

VOICE

Taking Pride in Our Culture

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Life Drawing.

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AFWC sing.

The 10-year-old feminist choral group just keeps getting better.

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Protestors condomize Family Concerns Conference

by KC Wildmoon

Like Jesse Helms last year, Dan Quayle was a no-show at last Saturday's Family Concerns Conference and Brunch, held at First Baptist Church on Peachtree Street. But the Vice President's absence didn't stop over a hundred demonstrators from letting Nancy Schaeffer's organization know just how they felt about its stand on "traditional family values."

While members of ACT UP/Atlanta, Queer Nation/Atlanta, Refuse & Resist, the National Organization for Women and others chanted and marched outside, ten protestors interrupted Family Concerns founder Schaeffer, "letting them know what we thought about their bigotry," according to ACT UP member Judy Siff, who was inside. The protestors passed out condoms to stunned conference attendees before being forcefully thrown out by First Baptist Church security officers.

The ten infiltrated the brunch, posing as members of the fundamentalist organization.

"We schmoozed," said David Lowe. "It was hard, but we talked about how 'blessed' we were, our made-up nuclear families, trying not to tip them off about who we really were."

During Schaeffer's opening remarks as the conference started, Lowe interrupted and told the audience of several hundred that their organization was responsible for the deaths of people with AIDS because they oppose the use

Coalition of organizations charge fundamentalist group with bigotry and genocide.

of condoms.

"Watching a hate-filled, bigoted, murderous woman sit in stunned silence as she faced her accuser was a truly powerful moment," said Lowe.

The group passed out condoms as the conferees reacted with disarray. Tom Blount was gleeful about his part in the action.

"I gave one to Nancy Schaeffer," he said. "She looked shocked."

Chanting "Safer Sex Saves Lives," the protestors moved toward the exits. First Baptist Church security officers moved in quickly, using what the protestors termed "truly excessive force."

"We were on the way out, walking towards the door," said Jimmy Allen. "One of the security men tackled me. He knocked me down, got on me, pushed my head on the floor."

Allen said the security officer dragged him out of the building by his tie. "It was rough in there for a little while," he said. "He was choking me."

Once outside, the protestors were escorted off church

property by an Atlanta police officer, who told the group they could join the protest on the sidewalk.

"This is America. You have a right to protest," the officer said, "but they also have a right to do what they're doing in there."

The protestors marched along Peachtree Street in front of the church for over four hours, occasionally circling the building. Chants, such as "Family Concerns your name's a lie / you don't care if people die," got louder as the group passed the meeting hall at the back of the church on Cypress Street. Activists carried placards supporting abortion rights, gay rights, and women's rights, as well as signs about AIDS education and safe sex—all issues Family Concerns has been on record opposing. Cars passing the demonstration blew horns in support, sometimes reaching a deafening level.

At one point the demonstrators conducted a "die-in," lying down on the sidewalk while other protestors drew outlines of their bodies with chalk. Don Smith, the actor who portrayed Harvey Milk's assassin in *The Harvey Milk Show*, commented wryly, "It's appropriate" on his participation in the die-in.

Family Concerns Ministries had previously announced that Vice President Quayle would be the keynote speaker at the November 16 conference, but protest organizers

Continued on page 2

THE OUTING OF

Michelangelo Signorile

by Thom Cardwell

I approached interviewing Michelangelo Signorile with some trepidation. After all, he's a New Yorker, an activist, the writer who turned the world of upper-class socialites upside down by outing publishing magnate Malcolm Forbes. He was the columnist at *OUTWEEK* who everyone turned to each week to see who and what he was tackling next. He is the unapologetic "queer" who defends his outing of Pete Williams, Assistant Secretary of Defense, as appropriate to affect change of the discriminatory policies practiced by the US military against thousands of lesbians and gays. And he is the soon-to-be author who'll tell it all in his book *Queer in America* due out by Random House sometime in 1992.

But my trepidation was immediately defused upon meeting Signorile. He's accessible, personable, impassioned and pleasant.

Recently, Signorile was in Los Angeles addressing a statewide conference for lesbians and gay activists where he spoke about one of his favorite subjects—Hollywood homophobia.

"The invisibility and defamation continually perpetrated by Hollywood against us is absolutely unacceptable. What we want now are positive queer films," Signorile mandated. The audience applauded, snapped their fingers and leapt to their feet in support.

Despite the attention and admiration that many have shown Signorile, there are countless others—lesbians and gays among them—who criticize him for his outspoken-

ness, his seeming disregard for the rights of privacy, and his apparent dissatisfaction for anything the establishment has to offer.

In this interview, Signorile gets a chance to tell his side of the story.

THOM CARDWELL: How do you feel about your name being identified with outing?

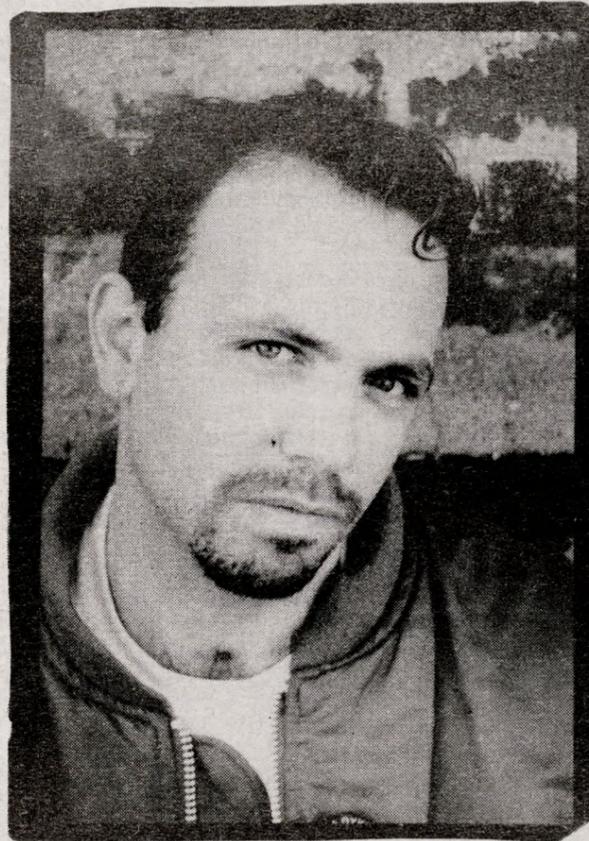
MICHELANGELO SIGNORILE: It doesn't really bother me. I don't view outing as such a terrible thing. I'm bothered more by the fact that many people misunderstand outing altogether or that the word itself is misused. On some levels, I don't even like the word. On the other hand, people who don't like either the concept or the word have a right to their opinion.

TC: Is there anytime when outing isn't justified?

MS: It depends on what we're defining as outing. Everyone has different definitions. I've always considered it to be a spectrum from "asking" to "outing." There are actually different kinds of outing. There's the journalistic, the activists in the streets and the tabloid stuff. It becomes a complicated issue. Personally as a journalist, I feel that outing only relates to public figures.

TC: Why do you say that?

MS: Unlike private individuals who retain their rights to privacy, public figures have given up their rights to privacy. Within that context, outing should never be reported gratuitously. It should always be pertinent to the story. In



MICHAEL WAKEFIELD

other words, I don't think that outing someone should be the initial reason for doing the story. If there's a story behind that person's homosexuality—that they're working within a homophobic industry or institution or are

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American Public Health Assn. joins Cracker Barrel protest

by KC Wildmoon

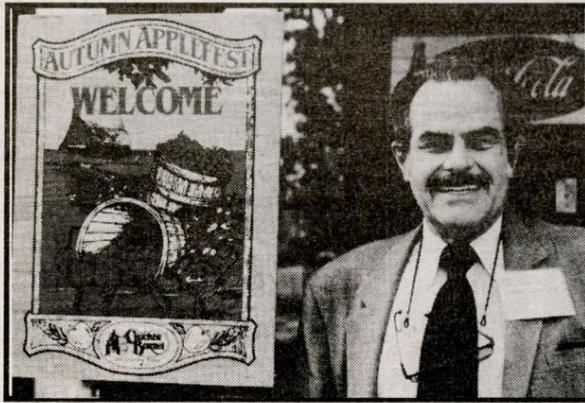
Seventeen members of the American Public Health Association (APHA) staged a sit-in at the Lithonia Cracker Barrel restaurant last week, in support of ongoing efforts to force the restaurant chain to issue an official non-discrimination policy for its employees. The Tennessee-based chain issued a memo early this year stating that the company would not employ people "whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values." At least 17 people have been fired on the basis of their sexual orientation.

At a press conference before the November 13 demonstration, Dr. Joshua Lipsman, chair of the lesbian/gay caucus of APHA, said that over 2,000 of the 10,000 member organization had signed petitions demanding that Cracker Barrel rescind the policy and rehire the fired employees. All members of the executive board of APHA have signed the petition, he said.

"The lesbian/gay caucus of public health workers, APHA, and by extension public health workers across the country will not tolerate a policy as openly bigoted and prejudiced as this one," said Lipsman.

The APHA members, along with six members of Queer Nation/Atlanta, arrived at the DeKalb County restaurant around noon on Wednesday and occupied at least eleven tables during lunch. Following the lead of earlier sit-ins in the Atlanta area, the demonstrators ordered only drinks. At one o'clock, the protestors stood and passed out information sheets to other customers.

Cracker Barrel management, apparently caught unaware that the demonstration was taking place, called DeKalb



Dr. Walter Lear, founder of APHA's gay/lesbian caucus, was one of 17 APHA members who staged a sit-in at the Lithonia Cracker Barrel on November 13.

County police to the scene. Lt. T.E. Gilstrap, accompanied by an assistant manager identified only as "Eugene," asked each person to leave individually or risk arrest. All the participants in the demonstration paid their bills and left without incident.

During the sit-in, a member of the Cracker Barrel staff, who didn't want to be identified, told *Southern Voice* that two staff members of the Lithonia Cracker Barrel had been

fired since the summer.

"[The management] weeded them out. They didn't say that was why," the staffer said, "but after y'all were here [the Queer Nation demonstration in June] they started riding [the staffers'] backs. We all knew that was the reason."

According to the staff member, one of the two fired was a waiter, and the other was an assistant manager.

APHA members were pleased with their action, and pledged to continue their support.

"This has everything to do with why we're in public health," said Dr. Susan Massad of the Eastside Institute in New York City. "We're trying to break through some of the barriers in the health care system as well as the social system."

"As a gay man, I have deep concerns that my life, and the lives of millions of others in this country, have been interfered with by rampant homophobia," said Dr. Walter Lear, a medical historian from Philadelphia. Following the sit-in, Dr. Lear, who founded APHA's gay/lesbian caucus in 1975, said, "It's disconcerting that Cracker Barrel continues its policy of discrimination against its employees. We wish they'd just quit."

Dr. William MacBeath, executive director of APHA, sent a letter earlier this month to Dan Evins, CEO of Cracker Barrel, urging him "to issue a clear corporate policy prohibiting employment discrimination based on sexual orientation." The letter also said that APHA has a long history of opposing discrimination based on sexual orientation.

ACT UP has beef with Winn-Dixie

by KC Wildmoon

About 50 people picketed the Winn-Dixie store at Sage Hill Shopping Center on November 9, protesting that store's firing of an HIV+ man last month. Chris Hollis, who had been a cashier, was fired on October 1 after he told his co-workers that he had tested positive for the virus. Even though he is currently in good health, his termination notice named "health" as the reason for his firing.

ACT UP/Atlanta sponsored the protest, and joined ACT UP/Triangle (North Carolina) in calling for a boycott of the Jacksonville, Florida-based store. ACT UP/Triangle has already staged at least one protest in North Carolina.

Winn-Dixie management did nothing to stop the protest, carried on both outside and inside the store on Briarcliff Road, although they did escort customers through the crowd on occasion. About 12 protestors held a "shop-in," filling up baskets with food only to leave them at the front of the store while discussing Hollis' firing. Those twelve then joined the picketers on the sidewalk in front of the store.

ACT UP has demanded that Winn-Dixie immediately reinstate Hollis, and issue a policy guaranteeing that other employees will not be fired because of their HIV status.

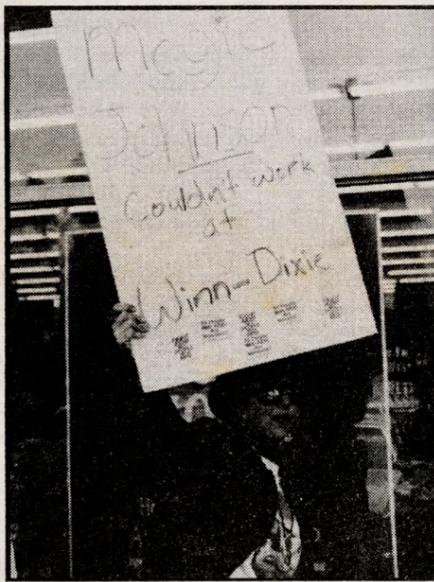
"It's appalling that Winn-Dixie can be so ignorant of the facts regarding HIV transmission that they think it's appropriate to fire an employee based upon his HIV status," said ACT UP's Jeff Graham.

Winn-Dixie officials refused to comment on the action, or on Hollis's firing.

Hollis' attorney, Chip Rowan, has sent a letter to Winn Dixie demanding that they rehire him, and requesting a response by November 15. At press time, the company had not responded.

"We've heard absolutely nothing," said Hollis. "And if we don't, the next step is court."

Rowan said that he will probably file a complaint next week if Winn-Dixie still has not responded. The complaint will allege that the company violated a state code relating to equal employment for the handi-



EVETT BENNETT

capped.

"That code reads identically to other federal and state statutes which have been found to include HIV status," said Rowan. "The Georgia code has never been litigated, but we have plenty of reason to believe it will be found to also include HIV status."

Town meeting focuses on sodomy law

by Andy Smith

The possible repeal of the Georgia sodomy law and the chances for passing hate crimes legislation were two topics discussed at a town meeting on November 13 in Decatur.

Reps. Jim Martin and Mary Margaret Oliver attended the meeting, organized and led by the Georgia Lesbian/Gay Rights Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition (GAPAC).

About 40 members of the gay/lesbian community as well as other concerned citizens attended the meeting to discuss legislation which could be proposed during this year's session of the Georgia General

Assembly.

Martin voiced his support for repeal of the sodomy law, which currently is listed as a felony offense. "I'm bound and determined to continue the effort to get this law changed," said Martin, who has backed sodomy repeal legislation for the past seven years. "The battle is important and will take a long time to win, but it is important to always bring the issue up."

Martin asked if it would be easier to repeal laws restricting various sex acts one at a time, or as a package. "One of the problems is that the legislature has a long way to go before it will talk about sex at all."

"I think we will reduce the sodomy law to a misdemeanor very soon," he said. "And I think we will repeal the sodomy law within the next six years."

Dick Rhodes, second vice chair of the Georgia Democratic Party, backed up Martin's war-of-attrition attitude, pointing

out that it took 18 years for sodomy laws to be repealed in New York. "By raising the issue it makes people realize that this is a legitimate political issue," he said.

Oliver said constituents frequently don't understand the importance of writing, calling and visiting their state legislators at the State Capitol. "If you go down to the Capitol and talk to your representative ... if you write or call, you will be listened to," Oliver said.

A hate crimes bill has a good chance of passing within the next six years, Oliver said. "Hate crimes represent a coalition of interests and the coalition behind hate crimes is powerful," Oliver said.

Rhodes said this year right-wing interest groups will be focusing a great deal of attention on stopping passage of the Georgia Lottery, a situation which "could allow us to sneak in the back door with some of this legislation."



EVETT BENNETT

Family Concerns protest

Cont'd from page 1

learned on Friday evening that he would not be in Atlanta. *Southern Voice* could not confirm why he did not attend. The Vice President's office in Washington, DC, denied that he had been scheduled at all, and Family Concerns could not be reached for a comment.

Participants in the demonstration, while disappointed that Quayle was not there to hear their message, were pleased with the action.

"We told [Family Concerns] that there is a vocal and committed group who recognize that their bigotry is genocide," said ACT UP's Lowe. "We may not change their minds, but we let them know that they're being watched and will be held accountable."

NEWS

Rash Of Transvestite Shootings In Atlanta

Three transvestites have been shot in Atlanta in the last month. The latest victim, 25-year-old Troy Kitchens, was wounded on Nov. 9 near the Hightower MARTA station. The other two victims were killed in separate incidents, one on Nov. 8 on Ashby Street, and the other on Oct. 14 in southeast Atlanta. Police have no suspects in any of the cases.

Atlanta Native Actor Dies: Actor Howard Brunner, an Atlanta native and resident of Marietta, died Nov. 12 of complications from AIDS. Brunner appeared in numerous stage presentations in Atlanta, New York and Los Angeles, as well as movies and television episodes. Brunner was 51 at the time of his death, and is survived by his partner Scott Harrison, and members of his family. The family requested donations in Brunner's name to Project Open Hand.

Tennessee Student Kills Two: A student at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, is charged with two counts of 1st degree murder and four counts of aggravated assault after a shooting at a Halloween party. Lester Peavyhouse, who had previously written a letter to the APSU student newspaper complaining about National Coming Out Day, argued with partyers at an apartment next door to his, calling them "faggots." According to witnesses, he went back to his apartment and returned with a gun, killing Billy Hembree and Misty Harding. Hembree was openly gay, according to the Tennessee newspaper, *Query*.

Bush Signs Hate Crimes Collections Bill: President Bush signed legislation on October 28 that mandates the Community Relations Service (CRS) arm of the U.S. Department of Justice to collect hate crimes data. The bill, which does not mention gays and lesbians by name, requires the CRS "to respond to hate crimes as defined by the Hate Crimes Statistics Act." That Act, signed by Bush last year, defines crimes motivated by "religion, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation" as hate crimes.

TV Network To Air Condom Ads: Fox TV announced last week that it would begin airing condom ads aimed at disease prevention. The network has not set a date for the ads to begin. NBC and CBS are reviewing their policy on airing such ads, but a spokesman for ABC said that network would not run the ads, claiming that the "deep-seeded moral and religious" fiber in America makes airing them too risky.

Burroughs Wellcome Develops Drug For AIDS Pneumonia: Burroughs Wellcome announced the development of an experimental drug used to combat *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia in AIDS patients. The drug, now called 566, is now being tested in the United States, Canada and Europe. Burroughs Wellcome expects to have 566 available by next year.

Openly Gay City Council Members: Two city councils in the U.S. now have openly gay members. Tom Duane was elected to the New York City Council on November 5, while Sherry Harris was elected to the Seattle, Washington, City Council. Harris is the first openly lesbian African American elected official. 55 openly lesbian and gay Americans currently hold elected office in the U.S.

Boxer Donates To AIDS Organization: Former world heavyweight champion George Foreman donated \$100,000 to AIDS Foundation Houston (AFH) for its Stone Soup Food pantry last month. According to *The New Voice*, Foreman's donation is designated for food purchases. Linda Mullins, AFH interim executive director, said that the donation will "guarantee the present level [of services] for the next two years."

Storehouse Lawsuit Appealed: Attorneys in a lawsuit against Storehouse, Inc., have appealed a U.S. District Court decision to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. The case came about when Richard Owens tested positive for HIV and filed for insurance benefits. Storehouse placed a \$25,000 cap on insurance benefits for AIDS-related treatment. Owens, who has since died, sued, but the District court found against him. Storehouse has until November 21 to respond to the appeal. Oral arguments will probably be heard early next year.

AIDS Lobbyist Lipner Dies: Jay C. Lipner, a lawyer who lobbied government officials for AIDS patients' rights, died last week of complications from AIDS. He had been an assistant Attorney General in New York, and a partner in the firm of Silverstein Langer Lipner & Newburgh. He had advocated for AIDS patients since 1987, following a serious illness related to AIDS.

Falwell Uses Gays To Raise Money: Claiming that homosexual activists were out to kill him in Los Angeles, fundamentalist minister Rev. Jerry Falwell has sent a fundraising letter to his constituents asking them for \$35 or \$25 each. "It is truly a miracle that I am alive today," he wrote. "I have never needed your help more." Falwell was in L.A. in support of Gov. Pete Wilson, who last month vetoed a gay civil rights bill. Gay and lesbian activists picketed Falwell's hotel, prompting the reverend to make a hasty exit out the back.

Editor of The New Republic Is Out: Andrew Sullivan, new editor of the 77-year-old political journal *The New Republic*, said in an interview in *Women's Wear Daily* that he is gay. "I'm out," he said. "I'm not prepared to lie."

\$250,000 Contributed To AmFAR: The family of the late political activist Sheldon W. Andelson has contributed \$250,000 to establish a public policy office and program of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) in Washington, DC. Andelson, who died of AIDS in 1987, helped establish AmFAR in 1985. The new office will work to focus public attention on key policy issues and build support for programs for people with AIDS.

Pink Panthers Must Change Name: U.S. District Judge Pierre N. Leval of Manhattan ordered the gay street patrol group called the Pink Panther Patrol to change its name. Leval agreed with MGM-Pathé Communications Co., which owns the Pink Panther movies, that the names would be confusing to the general public. The Pink Panthers patrol the Greenwich Village and Chelsea sectors of Manhattan to help curb anti-gay violence. Attorneys for the Pink Panther Patrol have not decided on an appeal.

Gay Seventh Day Adventists: A U.S. District Court in California ruled that a gay and lesbian Seventh-Day Adventist group may use the "Seventh-Day Adventist" name and "SDA" acronym. The General Conference Corp. of Seventh-Day Adventists filed a lawsuit in 1987 seeking to bar SDA Kinship International Inc. from using the name, claiming trademark infringement, unfair competition and false advertising. Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer found that members of Kinship were in fact Seventh-Day Adventists, and that there was no other term used to describe members of the church.



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233-2100

Diversity ruled at NGLTF conference

by Jim Marks

November 9-11, lesbian and gay gridlock periodically tied up the halls of Alexandria, Virginia's Old Colony Inn, where the air buzzed with the heated conversations of 1,100 activists from around the country. The activists had come for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's fourth Creating Change conference. With some 63 workshops on topics ranging from the technical (Fundraising 101, direct mail from conception to evaluation) to a highly charged "lesbians and sex" workshop that began with the four presenters taking off their tops, "diversity" was less a buzz word than a summary of the state of the gay, lesbian and bisexual movement.

Diversity was evidenced in the composition of the people thronging the convention halls. Men and women seemed about equal in numbers—and attended each other's sexuality workshops. In between workshops, *Advocate* editor in chief Richard Rouillard would confer hurriedly with managing editor S. Bryn Austin and Assistant News Features Editor Masha Gessen (both women), and then all three would dart off in different directions for the next session.

If the crowds seemed primarily young, there were plenty of grey hairs, neither was Chicago gay journalist Rex Wockner's balding pate the only one to wander the halls, although some, like drag activist Ggreg Deborah Taylor, were bald by ideological choice. Members of minority communities probably didn't have numbers equal to their proportion in society at large, but from SF AIDS activist Reggie Williams to DC gay community organizer Carlene Cheatam, from Mr. International Leather D. Cannon of LA to NY State Council on the Arts Literature Program Director Jewelle Gomez and AIDS Project LA Public Policy Director Mario Solis-Marich, members of minority communities were visible and very much part of the conference's ongoing dialogue.



JIM MARKS

Lynn Cothren of Queer Nation/Atlanta accepts NGLTF's Creating Change award for QN's organizing efforts against Cracker Barrel.

It was a different style, but still a take-it-to-the-streets confrontational attitude, honored when one of the five Creating Change awards was given to Queer Nation/Atlanta. In giving the award—for organizing the Cracker Barrel action to protest their anti-gay employment practices—NGLTF executive director Urvashi Vaid read the QN mission statement, itself a litany of support for diversity. And it added to the diversity to hear Lynn Cothren's Georgia twang as he accepted the award for the group.

Writer Minnie Bruce Pratt's sweet Alabama accents blended in a choreopoem with Jewelle Gomez's Boston African-American/Native American diction in the Conference's closing speech. "We have to create rituals of memory," Gomez said, "because our movement comes not from ideas but from our lives."

It all begins, Minnie Bruce Pratt said, by asking the questions that make the personal political. Creating Change 1991 suggested, strongly, that the changes are a long way from coming to an end.

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FRI DEC 6 — 6-9 pm, The Neon Co. Gallery, "Art of Light" Opening with The Nightporters — 7 to 9 pm, Studio Five, Opening, Jayne Slagle

SAT DEC 7 — 4 to 7 pm, Bobo's Monkey, Xmas Bash with music — 6 pm, The Neon Co. Gallery, VERB Publication Party,

SAT DEC 21 — 8 pm, Christine Sibley's Urban Nirvana & Planet Claire, Winter Solstice Celebration.

Addresses

Bobo's Monkey: 206 Carroll St, Cabbagetown, Castleberry Artist's Group: 161 Mangum St, SW, Christine Sibley's Urban Nirvana: 15 Waddell St. (off DeKalb Ave.), Embassy Antiques: 418 Woodward Ave, Grant Park, Miz Rhoda's Sentimental Journey: 228 Powell St, Cabbagetown, The Neon Co. Gallery: 617 N. Highland (at North Ave), Planet Claire: 753 Edgewood Ave, Inman Park, Studio Five: 1103 Euclid Ave, Little 5 Points.

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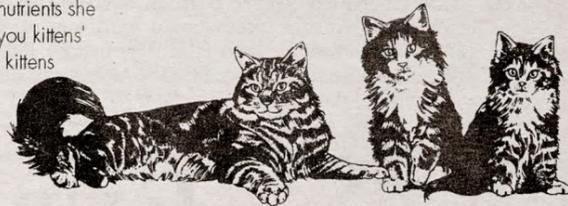
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SCIENCE DIET

HILL'S

Medical groups reject CDC limits on HIV+ workers

by Dave Gilden
AIDS NEWS SERVICE

Atlanta—Representatives of more than thirty professional organizations told the Centers for Disease Control a resounding "no" at a meeting designed to aid the CDC in developing a list of exposure-prone procedures from which HIV+ health care workers would be barred. At the November 4 meeting, only the American Medical Association promised to cooperate with the CDC's attempt to define activities in which HIV transmission from care provider to patient is considered a possibility.

The San Francisco-based California Medical Association, in contrast to its national parent, has rejected working with the CDC on this matter. According to Mark Madsen, the CMA's director of physician education, "The AMA is a lone wolf on this issue. It is having difficulty in developing a policy [on restricting HIV-infected doctors' practice] because it can't decide whether to follow a public relations or a scientific approach."

Madsen helped the CMA develop the first policy discouraging practitioners infected with human immunodeficiency virus from carrying out "exposure-prone procedures," a term he originated in this context. The policy resulted from fears that in certain surgical situations, health care workers might accidentally cut themselves, leading to the mingling of patient's and provider's blood.

Madsen now says, "We offered up a theoretical model of how to proceed, but the CDC is trying to put that model into practice without any data."

There has been no recorded case of HIV transmission from caregiver to patient, with the possible exception of Kimberly Bergalis and four other patients of Florida dentist David Acer, who died of AIDS a year ago. These cases are now widely suspected to have resulted from poorly sterilized instru-



EVETT BENNETT

"The CDC is between a rock and a hard place. It needs the good will of the Bush administration, but it also needs the respect of the medical and public health community to accomplish its goals." — Ben Schatz, American Association of Physicians for Human Rights

ments, making them examples of patient-to-patient transmission rather than doctor-to-patient.

Ben Schatz, of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, has been a leading figure in the year-long controversy and attended the Atlanta meeting. He noted, "William Roper [director of the CDC] seemed shocked at the vehemence of the opposition...The CDC is between a rock and a hard

place. It needs the good will of the Bush administration, but it also needs the respect of the medical and public health community to accomplish its broad range of goals."

Both Madsen and Schatz hope that the agency will declare a one year moratorium on imposing restrictions.

This would provide time for panic to give way to rational analysis as new studies further document the chances of patients being infected by HIV during surgical and other invasive procedures.

A letter of protest sent to Roper by the Community Consortium, a network of some 200 San Francisco AIDS specialists, gave the standard arguments for developing an alternative solution to the HIV-infected health care worker issue.

The letter concluded, "It is estimated that 40,000 individuals may develop AIDS diagnoses in the United States next year. The number of these individuals who will acquire HIV from their health care providers is probably zero...We urge you to expend your energies and resources in a positive direction, implementing programs that can serve the public health, as opposed to creating mistrust and hysteria."

The CDC had hoped to publish the list of exposure-prone procedures on November 15, but that publication has been postponed indefinitely. CDC Director Roper told the *Washington Post* that his agency depends on cooperation from the medical community, and would be taking what was said at the meeting into consideration before deciding how to proceed.

"We are anxious to proceed in a manner that builds consensus," he said. "We are going to think very clearly about this in the next few weeks."

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Cont'd from page 1

expressly anti-gay—then there's a particular reason for outing that public figure. TC: Do you think that outing celebrities has impacted the Hollywood community in any way?

MS: The threat of outing has had an enormous effect. It's made many Hollywood people scramble to do things for our community. Suddenly we're seeing celebrities' names all over benefits. Individuals like Barry Diller (Chairman and COO of Fox, Inc.) and Sid Sheinberg (President and COO of MCA/Universal, Inc.) are putting on record their viewpoints about Hollywood homophobia, gay films and openly lesbian and gay actors. It's a direct result of many things. Let me say that outing and shouting have both been part of making these people do something.

TC: Have you encouraged any entertainment celebrities to come out?

MS: Last month at the benefit for the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center's 20th anniversary I spoke to Lily Tomlin. When I'm in an environment where there is someone famous who is gay, I feel that I'd let myself down if I left the room without encouraging such a person to come out. I'd be a hypocrite if I didn't do that. Her performance that night was wonderfully out, very queer. At one point she said, "Congratulations to all of us for being gay for twenty years!" It sounded to me like she was coming out to us. That's not really a big deal. But if she would go that far in a mainstream context, what a terrific role model she'd be for thousands of gay and lesbian kids! In the past, I've also contacted others—I sent a

letter to Jodie Foster through a mutual friend long before *Silence of the Lambs*. Yes, I've encouraged many to come out. TC: How did you feel appearing on *The Ronnie Reagan Show* and asking him about his sexual orientation?

MS: It's similar to what I said about being with Lily Tomlin. I felt that I had a mission. It's not a matter of your own feel-

engage him on the show so that they could get some publicity. I began thinking that it would be fun to put a hole through whatever Reagan Jr. was rehearsed to say in reply to the question of his sexual orientation. TC: You're critical of the gay press for kowtowing to Hollywood when they produce films like Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho* because they feel "safe"

rights leaders who have spent their lives analyzing these matters knew the situation for what it was. With many in the lesbian and gay community when it comes to Hollywood films, there's this desire to say "can't you settle for anything?" I guess that's why I appear like a person who's always complaining. TC: But aren't you complaining?

MS: It's important to differentiate, especially in works of art, that yes, Van Sant's film is beautiful-looking, autobiographical, honest and reveals lots of pain, yet it's not a representation that we feel is great for our community. Now if our own gay press emphasized that viewpoint more stridently, then the mainstream press would become more hesitant to glorify it. You'd actually see a chain-reaction. Then the film would be presented to the public for what it is—a film about a certain aspect of the gay community that this filmmaker decided to draw upon since he himself comes from something of that ideology.

TC: What about the controversy surrounding *Silence of the Lambs*?

MS: It's a great suspense thriller, a revolutionary film for women since they're granted all the power. But it's also homophobic! Once we've stated that objection, then we're accused of being picky. Lesbians were particularly critical of my objections to *Silence of the Lambs*—the outing of Jodie Foster aside—because they didn't want to give up anything regarding the granting of power to women by this film. They just saw this film being attacked and they didn't like it!

TC: Are there any films that come closer to presenting positive images of gays and lesbians?

MS: I can't name any from the mainstream movie industry. Films that are really empowering to me these days I see at

Continued on page 11



MICHAEL WAKEFIELD

ings. It's your job. There wasn't any way for me to appear on that show without asking him about his sexual orientation.

TC: But you weren't looking forward to doing that?

MS: The truth was that I didn't want to leave New York. It was in the middle of the Pete Williams story coming out. But I realized that the producers wanted me to

with the type of storyline and characters portrayed. Are we starving for these images?

MS: Right. I think that we're starving for these images as much as the black community in America is starving for black judges to become members of the Supreme Court. So many of them decided Anita Hill was lying. Meanwhile the black civil

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GUEST EDITORIAL

City Council needs to hear from you

On Monday, Nov. 4, Atlanta City Council member Mary Davis introduced a proposed ordinance to City Council providing for Domestic Partnership rights for all City workers. Essentially this legislation, if passed in its current form, would provide the same benefits for Domestic Partners as are currently being provided to married couples. While this ordinance is fairly limited in scope, it is an important first step. This is a fact not lost on those who would oppose our community.

In the Sunday Nov. 3 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* an article appeared detailing the proposal to be submitted the following day. Needless to say, the Religious Right lost no time mobilizing a letter writing campaign aimed at the City Council and the Mayor's office. They are raising the issue of "Cost to the Taxpayer," and "Erosion of Traditional Family Values" in an effort to derail this important first step.

Our community must not let the voice of the opposition be the only one heard. We urge you to write your City Council member TODAY. Ask that they support Domestic Partnership for all City workers. This is a pivotal point for our community. If we lose this chance, our forward momentum will be lost, and the opposition knows it. We simply can't afford to drop the ball on this one.

If you would like a copy of the actual ordinance as proposed by Mary Davis, call the GAPAC line at 368-7402 and we will be happy to send you one. If you are unsure of who your Council member is, call the Clerk of Council at 330-6030. Below is a list of direct phone numbers of all members of the Council. Write or call your Council member today.

Cordially,
The GAPAC Board of Directors

GAPAC is the Atlanta gay and lesbian political action committee.

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Query

Are we the only major metropolitan area in the country without a Lesbian and Gay Community Center? Interested in helping to open a Community Center in Atlanta for all Lesbians and Gays? Call Jeff at 239-9339.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Coming Full Circle

by Saidah Isa

In the streets of the inner-city, I see homeless transvestites and gay men standing in Atlanta's souplines at St. Luke's, and calling out to one another in Woodruff park at sunset and evenings end.

Late night in gay bars, one can look out into a sea of festive faces and watch individuals drink themselves into a stupor, then stagger to their cars preparing for the long drive home.

I listen to a friend who has contracted AIDS inform me of the death of another friend who has recently died from AIDS. My mind flashes back to a vision of sexual advertisements in gay magazines and publications enticing men and women into feelings of intense lust and practices of unsafe sex.

Finally, as I see lesbian couples living with their children in Atlanta's shelters for the homeless, I "come full circle" with myself to face the hard truths I no longer can ignore.

As a lesbian of African descent, I have dedicated my life to working for poor and homeless people. Each day whether on the streets of Atlanta or in my work place, I touch, see, smell and

hear the realities of poverty, homelessness and hopelessness. Inside our office people come hourly for food assistance, clothing, rent assistance and shelter. Most importantly, they come to stop, and to rest, in hope that they have truly discovered someone who cares about their lives.

What, you may ask, does this have to do with the gay and lesbian community? Everything! It has everything to do with us as a community. As I now "come full circle" in my life, I realize that we in the gay community no longer truly touch our people where they live!

I mean no disrespect to the millions of friends, loved ones and volunteers who help our community in handling the devastation caused by the AIDS epidemic. But the fact remains that the total health and welfare of individuals in our community is simply not at the top of our so-called "conscious and politically correct" agendas.

The realities of poverty, hunger, homelessness, illiteracy, domestic violence, racism, classism, drug abuse, alcoholism, and "self-hate" are ravishing the gay and lesbian community.

For these reasons I must ask myself, who are we—as activists, organizers, counselors of our community—truly serving in our work? Our communities are dying! We as a community are suffering a tragically devastating spiritual death. We as members of the lesbian and gay community must no longer be content with merely celebrating "Gay Pride" and "Coming Out." We must begin to love ourselves and to love one another as people.

We as lesbian and gays are no longer separated from the world outside of ourselves. For the tragedy of poverty, hatred, racism, homelessness and death has brought us "full circle" with the population of humanity on this earth.

Saidah Isa is a program assistant for Georgia Citizens Coalition on Hunger. All persons of color and community leaders interested in holding a round table discussion concerning the issues affecting our community, please call 755-3063 after 6 p.m. or 997-6871 after 10 p.m.

More gripping responses

To the Editor:

Congratulations on your editorial "It's Time to Name Names." Mr. Gripp has been a malevolent and destructive presence in our midst for too many years.

Atlanta's gay and lesbian community, with its growing sophistication and political power, deserves a Community Center commensurate with its growth. As long as Mr. Gripp and his cronies control the Atlanta Gay Center as a personal fiefdom, there is no room for more community minded people to create something of real value for Atlanta's gays and lesbians.

Good luck and thanks.

Sincerely,
Stosh Ostrow, M.D.

To the Editor:

Thank you for having the courage to say so plainly and so eloquently what many of us in the community have felt for years regarding the situation at the Gay Center. Your editorial "It's Time to Name Names" on October 24 courageously states the case for the need for change at the Gay Center. I know that many others in the community share your sentiments in this matter. I look forward to a time that the Atlanta Gay Center can truly be representative of the gay and lesbian community in this city.

Again, my congratulations on your courageous editorial.

Sincerely,
Jesse R. Peel, M.D.

To the Editor:

Thanks for pointing out the dangerous viciousness of the Atlanta Gay Center. While I can't comment on Messrs. Gripp and Wilson (I don't know them), their personal mouthpiece, *The News*, is an embarrassment to the city and its lesbian and gay citizens.

The News has consistently attacked numerous hardworking lesbian, gay and AIDS activists. Its obsession with destroying AID Atlanta borders on fanatical. Although AID Atlanta went through a period of serious mismanagement under Buren Batson, the agency is recovering. Ironically, the person responsible for lobbying for Batson's appointment at AID Atlanta now serves

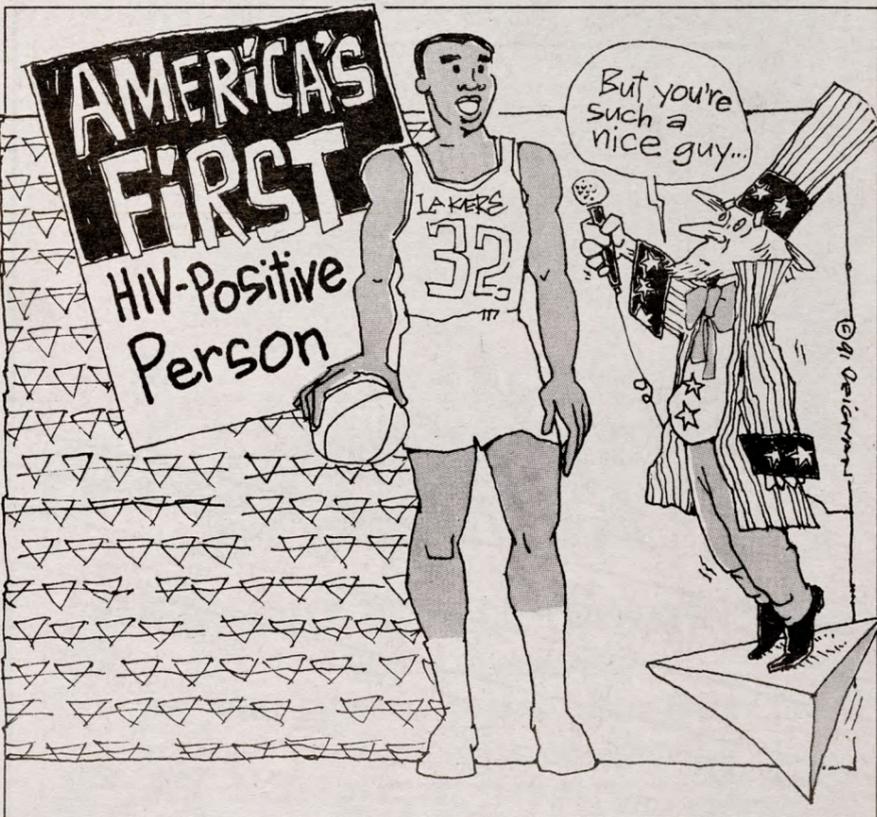
on the Gay Center's board.

The News claims it isn't interested in trying to suppress any other organization's viewpoints. Yet, in the same issue, the Gay Center urges City officials to refuse to meet with other organizations interested in solving the epidemic of hate crimes.

With its petulant bitchiness, poor layout and printing, meanspirited character assassination cartoons and tireless self-congratulation, *The News* embodies the worst homophobic stereotypes.

It's trash. Fortunately, it's recyclable.

Sincerely,
Scott Auerbach



Homoville, GA

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

by Al Cotton

Hunker Down, You Hairy Braves

I'll tell you one thing I thought I'd never see in a gay bar—baseball with the sound on.

But then I'd grown accustomed to being the 10% among the 10%—the gay male who watches sports. I've always served as the Sports Missionary to my friends—explaining sacrifice bunts, staying home on Super Bowl Sundays, enduring abuse from sportsphobes who ridiculed me for watching something I didn't actually play. (But does that keep them away from the Symphony? I don't think so.)

Now those friends have to admit they also watched the World Series, and groaned along with everyone else at Midnight as the clock chimed and the pinch hit sacrifice dropped in Minneapolis, turning the coach (or is that the manager?) into a pumpkin. My sports-fandom pays off.

I came by my spectating honestly. Raised in Alabama (self-proclaimed Sports Capital of the World, primarily because there's nothing else there to pass the time), I learned that being able to discuss a 50-yard touchdown pass can facilitate a non-tormented childhood. I was my high school's demon ping-pong player; all other sports I watched for the drama. You know—10 seconds left, two free throws for the team down one point, winner goes on to State playoffs. With a constant parade of Winners and Losers, sports has a commendable absence of ambiguity, something Real Life might well envy.

Gay men, though, are logically wary of team sports. We still carry a lot of childhood baggage generated around them—for example, literally *everyone* I know has an elementary school horror story about choosing sides. Could there have been enough third grade kickball

teams for *all of us* to have been the last unchosen player on the field? (Or next to last, if someone else happened to be on crutches that week.)

Back then, parents used sports to butch us up and ease their nervousness and guilt when we asked for clarinet lessons or Barbie dolls. When we came out, we found a place where there was no value in knowing the difference between a line drive and a lateral pass, so lots of gay men completely eradicated sports from their lives.

My sports conversations nowadays tend to be with lesbians, who, I've observed, have two extra reasons to watch sports. They watch (1) sports that they play, (women tending toward participant, men toward spectator), or (2) sports with Martina Navratilova in them. I especially respect the latter reason, since it was a big selling point during the baseball playoffs at the Eagle. In between saying, "I can't believe I'm watching this," my friends found themselves admiring "that Pittsburgh catcher" (more specifically, Don Slaught) and "that Minnesota pitcher who lost the 12-inning game and surely needs consolation" (i.e., the bearded and gorgeously Hispanic, Rick Aguilera).

The one reservation I still have about sports is the constant overhype. For society, perspective disappears when sports heroes are involved, largely because society has so few heroes to begin with. Magic Johnson, as courageous as his HIV-positive coming-out was, is nothing compared to the AIDS courage I've personally witnessed time and again over the last ten years. I know how amazing a player, leader and person Magic is, and yet I'm already sick of this manufactured sympathy, some of which by rights should have found its way to our community by now, but somehow still hasn't. At least Johnson is self-possessed enough not to play "Innocent Victim"—Kimberly Bergalis, take note.

But one function professional sports plays in society—the ability to galvanize an entire city—is something we shouldn't be alienated from. Atlanta is changed for the better because of our shared World Series experience. Now we need the Braves to trade for Slaught, Aguilera and Howard Johnson (my personal favorite), and then this franchise's attendance would skyrocket. Add Martina to the outfield and we could break the three million mark. By July.

Carbon Copy

Editor
The Atlanta Constitution

Finally, a long awaited national sense of emergency and alarm about AIDS. It is unfortunate that it has to take the announcement of the HIV infection of a nationally prominent and famous heterosexual male athlete to get the attention of the American public. Maybe this will translate into an appropriate response to this health crisis from all levels of government that has up to now grossly ignored or neglected the situation.

After ten years into this epidemic, it is tragic to hear Magic Johnson's announcement of his HIV status. Tragic and sad in that Mr. Johnson, and many other heterosexuals, did not heed the warnings by the gay community and AIDS activists that they too were at risk. Ignorance, apathy and prejudice have

brought about a false sense of security within the heterosexual community, and have allowed the virus to proliferate even further through the population.

Maybe in light of this great sense of national and personal tragedy at the news of Magic's condition, more heterosexual people in this country will now wake up and get involved in the war on AIDS. Maybe now people can translate those feelings of loss into an understanding of the huge tragedies gay people, their families and the people they loved, have been experiencing for the last ten years. Gay or straight we must all face the Human condition.

President Bush described Mr. Johnson as a hero. He is a hero in my opinion for his brave disclosure, but I personally know of over thirty brave and wonderful heroes and friends that I have

buried over the last decade. I also know many living heroes—gay men and women who volunteer hundreds of hours manning HIV testing sites and educating all communities about HIV. Heroes who have fundraised for money to the point of exhaustion over these long and desperate ten years, many still grieving over the loss of loved ones and friends, or maybe even trying to manage their own personal battle with HIV disease—all without the benefit of any media hoopla or public applause.

Fortunately, because of the responsible and organized approach by the gay and gay-supportive community, *not* the government, we have an "AIDS infrastructure" of sorts. Strained, but a system none the less that has passionately shared its limited resources and administered to the growing heterosexual

infected community and their children.

Hopefully, Magic's commitment as a spokesperson will bring about the quickly needed response from government and "straight" society.

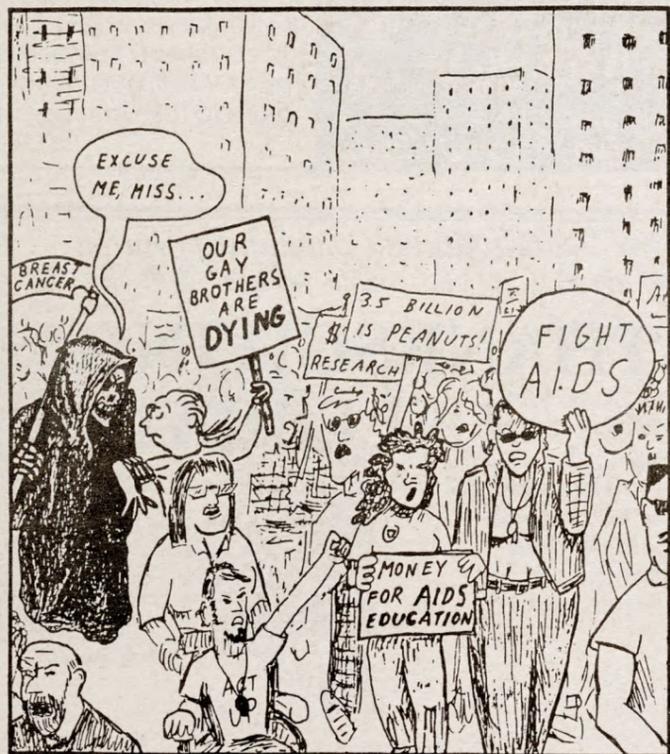
Perhaps, Magic's situation will remind us all, that we are human beings first and cannot be defined by only one aspect of our being. As a member of the community that was first hardest hit with AIDS—the gay community—I am baffled, dismayed and hurt by this delayed public response to a decade old epidemic. Please forgive me if I sound somewhat bitter. I am.

Lief E. Spivey

cc: *Southern Voice*

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



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

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

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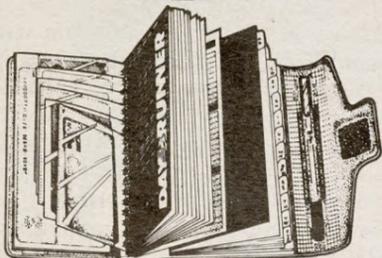
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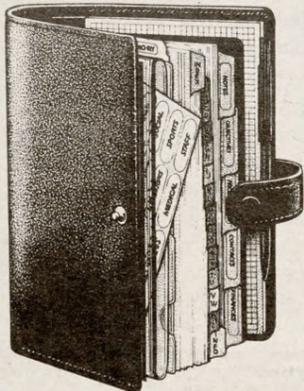
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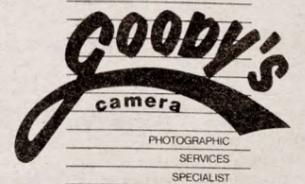
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26 metro AIDS organizations awarded \$768,898

Twenty-six metropolitan Atlanta area non-profit organizations were awarded funds for preventive education and community care for HIV infected persons. Totalling \$768,898, the grants were awarded to a diverse group of local organizations that are addressing housing, preventive education, positive living and care for persons with AIDS or at risk of AIDS.

The grants, announced by the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation, Inc.'s Atlanta AIDS Fund, in collaboration with the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta's AIDS Crisis Fund, are part of a collaborative philanthropic effort that has provided over \$1,500,000 in local grants.

The current round of grants were made to the non-profit organizations for additional staffing and continuation of positive living programs, housing for children with HIV infection, expansion of housing for persons with AIDS, support services and training, direct emergency assistance for clients, and start-up funding for additional and continued preventive education programs.

The following organizations received funding:

- AID Atlanta
- Atlanta Buyer's Club
- Atlanta Gay Center
- Atlanta Interfaith Network-Common Ground
- Atlanta Legal Aid
- Black Family Project
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Atlanta
- Center for Disease Control
- Childkind
- Christian Emergency Help Centers
- Community AIDS Network of Metro Atlanta
- Families First
- Feminist Women's Health Center
- First MCCof Atlanta
- Grady Memorial Hospital
- Jerusalem House
- National Association of Persons With AIDS
- Outreach
- Project Open Hand
- St. Joseph's Mercy Care
- St. Jude's Recovery Center
- St. Raphael's Residence
- SISTERLOVE
- Southeastern Arts Media Education Project
- Visiting Nurses Association
- YWCA

The Atlanta AIDS Fund was created to stimulate local AIDS awareness and fundraising through a matching grant program initiated by the Ford Foundation and implemented through the National Community AIDS Partnership (NCAP).

Through NCAP, the Ford Foundation and other national funders challenged local foundation partners to raise money and organize a broad-based local advisory committee. The Atlanta AIDS Fund advisory committee conducts needs assessments, distributes requests for proposals based on those findings, and then distributes the local and matching national dollars to organizations providing direct care or preventive education services.

"The Atlanta AIDS Fund has proven to be an important vehicle for local funders who feel the need to respond to the AIDS crisis. Through a comprehensive process involving needs assessment, site visits, and evaluation, corporate donors are confident of the Fund's ability to respond to the crisis" said Alicia Phillipp, executive director of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation.

OBITUARY

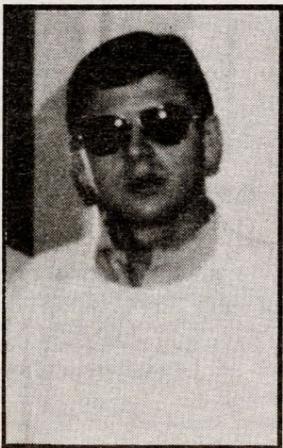
Terry James Lasky
11/7/58 - 08/13/91

Terry James Lasky passed away August 13, 1991 due to complications from AIDS. Terry lived life with enjoyment, style and grace. He loved traveling, antiques and the finer things in life. He loved to travel to Florida, "God's bath tub", he would say.

Terry's last months were surrounded by the love of his family-Cathy, John and Darryl. He will be missed by so many and remembered always.

Terry is survived by his childhood friend Cathy Jaracz, his 15-year companion John Austin and his companion Darryl, and many friends.

I could not keep you from passing Terry, but we will meet again in another life. I will always miss you and a part of me went with you. Sweet dreams cream puff.



Tutu to speak here

The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, will preach at the Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network's Third Annual Service of Hope and Healing on December 1 at 7:30.

He will be joined in leading the service by other leaders of the faith community.

Founded in 1989 by Presbyterian minister Kathryn Cartledge, The Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network (AIAN) is a coalition of over thirty congregations which provides education about AIDS and pastoral care to people with HIV and their loved ones.

For information about the worship service, volunteer opportunities, or AIAN's services, please call 874-8686.

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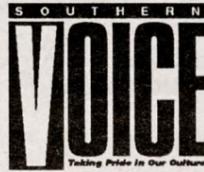
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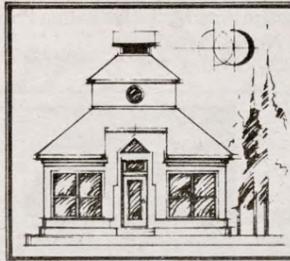
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Arts for Pride Festival benefits SAME, gay artists

By Andy Smith

Finding a balance between art and commercialism is one of the major goals of the third annual Southeastern Arts, Media and Education (SAME) Arts For Pride Festival, which is being held the last week in November and the first week in December.

"SAME would like to provide a safe place for the community to spend its holiday dollars and know these funds are going back into the community," said event coordinator Jessi McVay, who has ambitious goals for this year's event. "Last year we earned \$3,000, but this year we are shooting for \$10,000 and I believe that is attainable."

The activities seek to both raise money for SAME and provide local gay/lesbian artists an opportunity to show and sell their work. Artists are donating at least 50 percent of their profits to SAME, the six-year old gay and lesbian arts organization which sponsors theatrical productions and other artistic projects.

Fine art auction

The evening of Friday, November 22, a diverse selection of fine art by lesbian and gay artists will go on display at the Gallery in IMAGE Film and Video. The opening

coincides with the last weekend of the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The artist's asking price will be placed on each piece and pre-auction bids equal to or greater than this amount will be taken while the pieces are displayed during the week.

The auction will be held Saturday, November 30, at 8 p.m. Only art that receives bids will be included in the auction, and proxy bidders will be selected for anyone who places a bid during the week but cannot attend the auction, McVay said.

An artistic mall

McVay compares the Arts for Pride Festival — which will be held Sunday, December 1, at the Trolley Barn — to an artistic mall. The integrity of the artists comes first, but offering a variety of affordable pieces also is important, she said. "Observing this year's Piedmont Arts Festival, I realized that because of the recession, the pieces which were selling were the less expensive ones," she said.

The goal is to include about 50 artists, and any remaining booths will be offered to local businesses which either are gay/lesbian owned or are supportive of the community.

The arts and crafts offered will include jewelry, decorative wreaths, photography, ceramics, colored porcelain and quilts. A raffle will be held featuring prizes from The Boy Next Door, Babushkas, Outproud Theater, 7 Stages Performing Arts Center, Southern Voice, Inman Animal Hospital, Theatre Gael, and more.

World AIDS Day

The Sunday of the festival falls on World AIDS Day, an event that will be acknowledged in the show's art.

"This festival is an upbeat, joyous thing, while World AIDS Day is a more somber occasion, but we are trying to combine the two," McVay said, adding that art focusing on AIDS and AIDS-related issues will be included, as will artwork created by PWAs.

In conjunction with Visual AIDS, a New York-based AIDS organization, festival participants will participate in The Witness Project, an ongoing effort to document people in the art world who have died of AIDS or ARC. As part of this observance, the art and booths will be shrouded for 15 minutes near the end of the day.



ARTS FOR PRIDE FESTIVAL

INFORMATION

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▼ FINE ART GALLERY

Opens Fri., Nov. 22 through Nov. 30, at IMAGE Film and Video, TULA Galleries, 75 Bennett, Suite M1. View the work of over 30 lesbian and gay artists. Gallery hours: Fri. & Sat. 5-10 pm, Sun. 1-6 pm, Mon., Tue., & Wed. 5-9 pm. Join us in supporting the community's Fine Artists and make your bid for Social Change count.

▼ FINE ART AUCTION

Sat., Nov. 30 IMAGE Film and Video. **ARTISTS RECEPTION** at 7 pm, **AUCTION** begins at 8 pm. Have you ever been to an auction? Yes or no, join the stellar cast of community artists and art lovers at this **SAME** fundraising auction. We guarantee a unique experience for novice and expert alike.

▼ WORLD AIDS DAY

Sun., Dec. 1 SAME is honoring **WORLD AIDS DAY** at the Trolley Barn, 963 Edgewood Ave. As an integral part of this year's Arts for Pride Festival, there will be local and national AIDS information and awareness projects including the Witness Project, Ribbon Project and "A Day Without Art". Join the family for Social Change.

▼ ARTS FOR PRIDE FESTIVAL

Sun., Dec 1, 12-6 pm. Trolley Barn, 963 Edgewood Ave. A wide selection of arts and crafts made by lesbian and gay artists. Jewelry, wearable art, photographs, decorative wreaths, sequined bras, colored porcelain, quilts and more. It's gay, it's fun, it's the busiest shopping weekend of the season, and it's family!

SAME is Southeastern Arts, Media and Education, a six-year old multi-disciplinary arts organization committed to producing social change projects for the lesbian and gay community. In 1991/92 **SAME** reaches down deep to present the Atlanta community with art that is honest, positive, diverse, validating and empowering. **SAME** means

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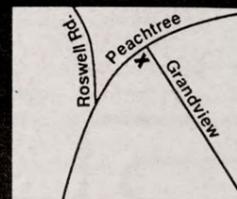
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Love's writer lost

But Michael Grumley's final, beautiful labor has been found

by Gary Kaupman

Does the world, specifically lesbian and gay America, really need yet another coming out novel? Isn't it time to move on to another genre of story about our lives?

Before reading Michael Grumley's beautifully written coming-of-age saga, *Life Drawing*, I would have voted a resounding "yes" to both questions. But since devouring this slim, slick volume just released by Grove Weidenfeld, I've done an about face. There are two reasons for my change of heart: Grumley's simple tale reminded me of the inherent similarities in all of our coming out stories, no matter how disparate their details may be. In the face of our community's ever-increasing diversity, acknowledging those similarities can only help make us more tolerant of our differences.

More important is that fact that any literary genre (even one that details something as mundane as the most efficacious method of cuticle care) would become instantly richer and more valuable with the addition of Michael Grumley's incisive prose. Many say that gay men and lesbians are the "truthsayers" of our time. Grumley wears the title well.

Unfortunately, Grumley died of AIDS in 1988. His lover, novelist Robert Ferro, spent the ten weeks following Grumley's death doing a final edit of *Life Drawing*, and then also succumbed to the ravages of the plague. The story of the Ferro-Grumleys, as the couple was known in Gotham's literary and social circles, is itself fascinating enough for a novel. Failing that the publishers of *Life Drawing* have given us a tantalizing foreword by gay literary lion Edmund White (himself HIV+), and a detailed afterward by editor (of Plume's *Men on Men* series) and author George Stambolian. Both were friends and colleagues of the F-G's.

But the star here is surely Grumley. He uses the simplest of words to describe the most of ordinary situations. But he combines those words in ways that yield an incandescent and rich imagery that cannot fail to touch and move the reader. This imagery is evident from this book's first sentence—"The first time I remember is

BOOK REVIEW
Life Drawing
by Michael Grumley
Grove Weidenfeld, New York
\$17.95

dancing with my brother"—to its closing one—"Suddenly over the whole golf course jeweled flowers of light, flowers like universes, burst into being, showering us with radiance, rapturing my heart."

The "rapturing my heart" that the narrator Mickey describes, happens when he re-finds James after almost two years of separation. All made more poignant by the fact that the former is 18 years old, white, Midwestern and the child of a very "domestic upper-middle-class" family, and the latter a year or two older, Black, and from the same Midwestern town.

The two first meet when Mickey, fleeing from the twin oppressions of an Ike-era family and school, hitchhikes down the Mississippi on a barge.

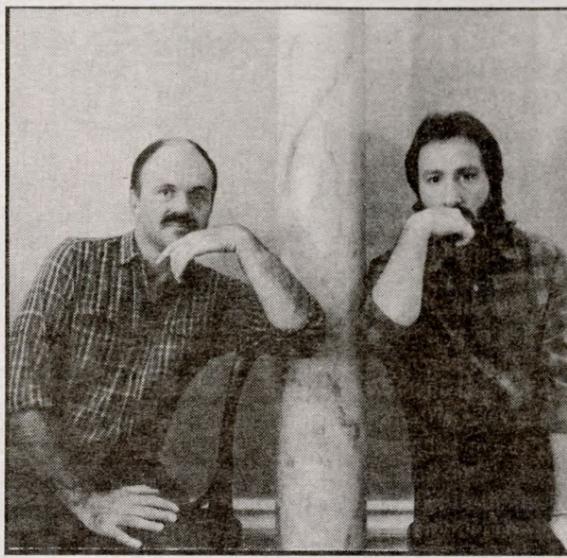
Mickey describes his first night with James: "I saw I knew nothing at all about giving someone pleasure, and I tried to do better, again and again. James was pleasure. Hot snake-smelling skin, knots of muscles hitting me like snowballs, breath like gin and jasmine—he was everything at once....Whatever I'd been going to New Orleans for, I'd found by St. Louis."

There's no need to belabor you with further detail about what happens between those first and last sentences. Suffice to say, that whether the event is one of terror or triumph, Grumley tells it in a way that seldom misses the mark.

Buy this book. Buy it now in hardback; you'll want to read it again and again, and share it with your friends and family.

...

Reading the foreword and afterward to *Life Drawing* reminded me of how much I yearn for another novel from Grumley's lover Robert Ferro, author of *The Fam-*



© 1985 ROBERT GIARD

Michael Grumley and Robert Ferro

ily of Max Desir, *Blue Star*, and *Second Son*. Since that's not possible, I pulled my worn copy of *Second Son* from the shelf and set about reading it for at least the third time.

I was immediately struck by the similarity in the ways that Grumley and Ferro use precise, rich prose to evoke an exquisite purity of feeling. But that's where the resemblance in these two books ends.

While *Life Drawing* chronicles a child's successful search for independence from his family, *Second Son* offers a poignant look at how a grown man must revert to being a child as he prepares to die before his father. This is one of the great, frequently unmentioned, horrors of the epidemic: that a whole generation of gay men will not survive their parents; that they, as adults, are often forced to return to the very families from which they fought so hard to escape. It's a journey too often fraught with confusion, pain and humiliation.

But *Second Son* is by no means a downer; its conclusion can only be called brave, beautiful and transcendent. While you're at it, buy this book, too.

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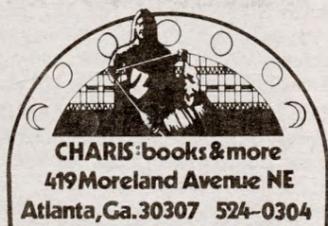
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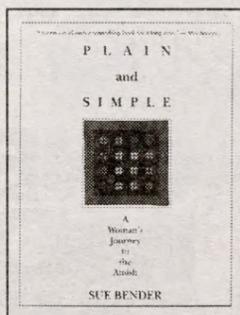


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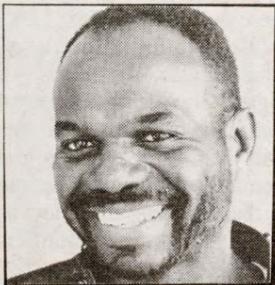
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Reality & Fantasy—

Friday, November 22,

8:00 PM – 9 short works including: *My Friend and My New Friend* by Gus Van Sant; *Anthem* by Marlon Riggs; *Storme: The Lady of the Jewel Box* by Michelle Parkerson; *The Lavender Tortoise*; *Nice Girls Don't Do It*; *Jollies* by Sadie Benning; *Billy Turner's Secret*; and *Proust's Favorite Fantasy*.



MARLON RIGGS

Images of Activism—

Saturday, November 23,

8:00 PM – IMAGE will be screening *Voices From the Front*, the first feature-length documentary to cover the AIDS activist movement, and *Stop the Church* about ACT UP's demonstrations at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Local and Regional Work—

Sunday, November 24,

8:00 PM – *Lavender Hearts* by SAME, *Hippies, Faeries and Trolls* by Lee Steenhuis, *In Remembrance* by Debbie Fraker, and a tape of *Queer Nation-Atlanta* at Cracker Barrel.

ALL EVENTS HELD AT IMAGE (75 Bennett St. behind the TULA Galleries) Tickets: \$6.50 general; \$4.50 members, students, sr.'s. To purchase tickets in advance, call 352-4254 OR send ticket order to IMAGE, 75 Bennett St., Suite M-1, Atlanta, GA 30309



Beyond the Canebreaks: Moments in the Life of Harriet Tubman has its world premiere November 22 and 23 at the 14th St. Playhouse. Pictured are Jennifer Bell, who dances the role of Tubman, and Regina Christler of the Harry Bryce African American Dance Theatre.

AIDS Awareness Day

The following are events held in observance of World AIDS Day which is December 1.

HISPANICS UNITED ON WORLD AIDS DAY. Nov. 24. 1-5 pm. A free event with exhibits, videos, music and more especially for the Hispanic community. Sponsored by AID Atlanta, Ga. Dept. of Human Resources and St. Joseph's Hispanic Services. "El Paraiso" Ball Room. 3011 Buford Hwy. 872-0600 or 851-7776 for info.

NAMES PROJECT QUILT. Nov. 30 & Dec. 1. A section of the Quilt, which memorializes those who have died from AIDS, will be on exhibit at the High Museum of Art. The section includes many Georgians. In addition to displaying the Quilt, the Museum will support the Visual AIDS Artists' Caucus Ribbon Project. Red ribbons, signifying the commitment to fight against AIDS, will be available to all visitors. Literature about the Quilt and related topics will be available. 892-HIGH.

SERVICE OF HOPE AND HEALING. Dec. 1 7:30 pm. The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa will deliver the sermon at this third annual service for people living with AIDS. Trinity Presbyterian Church. 3003 Howell Mill Rd.

Art

ARTS FOR PRIDE AND FINE ART AUCTION. Dec. 1. Over 50 lesbian and gay artists will offer their wares in this third annual event sponsored by SAME, Atlanta's lesbian and gay arts organization. The Trolley Barn. 963 Edgewood Ave. 881-0817.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH. Nov. 29-Dec. 21. Holiday open house at 8 galleries featuring unique quality gifts at affordable prices and special events. Call 524-5223 for more info.

ART AT THE EDGE: JORGE TACLA. Nov. 21 - Jan. 31. In the 8th of the High Museum's ongoing series of one-artist exhibitions, Chilean-born Jorge Tacla explores isolation, alienation and the stark loneliness of urban life. High Museum at Ga-Pacific. 577-6940.

PRESENT PERFECT. The holiday show at Ariel Gallery offers jewelry, ceramics, prints and more for holiday buying. Nov. 22- Jan. 7. Ariel Gallery at TULA. 75 Bennett St. 352-5753.

WOMEN WHO LIVED AND SANG THE BLUES. Thru Nov. 30. Artist Amalia Amaki's new works in quilts and fabric pay homage to four women blues masters — Billie Holiday, Bessie Smith, Ma Rainey and Alberta Hunter. Hughley Gallery and Objects. 142 Stovall St. 523-3201.

YOUTH IN ASIA. Thru Dec. 2. An illustrated book composed of 29 pen and ink drawings by Stephanie Miller. They discuss the interaction between the individual, the community and the environment. Seven Stages Theatre lobby. 10AM-5PM and during box office hours. 1105 Euclid.

NEXUS FALL SOLO SERIES. Thru Dec. 14. Four artists are featured including former Atlantan Margaret Curtis who exhibits her latest work, "Artifice and Sexuality." Other artists are Trena Banks, Alan Sondheim and Shelagh Keeley. Nexus Gallery. 535 Means St. 688-2500.

GUATEMALA: LIFE & ART UNDER THE VOLCANOES. Thru Dec. 22. The vibrant traditional craftsmanship of the Highland Indians of Guatemala. A mingling of native and European designs in sacred works and everyday objects.

Atlanta International Museum of Art and Design. 285 Peachtree Center Avenue. 688-2467.

FROM THE CHAPEL TO THE TATTOO PARLOR—A GATHERING OF ANGELS. Thru December. ArtSpace Contemporary Fine Art Gallery. The Hurt Building, Grand Lobby.

CALDER, APPEL, HAYSLETTE AND HARUYO. Thru Dec. 27. Works on paper. 11 am-6pm. BurnNoff Gallery. Clear Creek Center. 1529 Piedmont Ave. 875-3475.

WILLIAM PARTRIDGE BURPEE: AMERICAN MARINE IMPRESSIONIST. Thru Dec. 28. Burpee was a New England painter who was the first American to adopt the title "Impressionist." Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art. 424-8142.

Benefits

FOOD DRIVE FOR THE HUNGRY. Nov. 22 & 23. Help stamp out hunger in Atlanta. Bring non-perishable goods to the following drop-off points: Lindbergh Chiropractic at 1036 Lindbergh Dr.; Little 5 Points Chiropractic, 427 Moreland Ave.; Back to Basics, 5901 Bells Ferry Rd. 814-0361 for more info.

COMIC CARE. Mon., Nov. 25. 8pm. A night of comedy to benefit The Task Force For The Homeless. Featuring Jerry Farber, Kathleen Madigin, and more. Center Stage. 1374 Peachtree St. 874-1511 or 249-6400.

OUTRAGEOUS BALL. Sat., Dec. 7. 9pm. An evening of outrageous entertainment to benefit Atlanta NAPWA and ACT UP/ATLANTA. Tix available at Brushstrokes. 874-7926 for more info.

MARCHING FOR OUR RIGHTS OR BEYOND POLITICALLY CORRECT. Dec. 8. 6:30 pm. An evening of comedy for the gay 90's with Robin Tyler will benefit the 1993 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. \$10. The Otherside.

Comedy

FAMILY MATTERS THAT AREN'T ALWAYS RELATIVE. Nov. 28 - Dec. 14. Thurs.thru Sun. 8 pm. A musical "dramedy" by Funny That Way's Deb Calabria explores gay and lesbian relationships and the bonding that is more than blood. Music by Jeff Dye and Jill Johnson. 551 Downstairs, 551 Ponce de Leon. 875-2275.

Dance

BEYOND THE CANEBREAKS: MOMENTS IN THE LIFE OF HARRIET TUBMAN. Nov. 22 at 8pm & Nov. 23 at 2pm. The premiere of the epic ballet, conceived and choreographed by Harry Bryce, explores one of Tubman's many journeys as the foremost conductor of the "Underground Railroad." Based on the poetry of Langston Hughes and Margaret Walker, and the music of Sweet Honey in the Rock and Roberta Flack. Harry Bryce African American Dance Theatre. 14th St. Playhouse. 870-9308.

Film

THE THIRD IMAGE/SAME ATLANTA GAY AND LESBIAN FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL. Nov. 22-24. See the uncensored "Red, Hot and Blue," Gus Van Sant and Marlon Riggs, SAME's soap opera "Lavender Hearts" and SV's own Debbie Fraker's first video "In Remembrance," and much, much more. \$6.50 per screening. 352-4254 for reservations. Note: Another screening of "Red, Hot and Blue has been added on Sat., Nov. 23 at 10:30pm.



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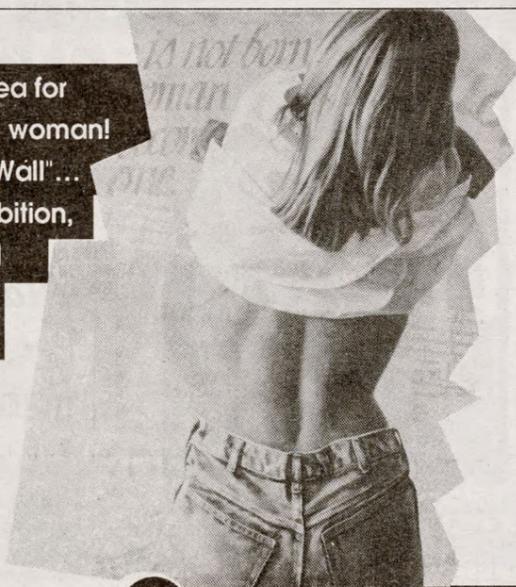
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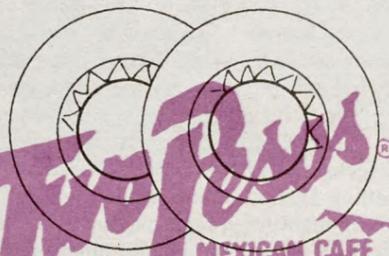
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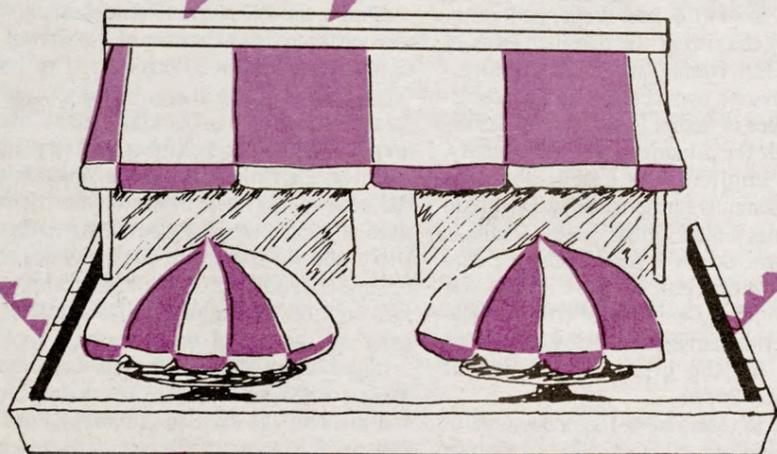
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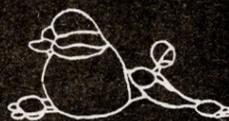
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Denim: fashion, fad and fetish

by Thom Cardwell ©

Quick, answer me this. How many pairs of jeans (preferably Levi's) do you presently have in your clothes closet?

In the 1980s, a girlish Brooke Shields would confess to the American public that she owned seven. Nothing was to become "America's virgin" more, as Iain Finlayson calls her in his definitive study of *Denim: The American Legend* (Simon & Schuster), and absolutely nothing was "to come between Shields and her jeans." Those popular yet controversial advertisements, that both offended middle America's values and bloated the coffers of the Calvin Klein empire, are now history in the industry.

This fact is just one of many in Finlayson's always interesting and sometimes fascinating history of an American fashion classic that rightly stands beside the leather jacket, chinos, the navy blue blazer, and the tuxedo which exist in almost every clothing-conscious male's wardrobe. Denim, says Finlayson, is highly adaptable "to suit the myth that fits your inner psychodrama." Now raised to the status of a mythic article of clothing after a hundred years, denim is electrically-charged with powerful (often times homoerotic) imagery associated with both sex and subversion.

That is a far cry from its humble beginnings in the practical needs demanded by the California gold miners of the 1850s who began wearing pants made from a durable French cotton fabric called "serge de Nimes" that eventually became known as "denim." These sturdy pants first sold by the dozens, then hundreds by a Bavarian immigrant named Levi Strauss. Addressing the incredible demand by the gold diggers, Strauss quickly set up shop in San Francisco.

Importing ship loads of denim to the West Coast, the pants he manufactured acquired the name "jeans" from the Genoese sailors who manned these European vessels. Shortly after, Levi's brown tent canvas pants were transformed into a pure deep blue. Indigo, a natural dye from leaves of "Indigofera"—a tropical plant that had its origins on the slave plantations of South Carolina—was mainly imported from India as beginning in the 1850s.

Though Finlayson points out the history of Levi's designs "was nothing to write home to the fashion newspapers about," denim evolved over the years from "work-ethnic" to "pleasure-leisure" clothing. It became central to the uniform of the teenagers of the 1950s, rebelling against middle-class sameness. Then through the countercultural hippie movement of the 1960s, to the reversal of denim "classlessness" of the 1970s and 1980s, and epitomized by the rise of the designer jeans of Calvin Klein, Gloria Vanderbilt and others.

Finlayson's commentary on the fetishistic qualities of denim is particularly associated with the American gay community. Denim, implicitly, is tough; denim is macho; denim is for horny boys. Denim, to push things a little further, is gay. Denim is for hustlers, denim is for cruising the dangerous waterfront, denim is for the Marlboro Man. Denim is for crotch-watchers, for hot buns, for steamy nights on Castro, for the urban lumberjack of Christopher Street.

Just in case you've forgotten some of these denim cultural icons, Finlayson offers them up—in both text and photographs. His book is generously illustrated with photos

of Marlon Brando, James Dean, Elvis Presley (the King of "dirt road denim"), Mick Jagger (remember the "Sticky Fingers" album cover designed by Andy Warhol with zipper-crotch and all?), Steve McQueen, John Lennon, David Bowie and even "The Boss" Bruce Springsteen "rockin' in denim."

As if these stellar images were not enough, Finlayson reminds us that perhaps the high priest of "sex and rebellion" of the 1960s, Jim Morrison of the Doors, "unzipped his jeans and took out what his fans had been dying to size up."

By the 1960s, denim was identified as clothing of the counterculture—it was the main dress of social ethics, social community and group identity. At the same time, it continued to maintain its sociosexual meaning. Finlayson points out that there was "the eroticizing effect of denim on the naked body."

During the 1970s and 1980s denim's history went through a number of transformations. What had been considered to be "cool," "hip," "rebellious," "sexy," and "classless," denim was claimed by the megastars of the fashion industry in America. Calvin Klein, Gloria Vanderbilt and others stuck their names on the back-sides of people wearing jeans along Rodeo Drive and Fifth Avenue. Designer jeans became a symbol of status and wealth, a sure sign of "conspicuous consumption." Later on, the rise of the "poor boy" look—ripped denim jeans and jackets would be the last resort of a perhaps overindulgent and affluent (at least in America) Punk statement. Eventually the fashion industry would adopt the "torn" denim look from street to showroom, once again to parody

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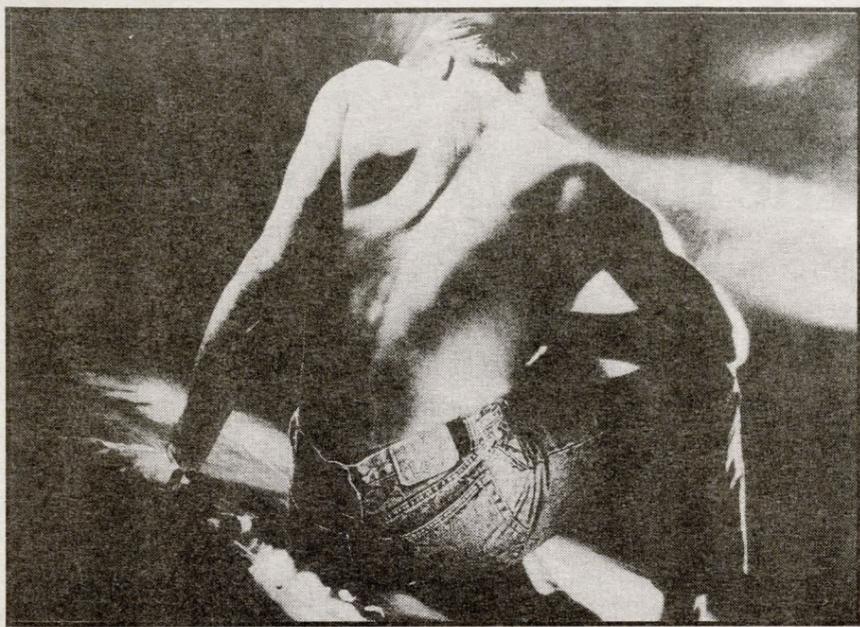
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artistically the American population. Into the 1980s and 1990s, Finlayson observes, "In the worst of times and the best of times, jeans were expressive of youth and idealism, jeans were for hot times and good sex, jeans were for new freedoms and no fuss, for barrier-breaking rather than ball-breaking." Tracing the rise and fall of denim from alternative to high (rich) cultural clothing, Finlayson examines how the advertising campaigns of every manufacturer from Klein to Levi to Guess manipulated the American public with images of nostalgia, sexual potency, social status and imagined power. Denim as clothing of the man of action (the cowboy, the lumberjack, the construction worker) has retained its sexually-charged and fetishistic values (much like black leather and rubber). The introduction of "black jeans" as clothing "subversive of

authority" has emerged as a definite communal dress of several contemporary groups such as members of militant voices like ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) of which Finlayson has a photograph in his book to underline the notion of "jeans...as uniform sexuality." If denim is associated with sex and sex linked with money and money equals power, it's inevitable that jeans have become viewed by millions in the Middle and Far East, in Africa and in Europe, as clothing of the great American Dream. Layering these many symbols and meanings to denim jeans has raised its status far beyond the simple pants that Levi Strauss originally sewed more than a hundred years ago. Denim, as Finlayson's book proves, like most of America's legends, is not about to be diminished either in importance, popularity or potency.

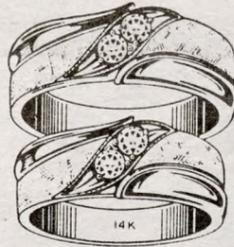


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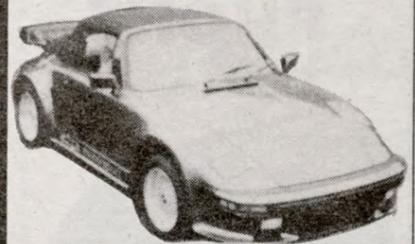
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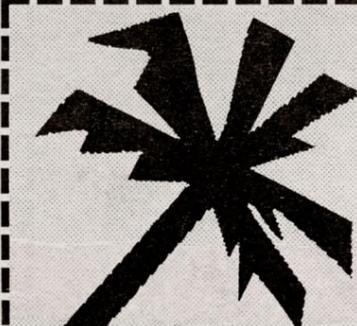
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Literature

KAY HAGAN: PRAYERS TO THE MOON. Thurs., Dec. 5. 7:30 pm. A very special Thursday evening at Charis to celebrate Hagan's new book, *Prayers to the Moon: Exercises in Self-Reflection*. Hagan's book is a compilation of 52 writing exercises to guide the reader to her true self. Anticipating a large crowd, the reading will be held at the First Existentialist Church. 470 Candler Park Dr. 524-0304 for more info.

Meetings

LESBIAN DATING: MYTH OR REALITY? Nov. 21. 7:30 pm. Isabella Bagshaw (Feminist Healer) and Marlene Johnson (African-American Womanist Healer) continue the dialogue. Is a lesbian date possible? An imitation of a heteropatriarchal gender-identified concept? You decide. Charis Books & More. 524-0304.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION. Nov. 28. All Saints MCC hosts community-wide services on Thanksgiving. Show up for A Service of Praise at 10:30AM, or A Traditional Thanksgiving Pot Luck at Noon. 575 Boulevard SE. 622-1154.

BWMT 10th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET. Nov. 30. 7 pm. State Rep. Cynthia McKinney will be the guest speaker. The banquet is followed by a dance. Lanier Plaza Hotel. 794-BWMT.

Music

OXFORD ACOUSTIC CAFE. Sun., Mon., and Tues. in Nov. and Dec. A host of acoustic stars from Caroline Aiken to DeDe Vogt to Wendy Bucklew. Call Oxford at 262-9975 for details. All shows at 8:30 pm. Oxford Books. 360 Pharr Rd.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Nov. 21-23. 8 pm. Robert Shaw leads the ASO and Chorus in vocal favorites including Handel's "silente venti" and Debussy's "Nocturnes." Symphony Hall. 892-2414.

ON A WINTER'S NIGHT. Dec. 5. 8pm. Folk music on a seasonal theme from Christine Lavin, John Gorka, Patty Larkin and Cliff Eberhardt. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS. Sat., Dec. 7. 7&9 pm. Come celebrate the AFWC's second 10th anniversary season. See article on page 25. Southside High School. 801 Glenwood Ave. Tickets at Charis Books, The Boy Next Door, Atlantis Connection, Gallus and at the door. 523-7455.

Political

NW METRO NOW. Nov. 25. 7pm. The first general membership meeting for the new chapter. Learn about the history and future of women's rights and how to get involved. South Cobb Government Center. 4700 Austell Rd. 428-4538 for more info.

HRCF. Dec. 3. 7pm. A field committee meeting for those interested in the work of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Friends Meeting House. 701 W. Howard Ave. Decatur.

Sports

RUGGERFEST. Nov. 23-24. 12 of the top women's rugby teams compete in this 15th annual event. Emory University Fields. 659-6916.

FRONT RUNNERS. Every Saturday 9am at the Chattahoochee River off Powers Ferry Landing. Every Wednesday at 6:30pm at Piedmont Park. Call Shelton Haynie (622-0739) for info.

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

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.

ATLANTA WOMEN'S SOCIAL TENNIS. Every Saturday from 3-6pm. at East Lake Indoor Tennis Center. 662-GAME.

HOTLANTA VOLLEYBALL. Fridays, 7-10pm. Hands-on fun for spikers and spectators alike. Clinics and open play in preparation for spring. 621-5062.

Television

OUT IN ATLANTA. Mon. at 10:30pm, Wed. at 3:30pm. A new 13-week program for and about Atlanta's lesbian and gay community. Interviews, news and more. People TV-Channel 12 on GCTV.

DeAUNDRA PEEK'S ULTRA STYLE BIN. Fri. at 11:30 pm; Sat. at 10:30pm. SoVo columnist David Salyer says DeAundra reminds him "of the time my mother tried to dress herself after major surgery while under the influence of medication." People TV- Channel 12 on GCTV.

GAY CABLE NETWORK airs on Mondays at 9:30PM on GCTV (formerly Prime Cable)—Fulton County subscribers only.

TALKING WITH DAVID FROST is local celeb, Elton John. Nov. 22, 10:30PM, WGTV—Channel 8.

Theatre

A CHRISTMAS CAROL. Nov. 24-Dec. 23. Scrooge's transformation from greed to goodness has a great deal more than traditional holiday fare. Alliance Theatre. Woodruff Arts Ctr. 892-2414.

TINY TIM IS DEAD. Thru Nov. 23. Barbara Lebow's new play is an Academy World Premiere. Six homeless people gather in an alley on Christmas Eve—God bless us every one, it isn't. 7 Stages Theatre, 1105 Euclid in L5P. 523-7647.

TALBOT'S BOX. Thru Nov. 24. Theatre Gael presents Thomas Kilroy's play about the battle for a man's soul in a Dublin tenement. 14th Street Playhouse. 872-9453.

THE HEIDI CHRONICLES. Thru Dec. 1. Due to the popularity of this Pulitzer Prize-winning play, it has been extended for the second time. The play chronicles the lives from 1965 to the present of Heidi Holland, her friends and her lovers. Don't miss it this time. Horizon Theatre. Little 5 Points. 584-7450.

LEGENDS AND LORE OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN INDIANS. Thru Dec. 3, 2PM. "Why the Evergreen Trees Keep Their Leaves in Winter," "The Shepherd who Married the Daughter of the Sun" and "Coyote Steals the Sun and Moon." Center for Puppetry Arts, 1404 Spring St. 873-3391.

ROGERS AND HART—A MUSICAL CELEBRATION. Thru Dec. 14. A musical review/celebration of the careers of two of America's best-loved composers. The answer to the musical question "Where or When?" Neighborhood Playhouse, 430 W. Trinity in Decatur. 373-5311.

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. Thru Dec. 15. David Mamet's Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning comic satire replaces *Harvey Milk* at Actor's Express. Four real estate salesmen show just how far they'll go to save their jobs in a slumping real estate market. 221-0831.

WENCESLAS SQUARE. Thru Jan. 26. Larry Shue's play about political oppression in Czechoslovakia at the Woodruff Arts Center. Alliance Studio Theatre. 892-2414.

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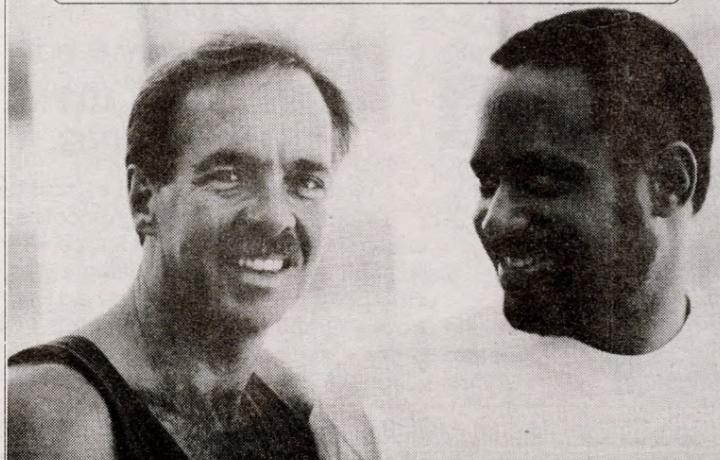
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AIDS ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

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

AIDSCHAIM—Congregation Bet Haverim (See listing) sponsors a predominantly gay support group for those affected by the AIDS crisis. Meets 1st & 3d Thurs., 7:30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 701 Howard St., Decatur. 1/4 mi. West of E. Lake Marta. Info 642-3467.

Atlanta Buyers Club—access to alternative treatment for the HIV community in the SE. (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atl, 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 & emotional support for PWA's, 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 Assn of People with AIDS/Atlanta—A political, social, and educational org. confronting the AIDS crisis. Open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV+. 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 Health—A social group for HIV+ individuals. Call 872-9954 for info. Or write PO Box 8569, Atlanta, 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. 987-9832.

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

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

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

BARS

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280

Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986

Blake's—227 10th St. 892-7535

Buddies—Cheshire Square. 634-5895

Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025

Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403

Conference Room—1086 Alco St. 634-6478

The Cove—586 Worchester. 875-2477

Crazy Ray'z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655

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

The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE

551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052

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

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

Lavita's—Cheshire Square. 633-0452

Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125

The Metro—48 6th Street. 874-9869

New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247

Options—2329 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-4584

The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Road. 875-5238

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The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055

Petrus—1150 Peachtree St. 873-6700

Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871

Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957

Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961

Tower Lounge—735 Ralph McGill. 688-5463

Traxx—306 Luckie St. 681-5033

Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

DIRECT ACTION/POLITICAL

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

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power—Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held Tuesday at 7:30 PM, 44 12th St. 286-6247 and 605-7458.

Atlanta Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—GA Org. Committee for the March on Washington (GOCMOW). Second Thurs of mo. 7:30 at 118 E. Trinity Ave., Decatur. (404) 662-4199 or GOCMOW, PO Box 5282, Atlanta, GA 30307.

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

GAPAC—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.

LEGAL—A voice for lesbians and gays in the Democratic party. Seeking to expand. Help elect gay delegates to '92 Demo Nat'l Conv. Mtgs. on 3rd Mon. 7pm at P'tree Library. 605-7476.

National Organization for Women—reproductive rights, lesbian/gay rights, civil rights, human rights. 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. 874-5171.

Queer Nation—Direct action countering homophobia and educating the public. Meets 2d and 4th Mon. at Peachtree Branch Library. 605-7396.

STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line—To report all bias/hate crime incidents and police abuse. 605-STOP.

PROFESSIONAL

Bar Owner's Assn—1874 Piedmont Rd., NW, Suite 211-B/102, Atlanta, GA 30324

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 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. 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 AIDS Interfaith Network 1053 Juniper St. Shabbat Seder 2nd Fridays monthly. 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. 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. 409-0203.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Lambda Light—A meditation group for lesbians and gay men. Meets weekly. 873-2137.
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.

SPORTS/OUTDOOR

Atlanta Team Tennis Assn.—Atlanta's tennis and social group for gay men. 621-2699.
Atlanta Venture Sports—An association in which the membership enjoys recreational, social, educational, and sports activities. 242-4899.
Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—Social activities as well as competitive outlets for tennis players of all levels. 662-GAME
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—Info at 621-5062. Fridays 7-10pm at Mercer Univ.
S.E. Gay Rodeo Association—For cowboys and cowgirls across the south. PO Box 8262, Atlanta, GA 30306. 874-6556.
S.E. Harlequins—Women's rugby—practices every Wed. night and Sun. afternoon. No experience is nec. New players are always welcome. 659-6916 or 761-8939 for info.
Underwater Escapes—Join the community's newest SCUBA Club. Trips and classes ongoing. Call Colleen at 289-0696.

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 Info Service—Information for persons interested in issues of gender. PO Box 33724, Decatur, GA 30033. (404) 939-0244 (evenings).
Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Comm.—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—Welcomes lesbians of all races, religions, political orientation, economic status, occupation and degree of openness. 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 gay men and educational outreach to society as a whole. 63 12th St., 876-5372.
Black and White Men Together—A gay inter-racial organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome. 794-BWMT.
The Cobb County Group—Monthly social and frequent recreational activities for those who live in Cobb. 438-1421.
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.
Chrysalis Women's Center—Provides social, educational and informational programs and services for the community. 881-6300.

Delphi—An ancient, mystic brotherhood. P.O. Box 14591, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Emotions Anonymous—A 12-step support group for gays & lesbians recovering from emotional problems. Sundays at 4pm at MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. 872-0979.

First Women—support group for women of color in the fashion & entertainment industry. All are welcome. Write G.G. Richardson, PO Box 724711, Atl. 30339, phone 612-9473.

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

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

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

Georgia Lesbian Ecofeminists—a local chapter of Feminists for Animal Rights. Stimulating conversation, vegan potlucks. 525-9085.

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

Gwinnett Lambda—Newly formed social and recreational group for Lesbians and Gays living in and around Gwinnett. PO Box 464848, Lawrenceville, GA 30246 or call Michael at 266-4566 or Randy at 923-5874.

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

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—For lesbian, gay, or bi-sexual youth interested in socials, demonstrations, safe space, and/or a support group. For more information call Chance at 688-1954.

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

S/M Discussion Group—Leather, S/M, fetish lifestyle group meets Thurs 7:30-10 at The Eagle, 306 Ponce. All welcome. Call 87-EAGLE for more info.

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

Women of Wisdom—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.

Wordsmith Society—A Gay/Lesbian literary group. Seeking members. Open meetings every 4th Sat. thru Feb at Peachtree Library. 1-3:30pm. Call Ron at 892-2815 for info.

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

ZAMI—Women who work together as friends and lovers, a support group for women of color. Meets 3d Sun. of each month at Charis Books. 315-7684.

STUDENTS

Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—Meetings every Wed., 6:30pm, Room 355, Dobbs Univ. 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, political and social org. for the lesbian, gay and bisexual GSU community. Meeting/activity times vary, call 264-2079.

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

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**BEVERLY
BUTHWOMON
WATERS**

Relationship status:
multitudinous friends
How long in Atlanta:
10 years
Age: 44
Last book read:
What May Be
by Piero Ferrucci
Personal goal:
to really be happy,
healthy and wise
Pet peeves: none



You can't put a label on Beverly Buthwomon Waters (she is in the process of changing her name). Some people know her as a kinesiologist, or in a former incarnation as a baker of essence bread, others as an intense spiritualist, and still others think of her as a woman who works on their pain via holotropic breathing and meditation. Through her work in "Partnerships in Peace" a non-profit organization she runs with Andrea Kay Smith, still more Atlantans have had the opportunity to experience what it is like to be in touch with their inner-selves. She is at once master-listener, earth-mother and spiritualist.

On a recent cool autumnal afternoon, Beverly answered questions outside her "office" on La Vista Road. She is a striking woman in appearance. Her persona is dominated by a face that invites the observer in for a second glance. Her hazel eyes are as animated as her speech, which flows with a confident ease. She moves her hands and head in balletic stiletto to compliment her words. Beverly is entrancing to listen to.

"I came to Atlanta 10 years ago with the primary intent of going to chiropractic college and beginning a life with my lover of that time. What evolved is I put off going to school, started a baking business, concentrated on raising my daughter (she is a single parent), and began to build a massage therapy practice." She laughed as she explained, "I spent half my time kneading bodies and half my time kneading essence (wheatless) bread." Beverly gradually gave up the bread business and made a full time commitment to her practice.

To understand Beverly's current life perspective, you have to know about her own personal transition.

"I went through my angry-young-woman politically correct phase in the 70's. Not that I wouldn't trade it for anything. I came out at the Midwest Lesbian Conference of 1973 where I went with the primary intent of working on political issues—but when I walked into my first meeting it was like the lightbulbs went off and I immediately knew I was a lesbian."

"I then went to New York City and lead a very 'out' political life working on many of the most pressing women's issues of the time: sexual harassment, abortion rights. I also was involved with organizing the Feminist Credit Union and Feminist Women's Health Center. And then I burned out and began to turn all this energy around to try and find a deeper expression of me. I now see this as an even greater political act because the most radical act for lesbians and gays today is to be healthy and happy, in fact it's outrageous."

Beverly has entered a five year incubation and nurturing of her inner-spirituality. The five years are an arbitrary period meant to foster a productive creative interval. "I have learned that I am a powerful woman in that I can commit to and enact a

reality. But it's not an issue of control, it's an act of surrender in that I don't know how to be a spiritual being having a human experience. Yet I know that this is where all my power and passion and creativity comes from."

Beverly leaves new age terminology behind in discussing her own spirituality. She gives credit to her friends and co-worker Andrea for the expression, "gettin' down and dirty with yourself" to describe her own inner voyage. Her basic premise is understanding that "every time we get to a point where we think we know, we've got to push ourselves and our egos back out to the edge of understanding. I call this living on the edge: not getting caught up in my own thought patterns and belief systems and to keep letting me and my existence change."

While she takes her work seriously, she often laughs at her tenuous steps towards understanding herself and others. "I mean who is talking?" she asked, chuckling. "You throw in a few inner-kids, a couple of adolescents, an ego, a critical parent, a higher self, a couple of 'guides' around—I mean who is talking?"

She relates this to her work with people in her practice by what she says is the process of: "being able to be make the unconscious conscious by not having that time I'm with that person be polluted by criticism or judgment. Sometimes we simply do not know how we feel, we don't know who we are. Some people are not ready to be what they aren't aware of, and this awareness can come through the body, our feelings or our intuition."

As for pain: "Pain is just a physical sensation, knocking at our door trying to get our body's attention. Years ago I would have approached this clinically with just massage and diagnosis. Now I know the body is just an illusion—and my way to getting at this pain may be to intensify it, making it so big that it's not your body anymore."

And change? "People are hungry for information about how to change, about how to be what they want to be. We must realize is that there are no prerequisites for change. But most importantly, we must learn to love and accept everyone. When I get judgmental and critical, I realize, yes, I am a human being. That's when I try to summon up the compassion from the darkest place inside of me—human Beverly. But the past is over. Memory is wonderful, but I don't have to live in it."

If for Beverly, time is an illusion, the constraints of newsprint cannot do justice to the wellspring of spiritual and philosophical ideas that Beverly's "being" is. If you wish to experience more of her work, you can call her practice at: 242-4381 or Partnership in Peace at: 634-2439.

—Jan Ginsburg

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS

It's getting better all the time

by Charlene Ball

"Quiet, please!" Linda Vaughn seems to appear out of nowhere. "We've got a lot to do tonight, we're down to the wire." The babble hushes, notebooks are raised, eyes face forward. Women line the risers, elbow to elbow.

The AFWC—Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—is gearing up for its second 10th-year anniversary. The second? "We got t-shirts made up (last year) with *Ten Years of Song*," laughs a chorus spokeswoman, "and then someone asked, 'Didn't you start in '81, not '80?' but we already had the t-shirts...!"

AFWC may have a freewheeling approach to historical accuracy, but when it comes to music, accuracy is all.

"Pick it up, pick it up!" Linda paces, clicking fingers to the beat. "Stop. We need to work on that in sectionals."

Altos remain upstairs while sopranos troop down to the E-Con basement and sit on ready-to-collapse sofas and hard folding chairs. Lauren Kelly, assistant director, starts to make loose-lipped motor noises - BRRRAAEE-EEEEERRRU-URRR. The dozen or so highest voices imitate her, not without embarrassment. Second sopranos

giggle. Then it's their turn. The basement is full of high-pitched swooping motorboat sounds. This exercise may look childish, but it's actually preparation for Debussy's *Reverie* with those dreaded high Gs and As.

With 82 members, a 16-member auxiliary, a director, assistant director, pianist, assistant pianist, non-profit status and an advisory committee, AFWC looks quite different from the group of six or seven women who met at the ALFA House in 1981.

"We couldn't fit into one room, so the sopranos were in one room and the altos in another, and Linda stood in the door directing!" remembers Shirley Chancey.

They found a larger rehearsal space at the Existentialist Congregation on Candler Park Drive, and for the past seven years on Sunday afternoons, clusters of women can be seen climbing up to the little stone church building, sitting on the steps, leaning over the wheelchair ramp, and watching the golfers across the street in Candler Park.

AFWC was one of two choruses in the nation to perform on the mainstage at the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. "Washington was our coming out," says one chorus member. "Before that, we were the feminist chorus. Now, we feel more comfortable about being out as lesbians."

The chorus is not entirely lesbian; the only requirement for membership is that one be a woman, want to sing with women, and be accepting of lesbians.

But AFWC's audience is overwhelmingly lesbian, and from the beginning, AFWC's musical selections have focused on the varieties of lesbian experience.

Any given AFWC concert will have political women's music—Holly Near's *Riverboat*, for example; a classical selection by Brahms, Debussy, or Beethoven; a folksy American number such as *Fiddler's Hymn* or *Sourwood Mountain*; and a slick, silky popular song. A rousing rock-and-roll selection usually closes the show. Leigh McClelland, who has appeared in clubs around Atlanta, has soloed with AFWC; so have SAME regulars Lenny Lassiter and Cheryl Pittman.

A few years ago, Carolyn Mobley brought the house to its feet with *Dancin' In The Streets*. The line 'It doesn't matter if you're black or white / or whether you're a boy or girl' has a special appeal to AFWC's audiences.

Perhaps one of the themes that emerges after hearing several AFWC concerts is a utopian feeling; songs referring to a future time when things will be better.

"We sing prophetic joys, of lofty ideals / we sing a universal love / awakening in the hearts of all"—Melody Riefer's clear soprano voice soared last spring in Walt Whitman's words to della Joio's *A Jubilant Song*. In *Ching-A-Ring-Chaw*, an American minstrel song, a comic-wistful earthly paradise was invoked: 'Nights we all will dance / to the harp and fiddle... when the morning comes / all in grand and splendor / we'll stand out in the sun / and hear the holy thunder.'

And central to this utopia is a sometimes funny and bawdy, sometimes sad, sometimes joyful, but always passionate love for women. 'Hold me closer to thy heart...let me know that thou art near'—soprano voices implore. *The Water Is Wide* makes its bittersweet commentary on serial monogamy: 'Now love is warm when it is true...but love grows old / and waxes cold / and fades away like mornin dew.'

AFWC gives its audiences images of ourselves and our lives. Each concert reminds us that we will indeed "Come Out of The Dark," and that we will go through the thunder, but that lesbians—and feminist straight women and gay men too—will someday stand out in the sun and hear that song of universal love.

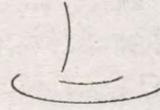
The Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus will perform on Saturday, December 7 at 7 & 9 pm at Southside High School, 801 Glenwood Ave. Tickets are available at Charis Books, Atlantis Connection, The Boy Next Door, Gallus and at the door.



EVETT BENNETT

AFWC at Atlanta Pride '91. Their audience is overwhelmingly lesbians, and from the beginning their musical selections have focused on the varieties of lesbian experience.

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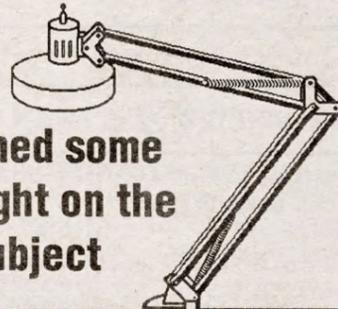


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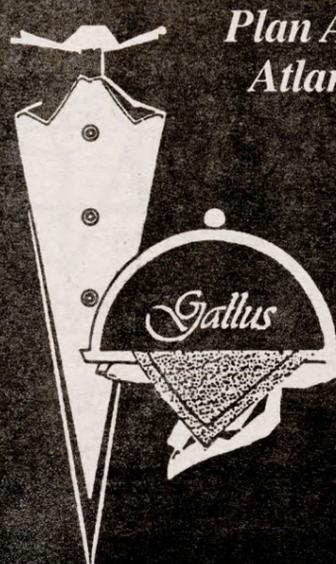


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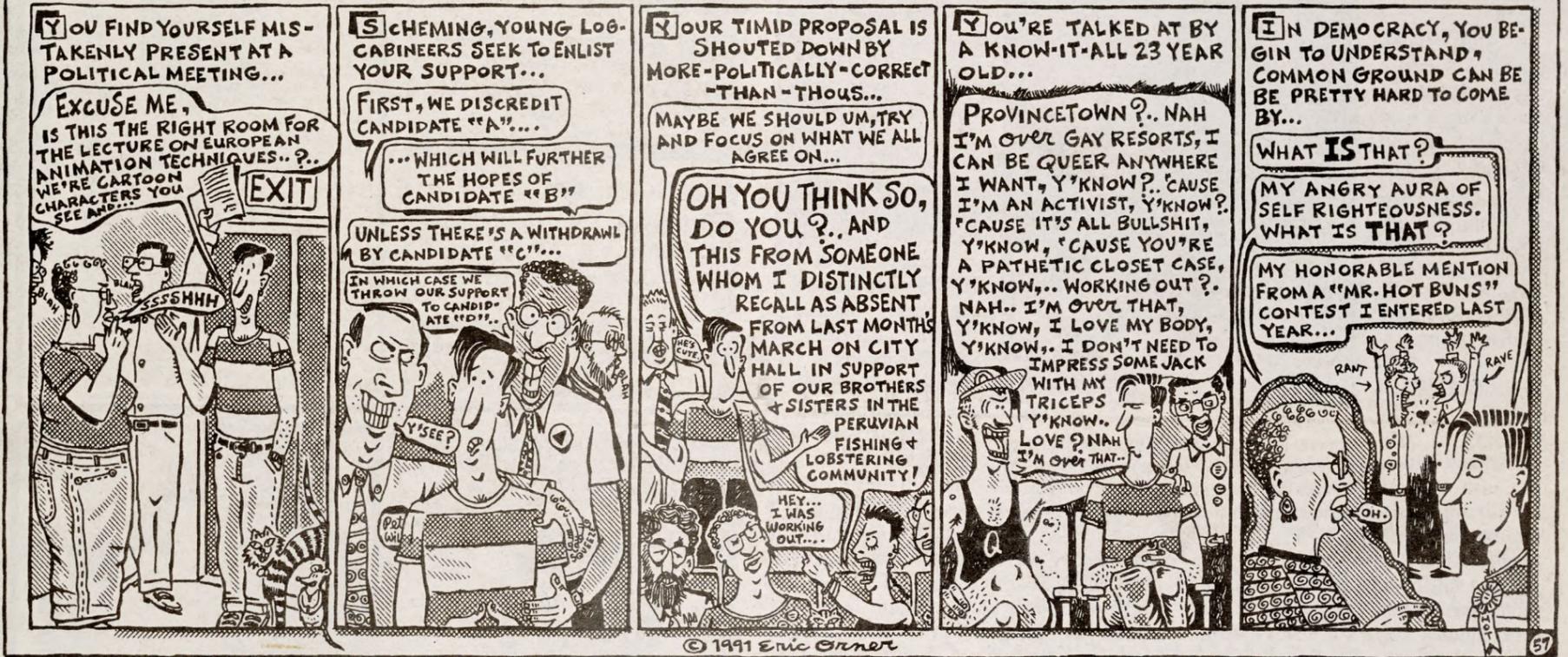
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DISH

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

Stop the Presses: Could it be that Dish and Atlanta's most famous big-haired bigotress, Nancy Schaeffer, actually agree about something? Impossible? Well, maybe not. It seems that the infamous Ms. S. (known as Auntie Atilla in most progressive circles) has been elected first V-P of the Georgia Baptist Convention. And that she and the officers of this relatively retro organization have announced that they are "united against...[an] evil... threatening our state." What evil you ask? Homosexuality? Abortion? Yoga? Yogurt? Oat bran? Nay, nay. It is Gov. Miller's proposed lottery. Dish's opposition, of course, is not based on the "evil" of the thing, but on the fact that it is naught but an incredibly regressive form of taxation. But we fear it matters not what Nancy or Dish think, the lottery is likely one done deal.

Outer and Outer: At a mid-October fundraiser for the 20th anniversary of L.A.'s Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center (1360 queers and their friends in attendance, thank you very much) Lily Tomlin told a cheering crowd "Congratulations to all of us who have been gay for 20 years..." Dish thinks that's about as close to admitting IT publicly as you can get. Meanwhile, Grace Jones (recently out of A&D rehab) woke up and smelled the coffee last week when she told some folks that she's over guys and is on the prowl for a woman who is "funny, witty and independent." Along the same line (well sort of) comes the word that heartthrob Harry Connick Jr. says his boudoir scene in "Little Man Tate" was a mistake. "I didn't touch her, I didn't kiss her, but I was in the bed with her and that's not proper to me." Maybe Harry should take a hint from Grace.

Hot Stuff: There's an old adage about news (bad, good, and otherwise) coming in threes. But when the news about transgendered people comes in three's and two of the items get covered in the daily paper, well, now that really is news. First there was the mini-stink when Maynard (back in September) extended (and then withdrew, so to speak) a proclamation of honorary citizenship to playboy model Caroline "Tula" Cossey—an Englishman who became an Englishwoman back in the '70s. Then comes word that



Sally (nee Sami) Abdalla is causing a stir in Cairo (Egypt, not Georgia) because she is being up front and unapologetic about her decision to change her sex. Seems that sex changes are frowned upon, but not illegal in Egypt. Not so the love that dare not speak its name. Then comes word of the formation in Atlanta of AEGIS (American Educational Gender Information Service). AEGIS recently held a party at Petrus to once more honor the aforementioned "Tula" (who is becoming at least a part-time resident here) and to let folks in the area know about its services—referrals, support, legal, social, you name it. For more info write AEGIS at PO Box 33724, Decatur, GA 30033 or call Ms. Dallas Denny at 939-0244.

Do The Right Games: While the ACOG argues about timelines, new logos, venues, financial disclosure and allegations of bribery and fraud, the Gay Olympics (excuse us, the Gay Games IV) is right on schedule for its '94 extravaganza in NYC. And unlike the real Olympics, GG IV has done the right thing and hired a woman (one Paula Pressley, pictured) as its Executive Director. GG IV has also chosen a logo—created by one Vicki Jones of Sydney, Australia, who came out to her boss when she heard she had won the design competition. Dish thinks the logo (that's it next to Paula's pic) is pretty nifty. Maybe Billy Payne should contact Ms. Jones about redoing Atlanta's graphics for the 100th Olympiad.

Artistic What?: The NEA's John Frohnmeyer, who you may remember denied grants to three gay/lesbian artists last year (based on lack of artistic merit), has finally found his spine and approved grants to two of those artists—Tim Miller and Holly Hughes—this year. Ms. Hughes and Ms. Miller (along with Karen Finley and John Fleck) are continuing their legal action against the NEA for withdrawing last year's awards. Go get 'em.

Internal Conflicts: Regular readers of *The Nation* know that columnist Christopher Hitchens pulls no punches when dealing with matters relating to this country's proclivity to right wing madness. And you may remember that it was Hitchens who outed conservative fundraiser Terry Dolan in 1987 in *Harpers*. But unless you watch Ch. 36's morning news (Did you even know they had morning news? Is Bart Simpson the anchor?) you may not know that Hitchens recently claimed that Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) is "very easily excited by young men in uniform." Asked if the remark was intended to out the conservative Congressman, a sly Hitchens said his words were meant merely to "plant the idea that he has internal conflicts about his sexual orientation." Dana and his "girlfriend" Paula are said to deny the charges. You bet.

November 21- December 4

RULING PLANETS

by Mary Bailey-Rule

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLORETH

The Full Moon on the 21st. The Sun enters Sag on Friday the 22nd, a good day to be with old friends doing fun things. Mercury goes retrograde on Nov. 28, prolonging its stay in Sagittarius.

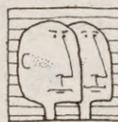
ARIES—With the Sun and Mercury in your 9th house of education and travel, you may feel especially restless. Plan a weekend trip, if that is all the time you can spare, and get some regular exercise.



TAURUS—If life is seeming a little bit intense right now, then you can blame it on Pluto and Mars together in Scorpio. This won't last forever, but you do need to heed your intuition and definitely stay loose.



GEMINI—What, more people waltzing through your life? Of course, the Sun and Mercury are cruising through your 7th house of close, personal relationships. It's a good time to renew old friendships and add depth to newer ones.



CANCER—With the Sun, Mercury moving through your 6th house of physical health and work routines, this is the time to eat better and make any necessary changes in your life-style to improve your overall health and well-being.



LEO—If you are feeling isolated or unappreciated, it could be you have forgotten how to listen to others. Give friends and family a chance to be center stage for awhile and they'll return with the love and appreciation you desire.



VIRGO—With Venus in your 2nd house of material resources, personal finances and creature comforts, you need to evaluate your financial situation, do some real positive and affirming prosperity work and give away old unused stuff.



LIBRA—Are your relationships making a drain on your finances? You may need to focus on your own needs and priorities for awhile and communicate more clearly and specifically with others in your personal life.



SCORPIO—Congratulations, now that the Sun, Mars, Pluto conjunct is behind you, take a deep breath, relax and do something fun. The only thing certain about life is change, so at least you know what to expect.



SAGITTARIUS—Happy Birthday! As the Sun and Mercury move through your 1st house of personal awareness and appearance, you could use some birthday money to update your wardrobe or at least have a small adventure.



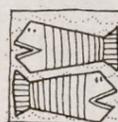
CAPRICORN—With the Sun and Mercury in your 12th house of unconscious processes, dreams and intuitive abilities, you could try trusting your intuition more. You also may feel more impulsive, but it will probably be good for you.



AQUARIUS—If you are having difficulties with close friends or co-workers, it may be they are not living from the exact same vision that fuels your life. Try to express more of the ideals and values you hold dear and listen for theirs.

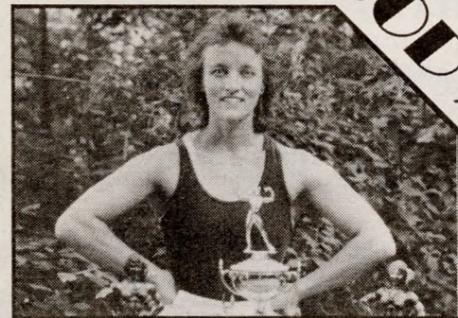


PISCES—If you find yourself in the middle of conflict in your career or personal life, this may NOT be the best time to retreat. It may be in your best interest to speak up firmly without worrying about the reactions of others.



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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Tickets, turkey and tours

by Thom Cardwell

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Standard airline policy is that if you still choose to fly, you're usually required to purchase a new ticket at "the best fare available on the day that you are requesting the replacement." That can become fairly costly when the lowest no-advance purchase fare at an airline like United is sometimes double or triple the basic economy fare to almost any destination. Earlier this year, American Airlines changed its policy to allow the replacement ticket cost to be the same as the fare originally paid.

According to several airline representatives, the basic processing fee for a replacement ticket covers the necessary costs that the airline spends in order to research and determine "if your lost ticket was improperly used and whether you are entitled to a refund." Some airlines, like Delta, will waive such a fee if you find your lost ticket and return it within 30 days after the replacement ticket was issued.

If you have had the problem before or need more information, send \$2 to Aviation Consumer Action Project, P.O. Box 19029, Washington, D.C. 20036 and they'll mail you a copy of "Facts and Advice for Airline Passengers."

Turkey On Board. Want to skip the relative-thing this Thanksgiving? Long-time producer of both the Southern and West

Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festivals, Robin Tyler has once again chartered the SS Enchanted Isle to sail the Mexican Riviera for a Thanksgiving Week Cruise for women-only. Embarking from the friendly city of San Diego in Southern California, the ship stops at ports of call—Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta—before returning to San Diego. Special events on board include Thanksgiving Day Feast, Eleanor Roosevelt Reception and the Alice B. Toklas/Gertrude Stein Formal Dinner-Dance. Information, schedules and prices can be acquired from most reputable travel agents catering to a lesbian clientele. Check this paper for travel agents.

Walking Tours. Seasoned travelers say walking around the varied neighborhoods of San Francisco is the most interesting and rewarding way to appreciate the city. According to San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau, there are at least 14 walking tours sponsored by various organizations or individuals at the present time.

In fact, there's even one for lesbian and gay history buffs. Trevor Hailey hosts "Crusin' The Castro From A Historical Perspective" in which he explains how the "gay mecca" of San Francisco earned its name. The comprehensive tour begins with breakfast at a popular bistro, then proceeds to visits of local landmarks. Hailey's commentary is highly noted for its constant stream of "entertaining and informative vignettes that illuminate aspects of gay history from 1849 to the present." A visit to the Names Project, home of the AIDS memorial quilt, concludes this special tour. For information, write Hailey at 375 Lexington St., San Francisco, CA 94110 or call 415-550-8110.



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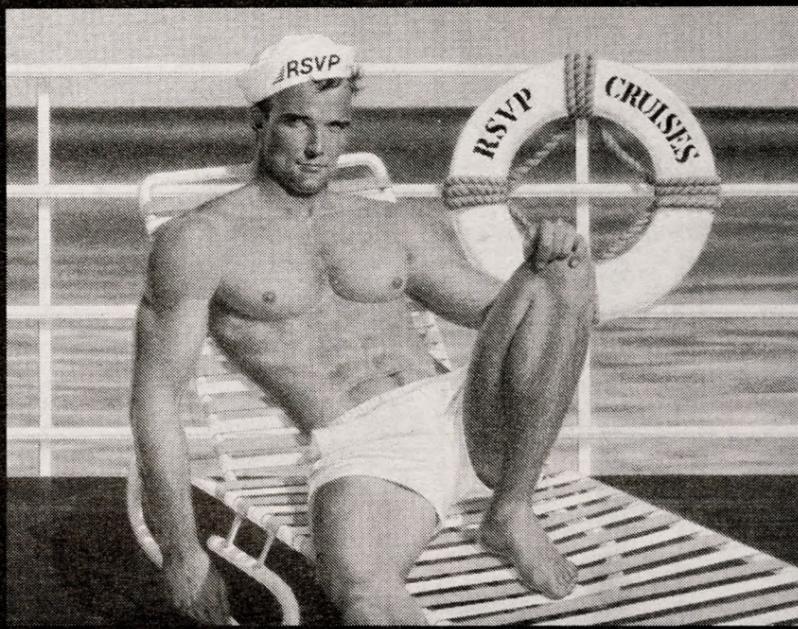
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AIDS Services & Education

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AIDSCHAIM: Congregation Bet Haverim, Atlanta's Reconstructionist Synagogue serving the Gay and Lesbian Community sponsors a predominately gay support group for those affected by the AIDS crisis. AIDSCHAIM meets the 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7:30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 701 W. Howard St., Decatur. 1/4 mi. West of E. Lake MARTA station. INFO? Call Fran at 642-3476.

AIDS Support Group forming in Carrollton, serving AIDS positive and HIV positive persons. Safe and confidential environment provided. For more info, call 214-8054.

P.A.L.S. Pets Are Loving Support - Providing P.W.A.s with information on obtaining canine and feline companions, free pet food and reduced vet care. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Donations for pet supplies and food. Transportation of food and pets. Foster homes. Donate. Volunteer. 255-7461. Leave message. (4.22)

P.O.O.H. - Positive Outlook On Health 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 872-9954.

Certified Nursing Assistant with 6 years experience. Will provide care in your home during the day. Reasonable rates. Good references. Call 320-6041. (4.21)

Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church sponsors two support groups, one for PWA's, one for caregivers to PWA's. Meet each 2nd and 4th Sun., 5-6:30pm at the Church, 805 Mt. Vernon Highway, Sandy Springs. Call 255-4023 for further information. (4.20)

Atlanta Area Attorney experienced in AIDS-related issues available to assist in legal matters. Complete confidentiality assured. Please call Eric at 371-5065 for more details.

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, azithromycin, pentamidine. We have moved to 44 Twelfth St, NW, across from the Atlanta Gay Center, and have extended our office hours. For further information contact us at (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357.

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.

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 - Plus groups for HIV-affected people. Fridays, 8:00pm and Sundays, 6:00pm. 63 12th Street. Call 876-5372 for more info. Helpline, 892-0661, for info, counseling and referral. 6:00-11:00pm 365 days a year.

ACT UP/Atlanta: (404) 605-7458 (info), 874-6782 (office)

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)

HIV HEALING & SUPPORT GROUP - Facilitated group for HIV+ persons wishing to explore emotional and spiritual therapies in warm, safe environment. 2nd & 4th Tues, 7:30-9pm. Unity-Midtown Church Activity Ctr, 1065 Spring. 874-1937. Begins Nov. 12.

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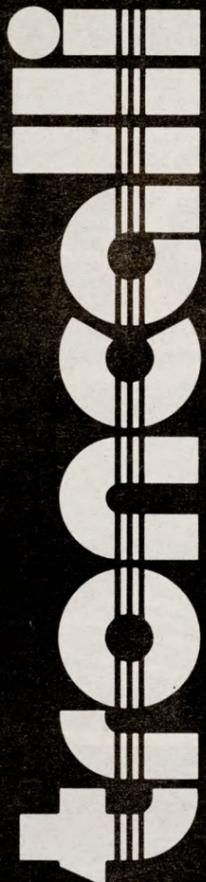
Announcements

AUDITIONS for OutProud Theatre's new play, *WASPS*, based on Women Air Force Service Pilots in WWII, will be held on December 2 and 3 at the 14th Street Playhouse from 7:00-9:30pm. 7 women, 2 men. Physically active show. Picture, resume, and 2 1-minute prepared monologues. Call Pauline at 881-0817 to schedule appointment.

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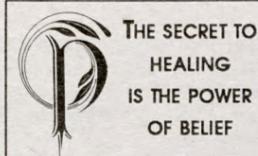
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backSTAGE This "family" organization located in Fishers, Indiana is in two parts.

1) **ONEinTEN** is a super alternative T-shirt production. Pithy and political tees for everyone.
2) **backSTAGE Laserdisc/Music Video** has everything for your high-tech music-loving tastes. See the advertisement in this section for information on receiving a catalog.

FLAX Your dialing finger will itch when this little catalog comes to your door from San Francisco, CA. It is packed with "toys" of all kinds, from journals and nostalgic fountain

pens to ties and puzzles. Something for everyone. Call 1-800-547-7778 for info.

J. Miles Clothing Co. T-shirts and more! Ft. Lauderdale, Florida brings this delightfully naughty selection of designs and styles ranging from downright dirty to ones you could wear to an IBM company picnic. They also have some treats from Calvin Klein for men. Check out the ad in this section for details. Call (305) 462-2710 for catalog.

In Harmony The theme of this environmentally safe product catalog from Albuquerque, New

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Mexico is "It's All Your Body Wants." Included is a diverse group of items from bath oils and cosmetics to popcorn and videos. Helping you to enjoy and nurture all of your senses (taste, touch, scent, sight, hearing and humor) is the goal. Selections are clearly marked as cruelty-free. See ad in this section for details. Call 1-800-451-7803 for a catalog.

Harry and David A true feast for the eyes and palate. Luscious fruits and nuts! As if that wasn't enough, this well-established (since 1934) mail-order company also has amazing flower baskets, candies

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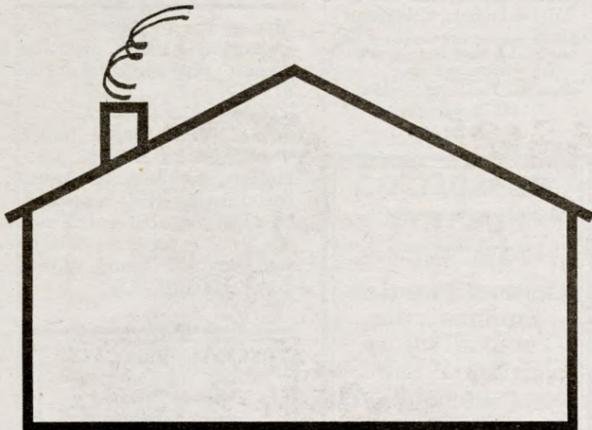
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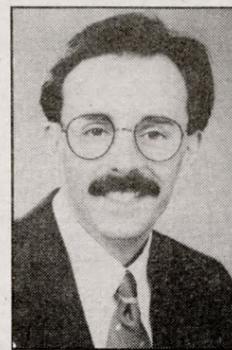
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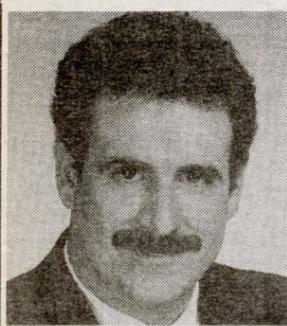
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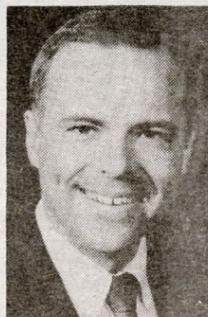
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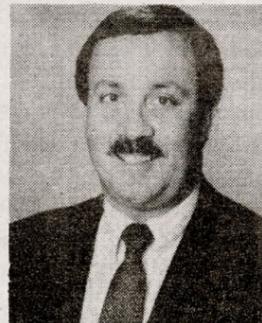
Buy Low in Stratford Green - Lowest price in subdiv for this 3-level fee simple townhse, 2 BR, 2.5 BA plus finished bsmnt. \$63,900

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

In search of hopeless romantic. Attractive 29 year old WM looks for mutually committed, monogamous relationship with quality man, 30-40. I'm intelligent, professional, teddy bear type. Prefer teddy bear who is not afraid to be loved or love. ☐ 45006

GBF, 22, seeks fem.f for friendship and kinky fun. ☐ 45004

I need someone, a person to talk to, someone to care, to love, could it be you? Cute plus-sized GBF, 23 seeks lesbian. Cool things? Clubbing, Album 88, Northern Exposure, more. Politically active but facing burnout. How about you? ☐ 45002

Novice, W/M, 48, 6'3", blonde/blue, glasses actively seeking GM to gently lead me to my first physical experience. Should be patient but mildly aggressive and well endowed physically as well as mentally. Call soon - Easy. You won't be sorry. ☐ 45095 (4.22)

Lesbian (38) seeks friendship and possibly more. Looking for fun...no drugs, no smoking. Do you enjoy daytrips, children, good conversation & playing cards... please give me a call! ☐ 45099

GWM, 49, 5'9", 145 lbs. Professional, stable, honest, affectionate, non-smoker. Enjoys the arts, nature, travel and romantic evenings at home. Seeks well educated, GWM, 30-50 with similar values and interests for inter-personal growth, friendship and possible commitment. ☐ 45097

Submissive G/W/M, 48, new to Atlanta wishes to serve strict, demanding, forceful gay male dominant. Age / race open. Should be aggressive take-charge top to compliment my subservient nature. Will submit to anything you desire short of personal harm. ☐ 45093

BiWM, 23, 5'7", 138 lbs, cute, fit, intelligent and interesting. Into working out, baseball (especially Braves), and music. Seeking masculine looking, athletic, muscular, easy-going, handsome BiWM, 21-30 for friendship/companionship and maybe more. ☐ 45091.

Immediate Response!

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a personal ad: Fill out the classified coupon 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.

Gay White Male would like to meet same in the Calhoun / Gordon County area. Reply with details, information, photo, etc. to: SV 2425.

GWM, 51, 5'11", 150 lbs., professional, enjoys theatre, symphony, movies, out-of-doors, seeks GWM (21-55) for friendship / relationship. Must be stable, sincere, gentle, compassionate and non-smoker. Write with phone # to SV 2422.

Lesbian, 40's, sweet and sexy. Loves watching dance, making art, gardening, left-leaning politically, looking for a woman 40's-60's with similar interests, funny, a passion for her work, who requires mutual respect and kindness for friendship and possible relationship. SV 2420.

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Late 40's...going on 39... in looks and spirit. Goodlooking Caucasian, blu/brn, mustache, 5'11 1/2", 165#, non-smoker, sensitive with a sense of humor, sexual and very romantic. "Thoreau Reincarnation"... into living a very simple ("Foxfire") life in a secluded North Georgia Mountain hideaway surrounded by nature yet within travel distance of Atlanta and the performing arts. Seeking to share my life and my home, your home, our home??? with a very masculine man (40's, 50's) in a monogamous (permanent?) relationship. SV 2428.

Successful, well-balanced, professional, GWM, 40s, loving and supportive, seeking close, affectionate relationship with mature teen WM, needing to be loved / cared about. Inexperienced / curious okay. Discretion assured. SV 2429

GWF, 30, looking for friends who work nights. I'm free from 8:30-3:00 most week days, and Thursday nights. I enjoy music, movies, art, the outdoors, spirituality, books, and good conversations. SV 2427.

ME: Cute, 49, 5'7", 158 lbs; enjoys sports, train travel, animals; dislikes bars, drugs. YOU: 38-50, masculine, professional, with similar interests. SV 2426.

CHRISTIAN? GAY?

GWF, 34, Christian seeking gay Christian women/men of character for fellowship / friendship. (shopping, dining, conversation, the arts, church) Traditional values, intelligence, integrity, emotional maturity, desire to grow spiritually important. Age, race unimportant. Recently out of relationship - not ready for another yet. PO Box 48824, Atlanta, GA 30362.

Thanks from BF in Italy - Your letters mean a lot, keep writing. Still seeking pen pals while stationed in Italy. Not sexually oriented material, just news from home type stuff. If you like a cool dry wit, write "G" (just "G"). Only 29¢ stamp req'd to mail. SV 2423.

Volunteers

WE NEED HELP with distribution/copying for a quarterly newsletter **PWA-RAG** (Prisoners With AIDS Rights Advocacy Group). We are registered lobbyist/advocates supporting incarcerated men & women of all races who have AIDS. Printed in 3 languages. Since 1988 we have worked to secure fair treatment and medical care for our brothers & sisters in prisons all over the world. Call 946-9346 TODAY to Volunteer. PLEASE HELP.

ALGPC Prepares for 1992 Pride Celebration: Looking for over 50,000 motivated lesbian and gay volunteers to assist in organizing the 1992 Pride Celebration (June 27, 28, 1992). For more info call 662-4533. If you can't volunteer, donations are appreciated. ALGPC, PO Box 54024, Atl, GA 30308.

Peer facilitators needed for newly formed battered & formerly battered lesbian support group. Meetings weekly ~2 hours. Call 688-9436 for more information.

Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner Committee needs your help to make our the country's largest dinner. Public relations, advertising, ticket sales, entertainment, logistics volunteers needed. Call voice mail # 662-4280 or write HRCF, PO Box 8594, Atlanta 30306-0594. HRCF is building a more secure future for us all.

Volunteers wanted to work on gay/bar outreach program. Call AID Atlanta for details. 872-0600.

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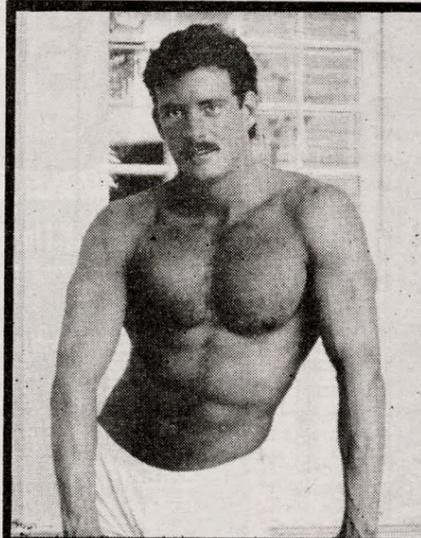
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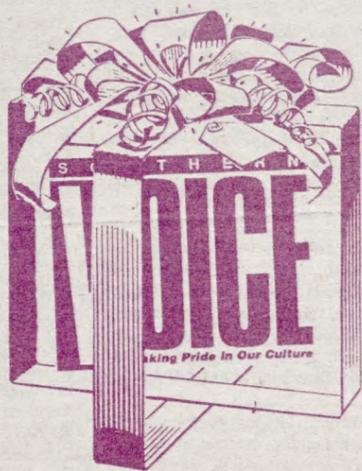


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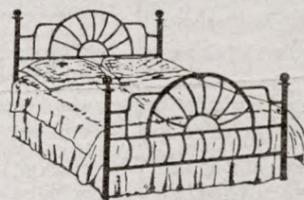
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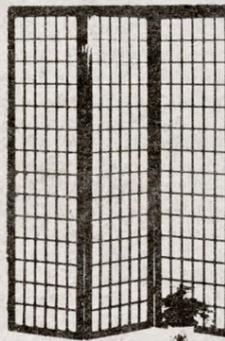
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