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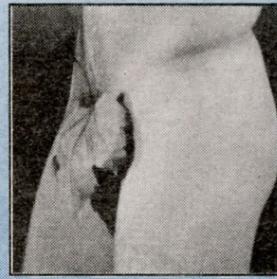
Ethan Green brings his social life to *Southern Voice*.

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Cloud 9 is satire, sex-play and heart all rolled into one.

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NEA Refusal to fund four artists draws fire from arts/gay activists

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SOUTHERN

VOICE

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July 19, 1990

LOVE MAKES A FAMILY



M. J. MURPHY

Sharon Kowalski's and Karen Thompson's struggle to gain control of their lives nears a milestone. Meanwhile Georgia's new durable power of attorney law and a promise of action on domestic partnership legislation from Mayor Jackson make that struggle a little easier here at home.

Police Advisory Committee Announces Metro Area Hate Crimes Line

Atlanta—Spurred by increasing reports of violence and poor documentation of the facts surrounding it, the Lesbian/Gay Police Advisory Board (L/GPAB)—a project of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU of Georgia—has announced the establishment of a "hate crimes" documentation phone line. Funding for the line is being provided by *Southern Voice*.

On the eve of the line's introduction, *The New York Times* reported research that shows gays and lesbians in America "face a hatred more intense, open and intractable than that felt by any other minority group."

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's 1989 report on violence, victimization and defamation showed slightly more than 7000 reported incidents during the year. NGLTF received reports of only 22 crimes from Georgia during that period.

"The need to increase our ability to document these incidents has become increasingly evident given the high number of homicides we have been able to record over the past year or so," says Cathy Woolard, chairperson of the L/GPAB.

Individuals who have been victims of

anti-gay or lesbian harassment/violence will be able to leave a voice mail report of the incident on the line and will be called by a volunteer from the Police Advisory Board to complete the report.

Woolard requested that community members use the 286-BIAS number to report any incident, no matter how insignificant it may seem at the time. "If a car full of kids hollers 'fag' at you while you're walking down the street, get a description of the car and a license number if possible and then call," she said. "While the incident may seem minor, when combined with other reports it may be helpful in establishing patterns and even making arrests."

According to *The New York Times* article, reducing anti-gay bias will probably be a long and arduous process. "[Attackers] see homosexuality as a sign that society is disintegrating and as an offence to their sense of morality," said Bob Altemeyer, a psychologist at the University of Manitoba. "Their self-righteousness makes them feel they are acting morally when they attack...It overcomes the normal inhibitions against aggression."

Research reported in the *Times* article shows that while AIDS hasn't helped matters, Altemeyer and others feel that it is "a convenient hook on which [attackers] can hang their prejudice."

Reports to the bias line can be made anonymously and the names of all persons reporting will be kept confidential. Incidents reported to the line will provide data for yearly reports to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's annual report on Anti-Gay Violence, for the National Hate Crimes Hotline, and for statistical monitoring of the level and location of hate violence against lesbians and gay men in the Atlanta area.

"The first call anyone who has been the victim of violence should make is to 911," emphasizes Woolard. "Always contact the police immediately so that investigations can begin and any needed emergency assistance can be rendered as soon as possible. Then call the bias hotline to follow up. If there have been any problems with the police, report that also."

"As a community, we must be aggressive about letting the appropriate authorities know about violent and defaming attacks and insist on thorough investigation of such incidents," she concludes. "By reporting the incidents to the ACLU's documentation line, our community will be able to have in-depth knowledge of the situation and can be a greater resource for law enforcement and

**REPORT HATE
CRIMES**
**Call
286-BIAS**

government officials."

Documentation of acts of defamation and violence will also be a useful tool in getting state-wide and local hate-crimes laws enacted.

The hotline number is 286-BIAS. You may call the number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be prepared to leave a number where you can be contacted. If you reported the incident to the police, try to have the incident report number available. You will be asked for your name and address plus details about the incident and police response to your report (if appropriate). You do not have to give any information that you do not wish to give, including your name. But, the more information you can give, the more useful it is for future use.

A.D.A. Clears House and Senate

Hatch the hero as he undoes Chapman/Helms logjam

Washington D.C.—After two years of wending its way through Congress, the Americans with Disabilities has cleared both the House and the Senate and is on its way to President Bush who has supported the legislation and said he will sign it.



Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC)

"Passage of the A.D.A is an historic landmark," said Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). "It marks the first time in the history of the AIDS epidemic that the federal government has moved to decisively protect people with aids and HIV disease from irrational discrimination."

The biggest hurdle in the bill's progress was cleared last Wednesday when Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) introduced a substitute for the Chapman amendment—which would have allowed businesses to move HIV positive foodhandlers out of their jobs in the guise of "protecting the nation's food supply."

Hatch's amendment offered wording that would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a list of diseases that can be transmitted through food. HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan is on record stating the HIV cannot be transmitted through food.

But the compromise language did not clear the Senate without a fight—from Sen. Jesse Helms. But when the Hatch amendment did come to a vote, Helms' attempt to derail it was defeated (61-39). Sen. Sam Nunn, who had previously supported the Chapman language, switched sides and voted with the majority. Sen. Wyche Fowler sided with Helms. The final vote on approval was 90-6, Fowler and Nunn in the majority and Helms still opposed.

Just before the recess, the powerful National Restaurant Association (NRA) had taken up the mantle of seeing that the legislation was either killed or passed with the offending language intact.

Hoping to counter the NRA's campaign, HRCF sent word of the problem out to lesbian/gay pride celebrations around the country and response flooded in.

"This is the first time that AIDS lobbyists have had to go head to head with the far right and an organized business lobbyist," said HRCF's Gregory King. HRCF's efforts resulted in more than 10,000 mailgrams sent to members of Congress after they returned from the break.

Falwell Blasts HRCF In Helms Letter

Gay group counters—Rev.'s info and attitude are out-of-date

by Cliff O'Neill

Rev. Jerry Falwell has targeted a gay and lesbian political group by name in a recent fundraising letter for the reelection campaign of Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.).

Asking for \$45,000 in support of the homophobic senator's bid for his third term, the founder of the now-defunct Moral Majority lashes out at the traditional targets of the right wing: the National Endowment for the Arts; the American Civil Liberties Union; the National Abortion Rights Action

Mass. Law Escapes Ballot Challenge

Court says that religious group can't request recall

Boston—The state supreme court has ruled that the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Law will not be subject to referendum on the November, 1990 ballot. The court ruled that the law is ineligible for the referendum process because of an amendment to the law which exempts religious organizations. Attorney General Jim Shannon had ruled similarly last December; his ruling was challenged, brought before the Supreme Court, and upheld July 5 by a 5-2 vote of the court.

After a seventeen year struggle for passage, the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill was signed into law by Governor Michael Dukakis on November 15, 1989. It is the second statewide gay/lesbian civil rights bill in the country; Wisconsin enacted the first such law in the mid-80s.

The day after the bill was signed, a group called "Citizens for Family First" began a campaign to repeal the law. CFF gathered over 60,000 signatures, partly through disseminating misinformation about the nature of the law and about gay people in general. The court's ruling effectively ended their campaign.

League; and the National Organization for Women. But leading Falwell's list of sinister organizations is the Human Rights Campaign Fund, "the political committee of the homosexual activists."

The Campaign Fund, according to Falwell, "has more than \$1 million in their liberal war chest" and has "declared that 'We need to...see that the word 'former' comes in front of Jesse Helms' name after November 6.'"

Calling Falwell's facts "significantly out of date," Gregory King, the group's communications director, pointed out that this year, HRCF's budget will come to over \$3 million.

"And contrary to Reverend Falwell's misperception," King added, "we are not a liberal organization, we are a mainstream American organization. We support liberals

"Knowing that the Massachusetts Gay Civil Rights Law is secure will be a tremendous boost for the national gay rights movement," says David LaFontaine of the Massachusetts Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. "The permanence of the law in this state will provide energy and inspiration to activists in over a dozen states around the nation who are at crossroads in their own struggles to pass civil rights legislation."

Although Massachusetts gay activists are relieved to be spared the great expense of a ballot question, many were confident that the voters would have voiced strong support for gay rights. A poll taken just after the bill was signed last fall showed 70 percent of Massachusetts voters supported the new law, with only 21 percent were opposed. Activists had orchestrated a high-visibility campaign to win passage of the bill. Their outreach included mainstream media as well as a number of large rallies and demonstrations designed to bring the issue of gay rights to literally millions of people in Massachusetts.

"The gay rights movement and the perception of gay people in this state have changed because of the battles which have raged over the last few years," says Andrew Held, a lobbyist for the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. "We have established a permanent, intensely visible presence in Massachusetts politics. The power we have brought out into the open cannot be rolled back in this or any year."

and conservatives who support equal rights for all Americans."

Describing Helms as a "friend who is very dear to my heart," Falwell praises the North Carolina Republican for his opposition to abortion and "taxpayers' money" being used to fund controversial and homosexual art.

"It's no coincidence that as we have turned away from the faith of our fathers, our society has been overrun with the pain of crime, drugs and pornography, AIDS, homosexuals demanding the right to marry," Falwell goes on.

"I think it says something about Jesse Helms that he has to rely on someone like Jerry Falwell to help him raise money," commented King. "But make no mistake, this appeal can be very successful in opening the floodgates of funds for Helms."

N.E.A. WITHHOLDS GRANTS FROM GAY/LESBIAN ARTISTS

Gay and arts activists reply with outrage, urge readers to write Congress and send mailgrams by calling 1-900-226-ARTS

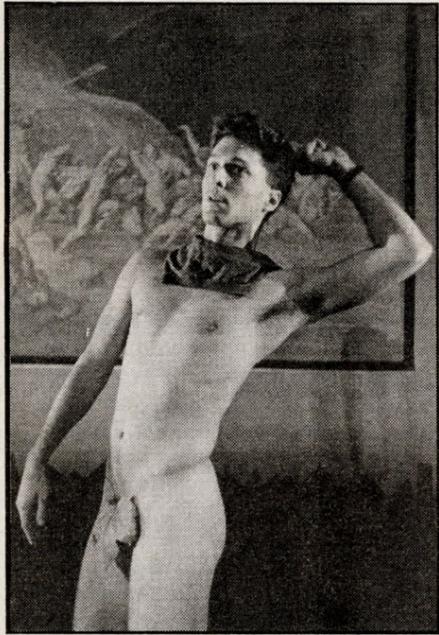
by Gary Kaupman

Washington, D.C.—Gay and lesbian activists have spent the past several months celebrating a set of hard-won victories over the regressive politics of Jessie Helms—first the passage of Hate Crimes Statistics Act, then AIDS CARE and now the Americans with Disabilities Act. At the same time, artists have been holding their collective breaths wondering when the Helms rain would fall on their parade.

They didn't have to wait long. On June 29, John Fronhmayer, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, announced that his agency would fund only 14 of the 18 grants recommended by its Solo Performance Fellowship Panel in February.

Apparently acting in compliance with language tacked onto the NEA's 1990 appropriation by Helms last June, Fronhmayer declined to award grants to Tim Miller and John Fleck (both of whom are gay), Holly Hughes (a lesbian) and Karen Finley (a feminist known for performances which aggressively challenge the patriarchy).

The Helms addition reads: "...none of the funds authorized to be appropriated for the National Endowment for the Arts or the



Tim Miller

National Endowment for the Humanities may be used to promote, disseminate, or produce materials which in the judgment of the NEA or the NEH may be sado-masochism, homoeroticism, the sexual exploitation of children, or individuals engaged in sex acts and which, when taken as a whole, do not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value."

The restrictive language was attached to a one year appropriations bill which is set to expire with the end of the 1990 fiscal year. Congress will take up the fate of reauthorization for the NEA sometime later this month. Any restrictive language adopted on the reauthorization will be in effect for a period of five years.

At the time the language was added to the appropriation there was much discussion about its potential withering effect on freedom of expression. But reportedly Fronhmayer, in private, issued assurances that the NEA would not be held hostage by the political machinations of the far right.

That certainly appeared to be the case when, in February, three openly lesbian writers—Minnie Bruce Pratt, Chrystos, and Audre Lorde were awarded NEA grants. All

three have produced works that have specific homoerotic content. (See pages 6 & 7 for a letter from these artists on this issue.)

At about the same time those grants were being awarded, seven panelists for the Solo Performance Fellowships met to determine which of the approximately 90 applicants for those awards would be funded by the NEA. Panel member Vince Anthony, Executive Director of Atlanta's Center for Puppetry Arts, says he specifically asked Fronhmayer if the panel's deliberations should take the Helms language into account.

Anthony remembers that Fronhmayer's answer was unequivocal: nothing has changed, "deal with artistic merit only."

Based on that assurance the panel sent 18 names—including Finley, Fleck, Miller and Hughes—to Fronhmayer. "Of the 90, we chose the best," says Anthony, "...artists with tremendous voices."

In March the panel was asked to take a second look at three of its choices—maintaining confidentiality in their deliberation process, panel members will not disclose which three. The panel unanimously reaffirmed their recommendations, according to Phillip Arnoult, its chairperson.

On June 29 Fronhmayer contacted Arnoult and told him that he was going to issue a press release which said that 14 fellowships would be awarded. Arnoult says Fronhmayer told him that the decision not to recommend the fellowships for Finley, Miller, Fleck and Hughes "was based on a telephone poll of the National Council [of the Arts]."

"...I believe that terrible damage has already been done to these artists, and to the Endowment..." said Arnoult in a press release fired off within hours of his conversation with Fronhmayer.

On July 5, the American Civil Liberties Union Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force joined the fray by requesting a meeting with NEA Chair Fronhmayer. The NEA's chief counsel agreed to schedule a confab with the group, but the Chairman was said to be "busy"

Continued on Page 19



Karen Finley

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PARTNERS IN LAW

The issue of equal rights for unmarried domestic partners is fast coming to a boil. Will Atlanta make the move?

by Joe Carder and Debbie Fraker

Atlanta stands on the brink of an exciting challenge—the enactment of legislation that prohibits discrimination against individuals based on their marital status. And, as is frequently the case in other areas of social growth, gay men and lesbians are likely to be on the leading edge of the movement that will produce these important changes.

During the recent campaign, Mayor Maynard Jackson promised the gay community that he would look at the feasibility of extending the city's nondiscrimination policy to include marital status. Such legislation would certainly affect gay and lesbian couples, but non-gay domestic partners would also be among the benefactors.

In fact, domestic partnership legislation is frequently written so that equal rights are extended to folks who live together but are not necessarily lovers. That's a pretty exciting definition of family in our book.

Such domestic partnership legislation has been implemented or is being considered by such cities as Los Angeles, California, Tacoma Park, Maryland and Seattle, Washington to name but a few. Many businesses and social service organizations have also implemented policies of refusal to discriminate on the basis of marital status.

The question of benefits and spousal privilege is an important one for couples—same sex or opposite gender—who live in a domestic relationship. As early as 1921, the California Supreme Court determined that the institution of family has no locked parameters, going so far as to say that a family may include a "particular group of people related by blood or marriage, or not related at all who are living together in intimate and mutual interdependence of a single home or household."

While this is certainly not a ringing endorsement of same sex relationships, it clearly is an acknowledgement that "fami-



EVETT BENNETT

George Rogan and Jay Neely have been partners for thirteen years

ly" is more than a concept based on the traditional union of marriage as sanctioned by church and state—an option not available to same sex couples in America.

Last year the New York Supreme Court supported and broadened this definition of family. Judge Vito Titone ruled that "family should not rest on fictitious legal demands for genetic history, but instead should find its foundation in the reality of family life."

As a result of the court's action, Miguel Braschi was able to inherit the rent-controlled apartment he had shared with his male lover for several years. In other cities, too, this new definition of family—based on function and commitment instead of tra-

ditional structure—is being applied to the varied needs of a whole range of family units.

Some questions. Just how committed are you to your relationship with your live-in love? Do you hope to spend the rest of your lives together? Do you share living expenses and an exclusive relationship? Would you sign an affidavit stating your mutual commitment to each other?

If you answered these questions in the affirmative and if you were an employee of the city of Berkeley, California you would be able to receive health benefits for your beloved without need of marriage. Berkeley, the first U.S. city to enact a poli-



Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, co-founders of the Daughters of Bilitis, have been domestic partners for 37 years. They have recently registered with the Human Rights Campaign Fund's National Family Registry.

cy of this nature, began the trend toward this type of non-discrimination policy in 1985.

The legal definition of a domestic partnership, in Berkeley and most of the cities that have enacted such ordinances, includes shared economic responsibilities and shared residences, exclusivity of relationship, lack of blood relationship between the partners, and willingness of the partners to sign an affidavit saying that they fit these qualifications.

Such domestic partnerships can be terminated by signing another affidavit to that effect.

Health benefits for domestic partners of city employees are currently offered in Berkeley, West Hollywood, and Santa Cruz, all in California. Sick and/or bereavement leave for city employees are offered to unmarried domestic partners in: Tacoma; Seattle; Los Angeles; Madison; Washington, DC; and New York City.

Berkeley's ordinance goes the extra mile by specifically including homosexual as well as heterosexual couples in its definition of domestic partners.

San Francisco passed a similar ordinance that outlawed discrimination based on marital status in 1989, but the ordinance was rescinded by a referendum vote. In June of this year, however, the San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy presented its report recommending bereavement leave and health care benefits for unmarried domestic partners in order to "create a more supportive work environment for all workers, and reduce on-the-job stress, as well as job turnover, tardiness,

and absenteeism."

Similar legislation or expansion of existing policy is being considered by city councils in Boulder, Colorado; Ithaca, New York; Los Angeles; and Washington, DC.

In Seattle last year, the Washington American Automobile Association was forced to grant associate membership to a gay man's domestic partner rather than discriminate on the basis of marital status. Existing domestic partnership legislation was the basis for the action.

So far private business has been ahead of government on this issue. The *Village Voice* began offering domestic partner benefits in 1982. If you worked for the ACLU in San Francisco or the American Psychological Association you would have had domestic partner benefits since 1983 and 1984 respectively.

Domestic partner benefits are also offered by: the National Organization for Women; the Seattle Mental Health Institute; the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund; the Albert Einstein

What about the bugabear of public opinion? A recent *Time* magazine poll reported that 65 percent of those asked believed that homosexual couples should be allowed to inherit each other's property and 54 percent believed that homosexual couples should be permitted to receive medical and life insurance benefits from a partner's policy!

Sometimes spousal privilege is being extended to unmarried and—specifically gay and lesbian partners—because they have insisted on it.

Joan (a pseudonym) is an Atlanta lesbian. She is fortunate enough to work for a company that includes sexual orientation in its statement of non-discrimination. Out of a combination of naivete and need, she asked that her lover be included on her health insurance. Initially the answer came back, "No." When Joan questioned that response in the context of the non-discrimination policy, the answer changed to, "we'll work on it." There is no resolution as we go to press, but Joan's simple and reasonable request may have resulted in her company becoming one of the growing list of those that offer benefits to domestic partners.

If you were a student at Stanford University or the University of California at Irvine, you and your gay or lesbian partner would be considered for married student housing. Students at U.C. Berkeley have begun to demand this privilege also.

Thanks to a "request" by gay employee Duane Rinde with support from the D.C. Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance (in the form of a threatened boycott—imagine the impact of queers boycotting a department store!), if you worked at Woodruff and Lothrop instead of Macy's, your lover would be able to get a shopping discount card. Ditto Garfinkel's in D.C.

And, as a result of a suit brought against TWA in July 1989, a gay man has won the right for his lover to take advantage of his free companion ticket earned from his frequent flyer miles.

In Atlanta—said by some to house the third largest urban population of gays and lesbians in the country—we were able to find few companies or organizations that offer domestic partner benefits. Though some businesses have begun to add marital status to their list for a non-discrimination policy, even these are often vague on exactly what that move means. Representatives of New Leaf Book Distributors, Sevananda Natural Foods Coop, Feminist Women's Health Center, and the Women's Resource Center of DeKalb County said that their organizations do not discriminate on the basis of marital status in reference to employee benefits, specifically in relation to sick or bereavement leave. The Women's Resource Center's health insurance policy also covers domestic partners.

Sevananda and Life Grocery Coop in Marietta also include unmarried couples in their couples memberships. Janet Callum of the Feminist Women's Health Center expressed frustration that the Center was not able to offer health benefits to unmarried partners because of their limited insurance options.

Marriage is a sensitive issue for gay men and lesbians. Gay/lesbian marriages are available to those who wish to publicly ritualize their relationships; locally such ceremonies are performed by the Metropolitan Community Churches and Unitarian Universalist congregations. The state, of course, refuses to recognize these unions.

But for many of us, mainstream marriages have ended in disillusionment, swamping the courts with couples whose frustrated expectations have left a trail of shattered lives, or worse, psychologically battered children used as weapons of revenge. A domestic partnership policy

Continued on page 13

Durable Power of Attorney Solves Myriad Legal Problems

New law provides much-needed protection for lesbians and gay men

by K.D. Childers

Jim first met David and fell in love with him 10 years ago.

After a year of dating, David moved into Jim's apartment. They had so much in common. Jim could talk to David about anything.

Five years later, David and Jim bought a beautiful old house together. They were going to restore it themselves. Jim wanted to spend the rest of his life with David.

Last year, David was in a terrible car crash with little hope for recovery. They had made so many plans for the future.

Jim knew that, when the time came, David would want to die peacefully rather than suffer a prolonged death through artificial support. They had often talked of the future and of dying.

After the accident, David's parents were appointed his guardians. For the past year, they have kept David alive against his wishes. They refused to listen to Jim.

David's parents never could accept David and Jim as a couple. They haven't spoken much during the past 10 years. They didn't know their son.

Now Jim is in agony watching David suffer. And there is nothing Jim can do for David anymore.

...

Georgia may have one of the most putative sodomy laws in the country. And Atlanta may be without significant legal protection of its gay and lesbian residents.

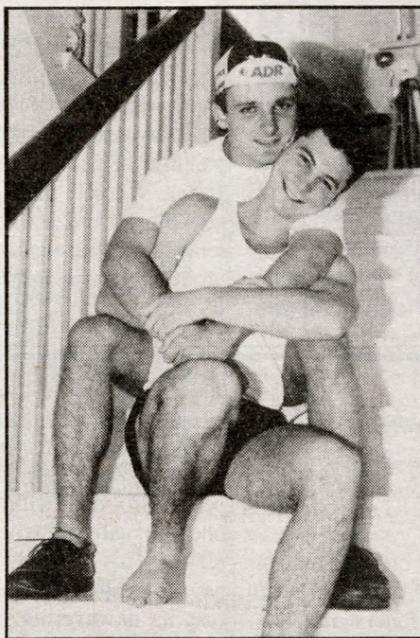
But, since July 1, 1990, Georgia's new Durable Power of Attorney (DPA) law offers everyone in the state—including us—the legal right to choose someone we trust to make medical decisions for us should we become incapacitated.

If you think this isn't important, read the story about Sharon Kowalski immediately below before you go any further. And while the law may appear to be couples-oriented, even confirmed singles need to execute a DPA.

Under the Durable Power for Health Care Act (House Bill 999), a person can designate an agent to carry out his or her personal health care decisions in the event of incapacity. Also, the act will allow the agent to execute any requested burial arrangements for that individual. That's significantly different from Georgia's previous Power of Attorney legislation which only allowed for appointment of someone to deal with financial and legal matters.

The new law—supported strongly by the Georgia AIDS Coalition and by State Representative Jim Martin (D-Atlanta)—is designed to give Georgia residents maximum control over their medical affairs. As

a by-product it offers peace of mind to those who are at odds with their families and fear the medical choices their relatives would make in their stead.



EVETT BENNETT

Eddie Towson and David Lowe share a two year domestic partnership.

"This new law will have a positive effect on our community," said Atlanta attorney Peatsa Wallace, "because it will give gay and lesbian couples, AIDS patients and others the right to choose a dignified ending for themselves. Any law that abolishes dictatorship and allows for choice is a step in the right direction for all people."

The new law goes beyond Georgia's existing Living Will legislation which allows the withdrawal of life-sustaining procedures but not of artificial hydration and nutrients. DPA allows the chosen agent the option to remove these artificial supplements or continue them or make additional choices. And, legally, DPA will always prevail over a Living Will.

Any person who fails to execute either a DPA or a Living Will is vulnerable to Georgia's guardianship system. In the event that you are incapacitated, someone—usually a family member—will be appointed by the courts as your guardian, responsible for all of your medical decisions.

The agent appointed under DPA has authority over a court-appointed guardian when it comes to health-care decisions. Effectively a guardian will have decision-

making powers only if the DPA agent becomes incapacitated or a conflict of interest is established.

As long as an individual can direct his or her own treatment, the DPA remains inactive. Determining the capacity of a person is the responsibility of the attending physician which suggests the importance of a good relationship with your physician.

"It is probable that some of the new Durable Powers of Attorney will be contested by family members," warned Wallace. She suggests that an attorney be contacted to draft the DPA thus avoiding legal technicalities which might slow or even prevent the patient's wishes from being honored. To avoid such misunderstandings at the time of incapacitation, DPA documents should be as specific as possible. For example, indicate a time period to end all artificial life-support devices such as a week, a month or a year. Also, make clear whether or not you want to be tube fed in order to be kept alive. The list goes on and on, consult carefully with your attorney and the person you are appointing to be sure that all eventualities are covered.

Attorneys suggest that copies be given to family members, doctors and any other persons involved after a Power of Attorney has been established. If relationships with parents and other family members make this move difficult, discuss a process of notification with your attorney, appointed agent and perhaps a neutral family member. It is also a good idea to communicate your exact medical wishes verbally to all parties involved to avoid future misinterpretations.

Durable Power of Attorney forms can be obtained through the Medical Association of Georgia by calling 876-7535.

Living Will information and forms can be obtained through the Society For The Right to Die (212) 246-6973.

Kowalski and Thompson Receive NOW Award

July 27 court date may be final hurdle in lesbian couple's fight for their rights

by Rachel Pepper

San Francisco—In their first national public appearance together Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson continued to make gay and lesbian history as they

were presented with the National Organization for Women's "Women of Courage" award at NOW's annual convention on July 1.

In front of a packed hall, NOW president Molly Yard praised Thompson and

Kowalski's courage and strength through years of struggle. "You are such an example to any woman—any person—in America who has a problem," Yard said, praising the pair because they "would not give in."

Thompson's and Kowalski's story, which quickly became a national test case for the rights of gay and lesbian partners, began in 1983 when Kowalski, then 27, was seriously injured after being hit by a drunk driver. Sharon and Karen had been partners for four years and shared a home together near St. Cloud, Minnesota, but Sharon's family had not known the true nature of the couple's relationship.

After their daughter's lesbianism was revealed to them by Thompson, the Kowalski family first worked with Thompson in Sharon's best interests. But in 1985 Sharon's father fought for, and won, sole guardianship over his daughter because he was "family." Within 24 hours, Mr. Kowalski tried to deny Karen visitation rights; she was subsequently barred from visiting her lover for more than three years.

For Karen Thompson, and the gay/lesbian and disabled communities which helped her fight this ruling, the following years were littered with court battles. "Free Sharon Kowalski" fundraisers were held in cities across the country. "West 57th Street" ran a television special documenting the struggle, and a book, "Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?" was penned by Thompson with the help of Julie Andrzejewski. Thompson has spent more than \$175,000 fighting for the right to care for her lover.

In the process, Thompson, a self-declared "private person," has evolved as a national spokesperson for both the gay and differently abled. In a meeting prior to the awards ceremony she told a small group,

"Before the accident I never said out loud that I am a lesbian.... Coming out is our first line of protection."

"Get legal protection. Get a durable power of attorney..." Thompson also told the group. The tremendous publicity in Kowalski's case has highlighted the importance of securing legal rights for lesbian and gay couples.

At the award ceremony, Karen stood on stage with Sharon sitting in a motorized wheelchair beside her. As Thompson spoke, she let her arm rest around the back of her partner's chair, Sharon frequently gazed up at Karen and smiled while her partner talked. In her brief but moving acceptance speech, Thompson said that she and Kowalski had "turned the case around, and Sharon's rights will be protected. It's not over yet but I think we're very close."

Thompson is hopeful that July 27 will mark her last court appearance both in her fight for guardianship of Sharon and for Sharon to be self-determining about her own care.

The annual National Organization for Women convention attracted more than 2500 women and a few men. In their annual elections, the conference reelected the outspoken, fiery Molly Yard as its president.

Workshops offered at the conference ranged from "Discrimination in Uniform: Issues of Women in the Military," to "How to Win Friends and Influence Legislators," to several on securing abortion rights for all women. Out of thirty workshops, only three were specifically lesbian-oriented, "Domestic Partners: The Cutting Edge Issue of Lesbian/Gay Rights," "Lesbian Agenda and the AIDS Crisis," and "Making the Connection: Reproductive Freedom and Lesbian Rights."



M.J. MURPHY

Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson at the NOW convention

FROM THE CIRCULATION MANAGER A MILESTONE — WE ARE 150

A little more than a year ago, a group of volunteers met at my house in Ormewood Park and started the renovation of our first fifteen *Southern Voice* street boxes. We worked, with limited materials to turn out a visually appealing newspaper vending box that would proclaim *Southern Voice* is here and we're here to stay!

During the past year, our circulation has almost tripled. We now have 40 boxes on the street and deliver to more than 150 drop points. I always marvel at the success of my department, but I'm very aware of the people who have made by job so gratifying and complete. They are my volunteers. These folks give up their free time and fight rush hour traffic to bring you

Southern Voice every two weeks. And, unless vacations come due or an emergency arises, I can count on them, without fail, to be here so *Southern Voice* can be there — for you.

On Friday, June 29, our last five boxes were placed at chosen locations. It was appropriate that Chris Duncan, the man who salvaged the old *Southline* boxes for our use, helped me get them out on the street. We felt both elated and deflated—we looked at the accomplishment, remembered all those who've helped and took the time to assess, reevaluate and project new goals.

More boxes are slated to be purchased this fall so that we can continue with our goals of visibility and convenience. Being the most widely distributed lesbian and gay publication in the Metro Atlanta area is something all of us have worked hard to attain. Now, it's time to acknowledge the people who keep the dream alive — issue by issue: Steve, Dean, Shirley, Anita, Chris, Mona, Barb, Mark, Eileen and Ricky. You are the best. And I treasure the commitment you've made to be part of our growth.

Jana Tyson

COMMENTARY

DANGER IN DISSENTING OPINION?

Recently, *Southern Voice* printed its editorial policy regarding the practice of "outing," the unauthorized publication of a person's alternative sexual preference. While *Southern Voice* is to be commended for publishing its policy so that members of the Atlanta community can know what behavior might expose them to "outing," the policy itself should be cause for alarm by all of us — especially those of us who comprise any manner of a minority within the community.

Succinctly stated, the policy is that (1) those who are private citizens (the every day person who minds his own business and avoids the public spotlight) have nothing to fear; (2) those who are in the public eye but who do not use their public status to help further the gay and lesbian cause will not be "outed" by *Southern Voice*, but if "outed" by others may find their "outing" covered by *Southern Voice* as news; and (3) those who are in the public eye and who are engaged in activities deemed (presumably by *Southern Voice*) as antagonistic to the community will be "outed."

Put another (and more frank) way, those who remain politically silent will enjoy absolute journalistic protection; those who are in the public spotlight and who behave themselves in a manner consistent with *Southern Voice's* view of what is supportive of the gay and lesbian community will also enjoy journalistic protection; those who seek the public spotlight but fail to use their public status as *Southern Voice* believes they should, run a limited risk of journalistic exposure; and those who find themselves in the public spotlight and who engage in actions which *Southern Voice* views as antagonistic to the community will be subject to being "outed."

This policy smells terribly similar to political blackmail and tastes bitterly of an attempt to engage in a dangerous form of prior restraint of free speech. In effect, *Southern Voice* seeks to muzzle all voices except those who sing in the same chorus as it does. As if to suggest that every gay and lesbian person in America is obligated to support one political agenda and to conduct himself or herself according to one set of ideals, *Southern Voice* would punish those who crack the newspaper's image of what is "acceptable behavior" by publishing their sexual preference. Moreover, the policy is offensive to any reasonable sense of fair play and wears the shameful badge of hypocrisy. Coming from a gay and lesbian newspaper, it is particularly difficult to fathom a moral, ethical, or even common sense foundation upon which *Southern Voice* might hope to

justify this policy.

Though it shall surely come as a great (and, no doubt, heart wrenching) surprise to some of the gay and lesbian leadership, not every gay or lesbian will always agree on even the most important political and social issues which face the community. Take, for example, the person who genuinely believes that mandatory testing for the AIDS virus is a good idea; or the person who genuinely believes that the gay and lesbian community is attempting to secure more rights than, as a minority, it is entitled; or the person who genuinely believes that gays and lesbians pose too many adverse threats to be automatically permitted to rear children. As extraordinarily unpopular as these views are, they are nonetheless expressions of free speech entitled to enter the market place of ideas. The mere fact that these views run counter to the thinking of the majority of the gay and lesbian community is no legitimate basis upon which to attempt to silence their authors before they speak or to punish them afterwards.

To be absolutely clear, it is not *Southern Voice's* decision to advance its notion of the gay and lesbian agenda which is offensive (although one might want to discourse on the propriety of a presumably objective newspaper having an agenda). The offense is in its decision to "out" only those who embrace views

and actions with which it disagrees.

Equally (if not more) offensive is the idea that *Southern Voice* would deliberately expose any person to the numerous perils associated with public exposure of one's sexual preference — regardless of reason. This is clearly hypocrisy. Can the gay and lesbian community ethically profess its unwavering opposition to legal discrimination and hate violence when at the same time it is the instrument by which these evils are brought to bear on a single person. So long as "outing" a person might even remotely result in that person being subjected to discrimination or violence as a result, there should be no enclave which will provide moral sanctuary for the culprits. One need look no further than the community's position on HIV status to understand this point. The community has steadfastly rejected every argument for any kind of public exposure of HIV status on the very theory that compromising confidentiality might bring discrimination and physical violence or lessen the quality of life for these individuals. How does one justify the obvious inconsistency between these two policies. Or, is exposure of HIV status the next level of "outing" that the gay and lesbian journalistic establishment will dare.

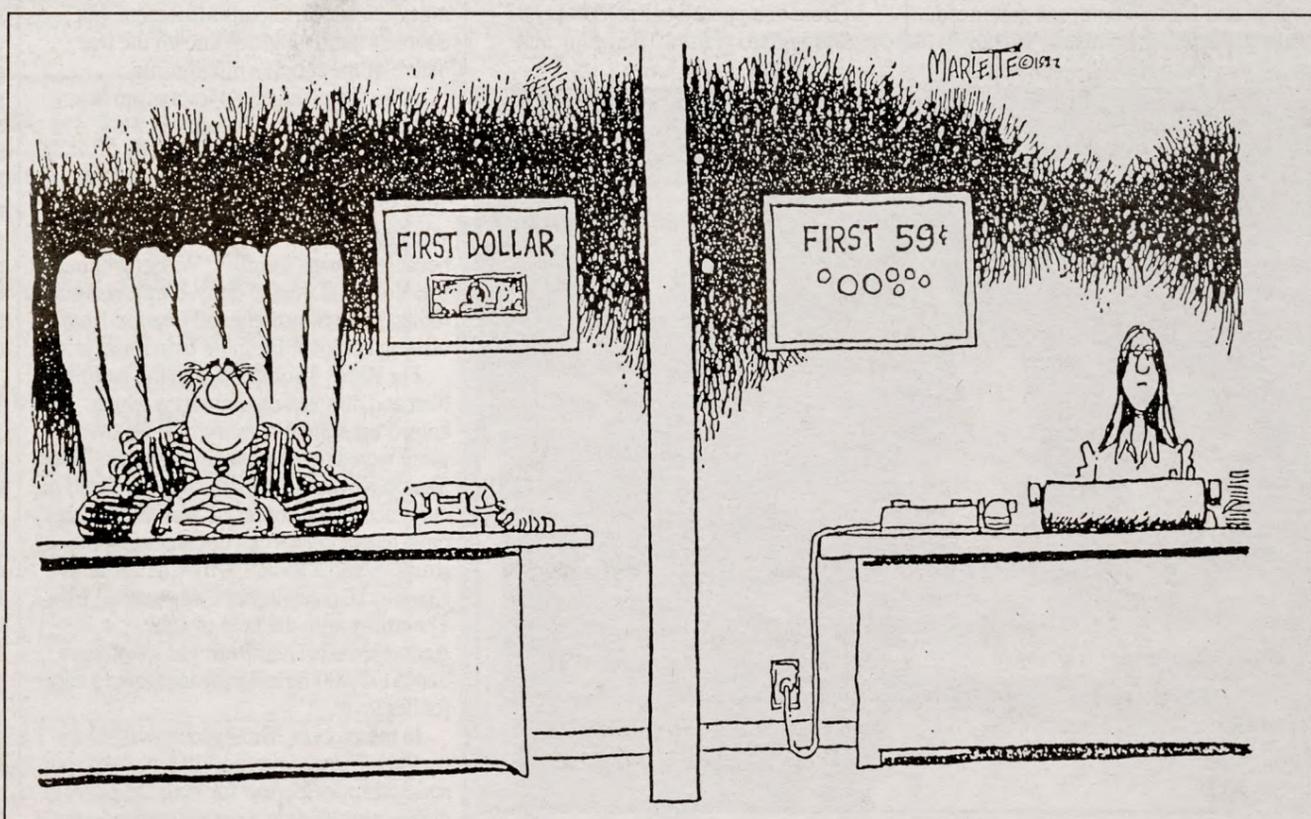
In fact, just how far will "outing" go once it becomes the acceptable tool of the gay and lesbian media. Will it become acceptable for individuals to "out" other individuals on the basis of a belief that it is in the best interest of the community? Or even just for personal gain or spite, guised as being in the interest of the com-

munity? Will opponents of the gay and lesbian community take a "good for the goose, good for the gander" approach and "out" gays and lesbians who disagree with their vision of America? When the infamously conservative *Dartmouth Review* did just that a couple of years ago, the gay and lesbian community was aghast (to put it mildly).

"Outing," like any departure from the well established tenets of the constitutional rights to privacy and free speech, is an extremely dangerous practice. Once the door is cracked for any reason, the temptation to push it wide open is great. There can be no doubt that "outing" is a tremendously tempting and potentially successful (for those who use it) political tool. Its advocates (including the people at *Southern Voice*) are no doubt men and women of goodwill who simply want what they believe is best for the gay and lesbian community. I have to believe that the political zeal of these good people has momentarily overpowered their commitment to the greatest political tools available in this country — our constitutional freedoms.

James Newton

Mr. Newton's points are well taken and—but for the fact that we would, after consultation with a broad range of community members, think it wise to out a virulent homophobe such as Jesse Helms—we do not find our stated policy inconsistent with his views.—Ed.



NOT BUBBA !

Editor:

In the last issue of the *Southern Voice*, there was an advertisement from the Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Committee endorsing several candidates for offices in Georgia. I was shocked and dismayed to find that GAPAC endorses BUBBA MCDONALD for Governor!

Doesn't GAPAC know he opposes the repeal of the sodomy law? Isn't GAPAC aware that he is supported by the 'good ole boy network' of homophobes? Did GAPAC do any research before making this decision? Who is GAPAC anyway? Who belongs to this group?
SHAME GAPAC!

James Neimann

NOT ANDY!

Hey, You!

I guess it will be a moot point by the time this letter appears in the next SoVo (that is unless there's a run-off between Andy Young and whoever), but here goes anyway.

I found it appalling that SoVo gave such an enthused endorsement of Andy Young when, after "repeated requests — ranging in tone from kind to coercive," Andy finally decides to come down to our level and pay lip service to our issues!

In the article discussing his "support" for us, I found his comments confusing (made even more confusing by the lack of consistent quotation marks!). What does he mean when he says that as Governor he would "hope to have a role in reducing the incidence AIDS in Georgia?" If we're really "ANGRY ABOUT AIDS," why would we support someone who makes such a weak statement about something as important as AIDS?

I know that the gay-lesbian-gay male-gay female-queer-fag-dyke-transperson community is a potentially vulnerable one, and we must sometimes throw our support behind candidates that are the lesser of evils when it appears that no one really gives a crap about us. But I also believe that somewhere along the line we have to stop begging and ass-kissing to get candidates who typically ignore us to even look our way (let alone ask for money and votes

all in the same breath!) I also, quite frankly, don't believe what Andy Young has to say on our issues when he practically has to be hog-tied in order to say it!

I don't know who I'll vote for on July 17, but it won't be Andy Young! For the simple reason that if he wants my vote, he needs to ask for it enthusiastically!

If he's in a run-off election, I'll consider voting for him if he buys a full page ad in SoVo! (And either he or his official election committee must purchase it — not "a lot of people" supporting him, as with that Bud Stumbaugh ad!) But for this July 17 election, I'm not voting for Andy.

I will vote for Michael Lomax this time — he did buy an ad, after all. And, it's a deal, I'll call his office the day after the election as you requested your readers to do. But if he still doesn't fulfill the promises he's made to our community, next time, I'm voting for his opponent, whoever that is—even if it's Lee Roach!

It's time we not be bullied around by politicians who claim to be our friends. It's time we take the responsibility of making sure they do what they say they'll do.

Belmont Faries

AND NOT ANYONE ELSE

Editor,

I appreciate your coverage of the governor's race as it relates to gay issues, but I have a question. If I don't vote for Zell (because of his stance on AIDS) and I don't vote for Andy (because I have worked with him and I can't stand him) and I don't vote for Bubba (because he's not going to win) or Roy or Lester (because they're anti-choice) then who the hell do I vote for?

An anonymous city employee

ART ALERT

Dear Friends:

As lesbian writers, we are sending this letter to protest current right-wing attempts to censor art that is about sexual issues and that has sexual content; in particular, we

protest the Congressional ban on funding of homoerotic art by the National Endowment for the Arts. These censors are defining lesbian and gay existence, and any art that springs from our experience, as obscene.

Because being lesbian/gay is not obscene by definition, we must be able to make art about any part of our lives. There is nothing obscene about that art, whether or not it has explicit lesbian/gay content. It is about different ways of creating loving relationships, families, and communities. To the censors, however, our very presence, our very existence, renders us obscene.

In art, explicit sexual descriptions and depictions of women by men—both loving and hateful—have long been acceptable. However, lesbian celebration of our own bodies and relationships in art challenges sexist assumptions that women's lives matter only as they are intertwined with men's, that women's bodies exist only for male pleasure and use.

Lesbian and gay art, which shows the complexities of same sex love, challenges societally constructed definitions of sexuality, gender, and nature. It is no accident that the forces of censorship are being led by Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina; Helms has made a political career of passing off as "truth" such social myths as that a person's gender, race, or religion makes her/him superior or inferior to another.

The current attempts to censor sexually explicit lesbian and gay art are tied to attempts to control information about sexuality in general, including information about safe sex and AIDS, about contraception and abortion, about lesbian and gay sexuality. This censorship is being imposed not just in the art world but in radio programming, reproductive rights counseling, and classroom teaching. The struggle about censorship of information is happening not just at the level of federal government, but also at the state and local level; not just within government, but also within private corporations and within public schools and universities.

The current struggle about sexual censorship is part of an intensifying climate of repression that targets many groups, including African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and all people of color; Arabs and Jews; poor people, women, and the disabled; the young and the old; lesbian and gay people—groups that have been called "special interest groups" but that are, in fact, the majority of "the people" in this country.

Please raise your voice, within the context of this larger struggle, against censorship of lesbian and gay art.

Elly Bulkin
Chrystos (Menominee Nation)
Audre Lorde
Judith McDaniel
Minnie Bruce Pratt

The authors are lesbian writers, three of whom recently received NEA fellowships. See the news story on page 3 for more information. To send a message to Senators Nunn, Fowler and your state representative call 1-900-226-ARTS. \$4.50 will be billed to your phone number.

RIPPED OFF

Editor:

I am one of four gay partners who own Costume Architects. A lot of hard work, time and money have gone into making this business something we are all proud to have. We have a lot more to go before we will reach our goal.

Lately we have had a dramatic increase in theft and related losses. Some involve non-return of rental goods or checks which are unrecoverable. Many are due to theft or shoplifting. Our estimated losses for this year alone are over \$7000.00. The sad part of this is the fact that most of problem comes from our own community.

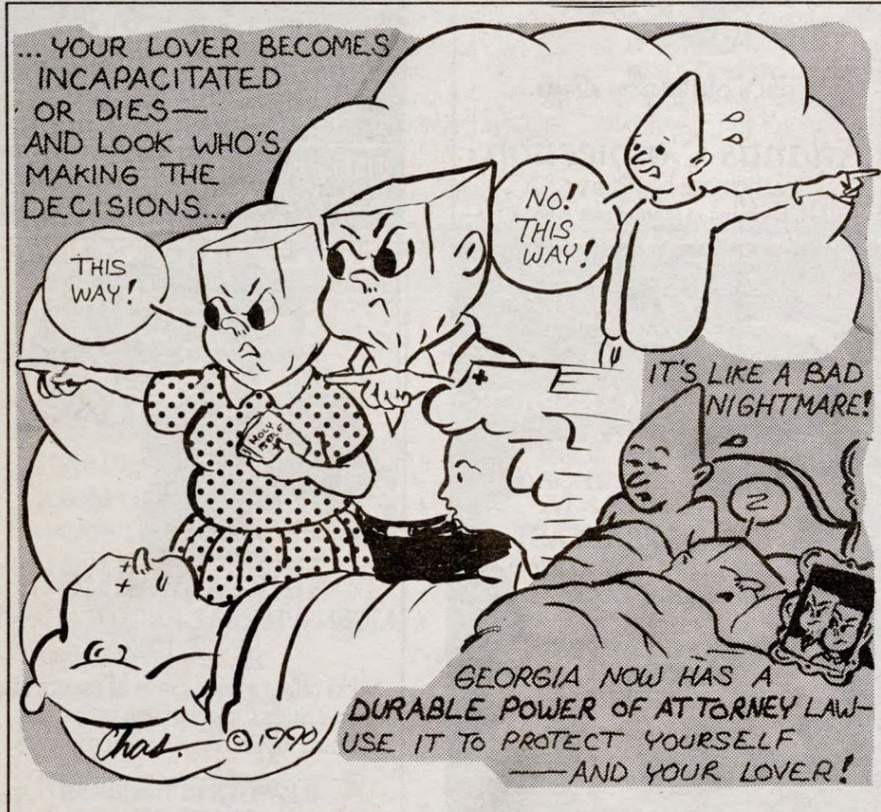
We have had to inconvenience all of our customers by putting more merchandise in locked cases or out of reach, enforcing stricter check and rental security deposit policies, as well as increasing prices to cover our losses and higher expenses.

By far the majority of our customers are responsible members of the community, both straight and gay. It is because of a few that many others suffer. It is also sad that we have such a problem in a time when we need to stick together and support each other more than ever before.

We have been forced to prosecute in the past; if the situation continues we will be forced to continue. I can't tell you how much it hurts to have to put a brother in jail.

I truly hope that by bringing the matter into the open we can reduce it considerably. For all of us.

Sincerely,
Daniel J. Slack



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

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

Southern Voice/Viewpoints
P.O. Box 18215
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Blasts from the Past

Michelle Malone's Relentless and slick CD's

by Angela Motter

Michelle Malone and Drag The River are living proof that Southern Rock is alive and well and kicking butt.

The Atlanta band's long-awaited and aptly titled Arista debut *Relentless* was released July 17. Though some may argue about labeling it Southern Rock, it just *feels* southern to me, and it sure as hell is Rock 'n Roll.

This is a spooky album. 'Course I don't know what I expected from a band called Drag The River.

Spooky because it jars memories of the music we used to blast at High School and College parties. Malone's vocal licks shake loose ghostly memories of Led Zeppelin blaring through clammy Georgia air at 3 a.m. Johnny D's guitar solo on "Into the Night" revisits Lynyrd Skynyrd's "That Smell." "Black Cloud Song" reminds me of Elton John's "Funeral For a Friend." "Sure Thing" brings back memories of Hendrix's "Little Wing," and the painfully sexy "Love Thang" recalls Bonnie Raitt's *Green Light* days.

And on it goes. Spooky memories from spooky times, but none the less dear to me.

Lyrical and vocally, Malone pushes her emotions to the edge most of the time. ("Feelings are a bitch, aren't they?") Ballads like "Sure Thing" and "Counting Stars" are real chokers. And Malone's compassionate politics are made quite clear with "32 Seconds" and "Battle Him Republican."

Sounds good? Keep listening 'cause it gets even better. There are lots of clever musical (and non-musical) things going on here that aren't apparent the first time around; cool stuff I won't spoil by mentioning here.

I only wish I hadn't gotten used to the way Malone used to sing the melodies to tunes like "Big Black Bag" and "Long Love Century" on her pre-DTR indie release *New*



Experience. Because of what I've already heard, some of Malone's vocal improvisations on *Relentless*, though quite impressive, seem overdone. Parts of this record sound more like what I would expect to hear during a live performance. I'm not sure what I would think had I never heard *New Experience*.

Though Malone's vocal delivery is almost operatic, her licks often sound Hendrix-inspired, especially on the chorus of "Long Love Century." She sings a chorus of "stop me's" like a guitar player plays, ripping through the line with vocal slides and dive-bombs between words. Vocally, Malone is capable of doing just about anything.

The guest roster here reads like an Atlanta who's-who and who's-going-to-be. Happily, the inclusion of artists such as Amy Ray and Dan Baird of the Georgia Satellites seems in no way an attempt at grandstanding, just perfect choices for musical situations. Of special note is the appearance of Karyn Malone Folmar on background

vocals. Michelle sites her as her "biggest influence." She also happens to be Michelle's Mom.

Despite my comparisons of DTR to other bands, this album is so much *Michelle* it chokes me up. It amazes me how much artists really do tell about themselves through their music. When I asked Malone who was responsible for letting her be so *herself* on this record, she said "me."

She also praised Arista for being so willing to work together with her and DTR. In an industry that seems bent on slick packaging and image management, Malone's album is refreshingly real. Perhaps since Bonnie Raitt copped her armload of Grammys, record companies are finally figuring out what to do with women Rockers: skip the makeovers, give us the *real* stuff.

I came upon the Benelux ad while flipping through the last *SoVo*. What is Benelux, and who would pay 30 or 40 bucks for an imported CD? Mostly gay men, according to Bob Norkus, music director for the New York-based company.

Though the Benelux "sound" started out being mostly "mood music" like Basia and Swing Out Sister, it seems that old Disco and New Dance Remixes are at the top of the list of CD's most in demand. Audiophiles who collect everything an artist has done or thought about doing will buy dubbed-up and remixed versions of songs they already have, based solely on the name of their favorite remix master (Arthur Baker, Jimmy Jam, Shep Pettibone). Once strictly live DJ's, remixers turned Producers (or reproducers) pump up the bass and add sampled vocals on existing tracks to create the extended versions heard at dance clubs here and abroad.

Laws governing the sale of imports put a ceiling on the number of discs coming into the U.S. to protect artists from competing against themselves in record sales. That makes these European imports rare and collectible. Benelux's catalog lists about 50 CD's so far, but if there's a title you want which is not listed, call Benelux at (212) 629-8141 and let them know about it. They can probably track it down.

Norkus, who is essentially the buyer for Benelux, is a true music lover, and his enthusiasm really spilled over when I talked with him on the phone. Yes, Virginia, there are music enthusiasts out there like yourself who believe in trying something new. Now you know where to find the music you've been looking for.

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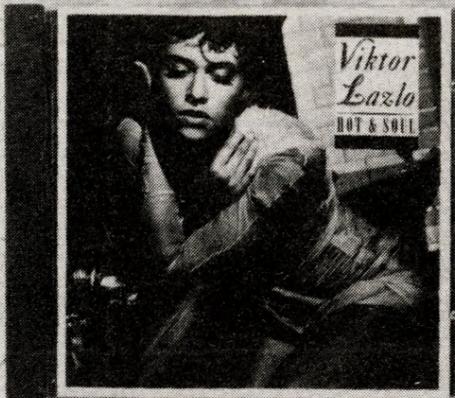
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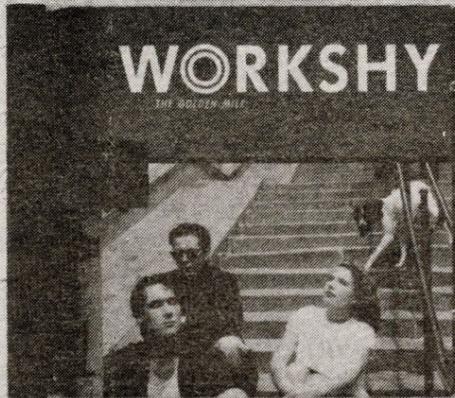
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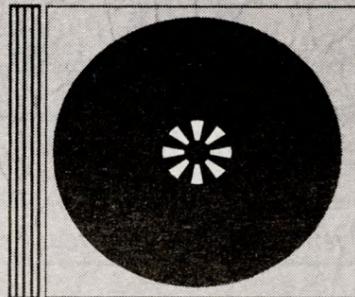


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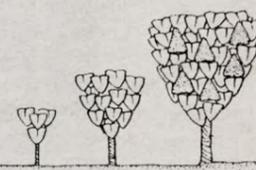


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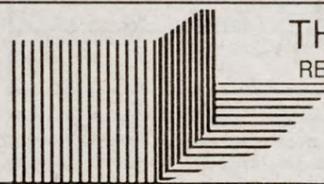
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Voyeurs, Ghosts and G-Strings

by Terry Francis

Daddy's Dyin... Who's Got the Will? ★★★ Flavorful hokum performed by a vivid cast and directed by Jack Fisk on an emotional level rare in American movies. Daddy is played by Bert Remsen, who lies bedridden in Texas while his children search for his missing will between bouts of settling old scores against each other. The actors give the characters—three sisters and a brother—their due, rendering their personalities with a clarity that explains the family's current disarray. Though written entirely in cliches, the distinguished cast and Fisk's intuitive direction elevate the material.

Standouts include Beverly D'Angelo as the sister who runs through relationships as fast as she can get drunk and create a scene, Amy Wright as her self-righteous sister who's dead serious in her post as a preacher's wife, Beau Bridges as the frustrated brother given to raising his hand to his wife Marlene, and Judge Reinhold and Patrika Darbo (playing Marlene) who discover on a ride beneath the endless Texas night sky that they might be soulmates.

Monsieur Hire ★★1/2 Patrice Leconte directs from a Simenon novel *Les Finacailles de M. Hire* the tale of a man (Michel Blanc as M. Hire) who stands in the darkness of his apartment and stares across the courtyard at his beautiful young neighbor (Sandrine Bonnaire, as Alice) with the reverence of a lover. The local populace suspect Hire is the killer of a well-liked, but intensely private young woman whose murder the police are investigating.

Yet when Alice acknowledges Hire's attention, her behavior is coolly enigmatic. She responds in ways that run counter to Hire's expectations and ours. As played flawlessly by Bonnaire, Alice is a woman who reads faces with the command of a search light. Michel Blanc (*Menage*) overacts Hire in a manner that recalls Dustin Hoffman at his most self-congratulatory, and his performance diminishes the film somewhat.

Nevertheless, *Monsieur Hire* is an impressive techni-



From Monsieur Hire

cal achievement. Leconte has visualized his story deftly, from the burgundy shadows of Denis Lenoir's photography, to the sad wit of Michael Nyman's music and the elliptical dash of Joelle Haches' editing. The climactic sequence borrows heavily from Bresson's piercing 1983 *L'Argent*, but Leconte infuses the sequence with a pathos in key with his own particular view of M. Hire's hidden distress.

Ghost ★ Crude. A supernatural suspense thriller set in New York starring Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore as a couple who live together in a swanky Tribeca loft. When Swayze gets shot and killed by an assailant (overtly identified as Puerto Rican), he finds his soul earthbound out of concern for Moore. Moore has her tough side, though. Earlier we hear her heckle a pair of straining furniture movers by spitefully asking them if they're "from the New York City Ballet."

Still, Moore isn't safe. Her husband's death wasn't the result of random violence. The killer wants something from her home, and we're clued in from his lip smacking that he considers Moore's soft white skin an added perk. (Offensively, the film sets us up to literally quake at the thought of this greasy, stringy-haired Puerto Rican touching Moore, and if that offends you, your quarrel is with the film, not me.)

Swayze must find a way to communicate with Moore in order to save her. He enlists the aid of a phony black medium named Oda Mae Brown (Whoopi Goldberg, who steals the film but sometimes plays to stereotype, like her

character's name) to help him save Moore from harm. The film is an immensely crass one, braiding racial stereotypes and fears with insecurities about rape and plane crashes. It conceives of an afterlife teeming with revenge, vigilantism and physical violence.

The picture also includes a bizarrely gratuitous sex scene between Swayze and Moore. Rather than express any bond between the characters, the scene appears intended purely to heat up the audience. We're put in the position of customers in a grind house, depositing our quarters into a slot in order to watch a couple behind glass have sex.

As an actor, Swayze comes from the wasp-sting school of performing arts: he squints his eyes and looks stricken, as if he needs help getting the stinger out. Moore plays a woman who looks like Ali McGraw at sixteen and sounds like Mickey Rooney at sixty. She weeps copious amounts of tears. They spill from her eyes in twos, always right on cue, like the bad taste of the minds behind this film.

Without You, I'm Nothing ★★★★★ Superb. Working with director John Boskovich and cinematographer Joseph Yacoe, Sandra Bernhard adapts her one-woman New York show for the screen and the result is pungent, socially alert satire. Bernhard is fascinated by a particular kind of self-righteous hypocrisy that she finds characteristic of our times.

She views the clutter of present-day pop culture, politics and religions as the artifice of sanctimony. Her reaction to it is the insolent texture of this film. The satirical points fly; she wraps herself in an American flag under the guise of commemoration before flinging it aside and dancing heatedly in a G-string to Prince's "Little Red Corvette"; after insisting in an opening number performed in African costume before a black audience that she is herself black, she invites them to sing Israeli folk songs along with her in Hebrew.

Throughout the film Bernhard comments in images that are trenchant and key about the effects of fan adoration, about modern beauty norms that have more to do with corporate ledgers than personal aesthetics, about attitudes deputizing for ethics. She uses the materials of her times as instruments of self-reflection, and the poignant refractions she finds in her mirror are what we see in this witty, articulate film.

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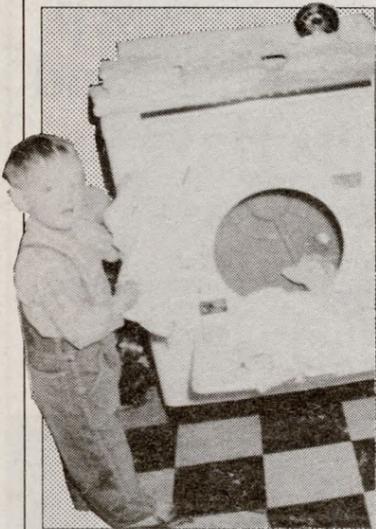
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Cloud 9—A Sunny and Dark Erotic Express

Frankie and Angie's Wedding and Macbeth offer summer respite, too

by Dave Hayward

In lesser hands, *Cloud 9* could be a disaster. Playwright Caryl Churchill (*Fen*, *Serious Money*) satirizes no less than a century of sexual behavior as some men play women, and women play men for comprehensive confusion. While she's at it, Churchill dissects the patriarchal class system, and takes a gander at the matriarchy and native religions, too. With the Actors Express' excessively fast-paced production, *Cloud 9* can leave one feeling rather chaotic, but Churchill's mastery of theatre makes this ambitious melange jell.

Cloud 9 demands a crackerjack director and cast, if the gender bender changes and different characters that actors play in Act One and Act Two are to succeed. Director Chris Coleman and his sometimes amazing cast come through triumphantly—their *Cloud 9* both convulses and stimulates.

Initially hilarious, *Cloud 9* later bursts its bittersweetness and poignancy, unleashing the pain that lies beyond the promise of sexual freedom. Written before AIDS, Churchill's play scours even deeper wounds now.

It's 1888 in colonial Africa and Clive (David Watson) is serene master of his kingdom: his wife Betty (Theo Harness in drag); his servant Joshua (Al Stilo, a white playing a black); his son Edward (Elizabeth Minnis); and his mother-in-law Maud (Wendy Wolf). Clive's Scarlett O'Hara neighbor Mrs. Saunders (Heidi Cline) alleviates the ennui, as does his explorer friend Harry (Don Smith) who craves Clive's wife, son and servant.

Hypocrisy is pervasive as Clive berates Betty for flirting with Harry while he ravishes Mrs. Saunders, in what Coleman makes a movable feast. Harry chides Edward: their sex play is "a sin and a crime and it's also wrong" but of course they'll do it, and Edward's governess (Cline) confesses she loves Betty, who chalks lesbianism up to the African climate being so very confusing. It's a climate where boys don't play with dolls, women don't want to be explorers and the cure for gayness is a shotgun wedding.

In Act Two, it's 1990 in London and our little family has aged only 25 years. Edward (Theo Harness) feathers a love nest for Gerry (David Watson), who wants no part of a



gay marriage. Edward's sister (Elizabeth Minnis) ponders life with her estranged husband Martin (Al Stilo) or with her lover Lin (Heidi Cline) and Lin's daughter Cathy (Don Smith). Betty (Wendy Wolf) has finally left Clive and wanders around London worrying that the grass is tilting.

Within the now softened—even eliminated—sex roles people are free to be with whomever they wish and just as free to move on. Men try to dominate women by pleasing them, and other men think they're secretly women. There is no less pain, it's just out in the open, and the levels of fragmentation and loneliness have escalated.

Coleman has a field day with *Cloud 9*'s comedy and its pathos, as do some of his actors. As Clive, David Watson is a likable David Niven oppressing everyone for the good of the Empire; as Gerry, he delivers cockney trash despising any intimacy between him and his tricks. Heidi Cline rivets as Mrs. Saunders and dithers as the governess; her latter day lesbian is just right in her mix of jaded bitch and heated romantic. Above all, Wendy Wolf revels in Victorian bullying, and then in 1990 lances the heart as she elevates masturbation to a sacrament of self-love.

As the Great White Hunter, Don Smith exudes animalism but coasts on his cleavage, while his little girl is ingratiating if incomplete; his bit as a rabid soldier crackles.

Craggy faced Theo Harness is a swooning revelation as the ultimate little woman and believable as a contentedly domestic gay, albeit self-conscious as an actor. Only Al Stilo and Elizabeth Minnis are adrift as a bickering couple; Coleman needs to retool their disintegrating mating dance. Stilo is hypnotic as the silver tongued native, evoking Linda Hunt in *The Year of Living Dangerously*, and Minnis brings to mind chronic malcontent Calvin from the comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes" as the Victorian brat.

David Crowe contributes stunning Georgia O'Keefe-like murals which intensify *Cloud 9*'s subconscious. Tina Hightowers's costumes make the shift from fussy Victorian pastiche to modern day streamline with ease.

Cloud 9 is an alternately sunny and dark erotic express. Don't miss it.

At Actor's Express, Friday-Sunday through August 19. Call 221-0831 for info and reservations.

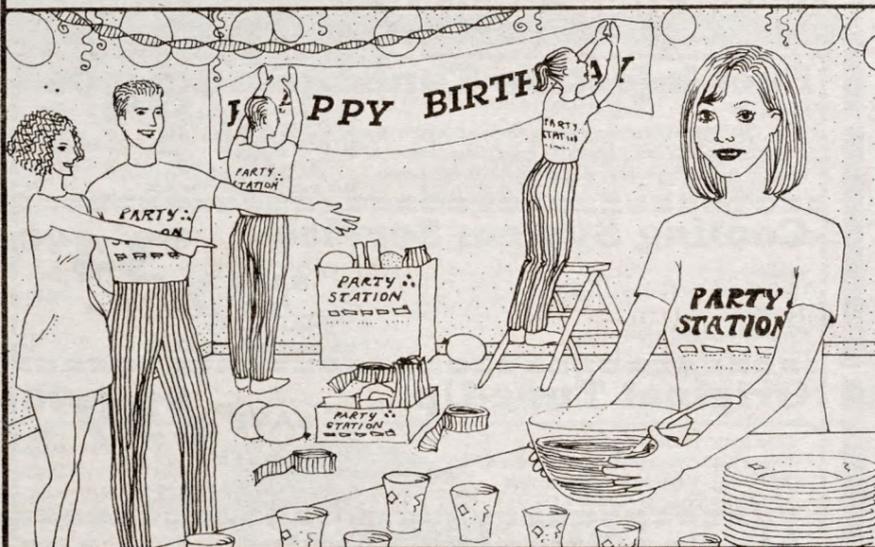
Short Takes: *Frankie and Angie get Married* is exuberant fun at the Midtown Rodeway Inn—a suitable locale for this Italian wedding send-up. Sob at Angie's wedding! Disco at her reception! Stuff your face at her Dad's hard-earned buffet! Cruise Angie's gay brother, though actor Nic Garcia seems unsure of his character's real colors. Madness abounds in Nanci Greene's nasal newlywed, Pat Strezzi's go-go stepmother, Patrick Scott's dumbo cameraman, and Brent Darnell's proud poker-faced little bro.

Open ended engagement, Friday's and Saturday's, 659-3013.

Dalton, Georgia's own Lane Davies—formerly of TV's Santa Barbara—says *Macbeth* is a "good butch production" and for the most part he's right about this Mad-Max inspired mounting at the Georgia Shakespeare Festival. Davies overcomes a tepid start to "Lay on, MacDuff!" with a spirited Chris Kayser, and Stephanie Kallos takes acting honors as a girlish Lady Macbeth reminiscent of Nancy Reagan going off on devil worship. Director Stephen Hollis provides head-cranking effects, and the three witches are post-apocalypse urchins.

In rep with *As You Like It* through August 12. 264-0020 for info and reservations.

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OBITUARY

George Baker

Mr. George R. Baker of Atlanta, Secretary at the First Extentionalist Congregation of Atlanta, died June 27, 1990 of stomach cancer at Piedmont Hospital. He was 67.

Mr. Baker was an active member of the Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Community and represented that group on the Metropolitan Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations. Mr. Baker's other contributions to the gay community were often in the role of support person, maintaining mailing lists for organizations, assisting in the publishing of newsletters, and making his computer skills available to gay causes.

Mr. Baker is survived by his lover, James Morrison of Atlanta, Ida Baker (mother), Charles Baker (brother), Mary Bender and Betty McKinley (sisters), all in Ohio.

A memorial service was held July 14, 1990 at the First Extentionalist Congregation of Atlanta.

Partners

Cont'd from page 4

which provides and protects medical, retirement, and privilege benefits for unmarried couples is an obvious alternative. Once two people are committed to a domestic relationship, economic aspects become a major factor in that partnership. Inclusion in medical/dental benefits, personal leaves, and spousal privileges need legal substance to avoid confusion.

Though same-sex marriage was sanc-

tioned and performed in the early Christian Church, legal recognition of unmarried domestic partnerships, particularly those between gay men and lesbians, will no doubt stir resistance in the mainstream church. Much current Christian doctrine is based on a redefined "moral" code that has created animosity and prejudice which has kept same sex orientation on a collision course with society.

But this kind of resistance has been overcome in other cities, and this gives us hope for the city of Atlanta.

Still—though Mayor Jackson sought office with the promise of attention to alternative lifestyles—little action of consequence has come on those promises. A domestic partnership policy for Atlanta may have to be warily circled like a coiled snake until someone can determine how to grab it without being bitten.

Not surprising, perhaps, in the state that was willing to take Michael Hardwick to the Supreme Court rather than repeal its archaic sodomy statute. But nonetheless disappointing in a supposedly sophisticated city like Atlanta, so forward in civil rights. And confusing among a population which ought to realize that the idealized concept of a family assessed by agrarian standards of division of labor (by gender), economy, and emotional continuity may have been finally and fatally fractured.

The contemporary family may or may not: be biologically related; share the same dwelling; share similar interests; operate with traditional gender roles. And many individuals today are unwilling to suffer the fantasy that a family is the sole determination of personal worth.

Yet it is important to recognize, without cynicism, that an important aspect of the modern family is its economic function. Thus Atlanta—a city generally hell-bent on promoting a rosy economic image and one that houses a population that includes a

wide diversity of family units—should be a national leader in the support of those families and a model for others to emulate.

Southern Voice is interested in continuing to discuss the issues of domestic partnership and alternative families in the Atlanta area. If you have suffered discrimination because of your marital status please send us a brief description of the problem and your attempts to cure it. And if you are aware of a company or organization that offers employee and/or health benefits to unmarried domestic partners and their families, please let us know.

We have received word from the Mayor's office that Willie Hughes, Commissioner for



EVETT BENNETT

Domestic partners Mary E. Jones and Dottie Brock

Personel and Human Relations, has been directed to investigate the costs and legal implications of domestic partnership legislation for the city.

To express your thanks to the Mayor and to be sure that action follows investigation, please clip and mail the following letter to the Mayor.

SEND A MESSAGE TO MAYNARD

Mayor Maynard Jackson
55 Trinity Avenue
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Dear Mayor Jackson,

I appreciate your commitment to investigate the costs and legal aspects of extending equal rights to a large group of citizens, including tens of thousands of gay men and lesbians, whose rights have been ignored for too long.

Unmarried domestic partners should be recognized as a family unit with shared personal and economic responsibilities. They have the same needs and should thus share the same benefits as married couples.

I look forward to answers and action on this matter and to your continued support of equal rights and non-discrimination for all Atlantans.

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Hotlanta is Happening Again

Walt Greer talks about this year's event, *Dream 90 - The Future*

by Dave Hayward

What's four days long, attracts 4,000 hedonists from around the world, and is called "the biggest gay party in America?" If you guessed the Hotlanta River Expo you rate a trip down the Chattahoochee August 5 with all the other water babies who'll flock here from across the country and around the world.

"I think we'll probably hit the 4 to 5,000 mark [in total attendance] as we always have," speculates Walt Greer, chief organizer of Hotlanta. "Our legal limit for the River is 1,000."

Beginning in 1979 as a group of 250 who shot the 'hooch together, the Hotlanta River Expo has exploded into a four day festival that includes a mammoth "Dream 90" ball at the Excelsior Mill and the "Mr. Hotlanta Contest" with big name entertainment at the Fox. This year, Laura Brannigan ("Gloria") is headlined, backed by up-and-coming diva Vicky Sheppard whose disco version of "Somewhere" currently fills dance floors.

New York, San Francisco, Houston and Florida usually field the largest contingents. But this year, with the Gay Games in Vancouver beginning August 5, West Coast attendance is slightly down and East

Coast up. "We also have people from South Africa, Australia, Canada, England and Amsterdam," exclaims Greer with pride and excitement. "We're getting more than one from those countries; word on Hotlanta is getting out. It's more respected outside of Atlanta than in Atlanta. That's the way any event is in any city."

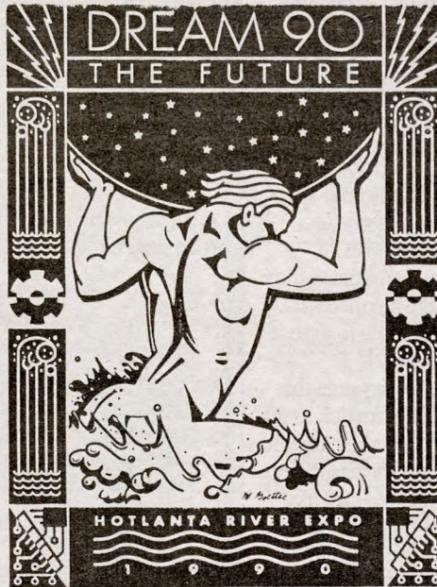
The event is something of a logistical nightmare says Greer. "There aren't many places in the city you can rent that will hold three to four thousand people," he deadpans. The Mr. Hotlanta Contest was set for the Georgia Tech Coliseum. "They canceled out after they'd approved it; I think it's because they found out we were a gay group, but I don't know that."

Next the event was slated for the Hyatt Regency, then "the Fox called me and said they were available..."

"This Mr. Hotlanta is one of the more expensive shows we've ever done. The Fox costs about double what the Civic Center does...but it's worth it." And in order to get permission to float a thousand people down the river, the Hotlanta Committee forked up an additional \$6,000 in liability insurance premiums to placate the new Parks manager.

The Parks Department reports bacteria levels in the river are up, and Hotlanta is heading the warning. "We are recom-

mending that people not drink the water and if they have an open cut or wound they bandage it. There's no precaution thing or special danger for HIV-positive people," adds Greer.



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Invariably a logistical nightmare, last year's Hotlanta ball became controversial when ACT UP members were banned from distributing condoms and safe sex pamphlets. This year the Hotlanta Committee contacted AIDS organizations, gay service groups and Hotlanta's commercial sponsors to offer space for info distribution at the Expo's Colony Square headquarters.

"We are also letting ACT UP set up a non-manned table at Excelsior Mill to have safe sex information and condoms available. I don't want someone handing things to people because some people don't have pockets, and their natural reaction is to take it and throw it down," says Greer. "If people want to pick it up, it's there for the taking."

"We contacted AID Atlanta and the National Association of People With AIDS and we gave them tickets to each event," explains Greer. "I asked them how many they wanted and I gave them to them. They said they didn't want to give tickets out to people just because they have AIDS, they want to give them to

people of need who are also able to enjoy the event."

Sadly, the founder of the Hotlanta River Expo Mark McCutcheon and its Artistic Director Burl Compton have both succumbed to AIDS. McCutcheon narrated the Expo's Hotlanta show in 1987, and the next year's 10th anniversary celebration was dedicated to him. This year's event will honor Compton who passed away in May.

"That's the hardest thing I've had to come up with, is the letter of dedication about Burl," reflects Greer. "...it's very hard to write something that other people really care about reading when you're really right next to it."

This year's theme of dreams then becomes all the more applicable to the gay and lesbian nation. "We're starting into a new decade and what we want to dream, what would be the perfect dream for this decade, the future?" wonders Greer. "I think for us we're looking forward to a cure for AIDS."

"We're also looking for advancement and being accepted in the general community as a person—not as a gay person or straight person—but as a person," he continues.

Greer ponders what keeps him going through the in-fighting and organizational angst. "God knows it's not the money!" he laughs "It's no secret I get a \$1,000 a month and I work on it year-round, constantly." (Greer also has his own party planning business, Hotlanta.)

"What keeps me going is the thought of doing something that everyone loves...what keeps me going is the pleasure everyone has and the enjoyment. It's probably known as one of the best events in the country."

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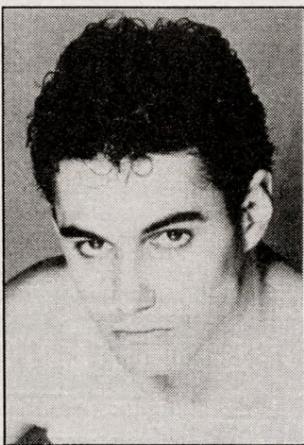
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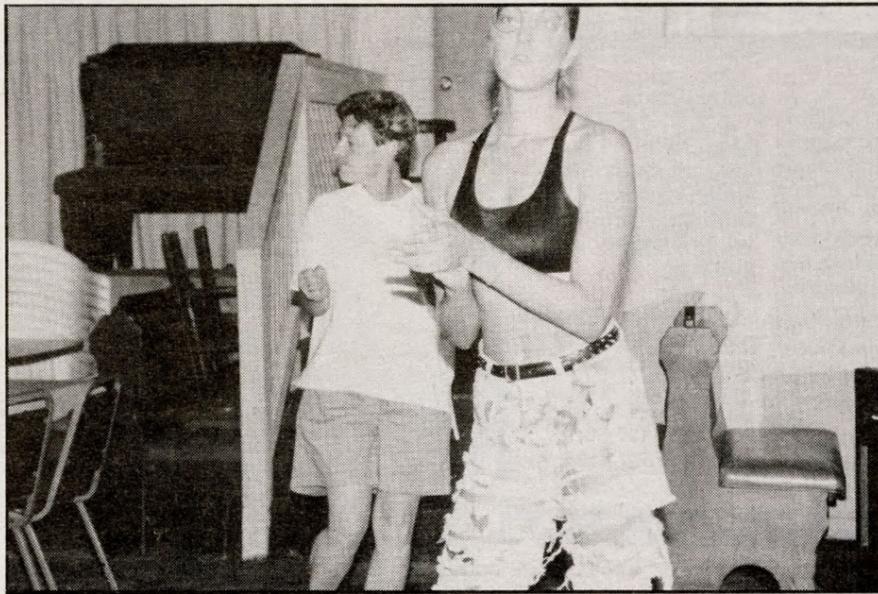
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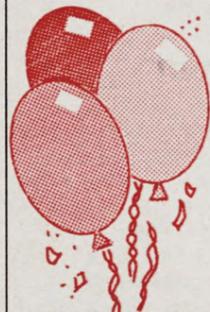
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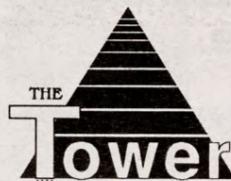


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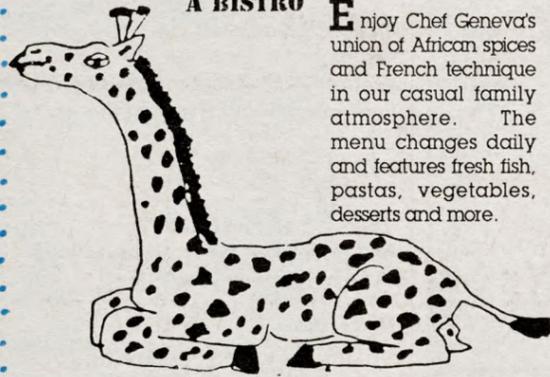
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Leroy Jenkins is one of hundreds of black artists performing or presenting at the National Black Arts in Atlanta, July 27-Aug. 5. See him, along with Alvin Singleton and Leo Smith at 3pm on July 29 in the Hill Auditorium at The High Museum.

Art

LIFT EVERY VOICE. Thru Aug. 5. Influential African-American Atlantans from the past and present are featured in this unusual collection of rare photographs, artifacts, paintings and sculptures. This free exhibit is presented in conjunction with the National Black Arts Festival. Atlanta History Center Downtown, 140 Peachtree St., NE.

AFRI-COBA: A TWENTY YEAR HISTORY. Thurs., July 26 (Opening reception 5-8pm) - Fri., Aug. 31; Mon.-Fri. 11am - 5pm. An exhibit of 45 pieces from the collective of black artists formed in Chicago in 1968. Bold brilliant colors and powerful engaging images focus on the positive characteristics of African heritage and the ideology of a black aesthetic. Call 688-1970 for further info.

FAITHRINGOLD: A 25 YEAR SURVEY. Opens Fri., July 27. 50 works by the feminist artist whose work has closely mirrored the struggles of the black power movement. In addition to her fabric art, paintings and soft sculpture are also features. (NBAF) High Museum at the Georgia-Pacific Center.

JEROME MOORMAN. Fri., July 27 (reception 7-10pm) - Mon., Aug. 20. You can almost listen to these paintings as Jerome translates musical principles into abstract art. A toe tapping exhibit presented in tandem with NBAF. Trinity Gallery, 249 Trinity Ave. Call 525-7546 for details.

ATLANTA'S ARTISTS AND PRIVATE COLLECTORS. Sat., July 28 (opening reception 2-5pm) - Fri., Aug. 10; Mon. - Fri. 9am - 4pm. A peek inside private collections along with offerings from notable Atlanta artists are featured in this NBAF smorgasbord. Free. Citizens Trust Bank, 174 Houston St. For more info call 581-1960.

ARTISTS' MARKET. July 29-Aug. 5, Mall hours. An NBAF event featuring multi-media artists from 21 states. Greenbiar Mall.

Events

NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY HEALTH CONFERENCE. July 18-22. The largest annual conference concerning lesbian and gay health issues. Go and protest the fact that lesbians have not been included in any of the government studies and women in general are studied only as possible AIDS conduits to men. Washington, DC. Call (202) 797-3708 for more info.

GAME NIGHT. July 18, 7:30. Bring your favorite game board or card game and enjoy lively competition and the company of other high rolling women. Chrysalis. 881-6300.

ETHICS, DIFFERENCES, AND LOSS. Thurs., July 19, 8:30am - 4:45pm. A free seminar and luncheon for HIV caregivers. An expert panel will discuss many topics from ethical issues to managing personal and professional loss. Opportunity will be provided to raise questions of your special interest or problem. Sheraton Century Hotel, 2000 Century Blvd., NE. Call 752-1777 for more info.

LATINO WOMEN'S POETRY AND MIXED MEDIA NIGHT. Thurs., July 19, 7:30pm. An evening of bilingual poetry with Luz Borrero from Columbia and Frances Negron from Puerto Rico. An opportunity to experience the richness of Latino culture. Interpreted for the hearing impaired. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave., NE. For details call 524-0304.

AIDS RESEARCH UPDATE: A PUBLIC FORUM. Tues. July 24, 7-10pm at the Civic Center Auditorium. A review of findings presented at the San Francisco AIDS Conference, update of AIDS Research in Atlanta and Q&A period. Call AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta at 876-2317 for more info.

SAFER SEX FOR WOMEN. July 25, 7:30. Dazon Dixon leads a lively and informative discussion for lesbian lovers. A special segment on fun with latex will feature dental dams. Chrysalis. 881-6300.

SDIANE BOGUS. Thurs., July 26, 7:30pm. Celebrated black lesbian poet reads stories of erotic love, full moon witches, racism and ritual. Interpreted for the hearing impaired. Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave., NE. For details call 524-0304.

JOHN BRADSHAW ATLANTA. Fri. Jul. 27-Sun. Jul. 29. Public TV's amazing guru on the issues that confuse and confound most of us. Three separate workshops on reclaiming the inner child and core issues in codependency. \$50-\$90, benefits Georgia Public Television. Georgia World Congress Center. 800-331-2904.

FUND FOR SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES TENTH ANNIVERSARY GALA. Sat., July 28, 7-10pm. Well worth the \$50 contribution when there's a chance that you'll rub elbows with Spike Lee, Jesse Jackson, Colleen Dewhurst, Susan Sarandon, Ossie Davis and many others who are proud supporters of this unique organization. Dinner is included. City Hall Atrium, 55 Trinity Ave. For information please call (404) 577-3178.

Film/Video

A ROOM WITH A VIEW. Sat., July 21, 8pm. This graceful comedy allows us to see Daniel Day Lewis (My Left Foot) in a more mobile format. Rich Auditorium, High Museum of Art. Call 892-HIGH for further information.

DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST. Premieres July 27, 8pm; runs daily. The clash between generations of a Gullah family in the Georgia Sea Islands is the subject of this first feature length film by Julie Dash brought to us by the NBAF. Lush, sensual cinematography. Plaza Theatre.

SEEING THROUGH NEW EYES. Sat., July 28, 10am. Part of the children's film festival, this segment encourages us to look at our universe in new ways, even through the eyes of a frog. Hill Auditorium, High Museum of Art, 1280 Peachtree St. Call 892-HIGH for further information.

FILM AND PICNIC IN THE PARK. July 31, dusk (Raindate: Aug. 1). Featured are works by independent film/video makers Charles Nuckles, Spike Lee, Julie Dash and others. An NBAF event. Piedmont Park.

Music

GORDON LIGHTFOOT. Wed., July 18, 8:30pm. I'm on my second cup of coffee and I still can't think of what to say about this Canadian crooner. Chastain Park. Call 892-2414.

HARRY BELAFONTE. Sat., July 21, 8:30pm. A man whose voice and charms go on and on and who is one of the prime movers in promoting the NBAF. Chastain Park. Tickets at Woodruff and Center Box Office, 898-1189.

FREE SUMMER PARK CONCERTS. Yoel Levi on Sun., July 22 & George Hanson on Sun., July 29, 7:30pm. Music director Yoel takes up the baton for a summer evening serenade. Piedmont Park. For details call 898-1182.

PETER, PAUL, AND MARY. Wed., July 25, 8:30pm. Return with us now to those thrilling sounds of yesterday when anything could be fixed with a hammer. Chastain Park. Tickets at Woodruff and Center Box Office, 898-1189.

ANITA BAKER. Fri. Jul. 27. 8pm. The lady's music defines romance. At Lakewood Amphitheatre. 249-6400.

LEROY JENKINS/ALVIN SINGLETON/LEO SMITH: IMPROVISATIONS. Sun., July 29, 3pm. Award-winning composers and musicians present several new improvisational works prepared especially for this NBAF concert. Hill Auditorium, High Museum of Art. For details call 898-HIGH.

Sports

HOTLANTA SOFTBALL - MEN'S. Sat., July 21 & 22. Playoff games start at 11am on Saturday; semi-finals and finals begin at 12:30 on Sunday. Main field at Piedmont Park.

HOTLANTA SOFTBALL - WOMEN'S. Sat., July 28-29. Playoff games start at 11am on Saturday; semi-finals and finals begin at 12:30 on Sunday. Main field, Piedmont Park.

Theatre

FRANKIE AND ANGIE GET MARRIED. Starts Fri., July 6, 7:30pm. A unique experience

JULY 19 - JULY 31

in theatrical happenings. Come and be part of a "mock" ethnic wedding complete with full Italian meal, champagne toasts, and wedding cake. Every good family wedding needs a few gay cousins to liven up the dancing. Rodeway Inn Midtown, 1470 Spring St. Call 249-6400 for more information.

CLOUD 9. July 13 - Aug. 19; Fri. - Sat. This blistering farce about sexual politics is nasty and shocking and wonderful fun...a cornucopia of sexual permutations from heterosexual adultery to bisexual incest. Actor's Express, 280 Elizabeth St. Call 221-0831 for reservations.

AS YOU LIKE IT. Starts Fri., July 13, 8pm. Shakespeare explores the fun of cross-dressing in this tale of fools, frolics and faeries in the forest of Arden. Oglethorpe University. For more info call 264-0020.

LIES AND LEGENDS. July 13 - Aug. 11, Wed. thru Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. This upbeat musical takes a stylized and theatrical voyage through Harry Chapin's somewhat off-kilter world of ordinary people. Neighborhood Playhouse, 430 W. Trinity Pl. 373-5311 for details.

GRANNY TAUGHT US HOW. Fri., July 20 & Fri., July 27, 8:30pm. This evening of laughter by the comedy theater troupe SCHIZ! is definitely not a quilt shop in Buckhead. Clarence Foster's, 1915 Peachtree St.

THE TALENTED TENTH. July 25-27, 31 & Aug. 1-3, 8pm; July 28 & Aug. 4, 2:30 & 8:30pm; July 29 & Aug. 5, 2:30 & 7:30pm. Contemporary drama of a black business man whose world view has been radically altered by reality. Woodruff Arts Center/Alliance Theatre. Tickets at Ticket Master locations or call 249-6400.

ROBESON. July 27, 28 & 30, 8pm; July 29, 4pm. The NBAF brings us Avery Brooks (TV series Hawk) in a one-man show depicting the life story of the legendary scholar, athlete, actor, concert singer and activist Paul Robeson. Woodruff Arts Center/Symphony Hall. Tickets at Ticket Master locations or call 249-6400.

PRAISEHOUSE. July 31-Aug. 3, 8pm; Aug. 4, 2 & 8pm; Aug. 5, 1 & 6pm. Created by Jowole Willa Jo Zollar, director of "Urban Bush Women" this Atlanta premiere explores the life of southern painter and folk artist Minnie Evans through drama, music, and dance. An NBAF event. Seven Stages, Little Five Points. Tickets at Ticket Master locations or call 249-6400.

TV

DEAUNDR PEEK'S MOST-FUN SUMMER PLAYHOUSE. Every Weds., 9pm; every Sat. 11:30pm on Prime Cable Channel 12. The inimitable Deandra's "Playhouse" replaces her "Teenage Music Club" for the summer. Vacation Bible School News and weekly installments of the sci-fi thriller "Frog Bride." There's nothing else quite like it in town.

THE COLLECTORS: "ROARING TWENTIES." Sat., July 21, 5:30pm. Features world class art deco furniture, jewelry and Maxfield Parrish prints. GPTV, Channel 8.

BRADSHAW ON: THE FAMILY - HOPE FOR THE FAMILY. Sun., July 22, 6pm. This segment in the series focuses on the dynamics of special groups that create "them vs us" attitudes. Interesting insights into the pitfalls of separatism. GPTV, Channel 8.

YOU'RE THE TOP: THE COLE PORTER STORY. Mon., July 23, 10pm. One of America's cleverest, funniest and gayest romantic songwriters is spotlighted in this retrospective of his

life. Though disabled in 1937, his music moved the feet of a nation. GPTV, Channel 8.

REMEMBERING MARILYN. Thurs., July 26, 10pm. Lee Remick hosts this poignant tribute to the mysterious sex symbol whose fans seem to love her even better after death. From Norma Jean to America's most enduring wet dream. GPTV, Channel 8.

THE CAPITOL STEPS. Fri., July 27, 9:30pm. D.C.'s funniest group of political satirists perform their newest song parodies. Laughter with a political punch covering everything from Noriega to global warming. GPTV, Channel 8.

Women's Festivals

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.

WICCAN SUMMER INTENSIVE MIDWEST. Aug. 25 - 31. Starhawk and Reclaiming Collective will focus on this year's themes: Pentacles of Life and Elements of Magic. Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again. Blessed be. For info contact WSI, POB 26, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514.

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 good times. The location sounds lovely with 700 acres to enjoy everything from camping and hiking to moonlit hayrides and canoeing. For more info call (919) 682-6374.

WEST COAST WOMEN'S MUSIC AND COMEDY FESTIVAL. Aug. 30-Sept. 3. If you're gonna be on the West Coast over Labor Day and can't make it back for RhythmFest, here's the answer. From the infamous Ms. Robin Tyler. (818) 893-1593 for more info.

Upcoming

HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO 1990. Thurs., Aug. 2 - Sun., Aug. 5. A fun filled weekend culminating in the 12th annual raft race is a must for men who like to get wet and wild. Events include everything from the Miss Hotlanta Pageant on the 2nd to the Utopia Ball on the 3rd. Tickets may be purchased separately or try the great package deal. Last year over 2500 men attended. Call 872-3976 for info.

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE & CO. Aug. 3, 8pm; Aug. 4, 3 & 8pm. Choreography and talent, the likes of which are rare, from the openly gay Jones and his lover Zane who recently died of AIDS. A NBAF event. Civic Center. Tickets at Ticket Master locations or call 249-6400.

LAZARIS WEEKEND. Aug. 18 - 19. A new seminar will be presented, topic to be announced. Write them and request a lecture on your special area of interest. For further info call or write Concept: Synergy, 302 South County Rd, Suite 109, Palm Beach, Fla 33480, (407) 588-9599.

JAMBOREE. Sep. 13 - 16. Sponsored by the International Gay and Lesbian Outdoor Organization (IGLOO to those in the know) this annual gathering will be held this year in the Pocono Mountains. Sailing, dancing, volleyball—fun, fun, fun. Open to members of Friends Atlanta and Atlanta Venture Sports. Contact Larry Lucas, 875-0700 for info and/or to join if you are not already a member.



The film of E.M. Forster's "Room With a View," complete with steamy and suppressed homoeroticism, screens at 8pm on Saturday July 21 at the Rich Auditorium in the Woodruff Arts Center.

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N.E.A. Grants

Cont'd from page 3

according to NGLTF's Legislative Director Peri Jude Radecic.

Both Radecic and Holly Gewandter of GLAAD say they feel sure, but cannot confirm, that Frohnmayer's action is a direct result of right-wing pressure generated in response to the conciliatory stance that the White House and Barbara Bush have taken towards gays in the past few months. Frohnmayer, through a spokesperson, has continually denied that he rejected the fellowships because of political considerations.

White House Chief of Staff John Sununu is the source of much of that pressure according to unconfirmed reports that have been appearing in the gay press for several weeks now.

The NEA then announced, on July 10, that it had adopted an obscenity standard identical to that used by the Supreme Court;

one that requires that material lack "serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value" (but does not specifically mention the offending laundry list created by Helms) in order to be declared obscene.

The Southern Baptist Convention then announced that unless Congress puts restraints on the NEA which stop funding of "obscene, morally repugnant and sacrilegious art," that the SBC will call for Congress to abolish the NEA. The letter to members of Congress made specific reference to Robert Mapplethorpe, two other gay/lesbian exhibitions and a feminist project that the NEA had funded.

"It is very clear that this is a politically motivated attack on the rights of lesbians, gay men and feminists to make art and be visible in this society," said Tim Miller shortly after returning from a Los Angeles demonstration on July 11. Simultaneous demonstrations were held in Seattle and New York City, where the Mayors and most politicians have sided strongly with the

artists involved.

The NEA remains mute on funding the four fellowships.

All the discussion is fine, warns Atlanta's Anthony, "But," he adds, "we're focusing on the NEA and Frohnmayer when the reality is that we need to focus on the far and religious right. If we lose this one [in Congress], there will be a tremendous erosion of all of our rights. We must say, 'this can't be done to me!'"

Congressional deliberations on next year's NEA appropriations, and any restrictions attached thereto—which would become effective for five years—are expected this week or next.

Readers are urged to take advantage of a "speak out" program that has been organized by the arts community. Dial 1-900-226-ARTS and, for \$4.50 charged to your phone, mailgrams in support of removing the homophobic language will be sent to Senators Fowler and Nunn and your U.S. Congressman.

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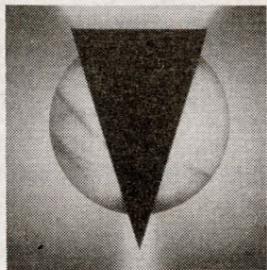
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with addiction



EVETT BENNETT

DR. TOM HARRY: Confronting Addictions

Tom Harry speaks quietly; his manner is quiet and reassuring, effective in his profession. He is a Southerner, with a Southerner's reticence. But he is frank about why he became concerned with alcoholic and addiction cases: "My own experience in recovering from addiction; my won experience in recovery. My co-dependency, and being an adult child of an alcoholic, from a dysfunctional family."

Like many other children from such a family, Tom worked hard in school, made good grades, went on to graduate school. "For years it was schoolwork," he remembers. "Staying in school and making straight A's—that was a way for me to get attention and approval. That was my reward. And it works, as a child. But as you get older..." He leaves the sentence unfinished.

Harry attended Mercer University in Macon, where he came out, then went on to obtain an M.A. in Education at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

He came to Atlanta, worked for the State of Georgia for three years, then entered Emory University Medical School. He went into residency training and did his first three years at Emory and affiliated hospitals. Tom's last year of medical school was spent at the University of Pennsylvania. But in addition to the good grades and the degrees, Tom was also acquiring a stronger and stronger alcohol and drug habit.

"It was a time when I felt fairly comfortable connecting with other people. But then as I got stronger into my addiction, I became completely isolated. I know that came from a lot of issues from childhood that I had never dealt with. I thought that if I didn't talk about them and didn't deal with them, they would just go away. It doesn't work that way. They come back to haunt you. And so I would use chemicals."

With the help of a program for addicted physicians, Tom began the process of recovery. Now, he works in private practice. "I work primarily with addiction. But not just alcohol and chemical addiction; it's also combined with co-dependency and adult children of alcoholics. And in working with that combination of people, I do treat a lot of depression."

Do gay men and lesbians have particular problems with addiction? Are we more prone to it? "I think that gay people tend to have more problems with certain issues, such as self-esteem. Identity issues. In my experiences working with gay people, it's hard for them to be really in touch with their feelings. And alcohol and other

chemicals are ways to stifle feelings."

Relationship problems are also primary issues among gay people, Tom feels, "because most gay people want to be in a relationship. And relationships become very hard to maintain especially when people come from dysfunctional families." People from dysfunctional families have trouble with being intimate? "Yes. They don't know what intimacy is."

Some treatment programs are more open to gay and lesbian patients than others: "I think you're going to find homophobia anywhere you go. You're going to find some people who aren't as comfortable with it as others. I did not feel comfortable with being openly gay in the treatment program I initially went to (not in Atlanta), and I found that to be a problem. When I came to Atlanta, I was in a program where there were other gay people—other gay professionals. So I was more comfortable. I think programs are trying to look at and be more sensitive to the needs of gay people, because gay people in recovery have different issues."

Tom acknowledges that there doesn't seem to be as much support for recovering gay people as for straights. "There are only two or three gay meetings in town. I allow my patients in the hospital to go to gay meetings. Just so they can have that as an experience. They may not want to continue to go to them, but they know that the meeting is there."

He is candid about his recently ending a relationship: "It was something that I felt I needed to do. Co-dependency is something that I struggle with on a daily basis, so I felt I needed to do that, and I felt good about it. I'm just now adjusting to what it's like being single again."

Tom is now in the process of reconnecting with people: "I just enjoy spending time with people, going out to dinner, going to movies. Back when I was drinking and using, I used to enjoy going out dancing. But now I don't really enjoy that very much. I will go out to a bar occasionally, but I usually try to take another recovering person with me; that gives me some strength."

Tom is adamant in his support of Twelve-Step programs: "I think the 12-step model is applicable to everyone." Some gays see such programs as too heterosexually based. How does he feel about that? "For people in recovery, the big question is: 'How do I live in recovery without using?' And that question is the same for gays as for straight people."

—Charlene Ball

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Consortium of Atlanta

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2nd Annual

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The next Experience is August 10, 11 and 12. For more information, or to attend a guest event, or to register, call (404) 873-9616 today.

Open Hand Faces Funding Slump

Asks for immediate contributions to help with increased case load

by Andrea K. Brown

The food is plentiful and wholesome, but the bank account is getting lean at Project Open Hand/Atlanta. The program—which prepares and delivers two freshly cooked meals daily to nearly 200 people with AIDS (PWAs) or HIV-related illnesses—is in the midst of a summer funding slump.

Summer is always a difficult time for non-profits; contributors take vacations and old grant monies dry up before new funds can be generated. And, as with any AIDS agency, "the growth rate is so fast, it's very difficult to keep up," according to project founder Michael Edwards.

For Project Open Hand, that growth rate means a 10% increase in clients every month and, adds Edwards, "We don't want to put anybody on a waiting list. Ever." The project has a policy of feeding any and all who have HIV-related illnesses and who request its help—red tape is minimal.

Because of the funding crunch, Open Hand has put out a call for contributions, targeting, in particular, past contributors. "We've gotten a good response already from the general community—donations from five dollars to two thousand dollars," says Chris Chimera, Project Manager. "That money will get us through this month. We expect it will continue to come in.... The older [we] get, the more [we] see how to anticipate and cover" lean periods such as this one.

Founded in September 1988 by Edwards (now a member of the Board) with a \$15,000 donation from Helping Hands, an Atlanta AIDS funding group,

Open Hand has been supported largely by individual donations and private fundraisers. The staff is primarily volunteer, keeping costs at a minimum.

Open Hand also receives funding from various foundations and one federal agency. In early 1989, the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation gave the project a grant to fund its three paid positions. Open Hand has also received money from the Episcopal Charity, FEMA (a federal emergency food and housing fund), and the United Way AIDS Crisis Fund (United Way's only specific provision for AIDS service organizations).

The combination of community support and the grants have kept the Project's head above water, but with monthly expenses in the range of \$30,000, cash flow continues to be a problem. Thus Open Hand has turned to a strategy designed to develop a broader funding base, according to Chimera.

Open Hand has begun to apply for funding from corporations and continues to seek support from both state and county Departments of Human Resources.

"We don't apply for grants that contain stipulations which we don't want to meet, or ones that aren't for very large amounts," says Chimera in response to community concerns about the strings that are sometimes attached to corporate funding. She says she is not aware of any "negative reaction" from volunteers or anyone involved with Open Hand on this question. The Project still depends on its grassroots base in the gay community, their friends, families and co-workers. This is,

after all, where most of their volunteers come from.

Open Hand recently completed a move from its original location in the kitchen of Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church to a larger and newly-outfitted space in Bass High School on Euclid Avenue in Little 5 Points. The space was renovated with a \$20,000 grant given in honor of Edwards' parents and grandparents; low monthly rental payments were approved by the Atlanta Board of Education.

Project Open Hand will officially dedicate its new location on Thursday, July 19 from 6-9 PM with an open house for volunteers, clients and supporters—past, present or future.

Open Hand's move has given it much-needed space, but its need for volunteers and donations continues to grow as the number of AIDS cases in Atlanta increases.

Call 565-4620 to volunteer and/or send tax-deductible contributions to: Project Open Hand, 1080R Euclid Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30307.

Smoking and Heavy Drinking Linked to AIDS Vulnerability

A series of studies presented at the 6th International AIDS Conference shows a strong link between heavy drinking and smoking and increased likelihood of infection with HIV according to an article in the *Washington Blade*.

Studies by the Centers for Disease Control, University of Pittsburgh,

University of California at San Francisco and the Minnesota Department of Health all show a trend towards increased unsafe sex in gay men.

The Pittsburgh study showed that heavy drinkers and drug users are 39 percent more likely to become HIV positive than those who abstain from alcohol or drink moderately. The other studies showed that men said that they tended to slip into unsafe sexual habits because they were in love, had no condoms or were too turned on to worry about taking precautions.

Researchers at the University of California at Berkeley said they found that HIV infected people who smoked cigarettes were more than twice as vulnerable to attack by opportunistic infection.

At the end of the 4.5 year study, 64 percent of the smokers had progressed to full-blown AIDS, while 53 percent of those who did not smoke were still healthy. Seventy-one percent of the non-smokers were still alive at the end of the study, while 43 percent of those smoked had succumbed to HIV infection.

Annual AIDS Forum

The second annual "AIDS Research Update: A Public Forum" will be held Tuesday, July 24 from 7-10PM at the Civic Center Auditorium. There will be a review and assessment of the Sixth International Conference on AIDS just held in San Francisco, an update on AIDS research in Atlanta, and Q&A periods to follow the presentations. A one dollar donation is requested. Call the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta at 876-2317 for more information.

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Get Adjusted to Downtown



Helen, Celina and Scott in their office on the galleria level of the Healey Building in downtown Atlanta. 522-2225

Scott Culberson may be a veteran practitioner of chiropractic, but his new office in downtown Atlanta is anything but stuffy and traditional. Scott's patients enjoy a relaxing, open and well designed space awash with natural light. "I tried to steer away from the traditional drab office setting. Our office is comfortable, modern and personal." Located in the historic Healey Building, Scott's practice is convenient to MARTA and offers free valet parking. Underground Atlanta is just three blocks south.

In Scott's office, you'll also meet Celina Denkins and her lover, Helen Skinner who manage this new facility with skill and humor. Scott's opening announcements read, "We're here to straighten up downtown."

"Celina immediately lectured me about the ambiguity of the phrase; I've learned a lot," says a smiling Culberson.

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Getting Our Acts Together

Parkside Restaurant
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M: Anytime a restaurant offers Southern cooking, J. and I can't say "No," so we eagerly went for lunch at Parkside. Oops,

the Southern cooking was so nouvelle that I couldn't understand what I was eating. We went back to try dinner and to cure my attack of ignorance.

J: As I parked my car, ignoring the valet service, my thoughts were drawn to the recent Gay Pride march, as Parkside is located on the edge of Piedmont Park. Unfortunately, these musings were an omen of my dinner to come.

M: What is she talking about?

J: I'll tell you later. Parkside's lobby looks like a 1940's clubhouse while the dining room is a barn-like room with a carpet that turns my stomach. However, at sunset, looking through the windows into Midtown is enchanting.

M: Actually, the dining room's design is a less than successful combination of art deco and golf clubhouse with enough room for a small Shriner's convention. And J. is right about the carpet—early bad Denny's.

J: Appetizers consist of such Southern mishmash such as goat cheese and grits with forest mushrooms and a Vidalia onion/sweet potato tart. The too-pricey-for-me entrees consist of dishes like grilled pork chops with French apple sauce and grouper with Florida citrus and asparagus. The wine list offers a wide selection of California wines that are outrageously priced. Desserts may be the best part of the menu, offering an interesting combination of tastes, i.e., peach pecan pie with caramel sauce.

M: I totally got into the food on this visit. Parkside uses some wonderful, different, light sauces in most of their dishes and some of the taste combinations are addictive. I had an excellent soft shelled crab appetizer, the best trout that I've eaten in the last year, and a great chocolate ganache. Parkside is one of those places where, if the decor were intimate, you wouldn't question the prices.

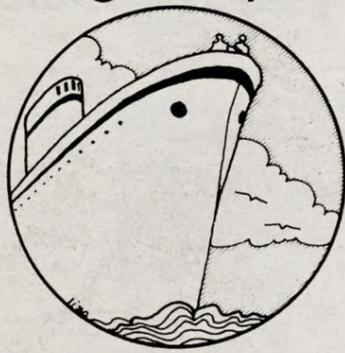
J: Geez, M. your brain is fried on this one. I won't go back for dinner, but I'll try brunch on Sunday, especially since the owner gave me a free meal when I complained about my tough pork chops.

M: Well, J. I'm buying you a bottle of Lydia Pinkums for future restaurant outings. I liked the food, and I would go back. I would have also loved watching the lights come on in Midtown at dark, if my date had not been so ornery.

J: The ideas of southern nouvelle cuisine and a restaurant in Piedmont Park are great, but Parkside doesn't have its act together yet. And, as for my earlier musings M., only 3,000 out of 300,000 gays and lesbians marched in Atlanta on Gay Pride day. In my opinion, we don't have our act together either. Sorry M., but I just couldn't pass up the opportunity to make the analogy.

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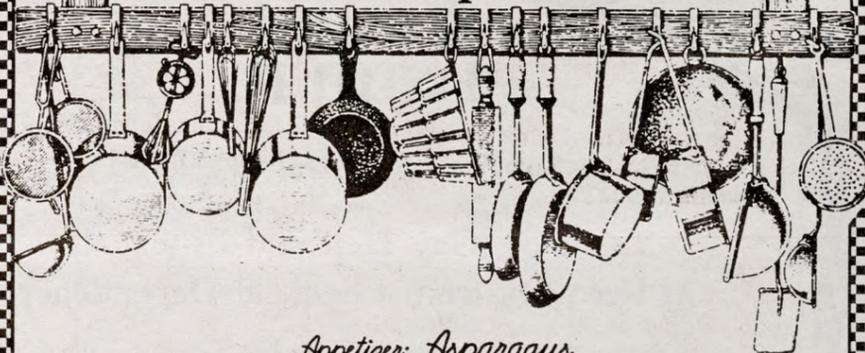
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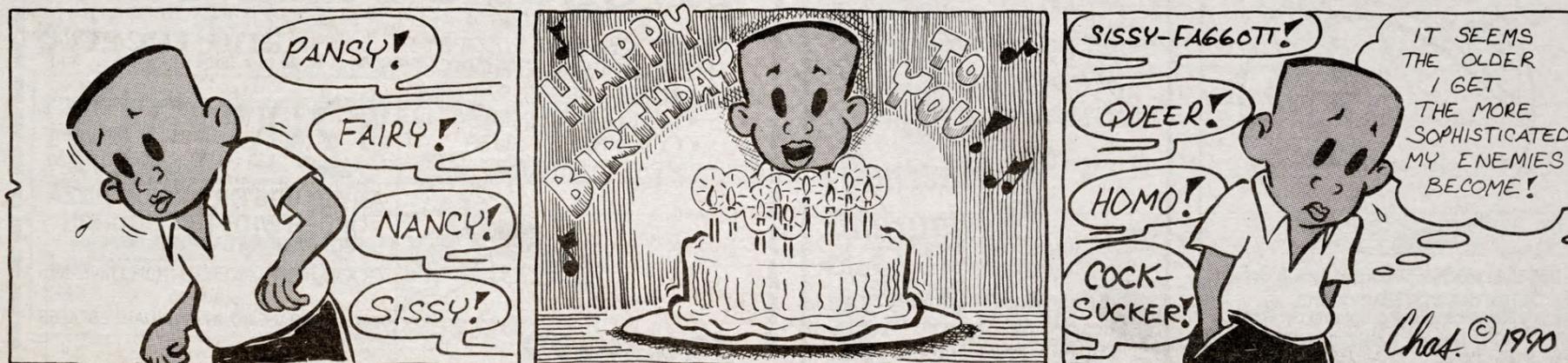
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by Charles Haver



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DISH

there's a fine line between telling the truth and talking trash

HIV+ People a Threat to the Food Supply?

"...I believe the Chapman amendment is a reasonable proposal which can preserve employees' jobs and, at the same time, ensure public confidence in the safety of our food supply." —Senator Sam Nunn in a letter that purports to explain to constituents why he voted to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act to allow HIV+ food handlers to be removed from their jobs and be offered "an alternative employment opportunity." Gee we thought those "amber fields of grain" were our "food supply," not the serving line at Morrison's. But Nunn, bless him, did come through in the end. Wish we could say the same for our junior senator. (See story page 2.)

Here-We-Go-Again

Former tennis champ Margaret Court is "saddened" that Queers are setting poor examples for kids in the tennis world. "There are now some players who don't even go to the tournament changing rooms because of the problem," said Maggie, a (guess what) born-again Christian. Court also stated that older players on the tennis circuit led other players—including Our Hero Martina—into (gasp) homosexuality. Margaret didn't name any names, but Dish wonders, Gee, Who could she mean? Now, Margaret—is it really all that bad? Zina Garrison, sporting her new husband (and is he ever good-looking!) at Wimbledon, doesn't seem to be too affected by "the problem"... Martina, wisely, had no comment.

Shay Wins the Big One

Shay Youngblood, author of the wonderfully funny and poignant "Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery" has been



awarded one of two Mayor's Fellowships in the Arts for 1990. The talented author says that she plans to use the money to allow her to finish a new novel, "Last Blue Poets in Exile"—which is set in Paris and includes lesbian and gay relationships. Look for a reading at Charis sometime this fall. Shay has also joined the board of directors of Nexus Contemporary Art Center. Dish is impressed.

P.G.A. Pigs

Shortly after Dish heard of Ms. Court's obscenities (see "Here-we-go-again") we got some more bad news from the wonderful world of professional sports. Seems as if the U.S. Women's Open (that's golf, not yet another women's festival) was held last weekend at the Atlanta Athletic Club in Duluth. And it seems that said AAC has 2500 members, none of whom happen to be Black. (Dish wonders how many are queers?) And it seems the men's P.G.A. championship tour is scheduled for Shoal Creek Golf Club in Birmingham. Zip Black members *there* too. The good news is that the Arise Coalition has, well, arisen to deal with this racist idiocy. The group held a picket last Saturday at the AAC and several queers were in attendance we hear. Dish urges you to contact Bill Crossman at 371-0322 if you, too, would like to rise up and end racism in sports.

Bad, Bad Bird

Move over Andy Rooney, Mel Gibson's in the hot seat now. Actually, it's everyone responsible for the beauty salon scene in the blockbuster movie, Bird on a Wire. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is as annoyed as we were with Gibson's characterization of Matty, a swishy homosexual hairdresser. Even more offensive is the portrayal of Raun of Racine as the bitchy and malicious salon owner. GLAAD and *Southern Voice* encouraging conscientious moviegoers to write letters of protest to John Badham (c/o Triad Artists, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90067), director and co-producer of the movie and its co-stars, Mel Gibson (c/o ICM, 8899 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048).

July 19 - August 1

RULING PLANETS

by Mary Bailey-Rule

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLORETH

The New Moon on July 21 is a Solar Eclipse and the Sun enters Leo on July 22 creating a powerful new cycle of activity.

ARIES- With Mars in your 2nd house of personal finances and material resources, you may want to investigate new options for investing. Be alert for "get rich quick" schemes, or industries that endanger the environment.



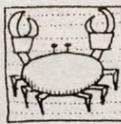
TAURUS- Your 4th house of home and family are highlighted, so plan a picnic with those you love and do some fixing up around the apartment or house. Feeling restless? Consider moving to a new location.



GEMINI- Venus is now in your 2nd house of personal finances and material resources, so this could be the perfect time to buy something for your home or look for a super deal on a new car. Trust your instincts and expect the best.



CANCER- If your life is feeling a little intense right now, you may need more personal time for reflection and doing your favorite things. You may need to escape from the city for a weekend to soothe the soul.



LEO- Happy Birthday! Mercury and the Sun are in your 1st house illuminating your personality, so gather your friends, share your courage and vitality while celebrating. A good time to plan the coming year.



VIRGO- Your 12th house of dreams and visions is activated by Mercury and the Sun, so pay more attention to your instincts and intuition. Trust your higher self for guidance, especially in confusing or difficult situations.



LIBRA- Venus joins Jupiter, the planet of optimism and expansion, in your 10th house of career on July 19 creating new perspectives, and opportunities for enhancing your current situation. Prepare to move ahead!



SCORPIO- With Venus and Jupiter in your 9th house of higher learning and new perspectives, consider traveling or studying something exotic or at least different, especially if you want to make new friends.



SAGITTARIUS- Mercury and the Sun in Leo are trining your sign, enhancing your creativity. Plan fun outings, take a short trip and explore new ideas and perspectives of life. Your ability to learn is excellent now.



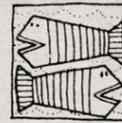
CAPRICORN- Venus moving through your 7th house enhances your ability to work with others, so expect your close personal relationships to be more harmonious. If difficulties arise, rely on patience, sincerity.



AQUARIUS- The Sun and Mercury are activating your 7th house of personal relationships, so communicate with old friends and let those dear to you know how much you love and appreciate them in your life.



PISCES- Your 5th house of creativity and passion are activated by Venus and Jupiter, so it is definitely time for fun and creative projects. Refuse to worry, find new ways to express your creativity and enjoy yourself.



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

Next Deadline: July 10, 1990

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Name: _____

Phone #: _____

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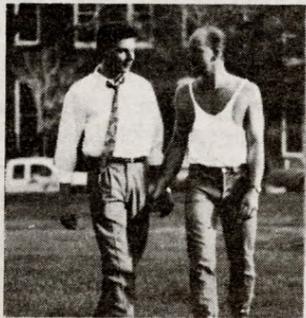
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2. Style Information-*Southern Voice* will make the first five words bold, italicized, ALL CAPS, or frame your ad for \$1.00 per style, per issue. Or ALL FOUR FOR \$4.00 per issue.
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4. To Respond to a *Southern Voice* Box Number Is EASY - Put your reply in a stamped sealed envelope and write the box number on the lower left corner. Mail your reply envelope in a separate envelope to *Southern Voice*, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, Ga., 30316. We will forward your reply to the appropriate party.
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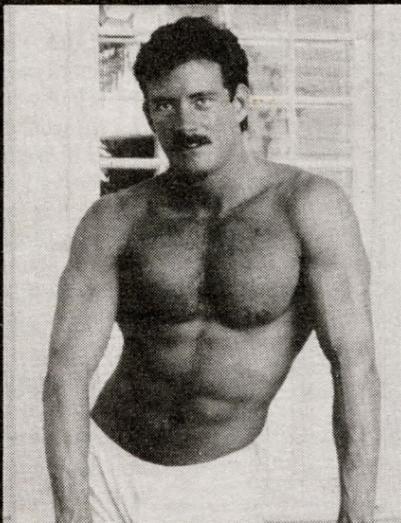
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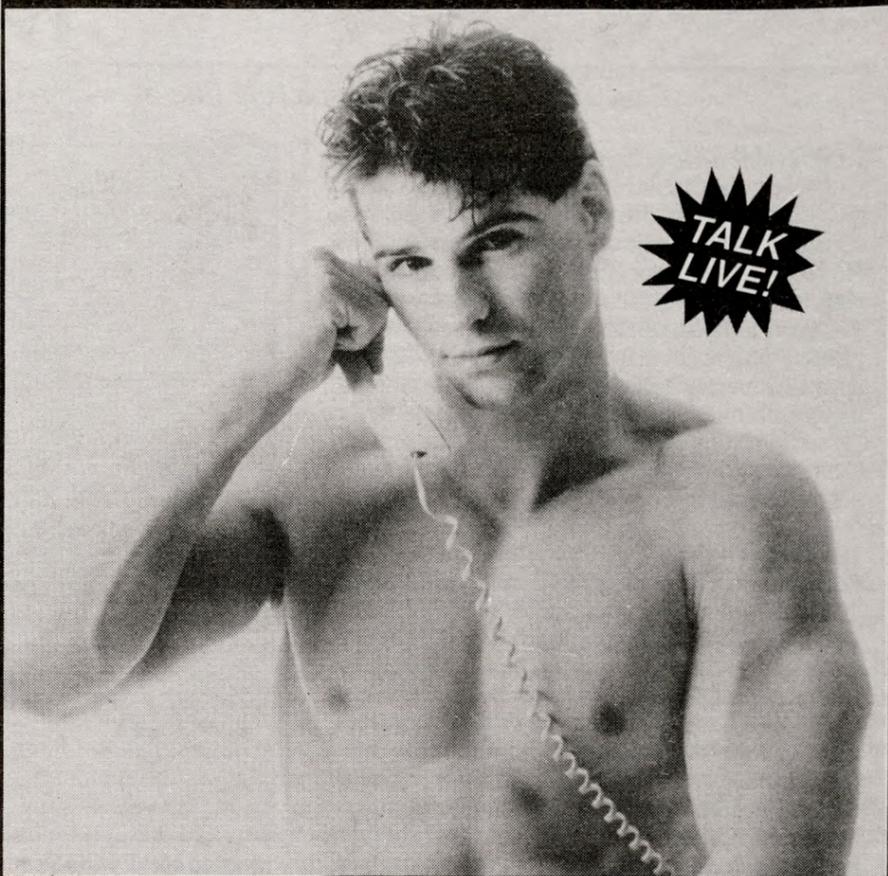
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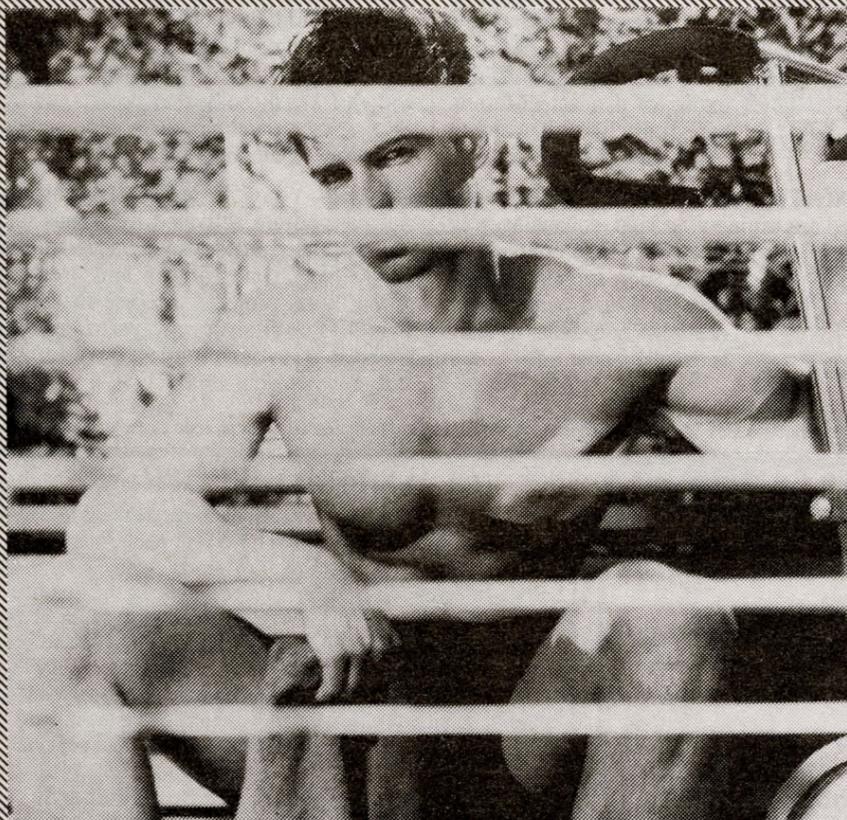
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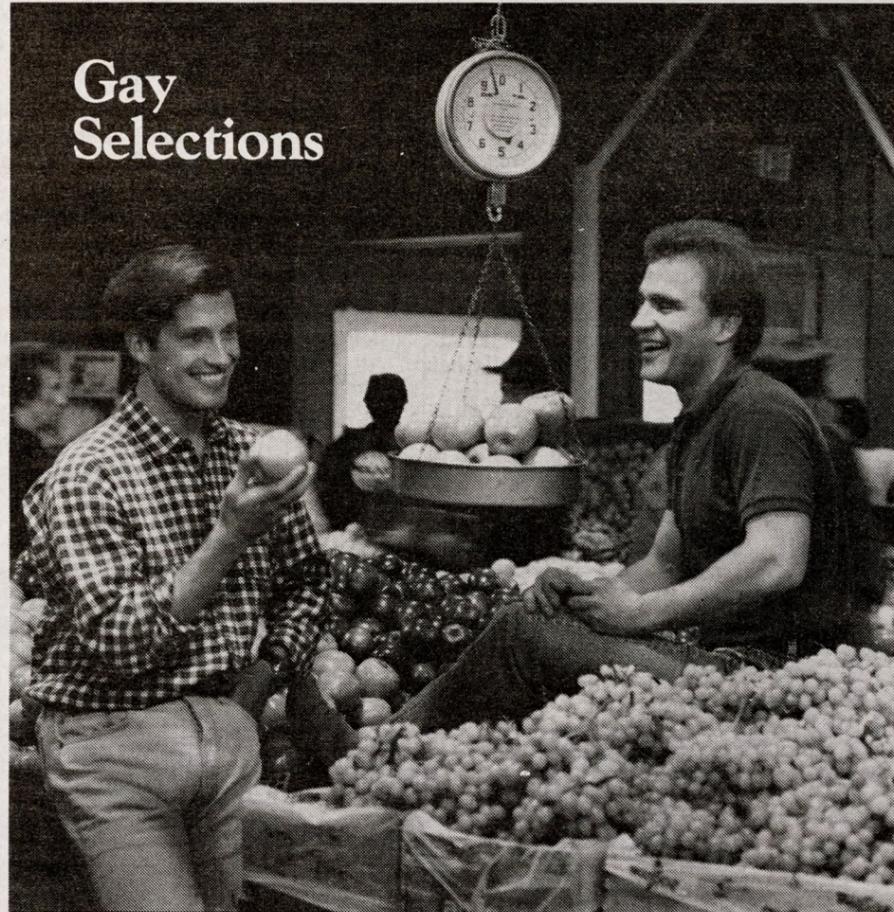
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Shown above, a 1987 Mercedes Benz 190 E, 16 valve, limited production, pearlescence over black with Recaro seats, stilleto wheels, all Benz options and only 24K miles.

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1984 911 Convertible, white over blue - only 27 K miles - spoilers front and rear, all records - excellent! #608-1
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1989 525i black over black - 5 speed - all options. Excellent throughout! #736
JAGUAR
1989 XJS Convertible - red over tan - 14K miles factory warranty. Excellent condition! #723



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1987 560 SL Desert taupe over cream beige - local car - all records, chrome wheels - excellent throughout! #738
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1986 560 SL White over palamino, 47K miles - all records. Beautiful throughout! #741
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1988 900 Turbo Convertible - white over burgandy - automatic transmission - all options - perfect! #669

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Richard Winston, Sales Manager

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CLASSIFIEDS

* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

The Next AIDS 101 WEEKEND will be July 28-29 (Sat. & Sun.) - Design your own program with optional choices and elective workshops plus standard courses - GA Mental Health Inst., Registration Deadline Wed. July 25. For info and reg. 872-0600. (V3,#11)

Minority AIDS Service

- Carline - 753-5114
- Counseling
- Positive Living Support Group
- Buddy Plan
- Community Relations
- Bible Study

Good News Awareness Ministry, Cathedral of Faith, 753-5114 (V3,#12)

GSU TO OFFER GROUP THERAPY FOR HIV+ AND HIV- MEN sponsored by GSU's Dept. of Psychology. \$30 for all ten sessions (Wednesdays). No one turned away for lack of funds. An effort to better respond to the concerns and problems of HIV+ and HIV- men. Open format discussion, six to eight participants & two therapists per group. Contact Jim Burke at 404/584-8306

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

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

AIDS 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 Meriwether 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,

* AIDS SERVICES & EDUCATION

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.C.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 294-9407.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STREET WISE SELF DEFENSE
Instructed by Ellen Teeter at the LSP comm. center Wed. nights beginning Aug 1st. Offering basics of the martial arts and Street smart protection. Warren @ 607-8612 or Jessi @ 296-3702

USED BOOKS WANTED - I will buy your used lesbian/feminist books in good condition for up to 20% of cover price. Saturday, August 4, 1-4 PM at Charis Books, 419 Moreland Ave. N.E. Patty Callaghan (V3,#11)

P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays) meet every 3rd Sunday, 5-7 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church.

Recreational Co-ed Volleyball Sun 2-5 at Winn Park, Ansley. For more info call 875-0700

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

Shambhala Training, Meditation Center - Develop your awareness, awaken your natural connection w/life itself. A clear mind, gentle heart and a sense of humor are qualities which we all desire. 1518 Monroe Dr. Atl. 876-6954

AUDITIONS

THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYHOUSE (430 W. Trinity Pl., Decatur, 373-3904) will hold auditions for the Atlanta premiere of "Broadway Bound" by Neil Simon on July 29 & 30 at 7:30 PM. Casting for 4 men, 20-70, and 2 women, 30-55. Prepare 1 or 2 monologues. No appt. necessary. (V3,#11)

CHILD CARE

Ormeood/Grant Park child care in home. Registered day care provider. 2-5 year olds. 2 meals & snack. Clean, safe environment. M-F 624-9768.

EMPLOYMENT

2 P/T women to earn \$10/hr. on a flexible schedule for top notch cleaning service. References required, previous experience not necessary but preferred. Positive attitude a must. Leave message M-F 9-5. 872-1754.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST Do meaningful work! If you are creative, self-motivated, articulate & like working with people, don't waste your time in a boring job. Work for a progressive, environmental organization. Hrs. 2-10 PM M-F. \$175 to 245/wk to start. \$225-300 after 10 day training period. Excellent advancement potential. G.E.P., 429 Moreland Ave. N.E., 521-3731 (V3,#11)

Tired of the way your life is going? Sick of the job routine? I have a part-time job opportunity that could help. Train to manage a small business w/unlimited earning potential. 662-4017 for info. (V3,#11)

EDUCATION - National-Louis University is seeking individuals to fill the following positions at its Atlanta Academic Center. **RECRUITER** - Prof. position, responsible for recruiting working adults for an evening BA completion program. Good interpersonal, marketing, telephone and public

EMPLOYMENT

speaking skills are req. Admissions or financial aid exp. helpful. Occasional limited evening hours. BA req. Good benefits, salary \$26,000 plus. **SECRETARY** - Responsible for clerical support of the recruiting staff. Req. typing (50 wpm), WordPerfect, filing. Must be organized worker who can handle multiple tasks. Good phone manner and knowledge of computers helpful. Occasional limited evening hours. Good benefits; Salary \$16,000 plus. **ACADEMIC SERVICES OFFICER** - Responsible for oversight of the Admissions process, counseling students on prior learning assessment, and registration and record keeping functions. Good organizational and detail skills req. BA req. MA and experience with Adult students preferred. Occasional limited evening hours; Good benefits; Salary \$24,000 plus. Send letter of application and resume to: Personnel Dept., National-Louis University, 1777 Northeast Expy, Suite 250, Atlanta, GA 30329 (V3,#11)

Hair we are again, looking for three good hairdressers to fit into our laid-back, comfortable style of doing hair. HAIRANOIA, 321-5775, Tuesday through Saturday. (V3,#11)

Health conscious, caring and ambitious? We are looking for 5 people interested in contributing to the well being of others while earning an excellent income. Full or part time. Call Debra Golden after 10am weekdays at 953-2649. (V3,#16)

PET LAND Lenox Square. Full-time, Part-time. Experience with animals/sales. 233-2246. (V3,#11)

Home independent mailers wanted. Earn thousands working from the privacy of your own home. Send for free information S.A.S.E. to J.D. Enterprises, P.O. Box 15171, Atlanta, GA 30333. (V3,#10)

EROTICA

LEG - LESBIAN EROTICA GROUP. Enjoy/Share fantasies, Videos, Readings, Games, and Toys. Info/Inquiries/Ideas. SASE. Box N2, 1000 S. Manor Dr., Mableton, GA 30059 (V3,#9)

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

I'm a happy, responsible lesbian, Virginia-Highland native. Over 10 years experience as Certified Nursing Assistant, on medical units and private duty with Alzheimers and geriatric folk; will gladly work with PWA - Desire private duty in this neighborhood, \$8.00/hr; will work 7am-3pm Mon.-Sat., minimum 4 hr./daily. Available July 23rd. Good, honest references. Please write or call Marion, PO Box 8042, Atlanta, GA 30306, 872-3162. (V3,#12)

FOR RENT

Virginia-Highland Duplex, Skyline view, large 2 BR, Living room with fireplace, dining room - den, WD included, CH/A, great location, no dogs. \$925. 876-7394. (V3,#11)

Morningside - Emory Area - Large one BR apartment, two fireplaces and many other extras. Available immediately for individual who wishes for quiet and privacy. \$450 + dep. - all utilities incl. 377-1826 (V3,#11)

Unfurnished duplex Snellville, 2BR/2BA, large country kitchen, storage shed, W/D connections, blinds, \$450/mo. 934-4543. (V3,#10)

3 BR tri-level condo. 1 car garage, alarm system, FP, Gas Grill, CH/A, W/D connections. Deck & patio w/view of Candler Park. Available Immediately. \$925 per month. Call 874-8438. (V3,#10)

Midtown Condo by Park - 2BR/2BA, loft, by window, fireplace, security system, W/D, parking, new carpet/paint. Available immediately. \$650/mo. 876-2190. (V3,#9)

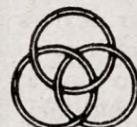
Ormeood - 2BR, den, 1BA, LR w/fireplace, DR, large kitchen, stove, refrig.(ice maker), W/D conn., carpet, ceiling fan, fenced back yard. \$550/mo. + dep. Doug - 874-5691. (V3,#9)

Rent or lease with option to buy. Decatur-East Lake MARTA station. Renovated. Two bedrooms, one bath, fenced yard. \$550 per month rental. References and deposit required. 876-2075.

FOR SALE

Erotic Stories for Women...By Woman Enjoy a sample story for \$5.00 OR receive your own personal fantasy in print if you send me the ideas - only \$20.00. Stories, P.O. Box 9151, Greensboro, NC 27429 (V3,#11)

Delicious, Tea-Cake w/Rum Sauce \$2.00 for recipe and mailing. 2348 Willowdale Cir., Atlanta, GA 30316. (V3,#11)



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Attorney - Free Consultation - most legal services, DUI, bankruptcy, injury, criminal, divorce, real estate, wills, etc. J.E. Cline, 2964 Peachtree Rd., 237-9598 Anytime.

LOOKING FOR....

Needed - Retired woman needs heavy duty yard work and tree removal. Can pay small fee. Call before 10:00am. Mrs. Moody 377-4874. (V3,#11)

HELP! Lesbian couple, American/British, need house or duplex to rent while sorting out immigration details. Need month-to-month until VISA status resolved, then can consider term lease. Support International Relations! 476-8936. (V3,#11)

METAPHYSICAL

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.

ORGANIZATIONS

P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays) Every 3rd Sunday, 5-7 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church. (FV3,#10)

PERSONALS

The Hotlanta Connection The Right Choice For Man To Man Connections!

404-873-3855 Office
404-873-3858 Info
MC/Visa

GWM 27, 5-10, 150, blue-eyed, summer blond, somewhat muscular, hairy chest, handsome. Loves: his penthouse, moonlight, Atlantic beaches, New York, Album-88, Depeche Mode, dancing. Include your phone! Photo's cool. Write Rick: PO Box 54872, Atlanta 30308-0872. (V3,#11)

FIND SOMETHING BETTER TO DO AFTER SEX. Self-paced, wholistic stop-smoking program will end your habit. Guaranteed. Send current cigarette brand (indicate King or Regular and if Menthol) with \$19.95 to KIMMA Enterprises; Box 870526, Dept. S-1; Morrow, GA 30287-0526. (V3,#11)

GBF 29 interested in meeting other females for pen-pals. I'm considering relocating to the Atlanta area. Must be self-established, sincere replies only, please include telephone number. Discretion is a must. No men, dykes, druggies or immature/insecure persons need respond. (V3,#11)

PERSONALS

GWM, 44, Tall, Attractive, Medium Build, Articulate, Educated, Stable, Secure, Affectionate, Romantic, Humorous, Sensitive, Adventurous, Out-going. Wishes to establish a relationship with a like-minded GBM. Letter, phone #, photo (if available) appreciated. SV Box 2304. (V3,#11)

GBM seeks big size girth mirth older white man age 60-80. Weight 290-360 lbs. Send letter with full length photo only to H.J., P.O. Box 17994, Atlanta, GA 30316. (V3,#11)

GWF, 27, attractive feminine professional, various interests include being outdoors, traveling, evenings at home, good books and restaurants, looking for a GWF 25-39 who is sincere, honest and stable with a great sense of humor and a big heart, no drugs or B's. SV Box 2305 (V3,#11)

GWM - 30 intelligent, outgoing, attractive, and modern, enjoy reading, travel and dining out. Partial to Italian types. Interested in friendship and/or intimacy. SV Box 2310 (V3,#11)

PERSONALS

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.

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

Personal Growth for Men & Women In this group we will place a strong emphasis on experimental work that allows each person to participate at his or her own level of involvement. We will utilize Gestalt Theory and Methodology to enhance and foster growth in self awareness and contact w/others. The Gestalt Institute of Atlanta 850-0203. Tues & Thurs 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Also Individual Therapy. (V3,#14)

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Senior Citizen Services - Needs Volunteers. Senior citizen services is in dire need of dedicated volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Fulton County. For more information, please contact Gertha Lowe at 881-5982 or 881-5983.

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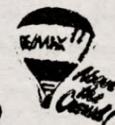
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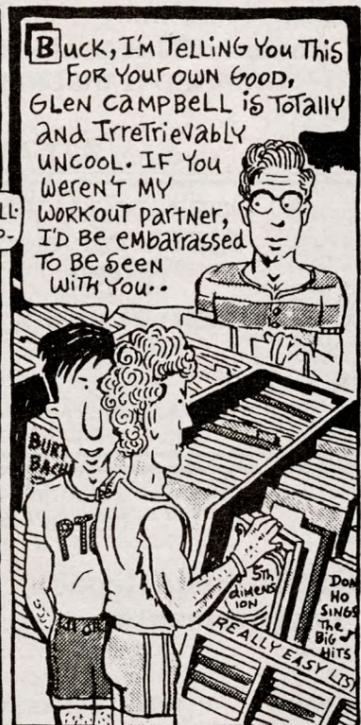
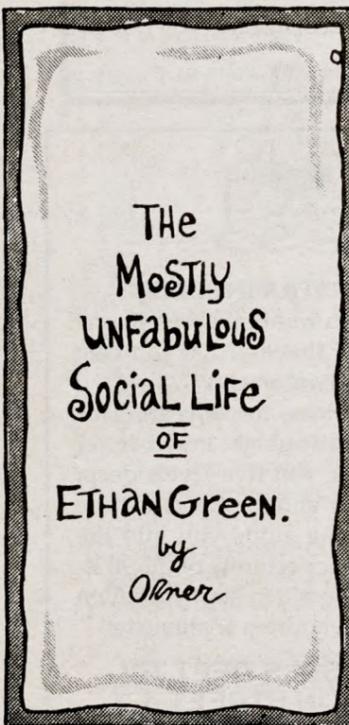
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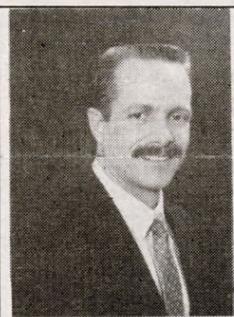
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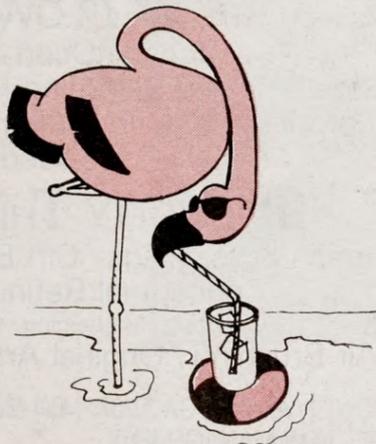
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Florida Gov't. Backing Down on Attempt to Quash Queer Resort

Owners fear Fed's may take legal action next

by Andrea K. Brown

Pieces of Eight Key is not just *any* offshore island—it is T.H.E. Island, Inc., owned by Key West lesbians Linda Shearer and Lynn Parker.

T.H.E. (Total Homosexual Environment) Island is Shearer and Parker's attempt to create a getaway for lesbians and gay men in the primitive wilderness of the Florida Keys.

But the Florida Department of Natural Resources has other ideas.

Shearer and Parker were arrested about three weeks ago on one felony count for "polluting" and several misdemeanor charges of "dredging and filling" and "harvesting or damaging" trees such as mangroves, joewoods and bay cedars.

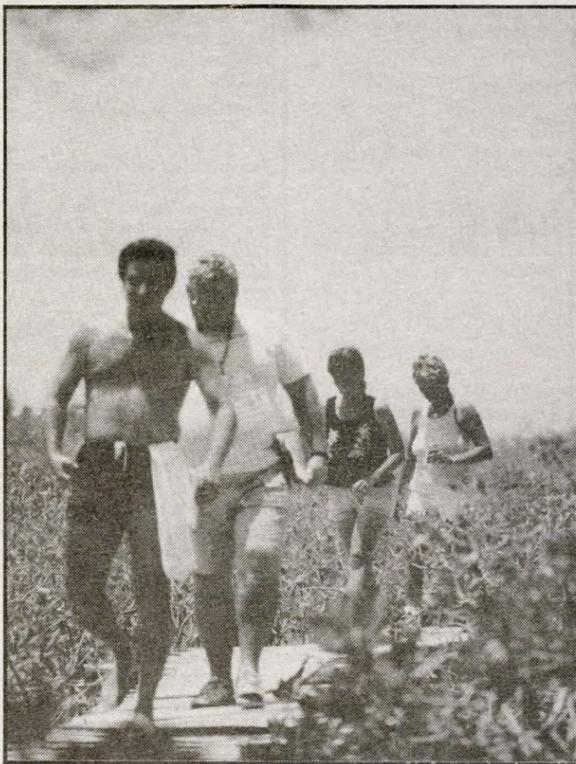
"It's strictly harassment. One hundred percent," says Parker. The couple says they checked with Monroe County on zoning, and cleared only already approved county roads, survey cuts or canals. A land clearing permit, applied for in October 1989, was neither denied nor approved within 90 days, and thereby "given by default," according to Parker.

"When we got there, there was already a footbridge, a floating bridge to the mainland [Middle Torch Key], a dirt road around the island," as well as a boat dock with several barges and a jeep in working order which came with the land purchase. The county allowed for up to \$500 per year worth of repair on the existing footbridge, which T.H.E. Island undertook.

The main dirt road around the island developed ruts, worn down by the use of the jeep and service vehicles. "That's their dredge count," says Parker. "The filling was when we put rocks in the ruts [in an attempt to smooth the road surface]. The county said we could fill the county road."

The island had originally been surveyed in 1960 for development which would have included dredging, canals, condominiums and other commercial buildings. Roads were approved by the county in 1964.

Parker and Shearer own two-thirds of the island, which is about a mile long and a third of a mile wide. They have a lease with an option to purchase the final



ALLEN COLEMAN

T.H.E. Island attorney Michael Halpern, National Marine Fisheries' Richard Woleski and island owners Lynn Parker and Linda Shearer trudge the half-mile long foot bridge to T.H.E. Island

third which is good through December 1991. Despite their recent arrest and the high cost of legal defense, the pair fully expects to complete the purchase.

T.H.E. Island is legally subdivided into 845 lots, more than 90 of which have already been sold. The 60-by-100-foot lots were originally sold for \$5000 apiece; the price is now \$6000.

According to Monroe County zoning, the island is to be used for the personal use of its owners for camping on

a temporary basis. That is exactly what they are doing, say Parker and Shearer.

"We're very environmentally sensitive to this area," argues Parker. "We didn't want building rights." The residents use only solar power—no motorized vehicles are allowed, except for the service vehicles which move camper-trailers from the barge that carries them from Middle Torch Key, to their lots. In the future, T.H.E. Island plans to use solar-powered golf carts for transportation.

Nine lots were sold in the three weeks following Shearer and Parker's arrest. The women spent only five hours in jail. "We've gotten so much support. It's wonderful," Parker says.

The first meeting of the Lot Owners' Association was held on July 14; some owners even flew in for the meeting. This group is important because it will be able to request permits as a community organization.

On July 12, after two weeks of depositions by witnesses for the prosecution, the state offered to settle out of court. The depositions remaining to be heard were canceled, and the prosecution went into conference with Shearer and Parker's attorney Michael Halpern, who has practiced criminal and environmental law in the Keys for 15 years. Parker says they will not settle out of court unless the felony charge is dropped.

The prosecution's star witness, Vincente Lopez, a Marine Patrol Officer for the Environmental Task Force, "didn't even know the statutes he'd arrested us for." According to Parker, Lopez made a "blundering idiot" of himself, and the prosecution's case was severely handicapped.

Parker and Shearer believe that once the trial with the state is over, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (that is, the Federal government) will file suit against them. They recently received a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers that warned them to cease and desist "prop dredging," that is, hitting their boat's motor against the undersea floor.

Laments Parker, "First they didn't want our footbridge, now it's our boat. If we could just twitch our noses and fly out to the island, they'd be happy."

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