

# VOICE

**Taking Pride in Our Culture**

**Our**



**Paris Is Burning**  
star Dorian Corey says there's more to voguing than Madonna.

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**We**



**Queer Nation**  
and others bring the action home to Cracker Barrel in Lebanon, Tennessee.

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Paul Reubens has probably seen his last playhouse thanks to Sarasota cops and the media.

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## Milwaukee murderer stalked blacks, gays

*But Jeffrey Dahmer is not charged with a hate crime*

by Jamakaya

Milwaukee, WI (GLINN)—The gruesome mass murder uncovered July 22 in Milwaukee has sent shock waves through the gay community here. It has raised fears about the already alarming level of anti-gay violence, renewed charges of racism and homophobia against the Milwaukee Police Department and shaken the foundations of the social, political and criminal justice institutions in the city. Of the fifteen victims positively identified so far, ten were African-American, two were Hispanic, one was Asian, and two were white. Attorney Kathleen Hume said that her "greatest concern" was that no one has focused on hate crimes. Despite the fact that Dahmer was said by many to be strongly anti-Black and anti-gay, and despite the fact that his victims were overwhelmingly Black and some of them were gay, District Attorney E. Michael McCann did not charge Dahmer under Wisconsin's Hate Crimes statute.

Several of the fifteen victims, whose dismembered body parts were discovered in the apartment of Jeffrey L. Dahmer, 31, had met the alleged killer at gay bars or Gay Pride events.

Tony Hughes, 31, a deaf man, was last seen May 24 leaving Club 219, a gay bar, on Milwaukee's south side. Jeremiah Weinberger, 23, of Chicago, was last seen July

6, leaving another gay bar, Carol's Speakeasy in Chicago, in the company of a man fitting Dahmer's description. Dahmer has confessed to Weinberger's murder.

In addition, Dahmer has admitted in an affidavit, that after attending Chicago's Gay Pride Parade on June 30, he met Matt Turner (aka: Donald Montrell), 20, at a bus station in Chicago and enticed him to come to Milwaukee by promising him money to watch videos and to pose nude for photos. Dahmer said he lured other victims with the same techniques.

Dahmer confessed, that once at his apartment, he drugged his victims, strangled them with a strap or his bare hands and then dismembered their bodies. He admitted that after killing Oliver J. Lacy, 23, of Milwaukee, he performed a sex act on the dead body.

Along with the severed heads and limbs and the vats of acid and formaldehyde recovered from the foul-smelling apartment, police confiscated dozens of Polaroid snapshots of the victims—photos taken while they were still alive as well as of the dismembered body parts.

On Thursday, July 25, Dahmer was formally charged with four counts of first degree intentional homicide for the deaths of Weinberger, Turner, Lacy and Joseph

Bradehoft, 25, of Milwaukee. He was also charged with habitual criminality. Cash bail was set at \$1 million.

Dahmer was previously convicted of disorderly conduct and fined in 1982 for indecent exposure at Wisconsin's State Fair Park. He received one year of probation for another incident in which he exposed himself to children while urinating in public in 1986. Most recently, Dahmer served 10 months at the Milwaukee House of Correction (with work-release privileges) between May of 1989 and March of 1990 for second degree sexual assault and enticing a child for immoral purposes. That incident occurred in 1988 and involved a 13 year old boy.

Konerak Sinthasomphone, the 14 year old brother of the youth assaulted by Dahmer in 1988, has been identified as another of the victims whose remains were found in Dahmer's apartment. Sinthasomphone was a Laotian immigrant who came to the U.S. with his family when he was four.

Other victims of Dahmer, all from Milwaukee, include: Ricky Beeks (aka: Raymond Lamont Smith), 33; Errol Lindsey, 19; Curtis Straughter, 18; Ernest Miller, 24; Anthony Sears, 26; and Eddie Smith (aka:

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## Martina and Thunder win it for Atlanta

*Tennis star hopes to play in Olympics next year*

by Candace Chellew

Debbie Fraker contributed to this article

Martina Navratilova and the Atlanta Thunder have done something that the Atlanta Braves, Falcons and Hawks have failed to do: bring a championship to a city thirsting for one. They won the TeamTennis Championship by beating the L.A. Strings 27-16 on August 10 before a standing room only crowd of 3,800 at the Dekalb Tennis Center. With that win, the Thunder became the first expansion team to win the title since the 1984 San Diego Buds.

"I definitely got what I wanted out of [TeamTennis]," Navratilova was quoted as saying after the win. She was also named the league's most valuable female player.

At a press conference after the semi-finals on Thursday, August 8 a *Southern Voice* reporter asked Navratilova how being openly lesbian had affected her tennis career. Navratilova stated she did not want to respond to questions that did not have to do with TeamTennis. However, she did comment that she "did not think that being gay or lesbian has anything to do with the way I play tennis."

Her response seemed to indicate that she had not fully understood the question and while leaving the room she stated the question was a stupid one. She asked why [the gay press] had not come to a match sooner, and why the question was being asked now at a press conference. When the reporter assured Navratilova that an attempt

was made to get an individual interview with her, the tennis star did not respond.

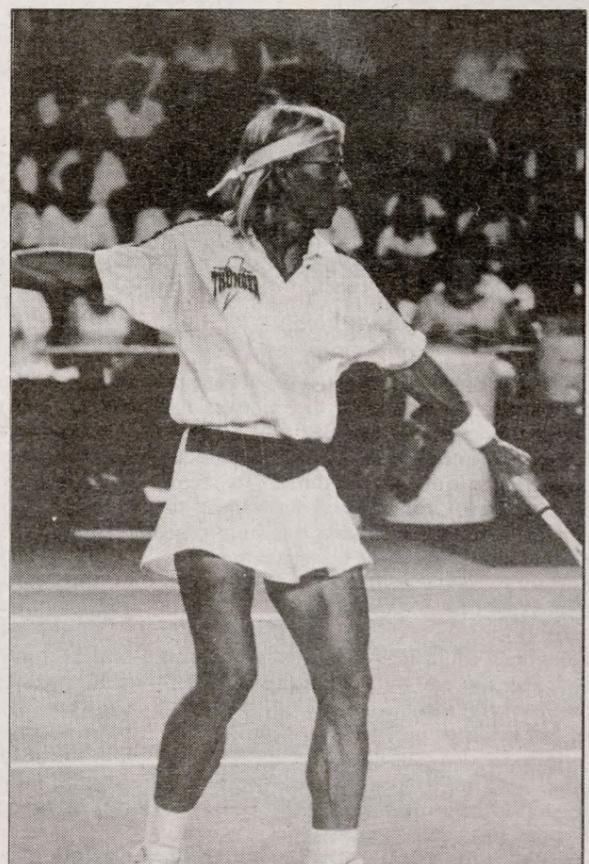
TeamTennis has been a bright spot for Navratilova, who has had an otherwise stormy year.

Judy Nelson, the woman with whom she "lived [with] as man and wife" for seven years filed suit against Navratilova, seeking one half of all of the tennis player's earnings during their relationship, which ended earlier this year. Navratilova told ABC's 20/20 program that Nelson betrayed her by tricking her into signing a cohabitation agreement that could ruin her financially.

That agreement was signed and videotaped in 1986. Navratilova says of the video, "I thought I was smart, but now when I see the video, I say, 'How stupid were you?' I am very trusting, and that's the point of being naive, which is pretty embarrassing to admit that at the age of 35, I am naive. But I was then." But she says she believed that Nelson "truly loved me."

She told Barbara Walters during the interview that now she's not so sure. "I also believe that this was pretty much organized ahead of time," Navratilova said. "That she figured either she was going to have me or she was going to have a lot of money."

That's a lot of money that Navratilova says she does not have. "I mean, I give her that, and I'm broke. I might just as well start all over again—18 years of playing ten-



KAREN DUNIGAN

Martina Navratilova led the Atlanta Thunder to the TeamTennis championship on August 10. Will she return next year?

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# Protesters from across Southeast converge on Lebanon, Tennessee

Atlantans join protest in Cracker Barrel's home city

by KC Wildmoon

On August 11, over 200 protesters converged on Lebanon, Tennessee, home of Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores, Inc., to demonstrate against that company's policy of barring gays and lesbians from employment. While nearly 150 marchers chanted and carried signs in front of Cracker Barrel #2 on South Cumberland Street in Lebanon, other protesters quietly waited for tables, eventually occupying 32 of the 36 tables inside the restaurant.

Queer Nation/Atlanta attended the protest, but stayed outside the restaurant. Members of QN/A were banned from all Cracker Barrel properties by CB officials at the last action in Georgia, on July 14.

Participants from across the southeast gathered at 9 am at Centennial Park in Nashville before driving to Lebanon, about 30 miles east of Nashville. Protesters were greeted at the restaurant by a lone counter-protester, who identified himself as Mel Perry, pastor of Grace Bible Presbyterian Church in Madison, Tennessee.

"I'm totally and completely against gay rights," said Perry. "They have every human right that I have, and that's all they should have."

Perry walked alongside gay and lesbian protesters for the duration of the march without incident, talking occasionally with protesters or media representatives.

As the outside protest continued, protesters quietly began a sit-in inside. Those participating in the sit-in joined the line waiting for tables and were seated. Once seated, they ordered only drinks. Cracker Barrel management was apparently unaware that the sit-in was in progress until participants did not order food. Protesters were first seated around 10:30 am, and the last table of demonstrators was seated around noon.

By the time the sit-in ended, Cracker Barrel representatives were telling customers that the wait for a table was two hours. Representatives handed out cards good for free meals to those who did not want to wait.

The sit-in ended as scheduled at 1:30, when the protesters stood up, chanting "2-4-6-8, how can you tell who's gay or straight?" Cracker Barrel management, who did not know that the protest was scheduled to end at that time, reacted with alarm when the protesters stood.

"They looked shocked," said Laurie Kezh, who attended the protest from Atlanta. "I think they thought we were going to start throwing things."

"It was an extremely successful demonstration," said the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Ivy Young, who participated in the sit-in. "It's a significant statement to Cracker Barrel that this issue is not going to go away. The longer they continue, the longer we'll continue."

No major incidents occurred during the protest, although there were minor altercations with passers-by or Cracker Barrel customers. Protesters called police to the scene once when a man brandishing a hammer threatened to "break out fags' car windows" in a parking lot across the street from the protest. Lebanon police took the man's name and issued a warning that he should not carry out his threat.

Unmarked police cars kept traffic on S. Cumberland moving during the protest, although a passenger in one passing car tossed a smoke bomb into the middle of the demonstration. No one was hurt. In addition, police stopped the drivers of at least three vehicles and ticketed them for reckless driving when they shouted obscenities at the protesters.

"We had the usual shouts and gestures," said Larry Pelligrini of Queer Nation/Atlanta. "But we also had a number of people tell us they supported us."

Customers on the restaurant's porch waiting for a table had plenty to say about the protesters. "Damn queers all come from Florida," said one man, "and you can't get away from 'em." Another said that he knew "how to clear them faggots out of the restaurant, and make sure they don't go anywhere again."

Two teenagers, noting the Queer Nation/Atlanta banner, commented that they could go to Atlanta "and blow up the headquarters." Three older women waiting for a table complained that "innocent people were being inconvenienced" by the sit-in.

Local print media and three Nashville television stations covered the protest, along with the gay press and ABC-TV's 20/20. At least one television station's interview with a "customer" may have been set up by a Cracker Barrel official. That man implied that CB was right to fire homosexuals because of the "scariness of AIDS." Afterward, a Cracker



Nenee Gomez (center) of the Vanderbilt University Lambda Association exits Cracker Barrel #2 at the end of the August 11 sit-in.

Barrel official identified as "Claudia," who had been listening to the interview, flashed an "OK" signal to him.

Cracker Barrel officials and local police took numerous video and still pictures of the protest, both inside and outside. In addition, some CB managers wore microphones. As has been the case recently in Georgia, neither the media nor protesters were allowed to bring cameras or tape recorders into the restaurant.

Organizers of the protest were pleased with the action. "This is a good step," said Bill Turner of the Tennessee Boycott Coalition. "It's made a great impact on this town. There's no way that Cracker Barrel can ignore it."

Boycott organizers said that support for the boycott continues to grow. In addition to endorsements by many organizations, including Jobs With Justice and Tennessee's Central American Solidarity Association, the NGLTF's Ivy Young read letters of support from U.S. Reps. Ted Weiss and Gerry Studds, and Jesse Jackson.

Before last week's demonstration, Patrick Doherty of the New York City Comptroller's office, which handles that city's employee retirement funds, said that Cracker Barrel still

had not responded to a request for a "clear statement of policy." The retirement funds hold over 80,000 shares of CB stock. Elizabeth Holtzman, the city's Comptroller, and Carol O'Cleireacain, the Commissioner of Finance, sent a letter to Cracker Barrel CEO Dan Evins on April 4, after his response to an earlier letter did not contain sufficient information.

"At our next Board of Trustees meeting [in September] we'll be discussing what action to take next," said Doherty. That action, according to Doherty, could include initiating a proxy fight at the Cracker Barrel shareholders' meeting next spring. "We have until later this fall to get it on the ballot," he said. "Once it's on there, the company could get more serious about negotiating. A proxy fight certainly is a vehicle which could embarrass the company. Our position [opposing the discrimination] would be broadcast to all shareholders."

Queer Nation/Atlanta members who purchased Cracker Barrel stock last month do not hold enough to initiate a proxy fight. "But they can certainly second a motion and speak to it," said Doherty.

## Georgia HIV+ doctors must inform patients

State has given in to public hysteria, say AIDS activists

by KC Wildmoon

Despite only five reported cases of patients contracting HIV from health care workers, the Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners voted on August 8 to require all physicians who test positive for HIV to inform their patients. The Medical Association of Georgia supported the board's decision, which makes Georgia one of the first states to require doctors to follow guidelines put out by the Centers for Disease Control.

Doctors who do not follow the CDC's guidelines could face board action against their licenses. The guidelines state that health-care workers "should know" if they are infected, but stop short of requiring testing.

The decision caught AIDS activists by surprise. "We had no idea they were considering it at this meeting," said ACT UP's Jeff Graham. "I'm flabbergasted."

"We hate it," said Kathleen Brockel, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS Atlanta chapter. "The real-

ity is that the medical association and everybody else reacting like this is not focusing on the real issues, which are infection control and universal precautions."

Graham said, "All this will do is scare health care workers out of testing, and getting the treatment they need out of fear that it will jeopardize their livelihood."

"I am appalled that the state of Georgia would cave in to public hysteria and base this decision on an isolated incident," he continued. "They're putting so much attention on such a small thing and risking the civil rights of health care workers throughout the state."

Brockel also said the decision discriminates against HIV positive physicians. "There's never going to be a completely germ free health care environment," she said. "[This decision] is not addressing the real issue, and they know it. The intention here is to scapegoat somebody in order to placate the public."

Brockel said that she'd like the board to address proper procedures instead of HIV positive physicians. "Nobody wants a sloppy physician," she said. "We'd like to see the board put in mandatory precautions with controls so that the public knows their doctors are doing all they can to protect them. That's the best we can do."

The attention on transmission of HIV from physicians to patients came about after five patients of a Florida dentist tested positive. The five are the only known cases of such

transmission, and it is believed that the dentist did not use proper precautions during dental procedures. Georgia's Board of Dentistry is expected to vote on a similar rule at its August 23 meeting.

## Vandals hit Southern Voice, ETC again

Reward offered for information

by KC Wildmoon

Vandals continue to harass lesbian/gay publications in Atlanta, striking *Southern Voice* and *Etc.* twice over the weekend of August 3. Newspaper boxes for both publications and the sign over *Etc.*'s office door in Little Five Points as well as *Southern Voice*'s office windows in Virginia-Highland were sprayed with brown paint. Additionally, another *Southern Voice* box in Little Five Points was hit with day-glo orange paint.

The first vandal attack occurred on Friday night when a *Southern Voice* box in front of Eat Your Vegetables and *Etc.*'s office sign

were painted. "They got our box too," said *Etc.* news editor Jack Pelham. "After that, we moved the box inside. We thought they were using the box to reach the sign."

On Sunday night, however, the vandals again painted *Etc.*'s sign, and moved a few blocks away to *Southern Voice*'s office, where they covered the logos on the front window and door and the box in front of the office.

"I think it's interesting that they are focusing on our names," said Christina Cash, editor of *Southern Voice*. "They haven't painted slogans on our windows, they've just tried to hide our names."

*Southern Voice* circulation manager Jana Tyson said that she has reported all the vandalism to Atlanta police. "They can't call it a hate crime," she said, "even though they've been singling out gay publications." Tyson said police told her that F.B.I. standards on hate crimes reporting require "some obvious violence against gays—like painting 'we hate queers' on the windows—to be called a hate crime."

*Southern Voice* and *Etc.* have jointly offered a \$200 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the vandalism.

"We want this to stop," said Tyson. "We've also enlisted Queer Nation, Neighbor's Watch, and ACT UP, and we're asking for help from the community to stop it."

**Cabbage Patch Creator Donates To AIDS Walk**



Original Appalachian Artworks, the parent company for Cabbage Patch Kids, presented a \$10,000 check to the "From All Walks Of Life" AIDS Walk Atlanta. "[This event] represents people coming together to help others," said Xavier Roberts, creator of the Kids and Chairman of the Board of Original Appalachian Artworks. "The HIV virus knows no boundaries of sex, race or religion." The AIDS Walk, sponsored by AID Atlanta, will be held Sunday September 8, beginning at 2 pm. The walkathon through Midtown will help raise money for nine local direct AIDS service agencies.

**New Officers For Lesbian/Gay ACLU:** The Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia confirmed a new slate of officers on July 24. The candidates were approved unanimously by chapter membership. Larry Pelligrini takes over the presidency of the chapter from Cathy Woolard, and David Van der Griff is the new vice president. Both Pelligrini and Van der Griff said they hope to revitalize the chapter, beginning with expansion of chapter membership. "A strong Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter could have a good deal of political influence on city government in terms of addressing lesbian and gay issues," said Pelligrini. Outgoing president Woolard commented that she was "really excited about the new officers and their energy and ideas."

**CDC Redefining AIDS:** The *New York Times* reports that the CDC is revising its definition of AIDS, with the change taking effect in January 1992. The new definition allows doctors to base diagnoses on CD4, or T-cell, counts. Under the new definition, HIV infected persons with T-cell counts of less than 200 per cubic millimeter of blood will be diagnosed with AIDS. Dr. James W. Curran, director of the AIDS division of the CDC, said the broader definition may add up to 200,000 Americans to the list of those diagnosed with AIDS.

**Gays/Lesbians Win Protections in Tampa:** In a joint session, the governing councils of Tampa and Hillsborough County, Florida, approved amendments to their respective human rights ordinances adding "sexual orientation" to the list of protected characteristics. The ordinances concern employment, housing and public accommodations; Hillsborough County's also extend to public contracting and procurement. Tampa mayor Sandy Freedman signed the measure into law on the day of its adoption. The same measures failed when brought before the councils in October 1989, largely because of religious fundamentalist opposition.

**Navy Changes USS Iowa Story:** Navy and independent scientists studying an explosion aboard the USS Iowa fifteen months ago have made new discoveries that challenge the Navy's original conclusion about the cause of the blast. According to a report in the *New York Times*, the new discoveries indicate that the explosion was an accident caused by unstable bags of gunpowder in the Iowa's inventory. The Navy originally said that the explosion was sabotage, a murder/suicide set off by a sailor despondent over a homosexual relationship with a shipmate.

**Outed Congressman Responds:** Rep. Steven Gunderson (R-WI) responded to allegations made by Michael Petrelis of Queer Nation/DC and others that he is gay by not attacking the outers. In an interview in the *La Crosse Tribune*, Gunderson refused to say whether or not he is gay, saying that "I can't answer that because I can't prove it to you." Gunderson also said that he feels threatened by gay groups such as Queer Nation, and called those participating in the outing "pathological liars." Gunderson also said in the interview that he was too busy with dairy and education matters to consider gay rights legislation.

**Noble To Run For Cambridge City Council:** Elaine Noble, who made history in 1974 by becoming the first openly gay person elected to state legislature, has announced her candidacy for the Cambridge, Massachusetts City Council. If elected, Noble will be the first openly gay member of the council. Noble served two terms in the Massachusetts state legislature, and was the first president of the Pride Institute, an alcohol and drug rehabilitation clinic for lesbians and gay men in Minneapolis.

**Newspaper Editor Accused Of Gay Conspiracy:** The openly gay editor of George Mason University's student newspaper has been accused of making staff and editorial decisions to suit his "biases" and of creating a "gay conspiracy." According to the *Washington Blade*, the problems began when editor-in-chief Ray Everett, who founded the campus gay rights organization before joining the newspaper staff, hired an open lesbian to be the executive editor and urged the university's Media Board not to rehire the paper's faculty advisor. The university has consulted the Virginia Attorney General's office on how to proceed with the charges.

**California City Council Blocks Anti-Gay Measure:** In a 6-1 vote, the Riverside, CA, City Council kept an anti-gay voter initiative off the ballot for November elections. The measure would have prevented the city from "directly or indirectly funding any individual, activity or organization which promotes, encourages, endorses, legitimizes or justifies homosexual conduct." The measure also would have repealed earlier city ordinances banning AIDS discrimination as well as preventing the council from ever adopting such measures in the future. The Citizens for Responsible Behavior, a voter group which initiated the measure, have indicated they may go to court for inclusion on the ballot.

**Burroughs Wellcome's Monopoly On AZT Ends:** The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has licensed Barr Laboratories, a generic pharmaceutical company, to manufacture AZT. According to a report in *Gay Community News*, the licensing is a challenge to six AZT-related patents giving Burroughs Wellcome exclusive manufacturing rights to AZT, the only FDA-approved drug for use in treatment of HIV infection. NIH spokesperson Mark Stearn told *GCN* that "in the ideal scenario...the FDA will approve Barr's generic version, and Barr will begin production of a pure, generic form of AZT that is 40 percent cheaper from Day One."



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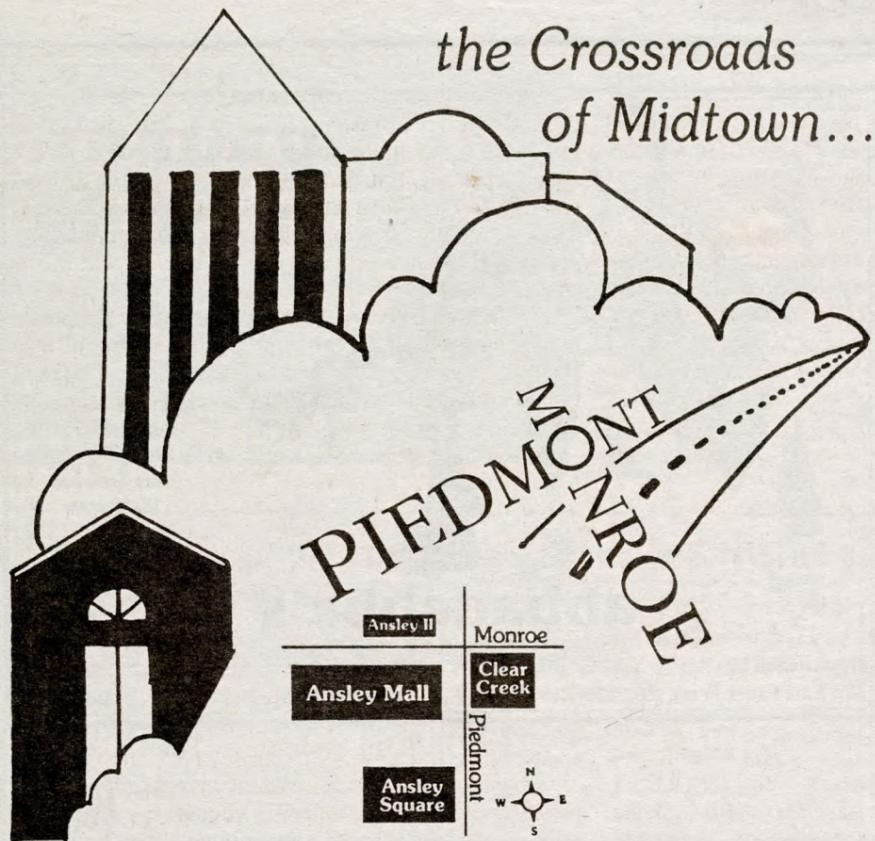
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## Dahmer



MARNY MALIN

Jeffrey Dahmer has confessed to murdering 15 people in the Milwaukee area, most of them black and some gay.

## Cont'd from page 1

The Shiek), 28. Smith was last seen at Milwaukee's Gay Pride Parade on June 16, 1990. Smith's remains were not recovered at Dahmer's apartment, but Dahmer has told police he was murdered as well.

On July 29, Dahmer admitted to police that he killed two Hispanic men he had picked up in Milwaukee gay bars. Dahmer has also confessed to murdering Steven H. Hicks, 19, in Bath Township near Akron, Ohio in 1978. A search has revealed hundreds of bone particles in the backyard of Dahmer's former home there.

Patrons at several Milwaukee and Chicago Gay bars recall seeing Dahmer. They described him as a loner, distant and moody, who didn't seem quite comfortable or able to fit into the gay bar scene. Several men related stories of Dahmer trying to pick them up for the evening, often on nearby streets after Dahmer had left the bars.

Prior to being sentenced for the sexual assault charge in 1989, Dahmer told Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge William D. Gardner that he was an alcoholic and a homosexual with serious sexual problems. On the other hand, several people who met Dahmer or knew him over the years, including a woman who said she dated him, said that Dahmer had often expressed hatred towards gays and African-Americans.

Jean-Paul Ranieri, a lay brother in the Episcopal Church who ministers and counsels gay men, said that after a long talk with Dahmer he concluded that Dahmer was "extremely homophobic," with an almost Christian fundamentalist view of homosexuality. He recalled Dahmer implying that AIDS was God's judgment on gays.

Bradley Babush, a former employee at Milwaukee's Club Baths (which was forced to close by the health authorities in December, 1988), said that in the summer of 1986, "We had to kick Dahmer out because he was drugging people in his private room."

Babush related this chilling story: "One person from Madison was unconscious and we couldn't revive him. We called the paramedics and they took him to the hospital. He was in the hospital for a week to ten days. The police also came and talked to Dahmer and to our staff. But after questioning, the police didn't pursue it. None of the victims wanted to press charges."

## Homophobic reaction

When the murder story broke police officers at the scene were quick to label the mass murders "homosexual overkill," a phrase widely reported throughout the print and broadcast media. Gay community leaders were appalled at the rhetoric.

In a press conference on July 24, Milwaukee County Medical Examiner Jeffrey M. Jentzen stated that "homosexual overkill" was not applicable in the

Dahmer murder case. Just days before, however, Jentzen himself had used that phrase repeatedly in the Racine County trial of Joachim Dressler, who is accused of killing and dismembering James Madden, 24.

Scott Gunkel of Milwaukee's Lambda Rights Network deplored the use of "homosexual overkill."

"It tarnishes the entire gay community for the acts of one deranged man. It ignores the violence gays are subjected to all the time and contributes to greater homophobia and public fears about us."

The mainstream media backtracked a few days later, seeking the input of the gay community. But Gunkel noted: "It's too late to retract this. You can't put a knife in somebody and then say, 'Oh, sorry,' and pull it out. It's too late. The damage is done."

Dan Fons of Queer Nation/Milwaukee agreed with Gunkel: "It's going to damage peoples' already limited perception of the gay community. Being a heterosexual or a homosexual has nothing to do with being a serial killer. Words like 'deranged,' 'mentally ill,' and 'psychotic' are more accurate terms to describe it. Heterosexual or homosexual should be way down on the list."

Since the mass murder was exposed, bar owners have reported numerous bomb threats against their gay establishments. The level of anti-gay slurs yelled from passing cars outside the bars had intensified and the lives of a number of local gay leaders and newspaper editors have been threatened.

On July 29, Attorney Thomas R. Martin obtained a restraining order in Milwaukee County Circuit Court against an East side couple who, since the Dahmer murders were revealed, have verbally harassed a neighbor with anti-gay epithets and threatened his safety. The man had to flee his home.

## Police negligence

Allegations of police negligence have renewed charges of racism and homophobia against the Milwaukee Police Department. Police officers apparently had the opportunity to rescue Sinthasomphone and to arrest Dahmer on May 27 but bungled the case. At 12:30am on May 27, two young Black women, Sandra Smith and Nicole Childress, saw Sinthasomphone running down an alley, fleeing Dahmer. The youth was naked, incoherent, bruised and bleeding from the buttocks. One woman called 911 while the other attempted to shield the boy from Dahmer.

Childress and Smith said that when police arrived they listened only to Dahmer, who claimed that the boy was 19 years old and that they were just having a lovers' quarrel. Officers refused to listen to the women and did not question Sinthasomphone.

Childress told the Milwaukee Sentinel: "He (the officer) was listening to Jeff; he was not listening to me... He told us to get lost or he would take us Downtown."

Deeply upset by the incident, Glenda Cleveland, Smith's mother, called police an hour later to see what had happened. She said police assured her that Sinthasomphone was not a minor, the situation was under control, and that the incident was merely a "domestic squabble between two homosexuals."

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office has determined that Sinthasomphone and at least four of the other victims were murdered after May 27, when police had the chance to apprehend Dahmer.

Representatives of the Black and gay communities expressed outrage at the racism and homophobia they believe kept the police from investigating the Sinthasomphone incident and all the disappearances more aggressively.

Speaking at a protest outside Dahmer's apartment building on Friday, July 26, Rev. LeHavre Buck, Director of the Harambee Ombudsman Project, declared: "People of color are always viewed as the criminal. If that had been a Black man chasing a white boy down the alley, he wouldn't have killed anybody else. They would have investigated and done everything to find out what's going on. This is crazy."

Dan Fons of Queer Nation agreed: "It's pretty clear that if the people disappearing had been white daughters of middle-class people, the police would have been doing a thorough statewide search until they found out who was responsible. Because it was a lot of Black men, some of them known to be gay, it was ignored completely. It should have been stopped much earlier."

On July 26, Milwaukee Chief of Police Philip Arreola suspended the three officers involved in the Sinthasomphone incident and, on August 1, pressed administrative charges against them. Arreola said the officers involved "failed to conduct a basic, proper

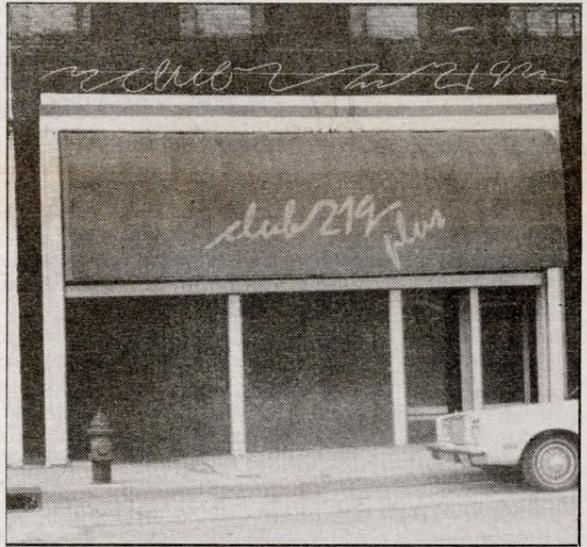
police investigation into the matter."

Bradley DeBraska, president of the Milwaukee Police Association, the police union, criticized Arreola's action, claiming it made scapegoats of the three officers and denied them their due process rights. He accused Chief Arreola of bowing to pressure from community groups. He called for a vote of "no confidence" in the chief.

While Chief Arreola was under attack by the police union, Rep. Gwen Moore, who represents the district Dahmer lives in, called for the state Attorney General's Office to conduct an independent investigation of all the actions and procedures of the Milwaukee Police Department. Moore cited many allegations of police negligence by victims' families and said that she has received reports of jokes about "niggers" and "fags" circulating within the police department. A coalition of Black community leaders has insisted that only a probe by the U.S. Justice Department can expose the full range of police misconduct.

Leaders of Milwaukee's gay and lesbian community held a news conference on July 29. In addition to lambasting the media for its sensational coverage of the murder, they attacked the police department for its apparent negligence in the Dahmer case. They insisted on a comprehensive, independent investigation of the police department and ongoing education on gay and lesbian issues for all police department staff. They also demanded an official liaison in the Milwaukee Police Department to work with the gay and lesbian community and called for greater leadership from the Mayor's office and the Police and Fire Commission in implementing these reforms.

Scott Gunkel, who works as a bartender at Milwaukee's Club 219, commented on the slow response time when police are called to an altercation of a gay-bashing incident at the bars. Lack of police



DAN SCIRAMM

Club 219, a gay bar in Milwaukee, where Dahmer picked up victim Tony Hughes and at least one other.

response is a complaint that has been voiced for years by the city's African-American citizens.

Gunkel noted that during the time when the victims were disappearing one by one, Milwaukee police were focusing instead on raiding strip shows at gay bars. On March 28 this year, almost 30 officers in a dozen squad cars closed down Club 219 in the midst of a "Hot Buns" contest. Thirteen citations for disorderly conduct were issued. As recently as July 19, two male strippers were arrested at the Triangle bar for indecent exposure. Ironically, the Triangle's strip show that night was a benefit to raise funds to combat hate crimes against gays.

Gunkel said that after the disappearance of Tony Hughes in May, Hughes' family members came around to the gay bars and to the Gay Pride Parade in June to mingle with the gay community, ask for tips about his whereabouts and generally spread the word. Gunkel asked, "Where were the police detectives? Why weren't they doing their job?"

A Candlelight Vigil to Remember the Victims of Jeffrey Dahmer brought thousands of concerned people into the streets of Milwaukee on Monday, August 5. It was sponsored by a coalition of gay and lesbian, African-American, civil rights and neighborhood organizations. Speakers called for changes in the criminal justice and social service systems and in the way the media covers crime stories and the gay and minority communities.

# I know you are, but what am I?

by Michael Bronski

At first it sounded like a bad *Saturday Night Live* skit: Pee-wee Herman, TV's loveable retro-fag-'50's-*Playhouse*-nerd, was arrested for indecent exposure in a porno theater. What would Jambie the Genie say? And the media has been having a field day not only with the usual tired homophobic innuendos, but with new spins on queer bashing that might even seem inventive if they were not so hateful.

The basic facts of the case are as follows: Paul Reubens, the actor who created and made famous the character Pee-wee Herman, was arrested on Saturday, July 28 at an adult porno theater in Sarasota, Florida. The local police have charged Reubens with indecent exposure; he has denied the allegations. Under Florida law, Reubens could be sentenced to 60 days in jail and up to a \$500 fine. The immediate fallout included the cancellation of the last five episodes of the Emmy-winning *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* by CBS.

Reubens' arrest might have been nothing more than a local news item if the national media had not picked it up. The first reports of the incident appeared on television stations in a relatively non-judgmental way. Radio stations, however, seized on the arrest as a venue for a slew of off-color, homophobic jokes. *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* became *Pee-Wee's Penthouse* and there were a bunch of "Pee-wee showed his wee-wee" remarks.

By the next morning, the print media had released versions of the story saying that Reubens' career as Pee-wee Herman was completely ruined. There was never any questioning of why the police were arresting men in the relative privacy of a dirty movie theater where, one might imagine, the exposure of genitals is not an unheard-of action.

Perhaps the most telling aspect of all the stories about Reubens' arrest is that the actor Paul Reubens and his character Pee-wee Herman are constantly being conflated. "Pee-wee Arrested in Porno Theater" screamed one headline after another. This may be partially because Reubens rarely made any public appearances as himself—even in television interviews, he always remained in character. But this does not completely explain the hysterical Pee-wee bashing that has occurred since the arrest.

Pee-wee Herman is a brilliant creation. He is the epitome of '50's nerd: overly fastidious and so repressed that his sexual energy keeps erupting in nervous giggles. He approaches innocence but never really attains it. In his two-sizes-too small gray suit and his slightly made-up face, he resembles nothing less than a contemporary Little Lord Fauntleroy crossed with Joel Grey in *Cabaret*. Pee-wee is both funny and frightening, highly entertaining and slightly appalling. He is also one of the best critiques of contemporary sexuality and gender expectations ever created: a mini-monster of repression and thwarted desire who manages to be simultaneously waspish and wonderful.

It's no wonder that adults found Pee-wee upsetting. He is a living example of how the cultural repression we all live with distorts sexuality. But the irony is that children loved Pee-wee, especially on *Pee-Wee's Playhouse*. The show was in part a post-modern Captain Kangaroo mixed with the gender and sexual subversiveness of early Warhol movies with a touch of a Madonna video tossed in. It was charming and funny and weird and gay. Boy, was it gay.

Gender in the *Playhouse* was not what you expected on a children's show: the mailperson was a young Black woman named Rheba; two of Pee-wee's best friends were the nearly unbearable Miss Yvonne (clearly a fag-hag in high '50's prom drag) and Cowboy Curtis, a cute young number in a froufrou western outfit who looked more like an inexperienced *Midnight Cowboy* than a children's show character. *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* was the most integrated children's show on television.

Not only did the *Playhouse* feature non-traditional racial and gender portraits, but it was also infused with a gay sensibility and a sense



## Why the mainstream media is out to get Pee-wee Herman

of humor unheard of on TV. Once, after Pee-wee showed an interest in Curtis' boots, the cowboy replied, "Well, you know what they say, Pee-wee: 'Big feet, big boots.'" This was clearly a reference to the old gay folk wisdom, "Big Feet, Big Meat."

One of the reasons that *Pee-Wee's Playhouse*, and Pee-wee himself, caused such disconcertion was that the world the characters inhabited was supposedly childlike and innocent, which, in our warped culture, means not sexual. But Pee-wee displayed that "innocence" as little more than sexual repression. He created a Freudian nightmare world in which traditional developmental stages and appropriate behaviors were mocked. Even the objects in the *Playhouse* took on strange anthropomorphic qualities—Pee-wee's chair was named Chairy, the globe was Globie, the clock was Clockie. It all felt like sublimated fetishization: an imaginary world distilled from feelings of loneliness and isolation and fueled by a polymorphous, perverse sexuality that was a dream world to children and a nightmare to adults. There has always been a sneaking suspicion among media critics and others that there was something not quite healthy about Pee-wee, and by extension, about his creator Paul Reubens.

Then suddenly articles began appearing counselling parents on how to explain the "Pee-wee Herman scandal" to their children, which had suddenly become a large-scale crisis for America's children. Much of the advice to parents is obvious, although it takes a distinctly anti-Pee-wee slant. In a *Boston Globe* piece, child psychologist Jeffrey Derevensky advises parents to tell pre-schoolers that "He was doing things that were inappropriate. He went to a place that Pee-wee shouldn't have gone to and he did something wrong." Derevensky advises parents to tell older children worried about Pee-wee's punishment that "the judge will make a fair decision." While questions of sexuality and abuse of police power may be difficult to explain to pre-teens, the presumption here is—not surprisingly—supportive of the most narrowly defined cultural mores.

What makes the whole situation even odder is the fact that Reubens managed to get by for so long without very much criticism. While there is a tradition of homoerotics in popular American culture (such as Wally Cox's Mr. Peepers of the '50's, Liberace's queenly flamboyance and Milton Berle's television drag routines), Reubens managed to be a little more upfront, a little less subtly subversive. There is also the fact that most of these other performers existed in the relative innocence of the '50's, where what might on the surface appear to be simple fun was seen as just that.

And, amazingly, the issue of his sexuality is almost completely absent. There are probably several reasons why reports have refused to discuss Reubens' sexuality. Given the vehe-

ment stand that the straight press took against "outing" a year ago, it would appear hypocritical to "out" Reubens now. And since he was allegedly caught dick-in-hand doing a solo number, there is no "proof" of homosexuality. The media might be unwilling to infer the obvious—and logical—conclusions.

But also it is clear that Pee-wee Herman is a great favorite among children. If the mainstream media were to conjecture that Paul Reubens is a homosexual, America's children would have to face the fact that their idol was created by a gay man. And that would mean that maybe fags aren't that bad after all—a frightening thought for all those moms and dads out in TV land. The decision here to "in" Reubens protects the heterosexual status quo. Reubens may not be a model straight man, but even an imperfect heterosexual is preferable to a beloved homosexual.

The bottom line is that these news reports came about to prove to the public at large that they were right to be made uncomfortable by Pee-wee Herman and *Pee-Wee's Playhouse*; that he is, in some way, unnatural and perverted. And the pronouncements of hack psychologists are not to reassure children that everything is all right but rather to reassure adults that their own heterosexual values are right and good.

The media attack on Paul Reubens and Pee-wee Herman is part and parcel of the attack by the Right Wing on both the arts and entertainment industry today. Jesse Helms' fury at Robert Mapplethorpe and Karen Finley is reflected in the right-wing activities against *thirtysomething* because the program dared to show positive gay characters. It is also reflected in the attacks on Madonna and certain MTV videos, and on the refusal of some PBS affiliates to show Marlon Riggs' *Tongues Untied*.

The backlash against Paul Reubens is not an isolated cultural battle, but part of a larger war. The viciousness of it is due in part to the escalation of this war. But it is also a response to Reubens' talent and ability to dazzle large numbers of people with his queer imagination. If Pee-wee Herman were not such an intriguing creation, exposing both the absurdity and the harm of traditional sexual and gender arrangements, no one would care very much. It is because Paul Reubens—and Pee-wee Herman—hit a real emotional and sexual nerve that he has to be so severely humiliated and punished.

This article first appeared in a longer version in Boston's *Gay Community News*.

# Capitalism isn't bad, Reaganomics is

To the editor,

If Paul Varnell had bothered to speak to me about one word in my National Lesbian Conference speech before launching his broadside (*Southern Voice*, July 4, 1991), maybe he would have written a different column.

But then, he could not have engaged in his Joe McCarthy-esque tactic of red-baiting me. And he would not have had a reason to launch another pot-shot at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The one word that stirred up so much for Paul was the "c" word—capitalist. The context in which I wrote it was this: "The world in which we strive to live as openly lesbian has taken off its ugly white hood to show its sexist, anti-gay, racist, and capitalist face as never before."

I stand by the sentence, and believe my speech goes on to explain the meaning of each of the words I used.

The images I had in mind as I wrote that sentence were the anti-choice Supreme Court, the Helms-Bush nexus during Helms' re-election, the Bush campaign's Willie Horton-ization of race, and the current economic crisis in this country. That crisis was created by 10 years of Reaganomics and by a tax policy and economic policy designed to benefit the very few at the expense of everyone else (hardly my original analysis—see conservative journalist Kevin Phillips' excellent book, *The Politics of Rich and Poor*).

If Varnell had bothered to speak to me, I might have told him about the pressure we face in Washington on the AIDS budget (going to the House floor as I write this). We would have talked about a health crisis that is increasing at a staggering rate but which will receive a one percent increased commitment from our political leaders—"leaders" who have made a political calculation that they will not lose if they turn their backs on gay and bisexual men and the other populations in which AIDS is increasing.

If Varnell had bothered to speak to me, we might have talked about the crisis in current economic priorities in a government that values everything from NASA to Star Wars over the provision of quality health care for its people.

If Varnell had bothered to speak to me, we might have had a fascinating discussion about the economic impact of domestic partnership—and whether the obstacles we face to the recognition of a status like marriage



**heterodoxy, n.**

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

a monthly column by KC Wildmoon

## Us and Them

I've got something to tell you that you probably don't want to think about. But because you are my Friends, you need to know. It's a frightening prospect, but the quicker we accept it as fact, the better things will be for us. Something about getting out of denial and accepting the truth...which is that most Americans are homophobes.

Yes, I said *most*. Maybe not to the out-loud degree of, say, Jesse Helms, but most Americans will do *nothing* to stop a Jesse Helms. Sorry, but it's not a disease peculiar

to the South. North Carolina did not invent bigotry, nor does it have a stranglehold on it. Homophobia, and other bigotries, abound all across the Good Ole U.S. of A.

OK, time out for the disclaimer. Please note that I said *most*, not *all*. There is a distinct difference. I know a number of Americans who are less homophobic than the average citizen, and even a few who aren't particularly homophobic at all. But those people constitute a small minority. Face it. We are hated.

We are hated with a passion that clouds reason and clear judgment. Most Americans do not care one iota about us, or what happens to us. And they don't want to know anything about us. We are sick, perverted, degenerate, etc etc etc, and that settles it. We are not worth knowing about, or caring about.

Education doesn't work on these people. Hell, there's not even an agreement on whether or not we choose to be Queer, often among our own people. That would kind of settle it, really. If we choose Queerness, then we can unchoose it. If we didn't, then we are a bonafide, born-this-way minority, and who cares what they think.

But see, they think we choose it. I can't

figure for the life of me why on earth they think we'd choose to be beaten, called names, fired from our jobs, have our businesses spraypainted, and killed, but there you have it. I guess they think that for some reason we've decided to be rebellious teenagers forever and have chosen this most despicable thing in their Book in order to get back at them. Please.

These people actually believe they don't know any Queers. Gee, wonder why that is? Could it be because the Queers that you and I know are all over the place are too damn scared to tell them who we are? And with good reason! Because we are so disgusting, it is perfectly OK to do whatever with us. Those fine stalwarts of American citizenry will judiciously not notice.

Take Cracker Barrel, for example. You would think that this is such an obvious example of homophobia (You can't work here because we have Family Values and since you're Queer you don't) that people would be crawling out of the woodwork to tell CB that *all* people have a right to gainful employment. Don't hold your breath. Remember now, most Americans are homophobes, and proud of it. Many of them are applauding CB

for finally standing up to those militant homosexuals.

Militant homosexuals. That's how we're usually perceived in America when we ask to be treated like everybody else. We're told we have all the same rights everybody else has already. Anything more, they say, would be "special privilege." What they don't say out-loud, but we know only too well, is that we only have rights as long as nobody knows we're Queer.

I've grown a little weary of reading in the newspapers about the recent "erosion of our rights," as if I have any rights to erode. I don't. You don't. None of us do, except in those few states and municipalities that have written special laws to protect us. And even there, those laws don't change the homophobia of the people.

I don't want a law to protect me. That is a special privilege. What I want is for the American people to change their minds, and that can't be done in the legislature. It can only be done by the American people themselves, and they sure don't seem very willing to consider it.

for lesbians and gay men are indeed not just religious and moral, but about economics.

But, Varnell did not call. And he never learned that these and other economic issues were on my mind when I wrote that one word into my five-page speech.

Instead, Paul Varnell did what too many in the gay and lesbian community are doing today. He seized on an occasion to bash his own. This seems to be the new chic. When the external world seems too intimidating, the mountain of prejudice we face too huge, the attention we get for speaking out against discrimination too small, there are always handy local, state and national lesbian and gay activists to rail against.

Well, Varnell's diatribe missed my point. The enemy is not small-business capitalism or our brother Roman Kalinin in the Soviet Union. The enemy is an old world order that is eroding civil liberties, individual freedom, economic freedom and social justice. If we continue to analyze the situation in terms of 1940's Marxist dogma or 1950's commie-baiting, we will not only bore ourselves, but we will never address the obstacles to full gay and lesbian liberation.

Sincerely,  
Urvashi Vaid  
NGLTF Executive Director

## Carbon Copy

His Excellency Gustavo Petricoli  
Embassy of Mexico  
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Recently, the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) canceled its 13th Annual Conference in Guadalajara. Following insurmountable opposition to the gathering by state and city officials, ILGA was forced to move the conference to Acapulco. We understand the rescheduled conference attracted some 100 gays and lesbians from 30 nations—a strong showing but far less than were expected before the Guadalajara cancellation.

We are concerned about the discrimination and intolerance in Guadalajara that forced ILGA to cancel the conference in the first place, and the long-term effect of such bigotry on the human rights of Mexican lesbians and gay men. We also are disappointed by the silence of the Mexican government in condemning what appears to be pervasive and official anti-gay prejudice in the state of Jalisco.

We believe human rights must be guaran-

teed all people, including homosexual men and women. We believe these human rights include the right to live free of harassment, prejudice and violence. We assert that gays and lesbians have the right to gather in peace and safety and to live their lives with dignity, pride and justice.

We respectfully ask you, Mr. Ambassador, to request that your government thoroughly review this unfortunate situation in Guadalajara. We urge you to strongly con-

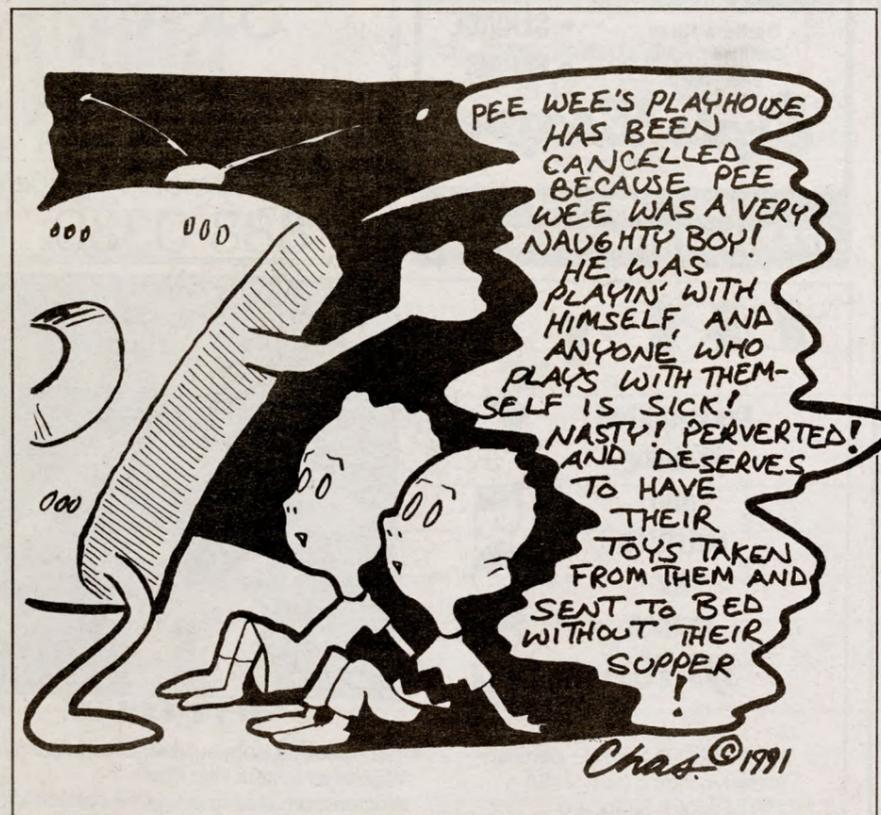
demn anti-gay bias as a violation of the spirit and word of the Mexican Constitution. Such violations undermine the human rights record of the Mexican Government. Finally, we ask your government to support the gay men and lesbians in Guadalajara and throughout Mexico as they struggle to overcome prejudice and intolerance.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Signed,

Ted Weiss, Member of Congress  
Nancy Pelosi, M.C.  
Major R. Owens, M.C.  
Chester G. Atkins, M.C.  
Gerry E. Studds, M.C.  
Bernard Sanders, M.C.  
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John Conyers, Jr., M.C.  
Fortney Pete Stark, M.C.



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Atlanta, Georgia 30316

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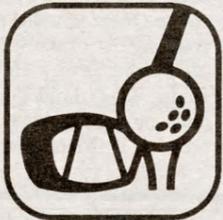
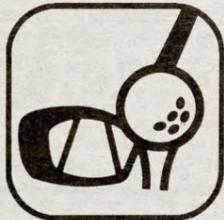
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# Lesbian golf tournament slated for August 31

by Candace Chellew

Imagine a sunny August morning on a suburban Atlanta golf course. At 7:30 a.m. sharp the cry of, "Fore!", goes out as four lesbians tee off on all 18 holes of the course. They dominate the course for the next four hours.

If this is a pleasing picture to you, then be a part of it when it becomes reality in the form of the First Annual Golf Classic, sponsored by The Otherside of Atlanta and Fourth Tuesday. The tournament begins on Saturday, August 31, at Tup Holmes Golf Course off the Lakewood Freeway.



"A lot of people are real skittish because they think they have to be a good golfer. They think they've got to hit close to par, but it's not that way," says organizer Pat Garland. "It's going to be fun."

The tournament will be a Ft. Lauderdale style, four person best ball, where only the ball hit the farthest by a team member will be played at each hole.

That takes some of the pressure off, according to Garland, but not all. She and her partner have been playing golf together for years and she says, "When we play alone on the course, we do so

good, but when we take a couple of friends along, it's a disaster. So, we know we're going to be bombs at the tournament."

The entry fee for the tournament is \$40, but Garland says that's not as expensive as it sounds, "The fee includes 18 holes of golf, including your cart, a free sleeve of balls, trophies, prizes, free admission to The Otherside after the tournament and a catered buffet." Visa, Mastercard, American Express and checks can be used to pay the fee. Entry forms are available at The

Otherside and in the Fourth Tuesday newsletter. If you are paying by check you can mail it to Pat Garland at Suite 302, The Carnegie Building, 133 Carnegie Way, Atlanta, GA 30303. Checks should be made payable to Fourth Tuesday.

Garland says they can take up to 100 people to Tup Holmes that day, and people are already signing up. But, the only problem Garland sees is that the only weekend available on the course was Labor Day weekend, in direct conflict with Rhythm Fest. Garland hopes they can fill the course with lesbians despite the timing.

After the game, participants can relax at The Otherside on Piedmont Road. There they can enjoy a free cocktail, free buffet, achievement awards from the day's action, tall tale stories of their game and lots of fun.

Garland hopes the Golf Classic, the brainchild of Chris Bishop of Fourth

Tuesday, can become an annual event for lesbians. "Maybe", Garland says, "it could grow into a lesbian golf club."

If you are interested in participating in the First Annual Golf Classic, and you want more information, call the Fourth Tuesday Special Events hotline at 662-6868.

## Martina

cont'd from page 1

nis down the drain," she said during the 20/20 interview.

Navratilova says she paid Nelson a salary starting in 1985 and that it reached \$90,000 a year in 1990. She also said she would have married Nelson if it were legally possible.

Another tough fight for Navratilova this year is her struggle to get on the Olympic tennis team. She had made a commitment to play TeamTennis before the International Tennis Federation reiterated its long standing ruling that stipulates women must be available to play in the Federation Cup. That tournament took place while Navratilova was playing TeamTennis.

Navratilova thought that her participation on the U.S. team that won the Federation Cup in Atlanta last summer would be sufficient. But, U.S. Tennis Association spokesman Ed Fabricius said, "Maybe Martina got some bad advice. You have to make yourself available, and

she did not."

Fabricius said it's unlikely the USTA will reconsider, but Navratilova is determined, saying, "I really would like to play in the Olympics. It's the only thing I haven't done yet."

Navratilova is not alone on the ITF's ineligibility list. Monica Seles, the top ranked woman player in the world and third-ranked Gabriella Sabatini of Argentina would also miss the Barcelona Games.

The big question for us in Atlanta is, will Martina be back next year? The answer is uncertain. She has a multiyear contract with the league, although there is no guarantee where or how it will be served. Navratilova certainly longs to play in the Olympics, and is willing to sacrifice even TeamTennis for the chance.

So, we must content ourselves with the fact that Martina came to Atlanta, and brought us a national championship.

And, sorry ladies, sources close to Navratilova say the rumor that she bought a house in Decatur, is false. So much for running into her at the park.

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the evening from 8:00 PM to midnight. After midnight, Bulldogs will feature an after hours party. The fun continues Sunday with a cook-out and t-dance from 1:00 to 5:00 at the Otherside and a grand finale at The Cove Sunday evening with a comedy show and dancing.

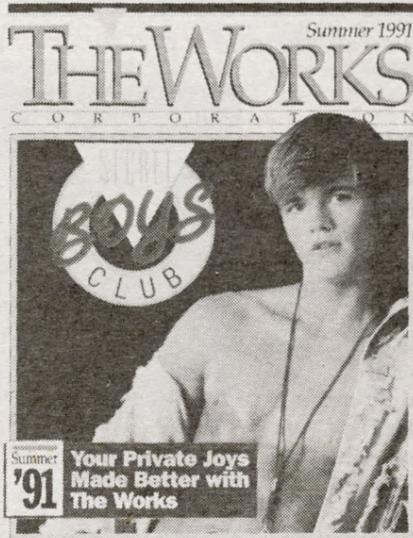
Southern Country Atlanta was formed in November 1988 to promote Country and Western activities in the gay and lesbian community. It provides a casual, non-pressured atmosphere for people to meet and enjoy other people interested in country and western dancing. It started with one night a week at the Cove and has expanded to six nights a week at local bars. The Cove features free lessons from 8 to 9 and dancing til midnight on Thursday, and a hoedown on Sundays from 7 to midnight. Deana's features free lessons from 8 to 9 on Tuesday evenings followed by dancing til midnight. Backstreet provides free lessons on Wednesdays from 8 to 9 with dancing till midnight. Backstreet also hosts country and western dancing Friday and Saturday evenings from 8 to midnight. The Otherside has free lessons on Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 followed by dancing. Options offers free lessons on Wednesday evenings from 8 to 9 followed by country and western dancing.

Southern Country Atlanta sponsored the Halstead Hoedown with proceeds close to \$5,000 given to Project Open Hand. SCA is joining SEGRA (Southeastern Gay Rodeo Association) for the first AIDS Walk in Atlanta on Sun., September 8.

Other groups sponsored by SCA include the clogging team "Southern Stampede" and the "Southern Line" line dancers. Anyone interested in joining the dance groups or desiring information on Southern Country Atlanta may call (404) 938-9609 or write P.O. Box 8262, Atlanta, GA 30306.

Southern Country Atlanta will celebrate their third year of Country and Western activities during the weekend of August 23-25 with "ROUNDUP '91".

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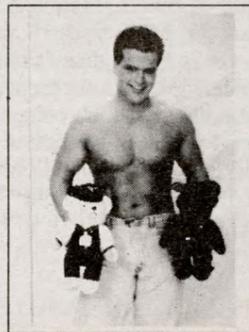
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# And The Ritz-Carlton Was Hot, Too

When Southern Voice interviewed a star and a producer of the hot new film *Paris Is Burning*

by Dave Hayward

The civilized world only knows about voguing courtesy of reigning culture archetype Madonna. That is, until the documentary *Paris is Burning* splashed across screens, winning prizes and making counterculture heroines of black and Latino divas headlining Harlem balls.

"Poor Madonna!" laments zoftig Queen Mother Dorian Corey—a staple on New York's drag scene for over 30 years. Batting her Liza Minelli eyelashes and fluffing her Marilyn Quayle flip, she reclines in the stuffy clubroom splendor of a Ritz-Carlton dining salon. "Everyone felt very flattered and grand when the song came out, and the routines were taught to her by ball children. Two of the dancers in her video are from the House of Xtravaganza."

"On the other hand," Corey smiles sweetly and carefully, "voguing doesn't really have anything to do with Marlene Dietrich, Rita Hayworth, and anybody else she mentions." Touché.

"I don't think Madonna's business people had any desire to let people know it was essentially a black/Latin gay song," underscored *Paris* co-producer Barry Swimar. "On the other hand, aside from Elizabeth Taylor and a couple of others, Madonna's probably raised the most money for AIDS research and services. So it's a Catch-22—you're happy that it's out in the world and a little bit bewildered that it's not properly credited."

As a mass culture corrective, *Paris* takes voguing far beyond white-bread videos and into the genesis of its poses, not as a way to dance, but to fight. "Well, that's the idea, that it's a dance fight," huffs Corey. "The only way voguing works is for it to be done competitively. One person voguing is nice, but two people battling in poses gives you a comparison."

Indeed the whole world of legends, houses and "realness" is cut-throat competition for the mantle of stardom at the balls. The leading "families" of performers vie for the title of being the most persuasive evocation of wom-



MICHAEL COMTE

I want to be treated like Joan Collins, to be what Joan Collins stands for. But I don't want to be her!—Dorian Corey.

anliness (femme queen), manliness (butch queen), and other cultural icons like town and country aristocrats, buppie executives and mean streets muggers (banshees).

"That's really what the balls are all about. They're all competitive categories," instructs Corey, summarizing the changes on the Harlem ball scene. "The new balls became more a physical thing, more movement and less accent on creating the costume. Labels, style, attitude became popular."

One of the earmarks for success became the performers' ability to pass for on the stage what they are not out on the street. Take, for example, the coltish vivaciousness of the late Venus Xtravaganza, or the smoky refinement of Octavia St. Laurent. But the squalor of Venus' strangu-

lation by a john simultaneously reveals the horrors of street hustling and the need for direction and protection that the house mothers and families labor to provide.

"I watch out for the children, even children not in my house," proclaims Corey in ringing regal tones. "You see somebody going a little too fast, a little too far off, you know—you're headed for trouble! You try to read 'em, sit 'em down, watch 'em. This is not a game." Mother figures within the houses often compensate for the banishment of their children's blood families, for being gay or femme or both.

Consequently *Paris is Burning* functions as a kind of gay *Chorus Line*. Swimar says, "I think it does emphasize things that are sort of archetypically gay, the sort of intense creativity and vision and energy. All one has to do is look at how devastated the arts have been by AIDS to know how gay people serve in this culture—what we see at the movies, on Broadway, listen to music, what we look at in the visual arts. Creativity as a sort of survival mechanism is touched on in the film"

Swimar takes pains to clarify that *Paris'* tale of divas and dudes extrapolates media images into hybrid symbols of the American Dream. "It's easy for people to say 'They're oppressed, they're disenfranchised, they've got three strikes against them (black/Latino, poor, gay), but aren't they cute? We don't have to think about education, health care, urban kids because their spirit is indefatigable.' *Paris is Burning* is meant to criticize the culture, and show the spirit of this community."

As such, the recurring sentiment expressed in *Paris*—"We can live and look as well as whites"—is not regarded as a rejection of being black or Hispanic, but as a drive to partake of the American palate. "White is where the American Dream shines, there's no hiding that," winces Corey. "But it's not so much color. You know, I want to be treated like Joan Collins, to be what Joan Collins stands for. But I don't want to be her!"

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# Late Summer Movie Roundup

by Terry Francis

**Dead Again** ★★ A considerable disappointment. Kenneth Branagh (*Henry V*) directs what might best be described as a noir-gothic Harlequin romance with supernatural overtones.

The film contains some vivid, leafy character touches, and Branagh is fine company as an L.A. private eye on the trail of an amnesiac woman's past (his American accent is excellent), but there's a sexist subtext to the film's approach, and it finally degenerates into a slasher movie steeped in the sort of conservative Freudian thinking that blames Mother for all manner of psychopathology.

The wasted cast includes the great Hanna Schygulla in the barely visible role of a Swiss maid; Andy Garcia as a sweaty, egotistical reporter; Derek Jacobi (sharp and ironic, until he cannibalizes his own performance in the celebrated *I Claudius*) as a hypnotist antiques dealer; and Emma Thompson, an absolute blank, as the amnesiac for whom Branagh unaccountably falls.

**Mobsters** ★ 1/2 A kiddie gangster movie that appears to have been cast by the Ford Modeling Agency, dressed by the editors of *GQ*, and written by the marketing department of some cheese brokerage house currently under investigation.

There they are: Christian Slater, Patrick Dempsey, Richard Grieco and Costas Mandylor—Hollywood Canteen 1991, assuming cooler-than-thou attitudes and poses in an incoherent plot edited for a five-second attention span. All dressed up and nowhere to go, the film substitutes gore and an embarrassingly gratuitous sex scene in place of character and theme. Directed by Michael Karbelnikoff, who comes from commercials, and it shows. Good period photography by the gifted Hungarian Lajos Koltai (best known for his films with Szabo), whose work here is chopped to pieces by the MTV editing.

**Point Break** 1/2 ★ Kathryn Bigelow's movies are nothing if not trite. In her newest, Keanu Reeves (is he awake?) and Gary Busey star as a pair of (who'd have guessed) mismatched FBI agents who become (but you've already guessed) friends while investigating a series of bank robberies committed by thieves wearing masks with the faces of U.S. Presidents. Moronic West Coast dialogue,

FILM REVIEWS

**Dead Again**      **Mobsters**  
**Point Break**      **Regarding Henry**  
**Tatie Danielle**      **Terminator 2**

the very latest in MTV editing, and a young woman surfer abducted from her bedroom in a clinging white slip, who gets threatened with being "guttled" unless a man can save her.

**Regarding Henry** ★ 1/2 Purification through suffering. Mike Nichols, herewith dismissed from consideration as a serious filmmaker, tells the story of a rich, amoral New York attorney (Harrison Ford) who gets shot in the head, suffers complete amnesia, and is born again through the ministrations of an African-American physical therapist who shows him the way.

What with a bullet in his head, Ford's a new man—a rich saccharin attorney who flaunts his new higher values as if he were shedding light onto a darkened world. With Mike Nichols as director, that means being so financially comfortable that you can tell the world to go to hell and not worry about money, and finally treating your wife and daughter as if they were something more than slabs of meat, and, yes, inviting the family dog to join you inside the local chapel. Nichols, who directed *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and *The Graduate*, takes grave and serious issues and gives them the West Coast treatment, placing him within hailing distance of becoming an industry-for-hire hack.

**Tatie Danielle** ★★★ Hard as a diamond. Etienne Chatiliez directs from a screenplay by Florence Quentin the tale of an ancient widow living in the French province whose greatest pleasure is sabotaging the tranquility of those around her. She's impatient to join her late husband, dead for nearly fifty years, who manages to communicate great eccentricity simply from the portrait of him she carries with her wherever she goes.

Tatie Danielle goes at her assaults with the cunning and grace of an aristocratic militarist, subtly torturing her equally aged housekeeper, her neighbor's dog, her nephew's family in Paris, while gaily trampling flowers and anyone else within reach of her pretty poison smile.



Tatie Danielle (Tsilla Chelton) and her niece Jeanne Billard (Laurence Fevrier) in a scene from *Tatie Danielle*.

There's a wonderful moment in which Tatie Danielle, for the first time ever, gazes upon the Montparnasse skyscraper, a glass monstrosity despised by all Parisians. Her face literally shines in awe, rapturous in contemplation and peacefulness, delighting in the gigantic thorn in the side of elegant Paris.

**Terminator 2** ★ 1/2 Ho hum. Everybody in this product is arrogant and intensely dislikable, except for a gang of life-affirming, beer swilling Mexican Americans who appear to live in an automobile junkyard where they're blissfully happy. (Are they part of the great American dream Arnold Schwarzenegger, the film's star, is always carrying on about in TV interviews?)

The picture is said to have cost upwards of \$100 million, though a dream sequence of a nuclear explosion is laughably fake. Schwarzenegger plays a cyborg sent from the future to protect a particularly repellent child who is allegedly key to the survival of the species.

The picture has that dirty day-glo pink sheen currently all the rage among West Coast high conceptors, and Linda Hamilton, playing the kid's mother, gives a performance so overblown, so overwrought, that she behaves like a one-note hysteric. The movie amounts to one long, long chase scene, and damned if the American public isn't lapping it up as if it were something special.

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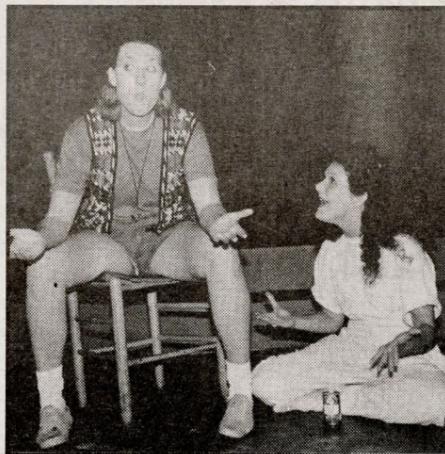
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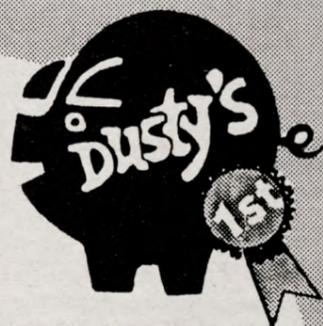
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## KATHLEEN BROCKEL

Age: 29

How long in Atlanta: 4 years

**Relationship Status:**

Single, and looking for a straight man who can handle her line of work.

**Personal Goal:** To enjoy people and laugh a lot.

**Pet Peeve:** Hypocrites.



KAREN DUNIGAN

The Peace Corps likes to boast that it's The Toughest Job You'll Ever Love, but if you ask Kathleen Brockel, she'll tell you it's AIDS activism.

Brockel is Executive Director of NAPWA, the National Association of People With AIDS. She says she chose to get involved with the AIDS issue when she was attending college in Wisconsin.

"It's very hard to do something about AIDS without it being pretty life consuming, because it involves so much of life and death, and love and hate. It's all the elements, to me, of what life is, and they're all extremes. And for better or for worse, I'm a person who deals in extremes. AIDS teaches you life everyday," Brockel explains while reclining in a couch at the cramped NAPWA offices on 6th Street.

Those offices probably seemed pretty plush compared to the Dekalb County jail cell, where she recently spent seven hours. Brockel and Chip Rowan were arrested after they handcuffed themselves to the front door of the Centers for Disease Control to protest recent guidelines concerning HIV and healthcare workers. Jail would be a nightmare for some people, but not Brockel.

"The people that were in there were people I deal with everyday. I deal with prostitutes, criminals, drug dealers and addicts. I didn't have any problem. I went into the cell and they asked me what I was in for, I told them and they said, 'Great!' So, I had a great time in jail," she laughs.

Not everyone agrees with that type of activism; but Brockel feels it is effective. She says it makes policy makers think twice, and bureaucrats and officials don't need the embarrassment such actions bring.

"It's very dramatic," she says, "and many situations connected with AIDS require dramatic action because we don't have time on our side."

Which doesn't make for a lot of time to slow down and relax. Brockel does take one weekend a month and gets out of town to renew her perspective, but she says it's at work where she gets most of her enjoyment.

"I'd be lying if I didn't say that this

wasn't a pretty life consuming job, because it is," she admits, "But my work is fun and very fulfilling."

Brockel started her AIDS work with AID Atlanta nearly four years ago as a grant writer and fundraiser. She was hired as NAPWA's first paid Deputy Director a couple of years ago, when they moved their operation out of AID Atlanta's location and set out on their own. NAPWA is a membership organization with many programs and services to promote self-empowerment of people affected by HIV.

Brockel says it's those people she deals with that make her job fun. She calls them all fighters who keep their organization very strong. But dealing with AIDS everyday can take its toll.

"The highs are definitely high, and the lows are very low," she says. "But, it's the people with HIV themselves that are the highs. That people die is a part of life. That people suffer is hard to deal with, especially those who suffer unnecessarily."

Brockel's personal suffering may be the fact that she lives with a sort of "guilt by association". Being a straight woman heading an organization that deals with a disease perceived as a "gay" disease is not easy.

"People assume that I am either gay or I have AIDS," she says, although many times people will not come right out and ask her. But when they do, Brockel says her answer depends on the situation.

"I don't intentionally give people the wrong impression," she explains, "but, usually the message you're trying to get across is, 'Look, we're all living with AIDS. Some of us are gay, some of us aren't. This is more of an "us" thing than a "we" and "them" thing'."

But what suffers the most is Brockel's love life.

"When a straight man finds out what I do, it freaks them out," she concedes. But even finding the straight men in Atlanta is a chore. A profile on her in a gay newspaper probably won't get her a date either, unless, she says, "Maybe someone has a brother."

—Candace Chellew



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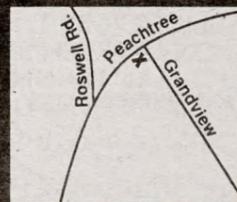
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ESSAY

# On being gay and Christian

by Steve Alper

I am a gay man and I am a Christian. A couple of years ago, I was straight and Jewish. You might say that recently my life has been a study in the struggle between accepting experiences as they are handed to me, and recognizing and claiming the truth of my own experience.

Six years ago, on a mountaintop in Kenya, I experienced God (Gaea, Allah, the Transcendental, the Universal Life Force, a Higher Power—whatever suits you) in a way that my Jewish religion said should not be. Two years ago at a chapel on Emory campus I experienced God in a way that my Jewish religion said could not be. I had to choose between what I was told about my experience and what I experienced. In so doing I lost my community of birth, I lost a father, and the relative comfort of the familiarity of the known. However, I gained a community of choice, I gained many new family members and I gained sense of freedom, healing and wholeness which came from accepting that which I knew to be true for me. Sound familiar? I came out—as a Christian!

There are few Christians around who would not affirm the spirituality of my conversion, i.e. claiming my own experience as being in relation with God through Jesus as the Christ. But I rather doubt that most

would understand what I mean when I say that I "came out" as a Christian. Nonetheless, I am struck by the similarity between my conversion and my coming out as a gay man. On the other hand I feel an antagonism between being Christian and being gay.

I have found a way out of this paradox in the idea, offered by Christian Liberation Theology, that we experience God in our struggle for freedom from oppression. Thus in coming out as a gay man, no less than in coming out as a Christian, I found a sense of freedom. After all, isn't God a God of freedom and liberation from

*"...spirituality is the individual's experience of God... Religion, on the other hand, is spirituality by majority vote."*

oppression, both the oppression of others and our own self-oppression? When I came out as a gay man I felt a sense of healing. After all, isn't God a God of healing? When I came out as gay man I felt a sense of wholeness, an integrity which gave me peace. And isn't it written that God is a God of Shalom (a Hebrew word which means both peace and wholeness)? Indeed, I know now that coming out as a gay man was the first uniquely gay spiritual experience that I had.

Recently I discussed the concept of gay and lesbian spirituality with theologian and Episcopal priest Michael Wyatt. When I asked him to consider whether there indeed is any such thing as a uniquely gay spiritu-

al experience, he suggested that there is and it arises out of the intersection between two strands.

The first strand involves the gay person's ability to detach from or to free one's self from culture's fabrication or construction of reality. At a very early age, gays and lesbians encounter the phenomenon that the socially constructed sexual identity handed to us by society does not match our experience of ourselves. When this happens we may begin to realize that all such externals are social fabrications or constructions and are separate from our experience of them. For Wyatt, the anxiety and tension which comes with this realization that the external world is a series of fabrications which culture has conspired to construct is necessary for spiritual growth. For gays and lesbians, this creative tension produces a self which is aware of the contingency and relativity of all external constructions.

The second strand, according to Wyatt, is that unlike any other oppressed people, gays and lesbians can "pass," can hide our identity if we so choose. Wyatt does not advocate staying in or going back into the closet but simply observes that where this ability to pass intersects with our gift of being able to recognize the multiplicity of constructions of reality, we are enabled to move back and forth between worlds. Consequently, we can become the mediators between differing realities. In this respect a gay man or lesbian may be a member of the police force and go to a gay bar. Or one may be both an attorney and a drag queen. This ability to detach from constructed realities and to move back and forth between those realities as mediators is the result of experiences which are uniquely gay/lesbian. It gives rise to a spirituality which issues in service to both the gay/lesbian and the straight communities.

Now, I don't recall having heard any of this in church recently; and it's a good bet that you won't hear it if

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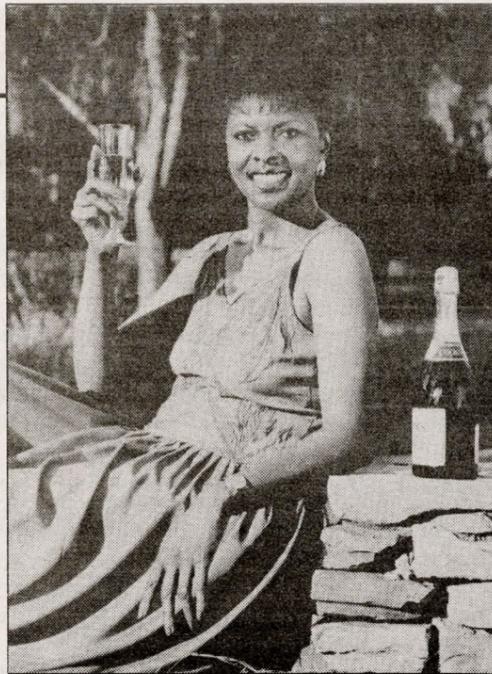
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# Celebrating Gay Spirit Visions

Conference set for September near Highlands, N.C.,

by Gary Kaupman

you're in church next Sunday. You may hear that we cannot engage in Christian service nor can we experience freedom, healing, wholeness, growth and peace by claiming our gay and lesbian sexuality. Or—and this is my personal favorite—you may hear that while we may think that we experienced the spiritual, we really didn't. It's just that we have been misled by our own selfish desires or we have been tricked by the Devil. Now isn't that special?

Despite my own misgivings and these protestations, I have found that I can both be Christian and gay without any loss of integrity. The answer lies in distinguishing between Christian spirituality and Christian religion. As I have come to understand it, spirituality is the individual's experience of God, including the trust that God will provide a commonality or universality to this experience. Religion, on the other hand, is spirituality by majority vote. It is religion which says "Kill a queer (Jew, Muslim, nigger...) for Christ." It is an experience of the spiritual to live Jesus' command: Love God, your neighbor, and yourself. It is religion which says you can only carry that love so far—if a man loves a man as he would a woman, he is an abomination. It is an experience of the spiritual to find in the act of loving another human being the unity between spirit and flesh. It is religion which says that gay sexuality is a sign of a wounded creation, it is an experience of the spiritual to find healing in the claiming of that sexuality.

The spirituality in the lives of lesbians and gays cannot forever be denied. Inroads are being made daily by those gays and lesbians who choose to serve as mediators between the edges and the center of Christianity. So, too, do those who stand only in the gay and lesbian worlds serve, by giving vocal and silent witness to the truth in their lives. It seems to me that there is room enough for all in this, God's Creation.

"Too much of the animal disfigures the civilized human being, too much culture makes a sick animal."

Carl Jung said it, not me. On one hand, it's the kind of thing I wish I would have said. On the other, it's the sort of articulated wisdom that I just hate. I mean, what the man is saying is obviously true, but he doesn't follow it with a neat set of instructions on how to strike a balance.

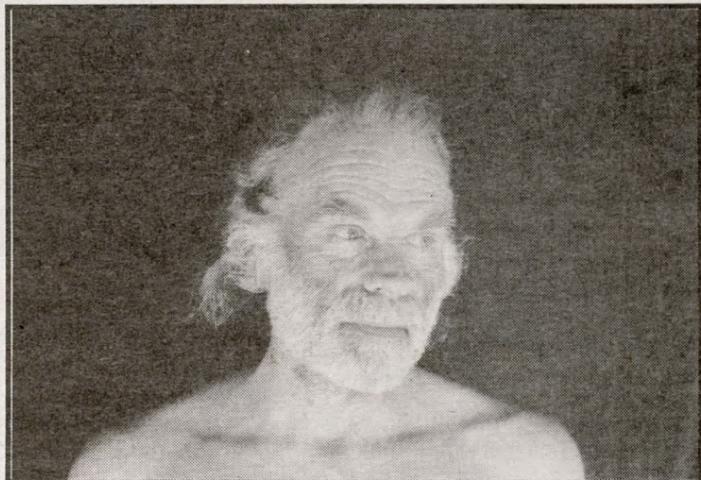
And while you're at it tell me where to find some answers.

Tell me just how do we find (and then maintain) a style of life that allows us to civilize our animal without making him sick? (That's an especially prescient question for gay men, many of whom do daily battle with questions about their sexuality in the age of AIDS.)

For some, the simple answer to such complex questions is religion—church every Sunday and unswerving faith in the facts as promulgated by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (and Paul). Let go, and let God. Faith, hope, and charity; that's the way to live successfully. (Or: Safe sex is easy, just use a condom.)

And for many others (count me among them) such pabulum is about as easy to swallow as hot lead. Why? Simple. It just doesn't nourish us. Sometimes it's downright poisonous.

Enough of the bad news. The good news is that more and more gay men are discovering that they have an inherent (if not well exercised) spiritual connection with each other. And to the earth Author and healer Andrew Ramer feels the roots of our connection date from the end of the Ice Age, when gay men served as guardians for the forests and midwives to the dying. Ramer describes lesbians and gay men as the "Stands Between People." We stand between men and women, night and day, heaven



James Broughton will speak on "The Sexual Holiness of Man" at the Celebrating Gay Spirit Visions Conference in September.

and earth, the living and the dead, "connecting them carrying their beauty from place to place."

Ramer will be one of the keynote presenters at the second annual Celebrating Gay Spirit Visions Conference, Sept. 20-22, near Highlands, N.C., less than two hours from Atlanta. Poet, seer, and all round amazing queer James Broughton will be the other keynoter. Workshops running the gamut from art to erotic to exploring the warrior archetype to self-healing provide additional opportunity for learning, exploration, connection and fun.

Starting with the assumption that there is a distinct and powerful gay male spirituality, it is the goal of the conference organizers to bring men together in a setting that allows them to define and articulate that spirituality.

Cost for the weekend, including lodging and food, is \$169. For a brochure write to Conference, 104 Trotter Place, Asheville, N.C. or call Ron Lambe at (704) 252-0643.



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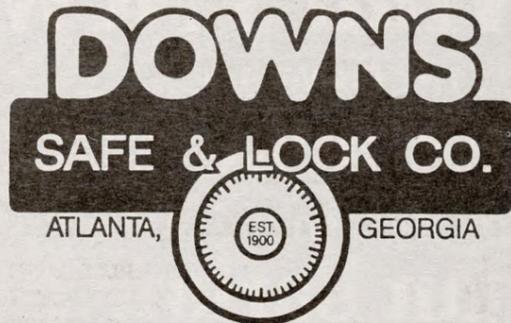
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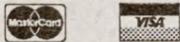
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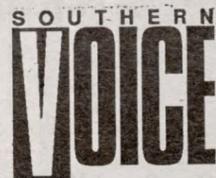
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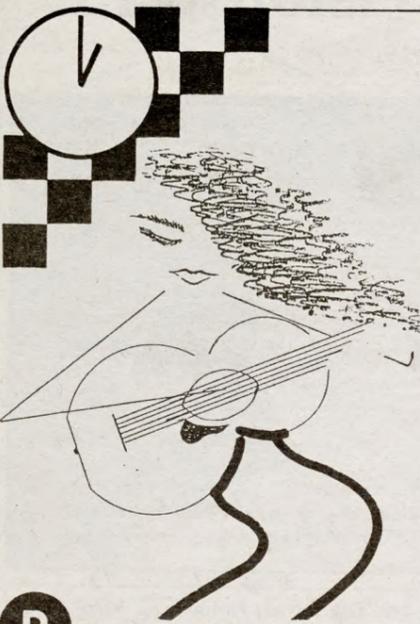
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**R**ITA GODFREY - will perform live August 21st, 22nd & 25th, 7-9pm.

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**Art**  
**WEST ART & THE LAW.** Thru Aug. 17. An exhibit that celebrates the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights and interprets the influence of law on society by lawyers and legal professionals who like to paint as well as pontificate. New Visions Gallery. 999 Peachtree St. 874-3881.  
**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.  
**R.S.V.P.** Aug. 22- Nov. 15. An exhibition of unusual, innovative, and often humorous invitations dating from the 60's to the present. These announcements, many of which were done by artists for their own exhibitions, are interesting examples of art as a marketing tool. High Museum at Ga. Pacific Bldg. 577-6940.  
**PATRICIA.** Aug. 22-Sept. 30. A one-woman show featuring her latest serigraphs and lithographs which celebrate the strength and charm of today's international woman. Excellent examples from the new school of figurative expressionism. BurnNoff Gallery. Clear Creek Center. 875-3475.

**Fun**  
**SOUTHERN COUNTRY ATLANTA 3RD ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND.** Aug. 23, 24 & 25. A weekend of two-steppin', music and a city picnic climaxes with a country jamboree at the Cove Sunday night featuring song, dance and the comedy of Tammy Why-Not. Y'all come on out and enjoy yourselves. Call 938-0609 for more information.

**GENRE COVER MAN CONTEST.** Sun., Aug. 18. 9 pm. Genre, the new lifestyle mag for gay men is looking for a man to grace its Spring 1992 cover and fashion spread. That special someone will be chosen from photo entries at parties all over the country. All contestants get neat free gifts. Petrus.

**Health**  
**EAT, DRINK & BEMERRY: NUTRITION & HIV/AIDS.** Sat., Aug. 17. 10am-5pm. Locally well-known chefs, food samples and nutrition seminars will share the spotlight focusing on the nutritional needs of individuals at various stages of HIV infection. Free recipes for dishes that are good for you and easy to prepare. Crawford Long Hospital. 872-0600.

**Music**  
**RUPAUL: THE RETURN OF STARR BOOTY.** Sat., Aug. 17. Midnight. All new music by RuPaul and the Pop Tarts is featured in the continuing saga of the spacekateer who must now save the world from an evil fast food chain that seeks to gain world dominance with its mind-numbing 13 herbs and spices. Velvet. 89 Park Place. Downtown. 681-9936.

**TUCK AND PATTI.** Sun., Aug. 18. 8 pm. The dynamic jazz duo features the amazing guitar of Tuck Andress and soulful vocals of Patti Cathcart. Come prepared to lose your heart. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.  
**LEIGH McCLELLAND.** Sun., Aug. 18. The sultry woman of song and a slew of surprise guests. No cover. Deana's One Mo Time. 1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 874-0980.

**RITA GODFREY.** Aug. 21-25. Acoustic magic from a one-of-a-kind artist. Deana's One Mo Time. 1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 874-0980.

**Opera**  
**A MASKED BALL.** Aug. 22, 24, 26. One of Verdi's most intense tragedies features a story of the woe that follows finding your sweetheart in the arms of your best friend. As Elvis could tell you: "that's when your heartaches begin." Internationally recognized singers join the Atlanta Opera orchestra for a remarkable evening of song and sorrow. Symphony Hall. Woodruff Arts Center. 892-2414.

**Political**  
**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.** Wed., Aug 21. 5:30 pm. NOW sponsors a rally on Women's Equality Day to dramatize that women are not safe or free from fear and physical retribution. The escalating problem of violence directed at women and girls will be emphasized outside the Special Session of the legislature. Georgia State capitol. 875-0176.

**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.  
**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**  
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**AVS BOWLING.** 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 1pm on Sat. and 7pm on Fri. at Glenlake Tennis Center, 621-2699. Women's division Fri. evenings and Sat. mornings at Chastain Park thru August 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**

**DeAUNDRA 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**

**REHEARSAL FOR DEATH.** Thru Aug. 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 hystrionics, hysteria and hypertension. 14th St. Playhouse.

**INTO THE WOODS.** Thru Aug. 24. Delightful music and dialogue explore the meaning of happily ever after as Stephen Sondheim leads us down the garden path into the myths of childhood. Neighborhood Playhouse. 430 W. Trinity Pl. Decatur. 373-5311.

**IMPERFECT LOVE.** Thru Sept. 1. The jaded might ask: "Is there any other kind?" and while Brian Smooke's play may not have all the answers, it is a compelling study of relationships, gay, straight and other. A realistic, humorous and entertaining evening of theatre. \$5. 14th St. Playhouse. 395-6215.

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

**AN EVENING OF SOUL.** Aug. 23-25. This vibrant musical production depicting the black experience in song, poetry and dance celebrated its 20th year reunion this summer. Come see why it has become an institution across the country. Theatrical Outfit. 871-0124.

**ANASTASIA.** Aug. 28-Sept. 29. Mary Nell Santacroce in her first role since her record-setting "Driving Miss Daisy" stars as the Imperial grandmother who must decide between reality and wishful thinking about the true identity of Anastasia played by Ruth Reid. Theatre in the Square. 11 Whitlock Ave. Marietta. 422-8369.

**Upcoming**

**RHYTHMFEST '91.** Aug. 29-Sept 2. Look-out 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.

**SECOND SAMUEL.** Sept. 6-28. Second Samuel, Georgia just can't believe what happened when Miss Gertrude got her final wash and set at the Change Your Life Hair and Beauty Emporium before being laid to rest! Come see for yourself what the fuss is all about. Southern Fried Productions. Mercer University Fine Arts Bldg. 390-9779.

**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. 15th. 14th St. Playhouse. 892-2414.

**MISS GEORGIA PAGEANT.** Sun., Sept. 15. Come and cheer for your favorite female impersonators as they compete in swimwear, evening gowns, and talent. The cream of the crop competes in this annual benefit for Project Open Hand/Atlanta. Glitter, glamour and knock-down gorgeous. 14th St. Playhouse. 874-7104.

**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 and seer James Broughton will lead workshop in chakra balancing. Other workshops include Exploring Erotic Brotherhood and Life Mask Making. 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.



RuPaul returns to Atlanta as Starr Booty who has found the answer to world peace — the love gun. Just by pointing it enemies suddenly become lovers. Hmmm. At Velvet, 89 Park Place.

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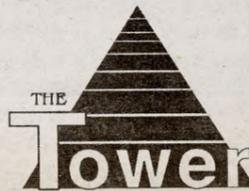
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**AID Atlanta**—Non-profit agency providing services to people with AIDS, families and friends. 872-0600.

**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 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 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, 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.

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**The Cove**—586 Worchester. 875-2477  
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**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  
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**2069 The Page**—2069 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 728-9045  
**The Pear Garden**—11 Luckie St. 659-4055  
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**Scandals**—Ansley Square. 875-5957

**Tin Lizzie**—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961

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**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 and 874-6782.

**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.

**Nat'l Federaton of Career Women**—a connector for professional career lesbian organizations and individuals. Promoting success within the lesbian community. (404) 659-0315.

**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.

# COMMUNICATIONS

**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.

**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.

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**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 Tues. 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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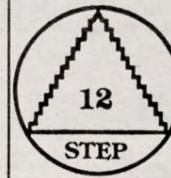
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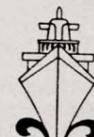
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# Largest-Ever Lesbian/Gay Health Conference Convenes

Activists object to mandatory health worker testing

by William Liermann

The issues of HIV testing of health care workers, women's and lesbians' health concerns and a controversial Centers for Disease Control grant were singled out at the 13th National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference and 9th National AIDS/HIV Health Forum held July 24-28 in New Orleans. Leaders also called for a complete overhaul of the public health care system and condemned deep divisions within the gay and lesbian community.

The conference, the largest in the world concerning lesbian and gay health issues, was sponsored by the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation and the George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C., with some controversial CDC funding.

Proposed mandatory testing of health care workers drew the most heated response from lesbian and gay leaders during speeches at the opening plenary session, Thursday, July 25.

"Here is a time which threatens our kind with extinction," said Urvashi Vaid, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "We face barriers now in serving as health care providers because of our HIV status. We face criminal penalties just for doing our job."

Dan Bross, Executive Director of the AIDS Action Council noted that "The politics of AIDS has shifted to... an obsession with marginal forms of transmission. The media will give us endless stories about the tragedy of Kimberly Bergalis, while ignoring the simultaneous tragedy of tens of thousands of other Americans living with HIV and AIDS."

Mandatory testing of health care work-

ers, immigration barriers, and continued calls for mandatory reporting from politicians "are the political equivalent of the Hardwick decision," Bross said.

Other leaders drew attention to what they called the continued neglect of women's and lesbians' health issues.

"Women on women's issues must be brought to the front of the battle," said Reggie Williams, Executive Director of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention/National Association of Black and White Men Together. "In general, the health issues of lesbians have been short changed by everyone."

Cheri Pies, a Bay Area health care worker, said she knew personally of cases of HIV transmission from woman-to-woman sexual contact. "We have to pay attention to the growing number of facts that may not be contained in the scientific literature or that are also dismissed as anecdotal stories," Pies said.

Meanwhile, other leaders renewed the call for national health insurance and condemned continuing divisions within the gay and lesbian community during rousing speeches at Thursday's opening plenary session.

"I and a growing number of AIDS activists now realize that future change in the health care bureaucracy will be marginal unless accompanied by major changes in the government entities that... deal with health care beyond AIDS," said Jim Eigo of ACT UP/New York.

Eigo suggested that humane health care must be designed by citizens themselves. "Patients, potential patients, and front-line healthcare providers have to be involved in

designing and implementing the plan at every stage," Eigo said.

"Health care in the United States is totally dependent on who you are—your status," said Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "An individual's health status in this country is more a product of racism, sexism, and homophobia than it is a bacteria, virus, trauma, or injury."

Although attacked by the Southern Baptist Convention, the CDC provided a \$25,000 grant for a special program of HIV prevention workshops held Thursday, June 25. A statement issued by the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation Board commended the CDC "for their demonstrated commitment to supporting the further dissemination of AIDS education."

"Medicine is all too often mixed with very unhealthy doses of politics, economics, and morals," said Jim Graham, Administrator of the Walker-Whitman Clinic in Washington, D.C. "Decisions and priorities are sometimes set by prejudice, greed, and politics rather than reason, fact and sound public policy."

Also, Dr. Kenneth Fisher, founding member of the Arizona AIDS Project and Phoenix Shanti Project, offered a worst case scenario. As mass testing fuels hysteria, Fisher warned, physicians will avoid treating HIV+ patients, Fisher added darkly.

"We in the gay and lesbian medical community are aware that calls for mandatory testing grow out of fear and misinformation. Mass testing provides little in the way of prevention, none in the way of counselling or care and only leads to more testing." Fisher warned that HIV status could

become a pre-employment screen with gay and lesbian candidates finding difficulty obtaining employment.

Lesbian leaders also called attention to women's health concerns at the CDC funded HIV prevention program Thursday evening. The most poignant was an unscheduled statement from Berkeley doctoral candidate Amy Randell Webb.

"We are afraid of identifying ourselves as HIV+ lesbians because the stigma of being HIV+ and lesbian is greater than for any other group," Webb said. Calling HIV+ lesbians "a minority within a minority within a minority," Webb blamed their invisibility both on government policy and the denial of other lesbians and gay men.

Meanwhile, the major sign of discord during the conference came from the calls of leaders to heal the internal divisions among many within the gay and lesbian community.

"Far too often those who have risen to positions of power through AIDS forget about the discrimination they experienced for being gay and instead focus on ways to fortify privileges they experience for being white," Williams said Thursday. "I call upon everyone's enlightened self-interest to help us see that no one can be free if anyone is oppressed, regardless of gender or ethnicity."

"There is a deep tension here that is coming up as I see it all over the country in our movement today," Vaid said Thursday, blaming the conflict on different visions of lesbian and gay liberation. "Some of us want to change the world; others of us want a place in the world. I happen to think both are possible."



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Shelly Moorwessel, M. M. Sc., R.D. 10-11:30

**HIV-Related Nutrition Problems**  
Ann Hayes, M.S., R.D. 1-2:30

**Alternative Nutrition: Enteral & Parental**  
Barbara Hopkins, M.M. Sc., R.D., C.N.S.D.  
3-4:30

### Food Presentations & Tastings

**Power Packing Your Menu**  
Michael Touhy of Chef's Cafe 10-11:30

**Basic Good Nutrition**  
Scott Runkle of Eat Your Vegetables 1-2:30

**Specific Dietary Problems**  
Scott Peacock, noted Atlanta Chef 3-4:30

### Health and Nutrition Marketplace

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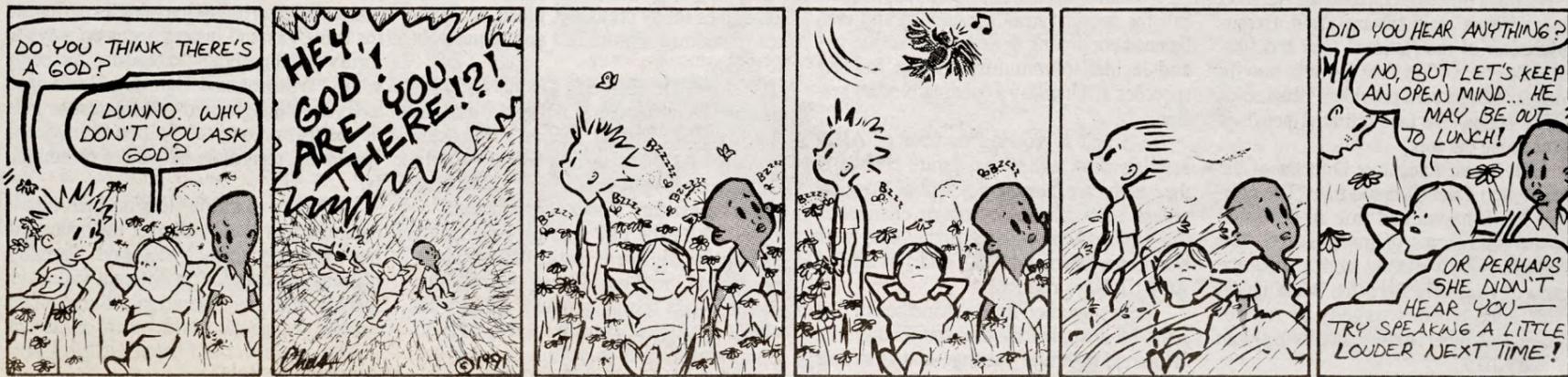
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By Charles Haver



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DISH

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

**Hedging His Bets?:** Don't you love it? Macho movie idol Tom Selleck has negotiated an out-of-court settlement with that paragon of journalistic integrity, the Globe, which had "implied" that he as gay. Interesting to Dish is the fact that Tom-boy has not said he is *not* gay. What he has said is that he has been (and is) married. And that he has fathered children. And this tidbit, "I am as proud of my sexual preference as those who happen to be gay are of theirs." Slick, Selleck. Mighty slick.

**No, No, No:** It is with some dismay that we note the initiative by a group of Atlanta queers (calling themselves "OUTpost a caucus of QUEERage") to gather the names of closeted metro area residents in order to out these folks. Their announcement reads "You got the info—had a famous Atlantan—call...." The abusive and sexist use of word "had" as a description for acts of what ought to be sexual intimacy tell us all we need to know about these folks. This is the sort of sophomoric B.S. that queer songsters Romanovsky and Phillips refer to when they sing "don't use your penis for a brain." Or, as Dish's friend R. would say, "Icky, poo poo, dirty undies."

**Scouts Out:** At a time when the military (and their adolescent imitators the Boy Scouts of America) seem to be scoring points (at least in court) on their various and sundry anti-gay positions, there is *some* good news. It seems that the BSA was forced to remove its booth from the exhibit hall at a recent convention of the National Education Association in Miami. Members of the gay/lesbian caucus of the NEA reminded group's nabobs that the Scouts discriminate against queers and that the NEA's bylaws prohibit such discrimination. Military booths were prohibited also.

**Dumping Discrimination:** The friendly folks at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force have joined up with the pollsters at Overlooked Opinions (the lesbian/gay survey group based in Chicago) to create a national survey documenting discrimination, harassment, mistreatment and other such unpleasantness against lesbians and gay men in nine different areas of daily life. One of the survey's primary uses will be as documentation during hearings on the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill. Dish urges you to participate



KAREN DUNIGAN

(you can be anonymous if necessary) in this worthwhile project. Write to Overlooked Opinions, Inc., 3712 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL. 60613, Attn: NGLTF Survey Project.

**Hated It!:** Someone who can also only be described as heterosexually impaired is obviously the perpetrator of the latest bit of hate-related vandalism around the So-Vo offices. Spray paint on the windows and the distribution box is, of course, a fairly unimaginative way to express yourself. But it's the color of that paint that as sprayed—think of a cross between red clay and puppy poop—that is the real give away here.

**Hated this, too:** While watching television a few nights ago (yes, we admit it) Dish happened to catch a commercial by the Metro Dental Group. Dentist Doug Henson piously stands before the logo of his dental group and reassures viewers that all

dentists and health care workers at his busiession have tested negative for HIV. We strongly suspect that Henson is not so much concerned with his patients' safety, but with the bucks he's gonna make from uneducated and frightened folks who will now flock to Metro Dental Group. We're gonna call and express our displeasure with the spot, may we suggest you do the same?

**Miracle On Marietta Street:** Response to Pee-wee Herman's run in with the Sarasota purity patrol has been remarkably restrained. Of course there was Joan Rivers' patronizing comment "he was an adult and he was in an adult heterosexual movie theater at the time." And the A.P.'s story on "how to explain Pee-wee's latest adventure to kids" is a classical study in the denial of reality. But an amazing amount of comment has been focused on how absurd it is for a city to permit adult films to be shown and then arrest people who respond to those films in a perfectly natural way. One of the best of these commentaries (though it was meant to be funny and isn't) came from the Journal/Constitution's redneck yukster Lewis Grizzard. If Dish and Grizzard agree on something can freedom and justice for all be far behind? Maybe, but more likely it's some weird and unexplained astrological convergence at work here. You can send letters of support to Pee-wee at 8500 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 520, Beverly Hills, CA 90211.

**Judy, Judy, Judy:** During the '91 Mr. Hotlanta National Finale at the Civic Center on August 2, comic Judy Tenuta breathed life into an otherwise limp extravaganza. This "Wild Orchid" take off, directed by Jimmy Hollingsworth and produced by John Foutz, was hosted by drag celeb Taisha Wallace. Though Dish admits to being "kinda moody" at the onset, Tenuta quickly brought us around. Her irreverent exuberance was the most refreshing experience Dish has had since the decadent '70s and the then-divine Miss M. Hats off to the Hotlanta Board for booking Tenuta. And congrats to local toy boy Tim Thompson who placed first runner-up. But the most appetizing dish of the evening was Mr. Hotlanta '91, Cheo Useche, God's gift from L.A. Perhaps Mr. Hotlanta '92 will bring the return of Useche and Tenuta, minus all those dreadful birds and feathers. Encore!

August 15 - August 28

RULING PLANETS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOBITH

by Mary Bailey-Rule

Happy Birthday to Leo, then Virgo on the 23rd. Mercury, Venus, Uranus and Neptune are retro and we're into the "dog days" of summer, no offense to our canine friends. Stay calm and cool.

**ARIES**—Mercury and Venus slide back into your 5th house of creativity, children and passion, joining expansive Jupiter and creating opportunities for creative expression and fun activities. A brief, but beautiful affair is a possibility.



**TAURUS**—The Sun joins Mars in your 4th house of home, family and personal roots, so there may be some stress and tension around parents or the arrangement of your living space. If you are moving, take it slow and easy.



**GEMINI**—The Sun joins Mars in your 4th house of family roots, parents and your current home life on the 23rd, squaring your solar placements. You may have to deal with issues around home and family, remember to be patient.



**CANCER**—Mercury and Venus have backed up into your 12th house of the unconscious and the unseen, activating your dreamtime and your subconscious processes. A good time to keep a dream log and pay attention to your intuition.



**LEO**—Happy Birthday 'til the 23rd. Mercury and Venus move back into your 1st house on the 19th and 21st, giving you an opportunity to complete unfinished personal business. Take care of any loose ends involving your personal life.



**VIRGO**—Happy Birthday! The Sun joins Mars in your 1st house on the 23rd, giving you a surge of physical drive and energy. Be sure to plan lots of good times for yourself with close friends and loved ones. Celebrate your life!



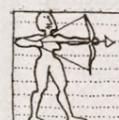
**LIBRA**—With the Sun and Mars traveling through your 12th house of the unconscious, your dreams, instincts and intuition may be very active. A perfect time to develop better use and more trust of your higher abilities.



**SCORPIO**—The Sun joins Mars in your 11th house of casual friends and associates, as well as community causes and progressive ideas. Excellent for networking and investing time and energy in your favorite cause. Have fun!



**SAGITTARIUS**—With the Sun and Mars in your 10th house of career and community status you may have some conflict between personal needs and career demands, so keep your cool and remember to prioritize your activities.



**CAPRICORN**—With the Sun and Mars in Virgo, trining natal placements, you should feel a boost of energy and enthusiasm. This is the perfect time for a regenerating and stimulating week of vacation with family or close friends



**AQUARIUS**—Mercury and Venus move back into your 7th house of close friends, sig. others and business partners creating opportunities for clearing up misunderstandings and developing communications and harmony.



**PISCES**—The Sun joins Mars in your 7th house on the 23rd, illuminating and activating all close personal relationships, including business partnerships. Be sure to express your true feelings and needs. Communicate!



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.

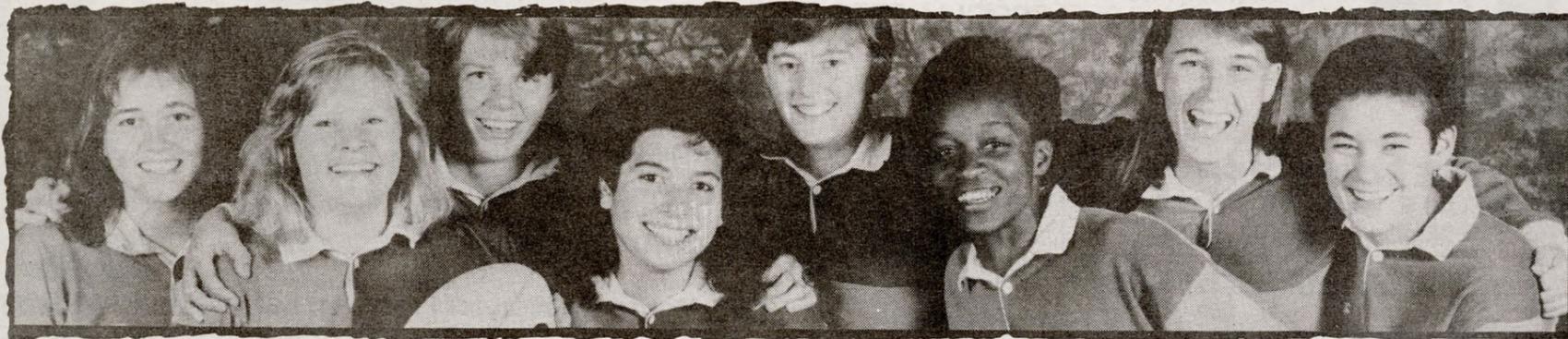


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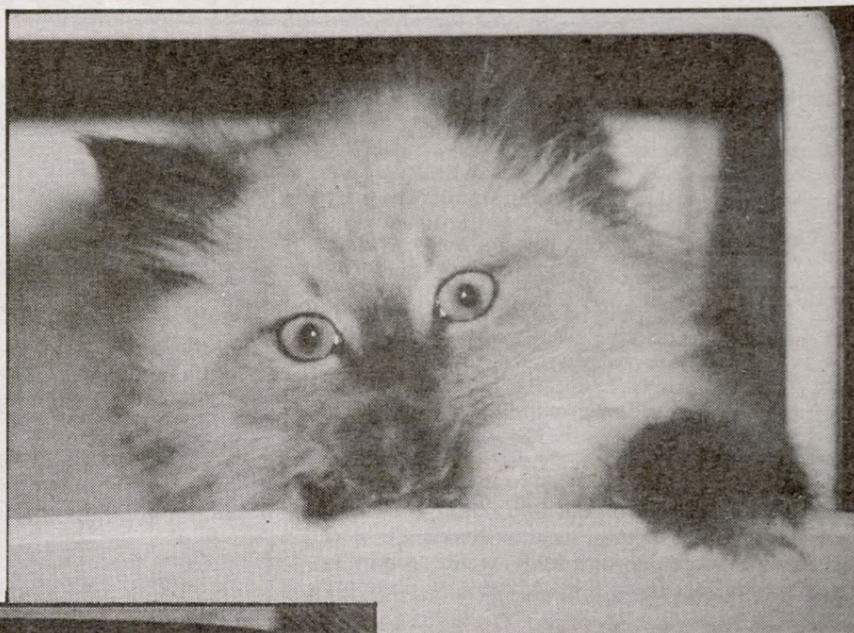
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# Pet Photo Contest

## Winner

Jay Beard and Jim Pearce of Decatur sent in these gorgeous photos of Matisse, a Blue-point Himalayan, at 3 months old. He is now four, but is still shy (a two-person cat). Matisse abandoned the Igloo cooler and now hides out in his kitchen-cabinet catacombs.



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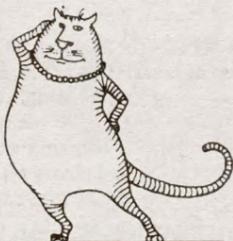
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### AIDS Services & Education

Weekly support group for women and men who are HIV+ and in recovery from drugs/alcohol addiction. Meets Monday evenings 6:30-7:30 in Midtown and is facilitated by an experienced substance abuse counselor. For more info call Suzanne at 874-2641—leave message if no answer. (V4, #14)

**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!

**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 the following products: ddC, clarithromycin, NAC, St. Johnswort, co-enzyme Q-10, Jarow's PakPlus. For further information contact us at (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357.

**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 874-6425 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.

**AID ATLANTA SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS\***  
PWAs— Wednesdays; Hispanics with HIV— 1st and 3rd Tuesdays; Lymphadenopathy/ARC— Mondays; Families, Friends, Partners I— Mondays; Families, Friends, Partners II— Wednesdays; Bereavement— Mondays; Worried Well— Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm. \*All meetings are from 7pm to 9pm weekly, unless otherwise specified. Call 874-6517 for locations.

**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

**Dominant-Submissive Love Relationships? Leather? TV/TS? PEP**—new S&M/B&D support/social group, Atlanta. Sincere, intelligent, caring, educational, fun! Meet good friends; find happiness. Lectures! Raps! Demos! Parties! Welcome all: male/female, gay / straight / lesbian / bisexual, newcomers, etc. (404) 681-6399. Love, Nancy. (V4, #16)

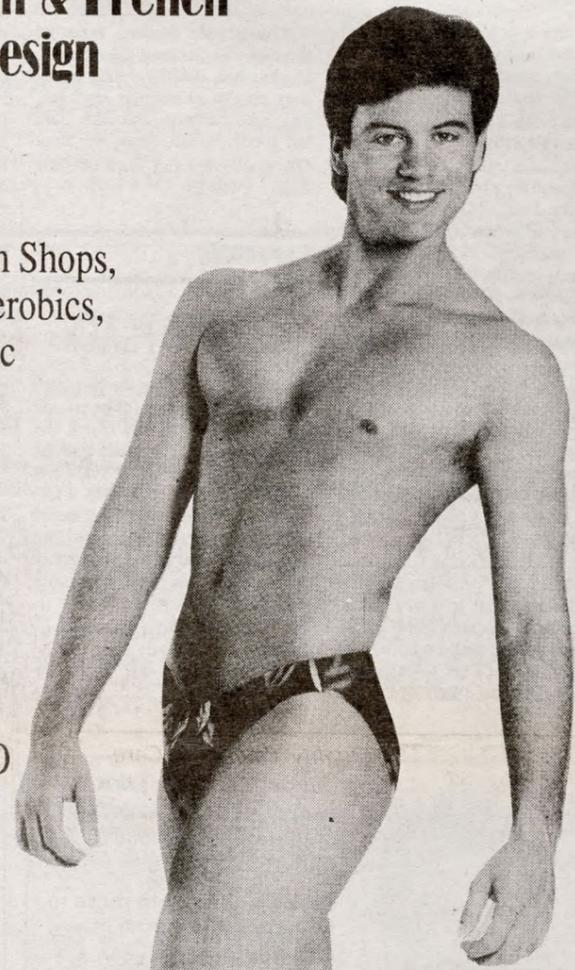
We want to form a newspaper and social group for children of lesbians and gays, ages 9-19. If you, your children, or someone you know is interested, please contact CHANCE at 688-1954 or SADIE at 658-9987. (V4, #15)

### 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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**Deadline:** Tuesday noon prior to publication.

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GBM, 20 years old, 170 lbs. In search of Gay or BiWM for friendship / companion, 18-22 years old. My interests are riding motorcycles, SCUBA diving, travel, playing pool and much more. I would like to go rafting in S.C. next month, so please call soon and tell me about the things you like to do. ☐ 45071. (V4,#14)

Black lesbian couple desires to meet nice lesbian couple for casual friendships. Enjoy movies, partying, travel, arts and cookouts. No bisexuals, drugs or heavy smoking. We'd like to meet you. ☐ 45053. (V4,#16)

"If I found the place would I recognize the face..." GWM; 37; non-smoker; HIV-; caring; honest; stable; romantic — nice guy. Desires personal growth, positive changes, physical and spiritual development. Seeks similar for friendship first, then marriage. ☐ 45067. (V4,#16)

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 (V4,#15)

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 (V4,#15)

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. (V4,#14)

Attractive, trim, warm, understanding GWM new to the HIV+ scene (good at massage) seeks other HIV+ guys. Let's talk! ☐ 45061. (V4,#14)

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. (V4,#13)

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. (V4,#13)

## Personals

### HOW TO PLACE

a personal ad: Fill out the classified coupon on the first page of the classified 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, 56, 5'11", 168 lbs., Ivy educated professor, single parent, seeks GWM who is intelligent and compassionate, and who likes books, movies, and theater. For friendship plus. Write with phone # to PO Box 13303, Atlanta, GA 30324. (V4,#14)

GBM, 20 years old, 170 lbs. In search of Gay or BiWM for friendship / companion, 18-22 years old. My interests are riding motorcycles, SCUBA diving, travel, playing pool and much more. I would like to go rafting in S.C. next month, so please write soon and tell me about the things you like to do. SV 2418. (V4,#14)

GWM, 24, 5'8", 138lb, brown hair, grey eyes, attractive, straight-acting, shy, warm, and caring. In to 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, out-door interests. Seeking solid friendship with wholesome curious WM college student, 18-24. Discretion assured. Fantasy fulfilled. Write with photo/phone. Respond to SV 2418. (V4,#13)

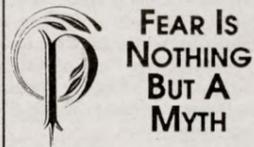
Goodlooking professional GWM. Business owner. 32 years old, 6'2", br/gr. Seeking smooth younger guys, especially dark eyes & hair, for fun and mutual satisfaction. Write with photo / description to: SV 2416. (V4,#14)

## 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. (V4,#14)

WM, 34, seeks same to meet at Northeast Plaza Cinema 12 for \$1.50 movies last showing Sun-Thurs. Reply to SV 2414. (V4,#14)

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Lesbian needs roommates in Cobb County. Share a 3BR house in quiet, safe neighborhood — 10 min. from Life Chiropractic College. \$200 + 1/3 utilities. Judy 438-1421. (V4,#14)

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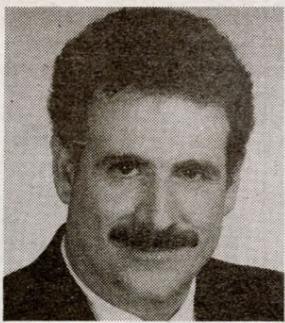
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After you've entered the access code, key in the mailbox number for the ad to which you are responding, when asked to do so by the VOICE CONNECTION®. After hearing the advertiser's message, leave your own. That's all there is to it. You can call 24 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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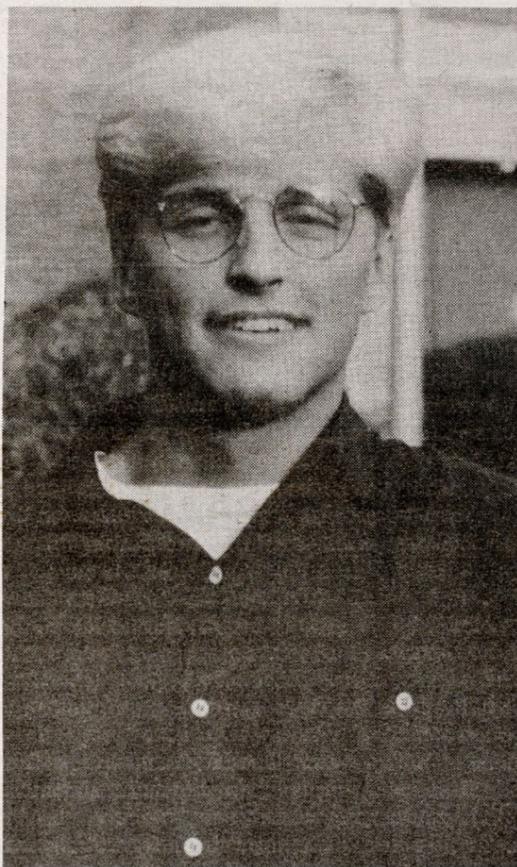
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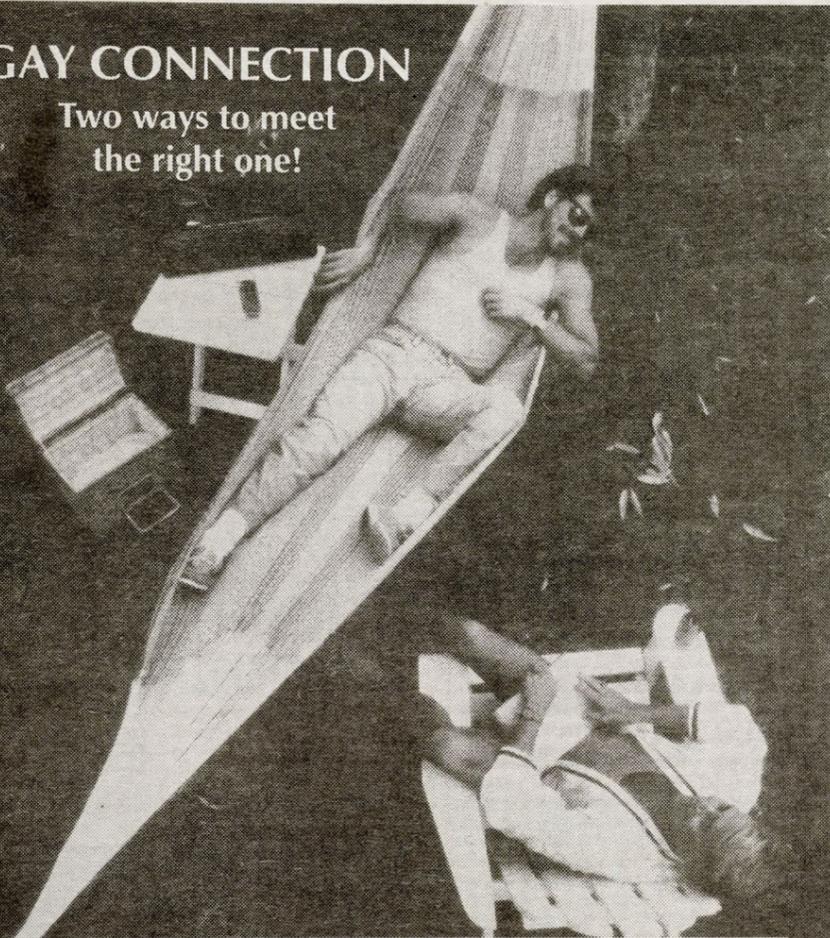


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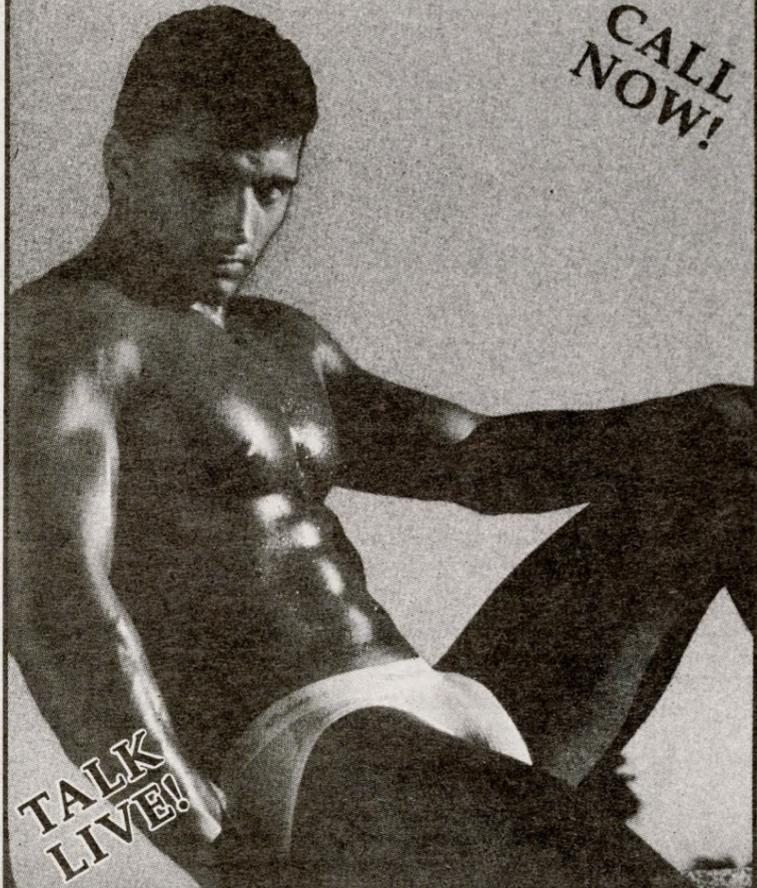
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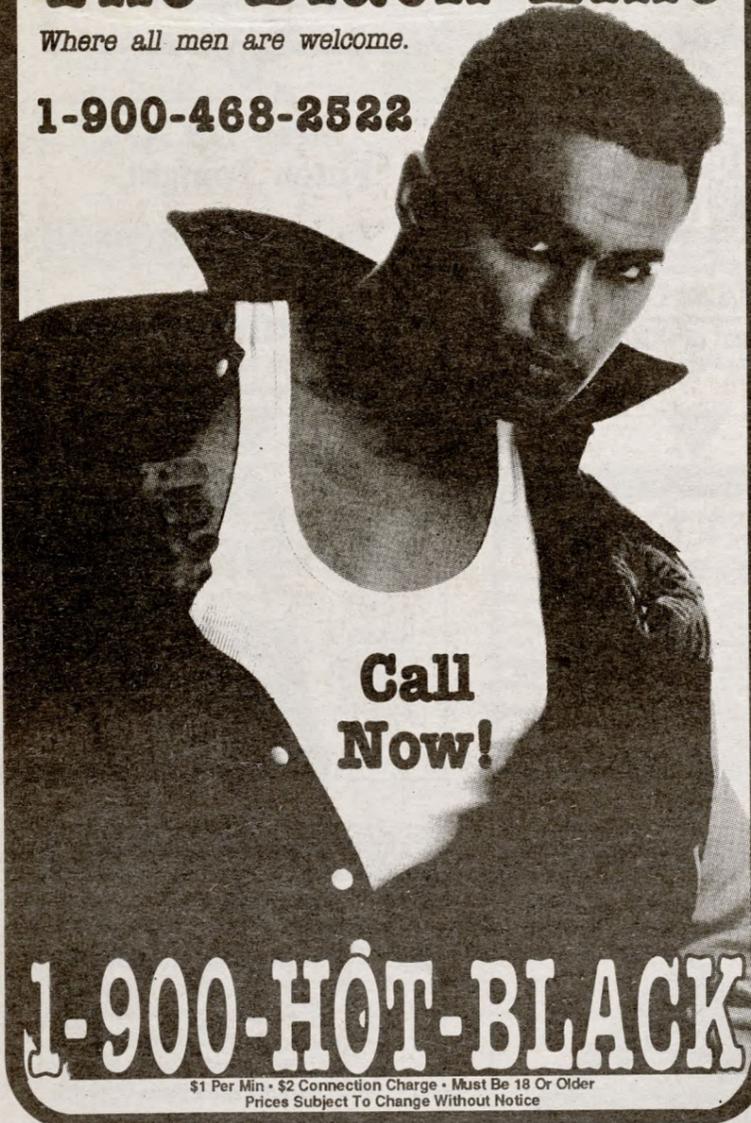
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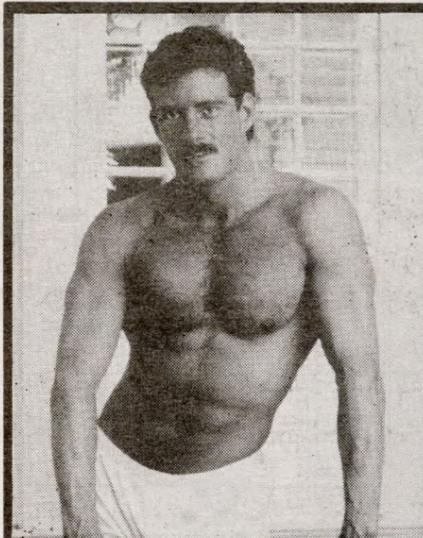
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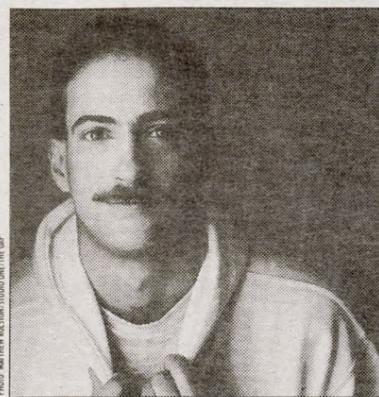
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People with HIV disease who cannot afford a paid subscription may obtain a complimentary copy by calling the National AIDS Information Clearinghouse at 1-800-458-5231.

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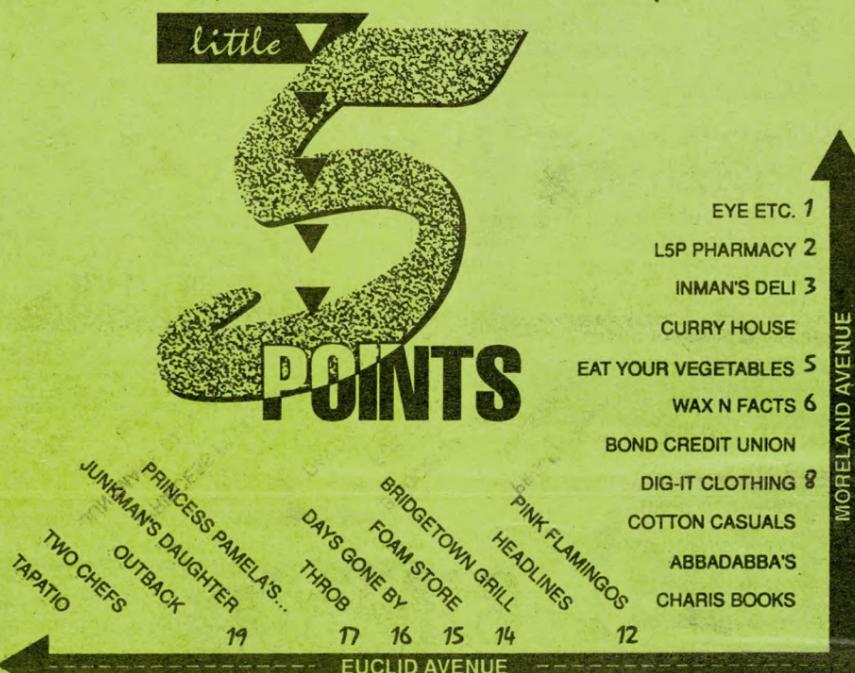
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