

SOUTHERN VOICE

AIDS and Insurance Discrimination at work in Georgia
See Page 11

Vol. 2, No. 1

Taking Pride in Our Culture

March 2, 1989

Fulton County Court Upholds PWA's Will, Family To Appeal

An Atlanta jury returned a verdict February 15 rejecting the claim of a gay man's family that he was mentally incompetent from "parasites on the brain" when he signed a will leaving the bulk of his estate to a longtime friend instead of his father and brother. The will was prepared less than a month before he died of AIDS last spring.

The verdict clears the way for Gary Kaupman, 44, an Atlanta bookkeeper who maintained a friendship for twenty years with the deceased, David O'Shields, to receive the largest portion of the estate, estimated at \$200,000.

David O'Shields' father, George O'Shields, and brother, John Daniel O'Shields, 38, contested the will on the grounds that the deceased family member was of an unsound mind brought on by complications from his illness when he signed the document. The family also charged that O'Shields' friends unduly influenced him to exclude them from the will and give the majority of the estate to Kaupman. O'Shields signed the will while hospitalized on April 8, 1988, and died May 5. He was 30 years old.

At the time he signed the will, O'Shields suffered from an enlarged brain caused by a parasitic infestation, according to his physician, Dr. Sue J. Lee. Lee testified in a videotaped deposition that O'Shields "was of sound mind" on the day the will was executed. She told of performing a mental status exam that day, and said O'Shields "was oriented to time, place, and person", although she indicated her patient had experienced problems associated with loss of memory and balance when he was

admitted to the hospital on April 4.

Dosages of a drug known as Decadron, which Lee said she began to administer to O'Shields following his admission on April 4, had the effect of clearing up his mind. "David was like a new person," she said, after he began taking the drug.

The attorney who drew up O'Shields' will gave testimony that he signed the will voluntarily in her presence in the hospital. "David was not confused the day the will was signed," said Cara Maris.

"David told me a lot about his family situation when he was in the hospital," Lee testified. "He told me he didn't get along with his family at all."

O'Shields' father testified that his dead son was "sleepy and groggy" on the morning of April 8, and his brother said David O'Shields "dozed off" frequently and did not recognize either he or his father when they visited him three days earlier.

The family's attorney, Edward Gadrix, who said that the case is one of the first of its kind in the nation, characterized O'Shields' friends as a "homosexual element", and as "busy little bees, weaving their web to control David's mind". Gadrix contended that Kaupman "unduly influenced David to write a will making him the beneficiary".

Gadrix told the jury of six men and six women that O'Shields had "a very diseased mind (during) the last days of his life. He had parasites on the brain," and was of impaired mental ability. Gadrix introduced testimony of an infectious disease specialist, Dr. Winkler G. Weinberg, who said that

Cont'd Page 3



Have You Heard This Homophobe Lately?

Comedian Sam Kinison's latest recording entitled "Have You Seen Me Lately" reinforces prejudice against gay men, lesbians and people with AIDS, according to gay rights and feminist organizations. Responding to anti-lesbian/gay bias in the entertainment industry, these groups have launched the "Campaign for Fairness in Entertainment." See story page 13.

HRCF Mailgrams – Your Hotline for Influence and Power in D.C.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund's "Action Hotlines" enable lesbian/gay constituents to send instantaneous mailgrams to their senators and representatives. The two new hotlines—one for AIDS and the other for civil rights and fairness issues—were designed to counter the radical right's "grassroots mail machine."

See story page 6.

Sen. Gordon Humphrey



NO PROMO HOMO

Humphrey's distorted "no promo homo" amendments, like those of Jesse Helms, exploit fear and anti-gay bigotry and censor effective AIDS education. Will he win? It's up to you!

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Rep. Bill Dannemeyer



The "Jesse Helms of the House"

Dannemeyer's anti-gay amendments undercut effective response to the AIDS crisis. Will he win? Not if you fight back!

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NEWS IN BRIEF

New Group to Fight Homophobia in Military

Washington, D.C.—In response to what the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) calls "the extraordinary persecution of lesbians and gay men in the military," the organization has joined with three other groups, including the National Organization for Women, to undertake a new Military Freedom Project.

The project has targeted as its first effort "the plight of lesbian and heterosexual women in the military," according to an announcement in the winter issue of the NGLTF newsletter.

The project seeks to overturn the convictions of two women now serving time in a Marine Corps brig in Quantico, VA, for alleged lesbian activity.

Man Challenges Eviction, Says He is "Family" to Lover

Albany, N.Y.—The first gay life-partner case in New York may be decided in the state's supreme court, if the high court agrees to hear an appeal filed by the ACLU on behalf of a client who argues that he should be considered a member of his deceased lover's family and protected against eviction from the couple's rent controlled apartment.

The plaintiff, Miguel Braschi, lived with his lover for 10 years in an apartment in

New York City. Following the death of the lover, in whose name the lease was signed, the landlord moved to evict Braschi. New York City regulations permit surviving spouses and family members who occupied an apartment to take over the lease if the original leaseholder dies.

"This is but one of the dozens of cases in which landlords are attempting to evict surviving gay lovers from their homes," said William B. Rubenstein, an attorney with the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. "With the AIDS crisis, the quantity of these cases is skyrocketing," he said.

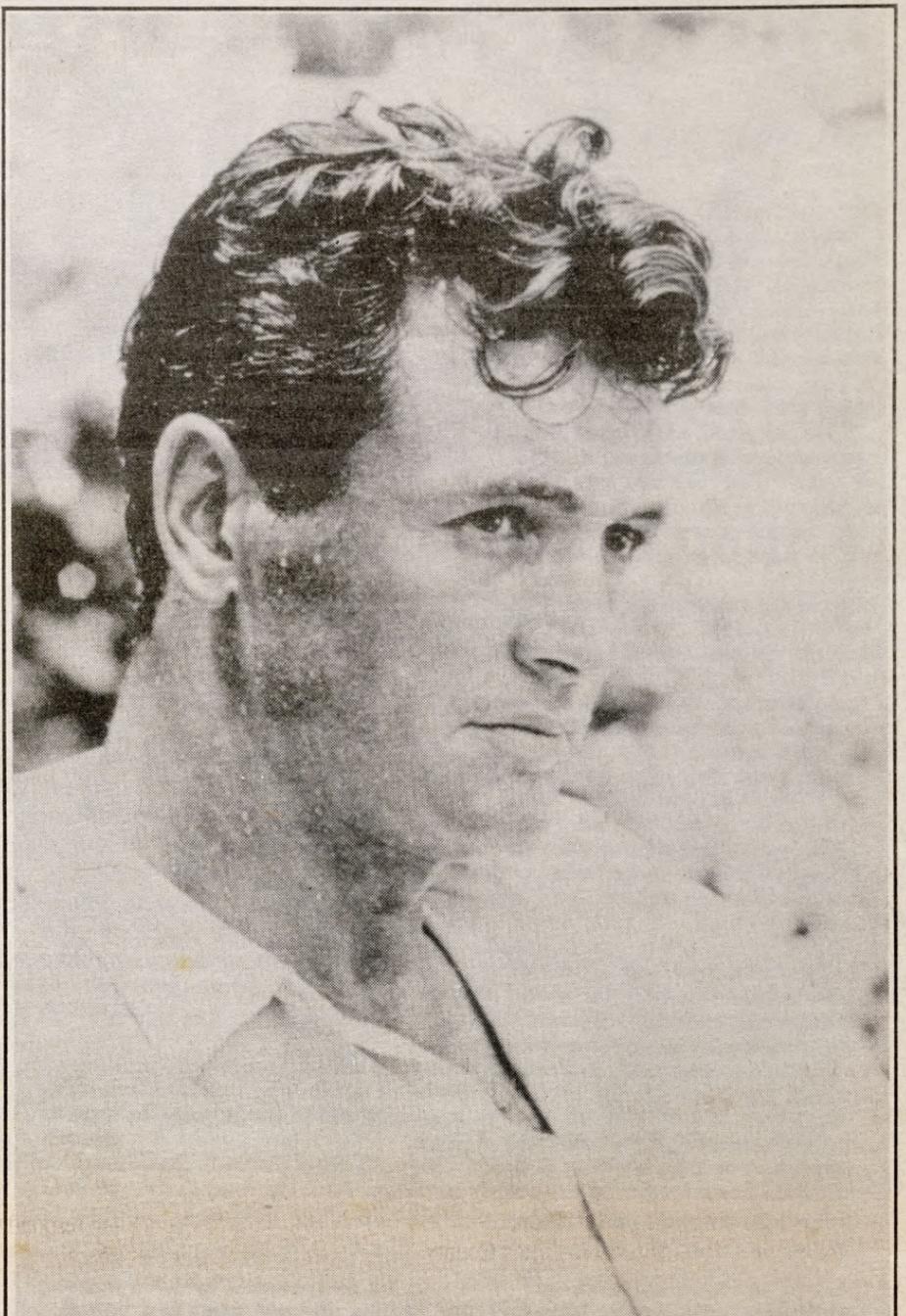
— from the Washington Blade

"Hello, Nazi" Game Urges Germans to Rid Country of Jews, Gays

Bonn, West Germany — Video games urging players to conquer territory for the Aryan people, and exterminate beggars, homosexuals, ecologists, and Jews continue to proliferate throughout West Germany, despite an official ban on their manufacture and distribution.

One game — "Clean Germany" — plays the "Deutschland Uber Alles" anthem, and encourages players to kill beggars, homosexuals, environmentalists and communists. The "Aryan Test" game greets the player with a "Hello, Nazi" salute, and asks a series of questions to determine whether the player is an Aryan or a Jew.

— from The Boston Globe



FAMOUS FACES

Rock Hudson's Lover Awarded Millions

A Los Angeles jury called the late Rock Hudson's behavior "outrageous conduct" and awarded his lover more than \$20 million for emotional and punitive damages because the actor never told him he had AIDS. Marc Christian, 35, charged that Hudson and his friend Mark Miller hid the illness from him, until the world was told Hudson had AIDS in July of 1985, just three months before his death. Hudson and Christian had unprotected sex until that summer. So far, Christian has tested negative for the HIV virus, but he maintains he has suffered great emotional distress.

Rocky Times for Cybill

These are not the best of times for *Moonlighting* star Cybill Shepherd. Enquiring minds are being bombarded with rumors about a multitude of love affairs, which she persistently denies. But in real life, Shepherd officially filed for divorce from her husband, Chiropractor Bruce Oppenheim and network officials cancelled her show, at least for now. In case the changes don't keep Shepherd entertained, she's got a pair of baby twins to make life exciting. Shepherd has not given up though, she's pinning her hopes on her upcoming move *Chances Are*. And, in case her troubles get any heavier, she has started lifting weights.

Louganis Doesn't Measure Up

Swimmer Greg Louganis, the undisputed hero of the 1988 Summer Olympics, is apparently not "macho" enough to appear on Wheaties boxes. A spokesperson for General Mills said that none of this year's gold medal winners meet the company's criteria for an endorser. An advertising executive quoted in the same article was more direct. He observed, "When most advertisers are looking for the male hero, the word 'macho' trails along very closely. I don't find Louganis a macho guy." *If you'd like to respond, write to General Mills, Inc., 9200 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55440.*

Thanks For The Message

Bob Hope, Mr. Conservative himself, will soon be seen in a 30-second TV spot denouncing violence against gays. The unexpected support from Hope came after the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) took him to task for making a homophobic slur on the Tonight Show in December. GLAAD let Hope know that homophobic comments such as his contribute to increased violence against lesbians and gays. Hope said of the TV spot, "I felt that it was a very important thing to do."

- F. G.

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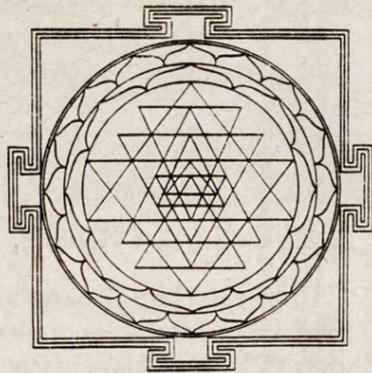
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Will

Cont'd from Page 1

O'Shields "was of unsound mind" the day the contested will was executed, although Weinberg, under cross-examination, admitted that he had never met O'Shields nor had he ever treated him.

One witness to the signing of the will said that "David seemed sound of mind and knew what he was doing. David had an antagonistic relationship with the family, and intended to name them (in the will) only in a small way," the witness testified. The will leaves the brother some jewelry and the father an old inoperable automobile.



JO GIRAUDO

Gary Kaupman

Kaupman testified that he and O'Shields had never had a sexual relationship during their long friendship, and he said he was "stunned" when he learned he had been named O'Shields' primary beneficiary. He told reporters he received a telephoned death threat at his home on the morning of the trial's second day.

O'Shields inherited most of his estate from his mother, who died of a stroke just six weeks prior to his own death. The mother's will provides that the two sons will share equally in her estate.

The jury deliberated for more than three hours before returning its decision, following a three-day trial in Fulton County probate court. If the jury had overturned the will, O'Shields' estate would have reverted to his father and brother to be shared equally.

Following the trial, Kaupman's attorney, M. P. Schildmeyer, said the major strength of her client's case was "David's care in having his will prepared in accordance with the law". Schildmeyer said she was expecting the jury to find in her client's favor.

Gadrix said on February 20th that the family plans to appeal the decision.

- Matt Moline

Cathy Woolard Won't Pursue City Council Seat

Lesbian activist Cathy Woolard said she will not run for the sixth district Atlanta City Council seat in October of 1989 because of financial reasons, but she feels that seat is worth pursuing.

"All things being equal, four years from now either I will or someone else should pursue that seat. It's the one elected office in the state of Georgia that we stand a good chance of winning," said Woolard.

"I regret withdrawing from the race and I'm very disappointed, but being a grassroots activist doesn't pay very much in the city of Atlanta," she said.

Woolard decided in December of 1988 to challenge Mary Davis, who currently holds the sixth district seat. She said she still thinks a lesbian/gay candidate should challenge Davis.

"A gay or lesbian advocate in that seat is vital to pushing our agenda forward locally. Although Mary has been a friend to our community, she has not been the kind of advocate that a gay or lesbian person could be," Woolard said.

According to Woolard, the following items should be addressed on the local lesbian/gay agenda:

- A lesbian/gay rights ordinance with "teeth" to it that enforces the city's current statement of non-discrimination
- The inclusion of lesbian/gay organizations in city-wide funding and the Bureau of Cultural Affairs
- The appearance of lesbian/gay performers in programs on a level in proportion to our representation in the population (10-20 percent)
- Persuading the city council to respond to lesbian/gay issues aggressively and progressively

Woolard serves as president of the gay/lesbian chapter of the Georgia ACLU. She is also a board member of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Woolard said she will continue to work on the police advisory committee, which airs community-police relations problems, and she will continue planning with the ACLU for the fulfillment of John Howell's bequest of \$10,000 to repeal the sodomy law.

-Wendy Morse

Georgia General Assembly Update

• The Medically Needy Blind and Disabled Medicaid option is in serious trouble at the statehouse, but Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition lobbyist Gil Robison still thinks it might be revived with enough constituent pressure. This relatively inexpensive program, which only 14 states do not already have, would cover almost all medical expenses of uninsured and/or indigent people with AIDS (PWA). This option would, among other things, cover the cost of AZT, which is now being picked up by the federal government.

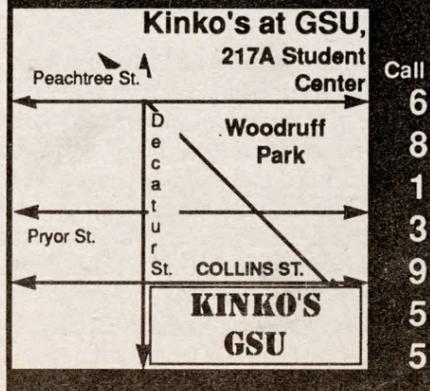
• The "Kate 'n Allie Bill" (HB 879) was effectively sent to its death last week when the House Judiciary Committee followed the lead of Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver (D-Dekalb) and set it aside "to be studied." Introduced by Rep. Luther Colbert (R-Fulton County), this bill was designed to give ex-spouses the right to sue for modification of alimony if their former partner could be shown to be living in a "meretricious relationship" with a same-sex partner. Colbert told *Southern Voice* prior to the Committee meeting that he had "no quarrel with" the gay/lesbian community, but that he was introducing the bill at the behest of a constituent whose former wife was currently involved in a long-term lesbian relationship. Colbert noted that if the woman in this case were living with another man, his constituent would have the right under current Georgia law to have the alimony order amended or modified. Members of the Judiciary Committee, however, found the bill to have far-reaching implications that could not be addressed in the waning days of this legislative session.

• The "Amityville Horror Bill" (HB 519) was amended in the Senate Judiciary Committee to protect realtors and property owners in all real estate transactions from liability if they do not voluntarily disclose that a PWA resided at or owned a piece of property prior to its sale. Although no such law suits have been brought to court in Georgia, Robison said this has been a problem in several other states. The bill is backed by the realtor's lobby as well as Robison and the AIDS Legislative Coalition, and is expected to pass easily.

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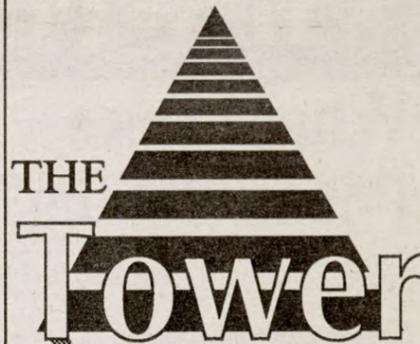
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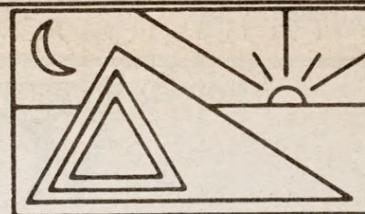
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Where Does Porno Belong?

February 23, 1989

Lambda Rising Book Report
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing out of rage and concern that had arisen from an advertisement carried in the last two months of the *Lambda Rising Book Report*. This on V1, No. 9 - Small Press Special edition. The ad, which consumes the entire back page and I assume the entire budget for the publication, shows several photographs of boys - children - while promoting sexually explicit films. (Shall I say pornography - child pornography.) There is also clear exploitation of third world peoples economic deprivation. Must the gay community continue the oppression of children and third world peoples? Must the gay community continue the white, male (straight) class oppression that exploits the sexual abuse of women and children?

Please, remove this ad. Please, don't accept money from the oppressors of children, the oppressors of gays. They are one in the same.

Sincerely Written,
Pam Martin

P.S. - This is addressed Dear Sirs in hopes that wimmin are not a party to this.

cc: *Southern Voice*

Hampton Has to Go

To the editor:

I am sure most of your readers know of the actions and comments of Texas District Court Judge Jack Hampton, who in December 1988 gave the killer of two gay men in Dallas a lenient sentence because the gay men were, "queers cruising the street looking for trouble."

The Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct has launched an official investigation of Judge Hampton. The Commission has to date received several hundred letters calling for the removal of Hampton. The Commission which can ask a seven-judge panel to consider the judge's removal from office, has not indicated when it will decide the case. In 1987, it reviewed 515 cases and recommended the removal of only one judge.

"The Commission has a long history of doing nothing. Its role is not one of removing judges. It simply acts as a way of allowing fervor over a decision to die down," said William Waybourne, Dallas Gay Alliance director.

What happened in the Dallas court could easily happen again in any court in America. I urge all of your readers who are concerned over this matter to write to the Texas Commission deciding this issue urging them to remove this man from the bench. Letters of protest should be sent to: Robert Flowers, State Commission on Judicial Conduct, P.O. Box 12265, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711.

Gays throughout America must convince Texas that the eyes of the nation are upon THEM!

Sincerely,
Ivy Sinclair

"Lesbian" or "Gay Woman" ? The Question

Cindy Diamond and Kim Larsen
Renegade Recreations
P.O. Box 50439
Atlanta, GA 30302

Dear Cindy and Kim;

I am writing to comment on your travel agency programs. I am thrilled at the opportunity to participate in events designed specifically for women. I am also willing to spend more money for such programs. When I received your first mailing about the Hearts and Flowers weekend, I discussed it with my partner, but we decided that the price was a little too high for us. At any rate, I do appreciate your efforts and the service you are providing to the community.

I do have a concern about the tone of your brochure. I am under the impression that these trips are designed for lesbians. After all, you must have received my name from the ALFA mailing list. However, there is no use of the word lesbian in any of your printed material. You state the company is "gay owned and female operated." I assume that this means the organization is owned by gay men and operated by straight women. Yet I am confused because the programs seem to be directed to lesbians, even though the brochure refers to us as "gay women."

This information is important to me because I prefer to spend money at lesbian owned businesses whenever possible. If indeed, your organization is a lesbian owned company, can you please state that clearly? Furthermore, I am offended that I am being referred to as a "gay woman," rather than a lesbian. I have never heard the term gay woman except when used by a heterosexual in a homophobic context. It is very uncomfortable to be targeted as a potential customer by an organization that cannot say who I am. I am undecided about participating in one of your trips because the information I have received has not validated my identity as a lesbian.

Sincerely,
Sherry Siclair

The Reply

Dear Sherry,

Thanks for your letter of February 8, 1989. We are anxious to hear from everyone who might be interested in our services; and, as gay women, we appreciate and share your concerns regarding terminology. To date, yours is the only complaint we have received to our use of the term "gay woman" instead of "lesbian." In fact, many women we have heard from seem not to use the word "lesbian." At any rate, try as we may, we cannot please everyone. Likewise, we do not want to offend anyone or lose their prospective interest solely due to terminology.

Cindy and I refer to ourselves as "gay women." The term "lesbian" validates nothing in our identity that "gay woman" does not. Our intention with Renegade Recreations is to provide gay women/lesbians with affordable travel opportunities designed specifically for them/us, a service we feel is sorely needed in Atlanta as well as elsewhere in our country. We know that merely by being gay/lesbian, we open ourselves up to political scrutiny; however, we are purely what our name says, a recreational organization, waving no banners and preaching no doctrines, simply trying instead to offer a sense of welcome, comfort, and community to women like ourselves.

Our company is owned by a gay man, who believed in our idea of providing a worthwhile activity for his gay sisters and provided our venture with the necessary capital for us to launch Renegade Recreations. We are grateful to this man for his support, encouragement, and guidance. Our political stand, if any, would be to avoid fostering any exclusivity within our gay community, which already experiences so much exclusion and discrimination—from within as well as from outside.

Sherry, we hope that this additional information about our company and ourselves is helpful and that the future holds an opportunity for you to join other gay women/lesbians for a Renegade Recreations offering.

We also design trips for individuals, couples, and small groups. If you prefer, we would be glad to plan something specifically for you and your partner if you did not find any of our current offerings of interest to you.

With kindest regards,
Kim Larsen and Cindy Diamond

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Members of LEGAL (Legislate Equality for Gays And Lesbians) had dinner with Gov. Joe Frank Harris, Sen. Bill Bradley (D-NJ), Sen. Sam Nunn, Rep. Ben Jones and a host of other high-ranking Democrats at the party's annual Jefferson-Jackson Dinner Feb. 17. LEGAL purchased a table at the dinner, which guaranteed a highly visible gay/lesbian presence. Their attendance at the dinner gave credence to the gay rights slogan "We are Everywhere." Several members took advantage of the opportunity to bend a few political ears. Pictured are (l-r) Dick Rhodes, Linda Meredith, Melinda Daniels and Tim Forshay of LEGAL.

INSIDE THE WASHINGTON LOBBY

Fair Housing—Including For Us

Passing legislation is the first step in the lobby world. But the second step is equally important—making sure the law does what you want it to do. The story of the Fair Housing Amendments Act is a perfect example.

President Reagan signed the Fair Housing Amendments Act in September 1988. The Act prohibits those who rent or sell a private dwelling from discriminating against people who are disabled. Lobbyists had been trying to get the Act passed since 1980.

For AIDS lobbyists, the Act was critical because it provided the first clear protection in the private sector for people with AIDS and HIV infection. During the 100th Congress (last year), the Act provided to be a battleground—the opposition twice tried to exclude people with AIDS and HIV infection, and their efforts failed both times. One of the bases for defeating these attempts was the wording of the Act, which provides that those whose disabilities cause no direct health threat to others are covered. Under current medical evidence, of course, this includes protection for people with AIDS and HIV infection.

But even after the Act was made law, the fight continued. The actual wording of the Act covers people who have a "handicap."



Sen. Edward M. Kennedy insisted that HUD be clear that PWAs, and those with HIV infection, are protected under the Fair Housing Act.

All court cases argued on the issue had held that both AIDS and HIV infection, even asymptomatic HIV infection, are disabilities (or "handicaps"), covered by federal law. Indeed, during passage of the Act, many members of Congress had referred to those cases, and had stated explicitly that both AIDS and HIV infection were covered under the Act.

After a law is passed, it falls to the agencies—in this case the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)—to implement the new law. HUD issued its proposed regulations for the implementation of the Fair Housing Amendments Act on January 7, 1989. The proposed rules were clear about the scope and purpose of the "direct threat" amendment. But lobbyists felt that HUD should have been even more clear in stating that people with AIDS and HIV infection were covered under the law, to dispel any possible questions.

A thirty-day comment period ensued, according to law, allowing citizens an opportunity to voice their concerns about HUD's proposed regulations. Those concerned with AIDS issues worked quickly, appealing to civil rights groups to submit comments urging HUD to explicitly note that HIV infection was covered under the Act. The Consortium of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (CCDD) submitted comments on behalf of 20 disability groups, requesting that HUD explicitly recognize that people with AIDS and HIV infection were covered under the law, and requesting, as well, that HUD list HIV infection among the illustrations of "physical or mental impairments." The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights—composed of traditional civil rights groups—sent HUD a similar comment.

These comments focused on the fact that members of Congress had spent a great deal of time and energy discussing the issue of covering AIDS and HIV infection under the Act. Attorneys involved in AIDS cases supplied cites for the comments, referring to instances when members of Congress had discussed the coverage of AIDS and HIV infection, and showing that it had been Congressional intent to include AIDS and HIV infection.

Three supportive members of Congress submitted detailed comments to HUD on the entire proposed regulations, including a statement on coverage of AIDS and HIV infection. Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA), Arlen Specter (R-PA) and Representative Don Edwards (D-CA) sent HUD a joint comment in which they wrote, "In particular we want to ensure that both people with AIDS and individuals who have been infected with...HIV but are not showing any symptoms of the virus, are understood to be 'individuals with handicaps' protected by the Act..." After 30 days, HUD had received more than 5,000 comments on their proposed regulations to the Act.

The efforts during the comment period paid off. On January 23, 1989, when HUD published its final rules, a special section had been added to the preamble just to address the question of inclusion of HIV infection. It reads: "Another group of commenters asked HUD to clarify that persons who are infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus ('HIV' or 'AIDS virus') are understood to be persons with a 'handicap' protected by the [Fair Housing Amendments] Act. The legislative history of the Act contains numerous statements that HIV-infected individuals are covered by the Act..." HUD also referred to a September 1988 memo from the Department of Justice that said HIV infection is a handicap. That memo, says HUD's preamble, makes it clear that HIV infection must be included in the Fair Housing Amendments Act.

"In light of these authorities the Department [HUD] has added 'HIV infection' to the illustrative list of 'physical or mental impairments' in the final rule's definition of handicap," reads the final rules



of the Fair Housing Amendments Act.

Litigators around the country will benefit from this explicit addition in the regulations. If someone with HIV infection or AIDS is discriminated against, HUD or a private lawyer will be able to argue, without significant objection, that such a person is protected under the Act. It also may act as a deterrent to discrimination, since it puts landlords on notice that they cannot discriminate against those individuals without penalty.

While courts have consistently been

If you are experiencing discrimination in housing because you have AIDS or HIV infection, you now have legal recourse.

ruling that both AIDS and HIV infection are covered as handicaps and thus deserve civil rights protection under the existing law—Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which protects people with disabilities in the public sector—the federal administration under President Reagan was slow to catch up with the legal trend. Through a concerted effort by members of Congress and concerned citizens, that is changing. The Department of Justice memo was the first important step in that direction. HUD's regulations is the second, and each step builds on the last. With the authority and responsibility to administer the Fair Housing Amendments Act, HUD will hopefully be a strong player in monitoring civil rights violations. But everyone across the country has to be players too. If you are experiencing discrimination in housing because you have AIDS or HIV infection, you now have legal recourse. Get in touch with a national AIDS group or a lawyer. The law goes into effect March 12, 1989. Let's use it.

— Chai Feldblum & Laura Markowitz

Chai Feldblum is an attorney for the ACLU AIDS project. Laura Markowitz is an editor of a national magazine and a lesbian activist.

CORRECTIONS

We would like to apologize for two omissions of credit in Volume 1, #25.

John Hausler wrote "Atlanta Should Mind Its Own Business" which appeared as our guest editorial. Hausler is the president of the Atlanta Business and Professional Guild.

Shelton Bryant created the illustration for the piece "ACT UP: Turning Anger Into Action." Bryant is a local artist/illustrator and is a regular contributor to *Southern Voice*.

Also, our new telephone number is (404) 876-1819.

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

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

Southern Voice/Viewpoints
PO Box 18215
Atlanta, Georgia 30316

Lesbian and Gay Mailgram Campaign Announced

Washington, D.C.—There's nothing more persuasive to a politician than an avalanche of mail from voters back home dumped on his or her desk. Now, thanks to the new Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) mailgram "Action Hotlines," lesbians and gays can increase the volume of mail to Congress and influence vital AIDS and civil rights legislation.

The two new toll-free mailgram hotlines, now in operation, let gay and lesbian constituents and their supporters send hard-hitting messages on important issues, instantaneously, to their senators and representatives. One hotline is for AIDS, the other is for civil rights and fairness issues.

The Action Hotline is the first step in a new HRCF campaign called the "Speak Out" program. "Speak Out" is designed to dramatically increase pressure on Capitol Hill using hotlines and other strategies to be announced in the near future.

"The hotlines are weapons we'll use to combat and offset the radical right's extremely effective grassroots mail machine," said Steve Endean, HRCF Field Division director. "We still lose too often because members of Congress are flooded by mail from our opponents. Congress doesn't hear from the majority on our side. The hotlines are designed to help change that."

Both hotlines have the same 800 number, but different operator numbers. To send a mailgram, callers dial, without charge, 1-800-257-4900 (day or night) and ask for either Operator 9184 for AIDS messages or Operator 9188 for lesbian and gay rights messages. The operator will read three 50-word messages on Congressional issues identified by HRCF as targets for grassroots pressure.

The mailgrams cost \$4.50 each (additional mailgrams are \$4) and are charged to the caller's telephone bill. The prepared mailgrams can be changed by HRCF on a regular basis to coordinate with legislative priorities and strategy.

The hotlines were originally used during the Robert Bork nomination fight and during initial battles with Jesse Helms over anti-gay amendments to AIDS bills. However, increased reliance on pre-authorized mailgrams overshadowed the hotlines. But, says Endean, hotline-generated mailgrams and pre-authorized Speak Out mail are now needed for the most effective pressure program.

UNFAIRNESS

Fairness. That's all we're asking for. Protection from unfair discrimination in jobs and housing. An end to anti-gay violence. Immigration reform. Defeat of bigoted laws denying human dignity and equal justice to lesbians and gay men.

It isn't too much to ask. But far-right zealots have flooded Congress with anti-gay mail and we lose too often. You can change this.

FIGHT BACK FOR FAIRNESS.

CALL 1-800-257-4900

Send Congress a message. Ask for Operator 9188. Choose a prepared mailgram. Only \$4.50 each, charged to your telephone. If you don't know who your legislator is, the operator does.

CALL NOW!

The Speak Out mailgram campaign is sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign Fund. For further info, contact the Field Division, HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013 or call (202) 638-4190.

Plans Announced for Southern HRCF Dinner

The Atlanta Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner Committee hosted a cocktail party on February 25 to announce plans for their upcoming fundraising dinner scheduled for May 20. Last year the dinner, and a brunch held the following day, raised more than \$130,000 making it the most successful event of its kind in the South for lesbian and gay concerns.

HRCF, established in 1980, is the 9th largest independent political action committee in the country. It lobbies, educates and helps elect members of the U.S. Congress who support civil rights for lesbians and gays and increased funding for AIDS research and treatment.

This year's dinner, with the theme "In Our Lifetime...", is expected to raise even more money than last year, according to Dr. Jackie Johnson, co-chair of the Dinner Committee. "Last year we had 650 people. This year the dinner will be held at the Hyatt Regency where we can seat 850 people."

"The theme we chose for this year is indicative of HRCF's vision for our community", she continued.

"HRCF is a goal-oriented organization and we want to get people thinking about what goals for lesbians and gays they would like to see accomplished in their lifetime."

HRCF has proven to be very successful at reaching goals. Last year, contributions totalling over \$400,000 were given to 111 sympathetic Congressional hopefuls and incumbents—91 were winners. Also, more than \$33,000 was given to progressive groups and \$66,000 was spent in fighting Sen. Jesse Helms' (R-NC) "killer" amendments to federal AIDS legislation.

Johnson, along with co-chair Dr. Stosh Ostrow, are also southern representatives on

the HRCF board of directors. At a board meeting held last month, goals and directions were set for 1989. Among these was a vote to contribute \$5,000 to the National Lesbian Conference scheduled for late 1989 or early 1990. Four HRCF board members will attend the national planning meeting March 3-6 in Durham, N.C. Johnson's hope is that a board member will be elected to serve on the steering committee for the conference.

"I want to see more women involved in HRCF," she said. "At last year's dinner we had close to 35% women, and this year I would like to see even more." Johnson is the chair of HRCF's Lesbian Outreach

Committee. She hopes to increase the visibility of women in the organization and will push for sponsoring issues of interest to women at large.

HRCF's board also established a woman's right to privacy as a goal for 1989. Plans will be put in place to help retain *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion. The decision is under fire and is expected to be brought up

before the Court this year.

This year's dinner will feature comic Tom Ammiano as emcee, and dance music will be provided by the Fabulous Dyketones. The keynote speaker has not been confirmed but rumor has it will be Sen. Tony Coelho (D-CA). As at last year's dinner, several awards will be presented—the Dan Bradley Humanitarian Award and the Community Action Award. Last year's winners were Representative John Lewis (D-GA), and the Atlanta March Committee, respectively.

—Christina Cash



Drs. Stosh Ostrow and Jackie Johnson, co-chairs of the Atlanta HRCF Dinner Committee, and Hilary Rosen (center), co-chair of the HRCF Board of Directors,

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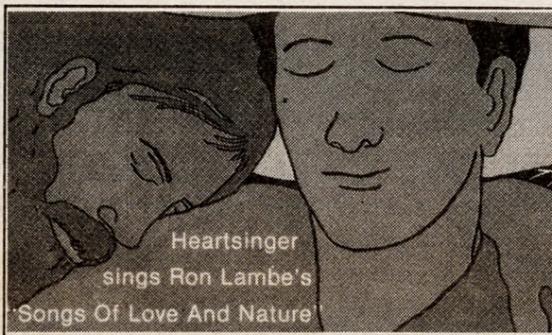
Here's an experiment to try regardless of your musical tastes. Turn on your radio. Listen to pop, country or soul for one hour. Notice how many of the songs sung fall into two categories: heartbreak and desire. Not to spoil your research, I'll share my own findings. Popular stations play almost nothing outside of those two categories. How, one might ask, does the repetition of these themes affect the listener?

Here's one theory: Jello Biafra of the Dead Kennedys talks on his album "No More Cocoon" about the rule in the music industry that promotes the themes of heartbreak and desire, i.e. romance—to the exclusion of all other themes. He calls popular music "government music". Popular music rarely touches on the political or spiritual aspects of our being. What it does touch on and reinforces, and reinforces, and reinforces, is that having somebody to love equates with happiness (desire gratified) and the flipside of happiness, heartbreak, comes from losing your lover (only to be remedied by getting him back or finding another pronto).

What we are talking about here is co-dependence or addiction to love (and sex and melodrama). People who are co-dependent come from unhealthy families (find a healthy family in this culture) where substance abuse, neurosis, workaholicism, sexual abuse and physical abuse exist overtly or covertly. Simply put, we are all to one degree or another co-dependent. Co-dependence is a complex phenomenon that we each need to be aware of. Otherwise, we listen to our radios mindlessly (or watch TV or conduct our affairs) subject to subtle programming that keeps us focused on romantic love, buying its accouterments, living less than half a life. We neglect our need for community, creativity, spiritual deepening, and social change.

On the other hand, music can enchant, inspire, arouse, redeem and bring us closer to transcendence and transformation. Some popular artists do this for us. Tracy Chapman and Mark Isham are two examples of musicians who are popular and yet retain artistic integrity. However, if you are looking for music that will raise your consciousness and change your life, you are not likely to find it at K-mart or in the big record supermarkets in shopping malls. This is especially true if the recording artist is gay or politically to the left. What follows are two recent records that through the channel of your ears will nourish your heart and soul.

HEARTSINGER, a.k.a. Richard Strange, is known to many for his unusual countertenor singing at fairy gatherings. He has recorded Ron Lambe's "Songs of Love and Nature" using his high voice and his tenor with interesting effect. Ron Lambe chose poems from the journal to make into art songs that are reminiscent of songs by Debussy and Ravel. The art song is an underappreciated musical form that combines classical music and poetry. It is an acquired taste.



Heartsinger's vocals are perfect for Ron's songs, sometimes playful, sometimes hauntingly sad. His countertenor recalls Klaus Nomi (sans the camp). His tenor is earnest and androgynous. Friends I've played the tape for have wondered about the sex of the singer. For fairy music, this is a high compliment. The songs are grouped into four sections, each with its own distinct mood moving from the melancholy to the transcendent. The words and music mix well in telling a tale of country living, gay consciousness and love of nature. Heartsinger's vocals are always sincere. He puts his heart in his music and deserves respectful attention for his efforts. The full 60-minute tape may be ordered for \$12 from Lavender Lieder, Rt. 1 Box 115, Bakersville, NC 28705.



Geof Morgan

GEOF MORGAN is the chief troubadour of the changing men's movement. He sings about social change, real relationships and spiritual quandaries with a county accent. It's true to his origins as a singer/songwriter in Nashville where once upon a time he wrote schmaltzy ballads for the likes of Barbara Mandrell and Ronnie Milsap. He left Nashville to follow the part of his heart's concerns for greater justice and social harmony. His songs are as brave as he is. His new album, "Talk It Over," is a mix of serious social commentary and tender talk about the complexities inherent in living with an open heart to the world. He sings about AIDS, male friendship, male violence, working things out and daring to dream in a well recorded album that features Nina Gerber's wonderful guitar and back-up vocals from Charlie Murphy, Kim Scanlon and Randy Hilfman. The album is available for \$10 from Edgework, Box 4082, Bellingham, WA 98227 or from Flying Fish Records.

— Franklin Abbott

This article first appeared in RFD and is reprinted with permission.

Review

Dangerous Liaisons

Stephen Frears' *Dangerous Liaisons* is exceptionally light on its feet, especially for a costume film draped in bolts of ravishing, heavy fabrics, and in the smothering decorum of 18th-century French aristocracy.

An adaptation by Christopher Hampton of his own 1985 dramatization of Laclos's epistolary novel (1782), the film is better than the play. The ending has been altered meaningfully and some of Hampton's more windy dialogue has been cut, permitting Frears to accelerate the pulse of the film's dynamics.

Those dynamics consist of the tension between sex, religion and revenge. The Marquise de Merteuil (Glenn Close) wagers her former lover, the Vicomte de Valmont (John Malkovich), that if he can seduce the pious and faithful wife Tourvel (Michelle Pfeiffer), she will offer herself to him sexually as his reward.

Valmont accepts the challenge. His aunt Rosemonde (Mildred Natwick) has an assemblage of guests visiting her, including the deeply religious Tourvel, and later, Volanges (Swoosie Kurtz) and her virgin daughter Cecile. Valmont seizes this opportunity to set in motion his plan to seduce Tourvel, flicking off Cecile's virginity as a minor distraction.

But the unthinkable happens. On walks in Rosemonde's beautiful summer gardens, feelings akin to love begin to seep through the armor of Valmont's deceit. He is moved and puzzled as Tourvel grows more willing to abdicate the sanctity of her beliefs on his behalf, to sacrifice the tranquility of her mind.

And herein lie the defects in the film. Foremost, as Valmont, John Malkovich is badly miscast. Physically he lacks the carriage, the trained elegance, of a man of Valmont's rank. His line readings, lazy and rather bored, are bereft of the eloquence and particular guile of mind that must be Valmont's chief assets.

Michelle Pfeiffer plays Tourvel with an affecting mixture of modesty and vulnerability, but the piteousness that should be hers at the film's close is never conveyed. This is partly the fault of Malkovich's misconceived performance, and partly because, as written, Pfeiffer's scenes with Malkovich never reach the depths that would permit her to bare her soul to him.

Fortunately, Glenn Close's performance as Merteuil is a beautifully tuned piece of vengeful sensibility. She tells Valmont that her crusade is "to dominate your sex" and "avenge my own." Cruelty dawns on her face exultantly; behind the mask of her immaculate politesse, she experiences the sheer anticipation of revenge as a fully pleasurable experience.

This is a wonderfully crafted picture. It was shot by the immensely gifted Philippe Rousselot (*Diva, Hope and Glory*), who uses color and lighting here to achieve a deeper concentration on character and mood. And the incisive editing of Mick Audsley (*Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*) propels the story forward through skillful intercutting that creates an unexpected degree of anticipation in the viewer.

Frears' direction is very fine. He knows how to utilize the beauty of the various chateaux without becoming a tourist; where to place his camera and when (though his rationale for focus racking eludes); and how to choreograph his actors within the frame.

If only Valmont had been played by an actor less indifferent to detail and invention. If only Hampton's dialogue were as vivid as the scenery, and evoked the range of Merteuil and Valmont's contempt, their irony and their cunning, their final desolations.

— Terry Francis



Glenn Close as the Marquise de Merteuil in *Dangerous Liaisons*.

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SOUTHERN VOICE CALENDAR

This Week's Highlights

•**AIDS-The Women** – March 2nd. Ines Rieder is the co-editor of this impressive anthology and a founder of "Connections," the international feminist reader. There will be first person accounts by women who have AIDS/ARC, are HIV positive, and women who care for those who do. Global, personal, local – this promises to be an interesting evening. Donations will be helpful in covering Rieder's travel expenses. Interpreted for the Hearing Impaired. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30 PM Free and open to the public. 524-0304.

•**Pro-Choice Forum** – March 2nd. In recognition of International Women's Day, the forum will open with a panel addressing legal, racial, medical and religious ramifications created by restrictions being placed on women's reproductive rights. Emory University, White Hall, Room 205. 8 PM. Call 365-5311. Sponsored by COOR (Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue).

•**Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus Benefit** – March 4th. "Atlanta bandstand: Gay Tunes of the 50's thru the 80's" is a fundraiser for the AFWC. Participants/spectators are encouraged to come dressed in the style of one's favorite decade. \$5.00. First Existentialist Church. 470 Candler Park Drive.

•**"Bulldyke in a China Shop"** – March 5th. Lea DeLaria (*Dos Lesbos*) brings her own brand of physical comedy to the stage again in this exciting performance. Angela Motter also performs in this tribute to laughter *and* music. Interpretation for Hearing-Impaired. Wheelchair Accessible. Next City Comedy Theatre. 696 Cleburne Terrace. \$7-9. Call Jessi for info at 876-1831.



THURSDAY

2 **AIDS: The Women.** Ines Rieder is the co-editor of this impressive anthology. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland. 524-0304.

Pro-Choice Forum. Panel discussion on issues surrounding restrictions being placed on women's reproductive rights. Room 205, White Hall. Emory University. 8 PM. 365-5311.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo. South African acapella group. Center Stage Theatre. 8 PM. \$16. 641-2974.

The Wellness Workshop. Holistic approach to AIDS survival. 641-2974.

FRIDAY

3 **Sacred Music & Dance of Tibet.** Thru March 4th. Academy of Medicine. 875 W. Peachtree St. 377-7777.

N.O.W. Atlanta chapter sponsors pro-choice activities each week to prepare for April 9th March on Washington. 523-1227.

Girl from Hunan. This 1988 film is a visual stunner of arranged marriage and adultery. Subtitled. Part of the HMA's "Forbidden City" exhibit. 1280 Peachtree St. Rich Auditorium. 8 PM. \$3. Pictured at right.



SATURDAY

4 **Boys of the Lough.** Theatre Gael and Windstorm Productions presents this acclaimed Irish group. 8:30 PM. Center Stage. \$12. 873-2500.

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus. A fundraiser with gay tunes from the 50s through the 80s. First Existentialist Church. 470 Candler Park Dr. 8-11:30 PM. \$5.

11 **Jazz vibist Jerry Jachoir performs.** Reservations suggested. Picasso's Performance Café. 515-B McDonough St. Decatur. 377-7379. Pictured below.

Lesbian Potluck! Chem-free. Little 5 Points Community Center. 7 PM. 522-5623.

American Juke Box. Thru March 12. Buckhead Roxy. Sat., 7 and 10 PM. Sun., 3 PM. \$15 - 21. 873-4300.



SUNDAY

5 **"1st Annual** An evening of live Cajun music special performance by the Four Skins. A Benefit Project Open Hand. Inman Trolley Barn. 963 Edgewood. 4-10 PM. 266-8793.

"Bulldyke in a China Shop" Lea DeLaria (*Dos Lesbos*) performs. Photo at right. Angela Motter also appears. Next City Comedy Theatre. 696 Cleburne Terrace. 7 PM. \$7-9. 876-1819.

12 **"Anne of Green Gables"** acclaimed special performance by headstrong young women to give up hope. Ch. 8.

ALFA Feminist meeting welcome. Atlanta information.

9 **Nina Wiener Dance Company.** Atlanta debut of this troupe features two works commissioned by the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Recommended. Gaines Chapel of Presser Hall in Decatur. 8:15 PM. \$7 - 10. 371-6430.

UULGC (Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Community). Monthly meeting. Spiritual support group for religious liberals. 8PM. 634-5134.



Red Sorghum. Sweeping fable of 30's and 40's China. Subtitled. Part of HMA's Exhibit, "Master-works of Ming and Qing, etc." 1280 Peachtree St. 8 PM. 892-1198.

"Queen of the Blues." Jomandi Productions. A musical tribute to vocalist Dinah Washington. Thru March 26th. Academy Theater, 14th & Juniper. 892-0880.

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Next Week's Highlights

•**June Akers Seese & Gail Turcotte** - March 9th. These poetic female authors deal with a variety of topics - incest, addiction, recovery, alienation and confusion. Seese, who teaches writing at Callanwolde and Spelman College, will be reading from her short story collection. Charis Books and More. 419 Moreland Avenue. 7:30 PM. Free and open to the public. Call 524-0304 for more.

•**Nina Wiener Dance Company** - March 9th. This highly-charged troupe makes its Atlanta debut. Wiener, having danced with Twyla Tharp, studied with Paul Taylor and Alvin Ailey, has been called "the most gifted modern dance choreographer to come along since Paul Taylor." Gaines Chapel of Presser Hall, Agnes Scott College, Decatur. 8:15 PM. \$7-10. Call 371-6430 for more information. Pictured at left.

•**Emily Colette** - March 10th. Concert harpsichordist goes for Baroque in this performance of favorites from France, Germany and Italy. That's her, tuning up now! Cannon Chapel, Emory University. 8:15 PM. 727-4449.

•**Red Sorghum** - March 10th. Part of Chinese Cinema's "Fifth Generation" and in conjunction with the High Museum's Chinese Exhibit, this film gives a sweeping view of 30's & 40's China. Characters deal with lusty romantic comedy and the brutality of war upon the Japanese invasion. 8 PM. High Museum. 1280 Peachtree Street. 892-1192.



Y MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

Hooper's Hoedown. " of Country & Western, music, dancing and a rformance fit for Park od Ave. op." ngela City urname.



6 Gypsy Kings. Gypsy music and dance at Center Stage. 8:30 PM. \$14. Recommended.

Pride of Peachtree. Atlanta's lesbian & gay marching band. Every Monday night. First MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30 -9 PM. 434-7826 or 951-1591.

7 Insane Jane. The Shadow Puppets. The Point, in Little Five Points. \$3.

Ethics in America: Under Orders, Under Fire. U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich is one of the panelists in this special two-hour program on ethics in the military. (Isn't that an oxymoron?) Ch. 8 WGTV; 10 PM.

8 International Women's Day Demonstration. 6:30 PM. Call 365-5311 for details.

Frances Pauley. Capitol crusader and social activist, Pauley will be honored at an event sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Women's Studies at Georgia State; 201 Urban Life Center. Call Maryanne at 651-3476; or Linda Bell at 651-2277.

Ben Gables. Highly acial presentation of the ung orphan who refuses e and dreams. 4 - 8 PM. WGTV.

(Atlanta lesbian ist Alliance). Monthly gs, 6 PM. All lesbians ne. Write P.O. Box 5502, a, 30307 for more ation.

13 LAMP (Living AIDS Memorial Park) Project. Monthly meeting. 7:30 PM. North Highland Branch Library. Call 874-3107 or 872-7568.



14 ALGPC (Atlanta Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee). Monthly meeting. 7:30 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Church. Volunteers are needed to insure this year's march is a success!

1939: Bernard Blier was born. The French director was best known for his unconventional sex comedies, which treated homosexuality nonchalantly.

15 The NAMES Project/Atlanta. A national AIDS memorial. Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Write to 375 Georgia Ave., Atlanta, 30312.

ELGO (Emory Lesbian and Gay Organization). Every Wednesday. Room 363-E Dobbs University Center. 7 PM. Call 377-7421.

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ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BWMT- Black and White Men Together. 1st Sat. of each month. 8:00 PM. Location varies. A gay inter-racial organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. 794-BWMT.

Circle of Healing- 1st and 3rd Sun. of each month. 4 PM. First Existentialist Church. The Circle is open to anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual.

CODA- Codependents Anonymous - Lambda. A 12-step program of recovery from codependency for gays and lesbians. Meetings Tues. & Wed. at 8:00 PM. For info and locations call: 239-1657.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lutherans Concerned/South Carolina- A society of gay, lesbian and non-gay Christians. All denominations welcome. We work to foster a climate of understanding, justice and reconciliation among all people. 3rd Sunday of each month. 4 PM. 728 Pickens St., Columbia, SC. Contact: PO Box 90537, Columbia, SC, 29290. (803) 732-0838.

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

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

NAPWA- Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS. 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. 7:00 PM. 1132 W. Peachtree St. A political, social, and educational organization confronting the AIDS crisis. Membership is open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV positive. 874-7926.

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

P-FLAG- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. 3rd Sunday of each month. 3-5 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Committed to help parents learn what we have learned. To help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding, so all gay people can live with dignity and respect. 961-6085 or 296-0830.

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

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

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

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

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

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

WOW- Women of Wisdom. Usually every 3rd Monday of each month. 7:30 PM. North Highland Branch Library. Aims to facilitate women meeting together with other women in a pleasant atmosphere. Offers timely programs of interest to the community, reaches out to older women and women with special needs. 984-9929.

GAPAC Commentary*

On Burnout, Evil Twins, Subtle Issues, and Survival

This could be the shortest commentary ever. I'm tempted to type in: "I quit!", grin broadly, turn it in and walk out - a free woman.

Not so long ago I was one of the anonymous many who comprise our community. Now, after a short time in the public eye, having worked in and led GAPAC, I think fondly of those days and flirt with the fantasy of settling back into that comfortable niche.

Several things contribute to this malaise. Part of it is disgust, stemming from an exhausted overexposure to the rampant egos and frailties of human nature that inevitably go with those who choose to lead, rather than follow or get out of the way. Cyla Nelson, a therapist friend of mine, commented that the people who seek out positions of leadership, generally do so because their ego craves the attendant power, which makes them automatically the most suspect portion of the population to hold said position. Catch-22. And if you believe the therapy concept that that which drives you nuttiest is that with which you yourself are struggling, I suppose I'm no exception. (No, no; that's my evil twin sister!)

Then there's acknowledging and balancing against our own agenda the monumental problems facing society at large. Why do we work on these selective issues when there are people sleeping under bridges, going hungry, unable to read, helpless and abused? What propriety do the phantasms of "civil rights" for a relatively comfortable group hold, in the face of these pressing needs?

Ah, there's the rub. "Relatively comfortable." I've fallen into twin traps: that of thinking of us as a homogeneous, middle-to-upper middle class mass; and that of deducing that, comparably speaking, we really have nothing to complain about. Both are false, false, false.

Generally, the things that restrict our freedom as citizens in this country are small, inconspicuous limitations. While it is alarming to hear that the guys who murdered the woman in Buckhead were originally planning to bust a few gay heads, that kind of revelation is rare. More likely, the ill will that exists toward us is subtle, non-violent, and

unexpressed...without *and within* our very selves.

To further obscure the "enemy," most bigots of whatever persuasion are not totally evil people. They're just plain folks, and it's easy to excuse the small portion of their ignorance that limits us, in light of the "overall picture." In fact, to avoid total despair and be effective in political maneuvering, it's sometimes necessary to conscientiously bypass that bigotry, to emphasize and cultivate that social common ground that facilitates a mutually beneficial agreement.

But that can make it so much harder to keep our activist *raison d'être* in mind.

The social needs mentioned above often seem so much more critical. Perhaps they are, short-term. Perhaps we should all be working on them just as hard as we work on our own concerns. But though they may be immediately pressing, we ignore the threat of homophobia at the peril of our individual and collective, psychological and occasionally physical, wellbeing. The issues may be subtle, but they are no less critical.

The point is, we should ALL BE WORKING, in a visible way. Whether it's on gay/lesbian issues, or on general social concerns, we should all count, make our voice heard as people and AS LESBIANS AND GAY MEN, somewhere. Not heretically, not round-the-clock, just a small contribution here and there.

So I'm sticking it out for a while longer. Because I really care for the mission and success of GAPAC, and I'm encouraged that several people who clearly do care, and are willing to contribute their time, have joined our Board. We need more of you: particularly do we want to hear from our own minorities. We need disabled people, we need more women and people of color. No organization can prosper that suffers from a talent drain which saps it of its experience, if the fresh troops arrive too late to work with the seasoned ones. Join us: we really do need you.

- Marie J. Murray

*GAPAC (gay-pak) n. How it sounds is what we are: Atlanta's local gay/lesbian political action committee, working for us all since 1984.

VOTE '89 Launches Voter Registration Campaign

VOTE '89, an Atlanta-based grassroots organization, has been formed by co-chairs Rich Jones and Bob Briggs for the purpose of increasing the number of Atlanta's lesbians and gay men who are registered to vote. The group's goal is 3,500 new registrations before the Labor Day deadline for this October's local elections. The group is not affiliated with any specific candidate, political party or other organization.

"The heat is on Atlanta's gay community," said co-chair Rich Jones, "to make their voices heard as loudly and clearly as possible in the halls of power. Obviously, the first steps toward full participation in the political process are first to register and then to vote. In the wake of last year's election results, we have adopted the campaign slogan, 'The Heat Is On!' Until there are significant numbers of lesbians and gays registered to vote in Atlanta, our political officials will not recognize us as a legitimate part of their constituency whose issues and concerns have to be addressed along with everybody else's."

The group is seeking interested volunteers who would be willing to take a special 3-hour course to become certified as voter registrars and then to donate 4-6 hours per month to work at selected registration sites in Fulton and DeKalb Counties. All who are interested in helping VOTE '89 turn up the heat should contact Martin Reece at 523-4167 weekdays during business hours for further information.

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AIDS and Insurance: Discrimination Under the Law

In February of 1988, John Doe was diagnosed with AIDS Related Complex (ARC). John, an Atlanta attorney, notified Durham Life Insurance Company, a company which had provided major medical insurance to him for five years, and an AIDS-related claim was filed. Effective April 1, 1988, Durham Life attached a rider to his policy, reducing major medical benefits from \$1,000,000 to \$50,000 for the care and treatment "related to or resulting from AIDS."

Investigations into this case, and the resulting lawsuit, have uncovered a variety of discriminatory insurance practices. Discrimination falls into two broad categories - initial access to health insurance and limitations encountered when filing specific AIDS-related claims.

Practices which are prohibitive to initial access occur when companies such as Blue Cross and Jefferson-Pilot only insure groups of 100 or more individuals to minimize the problems of insuring small "high risk" groups. In fact, many companies no longer write major medical policies for groups of any size.

Those who continue to write policies, such as Reserve Life Insurance Company,



**Blue Cross
Blue Shield
of Georgia**

Durham Life

often require potential clients to sign an exclusion from indicating the company's refusal to cover "total disability due to AIDS" and medical expense limitations "as a result of treatment, services of supplies received for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome." Stipulations such as these are enacted in an effort to minimize losses resulting from AIDS-related claims.

No matter how good the coverage, there are certain procedures associated with specific AIDS-related claims that may or may not be covered because a company will deem them experimental. With FDA approval, the use of AZT became standard medical practice for which insurance companies will pay. However, the use of a nebulizer for pentamidine aerosol misting is considered experimental and some companies may not pay for the nebulizer, even though the treatment recently received FDA Treatment IND (Investigational New Drug) status for use against pneumocystis carinii pneumonia.

Insurance companies argue that AIDS is an illness too expensive to insure. To combat rising healthcare costs, companies such as Blue Cross have increased renewal rates by as much as 50 percent for some group plans. According to Tom Kinser, chairman and chief executive officer of Blue Cross, "Rate increases alone probably won't be a solution." He suggested that his company may begin offering group plans that do not cover major health categories, including AIDS-related illnesses, psychiatric care and organ transplants.

Byron Cairns, Director of Public Relations for Cigna, could not be reached for comment on how AIDS-related claims are affecting health maintenance organizations (HMO's).

Guilt by Association as a Business Strategy

Excluding certain "high risk" groups from major medical insurance, a practice known as redlining, has been utilized to deny health care to individuals such as hairdressers, employees of bars, cocktail lounges and restaurants, and, as in John Doe's case, attorneys. Insurance carriers will "redline" a particular profession or industry when claims for individuals in that group become excessive.

Durham Life and Casualty, the company which slashed John Doe's coverage after receiving his first AIDS-related claim, offers major medical to members of the Georgia Bar Association. The company paid \$251,900 in AIDS-related claims for five individuals during a one year period. The figure represents 17 percent of the total claims for the period, a figure which is 34 times the national average.

In its worst forms, insurance companies may redline to deny insurance to all applicants from heavily gay areas. In San Francisco, HealthAmerica agreed to pay \$250,000 to settle an AIDS discrimination suit. The company was secretly rejecting all San Francisco residents in an effort to avoid AIDS-related medical expenses.

A lawsuit pending in New York involves a 26-year-old graduate student who was denied insurance due to "blood abnormalities." The insurance agent, however, told the applicant's father several times that the company approached the application with extreme caution because the student was a single male who lived in New York City with another male. The student is not gay, but the company's perception of his sexuality is another example of how redlining can be used to deny access to insurance.

Getting Around the Law

By requiring HIV antibody testing for coverage, insurance companies have made it all but impossible for many gay men to access individual insurance coverage. Since the reversal of laws in Massachusetts and Washington, D.C., there are few restrictions on HIV antibody testing by insurance companies. Regulations barring the use of the HIV antibody test as a method to assess the suitability of applicants for health insurance, has recently been invalidated by the New York Supreme Court. The State of New York is in the process of appealing the decision.

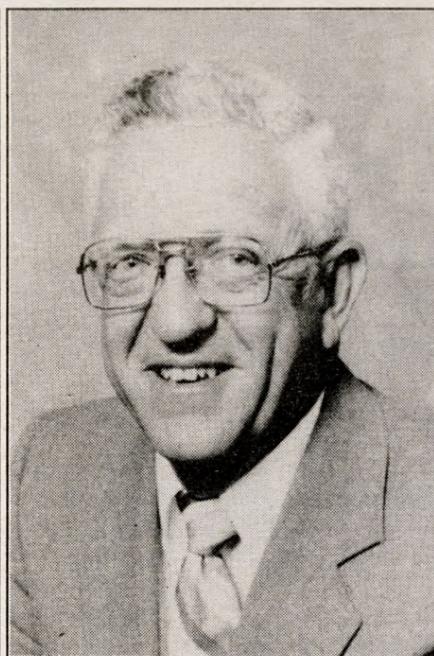
In Georgia, the Omnibus AIDS Bill passed last year by the General Assembly requires informed consent prior to the submission of blood samples to a Georgia-licensed laboratory for HIV antibody testing. Pre-AIDS test counseling must also be provided by designated health care workers under the law.

Insurance companies, however, have circumvented these provisions by sending blood samples to an out-of-state laboratory for testing. Additionally, if someone other than a designated health care worker collects the samples, pre-AIDS test counseling may be omitted.

Sharing HIV antibody test results, as well as other pertinent information, is common practice not only between affiliates but also from one company to another. The information is readily available through an industry-wide network of computers.

Regulations recently enacted by the Insurance Commission of Georgia, require that, "whenever an applicant is requested to take an AIDS-related test in connection with an application for insurance, the use of such a test must be revealed to the applicant and his or her written consent obtained."

Other provisions of the regulation include



Warren D. Evans
Georgia Insurance Commissioner

limitations on the screening questions designed to reveal a pre-existing condition, as well as restrictions on questions designed to "establish the sexual orientation of the applicant." Further, existing policies may not contain provisions excluding expenses due to AIDS or ARC, and may not place lower limits on the benefits available for these treatments. This stipulation applies to individuals who are presently insured or have been shown to have a pre-existing condition, and therefore does not increase access to those who are seeking insurance.

Members of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP/Atlanta) filed written exception to portions of the new

regulations. Specifically, ACT-UP is opposed to any requirement that potential insureds submit to HIV antibody tests. "While these regulations are a move forward, more sweeping changes are necessary. As a matter of public policy, this state should encourage voluntary, anonymous HIV tests for those who believe it would be beneficial," stated Chip Rowan of ACT-UP.

The Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition supports several pieces of legislation before the current session of the General Assembly. Specifically, a proposal calling for the development of a high risk insurance pool has been drafted by the House Insurance Committee, and would provide insurance coverage for the now uninsurable chronically ill.

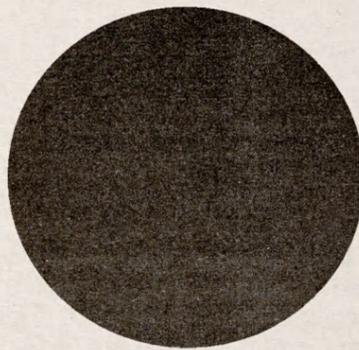
A package of insurance reform bills calling for public release of valid complaints against insurance companies, Insurance Commission approval of rate hikes and underwriting changes, and the creation of an insurance consumer advocate is being introduced by Sen. Bud Stumbaugh. More sweeping reform is expected to be introduced to the Fulton County Commission by Commission Chair Michael Lomax. Changes enacted as a result of the ordinance would, however, only affect residents of Fulton County.

Had this legislation been in effect last year, some of John Doe's problems would not have come about. According to Jeffrey Bramlett, President of the Georgia Chapter of the ACLU, "Access to healthcare is still the primary problem. Proposed legislation will broaden access, but states are limited in their ability to enact change. Issues such as these can only be addressed effectively on a national level."

For more information about insurance and AIDS in Georgia, call the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition at 662-9274.

-Linda Meredith

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FDA Upgrades Status of Pentamidine

Rockville, MD—The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced approval Feb. 6 of "Treatment IND (Investigational New Drug)" status for aerosolized pentamidine, the drug treatment which has shown the most promise in the fight against AIDS-related pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP).

Treatment IND status is the last phase in the FDA's drug approval process before full authorization is given to a new drug or treatment. Officials at the FDA expect aerosolized pentamidine to follow approximately the same time path as AZT — three and a half months between Treatment IND status conferral and full approval.

Although already in use by many AIDS patients, aerosol pentamidine treatments have not previously been covered by insurance companies because its usage was classified as experimental. Based on the new Treatment IND classification, however, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance announced recently that it will begin reimbursing patients for aerosol pentamidine treatments.

The Treatment IND was granted based on clinical research by a San Francisco consortium of health care providers, and establishes for the first time the proper dosage and delivery system for aerosolized pentamidine, according to Brad Stone, an FDA spokesperson.

"Unlike most Treatment IND's, this one (for aerosolized pentamidine) is not going to expand distribution of the drug that much," said Stone. Its main purpose is to "make physicians aware of the proper dosage and to set-up a standardized administrative procedure," he said.

According to LyphoMed, the pharmaceutical company that developed aerosolized pentamidine, up to sixty-five percent of people with AIDS (PWA) contract PCP in the course of their illness, and it is the leading cause of death for PWAs.

Although a few companies such as John Hancock have agreed to begin covering the cost of aerosol pentamidine, AIDS activists remain skeptical that any real progress will be made until full FDA approval of the treatment is granted. Jean O'Leary, executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates, was quoted by the *Washington Blade* as saying "I don't think this will prompt insurance companies to pay for (aerosol pentamidine)."

Officials at FDA and LyphoMed are more optimistic, and believe that the cost factors will quickly bring insurance companies around. LyphoMed estimates that the cost for one year of aerosolized pentamidine treatments — including the medication, equipment and labor — is \$2,100, as compared with an average hospitalization cost of \$12,000 per episode of PCP.

The Treatment IND "should encourage insurance companies sitting on the fence to reimburse AIDS patients for the treatment," said the FDA's Stone.

—Chris Duncan



BEN THORNBERRY

More than 1000 activists stormed the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last October demanding that Commissioner Frank Young speed up the U.S. drug approval process.

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OBITUARIES

Michael Hirsch, Founder of PWA Coalition, Dies at 34

Michael Hirsch, an outspoken advocate for the rights of people with AIDS, died Friday, February 3, in New York City of AIDS-related complications. He was 34.

A native of Long Island, Hirsch was the founder of Body Positive, an education and support group for those testing positive for the AIDS antibody. He was also a co-founder and the first executive director of the New York People With AIDS Coalition.

Hirsch was co-chair of the National Association of People With AIDS and a member of the board of directors of the National AIDS Network. For that organization he co-authored a book on starting local groups for people with AIDS. He also contributed articles to the book *Surviving and Thriving With AIDS*.

Artie Wallace, First PWA Dad Granted Custody, Dies

Artie Wallace, the nation's first person with AIDS to be granted primary physical custody of a child, died Sunday, January 29, in Fortuna, California, of AIDS-related complications. He was 33.

Wallace was granted custody of his 10-year-old son, Shawn, after two years of custody battles with his former wife, Julia. They had shared custody of the boy until she learned Wallace had AIDS.

In June of last year, the court awarded Artie Wallace full custody of the boy. Wallace said the ruling indicated "Gays can be good parents" and that people with AIDS "can physically care for their children and should be allowed to do so."

In addition to his son, Wallace is survived by his lover, Rodney Chilton, two brothers, and one sister.



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Campaign Formed to Challenge Anti-Gay/Lesbian Bias in Entertainment Industry; Sam Kinison Record Targetted

In response to pervasive anti-gay/lesbian bias in the entertainment industry, three national gay rights and feminist organizations have launched a long-term campaign to challenge bigotry within the industry. The "Campaign for Fairness In Entertainment" was launched by the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and the New York Chapter of the National Organization For Women (NY-NOW).

The immediate target of the campaign is a comedy routine by Sam Kinison recorded and distributed by Warner Brothers Records, and recently broadcast by Home Box Office. The record, entitled "Have You Seen Me Lately?" reinforces prejudice against gay men, lesbians and people with AIDS. The record is also extremely sexist. (See side-bar.)

"This action by entertainment industry leaders alarmed us deeply and made us committed to convincing the industry that such hate mongering is not only morally wrong but also, in the long run, financially unprofitable," explained GLAAD Director Craig Davidson.

Kinison's record drew complaints from AIDS activist organizations immediately upon its release in November of 1988. The Los Angeles chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP) retained the services of prominent feminist attorney Gloria Allred to negotiate with Warner Brothers Records. Warner Brothers quickly agreed to insert safer sex educational material in the Kinison records.

"We are drawing attention to this record



Sam Kinison

again because Kinison will soon be appearing in communities around the country on a concert tour. The Warner Label continues to promote this hate mongerer shamelessly," said Davidson. "No apology by Kinison was ever issued, and he continues in his routines and public interviews to insult and defame gay men, people with AIDS and women."

The Campaign for Fairness in Entertainment has three goals: (1) to make it unacceptable both economically and morally for the entertainment industry to subsidize and promote homophobia, sexism and racism; (2) to support equal opportunity for openly gay and lesbian workers and artists in the entertainment industry; and (3) to challenge the entertainment industry to take creative action to counter bigotry and intolerance by donating money to fund

community based programs that right racism, sexism and homophobia.

The Campaign will utilize a range of tactics from lobbying, negotiation, letter writing, and corporate education, to demonstrations, boycotts, direct action and other media activity.

Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF Media Director stated, "Hollywood and the entertainment industry remain extremely homophobic. Very few artists and workers in the industry are openly gay or lesbian. The industry mouths concern for AIDS education, while doing little to fight the underlying anti-gay prejudice that has inhibited the fight against AIDS for eight years now."

The Campaign For Fairness In Entertainment calls upon concerned individuals to register their dismay at the Kinison record and the extensive promotional support it has received from Warner Brothers records by doing the following: (1) boycotting Warner Brothers Records; (2) writing to Warner Brothers Records explaining that you are boycotting their records until the company demonstrates its opposition to prejudice against gay men and lesbians; and (3) protesting Kinison's concerts when he arrives in your home town.

Letters about Kinison's record may be sent to: Mo Ostin, Chairman, Warner Brothers Records, 3300 Warner Boulevard, Burbank, California 91510 (818) 846-9090. Copies of correspondence should be sent to GLAAD, 99 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10013.

Excerpts From "Have You Seen Me Lately"

On Safe Sex and Gays:

Safe sex, god damn these fucking bastards, get off of our backs! Because a few fags fuck some monkeys, they got so bored their assholes weren't enough, they had to go in the fucking jungle, grab some fucking monkey and fuck him in the ass, and bring us back the Black Plague of the '80s. Thanks guys! Because of this shit they want us to wear fucking rubbers.

On AIDS:

I know people freak, aren't you afraid of AIDS? Aren't you afraid of it? It's a communicable disease—heterosexuals die of it too. Name one! Name one fucking heterosexual. Yes, they're just dropping like flies. Yes, any day now. It's not our dance, alright? Fuck you, it's not our fucking dance.

On Women:

There's no choice. You have to be in love with women. But I was pissed, I said I'm gonna use women like Shake'n Bake bags.

On Lesbians:

I met this little lesbian, about this tall. I was out in California where you can meet women like that. She was, like, the first really gentle pretty one I'd ever met. Most lesbians are, like, "Hi there. My name's Alice. I own my own security business." Fucking big bitches, man, have an ass bigger than yours.

Raped Lesbian and Her Lover File Charges Against NY Hospital

New York—A 23-year-old woman treated at St. Vincent's Hospital after being raped and her 43-year-old lover plan to file charges against the hospital for their brutal treatment there, according to the *Village Voice*.

According to the *Voice* report, trouble started with the arrival of the rape victim's lover, Joy DeVincenzo. Security guards didn't want to let DeVincenzo into the room despite the wishes of her lover, identified only as Amy.

They were overruled by the intervention of a woman police officer who had accompanied Amy to the hospital. Amy, who could barely walk from her injuries, and who was covered with excrement, was left untreated for over four hours. During that period, DeVincenzo's presence was repeatedly questioned by various hospital workers and officials. She was excluded from the room during the examination by a male doctor, despite Amy's objections.

After the medical procedures, DeVincenzo was helping Amy arrange for a follow-up appointment when a nurse intervened and called security guards. The guards reportedly pinned DeVincenzo's arms behind her and shoved her out the nearest door. Once on the street they began kicking and beating her, attracting the notice of two passersby.

According to a witness, the guards called DeVincenzo a "man/woman" and a "fucking dyke." Amy's attempts to intervene resulted in her being kicked and kneed by the guards.

Police were called to the scene by both Amy and witnesses, only to arrest DeVincenzo and refuse to file charges against the security guards, saying, "that's his job."

According to a witness, the rape crisis counselor observed the entire attack and continued to try to interview Amy about the rape even while DeVincenzo was being publicly beaten. The Rape Crisis Program had no comment on the events.

Both women received medical care for injuries received during the attack. They plan to file charges against St. Vincent's and the guards involved.

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Entree: Semolina Fettuccini tossed with Red & Golden Bell Peppers, Shitake Mushrooms, fresh Spinach and Garlic, served in a Parmesan Cheese Cream Sauce.
Dessert: Golden Honey Peach Ice Cream with Tree of Life Lemon Cookies
Beverages: Evian Mineral Water
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"Screamingly funny."
—Bob Harrington, *New York Post*



BULLDYKE IN A CHINA SHOP

SUNDAY MARCH 5

SPECIAL GUEST
ANGELA MOTTER

NEXT CITY
COMEDY
THEATRE
(around from the Majestic)

showtime 7:00 pm
interpreted for the hearing impaired; wheelchair accessible
tickets \$7 in advance, \$9 at the door
Available:
Charis Books & More, 419 Moreland
Atlantis Connection New Age Bookstore, 1402 N. Highland

Ruling Planets

by Mary Bailey-Rule

SUN in PISCES March 1 to March 15

The Sun and Venus are in sensitive and emotional Pisces. Mars and Jupiter are visible in the west near the Pleiades after sunset, while Saturn and Neptune are visible above the southeast horizon before dawn during the first of the month. Good viewing with binoculars, if the skies are clear.

ARIES Mars moves from Taurus into

Gemini on the 11th, putting its energy into communication. Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are squaring by sign, so handle stress and tension before it builds.

TAURUS Mars and Jupiter both go into Gemini on the 10th and 11th, so it's full steam ahead with new projects. Give some thought to your plans for Spring.

GEMINI Lots of physical energy and optimism coming your way, just don't over-extend. Plan a short trip with a close friend and plan the next few months activities.

CANCER Chiron, the newest visitor to our solar system is in your sign, bringing out the truth and opportunities for healing. Trust your intuition and get some exercise.

LEO Due to Pluto in Scorpio squaring (stress and tension) your sign at 15 degrees, you may feel life is not exactly going your way, but be patient with yourself and others.

VIRGO Mercury, your ruling planet goes from Aquarius into Pisces on the 10th indicating a need for balance and keeping your perspective, especially in relationships.

LIBRA How are your relationships going? Take time to clear any confusion by getting in touch with your own values and preferences. Communicate!

SCORPIO Pluto, your ruling planet, is retrograde in your sign, so dreams may bring important information. Trust your instincts and close friends for feedback.

SAGITTARIUS Getting restless? Take a short trip. Get some exercise; you'll feel better when Spring is here. Your creative potential is high, so use it.

CAPRICORN Uranus, Saturn and Neptune are in your sign, so expect some change in your life. It's time to let go of the past and plan for the future.

AQUARIUS Mercury, ruling the mind and communication is with you till the 11th, so clean up your desk, network in your business and stay conscious of your feelings.

PISCES The Sun is in your sign, so let your enthusiasm show. Spend time with good friends, don't worry about tomorrow and enjoy your month. Happy Birthday!

Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer living in Atlanta. For information about chart interpretations, call 261-9343.

Dykes to Watch Out For



dit.t.a.r.s.w.a.E.t.

by Charles Haver



*AIDS-Services & Education

The Circle of Healing meets at the First Existential Church the first and third Sunday of every month from 3:45PM-5:30PM. The circle was organized in response to the AIDS crisis, but is not limited to people concerned with AIDS. Anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional or spiritual, is welcome. 470 Candler Park Drive. For info call 378-5570. (V2#3)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVE PEACE A DANCE with Avalon and the Roulettes! A dance-a-thon benefit for Nuclear Freeze/Job with Peace. Saturday, March 11, 8:30-1:00. Excelsior Mill. \$10 at the door. Call 523-5235 for more information. (V2#1)

Lesbian or gay ultimate frisbee players! A team now forming to play in Atlanta's summer league. Call Jessi at 876-1831 or 624-9916. (V2#3)

The Women's Resource Center of DeKalb County, a shelter for battered women, is currently recruiting new board members. This volunteer position requires a commitment to ending violence against women and children, and supporting the Center's philosophy. Training required. Women of color and formerly battered women are encouraged to apply. Call 688-9436 to request application. (V2#2)

*CHILD CARE

I love children! Will do child care in your home or mine. Can sit week nights or weekends. References upon request. 627-2962. Reasonable charges. (V2#3)

*EMPLOYMENT

Receptionist - Assistant for doctor's office. Must have basic clerical skills and excellent personality for dealing with people. Experience helpful but will train qualified person. To apply phone Dr. Blackton at 872-1094 between 9-6. (V2#3)

Administrative Secretary. Secretary to Administration Department of non-profit agency serving people with AIDS, educating public about AIDS and its prevention. Requires high school diploma or GED with at least 4 years experience in a secretarial or clerical position. Word processing required, knowledge of Lotus 1-2-3 helpful. Full benefits, salary range \$14M-18M. EOE. Affirmative Action employer. Application deadline: March 7, 1989. No phone calls. Resume and one-page cover letter to: Personnel Officer, AID Atlanta, 1132 W. Peachtree St., Atlanta, Ga. 30309. (V1#1)

Nursing assistants/sitters. Experienced, loving people to work exclusively with AIDS patients on an as needed basis. \$6-7/hour. Call Dean at Alliance Against AIDS at 261-6210. (V2#2)

Looking for apprentice in circus arts - clowning, magic, balancing. No experience necessary. Seek male with boyish looks, 18-25. Traveling in future, paid position - full or part time. Call 451-9212. Leave message for Marvin. (V2#2)

Little Five Points Bazaar looking for pottery, paintings, stained glass items, cloth goods, etc. from local artists. Please call Kelly at 577-8490. (V2#1)

FOR RENT

Candler Park. 1 bedroom duplex. \$375/month. \$100 deposit. Near MARTA. Pets & kids okay. 312 Ferguson St. Call 523-1341. (V2#1)

Decatur. 3 BR house with F/P, screened porch and fenced back yard. D/W, Washer/dryer, garage, hardwood floors. Quiet street near Agnes Scott College. \$800/month. Call Jeri at 373-7629. (V2#2)

Beautiful large, sunny 2-bedroom upstairs apartment. Hardwood floors, A/C, deck. Candler Park area. Excellent access to MARTA. \$600/month plus utilities. Call 584-6249 for further information. Available March 1. (V2#1)

Space available March 1 in women's household. Little 5 Points. \$283/month+utilities. 521-2502. (V2#1)

FOR SALE

GAY AND LESBIAN T-SHIRTS. High quality gay, lesbian and humorous t-shirts. Send for FREE catalog to: Flying Fish, PO Box 1351, Decatur, Ga. 30031-1351. (V2#2)

New sandwich shop. High visibility. Turn key operation. Seats 40. 30K. Serious inquiries write: 1579 Monroe Dr., Box 344, Atlanta, Ga. 30324. (V2#2)

HEALTH

FITNESS AND NUTRITION COUNSELING. Personalized trainer for weight training, diet consulting, injury rehabilitation, and body shaping. Weekly, monthly rates. Phone K. Lewis at 493-4711. (V1#1)

You are what you eat! Sevananda offers organic fruits and vegetables, herbs and natural foods to help rebuild your immunity. Be all that you can be in '89. Little 5 Points. 681-2831. (V2#2)

MISCELLANEOUS

Hawkwind Earth Renewal Cooperative is an 80-acre primitive retreat located 115 miles north of Atlanta in the Alabama mountains. Community living and ongoing classes are available on a wide range of subjects from The Commodore Format Users Group will meet at the Atlanta Fulton County Public Library Downtown. The meetings will start March 19, 1989 and will meet the third Sunday each month at 3PM. Contact Ted Moore at 768-2221. (V2#3)

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church offers positive Christian support for lesbians and gay men. Worship Sunday at 5PM. 575 Boulevard, SE. Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 10-Noon, 1-4PM. (V2#3)

*ORGANIZATIONS

The Atlanta AIDS Research Consortium, a non-profit organization, is in need of the following office furnishings and equipment: sofa, coffee table, desks, tables, chairs, computer/printer, desk and floor lamps, electric stapler, rugs, artwork, conference table, microwave, refrigerator, FAX, postage meter, and various office supplies. Your donation is tax deductible and greatly appreciated. Contact Jim or Maria at 876-2317. (V2#1)

The NE Intown YWCA will offer a series of structured conversations between lesbian and heterosexual women. This is an opportunity for dialogue in which both groups can begin to communicate with the hope of creating greater awareness and a broader community for all women. This series will be co-led by a lesbian and a heterosexual woman. Class meets on Thursdays March 2-23. 6:30PM-7:45PM. \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. (V2#1)

*ORGANIZATIONS

Project Open Hand is looking for drivers to deliver hot meals with love to Atlanta PWAs. Call 248-1788 for information. (V2#2)

PERSONALS

GWM, 39, handsome, 6', 155 lbs. Sometimes funny, often reflective, father, runner, enjoys theatre, reading, cooking, intimate conversations. Desires close dependable friends. Reply to SV Box #2256. (V2#3)

Good looking PWA, 31, GWM, Blonde, blue eyes, 5'6", 130 lbs., healthy. Seeking GWM 30-40 for possible relationship. Partial to father figure types. Send letter and phone to SV Box #2258. (V2#3)

GWM, 35, new to Atlanta, seeks tennis players in Vinings (or close proximity) to play evenings and weekends. Also seek relationship-minded men to date. Respond to SV Box #2250. (V2#2)

Attractive GWM, PWA, 34, 5'11", 180 lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, currently healthy, employed fulltime, seeks similar GWM for close friendship and possible relationship. I like movies, dining out and intimate conversations. Please send letter and phone # to SV Box #2248. Photo appreciated but not required. (V2#1)

Young, sexy female seeks wealthy, very generous, sensitive, attractive, mature, feminine woman who will take me on trips, lavish me with gifts and introduce me to the pleasures of another woman. I am witty, educated, well-traveled (w/valid passport), bilingual (French), and discreet. You are a sensual romantic who appreciates the finer things life has to offer. Drop a note detailing our very romantic first date to 2740 Greenbriar Pkwy. (A-3214) Atlanta, Ga. 30310. (V2#1)

GWF, 28 wants to meet an independent, adventurous, self-assured woman. Age is not an issue. I am attractive, androgynous, intelligent, funny and much more. Would like to meet other women for friendship. Reply to SV Box #2246. (V2#1)

Beautiful, blonde, blue eyes, sexy, bi-female desires to meet other bi or gay females of any race. Desire to start bi-female club. Send photo, phone and address for newsletter. Please include self-addressed stamped envelope. Reply to SV Box # 2252. (V2#1)

BiWM seeks BiWF for voluptuous friendship. We both are professional/career oriented, understanding, good looking, late 20's, and want long-term relation, possible children. Reply to SV Box #2254. (V2#1)

ROOMMATES

Liberal professional female seeks same to find/share 2BR/2Bath apt. for \$200-\$250/month. If you are 25+, B/W, gay/straight/bi, not promiscuous, semi-neat, responsible and professionally employed, call 344-6010. (V2#1)

SERVICES

Make a difference in '89! Spiritual and/or nutritional counseling available for individuals. Call Jeff Shin at 636-3222 for appt. and/or info. (V2#2)

*VOLUNTEERS

Southern Voice needs experienced volunteer photographers. Darkroom and daytime availability preferred, but not required. Call 321-9234 and leave message. (V2#2)

WANTED

PWA needs financial assistance. Unemployed - insurance exhausted. Help, please! Write to: PO Box 53411, Atlanta, Ga. 30355.

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Stephanie Blackton, D.C., 1799
Briarcliff Rd. 872-1094
Sharon Sanders, 1549 Clairmont Rd.
#108, 373-0278

DOWNTOWN

Kinko's, 217-A GA St Student Center

LITTLE FIVE POINTS

L5P Bazaar, 1091 Euclid Ave., 577-8490
ETC., 427 Moreland Ave. St. 700,
525-3821
Charles Haver, L.M.T., 524-8221
Sevananda, 1111 Euclid Ave.,
681-2831
The Tower Lounge, 735 Ralph McGill
Blvd., 688-5463

MIDTOWN

Animal Doctors, 736-A Ponce De Leon,
872-2423
Brenda Hawkins, Ph. D., 1518 Monroe
Dr., #600, 872-9016

MORNINGSIDE

Atlantis Connection Books, 1402 N.
Highland Ave., 881-6511

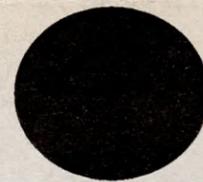
NORTH ATLANTA

Karen J. Benjack-Burke, M. div. M.S.W.
7000 Peachtree Ind. Blvd., Bldg. 6, #350,
977-6154
Deana's One Mo' Time, 1890 Cheshire
Br. Rd., 874-0980
Dan Easton, 2920 Brandywine Rd., #250,
457-0087
Edward O. Nix, M.D. #100, 634-0672
The Optical Stores, 2441 Cheshire Br.
Rd., 636-9727 or 636-9811

SOUTHEAST ATLANTA

T. Lavonne Casey, M.B.A., 1503 Park
Rd., 624-4401

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Classified Directions

1. Print your classified or personal on a separate piece of paper and enclose order form. We must have your phone number to verify the ad.
2. **Style Information**
Southern Voice will make the first five words bold, italicized, or all CAPS, for \$1.00 per style, per issue. Or ALL THREE FOR \$3.00 per issue.
3. **Personal Ads Can Be Confidential**
Boxes are available for replies to your personal. *Southern Voice* will forward all replies to you if you check the forwarding box on the order form and enclose \$1.00 for each issue in which your personal ad is to appear.
4. **To Respond to a Southern Voice Box Number Is EASY**
Put your reply in a stamped sealed envelope and write the box number on the lower left corner. Mail your reply envelope in a separate envelope to *Southern Voice*, PO Box 54719, Atlanta, Ga., 30308. We will forward your reply to the appropriate party.
5. **Free Classified Space is limited to 35 words.** Free ads will run for three consecutive weeks unless otherwise requested. Check appropriate box for category on order form.
Southern Voice reserves the right to refuse or edit all classifieds. Sexually explicit ads will not be accepted.

Next Deadline: March 7, 1989

Personals \$3.00 for 30 words for 3 issues.

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

Style Choices

- Bold (\$1.00 per issue)
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x _____ issues (Multiply subtotal by # of issues)
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Name: _____

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(for phone verification)

Free Classifieds
Check Box.

- Employment
 Child Care
 Volunteers
 Organizational Announcements
 AIDS Education & Services

Southern Women's Music & Comedy Festival Coming Memorial Day Weekend

The 6th Annual Southern Women's Music & Comedy Festival will once again be held over Memorial Day Weekend May 25-29th, 1989. The largest gathering of its kind for women in the South will be back at a private camp in the N.E. Georgia Mountains (80 miles north of Atlanta). The facility of 200 beautiful wooded private acres has cabins, a large lake, tennis courts and indoor-outdoor stages.

Nationally known women's music performers such as Lucie Blue Tremblay, Deidre McCalla, Connie Kaldor, Alix Dobkin, and The Washington Sisters will join sister southern musicians such as The Sensible Pumps, The Ruby Slipper, and others on the Main Stage. Special guests will be the Dance Brigade from San Francisco, and the internationally known theatre group "Split Britches."

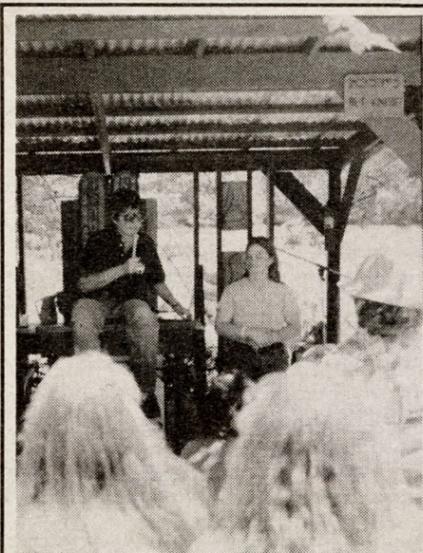
There will be a dance every night, including a square dance on Sunday night with Reel World; a Swing dance with Stafford Street Sisters (a 9-piece swing band), and on Saturday night there will be a 50's dance with the Fabulous Dyketones. This will be a sock hop and a 50's costume party for the entire festival.

Comics include Robin Tyler, Lynn Lavner, Monica Grant, Renee Hicks and Karen Ripley. Authors include Sonia Johnson, Charlotte Bunch, Kay Hagan, Sarah Lucia Hoagland and Karen Thompson. National organizations will be represented by Urvashi Vaid (NGLTF) and Hilary Rosen (HRCF).

Boys 10 and under are welcome. Childcare is provided. Interpreted for the hearing impaired...accessible. Prices for the 5, 4 or 3 day weekend (no one-day passes) range from \$100 to \$165, including food (per person).

For further info send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: SWCMF, 15842 Chase Street, Sepulveda, CA 91343.

Photos by Maile Klein.

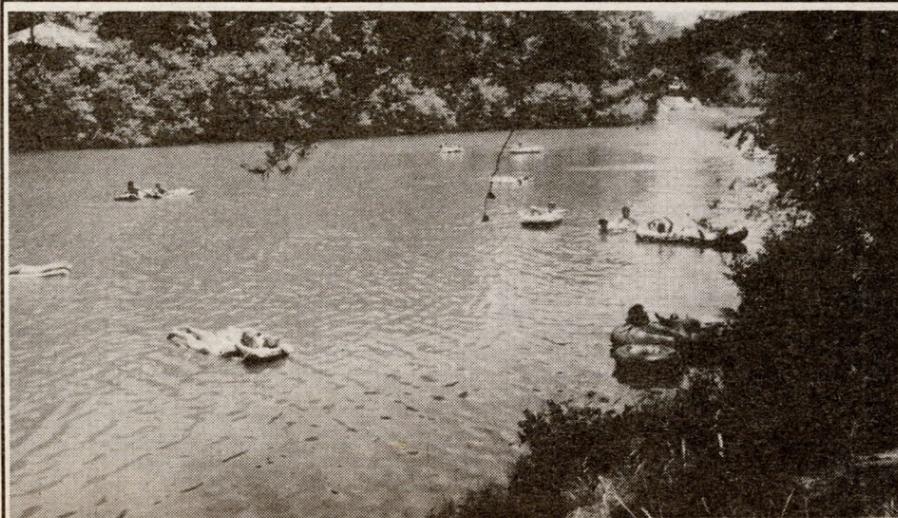


Comic Robin Tyler addresses workshop.



Festival crew relaxes backstage.

Scenes from the 1988 Southern Women's Festival



Festival-goers cool off in the lake.



Dianne Davidson on the main stage.

OLIVIA RECORDING ARTIST...

Lucie Blue Tremblay

IN CONCERT
with special guests
JACKIE & JOYCE

"Lucie Blue's music has won acclaim in both Canada and the United States... her vocal presence, her unique whistling style and her disarming charm have conquered the hearts of audiences."

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SAT. MAR. 18, 1989
8 pm

at U.U.C.A. (Cliff Valley Way)
Tickets on sale at
Charis Books (L5P) or
to charge call 1-800-444-3821
Tickets: 10.00 - advance;
12.50 at the door
Reception Afterwards

Photo by Irene Young

Brought to you by Ditto Productions
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Etcetera Magazine



Wheelchair Accessible
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Business Expo '89

Fifty businesses from Atlanta's lesbian and gay community will set up shop at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Tuesday, March 28 from 6 to 9 p.m.

For placement in the Expo Directory call 662-4353. Deadline: Mar. 7. Only \$5

Free Parking, Food and Cash Bar. Admission Only \$5

Bring your business cards for the Networking Table! Only \$5

FOURTH TUESDAY