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Taking Pride in Our Culture

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Delta accused of illegal interview practices

by Mark Chesnut and from staff reports

Atlanta — The airline industry has come under scrutiny and the gay and lesbian community has been put on alert, following allegations that Delta Airlines has been asking job applicants questions about their private lives, in violation of some state laws.

During recent interviews conducted in New York, Los Angeles, Virginia and Miami, Delta Airlines officials are alleged to have asked applicants questions about sexual preference, arrest records, birth control, living arrangements and disabilities. Questioning of this type is barred by New York and California, but laws are not as explicit in Florida or Virginia, so it is not clear what effect an investigation would have on the case.

Brian Moreau, president of the Independent Union of Flight Attendants, says he has received hundreds of complaints from former Pan Am employees who applied to Delta to fill positions created by Delta's recent purchase of many of Pan Am's assets and routes. The union represented 4,000 Pan Am flight attendants before the sale; the workforce at Delta is not unionized. In a *New York Newsday* article, a Pan Am executive who helped set up the interviews at Delta said that she had also received complaints. Respective Delta employees have complained that Delta

Atlanta-based airline denies asking questions about sexual orientation

officials asked some applicants questions relating to family relationships, whether applicants had a roommate, why they were not married, and whether they were taking medication, including drugs for AIDS and depression. Delta has also reportedly run checks on prior arrests, workers compensation records, and asked applicants to sign a blanket release that allows Delta to check the backgrounds of applicant's family members.

"We ask no improper questions," said Neil Monroe, a spokesperson for Atlanta-based Delta Airlines. "Our interview process was proper. We're familiar with New York State regulations and laws."

Monroe did acknowledge that the airline routinely asks about living situations and conducts extensive background checks "for security reasons to meet FAA security requirements." But Monroe strongly denied that questions were asked regarding the sexual orientation of applicants. "We have no concern whatsoever about sexual preference," he

told *NYQ*, a New York gay and lesbian news magazine. "I cannot emphasize this enough."

The New York City Human Rights Commission has stated that many of the alleged questions are illegal, but has not opened an investigation because a formal complaint has not been filed. Human Rights Commissioner Dennis DeLeon has sent a letter to the president of Delta Airlines to request a meeting about the allegations. Delta has acknowledged receiving the letter, and according to Monroe, is "reviewing" it, but has not responded to the commission.

Moreau told *NYQ* that it was "a little premature" to file a formal complaint. A survey was sent out to all members of the Independent Union of flight Attendants on November 11 to obtain more information about Delta's interview practices. Once the information is collected, Moreau said, the union will decide what steps to take. He knew of no similar cases involving Delta, however, a furloughed TWA employee has also come forward and claimed that she was asked personal questions about her divorce when she was interviewed at Delta.

Monroe confirmed that Delta fired a former flight attendant who was HIV positive, claiming he had falsified his

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Guess What?



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This ad made possible by a grant from the Chicago Resource Center, a bequest from Gray W. Lambert, and the support of Vernon C. Mitchell and many other valued contributors.

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People will carry full-page gay ad

by Brent Hartinger

A lesbian and gay organization is placing in *People* magazine what may be the single most expensive and widely seen pro-gay advertisement ever. Although actor Dick Sargent is sure to get the most recognition, the ad's creators put in just as much effort to assemble the other 40 or so lesbians and gay men for the photo shoot.

The full-page ad is sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project, a national nonprofit organization that uses the media to educate the public about homosexuality and homophobia. The ad will appear in the December 30 year-end double issue of *People* and feature with the caption, "Guess What? We're your family, neighbors, and friends...and we're gay. Look beyond lesbian and gay stereotypes and find out more about us!"

"The photograph really shows the diversity of the lesbian and gay community," said Julie Baron, recently appointed executive director of the Los Angeles-based project. "People don't think they know anyone who's gay, but there's such a diversity [of people in the ad] that there's probably somebody there anyone can relate to."

The Awareness Project went to great lengths to include as much of the lesbian and gay community's diversity as possible in the ad. "We decided we wanted a true representation," Baron said, noting that the ad includes representatives from the African American Gay and Lesbian Cultural Alliance, Viva, the Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos, and the Asian Pacific Islanders Gay and Lesbian Group.

In addition, the ad features Dick Sargent, the actor who portrayed Darrin Stevens for most of the run of the 1960s television series *Bewitched* and who publicly came out as a gay man on October 11, this year's National Coming Out Day. "Since I went public about my sexuality, I decided to do everything I can," Sargent said.

Actress Sheila Kuehl, who played Dobie Gillis' girlfriend on *Dobie Gillis* and who also came out with Sargent on October 11, was present for much of the session during which the photo was taken, but is not in the shot chosen for the ad.

Other lesbians and gays in the ad include Lynn Shepodd, executive director of National Coming Out Day; Warren Sims, president of the African American Gay and Lesbian Cultural Alliance; Virginia Uribe, the founder of Project 10, one of the nation's first counseling programs for lesbian and gay high school students (and still the only school board-sanctioned program of its kind); and pre-Stonewall gay activist Morris Kight.

Continued on page 5

Bell appoints APD liaison to gay community

by KC Wildmoon

Atlanta Police Chief Eldrin Bell has appointed a liaison for the lesbian and gay community within the APD. Deputy Chief Jim Oliver, head of criminal investigation, will be the contact point for crime issues concerning lesbians and gays in the city.

Oliver said that complaints regarding policy, such as recruitment, will still be referred to Chief Bell's office.

"If you have problems with bias crimes, that's my bailiwick," said Oliver. "I'm the guy who needs to deal with it."

Oliver said that he has had good relations with the lesbian and gay community in the past.

"My rapport with people is pretty good," he said. "I know there is some animosity [between the gay community and the police department], and I can't change things politically. But I

will be above board, and I want everybody to be the same way with me."

Activists in the lesbian/gay community are cautious but hopeful about Oliver's appointment.

"We've heard good things about Chief Oliver, and I hope for the community's sake that they're true," said Larry Pellegrini, president of the Lesbian/Gay Chapter of Atlanta's American Civil Liberties Union. "We look forward to dealing with him on that basis, with the hope that he will respond with the attention we've never had before from the department."

Oliver is currently heading up the investigation of recent shootings of transvestites in Atlanta. There have been three in the past month, and police have investigated the possibility that

the shootings are related.

"We have no evidence that they are related," Oliver said. "Of course it's not usual to have three so close together, but we think they are not related, any more than a string of cab driver murders would necessarily be."

Oliver said he had a "team" of investigators on the cases, but requested help from the gay community.

"If any of your readers have information, let us know," he said. "We want to solve these cases."

Oliver's office number at APD is 658-7473 if you have information on these cases, or if you need Chief Oliver's assistance.

Episcopalians vote to boycott Cracker Barrel

by KC Wildmoon

The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, which covers North Georgia, passed four resolutions of interest to the lesbian/gay communities and AIDS activists/patients at a meeting on November 9. The votes took place at the 85th Council of the Diocese in Gainesville, Georgia.

A resolution introduced by a delegate from Church of the Epiphany in Decatur called on member parishes to join the boycott of Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores. The resolution said that the Diocese "deplores employment discrimination based on race, gender or sexual orientation," and urged members to boycott companies, "such as Cracker Barrel," that practice such discrimination.

Laura Bryant, assistant rector at the Church of the Epiphany, said that one of the parishioners there had written the resolution.

"It was really quite wonderful that a member of our congregation took it upon himself to do that," she said. "And it passed."

That resolution elicited more discussion than others discussed at the Council, Bryant said, "mostly from the business community."

Bryant said the Church has had very little response, positive or negative, since the meeting.

The other resolutions were submitted by the Diocesan Task Force on AIDS. The resolutions encourage the state legislature to start a needle exchange program, present ten "principals" for the protection of people with AIDS or HIV infection in the workplace, and set up a commission to bring the church into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA excludes religious establishments from its provisions.

Auburn gay group denied charter

by KC Wildmoon

Auburn, AL—The Student Senate of Auburn University has denied a charter to Auburn's lesbian and gay group. The 23-7 vote came just weeks after the same student government group had given the Lesbian and Gay Organization an award for "Outstanding Organization of the Year."

The organization had been given a probationary charter last year.

"We met all the requirements," said Pam, president of the group. Pam requested that the media not use last names.

"We're disappointed at the outcome," she continued, "but we're trusting the university to overturn the decision [by the Student Senate] and satisfy us."

Pam said she and other members of the group had already met with Auburn administration officials.

"They are reviewing the vote," she said.

"They told us they were disappointed also, and supportive of our group."

Members of the Student Senate denied the group's request for a permanent charter because they felt Auburn should not be "promoting homosexuality," according to news reports out of Montgomery, Alabama.

In a related story, the student government association at Clemson University in South Carolina voted 36-15 to recognize a lesbian/gay organization on campus.

Domestic partnership undergoing study

Calls to City Council mostly negative

An ordinance to provide benefits to unmarried partners of city employees is undergoing further study before coming to City Council for a vote, according to City Council member Mary Davis. Davis, who introduced the measure on November 4, said that council members have requested more information, particularly about costs.

"We've requested information from our insurers," said Davis, "but they have indicated they won't respond before December 19."

In addition, Davis said that she has asked the city finance officer to study the costs incurred in other cities that have domestic partnership ordinances and to report on how those figures would apply to the city of Atlanta.

"We want everybody to be clear on what we're talking about," Davis said.

City Council members have received a number of phone calls and letters opposing domestic partnership legislation, mostly, Davis said, on "moral" grounds.

"I think it's moral to provide for city employees," said Davis, "rather than use the word 'moral' to mask prejudice."

Davis told *Southern Voice* that her office had received 15 or 20 letters opposing her legislation, and "maybe 5 positive calls." She encouraged gays and lesbians in the city to let Council members know how they feel about the proposed legislation.

Delta

Cont'd from page 1

job application. Monroe would not provide further details, because he said they were confidential. He denied that Delta would discriminate against people who are HIV positive. "We've hired several people with very severe pre-existing conditions," he said.

Monroe told *NYQ* that Delta, which is a non-union carrier, has not communicated directly with the former Pan Am employee's union regarding complaints, because "they don't represent current Delta personnel. But we're certainly taking a look at the allegations."

According to Moreau, Delta has hired 1,800 former union members out of 2,300 interviewed. Some were not hired based on Delta's requirements of seniority, second

HIV discrimination suit settled

Atlanta — Kenco-Briarcliff Apartments has settled a lawsuit with a man who charged the resident manager with violating anti-discrimination laws prohibiting discrimination against HIV positive people. Jerrod Beasley, a resident of the apartment complex, filed suit on June 21, 1991, claiming the resident manager had removed a friend who has AIDS from the complex's swimming pool. In the settlement announced on November 22, Beasley will receive \$4,500.

According to the lawsuit, Drew Averitt,

formerly Beasley's roommate, was swimming in the pool while Beasley was in his apartment making sandwiches. Judy Allison, the resident manager, ordered Averitt out of the pool because of his HIV status, telling him that another woman swimming in the pool at the time was pregnant and would be afraid of "catching" AIDS.

Allison later said she had ordered Averitt out of the pool because he was an "unattended guest."

Beasley said at the time he filed the lawsuit that money was not the important issue in the case.

"Basic human rights have been violated," he said. "We're doing this more to educate than anything else."



Gary Matthews (right) and his lover David White have been picketing outside the Delta office in Washington, D.C. for almost a year to "warn people about Delta's personnel practices."

language ability, or weight guidelines. But there is a group of applicants for which Moreau sees no clear reason for not being hired, and he said the union would be focusing on finding out why.

In a related story, Gary Matthews, a former Delta employee has been picketing in front of the Delta office on K Street in Washington, D.C. for almost a year to "warn people about Delta's personnel practices." Matthews and his lover, David White, hand out a letter to passersby which details Matthews' experience with the airline.

A 19-year employee of Delta, Matthews alleges that he was fired in March, 1990 because he is gay and sustained a work-related disability. He also claims that the airline and its insurer, Wausau, conspired to interfere with his medical treatment.

In Matthews' letter, which was first printed in this newspaper in September, 1990 he says, "I was instructed by Wausau to see Dr. Brian Schulman for a medical examination (of my hand) only to discover that Schulman was not a neurosurgeon but a psychiatrist. He asked me if I was gay, if I had a lover, if we had sex with other people, and if we had been tested for AIDS," Matthews said.

Matthews says he fell at work in August, 1985 and did permanent damage to the nerves in his right hand. The next five years, he says, were a nightmare. "Throughout this

time I repeatedly wrote to the Chairman of the Board of Delta, to the president of the company, and to the head of the Personnel Department. But every time I got one thing straightened out with my medical treatment or receiving benefits I was entitled to, someone from Delta or Wausau would come up with some new lie or fraud to make my life impossible again."

Matthews also says that while receiving medical treatment in Washington, D.C. he was told that his doctor had received a phone call from someone claiming to be a reporter for the *Washington Blade* (a gay and lesbian newspaper) telling him Matthews had nominated him for "Doctor of the Year."

"I made no such nomination, and the *Blade* has no such award," Matthews said. Shortly thereafter the doctor refused to continue to treat Matthews, and he believes Delta was somehow responsible for the phone call.

"They (Delta) have always been biased against gays," Matthews said in response to recent Pan Am employee complaints. "I saw it happen to other people, but I never realized it was that bad until it happened to me."

Matthews has retained an attorney and says he will soon file suit against Delta.

NEWS

Mercury Retrograde, And Sadly Missed

Freddie Mercury, longtime lead singer of the rock group Queen, died on November 24 of broncho-pneumonia brought on by AIDS. The singer, who had announced he had the disease only a day before, was 45. Mercury was born Frederick Bulsara in Zanzibar, and formed the group Queen in London in 1971. The group's first album was released in 1973, and they topped the charts in the 70s with songs like "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "We Are The Champions." Mercury also released several solo albums. Still the champion, Freddie.

Anti-Gay Priest Arrested In Gay Sting: A Tampa priest who actively opposed that city's gay rights ordinance was arrested on October 30 for soliciting oral sex from a police officer. Monsignor Norman Balthazar said that he "had too much to drink and was not in control of my senses." The monsignor urged his parishioners at Christ the King Church to sign petitions to influence local officials to reject Tampa's ordinance, which banned discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Queer Nation/D.C. Protests Pentagon: Nearly 100 protestors marched on the pentagon on



PATSY LYNCH

Veteran's Day, chanting "The Corps is full of Queers! Repeal the ban now!" The demonstration was held to protest the military's refusal to lift its ban of open homosexuals in the armed services. Department of Defense police blocked entrances to the Pentagon, but did not arrest protestors who tried to break through the police line. A week earlier, Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced a resolution in the U.S. House calling President Bush to rescind the military's anti-gay policy.

Two Convicted Of Killing Homosexual: In New York State Supreme Court, two men were convicted last week of second-degree murder in the killing of Julio Rivera because he was gay. It was the first time in the state an anti-homosexual homicide had come to trial. The two, Erik Brown and Esat Bici, will be sentenced in January, and could face terms of 25 years to life. A third defendant pleaded guilty to manslaughter in return for testifying against his friends. Daniel Doyle, the son of a retired New York City police detective, could receive a sentence of 8 to 25 years.

Fired Lesbian Reporter Fingers Christian Right: Julie Brienza, a reporter fired in April 1990 by UPI because she was freelancing for a lesbian/gay newspaper, charged last week that right-wing religious broadcasters orchestrated a "smear campaign" that led to her firing. Brienza has filed a \$12.5 million lawsuit in U.S. District Court claiming that religious broadcasters Paul Cameron, Vic Eliason and others made a series of reports about her, calling her a "mole" and referring to her work at UPI as "a case of lesbian penetration." Cameron and Eliason later claimed credit for Brienza's firing and congratulated their audiences for their efforts toward that end.

California Election Results: San Francisco voters reaffirmed their domestic partnership legislation this month, and sent police chief Frank Jordan and Mayor Art Agnos into a run-off in the race for mayor. Meanwhile, voters in Concord repealed that city's gay rights ordinance by 50.2 percent to 49.8 percent, the closest vote in Concord history. Christian fundamentalists raised \$15,000 to produce an anti-gay videotape used during the campaign.

Investigation Continues Over DC's Halloween Fiasco: Calling the DC police's Halloween night crackdown on gay festivities "inappropriate" and "a mistake," officials in the District of Columbia reopened the police investigation of the incident on 17th Street. Riot police marched in and attempted to clear the crowd around midnight on Halloween, arresting four and allegedly using anti-gay epithets during the action. DC Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon responded to complaints by gay activists, saying the police action was "completely out of line." The department's internal investigation, postponed while a Civilian Complaint Review Board made its own investigation, has been reopened. The department will investigate the actions of the commanding officers, while the Review Board investigates charges against individual officers.

Singer Donates To AIDS Groups: Pop singer George Michael announced this month that he would donate part of the proceeds from his latest single to a number of charities, including two AIDS organizations in San Francisco. The single, "Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me," is a remake of a song by Elton John, who served as co-chair of the 1991 Atlanta AIDS Walk. In addition to the SF AIDS Foundation and Project Open Hand, money from Michael's record will benefit the LA Children's Museum, Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, the United Negro College Fund, Boston's Jimmy Fund, and Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

Right On, Girl Scouts: The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. stated this month that they have no "policies that involve the individual's sexual preferences." Girl Scouts spokesperson Barbara Smith made the statement amid continued protests against the Boy Scouts of America, which has a policy denying membership to homosexuals, women and atheists. "We value and respect our volunteers and staff and we don't investigate into their personal matters," said Smith. "We don't condone or permit sexual displays of any sort, either homosexual or heterosexual."

Lesbian Denied Child Custody: The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal from an Illinois lesbian who was denied custody of her son. Sharon Brown's child, born as the result of rape, was granted to her parents while she underwent drug rehabilitation. Following the rehabilitation, the courts deemed her a "fit" mother, but said the child should remain with Brown's parents because she is a "practicing lesbian."

Suffragist Dies: Miss Eva Brinkley of Appling, Georgia, died on November 26 at the age of 104. Miss Brinkley was born in 1887 in Taliaferro County, and taught school in Thomson and Harlem from 1902 to 1907. She worked as a secretary in Thomson until 1912, and then in Atlanta until her retirement in 1953. She lived in Little Five Points until 1983. Miss Brinkley was active in Atlanta's campaign for women's suffrage during the first quarter of this century.



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233-2100

QN holders of Cracker Barrel stock barred from meeting

by KC Wildmoon

Lebanon, TN—Armed with an injunction and a restraining order, Cracker Barrel officials tried to prevent Queer Nation/Atlanta members from attending the company's annual stockholders' meeting last week. Ten members of QN/A who hold stock in the company were delayed long enough to miss the meeting, but were able to hear Patrick Doherty of the New York City Comptroller's office and Atlanta Carl Owens address Cracker Barrel CEO Dan Evins about the company's discriminatory employment practices.

The QN/A members were stopped at the entrance to Cracker Barrel corporate headquarters while CB representatives Alan Arfken and Matt Mailer looked over their paperwork. Following a ten minute delay, they were allowed into the building, but told that the main meeting room was full. They were escorted to another room, joining about 40 other stockholders watching the proceedings on a television screen.

Two of the Queer Nation stockholders were denied entrance entirely. Several other shareholders, apparently not associated with the protest against the company, were also stopped outside the building.

QN/A stockholders have already contacted the Securities and Exchange Commission to determine if the shareholders'

meeting can be declared invalid since they were prevented from voting by Cracker Barrel's delay tactics.

By the time the QN stockholders reached the television room, CEO Evins had already concluded the four-item agenda and was taking questions from the floor. Doherty, representing over 80,000 shares of CB stock owned by the New York City Employee Retirement Funds, asked Evins about the company's termination of several employees because of their sexual orientation.

"He said they were fired 'for cause,'" said Doherty. "In other words, for 'inappropriate behavior.' He had no response when I pointed out that termination notices said they were fired because they were gay."

"I said that bias is bad business," Doherty continued. "I was heckled by some of the other stockholders, and finally one man interrupted me and said 'You've made your point, why don't you sit down?'"

Carl Owens, a stockholder from Atlanta, also spoke, comparing Cracker Barrel's policies with Nazi policies before World War II. According to Doherty, his statements elicited hisses from others in attendance.

"I really meant what I said in there," Owens said after-

ward. "This kind of discrimination is the kind of discrimination that was occurring in Germany in the late 30s. We have to stop it. We have to tell not only Cracker Barrel, but Wall Street and our government to stop it."

Following the meeting, Doherty filed a proposal with the corporate secretary that would prohibit discrimination by Cracker Barrel based on sexual orientation.

"It will be on the ballot at next year's meeting," he said, "if it's not resolved before then."

Cracker Barrel attempted to circumvent demonstrations by requesting and receiving a temporary restraining order banning protests within 500 feet of Cracker Barrel property. Nevertheless, some thirty protestors staged a non-violent demonstration during the meeting about a mile from corporate headquarters in Lebanon.

The restraining order, filed in the Circuit Court of Wilson County, Tennessee, on November 20, claimed that those named in the order "have acted in such a violent way that it has been necessary for the police department to make arrests" during protests in Georgia.

All protests in Georgia have been non-violent.

QN member attacked by customer

by KC Wildmoon

Lithonia—A Jonesboro man attacked a protestor and a DeKalb County Commissioner was told never to come back to Cracker Barrel at a demonstration staged here by the Georgia and Atlanta chapters of the National Organization for Women (NOW) last week. Additionally, Queer Nation chair Lynn Cothren was arrested on a warrant taken out by Cracker Barrel charging him with criminal trespass.

It was Cothren's third arrest during the ongoing Cracker Barrel protest. He was released on a \$360 bond.

"We were absolutely outraged at the way



"Hate has a face," said Larry Pellegrini, when he saw this still from a videotape he took of Ronald Newell as Newell hit him.

Commissioner [Jackie] Scott and Lynn Cothren were treated," said NOW's Laura Chastain.

Cothren was arrested when he, Scott, and QN's Larry Pellegrini entered the restaurant for a cup of coffee during the November 24 action. Pellegrini was asked to leave, as was Scott.

"I asked [the manager] if he were going to treat all county commissioners like that," said Scott. "It was a guilt by association sort of thing. What ever happened to freedom of association?"

Seventy-five picketers protested outside while other protestors staged a sit-in inside. The mood in the parking lot turned ugly shortly after Cothren's arrest, when a Jonesboro man, irate about a pro-gay flyer on his car, first taunted protestors with shouts of "Come on over here, I'll beat your ass," and then attacked Pellegrini as he videotaped the situation.

The man, Ronald Gene Newell, was later released by DeKalb County magistrate Bob Leach.

"He said that since I didn't have the videotape with me, he wasn't going to do anything," said Pellegrini, "even though the officer who was there saw the whole thing."

Pellegrini plans to take the tape he made back to DeKalb County court and take out another warrant for Newell's arrest on battery charges.

The demonstration ended without further incident.

"It was a volatile situation," said Chastain, "and Queer Nation was able to maintain their composure, thank goodness."

"We were able to keep the pressure on," she continued.

Chastain said that NOW plans to continue support of the Cracker Barrel protests, including a demonstration in Savannah on December 1 co-sponsored by the Georgia and South Carolina chapters.

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Ad in *People* to promote awareness

Cont'd from page 1

Atlanta readers will have a hard time getting a look at the ad—it will appear only in the *People* editions for New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Sacramento, Boston, Dallas/Fort Worth, Detroit, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Cleveland. It cost over \$26,000 to place, a price that reflects the considerable discount *People* gives to nonprofit agencies plus another discount because the ad was placed through an ad placement agency. The ad was paid for by individual contributions and a grant from the Chicago Resource Center.

Everything else—photography, graphics, and placement—was done "basically pro bono," said Catherine Coker, founder of the Awareness Project and its former executive director.

"\$26,000 is a lot of money," Coker concedes. "But the thing that's great about this ad is that we will be reaching a cross-section of the population that isn't necessarily gay-aware." According to Debbie Mabari of MCJ Productions in West Hollywood, who handled the placement of the ad free of charge, almost two million copies of the magazine will feature the ad. According to Coker, even more readers will see the ad since most copies of *People* are read by more than one person.

Coker also points out that unlike most magazine ads, pro-gay advertisements usually generate subsequent positive publicity in the mainstream media for lesbians and gays. After a series of Awareness Project print ads appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* to coincide with the 1990 gay pride events in that city, the organiza-

tion was written up extensively in newspapers and invited to appear on local radio and television shows. Just the fact that "the gay and lesbian community and its supporters feel so strongly that homophobia must be ended that we're willing to put our money behind it" is newsworthy, Coker said. As a result of the *People* ad, the Awareness Project has been in contact with the national talk show circuit.

The ad features a tear-off coupon that readers can use either to donate funds to the Awareness Project or to request a free brochure on the subject of homophobia. Coker hopes to mail out as many as 50,000 of the brochures.

The *People* ad is the latest project of the Los Angeles-based Awareness Project, but it's not the first. Founded by Coker in 1987, the group has produced a series of nine pro-gay print ads that have appeared in regional newspapers and magazines nationwide. Some have been sponsored by the Awareness Project itself, others through the Adopt-an-Ad campaign in which interested local organizations buy advertising space and the Awareness Project provides camera-ready ads. The group has recently started distributing anti-homophobia radio and television public service announcements, which run for free.

"We plan to do at least one big ad like [the *People* one] each year along with our regional Adopt-an-Ad program and the other radio and television public service announcements," Coker said.

As for the reception of this particular ad at *People* magazine, "They didn't flinch

at all" about the lesbian and gay subject matter, Mabari says. "I would say that they get an A-plus rating."

Those involved with the project are most proud of the fact that the ad contains racial, sexual and generational diversity. "It was a blending of so many different groups that often times don't relate to one another," Coker said. "We sometimes stay separate in our issues."

For Baron, the Awareness Project's new executive director, the ad symbolizes the organization's newfound commitment to racial diversity. Most of the time "we fail when we deal with people of color," Baron said, because we "say 'join us,' rather than asking how we can support you." But, she said, the strength of the lesbian and gay community "is in its diversity," and until people start listening to these often-ignored voices, the movement "won't get very far." Baron is seeking those voices in preparation for a series of Awareness Project ads targeting the African American and Latino communities.

Even the photo shoot for the *People* ad broke down barriers, Coker said. "It was like a party where we were all coming together, having a good time, at the same time getting the point across for the cause." According to Dick Sargent, "The unity feeling we had as a group is unlike anything I've ever felt."

Baron agreed. "It was very empowering for the individuals and groups who were there," she said. One person from a participating group even called to say they went home from the shoot and "revamped their whole organization." And while



Baron usually expects someone to "cop an attitude" at functions like this, despite the fact that over 100 people were involved the day of the photo shoot, no one did.

Homophobia and the politics of social change are complicated matters, Coker said. "You can't boil it down to a few words," she said, "but you've got to start somewhere." And, she said, there is no better place to start than telling the truth: that lesbians and gays are everyone's family and friends—even if not everyone knows it. "This is different than how we're typically portrayed" in the media, Baron said.

"We need to use every avenue available to reach the general population," Coker said. "We need to use television, print, and radio. We need to all come out. We need to do everything we can to dispel the myths and let people know that we're just people."

Baron hopes the ad and the exposure it will provide will "really get the community working together, really get people to put actions and money where their mouth is."

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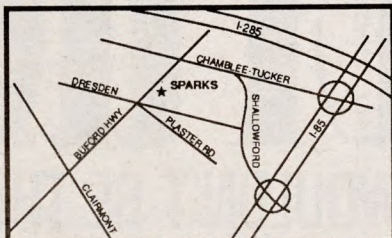
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A lesbian first lady?



"Oh, I want to put my arms around you. I ache to hold you close. Your ring is a great comfort. I look at it and think, 'she does love me or I wouldn't be wearing it.'" — Roosevelt in a letter to Hickok.

by Marie J. Kuda © 1991

Was Eleanor Roosevelt a lesbian? The question came publicly to light in 1978, when 18 boxes containing 3,489 letters were opened at the FDR Library. The letters revealed to former *New York Times* reporter Doris Faber a wealth of information on the intimate relationship between Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok, a lesbian. For the first time, a startled researcher read these lines from the president's wife: "Oh, I want to put my arms around you. I ache to hold you close. Your ring is a great comfort. I look at it and think, she does love me or I wouldn't be wearing it."

Faber wrote a book, *The Life of Lorena Hickok, E.R.'s Friend*, that tried very hard to maintain Roosevelt's status as a "great woman." ER is known for helping to draft the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize before her death, and afterward, in 1962, some of the greatest statesmen of the world lobbied the Nobel committee to make an exception and grant her the prize posthumously. Faber did not wish to detract from this stature by focusing on the lesbian content of the letters.

But *Newsweek* leaked information on the letters, and the

New York Times ran a Sunday feature that quoted widely from the most effusive ones. Within days, the *National Enquirer* proclaimed that it had "the untold story, Eleanor Roosevelt's secret romance."

The Roosevelt family sprang forward with denials: Mother was a product of her Victorian generation and wrote that way to everybody. Loyalists like Arthur Schlesinger rushed into print denying it all, without reading the book.

Faber's biography of Hickok came out in early 1980 to widespread reviews. The *Times Literary Supplement* of England sarcastically homed in on the crucial issue being skirted in the U.S.: "Did Lorena Hickok initiate Eleanor Roosevelt into the pleasures of Sapphic sex? As the two women lay entwined in one another's arms, were orifices penetrated, were orgasms achieved?"

Kowtowing to the Roosevelt family, the publishing establishment pulled the Faber book—it was remaindered within weeks of publication, never yet to be reprinted. The family then authorized several books to substantiate their contention that ER never felt lesbian love. But another biography was also reissued and rushed into print: Lorena Hickok's own *Eleanor Roosevelt, Reluctant First Lady*.

The two women met when Hickok was assigned by the Associated Press to cover ER during her husband's first campaign for president. Later, Hickok gave up her life as a reporter and went to work for the FDR administration, writing firsthand accounts of the Depression and New Deal programs.

Hickok also urged ER to initiate press conferences for women reporters. The conferences became instrumental in educating women readers about their role in politics and introducing them to other women of accomplishment. During ten years of conferences with the First Lady, the original 30 reporters jumped to 115, and a women's press corps was formed.

They were an ill-matched couple. ER was the niece of a president, descendant of a line of Hudson River gentry that went back to the American Revolution. The wife of the governor of New York, subsequently president of the United States, she was also the mother of five children.

Hickok, 10 years younger, was a rough-talking reporter from the middle West. She drank, smoked heavily before it was chic (even an occasional cigar), sweated profusely, and

liked to be regarded by colleagues as one of the boys. Among ER's friends, "Hick" always felt like a fish out of water.

When they met in 1932, ER was 48 years old and had not had sexual relations with her husband since the birth of her last child in 1917. FDR had had an affair with Lucy Mercer, a Roman Catholic who would not get a divorce, and had assured ER that the affair was over. (Mercer would be at FDR's deathbed in 1945.)

ER's early letters to Hick are full of longing for a day when they could live together. Hick clung to that dream, but as FDR stayed in office and the years took their toll, she sought solace with another. On March 21, 1945, Hick packed up and left the White House. She had been seeing Judge Marion Harron since 1942 and was going to move her life in another direction.

On April 12, 1945, FDR died and Hick allowed herself to hope again. But though the friends would remain close until ER's death, collaborating on various projects, the old dream was gone. ER was appointed by President Truman to the newly formed United Nations, and was busy maintaining the public persona that they had created in the early days of their love.

Although once voted the most loved woman in the world, Eleanor Roosevelt had enemies. Her support of unpopular causes resulted in several highly publicized breaches. She resigned her membership in the DAR when they refused to permit contralto Marian Anderson to sing in Constitution Hall. ER arranged for Anderson to sing at the Lincoln Memorial instead.

ER's most sinister enemy was the FBI's J. Edgar Hoover, whose hatred of her is recorded by several sources. Hoover leaked sensitive materials on ER's questionable associations to keep her from reappointment to the United Nations and to defer efforts to grant her the Nobel Prize. He kept three pornographic miniatures of ER that, when viewed upside down, "depicted, in grossly exaggerated anatomical detail, a woman's sex organs." Biographer Curt Gentry concludes, "all male visitors to Hoover's basement recreation room were invariably shown the cameos."

The intimate relationship of Hickok and ER was downplayed by biographer Joseph Lash, who knew both women during their lifetimes. Hickok never thought much of Lash,

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Another look at Eleanor Roosevelt

and once referred to him as "just another freeloader." She refused to be interviewed by him or give him access to letters when he was writing *Eleanor and Franklin* and *Eleanor: The Years Alone*.

After the 1978 release of the letters from ER to Hickok, Lash was hand-picked by the Roosevelt family to edit the letters and present a dossier of evidence refuting any suggestion of physical intimacy. In the resulting book, *Love, Eleanor* (1982), both Lash and FDR, Jr. make it clear that the object is to show that ER's letters to Hick were no different from the effusive endearments she wrote to others. In this and in his next book, *A World of Love: Eleanor Roosevelt and Her Friends, 1943-62* (1984), Lash explains why he believes ER couldn't have been a lesbian.

Readers, though, should be aware that they are not getting the full story. The intimate letters of 1933, especially ripe with physical references, were heavily edited by Hickok. For 129 of the letters from that first year of FDR's presidential term, Hickok returned edited typescripts; and those letters that remained unedited were considered so overt as to be damaging to the reputation of ER. In fact, biographer Faber, "in a classic state of shock," called for the sequestering of the "most ardent" letters until the next century. What then had Hickok edited out?

Hick told Anna Roosevelt that after ER's death she burned 15 letters "meant for her eyes only." And an additional sheaf of letters, found in Hick's apartment after her own death, was destroyed by Hick's sister, who never shared their contents.

Biographers other than Lash, drawing from letters in the surviving collections donated by Hickok and by ER, suggest that there was a physical relationship between the two. One even goes so far as to pinpoint the date of February 16, 1933, noting that thereafter ER wore Hick's ring and made frequent references to it.

Perhaps the gay press—including this writer—has been naive in expending the bulk of our arguments trying to refute the assertion that Hick and ER did not have a sexual relationship. In the years since 1978, our definition of lesbianism has grown. No longer only sexual, it has become a political word to define a woman who draws her sustenance from and puts her energy into other women, and who survives independent of the rewards of patriarchy.



Lape and Read, friends of ER's, rented her an apartment where, J. Edgar Hoover maintained, she led a "hyperactive sex life."



Nancy Cook (left) and Marion Dickerman (right) with Eleanor. The three friends built a stone cottage on the Roosevelt's Hyde Park property in which ER sought refuge from the doings at the main house.

ER may have had sexual relationships with Hickok and perhaps with her mentor Mlle. Marie Souvestre, headmistress of Allenswood School. Beyond that, after 1917 she surrounded herself with a cadre of women, many of them lesbians, with whom she worked and socialized. After gaining the right to vote in 1920, women formed their own new political organizations, and ER was in the thick of things.

Molly Dewson, head of the women's division of the Democratic Party, was an early friend of ER's. Dewson had a relationship with Polly Porter which would last 52 years. Dewson and Porter had a Greenwich Village apartment at 171 W. 12th, one of 24 apartments "inhabited mostly by other unmarried women or pairs of women."

Among other couples on their floor were Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman, who would also become intimate friends of ER. Dickerman was a school dean and the first woman to run for the New York Assembly. She and ER would later become partners in running Todhunter, a prestigious school for girls. Cook, Dickerman, and ER also became partners in Val-Kill Industries, an effort to produce quality, handmade furniture by craftsmen trained from among the local unemployed. The three built a stone cottage on the Roosevelts' Hyde Park property, where ER sought refuge from the doings at the main house.

Another Greenwich Village couple who became great friends with ER were two survivors of the suffrage battles, Esther Lape and Elizabeth Read. During the 1920s, these two met with ER to read French together every week. They also rented her a Village apartment that she used until 1941. The "secret" apartment "where she was often visited by her friends but never by the president" was where J. Edgar Hoover concluded ER was hiding "a hyperactive sex life," and that because of her many lesbian friends, "Mrs. Roosevelt was one too" (Gentry, 1991).

Someone could spend a year—or a lifetime—picking through correspondence to refute every doubt raised about ER's sexual orientation since 1917. It would be more productive to examine why so many people try so hard to prove that certain important figures are *not* lesbian or gay. What is to be gained by denying our history, withholding from the world another face of love?

Eleanor Roosevelt was a woman-loving woman. She accomplished what she did not in spite of that fact, but because of it. Her achievements were won not in a vacuum but in a community of like-minded women.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Magic gets the attention while Black men get infected

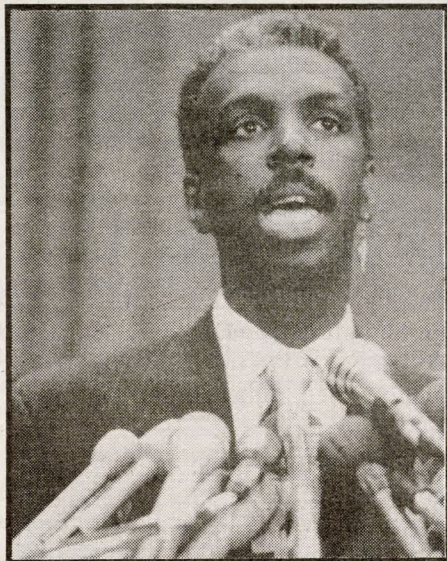
by Reggie Williams

It is courageous that Magic Johnson came forward. For our organization, it doesn't matter how he got infected. The major issue for us is that he is another Black man with HIV. He is also a superstar, and he has already made a difference. He has been able to advance the agenda on AIDS awareness in the African American community faster than anything else in 10 years of work.

I felt the impact, as a Black gay man living with HIV himself. It's been so heartwarming for 15-year-old Black males to be on TV for something positive, and they've been saying HIV and safe sex in the same sentence. This is a first.

But Magic Johnson is not the first to have this infection. While we send him our compassion, his announcement will hurt us and our efforts if we allow people to marginalize gay and bisexual men in the African American community. Ryan White and Kimberly Bergalis—to name a few—have undoubtedly marginalized men of color.

We have to be sure that Black gay men's issues get addressed. Gay and bisexual men are the hardest-hit segment of African Americans. I did hundreds of media interviews after Magic Johnson went public, driving home the message



JIM MARKS

Reggie Williams

about breaking down the veil of denial covering HIV and sexuality—the full spectrum of sexuality—in the Black community.

I view it as a tragedy, but not in the sense that others have used that term. For me, it's a tragedy because in 1991 Black men are still getting infected, despite all

the work that we've done. The sad reality is that Black men felt this wasn't a problem they had to face, partly because programs operating in the Black community have not been given the resources with which to get the message out there in a way that hits home. I think this presents a definite challenge to African American leaders: It's time to do the right thing—get our community the money to fight AIDS.

I've been pointing out the devastating impact of recent cutbacks by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). "Across the board" cuts in AIDS education resulted in a 43 percent reduction in FY'92 funding to the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, the only national program covering HIV education, treatment and support issues for gay and bisexual men of color.

Even the National Commission on AIDS stated in their recent report, "Gay and bisexual men are the largest segment of people with AIDS among Blacks and Hispanics. A total of 28 percent of gay and bisexual men with AIDS are Black or Hispanic... Gay men of color may face special risk-reduction challenges. More must be done to reach out to these men and empower them through prevention

efforts."

Perhaps Magic Johnson will be joining the National Commission on AIDS. We would certainly recommend he read their report. It serves as an indictment of President Bush, Congress and the Centers for Disease Control.

For me, there is a bitter irony in the fact that the very issues this National Commission report raises are the same ones we are dealing with, and yet Magic Johnson's announcement about his HIV status gets volumes more attention than the report or federal government actions that affect HIV prevention.

The National Task Force is working with hundreds of organizations on a "Campaign for Fairness, A Call to Action." We think it's time the people whose lives are being affected by callous indifference and malignant neglect, let elected representatives and government agencies know their concerns in no uncertain terms. Call the National Task Force at (415) 749-6700 for further information.

Reggie Williams is the Executive Director of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. NTFP is a project of the National Association of Black & White Men Together.

Why vote?

To the Editor:

I recently received a letter from a local lesbian and gay political action organization. The letter was a reminder of the upcoming elections, and the whole "I'm running for office, vote for me" circus that is about to begin. The letter also brought back to life latent feelings I have about politics in this country.

With a strange combination of controlled anger and disappointment, I neatly folded the letter in half and threw it away, saying to myself "...not again." Now, just a week later, I'm forcing myself to examine my intense reaction to such a simple letter. It goes far beyond the letter of course and has very little to do with the organization that sent it to me. What it does have a lot to do with is my increasing feeling of wanting to be removed from anything concerning the government: city, state and federal.

As a Black American, I have never felt more disappointment toward those who make up our governments. As a gay man, I have additional feelings of bitterness. Every two years, we hear the same empty political rhetoric, we see the same faces or sometimes new wolves in sheep clothing. They promise us, they cater to us. They visit our churches and our organizations. They mail their fliers to our homes or leave them beneath the windshield wipers of our cars. But when the votes are cast and the elections are over, they continue with their own agendas, which do not include us.

We are ignored—our issues made secondary to the "good of the public." I want to say to the senators, congressmen, governor, council members, mayor, and commissioners—we are the public! You depend on the votes of women, racial minorities, lesbians and gays and then you refuse to acknowledge us.

I am a young urban professional. I am well educated and work very hard to

accomplish whatever I set out to do. I do not look to the government to secure me a position in life. I am fully capable of doing it for myself. However, I am granted certain "inalienable" rights as a citizen that I do look to the government to protect and uphold.

I look to the government to construct a system by which all citizens are given an equal opportunity to economically and physically flourish. That means having governments with the common sense to keep in touch with the issues that effect its constituents and the vision, foresight and courage to amend the systems by which this country, state and city operate.

Every day women are violated or murdered; often the perpetrators are never prosecuted or receive light sentences. Every day gays and lesbians live with some level of fear for their lives, jobs, or loss of their children. Everyday young men, women and children (Black children) suffer and die from the ravages of AIDS. Yet our governments have chosen to cut already limited funds for AIDS, while sending hundreds of millions of dollars to eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and the Middle East.

There is something desperately wrong with our system. Politicians and policy makers must be held accountable for the decisions they make or choose not to make. And they must answer to the public for the promises they do not keep.

I am an angry citizen. My anger has made me acutely aware of how important it is to exercise the fundamental rights of voting and free speech.

So I will vote in the coming elections. It is the one real sense of empowerment I have in the political system. I will also make known to those in office what my needs as a citizen and the needs of my community are. Most importantly, I will follow up on their complacency by not voting for them a second time.

Sincerely,
Patrick Bell

We missed the point

To the editor:

I was thoroughly disappointed by your coverage on the Thomas hearings. (Vol. 4, #18). Ms. Chellew totally missed the point. She stated that the most complete summation regarding the Thomas hearings was a quote from a gay man who said, "it's just another mediocre man on the Supreme Court." This coverage was really no different, and certainly no better, than "mainstream" coverage.

The point that should have been made, and the issue that affects everyone, is the acceptance of sexual harassment toward women. Thomas used his position of

power to abuse a woman, and yet was confirmed to the highest court in the land. Ms. Chellew filled her article with quotes from men (just because they were gay doesn't necessarily mean they get it) which I did not find surprising, but certainly found lacking in balance. Personally, I would like to have heard from some of the multitudes of women—straight or lesbian—who are angered and sickened by the continuing abuse and oppression of women.

Cheryl Simpson
Decatur



heterodoxy, n.

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

a monthly column by KC Wildmoon

Eat Up

There's outrage across the land about Sen. Bob Kerrey's alleged joke about lesbians and former California governor Jerry Brown. Word is that he was insensitive to lesbians in particular and gays in general, and as a result he has apologized not once, but twice. That still has not satisfied

offended Queers, who think that the only way for Kerrey to atone is to sign on to the federal lesbian/gay civil rights bill.

Hey, that's not a bad idea, all and all, but maybe Kerrey should do it voluntarily, and not because he hurt our feelings. Quite frankly, I can't quite see what he has to apologize for, at least to us, although Jerry Brown may have a good case for an apology.

See, here's the joke: Governor Moonbeam (Brown) sees a couple of women at a bar and says outloud he thinks they're hot. Another man tells him that the two women in question are lesbians, that they like to eat (*Ahem. I'm told this is polite company. I have my doubts, but you know what I mean.*). Brown replies that he likes that too, does that make him a lesbian?

Ha ha. Real funny. I can't tell you how many men I've heard say exactly the same thing. Just last night, in fact, a man told me

he thought he was safe from AIDS because he is a lesbian. He said "that" is how he expresses his sexuality. Ha ha. Funny again. I simply hated to burst his bubble and tell him the first requirement for being a lesbian is that one be a woman.

But back to Kerrey, Brown, and The Joke. Like I said, I'm not offended by it. I'm a lesbian, and I like to eat (*now, now...*). No big deal. But if I were Jerry Brown, and Bob Kerrey told a story that made me look like the kind of a jerk who would say "Hey I like that, does that make me a lesbian," I'd be considerably pissed off. Unless, of course, I really said it, in which case I'd be embarrassed and issuing apologies of my own. Or hiding under the nearest rock.

I just can't figure what the big deal is. I don't know Kerrey from Adam or Eve, so I'm not defending him. What I know about his record is that he has been so-so support-

ive of lesbian/gay issues, but he did vote for Jesse Helms' amendment limiting the National Endowment for the Arts' ability to give grants to "offensive sexual" projects. We don't like that.

What we like even less, I suspect, is what VP Dan Quayle's press secretary said when The Joke story broke. According to the *Washington Post*, David Beckwith said, "The good news is that the lesbians are upset with Kerrey. The bad news is that they'll be coming our way to support us."

In your dreams, Beckwith. So far, Beckwith hasn't issued an apology. I have yet to even hear of someone demanding one, not that I expect he would actually say he was sorry. He's probably not.

That's too bad. I'm really offended by his characterization of lesbians as undesirable supporters. And to me that's a hell of a lot more insulting than what I do in bed.

Carbon Copy

The Honorable Justice Scalia
The Supreme Court
Washington, D.C.

Dear Justice Scalia,

I have often heard that ignorance of the law is no excuse for one's actions. After reading your comments in the case currently before the court involving the Nebraska farmer, Keith Jacobsen, I wonder what excuse there might be for just plain ignorance.

Is it ignorance, or simple ingrained bigotry that would allow you to equate being homosexual with a predisposition to commit the crime of trading in child pornography? I, Sir, am a homosexual, and I must tell you, that I have no interest in viewing naked children or in having sex with children. My interest is in men, not children. If your biases were not so evidently in the way of your vision, you might be aware of a large number of studies which show that the vast majority of sexual crimes perpetrated against children are committed by heterosexuals. This number is well out of proportion to the percentage of heterosexuals in the community at large.

I am sure that if you had been on the Supreme Court 40 years ago, you would have supported the same ignorant views of Black Americans popular in that era, that are now being attributed to Gay and

Lesbian Americans. One would think that as a Supreme Court Justice, you would attempt to speak from a position of having taken the opportunity to educate yourself, rather than from a place of ignorance and bias. As long as bigots are elevated to positions of power for life, we won't stand a chance of healing the wounds which divide this great country of ours.

Sincerely,
Stosh Ostrow, M.D.

What's wrong with this picture?

To the Editor:

Magic Johnson stuns the world by announcing he's tested positive for the HIV virus—the whole country mourns and embraces him.

Chris Hollis tests positive and informs his employer Winn-Dixie. He's fired.

Magic is famous. Magic is heterosexual.

Chris is not famous. Chris is assumed gay.

Something's wrong here! The President of the United States feels grief and pain for Magic. Winn-Dixie tells Chris to go to hell.

I participated in the ACT UP protest November 9 at the Sage Hill Winn-Dixie along with my lover and about 50 others.

Channels 2, 5, 11, 46 and various other media covered the action. Where the hell was Atlanta's gay community? Eating lunch at Cracker Barrel?

Damn. This is my neighborhood where the homosexual population is about 50% or more. Where were my gay sisters and brothers? On a recent sunny day you had more people on "Homo Hill" than at the Winn-Dixie protest.

The bars were packed that same Saturday. Thousands of gays enjoying what a handful of activists have won for them. When in God's name are we, as a community, going to get together and fight for our rights...When Eldrin Bell closes the bars down?

Blacks, Jews, women, Poles, anti-communists...the list goes on, all have fought and won the right to exist as human beings. The gay community has not. We're too damned busy with our own selfish concerns to help our fellow gay citizens. Unless a gay person is touched personally by AIDS, the attitude is to hell with everybody except me and mine.

It is my personal opinion that most gays in Atlanta are not even as good as Jesse Helms. At least that son-of-a-bitch fights what he perceives as evil. Gays in Atlanta just don't give a damn—until a doctor with steel cold eyes says..."I've got some bad news for you."

Shenandoah Kelly
Atlanta, Georgia

Tired of beef? Try Sev

To the Editor:

I am writing regarding Perry Christopher Hollis and his situation with the Winn-Dixie grocery store. I commend Mr. Hollis and believe that he acted correctly, as an employee, to disclose his HIV status to his supervisors. By his disclosure, I believe that he was preparing for the safety of himself and his co-workers should an emergency arise.

By his disclosure, he also trusted his supervisors with personal information. Their violation of this trust, and their lack of managerial expertise, reflects upon the core of Winn-Dixie's unethical relationship with its employees.

Thank you, Mr. Hollis, for bringing this discriminatory practice into the light.

I wanted to let people know that a grocery store exists that does not discriminate on a person's sexual orientation or health status. As head cashier, I invite you to shop at Sevananda Natural Foods Cooperative.

I do not know you, Mr. Hollis, but I will boycott Winn-Dixie upon your behalf until this non-human practice has been deleted from Winn-Dixie management. My sincere wishes that all grocery stores follow a non-discriminatory policy.

Sincerely,
Michael Johnson, Head Cashier
Sevananda Natural Food Cooperative

BY ANDREA NATALIE

STONEWALL RIOTS



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

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

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

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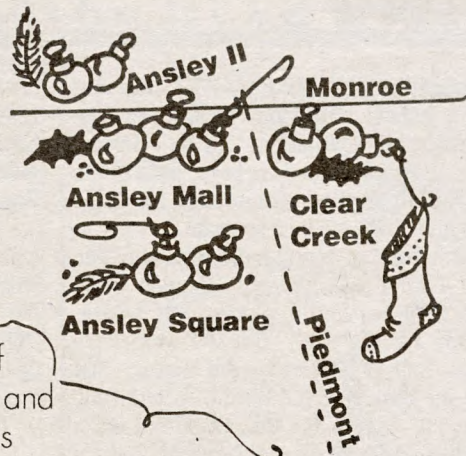
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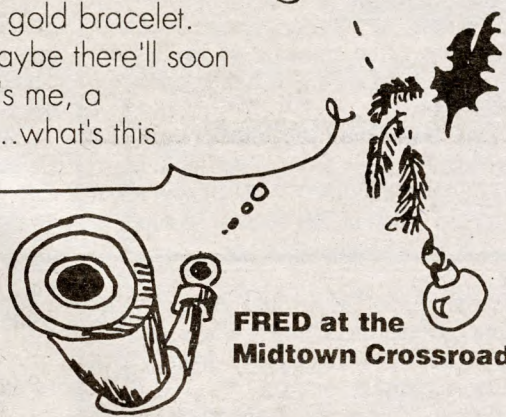
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Glengarry is amoral, and it tells it like it is

by Charlene Ball

Glengarry Glen Ross, David Mamet's Pulitzer prize-winning play now at Actors' Express, gives a glimpse into the claustrophobic world of cutthroat real estate salesmen. And a terrifying glimpse it is.

This play is not about your dyke friend who sells intown bungalows, not about the honest exchange of money for housing. It is about human sharks who get little old folks to invest their life savings in useless land in Florida, who pressure them to sign on the dotted line, and who feel not a qualm afterwards. Ethics are not even discussed; no one in the play seems to be aware of any ethical dimension. They are sharks in a tank, circling and feeding off each other.

It's a fascinating gallery of moral retarded, played with powerful assurance by the Actors' Express cast. Especially noteworthy is Neil Alan as Shelley Levene, the stereotypical salesman we've all met—crude, laughable, a bit ridiculous; yet his comic persona is a blind for his instinct to go for the jugular. Another gem is Frank Roberts as Dave Moss, the deceptively bland, soft-spoken type who plots stealing the list of "leads" (hot-prospects) and letting another salesman take the rap. And special mention goes to Jared Simon as Richard Roma, the top salesman—an existentialist philosopher-shark with the appearance of a soul. His insidious, seductive monologue to a hapless prospect is brilliant.

The one character who despises the



DAVID ZEIGER

shark-like salesman is John Williamson, played by Robin Bloodworth, who holds the job of office manager that playwright Mamet held. Though the office manager expresses disgust and dislike for these men, he seems no better. We see Williamson at the end gloating over their downfall, but we have no idea that he will not continue to support others like them. Bloodworth's Williamson provided a quiet foil to the more flamboyant salesmen, but needed more strength. All the

actors worked together in an excellent ensemble under Luann Purcell's intelligent direction.

Purcell praises the play for its lack of overt ethical statement: "Greedy American Capitalist-bashing is fairly commonplace. What is unusual is that *Glengarry* doesn't judge. It doesn't propagandize.... Mamet loves Americans. He says, 'This is how it is.'"

Actually, not judging is what is commonplace. Nothing seems to bother the-

atre people more than a play that has a political or ethical point of view. And nothing kills a play faster than being called "propaganda."

This lack of moral judgment has been common theatrical wisdom for most of the 20th century. Yet all the great playwrights—from Aeschylus to Shakespeare to Ibsen to Brecht—would have passionately disagreed with it. They saw no conflict in presenting a moral judgment in the context of a vital play.

Maybe *Glengarry* won the Pulitzer Prize because it didn't make a stronger moral statement. Because it does allow us to say, well, that's just human nature; it's the way things are. And those who don't believe that that is the way things necessarily are—or have to be—get labelled "propagandists."

Glengarry is a vital play, a powerful play, not only because it has strong, fascinating characters, a rivetting structure, and a powerful atmosphere that keeps you on the edge of your seat, but because it bears witness to the way things were in the United States of America in the late 20th century. Maybe in time to come it will be regarded with the same disbelieving horror that we now express at the excesses of the late Roman Empire.

Another excellent production at Actors' Express.

Glengarry Glen Ross plays at Actors' Express through Dec. 15. For information or reservations, call 221-0831.

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Art

RENE PORTER. Dec. 7&8. Porter will sign limited edition prints of "Our Wall," a tribute to the beauty and accomplishments of women. Deana's One Mo Time. 1890 Cheshire Br. Rd. 874-0980.

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 Treva Banks, Alan Sondheim and Shelagh Keeley. Nexus Gallery. 535 Means St. 688-2500.

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

STILL LIFE. Thru Dec. 21. Instead of an opening reception, there's a closing one (Dec. 21 at 4pm) for this unusual installation piece by Stan Sharshal. TULA Gallery. 75 Bennett St. 351-3551.

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.

CALDER, APPEL, HAYSLETTE AND HARUYO. Thru Dec. 27. Works on paper. 11am-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.

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

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

Benefits

OUTRAGEOUS BALL. Sat., Dec. 7. 9pm. An evening of outrageous entertainment hosted by Paul Lekakis to benefit Atlanta NAPWA and ACT UP/ATLANTA. Tix available at Brushstrokes. 872-8230. for more info.

MARCHING FOR OUR RIGHTS OR BEYOND POLITICALLY CORRECT. Sun., Dec. 8. 6:30pm. 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.

LET'S RAISE THE ROOF. Sun., Dec. 8. 7pm. WINK (Women in Kahoots) invite you to an evening of food and dancing to help buy a new roof for ChildKind. \$5 donation requested. Deana's One Mo Time. 1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd.

OUR SONG! PROCLAIMING THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS. Dec. 6-8. Hope in Harmony, a group of Atlanta performers, present their annual Christmas concert. This year all proceeds will benefit ChildKind, an organization serving HIV+ children. \$5 donation requested. First MCC. 800 N. Highland Ave.

DANNY'S LIGHTING OF THE TREE. Sun., Dec. 15. 8pm. This second annual event will benefit Project Open Hand. (See story page 19). Come and buy lights for the tree (\$5) and enjoy an evening of entertainment and carolling. Part of the 12 Days of Christmas to benefit Project Open Hand. Gallus Restaurant & Bar. 875-9917 for more info.

Comedy

FAMILY MATTERS THAT AREN'T ALWAYS RELATIVE. Thru Dec. 14. Thursday thru Sunday. 8 pm. A musical "dramedy" by Deb Calabria of "Funny That Way" 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

THE NUTCRACKER. Dec. 6 - 29. Don't miss the Atlanta Ballet's 30th anniversary production of this beloved holiday classic. The Nutcracker is the most popular ballet in Atlanta and has been seen by over a million Georgians. Complete with a live orchestra, a full company of professional dancers and over 100 Atlanta children, The Nutcracker is a tradition for many Atlantans. Civic Center. 873-5811.

4th TUESDAY HOLIDAY DANCE. Sat., Dec. 14. 7pm. Not exactly the Nutcracker, but a great dance none the less. 662-6868.

1st ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BALL. Sun., Dec. 15. 7pm. Come hear and dance to the big band tunes of The Atlanta Blue Notes Orchestra. ABNO will perform at, shall we say, a well-known gay hang-out for your dancing pleasure. Can you believe it? Don't miss it. The Otherside. 1924 Piedmont. 875-5238.

Festivals

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS. Sun., Dec. 8. Noon-5pm. This 12th annual event sends you back to earlier holidays when chestnuts really did roast on an open fire. Arts and crafts, horse-drawn carriage rides, musicians, mimes and carolers along with spectacular decorations make for a truly festive day. Free admission. Atlanta Botanical Garden at Piedmont Park. 876-5859 for more info.

Meetings

MARCH ON WASHINGTON '93. Sat., Dec. 14. 9am. The southeast organizational meeting for the March meets in Atlanta to choose four representatives who will represent our region at the national level. Discussion will include the issues the SE region would like to see included in the March platform. Everyone is invited to attend and participate. A small registration fee will be charged to cover expenses. First Existentialist Church. 470 Candler Park Dr. 662-4199.

Music

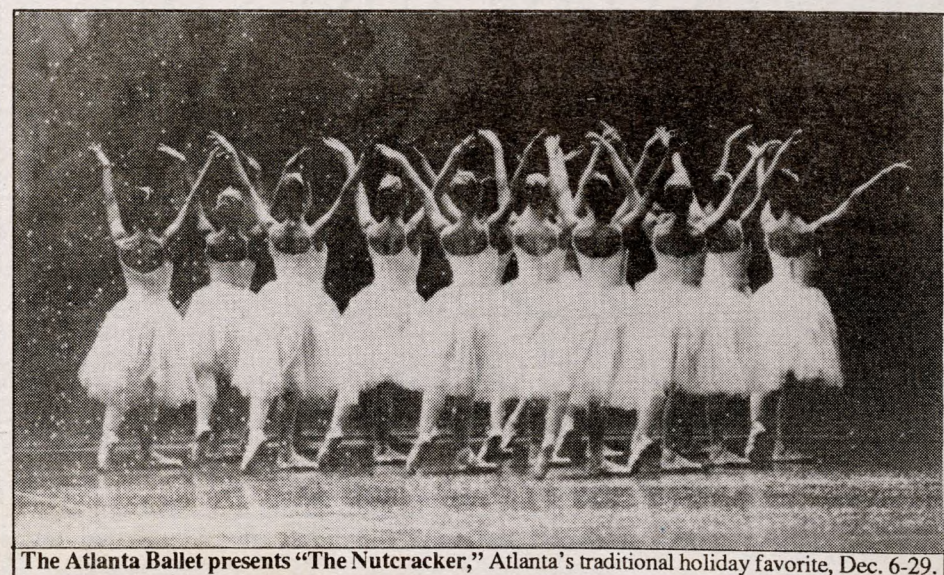
ON A WINTER'S NIGHT. Dec. 5. 8pm. Folk music on a seasonal theme from Christine Lavin, John Gorke, Patty Larkin and Cliff Eberhardt. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

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

CHRISTMAS WITH ROBERT SHAW. Dec. 11-14. An Atlanta holiday tradition with Shaw, the ASO and The Young Singers of Callanwolde. A festive program of traditional carols and choruses. Woodruff Arts Center. 892-2414.

MEN ON CHRISTMAS. Sun., Dec. 15. 8pm. The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus celebrate their 10th anniversary season with this holiday concert. 14th St. Playhouse. 892-2414 to charge tix or get them at the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office.

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING. Sun., Dec. 15. 5:30pm. Bring the family to the John Howell Memorial Park for an evening of food and carolling. Song sheets are available and St. Nick is expected. I know he'll show, he did last year. Sponsored by the Living AIDS Mem. Project.



The Atlanta Ballet presents "The Nutcracker," Atlanta's traditional holiday favorite, Dec. 6-29.

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Throughout December, over 300 poinsettias will burst with color in especially designed Christmas trees at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. On Dec. 8 come by for the 12th Annual Country Christmas for holiday entertainment and food.

THE MESSIAH. Sun., Dec. 15. 7pm. The Choir of All Saints MCC present the Christmas portion of the Messiah. 575 Boulevard. 622-1154.

DEDE VOGT, JAN RILEY & ANGELA MOTTER. Wed., Dec. 17. 7:30pm. Three of Atlanta's finest singer/songwriters — together! Sylvia's Atomic Cafe. 1655 McLendon Ave. at Clifton Rd.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH. Dec. 19 & 20. The ASO and Chamber Chorus perform the complete Messiah. 892-2414.

Political

WE'RE TAKING OVER. Thurs., Dec. 5. 5:30pm. A reception to fund a women's lobbyist to the Georgia General Assembly for 1992. A women's lobbyist is needed to push for domestic violence legislation, health care, sexual harassment policies, etc. Food, fun and an auction of items donated by famous Atlanta women. The A-Train, Underground Atlanta. 875-8184.

TAKE BACK OUR RIGHTS. Sun., Dec. 15. 2pm. Join author Minnie Bruce Pratt and local politicians at this gathering to highlight the lack of rights, and the erosion of rights of many people. The event marks the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. Friends Meeting House. 701 W. Howard St. Decatur. 523-0293.

Sports

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 11:30pm; 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.

Theatre

MEGAN'S PUPPET SHOW: SONGS OF CRUELTY AND OTHER HOLIDAY CHEER. Dec. 11-21. Atlanta songstress McFarland, Della of the "Della's Diner" revues, presents puppetry vignettes to illustrate the holidays as they *really* are. 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.

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS: THE RE-UNION. Thru Dec. 22. A family-get-together performance from Eddie Levi Lee and Phillip DePoy. Theatrical Outfit. 872-0665.

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

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

Upcoming

AIDS MEMORIAL SERVICE. Wed., Dec. 18. Noon. Friends and family of those who have lost loved ones to AIDS are invited to join the staff of the Infectious Disease Clinic of Grady Memorial Hospital in a service of worship. The names of the people who have died will be read aloud by staff as a tribute of special remembrance. CME Church. 23 Butler St.

FULL MOON. Jan. 10-Feb. 15. The Atlanta premiere of the sensuous southern love story by Reynolds Price. Horizon Theatre. Euclid & Austin Ave. in L5P. 584-7450.

MARCH AND RALLY FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE. January 20. Noon. Part of King Week 1992 which is the seventh national holiday and 63rd birthday observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Assemble for the march on Peachtree St. between Baker St. and Auburn Ave. 524-1956 for more info.

MASQUERADE. February 22. A Mardi Gras gala to benefit Project Open Hand. Georgian Terrace. For tickets call 525-4620.

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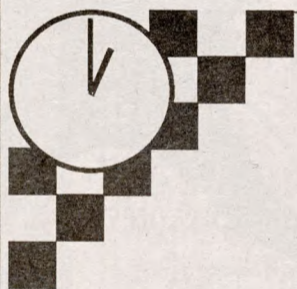
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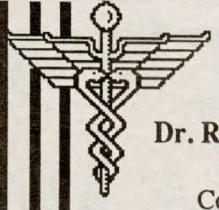
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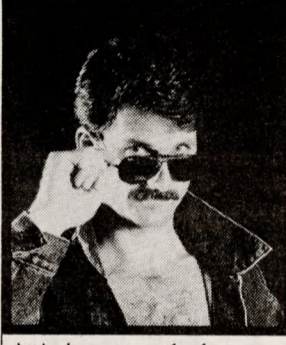
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AIDS ORGANIZATIONS
AID Atlanta—Non-profit agency providing services to people with AIDS, families and friends. 872-0600.
AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide). Answers about AIDS, referrals, etc., by trained volunteers staffing 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.

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 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
Atlanta Business Networking Assoc.—Gay and lesbian oriented networking group—meets twice a month for "Lunch & Leads." Call: 621-5032.
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.
Georgia Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—892-6165
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

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
Collier Rd Library—857 Collier Rd. 355-5189
Conference Room—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
The Cove—586 Worchester. 875-2477
Crazy Ray's—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
Deana's One Mo' Time—1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 874-0980
The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052
Frank's Place—778 N. Highland. 881-0259
Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983
Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
The Metro—48 6th Street. 874-9869
New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247
The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
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

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 Sundays. 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.

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.

Oakhurst Presbyterian Church—S. Decatur, a multi-cultural community of faith, open to all. Sunday School (all ages) 10am, Worship at 11am. Call 378-6284 for information.

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 interracial 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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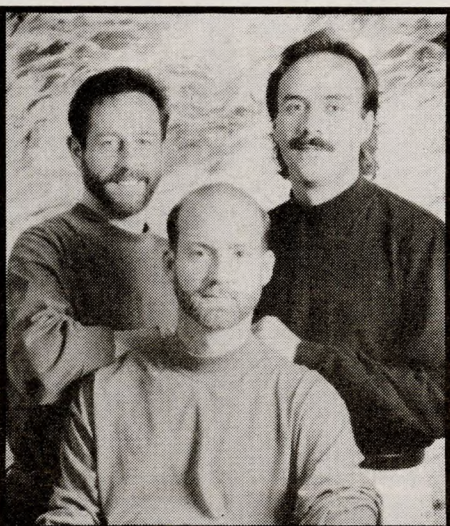
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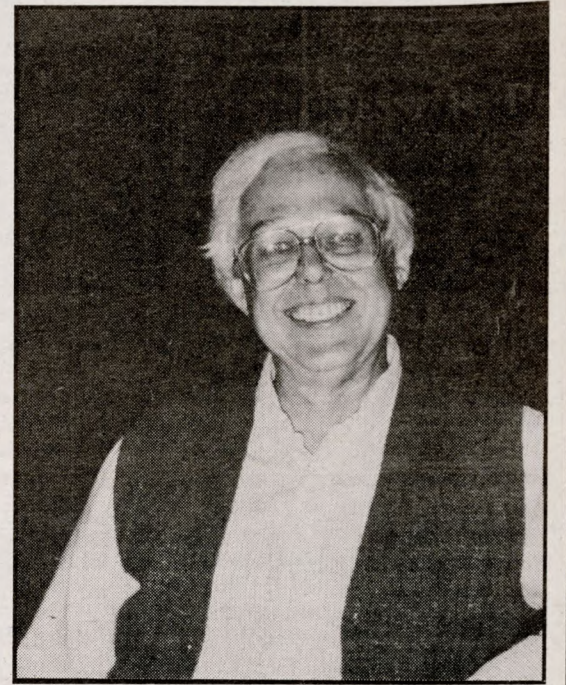
Age: 54

Relationship status:
"Married for 9 blissful years"

Job: As a CDC project officer, works with school-based HIV prevention programs

Alter ego #1: As "Dean from Decatur," calls WRFG nearly every week during Stuart Myers' *Horizons*

Alter ego #2: As "Rocky Raccoon," plays a clown with the Seed & Feed Marching Abominable Band



GARETH FENLEY

"No boring stuff," says my dad. "I want to come across as being real cool."

Okay, Dad. I think it's cool that when I came out to you in a letter from college in 1979, you wrote back: "I hope your friends and lovers make you happy."

Lately Dad has been telling dozens, maybe hundreds of people about me, his lesbian daughter. He does it while he's monitoring federal grants for HIV prevention programs in schools. "In my work, I began getting close to and really understanding the lives of gay and lesbian people," he said the other night, sitting in a rocking chair in his living room. "Their relationships with their parents are often not as easy as mine with you. It really hurt, the stories they told about the isolation and loneliness they felt in growing up."

Dad's work involves talking with teachers, administrators, counselors, and people in community agencies that work with kids. Many of the programs are designed to reach young gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and kids questioning their sexuality.

"I've tried to speak up for kids who are growing up gay — to testify, if you will, as a parent who loves his daughter very much, and she happens to love other women. Telling other people how proud I am of you is a way, I hope, of enabling other people to see that all kids deserve to be loved and allowed to grow up in normal ways.

"By normal, I mean being able to have crushes on whomever they choose, and to display affection publicly — perhaps to the embarrassment of their parents," he says, laughing. "The quality of the relationship is important, not the object."

What is it like to have a lesbian daughter? "Your sexuality is incidental to me," he says. "It happens to be something that is important to you, and I value it because

of that. You are involved in causes and movements around your sexuality, and I'm interested in that, in large part because I'm interested in you. I'd like to think that I would love you just as much had you grown up to be straight."

At one conference Dad attended, he heard Joyce Hunter (a co-founder of the Harvey Milk School) angrily criticize the adult gay community for abandoning youth. "It's my general observation," Dad says thoughtfully, "that for reasons that are very complicated, a lot of gay people — especially in their 20s and 30s — don't look back. They don't help the kids along.

"The reasons certainly include a fear of being accused of 'recruiting' and pedophilia, as well as revisiting a very painful time in their lives. It's presumptuous of me to talk about it. I can't begin to understand what a gay person must feel. I've enjoyed the majority life. There are an awful lot of painful experiences that gay adults are glad they've grown beyond."

Dad someday would like to see proud, publicly out queers in every career, from hairdresser to lawyer to astronaut. He is sad that all too often an isolated young gay or lesbian kid sees this choice: be a straight, successful adult, or slide into the gutter. That kid thinks, "I will never make it." Sometimes that kid commits suicide.

"There is so much pain, so much injustice in the world, that it can freeze you in your tracks," says Dad. "You have to be selective in what you do for other people, so you can keep going yourself."

For now, my dad is marching in a clown band, donating money to P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), and telling everyone he loves me.

—Gareth Fenley

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SE meeting for '93 March on Washington will elect regional reps

A national March on Washington to secure human rights and civil liberties for lesbian and gay people is set for April 25, 1993. Regional organizing for the march is already under way here in the southeast. Election of four regional representatives is the primary purpose of the second organizational meeting, which will be held on Saturday, December 14, in Atlanta. Two reps must be women and two must self-identify as people of color (i.e., not of Anglo-Saxon descent). The reps will serve on the National Steering Committee for the march.

The Southeast, comprised of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee, is one of 17 regional areas defined by march organizers. In Atlanta, a group called the Georgia Organizing Committee for the March on Washington (GOCMOW) has formed; it hosted the first Southeast Regional Meeting on October 12. Although announcements of the meeting were sent out to various gay and les-

bian organizations throughout the Southeast, the only out-of-state attendees were from Alabama plus one person from Tennessee.

The Alabama attendees decided to form an organizing committee for their state. They voted to co-host the next regional meeting with GOCMOW and suggested that it be held in Atlanta again. The location selected for the second meeting is the First Existentialist Congregation at 470 Candler Park Drive. It is reserved for Saturday, December 14 from 9 am to 4 pm.

GOCMOW holds regular meetings at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at 118 East Trinity Avenue in downtown Decatur. All interested persons are invited.

For information or to register, write to:
GOCMOW
Post Office Box 5282
Atlanta, GA 30307
or call (404) 662-4199.

Event will focus on 200th anniversary of Bill of Rights

by Cecilia Mitchell

The renowned lesbian-feminist author Minnie Bruce Pratt will read from her latest book, *Rebellion*, at a thought-provoking gathering on December 15, marking the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. Other speakers and entertainers will focus on recent Supreme Court decisions that have eroded freedom of speech, freedom of expression and the right to privacy.

The idea for the Sunday afternoon gathering originated at a meeting of the Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance (ALFA) last summer.

"On the anniversary of the day the Bill of Rights went into effect, we want to draw attention to the basic rights that have never been given to women, African-Americans, and lesbians and gays, among others," said Saralyn Chesnut, one of the organizers of the event. "While women live under the threat of the loss of the right to choose abortion, lesbians and gays lack the privileges granted others in our society. People with disabilities continue to lack access to homes, and Jesse Helms leads the fight to silence our voices and keep us invisible."

Sharing the podium with Pratt will be DeKalb County Commissioner Sherry Sutton, State Representative Cynthia McKinney, Decatur Mayor Michael Mears, and U.S. Reps. John Lewis and Ben Jones. On the lighter side, SLAW will unveil their latest comedy routine for those who enjoy



JIM MARKS

Minnie Bruce Pratt will read from her new book, *Rebellion*, on December 15 at a gathering marking the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

a healthy, out-of-the-mainstream laugh.

The event kicks off at 2 pm and wraps up at 6 pm. It will be held at the new Friends Meeting House at 701 West Howard Avenue in Decatur. The building is wheelchair accessible, and the event will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. For more information, call 523-0293.

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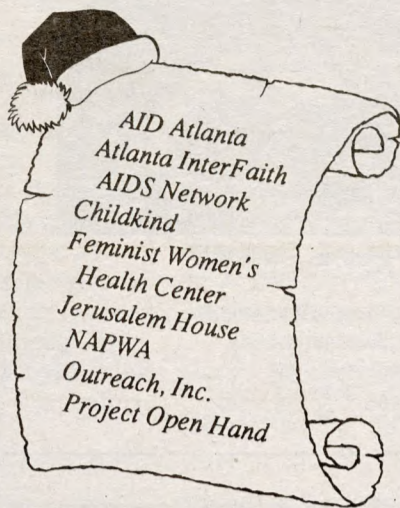
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Finished shopping? Think again

by Candace Chellew

It seems you're not finished with your Halloween candy before the holly goes up, and the count-down of shopping days begins. If the C in Christmas or Chanukah means a little too much Commercialism for you, there is a way to get back to the true spirit of giving this holiday season. All around Atlanta there are non-profit agencies struggling to make ends meet as they pursue their missions to help HIV-infected people, women and the underprivileged in our community. Some of these agencies were asked by *SoVo* to make out a holiday wish list so you can remember them as you make out your holiday shopping list.



teabags, coffee, saran wrap)
Soft drinks (very popular)
Toilet paper, paper towels
IBM Laser printer
Toothbrushes, hand cream, hair-brushes and combs.

ChildKind
Contact: Gail Evans, Program Director. 936-9655. ChildKind provides care for children and families who are affected by HIV or AIDS. They provide foster care, day care, or temporary care for parents needing hospitalization for AIDS or drug treatment. They also provide emergency assistance to those who can care for their children at home but need food, clothing, toys or emotional support.

Needs:
Children's clothing sizes up to 8
Non-perishable food items
Diapers (all sizes) and diaper wipes
Children's equipment like high-chairs, walkers, and strollers
Help with paying heating bills and utilities

Feminist Women's Health Center
Contact: Rita Barnes. 875-7115. The Health Center is a non-profit women's clinic offering services such as routine GYN exams, abortion and artificial insemination. Also provides information to women about their health and their bodies so they can make the best decisions for themselves.

Center Needs:
Frost free refrigerator
Microwave
IBM Personal Computer
Interior decorating advice
Volunteers for new Women's AIDS

Wheelchairs
Agency Needs:
Computer and laser printer
Television
Four drawer file cabinets
Individual donations of cash or volunteer time

Atlanta InterFaith AIDS Network
Contact: Bil Hitchcock, Program Director. 874-6425. AIAN is made up of 40 supporting congregations including many mainstream churches, to educate those in the faith community about AIDS and how to react to PWAs with love and understanding. AIAN's main outreach is a day activity program for PWAs called Common Ground.

Common Ground Needs:
Household cleaning items
Kitchen supplies (example: sugar,

AID Atlanta
Contact: Louisa Basarrate, Development Assistant. 872-0600. AIDS INFO LINE 1-800-551-2728. AID Atlanta is the Southeast's oldest and largest AIDS service agency, and are committed to providing a broad and compassionate response to the HIV epidemic through service to PWAs, their families and friends. This mission is accomplished through prevention education to reduce the spread of the virus, and through advocacy.

Pediatric AIDS Program Needs:
New toys and new clothes for children of all ages
Educational or motivational toys/games, and culturally sensitive toys

Client Needs:
Non-perishable food items
Nutritional supplements
Infant and Adult diapers

Hotline
Monetary contributions

Jerusalem House
Contact: Robert Powell, Office Manager. 527-7627. Jerusalem House is an interfaith effort to provide permanent housing for PWAs who would otherwise be homeless.

Needs:
Building maintenance equipment for their new facility including: Commercial mops and buckets, shampooer and buffer, vacuum cleaners, brooms, tools, toolbox and bench, and industrial cleaners.

Lawn and Garden Needs:
Leaf blowers, edgers, weedeater, riding mower, pruners, hedge cutters, work gloves and materials.

Office Equipment:
computers, laser printer, desk top copier, portable computer.

Resident Needs: radio/cassette players, lights, rubber mattress pads (3/4 beds), plastic bathtub basins, urinals, fracture bed pans, bath sets, washcloths, egg crates for beds, laundry supplies, toiletries. Residents also have personal wish lists. If you want more information about those contact Mr. Powell at the above number.

National Association of People Living with AIDS/Atlanta (NAPWA)
Contact: Pat Duncan, Board Treasurer. 874-7926. NAPWA is a PWA coalition joined together to promote self-empowerment and enhance the quality of life of HIV affected individuals through education, advocacy, and community leadership.

In the best of all possible worlds, NAPWA would like:

1. To find a cure for AIDS
2. Free healthcare to all people
3. To end the HIV immigration ban
4. No mandatory HIV testing of anyone, anywhere
5. Enlightenment to all in regards to HIV transmission

If not, NAPWA would really appreciate:
A Macintosh SE computer with a 20 mg internal hard drive and 40 mg external hard drive
2 Merlin AT& T phones
8 service contracts on all equipment
9 window treatments
1 screen door

Outreach, Inc.
Contact: Cedric Gardner, Director of Programs. 346-3922. Outreach Inc. provides health education to minority communities about HIV and substance abuse.

Need:
Electronic typewriter

Project Open Hand
Contact: Karen Boyles, Director. 525-4620. Project Open Hand is a home delivered meal program for HIV positive people in metro Atlanta. They do not charge a fee, and there is no waiting list.

Needs:
Volunteers to deliver meals
New food slicer/tomato slicer
Small microwave ovens for clients
\$2500 to fix kettle/steamer
2 new convection ovens
rolling racks
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Thursday, DEC 12 Christmas Spirits Party with Guest Bartenders Arlene Bianco & Jim Winchester	Friday, DEC 13 Have Your Photo Made with Mr. & Mrs. Claus 7 PM-12 AM	Saturday, DEC 14 Free Gift Wrapping 7 PM-12 AM	Sunday, DEC 15 Lighting of Danny's Christmas Tree 8 PM with special musical guests: Megan McFarland, Hal Gresham, John Rouse, Mark True, Darryl Lanza, Morticia DeVille, Leigh McClelland & Emcee "Sunny" Moon

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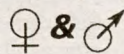
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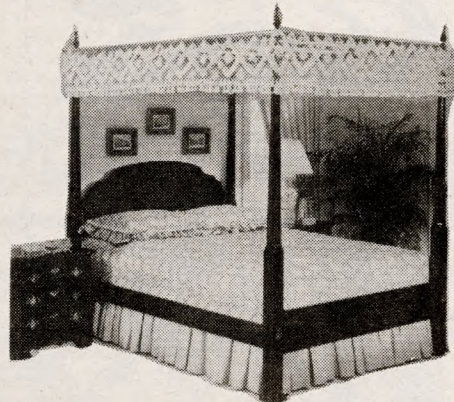
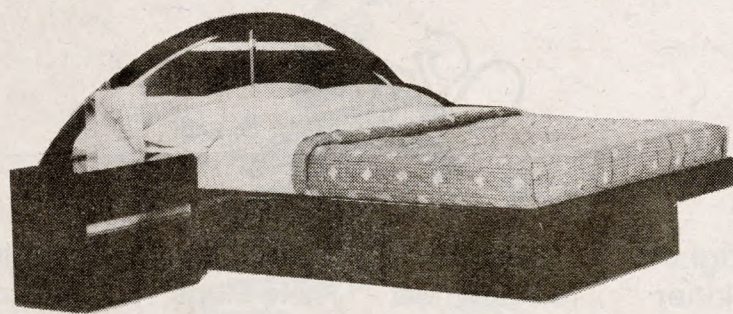
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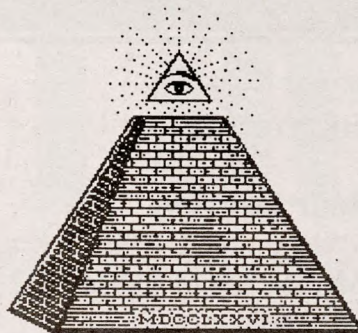
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Minority AIDS prevention funds slashed

by Dave Gilden

AIDS NEWS SERVICE © 1991
Just as the news about Magic Johnson was about to break, the sole non-white gay organization to receive federal funding for AIDS prevention saw its \$475,000 annual grant slashed by nearly half. Focusing on gay African Americans and Latinos, the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) has been active in 30 cities since its grants began in 1988.

"Gay men of color are at least two years behind white gay men when it comes to incorporating messages about AIDS prevention into their behavior," said Steven Feeback of the San Francisco-based Task Force. "This cutback means that thousands more will be infected by HIV."

The cut was a result of a transfer of \$14.6 million from the Centers for Disease Control's AIDS prevention program to the treatment monies provided by the Ryan White Emergency CARE Act. Nationwide, 29 local minority organizations also lost support.

The Ryan White Act was passed last year after heavy lobbying by AIDS organizations, but it was grossly underfunded. This year, an attempt was made to increase the subsidies sent to the cities most hit by the AIDS epidemic.

"This is a classic situation of one need being pitted against another," said Feeback. "Care and treatment got the biggest push last year by all the lobbyists who deal with AIDS. So, the Ryan White Act had an increase in funding while the CDC's prevention budget was decreased."

The two areas of the Task Force program most affected by the cuts are a survey of sexual behavior among gay men in the rural south and a self-evaluation designed to find out whether an organization com-

posed of gay African Americans is indeed most effective in educating other gay African Americans on AIDS issues.

The behavior survey has already been completed, and the Task Force expected that there would be money available this year for analyzing the raw data. Without the analysis, it is impossible to draw any conclusions from the survey results.

The loss of both the self-evaluation and survey analysis efforts will make the Task Force more vulnerable to the right-wing attacks directed at the organization during the past year. Congress and the CDC began receiving letters from self-described outraged taxpayers after nationally syndicated columnist Cal Thomas ridiculed the NTFAP's "Hot, Horny and Healthy" safe sex seminars.

Thomas found especially offensive a ten minute segment in the three hour workshop that featured a so-called condom race. During the race, teams compete to see who can put condoms on dildos the fastest. Thomas considered it an "outrage" to spend money on "programs designed by and for a homosexual group whose goal is to win



JIM MARKS

Urvashi Vaid of NGLTF, Belinda Rochelle, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), Phill Wilson and Reggie Williams at a Nov. 8 press conference called to denounce funding cuts to the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention.

recognition of their behavior and lifestyles as legitimate."

"At a time when more money should be made available to programs serving people of color, particularly gay and bisexual men, we are experiencing cruel cutbacks," said Task Force executive director Reggie Williams. "NTFAP is protesting the CDC's cut in our grant and the general lack of support for AIDS prevention programs serving

gay and bisexual men of color."

The Task Force is now circulating "A Call for Action" to increase AIDS education efforts directed at minority gay and bisexual men. Among other things, the statement asks the CDC to allocate at least one-fourth of its AIDS budget to health promotion programs targeting gay and bisexual men of color. Thirty organizations have signed the Call so far.

Light up the night for Project Open Hand

Some of Atlanta's top vocalists will volunteer their time and talents in support of Project Open Hand for the second annual "Danny's Lighting of the Tree." In 1990, the event won a Bar Award for PWA Benefit of the Year. This year's show promises to be an even more memorable fundraiser for the Donation Campaign spearheaded by Danny Donahue, general manager of Gallus Restaurant and Bar.

The celebration begins at 8 pm, December 15, on the Gallus veranda. Individuals, groups, and businesses from the community

are asked to purchase lights for the tree at \$5 each. The money will go directly to Project Open Hand, and gifts may be made in the memory of a lost loved one.

This year's show is produced by Gregg Daugherty, publisher of Performing Arts Media. Leigh McClelland, winner of the 1991 Atlanta Live contest, will headline the evening. Entertainers include Megan McFarland, Atlanta's cabaret diva; Hal Gresham of the Atlanta Opera and the Southeastern Savoyards; Darryl Lanza, Mr. Gay Georgia 1990;

and others.

6th Street will be blocked off between Cypress and Peachtree for viewing of the performances on the Gallus veranda. The show will climax with caroling as the tree lights up the night, a symbol of hope, love and sharing.

There is no admission charge, but donations of any amount will be appreciated. Those interested in purchasing a light or lights for the tree should call 875-9917 and ask for either Gregg Daugherty or Boyd Parris. Let's light up the night!

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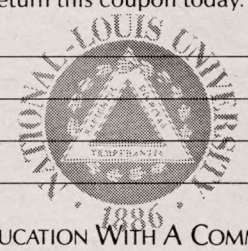
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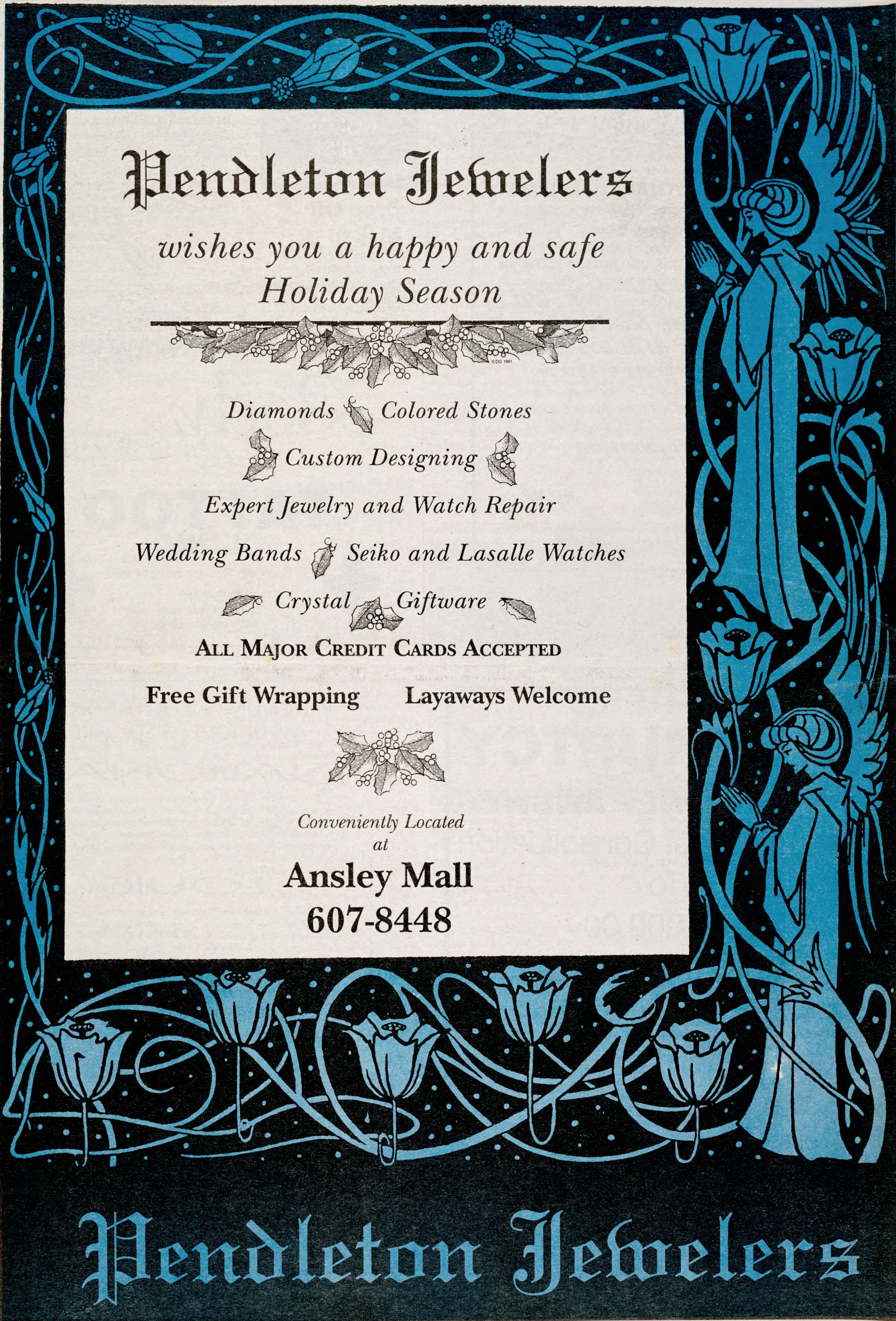
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by Thom Cardwell

There's an old Rockshots holiday card of Divine, a mass of teased platinum hair and arms loaded down with shopping bags—from Bloomingdale's, Saks Fifth Avenue, Lord & Taylor, Tiffany's, Macy's, Altmann's, Cartier's, Nieman Marcus—and a hearty greeting encouraging "Shop Till You Drop!"

Shopping during this holiday season (if you are among the lucky who can afford it) can be good therapy to ward off all that blues about the economy, the government, the health crisis and a myriad of other matters that none of us can really do much about—at least not by year's end.

And there are economical gifts that can provide just as much fun for you and for those on your gift list.

How about a gift certificate for a massage or a needed trip to the chiropractor to ward off holiday tension? Or perhaps paying for your friend's next therapy session to speed recovery from credit card shock? Or maybe a gift certificate from your friend or boss's veterinarian for the next time their pooch needs a check-up.

Check out "green gifts" for those on your list who don't want *anything* unless it's good for the environment. Check out the Georgia Environmental Project in LSP and "In Harmony" catalog (see the classifieds) for great gift ideas. And Crystal Blue has everything for the new-ager on your list. For goodness sake, be creative! How about a tune-up for your love's old clunker from Sparks?

In case you haven't noticed, we hope you will look first to the advertisers in this paper when you're searching for gifts. We can't name them all

here, but a quick glance through these pages will provide you with the names of plenty of shops and professionals to meet all your holiday needs. Now, let's talk about shopping.

It's 1991 so we'll start with machines and gadgets. Who doesn't use them these days? Even the most machine-phobic person can't resist the convenience of the latest in computers, fax machines, video recorders and the like.

Among the wonders of the electronics world are: the new Sony Video Walkman VCR/TV with its own built-in 8MM VCR, hi-fi sound and 3" LCD-screen color TV with many additional features; the AIWA Digital Tuning Personal Stereo; the Panasonic VHS Palmcorder with compact VHC-C cassette that can record up to 90 minutes at SLP speed; and the Nakamichi Music System with concert-quality sound system. All of these items can be found at Hi-Fi Buys.

How about some intimate apparel for that someone special in your life or as a way of letting them know you'd like to make them a "significant other?"

There's nothing like pure silk to say it with luxury—especially if you choose to give him a royal blue silk robe with burgundy piping, a multi-colored paisley robe or kimono-style robe in pastel colors. Give him or her a pair of pure silk boxer shorts in solid colors or foulards or paisleys that are particularly popular again this season to wear under the robe, or for everyday. Two-tone silk robes with matching boxer shorts are being featured by some designers. The pleated silk boxer and the silk brief join the latest entries in the undergarment fashion world. Classic silk

charmeuse pajamas, for him or her, have also experienced a return as an attractive "someone special" gift. Many of the silk robes, no matter what the style, come in one-size-fits-all and are sold for both him and her. Incidentally, many of these garments are now made of "washer" silk so as the name implies, they don't have to be dry-cleaned.

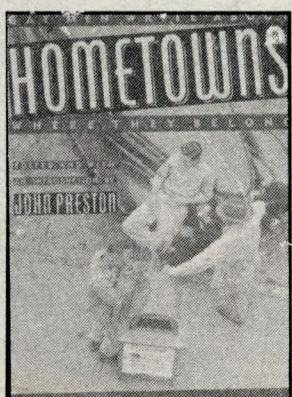
The boxer rebellion is continuing to explode with sales figures increasing steadily. And no wonder—the designs are colorful, inventive, artistic and whimsical. For both men and women (with many females preferring to wear men's lines as casual sportswear or beachwear), designers are currently featuring polka dot, paisley, nostalgic 1950s and 1960s prints, cows, fruits and vegetables, Bart Simpson and almost anything that your imagination can conjure up.

Replacing the sports jacket, because it's more casual and versatile, is the cardigan sweater. Most designers are featuring a wide variety of textiles, designs, colors and styling. As an essential article of clothing in any man's wardrobe and as a much-appreciated gift, you really can't go wrong. In cotton, silk and mixed blends, the cardigan is featured in this season's collections by Alexander Julian, Ralph Lauren, Liz Claiborne, Perry Ellis, Calvin Klein, among others.

Never really out of style, the turtleneck has also been quite popular again but this time around they're slightly oversized with a longer stand-up collar and in a great variety of colors and designs (especially horizontal stripes) in wool, cotton and mixed blends. For him and her, they are definitely

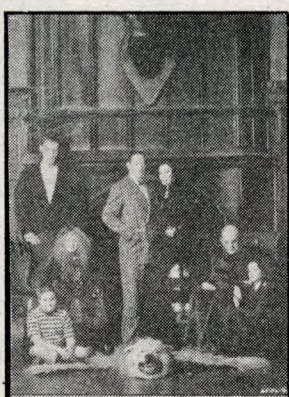
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Books



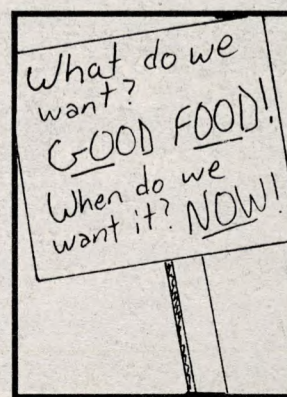
John Preston offers a new look at home and family in his latest releases.

Movies



The Addams Family tops the list of holiday offerings.

Food



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Also inside: *Dish*; *Ruling Planets*; *Classifieds*

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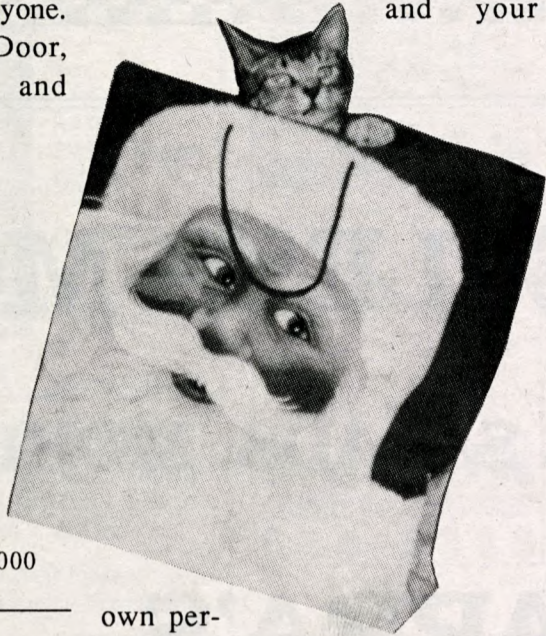


HOLIDAY

G ◊ I ◊ F ◊ T G ◊ U ◊ I ◊ D ◊ E

a fashion statement, and no longer simply a garment to be worn underneath a shirt as one layer in that bygone layer-look of the early 1980s. Acceptable as casual or dress wear with a jacket, blazer or cardigan, they're always a good choice as a holiday gift for anyone. Check out The Boy Next Door, Stefan's, Days Gone By, and

up their own food baskets with gourmet mustards, jams, cheeses, wines, breads, crackers, candied fruits and other favorite goodies to present to their holiday hosts. If you enjoy shopping for food, then you can be creative in your choices and your



"Santa" gift bags come in handy when you're just too busy to wrap. Funny Business has tons, and 2000 designs of boxed holiday cards.

Junkman's Daughter for these and related items.

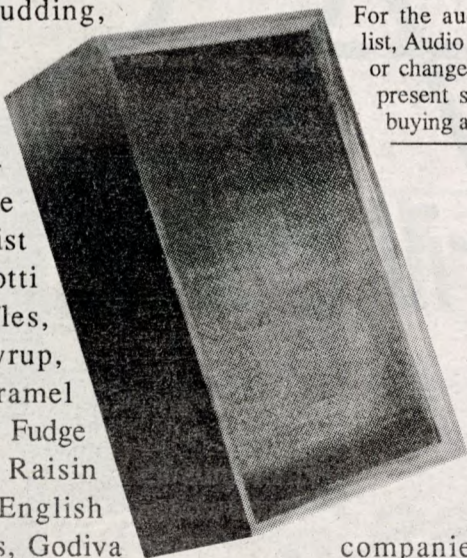
The holidays are undoubtedly associated with food. Beginning with Thanksgiving and ending with New Year's Day, the gift of food will always be appropriate to give your hosts, neighbors, friends or coworkers.

Traditional holiday foods include items such as Cole's Christmas Pudding, Cartwright & Butler's Brandy Butter, Williams-Sonoma Chocolate-Covered Coffee Beans, Trappist Fruitcake, Perigotti chocolates, Truffles, Ragole Fabbri Syrup, Grand Finale Caramel Sauce, Silver Palate Fudge Sauce, Concord Raisin Brandy cake, English Farmhouse Cookies, Godiva chocolates, and fruit baskets, nuts, jellies, jams and preserves, cheeses, meats, among numerous other combinations of food stuffs to be offered as holiday gifts. Check out California Mart and Maddix Deluxe for everything you need in this department. Also, Classic Cheesecakes has 23 flavors of cakes, including everyone's holiday favorite—pumpkin.

Friends of mine each year make

own personal presentations this holiday season. For those who are ever more industrious, you can give your own specialty baked goods, jellies and jams, desserts and cookies, soups—even salad dressings.

For those with special interests or hobbies, there is a wide world of



For the audiophiles on your list, Audio Forest can upgrade or change the sound of their present stereo for less than buying a new system.

shops and companies catering to their (and your) needs. For game players and strategists, chess sets, backgammon, Whirl Win, darts and new board games like "Gender Bender," "The Wall Street Game," "Balderdash," "Trax," "The Sailors' Game," and "Scattergories" are hot items this season. The Toy Store in Ansley Mall carries a lot of these games, and much more for any "child" on your list.

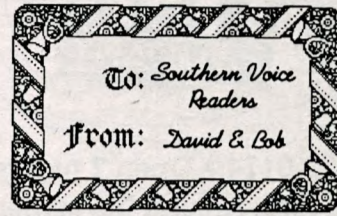
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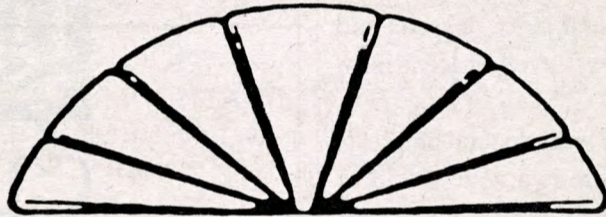
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Whatta we want? Good food! When do we want it? Now!

by Gary Kaupman

After watching "Stop the Church" and "Voices from the Front," two incredibly powerful videos about AIDS activism, at the Gay/Lesbian Film & Video Festival I got to wondering why I (and by extension all of us) don't put a little more effort into demanding our rights in other areas of our lives.

Specifically, since that's what this column is about, why do we put up with so much mediocrity in the places where we purchase our food, both prepared and not? No, it's not as immediate an issue as healthcare, but it's one that effects us all, two or three times a day, each and every day of our lives.

In theory, the wonderful world of capitalism and its best buddy in codependence and dysfunction, "the free market economy," are supposed to take care of this issue. If we don't like the apple pie at Restaurant A, then take our business to Cafe B. Sorry, but at least in Atlanta, it doesn't work that way. If there is only one restaurant serving Southwestern food close enough that I don't have to pack a lunch to get there, then by Goddess I want the place to dish up decent food. And treat me like a king/queen in the process.

Case in point. The friendly folks who operate the Azteca Grill down by Southlake Mall have recently (and mercifully) moved into the space at 2165 Cheshire Bridge formerly occupied by the Peg Leg Pelican. (The latter a quick mini-course on how to do virtually everything wrong in one small restaurant.) Azteca north is called Sundown Cafe, a suitably eponymous name given that the place is open only for dinner, Monday-Saturday.

The menu—less Tex-Mex and more nouveau-Latino than at its cousin down in Morrow—is long on meals with meat, short on options for those who eschew the flesh of warm-blooded creatures. The prices are right (\$7.95-\$12.95 for entrees), but the decor—meant to be a take on sanitized Santè Fe—obviously came from someone who is severely heterosexually impaired in the design skills department.

FOOD RIGHTS...AND WRONGS

Things start with promise as a friendly man escorts you to a table and a smiling waitron arrives with a selection of crisp corn tortillas, blue and white. The red salsa is ok; the green, rich with the taste of tomatillo, a real winner. Water comes with lemon, but iced tea is so weak that it might as well be aciduated water.

But then the waitron admits that she's having a hard night, too much of the food fails, and the place seems to be haunted by the desert demons of inauthenticity. Perfectly good corn chowder is so sweet that it could be topped with nuts and served for dessert. A chili relleno is, properly, filled only with cheese, but comes in an Anaheim pepper rather than a poblano. And it's coated with a heavy, albeit tasty blue cornmeal batter, rather than the traditional, light eggy stuff that should surround it. The whole thing is awash in a useless sauce claiming cheese as its parent.

More unfortunate, our particular faux relleno came to the table bearing a hidden toothpick. Pure hell on the tongue, and maybe more had it gotten that far.

There's no need for me to continue this litany of woe. Suffice to say, that for the rest of the meal, every hit was accompanied by a miss.

But, except for gently questioning the strange construction of the relleno and mentioning the devil toothpick, we sat pretty much silently through this chaos. The folks surrounding us behaved similarly.

I really want to like the Sundown Cafe. I want it to succeed so I don't have to drive to Morrow to get a bowl of their fabulous turnip greens or snappy beans laced with cilantro. Which gets me to wondering what would have happened had we spoken the truth about each gaffe as it occurred. Better yet, what would the place have been like if every customer had been acting up as he or she was

provided with less than satisfactory service and food?

Imagine 25 folks staging a die-in on the floor of a restaurant. Do you think the management would notice? Burroughs Wellcome and the N.I.H. sure did.

It Must Be Magic

S.V. contributor Al Cotton and I recently took a trek to Seattle for a weekend. He loved the cold and cloudy; I was near suicidal after 18 hours of marching bravely through billows of damp gray mist. But we ate well and stopped on every fourth corner to buy a cup of some (different) kind of invariably delicious coffee from one of the myriad espresso carts that are as numerous in Seattle as pigeon droppings are here.

On return, what to my wondering eyes should appear but an ad in SoVo from a Seattle Company offering these carts for sale/lease/franchise. Somebody, please check this out!

And if you visit Seattle be sure to have breakfast at the Raison D'etre Cafe. The food's expensive, but it's good and the ambience is as near a perfecto mix of classic/camp/funny as you'll find this side of London.

Making Progress

Despite C.L. columnist Cliff Bostock's warning that the place was terrible, two friends and I had a quick meal at Mid-City Fish Co. the other night. A fried calamari appetizer was tasty, if a mite dear at \$6.95. Crab cakes at \$9.95 are better than many in town, as long as you avoid the spicy remoulade that comes with them. Grilled salmon was almost as good as that I had in Seattle. A melange a trois of salmon, scallops and shrimp, grilled and served over fettucine with a red pepper sauce, sent one friend swooning and another wishing that the sauce had been replaced with some simple olive oil. Like the Sundown Cafe, the decor could use a little homo-attention, but the situation at Mid-City is far from hopeless. Check it out.



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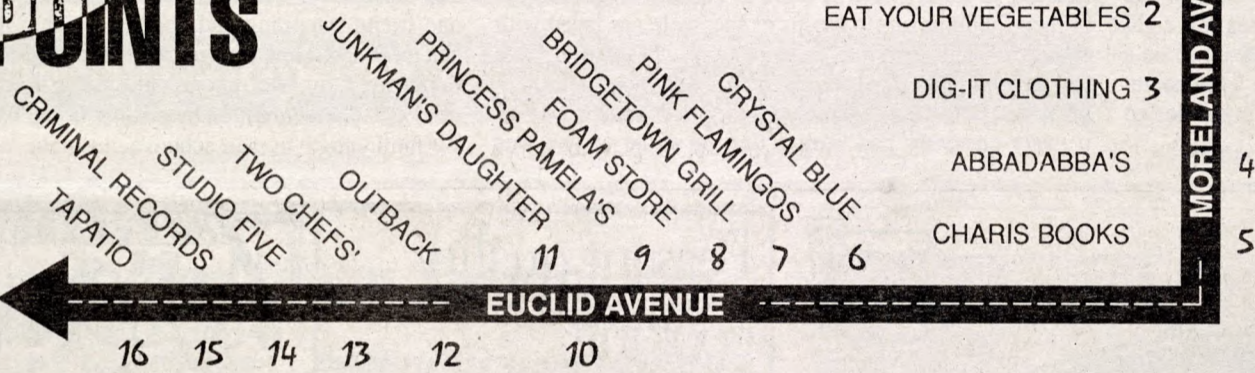
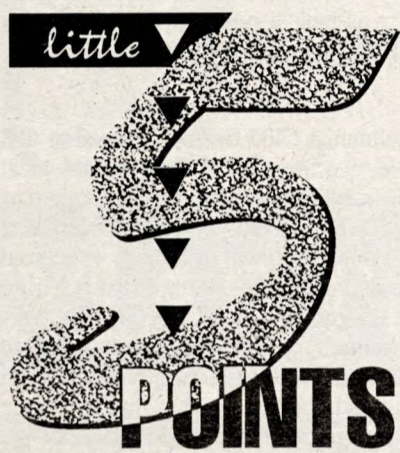


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Three holiday releases rated good, better and best

by Terry Francis

Prospero's Books ★★ Peter Greenaway's free-associative rendering of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* is, like all his films since the icy 1983 *The Draughtsman's Contract*, highbrow kitsch. Thematically, these films are fundamentally empty—yet, like certain abstract paintings, we can project onto them whatever meanings we care to ascribe.

The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover, Drowning by Numbers, and this newest film can mean whatever we want them to mean. Of these later films, *Drowning by Numbers* seems to me the best: Beautifully photographed, acted, and scored—and exceptionally witty.

But with *Prospero's Books*, Greenaway gives in to his weakness for the monotonous lateral camera movements that made *The Cook, the Thief* so tedious. And John Gielgud, as Prospero, blows the strongest elocutionary gale since his own performance in another howling soul special, Alain Resnais's 1977 *Providence*.

The film's high-culture chic is certified by the endless stream of writhing, naked bodies—Cecil B. De Mille must be drooling in his grave—and the vivid optical effects keep you alert even as the story fails to grip.

Nevertheless, I'm glad that Peter Greenaway exists. Given the near-flatline status of current Hollywood filmmaking, these maddened visions have the integrity of conceptualized attempts to extend the technical and narrative boundaries of movies. His pictures are barren vessels that sink elegantly into pools of mysterious, swirling imagery.

Cape Fear ★★1/2

Nick Nolte, Jessica Lange and Juliette Lewis star as the Bowdens, a family living in the Carolinas who are terrorized by a psychopath named Cady (Robert De Niro) whose body is covered with tattooed quotations of Bible scripture.

When Nolte's character served as Cady's public defender on a rape charge, he withheld evidence concerning the sexual history of the victim that might have set the guilty Cady free. Afterward, Cady was raped by gangs of whites and African-Americans in prison. (Presumably, women who get raped become silent and repressed, while their male counterparts turn psycho.)

The film's director, Martin Scorsese, achieves a distinc-

tive atmosphere of sexual menace: twisting, moss-covered tree limbs hang ominously in the air amid flashes of heat lightning, generated both by the subtropical evening sky and the Bowdens' angry marriage.

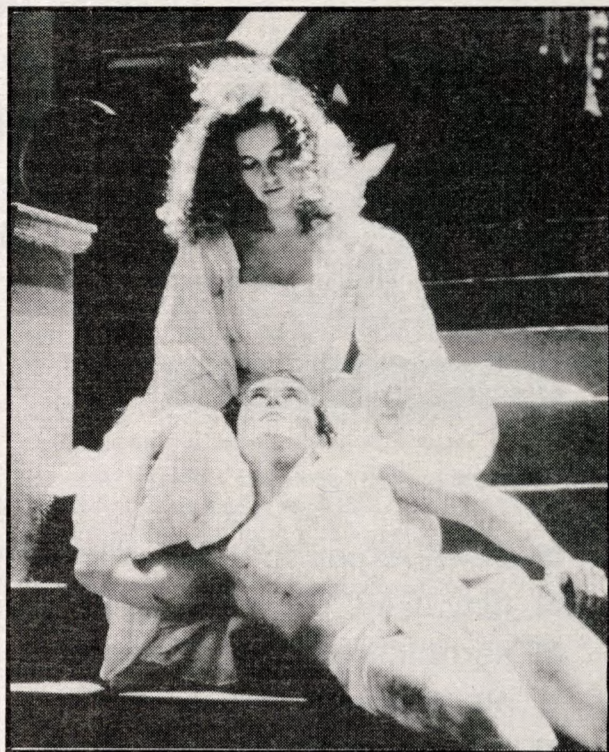
And Scorsese takes risks. The fractured look and hurtling-to-stop rhythms of the film are components of a visual design intended to mirror the splintered state of the Bowden family and the influence of Cady in their lives. The director also moves us closer to some comprehension of the violence, humiliation, and degradation understood by women threatened with sexual assault. But the picture's missteps are more than numerous.

Individually, Scorsese's actors are impressive, but each is acting here in a different style heated further by the restless camera. Juliette Lewis, as the Bowdens' troubled 15-year-old daughter, works overtime at giving a performance conceived in terms of the techniques of naturalistic acting. She's all mannerism. It's an intelligently wrought performance, but there's way too much of it. Where was Scorsese to guide her toward some reticence of technique?

Probably he was dreaming up more needlessly complicated, film-school-drenched camera angles. *Cape Fear* is overburdened and diminished by them. It's this sort of flash that has earned Scorsese an honored position among film students, but it's his inability to grapple on a very deep level with character or theme that makes him the most overrated director in American cinema. At his best, in films such as *Mean Streets*, *Taxi Driver*, and *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, we can feel the force of Scorsese's ideas, which is something different from the spark of his sterling film technique.

The Addams Family ★★★ Intensely romantic. Morticia and Gomez Addams, august and delicate in their fevered passion for each other, arrive on the movie screen in ghoulish splendor, accompanied by their children Wednesday and Pugsley, devoted servants Lurch and Thing, and relations Granny and Cousin It.

The film opens on a note of Christmas cheer. A band of carolers huddled on the doorstep of the Addams' forbidding mansion serenades them with tidings of joy, while the Addamses, positioned on the rooftop, prepare to spill a



Isabelle Pasco and Mark Rylance in *Prospero's Books*.

cauldron of smoky liquid onto their singing heads.

Still, all is not happy in the Addams home. Uncle Fester, in a dispute with Gomez years ago, fled to the Bermuda Triangle for solace and was lost at sea, presumed dead.

When a seance is held in an effort to contact Fester's absent spirit, an apparent imposter turns up in Fester's place, seeking to fleece the family of their mesmerizing fortune in diamonds, gold and rubies.

Director Barry Sonnenfeld strikes a tickling balance between the ordinary and the utterly bizarre. And the editing by the celebrated Dede Allen is split-second sharp.

The vivid cast is led by Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston, in the roles of Gomez and Morticia, sly and blithe as the aristocratic parents of Wednesday and Pugsley, whose alarming scene of dueling swords out of Shakespeare is not likely to be forgotten by the moms and dads assembled for family night in their school auditorium.

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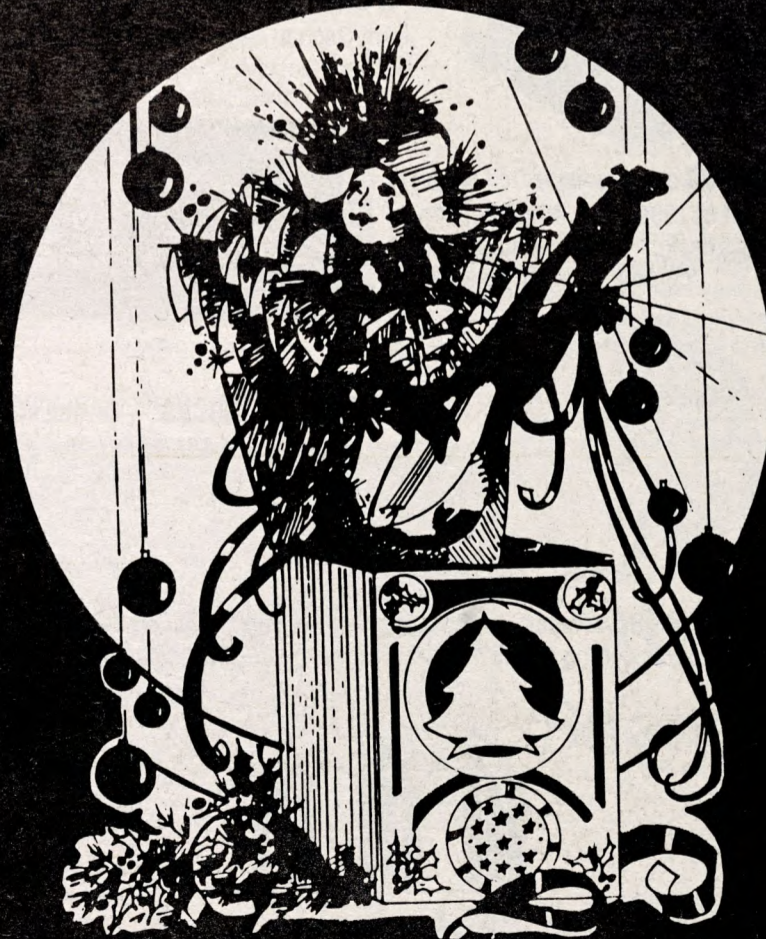
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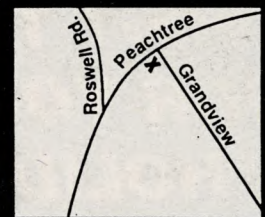
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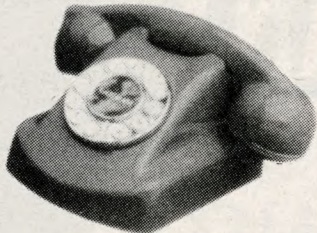
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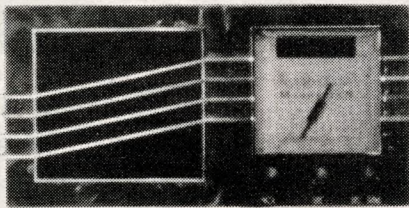


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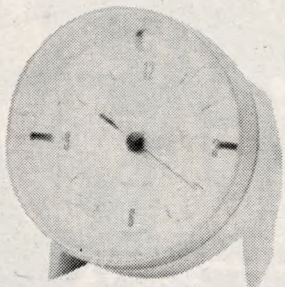


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S O U T H E R N
VOICE

You can't go home again

Editor John Preston takes a look at 'home' and 'family' in two new books

by John Perry

Some gay men describe their earliest hints of self-awareness as a vague, childhood sense of displacement — a feeling conveyed by the image of being absent the day the handbook for life was distributed.

This sensibility serves as a starting point for John Preston's two most recent works, *Hometowns* (Dutton, \$21.95) and *The Big Gay Book* (Dutton, \$14.95). Although widely varied in form—*Hometowns* is an anthology of essays and *BGB* is a reference guide—both spring from the same fundamental questions of where gay men "belong" and what concepts like "home" and "community" mean to them.

Preston has assembled an admirably diverse group of authors, writing about locations strung across America. The well-known places are all included: Provincetown, Key West, Greenwich Village, Fire Island. But *Hometowns* also offers dispatches from the more obscure outposts of gay life: Okemos, Mich.; Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Halifax, Nova Scotia. In many ways, it is Preston's blending of the familiar and the exotic, the sophisticated and the homespun, that gives *Hometowns* its richness.

And this is a rich volume. Preston incorporates many of the best aspects of the anthology tradition while avoiding some of its pitfalls. These essays, some truly terrific and others simply well-crafted, work together without losing any of their individual qualities. Each could stand alone, and versions of some have, in fact, been published elsewhere. Brought together, the collection is far greater than the sum of its parts.

In his preface, Preston discusses the themes that unify the anthology. "The voyage of almost all these gay writers is the same. They follow, in one way or another, a basic outline. It begins with the sense of exile from the original hometown, an expulsion that was either delightful, because of the freedom it presented, or painful, because of the abandonment it stood for. The hometown of their birth was either the writers' worst nightmare or an Eden that still has its appeal," Preston writes. "From there, the gay man moves on to his new place in the world and explores it. He is either captivated by his new experience, or horrified by the changes he must undergo to make his new

world work for him."

Preston's list of thematic concerns, "exile, abandonment, redemption, salvation, reconciliation," amply demonstrates that gay experience can be at once uniquely gay and at the same time universal. Harlan Greene's essay on Charleston, S.C., for example, is moving both in his portrayal of society's heavy toll on its closeted insiders and in his more general assessment of the city's deluded sense of history. The two observations flow smoothly into one another.

"And then there was my homosexuality...Charleston could not tolerate such honesty of feeling. The city thinks souls are less important than ceremonies," Greene writes.

Hometowns should make readers grateful they are living right here right now, for it represents the best of what's being accomplished by gay writers today. It's the kind of book that can reach the far outposts, places like Steven Saylor's "closed and tiny world of Amethyst (Texas), a place of waiting and postponement, opened by books and imagination and sustained by home." So many of the writers wrestle with a sense of growing up without antecedents or any hint of gay heritage. Books such as *Hometowns* will guard the experiences of those who have gone before.

Preston says he addresses his books "to a specific audience, and anyone else who happens to overhear, that's good too." In the case of *BGB*, he envisioned "young men in their early 20s in Maine who are just discovering gay life and who have no idea what's out there." Despite these specifics though, gay men of all ages and even those living outside of Maine will find this comprehensive reference extremely valuable.

The guide is carefully divided into sections reflecting different aspects of gay life, from organizing, communication, and finance, to culture and sports. The reader need not be one of those of us who love reference works to enjoy simply flipping through *BGB*.

Scanning the index reveals how clever Preston has been in choosing his contents. Beyond the more familiar (but no less important) lists of hot lines and AIDS information sources, Preston has thoughtfully included sections



JORJET HARPER

John Preston

on topics such as gay aging, what women would like gay men to know, colleges and universities gay students should consider, and significant donors to gay organizations, to name just a few.

Preston's guide also benefits from the size and resources of its mainstream publisher, the Plume line of NAL/Dutton. Despite its dense content, the layout is open and easy on the eye, with numerous photographs, drawings, logos, etc. The *BGB* is also paperback, thus more affordable, and, according to Preston, it will be updated regularly. "My agent calls *The Big Gay Book* my pension," he says with a laugh.

If *Hometowns* can be considered a series of meditations on the concept of "belonging," then it follows that the *BGB* will serve as a gay life guidebook for all those displaced individuals who feel they were absent the day the rest of the world got theirs. In both works, Preston again proves his power as a writer and an editor, as well as the importance of his contributions to culture, gay or otherwise.



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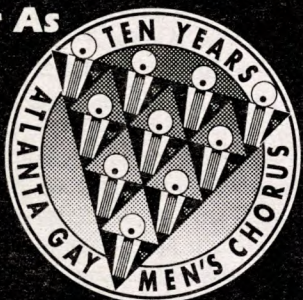
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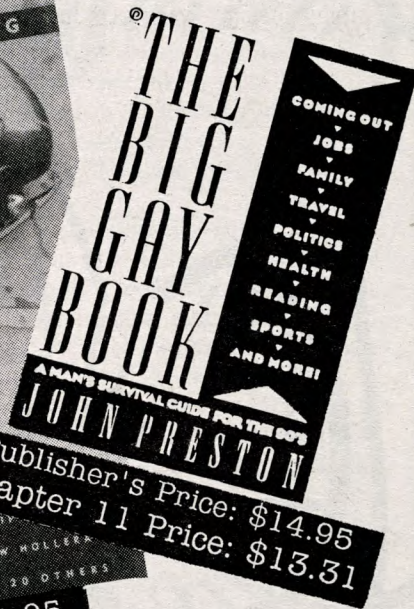
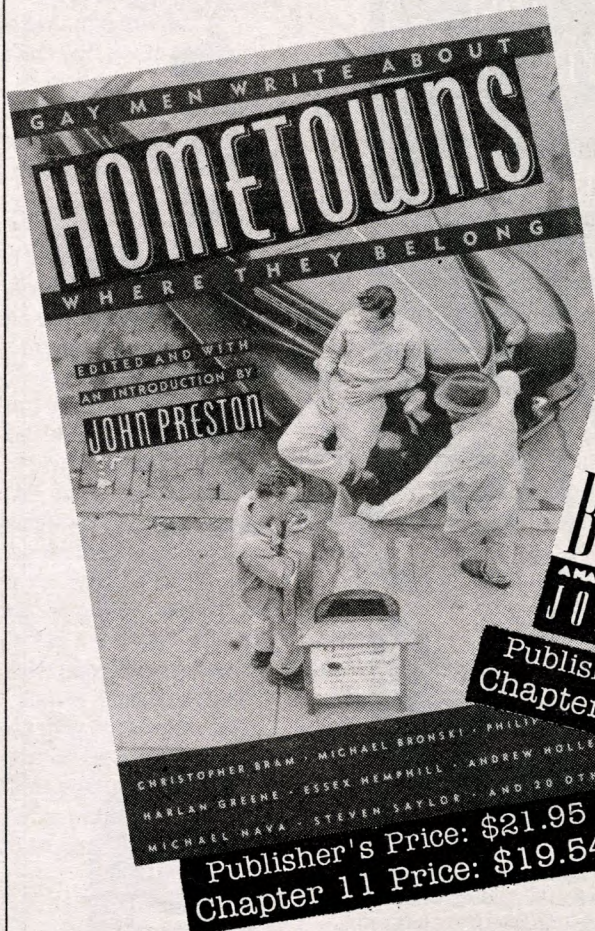
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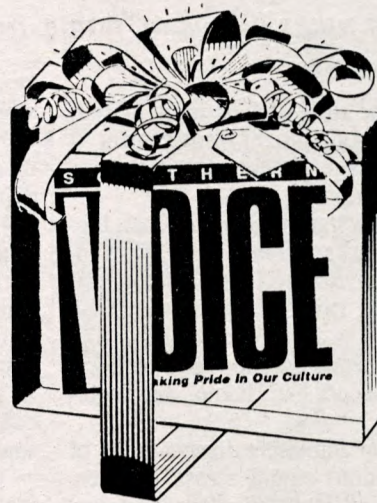
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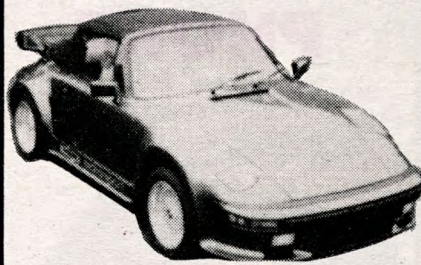
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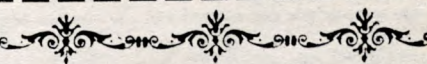
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Cont'd from page 27

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For the home, there are a number of sources to explore for china, crystal, objects d'art, furniture, carpets and accessories. For one-of-a-kind items and hard-to-find pieces, there's nothing like an antiques or collectibles shop for discovering something from the past to enhance anyone's home. When you're visiting someone for an extended holiday stay, an attractive home accessory will always please your hosts. Look for specialty items as a personal touch in gift-giving this time of year. It's always nice to give something to someone that they traditionally "would never pay for themselves" but could and would undoubtedly

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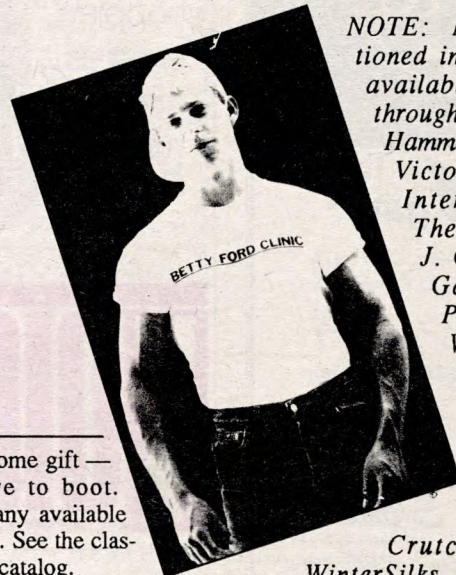
further than Charis Books & More in LSP, Chapter 11 at Ansley or Oxford Books at Peachtree Battle or Pharr Rd. Maybe a 1992 calendar or a new appointment book for the obsessive-compulsives in your life? Look for them at ArtLite on Piedmont Rd.

And everybody wants Michael Jackson's latest — don't they? Well, maybe not but a new music video or

CD or tape is always a hit. Check out Eat More Records, Wax 'n Fax or Criminal Records for your musically inclined friends and family.

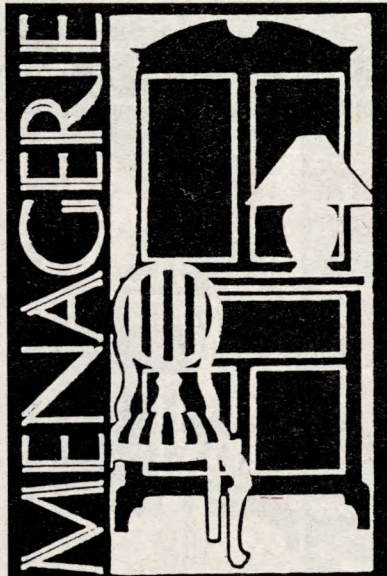
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We've just skimmed the surface of gift ideas here, but we hope you were inspired by some of our suggestions. Whatever you decide to buy or make this season remember that the point is to have fun, not to see how much money you can spend in a two-week period. Happy shopping!



T-shirts are always a welcome gift — and they're inexpensive to boot. Pictured is just one of many available from J. Miles Clothing Co. See the classifieds on how to get their catalog.

NOTE: Many items mentioned in this article are available nationwide or through mail order from Hammacher Schlemmer, Victoria's Secret, International Male, The Sharper Image, J. Crew, Bachrach, Gardener's Eden, Pottery Barn, World Wide Games, Tapestry, Williams-Sonoma, Neiman Marcus, Horchow, Crutchfield, Godiva, WinterSilks, David Kay, and Harry & David.



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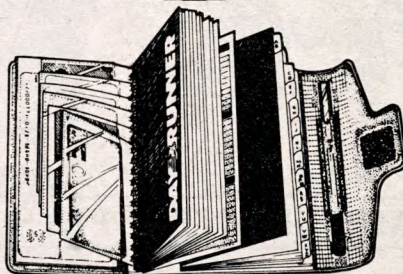
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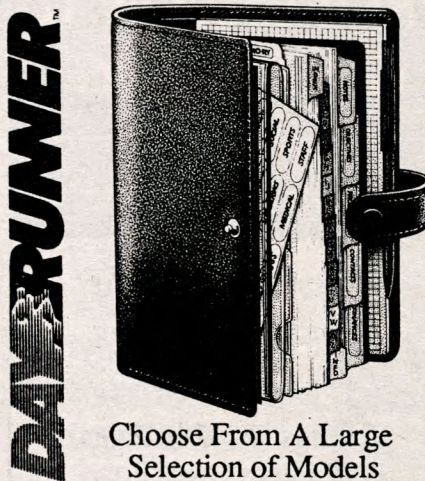
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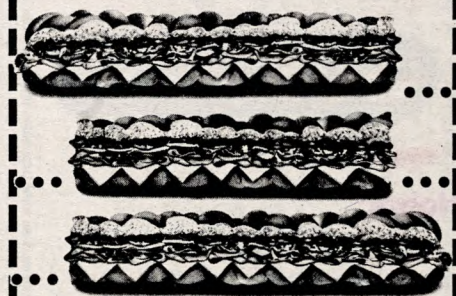
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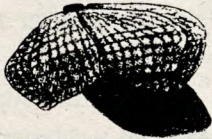
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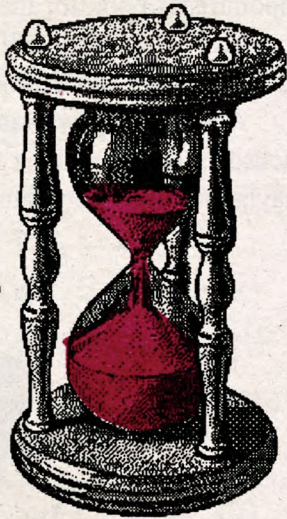
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Author and stylist Quentin Crisp:

"I am famous for being famous"

by Danny Roble

The words "living legend" are used to describe a person who has managed to reach a certain level of success and recognition in the field of art and entertainment, but it is a rare person who can carry the weight of that title without ever having done much of anything to earn it.

English octogenarian Quentin Crisp is that person.

"I am famous," he has said, "for being famous." While it is true he has written several books including *Doing it With Style*, *How to become a Virgin*, and *How to Go to the Movies*, he is best known for his auto-biography, *The Naked Civil Servant*. This best-seller was made into a film of the same title starring John Hurt as Crisp.

Crisp was in Atlanta recently to attend a screening of his latest project, a documentary film called *Resident Alien* which focuses on Crisp and other denizens of New York's Lower East Side who live and breathe fame for fame's sake. I spent an enjoyable but brief hour with this word-smith in blue velvet. His lavender tinted hair was swept forward and up onto the top of his head, his signature scarf knotted at his throat. The animated features of his face were defined by carefully applied cosmetics; arched and penciled brows atop lined and shadowed eyes, cheeks gently blushed with roe and lips defined with the color of cranberry.

Quentin Crisp is neither orderly nor predictable. It follows therefore that chatting with him would be a similar experience.

We touched on subjects, dwelt there awhile, then flew off onto a related topic much the way a hummingbird goes from flower to flower, savoring the variety.

Danny Roble: You've been in Atlanta before haven't you?

Quentin Crisp: I have indeed. I did, I think, two weeks some years ago in a tiny theatre on the unfashionable end of Peachtree Street. And then years ago I was here because the book fair was here. I stayed in the Omni hotel—I've never seen such splendor—you need never bother with the world again if you live in the Omni Hotel. All the windows face inward. You only see the other guests seeing you.

DR: That reminds me of something that you said—I think it was a week or so ago on New York's gay cable network, you spoke about when you were a very young man your one desire was to be a total invalid and to be completely taken care of.

QC: That's true. That's what I would have liked, but now I have an agent which is much the same thing.

DR: Tell me about *Resident Alien*.

QC: Well, it is a documentary made about me and anybody else we could stop in the street and question, and a few people that were already people in the fame business which is a thriving profession of the Lower East Side. And there were various people who were encouraged or allowed to express their opinion of me—not always favorable. Sting was interviewed for a few minutes because he had written a song called "I'm a Legal Alien" which he claimed was about me. And John Hurt, who is my representative on Earth, he is the one who played the part of me in *The Naked Civil Servant*. He was in New York because he was promoting a movie called *Scandal*, in which he played Stephen Ward, the man who was falsely accused of this, that, and the other and committed suicide. Mr. Hurt, you know, was born to play victims. So he spent the whole day with my film crew which was very generous of him. I know he can't have been paid—it would have cost more than the whole film to pay him.

DR: Holly Woodlawn, who was made famous by Andy Warhol and was the inspiration for Lou Reed's classic song "Walk on the Wild Side," is in the film. Tell me about her.

QC: Holly Woodlawn went away to live a respectable life in San Francisco but came back to be at the Limelight when they promoted her life story which is called *A Low Life in High Heels*. And it is a riot—it's wonderful. In the movie, you see me in a nightclub



called the Sunset Strip where Holly is performing her act and I am brought up from the audience to say a few words.

DR: In one of your books, *Doing it With Style*, you said that an older person had perfected his statement and was now able to underline it. Is *Resident Alien* your way of underlining your statement?

QC: I suppose, though I hadn't thought about it until this minute, but yes, in a way. I had absolutely no intention toward the movie. I was asked by Jonathan Nossiter, who was the assistant director of *Fatal Attraction*, "Will you do it?" and I said, "Tell me what to do." He said, "Sit here and say this, then walk over and say that."

DR: What do you think moviegoers will get from your movie?

QC: Well, I really don't know. As I said, I have an agent now and the object is never to be to blame... so that once you have an agent, you can say my agent made me do it and so you're in the clear."

DR: Where do you go from here?

QC: I go back to New York, and I may not have to go anywhere else. The movie is ruled by Gray Cat Films. And they tell me where to go and they send me a ticket and I go there. I suppose that is the story of my life, I go where my fare is paid.

DR: I hope I am remembering this as you said it—correct me if I'm wrong—but on the Donahue show from 1990, you said that you did not believe people were born gay?

QC: Hmmm, I don't know if I said that... I've no idea whether they are born gay or whether they acquire gayness. I think very few people choose to be gay. People have said to me from the audience, "When did you decide to be gay?" And of course, you never decide. No one in their right sense would decide to be gay. You are stuck with it. And there seem to be people for whom the object of their sexual interest is almost a matter of indifference. Take away the girls, and they start on the boys. Take away the boys, and they start on the sheep. But you see, only the gay community wants a political posture. People who are incestuous, as far as I know, never march or anything and I've never heard anyone say, "Sheepists of the world, unite!"

DR: Did you have an identity crisis while growing up?

QC: Not really because I was a hopeless case—from the day I was born. So there was never any moment in which I thought, "Oh, I must rid myself of these peculiarities." I mean I was stuck.

DR: How old were you when you realized there were

other young men like yourself and you weren't the lone duck?

QC: Oh, I should think about 19 or 20. I never heard the word homosexual used until then. When I went down into London and walked about the West End by myself, then I met other unmistakably gay men and I assumed just as the world assumes that all gay men are effeminate. Which is quite untrue but you can't see the ones that are not effeminate.

DR: At that time was the gay community in London free and open to an extent? I know it wasn't like Berlin but...

QC: There were drag dances, and you could dress up and go into this place. But it was always being found out and the police would raid them. I only once wore women's clothes in the whole of my life. I did it only to see if it could be done.

DR: And what was the result?

QC: Absolutely nothing. We went out, we got either into a subway or a bus, we went to a place called the Regent Palace, we had a drink, we wandered about a bit, and we came back then and no one took the faintest notice. So you can say it was a success in that sense. I remember wearing medium high shoes and I did borrow a velvet evening overcoat. And I wore make-up, which I've always worn.

DR: Really? That early?

QC: I was 21 or 22—I wore make-up a little at a time. You would have to had stared at me to say, "You're wearing make-up!" And then, of course you wear more and more until you are an absolute mask

of make-up and then one day you have to think, "How much of this am I doing to please myself and how much am I doing to annoy the world?"

DR: What's the answer to that question?

QC: Somewhere in between!

DR: Were you the only young man who dressed as you did and wore make-up?

QC: No. A lot of the boys in the West End, walking up and down Picadilly, in the city, in the cafes, they wore make-up. Whether they took it all off before they got home, I don't know.

DR: Were you a student then?

QC: Then I was already out in the world. I already had a job of a sort. Of course, I've never been any good at anything so I just did whatever was found for me. I never did it well but I struggled through it. And then I became a model in the art schools which I did on and off for about 35 years.

DR: Nude modeling?

QC: Yes. Of course, the trouble is it's a profession at which you can't get better, you can only get worse.

DR: When were you last in England?

QC: Just over two years ago in September. I don't think I can be expected to do any more world travel. I'm over eighty... I think I should be allowed to just putter about now.

DR: Do you involve yourself in politics at all?

QC: No, I don't really believe in politics. Politics are for politicians. They are simply a medium in which certain people float their tremendous egos. And once you learn that you understand the secret of the universe. Education is for teachers, not the students. Religion is for the priests, not for congregations. The stage is for actors, not for audiences. And politics is for politicians and not for voters. They are all professions adopted by people who cannot live within their income of praise.

DR: Income of praise? Do you mean that just as some people can't live within their income of money, politicians must always earn more praise and attention?

QC: That's right.

DR: You have written about how older people should concentrate on being rather than doing. And that's what you do best?

QC: That is what I try to concentrate on. I ask myself if there is anything I haven't said or been or done rather than looking out there and saying, "I'm dying and I've never been to Hong Kong or something because I... there's nothing out there I need except people.

DISH

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

Who to Believe?: Representatives of GLAAD/NY, were P.O.'d by published reports (in TV Guide & Daily Variety) that NBC had quashed plans for one of the characters on *Sisters* (Alex's daughter Reed) to tell her mom that she thinks she might be a lesbian, and that it had killed a *Quantum Leap* episode about a gay Naval Academy cadet who contemplates suicide. So they met with the network's V-P of standards and practices, Rosalyn Weinman. Ms. W. claimed that such reports were "wildly inaccurate" claiming that the *Quantum Leap* script was pulled because it was homophobic and offensive in the way it portrayed gays. She claims that a revised script has been filmed and will air soon. No word about Reed's budding Sapphic tendencies, however.

A Day Late and A Dollar Short: Speaking of Hollywood, Vanilla Fantasy Fans may want to check out Disney's "Beauty and the Beast." But not because of the animated feature's gay content—a swishy haberdasher and a scene where one (boy) heroes kisses another (boy) and gets slapped for his affection. The film is dedicated to executive producer and lyricist (who also wrote songs for "The Little Mermaid," "Little Shop of Horrors" and the upcoming "Aladdin") David Ashman, a gay man who died of AIDS back in March. No mention of either fact in the dedication, of course, but syndicated writer Steve Warren says that Disney has "quietly" made a "sizable donation" to AIDS charities in Ashman's memory. We suppose this is progress.

Challenging Stereotypes: SAME and Image may have (inadvertently?) created one of the most challenging co-sexual lesbian and gay events in the city last weekend when it aired Kathy Damond's short film "Nice Girls Don't Do It" to a jam-packed auditorium almost equally divided between men and women. The "it" in this case is female ejaculation. The images were very specific and written instructions were included. No one left the auditorium, although Dish overheard several men saying they wish they had. But the funniest visual of the evening occurred when a small group of men and women watched one woman (repeatedly) manipulate Image's hyperactive water fountain into some very accurate imitations of Ms. Daymond's cinematic activities.



Challenging Difference: Speaking of challenging, co-sexual (and multi-racial) lesbian and gay events, the Our Right to Love conference held a couple of weekends ago at the Colony Square Hotel was a humdinger, with participants frequently involved in a level of truth telling uncommon at such events. But Chairperson Franklin Abbott and Group Facilitators Martha Lou Brock, Rakesh Ratti, Sedrick Gardener and Sharon Sanders (pictured) as well as most participants remained focused and respectful. Abbott and Conference Organizer Dennis Park plan to take their show on the road. It'll be a challenge, but one that Dish thinks is well worth the effort.

Challenging Rhetoric: Finally, someone involved in sports is challenging the media/public perception/corporate sponsorship holiday that has been extended to Magic Johnson on his mixed message that its ok for men in sports to accommodate the uncontrollable (sexual) needs of their female followers and wannabe's. And, of course, it's a lesbian. Martina (Navratilova, that is) brought up the all-too-true facts that: "If it had happened to a heterosexual woman who had been with 100 or 200 men, they'd call her a whore and a slut and the corporations would drop her like a lead balloon." And "...if I had the AIDS virus, would people be understanding? No, because they'd say I'm gay."

Extreme Sex 101?: Dish doesn't read Rolling Stone. That's because (we hate to admit this) back in the '60s we were a polyester-clad Republican supporter of the war in SE Asia—which just goes to prove that old dogs *can* learn new tricks. But we're glad that a friend turned us on to the Oct. 3 issue (#614) with a good piece about Pee-wee Herman, some hot jeans and underwear ads and a great article on the state of gay/lesbian studies courses in colleges around the country. Leading the pack are (natch) City College of San Francisco which now has a Department of Gay and Lesbian Studies and City University of New York which has given the go-ahead to a Center for Gay and Lesbian studies. Even Georgia State says it will offer a gay and lesbian studies course next year. So even if academia isn't your thing, find a copy of RS #614 and check out Stacey D'Erasmo's excellent survey on the state of how-higher education is dealing with our lives.

Apology Due: If Sen. Bob Kerrey (D-NE) is man enough to apologize for the supposed homophobic and misogynistic joke that he got caught telling about lesbians and Jerry Brown, then Dish thinks that Lewis Grizzard (who has become more openly sexist, racist and homophobic than Dick Williams) can apologize for his Nov. 20 column wherein he allows as how that it is ok for baseball players to grab their crotches, but it is not cool for Michael Jackson to grab his (in his new Black & White video). And just why, Dish wonders, is Lewis so agitated by the sight of men playing with their parts?

December 5—December 18

RULING PLANETS

by Mary Bailey-Rule

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOTH

The New Moon on the 5th is in Sagittarius and a good time to add more fun and adventure to your life. Communication, organization should improve as Mercury goes direct on the 18th.

ARIES - If you are having surges of energy, you may need to explore new ways of expressing your personal beliefs—the perfect time to get active in social or political causes close to your heart. Your abilities are valuable.



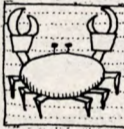
TAURUS - Venus moving through your 7th house of close, personal relationships should bring some peace and harmony into your life and ease some of the turmoil you've been experiencing. A good time to reach out to others, gently.



GEMINI - With the Sun, Mercury and Mars all cruising your 7th house of personal relationships, you can work with your natural optimism to create opportunities and open doors for yourself and others. Don't listen to any gloom and doom.



CANCER - Your personal relationships may continue to be challenging for you, but this is not the time to retreat. As you nurture and strengthen your physical body, nurture your spirit as well and don't take any guff from others.



LEO - With the Sun, Mercury and Mars in harmonizing and energizing aspects to your Leo planets, you may feel on top of the world. As you express your ideas and viewpoints, remember to encourage others to do the same.



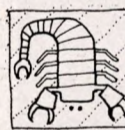
VIRGO - As the Sun, Mercury and Mars move through your 4th house of home, parents, and emotional ties with family, you may need to be more attentive in these areas, especially with the holidays coming. Attend to your needs.



LIBRA - How is your car? Take care of routine maintenance so your automobile will keep going when you need it most. Also a good time to get in touch with friends and relatives you haven't heard from lately. Bring them up-to-date.



SCORPIO - Venus moving through your 1st house of personal identity and self-awareness, brings harmony and a time to appreciate your wonderful and unique qualities. Share your warmth and grace during the Season.



SAGITTARIUS - Happy Birthday! Mars joins the Sun and Mercury in your 1st house of personal identity. With Mercury retrograde and the energy of Mars, you can complete anything left unfinished and celebrate with friends.



CAPRICORN - Your 12th house of dreams/visions, higher self and the Great Unknown is really active now with Mercury retrograde, the Sun and Mars. Look for specific patterns in your dreams and fantasies.



AQUARIUS - With Venus joining Pluto in your 10th house of career and vocation, you may find opportunities to make peace with certain people or at least have more harmony and less tension in your daily career efforts.



PISCES - Venus and Pluto together in Scorpio, indicate wonderful changes and transformation occurring in your perceptions and understanding of the world. Your vision of life may become clearer and easier to express.



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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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.

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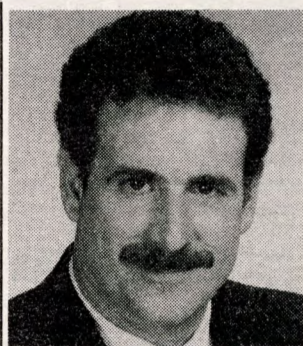
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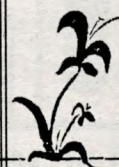
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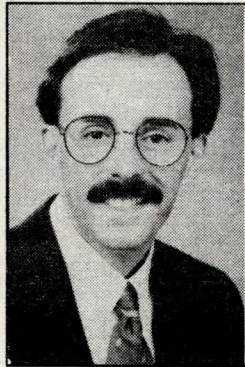
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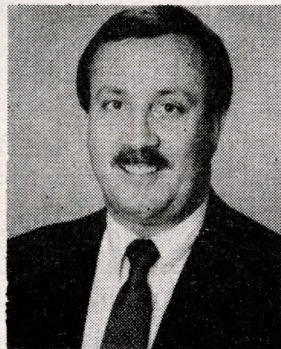
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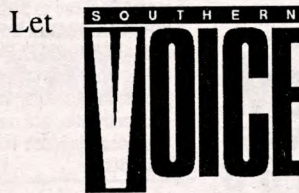
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GBF, 22, seeks fem.f for friendship and kinky fun. ☐ 45004

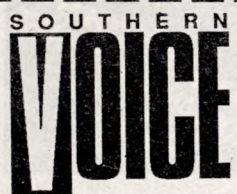
Novice, W/M, 48, 6'3", blonde/blue, glasses actively seeking GM to gently lead me to my first physical experience. Should be patient but mildly aggressive and well endowed physically as well as mentally. Call soon - Easy. You won't be sorry. ☐ 45095

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

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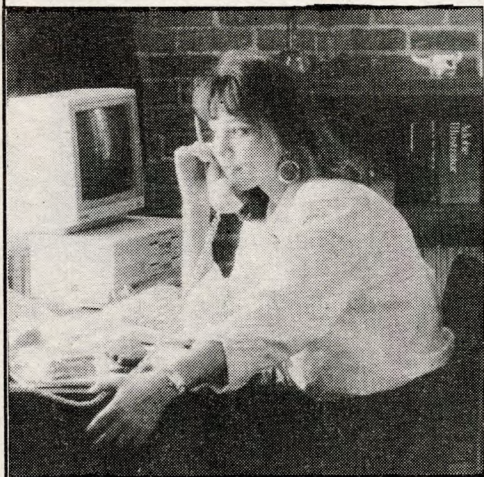
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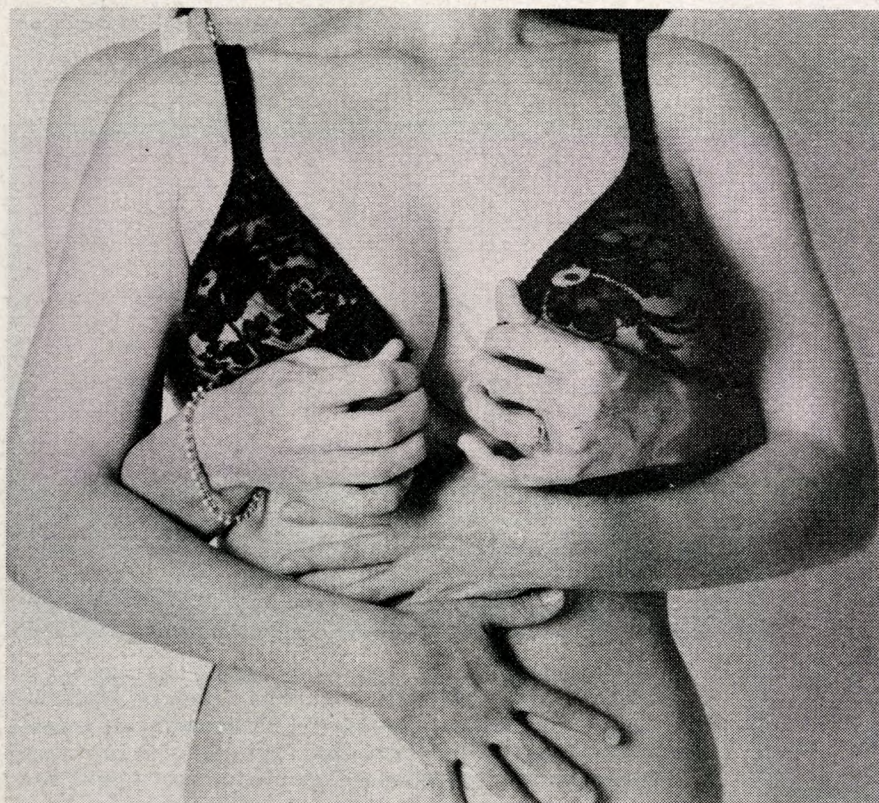
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Personals

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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.

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.

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Volunteers are needed to help in various areas of AIDS service and education. Programs include Buddies, Practical Support, Info-line, Speakers Bureau. Other opportunities are available, training provided. Call AID Atlanta, volunteer services coordinator 872-0600.

PROJECT OPEN HAND needs volunteers to prepare and/or deliver meals to PWAs Monday through Saturday. A few hours a month can make a lot of difference. Contact Ralph McKay at 525-4620.

GLAAD/Atlanta needs volunteers to monitor drive-time radio shows, some radio news and talk shows, and television news and entertainment programming. If you are interested in becoming a part of GLAAD/Atlanta please call 286-7477. The only way to defeat homophobia is to confront it.

American Hospice is seeking a few heroes to work with AIDS patients and their families, assisting with shopping, reading, being a friend. If you can volunteer a few hours a week, call us. 698-8000.

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

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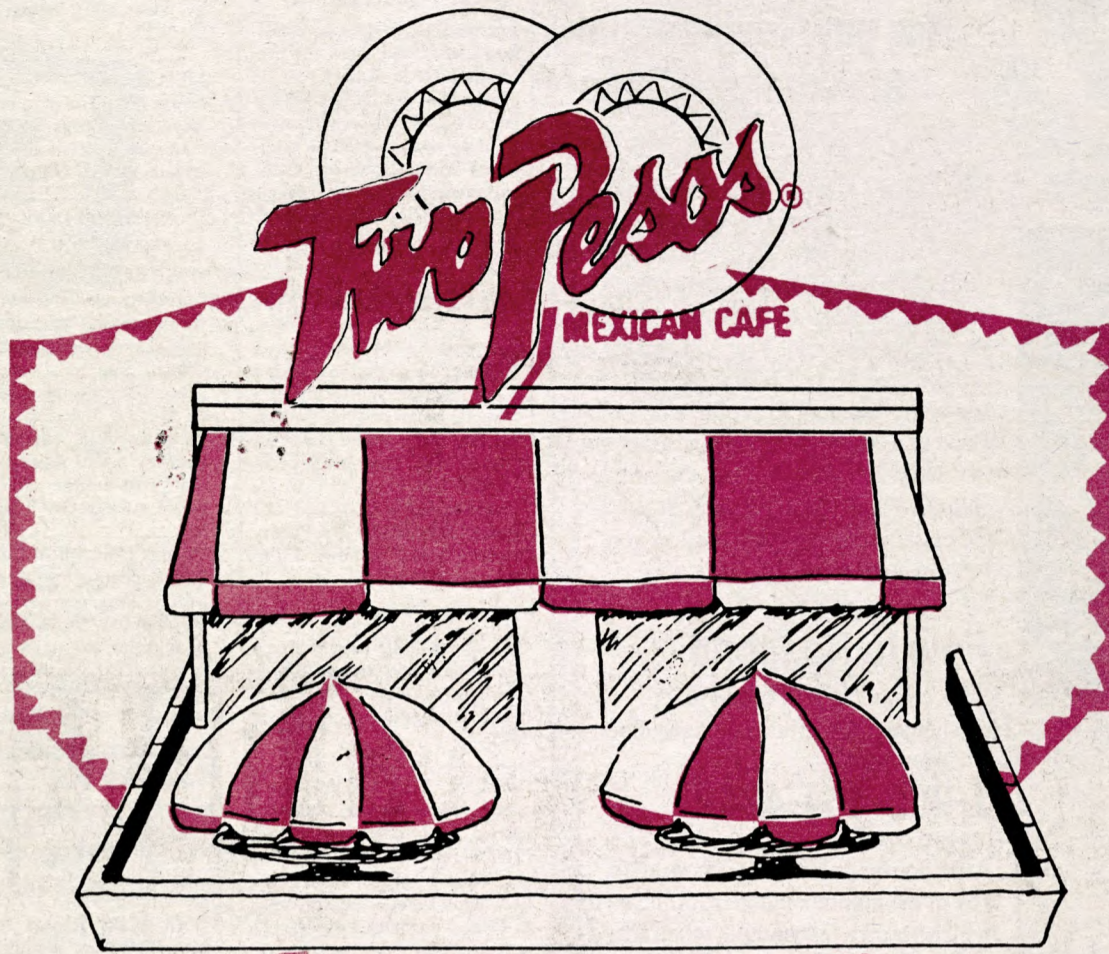
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2—The most-knowledgeable salespeople

HiFi Buys understands that audiophile components are very special and only someone with special training is worthy enough to represent them. That is why our Audiophile Center is staffed by professionals with the many hours of specialized training needed to help you assemble a musically synergistic system. We invite you to meet and have an open discussion with Chris, Doc, Gary, Pete or Ray. Challenge them with your needs and watch them outperform your expectations.

3—The best audiophile customer policies

HiFi Buys knows that what sounds great in our audition

room may not exactly meet your needs in your home. It's the reason why we can arrange for in-home auditions before you make a purchase decision. We'll first discuss your needs, give you a demonstration and then we'll make sure we've answered all your questions. Don't be surprised if we suggest other ways to further enhance the musicality of your system, and to help you achieve the perfect sound in your environment. When you're completely satisfied, you can make your purchase. And when you decide to buy, we'll continue to support you with service to assure optimal performance forever.

If you want the very best in audio, then HiFi Buys Audiophile Center should be your source. We've put the full resources of our award-winning company into being the first hi end store you can take seriously. Our reputation is based on your satisfaction.

We Represent These Quality Brand Names



HIFI BUYS AUDIOPHILE CENTER
3135 Peachtree Road, Buckhead
Phone 261-4434

Ask for Pete, Chris, Doc, Gary, or Ray