

VOICE

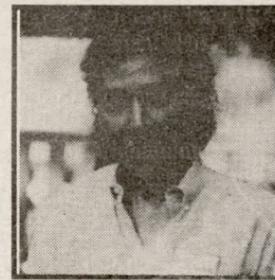
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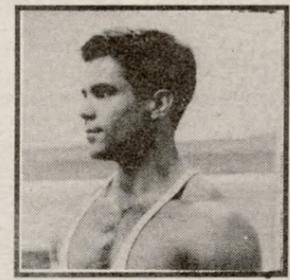
Marcia Okula
has been named special assistant to the mayor on lesbian/gay issues. 2

BOLD



Jeff Shinn,
a local PWA who underwent hyperthermia in Italy, shares his thoughts. 23

BODIES



Mr. Hotlanta
contestant Tim Thompson hopes to bring the trophy home to Atlanta. 5

Two arrested at CDC demonstration

by KC Wildmoon

Atlanta—ACT UP/Atlanta struck twice last week, with a demonstration at the Centers for Disease Control and an "unauthorized visit" to a CNN Headline News studio. Both actions protested what ACT UP calls the CDC's failure "to properly educate the American public regarding the facts...of HIV transmission." Two people were arrested at Thursday's demonstration at the CDC.

Around forty protesters gathered in front of the CDC on Clifton Road at noon on July 25 to protest recent guidelines released by the CDC concerning HIV and healthcare workers. The guidelines, which suggest voluntary testing, come after months of public pressure following the disclosure that five people in Florida may be infected by their HIV positive dentist.

Two protesters, Chip Rowan and NAPWA (National Association of People With AIDS) Executive Director Kathleen Brockel, entered the CDC building and handcuffed themselves to the front door.

ACT UP charges CDC with failure to educate public about AIDS transmission, media for hysterical reporting

CDC security and DeKalb County Police allowed the pair to remain for a little over an hour before arresting them. They were charged with criminal trespass and released on their own recognizance. Arraignment was set for October 10 in DeKalb County court.

"The CDC has piecemealed the information about AIDS and HIV transmission," said Rowan, who is director of the AIDS Legal Project. "It's their job to educate the American public, but instead they've confused them."

While Brockel and Rowan continued their protest inside the CDC, protesters outside marched and chanted for an hour and a half. On at least one occasion protesters successfully stopped traffic on Clifton Road before being brought back to the sidewalk by DeKalb County Police.

The protest ended when Brockel and Rowan were arrested.

On July 26, four members of ACT UP/Atlanta broke off from a guided tour of CNN studios and disrupted a portion of a live Headline News broadcast. Peter Stinner, Jeff Graham, Michael Standish, and David Lowe could be heard shouting "Stop The AIDS Panic" over a promotion of Kathleen Turner's new movie, *V.I. Warshawski*.

The four attempted to use plastic handcuffs to attach themselves to TV cameras and the anchor desk before being apprehended by security.

"Four individuals made an unauthorized visit to a Headline News studio while we were in a taped segment," according to Steve Haworth, Director of Public Relations for CNN and Headline

News, "They made some remarks, were removed by Turner security and turned over to Atlanta Police." Haworth said that a microphone on the set was open for the first few seconds of ACT UP's interruption.

"We did this to focus attention on the media's responsibility to educate the public regarding modes of HIV transmission," said ACT UP's Lowe. "The media's soap opera portrayal of the AIDS epidemic has led to a panic and a mass hysteria in this country which is unwarranted and may have disastrous effects."

The four were taken to Zone 5 of the Atlanta Police Department. "We were given criminal trespass warnings, banned from ever returning to CNN Center, and released," said Lowe.

Both the CDC demonstration and the CNN action were tied to increasing public misconceptions about HIV transmission. ACT UP claims that the "Helms Amendment," introduced in the Senate by

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Gay bulletin board services offer everything from dates to debates

(or how to find love, happiness, sex and enlightenment in your own home using your personal computer)

by Al Cotton

Like lots of people, I used to be comfortable with my computer illiteracy. I would come home after work, eat, watch my videotapes of "The Simpsons" and "Murphy Brown" and go to bed.

Little did I realize that at all hours of the day and night, all over the country, gay people were using PC's, modems and telephone lines to argue politics, proposition each other, run dating service programs and play video games. Such are the options provided by Bulletin Board Services, otherwise known as BBS's.

If you have a computer, you may be familiar with commercial computer services like CompuServ and Prodigy. For a monthly fee, you can do all sorts of thing on them—order groceries at Kroger, check the weather in Chicago, update baseball scores, even become your own travel agent. Both services have bulletin boards and vary in their comfortability with gay issues. As discussed in *Southern Voice's* letter section last week, Prodigy censors openly gay postings; the CompuServ users I spoke with report that it encourages and supports gay users.

But no matter how supportive, once exposed to such straight services, some resourceful gay people will decide that running a gay BBS might (a) be profitable, (b) be fun, and (c) provide a useful service to our community. If you picked (a), then you're thinking like a

sysop (short for Systems Operator or BBS proprietor) or 28 Barbary Lane, a huge gay/lesbian/bi BBS out of Seattle. During prime time, Barbary's 32 phone lines take calls from over 2,000 users.

First, a bit of history. BBS's date back about 20 years, to the time when the Department of Defense wanted to network its computers together. They created ARPANet, a forerunner of BBS's which in its current incarnation links virtually every government agency, university computer department and corporate research department in the country that wants to be on-line. BBS's were originally intended to communicate scientific information; the phenomenon that is BBS-ing today didn't begin until enough Apples and Compaqs were in the hands of the general public. That critical mass seems to have occurred in the late 1970's.

BBS's have evolved into two basic formats. First were "message-oriented" BBS's, which evolved from ARPANet and consist of messages left for others to read at a later date. Later, "chat-oriented" BBS's appeared, where users talk with (or type at) each other in public chats, exiting to private chats as necessary. The differences are clear: message BBS's emphasize transfer of information; chat BBS's are primarily social, with meeting people and off-the-cuff conversations emphasized



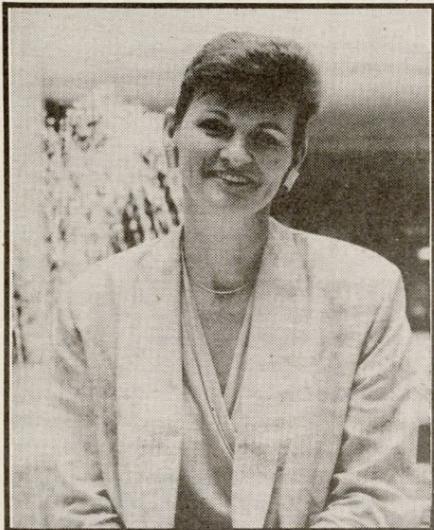
KAREN DUNIGAN

OUTline is a six-month old BBS in Atlanta, social and political in nature, which encourages lesbians to sign on.

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Mayor names Okula as administration's gay special assistant

Appointment is first for open lesbian or gay to serve on staff



KAREN DUNIGAN

Marcia Okula says one of her first priorities as special assistant is to revive the Community Relations Commission to deal with discrimination.

by KC Wildmoon

On July 17, Mayor Maynard Jackson announced the appointment of Marcia Okula as Special Assistant to the Mayor, making her the first open gay or lesbian ever to serve on an Atlanta mayor's administrative staff. The appointment was a fulfillment of a promise made by Jackson during his campaign for mayor in May 1989.

Okula, who served on the board of directors of Fourth Tuesday and the steering committee of the National Lesbian Conference, started work on July 22.

"There's a lot to do," she said, "but I intend to do as much as I can as quickly as I can."

One of the first things on Okula's agenda is to revive the Community Relations Commission, begun during the administration of Mayor Ivan Allen in the late 60s but discontinued during Andrew Young's administration. Reestablishment of the CRC was another of Jackson's 1989 campaign promises.

"Mayor Jackson wants to revive [the CRC] to deal with discrimination against anyone because of who or what they are," said Okula. "I'll be getting the people together to start the commission over again. Once it's up and running, I'm not certain what my role will be in it. Certainly I'll still represent the gay and lesbian community, but there will also be other gays and lesbians involved in the commission."

Okula also said she plans to lobby the mayor to appoint more gays and lesbians to other boards and commissions in city government.

"There are a lot of vacancies that the mayor can fill [with gays and lesbians]," Okula said. "I'm going to turn over a big stack of names to the mayor."

One of the most important city boards, according to Okula, is the Civilian Review Board, which reviews charges of brutality in the police and corrections department. "I think because of the problems that have

been reported with the police, having gays and lesbians on that board is crucial," she said. "In fact, I need to know more about the situation with the police department. That is definitely on my agenda."

Gay and lesbian community leaders were generally pleased with the appointment, but cautious about predicting improvements in the mayor's relationship with the community.

"Marcia Okula is a great choice," said Cathy Woolard, president of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU. "She has the patience and tenacity to handle what can only be a very trying position. I'm anxious to work with her on the police matters."

Queer Nation's Lynn Cothren said that the appointment was just a start. "This is one of his promises. The list is long. I do look forward to seeing what will happen from here."

Black gay film gets positive response here

Other cities refuse to air program

by KC Wildmoon

Amid renewed debate about using public funding for "homoerotic art," public television stations across the country aired *Tongues Untied*, Marlon Riggs' film about being black and gay in America. Locally, WPBA (channel 30) aired the film on July 16, and WGTV (channel 8) on July 21.

Following WPBA's broadcast, initial response to the station was negative, according to station representatives. By the end of the week, response had turned around, and the final count was 56% to 44% in favor of airing the program.

Response to WGTV began immediately after Channel 30's broadcast, as viewers identifying themselves as Christians asked to ask the station not to air the film.

"Most were very quiet and measured," said Public Relations Director Caroline Kowalski, "although some used stronger language. The big issue was tax dollars going for this kind of programming, and the language used in the film. Some were

concerned about kids watching, that since parents don't take responsibility for what their kids watch, TV should."

Channel 8 logged over 250 calls by the end of the day on Friday, July 19, before the film was shown on their nine-station network of Georgia Public Television stations. Most of those calls were negative. After the showing, the station reported more positive responses. At noon on Friday, July 26, Kowalski said the count was 427 positive and 382 negative.

"Since we're a statewide network," she said, "we may get a few more letters from other regions. The positive responses we've gotten have been overwhelmingly supportive. The negative ones have been more long-winded. They wanted to tell us exactly why they were opposed to it. Interestingly, a substantial number said they respected Marlon's right to do the film, but that it shouldn't be shown on public television. They thought it should be privately funded, and shown in theatres, museums and the like."

"Overall we feel we made the right decision [to air the film]," Kowalski continued. "We knew we'd get flak, but I think we handled it well."

Tongues Untied aired as part of "P.O.V." (Point of View), a series of experimental films that began its fourth

season on PBS in June. Both *Tongues Untied* and "P.O.V." received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. Several PBS stations across the country refused to broadcast the program, including stations in Toledo, Houston, Detroit, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Denver and Oklahoma City.

North Carolina Public TV, another statewide network, also refused to air the program. Activists in the Durham-Chapel Hill-Raleigh area held a protest at NCPT's headquarters on July 16, the national air date for "P.O.V." Following the demonstration, organizers scheduled a free screening of *Tongues Untied*.

In a letter to the station manager of WTVI in Charlotte protesting the decision not to air the film, producer Marlon Riggs called it ironic that just as *Tongues Untied* is being called "an exemplary model of innovation in U.S. public television," stations across the country opted to boycott it. "Even the BBC [British Broadcasting Corporation]," he wrote, "—what entity better symbolizes institutional broadcasting than this!—has acquired the program for airing this fall."

Warwick's AIDS benefit cancelled

by KC Wildmoon

Almost as quickly as they announced it, organizers cancelled the AIDS Benefit Gala scheduled for August 2 in Atlanta. The show, which was to feature Dionne Warwick, Gladys Knight, Anita Baker, and others, would have benefitted six local AIDS agencies as well as the national Warwick Foundation.

Blanche Bagwell, a spokesperson for the Gala, said that the benefit was cancelled because of lack of corporate sponsorship. However, since organizers began asking for sponsorship only a few weeks before the event, some community leaders have expressed concern about how the event was organized.

"You can't get corporate sponsorship inside of two months," said AID Atlanta executive director Sandy Thurman. She also said that no one contacted AID Atlanta for help with the benefit. "It just makes sense to me to consult the largest AIDS service organization in the city before you start working on a benefit of this size. But nobody called us. No one asked for a mailing list, no one asked for an endorsement. And we'd have been glad to help."

CDC Demonstration

Cont'd from page 1

Sen. Jesse Helms requiring imprisonment for HIV infected healthcare workers who do not inform their patients, is a result of the CDC's "failure to properly contain the hysteria surrounding HIV transmission."

In a press release coinciding with the protests, ACT UP called for William Roper, director of the CDC, to address Congress about HIV transmission and for the CDC to "implement a national media campaign" designed to curb the hysteria surrounding transmission.

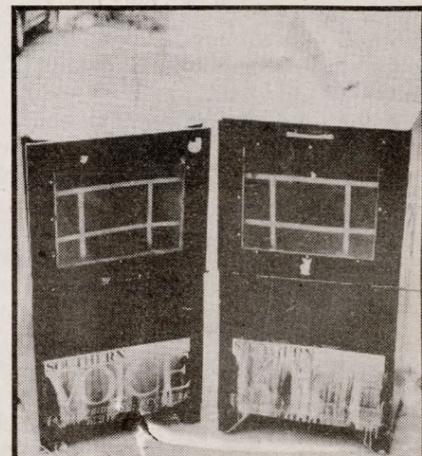
Chip Rowan and Kathleen Brockel were arrested July 25th at the CDC



KAREN DUNIGAN

Southern Voice Boxes Vandalized

Three *Southern Voice* newspaper boxes and one *Etc.* box in Little Five Points were vandalized last week, according to *Southern Voice* circulation manager Janice Tyson. Vandals attempted to obscure the logos on the fronts and sides of the boxes with a corrosive liquid. This was the second incident in the past month involving *Southern Voice* boxes in Little Five Points. All copies of the July 4 issue were removed and trashed on the same night they were distributed. If you see anyone tampering with *Southern Voice* boxes or newspapers, please call the office to report it.



KAREN DUNIGAN

Japanese Gays Sue Board of Education



In Japan's first case involving gay rights, a five-year-old lesbian and gay organization is suing the Tokyo Board of Education ¥6,500,000 (about \$43,000). The suit stems from a 1990 decision by the Board to disallow overnight stays by homosexual groups at Tokyo youth centers. During the negotiations with the Board before the suit was filed, Mr. Segawa, the superintendent at one youth center, told the members of the group OCCUR that since Japan doesn't have "a consensus that homosexuality should be approved of...homosexuals are not discriminated against."

Gay and Lesbian Librarians: Hundreds of gays and lesbians were among the 18,000 librarians in Atlanta last month for the annual American Library Association convention. The ALA's Gay & Lesbian Task Force, established in 1970, is the oldest professional caucus of gays and lesbians in the United States. The Task Force held special programs, including readings by Atlantans Franklin Abbot and Melissa Tidwell, and presented the ALA's annual Gay/Lesbian Book Awards to Minnie Bruce Pratt and Dr. Wayne Dynes.

Videotaped Basher Sued For \$20 Mil: A gay-bashing in San Jose, California, was videotaped by the victim, and now he is suing the teenage basher and his family for \$20 million. William Kiley filed suit in Superior Court under hate crimes statutes. The bashing occurred on June 11. Kiley said he had been verbally harassed by 17 year old Joshua Huff and his family for nearly three years before the incident, and set up the camera to document the harassment. Kiley said that the harassment has intensified since the attack, and he has temporarily moved from his home to an undisclosed location.

Fraternity Suspended for Anti-Gay T's: All 54 members of Syracuse University's Alpha Chi Rho chapter were permanently suspended last month by the national Alpha Chi Rho organization. The chapter was selling T-shirts with the slogan "Homophobic and Proud of It!" on the front, and "Club Faggots Not Seals" on the back. In addition the shirts showed a picture of a limp wrist encircled and a slash with the slogan "It's an exit not an entry." Syracuse officials are conducting their own investigation and are expected this month to determine whether or not they will discipline the students. The students may also appeal their suspension from the fraternity.

AIDS and Dentists: On the same day Jesse Helms submitted his bill calling for 10 years in prison for AIDS-infected health-care workers who treat unknowing patients, the *Palm Beach Post* reported that Dr. Milton White, a dentist in Miami, has contracted AIDS. According to Dr. Geraldine Ferris of the Florida Dental Association, Dr. White treated many drug users in Liberty City, and "it is very possible he got it from one of them."

AIDS and Dentists II: Two dentists in Oakland, California, placed an ad in three San Francisco-area newspapers announcing that they had tested negative for the AIDS virus, prompting a protest by area activists on July 3. Dental partners Stephen Voyné and Patricia Walker ran the ad one time only in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, and the *Monclarion*. Voyné said later that he lost more patients than he gained from the ad.

British Government Changes Rules: The British government announced last week that homosexuality no longer automatically barred a person from some top government jobs, including the diplomatic service. The old rules considered homosexuals susceptible to blackmail, and therefore barred them from certain positions. Prime Minister John Major said that while possible blackmail could bar a person from service, that determination would be made on an individual basis. The decision was made in view of changing social attitudes about homosexuality.

Anti-Gay Measure May Be On Ballot In California City: Members of the Riverside Citizens for Responsible Behavior have gathered 17,000 signatures from Riverside, CA's registered voters—well over the 10,299 needed to qualify a measure for the November ballot—for a measure that would virtually strip that city of all anti-discrimination ordinances for gays and lesbians and AIDS-related cases. One key provision requires that "no city monies may be used directly or indirectly to fund any individual, activity or organization which promotes, encourages, endorses, legitimizes or justifies homosexual conduct." If passed, the measure would seemingly deny gays and lesbians the use of any city services. Riverside City Attorney John Woodhead has recommended that the measure be kept off the ballot, saying that it conflicts with the California Constitution as well as existing state and federal legislation.

Conservatives Stop Teen Sex Study: Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan cancelled a planned study on teen sex after conservatives complained that the study would intrude on privacy and ask offensive questions. Through a HHS statement, Sullivan said he was "concerned by the possible inadvertent message this survey could send that would distract from the potential scientific benefits and be counterproductive to his commitment to better communicate the message against casual sex." In a letter to Dr. Sullivan, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) said that blocking the study is a "triumph of ignorance over knowledge."

No More Pot For PWAs: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has decided to end its medicinal marijuana program for people with AIDS. Of the 34 persons receiving marijuana through the program, over half are people with AIDS. The program was started in 1976 for persons with glaucoma and certain other cancers, and received its first request from a person with AIDS last year. Advocates say that the drug helps calm HIV-and AZT-induced nausea.

Investment Fund Has Conscience: The Calvert Social Investment Fund announced last month that it is redeveloping its criteria relating to sexual orientation. In addition to reviewing whether a company's anti-discrimination statement includes sexual orientation, the Fund now routinely requests information on named partner access for benefits and for health insurance. The C.S.I.F. is the nation's largest comprehensively screened mutual fund and makes up a portion of the Calvert Group's family of socially and environmentally responsible mutual funds.

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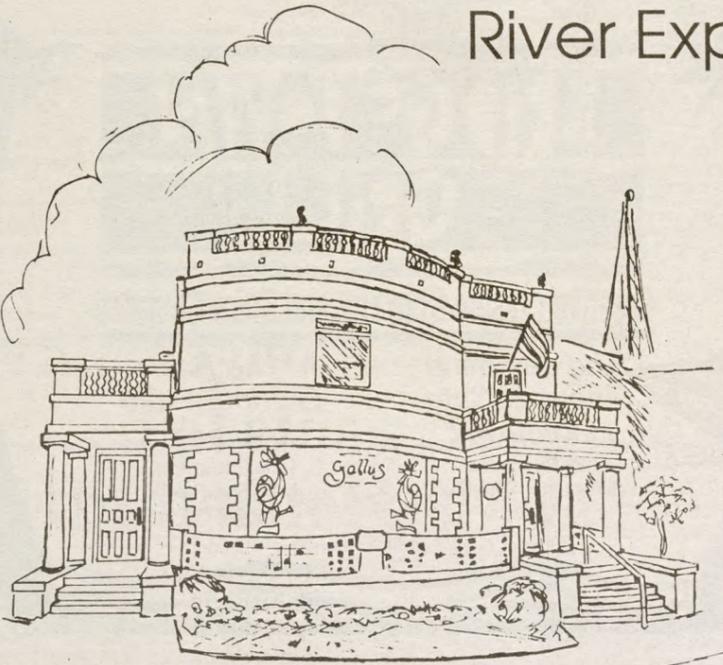
Victor Curitt photo of Merry & Alisha

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Mr. Hotlanta 1991 may be one of Atlanta's own

by David Story

What if you grew up in a small town in central Alabama, thinking that you were the only gay male in the world? And what if one day, many years later, you discovered that the Atlanta representative for the Mr. Hotlanta contest was a homeboy who had dated your younger sister in junior high school?

That's exactly what happened when I interviewed local workout junkie Tim Thompson. About ten minutes into our initial phone conversation, the light bulb went off.

Thompson, born in Atlanta, schooled in Alabama and now a resident of Buckhead, entered the competition at the request of Mike Murphy, manager of Better Bodies.

What if he wins?

"I'll be very proud," says Thompson, who went to school in Alexander City, Alabama (where he courted my pubescent sister), before his family relocated to Opelika in 1972. "I'm very goal oriented. After I won the local finalist competition for Mr. Hotlanta my goal was to win the title."

What will he actually win?

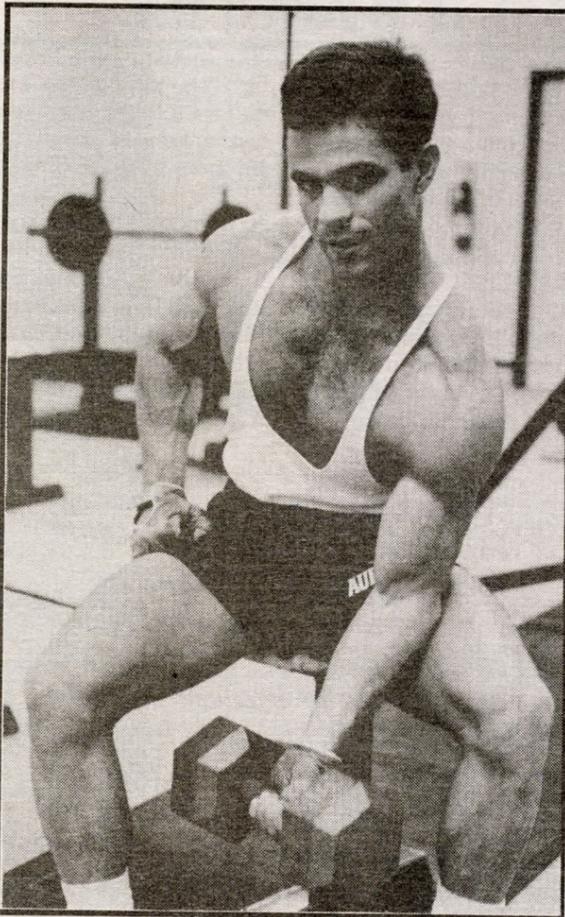
According to pageant coordinator Steve Dearduff, the winner will receive \$2,000, the first runner up, \$1,000, the second runner up, \$500, and all three (plus the winner of the photo competition) will get week vacations in Key West.

And Thompson is no stranger to the Keys. He drove there at the age of 18 to go to his first gay bar, not realizing that there were such places closer by in Atlanta. Today, he's a bit brainier and works as a staff coordinator in the dean's office of a local university.

Prizes and vacations aside, why is he doing this?

"I knew I wouldn't look bad and felt that I had a chance to win," he explains, adding that this is out of character for him as he is not an exhibitionist.

Thompson, 30, graduated from Auburn University



KAREN DUNIGAN

Tim Thompson, local hopeful for Mr. Hotlanta '91, works out at Better Bodies.

with a degree in finance in 1987, following a four-year stint in the Coast Guard, which took him from San Francisco to New York to New Orleans.

But Atlanta is his home. Though he misses the Midtown neighborhood where he used to own a home, he and his ten-year old Chow, Tut, are becoming more comfortable with their relatively new Garden Hills address.

Thompson's parents, and his brother and sister-in-law will be coming into town to support him in the

pageant at the Civic Center on August 2. Thompson's dad calls regularly to check on the progress of his workouts. My sister and I plan to attend, too. Perhaps we'll arrange a reunion of sorts.

And what if he doesn't win?

"I'm doing it mainly for fun," he insists. "I'll have a good time regardless."

Mr. Hotlanta Finals are Fri., Aug. 2 at the Civic Center. Doors open at 7 pm. No reserved seating. Admission free with ID tag for Hotlanta River Expo. General admission available for non-registrants. Call 874-EXPO for more details.

Miss Congeniality '90 wants to be Ms. Hotlanta '91

by David Story

Local talent Jim Marks, a veteran Armorette and last year's Ms. Congeniality in the Ms. Hotlanta contest, has been living in style on the wilder side of pink, since taking over as Ms. Hotlanta earlier this year.

Unfortunately, this was due to a sad twist of fate when the winner of last year's Miss Hotlanta Pageant, Neal Kolb, died suddenly of AIDS.

"I was really close to winning last year," says Marks. "I wanted to enter again this year and win outright and so I had mixed emotions about being awarded the title by default. I had visited Neal in the hospital. He was a neat person and it was really no thrill for me to be given the title under the circumstances."

On August 1, Marks will perform two numbers at this year's Miss Hotlanta Pageant, as six locals and one out-of-state contestant compete for the title. Not to be overwhelmed by the glamour of celebrity status, Marks is quick to point out that during his two-year stint as an Armorette, 75 percent of the Armorettes' performances have been for AIDS benefits.

"I entered last year," continues Marks, "because

See page 16

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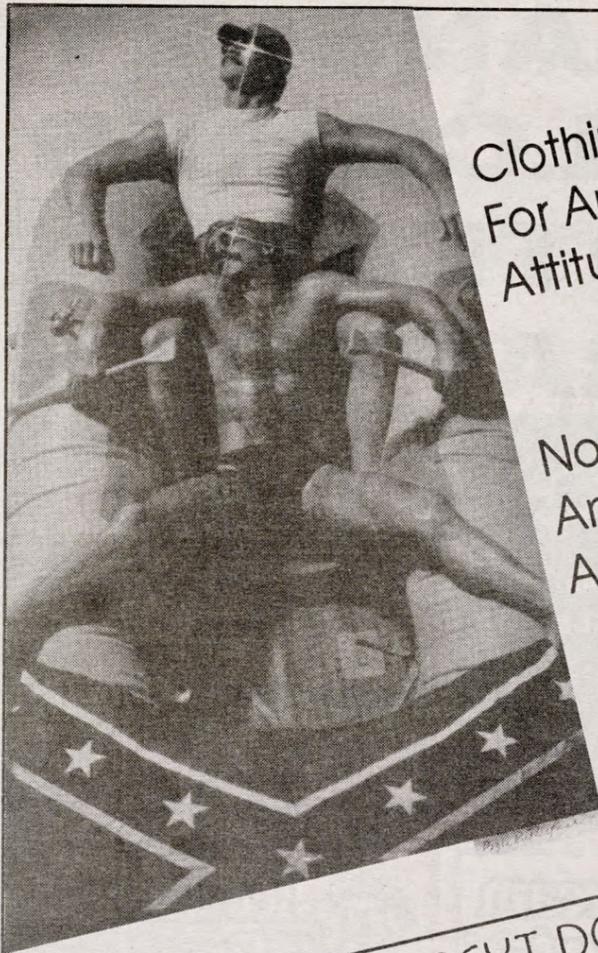
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Gay BBS

cont'd from page 1

—you might even call them cruisy.

28 Barbary Lane is a good example of both message and chat BBS's. Its chat area is incredibly active, even though limited to contributing members. Its message space is open to all and divided into sub-directories to keep people of similar interests from boring everyone else. Its Public Message Rooms are named after characters and locales in "Tales of the City": its Women's- and Men's-only areas are called Wimminwood and Bohemian Grove, the names of exclusive retreats in "Significant Others"; its sysop is named Mona, the series' lesbian character who moved to Seattle. Other message rooms include Starbase 28 (Sci-fi—and rare is the BBS without a "Star Trek" message room), Dungeon (for leather and S&M), TV & TS (a Transperson room), The Closet Door, Employment Center, Travel, Cooking, Bisexual Topics—an amazing 31 different rooms in all.

The closest thing to Barbary in Atlanta is the mixed (gay and straight) Hotlanta Chat. Of its 1,300 active users, about 250 list themselves as gay or bi- men and 30 lesbian or bi- women. Sysop Mike Dean says that figure may be misleading, since in the past closeted users have occasionally gotten nervous after signing on and asked to change their listing. This emphasizes one of Hotlanta's important features—it provides our community with an opportunity for curious or closeted people to have access to openly gay people. More than one user I talked with mentioned that "straight" men frequently aren't so straight once you get them in a private chat.

Hotlanta's user-base is generally toler-

ant of gay people. Dean knows of instances when arguments have erupted over homophobic comments, but other users will usually tell off the intolerant person. "If you're not open minded, then you don't need to be on our board," Dean says.

Barbary and Hotlanta charge for access to their large pool of users: Barbary costs \$60 annually, \$25 per three months; Hotlanta's fees range from \$15 to \$60 per six months, with each level providing more access. Other sysops dislike any charge for BBS access. Robert Oglesby, sysop for Meet Factory, strongly supports some level of access for all users. If he charged, Oglesby says, "many users would quit calling. Instead, I ask for voluntary donations and that has worked well." To get longer daily time limits and quicker access, about 200 of his 900 registered users have contributed an average of \$20 each.

Oglesby's (Handle: Colonel Mikey) Meet Factory is the at-home equivalent of a gay bar. It is by far the most active gay board in town, with three phone lines, two of which are busy 70% of the time, 24-hours a day. Meet Factory's Personals Door has questionnaires where a guy can post his Physical, Sexual and Mental pro-

files in hopes of getting a response. There is also a software program designed to matchmake. Leave it to us gay men to create our own "Home Cruising Network."

The fact that most BBS's focus on such gay male preoccupations goes a long way toward explaining the absence of women on local boards. But a new one called OUTline hopes to change that. Running for about six months, co-sysops Mitch White and Glenn Bilanin (Handles: Queer Reality and Hollywood Heat, respectively) have made OUTline more

social in nature, with a strong political focus. And compared to other BBS's, OUTline is aggressively non-sexual. To make the board accessible to teenagers struggling with coming out issues, there are no age restrictions, which requires monitoring of all publicly accessible area for

sexually explicit material.

"We're a system with a good conversation base and we provide something you can't get on other boards," says Bilanin. "We want to be a place where people can dialogue. And hopefully women will give our board a try." Currently the Womyn's Lounge, OUTline's forum for women's issues, is struggling to find people to post on it. But the sysops' commitment to make the board a co-sexual meeting place for

gay men and lesbians is strong.

White and Bilanin say their goal is to have a place where expression of ideas is paramount. Atlanta's GLAAD chapter has a subsection set aside for its postings, and an energetic debate recently occurred over some of the more controversial speeches made at the Pride Rally. It was a debate that OUTline's sysops encouraged, and that almost certainly wouldn't have occurred on any other board in town.

Joe DeRose (Handle: Joe DeRose), the BBS activist so infamous that an entire Meet Factory subdirectory is named after him, says BBS's are useful in activism. "They're an excellent way of exchanging viewpoints with a variety of people who are uninvolved with the gay and lesbian community, either because they are closeted or because they are geographically removed from gay and lesbian centers of population. I have never seen a better forum for fleshing out important aspects of issues and diverse approaches to those issues."

BBS's can also assist the coming out process. Andre Frech (Handle: Kid Mischief), a recent Georgia Tech grad, is a ten-year veteran of BBS's who used them in his coming out. "Through BBS's, I had a chance to meet gay people in a less threatening context than just about anywhere else." Frech says that knowing you can terminate an encounter just by hanging up helps a person who is self-conscious in dealing with gay issues. "You can carry on conversations long enough to feel comfortable with meeting someone. No pressure."

The same lack of sexual tension can also nurture relationships. Ken Cribbs and Barry Bynum (Handles: Ken C. and Barry B.) are Meet Factory regulars who met while Ken was still living at home, using

"They're an excellent way of exchanging viewpoints with a variety of people who are uninvolved with the gay and lesbian community, either because they are closeted or because they are geographically removed from gay and lesbian centers of population. I have never seen a better forum for fleshing out important aspects of issues and diverse approaches to those issues."

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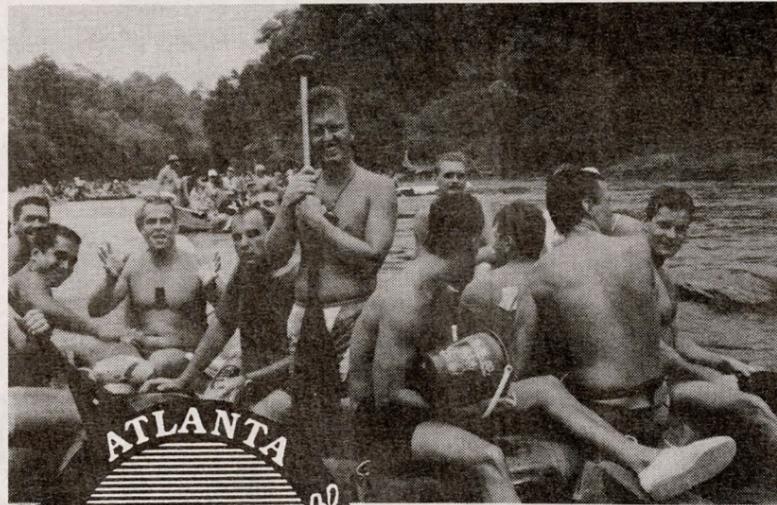
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his computer as a social outlet his parents couldn't control. "One Sunday night I was reading messages when someone 'chatted in' to talk with me. It turned out to be this fellow named Barry who had heard about me. Well, a lengthy chat turned into a phone call, which resulted in a date the next day... and the rest is history."

One reason their relationship (now two years old) progressed was the fact they could "check each other's references" on the BBS. But Barry also notes that "BBS's are for more than partners; on the right BBS's, a social atmosphere is created that isn't sexual at all. It's friendly."

And one of the tools used to establish that atmosphere is the use of handles. They began as holdovers from the CB radio craze of the 1970's; now they're institutionalized. (Even CompuServ's layout mirrors a CB radio, using handles and calling its boards Channels, with Channel 33 for "Alternative Lifestyles"). Handles serve the purpose of offering anonymity to those who need it, which encourages people to participate more freely in the BBS. Some sysops encourage clever or sexually explicit handles as a means of livening up the board—"What's your handle mean?" is a frequently used opening line.

Indeed, establishing the right atmosphere is the single most important decision a sysop makes in creating a successful BBS. He or she essentially defines the nature of the board by making decisions on issues like charging for access, subdividing the message space, doing things to make the BBS more user-friendly, etc. Whether a BBS is run as a hobby, a business, or somewhere in between, what he or she wants to do with BBS is a factor of personality and interests.

Take as an example the most original local BBS concept—the Gay Computer Church of Atlanta. Sysop Gary Larry Nickus, a one-time fireman (Handle: The Fireguy), runs GCCA like a church, ministering to gay men with BBS pastoral counselling, providing information on issues such as health and coming out and monitoring for explicit messages. His slogan—"We LOVE, Not Hate... It is a SIN for US to be Straight."

But let me warn any novices out there—BBS's are ferociously addictive. When I (Handle: Bound Bear) started checking these services out, I did not expect to find myself two months later signing on to two boards nightly and three or four others twice a week. Now I wonder what it was I used to do after work.

Am I addicted? Well, I consider myself lucky that "thirtysomething" was cancelled in May—now I have an extra hour each week for BBS-ing around. You decide.

If your computer has a modem and some software to run it, you should be able to sign onto any of these BBS's. Their telephone numbers are as follows: Hotlanta Chat 992-5345
Meet Factory 350-0308
Gay Computer Church of Atlanta 264-1202
OUTline 874-8388
28 Barbary Lane (206)525-2828

In addition to the above, to access CompuServ, you need special software from your local computer store. You can call 231-1440 to thank them for their support.

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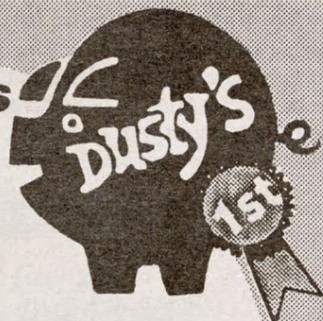
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Boycott the Journal

To the Editor:

Yesterday I did something I vowed I would never do: read yet another homophobic column by Dick Williams in *The Atlanta Journal*. This time his venom was directed at the PBS showing of "Tongues Untied," a documentary about black gay men.

His latest attack again reveals that Dick Williams is truly evil and sick, and that his homophobia is of the extreme sort evident only among those for whom the subject hits too close to home. Dick Williams definitely "doth protest too much."

After watching this excellent program on PBS, I remained awake into the night trying to think of a legal means to end his hate-filled attacks on gay people. I decided the best approach to dealing with Dick is avoidance. Avoidance of *The Atlanta Journal*, that is. I say let's reward those who do right by us, and damage those who don't.

The Atlanta Constitution, the morning paper, consistently has been an ally of the gay community. The *Constitution's* editorial board and columnists have supported gay marriage, the rights of gays in the military, and have taken a strong stand against Cracker Barrel. In stark contrast, the *Journal* editorial board and columnists routinely attack and ridicule gays in their editorials, cartoons and columns.

Both the *Journal* and *Constitution* are owned by the same company. The news content is essentially identical. The only significant difference appears on the opinion pages. The *Constitution* has a long history of standing up for the rights of all human beings while the *Journal* continues to try to inspire hatred and divisiveness.

Cox Newspapers believes that it makes economic sense to offer readers a choice: they can buy the morning *Constitution* or the afternoon *Journal*. We owe it to ourselves and our community to make sure that it does not make economic sense to continue printing the *Journal*. If you have a subscription to the *Journal*, switch it to the *Constitution* and send a letter to editor Ron Martin explaining why you want the morning paper.

Do the right thing—BOYCOTT THE ATLANTA JOURNAL!

Susan Balasco

Carbon Copies

Jack W. Warner
Gulf States Paper Corporation
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404

Dear Uncle Jack,

Enclosed are copies of an article and a political cartoon about Gulf States Paper Corporation which were printed in *Southern Voice*. *Southern Voice* is a publication of the gay and lesbian community with over 35,000 readers mostly in the southeast.

I was very surprised to read that GSPC discriminates against gays and lesbians. According to the report, John Howard was fired exclusively for being active politically as a gay person. I doubt that GSPC would fire someone for involvement in NAACP or some other

civil rights organization. Is this all there is to the facts?

Given the family ownership of GSPC and the nature of our family, it surprises and distresses me that this particular incident has been treated in this manner. I suspect that some of our other family, and particularly family board members, will have similar reactions when they hear about it. This is not only a personal issue but one with legal and social ramifications. The comparison to Cracker Barrel is no accusation for GSPC to take lightly. I expect (and hope) that a class action suit will be filed soon and the matter of gay rights for gainful employment will be decided in the courts. Every human being needs to have an honest means for making a living.

Sincerely,
Helene H. Loper

U.S. Senator Wyche Fowler
10 Park Place South, Room 501
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Senator Fowler,

I am disappointed and appalled that the Senate has voted in favor of Senator Helms' proposal concerning HIV infected health care workers. I am even more appalled that you voted for this measure. For the record, let me state that I do not work in the health care profession.

In the ten years since the AIDS epidemic began, there have been only six cases of HIV infection *allegedly* contracted from two health care workers. Considering that there are now an estimated 1.5 million U.S. citizens infected with the virus, I think that the health care industry has exhibited a tremendous track record in assuring the safety of the U.S. public. The proposal which you supported is dangerous because it will discourage health care workers, who are most at risk, from getting tested and treated for HIV. Those health care workers will refrain from testing and treatment for fear of losing jobs, patients, etc. By the time many of these people realize they have HIV infection, they

may be too ill to gain benefit from available therapies. In other words, you yourself have promoted the "Ignorance is Bliss" mentality.

If we are to treat HIV infected medical professionals with the attitude that they are guilty until proven innocent, then perhaps we should also prevent Republicans from running for President for fear that they may be crooks and wire tappers; or prevent Democrats from running for Congress for fear that they may improperly influence Bank Regulatory Officials. I can only hope that your colleagues in the House will show some common sense by not approving this measure.

Senator Fowler, there are few *single* issues that will decide my vote in the next election; this however, is one of those few single issues. You have lost my vote. I will do my best to inform my friends and colleagues of the issues at hand, and ask that they not give you the privilege of being reelected.

Respectfully,
John H. Ferguson V

Letters to the Editor
The Atlanta Constitution
P.O. Box 4689
Atlanta, GA 30302

Dear Editor:

After having viewed "Tongues Untied," I must respond to the article by Dick Williams titled "Tongues isn't art..." Mr. William's objections of the content and subject matter of this film would have been bearable had he not included the typical radical right, homophobic garbage that permeates his debate about the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and its contribution to this film.

His statement that the only place this "political tract demanding pride in perversion and community acceptance is a different animal—suitable for a homosexual film festival but not for taxpayer support" says exactly where he is coming from. Homosexuality is a perversion and homosexuals are not taxpayers. For the

latter he uses the word taxpayer no less than four times. I take great offense to him and others like him (Sen. Jesse Helms) who consistently assume that the only taxpayers in this country are heterosexual, white males of the political far right. There are over twenty million gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans in this country, be they closeted or not, most of whom pay taxes, yet are denied many benefits from that taxation. Those like Mr. Williams assume it correct to take *our* (Gay/Lesbian community) tax dollars for education, health and the welfare of millions of American children and then deny us custody of our own children. They further deny us the right to teach in schools or allow the mere mention of our existence in public education. Our tax dollars are used for a defense department that practices "witch hunts" and expels thousands of dedicated, decorated and honorable servicemen and women every year only because they are Lesbian/Gay. Worst, we are denied our right to serve our country (in spite of a secret Pentagon study showing our high performance).

The attacks on the NEA for its contribution to programs that educate the public about the Lesbian/Gay community and all of its diversity are steeped in ignorance, lies and homophobia. Mr. Williams, as a presumably white, heterosexual, male taxpayer, may not be interested or concerned with the dilemma of black, homosexual Americans or the manner in which it is presented, should simply change the channel. But I, as a *taxpaying* white homosexual male am very interested in the plight of my black gay brothers and in any political or artistic attempt in which they choose to show it. My tax dollars for the Arts are well spent.

Sincerely,
Leif Eric Spivey



Homoville, GA

Notes from a GWM who lives where the City meets the South

by Al Cotton

...With A Banjo On My Knee

Writing about Alabama is not easy for me. I was born there—May 10, 1957, Cullman. I spent 19 years in towns smaller than 20,000, and over five years in Montgomery. And I still wish it was a place worth calling home. I consider myself an Alabama expert in exile, almost eight years removed from residency.

How do I feel about Alabama? (1) I don't ever want to live there, ever again; (2) I

understand that the sanity of my childhood is partially the result of the boredom generated by my home state, but I cannot endorse it; and (3) I would force it to be better, if I could.

Don't get me wrong—I am very proud of being a Southerner. Our region of the country has dealt with its racial issues with less hypocrisy than any other. We started out resisting change and lost, so we started changing. That process is by no means ended—racism lies in every corner of the region, and in one form or another in every heart raised and nurtured here.

But Atlanta's history with racial issues is our country's best model. Even though it happened because white businessmen made concessions not out of conscience but because they wanted to maintain the business climate, the fact remains that Atlanta didn't have the riots, Birmingham did—or New York or Boston or Los Angeles or Newark or Detroit, for that matter. Atlanta's rather unique sanity in the 1960's confirms what Henry Grady said over a century ago—we have raised a Brave and Beautiful City.

Growing up mostly in western Alabama, I didn't always look upon Atlanta as such a glorious place. I first came here as a rather unimpressed sixth grader (Six-Flagging), and my most memorable event was a wreck on Memorial Drive on the way to Stone Mountain. I started visiting regularly in my early 20's, when a friend's mother moved here and I travelled to visit him. Gradually, Atlanta began to seem large but accessible, and my decision to try to escape from the state-sized closet that is Alabama seemed right.

And I'm still not sure how the South managed to create a place like Atlanta. You still have the gist of the South—grits, draws, courtesy, humidity, kudzu. But you also have 50-story highrises, major league sports (or a reasonable facsimile thereof), subways, Oxford Books, Peasant restaurants, WRFG and WRAS, subtitled movies—and more gay bars than you can shake ten sticks at. The best of both worlds, best as I can tell.

In Alabama, they have no use for any of the latter stuff. "If you want it, move to Atlanta, why don't you?" they'll tell you, as

they plot and scheme and try to figure out how to get it for themselves. Unfortunately, there is no place in Alabama where a gay person would voluntarily choose to live. Not if respect, unbigoted attitudes and neighborly tolerance are important to her or him—no New Orleans, no Chapel Hill, no Austin, Tex., no liberal haven from Red Neckerson-ville. Until Alabamians accept and address the idea—first expressed in the *Journal-Constitution*—that without its gay community Atlanta would have the urban soul of Birmingham, they will never come close to challenging what Atlanta has created.

Until then, I remain "The Man Without a Home State." Unanchored to a specific location in Alabama because we moved so much during my childhood, and unwilling to fly in the face of sanity and say "My birthplace, right or wrong," I find myself hoping that the Statute of Limitations on Atlanta Alien Status will eventually expire and I can claim "Native-ity." Considering the immigrant populace of Atlanta, eight years (as of this September) is close enough. Isn't it? Please?

Carbon Copy

President
Atlanta Gay Center
63 12th St. N.E.
Atlanta, GA

Dear Mr. President:

An out of town customer was in The Cove last week and in the course of conversation he mentioned some very disturbing information. He said he had called the Atlanta Gay Center to find out various places to go for various activities and among the list he was given, he was told the lower parking lot and woods around The Cove was very good for sex. If this is official policy or the actions of just one individual, I demand an immediate stop to this practice.

I am aware of many very good activities conducted by and through the Gay Center and I commend you for your good efforts. However, some members of the gay community believe it is a right to buy, sell or use drugs in a public place

and to have any type of sex with anybody, anywhere even in the woods, cars or other public places.

I have been forced to go to the expensive measure of putting on extra security people, seven days and nights a week to prevent the absurd drug and sex traffic that has been going on at Amsterdam, Worchester and Dutch Valley and the surrounding businesses and woods. Last week two guys were arrested for having sex on Worchester directly in front of the bar. They were fined \$500.00 or 30 days. Not only were they crazy as hell for having sex in such an open place, it was the second arrest for one of them at the same location.

My patrons, neighbors and even police officers have expressed many thanks and appreciation for the extra security. This activity is not allowed or condoned on Cove property but because we are a gay business in the area, we have received all the blame. Police superior officers have assured me that they have parked for as long as three and a half hours to observe, and it is not traffic of people coming or going to The Cove. However, police officers are caught in a bind as they cannot

keep people off private property unless they are caught doing something and people scream police harassment if they patrol to prevent illegal activity.

As I have said the vast majority of people, including the vast majority of gay people, do not condone these wrongful acts and resent the bad name it gives the entire gay community.

Here is a small sample of the comments from the small group of people who are complaining about the security. "Hell, I can't take those tricks home, I could get robbed." "There is nothing to worry about. Nobody with AIDS would have sex in the woods." "This is our biggest Gay Pride year and we demand our rights to park where we want to have sex where we want."

One Saturday night a completely nude guy came in the bar with blood running from his head. He had been robbed, stripped and beaten in the woods. One guy came out with his throat cut from ear to ear. Two bodies have been found in the woods, nobody knows where they had been killed. People have been robbed, cars broken into, bicycles and cars stolen.

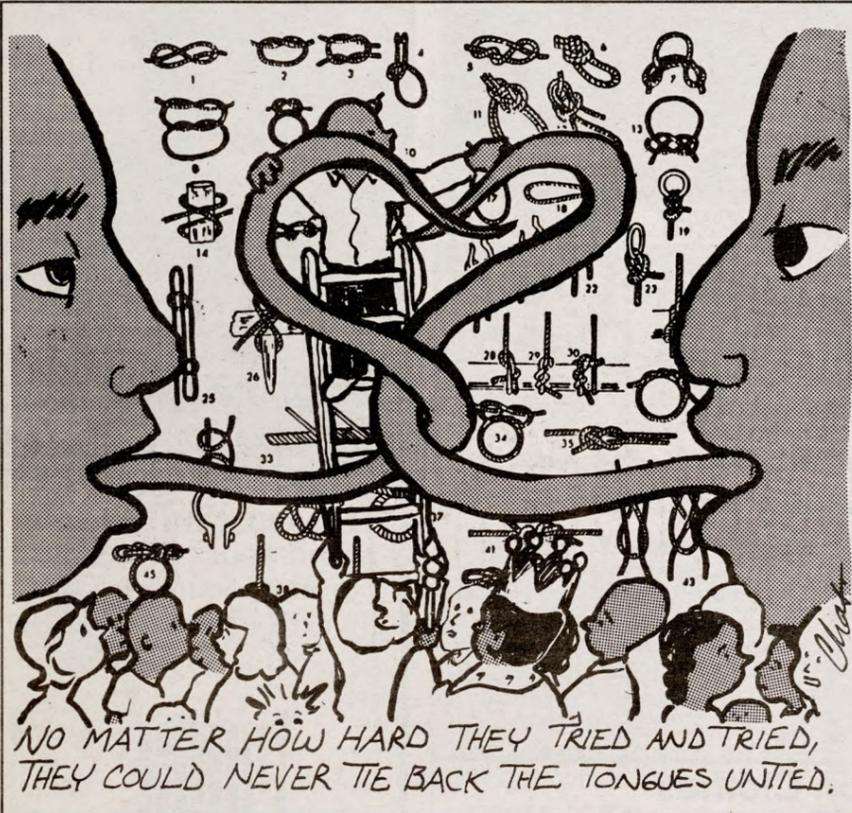
I don't know of anyone who works

harder for civil and human rights for all people, and very definitely gay people, but too many people forget that with every right goes a responsibility. Safe sex is not just using a condom but using reasonable common sense as to when, where, why and with whom something can or should be done. Hate crimes are on the increase and must be stopped. We all must use reasonable caution wherever we are, and anyone who becomes the victim of a hate crime or any crime should report it and follow up for full prosecution of the offender.

Unfortunately, too many people are victims as the result of their own wrong behavior. This definitely does not justify any hate crime but it sure as hell makes it a lot harder to put a stop to them.

My very best for a good, strong and effective gay community.

Sincerely,
Lloyd Russell
CEO, The Cove



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.

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of *Southern Voice*.

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

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COOL MEDIUM

The Toxic Talk Show Syndrome

by David Salyer

Who knew Andy Warhol would be right when he predicted one day television would eventually afford everyone at least fifteen minutes of fame? Well, thanks at least in part to Sally, Phil, Oprah and Geraldo absolutely anybody with anything at all to say about any subject now has a forum.

Talk shows are the video equivalent of high school biology lab. Lesbians and gays are regularly pinned to the dissecting tray and poked, probed and examined from all angles. We've appeared on the air in most every incarnation: drag queens; lesbians who want to have babies; teenage boys who want to take other boys to the prom; married gays; gay priests; lesbian nuns; gay porn stars.

Yes, even gay porn stars appeared on "Donahue" a few years ago, prompting one beehive-haired, dour audience member to smugly inquire of Al Parker (my all-time favorite porn star), "Do you believe in Jesus?" I can assure you had I been given an opportunity to question Mr. Parker, it would not have been concerning his religious beliefs.

Homosexuality is invariably treated like a social problem on talk shows, rather than a fact of life. Lots of hateful, insidious individuals like the Rev. Donald Wildmon peddle homophobia in the name of God and are provided a



we did was style hair, arrange flowers, decorate, have sex and do brunch. Plotting the destruction of heterosexual lives is hard work.

I resent the hell out of bigoted homophobes who use television to deliver damaging and uninformed diatribes about how homosexuals are responsible for so many heterosexual woes. I'm just a little too busy managing my own life to keep the straight people I know from having a nice day.

Besides, all you have to do is watch four or five hours of "Donahue" or any of the other daily babblefests to figure out heterosexuals are perfectly capable of ruining their own lives without any help from the queer population. During the month of May, Oprah Winfrey devoted shows to fathers who date the women their sons date and people who had affairs with a spouse's boss. Phil Donahue presented sisters who swap husbands and substance abusers who rely on their parents to care for their children. And, bless her heart, Sally Jessy Raphael will put anybody on the air. Flirtatious husbands. Frugal husbands married to spendthrifts. Truckers and their mistresses. Men who prefer full-figured women. Sisters who can't get along. Wives who can't get along with their mothers-in-law. And women who dis-

platform to spew outrageous lies about gays and lesbians. Often Wildmon and his self-righteous peers are not properly challenged and attack hosts and guests alike with the sort of frenzy usually associated with rabid animals. They specialize in never letting anyone else finish a sentence and, apparently, whatever occurs in their brains pops right out of their mouths like a gumball. Unfortunately, they routinely succeed in perpetuating various myths and erroneous theories: homosexuals are child molesters; lesbians hate men; gays hate women; homosexuals wreck homes, cause divorces and destroy families. Gee, life was so much simpler when all

play more affection for their pets than their husbands.

Yes, indeed, heterosexuals say the darndest things. You have to admire their organizational skills though. They're always forming groups with "American" or "family" or both in the title, as if those words actually legitimize whatever spurious comments they make.

Doesn't take a genius, a sociologist, or a psychologist to discern acute changes in the American family structure. But America has a very short history. It has never been Candyland. Nobody ever lived in a Normal Rockwell painting. And "The Brady Bunch" is a distressingly subversive depiction of family life that just won't go away.

I would like to encourage Rev. Wildmon, all the Wildmon-wannabees, and their flock of confused followers to take a hard look at their dysfunctional heterosexual brethren spilling guts for free to Sally, Phil and Oprah if they're seriously interested in knowing exactly who's decimating all those traditional family values. Maybe they'll even catch a rerun of the "Sally" show about men who murdered their wives shortly after the wedding.



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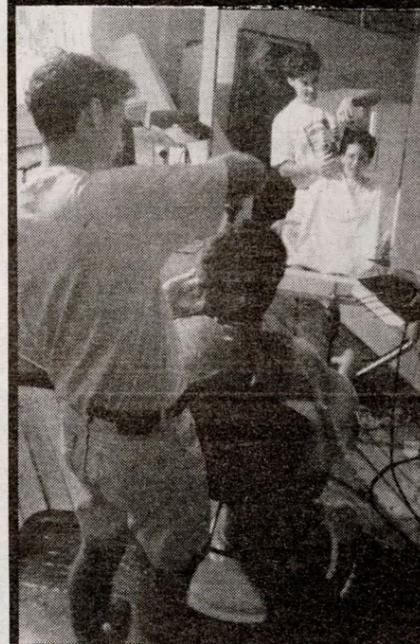
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SOUTHERN VOICE

Shirlene Holmes is dead serious about oppression

by Charlene Ball

Nexus Contemporary Art Center will present a one-woman show, *Current Events*, a new work by playwright and actor Shirlene Holmes August 15-18 at Actors' Express in Inman Park. Directed by Tom Jones of Jomandi Productions, the play, called by its author a "solo biographical drama," will explore the responses of contemporary African-American women to oppression.

In *Current Events*, Shirlene Holmes portrays five women of various ages and backgrounds. They include Lorraine, an advocate for the homeless who has taken on their way of living; Tracy, a young mother who responds to male violence by becoming a sniper; Vereen, a 16 year-old who refuses to pledge the American flag; Elizabeth, a corporate executive in her 40's who shoots herself because of a parking ticket; and Jonnie, a security guard who passes as a man in order to enjoy male privileges.

Holmes, 32, who holds an undergraduate major in English and a Ph.D. in Speech Communications, teaches in the Theatre and Communications Department at Georgia State. An avowed feminist, she focuses her work on women and their lives: "Feminism is almost a religion to me. My life centers around women and women's issues."

She also focuses on African-American life: "My work is Afro-centric; I see the world through a colored lens. It means inheriting a legacy that is painful as well as inspiring."

Holmes tells how she conceived the work: "I moved to Atlanta in the summer of 1989. I moved here because I wanted to see myself walking down the street. And I read the newspapers and I saw women in tragic incidences. I feel no one is listening to women, especially to Afro-American women. The young sisters in bad relationships,

THEATRE PREVIEW

Current Events
Actors' Express
Thru August 18

poor health in older women—is anyone watching, is anyone aware?

"I'm concerned about the survival of women, our safety. None of us is safe. There is no place where women are safe except in women's circles.

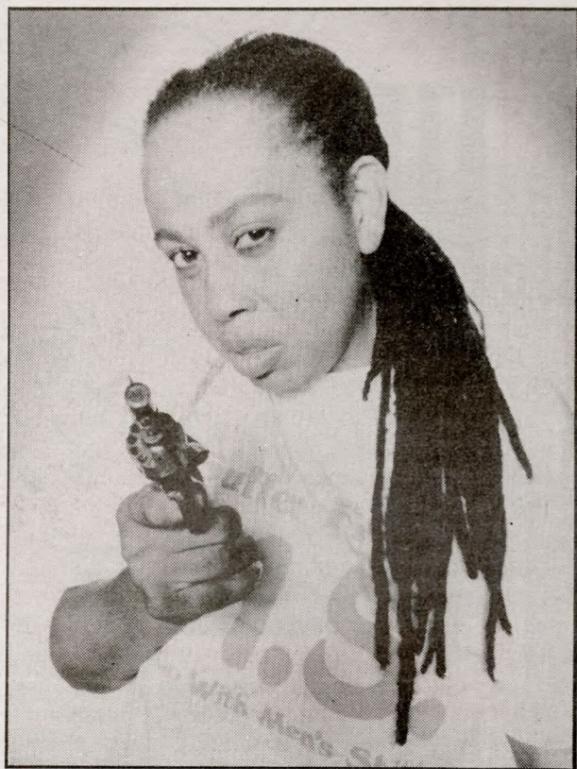
"The most explosive piece is Tracy, the sniper," says Holmes. "It comes from the real experiences of my sister and comrade, Traci Martin. The piece spiraled out of talks we had trying to figure out what was happening."

Holmes is uncompromising in laying out the responsibility for violence against women at men's door: "Men are dangerous. Rape is a man's issue. Incest is a man's issue. I can't tolerate the patriarchy."

She puts violence against women in terms of other historical class struggles: "The only men I permit in my space and life are those who have proven themselves. Anyone in a privileged position has to prove themselves. Like John Brown. Chaka Zulu, a great African warrior, put whites who wanted to help his struggle on the front lines.

"At one performance at the Arts Exchange, a man started yelling at the character Tracy. He saw the gun pointed at him. But it was he himself who pulled the trigger.

"I am writing about my existence. This is not just entertainment. I may have a chance to influence people. The greatest thing I can be is an educator. I can't watch the sisters cave in. None of the women are happy: the beautiful ones, the Afro-American ones—none of them are happy. None of them are safe.



BILL MOORE

Shirlene Homes as Tracy, a young woman who responds to male violence by becoming a sniper, in *Current Events*.

"I'd like men to take away from the show that women are here, and not in the best of circumstances. I'd like women's condition to be pondered. To be a witness to men. If we're going to have something like a civilization here, we're going to have to have a meeting place where we can discuss our differences.

Everyone makes up the fabric of America, but we don't do what Audre Lord said, "celebrate our differences."

Bizarre treatment of Wilder's classic is a treat

by Dave Hayward

Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth* is as urgent a pep rally battlecry now as it was when it made its debut during WWII. Updating ecological holocaust into its current saga at Seven Stages, the play's comic depiction of the travails of humanity and the struggle to overcome remains fresh and tart. Imaginatively staged with music, videos and slides, *Skin* has lapses in execution which merely mar an otherwise entertaining and provocative production.

At first the Seven Stages audience didn't seem to know what to make of *Skin*'s rampant strangeness. It's August 1991 in Atlanta though Lake Lanier is overgrown with glaciers, and dinosaurs bay at the Marietta hearth of Mr. and Mrs. Antrobus for food and fire. The homeless beg for sanctuary, too, though some of them turn out to be Moses and Homer harmonizing on

THEATRE REVIEW
The Skin of Our Teeth
Thru August 3
Seven Stages Theatre

Jingle Bells to stave off depressed spirits. By the end of Act One the audience is implored to donate their chairs to build a bonfire and save the world, and the Great Flood and Armageddon are yet to come.

The play's melange of anachronisms, revolutions, and natural upheavals is intoxicating, a tour de force of writing that is as hilarious as it is probing. Wilder has written a universal *Gone With The Wind*, his suburban Scarlett and Rhett, Mr. and Mrs. Antrobus, surviving much more than Yankees to live another day. Though at times hokey and pat, Wilder's vision of humanity striving beyond survival for an experience of transcendence embraces men

and women of every class, race and orientation.

Seven Stages' co-production with Image Film and Video meshes well, beginning with Monica Kaufman on tape cheerily updating us on the imminent polar icecap shift and continuing with film montages of mushroom clouds and Hollywood minutes. Craig Duff's videos aren't slick, but they do the job to blend with director Eric Mofford's pulsating set pieces of Grady Cousins' eclectic music, Phil Dillon's altered states lighting and Ife Hendricks' whirling choreography.

Mofford doesn't exert as tight a rein on his actors, allowing Kelly Green as Mr. Antrobus and Suzanne Roush as the eternal vixen Sabina to indulge in pregnant pauses that add nothing. Otherwise Roush is strong vamping and prostrating herself about the stage, and Green is fun in his horseplay with daughter Gladys in a gleeful performance

by Jennifer Massey. Producer Nicole Torre rewards herself with a juicy cameo as a malevolent Tinker Bell of a fortuneteller, and she and Nic Garcia as an officious stage manager play their parts to a theatrical hilt.

Best of all are Rick Rogers as a surprisingly potent Henry—the prodigal son whom we learn to abide or love or both (think homophobic columnist Dick Williams)—and Lindy Wood as his ferocious mother Mrs. Antrobus. Wood is a Mother Courage of Katharine Hepburn indomitability, and comes closest to embodying Wilder's image of primordial human impulses, in this case the eternal Eve.

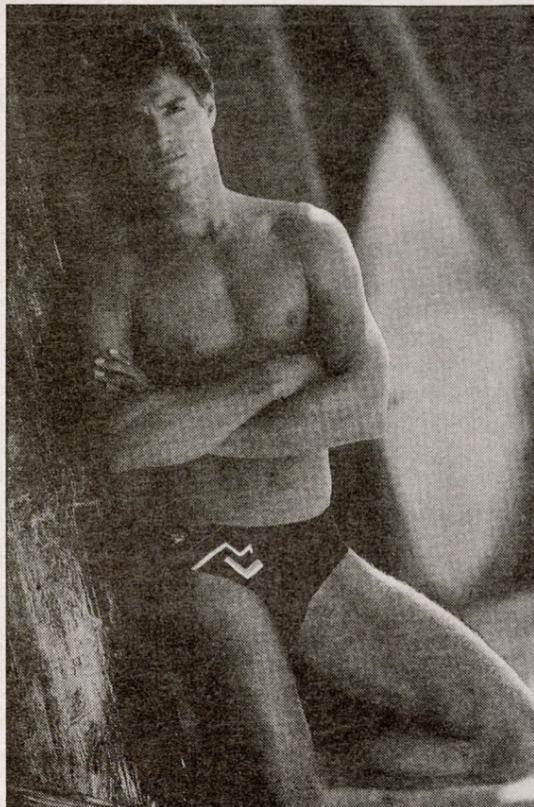
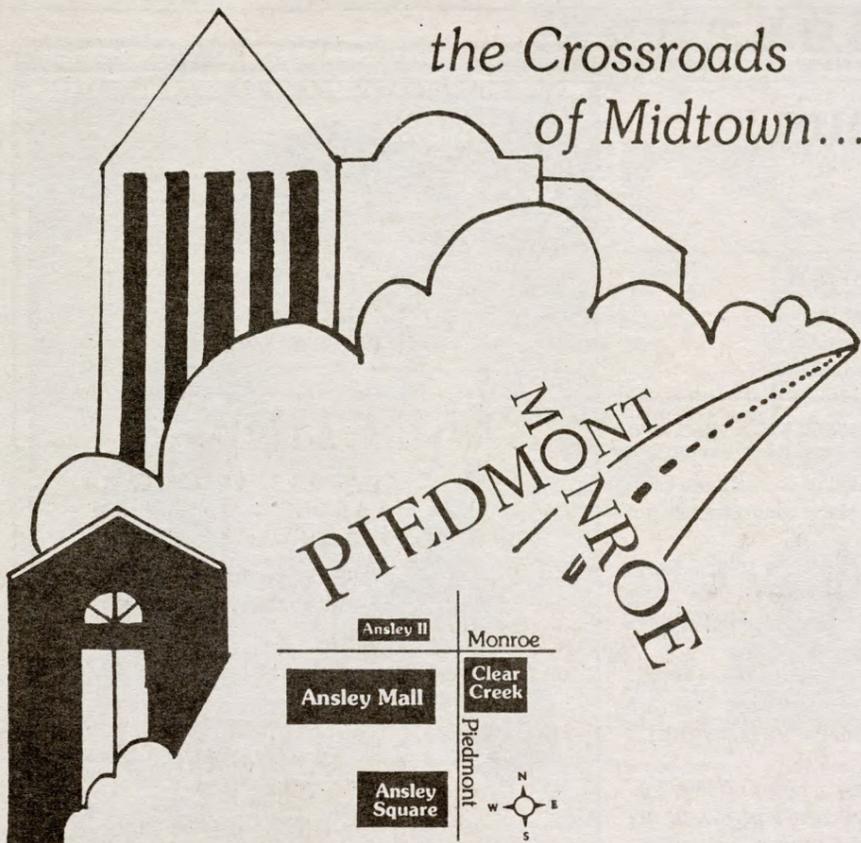
The relocating of *Skin* to Atlanta sometimes works hysterically—"I see Snellville burning!"—and sometimes is merely precious, as in "Pray God nothing serious has happened to him crossing the Perimeter." Taken on the whole, the play is a hologram of theatrical treats.

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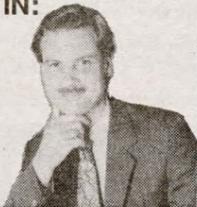
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GLAAD Tidings

by Kirk-Even Billet

It's a standard procedure of news media to trump up controversy where there is none. This week's fake controversy is gerbils.

News in Cedar Rapids, Iowa was apparently a little slow a few weeks ago, so local television station KGAN decided to spice it up a bit. Their brief spot covering the Gay and Lesbian Pride Week events in Iowa City was described locally as ordinary, but the end of the spot teased, "the day was not without controversy—we'll have that story at 10."

Hundreds of lesbians and gays lined the streets that day in Iowa City, along with family and friends and some straight supporters. Now the controversy: a handful of anti-gay protesters, masquerading as animal-rights activists. And the connection between animal rights and gay pride? Gerbils, of course.

You probably thought you heard the last of that far-fetched myth about gay men using gerbils for anal sex, long since discredited as urban legend—along with the straights who had to be surgically separated after sex, and the woman who microwaved her cat. Amazingly enough, the gerbil story was considered hard fact and news by KGAN.

Rather than provide ample coverage of an important lesbian and gay event in Iowa City, KGAN chose to stir up anti-gay reactions with this totally bogus story. The phony animal-rights activists featured on KGAN displayed a "gerbil quilt," and expressed concern over the alleged deaths of gerbils in gay men's anuses. Their open contempt and disrespect for the memorial quilt of the NAMES Project, for bonafide animal rights activism, and for the very existence of lesbian and gay people was presented as the leading news story of the day.

To heap shame on KGAN, and to demand a retraction, write to:

Richard Herbst, Manager
KGAN Channel 2
P.O. Box 3131, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

If you want to call in your outrage, dial 319-395-9060. Also, send a copy of your letter to the FCC at 1919 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20554.



KAREN DUNIGAN

Gerbils, claimed anti-gay protesters at Iowa City's Gay Pride march, are victims of gay men who use the creatures for anal sexual pleasure. Local television station KGAN presented the gerbil myth as fact during their coverage of Pride events.

About a year and a half ago, this program described one of the worst cases of AIDS-related defamation that we had seen. The offending media outlet was the *Shenandoah Evening Herald* of Pennsylvania, and now there is an update to that story.

In December of 1989, *Evening Herald* columnist Christine Goldbeck put out a column called "Angered by AIDS Care," one of those all-too-familiar tirades about spending on the fight against AIDS. Goldbeck put forward the tired bigots' notion that AIDS is evidence of the immorality of those it inflicts—except of course for the "innocent victims"—and she contrasted this killer with diseases "normal people acquire." Perhaps the most amazing

claim of the piece was that AIDS was somehow "created" by gay men and IV drug users.

Though this naked hate rhetoric was bad enough, Goldbeck's string of one-liners was also littered with the words "fag," "homo," and "queer," which the editors allowed to be printed.

A recent piece by Ms. Goldbeck expressed a similarly warped perspective on AIDS, this time focussing on testing. Although foregoing the anti-gay slur words, again she finds it necessary to place blame, as in this statement: "AIDS was borne [sic] of immorality. It is most unfortunate that thousands of innocent people and babies who will never have the chance to grow have been tainted by the irreverent practices of gay men who refuse to engage in safe sex."

Although we can be pleased that someone at the *Herald* has taken some responsibility to see that slur words do not appear in its pages as in the past, the editorial slant is still very unfair to gays and lesbians.

On the same page as the recent Goldbeck piece, a syndicated column by Jeffrey Hart cites AIDS-prevention measures and feminist perspectives on sexuality as examples of the "uglification of today's campus culture." And two days later, another piece asked "Why are we being so sentimental about AIDS?" This time AIDS was compared to smoking and drunk driving—in the manner that made Andy Rooney infamous—and once again someone took it upon himself to decide who is or is not innocent.

To educate the *Evening Herald*, write to:

Ed Schreppe, Editor
Shenandoah Evening Herald
1 Ringtown Boulevard
Shenandoah, PA 17976
Or call 717-462-7777

Let them know that the AIDS misinformation disseminated by Christine Goldbeck and Jeffrey Hart is just as unacceptable as the slur words the paper rightfully eradicated.

GLAAD Tidings is a project of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation / New York. For more information, contact GLAAD / Atlanta at or GLAAD / NY at 212-966-1700.

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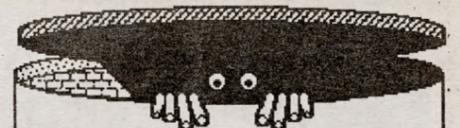
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The Necessity of An Estate Plan

Legal documents important to gay & lesbian couples

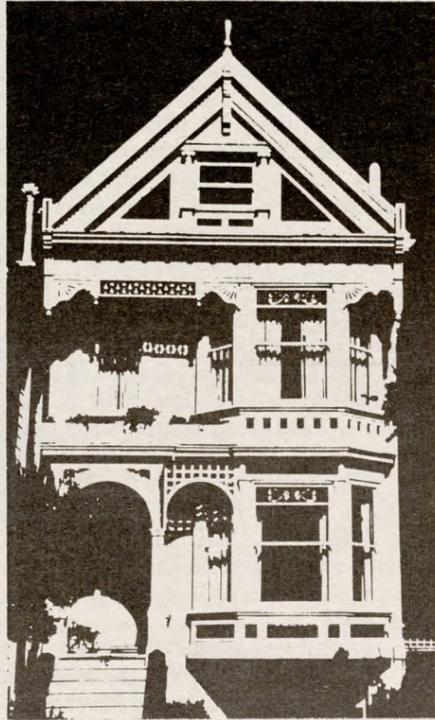
by David Lund

QUESTION: Neither my lover nor I believe that either of us will have a taxable estate. Is it necessary to have any documents other than a simple will outlining the distribution of our property?

ANSWER: Yes, it is extremely important for lesbians, gay men and couples to have detailed plans regarding their estates. This is so, regardless of how well one gets along with one's family, as there is always the chance that the family may become greedy during their bereavement. In order to properly plan your estate, many considerations must be addressed. There are many traps for the unwary and a lot of misinformation innocently disseminated which can cause serious problems after your death. Depending on your circumstances, you may well be advised to hold real property and personal property in joint tenancy with your lover, and thus minimize the size of your property estate.

Essentially, what a joint tenancy does is provide that upon the death of the first joint tenant, the surviving joint tenant becomes the sole owner of the property. This tenancy is effective with real estate, bank accounts, investments accounts, stock portfolios and other items of property. The downside of holding property in this manner is that it is more difficult to divide the property when a relationship dissolves prior to the death of one of the partners.

I strongly recommend that anybody holding property in this way hold it subject to a contract, one provision of which would be an agreement to dissolve the joint tenancy in favor of a tenancy without



survivorship rights on demand. Additionally, such a contract should provide for a detailed enumeration of each party's fiscal contributions to the property which would be updated on a quarterly or annual basis. This is important whether or not the relationship dissolves because it can be used as evidence to determine the deceased person's share in the joint property for estate tax purposes. By placing the property into a joint tenancy with a protective contract, one effectively removes such property from his or her probate estate.

It is important here to make a distinction between one's gross estate for tax purpose and one's probate estate. The probate estate is that part of the estate which falls under the control of the executor and under the jurisdiction of the probate court; that is, any property which is bequeathed through your will. This property is subject to an estate contest. The taxable estate includes all property that passes upon your death.

Life insurance proceeds are another part of your estate which can be removed from the probate estate, and thus the jurisdiction of probate court, by naming the one you intend to be the beneficiary of the policy outright. If one names one's estate, the proceeds of the policy then become subject to a will contest and may enhance the possibility of your next of kin proceeding against the estate, since a larger estate is more susceptible to contest. The proceeds of your life insurance policies are subject to estate tax, unless you have complied with the very stringent IRS regulations—the nature of which are beyond the scope of this article.

In addition to estate planning, it is important to do some life planning, particularly where one is involved in a relationship and/or has a family with different "ideas" than your own about how you would like to be treated in the event that you are ill or incapacitated. The solution to this is a durable power of attorney, naming your lover or a close trusted friend as your power of attorney to perform a variety of acts. In addition to the power of attorney, it is recommended that one also execute a health care proxy. For example, the Massachusetts health care proxy, which was signed into law in December 1990,

provides that one can name another individual to act in his or her behalf when he or she is unable to make decisions affecting medical treatment.

Incorporated into this can be one's desire as to the use or non-use of certain life sustaining treatments, much like a living will. A living will is important to have in one's portfolio of living documents. Should you not want life sustaining or extended treatment in the event of terminal illness, your stated desires to that effect will be in writing and could be enforced by a court. This is important in the event that your physician and/or family disagrees with your wishes and attempts to place you on certain life sustaining devices or perform certain life sustaining procedures. Many or all of these documents are necessary for gay men and lesbians in order that your wishes and values may be carried out by your life partner or close friend, as opposed to your family.

The above has been a superficial and cursory treatment of very important issues. I strongly suggest that you contact an attorney in order that you, your love, and the attorney may sit down and discuss your individual situation and determine how and if the above will apply to you.

David Lund is senior attorney in the law firm of David R. Lund and Associates, P.C. in Boston and has been practicing law for ten years.

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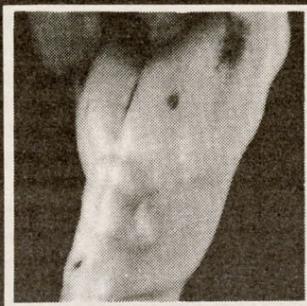
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Hotlanta

Cont'd from page 5

they called the Armory and asked for applicants."

Marks adds that because of his popularity in the fundraising circuit, the powers that be at the Armory suggested his name to pageant officials.

Describing the pageant as "camp drag," Marks goes on to define that as "comedy," adding that the guys don't shave any body parts and use balloons for breasts. He says they flaunt their hairy legs.

What is his advice to this year's contestants?

"Do the best that you can in each category and don't worry about what the other person is doing."

This year's winner will perform at the Mr. Hotlanta Contest on August 2. Will Marks be misty-eyed when he takes that farewell promenade down the runway?

No way; he's learned that when life becomes a drag, anything is possible.

If you'd like to explore the wilder side of pink, plan on attending one or all of the following events during River Expo Week '91:

- "The Quest for the Crown," (The Miss Hotlanta Contest) at the Colony Square Ballroom on August 1 at 9PM. (This is the largest "camp drag" show in Atlanta with a \$400 prize and complimentary River Expo packet going to the winner.)
- "Parti Gras," (The Mr. Hotlanta Contest) at the Civic Center on August 2 at 8PM.
- "Flamingo Fling," (Dance and Cabaret) at the Georgia Freight and Depot Garden on August 3 at 8PM.
- "Bird Bath," (The River Expo Raft Race) departing from Colony Square Hotel on August 4, destination—the Chattahoochee River National Park. (Chartered buses provided.)
- "Bird Seed Banquet," (Buffet) at the Colony Square Ballroom on August 4 at 5PM.



Jim Marks, a veteran Armorette, is one of six Atlantans in the Ms. Hotlanta contest.



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Texans Dominate Hotlanta Volleyball Classic

by Candace Chellew

Atlanta —Three Texas teams took home top honors from the Hotlanta Classic III Volleyball Tournament, held here July 27 & 28.

They failed to sweep the four divisions, however, as New York City Living Colours won the A Division play at Georgia State. The Atlanta Radical Faeries took second, followed by Atlanta Uno Gringo in third.

In BB Division play at Mercer, last year's winners, Atlanta Peach Fuzz, failed to retain their title as the Houston Skyscrapers took first, followed by the Dallas D.V. 8.

Dallas Diva took the top slot in B Division at Emory University. Houston Basic Boys won second with the Charlotte Yard Dogs claiming third.

And, in C Division play at Emory, the Houston Headhunters placed first with Dallas D-Lite and Atlanta Lunar Eclipse in second and third, respectively.

Forty teams from all over the country came to Atlanta to compete. B.L. Taylor, with the Richmond, Virginia, Christopher's Pumps and Spikes, said he was impressed with the hospitality in Atlanta. "The Hotlanta programs even had an official welcome from the Mayor of Atlanta, and the Governor of the state."

Some may have thought the North American Gay Volleyball Association (NAGVA) sanctioned tournament was not very hospitable to women, since no women's teams were registered in this year's

tournament. Chris Hall, director of the tournament, says organizational difficulties were to blame, but that didn't stop Mindy DeLuca from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She won the tournament's Best Defense Award for her outstanding play for the Ft. Lauderdale Screaming Seamen.

But, this year's tournament was not all setting and spiking. The teams took time out to have a little fun at a banquet at Zoo Atlanta before the finals. Balloting was done, and the teams were rated for their off court performances. For example, Columbus Chanel won a unanimous victory as the Nelliest Team at the tournament. The Butchest Team was the Tampa Gaytors and the Spirit Award went to Dallas Diva, which had one match refereed by an official in spike heels and long black gloves. The Cutest Team award went to the home grown Atlanta Peach Fuzz.

Ferrel Justice, a player from Richmond, Virginia, said it's that kind of camaraderie that convinced him to play volleyball. He said of his teammates, "Within the four weeks (of practice), we have become so close, the best of friends. We call each other when we are off the courts. It's wonderful!"

Teammate John Samuel agrees that it's better than meeting men in a bar setting, and the travel is nice. As he said, "It's hot in Hotlanta."

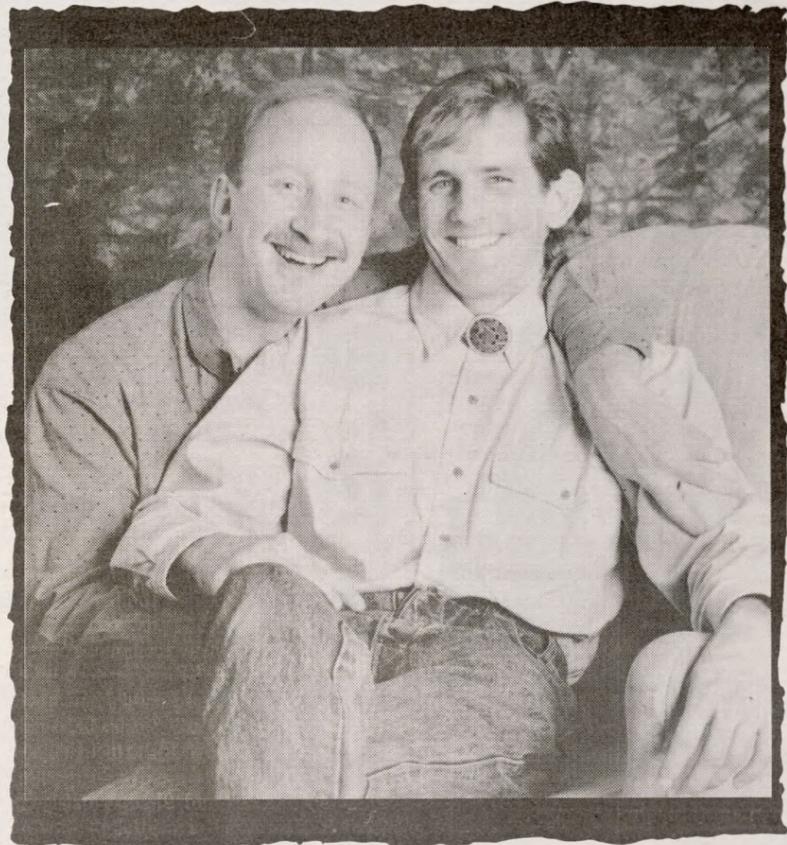


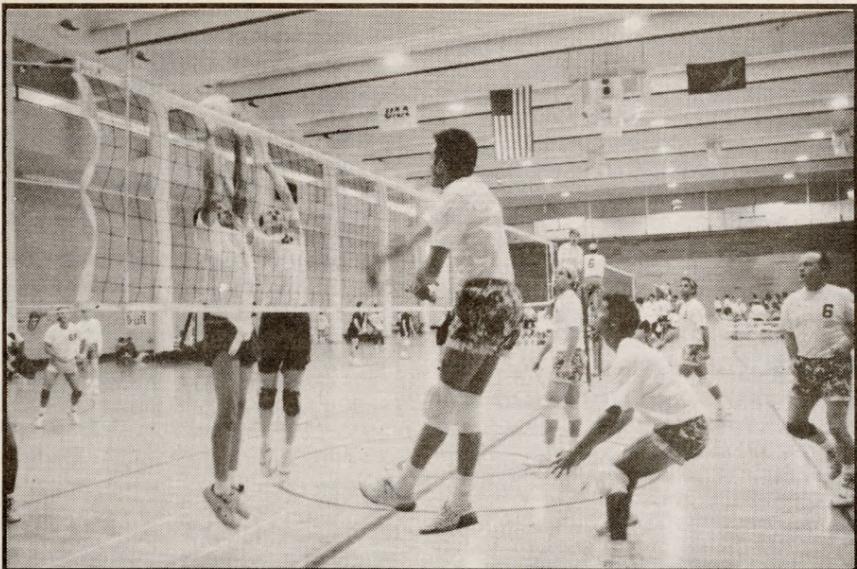
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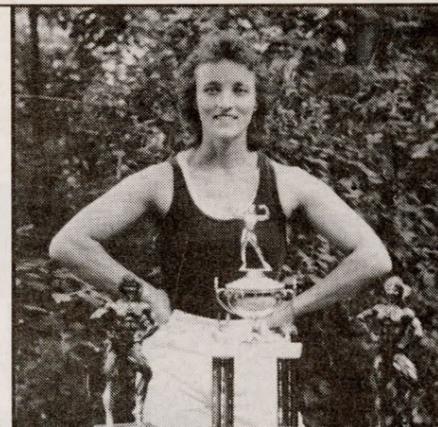
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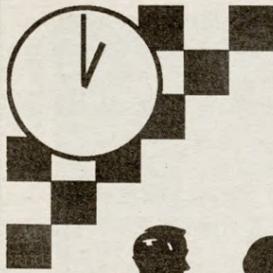
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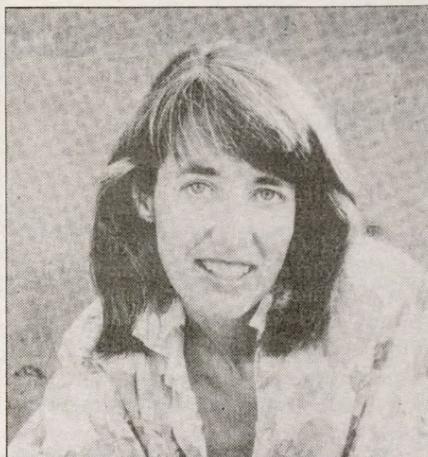
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Deana's ONE MO TIME



Kate Osborne will be at Charis Books on August 8 to read from and sign her new book *Patchwork*, the story of a Southern family told in the voices of three sisters.

Art

SUMMER SOLO SERIES. Thru Aug. 3. Four Southeastern artists present a visual feast with thought provoking themes. Sculpture, paintings, drawings and colorful monofilament orchids and butterflies; an unusual and enigmatic collection. Nexus Gallery. 535 Means St. 688-1970.

IMPRESSIONISM/POST-IMPRESSIONISM. Thru Aug. 4. Lithographs by such greats as Degas, Cezanne, Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, Gauguin and the incomparable Mary Cassatt. High Museum of Art. 892-HIGH.

SENSUAL IMAGES '91. Thru Aug. 12. Nude figure studies in black and white photography and dazzling glass sculpture. Nipples and asses and thighs, oh my! Reception on Aug. 2 & 3 during Hotlanta Expo weekend. Meet the artists. Burnhoff Gallery. Clear Creek Center. 875-3475.

JAPANESE TSUZURE-ORI. Thru Aug. 18. 55 examples of 19th century weavings using the slit tapestry technique in which the Japanese weavers beat down the weft threads with serrated fingernails on the left hand. Sounds eclectic, but being a fabric freak, I wouldn't miss it for the world. Atlanta International Museum. 285 Peachtree Center Ave. 688-2467.

AFRICAN AMERICAN ART. Thru September 1. 19th and 20th Century paintings, sculptures and photographs show a rich cultural heritage influenced by life in America. Hammonds House Galleries. 503 Peoples St. 752-8730.

ART OF OUR TIME: 20th CENTURY WORKS FROM THE COLLECTION. Thru Sept. 1. Modern art from many disciplines including works of Picasso, O'Keeffe, Ernst, Ringgold and many, many more. An interesting overview of various approaches to art and how they have developed and influenced one another. High Museum of Art. Woodruff Arts Center. 892-HIGH.

Comedy

WET DREAMS AND OTHER GAY AND LESBIAN TALES. July 30 & 31, Aug. 1, 6, 9pm, Aug. 7, 8:00. Funny That Way and Friends present an evening of improbable fairy tales in which the wicked queen has five o'clock shadow, and kissing a frog may yield a princess cursed by an ex-girl friend. New stories in this continuing saga include Snow White and the Six Dykes and Gayliens. Lavita's, Cheshire Square, \$4. 633-0452.

Film

GEORGIA ARTIST SERIES. Fri. Aug. 9. An evening of Delta Blues includes 5 films about the South with an emphasis on blues, juke joints and homemade music. Includes a special showing of "Hush, Hoggies, Hush," a short, witty film about Tom Johnson's praying pigs. IMAGE Film/Video Center. 75 Bennett St. 352-4225.

Hotlanta River Expo

HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO 1991. Aug. 1-5. Ride the river and see hot men get wet and wild or enjoy the "Feathery Femmes" as they vie for Miss Hotlanta on Aug. 1. Or if your taste tends towards the tough, catch the Mr. Hotlanta show on the 2nd. Sat.'s Flamingo Fling is the thing if dancing is your delight. Cockatoos will be the featured bird of the weekend. 874-EXPO.

Literature

KAREN OSBORNE. Thurs., Aug. 8 7:30 pm. Karen will read from her new book *Patchwork* about women mill workers. Through three sisters we see a "complex world of domestic disharmony, forbidden love, and family secrets festering through generations." A beautiful and compelling work. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

MICHELLE GREEN. Thurs. Aug. 1. 7 pm. People magazine senior writer signs her new book: *The Dream at the End of the World*, a movable feast about the libertine paradise of post-WWII Tangier where the likes of Kerouac, Ginsberg, and Tennessee Williams meet in a cafe society to share their particular views on life. Oxford Books at Pharr Rd. 262-3333.

Music

HOLLY FAITH. Fri., Aug. 2. 9 pm. New music from popular Atlanta bands. Holly appears with Hanging Francis and Latter Day Saints. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

THE JUDDS FAREWELL TOUR. Aug. 2 & 3. 8:30 pm. The dissolving of this harmonious partnership is as devastating as the death of Elvis. Don't miss a final chance to hear them in concert. Take a friend, maybe your baby's got the blues. Chastain Park Amphitheatre. 898-1189.

K.T. OSLIN. Wed., Aug. 7. 8:30 pm. Love is a big-boned girl and K.T. knows where she lives. Enjoy the best country drag in existence as Ms. Oslin plays the picnic park. Chastain Park Amphitheatre. 898-1189.

PETER, PAUL & MARY. Fri., Aug. 9. 8:30 pm. As long as this trio stays together, the sixties and Puff the Magic Dragon will never die. Let your memory sing-a-long. Chastain Park Amphitheatre. 898-1189.

DONOVAN. Sun., Aug. 11. 8 pm. The hurly gurlu man spins dream tales with his own special magic. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

Personal Growth

LESBIAN RESPONSIBILITY: THE ETHICS OF RELATING/DATING. Thurs. Aug. 1. 7:30 pm. Marlene Johnson and Isabelle Bagshaw talk about ex-lovers and friends and the difficulties that arrive after the relationship is over. Some people have to go all the way to Canada to find a lover that hasn't already been involved with a friend. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

Political

LESBIAN AND GAY CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE 90's. Thurs., Aug. 8. 7 pm. William Rubenstein, Director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the ACLU presents his views on the subject. Sponsored by the GA ACLU Lesbian & Gay Rights chapter and the GSU Lesbian and Gay Law Student Association. GSU College of Law, Room 100.

REGIONAL CRACKER BARREL DEMO. Sat. Aug. 10 & Sun. Aug. 11. Regional meeting in Nashville on Sat. followed by rally in Lebanon, TN at Cracker Barrel Corp. HQ on Sunday. For info, 286-2355.

THE RIGHT TO DEFEND YOUR COUNTRY: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAY MEN IN THE MILITARY. Sun., Aug. 11. 10:30 am. A panel discussion with Kate Dyer, William Rubenstein, Lawrence Korb and Joseph Stefan. Sponsored by the American Bar Association on the Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men. Inforum Hotel. Rooms 4 & 5. 879-3895 for more info.

Radio

On WRFG-FM (89.3):

STILL AIN'T SATISFIED. Thurs., 5:05-7PM. Music and public affairs from a Heretic Woman's view. A good program to listen to when you're wondering if there's anyone else out there. 89.3.

THE SEEKER. Sat., 5-8PM. Music and information which preserves, promotes and advances the true history and culture of African-American people.

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

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

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

Spirituality

ALCHEMICAL TAROT. Tues., Aug. 6. 7 pm. A unique approach to card reading based on Jungian Psychology. Sometimes the subconscious mind can reveal truths hidden from oneself. No previous tarot experience necessary. Inner Space. 289-2343.

LEARNING TO WALK THE MEDICINE PATH. Aug. 16 & 17. Join Native American Peter Bear Walks and Mary Bailey-Rule for a weekend of exploring the beauty of this Universal Path. Walking shoes optional. 264-6219.

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Sports

FRONT RUNNERS. Every Wed. at 6:30pm in Piedmont Park. Also every Saturday 8am at the Chattahoochee River off Powers Ferry Rd. Call Shelton Haynie (622-0739) or Lynne Patterson (438-1421) for info.

AVSBOWLING. Every Monday, 8:30pm. Come down and see why Judy Tenuta says bowling fingers are so much fun. A sport with excitement to spare. Express Lanes, Monroe Drive.

HOTLANTA SOCCER. Practice every Sun., 3 pm at Piedmont Park. Hotlanta is looking for a few good thighs for the 1991 season, and the upcoming International Gay Soccer Tournament scheduled for October in Atlanta. Men and women, beginners or pros are encouraged to participate. You'll get a kick out of it! Call Steve at 577-0418.

ATLANTA TEAM TENNIS. Every Saturday. Play to climb the competitive challenge ladder or just enjoy the game. Men play at noon at Glenlake Tennis Center, call David Black at 399-5010. Women's division Wed. and Sat. afternoons at Chastain Park thru July 31 includes lessons and round robins. 662-GAME.

HOTLANTA VOLLEYBALL. Fridays, 7:30-10:30pm. Hands-on fun for spikers and spectators alike. Fall leagues are now forming. Hellenic Center gym on Cheshire Bridge Rd. 621-5062.

Television

DeAUNDRIA PEEK'S ULTRA STYLE BIN. Wed. and Fri. at 11:30 pm. An infotainment-type newsmagazine for those who are farther out than most. This week's movie section features the classic film "The Wild Thing" with RuPaul as an abandoned child raised by possums in the kudzu who fights to save his wilderness from the Presidential Parkway. People TV - Channel 12 on Prime Cable.

Theatre

GEORGIA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL. "Richard III," the bad boy of British royalty, kills his way to the crown. On alternate nights, "The Three Musketeers" protect it. Daggers, diabolical plots, and delightful dialogue. More action than mud wrestling Tina Turner. Oglethorpe University. 264-0020.

MARILYN... IN HER OWN WORDS. Thru Aug. 3. Julie Miller has received rave reviews for her torid, true-to life performance of the world's greatest sex symbol. Set at Monroe's last photo session, this powerful, one-actress play allows The Blonde to tell her life story with humour and perception. Center Stage Theatre. 249-6400/873-2500.

THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH. Thru Aug. 3. The world is at 6's and 7's as Thornton Wilder's classic receives multi-media treatment featuring video, photography, live theatre, original music, puppetry and dance. 7 Stages Theatre. 523-7647.

THE COLORED MUSEUM. Thru Aug. 4. Jomandi brings its hilarious spoof to 10th and Peachtree for an evening of fearless, fiery and side-splitting humor in the tradition of "In Living Color." Stay home if you don't like to laugh. Theatrical Outfit. 873- 1099.

SHIRLEY VALENTINE. Thru Aug. 11. A delightful comedy about what happens to a middle-aged housewife when she runs away from home to an isolated Greek island on her dream vacation. Will she return to her husband who is less interesting to talk to than the kitchen walls, or sip wine beside the sea forever? Theatre in the Square. 11 Whitlock Ave. Marietta. 422-8369.

IMPERFECT LOVE. Aug. 9- Sept. 1. 8pm on Fri. and Sat. 5 pm on Sun. A realistic and humorous look at two women and their relationships, one straight the other a lesbian. Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth St. \$5. 395-6215.

REHEARSAL FOR DEATH. Aug. 9-17. This family oriented play is a who-done-it for the light of heart filled with love, hate, treachery, skeletons in the closets, power, and money and glamour. Something for everyone who enjoys an evening of theatre filled with hystronics, hysteria and hypertension. 14th St. Playhouse.

CURRENT EVENTS. Aug. 15-18. 8 pm. Jomandi Productions presents a new solo work written and performed by Atlanta-based performance artist Shirlene Holmes. See review this issue. Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth St. 688-1970.

Video

SOUTHERN PORTRAITS. Sat., Aug. 3, 8 pm. 3 films in the GA Artists series: "The Pasaquoyan" by Doug Loggins about visionary artist Eddie Owns Martin; "Portraits" by Bret Lanian about image and self image; "Miracle Chapel" by John Erwin about the Miracle Chapel and Gardens. Image Film/Video, 75 Bennett St. For more info: 352-4225.

Upcoming

A FAMILY BY ANY OTHER NAME. Tues., Aug. 6. 7 pm. A forum for lesbians and gay men who are considering parenthood. Get advice from legal and medical experts and hear other parents relate their experiences. Sponsored by the L/G chapter of the Ga. ACLU. MCC Church. N. Highland Ave.

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. Wed., Aug 21. 5:30 pm. NOW sponsors a rally to help make women equally safe and free from fear and physical retribution on this Women's Equality Day. The escalating problem of violence directed at women and girls will be emphasized outside a special session of the legislature. Georgia State capitol. 270-7934/ 377-8054.

RHYTHMFEST '91. Aug. 29-Sept 2. Lookout Mt., GA will ring with music and laughter as the newest of the women's festivals returns to the hallowed hills. Atlanta performers Joyce and Jacque, Boink Dee Deek, Angela Motter and Funny That Way will be appearing in addition to many nationally known groups. Send SASE to 604 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC 27701 or call 919-682-6374.

THE HARVEY MILK SHOW. Sept. 6-October 27. Dan Pruitt and Patrick Hutchison, who also wrote "Different," present an astonishing story of inspiring power in this new musical about the first openly gay elected official. Southern Voice is a community sponsor for this not-to-be-missed production. Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth St. 221-0831.

MENDING HEARTS. Sept. 14. This award-winning documentary on Atlanta PWAs premieres at the 14th St. Playhouse. Opening night is a benefit for Heartstrings. Tix available Aug. 15 by calling 892-2414.

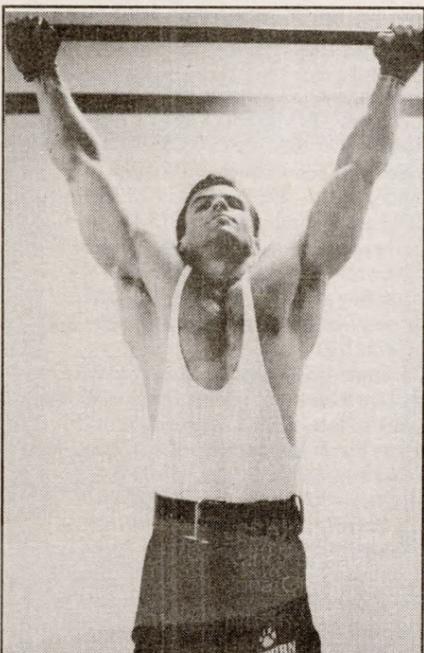
THE YEARNING FOR WHOLENESS: ADDICTION & THE SPIRITUAL QUEST. Sept. 17-21. The second International Transpersonal Assoc. conference focuses on the intersection of the addiction and transpersonal fields. Music, dance, art, and ritual will be highlighted in an evening of Babtunde Olatunji and the Drums of Passion. Stouffer-Waverly Hotel. 1-800-533-3641.

CELEBRATING GAY SPIRIT VISIONS. Sept. 20-22. Gay and bisexual men gather in the Highlands to explore the relationship between their sexuality and spirituality. Poet James Broughton and healer Andrew Ramer present the keynote addresses. Mountain Retreat Center, Highlands, N.C. (704) 252-0634.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA. Tues., Oct. 8. Tickets are already on sale as the Phantom comes to the fabulous Fox. The classic story of obsession unfolds under the stars in the fall season. Fox Theatre. 873-4300.

10th ANNUAL P-FLAG CONVENTION. Oct. 11-14. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays hold their 10th annual convention to help do away with isolation, myths and lies and help those parents having a difficult time accepting or understanding their gay child's sexual orientation. A weekend of healing and help. Omni Charlotte Hotel. (704) 364-1474.

CREATING CHANGE. Nov. 9-11. A National Conference for Gay and Lesbian Organizing and Skills Building presents 3 days of networking and information for those who want to help change their communities, their colleges, the world, or just themselves. Old Colony Inn. Alexandria, Va. (202) 332-6483.



Mr. Hotlanta 1991 national finals and show at the Civic Center Friday, Aug. 2. Parti Gras as part of the River Expo.

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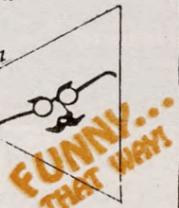
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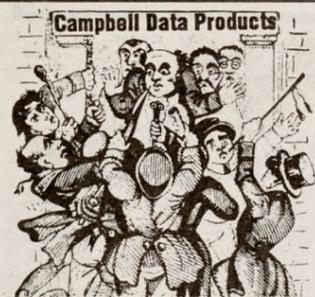


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COMMUNITY

AIDS ORGANIZATIONS

AID Atlanta—Non-profit agency providing services to people with AIDS, families and friends. 872-0600.

AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide). Answers about AIDS, referrals, etc., by trained volunteers staffing lines 9am-9pm daily.

AIDS Legal Project—Free legal services to low income persons with HIV; civil cases only with focus on employment disputes, discrimination and assistance with public benefits (Social Security, Food Stamps, etc.) 688-5433.

AIDSCHAIM—Congregation Bet Haverim (Atlanta's Reconstructionist synagogue serving the the gay and lesbian community) sponsors a predominantly gay support group for those affected by the AIDS crisis. Meets 1st & 3d Thurs., 7:30pm at AIDS Interfaith Network, 1053 Juniper St. Info 642-3467.

Atlanta Buyers Club—provides access to altere treatment for the HIV community in the Southeast. Currently we can help you obtain ddC and clarithromycin. We are working on access to several additional treatments. For further information contact us at (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, 30357.

Childkind—Foster care, day care, and emergency assistance for children with HIV and their families. For info or to volunteer, 936-9655.

First MCC AIDS Ministry—Spiritual and emotional support for PWA's and Families. 872-2246

Georgia AIDS Therapy Information Network—Examines current info on HIV/AIDS therapies. Meets twice quarterly. Call the GA AIDS info-line for info. 1-800-551-2728

The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—Meets 1st Tues. of month, 633-0634.

National Association of People with AIDS/Atlanta—A political, social, and educational organization confronting the AIDS crisis. Membership open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV positive. 874-7926.

The Names Project/Atlanta—A National AIDS Memorial. Meets Tuesdays, 6:30pm at All Saints Episcopal Church. 286-6263.

The Names Project Quilting Bee—For those interested in creating a panel or helping others working on a panel. Thurs. 7:30pm at First MCC. 872-2246.

Positive Outlook On HIV—A social network of HIV persons who want to meet similarly oriented people for social and emotional interaction. Meets 2nd & 4th Thurs. 8:00pm. For info call 872-9954 or 294-9407. P.O. Box 8569, Atl., GA 30306.

Project Open Hand Atlanta—Prepares and delivers meals to people with HIV illness. Volunteers needed for organizing, kitchen and delivery. 525-4620.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—A community-oriented chorale group of women's voices. Membership open to all women interested in singing. Practice each Sunday. 294-8983.

Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—Community-oriented chorus of male voices. Membership open to all interested singers and non-singers alike. 627-7830.

"Funny... That Way"—Atlanta's Gay/Lesbian comedy improvisational troupe. Membership open. Workshops Sunday night. 875-2275.

Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc—Arts and media as tools for exploration, education, and change in human rights, especially those of the lesbian/gay community. 881-0817.

BARS

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280

Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986

Blake's—227 10th St. 892-7535

Buddies—Cheshire Square. 634-5895

Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025

Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403

Conference Room—1086 Alco St. 634-6478

The Cove—586 Worchester. 875-2477

Crazy Ray's—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655

Deana's One Mo' Time—1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 874-0980

The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE

551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052

Frank's Place—778 N. Highland. 881-0259

Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983

Lavita's—Cheshire Square. 633-0452

Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125

The Metro—48 6th Street, 874-9869

New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247

Options—2329 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-4584

The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Road. 875-5238

2069 The Page—2069 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 728-9045

The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055

Petrus—1150 Peachtree St. 873-6700

Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871

Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957

Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961

Tower Lounge—735 Ralph McGill. 688-5463

Traxx—306 Luckie St. 681-5033

Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

DIRECT ACTION/POLITICAL

ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—Working for the civil rights of lesbians and gay men in the metropolitan Atlanta area. 523-6201.

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power—Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held Tuesday at 7:30 PM, NAPWA offices at 98 6th St. 286-6247.

Atlanta Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—For info, call Jeffrey at 627-6603 or Laura at 659-0315.

BIAS Crime Hot Line—To report all bias/hate crime incidents and police abuse. 286-BIAS.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—Works to lessen public expressions of homophobia, especially in the media. Meets First Mon., 7pm at Peachtree Library. 286-7477.

Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition—Meetings vary. The gay and lesbian political action committee monitoring and acting in the local political scene. 368-7420.

Human Rights Campaign Fund—The nation's largest Lesbian & Gay political + lobbying organization. Field office, 373-6330. Annual dinner committee, 365-8766.

Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians—A voice for lesbians and gays in the Democratic party. Mtgs. on 3rd Mon. of the month. 7pm at P'tree Library. 286-7476.

National Organization for Women—reproductive rights, lesbian/gay rights, civil rights, human rights. Stop Violence Against Women Rally on Aug. 21, - Capitol Steps at 5:30pm. Located at the YWCA, 957 N. Highland Ave. Call 875-0176 for more info.

Neighbors Network—counters hate crime and hate group activity/threats with with information, organizing, and non-violent direct action; to aid communities and individuals victimized by hate-motivated violence and intimidation. Special emphasis on youth concerns. 874-5171.

Queer Nation—Direct action countering homophobia and educating the public. Meets 2d and 4th Mon. at Peachtree Branch Library. 286-2355.

PROFESSIONAL

Atlanta Business & Professional Guild—A service organization of both gay/lesbian and non-gay professionals and businesspersons. Meets 2d Tues. 355-1800.

Fourth Tuesday—A networking organization for lesbian professionals and entrepreneurs. Regular dinner meetings on 4th Tues. Also special events. 662-4353.

HomeGirls—a business and social networking group designed to encourage entrepreneurial efforts among (but not limited to) women of color. 662-9101.

Success Oriented Networking Group—Structured networking for gay/lesbian and non-gay professionals. Meets every other Weds. 662-4202

SPIRITUAL

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—Serving metro Atlanta with positive Christian support for lesbians and gay men. Services 7 pm every Sun. at 575 Boulevard, SE. 622-1154.

Circle of Healing—Open to anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual. 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. 7:30 PM. at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr. 378-5570

Congregation Bet Haverim Reconstructionist Synagogue serving the Gay and Lesbian community. Services every Fri. at 8pm at AIDS Interfaith Network 1053 Juniper St. Shabbat Seder 2nd Fridays monthly at 7:30pm. 642-3467.

First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta—A Christian church proclaiming God's love for lesbians and gay men. Counseling available by appt. Same sex Holy Unions performed. Sun. at 11:00am and 7:30pm. Weds. 7:30pm. 800 N. Highland Ave. 872-2246.

Gay & Lesbian Mormons—Affirmation group organizing in the Atlanta area. For info call 570-2561 (dig. page).

Gay Catholics of Georgia and Friends—Support group for lesbian/gay Catholics and friends. Meetings and activities vary. 390-0739.

Integrity—Ministry of Gay Episcopalians 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. 7:30 PM. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3rd floor of Ellis Hall. 642-3183.

COMMUNICATIONS

Lambda Light—A meditation group for lesbians and gay men. Meets weekly. Dan at 876-2203 or Jack at 872-5772.

Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta—A Christian Ministry for Lesbian and Gay Understanding. 636-7109.

Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—Gays and lesbians gather over light foods to celebrate their Presbyterian heritage. 373-5830.

Roswell Unity—Gay-Bisexual Support Group. Time Square Shopping Ctr., 3000 Johnson-Ferry Rd. Thurs. 7:30. For more info call 368-7481.

SPORTS/OUTDOOR

Atlanta Team Tennis Association—Men and women's divisions. All levels of players welcome. 622-GAME.

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

Friends Atlanta—A social, recreational, and educational group for gays and lesbians. 662-4501.

Front Runners/Atlanta—A running/walking/social group for lesbians and gay men. Weds. 6:30pm in Piedmont Park and Sat. 8am at Chattahoochee and Powers Ferry Rd. 622-0739.

Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—For gay men who enjoy nude outdoor and social activities. Not a sex club. For info send SASE to: GANG, PO Box 7546, Atlanta, GA 30357.

Hotlanta Soccer—Practice every Sunday at 3pm in Piedmont Park. Beginners, men and women are welcome. 577-0418.

Hotlanta Volleyball—Serious and amateur players are welcome to join. In tournaments and Clinics held to learn and practice new techniques. 875-0700.

Professional Tennis Network—Free introductory lessons. 1st time players welcome. Rackets available. 8 certified pro's on staff. Stay for the ATTA round robins afterwards. Call 325-2288.

S.E. Gay Rodeo Association—For cowboys and cowgirls across the south. A number of activities, including a rodeo, are in the planning stage. PO Box 8262, Atlanta, GA 30306. 874-6556.

S.E. Harlequins—Women's rugby football team practices every Wed. night and Sun. afternoon. No experience is necessary and new players are always welcome. 659-6916 or 761-8939 for info.

SERVICE/SUPPORT

Athens Gay and Lesbian Association—Contact P.O. Box 2201 Athens 30612-0201 or call 404/549-9368.

Athens Lesbian Information Line—Athens area lesbians call to find out about support groups, social gatherings, etc. (404) 613-7661.

Atlanta Educational Gender Information Service—Information for persons interested in issues of gender. PO Box 33724, Decatur, GA 30033. (404) 939-0244 (evenings).

Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee—Responsible for annual pride celebration. Meets the 1st Mon. of each month at 2069 The Page (2069 Cheshire Bridge) and the 3d Thurs. at Ponce Library (980 Ponce de Leon) at 7pm. All invited. 325-4435.

Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance—A lesbian feminist organization which welcomes lesbians of all races, religions, political orientation, economic status, occupation and degree of openness. 2d Sunday of each month. 6:00 PM. PO Box 5502, Atlanta, Ga. 30307, phone 378-9769.

Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—A non-profit, non-partisan, organization created to support the right to reproductive freedom for all people. 239-8016.

African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—A political and social organization for black lesbians and gay men. Meets 1st Sunday of each month. 4pm, Ashby and Gordon Streets. 349-3739.

Atlanta Couples Together—Social organization to support positive aspects of gay and lesbian relationships. Events and meetings vary. 365-2455.

Atlanta Gay Center. Offers services for lesbians and gays men as well as educational outreach to society as a whole. 63 12th St., 876-5372; Coming Out Group 4pm Sat; Young Adult Support Group 6:30pm Tues; HIV+ Group Fri. 8pm, Sun. 6pm; Clinic 6-9pm Mon., Tue., Wed. **Black and White Men Together**—A gay interracial organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome. 794-BWMT.

Codependents Anonymous-Lambda—A 12-step program of recovery from codependency for gays and lesbians. Meetings Tues. & Wed. at 8 PM and Sun. at 7pm. 239-1657.

The Cobb County Group—Monthly social and frequent recreational activities for those who live in Cobb. 438-1421.

Chrysalis Women's Center—Provides social, educational and informational programs and services for the community. Lesbian discussion group meets 7:00 every Friday; Support group for lesbian mothers meets 6:00 every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays; Support group for married lesbians meets 6:00 every 2nd and 4th Tuesday. 881-6300.

Delphi—A fraternity of gay men. P.O. Box 14591, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Georgia Girth & Mirth—Social club for large gay men and their admirers. PO Box 9678. Atlanta, GA 30319. (404) 621-5710.

Gay Fathers Association—Support group meets 4th Fri. 296-8369.

Gay Help Line—Phone, 6pm-11pm, daily. 892-0661.

The Group—Support for gay and bisexual men who are or who have been involved in marital-type situations with women. 892-0661.

Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—Addresses unique issues that lesbian and gay drug addicts deal with in their recovery. Meets Mon. & Fri. at 8pm in cafeteria of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 25 Boulevard, NE. 237-6262.

Lesbians In Fun Endeavors—Bringing professional gay women together for the fun of it, giving them the opportunity to make friends and enjoy a wide variety of events. 938-2009.

Lesbian Support Group—Discussion group open to all lesbians. Every Friday. 627-7387.

Lesbians With Children—Social support group forming for lesbians and children. Come plan child oriented outings & participate in monthly get-togethers. 740-1729.

Men of Little 5 Points—Socials and speakers on gay and community topics. Write PO Box 5425, Atlanta, GA 30307.

Name the Violence—Support group for battered and formerly battered lesbians. No fees. Share experiences, be empowered & empower others. A safe space in our community. 370-1317.

Out Youth—has formed in Atlanta! If you are a lesbian, gay, or bi-sexual youth and are interested in socials, demonstrations, safe space, and/or a support group... We want your help! For more information about how you can become active... call Chance at 688-1954.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—Committed to help parents of lesbians and gays and to help change attitudes so all gay people can live with dignity and respect. 3d Sun., 3-5pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atl. 296-0830 or 875-9440.

Women In Kahoots—(WINK) Women-only group in the Cobb County area. Support, social, networking. Call 438-1421 for info.

Women of Wisdom—A social and service organization that aims to facilitate women meeting with women in a comfortable atmosphere. Meets at Chrysalis Women's Center monthly, date varies. 723-1112. or write P.O. Box 451065, Atlanta, GA 30345-1065.

Young Adult Support Group—For men and women 14-24, meets at Atlanta Gay Center, 63 12th Street, 6:30pm every Tuesday. 876-5372.

YOUTH—For Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual young people. Support group, contact point, voluntary political org. Weekly meetings. Contact Randy or Michael at 633-9569 or Jefferey at 607-1967.

ZAMI—Women who work together as friends and lovers, a support group for women of color. Meets 2d Fri. of each month at Charis Books. 315-7684.

STUDENTS

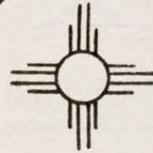
Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—Meetings every Wed., 7:30pm, Room 362E, Dobbs University Center. Emory Univ. 727-6692.

Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Community College's group is in the process of formation. 426-8160.

Georgia Tech Gay and Lesbian Alliance—Meet every Wednesday during school quarters for discussion/speakers/activities. 497-0684.

Ga. State Gay and Lesbian Student Alliance—Support group for the gay and lesbian community at Ga. State. Meeting/activity times vary, call 378-1370.

S.E. Alternative Lifestyles Association—Networking group for lesbian and gay student groups. 634-2524.



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Rapid approval of ddI is rare move for FDA

by Dave Gilden
AIDS NEWS SERVICE

People with AIDS who have outlived their limited time on AZT may have received another year of life on July 19. That was when the Food and Drug Administration's Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee recommended approving the new anti-HIV drug ddI for treating individuals now failing on AZT.

ddI functions in a manner similar to AZT through blocking the infection of new white blood cells by the AIDS-triggering human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Typically, persons with AIDS placed on AZT improve for about a year before starting to decline again.

"ddI does what AZT does, but maybe for a longer period of time," concluded Dr. Donald Abrams, one of the advisory board members.

The drug now goes to the FDA's Antiviral Division staff for final review. According to FDA spokesman Brad Stone, "We're committed to acting as fast as possible on ddI. Disagreement with advisory committee recommendations has been rare in the past."

Barring unforeseen hitches, ddI will be available by prescription from local pharmacies within the next few months.

The panel's okay came just three and a half months after ddI's developer, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, applied for licensing. Not only is the FDA acting in record time (the approval review frequently takes two years to complete), but it is acting on much scantier data than usual.

Bristol-Myers presented only preliminary data from studies that indicated ddI's general safety. That alone would not have convinced the committee. But the company's presentation was followed up by the National Institutes of Health, which in an uncharacteristic move, revealed the intermediate results of its own studies comparing ddI and AZT.

The National Institutes of Health data relied on a so-called surrogate marker: a slight average increase in test subjects' helper T-cell population was detected. The decline in the disease-fighter helper T-cells is a hallmark of AIDS, but this lab indicator is not as concrete evidence as the worsening or improvement in physical symptoms normally relied on to evaluate tests.

At the advisory committee hearings, David Kessler, the new FDA Commissioner, challenged the panel to be flexible and to look at new ways to judge drugs.

According to Martin Delaney, "The FDA helped package the data to make it acceptable to the committee." Delaney, director of San Francisco's Project Inform, has been struggling for a year to obtain early approval of ddI and the related experimental drug ddC.

Bristol-Myers spokeswoman Susan Yarin acknowledged, "We worked closely and collaboratively

with the FDA." Signals from the agency probably encouraged the company to apply for approval with its statistics in such a rough state.

The traditional definitive data would have taken another year to accumulate. Given the spread of the epidemic and the increasing number of people who have used up their time on AZT, another year would have been an intolerable wait to gain a second drug. Thousands of deaths might have resulted from the delay.

While Delaney is celebrating victory, Abrams on the advisory panel has doubts about the wisdom of the precedent being set. "There was enough evidence for efficacy to give people some new options," he said, "but the slight increase in T-cells observed really says little about increased survival time."

The problem with surrogate markers is that the human body does not act like a simple machine. Helper T-cell counts do not uniformly decline in AIDS but bounce around considerably. Still more significantly, some people with low levels of helper T-cells feel better than others with considerably higher counts.

Abrams said, "Nobody felt comfortable approving ddI completely. Bristol-Myers suggested that ddI was best in people with ARC who had had no prior antiviral drugs, but we wouldn't go that far."

According to Abrams, many on the advisory committee would have preferred to follow a "conditional approval" route for ddI, but Commissioner Kessler was interested in approving the medication through traditional channels.

Under a conditional approval format, approved drugs would be subject to further post-marketing tests whose results could lead to modification or even cancellation of a drug license.

No formal conditional approval procedure exists at present. The concept is the latest wrinkle in the long running debate on how to speed the delivery of new drugs to people with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses.

On the subject of conditional approval, Brad Stone said, "A report from the FDA's task force on surrogate markers is due out soon, and a concurrent proposal on accelerated approval is being prepared." A decision on the value of using alterations in the human body's biologic activity as predictors of the course of a disease is vital to determining what early evidence of drug effectiveness would be acceptable to the FDA.

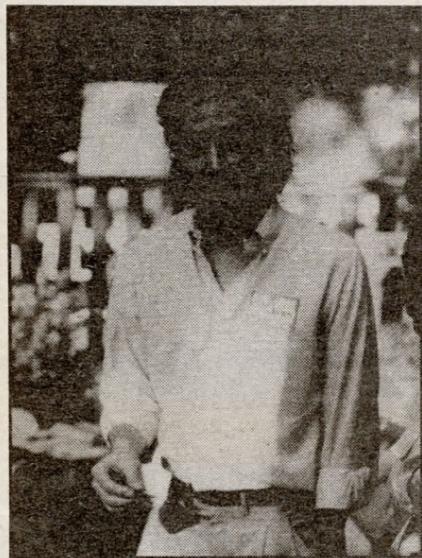
In any case, the FDA seems to be taking up a new, more interventionist role with the ddI case. As Martin Delaney put it, "Either the FDA has lost objectivity or it has expanded its understanding of its role in public health. It is acting not just to keep bad drugs out, but to bring good drugs in."

Local PWA undergoes hyperthermia

by Steve Alper

"People have got to come out and take a stand, they have to try treatments like hyperthermia. If they don't we will never know if they work," declares Atlanta PWA Jeff Shinn. Shinn tested HIV+ in 1985 and was diagnosed with AIDS in '88.

Shinn became interested in hyperthermia a little more than a year ago when it was performed on an experimental basis at Atlanta Hospital by two physicians, Kenneth Alonso and William Logan, Jr. After reading media reports of Alonso and Logan's treatment of Carl Crawford, the first patient to receive hyperthermia treatment for Kaposi's sarcoma, Shinn contacted Alonso for an appointment. Soon after that appointment, controversy arose regarding the procedure fueled by media hype and by the mixed results it achieved in the treatment of Crawford and other patients.



Atlantan Jeff Shinn underwent hyperthermia in Italy in March which produced mixed short-term results.

The September, 1990, announcement of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases that "there appears to be no clinical, immunological or virologic support for the use of hyperthermia in the treatment of HIV disease or Kaposi's sarcoma," and the shutting down of Atlanta Hospital for unrelated reasons foreclosed the possibility of Shinn obtaining hyperthermia treatment locally. Through further research he became aware of a variety of options for obtaining hyperthermia treatment, most of which required travel outside the U.S. While fees ran as high as \$30,000, he located a hospital in Italy which offered hyperthermia on an experimental basis to people with AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma, at a cost of \$4,000.

Shinn maintained contact with Alonso, who rejected NIAID's conclusions about hyperthermia and strongly advised that further research was necessary to determine the treatment's efficacy. And in stark contrast to Alonso and Logan's claims of last summer, no promises were made as to the effectiveness of hyperthermia. But Shinn opted to proceed, hoping that hyperthermia would arrest and reverse his constantly developing KS, provide a break from exhausting chemotherapy and increase his T-cell count of 12.

On March 16, 1991, Shinn flew to Italy where, in a hospital in Rome, doctors used injections of interferon to raise Shinn's body temperature to 102 degrees. Then, drawing blood from his femoral artery, doctors used a heat exchanger to raise his blood to 120 degrees, and returned it to his

body via an artery in his arm. This process raised Shinn's body temperature to 112 degrees, about five degrees higher than any other hyperthermia patient had experienced. Although he was anesthetized for the procedure and felt no pain, upon awakening he experienced severe headaches and a fever which would not break until antibiotics were administered. He returned to the United States four days after having been admitted to the hospital.

The hyperthermia treatment produced short-term, mixed results. Shinn experienced no change in his T-cell count but three weeks after treatment many of the KS lesions on his face had faded. However, lesions around Shinn's eyes and on his legs had grown, while still others were unchanged. Four weeks after treatment his KS had resumed its growth. Eight weeks after treatment, Shinn was hospitalized with internal KS and bacterial pneumonia. Recently, he has resumed chemotherapy for KS; however, this time he is receiving it at home rather than on an in-patient basis.

While Shinn experienced only short term benefits from the treatment, he is not sorry he tried hyperthermia. He sees himself as a pioneer in the treatment of AIDS, declaring, "Even if it did not help me, I don't regret trying it. How else will we know if it is going to work?"

When asked to evaluate the effectiveness of hyperthermia, Shinn did not discount it. Rather, he expressed his doubts about the effectiveness of a one time treatment. He believes "the ultimate benefit will be in using multiple treatments in conjunction with alternative therapies, including chemotherapy, herbal therapy, meditation, and especially nutrition therapy." Despite this, Shinn does not plan to return to Italy due to lack of funds and his current weakened condition.

According to Shinn, AIDS related malnutrition is a major problem which he is combating by using careful nutritional planning. He eats easily digestible foods, uses digestive enzymes, eats natural foods and abstains from sugar and dairy products. He has no doubt that "I am still here because I have tried the things that I have tried, especially in nutrition.

Shinn maintains contact with Dr. Alonso and continues to follow developments in AIDS research in general and hyperthermia in particular. He expressed regret that while hyperthermia remains an accepted procedure in oncology, it has not gained wide acceptance in the treatment of AIDS. He described Europe as being where the U.S. was in the 80s regarding AIDS treatment.

"In Europe they do not do so much for AIDS treatment. There are not as many cases [as in the United States] and it still is very hush-hush there. However," he noted, "there are refinements in technique coming out of Europe. Principally these include slower heating of the blood and safer procedures for blood volume transfer."

Shinn has reported on his experience with hyperthermia in *NAPWA News*. He has expressed willingness to speak with individuals seriously contemplating the procedure; however, he has a limited amount of energy. He requests that only those people who have AIDS and have undergone hyperthermia or are contemplating doing so call. His telephone number is 404-250-9450.

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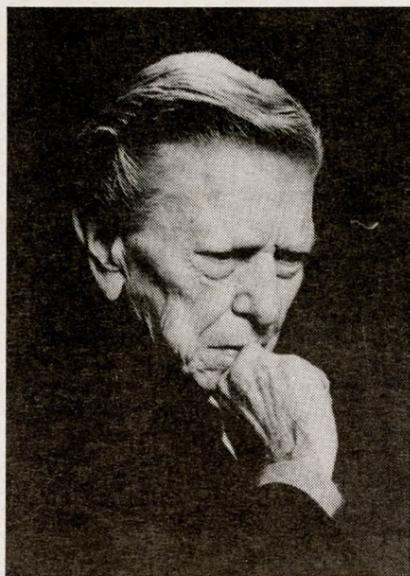
Gale Wilhelm, novelist, dead at 83

Gale Wilhelm, celebrated novelist, author of six novels written between 1935 and 1945, died peacefully at her home in the Bay Area of San Francisco on July 11, 1991.

The cause of death was cancer, according to her lover of nearly 43 years, who was with her at the time of her death. She remained at home during the course of her brief illness, as she wished to do.

Born April 26, 1908, in Eugene, Oregon, daughter of Ethel Gale Brewer and Wilson Price Wilhelm, Gale Wilhelm was educated in Oregon, Idaho, and Washington. As a young adult she moved to the Bay Area near San Francisco and lived there for ten years. In 1935, after Random House accepted her first novel, the classic lesbian love story, *We Too Are Drifting*, for publication, she was offered Associated Editorship of *Literary America* and moved to New York City for a year. In 1936 she returned to California, living in Oakdale from 1938 until 1948 and then in Berkeley until her death.

After *We Too Are Drifting* was published to rave reviews in all the media of the time, Random House also published her second novel (not lesbian) and her third, *Torchlight to Valhalla*, another classic lesbian love story. Wilhelm went on to produce three more novels, but never returned



CLAUDIA MARSEILLE

Gale Wilhelm
1908-1991

to the subject of lesbianism overtly in any of them, though argument can be presented to the effect that her heroes are often heroines in disguise. *We Too Are Drifting* and *Torchlight to Valhalla* remain high on the list of classic lesbian novels considered mandatory reading.

She is survived, in addition to her lover, by nieces, nephews, a grand niece and two grand nephews.

Queer lawyers will be part of ABA meeting

This year's annual American Bar Association meeting, to be held in Atlanta on August 8-15, will be the scene of a variety of gay-related issues and events. Organizations involved include the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association, the American Bar Association Committee on the Rights of Lesbians and Gays and the Georgia State University Lesbian and Gay Law Students Association.

The National Lesbian and Gay Law Association will call upon the ABA to recognize it as an affiliated organization with a seat in the ABA's governing body, the House of Delegates. Supporters of recognition are optimistic, noting that the ABA has a strong record of support for gay rights over the past decade. In recent years the ABA has granted affiliated status to a number of women's and minority bar associations.

"At its last annual meeting, the House of Delegates adopted a resolution strongly urging the ABA's constituent bodies to appoint delegates who represent the full diversity of the bar, including diversity with respect to sexual orientation," said Abby Rubinfeld, NLGLA Co-chair. "Now they have an opportunity to demonstrate the seriousness of that commitment."

The ABA Committee on the Rights

of Lesbians and Gay Men will host three events including a reception for lesbian and gay attorneys on Friday, its annual meeting on Saturday, and on Sunday it will present a panel discussion on *The Right To Defend Your Country: Discrimination Against Lesbians and Gay Men in the Military*. Scheduled speakers include William Rubenstein, Director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the ACLU, Lawrence Korb, Director of the Center for Public Policy Education at the Brookings Institution and a former Assistant Secretary of Defense during the Reagan administration, Joseph Steffan, Former Midshipman, US Naval Academy, and Kate Dyer, former Executive Assistant to Congressman Gerry Studds.

On Thursday, August 8, the GSU Lesbian and Gay Law Students Association will sponsor a presentation by William Rubenstein entitled *Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights in the 90's*.

The programs on Thursday and on Sunday are open to the public. See calendar for details.

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NICK DANNA

Age: 47

How long in Atlanta: 11 years

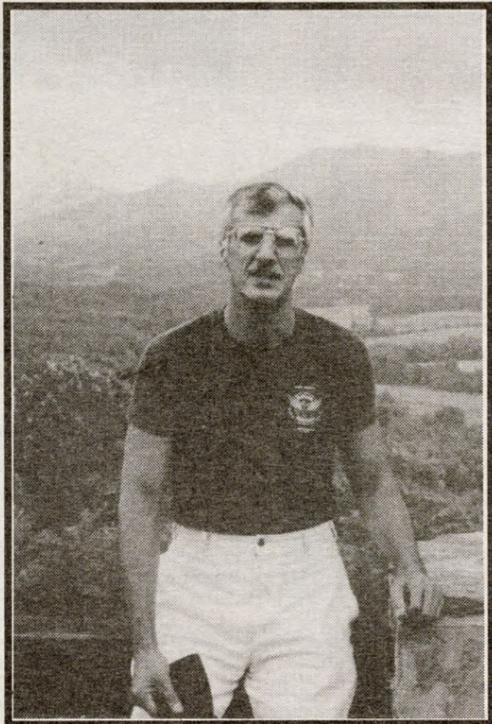
Relationship Status:
Single and available

Book currently reading:
"Sure of You"
by Armistead Maupin

Personal Goal:
To live until we have a civil
rights bill for gay people

Favorite Pastime:
Sharing a good movie or play
with someone I care about

Pet Peeve: Traffic



Nick Danna is a first generation American born of Italian immigrants who settled in Kansas City—a modest beginning to what has become a remarkable life's journey.

"I was a Catholic priest for six years before coming to Atlanta in 1980, and strange as it may seem, celibacy was a way for me to escape my sexuality—to not deal with what I was..."

Leaning back in his office at the State Department of Human Resources (where he is Medicaid Waiver Coordinator for the division of Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse) Danna's tall, thin frame seems too long for the chair. Above a graying moustache, his face is defined by a noble, roman nose. As he recalled his decision to enter the priesthood, his dark eyes often betrayed an inner passion and intensity.

"The priesthood seemed a good place for me to hide from my identity. I thought I could lose myself working for the benefit of my parishioners—it didn't work out that way."

Danna's childhood was shaped by the strength of the church within his family. "My mother was very religious," he explained, "but I have no horror stories about Catholic school or the seminary. I went to a Vatican-run graduate university where aspiring priests from 80 different countries intermingled. It was actually a broadening experience for a young Midwesterner."

He explained that being a priest in Kansas City meant "that I was a very important and often powerful person in my parishioners' lives. Priests tend to become involved in people's lives at critical moments—life, death—when stressed out people need help. Thus you must provide answers to the hardest questions in life. It is a demanding and sometimes frightening and very lonely position to be in, especially if you are not at peace with yourself."

Danna's escape from his sexuality eventually backfired and led to his own confrontation with being gay. "I could no longer deny who I was and that it was incompatible with the Catholic Church, publicly saying one thing and privately feeling another, so I left. Not that there are not gay priests, those that even have relationships and remain

within the framework of orthodox Catholicism, but that was not for me."

Out to his family, Danna first left the priesthood and then told his family he was gay. "I wanted to separate the two issues. My family, as are my co-workers and friends, are very supportive of me, and I appreciate that."

"God," he says, "remains an important part of my life. My spirituality is integrated into my religious experience so that religion is a self-affirming experience."

"Being in the Church," he continued, "gave me a sense of social justice because I saw the social needs. I am left now with my own anger whenever I see people who are persecuted over something which they had no choice, be it because of race, orientation, whatever."

Now he belongs to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where, Danna said, one can be "gay and Catholic." "It is the most socially integrated church in Atlanta," he stated, "and though gays will never be Catholic with a capital 'C', I can continue to worship without condemnation."

Preferring to be a hands-on political activist, Danna is involved with many of Atlanta's leading lesbian and gay activist organizations. He approves of the tactics of ACT UP and Queer Nation, though he channels most of his own political energy through GAPAC where he is a member of the board. "I like GAPAC because we focus on local political leaders rather than on the big national issues. Nothing nationally is going to change until things change at the local level—and this is what grass roots activism is all about."

Danna considers Atlanta to be where his roots are now. His home is in Decatur and he has "many friends here." Though he lost his lover to AIDS several years ago and went through a period of anger and depression, he feels that "I came through the experience and grew as a person."

Confident about his life as it is now, Danna commented with a chuckle that one of his hobbies is "recreational dating." Though he enjoys the fine arts, hiking and reading, he is not above "tearing up the dance floor," at either the Eagle or Petrus.

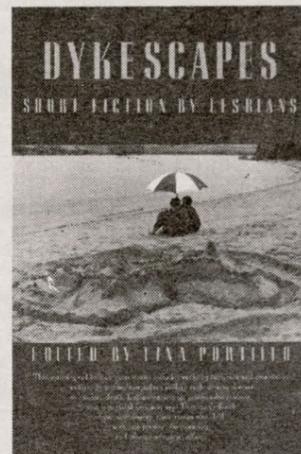
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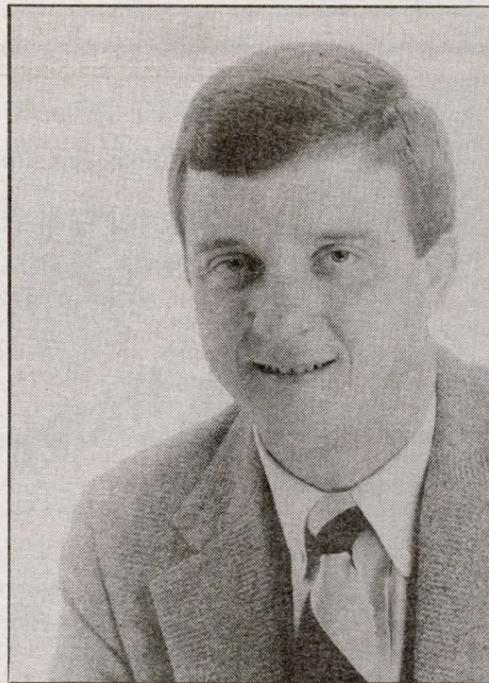
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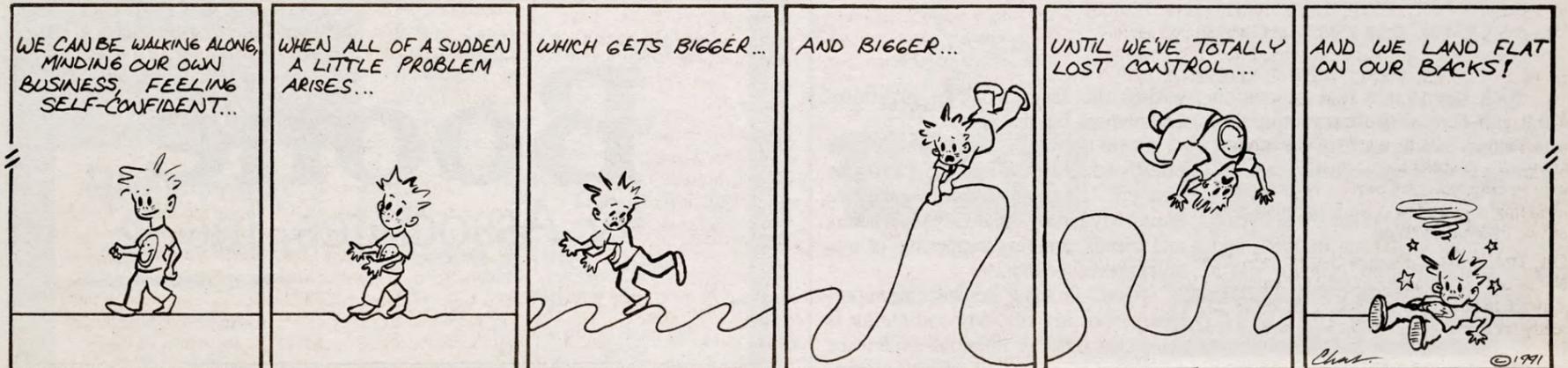
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BUDDY'S

DISH

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

Quell Shell: And you thought that only small redneck companies like Cracker Barrel fired queers. Guess again Dorothy. Jeffrey Collins, an employee of a subsidiary of Shell Oil for 19 years, was summarily dismissed a couple of years ago when his secretary found a gay-themed party invite he had left in the copying machine. After a lengthy court battle (Shell kept changing its rationalizations for Collins' canning) the judge awarded him \$5 million in back pay and damages. You guessed it, the oil idiots are planning to appeal. Dish has just finished a strongly worded letter, enclosed our Shell credit card cut into tiny pieces (many of them triangles), and mailed both to Frank Richardson, President and CEO, Shell Oil Company, 1 Shell Plaza, Houston, TX 77001. Even if you don't have a card, write to this bigot and tell him to: act like a man; admit his error; pay Collins; and pray to the Goddess(es) for forgiveness.

Fashion Victims?: The news that Atlanta's finest are the "best dressed" cops in the country gives Dish pause to wonder: Is this the new/true definition of the old phrase "fashion victim?" Should top cop Eldrin Bell now be called Atlanta's Taste Sheriff? And is the APD ever gonna get off its dead butt and hire some (openly) queer cops?

Dances with Dumbness: Most fans seemed willing to forgive Kevin Costner's failure to connect his cerebrum with his lips when he offered a somewhat lame "neat" as adjective to describe one of Madonna's performances in "Truth or Dare." But "the sexiest man in cinema" has slipped again. And this time fans are less than amused. Kev told an correspondent for the S. African edition of Penthouse that he "went with sluts" before he met his wife. After using the word again, Costner tried to extract his toes from his teeth by adding that slut is "a term of endearment...for girls who know how to speak their minds." Listen up Costner: you may be cute, you may be rich, you may be able to act, but Dish thinks you need to wash your mouth out with a gallon or two of feminist theory.

Oh, That's What Desert Storm Was For: Sheik Saud Nassir Sabah, the ambassador from recently liberated Kuwait, handed over a check for \$100,000 to—(are you ready for this?)—our old pal Senator Jesse Helms. The



money is for Jesse's O-ficial Center at Wingate College in NC. "We hope the center will promote things like free enterprise and family values," said Jesse, "the sort of things that are not around on any other campus in North Carolina." Oh, please. The center's going to support more of Helms' homophobia, racism, sexism, and just plain meanness. Dish just knew there was more to Desert Storm than blood and oil.

Fit to Print: Dish thought you might enjoy the above photo taken directly from the pages of a fall fashion section in the NY Times Magazine a couple of weeks ago. Our only complaint is that the shot was cut off at the waist. The outfit on the left is from Gemma Khang; the brother/sister team Isani styled the suit on the right. Both are available at Sappho's Styles on Lesbos Lane.

Religious Retching: Both Channel 8 & 30 wound up getting more supportive calls than negative ones in response to their airing of "Tongues Untied" a couple of weeks ago. A friend at

one of the stations told us that most of the "anti" callers began their complaints with the phrase, "I'm a Christian and...." Back when Dish went to Sunday School, we were taught that part of "being a Christian" was living a life exemplified by tolerance and understanding. If you want to support PBS in its decision to air programs like "Tongues" and last month's "Out in America" drop a note to Ms. Jennifer Lawson, Exec. V-P for Nat'l Programing, PBS, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. If you want to know why being a Christian also requires that you become a culturally insensitive klutz, send a query to Rev. Donald Wildmon, c/o the Bigot Brigade, Helbent, MS 69696.

The Sin of Omission: While we're on matters religious, conditional kudos to the A-J/C for its extensive coverage of the Episcopal Church's debate on the touchy topics of ordaining and marrying queers. Dish does, however, wonder about the fact that Holly Morris managed to do a long article on local aspects of the ordination issue without even mentioning Michael Wyatt, an openly gay Episcopal priest who lives and ministers right here in Hotlanta and was recently profiled in an "Out of the Darkness" article in these pages. God's in the details, Holly. Just ask Catherine Fox.

Excellent Exposure: Understand, please, that Dish doesn't usually watch network TV. Especially on Monday nights when we have a long-standing commitment to a group of queers devoted to mutual pleasure, so to speak. Thus we've been missing CBS's excellent Northern Exposure. N.E. has done a right-on job of easing lesbians and gay men into its very funny, often Byzantine plots. Cicely, Alaska where all this takes place was, it seems, named for one of a pair of lesbian lovers who were the town's "beloved founders." And last season's finale involves a gay male couple buying a house (from the series' resident right wing ninny) that they intend to convert to a bed and breakfast. Said seller manages to overcome his homophobia after the two lovers convince him that gays have, historically, been good soldiers! Got the picture? Then write to Joshua Brand & John Falsey, Executive Producers, Northern Exposure, 3000 Olympic Blvd, #2575 Lantana Center, Santa Monica, CA 90404 and encourage them to make these (and more) gay characters a regular part of the show next season.

August 1 - August 14

RULING PLANETS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOBIH

by Mary Bailey-Rule

Happy Birthday Leo, the Lion-hearted! Venus goes retrograde on the 1st and Mercury does it on the 7th, followed by a New Moon on the 9th. For information on retrogrades, call 264-6219.

ARIES—Mercury, Venus and Mars are now in your 6th house of personal health, responsibilities and work. You may feel you are doing more than your fair share. If so, share your feelings with co-workers, but don't leave loose ends.



TAURUS—With Mercury, Venus and Mars sitting in your 5th house, trining your natal placements as well as Uranus and Neptune, you have all kinds of energy to draw upon for creative expression and personal growth. Have fun.



GEMINI—Your 8th house of personal transformation, sexuality and birth/death issues continues to be activated by Uranus, bringing you unexpected experiences and by Neptune, bringing inspiration and exposing your illusions.



CANCER—Uranus and Neptune are still moving backward through your 7th house possibly creating a little chaos with your close personal relationships. Don't let it disturb you, nothing is as it seems anyway.



LEO—HAPPY BIRTHDAY to you! Leo is a fixed fire sign, associated with personal courage, power and leadership. Your ruling planet is the Sun and Leo rules the heart, so let the Sun shine in and have a wonderful life.



VIRGO—Mercury, Venus and Mars are in your 1st house with Venus and Mercury moving retrograde, so be prepared for the unexpected. Careful plans may not work out to the letter, so creative adaptation is appropriate now.



LIBRA—Mercury, Venus and Mars in your 12th house of the unknown continues to stimulate your unconscious and activate your intuition and basic instincts. The perfect time for any kind of artistic expression or journal keeping.



SCORPIO—With the Sun and Jupiter lighting up your 10th house of career and vocation, you will find new doors opening, but possibly some conflict with superiors as you begin to move. Patience is a difficult, but useful virtue.



SAGITTARIUS—Mercury, Venus and Mars in your 10th house of career and vocation can create new opportunity as well as conflict and tension between personal needs and career goals. Be gentle and patient with yourself, others.



CAPRICORN—With Saturn moving backward through your 2nd house of personal finances and material resources, this is the perfect time to re-evaluate spending and saving and reassess investments. Save for enjoyment.



AQUARIUS—Your 7th house of close personal relationships continues to be illuminated by the Sun and expansive Jupiter, so take this opportunity to see and hear others clearly and without prejudice or previous assumptions.



PISCES—Mercury, Venus and Mars are still in your 7th house of close personal relationships creating marvelous opportunities for making new friends and developing greater depth with important people in your life.



Mary Bailey-Rule is a professional astrologer specializing in birth chart analysis, relationship chart and astrological career counseling. For more insights about your sign, call 264-6219.

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Winners

Meet this issue's winners, Cousin Humphry and Cousin Oliver. They are Basset Hounds but we are told that on occasion they tend to behave more like pigs. In this photo, the boys are begging, but when left alone in the house, they take it upon themselves to pig out. Humphry and Oliver have a talent for opening the refrigerator with their big noses, and their people often come home to a huge mess! Cousin Stella, also a Basset Hound (absent from this photo) is distressed at the boy's behavior, but can't seem to talk any sense into them.



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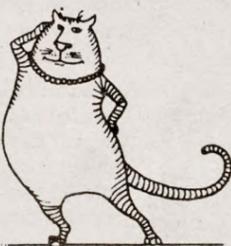
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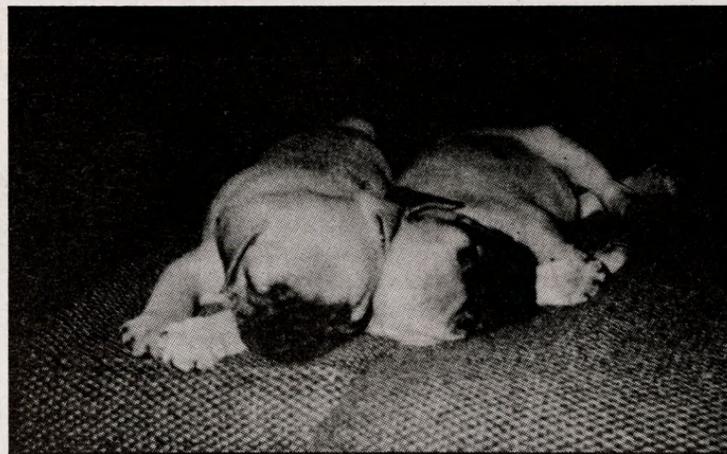
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Honorable Mention We love this photo of brothers Bo and Jag, which was sent in by Lynne Caton. The two Chinese Pugs, now three, were just eight weeks old when the photo was taken. Here they were, doing what they still do best...sleeping. Bo and Jag still prefer cuddling their warm bodies together over sleeping alone. The only difference is that, as adults, they snore even louder.

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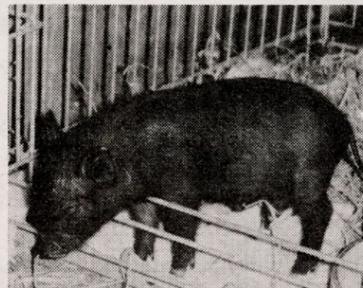


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AIDS Services & Education

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HIV+ ACM Cares— We are Atlanta's Continuous Matching Unlimited. We understand the need for friendship/relationships with others who understand! Our service can help! Complete confidentiality! FREE details, send \$3.00 s/h. Dept. H Box 957542, Duluth, GA 30136. Start meeting others soon! (V4, #13)

Project A.R.I.E.S. — HIV-negative gay and bisexual men — meet other healthy men who want to stay healthy and have fun, too. Six session AIDS risk-reduction program and social network. Call AID Atlanta at 872-0600 for details. Confidential.

THE ATLANTA BUYERS CLUB provides access to alternate treatment for the HIV community in the Southeast. Currently we can help you obtain ddC and clarithromycin. We are working on access to several additional treatments. For further information contact us at (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357. (V4, #13)

P.R.O. Series — Seven session educational support group for people living with HIV infection. Discussions include high-risk behavior, intimacy, safer sex, lifestyles, loneliness, informing others of HIV status, and life-planning issues. Call AID Atlanta at 874-6517 for details. Confidential.

AID Atlanta: the Southeast's largest non-profit AIDS service agency. Services include education, case management, transportation, housing, buddy program, practical support, homeless services, pediatric services, support groups, AIDS Information Line. Call 872-0600 for more information.

AID Atlanta needs furniture donations for housing program. If you have furniture you would like to donate, contact the furniture bank at 355-8463. Free Pick-up. Specify your donation is for AID Atlanta. (Bedroom & dinettes especially needed) (V4, #14)

Having Lunch Alone? Too much TV? Want to meet new friends and have community? Enjoy new activities? Join the day program at Common Ground for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program operates Monday-Friday, 10:30-3:30. Call 874-8686 for information. Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network.

Tuesday Night at The Shrine — A weekly dinner open to ALL individuals with HIV. Tuesday at 6pm. Come and have some fun, laughs and great food. The Shrine is located at 48 MLK Jr. Dr., Atlanta on the corner of Central Ave. FREE. For information call Alan Dillmann, 521-1866.

Atlanta Gay Center Clinic — M, T, W, Th 5:30-9:30 pm. Anonymous HIV antibody counseling and screening, \$15.00. Confidential Hepatitis B Screening, \$15.00. Confidential STD screening, free. Arrive by 9:00 pm, please. Call 876-5372 for more information.

Atlanta Gay Center Plus groups for HIV-affected people. Fridays, 8:00pm and Sundays, 6:00pm. 63 12th Street. Call 876-5372 for more info.

Atlanta Gay Center Helpline, 892-0661, for info, counseling and referral. 6:00-11:00pm 365 days a year.

ACT UP/ATLANTA: (404) 286-6247

Atlanta Gay Center People Project. Information and advocacy for HIV affected people in the metro area. Call 876-5372.

AID ATLANTA SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS*
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AIDS Information Line / GA Toll-Free AIDS Hotline Free, anonymous information and referral services. In Atlanta: 876-9944; Toll-free: 1-800-551-2728 (voice/TTY)

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

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.

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

Announcements

We want to form a newspaper and social group for children of lesbians and gays, ages 9-19. If you, your children, or someone you know is interested, please contact CHANCE at 688-1954 or SADIE at 658-9987. (V4, #15)

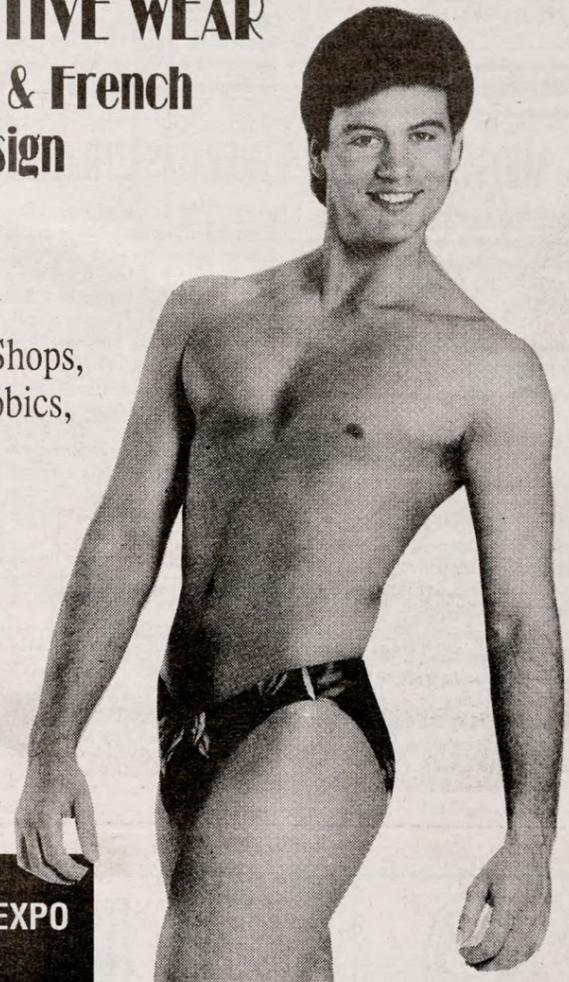
OUT YOUTH has formed in Atlanta!

If you are a lesbian, gay, or bi-sexual youth and are interested in socials, demonstrations, safe space, and/or a support group... We want your help! For more information about how you can become active... call Chance at 688-1954.

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Address _____

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Phone (____) _____

HEADLINE/CLASSIFICATION _____

TEXT _____

CLASSIFIED AD POLICY

Ad Placement: Classified ads may be placed by mail, in person, or by phone (404) 876-2709, 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

Deadline: Tuesday noon prior to publication.

Classified Line Ads other than personals or VOICE CONNECTION® are \$15.00 per issue for 40 words or less. Additional words are .25 ea. Giant Headline is \$3.00, Use the form below to compute your cost.

VOICE CONNECTION® personal ads are published FREE in Southern Voice for 4 issues. You will be mailed an instruction sheet, your box number and your own private security code number. Your phone number will be billed \$1.49 per minute when you retrieve messages.

Personal Ads (other than VOICE CONNECTION®) will be published for two issues in Southern Voice at a flat rate of \$25.00. You may use your own personal P.O. Box or we will assign you a Southern Voice forwarding box for an additional \$5.00. Just fill out this coupon completely and mail to Southern Voice Classifieds, P.O. Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316.

COMPUTE YOUR COST

Personal Ads (2 issues) \$25 _____

Forwarding Box \$5 _____

TOTAL _____

Classified Line Ad

40 words or less @ \$15 _____

Additional words @ .25 ea. _____

GIANT HEADLINE @ \$3 _____

SUBTOTAL _____

X _____ number of issues _____

TOTAL AMOUNT _____

FREE

VOICE CONNECTION® (4x)

Volunteer Ads

AIDS Services

Limit to 40 words.

Check appropriate box.

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

PRIDE PARADE VIDEO

Were you there? Or wish you could have been? Celebrate Pride Weekend again and again. Video scenes of parade, entertainment, ceremonies and lots of crowd shots. Two hour video recap with special effects \$25.00. Also available, custom video with your choice of scenes/events \$40.00. Order: A-Plus Creativity, 5231-E Memorial Drive, Suite 197, Stone Mountain, GA 30083 or call 286-4705. (V4,#12)

Business Opportunity

MIDTOWN BAR

Have building & license, looking for partner with capital to invest in and operate Midtown bar - Contact P.O.B. 4339, Tequesta, FL 33469. (V4,#14)

Employment

HAIRANOIA is looking for a dependable hairstylist with clientele. 321-5775. (V4,#12)

HAIRSTYLIST-F/T station to lease in exclusive N. Buckhead location 256-3200. (V4,#12)

PRESS OPERATOR - A.B. Dick press operator. Specifically 360 and 9810 with color head. Medical benefits, pleasant working environment, convenient location in Buckhead area. Call Paul or Larry for interview between 12 and 5pm. 231-0852. (V4,#12)

Erotica

Pleasureseekers—Light up your love life. Free 63 page catalog - potions, lotions, toys and more. Great gifts. Biggest selection, best prices. Rochelle's, 2256 Fellowship Road, Suite #224, Tucker, GA 30084. (V4,#13)

For Rent

3 bedroom, 2 bath, brick ranch - Decatur near Avondale. Hardwood floors, central air, washer/dryer, dishwasher, piano, separate living room and dining den, patio - large fenced in yard. Deposit and references - \$710 per mo. - leave message at 508-9701. (V4,#12)

FREE GAS UTILITIES

2 BR, 1 BA Apartments. Near downtown Decatur. Large eat-in kitchen with dishwasher. Fully carpeted. Cable-ready for Prime Cable. Get the gay channel! CHA. Swimming pool. Laundry facilities. Professionally managed by In Pen Corp. \$450. Call Phil 373-4368. (V4,#14)

DECATUR AREA - 2BR, 1 BA. Large eat-in kitchen. W/D connections. Cable-ready. Fully carpeted. Professionally managed. In Pen Corp. \$410. Call Phil 373-4368. (V4,#14)

Super Summer Savings Special
Large 2 BR 1200 sq. ft.
Innisbrook Apts. 233-8781
\$450 if paid by the 1st

Colonial Oaks

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- Swimming Pool
- Large Eat-in Kitchen
- Cable Ready for the Gay Channel

373-4368

212 Adair St., Decatur, GA 30030
Professionally managed by InPen

MIDTOWN MOVERS

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Hourly/Contract Prices
References

Simple solutions that work.

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- Silk Wraps
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- Consultations Available

Appt. Necessary

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Clinical Hypnosis for smoking, overweight, concentration, motivation, habit control. 636-7677
Visa/Mastercard Accepted

Female Patients sought for drug study - If you have a diagnosis of endometriosis or infertility, you may qualify for a drug study to test an experimental treatment for reducing abdominal adhesions after surgery. The costs of all medical examinations, laboratory tests, and surgical procedures required for the study will be provided at no expense to the patients who qualify for the study. For further information, call Kathy Oettinger, R.N. at 256-9043.

Atlanta Northside Center for Women - A division of Northside Gynecological and Obstetric, P.A. A unique concept in women's care offering quality medical attention and flexible hours at affordable prices. Board-Certified gynecologist. Nurse Practitioner. Quality Gynecological Care. PMS treatment. Educational Services. Call (404) 252-1125 for an appointment. 960 Johnson Ferry Road, Suite 350 (located in Northside Doctors Centre). (V4,#12)



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No exam needed for most ages up to \$300,000. No blood test required up to \$500,000. Please call for proposal.

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Sutton Place apartments is conveniently located near Lenox and Outlet Square in a park-like setting off Buford Highway.

Well-manicured grounds feature a tropical fish pond and blooming spring flowers. Unusual floor plans include 1 bedroom garden apartments, two bedrooms with large screened porch and spacious 3 BR house-size townhomes.

Two sparkling pools bring the residents together for weekend summer fun.

Progressively managed and community minded.



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SUTTON PLACE apartments

progressively managed

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WARM HANDS, WARM HEART. Swedish/Esalen Massage, Accupressure, Rebirthing. Non-sexual hot oil massage. HIV+ encouraged. By appointment. 60 healing minutes \$40. Let me help you enjoy your body. Joe Chancey, M.Div., C.M.T. 688-6163. (V5,#5)

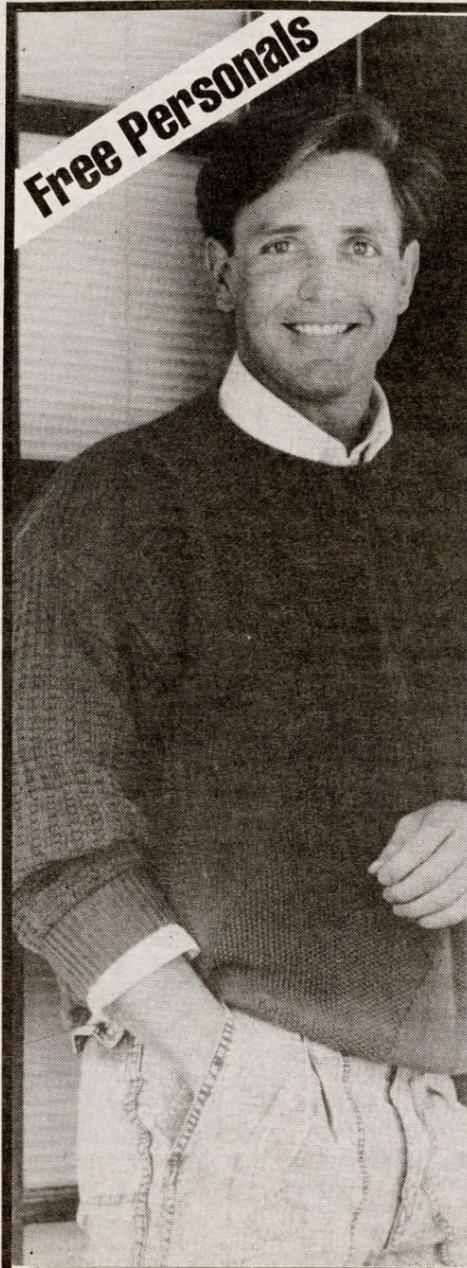
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FOR YOU!!

A professional massage reduces stress, relieves pain, increases energy & increases your sense of well-being. You deserve to feel great! Gift Certificates available. \$30 first massage. Jean McCoy L.M.T. 436-3471.(V4,#12)

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VOICE CONNECTION®

VOICE CONNECTION® is a free service for personal advertisers. When you place your FREE personal ad in *Southern Voice*, you will be mailed a simple instruction sheet, your box number and a secret access code. You will be able to call toll-free, record your own message and begin listening to people who respond to your ad (\$1.49 per minute to retrieve your calls). Just use the simple classified order form on the first page of the classified section and mail us your FREE personal ad.

How to Respond

Look for VOICE CONNECTION® personal ads identified by this symbol: ☐ Then call —

1-900-454-4242

(Access code 45)

After you've entered the access code, key in the mailbox number for the ad to which you are responding, when asked to do so by the VOICE CONNECTION®. After hearing the advertiser's message, leave your own. That's all there is to it. You can call 24 hours a day and for just \$1.49 per minute, you may meet the person you are seeking. If you have any questions, you may call 876-2709 for details.



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I do it for you!
Love,
Stuart**

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Call
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for directions
184 Rogers St. in Little 5 Pts. Area

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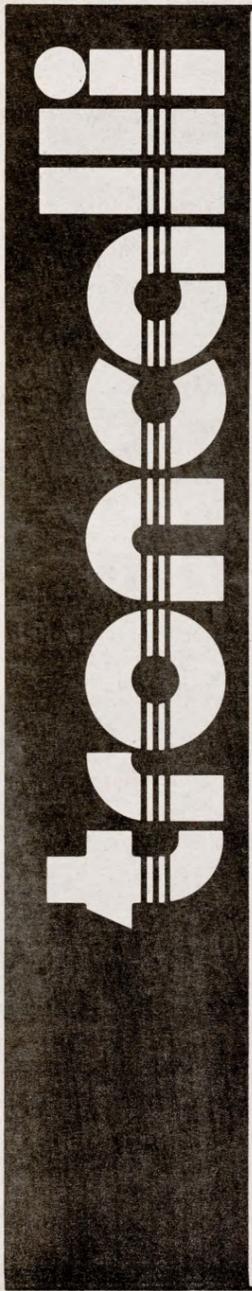
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1580 Church Street • Decatur • 294-0040
TRONCALLI SAAB - DECATUR
1625 Church Street • Decatur • 299-9760
TRONCALLI SAAB - ROSWELL
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CLASSIFIEDS

Voice Connection

FREE PERSONALS

with VOICE CONNECTION. Just fill out the classified coupon on the first page of the classifieds section and check the VOICE CONNECTION box. You will be mailed a simple instruction sheet and you will then be able to record your spoken message at no cost to you.

TO RESPOND

to VOICE CONNECTION personal ads: Call 1-900-454-4242 (access 45). The system will guide you through the procedure for VOICE CONNECTION. You can only reply to VOICE CONNECTION ads identified by this symbol ☐.

GWF, 26, 115lb, 5'3", dk eyes/hair, feminine/androgynous—seeks GWF 25-30 stable, secure, sexy, gay-proud, passionate. Tired of endless games and senseless nights. If you are too, please call. Looking for a friend and a lover. ☐ 45065

GBM, 25, 6'1", 195lb. Seeking someone special to love, honor, and obey. If you are GWM, 25-50, masculine, top, well endowed and enjoys life. Let's get together and talk about US. ☐ 45063

GWM, 35, tall, slim, teacher, mature, gentle, sincere. Interests: nature, plants, arts/culture, travel, people. Seek GWM 25-40 for friendship, eventual relationship. Quality friends, not one-nighters. Call or write POB 2629, Auburn, AL 36831-2629. ☐ 45059.

Attractive, trim, warm, understanding GWM new to the HIV+ scene (good at massage) seeks other HIV+ guys. Let's talk! ☐ 45061.

GWM—21, dk hair/eyes, 5'5". I'm sincere, stable, attractive, and intelligent. So are you. Not interested in one-nighters. If you're between 18-35 and want a passionate love—we need each other. ☐ 45055.

GWM—couple. Mature, versatile, discreet, nice looking. Members 4-H club—hot, healthy, hung, horny seek singles or couples any race, age, who can give and take. Safe but good! No fats, fems, Jos. Stout OK. Call today and you'll like it. ☐ 45057.

Fun, Fun, Fun! Join us for summer fun. Young lesbian couple desires to meet other lesbian couples for friendship. Enjoy movies, partying, cookouts, travel and arts. No Bisexuals. No drugs or heavy smoking. We'd like to meet you. ☐ 45053

Personals

HOW TO PLACE

a personal ad: Fill out the classified coupon on the first page of the classifieds section and check the personals box. Personals will be published in two issues for a flat rate of \$25.00. If you want a forwarding box, include an additional \$5.00. Southern Voice will not publish personal phone numbers or home addresses. You may run a personal PO Box.

TO RESPOND BY MAIL

To respond by mail to a Southern Voice personal with a SV #, enclose your reply in a stamped envelope with the forwarding box # in the lower left corner. Place that envelope in another envelope and mail to: Southern Voice Classified, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316. Your reply will be forwarded to the appropriate party.

GWM, 24, 5'8", 138lb, brown hair, grey eyes, attractive, straight-acting, shy, warm, and caring. Into movies, music, and bowling. Seeking GM (21-26) for friendship/relationship. Send phone # and photo (if possible) to...SV 2417.

GWM, 45, Masculine, well-educated, outdoor interests. Seeking solid friendship with wholesome curious WM college student, 18-24. Discretion assured. Fantasy fulfilled. Write with photo/phone. Respond to SV 2418.

LONGTIME NATURIST

whose exposure to male nudity and fond memories of several youthful indiscretions finds himself becoming gay. Seeking stable GWM friend for socials, sunny days, and warm evenings. I'm a professional, masculine, friendly GWM, 38, 5'11", 195 lbs., handsome, healthy, versatile, hung, and eager for hot nights. Interested in nude weekends, evenings at home, movies, sports, dining out, reading, photography, and saving the world over pizza and beer. Photo/phone if possible, all answered. Stefan, PO Box 8131, Atlanta, GA 30306-0131.

WM Students/College Students. This summer vacation, learn from a caring teacher who goes at your pace and answers your questions. No hustle or hassles. SV 2415.

GWM, Christian, 27, 6'1", outspoken, intelligent, sincere, broad interests in music, movies, etc., student, loathes shallowness, relationship oriented seeks similar for friendship, dating, relationship? No drugs. Write: Box Holder, 2103 N. Decatur Rd., #171, Decatur, GA 30033.

Goodlooking professional GWM. Business owner. 32 years old, 6'2", br/gr. Seeking smooth younger guys, especially dark eyes & hair, for fun and mutual satisfaction. Write with photo / description to: SV 2416.

WM, 34, seeks same to meet at Northeast Plaza Cinema 12 for \$1.50 movies last showing Sun-Thurs. Reply to SV 2414.

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For men and women.
262-2368
FREE!
Call now!

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Individuals, couples, group psychotherapy. Franklin Abbott, LCSW
Ansley Therapy Assoc. 874-8294.

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Exquisite wooded lot (70' frontage x 140' depth) adjacent to Agnes Scott Campus. Quiet, private w/view of meadow & woods. Nice, very stable neighborhood. 378-4477. (V4,#12)

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Decatur

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Room to room. Tired of dealing w/the constant hassles of city life? GWF, 30, seeks same to share 2 BR, 2 BA house off 32 acres in Dawsonville. Must like cats, be responsible, honest. No smoking, drinking, or drugs. \$150 + 1/2 util. \$200 deposit. (404) 265-7736. (V4,#12)

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Complete Year Round Lawn & Garden Service.
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Mountain Chalet for rent in Franklin, NC. Furnished, fireplace, dog pen, great view, reasonable rates. Call Micki Beth at (205) 263-5970. (V4,#13)



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- ✓ 708 Woodland Ave. Great home in super nice area! Total renov. 4 yrs ago. 2 full BA, 3BR, Cent H&A, LR, DR, hdwd flrs, a must see! \$79,900
- ✓ 959 Berne St. Wonderful home w/ updated kit, 2 lg BR, partial bsmt, patio, fenced yd, cent H&A, rocking chair front porch. Price to sell! \$74,900
- ✓ 972 Berne St. Want more land? This great deal has 1.2 acre lot, brick home w/3BR, 2BA, 2 kit, 2LR, DR, just open a door and this could be nice single family or use as in-law suite. A must see for the discerning buyer! \$69,900
- ✓ 820 Palatine Ave. Lots of charm and appeal, renovated kit, 1BA, 3BR (1 up), Cent gas heat, DR, LR, fplc, beautiful hdwd flrs. \$74,900
- ✓ 908 Underwood Ave. Want brick home w/2BA, 3BR, 2-car gar, LR, DR, modern kit? Then this is it! \$83,900
- ✓ 976 Delaware Ave. Great for owner occupied home w/3 lg units. Life in 1 and rent others. Lg unit has 3BA (2 are new) & 3BR, LR, deck. 2nd unit is 1BR/1BA. 3rd unit is 2BR/2BA (1 new). Also 1BR/1 new BA in-law suite. Gosh that's a lot of house! \$119,500

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\$82,500

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\$59,000

3BR/1BA, cozy fplc, neat & clean, gorgeous lot

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CLASSIFIEDS

Travel

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Appalachian Dream: Secluded mountain cabin on 30+ wooded acres with totally private space: full bath, kitchenette, porch with great mountain view. Twenty miles from Asheville, NC. Jo Pressler, Route 3, Box 118 A, Leicester, NC 28748, (704) 683-3153. (V4, #16)

Celebrations



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 - Wheelchair accessible
 - Hot tub
 - Massage
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Atlanta, GA 30312
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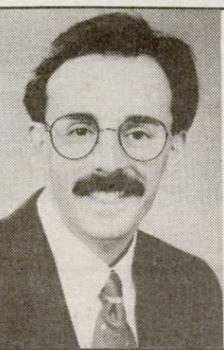
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248-1204

Great In-Town Buys!

Midtown with Income!! 878 Vedado Way. Wonderful architectural accents! Vaulted ceilings w/skylights, 2BR/1.5BA, hdwd flrs downstairs & carpeting up in BRs, formal DR, glass porch, extra large lot. (Apt. 2BR/2BA, hdwd flrs & high ceilings)

Charming VA-Highland 2-story Clapboard! Totally restored! 3BR/1.5BA, lg LR w/fplc, formal DR, full daylight bsmt, lg deck overlooks landscaped backyd, 2-car carport, hdwd flrs & high ceilings. 924 St. Charles Ave., \$159,900

Bobbi Pentecost 432-7452 Alaine Harris 843-2763

Wonderland near Chastain Park. Magical stone cottage on .95 wooded acre. Totally renovated by master carpenter-artist owners. Custom natural woodwork throughout including rosewood, butternut & African mahogany. Specialty wall treatments. Separate artist studio can be guest or teen suite. 3BR/2BA. 115 Mt. Paran, \$239,900

Braswell Dorsey 874-5759 Alaine Harris 843-2763

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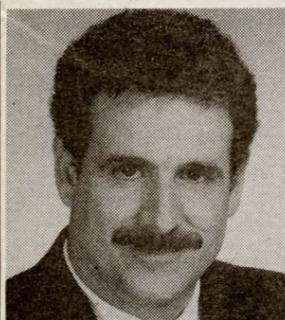
GRANT PARK
Renovated 2BR/2.5BA. \$49,900

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GLAAD/Atlanta needs volunteers to monitor drive-time radio shows, some radio news and talk shows, and television news and entertainment programming. Also, GLAAD/Atlanta is preparing for a national action by all the GLAAD chapters in the country to counteract the homophobia in Hollywood's latest debacle, "Basic Instinct." This is going to be a long-term project and people can become a part of a national activation. If you are interested in becoming a part of these or any other projects of GLAAD/Atlanta please call 286-7477. The only way to defeat homophobia is to confront it.

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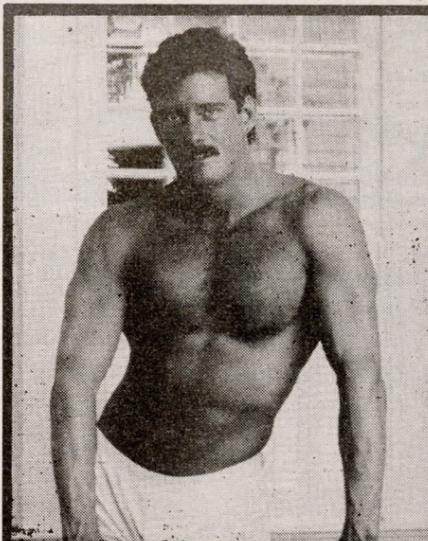
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Paris is Burning: Drag documentary is a ball

FILM REVIEW
Paris is Burning
 Opens August 9
 Midtown 8 Cinemas

by Terry Francis

Jennie Livingston's *Paris Is Burning* ★★★★★ (opening August 9 at Hoyts Midtown Eight Cinemas) makes smashing use of the documentary form: it shares with the audience its knowledge of a glittering American subculture—the fashion balls of Harlem, at which African-American and Latino men participate in competition based on their ability to mimic social archetypes—that is little known to most of us.

No longer. By the film's conclusion, we have attended several of these balls, listened in on conversations, and grown to care about the participants as valuable and animate people.

The contestants represent several different "Houses," such as the House of Saint Laurent (no relation to the actual designer), and the House of Labelija, whose "Mother," Pepper Labelija, opens the film wearing the damnedest gold dress you've ever seen.

Like the Mothers of the assorted other Houses, Pepper is there for his "Children," who perform as contestants at the balls, keeping them in line as much as possible, assisting them with their costumes, their hair and make-up, and giving them a place to sleep when needed—in short, providing them with a sense of family, of belonging.

The competitions are fiery and intensely entertaining. Livingston evokes the culture in all its idioms. Panels of judges lift up scorecards as if they were a part of an official Olympic committee. Contestants are graded on the basis of endlessly dreamed-up lists of categories: Best Butch Queen First Time at Ball; Best Military, Wall Street or Collegiate Look; Most Glamorous Woman.

The criteria for scoring is "realness": a grade of 10 goes to contestants able to pass unnoticed on the street as an exact replica of a mimed heterosexual type, such as a "real" woman or executive or "tough street girl."

Another category, "voguing," originated as a method for resolving disputes. Personal disagreements were settled on the dance floor, the victor being the person who could



MICHAEL COMTE

Octavia Saint Laurent, co-star of *Paris is Burning*, a film by Jennie Livingston.

vogue most inventively.

Interspersed throughout the film are scraps of interview both with the Mothers and their Children. Livingston shows her poised and accepting view of the world by trusting the natural eloquence of her subjects to convey the truthfulness of their own lives. The ironies and implications of the film arise naturally from the accrual of its facts, and the subtext is a powerful one.

"You're going to have to be stronger than you ever imagined," one of the Mothers recalls his father saying to him, on learning of his son's wish for a career in drag. Someone else says, "The balls are fantasies of being superstars, like the Oscars." And, "They call them competitions, but believe me, they're wars."

"I want to be a spoiled white rich white girl," says one of the Latino Children, a young man named Venus. "They don't have to worry about finances." His greatest wish is to undergo expensive gender reassignment surgery. We hear some of the Mothers worry that many of the Children who long to undergo such surgery may not be true transsexuals,

but persons for whom the distinction between illusion and reality has blurred.

"I've been a man, and I've been a man who emulated a woman," says Pepper, but "I've never been a woman." His statement is an advisory to the Children considering such surgery to pause for profoundest introspection before taking final steps.

At once wonderfully entertaining and enlightening, *Paris Is Burning* is also a quiet document of despair. Again and again we meet the Children, some of them as young as thirteen, who have been thrown out of their homes by parents unyielding in their intolerance of the Children's homosexuality or their fondness for the balls.

Out on the streets, alone and destitute, they dream of becoming "big stars," of sharing their wealth with their friends of believing "there's a big future out there, with a lot of wonderful things."

The Children are absolutely direct: "I want to be a big star, known in every corner of the world," one of them says. We are witnessing people whose lives are fed ravenously by wish, by their visible conviction that there is a life elsewhere, that the future holds some brightly lit path spangled in their dreams.

What the film says about the best-off country in the world is that its prejudices and social stratifications usher human souls to the most frayed of margins, where they must hold contests based on perfecting illusions of belonging to the very group that so sweepingly oppresses them. *Paris Is Burning*, for all the wit and dazzle it bequeaths its audiences, is a fully tragic experience, because it makes palpable the social and economic implications of a corrupted social order that devalues the lives and aspirations of some of its members.

Yet a bejewelled grandeur is everywhere in the movie. The inhabitants of the film, recognizing the caste offered to them, have pencilled-in their lives flamboyantly, through the use of color, language, sound, music, fabric, just about everything you can think of.

One of the Mothers complains that the balls are no longer "about what you can create, but what you can acquire." That's true enough, but it also could be said with equal justice of mainstream heterosexual American society since about the time the Reagans took office. The Children, in their fantastic way, even managed to emulate that form of delusion, and had one hell of a good time doing it.

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