



## Atlanta Police Warn of Increased Park Arrests

Atlanta—Describing increased pressure from neighbors around Piedmont, McClatchey and Winn Parks, Deputy Chief W.J. Taylor of the Atlanta Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division says his officers will escalate their activity in those areas as the weather gets warmer.

Taylor assured *Southern Voice* that his operations would be directed towards prostitutes (male and female) not ordinary citizens even if they are cruising, "We're not trying to entrap anyone."

But, Taylor warned, his men will be in plain clothes and "if I have a man sexually touched" or if someone solicits an act of sodomy, an arrest will be made. According to Taylor "sexual touching" means "touch-

*But focus is on prostitution, not gays says Deputy Chief Taylor*

ing on the genitals" not on the shoulder or back. Asked if his officers would go to the home of someone who they met in a park in order to make an arrest, Taylor offered a flat, "No."

A gay man was arrested for simple battery recently by an officer in plainclothes after the man invited the officer to his home, and touched the officer. Taylor says this was a Zone 3 officer and not a member of the vice squad. While he did not preclude the possibility of a recurrence of the incident, Taylor did say that "as long as I am able to focus attention" in a particular zone, that "such arrests are not likely."

The Deputy Chief added that the vice squad would not make arrests in bars, but would be paying increased attention to sex

for hire in the Juniper and Crescent/Cypress Street areas.

Obviously well versed in the concerns of the gay community, Taylor repeatedly assured *Southern Voice* that the increased activity was, if anything, intended to protect gay men. "There are folks whose only reason for hanging around (in the parks) is to prey on the gay community," he offered.

Taylor strongly suggests that everyone stay off the tree trails in Piedmont Park because "there are young Turks hanging around who make it not safe to be there."

Cathy Woolard of the ACLU's Police Advisory Committee concurred, "The combination of increased violence against gay men and the possibility of arrest, make meeting in public and arranging for sex

very dangerous."

Asked if his men would arrest or harass same-sex couples who were holding hands, embracing or kissing, Taylor replied that he had "Absolutely no problem with that," and reiterated that his operations were not intended to affect anyone other than prostitutes.

Judd Herndon also with the Police Advisory Committee agrees with Woolard on the dangers of the trails, but adds "it has always been our position that the best way to discourage crime is with uniformed officers whose presence is visible."

Both Woolard and Herndon emphasize the importance of notifying the ACLU (523-5398) of any harassment, discrimination or abuse that may result from police operations.

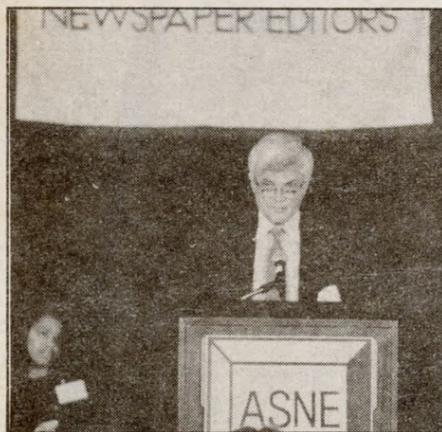
## Report Calls Mainstream Press Coverage "Mediocre"

*Editor comes out after delivering speech*

by Jim Marks

Washington, DC—Oakland Tribune news editor Leroy Aarons told more than 250 mostly white, mostly male, mostly middle-aged members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) that gay and lesbian reporters rated their newspaper's coverage of gay stories as "at best mediocre." And that a "subtle bias" against gays and lesbians exists in their newsrooms. And then Aarons announced that he was gay.

Aarons made his speech, and came



Leroy Aarons

out, during the opening business session of the ASNE convention, held in Washington D.C. April 3-6. The speech itself presented the findings of the ASNE's survey of gays and lesbians in the newsroom, the first study of treatment, and attitudes, of gay employees of the nation's daily newspapers.

Out of the "solid but unscientific" sample of 205 people who responded to ASNE's questionnaire, only 13 percent allowed their names to be printed in report. Fifty-one percent, rated their newsrooms as "largely hospitable to gay and lesbian journalists." But 81 percent reported hearing derogatory newsroom comments about gays or lesbians. "Overall," the report concludes, "the comments create a portrait of many gay and lesbian journalists living with and

tolerating a not-so-subtle homophobia." And, "Respondents say most of their gay and lesbian colleagues are closeted..."

Aarons' coming out drew immediate attention. It was noted in an April 6 *New York Times* article, and *Time Magazine* interviewed and photographed Aarons for a "press" section story.

Aarons said his fellow editors were supportive after his announcement. Geneva Overholser, editor with the *Des Moines Register*, was among those who came up to Aarons after the session to express support. "I thought he did a lovely job," Overholser said, "he was very strong, and direct and unafraid. The issue can be very threatening to editors; surely, the gay and lesbian issue is the most loaded for straight editors."

Aarons discussed coming out with National Gay and Lesbian Task Force media director Robert Bray the evening before the meeting, but didn't make a final decision until just before he spoke. "I debated the question up until the morning of the presentation. One of the reasons [for hesitation] was that I wanted the emphasis to be on the report's results. I didn't consider [my coming out] the main news. When I sat down to write, my speech needed a kicker at the end. [In the conclusion] I wrote that doing the report had given hope to gay and lesbian journalists around the country. I felt like that was true for me too. So, what the hell..."

Bray was full of praise for the report. "It is unprecedented. I can't over-emphasize the impact it will have on senior editors, the people who shape, frame, edit, and design the news Americans read.

"It is very timely. Especially in the light of the *Advocate* and Andy Rooney, where the reliability of a gay journalist was questioned, it is important to reinforce that gays and lesbians not only

## Billboard to Proclaim "Gay America Loves You"

*Atlantan wants to promote our inclusion in mainstream America*

Atlanta—Imagine a huge billboard, emblazoned with the words "Gay America Loves You," towering over the intersection of Intestates 75 and 85 North.

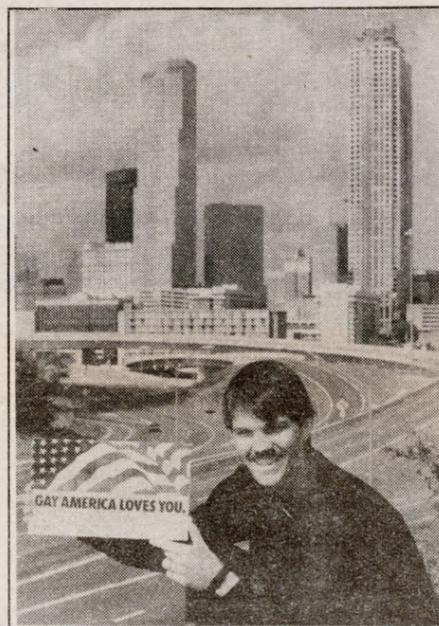
Jay McDonald says he, "got the idea in a cathartic stupor. I've been going through some hard times searching for personal empowerment. Trying to believe that one person really does make a difference."

If things go according to plan, McDonald will raise between \$6,000 and \$10,000 in the next month. With the money either one giant or as many as seven smaller billboards will be erected during the month of June. They will be plastered with his message and the red, white and blue image of an American flag.

"The catalyst was the recent article in *Newsweek*, 'The Future of Gay America.' The words 'Gay America' jumped out at me. It made me think about how we (lesbians and gay men) are tied into the fiber of society," adds McDonald.

He thought about the idea for a day or so, called a graphic designer friend who also loved the idea and quickly produced the image. A billboard company said "yes" to the plan. And SAME agreed to act as the non-profit fund collector for the project, so that donations could be tax-deductible.

McDonald says his project has four goals: make a positive statement; project the image of a cohesive "Gay America"; combat negative stereotypes of gays and lesbians; and promote the inclusion of



MARY VOGEL

Gay America Loves You; Jay McDonald and the design for his billboard.

gay and lesbian people in mainstream America.

Sounds like an idea directly from Kirk and Madsen's controversial *After The Ball*.

"Nope. Never heard of them, or their book," says McDonald.

*The Billboard Project is requesting contributions of \$50 or \$25, but will be happy to accept larger or smaller amounts. Make checks payable to The Billboard/SAME, and mail to P.O. Box 8113, Atlanta, Georgia 30307. Those who wish their donations to be anonymous should write that word in the lower left corner of their check.*

make the news, they write it as well."

While there was little overt opposition to the report—ASNE executive director Lee Stinnett (who came out to the ASNE board in 1989) said that an editor at the *Chattanooga Free Press* refused in writing to post the ASNE survey notice—even sympathetic editors seemed to find the matter more theoretical than one of immediate concern.

Summing up the report, NGLTF's Bray said "it was a significant first step. The news industry has been the hardest nut to crack: it's one of the last bastions of the white male status quo. The irony is that the news industry specializes in revealing injustice yet itself has been guilty of gay and lesbian discrimination and injustice."

# Family Asks for Info On Murdered Man

*His murder is the sixth of an Atlanta gay man in the last year*

Atlanta—The family of Harvey A. Ensign who was brutally murdered on the night/morning of March 23-24 is requesting help from the community in collecting information that will help apprehend his killer.

Ensign was last seen at about 11:30pm on the evening of March 23, 1990 when he left a party in Marietta. A friend spoke to him on the phone at his home in the Lakewood area at about midnight. The same friend drove past Ensign's home the next morning and contacted the police, when noted that Ensign's door was open and his gold-beige Izusu pick-up truck was missing.

The police found Ensign, severely

beaten and stabbed, in his house. They believe he was murdered by someone whom he knew. The stolen truck has been recovered.

A family member says that Ensign was known to enjoy the company of Black men.

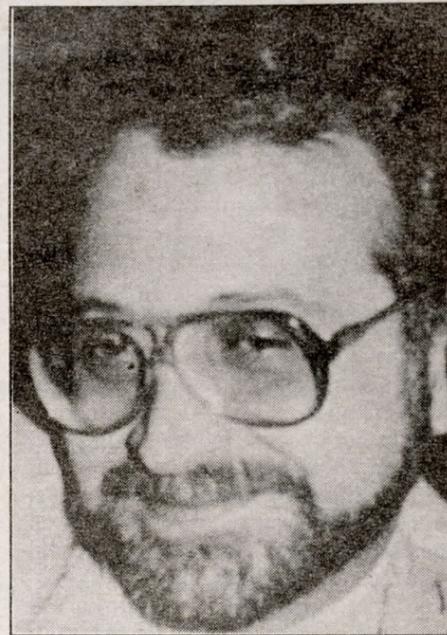
Anyone with information on Ensign's regular habits or his whereabouts during the above time period is requested to contact Detective C.R. Price of the Atlanta Homicide Task Force at 658-6818. Ensign had been clean shaven for the past several months.

Ensign's murder is the sixth of a gay man in the Atlanta area in the last year that local activists are aware of.

Macon Police report that they are investigating four murders with a similar pattern. But according to police, the Atlanta homicides do not appear to be related to each other or those in Macon.

Increased violence against gay men, including murders, has been reported in the gay press in San Francisco, Dallas, Washington, DC, Seattle and Knoxville in the past few months.

The Dallas Gay Alliance has formed a citizen's patrol equipped with two way radios which is patrolling the heavily gay Oak Lawn area. "If the police are unwilling to do anything, we're not going to be sitting ducks," said William Waybourn, president of the DGA.



If you know of Harvey Ensign's whereabouts on March 23-24, call Det. C.R. Price at 658-6818

## Lesbian/Gay Activists Invited to Hate Crimes Bill Signing

*Decision marks 1st official White House recognition of community*

by Cliff O'Neill

Washington D.C.—The presence of staff from and supporters of two national gay and lesbian activist groups at President George Bush's public signing of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act on April 23 marked the first time gay and lesbian groups have been recognized by the White House.

"I am very impressed with the President's decision," offered Peri Jude Radecic, lobbyist for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). "...that he decided to hold a public signing ceremony, to rise above conservative pressure not to sign the legislation in public, to rise above politics...."

"We are gratified that the President decided to make a public celebration of the passage of this historic act," said Greg King, communication director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund(HRCF).

HRCF and NGLTF each received seven invitations to the signing; additional invitations were extended to Radecic and gay Republican activist Frank Ricchiuzzi, head of California's Log Cabin Republican Club.

The bill, granted final congressional approval April 4, directs the Department of Justice to collect statistics on crimes motivated by bias based on race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. Passage of the measure marks the first time that "sexual orientation" has ever been included in federal law.

Washington gay activists had expressed skepticism that the President would actually hold a public signing of the bill. But in mid-April they were informed that it was a possibility. Staff from HRCF, NGLTF and the Log Cabin Club lobbied for a public signing that would include gay and lesbian representatives.

"Besides (the gay Republican ) lobbying, my letters and the lobbying of other organizations, I'm not sure what made the difference, what made Bush do it," said Radecic. "...I haven't a clue."

Ricchiuzzi was less quizzical, "This shows that President George Bush has been a very open-minded leader who doesn't care about someone's sexual orientation," he stated. "He does what's right...our community will only be strong when we...have an open mind and understand that Dannemeyer and Helms do not represent the majority of Republicans."

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PATRICIA IRELAND (Ex. Vice President National Organization for Women)  
PAULA ETTLEBRICK (Director, LAMBDA Legal Defense & Education Fund)  
SANDRA J. LOWE, (Staff Attorney, LAMBDA)  
SUSAN MCGREIVY (Attorney, formerly, A.C.L.U.)

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Guest Editorial

# On Participating As a Major Player

*As co-chairs of the 1990 Atlanta Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner, we would like to explain why we feel this event is so important and encourage everyone who possibly can to attend. We each have particular views we would like to express, so we will take turns:*

I have been involved with the HRCF Atlanta dinner committee since its inception in 1987. Prior to then I was politically naive and apathetic, but I became inspired by the 1987 March on Washington. Working on the dinner, as well as seeing firsthand in Washington the impact and respect that HRCF has on Capitol Hill, further inspired me and altered my perception of our community and its political potential. I see that we have grown up and we can play with the big guys. But our political maturity is a relatively recent development, and I think sometimes we forget to own it.

For example: I've often heard the criticism that the Human Rights Campaign Fund is "elitist" and that \$150 for a dinner is too expensive. Well, participating in the political process as a major player costs a lot of money. Demonstrations and marches are free and will always have their place, but these are no longer the only major political expressions of the gay and lesbian community. Now we have the ability to elect candidates and pass laws that support our issues. And the hard, cold reality is that this kind of effort takes a lot of money.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is the 9th largest independent PAC in the nation. Close to 40% of its funding comes from dinners, such as Atlanta's, held in cities all over the country. I could go on about how much HRCF has accomplished for the gay and lesbian cause, but you can read that elsewhere. I simply want to make the point that having this dinner in Atlanta and attending it is a state-

ment of political maturity and it is a political necessity. More than \$90 from each ticket will go directly to the lobbying and campaign efforts of HRCF. The dinner is not an event for wealthy gays and lesbians; it is for everyone in the community who recognizes how critical it is that we have a voice.

I've always heard that if you want something badly enough, you'll figure out a way to pay for it. Well, how badly do we want our civil rights?

There is another component of the dinner extremely important to me and which I think often gets overlooked: the aspect of ritual and celebration. Traditional society has many ceremonies and rites of passage: confirmations, bar mitzvahs, graduations, weddings and funerals. The gay and lesbian community needs more than funerals for its rituals; we need to participate in joyous events that uplift us. The civil rights movement had their church services and hymns to inspire them. We desperately need occasions to unite us and touch our hearts—to make us joyful and renew our faith in ourselves. A grand dinner with lots of friends where our community is honored and empowered, where there is great entertainment and plenty of dancing, is such an event for me. I remember at the first dinner nearly squeezing Dave's hand off and thinking I was going to burst with excitement.

We need to celebrate, folks, and this dinner is like a yearly graduation where we honor gay and lesbian achievement, get motivated about our future, and then party. I'm excited, everyone working on the dinner is excited; please join us.

Mia Mundale, D.C.

Most *Southern Voice* readers already know about the HRCF dinners. They're in May, you have to dress up and they cost \$150. Some of

you have marked the day on your calendar and are planning to attend. But, many of you are not planning to come to the dinner. What I want to do is discuss the cost/benefits as I see them. You ought to know what you get for your contribution. Then I hope that you will choose to join the hundreds of others who believe in a national strategy for gay and lesbian civil rights.

One thing you get is a change of image in Washington. Can anyone imagine a nun in drag or a hot leather number knocking on Congress' door saying, "You have to vote for our gay civil rights"? There is certainly nothing wrong with these people or the way they dress. It's just that HRCF plays the political game from the inside. When an HRCF lobbyist goes to Capitol Hill they look just like everyone else. But, they get into the office of senators and congressmen and when it counts they say, "I'm gay (lesbian) and this is what your gay and lesbian constituents think you ought to be doing to pass gay and lesbian civil rights." So, for your contribution you get an effective voice in Congress.

Another thing you get is a chance to influence who's elected to congress. HRCF researches all races for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. They make campaign contributions to candidates sympathetic to the issues of gays and lesbians. I can't underscore enough how important this is. Nothing gets the attention of candidates like campaign contributions. A decade ago many candidates would not accept money from gay/lesbian organizations. They believed such associations were liabilities. HRCF has been instrumental in changing this. Now, many candidates actively seek HRCF support. So, for your contribution you get to influence the makeup of Congress, not only from Georgia but nation-wide.

Your contribution also goes to establish

strong grassroots organizations all over the country. Atlanta was one of the first cities to have a full-time field coordinator, Cathy Woolard. This effort will eliminate forever the excuse by congressmen that they don't have to support gay and lesbian civil rights because they have none of us in their districts.

Finally, you join others in acknowledging your commitment to a national strategy for gay and lesbian civil rights. You get to be with others like yourself who feel strongly that gay and lesbian civil rights are rights too long denied.

And you'll have fun. This year's emcee is Atlanta's own "Miss Daisy" Mary Nell Santacroce. Her sharp wit and wry sense of humor are well known to Atlanta theatre goers. This year we honor David Sheppard, the creative force behind Heart Strings, who has truly taken many voices and channeled them into hope for the healing of AIDS. The keynote address will be delivered by openly gay Congressman Gerry Studds, from Massachusetts.

If you cannot attend the dinner you can still make a very special gesture. A donation from you can help us accommodate PWAs and others less fortunate. Our numbers will demonstrate to the rest of society how committed we are to having our voices heard.

I feel that HRCF is the strongest organization working at the national level to secure civil rights for gay men and lesbians. That is why I'm involved. That is why I hope you will become involved if you are not already. The people working for us in Washington are competent. The board of directors is a diverse group of influential men and women. HRCF can succeed. Civil rights for gay men and lesbians can be achieved. Please become a part of the movement. Please make a contribution; please make a commitment. Thank you.

Dave Green

## Augusta HomoHaters

Editor:

Recently, some lesbians living in the Aiken, SC—Augusta, GA area formed a social group. To inform the group of social events, we issue a periodic newsletter to the group members. We have gathered at a local restaurant named The Village Deli, located in Daniel Village on Wrightsboro Road in Augusta several times. On 13 April, two of our members went to the deli and were confronted by the owners, who had obtained two copies of the newsletter. The owners threw our members out of the restaurant saying that they would refuse service to them in the future.

There are two points I would like to make: First is to alert all gays and les-

bians who live in or around Augusta, or are visiting the area, that The Village Deli does not welcome our business. The deli is not a large restaurant, and I believe a large portion of their clientele is homosexual. I urge all gays and lesbians to boycott The Village Deli. The owners may then come to realize our money is as valuable as any heterosexual's.

Secondly, the owners of The Village Deli were not on our mailing list. When we began to issue the newsletter, we carefully discussed who should be on the mailing list, what information should be included, and whether or not the names of the members should be listed. We placed a specific emphasis on the need to maintain confidentiality due to the generally

anti-gay environment in the Aiken—Augusta area. It is unfortunate that one of our members was thoughtless enough to allow non-members to see the newsletter. If we can't trust our own, we will all end up back in the closet.

Any time incidents such as this one occur, all gays and lesbians are at risk of further discrimination. We must make our presence felt, and one of the best ways we can do this is by withholding our financial support from known anti-gay businesses. Join us in our boycott of The Village Deli.

Sincerely,  
S.M.  
Augusta, GA

### Omissions/Correction

In the news story about Maynard Jackson in our last issue, the statement that Jackson had not responded to two written requests for information from *Southern Voice* is correct, but should have included an explanation that the second request resulted in an invitation to SV be present at Jackson's meeting with community activists, thus giving us access to the Mayor's feelings on our questions.

The story about Thomas Germain on page 3 of the same issue stated that, "Germain's attorney tried to plea bargain introducing 'homosexual panic' as a defense." That sentence should have read "Shannon's attorney"

George Sinclair was the author of the feature story Pragmatism = Compassion begun in the last issue and concluded in this one. It is *Southern Voice's* policy to correct any errors or omissions that appear in these pages.



"FALSE ALARM, MEN—HE WAS JUST SMOKING A JOINT!"

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## New Age Chicanery ?

Dear Editor:

I never miss an issue of *Southern Voice*, which I find to be the only serious source of gay/lesbian journalism in this area. How ironic, then, that your April 12 issue both raised my admiration for your paper and raised a few doubts about it as well.

First, I read Heterodoxy, always one of your best columns, and this time on a subject I am passionate about: South-bashing. I'm a Georgian by birth, and I love this city and this region. It's got its good and its bad, but Southerners are my family, and what family is perfect? Ya' gotta love 'em anyway. I work in a large corporation which employs only about 30% of its people from the Southeast, and daily I have to put up with people from California, New York, even Ohio for God's sake, pissing and moaning about everything they left behind when they moved "down here." Many of them don't realize that I am a native, and when I tell them, they express shock, especially those who know that I am gay, that I listen to the Velvet Underground, that I speak two languages besides English, that I never stopped a hog in my life. THANKS and BLESS YOU, K.C. Wildmoon, for pointing out that we're as well off here in the South as our brothers and sisters in the North. (For those of you still not convinced that the South is a great place for gays/lesbians to live, try living in Omaha, Nebraska, for a while...hope you like sleeping alone!)

With that said, I must say I am shocked,

disappointed, nay, TRAUMATIZED to see a modern-day snake oil merchant being given a spread in my favorite rag...a CHANNELLER! That a respectable news forum like the *Voice* would even SPEAK to the likes of a Jach Pursel or a J.Z. Knight offends my sensibilities. These new age no-goods have amassed both fame and fortune by telling people what they want to hear. Okay, if some of their ideas inspire people and motivate them, why not just present them on their own, and not create a mythical godmother (I won't grace them with the term "fairy") to deliver them, replete with funny voice and stilted language? New age chicanery is one of the most nullifying forces currently at work within the gay community, anesthetizing it from the inside out with easy spirituality, laughable pseudo-science and a thoroughly muddled view of reality. Many of us, as gays and lesbians, are especially vulnerable to anyone who will tell us that we're nice people, that we're loved, and that we belong. Even if those telling us this DO chant and stare at little rocks a lot.

But I won't rave on as the voice of reason, screaming at ears deafened by the sound of wind-chimes and subliminal cassettes. I'll suffer through seeing space in your excellent paper wasted, as long as you promise not to let it get in the way of the real stuff!

Barclay Adams

## NOW Calls for Boycott of Edwards Baking

*Demonstration also planned to protest company's support of Citizens for Public Awareness.*

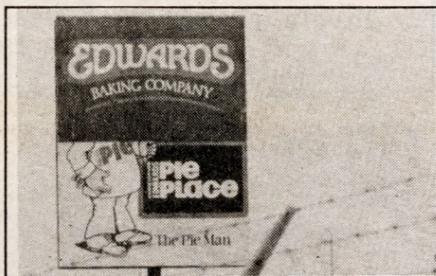
Atlanta—The Atlanta Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) has called for a boycott of Atlanta's Edwards Baking Company because of the company's continued support of anti-choice and anti-gay causes.

NOW is focusing particularly on Edwards support of Family Concerns, Inc. (FCI), Family Concerns Ministries, and Citizens for Public Awareness (CPA). NOW's Samantha Claar asks, "What do these organizations have in common besides Nancy Schaefer?" And then answers, "Edwards Bakery. They've donated offices, desks and meeting rooms, phones, free pies for publicity, money..."

Claar continues, "An editorial in a recent Family Concerns Report states, 'The homosexual and lesbian community has joined forces with the feminist pro-choice activists. Why? Because they want their civil rights.' Well, I say, good for us. It's about time."

Legislative observers credit the defeat of hate crimes legislation in the '90 general assembly to strong opposition from FCI/CPA. In addition to being anti-gay and anti-choice, Schaefer's groups also oppose birth control and AIDS education, distribution of condoms and new age spiritual alternatives.

NOW's action is the first to come from its recently revived Lesbian/Gay Task Force. Recent reorganization of the group into six task forces will allow it to "focus on specific areas of concern to women while letting us build coalitions with other communities affected



directly or indirectly by sexism," says Claar.

A planning meeting will be held at 7pm on April 25 at the Georgia Hill Community Center at the intersection of Hill Street and Georgia Avenue. The demonstration is planned for May 12 from 10am to 3pm at Edwards Bakery, 1 Lemon Lane which is adjacent to the Edgewood/Candler Park Marta Station. For more information call Claar at 971-8094 after 5pm.

In a similar move, ACT UP/DC will on Thurs., April 26 announce a boycott of Marlboro cigarettes which is owned by Phillip Morris. P.M.'s PAC is one of the largest contributors to the re-election campaign of arch-homophobe Jesse Helms (R-NC). The group will have a demonstration outside the company's annual stockholder's meeting on the same date. ACT UP/DC is requesting that supportive parties call the company at 1-800-343-0975 (on April 26 only) and demand that it cease donations to Helms and his museum, renounce its past support, and meet with ACT UP to discuss support for gay and AIDS causes.

## Newt Alert

To the Editor:

I am writing to alert you to the enclosed *Colorado Statesman* article in which Congressman Newt Gingrich (R-GA) is quoted as accusing Democrats as being liable for spreading AIDS. This most recent and irresponsible statement associates Rep. Gingrich with people like right-wing Congressman Bill Dannemeyer (R-CA) and demonstrates that Rep. Gingrich, who as Minority Whip holds the number two spot in the House Republican hierarchy, has not changed his extremist approach to politics.

As proof for his absurd hypothesis, Rep. Gingrich cites Democratic opposition to legislation which would have required contact tracing of people testing positive for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The vote Rep. Gingrich was referring to is an amendment which was offered to the AIDS Federal Policy Act passed by Congress in September 1988. The amendment, offered by Rep. Dannemeyer, failed by a vote of 70 to 327, clearly placing Rep. Gingrich in a fanatical minority. With the majority of Republicans voting against the measure (67 to 95), Rep. Gingrich was even opposed by most members of his own party, as well as several organizations hardly known for leftist values, including the American Medical Association.

In advocating contact tracing, Rep. Gingrich offers a simple-minded "solution" to a complex problem. Virtually all experts in the field recognize that contact tracing simply is not an effective means of combating AIDS, and this has been borne out statistically. After South Carolina instituted a policy in February 1986 requiring that the names and addresses of all those testing seropositive be reported to state health authorities, monthly attendance at test sites in the state decreased by 51% among gay men. Conversely, when Oregon began to allow anonymous testing in December 1986, the demand for HIV testing among gay men increased by 125%.

Rep. Gingrich contends that the Republican Party is an "action-oriented,

idea-oriented governing party." However, his extremist statement about contact tracing demonstrates that he is out of touch with both the common sense and the responsibility necessary for a governing party. This is particularly disturbing since Mr. Gingrich is not only a Congressman, but the number two Republican leader in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Gould  
Washington, DC

## Carbon Copy

To James Mercer, President  
THE BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB  
Camp Hill, PA 17102

Since I am on many mailing lists, I often receive invitations to join several book clubs, including THE BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB. Since I am a writer myself, I am always interested in what's being published and what's being offered by the clubs.

I see that THE BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB offers books specifically marketed to Black and Female readers, history buffs, religious and philosophy freaks, gardeners, do-it-yourself types, cooks, children, etc., etc.

But no books for gay and lesbian readers. Why? What is your policy?

Here in ultra-conservative, Bible-belt Atlanta, the Public Library mails out a 14-page, 90-odd title list of available books of interest to gay and lesbian Library members. The Lambda Book Store of Washington, D.C., offers a catalogue listing thousands of titles either by gay or lesbian writers or of interest to gay and lesbian readers. Harper & Row advertises six titles in the current *Advocate*.

Why doesn't THE BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB offer books of Baldwin, Crisp, Maupin, Rechy, Renault, Rorem, White, Yourcenar, etc.,? Why aren't new titles offered in a gay and lesbian category?

Is there a reason why you choose to exclude this huge market? I would imagine that gays and lesbians make up a disproportionately large percentage of all readers. Can you afford to offend these readers, much less disregard their business?

Sincerely,  
Alexander Wallace

## Expo '90 Draws Compliments and Crowds



MIMI AND JOE PHOTOGRAPHY

Atlanta — Demonstrating the benefits of planning and publicity, the 1990 Business Expo drew a record 96 exhibitors and close to 500 attendees. Co-sponsored by Fourth Tuesday, *Southern Voice*, and *Etcetera*, the Expo drew compliments from exhibitors and attendees alike.

Said one gay man, "This is so different from what these things have been like in the past. More professional, more variety...

much nicer."

Close to 100 lesbians and gay men took the time to fill out *Southern Voice's* reader survey at the Expo. We'll have some preliminary information next issue.

When asked when Expo might be large enough to move to the Georgia World Congress Center, Expo committee chair Elizabeth Marsala replied only with an enigmatic smile.

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

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

Mail your letters to:  
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The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of *Southern Voice*.

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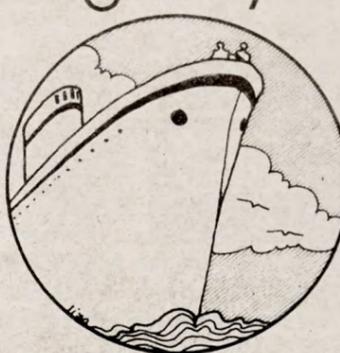
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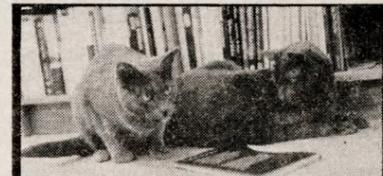
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# Only So Much Bad Luck...

Common white business envelopes arrive from cell block 11B-203 decorated with penned hearts and doves and suns bursting. Letters to Angie.

When Angie Scroggins gave birth to Greg, EF-248050, 28 years ago, Cobb County was a lifetime away from Atlanta. The big city's night lights barely reached through the trees to the back steps of her family's modest home. As populated and bright as the far off metropolis, Main Street, Smyrna felt dark and isolated. Coming home alone was scary. Now the view is blocked by the Starvin Marvin that anchors a corner of five lane South Cobb Drive. Progress and pavement. Angie's backyard is home to cement chickens and wind toys, flowers crowd the beds between the drive and back steps.

On a cold January 29, 1989 at 2:15 A.M. screams of "Daddy" and frantic pounding startled the elder Scroggins from their bed. Waking up the nightmare began. The drowsy 68 year old Phillip mazed his way from the bedroom through the darkened kitchen to the ruckus at the back door. Without his glasses he could barely make out the scene. Flipping on the outside lights he hollered "Angie."

Two Cobb County peace officers, D.P. Crook and B.R. Basset, were "up in their door, astraddle" their son and his lover Paul, beating them with their fists. Face down in the flower beds the boys pleaded with the officers to stop. Greg would later describe Crook as "irrational, you couldn't talk with him. Like he was on drugs or something." When he and Paul tried to explain this was Greg's parents house, Crook pronounced them "fucking liars."

First Phillip in his "shorties" stepped outside. Cursing, he was yanked to the ground and handcuffed. Then the bewildered Angie ventured out. Her 113 lb Greg was buried under the 280 lb. D.P. Crook. Stopped by curses and screams and threats, she turned and hurried back inside. Crook yelled, "She's getting a gun." A crowd of spectating Cobb policemen gathered. The hysteria mounted. Greg, terrified, bit Crook's shirtsleeved and coated arm, freeing himself from the choke hold that was suffocating him. The enraged Crook lunged for Angie, ripping the handle off the door. Then seizing Greg's father from behind, Crook pulled his gun from its holster, cocked it at the side of his head, pointed it into the house and threatened, "I'll take care of her." The confused and panic stricken Angie had no gun. She remained hidden in the dark, futilely dialing 911.

Crook, "blowed up big," stood over his three handcuffed captives, waved his arms and said "I'm not through yet. I'll own all this before I get through." He was referring to the house and trucks and family garage door business that has been the Scroggins' means of support. A family with deep roots in Cobb County since before the 1900s. Widespread publicity about the case has crippled the business, almost totally dependent on conservative Cobb County clients.

Before the night was over Phillip and the boys were sleeping on the floor in a holding tank in the Cobb County Jail, a warrant out for Angie. All four charged with Felony Obstruction, the two boys with additional Disorderly Conducts.

Earlier in the evening the boys had been "downtown" at the Eagle. Home for hours and having run out of cigarettes, Greg walked to the Starvin Marvin. His "roommate" Paul Murray followed, continuing an argument in which "no licks were passed."

*Fifteen months after Greg's arrest, the Scroggins family speaks with Jim Allen about its dealings with the Georgia legal system.*

Greg had earlier made a fated call to 911, fearful that Paul would get carried away. Officer Crook responded. Greg was wearing black leather—pants, boots, and jacket, a diamond in his ear. Angie believes the policeman's brutal reaction was due to the way the boys were dressed, "a hate crime."

She would be the last to learn the news that her son was HIV positive. He, sensing an obligation to medical personnel, revealed his HIV status to Sally Miller, the emergency room nurse at Smyrna Hospital, where the three men were taken for the injuries they sustained during the arrest. Officer

with the D.A. and deputies to pass Greg his nausea medicine. The court was unmoved. The room echoed with the sounds of his heaving.

Only at 4:00 that afternoon on the advice of a deputy "that the boy was very sick and if something went wrong they would have to pay for it," did Judge White reluctantly grant bond, setting the arraignment date for Monday, October 16th. Greg was hospitalized the entire weekend.

Monday saw all four defendants back in the courtroom. Judge White asked Greg Schroeder if he felt able to represent all four.



Phillip, Angie and Greg Scroggins

Crook was informed the same night, and recorded the information on his arrest report.

An attorney, Greg Schroeder, "advertising in *Southern Voice*" was hired. Greg and Paul wanted a gay attorney. He would be compassionate, someone they could tell everything to. He assured Greg that if no charge had been made in regards to the biting it could not be brought up. No defense was prepared on that account.

More than eight months later, on October 9, 1989 a sheriff showed up at the Scroggins' door looking for Greg. He produced an Order for Search and Seizure, commanding him "to search the premises for the person of Gregory Scott Scroggins ... arrest said person, take him to the Cobb County Jail and cause a blood sample to be taken from him in the amount of seven ML..." That accomplished, Greg was set free.

Next a "secret" Grand Jury would be convened and indict Greg for aggravated assault with intent to commit murder. His weapon—saliva.

On the morning of October 12, the courtroom drama was chaotic. Awaiting arraignment on the original charges, nervous and terrified and still unaware of the new indictment, Greg crawled to the family's car, vomiting, racked with pain and fever. During a recess Judge Watson White issued a warrant for Greg's arrest based on the new (attempted murder) indictment. The Scroggins didn't understand what was going on. Greg was brought up from the parking lot and placed in a holding cell behind the judge's bench. Throughout the proceedings Angie pleaded

He answered affirmatively. The trial date was set for two days later over Schroeder's objections. White explained there had been enough time to prepare; the facts were the same even though the charges had been elevated.

Mr. Schroeder was no match for Assistant D.A. Charles Norman and Judge White. They dominated the judicial process that within five days arraigned, tried, convicted and sentenced them all. Greg got two 10-year prison sentences, Paul two years, Phillip and Angie 12 months probation and a \$550.00 fine each. Angie never even understood exactly when she was being tried.

Schroeder didn't have time to find an expert witness to testify to the improbable transmissibility of HIV in saliva. The photograph produced by Officer Crook evidencing the bite was taken with a Polaroid from 6 feet away. It showed no break in his skin.

Judge White expressed his sympathies to Schroeder, with the jury present, for having to "represent such scum and slime." Assistant D.A. Norman bragged to Phillip Scroggins "Well you wanted a speedy trial, you got one."

The diminutive Greg, a life long Cobb resident, with no criminal record, is being denied bond during the appeal process. Transferred to the State Diagnostic Center at Jackson, Angie's "mama's boy's" humiliations continued.

"In Jackson they march you through the back door and sliding control gate into the I.D. room with the nastiest guards. They berate you, call you names. Here you are

forced to strip and shower in a 3 man stall with 30 other men. Then you are sprayed down with chemicals. Given a dingy grey jumpsuit that used to be white, a pair of socks and shoes, one pillow case, a toothbrush and toothpaste. All your personal belongings, besides stamps, one pen, and writing paper, are taken away. If you do not have the money to ship them home they are thrown away.

"After medical intake you are assigned a two man cell, one bunk on the wall, one mattress on the floor, an open toilet. If you have to use the toilet your roommate is only two feet away. Anyone walking down the range can look. You are only permitted to shower on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays."

The publicity in the case had made Greg a curiosity in prison, landed him on death row two cells down from the electric chair. Guards were afraid of him. He felt as if he had a tag on that read, "AIDS and DANGEROUS."

On October 8, 1989 he writes: "Hi Mother, Everybody was talking about it and it really scared me. My emotions are strung out real bad...I just hope God gives me the strength to make it through this. My cell is a two man cell in which I stay locked up most of the time. There is no TV so all I can do is sit and think or read whatever comes my way. When I get more paper I'll write again, OK."

Despite serious health concerns Greg was forced to sleep on the floor. "Locked down" on weekends and holidays, the only time out was for meals, limited to two a day, morning and night, no seconds. No vitamins, no AZT. One five minute telephone call per month to a family member.

He and Paul, transported separately from Cobb County to Jackson, would see each other in the mess hall. Furtively they passed notes. No conversation was permitted. Occasionally they would see each other outside the dispensary, where they spoke in hushed tones as they waited for their thrush medication. Later they would be shipped to separate prisons.

November 22, 1989. "Mother,...I'm sure I'll be locked up all day and all weekend. It's not so bad during the week but these long holiday weekends are not good. Have you heard anything about the hearing date? What's taking so long? It's already been a week since I talked with Greg (Schroeder), Have you talked to him? I wish somebody would let me know something! I mean I'm sitting here in the dark...I can't get to the guard to remind him it's time for me to go to the medicine and other times they just ignore it all together when I tell them...If I got worse with my health..."

One prison doctor admitted to Greg that "We are not here to heal, just to keep you alive so the state can punish you a little longer." The doctor's reply to why he was being refused AZT, "It costs too much and you are going to die anyway."

December 16, 1989. "Hello Mother,...As for the following you don't have to tell Daddy about. But while at Jackson this past week I was treated like a dog. I was moved into the hospital there and put into an isolation room in solitary confinement. I nearly froze to death. (One cot, one table, one skylight.) They were planning on keeping me like that for about 1-1/2 to 2 months. I had to raise hell...Like I told them I have never been isolated from anyone in my life. I was going to write you and Greg (Schroeder) to let you know what was happening but it was too cold for me to do that. All I could do was

Continued next page

## Scroggins

Cont'd from page 7

to lay in bed and try to stay warm enough to keep from getting sick...Here at Augusta Correctional Medical Institution it is a lot better living wise except I'm not getting enough to eat...we'll be able to visit and most likely it'll be a contact visit. I'm looking forward to seeing you and Daddy!...I need the money as soon as possible! I'm hungry!"

January 24, 1990. "Hello Mother, I dreamed twice already that I was set free...Nothing never seems to go right as much as I try."

January 25, 1990. "Hello Mother...I've quit looking to hear some good news. February 18 makes four solid months I've been locked up...months of my life wasted for nothing. With my life cut short with the virus as it is, wasting the rest of my life in here is pure misery."

March 6, 1990. "Mother...I received a surprise letter from ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power). We do need help..."

**Greg and Paul feel abandoned.** News from their attorney is scant. Angie diligently advocates, working as liaison between the boys and Schroeder, but says he has "a bad habit of not returning calls." She has been forced to surprise him at his office. Angie's life did not prepare her for the voracious American judicial system. She often does not comprehend.

In Atlanta there is no equivalent of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund to battle judicial and police discrimination. Despite extensive press coverage, the tragic nature of this case and it's terrifying potential application to any and all in the gay and lesbian community, no substantive support has been forthcoming.

Mystery and lawyer-haze clouds the entire drama. The ACLU says it is involved. Schroeder assures the family he has had five

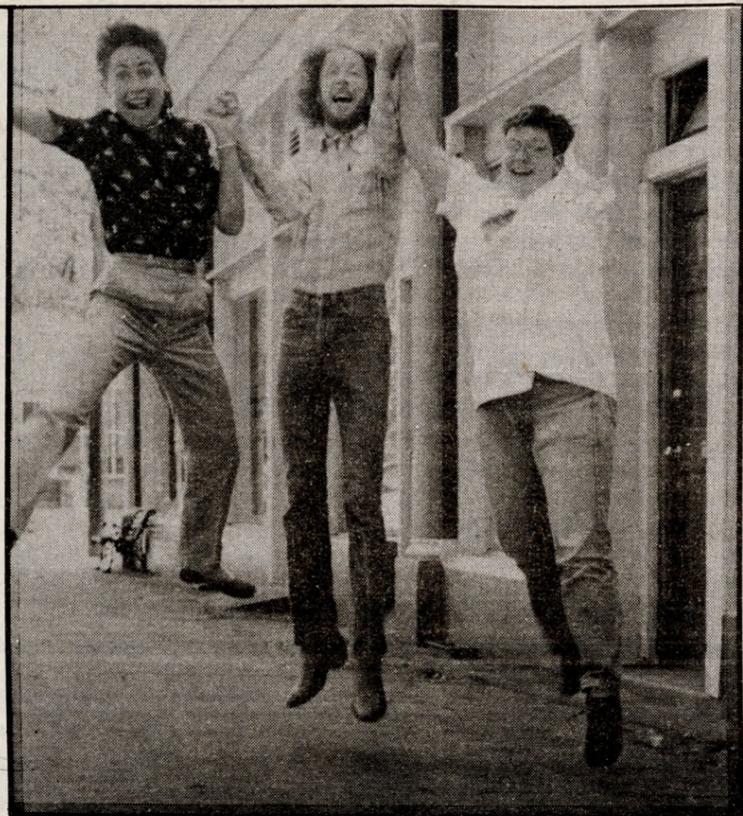
attorneys working on the appeal. He acknowledges the importance of amicus briefs, the time consuming "friend of the court briefs" that bolster the defense's arguments and stress other important legal precedents and ramifications of a case. Yet he wouldn't release the voluminous court transcripts to ACT UP so they could be Xeroxed and sent to Lambda Legal Defense Fund, the only organization ACT UP could find that would consider undertaking the exhaustive effort. Lambda's Brian Lamb said that there might not be sufficient time to prepare the amicus brief. And Schroeder insists he must write his first.

On April 17th, the appeal is filed, claiming there is no evidence that "teeth or the AIDS virus" were used as a lethal weapon. That the prosecutor failed to show "specific intent" to kill on Scroggin's part. That the Judge erred in allowing the jury to know that Scroggins was gay. And in releasing AIDS confidential information.

Time is of the essence. The appeal waits. The virus ticks. Angie's boy hungers for a break.

The Judge who refers to Greg, EF-248050, as "scum and slime" has advised against parole before February, 1993. Gregory waits "In the dark." Trusting in what Angie says, "You can only have so much bad luck."

*A community meeting will be held at the Little 5 Points Community Center, 1083 Austin Ave. (corner Austin & Euclid), Thurs., May 3rd at 7:30 PM to discuss upcoming actions related to the Greg Scroggins case. For more info call the ACT UP Hot Line, 286-6247.*



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# OUT LINES

**Hometown:** Fayetteville, NC

**Age:** 35

**How long in Atlanta:**

Since 1983

**Books Currently Reading:**

*And the Band Played On,* Randy Shilts; *Movement in Black,* Pat Parker

**Play Last Seen:**

*Fences,* August Wilson

**Relationship Status:**

In a relationship since December, 1988

**Children:**

Carrill, 2, and Evahn, 6.

**Goal:** To become a minister to the gay and lesbian community



## LEVAHN SMITH: Listening to the Spirits

Ponce de Leon on a quiet weekday afternoon in early spring. Warm, seedy, easy breezes, but winter is not over yet. A renovated apartment house that has been here for a while, has seen Ponce go downhill and then start to rise again. High ceilings, hardwood floors. Clean, wide hallways. A feeling of newness and age at the same time.

Levahn Smith's apartment is spacious and bare. The furniture is spare, modern, and comfortable. He serves us camomile tea and Girl Scout cookies. A tall black man with a soft voice and a gentle, calm manner, Levahn seems younger than his thirty-five years. He speaks with quiet eloquence.

Levahn was a member of a traditional Pentecostal church. What he most remembers was hearing total condemnation from the pulpit—homosexuals are going to hell. "One time I left the church, I felt so bad. I didn't know any different then."

Levahn wants to reach out to others like himself who may feel that condemnation. He wants to go into counseling with gays and lesbians, "because there are a lot out there who are really hurting. Churches are hard for gays and lesbians to attend, because there's so much condemnation there."

Levahn has left his Pentecostal church, but has kept his religious faith: "I want to share my freedom that I've found in Christ with others. To spread the word that God doesn't condemn us."

He attends Metropolitan Community Church on North Highland, and has found a home there. "I love the pastor, and I love

the members. The pastor's been a real open person. I've learned so much. It seems like every time he preaches a sermon, it's like he's preaching to me."

Levahn grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He went into the Navy, where he spent six years. "I liked the uniforms!" he laughs. He married, and he and his wife moved to Atlanta in 1983. They are now separated. "I thought I was gay, and told her. But I thought I could change my sexuality." They are not yet divorced: "We talk about it, but we haven't yet. We've got it out in the open, and that's the big step for us."

Pictures of two children, Carrill, the boy, and Evahn, the girl, hang on the wall. Evahn's birthday was Sunday. They're now in Daytona Beach, Florida, with his wife. "Every chance I get, I'll be down in Florida with them. It's hard being separated from them. I send cards and call them. Every weekend I send cards, just to say, "Hello, I love you."

Life is good for Levahn now. He likes living in Atlanta; he enjoys cultural events, especially ballet. He has found a gay relationship: "It's the answer to my prayers. We met in December of 1988. It's something you just can't believe is there."

"One day I hope to write a book. I'll call it *Standing In My Own Way*. Because that's what I'd been doing, listening to what other folks told me instead of listening to myself. I found out for myself that God loves me. And I can feel free now, and feel good about my sexual orientation, and not hide anymore."

Charlene Ball



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# Getting to the Gay Games

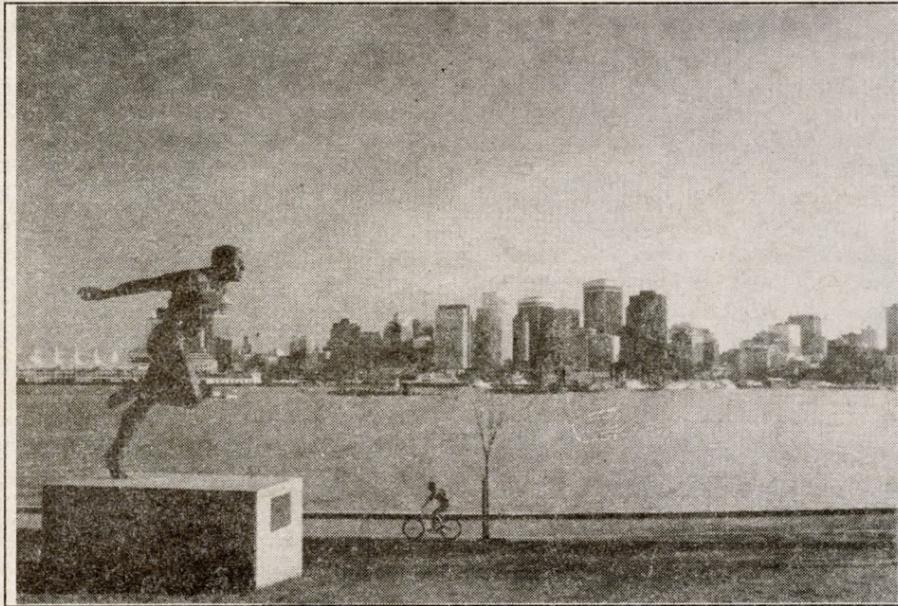
Make plans and reservations now; space in Vancouver is at a premium

by Steve Tracy

VANCOUVER, B.C. —This city's 1.7-million population will swell by more than 100,000 this August in what can only be categorized as Stonewall meets The Love Boat.

"It's going to be a tough city to find a hotel room," travel agent Curtis Capps said, "because of all the departures of cruise ships going up the coast to Alaska, including The Love Boat. Most people use Vancouver as the starting point for that trip, so airlines are swamped, too."

Celebration '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival officials expect 20,000-plus athletes and fans to arrive in Vancouver in early August for the largest sporting event (gay or not) of the year. Those attending Gay Games III will discover a beautiful city surrounded by the worlds' largest natural harbor, but nearly everybody gives words of warning: Make travel and hotel arrangements *now*.



Vancouver's harbor and skyline

JIM MARKS



JIM MARKS

Triathlete Stephen Cragle at Gay Games I

"We already know the hotels are filling up," Celebration '90 director Mark Mees said. "Not only are the athletes coming, but a lot of people are scheduling vacations around the Gay Games to participate as fans."

A slate of 27 sports as well as cultural events including music and dance will be centered in Vancouver's trendy West End and City Centre areas. The domed, air-conditioned 65,000-seat B.C. Place stadium will host the Opening Ceremonies, August 4, as well as Closing Ceremonies, August 11.

Events such as wrestling, tennis, basketball, swimming and softball will be top spectator sports, each with West End-City Centre venues. The Physique judging at the Plaza of the Americas will be one of the best tickets in town and all are in walking distance from most West End hotels. City buses are inexpensive and easy to follow while taxis are abundant.

Nearly 40 hotels are located in the West End-City Centre area, including a gay hotel

and entertainment complex at the Dufferin Hotel. A majority of Vancouver's gay clubs and businesses are also located in the West End and City Centre area. And the gay Wreck Beach is not far away.

Arriving from the United States, there are few customs problems in Vancouver. In fact, crossing the border by car seems stricter on the return trip. Once in the city, make a stop at Little Sister's Book and Art Emporium, where you can get a free Gay/Lesbian Guide to the City as well as up to the minute Gay Games III information.

Little Sister's is located just off Davie on Thurlow, which highlights a very gay part of the city. Celebration '90 offices (1170 Bute Street) are only a few blocks away as well as three gay-oriented restaurants—Hamburger Mary's, Thurlows, and Doll & Penney's. If you get lost, feel free to ask the natives. This city is user-friendly.

For sight-seeing, start with a trip on Vancouver's skytrain, which gives a bird's-eye view of the downtown as well as Burrard Inlet Harbour and endless boats, ocean freighters and cruise ships.

The city's most famous landmark is Stanley Park, a beautifully landscaped 1,000-acre park located west of the West End. The park includes several trails as well as the Vancouver Aquarium and numerous beaches.

Also include the Capilano Bridge—the world's longest suspension foot bridge—and Lion's Gate Bridge, similar to San Francisco's Golden Gate. Stroll through China Town, Canada's largest, on Pender Street.

If time permits, an excellent day trip is to Victoria, 60 miles south on Vancouver Island. The trip includes a ferry ride from

Tsawwassen. Victoria, once a trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company, has a distinctive English feel with beautiful parks and Tudor-style buildings. Victoria is also a major port for Canada's navy.

Vancouver is very much an outdoor city. The mean temperature in August is 68 degrees and the cool evenings make a window-shopping trip down Robson Street great spectator sport. The outdoor Glanville Mall is also a must for shopping. And by all means make a day or evening stop at The Castle Pub. The Castle, a gay landmark, is always crowded and showcases live music at night.

"Vancouver considers itself the San Francisco of Canada," Mees said, "but it's really a very close-knit group. This event (Gay

## 7500 Expected to Compete

by Steve Tracy

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Gay Games III officials can't stop counting, again raising projections for athlete registration by the May 31 deadline to 7,500.

"We continue to get a handful of registrations every day," Celebration '90 office manager Mary Brookes said, "and expect another peak before the final registration deadline." Registration remains open for all 27 sports. Sports registration is \$54 per sport.

Celebration '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival will more than double the 3,500 athlete registration at Gay Games II, held in San Francisco in 1986. Along with the Cultural Festival, Vancouver officials expect more than 20,000 participants and fans to flood the city for the 8-day event, August 4-11.

Games) will be a landmark for the city. I think it will show we're a very proud community, not only to the visitors, but to the city of Vancouver as well."

Nightlife will undoubtedly be crowded and festive, especially considering there are only 14 gay and lesbian bars and clubs. Everything from dance clubs, cruise bars and women-only clubs exist with an emphasis on live entertainment and dancers that are allowed to leave nothing to the imagination. An updated listing is available with the Little Sister's map.

Vancouver travel and hotel information and reservations are available from several travel agencies who advertise in Southern Voice or through Travel Infocenter, 1-800-663-6000.

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# Trash, Treasure and Other Musical Notes

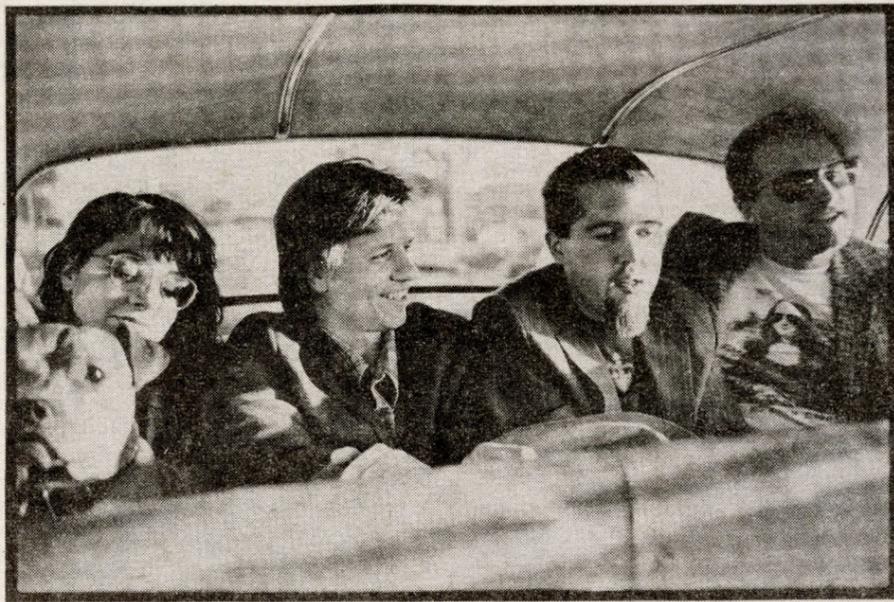
by Angela Motter

The Jody Grind's debut release "One Man's Trash is Another Man's Treasure" (DB Recs) proves musical weirdness and musical depth don't have to be mutually exclusive.

This album makes me think of what the upper atmosphere over the U.S. must've sounded like in the early '50s and late '60s: strains of cheesy T.V. show theme songs; the blue moans and coos of Billy Holiday; the fine and mellow jazz of Sassy Sarah Vaughn; the revival of the mournful Appalachian melodies of Hazel Dickens; and the slurpee pop of Dusty Springfield all wafted upwards and mingled together. All those sounds have finally made their way back down to earth in the form of music by Atlanta's Jody Grind.

Rather than say this album is jazz hyphen pop hyphen country hyphen *whatever*, suffice to say it's an expression of the diverse influences that got the band together in the first place.

Vocalist Kelly Hogan Murray and former Chowder Shouter guitarist Bill Taft do the lion's share of the songwriting, with Murray supplying melody and lyrics to Taft's riffs and chord progressions. Drummer/writer Brewer and bassist Robert Hayes add flesh to the music with arrangements, licks and endings. Murray's lyrics are surprisingly mature considering the task is new to her. I felt sure the



Kelly Hogan Murray, Bill Taft, Robert Hayes, and Walter Brewer—The Jody Grind

atmospheric ballad "Blue and Far" was some obscure jazz tune until I checked the liner notes and found it was a Jody Grind original. The song describes a lover who seems more like an apparition that's never quite home: *Midnight follows her around / Leaves in her wake a hollow sound / Cries high and lone-*

*some / Blue and far.. And ...The touch of her finger is cold as a stone / She'll let you inside her / But you'll be there alone.*

Murray's voice reminds me of Linda Ronstadt, but with feeling. And she's not afraid to just *holler* either. Her k.d. lang style, milk-it-for-all-it's-worth vocal phrases are

K. KOLB

kneaded and stretched as if she were pulling taffy. Taft's guitar playing is always melodic and fresh. On jazz tunes like "Mood Indigo" and "I'm a Fool to Want You" he resists the temptation to play cerebral improvisation pablum. That's why this band can cover lounge tunes without sounding loungey.

There's a lot of music to sink your teeth into for an album that could easily be pigeon holed by pundits as being pure novelty. In the music world "novelty tune" usually means reviving a song that's old and cute, but according to Webster, "novelty" really means "new and unusual." If you must call The Jody Grind novelty, I'll take Noah's definition. I don't think the band would mind too much either.

**Rock AID.** No, I'm not talking about the big Arista AIDS benefit bash held in March and aired last week on CBS-TV. (Take that Andy Rooney!) Right here at home in funky Little Five Points, The Jody Grind, Opall Foxx, Da Da Id, Some Thing, L.A. Russell, and Bad Egg Salad will be donating their *time* so you can donate your *money* (\$5) to Rock Aid, a musical benefit for AID Atlanta. Support local rock n' roll and a good cause on Sunday April 29, 4pm at the Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid Ave. Advance tickets at Charis, Poster Hut and The Boy Next Door.

## Film

### Women Who Take the Dare

Reviews by Terry Francis

**The Cook, The Thief, His Wife & Her Lover** ★★ – Peter Greenaway's controversial new film is masterfully crafted, adequately performed, and fairly juvenile. I saw it in early March in London. I wondered how a British audience would react to the film, apparently a simple parable of Margaret Thatcher's poll-taxed England—a comment on the different elements of English society increasingly polarized and hostile toward each other amid the chaos of Thatcher's sinking economy. Mostly the audience appeared bored. The film has received a billion dollars worth of free publicity since being idiotically slapped with an X-rating. I have seen films far more sexually explicit and far more violent than this one that were pardoned with an R-rating.

Greenaway's film (he directed the icy, superb *The Draughtsman's Contract*) is set in what looks to be a ravaged warehouse that inside has been transformed into a forbiddingly state-of-the-art restaurant. A full-scale reproduction of Frans Hals' "The Banquet of the Officers of the St. George Militia of Haarlem" looms across a back

wall. But the film is a maddened, corrupt version of the painting. We know this from its hounds of hell opening, in which a pack of dogs outside the restaurant rip apart slabs of fresh meat. The restaurant is run by a gangland pig (Michael Gambon) who entertains nightly in the company of his wife (Helen Mirren) and a bevy of assorted thugs. They sit around eating ravenously, their dull conversation enlivened by crude jokes and spirited belching. Then Mirren takes notice of a blandly handsome man who sits quietly at his table and reads books over his food. Soon she's openly having sex with him, out of her husband's view, in different rooms of the restaurant. Predictably the husband grows suspicious and leads the film to its violent conclusion.

Unfortunately, the picture's symbolism is trite, its repetitions of plot bore, and thematically it never deepens beyond the sophomoric. But visually it is a nightmare poem of light and menace. It was shot by the great French cinematographer Sacha Vierny, celebrated for his work with Resnais (*Night and Fog*, *Hiroshima mon amour*, *Last Year at Marienbad*) and for Bunuel (*Belle de*

*jour*). He fixes every scene perfectly, braiding sequences by a series of lateral camera moves that oscillate between the rooms of the grand restaurant. Whatever measure of corruption and spiritual hell we glean from this film comes from the seventy-one-year-old Vierny's camera, his own particular disquiet, his absolute conviction that the soul of an epoch can be conveyed in light.

*Opens April 27 at Hoyt's Tara Theatre; 634-6288.*

**Story of Women** ★★★ 1/2 – In his best films, the French director Claude Chabrol convinces us that our thinking has grown so conventional as to seem pre-ordained. His particular art is to flip the ordinary on its back, revealing an underbelly that is exotically detailed.

*Story of Women*, Chabrol's most recent film to play Atlanta, lacks the richness of character and audacity of method that characterize his finest work, but it's nonetheless an exceptionally moving (and factual) record of a woman's sad life.

We are in occupied France during World War II, in the period after Petain went limp and allowed the Germans to simply walk into Paris. A woman named Marie struggles to provide food for her two small children. Almost by accident she helps a friend abort a baby conceived while her husband was

away in the war. Soon other women come to Marie for help, and her illegal business thrives. She's able to feed her children properly and even provide some comforts to her husband, who has returned from the war broken and dispirited. But something in Marie has changed. She has grown self-reliant and declines her loveless marriage.

Before long she's carrying on her business and an affair openly in front of her husband. All this becomes too much for him and he informs on the mother of his children to the Petain government, which seeks the death penalty against Marie at the same time it allows untold numbers of Jews, gays and others to be deported to the death camps.

Chabrol's lucid film dramatizes one of the methods by which a demoralized country—here, a France that largely gave in to the Nazis—feeds on itself in an effort to deflect attention from its disgraced national honor. The splendid cast is led by Isabelle Huppert, who binds the film together through the cool precision of her unblinking performance. Jean Rabier's dependably superb photography places the film subtly, providing exactly the dreary backdrop against which the film's themes tellingly shine. *Story of Women* is the rare film that gets better the more one thinks about it. *Lefont's Screening Room; 231-1924.*

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# Words of Truth and Images of Integrity

Morse and Larkin's Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time

by Franklin Abbott

As an editor of anthologies, I have respect for the hard work involved in selecting and deleting materials, and for coping with copious detail. Carl Morse and Joan Larkin are to be commended first for the tremendous labor involved in their creation, *Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time*. This anthology of 200 poems written by 94 American poets from 1950 to the present is a gay and lesbian cultural treasure. Its editors and St. Martin's Press are to be thanked for bringing together, many for the first time, the finest voices in American gay and lesbian poetry. The Bible-sized volume ought to be in every gay and lesbian household's library, and in every other library where students or the public go to read.

The richness of the book comes out of a diversity of poets. Carl Morse's Open Lines, a national series of readings in gay, lesbian and profeminist poets inspired him to begin the anthology. In editing he collaborates with another New York poet, Joan Larkin. Their introduction in dialogue is itself important reading for gay men and lesbians who wish to deepen their understanding and appreciation of each other's differences. The introduction and the book also help us find common ground.

Ninety-four poets are presented in alphabetical order, each with a short biography, and 93 with a photo of the poet. There are well-known and obscure poets side by side, and all kinds of poems: proclamations of

**James Broughton**  
from *Wondrous The Merge*

He had two red dogs a yellow cat  
a girl roommate an ex boyfriend  
and a bedroom ceiling covered  
with blue fluorescent stars  
But he was ready to renounce anything  
that would not accommodate me  
He said I held the key to his existence  
He said he knew when he first saw me  
that I was the reason for his birth  
He claimed that important deities  
had opened his head three times  
to place my star in his brow  
This is preposterous I said  
I have a wife in the suburbs  
I have mortgages children in-laws  
and a position in the community  
I thoroughly sympathize said He  
Why else have I come to your rescue?

**Audre Lorde**  
*Love Poem*

Speak earth and bless me with what is richest  
make sky flow honey out of my hips  
rigid as mountains  
spread over a valley  
carved out by the mouth of rain.  
And I knew when I entered her I was  
high wind in her forests hollow  
fingers whispering sound  
honey flowed  
from the slit cup  
impaled on a lance of tongues  
on the tips of her breasts on her navel  
and my breath  
howling into her entrances  
through lungs of pain.  
Greedy as herring-gulls  
or a child  
I swing out over the earth  
over and over  
again.

anger, love poems, spells, personal revelations, even a psalm. Some of the poems like Ginsberg's "Howl," Adrienne Rich's "Twenty-one Love Poems," James Broughton's "Wondrous the Merge" are already classics - required reading. Add to that Mark Ameen's "A Lover's Complaint," Beth Bryant's "Her Name is Helen," Chrystos' "The Wings of a Wild Goose" and Essex Hemphill's "Cordon Negro," and the intensity of language as a vehicle for lesbians and gay men to better understand

themselves and each other becomes obvious.

Finding poetry by authors I haven't read is one of the chief pleasures of reading the book. Jane Barnes' work was new to me, as well as co-editor Joan Larkin's. Barnes' "The Hot Dog Poem" says a lot about anger in just a few lines. Larkin's poem "Rape" is a deeply personal offering about the pain of being a victim.

Finding for the first time an unfamiliar poem by a favorite author, or rediscovering one you read long ago and almost forgot is

another pleasure the book affords its readers. Allen Ginsberg and Audre Lorde write about sexuality in their vastly different, equally provocative poems, his "Pleasure Master" and her "Love Poem." Paul Goodman's "I Planned to Have a Border of Lavender" and Tennessee Williams' "Life Story" were (to me) new poems by two favorite authors. Langston Hughes' "Stars" and Adrienne Rich's "Floating Poem" were made familiar again as I re-read them in this book. Carl Morse's poetry, especially his searing "Scenes of Childhood," is good to have, at last, in reach.

The anthology is flawed in two major ways. One, it is not twice to three times as long; more poets and more poems could have been included. There are many more of both worth including. The second flaw is that it is all flat on the page. I fantasize a series of cassettes where, when possible, poets read their poems aloud. Hearing poetry is part of it. It is obvious that Morse and Larkin had ample opportunity to use their good poet's ears in assembling these voices. Both of these problems have to do with the economics of publishing, not with the vision or talent of Carl Morse and Joan Larkin. We owe them a great debt for carefully framing a magnificent mirror that gay men and lesbians can peer into long and deep, searching out and finding voices and visions that carry us in our struggle to be who we are authentically in body, mind and soul.

## Book Bits

by Al Cotton

In an effort to keep readers abreast of the gay and lesbian literary scene, *Southern Voice* will supply you occasionally with Book Bits, updates on new titles, local authors, etc.—anything doing with the world of books. Let us know what you think, as well as about new titles that should be included in the column.

**Gay Books Are Moneymakers.** One place the gay community has clearly recognized clout is in the world of books. *U.S. News and World Report* notes in its April 16 issue that books dealing with lesbian and gay issues are finding "a niche in big-time publishing." Several publishers, such as Harper & Row, New American Library, Book of the Month Club and QPBC, have recognized the size of the gay market for books, and are trying to challenge long-term gay/lesbian publishers, such as Alyson, St. Martin's, Naiad and Firebrand, and in some cases, raiding them of their authors. Characteristics that make us attractive to publishers include sheer

numbers, our level of education, our disposable income, and the relative ease of targeting us in advertising. It's good to see our economic strength so clearly recognized and respected by a major industry.

**Local Success Stories.** Atlanta authors J. Michael Clark, Amanda Kyle Williams, and Franklin Abbott are excited about recent publication.

Clark, a local scholar with a Gay Studies Ph.D. from Emory, has just celebrated the publication of his fifth book, *A Defiant Celebration: Theological Ethics and Gay Sexuality*, which comes from Tangelwuld Press in Garland, Texas. His fourth book, *A Place to Start*, was the first in his trilogy of gay theological texts and received a positive review by Malcolm Boyd in *The Advocate*. A contract for number six has also been signed.

Local author Amanda Kyle Williams will see the publication of her espionage thriller, *Club 12*, from Naiad Press on May 15. This is your chance to follow lesbian CIA operative Madison McGuire to London, Zurich, D.C. and Vail in the first of a (hopefully) long series of thrilling adventures. There's even a

significant male character (Max), a first for Naiad.

Frank Abbott's latest book, an anthology edited by him dealing with and entitled *Men and Intimacy*, has just been published by The Crossing Press. Abbott, local psychotherapist and poet, has edited a previous anthology on the profeminist men's movement entitled *New Men, New Minds*, which was published by Crossing in 1987.

**Awards.** The Gay and Lesbian Task Force of the American Library Association also honors writers and has just announced the winners of its 1990 Gay/Lesbian Book Awards. For fiction, the winner was *Eighty-Sixed*, by David B. Feinberg; for non-fiction, *In Search of Gay America: Women and Men in a Time of Change*, by Neil Miller. The Task Force has also chosen Armistead Maupin as the first recipient of their Award of Exceptional Achievement for his *Tales of the City* series. To nominate 1990 titles, you can write to Adam L. Schiff, Science Library, Univ. of Colorado/Boulder, Campus Box 184, Boulder, CO 80309-0184. Include a statement as to why your nominee should be honored.

The Lambda Book Report has announced

its nominations for the 2nd Annual Lambda Literary Awards. Among the noted names nominated in 17 categories are Dennis Cooper, David B. Feinberg, Christopher Bram, Armistead Maupin, Jane Rule, May Sarton, Harold Norse, Neil Miller, Charles Ludlum, Adrienne Rich, Katherine V. Forrest, Geoff Mains, Susan Sontag and Larry Kramer, and volumes edited by Judy Grahn, Michael Nava, Martin Duberman and John Preston. The winners will be announced at a banquet on June 1 at Ceasars Palace in Las Vegas, coinciding with the American Booksellers Association Convention.

**Gay Positive Kids Books.** Longtime gay publisher, Alyson Publications has announced a new line of books for children (ages 2 to 12) of lesbian and gay parents. Publisher Sasha Alyson says that the network of gay bookstores across the nation has made such a project possible. He doesn't expect the audience to be just gay and lesbian parents, however, but rather any parents, teachers or librarians who want to educate about the new families we are creating. Look for the first of the line to be out in the fall.

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# Morningside Chase plans its second annual AIDS fundraiser

by Johnny Walsh

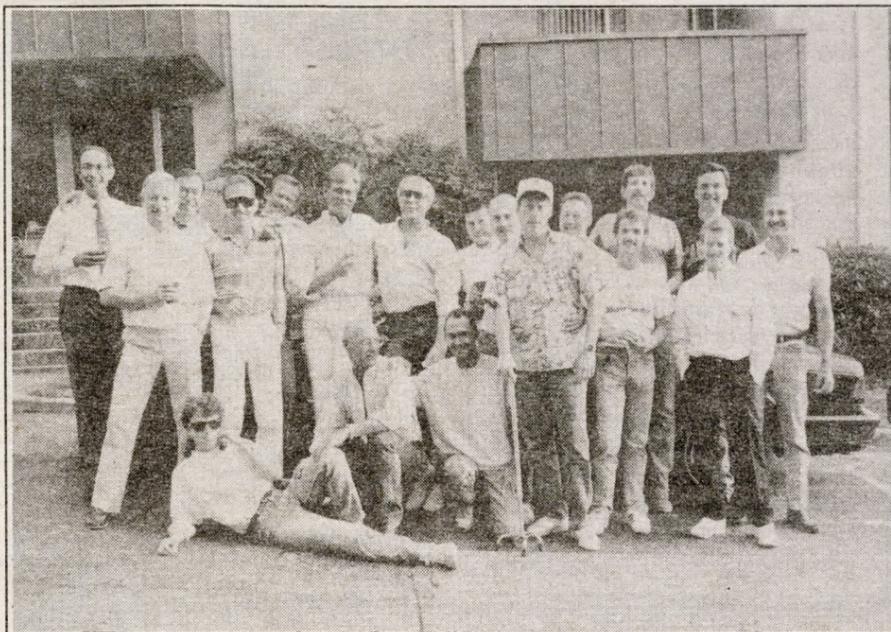
Morningside Chase is set on a hillside surrounded by Ansley Park, Morningside and Midtown. Tall trees and greenery remind us that once a great forest covered the land where five hundred or so individuals now reside. It looks not unlike many other multi-unit housing developments in Atlanta. Apartments include such amenities as ceiling fans, mini blinds, washer and dryer connections, use of the communal swimming pool and invitation to planned "social activities."

If this description conjures images of places where strangers live in close proximity to other strangers, never knowing each others' names or about each others' lives, guess again. Morningside Chase is a very different kind of apartment complex.

Official statistics are not kept by management, but it would not be unreasonable to guess that at least 90 percent of the residents are gay. If evidence is required, a drive through the complex on a sunny weekend afternoon in spring should satisfy the skeptical.

Last year the Residents Council adopted a special project that set it apart from the typical tenants' association: Hollywood Hots, an AIDS benefit co-sponsored by the Council and management of the complex. If any other apartment complex in the country has undertaken a similar endeavor, we've not heard about it.

Harvey Smith brought the idea to other Council members. In just short of three months, a core group of about 20 individuals planned, organized and executed the benefit.



The Hollywood Hots Core Group

JOHNNY WALSH

After Heart Strings, it was the most successful community based AIDS fundraiser in Atlanta in 1989. Says Kent Curry, Vice President of the Council, "Last year, we had about 1,000 people and raised approximately \$14,000; \$6,000 went to Project Open Hand, \$6,000 stayed in Morningside Chase to assist people with AIDS who live here and \$2,000 went to the expenses of the benefit."

Project Open Hand, of course, provides meals to people with AIDS. And, thanks to Hollywood Hots, PWAs who have lived in Morningside Chase for more than six months can apply to the Residents' Council for financial assistance—need must be

proven and the money can be used only for rent and utilities. Says Scott Harmon, who administers the assistance program, "Last year's (\$6,000) really helped some guys in need. But this year we'll need more."

"Our goal is very simple:" continues Curry, "to raise money to provide food and housing to people with AIDS." In anticipation of greater revenue from this year's event, the money raised will be split between Project Open Hand, PWAs living in the complex, and Collins House, an Atlanta residence for people with AIDS.

Hollywood Hots is one very large party built around a five hour stage show. According to show director, Jim Miller,

"This year's show will be quite an extravaganza. Last year, we had 40 performers volunteer their time and talent. This year, we'll have 140 performers in the same amount of time."

The list of luminaries who will grace the temporary stage by Morningside Chase's pool on Saturday, May 5, 1990 is impressive: Sam Baker, Bev Cook, Tina Devore, Ann Cast, Venus Envy, Southern Stampede, Andy Bremer and his puppets, Lori Linden, Amber Richards, the Pride of Peachtree Marching Band, Big Ruby and the Backstreet Girlz, Mickey Day, Tashia Wallace, Southern Line Dancers, the Cast of Lipstix, the Armorettes and Christy Kaye. One Voice Chorus, a gay/lesbian choir from Charlotte, will also perform.

Adding to the festivities, prizes will be given away during the course of the evening. Perfect Travel of Downtown Decatur and Club America Vacation have donated a trip for two to Cozumel. The Merchants of Ansley Square, Ansley II, Ansley Mall and Clearwater Shopping Center have donated a \$700 shopping spree. The Hyatt Regency Atlanta is providing a weekend for two at the hotel, including dinner.

For a \$10 donation in advance (\$15 at the door), participants can dress as their favorite Hollywood celebrity, watch a great show, enjoy a drink and know they have helped provide food and housing to people with AIDS. For more information about Hollywood Hots, call the management offices of Morningside Chase at 875-5622.

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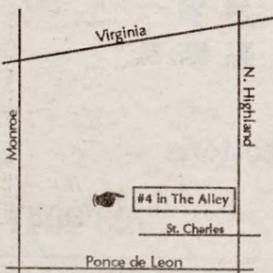
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**Bulldog & Co.**  
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893 Peachtree. 872-3025

**Burkhart's**  
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Ansley Square. 872-4403

**Conference Room**  
"When you care enough to get the very best"  
1086 Alco St. 634-6478

**The Cove**  
"Atlanta's friendliest cruise bar"  
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**Weekends**  
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Evelyn "Champagne" King packed 'em in at Traxx on Friday, April 13. Proceeds from the performance went to acquire daycare facilities for children of the homeless. To contribute to this fund, call 659-4532. To party...head to Traxx.

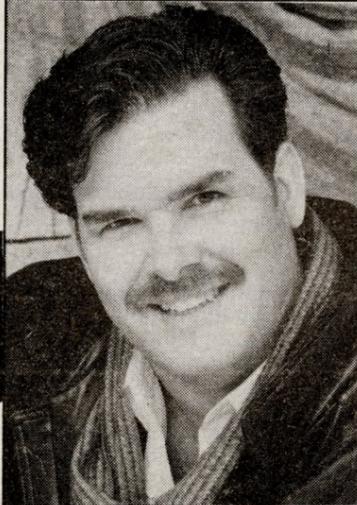
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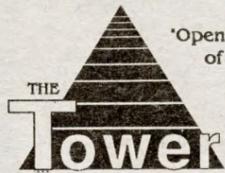


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**APRIL 6 - MAY 12**

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# CALENDAR

## Art

**NEW PAINTINGS BY LESLIE KNEISEL & JOAN FARRELL.** Thru Sat. May 12. Venomous Valentines and Other Marvels explores images of modern day life with a twist. Ms. Kneisel states her work "concerns itself with the insanity society inflicts on women concerning their bodies." Arts Exchange, 750 Kalb St. SE.

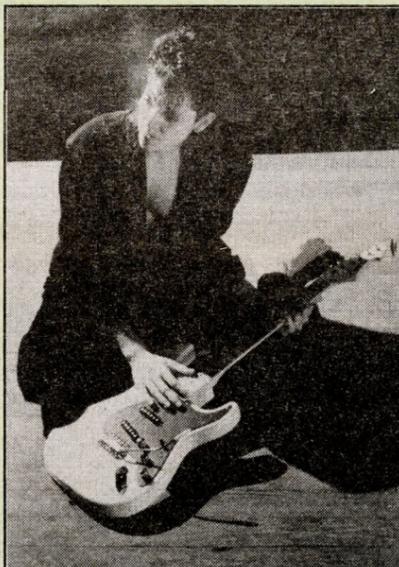
**TREASURES FROM THE FITZ WILLIAM MUSEUM.** Thru Sunday, May 6. This is your last chance! High Museum of Art, 1280 Peachtree St., NE. 892-3600.

**SPRING HARVEST.** Thru May 12. Featuring art works made from materials gathered from nature. At Illumina Gallery, Piedmont at Monroe. 875-7617 for info.

**A TRUELIKENESS: THE BLACK SOUTH OF RICHARD SAMUEL ROBERTS.** Thru Jun. 3d. Compelling portraits from the '20s and '30s. Hammonds House, 503 Peeples. For times call 752-8215.

**ATLANTA COLLEGE OF ART OPEN HOUSE.** Thursday, April 26, 4:30 to 7:30 pm. A free chance to tour the oldest private art college in the Southeast. Visitors will see demonstrations in papermaking, printmaking, video art, experimental sound, computer graphics and animation. Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center, 1280 Peachtree Street NE. 898-1164.

**GALLERY TALK.** Sunday, Apr. 29, 2:00 pm. David Ludley will present a talk entitled "From Country Vamp to City Sophisticate: The Changing Image of Woman in 18th and 19th Century Painting". Interpreted for the hearing impaired, it explores how women were seen by chauvinists of other ages. Free with museum admission. 4th floor, High Museum of Art. 892-HIGH.



Angela Motter, sings new compositions that only her cat has heard at Charis Books and More, Thurs. May 3, at 7:30pm. And it's free.

## Dance

**ATLANTA BALLET II SPRING CONCERT.** Fri. & Sat., May 4 and 5, 8:00 pm, 2:00 pm matinee on Sat. The pre-professional company of the Atlanta Ballet kicks up its heels in four ballets demonstrating their skill and versatility. An interesting evening of unusual selections for the dance enthusiasts. 14th Street Playhouse, corner of 14th & Juniper Streets. For info. call 892-0880.

**DON QUIXOTE.** Fri. & Sat., May 4 & 5, 8pm, 2 pm matinee on Sat. The dynamic duo tilt at windmills and fall in love with a barmaid. A classic revisited from the up and coming Ballet Rotaru. Atlanta Civic Center. 249-6400.

**RUDOLPH NUREYEV AND FRIENDS.** Sat., April 28, 8 pm. Six international dancers join the Main Man for what is sure to be a memorable evening. This is Nureyev's last time at the Fox, so it's probably even worth the expensive tickets. Fox Theatre. Call 881-2000.

## Events

**WRITERS BRAWL.** Thurs., Apr. 26, 6-8 pm. Fun for folks who would rather write than fight. Atlanta Writing Resource Center, 750 Kalb St. For details call 622-4152.

**CULTURAL LITERACY.** Thurs., May 3, twelve noon. Can disadvantaged children transcend their socio-economic background through cultural literacy? This and other interesting topics make up the Alston Lecture Series. Free. Georgia-Pacific Center Auditorium. For further info call 261-1837.

**HERB EDUCATION DAY.** Sat., May 5, 9 am to 4 pm. Learn the uses and cultivation of practical plants from comfrey to rosemary. Take some babies home from the largest sale of live herbs in Atlanta. Garden admission lets you in for lectures too. Atlanta Botanical Garden, Piedmont Park. 876-5859.

**HOLLYWOOD HOTS.** Sat., May 5, 7pm - 12 am. A major party and Aids Benefit combined. Last year's was a high point of the social season. See article this issue. Morningside Chase, 1445 Monroe Dr., NE. 875-5622.

**FIRST ANNUAL ROAD RALLY.** Sun., May 6, 12:30 pm. A driver with a valid driver's license and proof of insurance and a trusty navigator may win exciting prizes for a \$10 entry fee. It is not required that you be butch to win, but it may help. contact Fourth Tuesday at 662-4353.

## Festivals/Tours

**INMAN PARK FESTIVAL AND TOUR OF HOMES.** Sat. & Sun., April 28 & 29, 12-6 pm. A block party for the grand ole neighborhood. Crafts, music and a chance to look inside some of the finest old homes in Atlanta. Inman Park. For more info. call 242-4895.

## Film/Video

**BELLISSIMA.** Fri., April 27, 8 pm. Visconti ("The Damned" & "Death in Venice") directs this tale of a working class woman played by Anna Magnani. Italian with English subtitles. \$3. Rich Auditorium, Woodruff Arts Center. 892-HIGH.

**ART AT THE EDGE: DANIEL REEVES.** Thru Sun., May 6. A moving meditation on the condition of man and his environment in the late 20th century explored through integrating video technology with poetic and primal images. \$4, \$2 for college students and senior citizens. High Museum of Art. 892-HIGH.

## Meetings

**NOSTALGIA NIGHT.** Wed., Apr. 25, 6 to 10pm. A time to share memories, pictures and stories about the good ole days. Take a walk down memory lane. Chrysalis Women's Center. call 881-6300 for info.

**ACLU COMMUNITY MEETING.** Wed., Apr. 25, 7:30pm. The lesbian and gay chapter of ACLU host a community meeting to brainstorm strategies for the repeal of Georgia's sodomy law and the possibility of a community wide privacy rights coalition. Come and bring your brain. It's time to think about it. ACLU, 233 Mitchell St, Suite 200. Call 523-6201 for directions.

## Music

**JAZZ WITH PENELOPE.** Thurs., Apr. 26, 7:30pm. Penelope's vocals and keyboard are the basics for a musical evening with special Atlanta artists. Come hear jazz with a feminist flavor. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Avenue, NE. 524-0304.

**MAHLATHINI.** Fri., Apr. 27, 8:30pm. South Africa's most popular vocalist and recording artist is joined by his renowned playing partners the Mohotells Queens and the Makgona Tsohie band. A first Atlanta opportunity to hear "mbaganga", the music of the African people which combines traditional Zulu and Sotho music with an international potpourri of musical styles. Roxy Theatre in Buckhead. For info call 377-7777.

**LAURIE ANDERSON.** Sat., Apr. 28, 8pm. A musical mystery tour of one of the most interesting women in music today. Hope they aren't sold out before you get your ticket. Buckhead Roxy, 3110 Roswell Rd. Call 249-6400.

**DEDE VOGT.** Sun., April 29, 2-4pm. Dede plays just for you, solo and accoustical, up close and personal. What better way to spend a Sunday afternoon? Little Five Points Pub. For details call 524-0805.

**LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO.** Wed., May 2, 8pm. The truly fine harmonies of this premier South African vocal ensemble move the spirit and the heart. Center Stage Theatre. 873-2500.

**ANGELA MOTTER.** Thurs., May 3, 7:30-9pm. Angela sings new original songs that only her cat has heard. Her cat says they're purrfectly lovely. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

## Radio

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

**STILL AIN'T SATISFIED.** Thurs., 5:05-7PM. Music and public affairs from a Heretic Woman's view.

# APRIL 25 - MAY 9

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

**LES CHANTEUSES AFRICANES.** Mon. 1-6AM. A unique radio exclusive! Featuring musical and literary voices of black women. Strong ethnic/lesbian flavor. Produced and hosted by Alicia Banks.



**Play Ball!** Well, maybe "Watch Ball" would be more accurate. Sundays, 11:30am 'til 6pm, main field, Piedmont Park. Men's and women's teams.

## Sports

**HOTLANTA SOFTBALL—WOMEN.** Sun. April 29, Sun., May 6. Come bring your blankets and coolers for a day of sun and softball action. Much more fun than the Braves' games. Games begin at 11:00, 12:20, 1:40, 3:00 and 4:20. Main field Piedmont Park.

**HOTLANTA SOFTBALL—MEN.** Sun., April 29, Sun., May 6. Softballs? Not in this bar vs bar day of diamond action. Come see who gets to first base, and who has the biggest bat. Starting times: 11:00, 12:20, 1:40, 3:00 and 4:20. Main field, Piedmont Park.

**HOTLANTA SOCCER LEAGUE.** Every Saturday, 3-5pm. Fast, frantic action with a funny ball. Spectators welcome, no previous experience necessary. Piedmont Park.

## Theatre

**PSYCHO BEACH PARTY.** Thurs. Apr. 19-Apr. 28. 8pm, Thurs-Sat. Surf, sand and schizophrenia meet in this campy send up of '50s Gidget family flicks. Written by Charles Busch, produced by SAME. The gender bending/blending in this outrageous production is what gay theatre's all about. First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive. 584-2104.

**THE DREAMER EXAMINES HIS PILLOW.** Fri. & Sat., Apr. 27 & 28, 8pm. From the author of "Moonstruck" and directed by the exceptionally talented Chris Coleman. The Actor's Express, 280 Elizabeth Street. Call 523-7647.

**NEXUS CIRCUS OF ANIMAL RIGHTS.** Sat. & Sun., Apr. 28 & 29, 2-6pm. A theatrical exploration of animal rights and problems with actors portraying our four-footed friends. Intended for children and their parents but all are welcome. \$3. "Arts Exchange, 750 Kalb St. 688-1970.

**BEAUTIFUL CITY.** Thru Sun. Apr. 29. A not to be missed, frighteningly accurate spoof on big city developers that should have John Portman losing more than a little sleep. In rep with HEATHEN VALLEY. Call for dates and times. Horizon Theatre, Euclid at Austin Ave. Call 584-7450.

**LAUGHING WILD.** Mon., April 30, 8pm. Christopher Durang's hilarious spoof with a soul returns. Sally Jesse Rafeal's interview with the Infant of Prague alone is worth the price of admission. The Actor's Express, 280 Elizabeth Street. Call 523-7647.

**PLAY ON.** Thru May 12, Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm, Wed., May 9 at 8pm. The Atlanta premiere of this original comedy takes us through the disasters and delights of producing a play. Sure to be enjoyed by anyone with greasepaint in their blood. Neighborhood Playhouse, 430 West Trinity Place, Decatur. call 373-5311 For tickets & info.

**WEST SIDE STORY.** May 4 thru June 9, Thurs. thru Sat. at 8pm. Early street gang saga a la Romeo and Juliet. A charming rendering of gang violence and bigotry played against the New York skyline. Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland St. For reservations & matinee times call 897-1802.

## Women's Festivals

**7TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN WOMEN'S MUSIC & COMEDY FESTIVAL.** Thurs., May 24-Mon., May 28. This is the last time it's being held just up the road a piece, so make a point of being there. It's an event you'll always remember. For details call (818) 893-4075.

**EAST COAST LESBIANS' FESTIVAL.** June 14-17. The Catskills were never like this before. Celebrate lesbian culture. For further info call (904) 826-0410.

**MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL.** Aug. 15-19. It's the biggest, and some say the best. It's also the coldest, so bring warm clothes and come prepared for showers. They're a tradition. For more info call (616) 757-4766.

**RHYTHM FEST: WOMEN'S MUSIC, ART & POLITICS.** Aug. 30 - Sept. 3. A new approach to women's festivals, this group seems to promise content as well as entertainment and vegetarian weight loss. The location sounds lovely. For more info call (919) 682-6374.

## Workshops

**AIDS 101.** Fri. & Sat., Apr. 27 & 28. Important information for all, especially geared to those working in any health or social service work. This may be your chance to help stop the spread of this deadly disease. at GMHL, 1256 Briarcliff Rd. Call AID Atlanta at 872-0600 for details.

**MEDITATION CLASS.** Sat., Apr. 29, 9:30am-12:30pm for four weekends. A beginning meditation class that covers the basic techniques of concentration, relaxation, meditation and visualization. \$80 per person. Chrysalis Women's Center, 2945 Manchester St. 881-6300

## Upcoming

**ATLANTA FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL.** May 9-13, Wed. - Sun. A number of gay/lesbian/AIDS films will be shown. Get your tickets early this year. IMAGE Film/Video Center, 75 Bennett St. Call 352-4254 for info.

**COWBOY JUNKIES.** Fri., May 11. Not to be confused with sagebrush sounds. Buckhead Roxy. 249-6400.

**SPRING ROSE SHOW.** Sat., May 12, 1-6pm, Sun., May 13, 12-6pm. America's favorite labia shaped flower takes center stage in this colorful celebration. Atlanta Botanical Garden, Piedmont Park. 876-5859.



"Art at the Edge: Daniel Reeves" closes May 6. So does "Treasures from the Fitzwilliam." See both at the High Museum.

**AN EVENING OF JAZZ.** Sat., May 12, 8pm. Joe Sample, George Howard and Dianne Schuur under the stars. Chastain Park Amphitheatre.

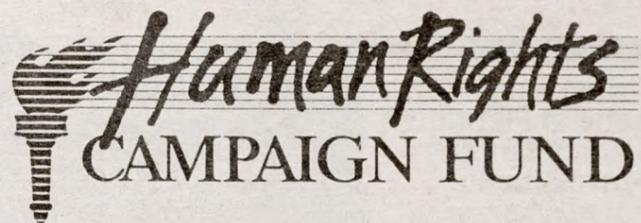
**GALEBRATION 90.** Sat. May 19-Sun. May 20. Eat, drank, dance, be merry at this community carnival and celebration for Gay Games III. Atlanta Water Works. 871-7586.

**3RD ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND DINNER.** at., May 19th, 6:30pm. Congressman Gerry Studds is the keynote, Mary Nell Santacrocce the MC. Hyatt Regency. For info call 874-4443 or 874-0040.

**GARRISON KEILLOR.** Sat., May 26, 6pm. Lake Wobegon's most famous transplanted resident is joined by Hector Olivera for this live radio broadcast. Humor, music and philosophy for the airwaves. Fox Theatre. For tickets call 881-2000.

**RICKIE LEE JONES & LYLE LOVETT.** Wed., May 30, 7:30pm. Need we say more? Chastain Park Amphitheatre. 231-5888.

**AVS - FRIENDS HIGH CAMP WEEKEND.** July 6-8. Enjoy nature and friends in this Pisgah National Forest getaway. Sort of like a festival with no scheduled entertainers. For info call 525-3611.



# Many Voices, One Vision.

May 19, 1990

Mark Your Calendar!

**HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND**

3rd Annual Atlanta Dinner  
Saturday, May 19, 1990  
Tickets: \$150 per person  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Cocktails - Dinner - Dancing

Keynote Speaker:  
Congressman Gerry Studds



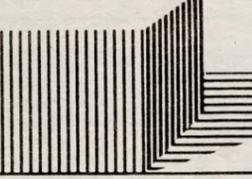
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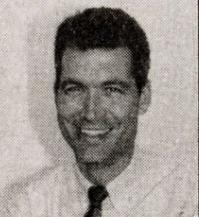
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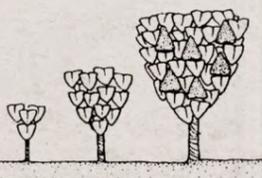
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# Lazaris on AIDS

Lazaris has been channeled by Jach Pursel since 1974. Southern Voice is pleased to be able to present his words. The AIDS interview began last issue and will continue in issues numbers 6 and 7. Other issues of interest to lesbians and gay men will follow.

Louise Hay asked Lazaris if he would make an audio tape about AIDS. His response was to do more. Lazaris recorded a 90-minute tape that includes a powerfully moving meditation. He donated the time and the tape to The Hay Foundation. The Hay Foundation is the sole distributor of the tape and retains all the proceeds.

The response to this tape has been remarkable. One of the many wonderful things about this discussion is that Lazaris talks of AIDS not as a Gay disease and thus a Gay problem, but as a Human disease and a Human problem that requires all of us to work together. Following is a transcription of: AIDS: A Compassionate Exploration.

## AIDS Is Not a Gay Disease

You know, initially there were many who thought AIDS had nothing to do with them. Either because of their lifestyle, or because of their ignorance, they thought that they were somehow immune to this particular malady. They said it was a "Gay Disease". It is "God's punishment of homosexuals," they would bellow, with some sort of vague reference to Sodom and Gomorrah, not really knowing anything of what they spoke. Their rantings and their ravings not only exposed their ignorance and often their bigotry, but also slowed the progress of encountering and conquering this disease.

There were those from the Fundamentalist conservative to the very avante garde metaphysical, we're sorry to say, who did point fingers of blame and wanted to say that this was God's way of striking back, that this was God's way of punishing people. On the other side of it, they talked of a God who's all loving—but yet is punishing. "This is God's way of getting back at the homosexuals," they would say, even though it began as a heterosexual disease and only was carried forth in a homosexual community. They said that it was God's punishment of the unfavored.

However, they were not dealing with the fact that even within the community Lesbians are the least of those subjected to this particular malady. Are these critics, therefore, by implication, suggesting that Lesbians are perhaps God's chosen few? We would doubt very much that those who put forth such an argument would want to live with that conclusion.

No, since the initial fears and the initial panics and the initial emergence and bubblings forth of the ignorance and bigotry, you have to come to realize that AIDS is not a "Gay Disease," but indeed a disease that

affects everybody. AIDS is not God's punishment, nor is it cellular rebellion, nor any of the other crazy and cockamamie ideas that progress in a degenerative way to slow, to stop the potential and the possibility of overcoming this problem.

Now people, at least many people, are knowing better—not all the people, mind you—but many people are knowing better. They're realizing that this is a concern that doesn't just affect those who are sexually active—homosexual or heterosexual—or who are drug-involved or who are hemophiliacs or otherwise drug-transfusion involved. More and more people are now realizing that this affects everybody in one way or another, and indeed, as we've suggested, the sooner everybody realizes AIDS is their disease, their creation, the sooner success will be a part of everyone's reality, also.

There are many who will never even come close to actually contracting this virus. The

system is gone, when the immune system has been destroyed—and that's exactly what this virus does, it destroys the immune system, and then moves on—what is happening to you? You are left defenseless. You have no defense against those outside influences. You have no defense against the world that surrounds you. You have no defense. You are defenseless.

The first message of AIDS is a message of defenselessness. It is a message that you are telling yourself. "I feel defenseless in my world." Indeed people, regardless of their sexual preferences, who feel defenseless make themselves very susceptible, very susceptible to an acquired immune deficiency syndrome, because of that very defenselessness. "I am totally helpless. I am totally defenseless. I have nothing in my world. Nothing will ever help. Nothing will ever do any good. There is no solution—there is no light at the end of the tunnel. Indeed there is not even a tunnel!"

They are destroying their means of taking

nothing from anybody. In fact, nobody's going to take care of me except me, and I'm going to do it through intimidation, through manipulation, through control, through domination—through whatever I have to do. I will defend myself, and you can tell me nothing. You can teach me nothing. You have nothing to offer me, and I don't want anything from you, either."

A defensive person that you try to reach out to, to point out where they might have problems, where things might be going wrong, where they might be misunderstanding or misinterpreting the reality, and who doesn't want to hear that, who doesn't want to see that. That person is totally defensive. They don't want to let that in at all.

When you try to talk to them of their childhood, or about their past, you hear, "No, no, no, that has nothing to do with it." They can take care of it. They don't need your advice. They don't need your help. They don't need anything. They are alone in the world, and they are going to stay that way. They are walled off in an icy exterior of defensiveness. Their immune system is similarly being given the message through this situation called AIDS.

You see, you try to learn in this physicality, and your Higher Self, whether you're in touch with it or not, tends to communicate with you to try to reach you, to try to touch you. It'll show you your defensiveness or your defenselessness first through your self-pity. But if you won't listen to those messages and, in fact, ignore those messages, and, in fact, use those messages to create a criterion for your existence, then we would suggest you present yourself in such a way as to hear the message more loudly, more loudly, more loudly, until finally the message is deafening, until finally the message kills you.

Defenselessness and defensiveness are the first two and perhaps the loudest whispers, the loudest deadly shouts, of AIDS that not only influence and affect those who actually have contracted it, but are messages to those who have to watch (either from a close space or from a far distance) the defenseless and the defensive degenerate, deteriorate and die. Hear the whispers. Hear the message. Change the reality.

A tape of this complete interview (with meditation) is available from Hay House, Inc. 501 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 602, Santa Monica, CA. 90401. An additional tape on AIDS, "Lazaris Talks about AIDS with Louise L. Hays' Group" is available from Concept: Synergy at the address below. Copywrite 1988 Concept: Synergy, reprinted by permission. For further information about Lazaris' tapes, books, and seminars in Atlanta, please call or write Concept: Synergy, 302 S. County Road, Suite 109, Palm Beach, FL. 33480. (407) 588-9599.



disease is still theirs. AIDS still has metaphysical messages and meanings for all of you, and for your entire world.

What are these messages? Primarily there are four of them. (Two this issue and two next time.)

### A Message: Defenselessness

First of all, what happens with this particular disease? What happens is that the immune system is deficient. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It very clearly puts forth exactly what happens: A person acquires an immune deficiency. A virus takes over the body in such a way as to systematically destroy the immune system.

Now, what does the immune system do? The immune system is the system in the body that defends you from what? Disease. Viruses. Bacterial influence. The immune system defends the body against the alien environment that surrounds you. When the immune

care of themselves. They are consciously trying to believe, and indeed are almost sometimes arrogantly and angrily trying to convince everybody around them, that there is no hope, that there is no defense for them, that they are a total victim of their world. They are totally floating free in the craziness of a world that surrounds them, bashed and battered about, at the whim of anything and everybody but themselves. People who have dedicated themselves to being victims, people who have dedicated themselves to convincing themselves and everyone around them that they are defenseless are also arguing for the limitation and may well create it through AIDS.

### A Message: Defensiveness

The second message of this particular monster is that of defensiveness. Such a person says to themselves: "I am not defenseless, no, no, no. I can take care of myself. In fact, I need no help from anybody. In fact, I need

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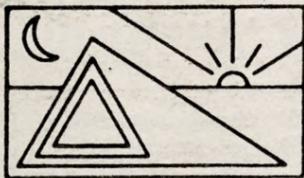
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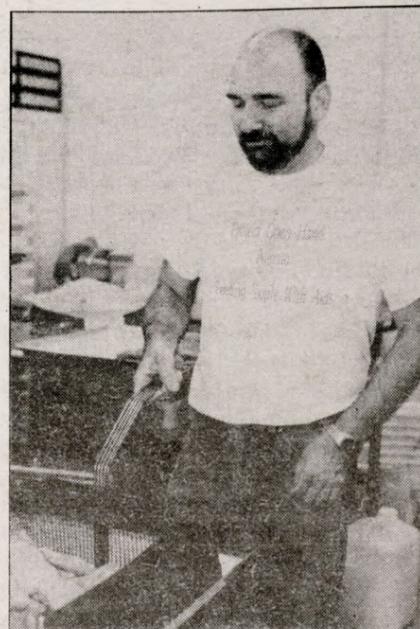
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**Open Hand Moves to Little Five Points**



Open Hand founder Michael Edwards grins as he exits a much-needed walk-in freezer. Volunteer Larry Miller fries fish for Open Hand's 170 clients.



EVETT BENNETT

Atlanta—Proving that Friday the 13th need not be an unlucky day, Project Open Hand/Atlanta moved into the vacant kitchen of Bass High School on April 13, 1990. Since its inception, Open Hand has operated out of the kitchen at Saint Bartholomews' Church on LaVista Road.

Open Hand/Atlanta is currently providing two meals a day, seven days a week to approximately 170 clients and projects a budget of \$297,719 in fiscal 1990.

Renovations to the new kitchen, located on Euclid Avenue in Little Five Points, were completed over a six week period by volunteers. Now that the move and renovation are complete, Open Hand will be able to do much needed food preparation at night, thus allowing individuals with weekday jobs to do volunteer work.

To find out more about Project Open Hand or to volunteer call, 525-4620.

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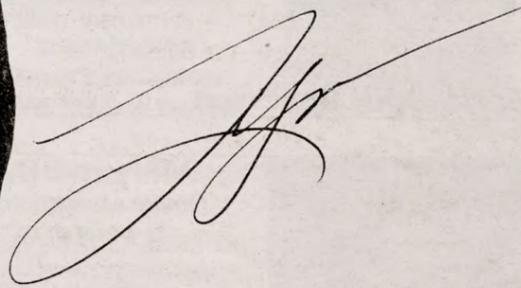
The next Experience is June 1, 2 and 3. For more information, or to attend a guest event, or to enroll in The Experience, call (404) 873-9616 today.

**Laura,**  
**For all you do this rose is for you.**



Your help, competence, support and understanding have made the last four months bearable.

The extras you give because you care fill my heart with gratitude.



In the battle against AIDS...

# Pragmatism = Compassion

by George Sinclair

In the 20th century, when psychologists refer to "the messiah complex" as a personality disorder, it's best not to get too loose with the labels. The two AIDS activists profiled last issue and the two in

this issue are not out to save the world, or even to convert anyone else to their way of thinking. In fact, one thing they have in common is their acceptance of all people, just as they are. With no strings

attached. Another common denominator: while each is committed in some way to addressing the issue of AIDS, each must also confront another set of obstacles in order to do so—that's the double whammy

of their activism.

These four are only a few of the thousands who give unstintingly of their talents and transcendence in the battle against AIDS.

## Dazon Dixon

About 30 miles south of Macon is a tiny dot on the map called Fort Valley, where Dazon Dixon was born. She attracted enough attention to take her pick of scholarships to Brown University or Spelman, a predominately black college for women. She chose Spelman, majored in English, ran across black women writers and felt she belonged with them. She also saw ads in *Creative Loafing* for evening counselors at the Feminist Women's Health Center, had seen their stickers around Spelman, and decided working there could be "a learning experience."

"And that's how I bumped myself into this area of the movement," she says. "Education is the catalyst for change; you become involved by learning about the issues."

A born organizer, Dazon was one of the originators of the Spelman Student



MARY VOGEL

### Dazon Dixon's Sisterlove educates women at risk about AIDS

Admissions Association, where she discovered the joy of pulling people together to work for a common cause. At 18, still a sophomore, she was already involved in an AIDS program with the Women's Feminist Health Project, but decided it wasn't moving fast enough because of lack of financial and political support.

"What I do best is working with, for,

and about women, and doing it in a different way. Whatever is almost in place, if it doesn't work, you try something different 'til it works. When it stops, you do something different again."

For now, "something different" is SISTERLOVE, a shoestring operation she founded for "education and participation for women at risk, networking with other women who are interested in women and AIDS—a community of women from all walks of life, around the issue of AIDS."

With only a tiny grant from the Fund for Southern Communities and office space provided by AID Atlanta, Dixon pays herself no salary, using every penny to build her sister-to-sister network. Making people feel good about modifying sexual behavior. Using "Do It Safe" parties, outreach, teaching self-help techniques. Originally conceived for women of color, SISTERLOVE has broadened to

include all women interested in the issue of AIDS, as well as women's education, health and rights.

A consultant on AIDS policy and education to the National Black Women's Health Project. An advisory board member on minority, women's and AIDS issues to the American Red Cross and the National Resource Center on Women and AIDS. And a board member of Atlanta's Project Open Hand, this proud African-American, feminist, AIDS activist sees SISTERLOVE as just one more opportunity to try something until it works.

"When that stops working, I'll move on to something different again," she says.

Observing the determined expression on the quiet face that people always believe to be far older than her actual years, you know she means it.

## The S.T.A.R.R. Team

Many whose work lives are centered in AIDS care and education are accustomed to explaining that it is not the HIV infection that kills, but the opportunistic diseases that take over when the virus has knocked out the immune system. But the men and women of S.T.A.R.R.—the Street Team for AIDS Risk Reduction—may justifiably view addiction as the initial "infection," and AIDS as the killer, the opportunistic disease.

Except for team coordinator Robert Mason, all the team members have been substance users themselves, and all are actively enrolled in recovery programs. Despite the warning generally given in 12-step recovery programs to stay away from substance users and the places they make contact, S.T.A.R.R. team members are so motivated to "give something back" that they willingly take to the streets.



MARY VOGEL

### The S.T.A.R.R. Team: ex-substance abusers taking the message about AIDS to their brothers and sisters.

Their knowledge of the language and customs of the drug subculture enables them to move about in high-risk drug-using communities, "throwing down"—delivering a serious health message—to a population that traditional approaches could never reach. They also operate in jails and treatment centers, and conduct education

workshops for the general public. The S.T.A.R.R. team's track record is such that they are now in demand to train teams in other parts of the country, and their reputation has brought observers from several European nations.

The team members are quick to clarify that theirs is not a missionary approach. Nor do they persuade or coerce anyone to seek help that is unwanted or premature. They are there to tell IV drug users and their sexual partners about how they are at risk of HIV infection. They also provide referrals to drug treatment.

The team dates from 1987, when the program was developed by the Georgia Department of Human Resources through the Division of Public Health, Office of Infectious Disease. Present team members are Sterling White, with the program since its inception; Judy Duffy, who also

joined the first year; Lee Jenkins; and Douglas Satkofsky, the newest addition, with the program for nearly two years. Except for one person who dropped out before completing his training, everyone chosen to be a team member is still an ex-substance user. Some former team members now work in other areas. Others, like Mason, now do street work rarely.

Because they respect all people, and accept them just as they are, and because they are ex-substance users who have changed their own lives, the S.T.A.R.R. team not only accomplishes its public health mission, but transcends it. Offering others hope that their lives, too, might be changed when they are ready to make that choice. That help alone may be reason enough for members of the community they serve to take precautions against HIV infection.

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Dykes to Watch Out For



Bittersweet

by Charles Haver

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OFFICER TIMMY HEADS AFTER HER WITH SIRENS BLARING. MARGO SPOTS HIM IN HER REAR-VIEW MIRROR AND STEPS ON THE ACCELERATOR!

THE TWO GO CAREENING DOWN THE HIGHWAY, ONE, AFTER THE OTHER...

IT LOOKS LIKE OFFICER TIMMY IS STARTING TO GAIN ON HER, BUT MARGO HAS A TRICK UP HER SLEEVE.

MARGO LIFTS OFF THE EARTH AT THE SPEED OF SOUND, LEAVING OFFICER TIMMY IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE!

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Miss Daisy's Real House

The Lullwater Road home that was Miss Daisy's in the Oscar winning movie and which was featured on the recent Druid Hills tour of homes was, of course, not where the real Miss Daisy lived. The owners of *that* house would prefer that we not make the location known to the world. But we can tell you that the present owner and his lover have been together in said house for almost as long as Hoke and Miss Daisy were.

Leather Lust

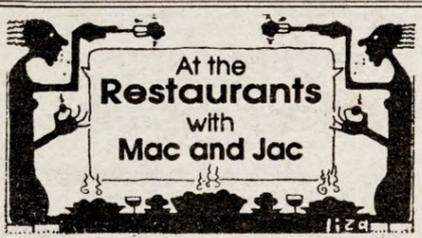
Pattie "MP" Breslin came by the office this week to share the information that she was awarded second runner up in the recent International Ms. Leather contest in San Francisco. Ms. Breslin is president of the Panther L/L (that's LL as in levi-leather, not as in Bean). Pattie is proud of her title 'cause it's the first time a woman from the East coast has placed in the competition. Dish inquired demurely, "Are you a top or a bottom?" Pattie replied, "You'll have to find for yourself." For info on the Panthers write PO Box 8118, Atlanta, GA 30306.



Photo courtesy WAGA-TV

So What's New?

A couple of weeks ago *The Star* told lesbians what they have known for years about Kristy McNichol. Now along comes that august rag, the *Globe* and the *National Inquirer*, with the latebreaking news that Richard Chamberlain is gay. Come on, guys. Any gay man of a certain age knows *that!* Has for years. (Dish even knows one man who treasures a piece of original sheet music from "Dr. Kildare" because of its picture of a practically prepubescent Chamberlain on the cover.) According to syndicated (gay) writer Rex Wockner, Chamberlain came out to a French women's mag, *Nous Deux*, saying, "I've had enough of pretending... And too bad for people who are upset by it." The actor's Hollywood publicists refused to return Wockner's faxes and calls. But WAGA-TV was happy to supply us with a picture even after we told them why we wanted it. Maybe that's because Chamberlain's latest "Island Son" is "on hiatus," according to WAGA's Laurie Boyer. And not likely to be back, we'd say, especially now!



Candlelight and Legs

M: I had decided to fly to New York or Rome, because I was in the mood for a great little Italian restaurant. However, since I only had \$15.00, J agreed to go with me to Nino's on Cheshire Bridge Road.

J: And I wore my new Liz Claiborne dress with

2" heels—oh well, instead of New York, I succumbed to going to this 26-year old restaurant for a romantic evening with M.

M: Nino's has low lights, Manhattan Italian decor, opera music in the background, and waiters who remember you if you go back more than twice. There I sat, peering at J's gorgeous slender legs under the table looking at her "F--- Me" pumps, and listening to the couple on my left fighting on the other side of the plants, and the couple on my right arguing about work.

J: Even though I don't especially like Caesar Salad, Nino's has a great one. And, lucky for me, M didn't share this one, because when you go out to eat with M, her idea of sharing is to eat hers and then, gobble up all of yours. Hmmm, this reminds me of one of our worst restaurant

2" heels—oh well, instead of New York, I succumbed to going to this 26-year old restaurant for a romantic evening with M.

M: But, this night I was behaving, and we were having a delightful time. The fighting couples also got quiet when we settled down to gossip. Have you ever noticed that straight couples like gay gossip?

J: Nino's serves typical Italian dishes—linguini, lasagne, fish, veal and spaghetti—that are so-so in the taste department. The wine list is also adequately Italian. On an upbeat note, however, is the dessert tray. I asked the waiter to mix three different pastries for me so that I could devour my own gooey concoction, and it was delicious! My dessert was an excellent accompaniment to M's piercing green eyes that make me melt every time I look into them.

M: Gee, I don't think the food is so-so. It's pret-

ty typical of casual Northern Italian restaurants. I am also a mussels freak (no J, not muscles), and Nino's mussels marinara is always excellent. And, if you're a chocoholic like me, the best chocolate, chocolate cake in town is at Nino's. Hey, J, I didn't know I had piercing green eyes.

J: Don't let M fool you. She also drools over dykes in tank tops with muscles. I oughta know. To wrap up, I'll continue to eat at Nino's, because it's authentic and conveniently located in Atlanta's gay and lesbian hub. Unfortunately, I haven't seen that many gay patrons. Try it, it's worth it.

M: And, it's a great intimate place to hang out. Nino's, 1931 Cheshire Bridge Road, 874-6505. Expect to spend \$25-\$35 for dinner for two without alcohol.

RULING PLANETS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOTH

by Mary Bailey-Rule

April 26 through May 9, 1990

Mercury is retrograde in Taurus until May 16th, so be sure your communications are clear and concise. Mail your bills a little early and check back on any messages you leave on answering machines. If possible, wait until Mercury goes direct on the 16th to sign any important papers or contracts. Get down to earth and be practical as well as more physical and sensual for a few

**ARIES** - Mercury is now retrograde in your 2nd house of material resources and personal values, so give careful thought to any investments or new purchases. Be sure it is something you really want.



**TAURUS** - Happy Birthday! It's your month to shine, so leave your responsibilities behind for awhile (they aren't going anywhere) and treat yourself to some fun, relaxation, and entertainment. Remember to be your own best friend.



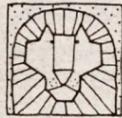
**GEMINI** - With Uranus and Neptune retrograde in your 8th house of self-mastery, transformation, and sexuality, you may want to evaluate the spiritual aspect of your life. No need to be judgmental, however.



**CANCER** - Mars has joined Venus in your 9th house of higher education and world travel, you may really need a change of scenery. If you aren't able to travel right now, at least get outside to enjoy the beauty of spring.



**LEO** - Jupiter is moving through your 12th house of visions, dreams and the unconscious, so your dreamtime may be more active. Take time each day to process this new material. It will increase your awareness and creativity.



**VIRGO** - The Sun and Mercury in Taurus trining (120) Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune in Capricorn forms a grand trine with your Sun placement. New creative energy, growth and expanded awareness. Avoid tendency to overwork.



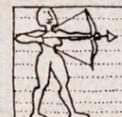
**LIBRA** - Jupiter is still activating your 10th house of career and vocation, while Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are retrograde in your 4th house of home and family. Balancing the two may be essential for the next few weeks.



**SCORPIO** - Venus and Mars in Pisces are trining Pluto and your Sun placement, providing extra energy for creative projects, passion and play. Be sure your work schedule allows for personal and play time.



**SAGITTARIUS** - With Mercury retrograde in your 6th house of work, responsibilities, and health, this is a good time to take care of yourself. Deal with stressful situations and be sure to eat well and get plenty of rest.



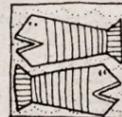
**CAPRICORN** - By May 4, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune will be retrograde in your 1st house, so expect to do some gear shifting. You may need to adjust your planning to include unexpected events. Avoid worry like the plague.



**AQUARIUS** - The Sun and Mercury (retrograde) are in your 4th house of home, family, and parents, so you may need to be more focused in these areas for a few weeks. A good time to communicate with distant family, or clean out your storage.



**PISCES** - Mars has joined Venus in your 1st house, so you now have access to more physical energy. Any variety of physical exercise is appropriate now. Also a good time for a physical check-up or more fresh foods in your diet.



Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in birth chart analysis, relationship charts, and astrological career counseling. Her office is at Partners in Health. For information or an appointment, call 881-6300

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 CAMPING: 5 day (Thu-Mon) \$160-170 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 day (Fri-Mon) \$140-150 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 day (Sat-Mon; limited passes) \$120-130 \_\_\_\_\_  
 9-16 yr. old women \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ 3-8 yr. old children \$30 \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like info on:  Disabled Resources  Childcare  Work Exchange  TOTAL ENCLOSED  
 I'd like to buy a Rhythm Fest T-shirt at the festival # \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
 All festival participants will need to sign a liability release form. No Refunds.

## BUSINESS CLIPS

### Flowers and More at Sassy Marue

In every new business, the people backing-up the owner make the winning difference. Sassy Marue owner Gregory Powell has a staff of talented artists, florists and a graphic artist standing behind his "high style" talent. His own experience in the floral business spans 10 years, but that was time spent working for someone else. "My talents now go towards my business and my clients," says Powell.

Diversification is evidence of the different influences behind Sassy Marue. Besides floral design and arrangement for parties (private and corporate) Powell and staff offer unique merchandise including specialty planters, paintings and furnishings. A new phase for the Marue crew is in conceptual refinishing: texturizing, marbling, glazing, and airbrushing your furnishings.

"Gay people appreciate our approach," states manager, Lisa Weir. "Our designs are fresh and dramatic and it's great to have clients who really appreciate what we like to do."

1101 Euclid Avenue in Little Five Points. 688-7612



EVETT BENNETT

The floral family of Sassy Marue - left to right: Cylinda, owner Gregory Powell, Bobby, and manager Lisa Weir.

### Just Imagine...



EVETT BENNETT

Susan Stokes and Brenda Hicks of Imagination Station Silkscreening and Printing, 991-3111.

Brenda Hicks and Susan Stokes once worked for a large corporation. When the women of this corporation filed and won a class action suit for discrimination, Brenda and Susan decided to strike out on their own. After much consideration they opened a printing business. One night Brenda woke up after dreaming about this new business venture and she wrote down the name in her dream—Imagination Station.

That was more than six years ago. Today Brenda and Susan run a successful business specializing in promotional T-shirts, mugs, banners, buttons, and typesetting. They are known for their imaginative and creative logos, as well as friendly, professional service.

Susan feels that working together and living together presents a challenge, but she also finds that communication as a couple has improved. Brenda agrees, stating, "we rarely argue." Brenda and Susan especially enjoy their work with the gay and lesbian community. They have produced invitations for a lesbian wedding and look forward to doing more gay weddings. Brenda and Susan live with their twin teenage boys (age 16) and three dogs.

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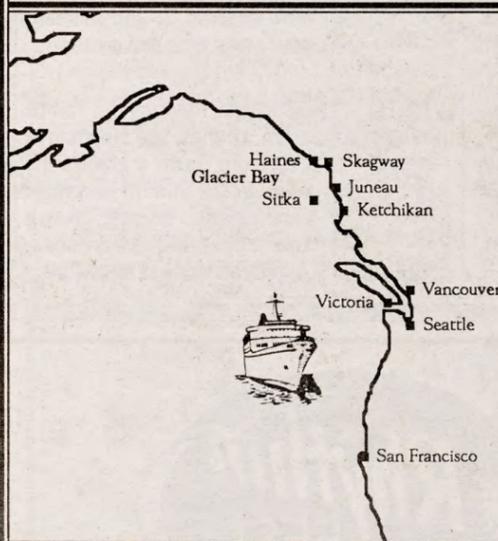
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**\* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION**

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

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

The First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta now has an AIDS support group, not limited to just PWA's. Anyone who has tested positive to the HIV test, has been diagnosed as having AIDS or ARC, their families, friends and anyone else concerned about the disease is invited to attend. Meetings held at the Church, 800 N. Highland Ave. Every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Church office. This group is open to anyone who wishes to attend. For more information, call the Church office at 872-2246.

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

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

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

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

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

**\* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION**

SPEAK OUT!, a new creative writing publication, sponsored by AID Atlanta, comprised of poetry and short prose written by PLWA's and people who are HIV+, requests submissions. Deadline is June 11, 1990. For info, call Lee at 872-0533.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Community Meeting regarding Greg Scroggins. LSP Community Center, 1083 Austin Ave., corner of Austin and Euclid. Thursday May 3rd @ 7:30 pm.

Jerusalem House Needs - financial support, FAX machine, yard equipment (including mower), typewriters, telephone recorder, boxes of hospital gloves, donated furniture pickup, Volunteers - practical support (assist clients in personal care needs ie: hygiene, meals, housecleaning) Contact Denny Davis, 527-7627 (V3,#7)

80,000 die from AIDS in the U.S. in 10 years, over 70,000 Salvadorans died in the same period from U.S.-sponsored war in El Salvador. Salvadoran troops - trained in Georgia at the School of the Americas, Ft. Benning - are responsible for massacres like the killing of the 6 Jesuit priests. Join the Atlanta Committee on Latin America, ACT UP, and others in a demonstration to shut down the School of the Americas on Saturday, April 28. Buses leave Atlanta at 9 am from the Candler Park MARTA Station. For more information call 621-5073. (V3,#5)

Help! The People Project is in need of clothing space for PWA's. This program can expand no further without your help. Call Ron at 371-0819

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

Needed - Space for 15-20 people, HIV+, to exercise 3-4 times a week. Prefer large open area, free of clutter, carpeted in the early pm hours (5-7pm). Contact Michael 892-1249 with any ideas you may have. (V3,#5)

Pissed Off with Dick Williams' homophobia? Call 286-6247.

DEALING WITH DEATH. Call for entries - exhibition with the theme: expressions of mourning for friends lost to AIDS. Open to Georgia residents only. Application deadline: May 30th. \$15 entry fee. Show opening June 22nd; space donated by New Visions Gallery. For information and guidelines, contact Ann Spivey-Bruce at (404) 876-8212 or Karen Chance at (404) 525-5882.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Women in Recovery - Non-smoking AA support group for women. Meets every Wed. at 8:00pm & Sun. at 7:30 pm. North Cobb County. For more info call Diane 974-0468 or 974-4907. (V3,#5)

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

Call for Artists - Artists invited to submit applications for possible solo exhibitions and special installation projects in Nexus Gallery at Nexus Contemporary Art Center. The primary interest of Nexus is on new and experimental art work. For information call Nexus Gallery at (404) 688-2500.

Exhibition Opportunity - Artists creating multiples in ANY MEDIUM are invited to submit applications for inclusion in "Multiples," a group exhibition to be held at Nexus Contemporary Art Center Gallery in September/October 1990. The only restriction on artwork is that it already exist or can be reproduced in quantities of more than one. Gallery Directors are seeking work that intends to circumvent the art marketplace's insistence on art as a unique and precious object. Deadline June 15, 1990. More info: (404) 688-2500.

ARE YOU A LESBIAN OR GAY DOC? The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights (AAPHR) is an organization you might want to know more about. Contact us at (415) 255-4547 or 2940 16th St. #105, S.F., CA 94103.

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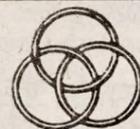
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The neighborhood Playhouse (430 W. Trinity Pl., Decatur, 373-3904) will hold auditions for the Southeastern Premiere of the Harry Chapin musical, "Lies & Legends," May 20 & 21 at 7:30pm. Direction by Ray Miller. Casting for: 3 men, 2 women; Ages 18-40. Prepare one ballad & one tempo song. Be prepared to move. No appointment necessary. (V3,#6)



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

# CLASSIFIEDS

## EMPLOYMENT

Needed - Experienced Silk Screen Printer - full time - salary + benefits. Call Susan or Brenda at Imagination Station 991-3111. (V3,#6)

COOD NEEDED - to prepare lunches for 10 people. Three weekends in May for the Alchemical Hypnotherapy Training. Good part-time income. Share good vibes. Potential for longer term employment. Call now to apply. Debbie Unterman 289-2343. (V3,#5)

Counter Service and sandwich prep 20-25 hours per week. Above average wage. Call Hubert 875-5150. (V3,#5)

## Southern Voice has several positions open.

- Data Entry - 2-3 hours every other Tuesday or Thursday. (Volunteer)
- Free Lance Writers - Especially those interested in news and features. (Volunteer or small fee paid.)

Call Gary Kaupman 876-0789

## FOR RENT

Emory / Druid Hills Area - Lg. 1 bedroom apt for individual, in quiet older home. Kitchen, LR, DR combo, FP, ceiling fan, W.D. connection, patio. Upstairs lg. bedroom, FP, dressing room, bath, closets, white blinds throughout. Utilities included. \$550 + 1 month deposit. 377-1826. (V3,#5)

Midtown-Renovated 2BR/2BA on Myrtle at 9th. Heart Pine floors, 2 Fireplaces, W/D, CHA, high ceilings, marble foyer, many extras. \$695 mo. 872-2788 or 876-4898. (V3,#5)

Midtown- Two 1BR apartments on Myrtle at 9th. W/D fireplace, CHA, \$550 mo. 872-2788 or 876-4898 (V3,#5)

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## PERSONALS

LET US HOST YOUR PARTY! Great entertainment comes with your reservations for benefits, social activities and organizational meetings. Jerry Farber's, 54 Pharr Road, 874-8602.

Longing for the '70s Again? So were we. And our prices reflect it! 50¢ washers and 50¢ dryers EVERY DAY at Claire's Clean Clothes, 1830-E Piedmont Ave. (at Rock Springs), 875-4108.

Balloon Fetish I'm one of six guys in different parts of the country who share a common fetish for toy rubber balloons. I'm hoping to contact others who share or are interesting in my uncommon fetish. Boxholder, P.O. Box 669531, Charlotte, NC 28266 (V3,#6)

Are you a physically handicapped person? Would you like to meet others like you? I will be visiting Atlanta in May. Please write me so we can meet. Daniel, PO Box 1448, Falls Church, VA 22041. (V3,#5)

Attractive SWL writer, 27. Rarely svelte, only occasionally gorgeous, but usually charming! New to area. I.S.O. friends 22-82 w/whom to discover Atlanta's culture, from high to low, culinary to political. I've found the high, the Afro-Am museum & the amazing farmers market. What's next?! TES. SV Box 2298 (V3,#4)

GWF - 19 - I enjoy movies, concert and folk music. Seeks GWFs young or young at heart for friendship, possible relationship. Send phone/note to: Mel, 45 Little John Trail, Hampton, GA 30228.

Saved Up Some Big Loads? Come and dump them on us. We'll be glad to wash, dry and fold those sheets, towels and clothing for 50¢ per pound. Washable comforters, spread and blankets \$4.50 each. Claire's Clean Clothes, 1830-E Piedmont Ave. (at Rock Springs), 875-4108.

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## PERSONALS

GWF - 29, very pretty full figured redhead, 5'8", feminine. I'm intelligent, outgoing, drug-free, non-smoker. Seeks emotionally/financially stable GWF (prefer butch) ages 25-42 for sincere friendship, possible long term relationship. P.O. Box 12278, Atlanta, GA 30355 (V3,#5)

Evett - Happy 1st SoVo anniversary! You have shot demonstrators, drag queens, dinners, people with opinions, publishers, a princess, government in action, garbage, a game show contestant, carpenters, candidates, Charis, soccer, sodomites in action, lesbian moms, legislators, lobbyists, bars, books, boxer shorts, t-shirts, t-dancers, tax victims, recyclers; realtors, restaurants, and more! There will be a wild bran muffin and coffee celebration at the QPA House. Congratulations and keep shooting, from your fellow Queer Peers of America. We love you! The staff of Southern Voice.

Gay Introductions, Free. Call 491-6909.

GAY SELECTIONS -- Meet other gay men and women in the Atlanta area and share your lifestyle and interests. Simply leave your own message describing yourself or listen to messages left by others. 1-900-860-4747 Only \$2.00 first min., \$1.00 each add'l minute.

## PERSONAL GROWTH

Numerology Seminar - Discover the hidden meanings in your name and birthdate through the power of numerology. Sat. April 21, 1990. 10:00am-5:00pm. \$45.00 honoraria. (404) 874-9352 limited seating, so please reserve early. Taught by Michael Ferniary.

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Life Changes is a class designed to put many puzzle pieces together to produce the real changes you want in your life. Class Focuses: dreams, other lives, psychic readings, tarot, healing, more... \$10 per class or \$50 total Annette Mason, M.Ed 874-3287

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## SPORTS

Ultimate Frisbee for Women. Sundays, 4 PM, Bass Field in Little Five Points. Players of all levels.

Basketball Team & League forming for gay men and lesbians for metro Atlanta. Call for more information 875-0700. Gay Games.

TENNIS LESSONS - Certified instructor seeks players of all levels for individual and group lessons, advanced hitting sessions, ALTA/USTA coaching. Patient and encouraging with beginners. Call Tony 873-3776. (V3,#2)

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## VOLUNTEERS

Exercise instructors needed as volunteers on a regular/part-time basis for local AIDS related organizations. Help promote wellness to HIV+ individuals in a group setting through exercise in various forms. We welcome instructors / massage therapists / physical therapists / coaches of various sports / chiropractors, etc. Contact Michael at 892-1249 anytime. (V3,#5)

Does Dick Williams piss you off? ACT UP/Atlanta is organizing an action to ZAP Dick and stop his homophobic ranting. If you would like to help us in this effort, call 286-6247.

SAME Wants You! - Volunteer meeting/Brunch first Saturdays, 10 am - 12, at the office, corner of Euclid and Austin. For more information call 584-2104. (V3,#7)

Atlanta Gay Center is looking for people to help with an HIV/AIDS Library due to our successful STD clinic. Call Joe at the Atlanta Gay Center. 876-5372 or Ron at 371-0819.

Literacy Volunteers Needed Make a difference - teach someone to read. Find out how you can become a literacy volunteer with the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library. Call 730-1963.

Needed: Jerusalem House, a residence for people who have AIDS, is developing a team of volunteers to provide personal care on a weekly and on-call basis. If interested, please call Dennis Davis at 527-7627 between 9am and 5pm.

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

SOUTHERN VOICE CIRCULATION. Join us distributing Southern Voice as a volunteer. We have single copy box and route distribution where your involvement can help us reach the Atlanta lesbian and gay community. It's fun; it's fulfilling, and you get to read the paper first! For info call Jana Tyson at 876-1831.

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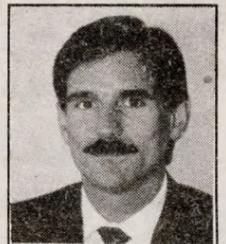
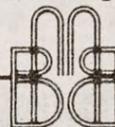
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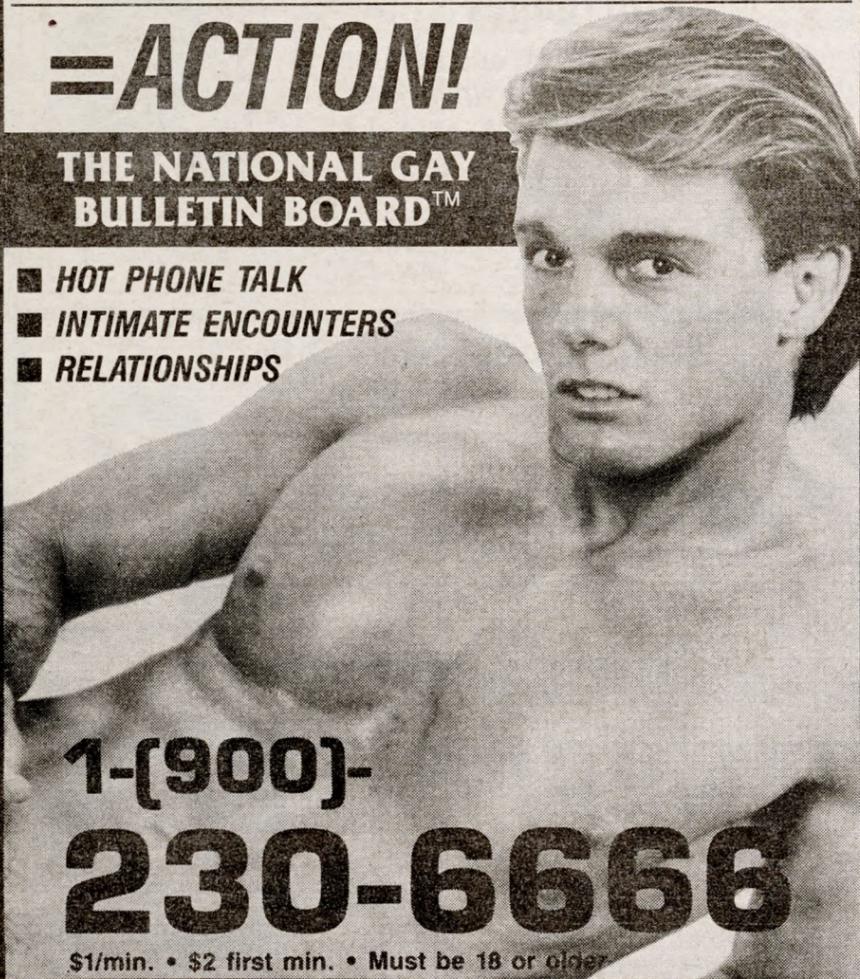
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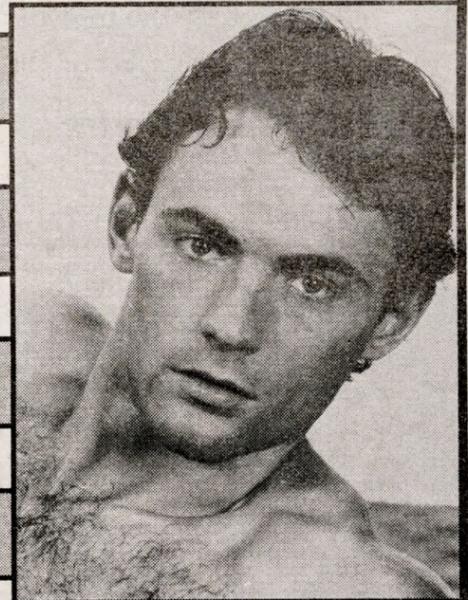
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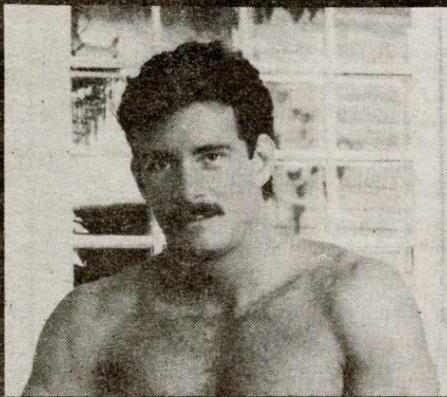
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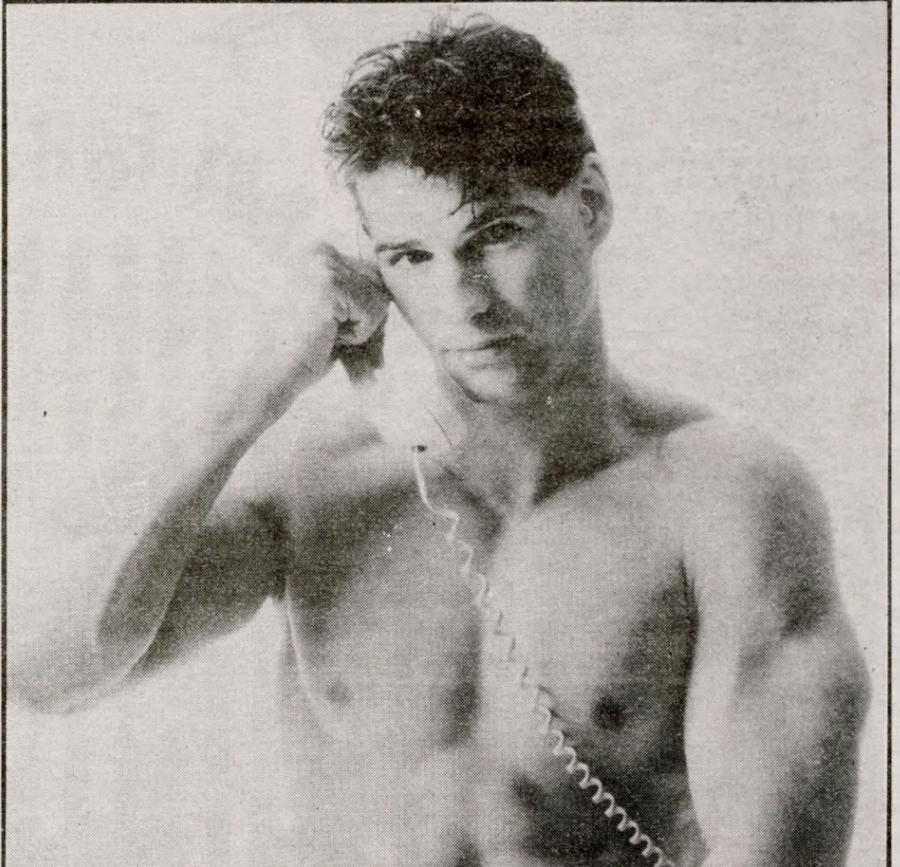
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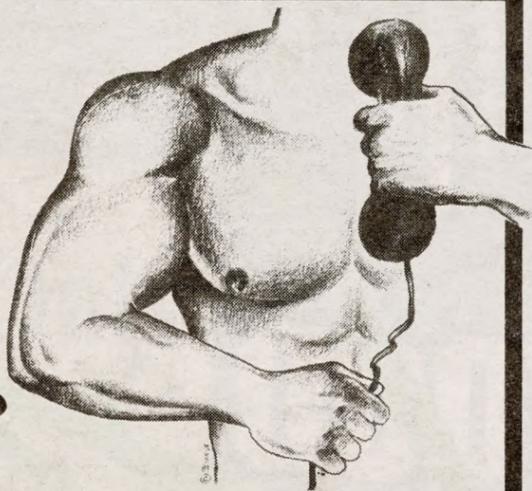
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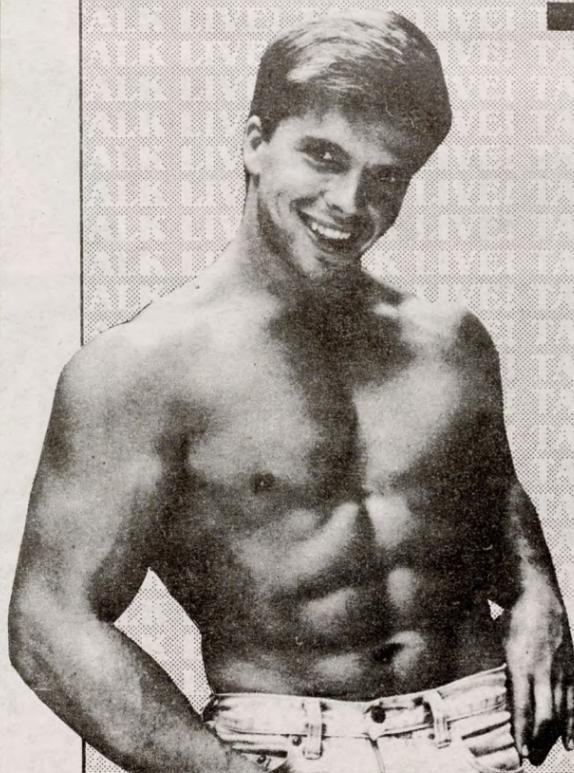
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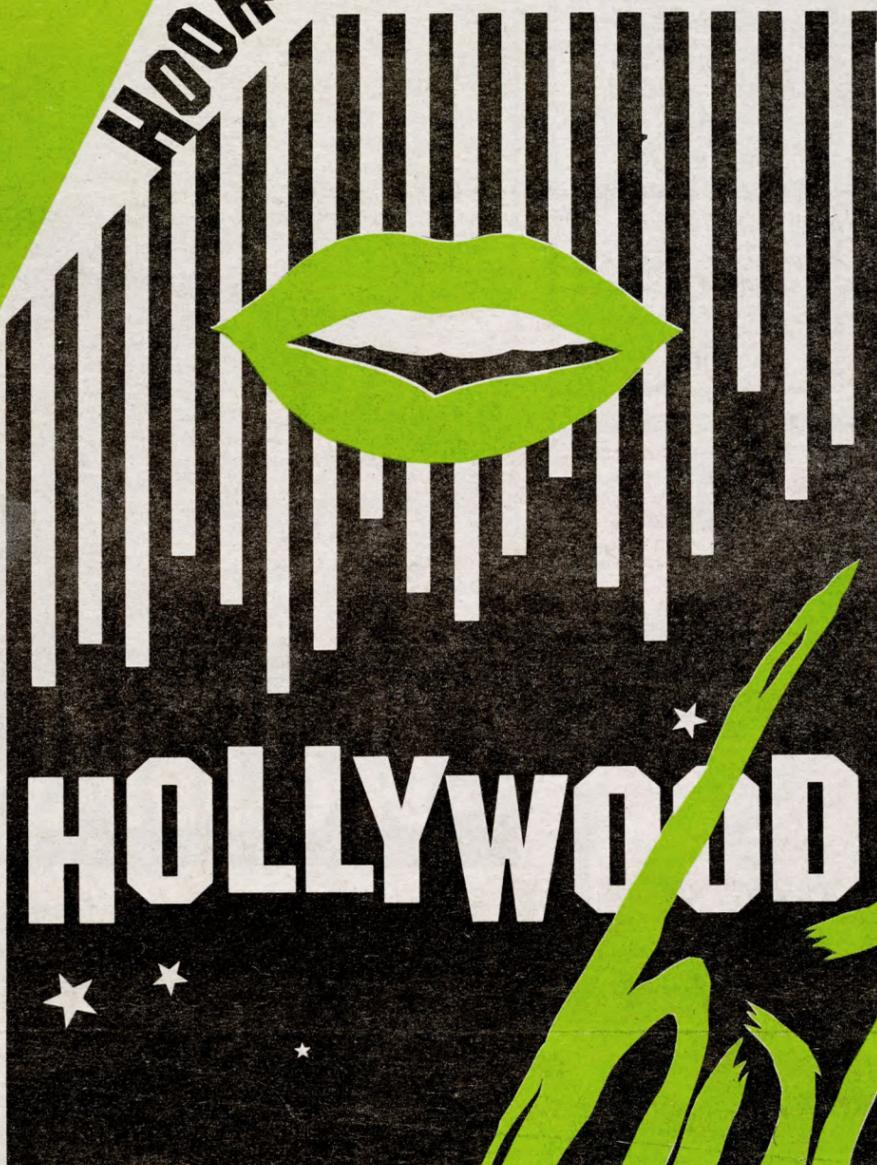
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