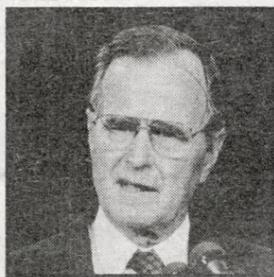


VOICE

Taking Pride in Our Culture

MORON



George Bush
doesn't believe gay men
have slowed the spread of
AIDS...and he doesn't like
ACT UP. 5

MARCH



King Week '92
will not only feature Coretta
Scott King but openly gay
Rep. Barney Frank as well. 8

MOUTH



Lea Delaria
speaks her mind about
Atlanta, her upcoming album,
and her debut movie. 9

Thompson awarded guardianship of Kowalski

by Gareth Fenley and Christina Cash
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After a seven-year legal fight that became a rallying cause for lesbians and gay rights groups, a Minnesota appeals court ruled on December 17 that guardianship of Sharon Kowalski should be granted to Karen Thompson. Kowalski and Thompson were lovers in 1983 when a car accident left Kowalski severely brain-damaged. Thompson had tried since 1985 to be named Kowalski's guardian over the objection of Donald and Della Kowalski, who maintained that their daughter never told them she was a lesbian. The Kowalskis were named guardians in 1985 and for over three years they barred Thompson from visiting Kowalski.

"It's amazing," said Thompson about the ruling. "I can't believe that it came seven years later than it should have, so I'm angry. It's the right decision. It just should have been made years ago."

Paula Eitelbrick of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, who filed a friend of the court brief in Thompson's behalf, said that the ruling will have tremendous impact on the legal status of lesbian and gay couples. "In my view this case has changed the lives for (lesbian and gay) couples," she said. "At least in Minnesota, but probably elsewhere as well."

The Minnesota Court of Appeals said that Judge Robert Campbell of the St. Louis County District Court had abused its discretion in denying Thompson's petition to become Kowalski's guardian and instead appointing a third party, Karen Tomberlin, who was Kowalski's track coach in high school, and a friend of Kowalski's parents. It also called Thompson and Kowalski a "family of affinity, which ought to be accorded respect."

Some history

In 1983 Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski had been lovers for almost five years—they owned a home and had exchanged commitment rings. But Kowalski was not out to her parents and few friends were aware of the relationship between her and Thompson. Thompson says that the two lived a closeted lifestyle in keeping with the majority of lesbians and gay men in rural areas of Minnesota. When a car accident left Kowalski severely

Seven-year legal battle was rallying cry for lesbian and gay community



© 1990 M.J. MURPHY PHOTOGRAPH

head-injured, Thompson visited often, trying to motivate Kowalski to regain as much as possible of the basic skills she had lost as a result of her injury. Both Thompson and the Kowalskis applied for guardianship, and Thompson agreed to let the parents be named guardians. In return she was allowed full visitation, and it was stipulated that Sharon could not be moved from St. Cloud, where the two lived, without Thompson's consent.

Kowalski's parents visited as often as they could, but the hospital was almost 200 miles from their home in Hibbing, Minnesota. Donald and Della Kowalski also began to resent the amount of time Thompson was spending with their daughter and asked that she not visit so often. They claimed that her visits made Kowalski depressed and were hampering her recovery. Within a few months after they were named guardians, the Kowalskis moved their daughter to a hospital closer to their home, making it impossible for

Thompson to visit except on weekends.

Thompson wrote a letter to the Kowalskis telling them that their daughter and she were lesbians and had been living together as a couple since 1979. She hoped that the admission would help the Kowalskis see the importance of her having full access to their daughter, that it was vital to her motivation, happiness and recovery.

The Kowalskis responded with a denial of Sharon's lesbianism and shortly afterward, in July of 1985, Donald Kowalski was granted full guardianship, banning all visits by Thompson. "That order didn't just eliminate me from Sharon's life. It also eliminated a lot of friends from before the accident," Thompson said in 1987.

For the next three and a half years Thompson and Kowalski did not see each other. Kowalski resided at Leisure Hills Nursing Home in Hibbing, only a few minutes from her parent's home. During that time Thompson went to state and Federal courts on numerous occasions to win guardianship. She maintained that Kowalski was not receiving the type of rehabilitation therapy she needed, and that Kowalski's progress was hampered because they were not allowed to be together. She lost at every level. Within those years Thompson spoke to numerous gay rights groups and at conferences, published a book about the case in 1988 and became an icon for the lesbian and gay community. A legal fund was set up to pay for legal fees, and "Free Sharon Kowalski Day" was established to insure that nobody forgot the case. The words "Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?" became a national rallying cry for the causes of lesbians and gay men.

In September, 1988 Judge Robert Campbell ordered that Sharon Kowalski be moved from the nursing home in Hibbing, Minnesota to a hospital in Duluth for a complete evaluation of her competency. The Kowalskis protested the move, saying that there was nothing new to be learned about their daughter's condition. Campbell also ordered that the hospital could decide who could and could not visit Kowalski based on "her reliably expressed wishes."

In February, 1989 Kowalski and Thompson saw each

Continued on page 19

Another study indicates biological basis for sexual orientation

Identical twins much more likely to be gay than fraternal twins or adopted siblings new study finds

by George S. Buse

Being gay may be the result of one's genes, a new study of twins at Northwestern University has revealed.

The new study by J. Michael Bailey, associate professor of psychology at Northwestern, and Richard Pillard of the Boston University School of Medicine suggests that nature not nurture is responsible for sexual orientation. The study found that twins who share identical genetic material are much more likely to be gay than are fraternal twins or adoptive brothers.

Bailey and Pillard found that of the 56 identical male twins studied, 52 percent of their brothers also were gay. Among the 54 fraternal twins in the study, such pairings dropped to 22 percent and among adoptive

brothers, the figure was only 11 percent.

"The identical twins—with their identical genes—have the highest percentage of homosexual siblings even though environmental influences were similar in that all the gay men recruited for the study were raised at home with their brothers," Bailey observed.

This study adds to an increasing number of research efforts that have suggested biological explanations for sexual orientation.

Another recent study was conducted by neurobiologist Simon LeVay of the Salk Institute, who reported a difference in the size of the hypothalamus among homosexuals and heterosexuals. (The hypothalamus is that part of the brain responsible for the sex drive; it was smaller in homosexual men

than heterosexuals, according to LeVay's study.)

Published in the December issue of *Archives of General Psychiatry*, the year-long study involved gay men who responded to ads in gay newspapers in the Midwest and Southwest. The researchers were able to contact 74 percent of the living relatives of those in the study, and they found that 98 percent of the time the relatives corroborated what the men in the study had reported.

One of the respondents in the study was Chicagoan Geoffrey Hulet, who was interviewed more than a year ago. Hulet has an identical twin who is non-gay. He reported to Chicago gay newspaper the *Windy City Times* that he became increasingly aware

of being gay from around age six or seven but didn't completely admit it to himself until he was 19. While he is impressed with the thoroughness of the study, Hulet says he does not believe it is conclusive. "I do not see any black and white proof of anything," he said.

Bailey's and Pillard's study was restricted to gay men, but Bailey reports that he has been conducting a similar study among lesbians. This study has not yet been published in psychiatric journals and its results, therefore, are not yet available to the non-academic press.

Bailey said that if his study is true, it should be "good news for homosexuals and

Continued on page 19

National black gay magazine premieres in Atlanta

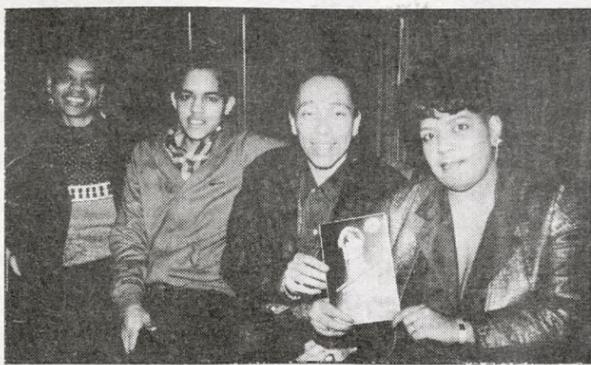
by Gareth Fenley

Friends, a new monthly magazine for the Black gay and lesbian community, came off the press last month with a 32-page debut issue. "The publication will be national, but based in Atlanta," said Gloria McCrary, who describes herself as "editor, publisher, advertising manager—the whole nine yards."

Using contacts developed over 20 years of community involvement, and relying on the voluntary contributions of many supporters, McCrary published the first issue in time for Christmas and Kwanzaa. "We put this together in one month's time to get out the word about holiday events and affairs," she said. "We pushed everything up to do that."

McCrary, who currently runs a T-shirt printing business, formerly owned and operated several Atlanta nightclubs. The most recent, Friends Dance Club, was open from 1987 to 1989. McCrary's social networking organization, which is also called Friends, has hosted parties, fashion shows, and other events for Atlanta's Black gay and lesbian community since 1977.

The premiere issue of *Friends* magazine is strictly local in scope, including its 14 advertisers. Beginning in January, however, McCrary plans coverage and distribu-



Gloria McCrary and contributors hold the premiere issue of *Friends*, a national magazine for black lesbians and gays based in Atlanta.

tion (free of charge) in nine cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, and Washington. "Right now, the idea is to network through Black gay organizations and nightclubs

to get the book directly into the hands of the market we're trying to reach," said McCrary.

Friends will cover "entertainment, events, bars, organizations, fashion, grooming, health, news—anything informative and entertaining," said McCrary. She said the new magazine is not intended to compete with *BLK*, a Los Angeles-based monthly that targets the same audience, but that leans to lengthy editorial features and news.

"Even though *BLK* reaches here from time to time, most of the information is centered in the west coast," said McCrary. "People in Atlanta and other areas want something closer, pertaining to the area around them. The new book is kind of like a networking channel. Hopefully, *BLK* will work with us." Early in 1992, she plans to contact *BLK* editors as well as the National Black Lesbian and Gay Forum, also based in Los Angeles, to talk about possible joint efforts.

In Atlanta, *Friends* will be available at selected bars and through the African-American Lesbian/Gay Alliance (349-3739).

Domino's says it doesn't discriminate

by KC Wildmoon

Atlanta—Officials at Domino's Pizza have responded to charges by two lesbians that a local franchise of the Michigan-based pizza delivery chain discriminated against them because of their sexual orientation. Eleanor Wiley and Joanna Camper disclosed last month that they planned to sue the company because of harassment from Domino's management.

Wiley and Camper say their problems began when Mike Measells, the area supervisor, learned the two were lovers and cited them in violation of Domino's policy forbidding an employee to supervise a spouse. The pair claim that harassment, in the form of difficult goals and questionable write-ups, has continued even though Camper was transferred to another store and subsequently resigned.

Bo McDaniel, Human Resources Director for the local Domino's franchise, denied that the company discriminates based on sexual orientation.

"We don't have that policy," he said. "We don't take any action based on that criteria."

McDaniel said that the policy disallowing an employee to supervise a spouse is common business practice.

"It's not good for business," he said. "Any business."

Language on the written evaluation given to Wiley stating that she and Camper were "married" was incorrect, McDaniel said, but that the policy should and does apply to any two people engaged in a relationship. He also defended Measells, denying that the supervisor had acted in any way other than professionally.

"I think Mike Measells is probably the most professional, even-handed supervisor that I've dealt with in any of the four companies I've worked with," he said.

A former Domino's employee, Alan Sayers, concurred. "I worked with him for 3 or 4 years," he said. "Mike is probably the most professional man I've ever worked with. I've been in the restaurant business for 20 years."

"These charges couldn't be further from the truth," continued Sayers, who has maintained a friendship with Measells since leaving Domino's. "He doesn't get personally involved with his employees. He keeps a very professional distance."

McDaniel said he had no knowledge of charges made by Dace Park and Lois Schwarze that they had been similarly harassed about three years ago. "All those people are long gone," he said.

Domino's Pizza, owned by Thomas Monaghan and based in Ann Arbor, Michigan,

does have both an equal employment opportunity statement and an anti-harassment policy, but neither includes sexual orientation. Protected classes include race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, handicap status, and disabled veterans.

"It's way above me," McDaniel said when asked about the process of adding sexual orientation to those policies. "I have no idea what the process would be."

Monaghan, who has come under fire for donations to right-wing religious organizations, owns 97 percent of the company, with the other 3 percent belonging to long-time employees. The national offices in Ann Arbor were closed for the holidays, and could not be reached for comment.

City Council approves SRO which will house HIV+ persons

by KC Wildmoon

Atlanta—Mayor Maynard Jackson and the Atlanta City Council rose above opposition from business leaders to approve a loan of over a quarter of a million dollars for Walton House, a Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotel at 87 Walton Street. Antioch Urban Ministries, the arm of Antioch Baptist Church North which will operate Walton House, needed approval from city leaders by a December 27 deadline to finalize the deal with Maryland Deposit Insurance Fund, which currently owns the building.

Mayor Jackson announced his support at a press conference on December 16, and on December 23, just in time for Christmas, the City Council voted 9-0 with one abstention to authorize a \$256,000 loan. The money will come from a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development subsidy for SRO development.

Renovations on the building will be completed within the next 6 months, making Walton House ready for occupancy by next spring.

"Walton House fulfills part of my commitment to house the homeless," said Jackson. "We are hopeful that Georgia State and Central Atlanta Progress will join the board overseeing the operation of this fine development."

Members of Central Atlanta Progress opposed the project, saying the downtown Fairlie-Poplar district, where Walton House is located, is "too fragile" an area for an SRO project. They feared that public perceptions of SROs and the people who need them as undesirable would prevent plans by Georgia State University to move some of its facilities into the district.

Homeless advocates said the project should help stabilize the area. "It's simple low-income housing," said Anita Beatty, director of the Task Force for the Homeless.

Walton House will be a 128-room facility providing rooms at \$8-\$12 per night. The project will also provide a full range of social services on site.

The facility will also set aside some 20-30 rooms for HIV+ persons. Sherry Siclair, Housing Coordinator at AID Atlanta, hailed the decisions by the Mayor and Council to back the project.

"It's an important step in Atlanta toward developing housing for the homeless, especially HIV+ persons in need of affordable housing," said Siclair, who participated on the housing team of the Atlanta Summit On Poverty earlier this year. "It's needed."

Gay issues addressed at Bill of Rights symposium

by Gareth Fenley

Five Atlanta-area politicians and several other speakers and performers addressed over 100 people at a symposium marking the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights on December 15.

"The Bill of Rights is not something passive. It's not dead. It is stretching, evolving, moving, growing," said U.S. Representative John Lewis (D-GA). "But every day these precious rights are being threatened. Today, Congress and the Supreme Court are cutting away at them. The American people must rise up to create a climate, an environment to protect these basic rights. If not — we will lose them."

DeKalb County Commissioner Sherry Sutton, who is running for chief executive officer of the county, urged activists to see a positive message in the current right-wing backlash. "You can measure your success by the level of brutality against you to prevent your movement and action," she said. "An intense response indicates you are starting to move in on the patriarchy."

The only politician to say the "L word" from the podium was Georgia Rep. Cynthia McKinney, who is running for Congress. She mentioned the lesbian and gay community in passing. Other speakers included U.S. Representative Ben Jones, Decatur Mayor Michael Mears, Emory professor Michael Bellesiles, and health-care activist Nancy Moulton.

Jones recently signed on as a co-sponsor of the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights

Bill. When asked what he'll do for us in 1992, Jones cited elimination of the military's anti-gay policies as a top priority.

"We need a legislative initiative, an educational campaign to dispel myths," he said. "Homosexuals have died in foxholes to protect our rights. It's time for the military to enter the 20th century on this issue."

John Lewis has co-sponsored the U.S. gay and lesbian civil rights bill since his election in 1987.

"What people do in their bedrooms under the sheets is their business," said Lewis. He and Jones are the only two Georgia representatives to co-sponsor the bill; he considers the rest of the delegation a lost cause. However, Lewis said that he "will talk" about the bill to



Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), who has been a co-sponsor of the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill since 1987, said he would continue to support efforts to reverse the military's ban on homosexuals.

newly elected members from Georgia, who are sure to enter Congress after reapportionment this year.

On lesbians and gays in the military, Lewis said he will continue to support efforts led by Representatives Pat Schroeder and Gerry Studds. Lewis also reported that in 1991 he signed a petition to Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney urging that people not be barred from the military on the basis of sexual orientation.

Cynthia McKinney has committed to co-sponsor the lesbian/gay civil rights bill if she is elected to Congress. On this and other issues, she said, "I would follow Congressman Lewis's lead. As a freshman going in, I will pin my sights on those I admire." Asked if she thinks support of the gay and lesbian community will hurt her politically, McKinney replied, "I don't think doing the right thing is political suicide, as long as you let people know it's convictions that move you."

NEWS

Anti-gay t-shirt sellers harassed by gay activists

Gay activists vandalized an apartment building where two Ohio State University students, charged with violating the student code of conduct for selling anti-gay t-shirts at university functions, lived, according to *Gaybeat*. Philip Magnon and Eric Greene sold shirts that read "Beat 'Em Back Into The Closet" at football games and in residence halls. Members of Queer Nation in Columbus took credit for the vandalism at Greene and Magnon's apartment building. The vandalism consisted of pro-gay stickers on the walls and slogans in pink spray paint. No arrests have been made in the incidents.

But I Was Only Trying To Help: David Beckwith, press secretary for Vice President Dan Quayle, has apologized for a "joke" he told in response to Sen. Bob Kerrey's recent "joke" about Jerry Brown. At a fundraiser for President Bush, Beckwith commented, "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." Beckwith said that he told his joke "to do a favor to Bob Kerrey" by taking the attention away from him. Beckwith also said that "many of my gay and lesbian friends thought it was unfunny."

Church Of England Calls For Abstinence: Bishops in the Church of England have called for gay clergy members to abstain from sex. In a statement released on December 3, the bishops also said that homosexuals who refuse to promise abstinence may be denied holy orders. "We cannot accept the view put forward by some fellow Christians that same-sex love is a parallel and alternative form of human sexual relationship on par with heterosexual love," said Bishop John Baker.

KKK Threatens Gay Bookstore: The St. Louis-based *Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph* reported last month that members of the Ku Klux Klan had harassed Our World Too bookstore in October. Members of the KKK identified themselves as such to Steve Gibson, the clerk on duty at the time, and left KKK business cards on the counter. Gibson told them to leave, and heard them say "We're watching you, we know where you are." The *News-Telegraph* also reported anonymous messages on its phone machine telling staff members to "watch out."

Magic Forms Foundation: Magic Johnson, the National Basketball Association superstar who announced in November that he is HIV+ and retired from professional basketball, has also announced the formation of the Magic Johnson Foundation, a non-profit organization that will focus on AIDS-related activities. According to First Team Marketing, Johnson's business agency, the foundation will support AIDS education, fund medical research, and assist in providing services for AIDS patients. Specific activities will be announced at a later date.

New Orleans Protects Lesbians And Gays: The New Orleans city council voted on December 12 to include sexual orientation in its Civil Rights Law, guaranteeing protection to that city's lesbians and gays in employment, housing and public places. The amendment to the city ordinance passed by a 5-2 vote. A similar proposal failed in the Crescent City in 1986 and in 1984.

Jailed PWA Dies: Dennis C. Hill, an AIDS patient in Milwaukee, died in the Milwaukee County Medical Complex a week after he was jailed for a traffic violation. Hill was found in a jail cell two days after his arrest by the Milwaukee AIDS Project's attorney and social worker. He was partially clothed, crying and covered with his own waste. The Sheriff's Department is investigating Hill's stay at the Racine County Jail.

QN/San Francisco Folds: Queer Nation/San Francisco called it quits last month after attendance at meetings fell from 300 to just 20 in the year and a half the organization had been in existence. Some attributed the group's demise to burn out, and others to racism and sexism. "The group got whiter and whiter and malar and malar," said Sushawn Robb. Members of QN/SF have already begun forming and joining other groups, including Outrage and the Lavender Tortoise.

Rambo Says Hollywood Is Prejudiced: Actor Dack Rambo, who quit his job with the daytime soap *Another World*, has signed on as a volunteer for the AIDS Project Los Angeles. Rambo, who is HIV+, says that Hollywood is racked with AIDS- and homophobia. He claims that his role on nighttime soap *Dallas* was cut back in 1985 because he was suspected of being gay. "I don't have to think about [acting] anymore," he said. "It's like freedom to me."

Rochester City Schools Ban Military Recruiters: The City School Board in Rochester, New York, voted last month to ban armed services recruiters from public schools because of the U.S. military's discriminatory policy against gays and lesbians. The policy, passed by a 5-2 vote on December 5, also requires counselors who provide written information about military recruitment to include a copy of the Department of Defense's discriminatory policy statement.

G/L S&M Meets NEA: Coordinated with the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's (NGLTF) Creating Change Conference last month, members of the lesbian/gay S&M/leather community met with National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) staffers to discuss attacks on freedom of expression. "The meetings provided the S&M/leather community an opportunity to discuss the impact of [Congressional censorship] on gay, lesbian and homoerotic artists and educate arts policy makers on sadomasochistic and leather artists," said Pere Jude Radecc, NGLTF's legislative director.

Jordan Is New SF Mayor: Former Chief of Police Frank Jordan won a close contest with incumbent Art Agnos for mayor of San Francisco last month. Jordan garnered 52 percent of the votes in a runoff against Agnos on December 10. Jordan was propelled to victory by San Francisco's conservative voters, who are reportedly frustrated with Agnos's "liberal" attitude towards the lesbian/gay communities. Agnos defeated Jordan by more than 2-1 in the Castro district, but that was not enough to offset Jordan's gains in more conservative areas.

Spitting PWA Charged With Attempted Murder: A Lakeland, Florida man, who told authorities that he is HIV+, has been charged with attempted murder for allegedly spitting in a police officer's face. Douglas William Crawford, 43, was arrested on November 23 for trespassing and resisting arrest with violence. He allegedly spit in Officer Leo L. Young's face, according to Young's statement, and some of the spit got in the officer's mouth. Florida state attorney Bill James backed the attempted murder charge, saying "If you do some act with the intent to do great bodily harm or to murder someone, that's an attempt." There are no recorded transmission of AIDS through saliva.



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AIDS UPDATES

Bush shows his ignorance on AIDS

Washington, DC—President George Bush showed continued ignorance on AIDS issues during a briefing with the National AIDS Commission on AIDS on December 9. The *Washington Blade* reported that a transcript of the discussion following the formal briefing revealed that Bush does not believe that gay men have reduced the spread of HIV, and that he considers groups like ACT UP to be resistant to "getting out the message" about changing behavior.

According to the transcript, HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan told the president that "certainly among gay men, the rate of spread of the virus has really reduced because of changes in behavior, and we need to do this elsewhere." Bush responded, "But how can you say that when the first pie chart showed 60 percent, for heaven's sake?"

Centers for Disease Director William Roper noted the up to 10-year time lag between infection and development of AIDS, saying that the cases now being recorded represented 10 year old infections. Jeff Levi, a lobbyist for the AIDS Action Council, said that "the fact that the (10-year lag time) had to be explained to him indicates how little attention the president pays."

Bush also remarked during the discussion that he had met with one of his officials over lunch and discussed the AIDS issue, and "we kind of summed up at that meeting, in a word 'behavioral;' here's something you can do something about: If you don't do things that cause this disease, whether it's certain kinds of acts, sex acts, or whether it's certain kinds of drug use."

Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, told the *Washington Blade* that Bush's remarks "indicate he isn't as familiar with the issues as I'd like him to be. The gay community has succeeded in reducing new infections," she continued. "The president seemed resistant to hearing that."

Gay and AIDS activists expressed dismay not only with the President but with members of the commission, whom they claim did not use their time to speak with Bush constructively.

"It's a major disappointment that the Commission did not give a simple and clear delineation of steps the president could take," said Levi.

Vaid was less kind. She called the briefing "a photo opportunity for the re-election campaign," noting that what all the participants had to say appeared to be "clearly scripted."

Study says women die faster from AIDS

According to a Yale University study, women who contract AIDS die faster than men, while most research into the disease excludes women. The study released Nov. 26 by Judith Rodin, professor of medicine and psychiatry, found women die 20 percent sooner than men once the first AIDS symptoms appear. The study also found women are 12 times more likely than men to be infected during heterosexual intercourse with an HIV-positive partner.



JIM MARKS

Rodin spent six months reviewing more than 200 research articles and compiled the findings from the mosaic of results. The review is the most comprehensive examination of research into AIDS and women yet. The findings suggest that more medical and research attention must be focused on women infected with the HIV.

Rodin said relatively little is known about the course of AIDS in women, and that researchers could not explain

why women are likely to die from the disease more rapidly than men. Possible reasons, she said, are that often the first symptoms in women are vaginal infections that may go undiagnosed for a long time, and that women may wait longer than men to seek treatment because the women tend to be poor and lack ready access to health care.

In 1989, about 10,000 women were diagnosed with AIDS in the U.S. As of Sept. 30, the number increased almost 100 percent to 19,796.

Groups demand cheaper foscarnet

Sixteen gay and AIDS organizations have sent a statement to Astra Pharmaceuticals demanding a 50 percent price cut in the price for foscarnet, the company's newly approved medication for CMV retinitis. The viral infection attacks about 25% of all people with AIDS.

The drug costs \$1600 for the initial two to three week period of intensive dosing. The maintenance dose, which needs to be continued indefinitely, will amount to \$58 a day or \$21,000 a year.

Astra Pharmaceuticals is instituting a program to assist patients in obtaining third-party reimbursement for its product, and will provide the drug free to needy individuals who can't qualify for any assistance program. This move has not mollified the company's critics, however. Regardless of who pays, the massive expense diverts resources from research and other treatments, activists complain.

"We can't let them get away with this pilfering of our funding resources, civil disobedience will be happening very quickly and will be extreme," warned Peter Staley of ACT UP/NY and the Treatment Action Group. Beside these two organizations, signers of the letter to Astra include the AIDS Action Council, the American Foundation for AIDS Research, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and the Lambda Legal Defense Fund.

HIV/AIDS cost to top \$5 billion

The nation's medical bill for treating people with AIDS or HIV infection will reach \$5.8 billion this year and will almost double to \$10.4 billion in 1994, a federal study estimates. The study is the first national estimate to consider not only people with AIDS, but also other people infected with HIV, said author Fred Hellinger.

Projected totals also included \$7.2 billion in 1992 and \$8.7 billion in 1993. By comparison, Hellinger noted that the annual cost of treating cancer was recently estimated at \$35.3 billion.

For treatment of AIDS, he calculated a cost of \$4.4 billion this year, based on an annual treatment cost of \$32,000 per patient.

The estimate assumes averages of 1.6 hospital stays per year at 15 days per stay, and \$1,000 a day for time in the hospital. It also assumes that outpatient costs comprise 25 percent of the total calculated cost of care for an AIDS patient, an assumption Hellinger called conservative.

On the basis of reports from a variety of treatment centers, Hellinger estimated that two people with HIV receive medical care for every AIDS patient under care.

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COMMENTARY

Does lesbian sex transmit AIDS? GET REAL!

by Beth Elliott

In January 1990, gay and AIDS activists put the lesbian community on notice that, henceforth, they would be the ones to define lesbian identity, sexuality and politics. Picketing the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, they demanded that the CDC proclaim lesbian sex to be a transmission route for the virus or be guilty of letting lesbians die. In effect, they declared that lesbians must work for our rights through AIDS activism and identify our community (and sexuality) as being endangered by this epidemic.

And so, push has come to shove on the question of whether AIDS is a disease women transmit to each other sexually. Are there truly proven cases, and a need for lesbians to adopt gay men's sexual hygiene practices and AIDS politics? Or is it hype designed to subsume woman-identified lesbians back into a "co-ed" gay community to play a traditional supporting role for men, when the absence of female-to-female transmission should be used to short-circuit the "homosexuality = AIDS" line of the religious right?

AIDS activists have long claimed to have proof that lesbian sex is unsafe. But, when asked to document this assertion they are unable to do so. Instead, they accuse lesbians of thinking we're either better than men or immune to the virus. They state that because some lesbians occasionally sleep with men or use IV drugs, we cannot say there has been no female-to-female sexual transmission. In other words, they insult our intelligence and berate us for not knowing our place (i.e., daring to be independent of men). Are all those dental dams keeping their mouths out of contact with their brains?

They also practice a double standard when it comes to discussion of sexual risk. Lesbians who question the need for latex barriers are told we are "in denial" about the dangers of our sexuality. Meanwhile, gay men debate the American Dental Association's report that a factor in saliva inhibits the virus (e.g., in the *Advocate*) and have re-opened sex clubs, complete with glory holes, on the theory that fellatio is safe. We get told to wear rubber gloves as a matter of routine, while the expert witness for a gay male doctor suing the FBI dismissed the risk from a doctor with bleeding cuts doing rectal or vaginal examinations without a glove as being too "slim" to worry about.

Why such a devious tack? Because the facts betray their campaign to bring lesbians down off our high horse and in line behind the "AIDS activism = gay rights" banner. They have claimed the CDC is refusing to consider lesbian sexual transmission, but CDC doctors took part in the journal discussions of the purported "two documented cases." Those two cases were refuted, resulting in the *New England Journal of Medicine* listing only gay male sex and heterosexual in its 1987 summary of known routes of sexual transmission. In November 1990, the CDC reported that 89 of the nearly 10,000 HIV+ women in this country are lesbians: 84 contracted the virus from IV drug use, and the other five from transfusions.

Now we know why the CDC's *Mortality and Morbidity Report* has no category for lesbian transmission: they report on the infected by what they do, not by who they are! The AIDS movement's claim of "two proven cases" is an urban legend: a fable invested with an aura of fact, like the story of the poodle in the microwave.

The *Annals of Internal Medicine* says: 1) the presence of the virus in a body fluid does not implicate that fluid in transmission, 2) transmission by vaginal fluid has not been proven, and 3) oral sex not involving semen is extremely unlikely to effect transmission. Meanwhile, through ten years of this epidemic, not one woman's finger in another's vagina has been the nexus of an HIV infection — something never admitted by those who talk as though any minuscule risk in theory means

lesbians are in just as much need of latex barriers during sex as gay men. No one says, "In theory, you might want to use protection if you have unhealed wounds" (or even suggests the intelligent thing: tending to those wounds before having sex). Even those rare admissions that lesbians are at low risk are followed by doomsaying.

There is something about making AIDS activism the overriding vehicle for lesbian/gay rights that hints of a hidden agenda. Because antidiscrimination measures are necessary to fight AIDS, some activists look to bring in lesbian/gay rights on these programs' coattails—thus the position of "no exceptions to HIV risk." But this is a very risky strategy, because our most virulent enemies will not abandon homophobia on humanitarian grounds. They will continue to say AIDS is contracted through immoral acts, and that homosexuality must be suppressed to safeguard public health. Lesbian and gay activists could effectively rebut the religious right by telling the truth: lesbian sex sure looks like safe sex. Instead, the movement does all it can to cover up this fact.

And, while the movement has placed all its chips on compassion for the HIV+, it has downplayed as a "women's issue" the perfect lesbian/gay rights cause: the Sharon Kowalski case. Sharon and Karen's struggle comes down to the very essentials of our right to form, define and protect our own relationships and families. And, these churchgoing Midwesterners are the kind of queers with whom Middle America could most easily identify: to be blunt, Sharon and Karen make better copy than baby seals, even. Yet the movement has not used them as a rallying point.

So, is pressuring lesbians to identify with AIDS designed to protect lesbians and end homophobia, or to replace lesbian-feminism with a forcibly integrated community in which lesbians play the traditional female role? Here is the context in which we are being asked to waive our independence out of compassion:

San Francisco: Gay men complain about lesbian-feminist criticism, saying "both our enemies are straight men." Meanwhile, men writing to a lesbian/gay paper (the *Bay Times*) aim sexual insults at lesbians who endorsed a straight feminist congressional candidate over a gay man. Another paper (the *Sentinel*) runs a feature article which claims that lesbians, in rejecting traditional notions of femininity, have developed "overemphasized masculine attributes." Other feature articles promote the marriages of lesbians to gay men because children need a man in the house who is more than just a roommate or friend. *San Diego:* AIDS activists oppose a lesbian/gay anti-discrimination ordinance on grounds that working to pass it will take energy away from AIDS anti-discrimination efforts. *Boston:* While the city's "only lesbian and gay bar" lays off its female employees, a gay man files a Human Rights Commission complaint against a new lesbian store for making two of its ten opening events woman-only. "This is the '90s," he says, "we don't do things like that any more" (also reported in *GCN*). And the list goes on.

So much for the claims of a new cooperation and respect between lesbians and gay men. Lesbians are cooperating, but getting no more respect than in the past. Whether from guilt or our upbringing as caregivers we have been uncharacteristically silent while losing our lesbian identity. To the general public, we are just like gay men in lifestyle, AIDS risk and sexuality. We are no longer lesbians: we are now Mrs. Homosexual. And our rights are at risk because the best weapon against AIDS backlash lesbians and gay men have—the reality of lesbian lives—is something gay men do not want to face.

But we can still speak out. Woman-iden-

tified, feminist lesbians can emerge from the silence to tell the truth about our lives and sexuality. And here in North America, we have a ready-made acronym for this endeavor. In the U.S., it's Getting Empowered to Re-Educate the Anti-Lesbian, or GET REAL! In Canada, it's Getting Empowered to Re-Educate the Anti-Lesbian, Even Homosexuals, or GET REAL, EH? Perfect for posters, flyers, letters to editors, demonstrations, Freedom Day Parade contingents, etc.

Protecting what rights we have, and fighting for the rights we should have, means speaking up about the fact that lesbians are women—and therefore different from gay men, even if we are both queer. It means articulating lesbian issues and concerns, because they will be ignored otherwise. If you feel a need to use latex barriers, by all means do! You can practice whatever hygiene you consider appropriate without putting barriers between your life and feminism.

But when anyone talks about lesbian sexuality, tell them to show a lick of sense. When anyone says lesbian sex transmits the AIDS virus, tell them to GET REAL!

Beth Elliott is a free-lance writer and feminist activist living in Oakland, CA.

they haven't for some time. Also, the CBW does not like to accept battered lesbians in their shelter. If they do agree to accept a lesbian, it's under the very strict conditions that the battered lesbian must pass as straight; she is not allowed to tell anyone in the shelter that she is a lesbian. Their horrific homophobia results in the battered lesbian feeling abused and beaten by the very resources from which she's seeking help. After facing these conditions and this treatment from the CBW, it's easy to see why a battered lesbian would return to her batterer.

The Council on Battered Women does not deserve the lesbian community's support or acknowledgement as even a remote resource for battered lesbians. I'm angry that Debbie Fraker—the journalist who did the research for and wrote the adjoining article about the battered women's movement—and her editor allowed the CBW's number to be printed as a resource, without at least an explanation as to what the conditions are for battered lesbians seeking help from there. I hope you will print my letter as well as reprint the numbers for the only two resources available locally for battered lesbians: the DeKalb Women's Resource Center: 688-9436, and the only Atlanta area support group for battered lesbians: 370-1317.

Sincerely,
Jill Marsh

Council on Battered Women not a resource for lesbians

To the Editor:

Regarding the article in a recent edition of *Southern Voice* on lesbian battering: At the end of the article describing the dynamics of lesbian battering, you listed phone numbers of resources for battered lesbians. The first number listed was the Council on Battered Women.

I was very upset to see this number listed as a resource for battered lesbians. The Council on Battered Women does not cover any feminist, homophobia, racial or lesbian battering issues in their volunteer training;

Editor's note: Thank you for your concern and taking time to write to us. Your letter is the only one we have received concerning the article, or the issue of battered lesbians and gay men. In Ms. Fraker's article, "Shelter from the Storm: Why the battered women's movement has turned away from feminism," the problems of homophobia at the Council on Battered Women were fully addressed. The article stated that outreach to lesbians was not done, that training in homophobia, sexism and racism were discontinued over a year ago, and that the Council had been accused more than once of unfair treatment practices for lesbians. The decision to include the Council's phone number was based on the scarcity of available resources. We felt that help in some form is better than no help at all. We did not say the Council was a resource specifically for lesbians. The DeKalb Women's Resource Center and the Support Group for Battered Lesbians were also listed as resources.



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

On The Radio

I've been having some strange fantasies lately, none of which have involved sex. Well, not directly anyway.

See, I read this letter from my friend Cathy to a local radio station manager last week. Seems Cathy, who works for HRCF, was listening to a talk show on said local radio station, and the disk jockey announced that he wanted callers to talk

about the Department of Defense's policy discriminating against lesbians and gays. Cathy thought, "Ah ha. I have information about this topic. I'll call and talk about it."

She rushed home (she heard the announcement while in her car) and called up. To make a long story short, the disk jockey, one Freddie Mertz, didn't want to talk with Cathy about military discrimination. Instead, he wanted to talk about Cathy's sexual activities. You know, real lesbian stuff like when was the last time she had sex with a man and how was it.

Cathy was rather put off by actually being forced into an obscene phone call, especially since she was the one who made the call, but it got me thinking.

I started wondering how people like Freddie Mertz get radio shows. The answer came quickly: money. Station managers like controversy because it brings listeners because it brings money. Upset your listeners, or harass a lesbian live on the air, and watch the numbers go up.

But it seems odd to me that all the

"shock jocks" I've ever heard about—Howard Stern, Rush Limbaugh, or the local guys like Ralph from Ben Hill and this Mertz character—all of these guys are conservative, right-wing, bigoted...this-ist and that-ist...in short, none of 'em are liberal, left-leaning, or especially Queer.

That's when it hit me. I wanna be a Queer shock jock.

I do a radio show on a local radio station. Every Monday night. Just imagine it. I request calls for something like, oh, say the William Kennedy Smith rape trial. A man calls up.

Caller: Er, I want to say something about the trial.

Me: OK. Did you ever rape anybody?

Caller: No. I wanted to say...

Me: You mean you never ever said anything like "Oh, come on baby, you know you really want it?"

Caller: Well...

Me: Well? Does that mean yes?

Caller: Yeah, well, yeah...

Me: So, scumbag, know what that

makes you? A dirty, filthy rapist.

Caller: Wait a minute.

Me: Especially if you went ahead and did it. I assume you're straight.

Caller: Well...

Me: Because a gay man wouldn't want to talk about this.

Caller: Now that's...

Me: And all straight men are really rapists. You know you are. Admit it.

Caller: I'm not.

Me: Not what? Straight or a rapist?

Caller: I'm not gay. This isn't what I called to talk about.

Me: Not gay? You'd rather be a rapist than gay? Oh, pulease. Get real, jerk.

This could go on and on. It does, every day, every hour, on Radio America right now. Only the abused are us, and the abusers are people like Stern and Mertz. I doubt being a Queer Shock Jock would change any of it one iota. But damn, it sure makes a great fantasy.

Next caller, you're on the air...

Let's join forces

To the Editor:

My name is Chris Hollis, I am 22 and I have HIV. You may have read my story or even heard about what has happened in my life due to ignorance on the subject of AIDS. When Winn-Dixie first fired me I felt that I had the support of only myself. Through the guidance of acquaintances and friends, I found that some support does exist in our community. Unfortunately, I also discovered a very shocking truth—many lesbian and gay people in the City of Atlanta are not supporting causes which affect their community.

In searching for an activist group to help me fight Winn-Dixie and their discriminatory practices I uncovered things that I wished were not true. I called on the group Queer Nation and was treated with overwhelming kindness by their chair Lynn Cothren. However, I was told that Queer Nation is a gay rights activist group not an AIDS activist group and I was referred to ACT UP/Atlanta. Mr. Cothren told me that if ACT UP would hold a demonstration Queer Nation would join in.

My problem is I am a gay male and the discrimination that I faced can happen to any of us in the lesbian and gay community. My situation may not have affected Queer Nation directly but, indirectly and

realistically, it affected this community as a whole. I feel they should have joined forces with ACT UP in this situation. At the same time, I feel ACT UP should join forces with Queer Nation to fight the discriminatory practices of Cracker Barrel. Unfortunately, our community is doing exactly what the government of this State and country along with various religious organizations want us to do, fight each other instead of fighting together.

You will not find life's problems mystically being solved by pushing them aside and trying to forget them, or by going to the bar to dance or meet someone for a one night stand. I am not condemning people for going out and having a good time. I am condemning the fact that people would rather sit on their butts and let someone else do the fighting, while enjoying being served the fruits of someone else's labor.

We can't seem to ever find the time to help our brothers and sisters fight against injustice. Most excuses are, "I don't believe in the way they handle situations" or "I'm too busy." Remember this, **SILENCE=DEATH** and your silence is killing this community.

I hope you will never be faced with a situation similar to mine, if you are you will see for yourself what I am saying. Fortunately for us things can be changed. The time has come to stand up for yourselves. Stand up for your community and

those within it too weak to stand up for themselves. We are all good people inside if we will give ourselves a chance.

Sincerely,
 Chris Hollis

Carbon Copy

President James Martin
 Samford Hall
 Auburn University
 Auburn University, AL 36849

Dear President Martin:

I have just found out about the Auburn University Student Government Association Student Senate denying a permanent campus charter to the Auburn Gay and Lesbian Association. I am dismayed and quite unhappy about this and I urge you to use your power to override the Student Senate decision in order to restore fairness to the plains at Auburn.

As a dues paying alumni for over 22 years, I can only assure you that I will be withholding my monies from Auburn until this situation is corrected. There are many gay people as myself who are Auburn graduates who will be doing the same. We will

be watching.

I have watched the Auburn football team crumble this year and I suspect it is partially due to the pressure they have felt by the accusations being made by a past football player who lives in Birmingham. It seems to me that this player should have been grateful for the education he received and the honor of playing for Auburn rather than turning rat after he graduated. Now that I see the students in the Student Government Association are denying charter to a group of people who happen to have different beliefs from them, I am quite disheartened. Is this the caliber of student that Auburn is now turning out? There are similarities between the player and the politicians.

Again, let me make it perfectly clear that I will no longer be supporting Auburn Annual Giving nor giving money to any other Auburn endeavor until the students there learn that diversity is what made America in the first place and that there is no room for bigotry in this country, especially on a college campus.

Sincerely,
 An Auburn Alumnus of 1968

cc: Vice President Pat Barnes
 Auburn SGA
 The Auburn Alumnus
 The Auburn Plainsman
 Southern Voice

BY ANDREA NATALIE



STONEWALL RIOTS

LESBIANS IN HELL

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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Lea Delaria OUTrageous!

Lea Delaria has been around, and then some. The outrageous lesbian comic and singer is coming back around to Atlanta on January 18, recording a live album at the Variety Playhouse. On Christmas Eve morning, she talked with KC Wildmoon about the album, the state of queer activism, Atlanta Pride, her part in an upcoming movie, and whatever else was on her mind.



PATSY LYNCH

Lea Delaria: What's happening besides the album? Well, I'm in the next issue of Ms. Magazine.

KC Wildmoon: The centerfold?

LD: The centerfold of Ms. Magazine. It's a feminist centerfold. I'll have crystals over each important part. And I've got a part in a movie. The name of the movie is *Sticks and Stones*. I have to kiss a boy.

KC: Peew.

LD: That was exactly my reaction. I met this guy who said "I saw your show and you'd be perfect for this part." He handed me the script and it's a straight bartender. I couldn't believe it. Like how could he get "perfect for this part" out of my act?

KC: Who's the director?

LD: They're interviewing directors. One of them is Jennifer Livingston who did *Paris Is Burning*. The filming starts at the end of the year. It's about a guy

who befriends a guy who's known gay in this town. Only the guy who befriends him is new in town and doesn't know it. So he is of course stamped gay by everyone in the town. It sounds like a male version of *The Children's Hour*.

I have a major-minor role. I know I'm not going to end up on the cutting room floor because I project the action. I'm a bitch. But I'm a funny bitch, which is kind of nice.

KC: That must have been the "perfect for this part" part.

LD: Right. And then WGBH, public television in Boston, is doing that series on women in comedy. They want me in it. And I even had the associate producer of the Letterman Show in to see my show and ask for my press kit. It's a wicked busy year.

The most important thing is that album. I've got a

5 piece band. I'm flying 'em in from all over, and of course some local Atlanta people. Penelope Williams will be playing. Two people flying in from New York, Barb Marino's flying in from LA. I'm so excited I'm wet.

KC: What made you choose Atlanta to do the concert?

LD: Because I have the largest fan base in Atlanta than anywhere else in the country. Plus I just did the rally there and I had the best time. There were how many thousands of people there, and I felt I did a really good job and that people there would remember that. And they'd want to see me record live. That and the fact that I think that the women in Atlanta are the sexiest women anywhere on the face of this earth, and the idea of spending a week amongst them just made me very excited.

KC: I heard that you were going to be back for Pride next year.

LD: Yes I am. I want to emcee a little bit and I want to help them organize the stage a little bit. I've been doing these things for a million years now. I've done New York, San Francisco, I've done Boston, Durham...

KC: And the National March in '87.

LD: Pretty much you name the city and I've either performed at or emceed Pride. Between Kate Clinton and I, we've got em all covered. We're the Gay Pride Sluts.

I thought the power of this Pride was just amazing to me. People were so vocal, so angry this year. There was a lot to be angry at, what with the Cracker Barrel thing and the Handcuff Dude.

Plus it was also a big party. I have to tell you, I loved saying "Jesse Helms wants to be fucked up the butt by a lesbian wearing a strap on dick" and hearing that crowd cheer. They were really into that.

KC: We're having a big Cracker Barrel demo the day after your concert.

LD: Oh really?

KC: Yeah. Barney Frank will be there. It will be a sit-in, picket type demo.

Continued on page 24

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General Manager
Title of Person Signing

2-16-91
Date Completed and Released to Employee

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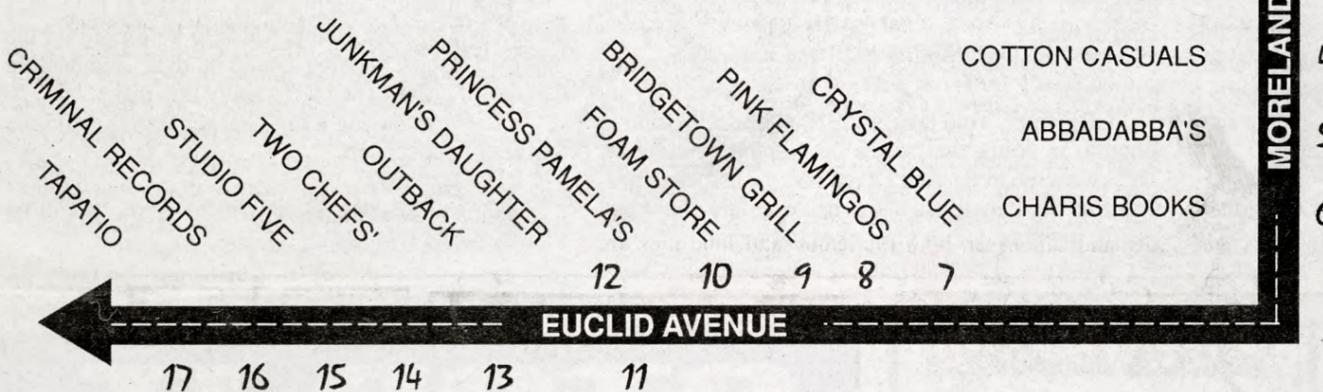
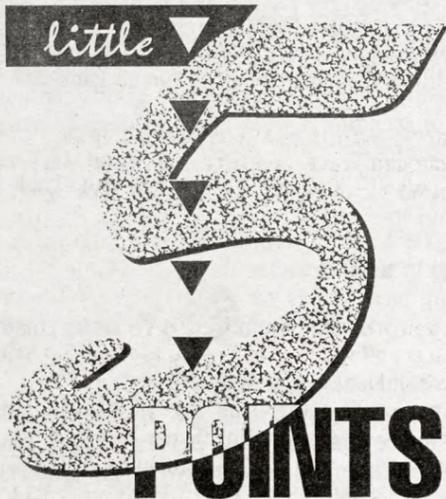
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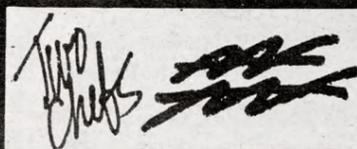


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New Year's no-no: now is *not* the time to start a diet

by Gary Kaupman

Don't do it. Don't even think about it. New Year's resolutions that involve severely altering the kind, or curtail the amount, of food that you eat are a bad idea. Unless, of course, you're dealing with a severe addiction or life-threatening condition. If that's the case trust your M.D., not Dr. Kaupmanski.

There are several reasons for my advice:

- It's the middle of winter—that means it's cold and your body needs calories to burn in order to keep warm;
- Studies show that New Year's resolutions invariably fail because they are made at a time of year when stress and depression are high. If you really want to change your eating habits, do so slowly as the days lengthen and the weather (and your heart) warm up.

• There is some mighty good food to be had at the Broadway Deli (2205 Cheshire Bridge Road) and unfortunately little of it fills the bill for a light 'n lean kind of diet.

I'm not Jewish, but the best food memories of my childhood are. Like cheese blintzes and potato latkes at Wolfie's in Miami Beach. Kosher dills, pastrami on rye, and boiled beef with horseradish sauce at Leb's here in Atlanta. And the luscious chopped liver that our neighbor Mrs. Goldberg used to turn out by the ton.

Maybe it's just that memories are always better than reality, but when Leb's died and Katz's tried to take up the flag as intown's deli, my gustatory lust turned elsewhere. And when Katz's went belly-up and was replaced by Cheshire Bridge Deli, I all but gave up on replacing the food fantasies of my childhood. Now, with Broadway Deli occupying the same location, I'm less cynical. Even at the darkest time of the year.

Credit my conversion to a single dish offered as a lunch special here a few weeks ago. Chicken in a pot is just that. Half a chicken immersed in close to a quart of delicate chicken stock. Chunks of carrot, ribbons of noodle and clouds of matzo ball provide the garnish to this remedy for a rainy day or broken heart. I ate until I near-

FOOD RIGHTS...AND WRONGS

ly popped and still hauled half of it home. There I chopped up the chicken, added more carrots, some rice and more chicken stock and got two more very nice meals for my trouble. At \$5.95, with a decent side salad, (\$7.95 at dinner with two sides) it may be one of the great bargains of the year.

That's not to say that everything is beautiful at the Broadway. Or such a bargain.

Almost the antithesis to my moist chicken was a dry and dispirited open faced Reuben made with turkey. (You're right, I should have known better than to order it with turkey rather than corned beef. But Eat Your Veggies has managed to make make tofu [rather than veal] work in its infamous Tofu Oscar, so I did have some sort of precedent.) But the problem here was not just the dry (though obviously roasted in-house) turkey. Lackluster sauerkraut, insufficient Russian dressing and cool melted Swiss cheese do not a pretty platter make. Especially for \$7.95, no matter how good the all-you-can-eat pickles may be.

The only other unmitigated disaster that I've found in three visits are the limp, granular, and flavorless potato latkes. Shame, shame, shame.

Other standouts include: excellent chicken soup available with rice, noodles, or matzo balls; clam chowder laced with big chunks of potato and tender whole clams; and a knock-out chocolate pie.

Pastrami, brisket and corned beef (the latter is also available as homemade hash) are all flavorful and relatively lean; sandwiched between slices of rye, make for an enjoyable lunch. Those with modest appetites and less than overstuffed wallets may want to seek out the \$5.55 soup and half-a-sandwich special. If your sweet tooth demands attention, both the lemon and lime pies are

decent, though not on par with their chocolate cousin. A so-called Amaretto cake looks like chocolate, but offers little, if any, discernible flavor.

The two dining spaces at Broadway are visually chilly and have a vaguely off-balance feel, especially when the place is empty. The waitstaff, on the other hand, is a generally friendly and efficient mix of men and women, gay and not. If there were such a thing as a Queer Comfort Quotient for restaurants, Broadway would generally get good marks.

Broadway Deli is open continuously from 11A.M. Monday through Friday and from 9 A.M. on weekends. Say to hell with your plans for a diet and check it out.

Red, Red Whine

Don't you wish that the folks who go around orating about what is and what is not healthy for us to eat would get together and agree on *something*?

The hot news last week was that, because they drink wine like we do water (or Coke), the French have far fewer heart attacks and cardiovascular problems. This despite the fact that they eat a diet even higher in fat (can you believe that?) than Americans and exercise even less (or that?).

As a result of the original story (which ran on 60 Minutes) wine stores around the country reported sharply increased sales of cases of red wine.

Now comes the news (in far smaller print than a 10 minute piece on TV) that the French also have a much higher death rate from liver disease than do Americans.

There have not, however, been any reports of customers returning their recently purchased cases of fruit of the vine to the stores from whence they came.

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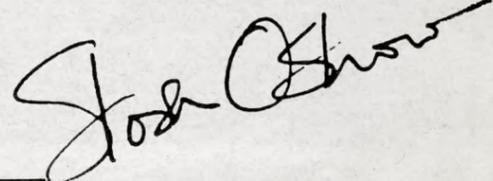
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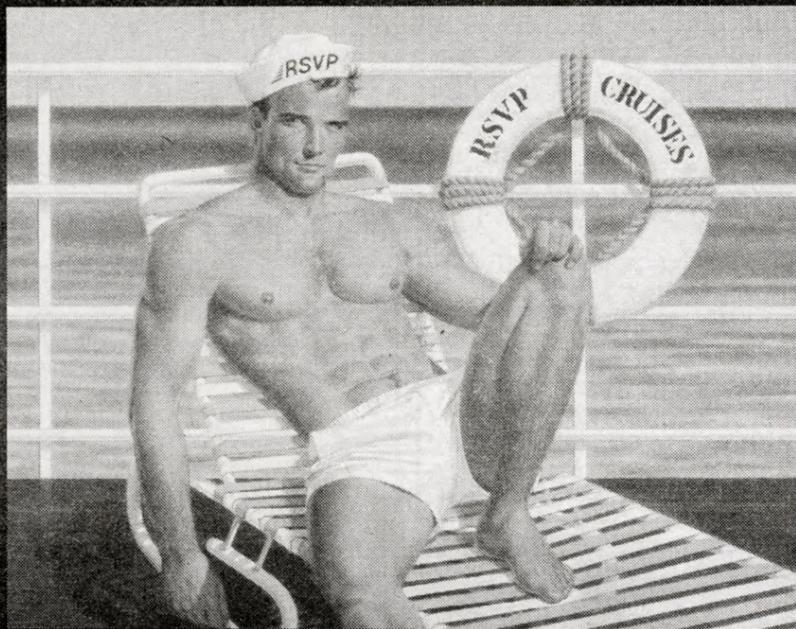
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Who pulled the trigger on JFK? Gays, of course

by Terry Francis

FILM REVIEWS

JFK — NO ★

The Vanishing — ★ ★ ★ ★

Fried Green Tomatoes — ★ ★ ★

JFK: JFK is a moral disgrace. It's over three hours of hyperventilating images and speculation surrounding the assassination of

John Kennedy, and I think its various bankruptcies will diminish Oliver Stone's credibility as a thinking director.

It is that bad. You see, according to Stone, John Kennedy was assassinated by a coterie of variously rich, drug abusing, limp-wristed, male-hustler cruising, toupee wearing, cigarette-holder tapping, anti-communist nelly queens from New Orleans' French Quarter.

It gets worse. This band of killer queens assassinated JFK in an unholy alliance with the Kremlin, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, General Dynamics, the Mob, the anti-Castro movement, Arlen Specter, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and for all I know, the Klingons and the Romulans.

But Stone doesn't even stop there. He links the killings of JFK, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Bobby Kennedy into a single, grand unified theory of the assassination universe, all of it set into motion by a league of drooling, effete gays.

Anyone who viewed the superb PBS *Nova* documentary on Kennedy's assassination, in which the conspiracy theorists' assertions were patiently and carefully addressed, will be appalled by the intellectual shoddiness of Stone's film, which attempts to make the gay community the trigger man for Kennedy's murder. Stone even suggests that Oswald, known all his life as an alienated boozier and womanizer, was recruited by some covert underworld after incidents of alleged impotence with his wife.

The film's view of homosexuals as a cowardly subspecies that turns on itself like rats deprived of food, denouncing each other before the police with such choice epithets as "He's a fag," and "He's a cocksucking faggot" who's "got me by the balls."

How's the writing? Here's a sample of dialogue: "People always try to be more than they are, especially in the homosexual underworld." It's spouted by Kevin Bacon as a male street hustler imprisoned for turning \$20 tricks, who can't help putting the make on Kevin Costner during questioning



Kevin Costner as Jim Garrison in *JFK*.

right there at the prison farm "cause he's a fine lookin' man."

As a drooling homosexual pederast, Joe Pesci is hilariously overblown, and Tommy Lee Jones, as the pervert who finances the operation, taps his cigarette holder elegantly and speaks in a sneering, dismissive tone.

Present Hollywood filmmaking is in a bad, bad way. We seem unable in this country to deal with serious subjects and themes on an adult level. Stone's sorry film, with its scenes of a gay orgy scored to the beat of jungle drums and flashes of pinched nipples, is pure sensationalism that settles for tabloid effect rather than substantive inquiry; *JFK* is a testament to the benighted state of American cinema.

The Vanishing: This complex psychological thriller from The Netherlands centers on a man's search for clues surrounding his girlfriend's abduction from a rest area on their drive from Amsterdam to France. Three years pass without news of the woman's fate. But her companion (Gene Bervoets, focused and intense) cannot let go of the mystery.

He appears on television and disseminates posters of the woman's face. Even her abductor, a chemistry teacher with an affectionate family, grows to admire his perseverance,

finally contacting him with an offer to disclose the resolution to her story.

Here the film comes to a stunning conclusion, in which not one drop of blood is spilled, in one of the most nearly unendurable passages in modern film. The director, George Sluizer, finds the visual means to wed his characters' obsessions into everlasting communion.

The character of the abductor is a complex psychological portrait: an admitted sociopath, he is calmed by forcing others to experience in his place his own worst fears, culled from the thrilling reaches of his blackened universe. Bernard-Pierre Connadieu, as the abductor, subtly spins webs of twisted logic that hang like emblems of his madness, which he tracks manifestly for the splendor of its aberrance.

Fried Green Tomatoes: An agreeably mild adaptation of Fannie Flag's book set mostly in and around the Whistle Stop Cafe, a roadside eatery set alongside railway tracks running through Depression-era Alabama.

Told mostly in flashbacks from the present day, the film centers on the reminiscences between an older woman (Jessica Tandy) and her younger friend (Kathy Bates), as she recounts the friendship between two women, Idgie (Mary Stuart Masterson) and Ruth (Mary Louise Parker), from her colorful past.

As we hear the conversations between Tandy and Bates that form their friendship, we see the events that sealed Idgie and Ruth's friendship early on, including Idgie's rescue of a pregnant Ruth from a physically abusive husband who whose eventual murder is blamed on Idgie.

The film's unspoken subtext—plainly there in the performances of Masterson and Parker—is the romantic attraction felt by Idgie for Ruth. I have not read Fannie Flag's book, but I sense from the film that Idgie understands that Ruth, for whatever reasons of her own, cannot return wholly this facet of their friendship, but that they settle anyway into an abiding commitment to each other which sustains them through their lives.

The film is directed, fluidly and with some restraint, by Jon Avnet, here making his feature film debut, with the great Cicely Tyson in a small but pivotal role.

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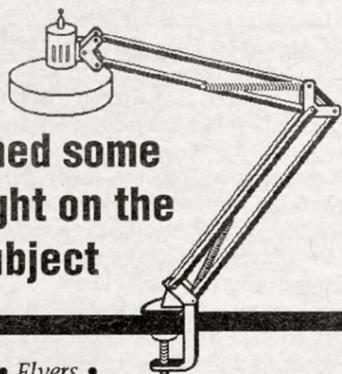
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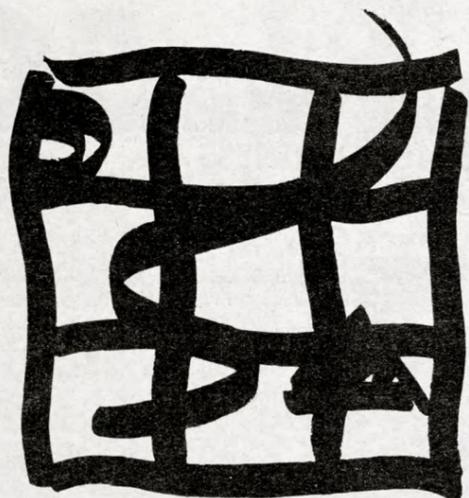
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Tomatoes opens and theatre season looks good

by Danny Roble

There was a bit of Hollywood glamour in Atlanta on December 18 at (believe it or not) Perimeter Mall. Academy Award winner Kathy Bates of *Misery* emerged from her limo and walked the red carpet to the premiere of her latest film, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, based on the book by Fannie Flagg. Somehow I managed to place myself at the head of a phalanx of media people from all over the state, and was the first to speak to Ms. Bates.

When I asked how her current character Evelyn differs from the horrific one she played in *Misery*, she offered the following synopsis of the movie:

"Oh, Evelyn is completely different from Annie—as my mother would say—she's not so afflicted! She's great. She's in the midst of a mid-life crisis but she gets lucky when she visits a nursing home and meets Ninny Threadgoode who is played by Jessica Tandy. Through stories that Jessica tells her, she begins to change her life and it's a wonderful transformation. Some of the best parts of the movie are set in the 30's with Mary Stuart Masterson, Mary Louise Parker and Cicely Tyson. It's a lovely film, I'm very proud of it."

After she signed a few autographs for the fans, Bates entered the theater to a large round of applause. She was escorted to a makeshift set where reporters from Nashville Network and a Macon television station (the movie was shot in Macon) were to tape interviews. On the set, I was able to talk to her again. In the book, Idgie and Ruth who own and run The Whistlestop Cafe—where most of Tandy's stories originate—are the main characters. The two women clearly love each other and are in every sense a family. I was curious about how their relationship would be dealt with in the film so I asked Bates if she had read the book before reading the script.

"I did—I read most of it. I purposefully didn't read all of it because I knew the script was different from the book and we were making a film and not the book. It's a hard thing to do, but I did love the book. She's a fantastic writer, and I think she's very pleased with the film."

AFTER HOURS



Danny Roble of *SoVo* talks with Kathy Bates at the Atlanta premiere of *Fried Green Tomatoes*.

Unfortunately, Flagg could not attend the opening so I wasn't able to ask her opinion on the film's treatment of Idgie and Ruth's relationship. And I wondered if I would have gotten a clear answer. Flagg dealt with the romance between the two as if it were completely "normal" and accepted, and did not delve into the conflict and problems that two women loving one another and living together must have experienced. It was as if the two were just friends although parts of the book heavily suggest otherwise.

Sure enough, in the film, the relationship is even more of a subterfuge than in the book. The love is unspoken but still the attraction is overwhelmingly obvious. I do recommend it however, if you have or haven't read the book.

Local theatre will gear up again in early January. I'm particularly looking forward to *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Brecht at Actors' Express. The company who brought us *The Harvey Milk Show* now offers a musical and Old South adaptation of Brecht's look at the distances between rich and poor. Music is by Patrick Hutchison, composer for *The Harvey Milk Show* and the director is Chris Coleman who starred as Harvey. It runs January 10 through February 16. Call 221-0831 for reservations.

And then there is ACME Theatre. Cutting edge theatre at its best and priced so you can't resist it at \$6. Atlanta's oldest theatre of the avant-garde opens their season with the premiere of Madeleine St. Romain's *Playing Snow White and Rose Red*, which I can't even begin to explain to you here. For info call 622-5149 or 522-8265.

I'm also interested in seeing *Full Moon* at Horizon Theatre which runs January 10 through February 16. This sensuous (albeit straight) southern love story by Reynolds Price involves a love triangle—not a three-way just a triangle—set just before World War II and focuses on relationships between whites and blacks during the period. Call 584-7450 for reservations.

This isn't local news but I can't help but let you know about that the now less-than-stellar career of pop star Boy George is close to total collapse. Don't know what's happening with the boy but something has caused him to stop in the middle of several concerts and walk off the stage leaving a stunned and angry audience and a dumb-founded band. Maybe he's having trouble adjusting to smaller clubs and even smaller paychecks after being an idol to millions of adolescent girls who spent all their mall money to recreate his ragamuffin look. Life is a lot like old "Laugh-In" shows it seems. Everyone starts out on the same foot but only a few of us can be Lily Tomlin. Someone has to be Joanne Worley and Boy George, it seems, has become Judy Carne.

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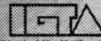


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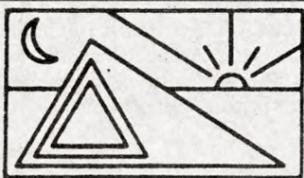


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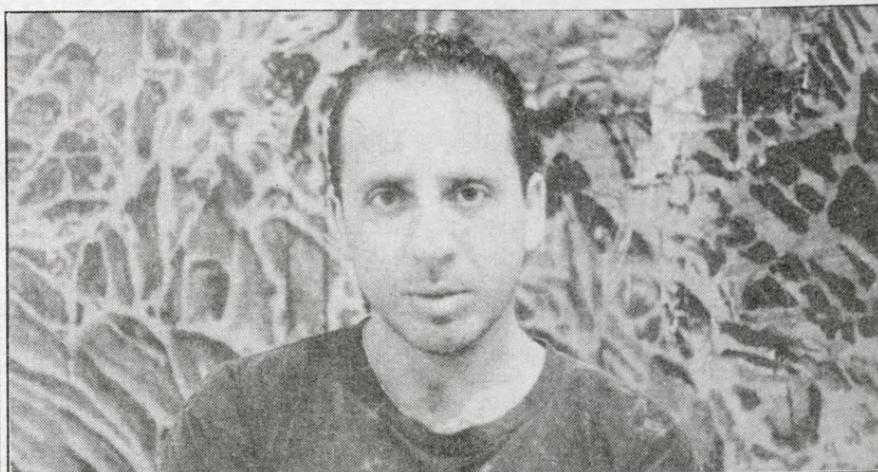
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Art at the Edge: Jorge Tacla examines the influence of Latin American art and literature. Tacla, who is Chilean-born, establishes an existential and tender dialogue about isolation, alienation and the stark loneliness of contemporary urban life. On view at the High Museum at Georgia Pacific Center through January.

Art

ENCOUNTERS IN NEW YORK. Jan. 9 - Feb. 15. Colored pencil works by photo-realist Don Leicht. BurnNoff Gallery. Clear Creek Center. 875-3475.

THE SOUTH - A VISIT THROUGH THE PAST. Jan. 17 - Feb. 29. William Christenberry exhibits recent sculpture, wall constructions and drawings in a range of Southern subjects. Heath Gallery. 416 E. Paces Ferry Rd. 262-6407.

ARTISTS OF THE FRENCH BARBAZON. Jan. 17 - March 28. Consisting of over 150 prints, watercolors and paintings from the Louis E. Boone collection which surveys the 19th century art movement of Barbazon, France. Features such masters as Corot, Millet and Daubigny. Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art. 30 Atlanta St. 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 Georgia Pacific. 577-6940.

MAX WEBER: THE CUBIST DECADE, 1910-1920. Thru Feb. 2. An exhibition of 60 works by Weber is the first comprehensive examination of the cubist's paintings. High Museum of Art. 892-HIGH.

Benefits

BENEFIT FOR THE ATLANTA AIDS CONSORTIUM. Fri., Jan. 10 8:30 pm. A musical extravaganza featuring Big Sky, Mark Stowe, The Things and P.S. Jonah. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

Health

BREAST CANCER: THE HEALTH CRISIS AMONG WOMEN. Sat., Jan. 11. 6:30. ALFA's "Second Saturday Series" discusses prevention, treatments and research of the disease that strikes 1 in 9 women. ALFA House. 64 Clay St. 378-9769.

Music

ATLANTA BACH CHOIR. Sun., Jan. 5. 3 PM. All the major events of the holiday season will be celebrated in the Bach Choir's "11th Day of Christmas" featuring Christmas Cantata 191, New Year's Cantata 143 and Epiphany Cantata 65. Druid Hills Presbyterian Church. 1026 Ponce de Leon. 449-7570.

CHAMBER MUSIC FOR ROMANTICS. Sun., Jan. 5. 8 pm. Program includes Beethoven Trio in E Flat, Op. 1, No. 1, Debussy Petite Suite and Mendelssohn Trio in D minor. Presented by Musica Da Camera. Ga. State University Recital Hall. 266-2266 for more info.

ANGELA MOTTER. Sun., Jan. 5. 10pm. Come hear the "solo acoustic funk rock and blues" artist. Star Community Bar in LSP. (Old C&S Bank location). 222-9763.

Personal Growth

WHAT'S NEW FOR '92? Sat., Jan. 4. A preview of important astrological cycles and events with SoVo's Mary Bailey-Rule. Find out what's going on in the stars. MAAS Pyramid Building. 2045 Harobi Dr. 261-9343.

CREATING MANDALAS. Thurs., Jan. 9. Susanne Fischer will talk about the significance of the mandala and offer the opportunity for attendees to create their own. The creation of mandalas, circular designs found in ancient cultures, is a spiritual practice that brings deeper self understanding. Charis Books. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

Political

GEORGIA AIDS COALITION. Thurs., Jan. 2. 7 pm. A meeting to discuss final proposals for sponsorship of a lobbyist for the 1992 General Assembly session, and specific plans and strategies for the coming session. NAPWA Office. 44 12th St. 985-0594 for more info.

LOBBY TRAINING. Sat., Jan. 4. 10 AM. The Gay and Lesbian Rights Chapter of the ACLU invite you to join them for training in effectively lobbying members of the Georgia General Assembly during their upcoming session. The training will be conducted by Mary Hickey, lobbyist for Georgians For Choice. 284-1347 for more info.

Radio

All shows on WRFG, 89.3 FM
STILLAIN'TSATISFIED. Mon., 7-9PM. Music and public affairs from a Heretic Woman's view. A good program to listen to when you're wondering if there's anyone else out there.

REVOLUTION ROCK. Mon., 9-11PM. Just what it says, with an all women's show and an all rap show once a month.

WOMAN FORUM. Thurs., 6-7 PM. Women's news and interviews.

GAY GRAFFITI. Thurs., 7-8PM. Good music and good talk by and about Atlanta's lesbian and gay community.

LES CHANTEUSES AFRICAINES. Sat. 1-4AM. A unique radio exclusive! Featuring musical and literary voices of black women. Strong ethnic/lesbian flavor. Produced and hosted by Alicia Banks.

THE SEEKER. Sat., 6-8PM. Music and information which preserves, promotes and advances the true history and culture of African-American people.

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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.

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

Theatre

ACME AT 800 EAST. Jan. 9 - 25. Atlanta's longest-running theatre of the avant-garde features the premiere of Madeleine St. Romain's "Playing Snow White and Rose Red," and rounds out the evening with ACME's Very Great Poets at their wry, wicked best. ACME Theatre Co. 800 East Ave. 522-8265.

THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE. Jan. 10 - Feb. 16. Bertolt Brecht's biting comedy of the triumph of the common man and the justice of the natural order comes to the Old South. Original music by Patrick Hutchison, composer of The Harvey Milk Show. Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth St. 221-0831.

FULL MOON. Jan. 10-Feb. 15. The Atlanta premiere of the sensuous southern love story by Reynolds Price. The play spotlights a triangle of lovers under the moonlight of a sultry summer night in a small town in 1938. Horizon Theatre. Euclid & Austin Ave. in LSP. 584-7450.

VANITIES. Jan. 10- Feb. 1. Southern Fried Productions begins their '92 season with this look at three women lives from high school to womanhood. Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. 378-8646.

LOVE FROM A STRANGER. Jan. 10 - Feb. 15. A highly suspenseful thriller. Who is victim and who is perpetrator? Neighborhood Playhouse. 430 W. Trinity Place. Decatur. 373-5311.

THE PIANO LESSON. Jan. 13 - Feb. 15. August Wilson's (Fences, Ma Rainey's Black Bottom) look at a Black family in Pittsburgh in the 1930's. At the center of the play is a piano carved by the grandfather to commemorate his wife and son who were traded to another slave owner for the piano. Ellis Williams and Carol Mitchell-Leon star. Kenny Leon directs. Alliance Theatre. 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.



The Caucasian Chalk Circle at Actor's Express opens January 10. Bertolt Brecht's classic is transplanted to the Old South and set to the music of Patrick Hutchison.

acclaimed author from Naiad Press. Sponsored by 4th Tuesday. Castlegate Hotel. Tickets at Charis Books. \$25 in advance.

SWAN LAKE. Feb. 6-9. The Atlanta Ballet presents Act II of the classical masterpiece along with a contemporary piece, "Quicksilver," and "Stars and Stripes," based on the marching band music of John Philip Sousa. Civic Center. 249-6400.

HOLDING OUR GROUND. Sat. Feb. 8. An experiential workshop for gay men on the warrior archetype in gay spirit consciousness. Led by David MacDonald, Rodney Boudreaux and Don Shewey. 373-0111 for more information.

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

4th GULF COAST WOMEN'S FESTIVAL. April 15 - 19. Music, workshops, crafts and more south of Jackson, MS. (601) 896-3196 for more info.

A SALUTE TO AMERICAN CRAFT 1992. April 24-26. A prestigious show featuring fine craft objects from areas as diverse as home furnishings, jewelry, clothing and tapestries. Showcases the work of 175 juried artists. Artists will be present during the show. Atlanta Apparel Mart. 607-7775 for more info.

LES MISERABLES. May 13-17. This award-winning musical sensation returns for one week only. Tickets are on sale now. Don't miss it this time. Fox Theatre. 249-6400.

Upcoming

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.

WASPS. Jan. 23 - Feb. 9. A new play by Rebecca Ranson explores the relationships of seven women to love, friendship and flying. Based on research of Women Air Force Pilots in WWII. OUT/PROUD Theatre. 14th St. Playhouse. 881-0817.

WRITER'S WORKSHOP WITH KATHERINE V. FORREST. Mon., Jan 27. 7 pm. A workshop on developing ideas and techniques for the beginner or advanced writer with the highly-



ACME Theatre at 800 East opens January 9. Atlanta's oldest avant-garde theatre is back with the premiere performance of Madeleine St. Romain's "Playing Snow White and Rose Red."



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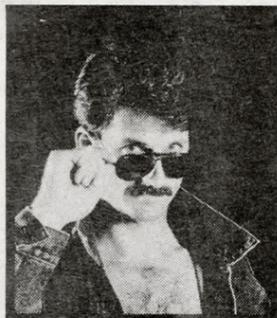
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OUT LINES

DON GEORGE

Age: 44

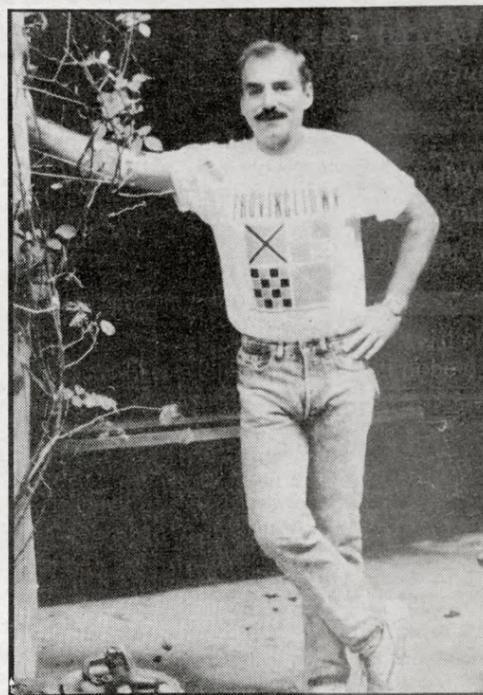
How long in Atlanta: 4 years

Relationship:
"Attached" for four months

Last book read:
High Treason
by Robert J. Groden

Personal goal: To be
instrumental in the passage of
S.464—the Federal Lesbian and
Gay Civil Rights Bill

Pet peeve: Too much infighting
in the gay community



"Coming out" is often an all-inclusive term that focuses on a person coming to terms with their sexuality. For former anesthesiologist Don George, coming out involved moving to Atlanta, recovering from addiction and beginning a new life, "a life in which I could actually say the word 'gay' without cringing," Don explains.

His Greek background is accented by his graying brown hair, moustache and strong facial features, and he is an easy conversationalist who smiles often despite his serious nature. Through his enthusiastic work on behalf of a diverse number of organizations such as Actors' Express, HRCF and Queer Nation, Don is a man of action as well as words.

Sitting in the living room of his spacious, recently completed Lenox area home Don answered questions about his life and volunteer work.

"I feel like I am making up for lost time, not only for myself but for a younger generation so that they don't have to go through what I went through in denying my gayness. I was chemically and alcohol-addicted because I was trying to drown out my true identity. Coming here to recover at an institute for addicted physicians was only the beginning. Admitting who I was not only meant that I could be true to myself but that I could work for the community—so that I could give something back. I'm in a new alcohol and drug-free life. In a sense coming to Atlanta was coming to a new life."

Having no dependents, Don has been able to retire without financial burden. He has been able to refocus his finances towards lesbian and gay causes and was an associate producer and underwriter for *The Harvey Milk Show* at the Actor's Express.

"A friend of mine dragged me to a production at the Actor's Express and while we were there, they announced an open reading of a new work in progress called *The Harvey Milk Show*. Harvey," he continues, "was a hero of mine and it touched a chord in me so I attended the open reading." He was so moved by the reading that he decided then to make a large enough donation "to make it work." His interest extended into the production where he attended rehearsals, helped with the scenery, made friends with the actors and writers, and, he jokes, "They even talked me into being box office manager."

Don also works closely with Cathy Woolard (Southeast Field Coordinator) for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. He is presently concentrating on an outreach project that will bring together emotional and financial support for the Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill from within and without the lesbian and gay community. He points out that mainstream organizations such as the Episcopal Church have publicly condemned Cracker Barrel.

"You can build on this and move them and other organizations in the direction of supporting civil rights for lesbians and gays and the repeal of the U.S. Military's resolution 1332.14 (which bans homosexuals from

military service). Sam Nunn has the power to hold hearings on this issue and while it may happen after the campaign of 1992, I have no doubt that his support is perhaps imminent and would represent the first domino to fall in the opposition."

Don also lends his support to Queer Nation where he is involved with fund-raising. While HRCF is an organization that works through the established political power structure to promote its agenda, Queer Nation works from without the system. "I don't feel like it is a contradiction within me," he explains. "There are times I've gotta be out there doing something that directly affects and confronts people. It is the Yin to my Yang and they balance each other out." Don recently coordinated a Christmas Fund Drive which utilized the time-honored cliché of people with buckets at a highway intersection. "But," he adds, "we were at the intersection of Piedmont and Monroe and," he says laughing, "and it worked!"

On any given day Don can be found reading *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* for *Southern Voice*. "I serve as the clipping service on articles concerning lesbian and gay issues. It's interesting to note that the least articles during any given week are in the *Journal Constitution*."

Don's roots are in the ethnic neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, where he grew up. He is out to most of his family, though he admits he is not officially out to his parents. "I have just been out myself for four years and while I have done everything but actually say the words to them, the opportunity has not come up yet for me to do it the way I want to."

After attending the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Don spent time in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital. He also taught at Harvard University Medical School. But he "escaped" for a while to Melbourne, Florida, trying to bring peace to his heterosexual life of confusion. "The beach didn't work and I returned to Pittsburgh and dependency."

While much of his current life centers around his activism, Don is able to relax. He enjoys first run movies and admits he's a "movie nut." And, he adds, "my boyfriend loves the movies of the thirties and forties and he is introducing me to many of the films of that era, that I have never seen before." Don also loves to travel, and feels lucky that he had the resources to visit Europe four times in the past year.

As to the future, Don is interested in pursuing a career in civil rights law, especially as it pertains to lesbian and gay rights. "I have a close friend," he concludes, "who was discriminated against because of his HIV status. This so infuriated me that I thought, there is a way to fight back—through the law." If Don becomes an attorney for the cause, it is no doubt he will be a voice to be reckoned with.

— Ian W. Ginsburg

Kowalski



Cont'd from page 1

other again. According to Thompson, the visit was "an emotionally overwhelming moment." I told her I needed to know what she thought of me before I could pursue the fight for her, and she spelled out the word "lover," Thompson told the *New York Times*. "It was very clear and very consistent that she thinks of me as her partner and wants to come live with me."

Donald and Della Kowalski continued to maintain that their daughter is not a lesbian. "I've never seen anything that would make me believe it," Donald Kowalski said in the same *New York Times* interview. "And I will not change my mind until Sharon is capable of telling me in her own words."

In an unexpected move Donald Kowalski resigned as guardian in May, 1990. Broke and exhausted, after three heart attacks, he said he simply could no longer fight.

With the Kowalskis out of the picture, things looked good for Thompson in the round of hearings in Campbell's court. Fifteen medical professionals testified unanimously in support of Thompson bringing Kowalski home. But at least two of the witnesses opposing Thompson's petition in hearings this year were lesbians. Campbell ruled on April 23, 1991 that Karen Tomberlin be named guardian.

Objections to Thompson

In his April order, Campbell cited many reasons for denying guardianship to Thompson. He recounts that in 1984, before Kowalski had recovered enough to communicate, Thompson wrote a coming-out letter to Kowalski's parents. Campbell called it "outing."

Thompson has escorted Kowalski to public gay-pride events. According to Thompson, Kowalski loved these trips, and afterward she was more energetic and responsive, even

though she had forgotten what happened. Kowalski's friends from the Iron Range, where she grew up, say that Kowalski was very close to her family and fit right into the closeted world. Campbell believed the trips were a mistake. His April order banned any further appearances by Kowalski at similar events.

Campbell says Kowalski requires institutional care and that Thompson can't take care of her at home. He also says Thompson's current lover could cause emotional conflict and divided loyalties.

In 1989, at a wrenching meeting of the National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski, Thompson confessed agony over the new relationship. It undermined her own argument that she and Kowalski were exactly like a married couple. She said she still had a lifetime commitment, but no longer a monogamous one. Today, Thompson says Kowalski likes her new lover, whose help makes it possible for Kowalski to spend weekends at their home.

More battles?

Although the Minnesota Court of Appeals has overturned Campbell's ruling, Tomberlin has 30 days to appeal. In a telephone interview she stated that she had not decided if she would appeal the ruling. "In my heart, I know it is not good to keep Sharon from seeing Karen but at the same time I feel the best quality of life Sharon could have is here in Hibbing close to her parents and all of her friends. If Karen takes her to St. Cloud I know the parents will not visit. The pain is too deep. And that would not be good for Sharon either."

When Thompson was asked if she would be taking Kowalski home she said she was undecided. "Sharon and I will talk together, and with her doctors. The thing that makes this hard is that Sharon has started to really respond to the therapists. She's starting to remember them, their names. We'll have to weigh the benefits of bringing her home with the setbacks of leaving where she is now. Two, two and a half months ago I would have had no qualms about taking her home. But now she's responding so much better."

As the seven-year battle for the life of Sharon Kowalski draws closer to an end, what Sharon Kowalski wants remains unclear. She appears to remain unable to reliably say what she wants. But proponents on both sides maintain that they do know, and both want what's best for Kowalski.

"I've always felt that Sharon needed a less restrictive guardianship. That's why I think I should be that guardian. I know that Sharon can make decisions for herself. That's what we all want for Sharon—self-determination," Thompson says.

out that further research on the subject is strongly indicated.

Gay and lesbian reaction to the study has been guarded but cautiously optimistic. Ivy Young, director of the Families Project for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said "A study like this, if used ethically, not only sheds light on human sexuality but reinforces what many in the gay and lesbian community have said for years: That homosexuality is not a choice."

On the other hand, some gay and lesbian activists have expressed fear that the search for a biological cause may suggest that homosexuality is an illness. Bailey responds to this objection by saying that such fears are based on a misunderstanding of what behavioral scientists have learned in searching for "biological underpinnings of [other] traits such as extroversion and intelligence, which no one considers to be negative."

Some advocates point out that both the Bailey-Pillard and LeVay studies have significant implications for both civil rights legislation and for court cases in which homosexuality is a factor.

Laurie Dittman, Executive Director of IMPACT, said that she is pleased with the study because "it supports what we argue when we lobby for civil rights—we are born gays and lesbians and deserve civil rights like other minorities. It's our opposition that says we choose our lifestyles and, therefore, we are asking for special privileges rather than for civil rights."

Twins

Cont'd from page 1

their advocates." He pointed out that people justify their prejudice against gay people on the false assumption that homosexuality is contagious or that young homosexuals adopt the gay lifestyle because they are recruited by older homosexuals. "Such beliefs form the core of the organized anti-homosexual movement. If homosexuality is largely innate, this would prove that these claims are groundless," he said.

In contrasting his research with studies of social factors producing homosexual behavior, Bailey maintains that there has been no clear demonstration that parental behavior, even if a parent is homosexual, plays a significant role in determining sexual orientation. "Cultures tolerant of homosexuals do not appear to raise more of them than do less permissive societies," he said.

According to Bailey one of the implications of these studies is that sexual orientation is not something people are easily converted into or out of. "Straight people have no need to worry that homosexuality is contagious." The study also seems to indicate that gay people are unlikely to change their sexual orientation. "Given the general interest in and relevance of biological explanations of sexual orientation, it is somewhat surprising that very little work has been done from a behavior genetics perspective," said Bailey. He pointed

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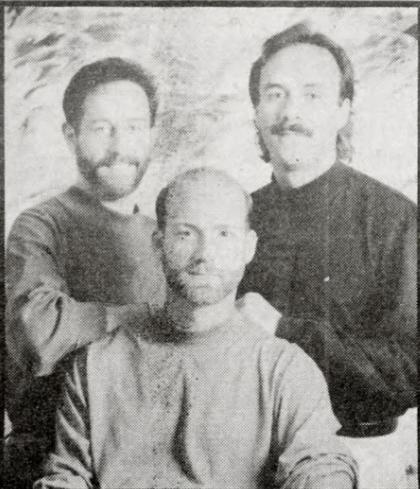
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AIDS ORGANIZATIONS

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

AIDS Hotline for Women—A project of the Feminist Women's Health Center will be operational to provide education, information and referrals. FWHC needs volunteers to work hotline. Call 874-7551.

AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide). Answers about AIDS, referrals, etc., by trained volunteers. 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. Thurs. 7:30pm at First MCC. 872-2246.

Positive Outlook On Health—A social group for HIV+ individuals. Call 872-9954 for info. Or write PO Box 8569, Atlanta, GA 30306.

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

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—A community-oriented chorale group of women's voices. Membership open to all women interested in singing. Practice each Sunday. 987-9832.

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

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

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

BARS

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280

Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986

Blake's—227 10th St. 892-7535

Buddies—Cheshire Square. 634-5895

Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025

Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403

Collier Rd Library—857 Collier Rd. 355-5189

Conference Room—1086 Alco St. 634-6478

The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477

Crazy Ray'z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655

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

The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE

551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052

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

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

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

DIRECT ACTION/POLITICAL

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

ACT UP—Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held Tuesday at 7:30 PM, 44 12th St. 874-6782 (Office) and 605-7458(info).

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 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. Migs. on 3rd Mon. 7pm at P'tree Library. 605-7476.

National Organization for Women—reproductive rights, lesbian/gay rights, civil rights, human rights. Located at the YWCA, 957 N. Highland Ave. Call 875-0176 for more info.

Neighbors Network—counters hate crime and hate group activity/threats with with information, organizing, and non-violent direct action; aid those 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.

Straight But Not Narrow—Working with gay groups for the rights of gay men and lesbians. 875-6563 (Emily).

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

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, & 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/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 nec. New players 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.

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.—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 St. 349-3739.

Atlanta Couples Together—Social organization to support positive aspects of gay/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.

Coming Full Circle—African American Lesbian/Gay Network. Addresses poverty, political, emotional and health needs. Call Sai (Sa-E) 997-6871 after 9pm or Venus 294-1423.

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. 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.

Interact of Atlanta—A social group for professional gay men and women interested in travel, nights on the town, weekend getaways, and dinner with friends. Jerry 455-6795.

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

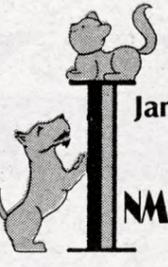
Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—Meetings every Wed., 6:30pm, Room 355, Dobbs Univ. Center. Emory Univ. 727-6692.

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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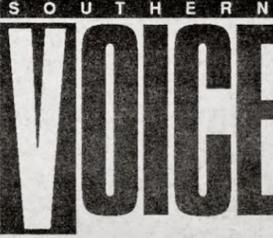
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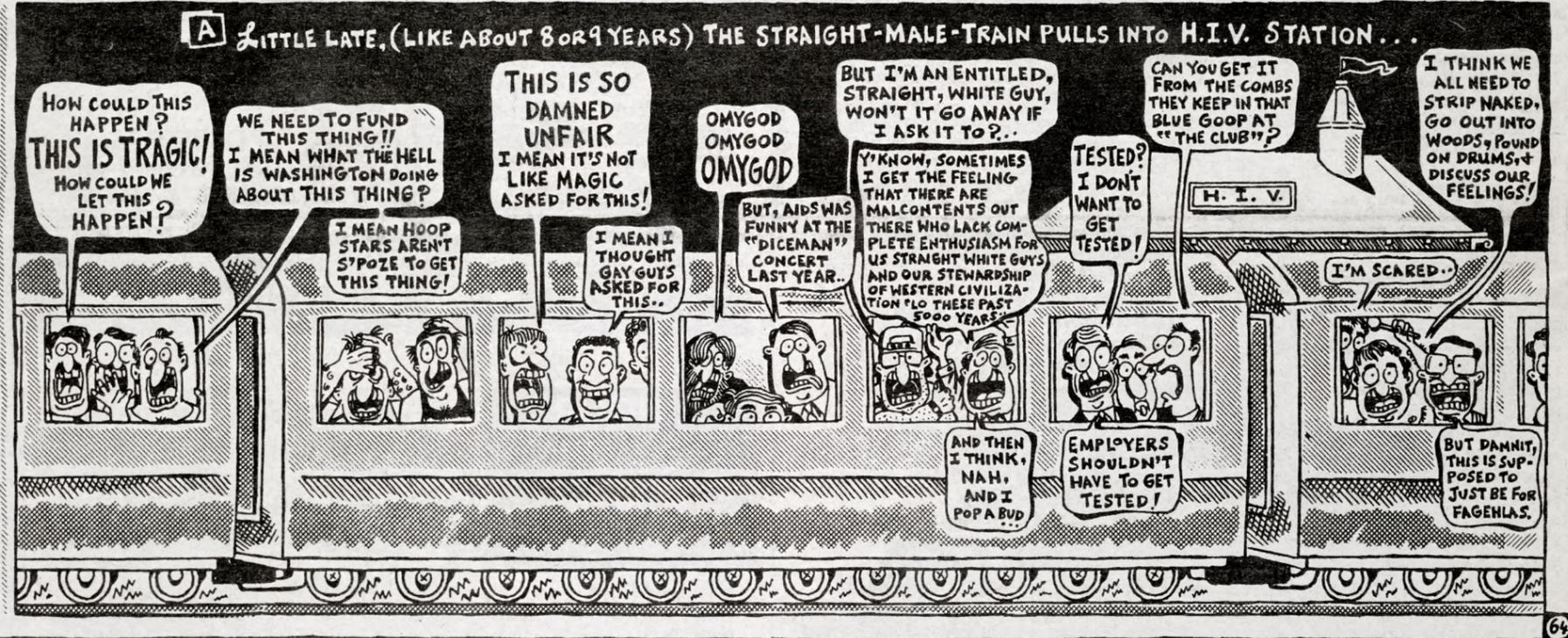
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Dykes To Watch Out For



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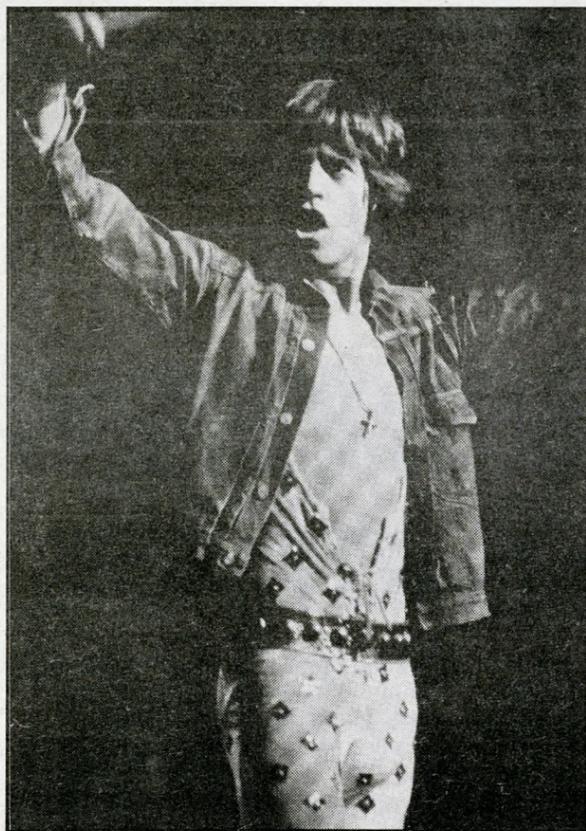
there's a fine line between telling the truth and talking trash

Truth in Advertising: Macho dude and defender of the American way Oliver North is obviously reaping substantial economic benefit from his numerous and nefarious criminal activities surrounding the Iran-Contra affair. He was in town two weeks ago signing books at no less than four stores. But then the nation's most Supreme court *has* just ruled that such profiteering doesn't violate any of the Constitution's clauses. Dish found most interesting the wording of one particular ad (for Family Bookstores at Gwinett Place Mall): "For the first time, he [North] reveals the details of Iran-contra: what he did and why he did it." All that sworn testimony and he never told the truth? Surely *that* violates some part of the Constitution...or just common decency.

The Truth Hurts: Equally as annoying as North's turning his lies into dollars is that news that White House bad boy John Sununu (who continues to receive his \$125M annual salary until March) is being courted by big business as a "troubleshooter" because of his ties to the Washington power base. *That* kind of revolving door opportunism isn't illegal either. The good news is that Sununu says he's been "cured" of politics. Dish will believe that when he's securely in his grave.

Eyes Right!: Dish's friends on the fashion edge tell us that the latest rage is having your eyelashes dyed. What we want to know is what do you have them dyed to match? Your socks? Your pubes? Your pearls? All three? Come on now, Dishy minds want to know! Gene's Skin Care in Ansley Mall is the place to have it done, we hear.

The Melodrama Continues: Police in Jacksonville have arrested a suspect in the November murder attempt and robbery of Scott Thorson, the man who made Liberace a little less wealthy (with a \$12 million palimony suit, settled out of court) and a lot more notorious (with his kiss-and-tell bio, "Behind the Candelabra, My Life With Liberace.") Thorson, you may remember, was placed in a federal witness protection program back in '88 and then expelled from the program last year. No reason given. All this happened back in November, but Dish just read about it and we just knew you were dying to know.



Is That a Rib in Your Pants, or...: Shades of Mae West and her infamous question about a banana in the pocket of the man who seemed so glad to see her. Fruit of the Loom is running a TV commercial for its "ribbed whites" briefs for men. Delilah and Sampson are its main players and that is definitely no baby back rib in Sampson's shorts.

Speaking of Shorts: What may well be the very first ad for men's undershorts on the editorial pages of a major metropolitan daily paper appeared in the Atlanta Constitution during the holiday buying frenzy. The shorts were Perry Ellis "comfortable all-cotton boxers." The model was suitably humpy. And the ad appeared immediately under an editorial (by Marilyn Geewax) entitled: "Giving poor children a taste of Christmas." Honest.

Euphemism of the Week: It's murder. It happens all the time—especially during the holidays—and yet the police call it "sibling rivalry." Latest case: two (twin) brothers who lived together near Austell got mad at each other. One got so mad that he kicked down a door and "discharged a shotgun" into the other. Dish thinks this is not likely to change until we all recognize that John Bradshaw knows a whole lot more about the nuclear family than Ozzie and Harriett did.

It Had to Happen: Leave it to Fox TV to come up with the idea for a show about two airline stewards. If the outtakes that we saw during a comedy club special on Ch. 36 the other night are any example of how it would turn out, we sure hope someone sends "The Stewards" to an early grave. Imagine "Airplane II" staffed by two slightly silly and effeminate men. And a plot line that consists of little more than a litany of vaguely homophobic sight gags. Gag it with a (very low) Nielsen rating.

Pick the One That Doesn't Belong: Speaking of idiocy in media land, Steve Kmetko is the entertainment reporter for "CBS This Morning." The following are his all time "Top 5" movies for the holiday season: "It's a Wonderful Life;" "Holiday Inn;" "A Christmas Story;" "Gremlins;" and "Die Hard." Believe it.

The Supreme Court Explained!: A recent American Bar Association survey tells us what we've suspected for years: only 33% of Americans know what the Bill of Rights is. Actually Dish would have suspected that the number would be more like 25%. That's about how many members of the Supreme Court exhibit evidence that they know the correct answer to the question.

January 1- January 15, 1992

RULING PLANETS

by Mary Bailey-Rule

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LIZA GOLLOBITH

Happy New Year! We are starting the new year with the positive energy of Mercury, Venus and Mars in Sagittarius and only one planet, Jupiter, retrograde in Virgo—may be very helpful.

ARIES - You are starting the year with an emphasis on career, travel, higher education and expansive ideas. Be sure to look as you leap or wear a parachute, but definitely move ahead with new projects and some elementary planning.



CANCER - Now that the holidays are over, you can have some of the quiet time you cherish and deserve. Take the phone off the hook, prop up your feet and regenerate. The holidays are hardest on those who tend to put others first.



LIBRA - How are things going at home? If you aren't pleased with the current situation, then speak up and be specific about how you would like things to be. Remember, most human beings haven't perfected mind-reading yet.



CAPRICORN - This is the year to be creative, focused, optimistic and absolutely non-judgmental. Use your concentration and practicality to help others do better and you will find your self-esteem and status enhanced.



TAURUS - Jupiter is stirring up your creativity while the Sun, Neptune, Uranus and the Node are insisting on practical solutions to massive social problems. Your steadiness and practicality will be an asset in many situations.



LEO - With your 5th house of creativity, passion and children accented you may find the acknowledgement and reward you seek by working in your spare time with those who are younger or less fortunate. Share your confidence.



SCORPIO - If you are feeling a bit overwhelmed and drained from the holidays, you may have absorbed too much of other folks feelings and emotions. You need at least a weekend of rest and recreation and probably lots of quiet.



AQUARIUS - With all the activity in your 12th house of the unknown and unconscious processes and Saturn in your 1st house, you may need to find new ways of using your dreams, visions and intuition. Very creative quarter ahead.



GEMINI - As you probably know, Peter Pan really didn't grow up and become a stockbroker; but Never Land isn't what it used to be. Use the first of the year to develop more efficient methods of organization and be practically optimistic.



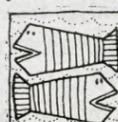
VIRGO - Now's the time to take stock of your life. Are you going in a direction of your choice or are you going to arrive where you don't want to be? Haul out those old dreams and visions, dust them off and bring them up-to-date!



SAGITTARIUS - You are beginning the year with Mercury direct, Venus and Mars all lined up in your 1st house. Good personal energy and positive mental attitude put you in a position to have a very productive and satisfying year.



PISCES - Now that the holidays are over, you can rest a bit and get back to managing your own life. However, be sure to eat right, drink lots of good water and exercise or you may find yourself wanting to hibernate until Spring.



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

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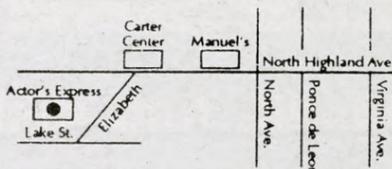
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Actor's Express is funded in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Fulton County Arts Council, the Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs, and the continued generosity of individuals.

Lea Delaria

Cont'd from page 9

LD: Really? Well, I'll definitely be there. You know, I loved that sodomy demonstration (in January 1990). I was the emcee. I stayed at your house and I was breaking up with my girlfriend. That's our lesbian process now isn't it? I've determined that lesbians don't actually split up. They just process for six months. It keeps going on so that you're processing with about seven different women at the same time. Something very handy, because then you can borrow a backpack in any color to go with any outfit.

KC: OK. Back to the concert.

LD: The show is very different from anything you've seen me do before. I'm gonna have brand new jokes that I've just written, plus some old stuff. You know how my shows are always very theatrical. This show is going to be more of a cabaret. There's gonna be music, then I'll say funny things, then music, then funny things. There's gonna be a lot more music than usual.

The band is gonna be a big part of it. They'll be saying things. We're doing some classic bee-bop tunes, some jazz pieces, and then some swing numbers as well.

KC: You've wanted to record a live album for a long time. For a while you were waiting on someone to do it for you.

LD: And the minute I said I was gonna do it myself, of course, three backers walked up. They've taken care of a lot of the expenses. I'm dealing with the business aspect, which is what I didn't want to have to do. But that's fine. You make more money this way. I hate to deal with it in terms of money, because that's not why I started performing. I do this because I'm trying to get laid. That would be about it. And because I'm an adult child of an alcoholic so I need to seek the approval of strangers. These are the things that motivate me. Really, I do it because I want to change the world! That's why I want to do it!



EVETT BENNETT

KC: Is it changing any?

LD: Yeah, I think it is. But not fast enough. Everywhere I go there are clubs for gay teenagers. Tell me that hasn't changed? We didn't have that when I was a teenager. No, that's not true. We did have one in my high school. It was called Drama Club.

I remember when I was in high school and we had a Thespian Club. We were having a banquet. The president of the club called to reserve the place for the banquet, saying it was for the International Thespians. The guy on the other end of the phone said "I didn't know you girls had a union." That's a true story.

You have to admit it's changing. How many people did you have at Pride this year? And how many the year before? That to me is proof that things are changing.

You have to see that lesbians and gay men are coming together as a community like we never have before. And I think AIDS has a lot to do with it. I think we never even talked together before. We hated

each other. It was terrible the way it was when I first came out. And now we work together. We're brothers and sisters. Even though it makes me diabetic to say those words, we are. Being Queer is a common denominator even though there's a huge difference between our cultures as men and women.

KC: That's a key—to recognize that there is a difference in our cultures.

LD: Exactly. The spot is that we're Queer and we feel the oppression of being Queer. No matter if we're white males who have come from money, or a black lesbian from the ghetto. The one thing we have in common is that we're Queer and we've all felt that oppression of being Queer at some point in our lives.

KC: Where've you been lately?

LD: I was just at the Clit Club in New York City. This is a new thing that's happening in lesbian bars. It used to be that none of them even played music from this century. A lesbian bar was the only place you could still hear "It's Raining Men." Used to drive me crazy. Now we have these bars with the most outrageous names that you can imagine. Like the Clit Club. I went to another one called Snatch.

KC: You always wanted to name one Girls Lick Girls Here.

LD: I think I should take credit for the Clit Club because of that joke. Anyway, I was in there and this woman came up to me, hands me a pair of rubber gloves, says "I've never been with a woman before. Take me downstairs and do me." I said "Yeah, you've never been with a woman before. That's why you're in the Clit Club with rubber gloves."

KC: Did you do it?

LD: Of course not. The reason I brought the whole thing up is because they were doing a survey of lesbian sexuality in there. It was a very short survey. One question. Do you have it? Or just talk about it?

KC: So we'll see you in January, and at Pride.

LD: Right. After the show in Atlanta I'll be touring the West Coast for 8 weeks. I imagine I'll have the album release party down there since I'm recording it there. We're shooting for a May release. But tell them, KC. Tell them to come to the show. It'll be such fun.

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

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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THE ATLANTA BUYERS CLUB provides access to alternate treatment for the HIV community in the Southeast. Currently we can help you obtain the following products: ddC, clarithromycin, azithromycin, pentamidine. We have moved to 44 Twelfth St, NW, across from the Atlanta Gay Center, and have extended our office hours. For further information contact us at (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357.

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

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

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

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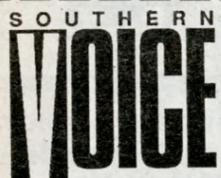
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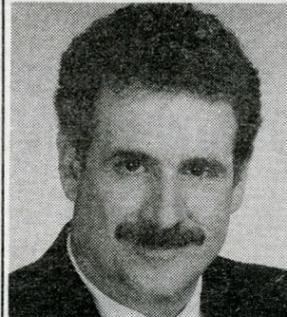
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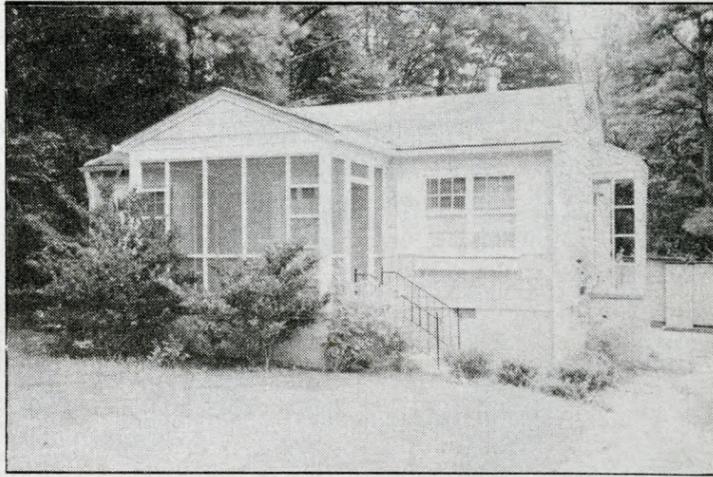
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GBF, 29 living in Augusta area seeks to meet other GBF's in Augusta/Aiken/Columbia area for friendship/socializing. I am non-smoker, social drinker, no drugs. I enjoy music, movies, reading, traveling and stimulating conversation. A good sense of humor is essential. Respond to P.O. Box 31246, Augusta, GA 30903.

Prof GWM, 35, 5'8", 150 avg. good looks who's sincere, honest, sweet, warm, caring, sensitive, romantic, affectionate. Looking for easy-going, nice guy (like myself!) who's not into drugs, heavy drinking/phony games for friends/dating/monog. rel. Only size requirement is how BIG your heart is!! Never in a million years years thought I'd place a personal ad—but know "for real" men do exist out there! Your sincere reply would be a nice change & perhaps a great start for '92!! 2980 Cobb Pkwy., #192-241, ATL 30339.

GWF, 30s-40s, avg. size, nice appearance, stable home, no drugs. Enjoys a variety of activities—walking, movies, conversation, games, nature. Could swap photos &/or meet for wine or coffee. PO Box 724843, Atlanta, GA 30339.

GWM, 42 yr., 5'10" and 180#, average looks, smoke; drink, caring and sensitive. Little shy. Seeks stable GWM 26 to 37, thin to skinny, for relationship. No fems/bars. Photo and phone first. PO Box 890027, Walnut Grove, GA 30209. Conyers area.

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

HOW TO PLACE

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

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

GWM, 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.

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.



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TO RESPOND

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

GBF, 22, looking for a new love and a fem. female to have a friendship with and enjoy my gay lifestyle. Give me a call, I'll be waiting. ☐ 450008.

GWM couple seeks 3rd guy for hot fun and games. Us: 30, 5'9", 185 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes - 36, 5'9", 185 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. We'd love to hear from you. ☐ 45012.

GWF, 30, 5'8", attractive, intelligent, honest. Seeking same. Interests include art, movies, travel, conversation. No drugs, no children, no bisexuals. Seeking confident, self-assured woman. Friendship first, possible relationship. Call and tell me about yourself. ☐ 45010.

GWM, 39, 5'11", 155 lbs., sincere, caring, loving, mature, Christian, seeks one special individual, 35 to 45, to grow and work together toward a wholesome relationship and eventual commitment. Serious inquiries only. ☐ 45083.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Volunteers needed to help in various areas of AIDS service and education. Programs include Buddies, Practical Support, Info-line, Speakers Bureau. Training provided. Call AID Atlanta, at 872-0600.

PROJECT OPEN HAND needs volunteers to prepare and/or deliver meals to PWAs Monday through Saturday. 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. GLAAD/Atlanta at 286-7477.

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

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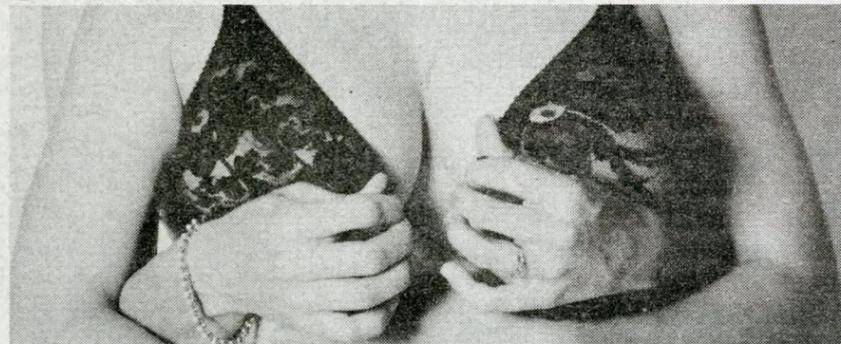
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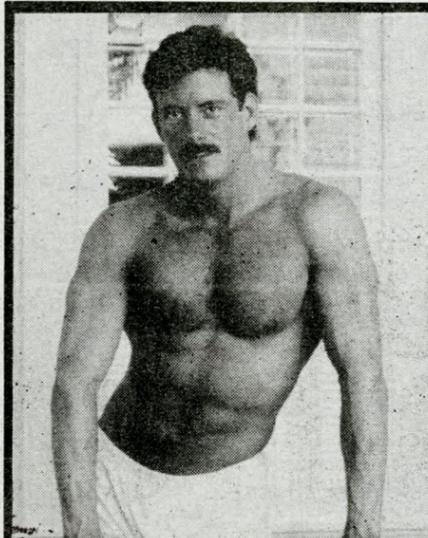
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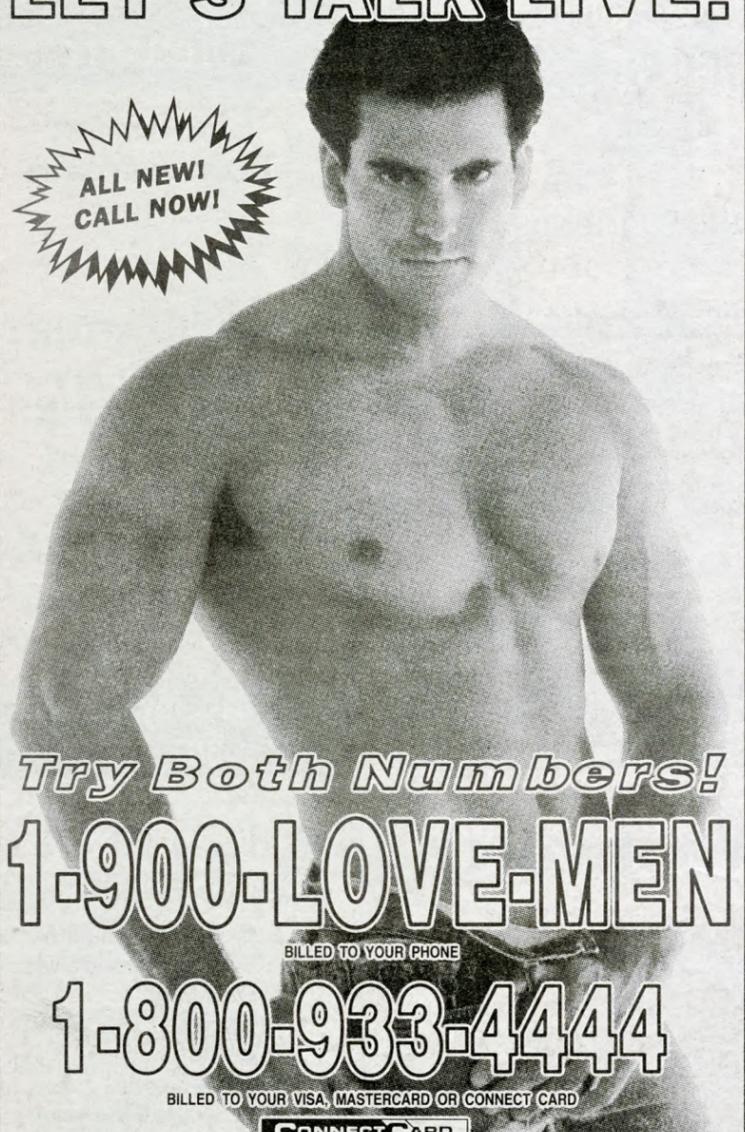
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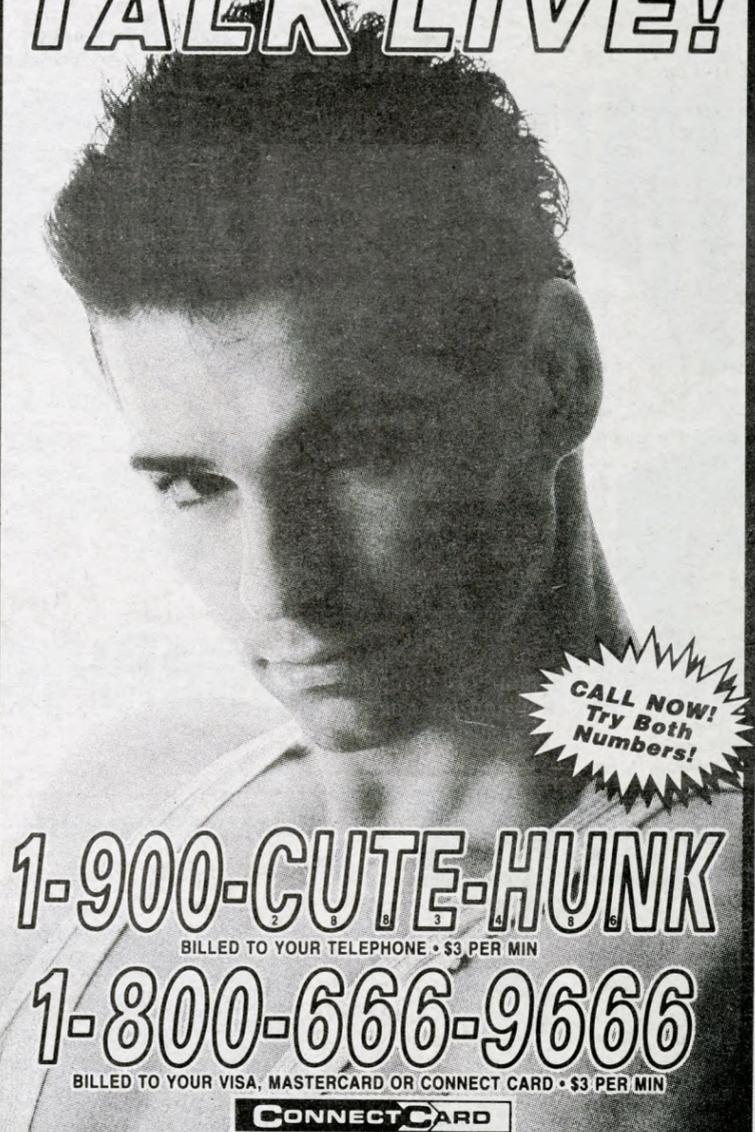


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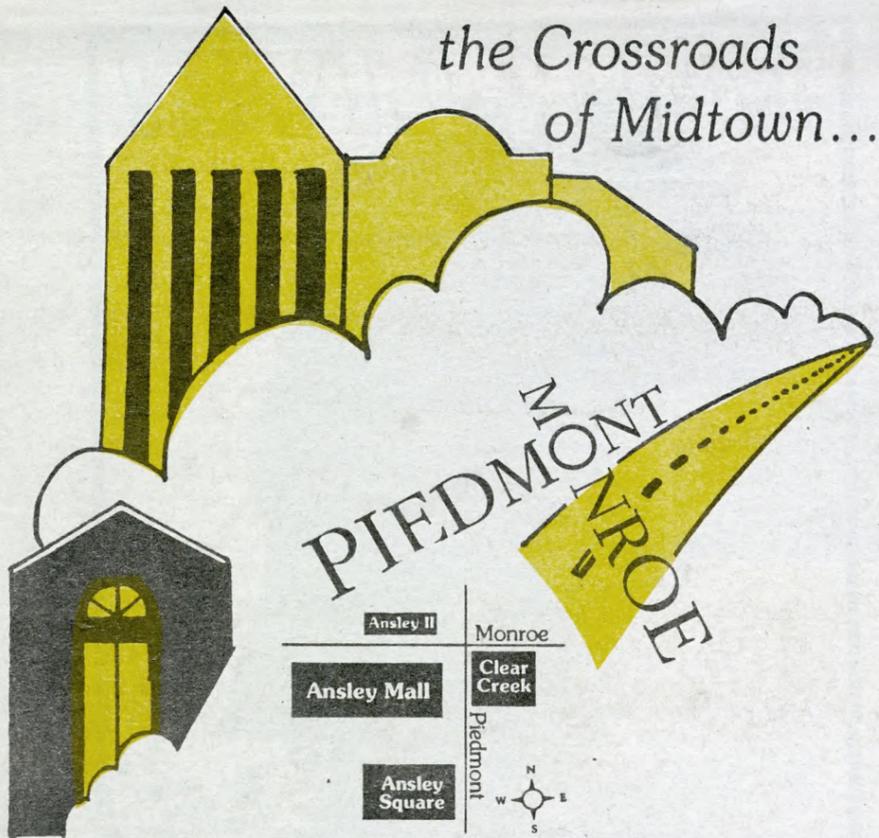
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