sold out—performance connected with Against the Tide we did journey to the elegant Buckhead home of Joe Langford where we sipped coffee and nibbled desserts with a most entertaining and eclectic bunch of arts supporters—from ACT UPpers to men and women whose activism more usually involves the signing of substancial checks. A good time was had by all except Jesse Helms and Nancy Schaefer. Pictured celebrating are playwright Jim Grimsley, Nexus Executive Director Louise Shaw, performance artist Tim Miller and dancer Jim Chappeleaux.

Head(ing) the Right Way: We've grown accustomed to seeing positive and progressive words about lesbian and gay issues on the editorial pages of the Cox family's *morning* newspaper. Last week's lead editorial calling, once again, for

repeal of our state's sodomy statute was both welcome and well-timed, coming on as it did on the heels of former justice Powell's pitiful public proclamations about why he upheld the law in 1986. (see page 3.) But, wonder of wonders, just across from that unsigned piece was an equally strong and supportive missive from John Head. Mr. Head, who is black, came out with guns blazing, taking his brothers and sisters—especially in the entertainment business-to task for their public homophobic utterances and art. Then a week later along comes Martin Silk on the same pages with another request for doing away with the law. Dish would like to thank the editorial board of the Constitution in general and Messrs. Head and Silk in particular for their courage and support. If you have not already written or called in thanks, Mr. Teepen (editorial page editor) can be reached at 526-5431.

Halloween Hots: Dish wedged our thighs into some panty hose and strapped some fruit on our head—eat your heart out Carmen Miranda—and took to the streets on Halloween. During an otherwise tasteful dinner at Chef's Grill, a Buckhead Hetero-Princess decked out in YSL/Tiffany/Ferragamo drag asked us, "Are you really going to eat dressed like that?" Dish gathered up our skirts and asked, "Are you really gonna eat dressed like that?" Dish cannot wait for Queer Nation to start visiting the city's straight watering holes en masse.

By Bye Craig: It is with much sadness that Dish notes the passing of Craig Russell, drag queen extraordinaire. Mr. Russell, a resident of Toronto, was simply fabulous in the '77 flick *Outrageous*. If you have not seen that film, rush right down to the video store and rent a copy.

November 8 - November 21

RULING PLANETS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOBITH

by Mary Bailey-Rule

Happy Birthday Scorpio's! Have a wonderful time celebrating with close friends especially around the New Moon on Saturday, November 17.

ARIES-With Mars in your 3rd house of communication and transportation, it is a



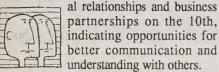
good time to stay aware of hasty words or actions. Take a short weekend trip to relax, but have your car checked and serviced first.

TAURUS-With Mars now retrograde in your 2nd house of money and personal



resources, you may find it difficult to reach clear decisions regarding spending or investments, especially major purchases. No need to rush, take your time.

GEMINI-Mercury, your ruling planet, moves into your 7th house of close personal relationships and business partnerships on the 10th,



CANCER-With Mars moving backward through your 12th house of dreams, visions



and the unconscious, your dreaming may be active and full of interesting and informative symbology. Keep a dream log for a week or two.

LEO-With Mars in your 11th house of community awareness and charitable



groups, your favorite cause may be a perfect outlet for energy. Also a good time to support your political beliefs and concerns. Share skills.

VIRGO-Your 3rd house of communications and transportation is highlighted by



the Sun, Mercury, Venus and Pluto, so you may need a trip to visit old friends or family you haven't seen for years. A good way to resolve the LIBRA-With a concentration of planets in your 2nd house of money and material



resources, be aware of how you are spending money, and refrain from buying on impulse even groceries. Be grateful for what you have.

SCORPIO-Happy Birthday! If you are feeling tired or rundown, give yourself a



mini-vacation to clear your mind and spirit. Use this time to resolve old conflicts or debts with close friends. Start your solar year fresh.

SAGITTARIUS—Mercury enters your 1st house of identity and personal awareness



on the 10th, so expect your mind and thinking processes to clear. If possible, hold off on major decisions until then and you will have better perspective.

CAPRICORN-The Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Pluto are all in your 11th house of



community vision and progressive ideas. A good time for charitable or political involvement. Pick a favorite cause and share skills.

AQUARIUS-With the Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Pluto in your 10th house of



career/vocation, you may be having a transforming experience or find needs and desires changing around the work you do. Be patient.

PISCES-Mars is retrograde in your 4th house of home, family and parents, so



expect to put extra time and energy into these situations. If you are considering a move, weigh the pros and cons carefully before acting.

Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in birth chart analysis, relationship charts, and astrological career counseling.

Her office is at Partners in Health. For information or an appointment, call 881-6300



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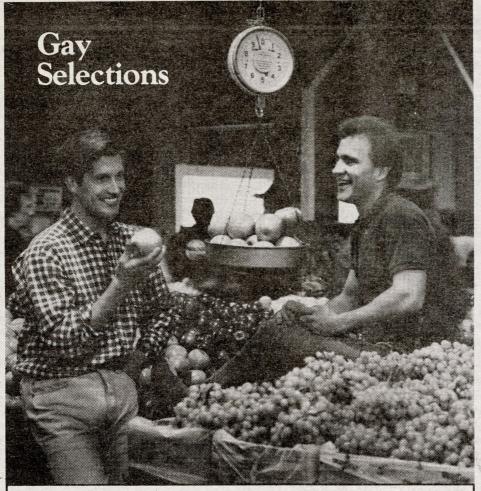
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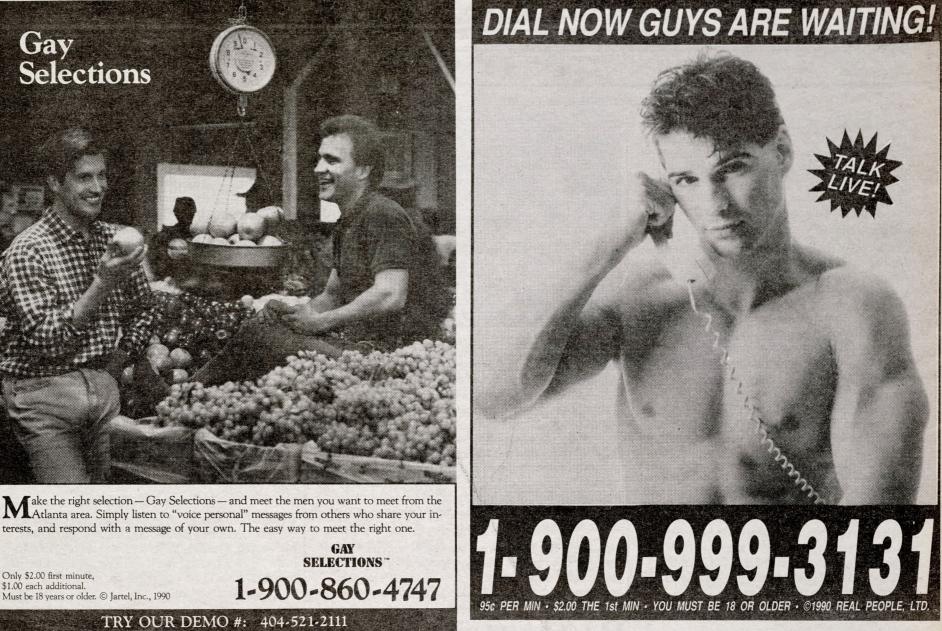
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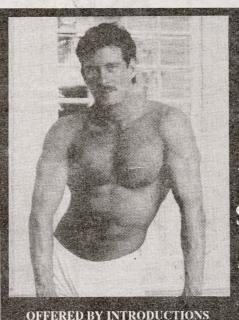
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* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

HIV+ Men's Support Group seeks new members. Group has been meeting weekly for three years. Interested persons should not be newly diagnosed, but seeking support living with ARC/AIDS. Call Dr. Sally Herbert at 659-5215 or Dr. Jon Rubenow at 874-1848. (V3,#21)

PONCE MANOR - AN ASSISTED LIVING HOME DESIGNED TO PROVIDE QUALITY SERVICE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEED OF ALTERNATIVE HOUSING AND SOME LEVEL OF SUPPORT. Twenty-four hour/Seven-day staffing. In-house care - management - medication monitoring - three meals/seven days - utilities furnished private and shared rooms furnished and unfurnished rooms - resident banking service - convenient location monthly rental - no deposit various rental payments accepted-Social Security, SSI, SSDI, VA, Private Pay, Donations. 876-7454 for further info. EQUAL OPPOR-TUNITY HOUSING. (V3, #20)



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, 525-4620.

ACT UP/ATLANTA: (404) 286-6247

* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

AID ATLANTA SUPPORT **GROUP MEETINGS** Groups and Meeting Times: PWAs I Wed. 7-9pm PWAs II Sat. 4-5:30pm Lymphdenopathy/ARC Mon. 7-9pm Hispanics with HIV Wed. 7-8:30pm Worried Well Tues. 6-7:30pm Bereavement Mon. 7-9pm Family, Friends & Partners I Mon. 7-9pm Family, Friends & Partners II Wed. 7-9pm PWA in the Family Wed. 7-9pm

AIDS Information Line: In Atlanta 876-9944, Toll-free: 1-800-551-2728

Get the word out! Advertise in the Southern Voice Classifieds!

Support Group forming for Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse Living With AIDS. Contact Social Services, AID Atlanta at 874-6517 for more info.

The Healing Circle is a supportive space for people on the path towards self-healing. The weekly meetings provide safety and a loving atmosphere for the free exchange of ideas and emotional support. We do not offer specific therapeutic advice or promote a specific philosophy. Meetings every Monday evening at 7:30pm. For information call 922-3486.

New PWA/HIV Support Group begins at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church in Sandy Springs – A support group for persons with symptomatic HIV infections meets each second and fourth Sunday 5-6:30pm. Karen Benjack-Burke, M.Div., M.S.W. acts as facilitator. There is no charge and transportation can be provided. For more info, call the church at 255-4023.

*AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

AIDS SUPPORT AND INFO-Henry County and will serve the surrounding counties of Rockdale, Newton, DeKalb, Clayton, Butts, Fayette, Cowetta, Spaulding, Monroe, Pike and Meriweather as Henry. Meeting at 7:00 PM on the first Friday of each month in the Community Room of Henry General Hospital on Hudson Bridge Rd. (Exit #73) in Stockbridge. For more information call Bob Ray at 954-1990 or Jim Morgan at 229-3117.

*AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

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.

Get the word out! Advertise in the Southern Voice Classifieds!

On This Page of the Southern Voice Classifieds:

How to volunteer to help PWAs, where to get help and counseling if you have AIDS, ARC or are HIV+, how to ACT UP, and how to help out.

Also: how to place a classified ad in Southern Voice.

The First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta now has an AIDS support group, not limited to just PWA's. Anyone who has tested positive to the HIV test, has been diagnosed as having AIDS or ARC, their families, friends and anyone else concerned about the disease is invited to attend. Meetings held at the Church, 800 N. Highland Ave. Every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Church office. This group is open to anyone who wishes to attend. For more information, call the Church office at 872AIDS 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.

*AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Gay and Lesbian Concerns Committee of the United Ostomy Asso. has published a pamphlet entitled Living with an Ostomy, Information for Gay Men, Lesbians and Their Caregivers". - a publications to help assist gay and lesbian ostomates in their rehabilitation. The Gay and Lesbian Concerns Committee also provides several educational and outreach programs to gay and lesbian ostomates, significant others, health care professionals and others interested in the rehabilitation of gay and lesbian ostomates. To receive a copy of the pamphlet, please send a SASE to: GLCC Pamphlet, United Ostomy Association, 36 Executive Park, Ste. 120, Irvine, CA 92714. (V3, #21)

Help keep ACT UP Atlanta ACTing UP! To continue our work against this AIDS crisis, we need donations of office space, a fax machine, a word processor and software, filing cabinets, a copier, a desk and chairs, and office supplies. Financial donations also cheerfully accepted. To help, please call our 24-hour ACT UP Line at 404-286-6247, or write to us at ACT UP Atlanta; PO Box 57089; Atlanta, GA; 30343-1089. (V3, #21)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community meeting Thur., Nov. 15 at 7:30PM. L5P Community Center-organizing meeting for World AIDS Day Demo December 3 at the CDC. Stop the undercounting. Diagnosed too late, treated too late, women die sooner. ACT UP. FIGHT BACK. FIGHT AIDS. For more info call ACT UP/Atlanta 286-6247

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ANTHOLOGY seeking quality, unpublished POET-RY (any length or form) and FICTION (including plays & experimental pieces). All topics and genres desired: work, family/community, friendship, parenting, religion/spirituality, aging, body image, food, TV, money & class, violence & fighting back, apartheid, being closeted/ being out, health & illness, the armed forces, racism & sexism, rap, roles, education; humor and satire, horror, science fiction, mystery, period pieces, AND MORE! All work must be authored by Black Lesbians! Send poetry to Terri Jewell, 211 W Saginaw, #2, Lansing, MI 48933. Send fiction to Stephanie Byrd, 705 E. Seneca, #7, Ithaca, NY 14850. Please send SASE with each submission &/or inquiry. DE February 15, 1991. DEADLINE:

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Articles Wanted AID Atlanta needs furniture & other items for PWA's. We need TV's, microwaves, phones, beds, sofas, lamps, dinette sets, etc. Please call the Furniture Bank at 355-8463. Tell them you have a donation for AID ATLANTA.

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4. To Respond to a *Southern Voice* Box Number Is EASY - Put your reply in a stamped sealed envelope and write the box number on the lower left corner. Mail your reply envelope in a *separate* envelope to *Southern Voice*, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, Ga., 30316. We will forward your reply to the appropriate party.

5. Free Classified Space is limited to 35 words. Free ads will run for two consecutive issues. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

15th Annual Atlanta Film & Video Festival – Call for Entries Festival to be held May 8-12th at IMAGE and the High museum of Art in Atlanta. Any independently produced media work created after Jan. 1988 qualifies for entry; the categories include narrative, documentary, student, experimental, and animation. Over \$7,000 in cash or equipment rental prizes will be awarded this year. Entries must be 16mm or. Super 8mm film (video OK for preview) and 3/4" or 1/2" video. Deadline Jan. 4, 1991. \$25 application fee for individuals/non-profit org., \$40 for distributors/for-profit business (add \$5 for all out-ofcountry entries). For application forms or info please send SASE to IMAGE Film/Video Center, 75 Bennett St., Suite M-1, Atlanta, GA 30309. (404) 352-4254.

Southern Voice Advertising Works.

Submissions Wanted: Optimum physical, mental and spiritual health. An anthology by, for and about women. Focus on any aspect of wellness and illness at any stage of your life. Personal stories, fiction, poetry and essays sought; artwork welcome (line art only). Queries/letters of intent to submit due February 1, 1991. SASE to Susan T. Chasin, c/o Visibilities, Dept. WI, PO Box 1258, Peter Stuyvesant Station, NY, NY 10009-1258. (212) 473-4635.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Submissions-Women living with AIDS and HIV, an international anthology documenting the voices and visions of women living with AIDS and HIV. Including but not limited to: pages from diaries, autobiographical, dreams, fiction poetry, letters, photographs, drawings, paintings, essays, tape recordings...languages other than English welcome. Send submissions w/brief biography and contact address by April 1, 1991 to PO Box 471, stn "C", Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6J3P5 or by FAX to (416) 340-6521. Info-write or call (416) 594-1445. We prefer copies rather than risk damage to originals. (V4)

A call for Submission from Art Services to photographers & artists in the gay & lesbian community. Do not send originals, Art Services is not responsible for lost photos or art work. Please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope with your submission. Art Services Submissions Dept., Six West, 32nd Street, Penthouse, New York, NY

An organization of support and affiliation for lesbian and gay physicians and med students. In the US and Canada. American Association of Physicians for Human Rights (AAPHR). (415) 255-4547 or 2940 16th St. #105, S.F., CA 94103.

Training, Shambhala Meditation Center - Develop your awareness, awaken your natural connection w/life itself. A clear mind, gentle heart and a sense of humor are qualities which we all desire. Free meditation instruction by appt. Tuesday evenings. Introductory weekend seminars presented quarterly. 876-6954. (V3,#21)

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EMPLOYMENT

Southeast

On This Page of the Southern Voice

Southern Voice

Classifieds:

What a

bargain.

where to send submissions, who can fix your wiring, what jobs are open, when auditions are being held, and why Ethan Green can't sleep.

Classifieds:

ELECTRICIAN

SHORT BUSTERS! Do you (V3, #22)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -The Board of Directors of the Community Cultural Center, doing business as The Arts Exchange, a multicultural, multidisciplinary arts organization located in Southeast Atlanta, GA, announces the availability of the position of executive director. The position, avail. Jan 1, 1991, req. highly motivated, innovative individual with demonstrated success in

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EMPLOYMENT

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On This Page of the Southern Voice Classifieds:

who can fix up your house, who will clean your house, where to get glases so that you can see your house better, and where to find new friends to invite to your house.

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Visiting December 1-4 Harvard Medical Doctor 37, 5'10", 175, Topman, seeks GWM 25-35 for fun friendship and whatever develops. Interests-music, art, theatre, literature & travel. Letter & photograph. Habib, Box 9634, Suite 106, Boston, MA 02114. (V3,#20)

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(V3.#19)

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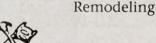
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VOLUNTEERS

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VOLUNTEERS

Writers - If you have a way with words, Southern Voice wants to talk to you. Those interested in politics, community and sports are especially encouraged to call Gary at 876-0789. Volunteer or small fee paid.

Need Volunteers for a charity event. Call 944-3551 for details. (V3,#19)

Want to help the environment? Volunteer for the Georgia Environmental Project. Put your ideas to work - anything from office work to research. Call 521-

SOUTHERN VOICE CIR-CULATION. Join us distributing Southern Voice as a volunteer. We have single copy box and route distribution where your involvement can help us reach the Atlanta lesbian and gay community. It's fun; it's fulfilling, and you get to read the paper first! For info call Jana Tyson at 876-

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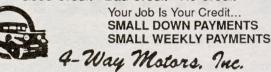
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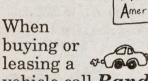
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How we establish our families, or partnerships, and the challenges we face in the process may well be the hot topic for lesbians and gay men in the '90s. That we have few models for the process of defining and understanding those relationships also makes it a difficult topic.

In the fall of 1988, Partners, a newsletter for lesbian and gay couples, undertook a major survey to develop an accurate portrait of lesbian and gay couples in America. The information seemed vitally important, given the major forces shaping the gay and lesbian community.

Southern Voice is pleased to be able to reprint the results of that survey in this and subsequent issues.

Experienced Partners Outnumber First-timers

For most of the partners surveyed, their current relationship was not their first. Three or four respondents had a least one former, "major lesbian/gay relationship" or had been heterosexually married.

It's unclear, however, whether the experience benefitted these partners. No form of previous relationship experience appeared to be significantly correlated with higher relationship quality ratings.

On average, women had 50% more same-sex relationship experience than men in terms of both years and the number of former partners. So, while lesbians reported current relationships of shorter duration, the women and men surveyed had spent about the same

Partners

Relationship Experience, Living Arrangements and Money

total amount of time in major same-sex relationships—11.5 years for women and 11.1 for men.

Considering the average respondent's age of 35, these partners had spent twothirds of their adult lives in major same-sex relationships.

Number of previous major lesbian/gay relationships

	women	men
None	32%	38%
One	26	33
Two	23	18
Three	10	7
Four	4	3
Five or more	5	1
Average number	1.5	1.1
Previous heterosexual		
relationship experience		
	women	men

	women	men
Never married	73%	81%
Married once	23	18
Married twice	4	1
Thrice or more	<1	<1

Heterosexual marriage was reported by far more women (27%) than men (19%). Reflecting changing mores, older partners were much more likely to have been married than younger partners. Not surprisingly, bisexual partners were twice as likely to have experienced marriage.

Couples share responsibility for home Moving in together is a common

sign of a couple's commitment to a relationship. Nine in ten couples reported at least some degree of cohabitation during the previous year, and one-third jointly owned their home.

Respondents who lived with their partners full-time tended to be older and less closeted. Full-time cohabitants reported higher levels of family income, commitment, income sharing and legal preparation. They also had sex less frequently and rated it less highly. Predictably, they experienced more discrimination as a couple.

Living together during previous year

	women	men
Always	75%	82%
Sometimes	12	11
Never	12	6

As expected, many couples together one year or less had not moved in together—only 69% had lived together always or sometimes. Even among couples together more than five years, 4% did not cohabit during the last year. Also, women were less likely to live together full-time.

Residence status of couples living together

	women	men
Jointly owned	32%	36%
Rented/leased	33	27
in both names		
Owned by one partner	24	24
Rented/leased in one name	11	13

Fully 65% of female couples and 63% of male couples jointly owned or rented their residence.

Money and income

Financial interdependence was widely observed among the couples surveyed. Fully 82% of the male couples and 75% of the female couples shared all or part of their incomes. Some partners also were able to share job benefits with their partners.

Income sharing

	women	men
Entirely shared	39%	41%
Partly shared	36	41
Not shared	25	19

The longer couples had been together, the more likely they were to share income.

Employer-provided benefits for partner

	women	men
Health coverage	4%	6%
Other benefits	5	7

Employers provided 8% of respondents' partners with benefits of some kind. The benefits provided showed no significant correlation with either the respondent's length of relationship or income level. In fact, individuals at the lowest income level—\$8,000 or less—reported slightly more partner benefits.

(These percentages exclude respondents who said they were retired or self-employed.)

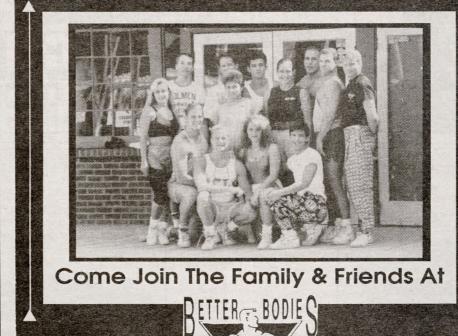
Survey results @ Partners, 1990. Partners Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Couples, Box 9685, Seattle, Washington 98109. Subscriptions are \$21 per year.

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