

SOUTHERN VOICE

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Inside

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Taking Pride in Our Culture

July 20, 1989

Councilmembers Poised To Move On City-Wide Hate Crimes Bill

The Atlanta City Council appeared poised to overwhelmingly adopt a "hate crimes" data collection ordinance on July 17 as *Southern Voice* was going to press. If passed, the ordinance will require that the Public Safety Department track and report on crimes motivated by bias against an individual's perceived minority status.

Introduced by City Councilmember Barbara Asher, the ordinance quickly gained five other council co-sponsors when it was introduced on July 5, and now appears headed toward easy passage, according to Asher.

Asher's ordinance states, in part, that: "The Commissioner of Public Safety or his designee shall acquire data on the incidence of criminal acts that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, handicap, HIV infection, ethnicity, or the perception thereof."



Atlanta City Councilmember Barbara Asher, sponsor of the city's Hate Crimes Bill, expects easy passage of her historic ordinance.

Asher said that although her bill does not make bias-motivated crimes a separate offense punishable by law, she believes this ordinance will go a long way toward protecting the city's minority populations from hate crimes.

"Right now, we've got to convince our police department that there is a value in (collecting data on bias-motivated crimes)," Asher said. "Once that's in place, I think we can go back in and say we definitely have a problem, and there should be penalties attached to these crimes."

"I'm hoping that starting with this (ordinance)," Asher continued, "legislation will be introduced metro-wide" to track bias-motivated crimes. She noted that DeKalb County Commissioner Sheri Sutton has expressed interest in using the Atlanta ordinance as a model in her jurisdiction.

Sutton recently told *Southern Voice* that she is "waiting for a model ordinance to be provided," but noted that she would need "a lot" of help from the gay and lesbian community there to get such legislation passed.

The "key ingredient" of Asher's ordinance is its training component according to the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Police Advisory Board President Cathy Woolard.

"The ordinance will be only as effective as the training and protocol developments are," Woolard said. "The data they report is only going to be as good as the data they collect."

"(But) if every single officer in the system doesn't receive training," she added, "then obviously they aren't going to capture the data they need."

Although gays and lesbians are only one of the groups of people that are regularly believed to be victims of bias-motivated crime, only the gay community has chosen to make this an issue during the current election season.

The issue has gained electoral status in metro Atlanta recently as politicians scramble for ways to attract and/or hold gay and lesbian voters. Most candidates for major office in the city, including both mayoral candidates, have joined the rising chorus of voices demanding that hate crimes be counted, despite the refusal of current Public Safety Director George Napper to do so.

Napper has said in the past that it would cost too much money to revamp the current system of crime data collection now, when Congress may order a similar but different system later this year if it approves, as expected, the Hate Crimes Statistics Act.

In other Council business, sources have told *Southern Voice* that Councilmember Mary Davis will introduce an amendment to the current anti-discrimination policy later this month that will extend the law to cover all City of Atlanta contractors. The current ordinance prohibits the City from discriminating in hiring and promotions based on sexual orientation.

Due to the late-breaking nature of the story, Davis was not available for comment. Her legislative assistant, Pete Duttweiler, said that he was "not authorized to comment at this time."

Sources have told *Southern Voice*, however, that the amendment will add the phrases "handicapped, including infection with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus" and "marital status" to all non-discrimination laws and policies. In addition, Davis' ordinance will reportedly extend all non-discrimination statutes to contractors with the city, and require that they state that they do not discriminate in all advertisements for employment.

-Chris Duncan



IRIS RUSKIN

Abortion Ruling Intensifies Emotions

The recent Supreme Court ruling which gives states the power to decide on abortion measures will pit Georgian against Georgian in this highly emotional issue. Operation Rescue is back in town ready to assert their victory while pro-choice activists gear up to defend a woman's right to choose. The issue, however, will be decided in the voting booth. See story on page 5.

Violence Erupts in N.Y.'s Greenwich Village During Pride Day Protest

Car plows through crowd and several are injured.

New York City - Nearly 20 years to the day after New York City police raided a small gay bar in Greenwich Village and set off two nights of rioting, giving birth to the gay and lesbian rights movement, a mass of people stood in the midst of the historic area and collectively realized one thing: It was all happening again.

While celebrants gathered in the historic district to commemorate the advent of the modern gay and lesbian rights movement, several violent altercations broke out, leaving windows shattered, bodies bruised, one car demolished and a whole lot of people very dazed.

On June 24, the eve of the celebration in New York City commemorating the 20th anniversary of the historic riots, thousands of lesbians and gay men milled about Greenwich Village, many still riding the emotional high of a political rally held that afternoon. Among the throng were also several members of the gay men's fringe group The Radical Fairies, who had been planning a mock recreation of the riots at the Stonewall Inn.

At about 8:00 p.m., the Fairies gathered in front of the site of the bar, now the home of the Stonewall Clothing Shop, where they handed out dozens of foam "bricks" and inflated balloon "billy clubs" and began their "guerrilla theater" recreation of the riots.

Donning fake badges, some members of the group played the part of the police and began smacking the "bar patrons" with the balloon clubs. The "patrons" in turn grabbed

the "bricks" and began tossing them at the "police". As passers-by were encouraged to take part, over 100 people soon found themselves taking part in the role play.

Meanwhile, in the basement of the clothing shop, the Fairies held guided tours of their "Stonewall Museum", which contained a shrine to the late Judy Garland, go-go boys in cages and pretend bartenders as an homage to the defunct nightspot.

Bill Bahlman, a member of the New York AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power and a reporter for the gay cable show *Out In the 80s* had been filming the basement museum for his show when he emerged to a largely empty street.

"I had expected hundreds of people to be in the street, but there were only a couple of people milling about," stated Bahlman. "I asked myself 'Where did they go?'"

By that point, the throng had moved down to the 10th Police Precinct to protest the police investigation into the murder of two gay men found dead on a West Village pier a day earlier.

With police lined up shoulder to shoulder behind barricades, officers blocked the entrance to the station, fearing the demonstrators would try to enter the station. Julia Thompson, deputy inspector commander for the 6th precinct emerged from the building and tried to address the crowd with little success.

While Thompson attempted to explain that

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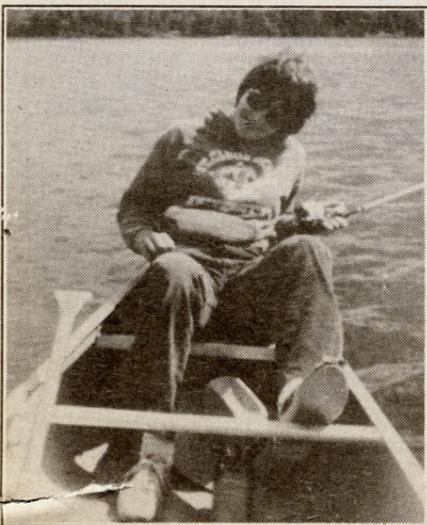
NEWS IN BRIEF

Kowalski Getting Closer To Home

The National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski closed down operation last month. "Everything is set in place for a secure future for Sharon," said Tacie Dejanikus, co-chair of the National Committee.

Kowalski, a lesbian who was severely disabled in a car accident in 1983, has been the focus of lesbian and gay and disability rights activists for almost four years. Kowalski's lover, Karen Thompson, fought most of those years for permission to visit Kowalski, to be an integral part of her care and to see that Kowalski received the rehabilitative care she needed.

Kowalski, 32, was moved by the order of Judge Robert Campbell to Miller-Dwan Center in Duluth, Minnesota in January for rehabilitation and further evaluation. Prior to that time, she had been kept in a nursing home by her father, Donald Kowalski. She received little rehabilitation there and was kept from



Sharon Kowalski before her 1983 accident. seeing Thompson and other visitors not approved by her father. Mr. Kowalski was named his daughter's guardian after her accident.

The beginning of Kowalski's rehabilitative care was ordered by Judge Campbell after a motion was filed by Thompson's attorneys. Tests of Kowalski's competency and a program of care for her were vigorously opposed by Mr. Kowalski, who attempted to prevent them via appeals. Mr. Kowalski refused to accept that his daughter is a lesbian. Thompson and Kowalski, separated since 1985, were allowed to see each other again this past February.

In June, Kowalski was moved to an extended care facility near Minneapolis for more rehabilitation and further evaluation. Doctors at Miller-Dwan recommended that the goal of Kowalski's rehabilitation should be to return her to her home environment, and said that Kowalski considers her home to be in St. Cloud, Minnesota with Karen Thompson.

Sue Wilson, Thompson's attorney, said Mr. Kowalski has asked Judge Campbell to terminate his guardianship, "because if he can't do it his way he doesn't want to do it." Campbell has stated that he will not appoint Thompson as guardian, Wilson said. She added that if a person is appointed who is not acceptable that further legal action will be taken.

While waiting for her placement at Trevilla, Kowalski was allowed to participate for the first time in a medical staffing about her own care, and received a pass to attend a barbeque with Thompson and some friends.

"We've got to be able to get her out and start doing things, so she can see that there is a future, that things are going to be different," said Thompson. "This nightmare is almost over, and Sharon and I can be free to determine what the future holds for us."

NY Hospital Meets ACT UP Demands

New York—The New York chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP-NY) won a major victory when St. Vincent's hospital here agreed to the group's list of demands five months after the harassment and beating of a lesbian rape victim's lover.

According to a report in *Sojourner*, the agreement reached includes disciplinary action against the guards accused of beating Joy DeVincenzo; an internal memo condemning discrimination against lesbians and gays; employee sensitivity training during orientation sessions; dismissal of criminal charges against DeVincenzo; a review of disciplinary procedures and anti-discrimination policies; and more readily identifiable badges for hospital guards.

The incident that led to the settlement occurred when DeVincenzo tried to find out her lover's status after a rape. Hospital guards allegedly verbally harassed and then beat and kicked DeVincenzo before calling the police. DeVincenzo was later arrested on a misdemeanor assault charge.

In the internal memo written as part of the settlement agreement, Sister Margaret Sweeney reminded employees that respect for patient's rights extends to family members, friends and significant others. The hospital administration later apologized for the incident and praised ACT UP-NY for the part they played in resolving the situation.

Helms Doesn't Like Gay Stamp

New York—The U.S. Post Office issued a special stamp cancellation honoring Lesbian and Gay Pride at New York City's Pride March June 25. The cancellation was requested by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Inc. (GLAAD).

The cancellation, which read "20 Years 1969-1989; Lesbian and Gay Pride; June 25, 1989," featured artwork designed by prominent gay artist Keith Haring. It was issued in conjunction with other Pride activities celebrating the birth of the modern lesbian and gay civil rights movement during the 1969 Stonewall Inn Riots in New York City.

Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) attacked the post office from the Senate floor when apprised of the cancellation. In his speech, Helms castigated the Post Office for celebrating "perversions," and accused the lesbian and gay civil rights movement of subverting "American values."

"The nastiness of Sen. Helms' remarks," responded GLAAD Executive Director Craig Davidson, "reveals the desperation of one who knows he is losing his battle to deny Americans the truth that lesbian and gay people are decent, loving and proud."

GLAAD regularly sponsors visibility projects such as the stamp cancellation and organizes grass-roots response to anti-gay/lesbian bigotry, particularly in the media.

Pro-Choice Rally Turns Into Rampage

San Francisco—A group of about 200 women, angry over the Supreme Court's recent abortion ruling, broke off from a larger pro-choice demonstration of an estimated 2,000 people at the city's Federal Building July 3, overturning news racks, tipping over dumpsters, setting small street fires, and splattering paint in a two-hour rampage of anger that brought out the police riot squad. Two women were reported slightly injured by police and one arrest was reported.

The splinter group, mostly of younger women, ignored attempts at the larger demonstration to clear the northbound lane of Van Ness Avenue, a broad, heavily traveled thoroughfare that is a main artery to the Golden Gate Bridge. Police on the scene re-routed traffic there for over an hour, looking on as some of the younger women began burning American flags and eventually built up a bonfire of papers, pamphlets, miscellaneous rubbish, and an effigy of Supreme Court justice William Rhenquist.

Despite the badly snarled holiday traffic, passing motorists showed the demonstrators support by raising fists from car windows as they drove by with hundreds of other motorists, cabbies and city bus drivers blaring their horns in response to protesters holding large placards reading "Honk If You Are Pro-Choice."

Even with the noisy support of passing drivers, however, the frustration and tension at the demonstration were almost palpable as women spoke of their anger, their rage and their pain over the Court decision that severely limits abortion rights. Helen Creico of the National Organization of Women told the crowd, "I don't feel like celebrating Independence Day. There is no independence for women. This is an outrage!"

Marci Gallo of the ACLU said, "I work for an organization that believes in the Constitution. Today that organization is in mourning. The rights that we have struggled for are being ripped away from us. I have never wanted to burn a flag until today."

Jessica Braverman of Bay Area Pro-Choice Coalition, organizer of the larger protest, said later, "We understand people are angry, but violence is not the spirit of this demonstration."

—Keith Clark

Paper Nixes Gay News on Page One

Walnut Creek, CA—The *Contra Costa Times*, which for several years has been an editorial outlet for conservative and fundamentalist opposition to lesbian/gay rights, has essentially banned news items involving homosexuality from its front page.

An internal *Contra Costa Times* memo from news editor Bill Walter June 27 states, "Our play of a story and photo atop Monday's CCT 1A (*Contra Costa Times* first page) of the gay freedom day parade in SF—despite the estimated turnout of 140,000 to 250,000 people—drew criticism from the community and from company management. Despite your and my personal view on this, we must not do it again."

Although the Walter memo asserts that "We aren't going to bury things," it goes on to outline *Contra Costa Times* restricted policy on page one news items. "Stories about gays and their activities that are proposed for Page 1A must be approved in advance by Ann (Kellet, *Contra Costa Times* managing editor)."

The paper's management insists that the policy won't affect its coverage of lesbian/gay issues and doesn't constitute a blacklisting of lesbian and gay issues from page one but "merely reflects a new review policy" for what's run on the front page according to Walter.

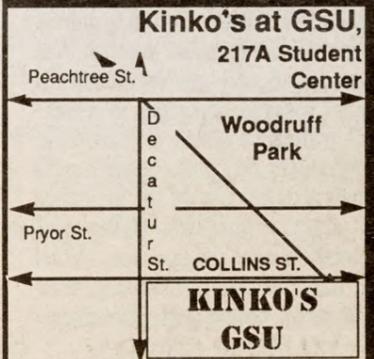
The *Contra Costa Times* raised the ire of activists earlier in June when op-ed columnist Marcy Bachmann, writing about National Gay and Lesbian Task Force figures on anti-gay violence suggested that such violence could be stemmed if lesbians and gay men would only become less visible. "Parading one's sexual preference," Bachmann wrote, "indeed exhibiting one's penchant for a lifestyle...outside an accepted norm, leaves one open to rebuke by persons who are unable or unwilling to understand."

—Keith Clark

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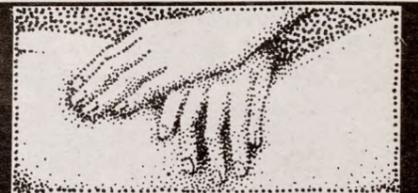
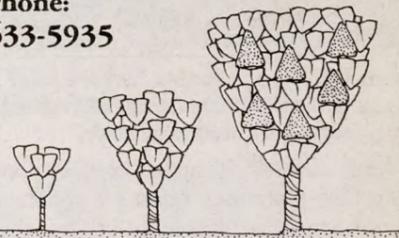
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Mayoral Race Update

Jackson Bids For AALGA's Support

Maynard H. Jackson carried his bid for mayor of Atlanta deeper into the lesbian/gay community July 9, and promised to make anti-gay/lesbian violence efforts a cornerstone of his administration if elected.

Speaking before the African-American Lesbian Gay Alliance (AALGA), Jackson stressed his record on anti-racist violence during his first two terms as mayor as evidence that he was the better qualified candidate to help the community track and stop bias-motivated violence.

"I stand here today as the man who has the background and skill to make a difference," Jackson said. "Violence against any citizen ought to be a violation of every citizen," he added.



IRIS RUSKIN

Upon his inauguration as mayor in 1974 for the first of two terms that ended in 1980, Jackson inherited a police department that was regularly accused of brutality and the unnecessary shooting deaths of black citizens. His administration began a clean-up campaign that later found over 65% of the officers carried an extra weapon to "drop" on a suspect who had been shot.

Within two years of his election, however, Jackson claimed "you could not even find the allegation of police brutality."

On the issue of bias-motivated crimes, commonly referred to as hate crimes, Jackson said he wants to "bind the police and the community together as one" to find a solution to the mounting problem.

Jackson attributed the rise in hate crimes against gays and lesbians to the increasing visibility of the community, and lauded those present for their perseverance in the civil rights struggle.

"You live lives that require courage," he said. "It takes courage to stand up for your convictions [when] we live in a society that looks down on that."

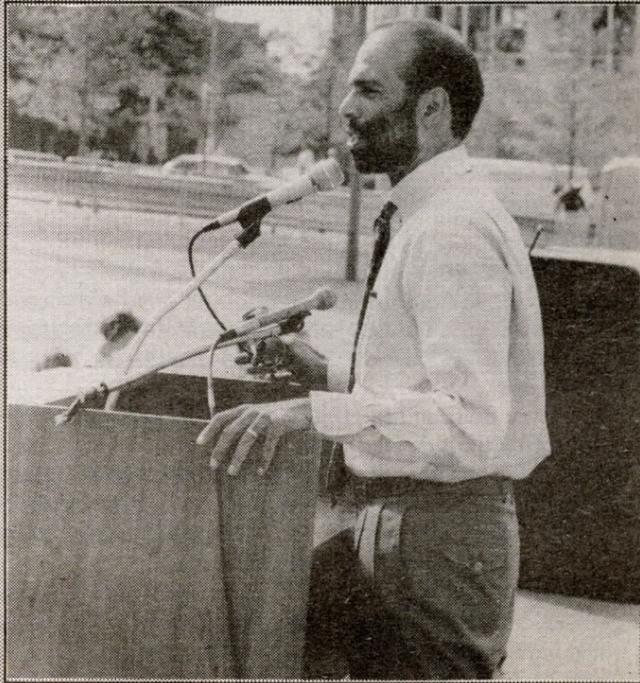
"We have a need for a champion to come to the fore," Jackson said, and added, "I'm running for mayor because I believe I can make a difference in the future of Atlanta."

Jackson's other main topics at the meeting included neighborhood preservation, metro area development, and housing for the homeless.

Lomax Forms "Committee of 100"

A group calling themselves Lesbians and Gay Men for Lomax have formed the "Committee of 100" to raise \$25,000 for Michael L. Lomax's campaign for mayor of Atlanta.

The group of 100 gays and lesbians, according to Lomax gay/lesbian liaison Gary Cox, have set a goal of raising \$250 each. Cox said that, to his knowledge, this is the largest and most concerted effort to raise political capital in the gay/lesbian community to date.



The Committee of 100 will be led by 8 co-chairs, according to Cox. He added that the co-chairs were selected on a "race and gender conscious basis" that reflected the Lomax campaign's concern about "practicing the politics of inclusion."

"The intent (of the committee) is obviously to raise money — \$25,000," Cox said. He added, though, that the outreach the Lomax campaign will make within the community is equally important.

"Each (member) of the Committee of 100 will hopefully tap 1 to 50 other people," Cox noted, "and then we'll have a network of people to call upon."

Maynard H. Jackson's gay/lesbian liaison Peter White, III, said that his campaign was working on a similar idea, but said he could not comment further because the idea was "still in the planning stages."

Among those who have already agreed to serve on the Committee of 100 are Walt Greer, Cathy Woolard, Joan Garner, Drs. Glenn Crawford, Rick Hudson and Stosh Ostrow, Leon Allen, Joe Blount, Wendy Gaylord, Dan Todd, Elizabeth Marsala, Peter Mullins and Ann Ballard.

—Chris Duncan

House Approves Hate Crimes Act Despite Dannemeyer

Washington, D.C. — After an afternoon of largely one-sided debate, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Hate Crimes Statistics Act by a landslide 368-47 margin June 27, over the loud protests of anti-gay Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton, Calif.).

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act (H.R. 1048) would order the Justice Department to collect statistics on crimes motivated by race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. Although the landmark bill was passed last year by the House by an equally wide margin, a last minute tactic from Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) kept the bill from the Senate floor, effectively killing it for that session of Congress.

Before the bill came to the floor, Dannemeyer took the House floor to denounce the bill's inclusion of sexual orientation as an attempt to "derail the freedom train" launched by the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Dannemeyer argued that the bill would "elevate homosexuality above gender, age, mental capacity, and economic circumstances a legitimate category of redress under our civil rights laws," although the bill contains a disclaimer which states that the bill does not provide anti-discrimination protections for lesbians and gay men.

Once the bill was taken up by the House, Republicans and Democrats lined up to praise the bill without reservations.

Also stepping up to speak was Rep. George Gekas (R-Harrisburg, Penn.) who in the last session introduced an amendment striking the bill's "sexual orientation" provisions, but this year introduced an amendment to instead broaden the scope of the bill.

"I, too, like [Mr. Dannemeyer], had felt in the last session of Congress and the previous session that were wading in dangerous waters when we were attempting to raise the homosexuals to a consti-

tionally protected class which was not already in accord with race, creed and color, as was already articulated in the Civil Rights Act of 1964," stated Gekas. He explained that since his amendment would now also allow other possible targets of hate crimes to be counted, he could now support the bill and urged Dannemeyer to do the same.

Dannemeyer then used up his allotted time to rail against the bill's inclusion of "homosexuality or heterosexuality," as one of the items on the gay "agenda."

After lashing out against the Hate Crimes bill, a federal survey into adult sexual patterns now under review by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Americans with Disabilities Act (which would ban AIDS discrimination nationally), Dannemeyer quoted from the gay press to make his case.

Before quoting a brief passage from the *Guide to the Gay Northeast*, he stated, "One of the things you have to do in politics is sometimes look and read what your opponents are saying."

The passage quoted suggested that if heterosexuals viewed their sexual orientation as being no more important than other simple preferences, the battle for gay and lesbian equality would be won.

After Dannemeyer began his now-standard speech on the "heterosexual ethic," Frank interrupted Dannemeyer and began a loud exchange with the anti-gay House member over several statements made in his speech.

After Dannemeyer used up his floor time, the list of supportive members continued to praise the bill.

After a voice vote clearly passed the bill, Dannemeyer requested a

Cont'd on Page 4

Greenwich Village Riots

Cont'd from Page 1

that the police precinct has regular contact with the gay community and that the two murder victims may have been victims of a drug related, not a gay related attack, the protesters drowned her out with shouts.

While protest participants did not insist that the murders were necessarily gay-related, they did lambast the police department for immediately ruling out anti-gay bias as the motivation for the double murder, according to ACT UP member and protest participant Peter Staley.

As the protesters shouted, an American flag was burned, a small ventilation window was broken at the police station and another was broken on a police vehicle. At least one tire was flattened on a police car. After ACT UP members Neil Broome and Jerry Wells attempted to calm down the crowd, the mob moved down the street.

Protest "marshals" then moved ahead of the demonstrators, linking hands in front of traffic, to clear the way for the approaching marchers, while others ran into area gay bars urging the occupants to participate in the street action.

Quickly, the marshals linked hands across Charles Street at 7th Avenue, inflaming the anger of the driver of a red sports car at the front of the line of backed-up cars.

According to several witnesses, the driver, Peter Zocco of Brooklyn, shouted anti-gay epithets and made obscene hand gestures at the demonstrators. As the marshals shouted back at the driver and pounded on his car hood, the driver's anger intensified and he gunned his engine, rapidly backed up and then lurched forward in an attempt to break the line of marshals.

After no fewer than four lunges by the car, the line of marshals broke and the car sped to the end of the block.

"When I heard that engine rev, I got scared," stated Brad Kukuk, a 3rd year law student at American University who happened upon the protests while walking a friend's dog. "And it happened so fast. If I had been some 20 to 25 steps ahead, I would have been hit."

"After a while I started to think, that if this had been the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a Memorial Day event, or Jews marching, I doubt someone would have ripped through a crowd blocking traffic," he added. "But it was gays marching for their rights. ... I guess they felt 'justified'."

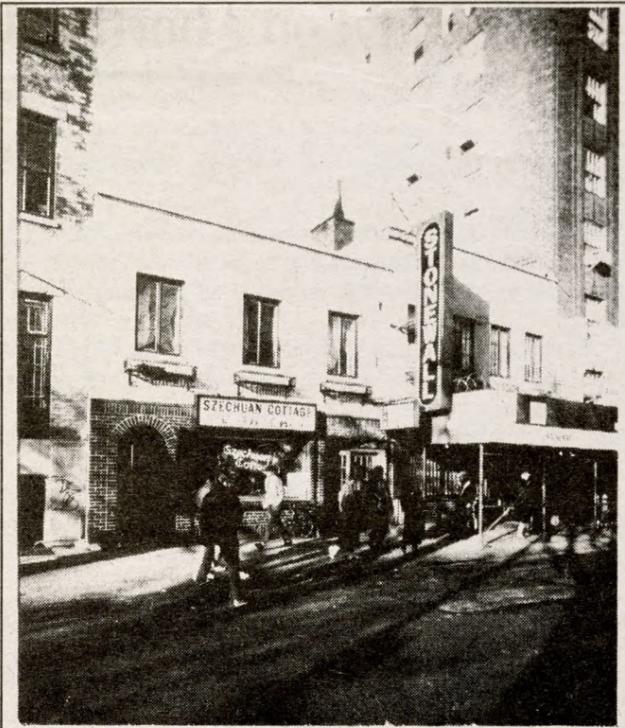
According to one eyewitness, at least one unidentified person was sent rolling over the hood of the car.

Immediately, approximately 100 of the demonstrators turned and ran after the red sports car, which quickly made a turn and raced down a tree-lined street, weaving on and off the sidewalk to bypass traffic, according to several newspaper sources.

Eventually, the car came to a stop in front of the Lucille Lortel theatre, at which point one of its windows had already been broken. There, protesters began pounding on the car and ripping pieces off the vehicle.

Police arrived on the scene shortly and whisked the car's three male and one female occupants out of the car and into an alleyway by the theatre.

At that point, protesters carrying large, wooden police barricades and other objects began smashing the car's windows, kicking in doors and destroying the vehicle in a show of unbridled rage.



About 15 minutes later the car's four occupants were placed in a police van and were taken away.

After the incident, the car was taken to a junkyard.

Meanwhile, back at the accident site, the witnesses, stunned by the act of violence, nursed the injured protesters while awaiting an ambulance. Two men were taken to a nearby hospital where they were treated for minor injuries and were released.

"I read the article in the [New York] Post the next day that seems to [portray the event] as this terrible crime of gays attacking this car," added Kukuk. "I mean the man tried to drive through people. I can understand if the driver was frustrated, but to drive through people? I don't understand that."

According to the June 26 *New York Daily News*, Zocco has been issued a citation for leaving the scene of an accident and was ordered to appear in court July 14.

Both Staley and Bahlman report that ACT UP is now trying to piece together what happened from eyewitness sources. Preliminary reports suggest that at least four incidents with cars trying to break through protest lines may have taken place that evening, although the others did not lead to the violent outbreak directed at the red sports car.

Staley adds that the community's anger has not subsided either, with Zocco only being charged with leaving the scene of an accident.

"He should have been charged with attempted murder," he stated. "I'm telling you, it's going to be a long, hot summer."

- Cliff O'Neill

Hate Crimes Act

Cont'd from Page 3

roll call vote on the suspension of the rules, which was to be held in the early evening.

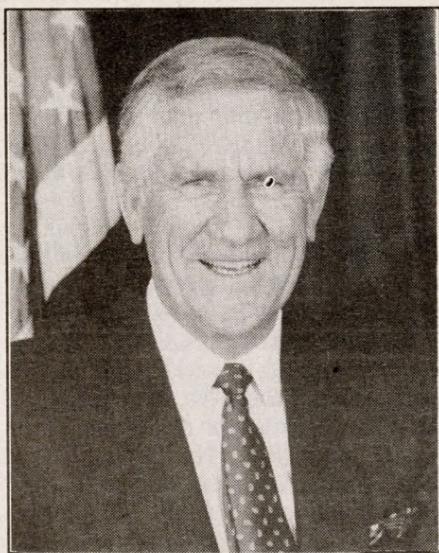
"We had the entire House and [then we had] a handful of people who were just plain ornery," stated National Gay and Lesbian Task Force lobbyist Peri Jude Radecic. "The vote was a clear signal that people just wanted to [pass this bill]. It's a wonderful thing, it signals the non-controversial nature of this bill."

"In our lifetime lesbians and gays will be able to walk down the street holding the hands of [their] lovers without fear of getting beat up by anti-gay bigots," stated a philosophical Robert Bray, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "The vote on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives is the first step to not being just a dream, but a reality."

Now attention is turning to the Senate where gay and lesbian activists are pulling out all the stops to pass the bill and defeat an expected amendment from Sen. Helms which would declare the "homosexual movement" a "threat to the American family;" order states to enforce sodomy laws; put the Senate on record as being against ever passing gay anti-discrimination legislation; and ban funding to schools which "promote" homosexuality as an "acceptable alternate lifestyle."

To help beat back the amendment, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has extended its June National Lobby Days through the month of July and the Human Rights Campaign Fund is continuing their unprecedented effort to sign up Americans for their "Speak Out" pre-authorized congressional message program.

- Cliff O'Neill



Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA)

Domestic Partners Bill Facing Repeal Move in S.F.

Fundamentalists, the Catholic Church & Schlafly's Eagle Forum Join in Attacking New Law to Force November Vote

San Francisco—The day this city's newly enacted domestic partners legislation went into effect July 5, a loose coalition of fundamentalist Christians and Roman Catholic clergy, with an assist from Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, filed petitions with 27,122 signatures to force the law onto the November ballot for a public referendum that temporarily suspends the new law until it comes up for a general vote.

The suspension order came from the city attorney's office on Thursday, July 6, following a dispute between Supervisor Harry Britt's office and city attorney Louise Renne over when repeal petitions had to be filed.

The petition drive was headed, at least formally, by long-time lesbian/gay rights opponent the Rev. Charles McIlhenny of First Orthodox Presbyterian Church, and by Rabbi Lionel Feldman.

Although the Catholic archdiocese here was not an official sponsor of the petition drive, some priests as part of their sermons had urged parishioners during the past two weeks to sign the petitions and made copies available after Mass.

In addition, during the final week of signature gathering, the Menlo Park, California, branch of Schlafly's Eagle Forum sent some of its members into the city to help gather signatures, primarily at churches after Sunday services.

In order to qualify, valid signatures of 18,000 registered city voters are required. The registrar of voters office is not expected to complete verification before mid-July. With over 27,000 signatures, few people expect the petition to fail to qualify.

Despite the repeal petitions, Britt's office remained optimistic that voters would approve the domestic partners law which was signed by Mayor Art Agnos on June 5 after unanimous approval by the board of supervisors May 22. Harris cited an April 27 *San Francisco Examiner* poll that showed 58 percent of those surveyed in the city favored the new law with 35 percent opposed and 7 percent undecided.

Political consultant Harvey Hukari was not optimistic, however, and predicted that if opponents of the law focused on "the economic impact and ... where families are in San Francisco, then they have an opportunity to win."

David Binder, another consultant, said opponents "have a small, narrow constituency that may be vocal and will certainly bring with it some votes. But I think they are too narrow to be much of a threat."

What is unclear in all these political predictions, however, is to what extent the city's large lesbian/gay community will rally behind the new law now that it's under attack. Both the *Bay Area Reporter* and *San Francisco Sentinel* gave the legislation only ho-hum editorial support when it was enacted, calling community reaction to it "lukewarm" and a "non-issue." Even the *Examiner* poll, while showing 78 percent of the city's lesbians and gay men were in favor of the law, also showed 17 percent of the community here opposed it.

But even consultant Hukari conceded the fundamentalist and Schlafly attack on the legislation was "likely to inflame the gay community because they will...see it as an attack on their lifestyle."

- Keith Clark

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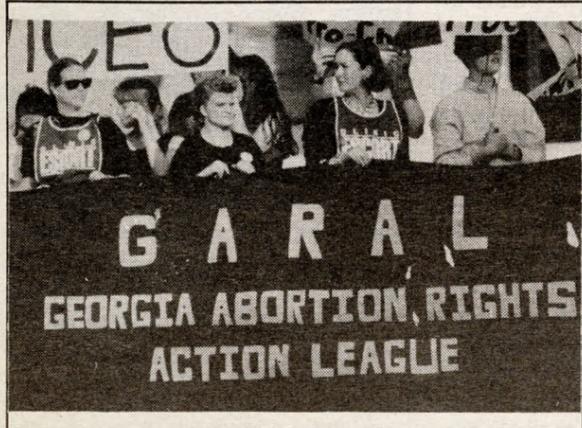
Pendulum Swings To The Right on Abortion Issue

Georgia Pro-Choicers Will Have To Speak With Their Votes

For those who had been awaiting the Supreme Court's decision on Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, a Missouri case which has writhed its way through the legal system to the highest court in the land, July 3 was a day for one of two emotions—shock or jubilation.

Depending on whether they held a "pro-choice" or a "pro-life" opinion, there was little room for feeling anything but those two emotions after the court handed down its 5-4 decision. A decision which restricts the availability of public funding for abortion services and requires doctors to test for the viability of a fetus at 20 weeks.

The Webster decision also invites state lawmakers into the politically deadly arena of public opinion by leaving the door open for abortion measures to be decided in state legislatures



throughout the U.S.

And where does Georgia stand on this emotional and controversial issue? That question cannot yet be answered. Here, the stage is set, with most of the key players in place, but the battlelines are ambiguous and no concrete plans of attack have yet been drawn.

"Certainly this is the most controversial issue faced by the state legislature in some time" said Dr. Paul Kurtz, a law professor at the University of Georgia. "The decision will galvanize and energize pro-choice people...(who may have thought) their position didn't need to be defended."

According to Dr. Kurtz, most pro-choice supporters, who probably did not feel a need to vote in support of this one issue—holding instead to the thought that this right would not suffer erosion—will be forced to vote from now on to support their position.

"Right to Life'ers have been one-issue-voting, targeting candidates who were pro-life. Now, the pro-choice people will have to go on the offensive," Dr. Kurtz explained.

Though the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) and the National Organization for Women (NOW) were quick to hold press conferences stating that state lawmakers would now be held accountable for any erosion of abortion rights at the state level, Georgia lawmakers do not seem particularly concerned yet with these groups or their state chapters.

"I've gotten several telephone calls and letters, probably a dozen responses so far on both sides of the issue," said Georgia State Rep. Willou Smith (R), District 156. Elected in 1986, and now in her second term, Ms. Smith represents a sometimes conservative crescent along the state's southeastern coast which includes part of Glynn County and all of McIntosh County.

"Of the responses I've gotten (to the Webster decision), they are about half and half," said Ms. Smith. She said she is putting together a survey, with the help of someone in the Florida Republican Party, to poll her constituents before making a comment on how she would vote on the issue of stronger state regulation of abortion.

"I think we have enough time before February to be able to go to Atlanta and make a better judgment," said Ms. Smith. "It is definitely a bi-partisan issue. It is such an emotional issue on both sides...such a personal, emotional issue."

Though it may be lingering in the backs of many state lawmakers' minds, Ms. Smith is one of the few to acknowledge that she is ready to take action to reach her decision.

State Rep. Donald E. Cheeks (D), Augusta, abruptly hung up during a phone interview when asked if he had heard from

his constituents concerning the issue or if he had formed an opinion as to how he might vote.

"I have not heard from them," said Cheeks. "And, I have not (made a decision)...talk to me at a later time."

Speaker of the House Tom Murphy, whom many think will take a conservative stance if legislation to restrict abortion is introduced in the House, said he felt it should be a woman's choice to do what she wants with her body in a July 4 television interview. But, there is plenty of time for him and other lawmakers to be swayed as the Webster aftermath heats up.

Key pro-choice groups which have lobbied hard in the past and will be politically active in the months ahead include the Georgia Abortion Rights Action League (GARAL), the Georgia NOW chapter, Planned Parenthood and the Coalition Opposed to Operation Rescue (COOR).

Pro-life groups which will be vocal include Georgia Right to Life, Christian Action Council, Operation Rescue and the American Rights Coalition.

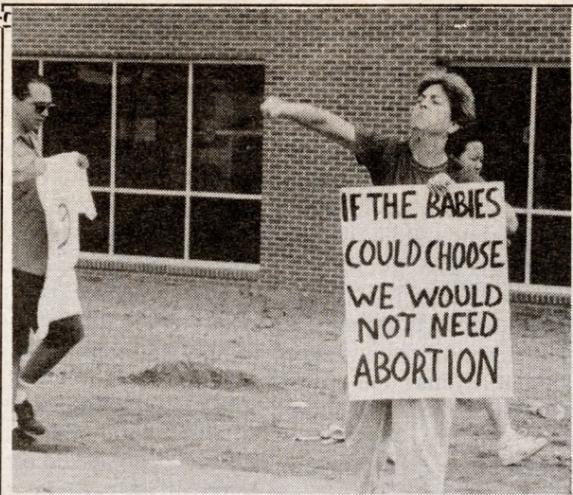
Fringe groups will more than likely enter the fray as well, all to the chagrin of lawmakers. Even Georgia-based media mogul Ted Turner has entered the battle, speaking out strongly in support of pro-choice groups and calling pro-life advocates "Bozos."

Finally, however, the issue will probably come to rest squarely on the backs of Georgia voters and their efforts to support a candidate or influence them through constituency contact.

Whether the issue springs to the forefront in a projected September special session of the legislature or during the regular February session, some political analysts pick Georgia to be part of a conservative Southern bloc of states which will vote to limit abortion rights.

A recent *Newsweek* article placed Georgia in its "Likely to Restrict" category in an article predicting what effect the Webster case will have throughout the U.S. *Newsweek* predicts, "Pro-choice forces will fight hard—and probably lose."

The *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* said in a recent article that "some experts rate Georgia among the states most likely to pass anti-abortion legislation...(but) state leaders have adopted a go-slow approach."



have adopted a go-slow approach."

Perhaps Rheta Barnes, a community relations liaison for the Feminist Women's Health Center in Atlanta, summed the issue for both sides best.

"People are now realizing that abortion is not the status quo...every year we'll have to be vigilant," she said. Whether pro-choice or pro-life that statement rings true. The status quo has been shattered, catching many off-guard.

A stunned young woman in her mid-20s speaking in a recent television interview illustrates that point. She said she had always taken her right to a safe and legal abortion for granted and that fighting for rights like those were foreign to "anyone under 30."

Though determined to fight, she seemed frightened and deeply wounded to think that now she would have to be one of the champions for the right to a safe, legal abortion after this weakening of the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision.

More than likely she is not alone. Even if this issue fades for the time being and does not immediately polarize the nation as many have predicted, those under (and over) 30 will eventually be faced with the decision to fight, or to fold.

—Kalan Brown

Operation Rescue Starts New Offensive, Pro-Choice Activists Say They're Ready

About 100 people picketed outside of the Feminist Women's Health Center on 14th Street, July 8, shouting "pro-choice" or "pro-life" slogans depicting their stance on the abortion issue and carrying signs, according to three spokespersons who were present.

"There were not quite 100 (people)," said Rheta Barnes, the community relations contact for the Feminist Women's Health Center. The Center is a non-profit clinic which includes abortions among the medical services it offers women.

The Feminist Women's Health Center and the Midtown Hospital on Ponce de Leon Avenue have been two of the main targets for the past 11 months of Operation Rescue, a group formed last year by pro-life activist Randall Terry.

Operation Rescue has received extensive media coverage since its inception by employing rowdy rescue operations at clinics and hospitals

which perform abortions. The "rescues" take place when the group blocks the entrances, or sidewalks to the building and tries to persuade women who are going there for medical procedures to boycott the clinic, or if pregnant, to carry to term.

Ms. Barnes said the action on July 8 was a picket by Operation Rescue and other pro-life

groups, not a full-fledged rescue. "We think they will probably return in greater numbers this Saturday (July 15)," she added.

"The pro-aborts have picked up their aggressions," said Jane Shepherd, a spokesperson for Operation Rescue who was present at the July 8 picket. "I call pro-choice, pro-abort, because they are basically the same."

Ms. Shepherd said there were about 50 pro-life advocates picketing at the center. She said Operation Rescue believes in peaceful, non-violent confrontation, but that the "pro-aborts" have begun to be very aggressive with their counter demonstrations.

Although not present initially at the July 8 picket, the police were called to separate the pro-choice and pro-life groups, after each side grew more vocal.

"Their policy is to intimidate the women and our policy is to intimidate them," said Jack Pelham, a media contact for the Coalition Opposed to Operation Rescue (COOR).

"It got pretty nasty on Saturday. There turned out to be a pretty large contingency on both sides," said Pelham. "There were 25-30 of them (pro-life) and 50-60 of us (COOR). We outnumbered them two to one."

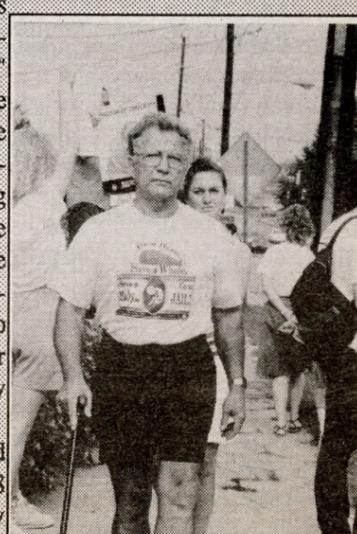
According to Pelham, COOR was formed in response to all of the media coverage Operation Rescue got during that group's protests at the time of the Democratic National Convention last year.

"COOR was formed because there was no one visibly opposing them (Operation Rescue) in the streets," said Pelham. "We have hundreds of supporters."

COOR is a coalition of many different groups. The group attempts to determine when Operation Rescue plans a picket, rescue or other demonstration so that they can go in equal or greater numbers and show that the pro-choice faction exists as strong, or stronger.

Demonstrations and counter-demonstrations are expected to be on the increase in coming weeks following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, which crippled, or severely hampered, most pro-choice rules and regulations and virtually returned the issue of abortion to the whim of state legislatures.

—Kalan Brown



IRIS RUSKIN

Guest Editorial

Recent Supreme Court Ruling on Abortion Will Affect ALL Of Us

The repercussions of the Supreme Court's recent decision on the Webster v. Reproductive Services case are starting to be felt. Across the country, states are gearing up to pass equally restrictive abortion laws. In Georgia, several legislators have announced they will introduce legislation similar to the Missouri statute during the 1990 Georgia legislative session.

The pro-choice debate has become clouded over such things as providing funding for abortions, minors' access to abortions, and answering the question: does life begin at conception? The real issue is women having the legal right to make decisions concerning their own bodies.

The current wave of abortion restrictions are an attempt to force women into traditional family roles. The message from lawmakers, who are predominantly straight males, is women aren't capable of making such an important decision. They'll just make the decisions for them. And besides, women should be out of the work force, married and having children; otherwise, they'll pay for it. And many women may pay with their lives.

By defining a woman's value to society in this way, a man's worth becomes equated with how large a family he can financially support.

Decisions women and men make concerning their own bodies, their role in society and their lifestyle should be legally acknowledged, not suppressed. We cannot let one group's moral and religious beliefs dictate our quality of life. It's our right to make our own choices about our lives and defining who we are. This is not just an attempt to limit abortion access but an attack on women and human rights.

We cannot afford to remain silent. Abortion and abortion-rights issues can no longer be a private matter. Women and men must talk about being pro-choice to friends, family and coworkers. Women must come forward to say: yes, I've had an abortion; let me tell you about it. Men must stand up and voice that this isn't just a women's issue; it affects all of us.

In addition, we must vent our anger about the Supreme Court's blatant attack against women's rights. Voting for pro-choice candidates, working with pro-choice groups on lobbying efforts, and taking to the streets to defend women's health clinics are vital to keep abortion legal in Georgia.

We must remember, none of us are free to make choices concerning our lives unless all of us are free to make these choices. We must loudly demand that no restrictions be placed on the access to safe abortions and women's rights of reproductive choice.

— Jack Pelham

Jack Pelham is a local pro-choice activist.

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I Want Your...

To the Editor:

In referenceto the Margaret Meade quote: "I think extreme heterosexuality is a perversion." (*Southern Voice* filler, June 22, 1989): **THANK YOU FOR DIGGING UP AN AUTHORITY TO CITE IN SUPPORT OF MY OWN VIEWS OF SEXUALITY!**

The well-adjusted person has no hang-ups about ANY sex. He/she is an adventuresome person, curious about anything and everything. He/she doesn't let anybody tell him/her what he/she can or cannot do. And he/she will do anything that seems interesting and which he/she thinks he/she can get by with.

Which is why he/she can accommodate society so easily. He/she could just as easily adjust to life in New Guinea.

Unhappy persons have blocks—inhibitions against one sex which develop compensating compulsions toward the other sex. They cannot make choices. Gay males hate and fear females—heterophobia. Straight males hate and fear other males—homophobia. **LOVE IS NEVER A DISEASE IN ANY FORM. HATE AND FEAR ARE DISEASES IN ALL FORMS.**

The truth has been there all along—that the sexual impulse is non-specific and even indifferent to the sex of the object.

But no one would admit it, because of moralistic bigotry's jealousy of all sex, because survival of society required reproduction of its members, **AND BECAUSE EVERYBODY WANTED TO BE "NORMAL!"**

I despise "normal" persons. They are so boring! And they're missing a lot of fun!

Sincerely,
"Mon Roes"

Racism: Let's Get Past "Us" v. "Them"

To the Editor:

I write this letter because I fear serious repercussions in the Atlanta lesbian and gay community. The issue is racism. Racism, and the perception of it, have the potential for a more divisive effect than is seen in the country at large. The irony and the paradox illustrated here is oppression within the oppressed.

I commence my argument by affirming something we all know. There is racism amongst us, just as there is in the straight community. What irritates me is that we keep going around and around with this issue. I personally see no gains being made to get us beyond this. Does the adage, "United we stand, divided we fall," mean anything to anyone?

Recently, it has seemed that every time I peruse a local gay news source, there is yet another article on racism. Ultimately, all the articles deal with whites being the racists, and blacks being the oppressed, never alluding to the fact that there are indeed players of other colors and subgroups in the game. If I were a lesbian or gay of Hispanic, Oriental or Native American descent, I would be ill with everyone. Talk about invisible! Their existence in the community is not even acknowledged, let alone recognized. I, for one, do acknowledge and recognize all the groups as viable segments of the community. For the purpose of my statements, however, I'm specifically addressing the black-white issue.

Okay, let's face it, folks. Bigots are bigots before they are lesbian, gay or straight. We cannot change that, but we can alter our ways of dealing with bigotry, particularly racism. If you are white and a racist, recognize it, claim it and question yourself. Was it something someone with black skin did to you, or was it something your parents taught you from day one? Chances are, the latter holds true. Even if a person of African-American descent did something, or you perceived such an event, wasn't the person acting on an individual accord, and not on behalf of the rest of the race? If you're a racist because your parents bestowed the creed upon you, try this one on for size: your parents also "taught" you to be heterosexual, but somehow you discarded that behavior, didn't you?

Now, if your are black, see everyone that is white as racist, and sport a chip on your shoulder, you need to recognize it, claim it and evaluate why you are the way you are. Is it because of historical treatment of blacks, some of which is still evident today? Of course, African-Americans are eons behind whites in numerous areas because of historical oppression. We have seen progress over the years, yet we have much more to go. You can best believe a chip on the shoulder does absolutely nothing towards creating gains, nor alleviating the problem. In my opinion, it enhances the oppression by supporting the notion that things are a particular way, and cannot be changed.

I, as a black lesbian, refuse to be oppressed, or a victim of racism. The mere definitions of oppression and racism imply someone else's control or perceptions. As lesbians and gay men, we especially need to rise above such issues, educate each other and strive for our civil rights. It's up to all of us as individuals and organizations to make the inroads we need. We are all responsible for taking the necessary steps.

So, please spare me the "us" "them" rhetoric in the upcoming editions of the gay news sources unless you have a solution that will work towards uniting the "us" and "them" into "we."

Sincerely,
T. Lavonne Casey

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

A monthly column by KC Wildmoon

Choice and Access

It was a dark and stormy night. The Supreme Court had just handed down a decision on Webster v. Reproductive Health Services. You know the one: the bottom line says that only wealthy women can get an abortion. Women everywhere were gathering at potlucks and discussion groups decrying that decision, angrily and warily stating that Rich White Republicans were doing their dead level best to strip all of our hard-earned rights from us.

It's true. We live in an unabashedly Wealthy, White, Fundamentalist country. We don't have to like it, but face it—that's the way it is. Those Folks who twice elected Ronald Reagan president and now have elected George Bush do not share the same value system we do. Those same Folks consistently elect people who do share their values. They are proud to live in a free country, where we're all free to live the way they want us to.

And we talk about choice. We say "pro-choice" as if it's a euphemism for "pro-abortion." But when we say "pro-choice" we are really talking about all the choices we might want to make in the course of our lives...what about choosing safe, effective birth control...adequate education, health care...choosing good jobs, choosing who our lovers are...where we live...

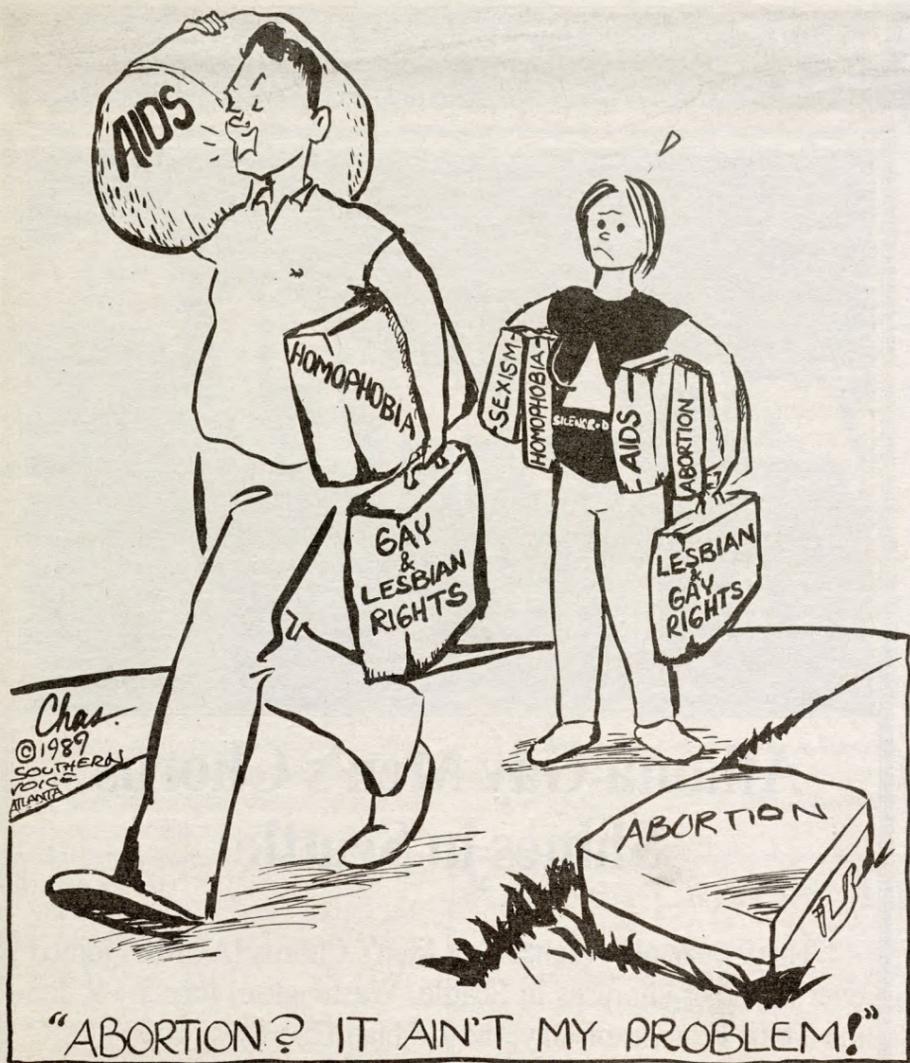
And why are we fighting so hard to be given permission by this Wealthy White Fundamentalist country to do these things? Because without that permission, we risk arrest, harassment, physical abuse, death...but to some of us—Queers for example—that doesn't matter. Some of us are felons every day of our lives. Every breath is taken knowing we're hated and feared by many, many of the Folks we see every day. But that doesn't stop us, can't stop us, from being who we are.

We already have the "right to choose." We make choices everyday, based on our own perceptions of what is "right" for us...based on our own experience. What we are really asking for, demanding, is *access* to all the choices that could be available to us. Access to those choices without having to hide, to pretend to be something we aren't, without lying, cheating, risking our safety—and access *regardless* of creed, sexual orientation, gender, race, nationality, financial status etc etc etc.

The government doesn't care, cannot see that *each and every* human being in its citizenry has rights, not just the citizens who think, or look, or act, or *live*, the way they do. That government will continue to write laws against us, and take away the ones that are for us. Because it doesn't give a damn. Because to Them we do not matter.

So it's no surprise that the justices appointed by that government are taking away the access we had gained earlier, and continually refusing to grant us access to choices that allow us to live our lives as we see fit.

But we don't need their permission. We don't need to be legitimated in their eyes, only in our own. We are living, breathing, human beings. By the very fact of our existence, each and every one of us has all the legitimacy we need to make whatever choice we want to make. We can start making those choices now—*legally or illegally*—instead of waiting for Them to give us the "right." Otherwise we'll be waiting a long, long time.



Rally 'Round the Flag? What About AIDS?

To the Editor:

Hey, I'm as patriotic as the next person. I get tears in my eyes and a lump in my throat when I hear the *Star Spangled Banner* and see the flag waving majestically against a clear blue sky. I'm a sap for all that stuff. Even the Republican videos we all saw during the Bush/Dukakis campaign choked me up. You know the ones. George Bush is standing, arms outstretched, watching his granddaughter run towards him, her silky blonde hair blowing behind her. And then she reaches him, wraps her tiny arms around his neck and looks at him with adoring eyes. Hell, I'm not even a Republican and those commercials brought tears to my liberal eyes.

I love this country and I love our flag. As an American I see it as a symbol of our freedom as a nation. As a lesbian, I see it as a reminder of the freedoms we have yet to attain, and as a voter, I now see it being used as a safe political issue to rally around. In fact, the front page of the *Atlanta Journal* today read: **Bush Rallies around Flag**. What I want to know is, why the hell don't our president or our representatives rally around the AIDS issue? Or Gay and Lesbian rights? It took four full weeks for the administration to "rally around" the Alaskan oil spill. If someone would get this excited about the homeless problem in our country then perhaps we could find answers. What's the deal with the flag-burning issue? It's a symbol, a great symbol, but come on, that's all it is. Why spend so much time and money on an issue like this when there are people dying?

Sincerely,
Mandi Kyle Williams

Correction & Amplification

The R.W. Associates advertisement presenting Joann Loulan contained incorrect information. The Evening Program will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Atlanta (1911 Cliff Valley Way, NE), Friday, August 4 at 8 PM. It is the policy of this newspaper to correct errors of fact that appear in its pages.

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.

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INSIDE THE WASHINGTON LOBBY

The Lobby From the Historical Perspective of One of Its Leaders

At the end of July, Jeff Levi will step down as director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. A central player in the AIDS and gay rights lobby for the past six years, Levi offered his perspective on the history of the lobby and his organization in an exclusive interview with "Inside the Washington Lobby."

"I became the Washington representative to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force six and a half years ago. I was a one-man operation in Washington—the main office was in New York. (NGLTF moved to Washington three years ago and now has a full-time lobbyist in addition to the Executive Director.) It was really the Task Force's first foray into full scale lobbying of the federal government. Before that we had an agreement that the Gay Rights National Lobby would lobby congress and the Task Force would lobby the executive branch. There was something naive about that artificial division, and it was the AIDS crisis that helped us get over that approach. Anyone who knows how lobbying works knows you need to work both with Congress and the Administration to effectively accomplish anything.

"But the movement was young back then, and also reflected a narrow agenda. Our entire Congressional agenda was a gay rights bill that we knew wouldn't pass for a long time. We learned that we needed to address the appropriations process and that to get the government to respond to the AIDS crisis, more sophistication was required. Comparing what we had the capacity to do six years ago to now is like night and day. The fact that we became part of a coalition to deal with the hate crimes statistics bill is part of a lobbying sophistication we developed in dealing with the AIDS crisis.

"From a historical perspective, the debate in Washington has changed over the past few years. The number of organizations that care and are willing to put resources into AIDS issues has grown. The NORA (National Organizations Responding to AIDS) coalition involves hundreds of mainstream organizations and helps account for the dramatic shifts in attitude and legislation we have seen. It also taught us an important lesson: Gay groups were behind the formation of these coalitions and we can do it around other issues too. The gay rights lobby has now gone into coalition. We aren't always welcome members of coalitions, but we *are* a part of them. The whole point of the AIDS coalition is to show that AIDS is a public health issue, not a gay issue. It is the same with gay rights—it is a civil rights issue, and we work in coalition with civil rights groups.

"AIDS and gay rights lobbying is one main agenda of the Task Force, but we have done lots of organizing work as well, which will be the ultimate success of our lobbying effort in Washington. If I learned anything during my time with the Task Force it has

been that we who formally represent the lesbian and gay community on the Hill will only be effective if there are visible gay communities in the districts and states of



TOM DIMARIA

Jeff Levi

the Congressional representatives we are trying to influence. Our grassroots organizing on issues like the violence project, privacy project and family issues project will create structures and issues where local lesbians and gays work with their local officials. When state and local officials learn to work with the lesbian and gay community it creates a sense of accountability between politicians and the lesbian and gay community. When those state and local officials make it to Congress, then we'll see the real shift in attitudes and legislation. It is beginning to happen. There is a core of people we can rely on in Congress, and they are the people who have worked with the lesbian and gay communities in their home states. It is really a long term education process. By the time members of Congress come to Washington, their political perspectives are pretty much established. Breaking down stereotypes they have of us is difficult, but as frustrating as many of the defeats we encounter can be, every opportunity we have to reach a few more people makes the effort worth it."

"Inside the Washington Lobby" salutes Jeff Levi for his innovative, hard-hitting, and often galvanizing leadership on gay rights and AIDS in the political arena.

— Chai Feldblum &
Laura Markowitz

Chai Feldblum is an attorney with the ACLU AIDS Project.

Laura Markowitz is an editor of a national magazine and a lesbian activist.

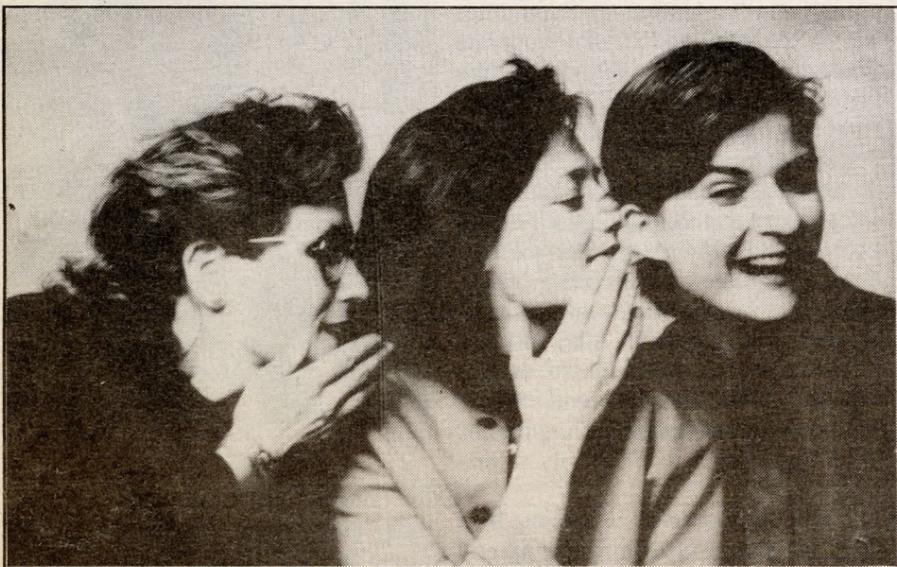
2 Nice Girls Are Too, Too Good

How exciting. This is the second album review in a row in which I'm able to tell you the Lesbians I'm reviewing are in fact Lesbians. Their promo material says so. Their songs say so. They say so onstage, in interviews. And they're not on a "women's" music label. "They" are 2 Nice Girls, and there's actually three of them. But Queer stuff aside, this is an exciting album.

Exciting because these Girls (Gretchen Phillips, Laurie Frelove, and Kathy Korniloff) are good...they're interesting, they're different, they're...exciting. The music is part folk, part punk, part country (what can you expect from Austin, TX?); it blends intelligence and fun into a positive, powerful statement of just what women (Lesbians, even) can do in music. 2 Nice Girls (Rough Trade records)

disclaims it now ("It doesn't paint a positive picture of heterosexuality.")...but it's funny. Very very funny. It's a sing-a-long, and needs only a quote of the title and 2nd line of the chorus to be quite clear: "I Spent My Last \$10.00 (On Birth Control and Beer)/My life so so much simpler when I was sober and queer. 'Nuff said.

The content of some of these songs, especially those written by Frelove, is more than refreshing. While not overtly political, they do reflect a set of values that emphasizes believing in one's own ability to live a healthy life—in "Heaven on Earth," Frelove sings *All that binds this fate to us/Is hidden away in/Gods and flags and walls of faith/That fear has some place/But fear has no place/Not on this earth.* In "Kick" she sings of making changes: *It's your*



Gretchen Phillips, Laurie Frelove and Kathy Korniloff are 2 Nice Girls.

features lyrics that mean something, superb musicianship, sharp arrangement. There's the brilliant "Sweet Jane (With Affection)"—a truly beautiful combination of Lou Reed's classic and Joan Armatrading's "Love and Affection," arranged and delicately sung by Frelove & Korniloff. There's love songs (to women—I can't say enough about this Queer stuff)—from Phillips' "Goons": *my darling does what she likes/my love likes what she likes...arms and mouth that bring me home.* Heartbreak songs: *Everytime that you touch me/I see her in your eyes/and then a little, little part of me/it crawls off and dies* ("My Heart Crawls Off," written by Phillips and Sara Hickman). And then Jane Siberry's "Follow Me" features an arrangement that reflects Siberry's "Windham Hill punk" sound, but (with the Girls' vocals and Korniloff's guitar) becomes distinctly a 2 Nice Girls tune.

Now for the song everyone else mentions...even though Phillips

life/Warm, worth the changes. Very welcome changes to the usual generic songs that too many women these days are recording.

Unfortunately no producer is listed so I can't name the culprit who created the one problem on this album. It stems from occasional uneven mixing, especially on the two cuts using a distorted electric guitar lead—the guitar is much louder, more powerful than the rest of instruments, particularly on "Money," when the beginning of the solo is quite a jolt.

Additional musicians Don Parker (drums), Darryl Dunn (synthesizer), and The East Side Flash (dobro) add much to the Girls arrangements. And together Frelove, Phillips and Korniloff sing like Austin Angels. All in all it's a very impressive album.

—KC Wildmoon



Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus Shines in Seattle

The 9-year-old Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus (AGMC) joined over 50 other choruses in Seattle, Washington, July 2 - 9, for the Third Festival of Gay and Lesbian Choruses. The AGMC received two standing ovations for their performances there, according to member Jim Peck, and "came home strengthened and ready to commit more to the community and the city." The 2200 delegates from around the U.S. closed out the gala event with a rousing rendition of a Holly Near song, "Come Out Singing," especially written for the festival.

I am valuable to life • I am willing to change • I can ask for help • I deserve Love • I deserve recovery

"What does the daughter inherit?"

In-her-it lives.
In-her-it becomes
The secret to remember...
In-her-it truths
In-her-it feels
In-her-it talks
In-her-it pushes on reality
In-her-it can no longer be denied..."

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Different (but not so Different) Is A Hit, Again

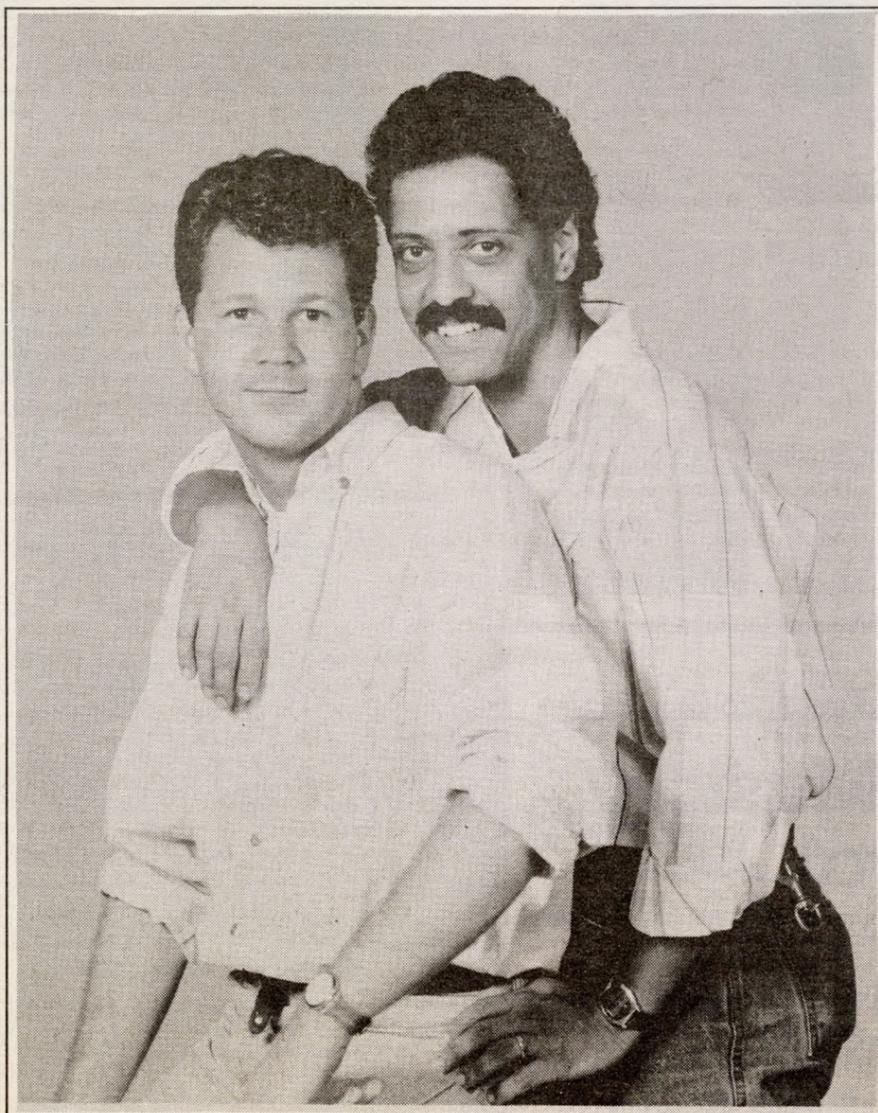
Different, a musical of traditional form but most untraditional content—its central theme is a relationship—by Atlanta playwright Dan Pruitt and composer Patrick Hutchison, has been reincarnated in a solidly rewritten version directed by Pruitt himself at Seven Stages Theatre in Little Five Points. Pruitt and Hutchison courageously took last year's hit script and thoroughly reworked it to deal with the less-than-satisfactory ending of last year's play; along the way, a much stronger script took shape from what was already an audience favorite in Atlanta's gay theater community. Seven new songs join an ambitious suite which includes such witty comic numbers as "Booze," "Matchbook Number," and "Perfection," as well as such lovely and thoughtful pieces as the eponymous "Different" and the newly-added "Time," all woven into a harmonious whole lacking neither gravity nor humor, style nor content.

The play chronicles a relationship which begins when our young gay everyman, Sonny, ventures into his first gay bar. He meets people there who are to become his friends and are, not coincidentally, a microcosm of gay male subculture of the seventies. Sonny finds there the earnest young man, the flaming queen, the pisselegant devotee of all things Continental, and even the low life hustler; but, most importantly, he discovers the bartender, Neal, who's for Sonny both first trick and last love.

In last year's production, Gerald McCullough played the cynic Neal; this year he is the naive Sonny, equally a plum role. In each role he delivers a sterling performance both as actor and singer. He finds a strong dramatic counterpart in Jay Rogers in the role of Neal. Rogers' voice is rich and warm; the vocal yin-yang so needful to Pruitt's concept finds dynamic realization in the on stage chemistry bonding the two performers. When Sonny is stricken by AIDS in the play's denouement, we as audience are brought into the poignancy of the moment in ways lesser talents could hardly hope for—we find these 'different' people not so different from the rest of humanity, when all is said and done.

The balance of the cast has the daunting task of making its presence felt without diminishing the focus on the co-leads; overall, it succeeds, though with a lapse or two here or there. The performance your reviewer attended was somewhat marred by problems breaking in a new lighting person, which led to flubbed light cues which substantially slowed the second act and contributed to a few minor goofs by actors; luckily, such troubles are likely to be one-shot.

Randall Willis performs well enough as



BONNIE PALTER

Gerald McCullough (l) is Sonny and Jay Rogers is his lover, Neal, in the current production of last year's hit musical *Different*.

Russell; unfortunately for him, he does so in the shadow of Doug Lothes' charismatic performance in the role last year, which few actors anywhere could hope to excel, especially in his outre and wildly funny "Matchbook Number" rendition. Alan Altizer, Richie Crownfield, David Mims, Mark Wood, Dick Holland (is also returning from last year's cast), and Lemuel Pitts all do yeoman work, especially in the choreography, which overall is also stronger this year.

Patrick Hutchison himself is Musical Director for a modest but adequate three-piece ensemble of keyboard, drums, and French horn; obviously, the music could be more richly textured with a more ample orchestra. Limitations in resources are, alas, an old story in Atlanta theater, but do not detract much

from production values here.

Different is a play both strong and analytic, witty and poignant in turn. It is a musical perfectly able to compete in any theatrical arena in the English-speaking world, and it arrives on the scene just as New York finds itself woefully short of good new musicals. One may hope some daring producer will give a shot to the show in venues beyond Atlanta, yet it is a mark of the maturity of our theatrical scene that such outstanding work can now be expected from the gay theater. Again the human spirit has been hurt into Art.

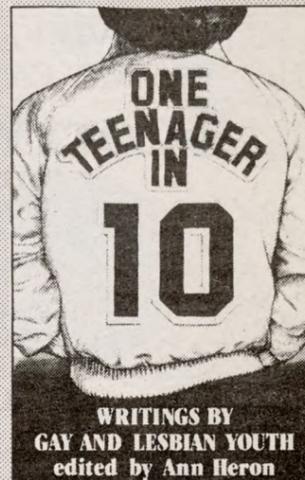
—Berl Boykin

Different runs Tues.—Sun. at 8 PM through July 30 at Seven Stages Mainstage, 1105 Euclid Ave. For information and reservations, call 523-7647.

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One Teenager in Ten, by Ann Heron. Gay and lesbian youth from across the country write about their lives. They cover a broad range of subjects: coming out to oneself, to parents, and to friends, trying to pass as straight, running away, incest, trouble with the law, making initial contacts with the gay community, dealing with religion, and more. \$3.95, trade paperback.

A BLACK GAY ANTHOLOGY

IN THE LIFE



EDITED BY JOSEPH BEAM
INTRODUCTION BY SYLVESTER

In The Life, by Joseph Beam. "In the life," an expression which means "gay," is the title of this collection of essays, short fiction, poetry, and artwork written by, for, and about black gay men. Editor Joseph Beam was frustrated by the fact that very little gay literature spoke to him as a black gay man. *In the Life* is one step towards a body of writings that address these issues. \$7.95, trade paperback.

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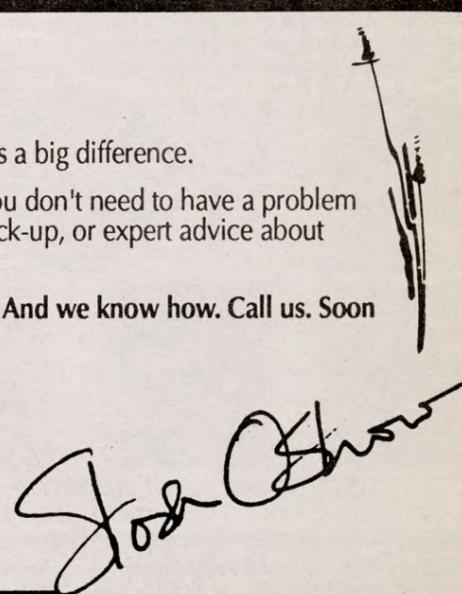
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Stosh Ostrow, M.D.
General Practice



CALENDAR

Arts

LOCAL ARTISTS. There is a call for local artists to exhibit their work this September at the annual Olde English Festival. A major portion of the 1989 profits will go to support Atlanta's Jerusalem House, a residence for homeless people with AIDS. For more info, contact Tom Broyles at 455-1902.

"ART CARE '89", Sat., July 22. Auction of art from over 125 local artists to benefit the Metro Atlanta Foundation (AIDS) and Project Helping Hand. Colony Square, \$25. Info: 351-9622.

ARTISTS GALLERY TALKS, Wed., Aug. 2. Terry York presents a tour of selected landscapes from the permanent collection. Mr. York is a painter whose work is influenced by the late 20th-century American landscape. HMA, 1280 Peachtree, 3rd floor; free with Museum admission. 7PM.

Bar Events

BUDDIES. Every Sat., Noon-8PM: Free tacos with pitchers of margaritas. Every Sun., 4PM: Cook-out. Open daily at Noon. Cheshire Square, 2345 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 634-5895.

CLUB 551 DOWNSTAIRS. Features Live Entertainment. Fri. & Sat., 11PM & 1AM: Female Impersonation. Tues. & Thurs., 10:30PM & Midnight: Bare Expressions. 551 Ponce De Leon Ave. 873-4052.

LIPSTIX. Female Impersonation in Atlanta. Wed., Thurs. & Sun., 10PM & Midnight; Fri. & Sat., 11PM & 1AM. Reservations suggested. Cheshire Square, 2329 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 633-0452. Wed., July 26, "Cinderella Closet Ball", Fri. & Sat. July 28 & 29, "LUAU Weekend" with CARMEN DEL RIO!

THE TOWER. Thurs., July 20. All Woman Review at 8:30PM to benefit the 1989 World Series. Coming July 22 (Sat.) with 50's/60's music: **OLDIES NIGHT!** Marvelous Mondays coming soon and pool tourney and pizzas every Wednesday night. Call 688-4563. 735 Ralph McGill Blvd.

BULLDOG & CO. Where there's always something special happening. Featuring the largest party deck in Atlanta and a new game room. Open Mon.-Fri. 10AM-4AM. Call 872-3025. 893 Peachtree St.

Benefits

PANTHER L/L (Levi/Leather) of Atlanta. Sun., July 23. Hosting an AIDS benefit. Live entertainment, including FAMOUS members of royalty! BACKSTREET. 6-10PM.

Comedy

THE GREAT SOUTHEASTERN LAFF-OFF. The Punchline Comedy Club, through Aug. 22. Sponsored by Abbadabba's and Birkenstock. Winners of the laff-off receive a pair of Birkenstock comfort footwear and more. For more info, call 252-0394.

Exhibits

THE ART OF EMILE GALLE: COLOR AND TEXTURE IN GLASS. Thru Aug. 29. This Exhibition features the works of Emile Galle, one of the most prolific and influential glass artists in Europe during the last quarter of the 19th century. Working predominantly in the Art Nouveau style, Galle drew his motifs from nature. Included in the exhibition are over 35 vases (many with carved and enamel decoration) and bowls with enamel decoration. HMA, 1280 Peachtree St.

"THE CAMERA AND THE IMAGE: 1880-1932". Thru Sept. 21. Part of the 150th anniversary of photography's advent. HMA at the Ga-Pac. Center, 133 Peachtree St. 577-6940.

ZOO ATLANTA. Baby gorillas can steal your heart. Help support them at the Zoo with your "Adopt-a-Baby" contribution. Don't forget Masai-Mara, the African savannah in Atlanta. Hours: weekdays, 10AM-4:30PM; weekends, 10AM-5:30PM. Admission: Adults, \$5.75; Children, \$3.00; 3 years and under free. Group rates, reservations and advance tickets available. For more info, call 624-5600.

Film

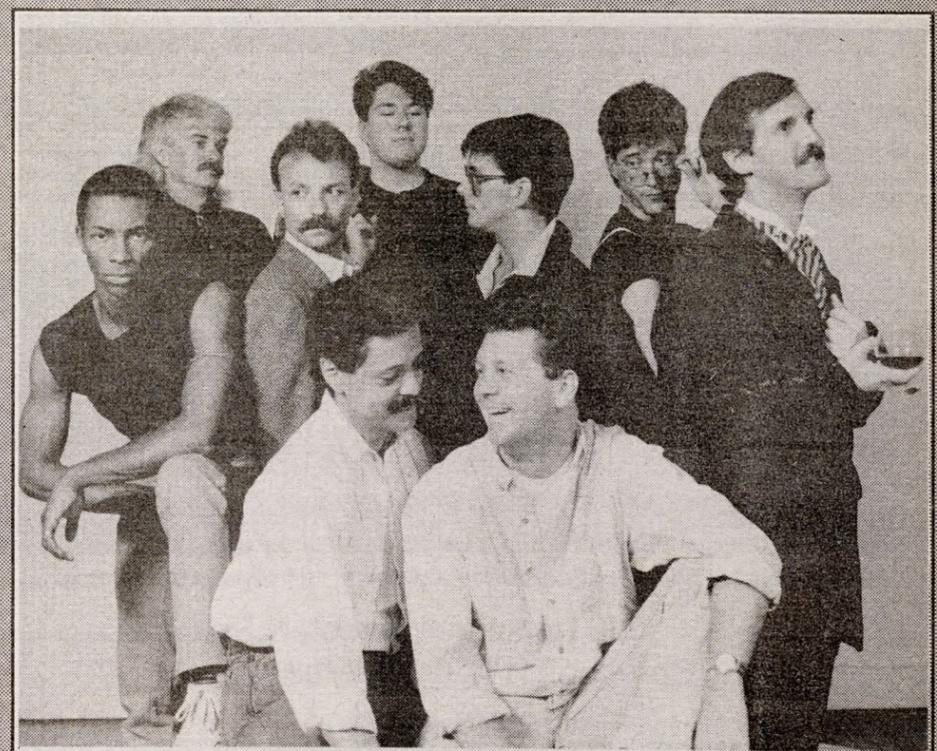
GUNGA DIN. Sat., July 22. A grand old-fashioned entertainment about a trio of soldiers in Her Majesty's Indian Regiment who, with the help of a loyal water boy, foil a native uprising. Inspired by the Rudyard Kipling poem. *Gunga Din's* sensibility is pure Hollywood—brimming with slapstick humor, heroism and high spirits. George Stevens directed. Cast includes Cary Grant, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Victor McLaglen and Sam Jaffe. High Museum, 1280 Peachtree St., Rich Auditorium, 8PM. \$3. Part of the "1939: Hollywood's Golden Year" series.

MIDNIGHT. Sat., July 29. A rondo of romantic attachments, a Parisian setting, and the sublime talents of Claudette Colbert, John Barrymore and Mary Astor—these are the elements of director Mitchell Leisen's scintillating comedy. The witty script is by Charles Brackett and Billy Wilder. Look for Don Ameche in a supporting role. HMA, 1280 Peachtree St. Rich Auditorium, 8PM. Part of the "Golden Year" series.

Literature

CHARIS BOOKS. Thurs., July 20. Angie Nevarez will read original poems in English and Spanish. 7:30PM. 420 Moreland Ave. Free and open to the public.

WOMEN FOR ALL SEASONS: The Story of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Author Cate Foster will speak about her process in investigating and writing this book about the link between the women's peace movement in the '80's and the suffragists who sought to end World War I. Charis Books, 420 Moreland Ave., 7:30PM. Free and open to the public.



Different—last year's musical surprise and this year's smash hit—runs through July 30 at 7 Stages Theatre. All shows at 8 pm. Tues-Thurs & Sun-\$12.50; Fri & Sat \$14.50. 523-7647 for reservations.

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July 20 - August 2

Meetings

CHRYSALIS WOMEN'S CENTER provides professionally led support groups for lesbians every Friday night from 7PM to 8:30PM. Call 881-6300 for directions and information.

MACGLO monthly meeting, Thurs., July 20. Visitors are welcome to come and see what is happening in the gay and lesbian communities. 7PM at the Peachtree Branch Library.

BWMT (Black and White Men Together). Mon., July 24, 8PM, a rap group at Melvin & J.R.'s, 373-5111, discussing "Gay Erotica in the '90's."

Music

ELISE WITT & SMALL FAMILY ORCHESTRA. Fri. & Sat., July 21-22, Atlanta's favorite folk band! Picasso's, 515-B McDonough St., Decatur. \$7. 373-8255.

ARLO GUTHRIE. Fri., July 22, Center Stage. 9PM. \$15 reserved seating. 873-2500. Opening act: Caroline Aiken.

LITTLE FIVE POINTS SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL. Album 88's "Under the Shoes", Sat. & Sun., July 22-23. Artists include: DeDe Vogt, Rockin' Bones, Face of Concern, Cass Kennedy, Opal Foxx Quartet. 1:30-6:30PM.

1989 BEETHOVEN "SUMMERFEST". Tues., July 25. Yoel Levi conducts concerts at 8PM. Symphony Hall, 1280 Peachtree St. 892-2414.

CEPHAS & WIGGINS. Wed. July 26. HMA Atrium, 1280 Peachtree. 7:30PM.

BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS. Sat., July 29. And how! Chastain Park. 8PM.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Sun. July 30. Piedmont Park. 7:30PM. Free.

CARIOCAS. Every Wed. & Thurs., 5-9PM: The Mose Davis Trio. Every Fri., 5-8PM: Bernadine Mitchell with the Mose Davis Trio. Sat. & Sun., 9PM until: big screen videos with V.J. No cover. Rio Plaza, North and Piedmont Aves.

OPAL FOXX QUARTET. Every Sun. in July 2-4PM. Brunch with a twist (or a twisted brunch, perhaps). Little Five Points Pub. No cover. 1174 Euclid Ave., at Moreland. 577-7767.

Radio

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

EXPRESSIONS: Tues., 9-11PM. The best of all possible worlds. Exploring the known & unknown giants of jazz w/ John Settles.

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

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

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

MUSIC FROM INDIA: Fri., 7-9:30PM. Our 12th year on WRFG. A blend of contemporary and traditional music from the Indian subcontinent w/ Manorma Pandit & Raj Chawla.

IMPROVISATION: Fri., 1-6AM (really Saturday morning). W/ Van Mims alternating w/ Abdul Malik El-Amin. Straight-ahead jazz and information to start your weekend off right.

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

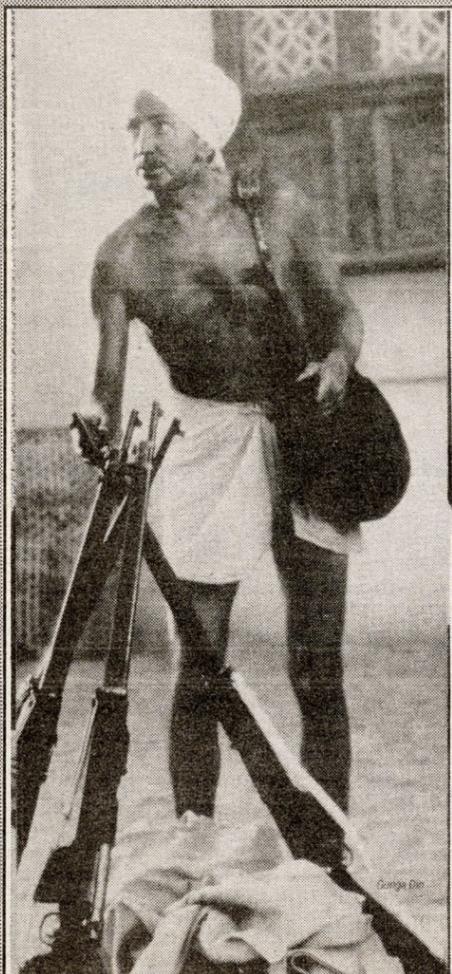
SPEED LIMIT 70: Sat., 1-6AM (really Sunday morning). Music for beatniks, freaks, and weirdos from the late, great, nifty 1950's on up through the high '60's and beyond! With Monty Garrette, the musical madman from Macon! And Bogeymen Foos.

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

Sports

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT. Fundraiser to be held Sat., July 22 at the Sports Page for 1989 World Series. Entry fee, \$50.00 per team. Men and women divisions. Open to all levels of competition. Call Betsy Kidd at 242-1005 for more information.

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST CAMPING TRIP, Fri.-Sun., July 28-30. Co-sponsored by Atlanta Venture Sports and Friends Atlanta. Info: 242-4899.



Gunga Din, starring Cary Grant, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. and Sam Jaffe plays Sat. July 22 at 8 pm in the Rich Auditorium at the High Museum. \$3. Part of the "1939: Hollywood's Golden Years" series.

Television

BRADSHAW ON: THE FAMILY, Sat., July 22. "The Most Common Family Illness" looks at America's most common and unrecognized addiction: co-dependency, the giving up of one's own wants and needs to live for the wants and needs of others. This program and the final three programs in this series air together, starting at 2PM. Intended for families - all types of families - to watch together. GPTV/8. 9PM.

Theatre

AN ANSWER OF LOVE. Fri. & Sat., July 21-22. Atlanta playwright Chip Coffey brings us a story of a young man whose decision to dramatically end his life changed the lives of those left behind. Part of Dunwoody Stage Door Players' One Act Festival. \$6, \$12, North DeKalb Cultural Center. 5139 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd. 451-1502.

THE VISION. Thru July 29, 8PM, Sat. Matinee, 2PM. A new age satire by Atlantan Ronda K. Bowe, presented by The Actor's Express. Believe us, you won't want to miss this one! \$10. The Dorsey Studio, 3593 Clairmont Rd. 634-3602.

COTTON PATCH GOSPEL. Thru July 30. A musical retelling of the Jesus story by Matthew and John, wild and crazy disciples of the Lord. Alliance Mainstage. \$13-28. 892-2414.

DIFFERENT. Thru Sun., July 30. Last year's musical surprise is this year's summer smash. Don't miss it! Seven Stages Theatre, 1105 Euclid Ave. All shows 8PM. Tickets \$12.50 Tues.-Thurs & Sun.; \$14.50 Fri. & Sat. Reservations: 523-7647.

SLAMMERS GIRLS. Ongoing. Wonderfully ditsy musical written & directed by Patrick Cuccaro. Upstairs @ Gene & Gabe's. 1578 Piedmont Ave. Call 874-6145. Tickets: Tues.-Sun. 9PM, \$16.50; Sat. @ 11PM, \$8.50. Reservations suggested.

MURDER IN THE MAGNOLIAS. Thru Aug. 13. Popular parody of Southern literature featuring a Twilight Zone spoof of "GWTW." \$11.00 Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Sun.; \$14 Fri.; \$16 on Sat. Theatre in the Square, 11 Whitlock Ave., Marietta. Call 422-8369.

EVOTECK THEATRE PRESENTS: THE INTERPLANETARY ADVENTURES OF COMMANDER SETARCOS. Fri. & Sat. at 9PM, thru Aug 16. 3078 Roswell Rd. Call 642-3379.

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ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

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

ACT UP/Atlanta-AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held every Tuesday at 7:30 PM at 131 Ponce de Leon, Suite 233. 24-hr. info line - 286-6247. Outside Atlanta, call 800-342-7038 ext. 6247.

AFC- Atlanta Faerie Circle. 1st Sunday of each month. Location and time varies. Gay men 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.

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

ALFA- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance. 2nd Sunday of each month. 6:00 PM. A lesbian feminist organization which welcomes lesbians of all races, religions, political orientation, economic status, occupation and degree of openness. Write PO Box 5502, Atlanta, Ga. 30307 for more 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 Saturday of each month. 8:00 PM. Location varies. A gay inter-racial organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be over-come and the goal of human equality realized. 794-BWMT.

Circle of Healing- 1st and 3rd Sunday 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.

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

Congregation Bet Haverim- Services 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 PM. Shabbat Seder, 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 PM. All Saints Episcopal Church. Proudly serving the lesbian and gay community. Information line: 642-3467.

COOR - Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue opposes any individual or group trying to limit women's rights of reproductive choice. Meetings every Thursday at 7:00 PM, Inman Park Library, 447 Moreland Ave. 365-5311.

ELGO- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization. Meetings every Wed. at 7PM. Room 363E Dobbs University Center. Box 23515, Atlanta, Ga. 30322. 727-6692.

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

Fourth Tuesday- A networking organization for lesbian professionals and entrepreneurs, operating through monthly

dinner meetings and a variety of special social, sports and educational events. P. O. Box 7817, Atlanta, GA 30309, 662-4353.

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

Friends of Zoo Atlanta- Support organization for Zoo Atlanta. For info regarding corporate sponsorship, membership, volunteers and adopt-an-animal call (404) 525-9936. Mon.-Fri., 9AM-5PM.

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

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

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

GAPAC- Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition. Meetings vary. The gay and lesbian political action committee monitoring and acting in the local political scene. 888-0510.

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

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

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

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

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

LEGAL- Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians. The voice of lesbian and gay Georgians in the Democratic party. 286-7476.

LIFE- Lesbians in Fun Endeavors. Meeting times and locations vary. Bringing professional gay women together for the fun of it, giving them the opportunity to make friends and enjoy a wide variety of events. 938-2009.

Lutherans Concerned/South Carolina- A society of gay, lesbian and non-gay Christians. All denominations welcome. We work to foster a climate of understanding, justice and reconciliation among all people. 3rd Sunday of each month. 4:00 PM. 728 Pickens St., Columbia, SC. Contact: PO Box 90537, Columbia, SC, 29290. (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 All Saints-Serving metro Atlanta with positive Christian support for lesbians and gay men. 5:00 PM every Sunday. 575 Boulevard, SE. Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 10AM-Noon, and 1PM-4PM. 622-1154.

NAPWA- Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS. Regular meetings and events. 131 Ponce de Leon, Suite 233. A political, social, and educational organization confronting the AIDS crisis. Membership is open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV positive. 874-7926.

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

P-FLAG- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. 3rd Sunday of each month. 5-7 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Committed to help parents learn what we have learned. To help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding, so all gay people can live with dignity and respect. 961-6085 or 296-0830.

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

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

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

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

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

SAME- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc. Utilizes 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.

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

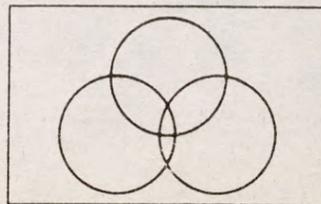
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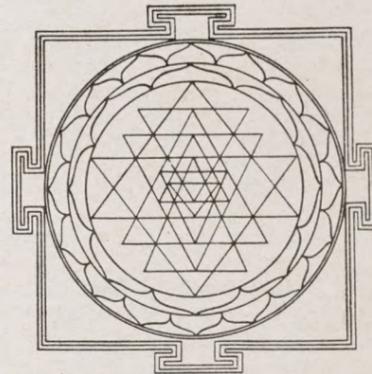
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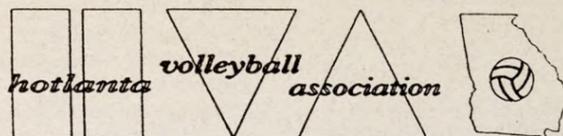
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Bowe's Vision Is A Shining Crystal

"Emerson is my shepherd/I shall not want..." didn't seem too out of place ringing in my head as we ascended narrow steps leading up from *The Vision* we had just witnessed during a meeting of T-SEE in the small community church basement.

T-SEE stands for Training and Striving for Excellence in your Environment, a "new age" self potential movement. And, *The Vision* stands for excellence in local theatre for Atlanta playwright Ronda K. Bowe's culminating feature in the premiere season of *The Actor's Express*.

This "alternative, new age satire" is lodged in the perfect setting in an old church building located on the back parking lot behind Outlet Square near the intersection of Buford Highway and Clairmont Road, which also provides housing for the Dorsey Studio, home of the Actor's Express.

While most emerging theatre performance spaces stretch the outermost limits of theatrical license, *The Actor's Express'* current production of *The Vision* could not have been staged in a more suitable environment. Not even a Days Inn roadside conference/ballroom could have offered more sterile, unimposing ambiance for Bowe's one-act full-length dramatic spoof on crystal-toting followers of this zany miracle philosophy she calls T-SEE.

Reminiscent of any Sunday morning god-squad television spokesman, Express Artistic Director Chris Coleman as T-SEE founder Emerson Dover delivers an endless roll of preaching diatribe as if he might have been a teenaged usher upstairs in that very little church.

Centered tidily within space omitted by semicircular seating for 75 crowded patrons, Coleman and Express Producing Director Harold Leaver (director) manage to put an end to any audience member's zest for lifespringing, without keeping them all weekend long or charging exorbitant non-refundable tuition.

On introducing each new member of the group experience, Emerson beckons his eclectic clan of participants with a hell-fire-brimstone announcement of "Breakthrough Time!", promising "with each and every breakthrough comes a breakdown." One woman on the back row broke down laughing right then.

One by one Bowe's characters unfold as individuals in desperation, seeking Emerson's offer of *The Vision*...a view of the true-self light within them deemed vital to their lives and only available through his personal guidance, or, perhaps by purchasing the three readily available cassette tapes along with his own book version of the T-SEE miracle.

Attempting to help Emerson in his attempts to help participants come to terms with their pasts and to give them potential to deal with their futures are the T-SEE helpers, a husband-

wife team of Kaki and Carl Peter played expertly and adequately by Stephanie Rollheiser and Dick Morrill, respectively. This actress sells.

Ingrid Morris delivers a wrenching breakdown when Emerson leads her character, Rebecca Tanner, into a breakthrough and onto revealing a terrible secret in her past. Theo Harness, however, fails to support his leader admirably as the unflinching T-SEE devotee named Mike Potter.

Deidrie Henry, playing the only T-SEE drop-out, is beautiful as the seemingly perfect woman, Anna Kay Williamson. Wendy Wolff gives depth to her sketchy character as new-age-masseuse Heather Lynn Samuels who has been abandoned by her family for being gay.

If you missed the EST trend, couldn't afford Lifespring or sleep through the 700 Club religiously, take a comic look at *The Vision*. Whether you consider "new age" doctrines to be miracle and just an expensive joke, you're sure to break down laughing.

I bet Ronda Bowe even laughs at herself sometimes.

-John Blizzard



Chris Coleman is Emerson Dover in *The Vision* presented by The Actor's Express. *The Vision* plays through July 29 at the Dorsey Studio, 3593 Clairmont Road. 8 PM Friday-Saturday. 2 PM Saturday. \$10. 634-3602.

Kathren Cherelle: Torch Singer Shines In One-Woman Show

Kathren Cherelle shines in a one-woman show now playing downstairs at Gene and Gabe's Restaurant. The candle-lit restaurant is a perfect environment to showcase Cherelle's classy style and warm interpretation of a variety of show tunes and heartfelt ballads.

She performs two forty-five minute sets and is backed by a competent trio: Steve Cowee on bass; Jeff Kershner on drums and musical director, Hal Lanier on piano.

Cherelle is reminiscent of the sultry torch singers of the 40's. Her selection of songs is romantic and optimistic. Hal Lanier's arrangements are smooth and exciting. Cherelle's delivery is simple but her musical phrasing is interesting and fresh. She allows the lyrics to work for her much the same way that Streisand does. She sometimes sounds a little too controlled but more often she displays a talent that is innate rather than trained. Her voice is rich and she seems most at home singing torch songs that show off her emotional and technical range.

The best moments are a well produced medley of "A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes," "Wish Upon A Star," and "Over The Rainbow." Her closing number, "Everybody Has A Dream," is an excellent example of the musical partnership between the arranger, Hal Lanier, and the singer. The results were a standing ovation and an encore from the near capacity Wednesday night crowd.

Cherelle's show is simple and is held together through the talents of a musical director who is sensitive to the singer's style, the beautiful instrument of Kathren Cherelle and the producer, Gene Dale, who obviously has a nose for talent.

If you like Streisand, easy listening and appreciate a singer who sings from the heart, then you will love Kathren Cherelle.

- Brandon Ross

Gene and Gabe's Restaurant, Downstairs. Piedmont at Monroe. Unlimited engagement. Wednesday through Sunday at 10 PM. Call for reservations.



Kathren Cherelle appears at Gene & Gabe's Downstairs.

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The Case For a Community Pharmacist For People With AIDS

A twenty-eight year old male patient walked into my community pharmacy with a prescription from his dentist. The gentleman had work done on his teeth and, consequently, needed some pain medication. The dentist had prescribed Lorcet, a pain reliever containing acetaminophen. Proceeding to fill the prescription, I reviewed his personal patient profile, which lists his drug prescription history, and found that he was currently taking Retrovir (AZT). Without a breach of confidentiality, I called the dentist to alert him that there was a drug interaction between one of the ingredients in Lorcet and what the patient was presently taking. I recommended a different, but still highly effective, pain medication.

It was explained to the patient that Retrovir becomes less effective when mixed with any acetaminophen product. He probably knew this fact, but did not know that Lorcet contained acetaminophen as a secondary ingredient. Because this patient obtains all his prescription drugs from one source, and a personal record is kept, a drug interaction was readily and professionally addressed.

Had this patient gotten his Retrovir from a mail-order company, and then presented me with his Lorcet prescription, I would not have known he was taking Retrovir. Hence the drug interaction would not have been revealed.

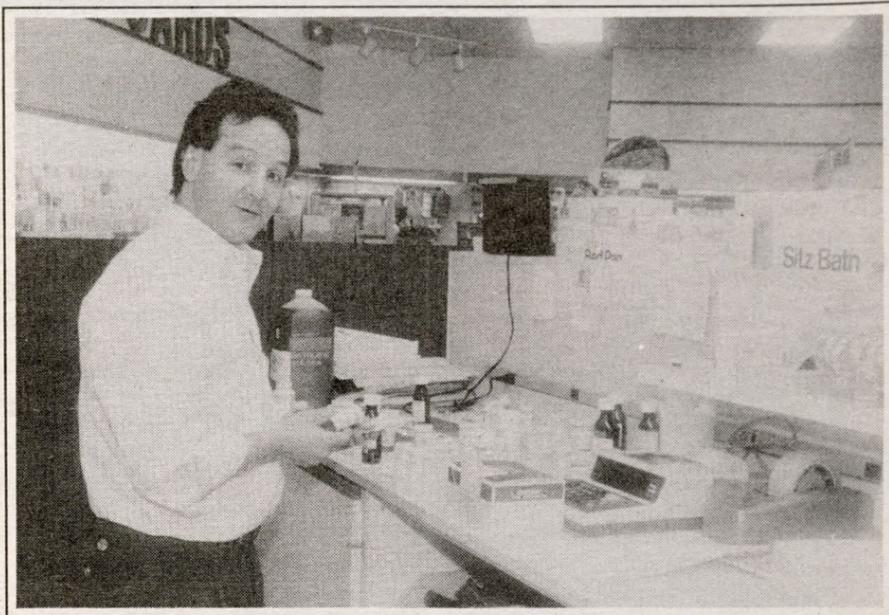
To many consumers, mail-order drugs

seem to be a simple way to save some money. The article appearing in these same pages in April touted the money saved from buying some drugs via mail. But as gleaned from the above true scenario, drug effectiveness and consumer safety must also be taken into account in making the decision to use or not use a mail-order company.

Another issue dealing with drug effectiveness is the use of generic drugs vs. brand-name drugs. Generic vs. brand-name and generic vs. generic will yield a varied response in prices and in quality. Not all generic drugs are equivalent. Many mail-order companies will tend to choose their generics based on prices from the lowest bidder.

Another often overlooked point is the amount of errors in filling prescriptions. There have been many reports in trade journals citing misbranding and mislabeling of medications. The pitfalls of such errors can be fatal. All little white tablets, although they may look alike, are not the same.

The community pharmacist does more than count pills and then put a price tag on them. The good sound advice and counseling of medications are at the heart of the practice of competent community pharmacy. The communication between patient and pharmacist is crucial. The professional information that the community pharmacist can provide to patients about how and when to best take medications (e.g., with water,



IRIS RUSKIN

Ira Katz, owner and pharmacist of the Little 5 Points Pharmacy.

with juice, on an empty stomach, stay out of the sun, etc.) is offered as an important service and vital to the overall effectiveness of taking prescribed medication. The numerous side effects and drug interactions need to

be addressed at the time of dispensing medication *not* after the fact. Consider these facts when deciding between a community pharmacy and a mail-order company.

- Ira Katz, R.Ph.

read

The AIDS-Care Crisis in America

A National Perspective

by Keith Clark

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Aerosolized Pentamidine Gets Final FDA Approval

Pneumonia Preventative Now AIDS-Related Drug To Get Nod

Washington—The Food and Drug Administration on June 15 granted final approval status aerosolized Pentamidine, a popular treatment drug used as a preventative for a form of pneumonia commonly associated with AIDS.

The drug, which will now be marketed by Lyphomed Inc. of Rosemont, Ill. as NebuPent, has been widely available for use by AIDS patients as a prophylaxis for *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia through an FDA pre-approval distribution program. Many patients, however, have not been able to receive insurance compensation for the treatments due to the drug not having been granted full approval.

In a press conference announcing the drug's approval, Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Louis W. Sullivan stated that he hopes the approval will help alleviate that problem.

"Today's approval will help many of those infected with the AIDS virus avoid one of the most deadly opportunistic infections associated with AIDS," said Sullivan. "It may help an estimated 100,000 or more individuals who are at risk of developing first or subsequent episodes of *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia and will, therefore, significantly improve the quality of their lives."

Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, or PCP, has until now been a leading cause of death among AIDS patients. However, with the widespread use of aerosolized Pentamidine, AIDS specialists have suggested that PCP may no longer be the major problem it once was.

Also, since the use of aerosolized Pentamidine became widespread—particularly since the drug was granted "Treatment IND (Investigational New Drug)" status in February—many AIDS advocates have joined the medical community in encouraging voluntary HIV antibody testing, since unlike before, there are now treatments available to prevent the onset of AIDS symptoms.

With the June 15 announcement, aerosolized Pentamidine now becomes one of three drugs used in treating AIDS related conditions to be granted full approval. Although the highly toxic anti-viral AZT remains the only anti-HIV drug on the market, the cancer-fighting drug alpha interferon was granted full approval in the past year. Soon to join aerosolized Pentamidine, AZT and alpha interferon on that short list will be the anti-her-



REX WOCKNER

Members of ACT UP/Chicago protesting the price of pentamidine last year outside the headquarters of Lyphomed, Inc., the drug's manufacturer.

pes drug DHPG (or ganciclovir)—used in treating AIDS-related blindness and colitis—which is expected to be approved in coming weeks.

Much of the data on aerosolized Pentamidine has come from community-based clinical trials, rather than university studies, an almost unprecedented development in modern medicine.

FDA commissioner Frank Young lauded the work of the clinical trials in his prepared statement, which stated, "The approval of this vital drug heralds a new era of close cooperation among FDA, industry and those community physicians who are on the front line of dealing with this terrible disease."

Guidelines for the drug's usage published in the Centers for Disease Control's weekly *Morbidity and Mortality Report* labeled the drug for use in patients who have already experienced one bout of PCP or who have "greatly diminished immunity," as indicated by CD4 helper lymphocyte cell counts of 200 or less.

Lyphomed/Activist Funding Concerns

Meanwhile, throughout the drug's approval process, the drug's manufacturer, Lyphomed, has been the target of heated criticism by many AIDS activist groups, for what they call "price gouging" on the part of the drug company.

The drug can cost up to \$100 a treatment. According to Lyphomed, the approved dosage regimen is 300 milligrams

every four weeks, delivered by way of a patented nebulizer. This would bring the cost of the drug to an average of \$1,300 a year.

For over a year, the Ill.-based company has been in competition with the British pharmaceutical company Fisons over winning a patent on the aerosolized version of the drug, which has been available since 1984 in injectable form.

Members of Chicago's AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP/Chicago) have taken the lead in demonstrating against the Illinois company for their pricing policies and their repeated refusal to release cost and trial data on the drug.

Based on an investigative report in *Coming Up*, a San Francisco gay monthly, the Chicago activists alleged that the company was charging an exorbitantly high price for the drug, considering the low cost of the drug's manufacture.

"We've been on this quite a while," stated ACT UP/Chicago spokesperson Paul Adams. "They [Lyphomed officials] promised to reduce the price of IV form [of the drug] once they got aerosol patent, but no one's going to use the IV form once the aerosol is available."

A February press release from Lyphomed announcing the drug's approval for Treatment IND status contained a statement which said Lyphomed would soon begin a program in which they would help indigent AIDS patients receive aerosolized Pentamidine. But, Adams said, a call to Rick White, the company's product manager, revealed that no such program existed at the time.

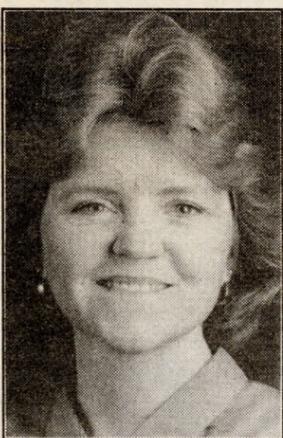
Contacted June 19, Lyphomed media spokesperson Melissa Marsden asserted that the program announced in the February press release is still in the works, now five months later. She stated that the company has been examining proper dosages and funding levels before formally starting the program.

"We are currently designing programs," she stated. "We are committed to distributing NebuPent to indigent patients."

ACT UP/Chicago has not directed action against Lyphomed since shortly after the February release of the drug for wider use.

The company has set up a national toll-free hotline [1-(800)-PCP-7003] by which AIDS and HIV patients may get information on the new drug. Although that number initially reached a recording extolling the benefits of the drug, according to the one staffer on the line June 19, it is now fully operational.

— Cliff O'Neill



Over \$500,000,000.00 is spent annually on over the counter Headache Remedies.

The average American visits the doctor five times a year. Half of those visits are due to headaches.

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COMMUNITY WORKSHOP:

Topics Include: Rekindling Sex for Couples, Sex and Dating, Internalized Homophobia, Addiction and Recovery and, more...
Saturday, August 5, at 10 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Colony Square
(Women Only)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SEMINAR

Designed for psychotherapists and mental health professionals who work with lesbian clients
Sunday, August 6, at 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Colony Square

	BEFORE July 28	AFTER July 28
Evening Program	\$12.00	\$15.00
Community Workshop	\$60.00	\$65.00
Professional Training Seminar	\$90.00	\$100.00
All Three Events	\$150.00	\$170.00

There will be no tickets issued for these events; your name will be at the door. \$10 Handling fee for cancellation before July 28. After July 28, all reservation fees are nonrefundable.

Make Checks Payable to: The R.W. Associates, c/o Buckhead Psychological Center, 3115 Piedmont Rd., NE • Suite B-200, Atlanta, GA 30305. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT EITHER JACKIE JOHNSON, Ph.D. at 633-2475 or Ann McAllister, Ph.D. at 231-0751.

Ruling Planets

July 20 through August 2, 1989
by Mary Bailey-Rule

The Sun goes into Leo on July 22. On July 20, Mercury joins Mars and Venus in Leo until the 23rd, when Venus goes into Virgo. This concentration may provide an abundance of creative and expressive energy, as well as some personal arrogance, so remember to be aware of others.



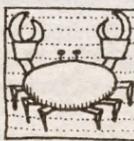
ARIES - More emphasis on creativity, love affairs, and play, so loosen up a little, take some time for yourself. Venus going into your 6th house of jobs and responsibility will help out at work.



TAURUS - The Sun joins Mercury and Mars in your 4th house of childhood experiences and your current home environment, so you may feel the urge to paint, redecorate, or possibly relocate.



GEMINI - If you are feeling more restless than usual, plan a weekend out of town, but be careful not to avoid responsibilities at home. You may also have some changes at work.



CANCER - Material resources and personal values are emphasized for the next two weeks, so this is a good time to clean out the closets and have a yard sale. You'll feel less encumbered.



LEO - Happy Birthday! This is your month to celebrate, so have fun with friends and relatives. This is also a good time to do financial planning or buy something new, but don't blow your budget.



VIRGO - Your dreamtime or your intuition may be more active for the next two weeks, so pay more attention to your daydreams and the symbols that float through your mind.

LIBRA - Your career/vocation are strongly emphasized for the next two weeks, so think about where you want your career to be a year from now. Plan now for future changes and growth, especially if you want something different.



SCORPIO - You can expect some changes in your personal life with Pluto going into direct motion, so relax and go with the flow and remember to trust your intuition.



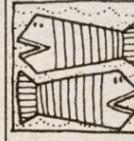
SAGITTARIUS - Your 9th house of travel and higher learning is emphasized, so see your travel agent or sign up for a short course. If you have been sitting around too much, get back into sports.



CAPRICORN - Your 8th house of personal transformation is strongly emphasized, so you may need more focus on your spiritual life and a little less on career. Reconnect with your own values and needs while nurturing your spirit.



AQUARIUS - Personal and committed relationships are emphasized now. Let close friends and loved ones know that you care about them and be sure to include social events in your calendar. Someone new may walk into your life.



PISCES - Venus moves into your 7th house of committed relationships, so expect some delightful changes. Spend time with close friends and speak up for yourself at work. It will be a busy two weeks, so have fun.

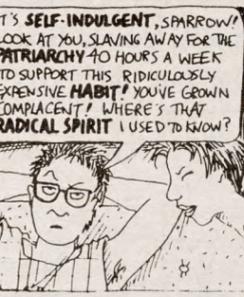
Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in birth chart analysis, relationship charts, and career counseling. For more information or an appointment, call 261-9343.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLORETH

Dykes to Watch Out For

Sermon on the Couch

AS THE TRUE NATURE OF OUR HOUSEGUEST MILKWEED UNFOLDS, THE PATIENCE OF HER HOSTESSES IS WEARING THIN!
THIS MORNING, SPARROW & GINGER HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR WORK AND THE PHONE IS ON ITS THIRD RING...

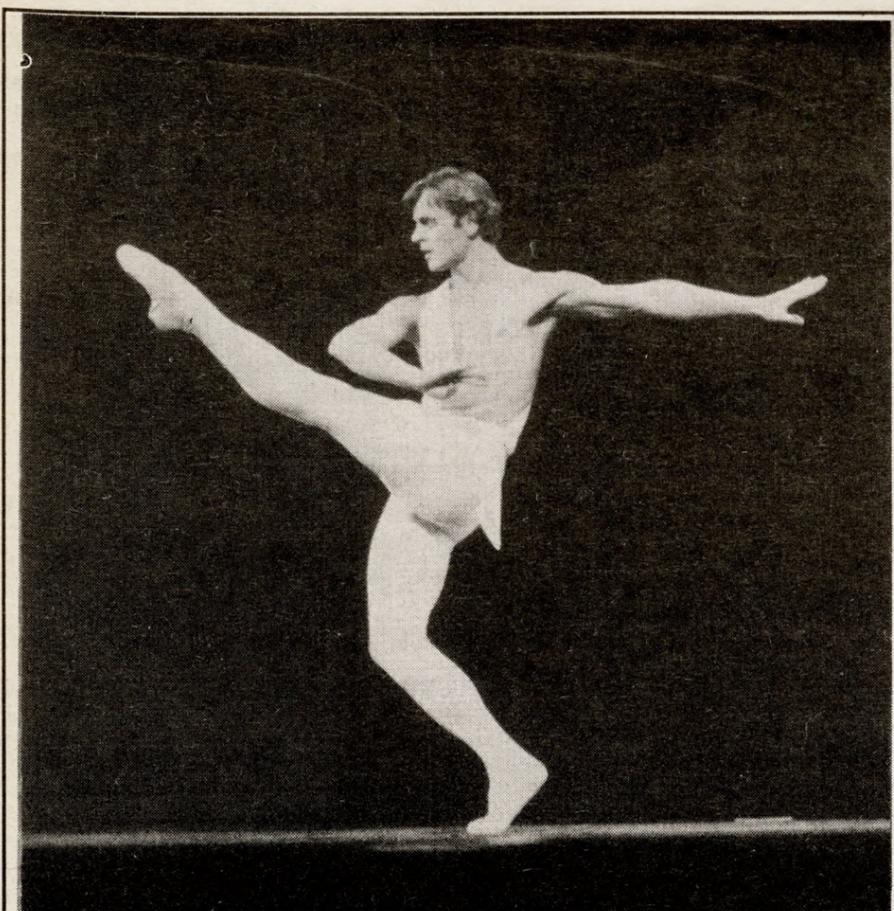


bittersweet

by Charles Haver

IT'S SUMMER AGAIN AND OFF TO SUMMER CAMP WE GO!





FAMOUS FACES

Mikhail Dances Away

One of the greatest male dancers of all times has announced he is moving on, but he won't say in which direction. Mikhail Baryshnikov defected from the USSR in 1974 and immediately joined the American Ballet Theatre as a dancer. In 1980 he became artistic director of the company and now, he says, he will leave after the 1990 season. Misha, as his friends call him, told the board of trustees that he wants to pursue "other professional options". The amazing Baryshnikov has already appeared in films like *White Nights* and *The Turning Point*. This year he took Broadway by storm with his starring role in Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, and he recently launched a women's perfume called "Misha".

Remodeling Rock Hudson's Home

Rock Hudson's home is being torn down by its new owners, who are spending on remodeling more than they paid for the house. After coughing up close to \$3 million for the late Rock Hudson's home, *Twilight Zone* director John Landis and his wife Deborah are pouring in another \$3.5 million to make it their dream home. Two years ago, Landis bought the house from probate and so far has filled up the pool with concrete and demolished 80 percent of Hudson's two-story hacienda overlooking Beverly Hills. Little more than the motor court which stands behind tall oleanders remains, but it will be replaced by a huge wall with electric gates.

A New Baby for Michael Jackson

They didn't have a shopping bag big enough for Michael Jackson's latest shopping spree, but the mild-mannered Michael managed anyhow. Jackson just bought a 13-month-old giraffe from a Kansas animal dealer. Apparently Michael, an avid conservationist, used to keep his animals simply as pets. But his collection has grown so much, that the baby giraffe will become part of what is now his private zoo. Michael now plans to become more involved in conservation and breeding of exotic animals.

-F.G.

Goodness Gracious, Great Balls of Fire!

There's no doubt this movie will appeal to rock 'n roll babies and/or fans of the chameleonlike Dennis Quaid. The 35-year-old actor is the controversial Jerry Lee Lewis in this two-hour paean to the Killer and that still dewy-eyed time known as the Fifties.

For those of us who say Quaid is overacting, let these would be critics be questioned: "Have you ever seen Lewis in an interview? Have you seen Lewis in concert?" The man *is* larger than life.

Quaid is perfect as Lewis, donning the strutting near-innocent pomposity of one who truly believes he is the King of Rock and Roll.

From the book by Myra Lewis, *Great Balls of Fire* covers the fateful two years in Lewis' career that saw the piano pumping rocker shoot his way to the top of the charts only to be shot down by the reaction of public and press when he did the unthinkable by marrying his cousin's 13-year-old daughter, Myra.

Winona Ryder is excellent in her portrayal of Myra, a combination of shy fawn and Jerry Lee's loudest cheerleader. Innocent sexwise, the girl knew it was Jerry Lee she wanted from the beginning. Nevertheless, the struck dumb wedding sequence is hilarious.

Alec Baldwin as Jerry's cousin, Bible-banging Jimmy Swaggart, is delightful. The performance is even more enjoyable knowing what's ahead for Swaggart as he denounces Jerry Lee's wild ways and "devil" music.



Dennis Quaid is Jerry Lee Lewis in *Great Balls of Fire*.

Actually, there is not one bad performance in the film. Those unfamiliar with Southerners will not think these people are believable in the assigned roles.

Those not prepared for the Honky Tonk Angel—played by Priscilla Harris—are going to be blown out of the water. Without uttering one word, this gal steals the scene right out from under the rest—and all she's got to do is shake. The minor characters are fleshed out and attention to detail carries each scene forward until the drama unfolds before the audience.

Make no mistake, the name is the music and the music is the movie. As much fun and excitement as is generated is how much pathos we see in the tragedy of Lewis' career crashing after word gets out regarding his marriage. In one haunting scene, Myra is awakened in the middle of the night by a torturous piano solo by Jerry Lee, shattered by having bowed to public pressure.

And for those of you who insist no one can tear up an instrument like the Who, honey—Jerry Lee writes the book during one performance. Chuck Berry (Russell Coleman) looks as if he wants to kick himself but hey, Lewis offered Berry the chance to go on first. It's not his fault if Berry insist that *he* closes the show. And it's not Jerry Lee's fault that *he* brings down the house.

Again and again and again.

— Candace Wiggins and
Tia Nikolopoulos



Jerry Lee Lewis and Dennis Quaid

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Atlanta Team Tennis Association, located at the Glen Lake Tennis Center in Decatur, is beginning a membership drive for players of all levels. This Gay and Lesbian tennis organization meets Saturdays at 1:30 pm. For more information, call Eric Keys at 350-9952. (V2#12)

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Be Out at Work. Full time Secretary/Office Support. 378-6012 (V2,#13)

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BUDDY moved away today, need a man that wants to play. Me: 27, 5'10", 150. Butch, into butch. Matt, P.O. Box 8133, Atlanta, GA 30306 (V2#12)

Southern GWM, 27, br/br, 160 lb. Looking for similarly masculine caring man to develop common interests with. Foto a plus, phone # a must. Write to Wayne c/o SV Box #2276. (V2, #13)

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BLUE EYED PREPPIE -- Boyish 36, bright, fun, charming, good looks, seasonal beard, safe top. Seeks cute bottoms for Southern visits. Send photo to: P.O. Box 875, Harrison, NY 1052 (V2#11)

Fort Lauderdale stud visiting Atlanta in July would like to meet other slim, clean-cut guys under 30. Write Ron, P.O. Box 23744; Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307. All photos returned. (V2,#11)

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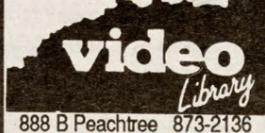
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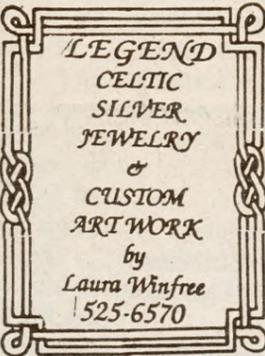
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PROJECT OPEN H-AND/ATLANTA needs drivers to deliver meals one day per week (11:30AM-1:30PM) to people with AIDS. We also need volunteers in the kitchen and to answer phones. For information call 248-1788. (V2#12)

ALACC; Atlanta Lesbian Agenda Conference Committee, a diverse group of lesbians who are helping to organize and plan the 1st National Lesbian Agenda Conference seeks volunteers. The next meeting is June 21st, 7:15 pm at 64 Clay Street, Atlanta. For more information on this and future meetings call 378-9769. (V2#11)

I tried to persuade myself that I was three quarters normal and that only a quarter of me was queer-whereas really it was the other way around.

W.SomersetMaugham

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Do the Right Thing... See This Movie

Bedford-Stuyvesant, 1989. The straitened Brooklyn district where Blacks and Hispanics call home. Claustrophobic shells that become ovens in the steely summer heat.

Early morning. The beginning of the hottest day of the year. Fans whirl with all their might. Out on the streets the neighborhood comes teeming to life. Thus begins Spike Lee's dead serious comedy *Do the Right Thing* - a tangled, speculative meditation on the state of race relations in America today, and the finest American film I have seen since *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

The film concentrates on roughly a single neighborhood block in the Bed-Stuy area and covers a twenty-four hour period. From one morning to the next we peer through a spy glass on the people and events that lead to a late-night riot.

As the film's opening credits roll, young women dance heatedly to a rap song that forcefully declares "most of my heroes don't appear on stamps". The song and dance set the tone thematically for all that characterizes the film: anger, music, energy, machismo, malaise, sex, vibrancy of color and spirit, indignation, rage.

Lee himself plugs a delivery person named Mookie who works at Sal's Pizzeria, where neighborhood Blacks and Hispanics come for food and conversation. For years a favorite neighborhood hangout, it is owned and run by Sal, an Italian-American and his two racist sons.

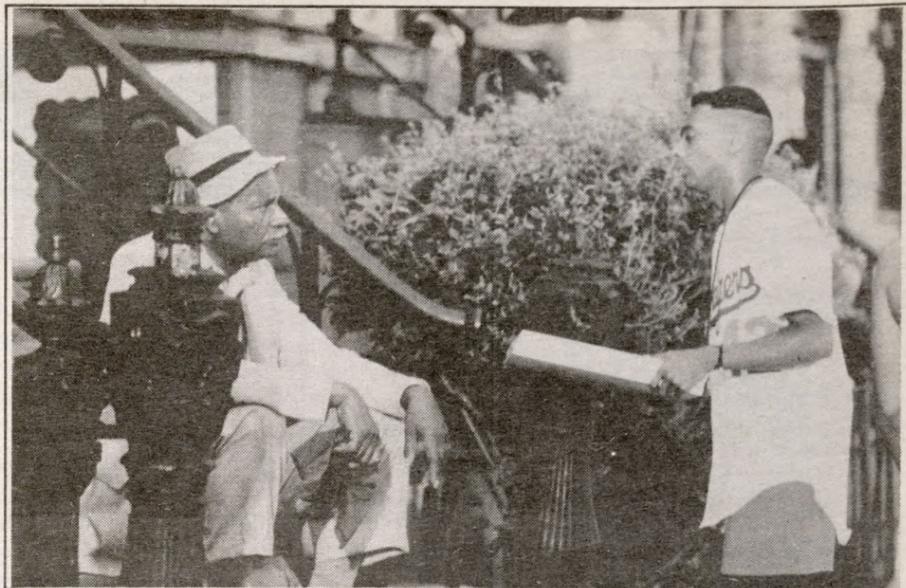
The world flows past the windows at Sal's. A disabled young man sells photographs of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X; a chorus of three men sit before a brightly painted wall, drinking and joking, discussing the life going on around them; a group of cheeky teens mill about in warm alliance. Lee distills particular moments in his characters' lives by baring their souls to us in truths like shards.

But *Do the Right Thing* is a hot weather picture. When one of Sal's regular customers complains that though Blacks are the pizzeria's financial bedrock, no photos of Blacks adorn its walls (there are only photos of Italian-Americans), Sal explodes. The young man threatens a boycott, and is barred temporarily from the restaurant.

Later that night, he returns with a friend, trouble ensues, moves out into the street, worsens when the friend is killed by police, and a riot erupts.

The film's collapse into violence, coming as it does after a mass of seemingly inchoate footage designed to explore character rather than to further plot, is aesthetically daring. The disjuncture between the often rude but mostly peaceful coexistence between the races in the film, and the formal break from comic character exploration to a profound change in plot from which we derive the film's deepest meanings, is the imagination of a genuine film artist.

Again and again, Lee shows us the danger signals leading up to the riot, and he respects



Ossie Davis (l) and Spike Lee in *Do the Right Thing*.

our intelligence enough to allow us to understand for ourselves that all sides, to a degree, collaborate in birthing the riot.

The surface of modern race relations is deceptively placid, says the film. The police killing that ignites the riot was merely the last spark needed to explode the dynamite beneath the ragged veil of superficial complacency.

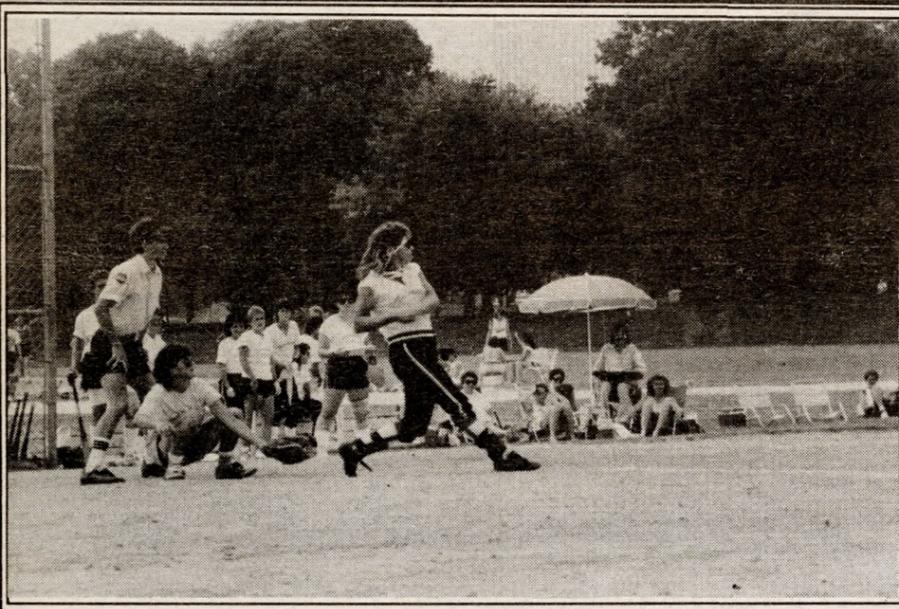
Do the Right Thing is a beautifully finished piece of work. Lee and his able cinematographer Ernest Dickerson understand how meaning often resides in mood, movingly rendered here in shots at dust of cobalt blue skies framing row houses blackened in the rancorous summer heat.

The film is a superb example of phrasing in art, with scenes weaving into scenes the way colors in a mosaic can flow in individual brilliance toward a boldly conceived single design.

The style of the film is tentative and laconic, yet its intrepid nature comes from Lee's ordaining presence as a serious Black filmmaker. Apart from his directorial gifts, he is a fine actor who brings superlative work from the rest of his cast. Especially fine are Ossie Davis, the sadly neglected Ruby Dee, Robin Harris, Rosie Perez and Danny Aiello.

Some films are easy and toe the line. Spike Lee invites us to laugh as he walks us over hot coals.

- Terry Francis



JESSIE LEIGH POWLER

Hotlanta Softball Teams Battle It Out 'Til the Finish for Spots in Series '89 Games

Competition is intensifying as Hotlanta Softball teams prepare for World Series '89, scheduled for August 22-26 at Southside Park. As we went to press, the standings in both divisions were:

Men	Women
1. Burkhart's	1. Rumblefish
2. Bulldogs Paws	2. Armory Falconettes
3. Armory Falcons	3. Toolulah's Lady Aces
4. Blake's	4. Burkhart's
5. Moosehead/Etc	5. Sportspage Sports
	6. Backstreet Alley Cats
	7. The Tower Rebels

The championship games for the women's division, which will decide which teams will represent Atlanta in Series '89, will be played on Sat., July 29 beginning at 9:00 AM and Sun., July 30 beginning at 10 AM at Piedmont Park in double elimination play.

The championship games for the men's division was played as we went to press. We will have the results in our next issue along with more information on Series '89, which will determine the best gay and lesbian softball teams in the country.

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This program is supported in part by the City of Atlanta, Bureau of Cultural Affairs.

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