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MAY 7 - MAY 13 / 1992

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Anti-gay activist NANCY SCHAEFER

If you saw Don Farmer's special report series on the gay community on Channel 2 in March, you've seen Nancy Schaefer. And you've probably heard about her organization, Family Concerns Ministries. Farmer described Schaefer as an "anti-gay activist" and from the actions and literature of Family Concerns and its lobbying arm, Citizens for Public Awareness, the description fits like a barbed steel glove.

Make no mistake, Family Concerns is an organization with a political agenda aimed directly at the heart of the lesbian and gay community.

Every article in the January/February Family Concerns Report, the group's newsletter, contains some reference to how homosexuals are destroying the moral fabric of the country. One piece, entitled "Some Things You May Not Know About Homosexuality," characterizes homosexuals as "much more promiscuous, pedophilic and abusive" than their heterosexual counterparts. An undocumented study cited in the article claims that gay/lesbian teachers are five times more likely to make sexual advances toward their students.

Schaefer's message on the "homosexual movement" is clear: "Their goal is to change America's moral cultural values so that citizens will accept their lifestyle as valid." Most gays and lesbians would probably agree. But that is where agreement between Nancy Schaefer and the gay/lesbian community ends.

Family Concerns, and Citizens for Public Awareness, came to the forefront of anti-gay activism in Atlanta in 1986 with its campaign to repeal the City of Atlanta's ordinance against sexual discrimination in hiring. CPA's anti-gay debut was a disaster, however. Gay and lesbian activists, including the gay brother of one of one anti-gay activist, packed city council's chambers and soundly defeated the repeal effort.

After a series of smaller skirmishes, Family Concerns went head to head again in 1990 when Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) was scheduled to speak at a Family Concerns Conference. About 700 activists — gays, lesbians, pro choicers and artists — staged a rally and protest that drew lots of media coverage. And Helms cancelled his appearance.

"When you can organize 700 people on such short notice you have accomplished something," said Gary Kaupman, local activist.

"Nancy Schaefer gives the gay and lesbian community a focal point," added Kaupman. "She forces the community to unite and focus its energy."

In 1991 Family Concerns lobbied against the "Hate Crimes" bill during the General Assembly. The bill would have collected data on crimes which

are targeted against a minority. In part due to Schaefer's lobbying, the bill was soundly defeated.

"They're well organized and persistent in their views," said Rep. Jim Martin (D-26). "They were a factor, maybe not the reason" that the bill did not pass. "I don't believe they speak for many Georgians but they are organized and hold strong in the statement of the position," he concluded.

Last November, ten members of ACT UP/Atlanta attended a Family Concerns Conference. David Lowe, a member of ACT UP and student at Emory University, stood up and publicly confronted Ms. Schaefer and her organization. He berated the group for its opposition to safer sex education and the distribution of condoms.

As they left the event, members of ACT UP placed condoms on the laps of attendees. As a result of the action, Schaefer sent a letter to Dr. James T. Laney, President of Emory University accusing Lowe of "shouting bitter accusations and throwing condoms at the people seated at the tables." She also wrote to Lowe accusing him of fraud and enclosed a copy with the letter to Laney.

Lowe was recently accepted to Berkeley Law School, but said that Schaefer's efforts could have jeopardized his admission.

"It is about her advancing her moral agenda at the expense of people's lives," said Lowe. "The reality is that children, and adults, are dying because people like Nancy Schaefer deny them access to accurate information and condoms." Family Concerns' opposition to AIDS education sends the message that people who do not conform to its moralistic agenda deserve to die, concludes Lowe.

During the 1992 legislative session, Family Concerns was at it again with strong lobbying in favor of a sex education bill which would have prohibited teaching about any form of intercourse not approved by Georgia statute. The bill contradicted itself because Georgia law, in addition to prohibiting oral and anal sex, prohibits any sex between unmarried partners. But, no surprise, the bill passed both houses like a greased pig.

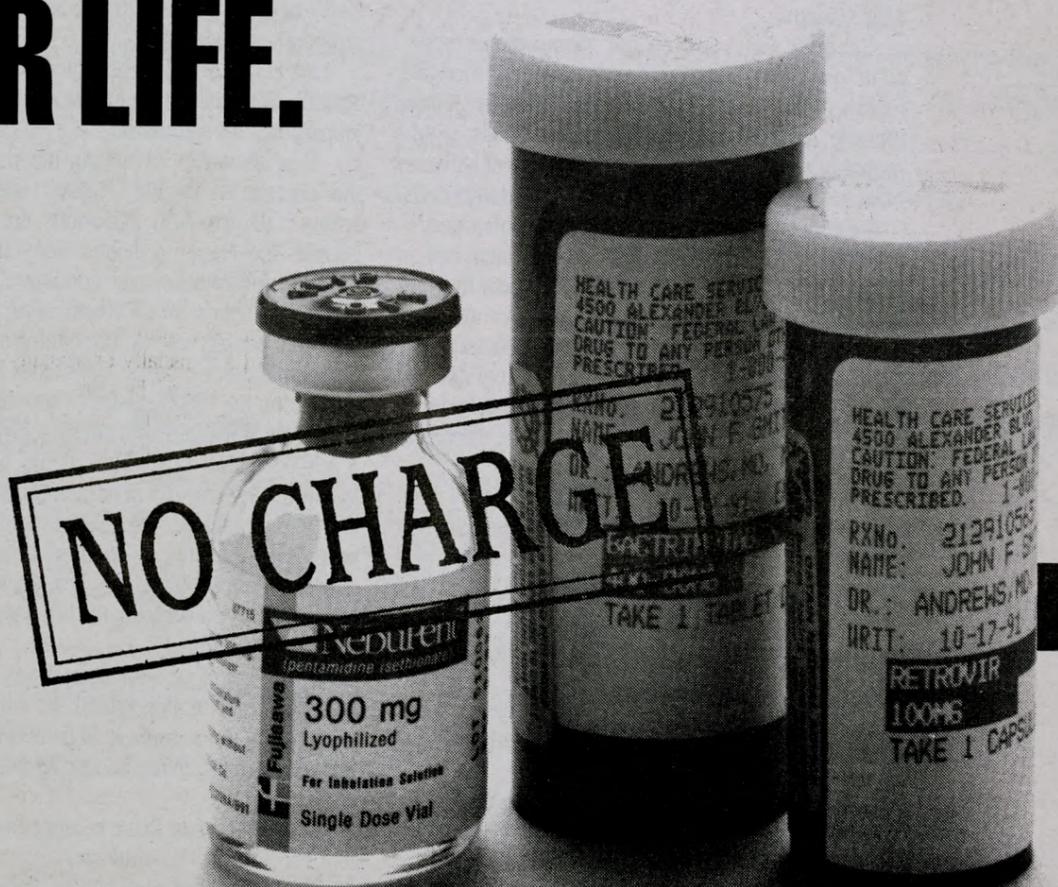
To the relief of civil libertarians and gay activists, Governor Miller vetoed the bill. But the ease with which the regressive legislation made it to the governor's desk is indicative of Schaefer's lobbying ability.

Despite the fact that a recent survey by the Centers for Disease Control showed that nearly two-thirds of male, and over half of female, high school students have had sexual intercourse and, in 1989, AIDS became the sixth leading cause of death for

CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

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Family of PWA who died in jail set to sue city

Disciplinary action taken against nine corrections officers in wake of internal investigation

Atlanta—Attorneys for the American Civil Liberties Union are preparing to file a lawsuit against the city of Atlanta on behalf of the family of Kevin Fee, the 39-year-old PWA who died while incarcerated in the city's Pre-Trial Detention Center on Christmas Day. An internal affairs investigation recently completed by the Office of Corrections has found that proper procedures were not followed in several instances, and disciplinary actions have been taken against nine officers in the case.

Fee was arrested on December 16 of last year when he mistakenly tried to enter an apartment he believed was his. He was sentenced to two days in jail and a \$75 fine on December 17. That sentence was suspended. Early in the morning on December 18, Fee was again arrested in the Pre-Trial Detention facility employee parking lot, where he was trying to enter a car belonging to a corrections officer. Fee told the officers he thought the car was his.

Fee's court date on the second arrest, originally set for the following morning, was reset for Dec. 26 to allow Fee to obtain a lawyer. What happened between December 18 and Christmas morning, when Fee was taken to Grady Hospital, was the focus of the internal affairs investigation.

Johnny Mason, one of the Fees' attorneys, said that while he had not yet seen a copy of the investigation report, its release would hasten his own investigative process.

"What happened should not have happened," he said. "That's my main concern on behalf of Kevin Fee's family."

Mason said that he was preparing a letter notifying the city of the Fees' intent to file a lawsuit, as required by state law.

"With [the release of] the report and [the sending of] the letter, we should be in a position to file the lawsuit within the next 30 days," he continued.

Mason said that one of his and the family's main concerns was the difficulty in getting accurate information about what happened from officials, and added that the report will help in getting that information.

"We're going to try to determine what actually happened," he said, "who is responsible and who is liable from a legal standpoint."

Fifty-one corrections officers and two Atlanta Police officers were interviewed for the report. The results are still unclear, particularly in the area of whether or not officers handling Fee were aware of his HIV

status.

One officer, Sgt. Ernest Lyons, said that he knew Fee had AIDS because "the segregation card stated that he had communicable disease, and a little small writing up in the corner, it had HIV."

That segregation card, used to explain why an inmate is to be kept isolated from other inmates, has not been found. A card dated December 22 did say that Fee had a communicable disease, but there was no mention of his HIV status. It is illegal to tag an inmate with anything more than "communicable disease."

At least two officers reported that Fee had told them he had HIV or AIDS, but neither reported that to superior officers.

During most of Fee's incarceration, he lay on his bunk and was largely unresponsive to officers on duty. Several officers reported that Fee answered with a wave or a look to roll call. Twice his name was placed on the sick call list to be visited by a health care provider, but he was never seen by a doctor, although a health care provider gave him medicine for a cold on December 23.

Beginning on December 21, Fee began periodically refusing food, and was found on the floor of his cell that evening. According to Sgt. Sanford Daniel, Fee complained of pain in his legs later that evening, but said he did not want to see a doctor.

From that time on, most officers on duty reported that they knew Fee needed to be "monitored closely" because of his illness.

Officers R. Ball and R. Bryan found Fee to be "very ill" at about 1:45 am on Christmas morning, and called an ambulance to transport him to Grady, where he was accepted into the Medical Emergency Clinic just before 3 am. He was pronounced dead at 10:05 am by Dr. S.K. Shaw. An autopsy stated that he died "of a natural death, caused by Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome."

Attorney Mason said that his investigation will cover the original arrest as well as Fee's treatment in the jail.

"We're looking from the very beginning," he said. "When could something have been done differently to avoid this?"

The Fee family has contended that Fee should not have been taken to jail in the first place. Atlanta Police Chief Eldrin Bell, while cooperating with the Corrections investigation, has refused to investigate his officers' conduct in the arrests, telling this reporter that he "didn't receive a complaint."

Eight of the nine officers received suspensions of between three and 30 days. The ninth officer received a written reprimand. Seven of the eight suspended officers have already appealed their suspension to the Civil Service Board. The eighth, according to Corrections Director Tom Pocock, will not appeal. The officer receiving the reprimand does not have the option of appealing. All suspensions were without pay.

KC WILDMOON

Five gay delegates elected to Democratic National Convention

Atlanta—Two lesbians and three gay men from Georgia will be among the delegates at this year's Democratic Party convention, to be held in New York City in July. At the party delegate elections on April 25, gay men and lesbians were elected in the fourth and seventh congressional districts.

"Yes, we did it," said Terry Foster, vice president of Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians (LEGAL), which coordinated the efforts. "This shows our local politicians and the Democratic party that gays and lesbians can organize, that we do have impact."

In the fourth district, Dick Rhodes, Annie Archbold and Dan Gandy were elected as Bill Clinton delegates—a clean sweep of Clinton's slate from that district—and Lynn Manning was elected as a Paul Tsongas delegate. Rhodes, along with Melinda Daniels,

was a delegate at the 1988 election here in Atlanta. Both were chosen from the 4th district, which includes Dekalb, Rockdale and portions of North Fulton Counties.

In the seventh district, Jon Greaves was chosen as a Tsongas delegate. Eric Spivey was elected as an alternate for Clinton.

Local politicians were pleased with the results, citing especially the victory in the seventh district, which comprises the northwest corner of Georgia, including Cobb County.

"This major victory proves that lesbians and gays can get elected outside the metro-Atlanta area," said Foster.

The Georgia victories are part of a nationwide effort by various groups to elect more gays and lesbians to the Democratic party convention. According to Paul Cooper, head of the Human Rights Campaign Fund's Presidential Project which is coordinating many of those efforts, the drive is paying off. Gays and lesbians have been elected already in Florida, Maryland, Mas-

sachusetts and Virginia, as well as Georgia, and victories are expected in California and the District of Columbia.

"When the community gets organized and puts its efforts and energies into this, we have great successes," said Cooper. "And the benefits will be long term."

Cooper said that all the efforts in the country have not panned out. He noted that in Connecticut, "the good old boys blocked out a really good group of gay activists." But he added that the successes will mean greater political advantage in the future.

"When we've done what we've done—like in Virginia, where we'd never really had much push for this—then the next time the people in charge are making decisions, they will have to listen to us," he said. "They will have to."

KC WILDMOON

Pictured: Annie Archbold, Jon Greaves (standing), Eric Spivey, Lynn Manning, Dan Gandy and Dick Rhodes.
Photo by Wayne Smith.



D.C. radio station under fire from gay community

DJ defends song calling for execution of lesbians

Washington, D.C.—Outraged lesbian and gay activists here called for a listener boycott of Pacifica flagship station WPPW-FM after a disc jockey played, and defended, a reggae song advocating "execution" of lesbians.

Such irresponsible programming requires adamant listener response, an anonymous leaflet demanded.

WPPW listener and former volunteer Sharon Farmer said she was outraged when she heard the song "Truth and Fiction," but became livid when host DJ "Papa Wabe" told her on the phone that he agreed with the song's lyrics that lesbians should be annihilated.

"He wasn't upset at all," Farmer told Southern Voice. "He said, 'Write me a letter!'"

Protesters urged national capital area residents and visitors to not appear on air nor donate money to WPPW. They asked listeners to demand an apology, and complain to Pacifica, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the Federal Communications Commission, which licenses the unique minorities-of-color outlet.

As recompense, some want the station

to add "This Way Out," the award-winning international weekly magazine for gay men and lesbians, to its schedule. WPPW is the only Pacifica station that does not air the free NPR-satellite downlink. T.W.O. is heard on over 50 stations, including one in Tasmania, New Zealand, but not in the U.S. capital.

Five days after the incident and a flood of phone calls and letters, WPPW's Tom Porter issued a formal apology and suspended Wabe for six months from his popular program.

"WPPW will not condone broadcast of material which advocates physical violence toward any racially or sexually-oppressed minority group," he said.

Some fear the incident could exacerbate ongoing tensions between lesbian-feminists producing the heretofore "Sophie's Parlor" show and straight males, who are the majority of WPPW staff and volunteers.

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force staffer Ivy Young, who helped initiate the pioneering "Sophie's" lesbian/feminist show in 1975, said that people should not bash a station serving people of color despite one DJ's misdeed.

But, she conceded, "This station is an anomaly in terms of lesbian and gay programming on Pacifica. Others in the network seem to be a little more conscious about programming for the diversity in communities where they exist."

JOHN ZEH

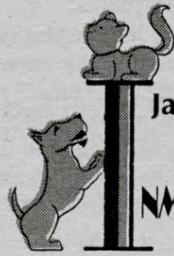
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**Minority owned
bank sued for
discrimination**

Washington, D.C.—An HIV+ man of color and two former co-workers of Asian and African-American descent filed lawsuits here April 29 charging that Adams National Bank illegally and hypocritically fired them for using health care benefits.

The suits say the "minority owned" bank violated D.C.'s 1977 Human Rights Act (HRA), which prohibits employment discrimination based on physical disability and has stronger protections than the new U.S. Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

James Michael Bayne Hall, the HIV+ plaintiff, seeks \$2 million in punitive and compensatory damages, reinstatement, and an injunction requiring Adams to not discriminate due to employees' use of health care benefits. The two women seek unspecified monetary compensation.

The three were all fired within a six-month period in 1991, said Hall's attorney, Dale R. Sanders, as Adams conducted an insurance audit to find a new insurer with cheaper premiums.

Veteran gay and AIDS activist Mauro Montoya, director of the HIV Legal Clinic and a professor at the D.C. School of Law called the case "a real anomaly, that this woman-owned minority bank is discriminating against people who are minorities and have disabilities." He's monitoring the cases on Hall's behalf.

Adams has one of the highest profiles among woman- and minority-run businesses here, although technically, females and people of color constitute the majority of D.C. residents. Despite its status, only two reporters covered the suits' announcement outside D.C. Superior Court.

Both Hall and Avery D. Hammond claim Adams failed to make reasonable accommodations required by HRA and ADA and explicit in company policy. Alicia Caplas-Lee said Adams officers, upon learning about her maternity leave request, "actively sought my dismissal" and fired her for another's mistake.



The hypocrisy charge results from Adams president and CEO Barbara Blum's appearance on network TV touting the bank's concern for disabled customers the day after ADA took effect January 25.

"The irony is that the sensitivity which Blum claims for clients is denied her employees," said Sanders.

"All were let go under very suspicious circumstances," Montoya said in an interview. "The bank's basic response (to the ex-employees' complaints) has been, 'Go to Hell'."

Adams technically is no longer a minority-owned bank, but enjoys the benefits of being registered as one, noted InTown newspaper publisher P. I. Wolff, an attorney. He defended Blum as a "pro-gay, very unique liberal" who may have lost control of personnel management. "It's astounding," he told *Southern Voice*. "It's against her grain to penalize minorities. She's not your typical bank executive."

Montoya agreed that Blum has been an outspoken advocate of progressive personnel policies. A Blum assistant said the bank would not comment on the cases.

Jim Graham, also an attorney and head of the region's largest provider of HIV services, urged Blum to "take the necessary corrective steps" to remedy its bias-related policy called "malicious" by Sanders and co-counsel Patricia A. Smith.

JOHN ZEH

Pictured: Alicia Caplas-Lee, James Michael Bayne Hall, and Avery D. Hammond, plaintiffs in a lawsuit against Adams Nat'l Bank.
Photo by John Zeh

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**ACT UP/NY demands
resignation of city council
member**

New York—Condoms were flying April 28 when dozens of ACT UP members interrupted a City Council meeting to demand the resignation of Health Committee chairman Enoch Williams, following inflammatory remarks made by the councilman about gays spreading AIDS. Two of the AIDS activists were arrested while some 75 others were ejected from council chambers by police.

In a recent interview with The New York Post, Councilman Williams from Brooklyn said, "Many of us in the black community believe if we condone homosexuality, AIDS will spread." After his comments made Post headlines on April 20, Williams called a press conference, disavowing the statement, explaining that his words were taken out of context. Manhattan councilman Tom Duane, openly gay and HIV positive, asked for a meeting between Williams and AIDS activist leaders, a meeting Williams declined. Disgusted, Duane demanded that Williams resign as chairman of the health committee, a demand that Williams also refused.

This past Tuesday, ACT UP members

stormed Council chambers and threw prophylactics at Councilman Williams from the balcony while shouting for his resignation. Tom Duane, still demanding that his fellow councilman step down, said Williams' statements expressed "the worst kind of ignorance."

Police arrested one protestor as he approached Williams on the chamber floor. Another activist arrested was Robert Rafsky, a person with AIDS and author of a recent article in The New York Times entitled 'A Better Life for Having Acted Up.'

On Wednesday, ACT UP again protested against Williams, showing up at a meeting of the city council's health committee. Two more ACT UP members were ejected by council security. While testifying before the committee, four other ACT UP members were 'gaveled' by Williams himself for being 'out of line' when they asked for his resignation and were told by Williams to stick to the issue being addressed by the committee.

Williams has long been marked as opposing lesbian and gay rights issues, say local activists, citing his vote against New York's anti-discrimination measure in 1986.

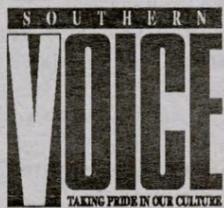
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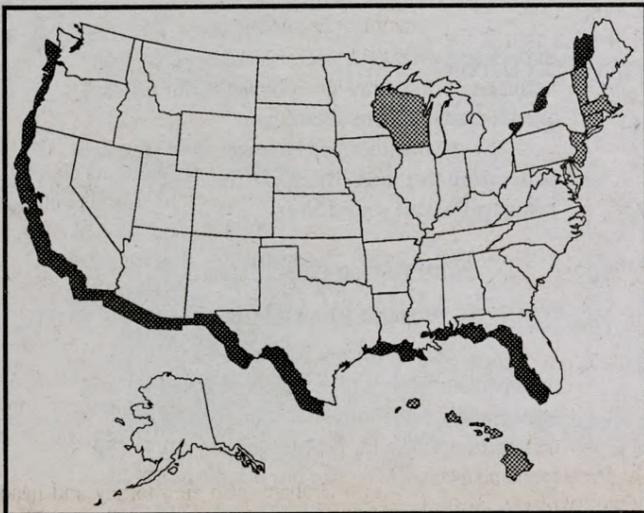
U. of Alabama Restores Funds to Gay Alliance:

The vice president of student affairs at the University of Alabama has reversed a decision by that school's student senate that cut the budget of UA's Gay and Lesbian Alliance by two-thirds. Harry Knopke agreed with a Student Life Committee recommendation that the money be restored. UA's student government leaders say they were abiding by an opinion issued by Alabama Attorney General Jimmy Evans that public funds should not be used for groups that advocate violation of state laws, in this case laws banning sodomy. "I would hope [my reversal of their decision] would alert the student senate to pay heed to broader realities," said Knopke.

More in Alabama: The Alabama Senate passed a bill last week denying gay and lesbian university groups the right to use university buildings or receive public funds. The state House of Representatives had earlier passed the bill, which now goes to Gov. Guy Hunt to be signed into law. Hunt is expected to sign the bill, which makes it illegal for public funds or buildings to be used by a university group "that fosters or promotes a lifestyle or actions prohibited by the sodomy and sexual misconduct laws" of the state. The bill grew out of the funding controversies at the Auburn University and the University of Alabama.

Shooting Student Suspended: The Auburn University freshman accused of firing a pellet gun at members of the Auburn Gay and Lesbian Association has been suspended from school for a quarter. Jason Jacobs pleaded guilty in a municipal court to illegally discharging a firearm, but the judge was not convinced that Jacobs had been firing at the lesbian and gay students. Jacobs now contends that he has been used as a "scapegoat" to draw attention to the gay group, which is engaged in an ongoing struggle over a charter from the Student Government Association. Jacobs says he had no "bad feelings" about lesbians and gays "until now."

Vermont Bans Anti-Gay Discrimination: Vermont last week became the sixth state in the country to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Gov. Howard Dean signed the bill, which passed the state's legislature on tax day, despite threats and other harassment from those opposing the bill. Vermont joins Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Connecticut, and New Jersey as states banning discrimination against lesbians and gays. Florida, Iowa, Maryland and Texas legislators have killed such measures this year, while similar bills in California, Illinois, New York and Rhode Island are pending. The Vermont bill covers employment, housing, public accommodations and insurance.



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P-FLAG Active in Washington: The Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) last week responded to Pres. George Bush's meeting with fundamentalist evangelicals released a statement telling Bush "We simply want our children protected from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation." Paulette Goodman, national president of P-FLAG, urged Bush "to repudiate [the religious right's] gospel of hate and discrimination." And on April 30, The Reverend Canon Charles E. Wood, USN-Ret., testified before a U.S. House subcommittee that the military's discrimination against lesbians and gays should come to an end. Canon Wood, who has a lesbian daughter, spoke on behalf of P-FLAG and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

SoVo Columnist Honored by MARTA: Southern Voice columnist Maria Helena Dolan has been named a 1992 Woman of Achievement by MARTA and the YWCA. Dolan is a foreperson in MARTA's Automated Train Control section, the first woman in the country to hold such a position. She will be one of four women honored at the YWCA Salute to Women of Achievement Luncheon on May 13 at the World Congress Center.

No Protection For Gay Students At Colorado: The University of Colorado board of regents last week rejected an anti-discrimination measure aimed at protecting gay and lesbian students at the university. By a 5-3 vote, the regents defeated the resolution, which sought merely to guarantee basic rights for all students under "basic standards of fairness, equity and inquiry."

Man Who Assaulted Two Lesbians Now Charged With Rape: Michael Cruz, a 19 year old Brooklyn man who is serving five years probation for assaulting a lesbian couple, has been arraigned on charges of raping a Sarah Lawrence College student. Cruz, who pleaded guilty to the 1990 assault charges, has entered a plea of innocent to the rape charges. He is free on a \$5,000 bond.

Political Cartoonist Sotomayer Dies: AIDS activist and political cartoonist Daniel Sotomayer died in Chicago on February 5 of complications due to AIDS. Sotomayer's frequently pointed cartoons appeared in many lesbian/gay papers around the country, and he worked tirelessly organizing demonstrations, designing flyers, t-shirts and buttons and demanding answers from public officials about AIDS. Sotomayer is survived by his life partner, Chicago playwright Scott McPherson, friends and family members.

Romania Gets Gay Group: Romania's first gay and lesbian organization, Total Relations, was granted official recognition on March 11. The organization offers support services and AIDS information, and will work to repeal Romania's laws criminalizing same-sex relations.

Navy Goes After Gays: Two sailors have been court martialed and eleven others face discharges resulting from what sources are calling a gay "witch hunt" at the U.S. Naval base in Yokusuka, Japan, according to a report in Florida's The Weekly News. The two sailors who have been court martialed were caught having sex aboard the U.S.S. Blue Ridge late last year, and were pressured to reveal names of other gay sailors. Navy sources called the investigation "comprehensive" and "on-going."



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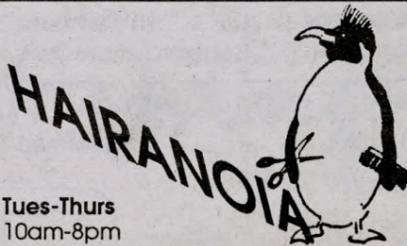
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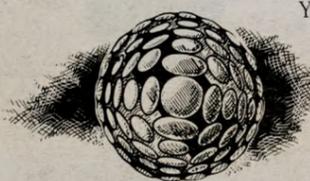
IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH

To take control of HIV you need a second opinion.

Yours.

If you're HIV+, you deserve all the information you can get about HIV treatment options. That's why, no matter how much you rely on your doctor, it pays to ask questions and stay informed. After all, it's *your* body and *your* health at stake.

I'm positive but symptom-free. Should I be doing anything?

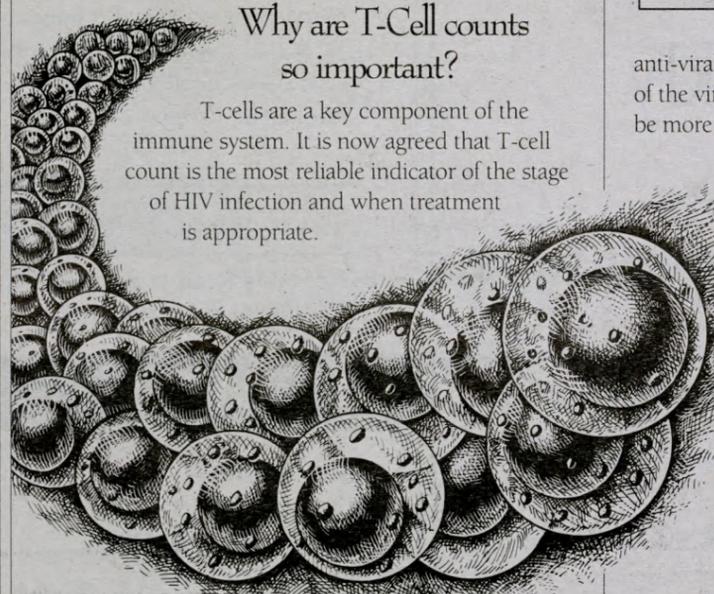


Yes! Long before the first symptoms appear, HIV is already damaging your body's immune system.

Many studies show the sooner you begin treatment, the better job your body can do at fighting back.

Why are T-Cell counts so important?

T-cells are a key component of the immune system. It is now agreed that T-cell count is the most reliable indicator of the stage of HIV infection and when treatment is appropriate.



A healthy immune system has a large supply of T-cells ready to fight infection

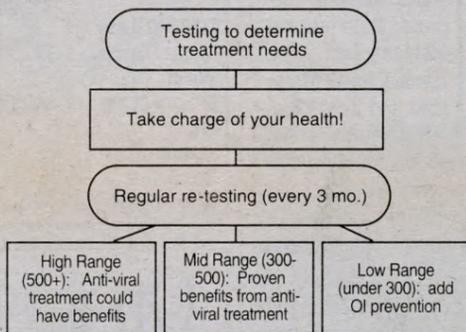
Standard treatment guidelines point to anti-viral therapy when the T-cell count approaches 500, although some researchers now believe that therapy at the 500+ level can produce meaningful results. When the count falls below 300, preventatives against opportunistic infection are indicated.

For the best picture of your own health, get your T-cell level tested quarterly. This establishes a trend which is far more reliable than the result of any individual test in guiding treatment.

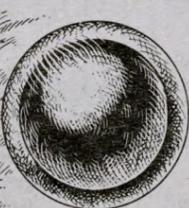
Is combination therapy something I should consider?

HIV affects the body in many ways, and research increasingly suggests it makes sense to fight HIV with more than one drug. For example,

An Informed Treatment Strategy



anti-virals like AZT, ddI or ddC slow the progress of the virus. And used in combination, they may be more potent and longer-lasting.



When HIV is present, the virus interferes with both the number and function of cells

Is there a way to prevent opportunistic infections?

Increasingly, the answer is yes. In the early days, PCP (a form of pneumonia) was nearly inevitable and often fatal. Today, we've learned to prevent PCP in many cases... and we can slow the onset of other opportunistic infections with preventive treatment before the infection appears. By the way, this is one of the biggest advances since the early days of HIV treatment. Another good reason to stay informed.

How can I get the most from my doctor?

Stay informed and speak up! Remember, nobody else but you is 100% involved in your own health. Ask questions so you can better

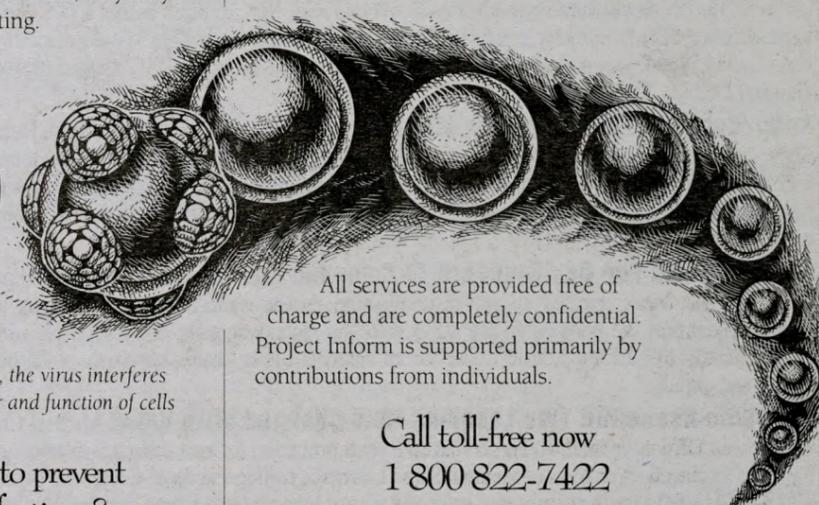
understand what your doctor is telling you. Don't hesitate to bring other viewpoints to your doctor's attention as you learn about them.

By staying informed, you can form an active partnership that helps you make the most of your relationship with your doctor.

Where else can I turn for reliable information?

Call Project Inform. We're a free, independent source of the latest facts and research findings about HIV management and treatment options, for people who are HIV+. The men and women who run our hotline and volunteer for our information services have personal knowledge of HIV infection. They care about keeping you informed.

Since 1985, Project Inform has provided information to over 100,000 people nationwide through our toll-free treatment hotline—the only one of its kind in the U.S.



All services are provided free of charge and are completely confidential. Project Inform is supported primarily by contributions from individuals.

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For a confidential treatment information packet or for fast, informed answers to your questions about HIV treatment, our hotline is staffed Monday through Saturday 10 am to 4pm (PDT), but you may leave a message at any time.



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Local agencies house AIDS treatment info

Both the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS (Atlanta NAPWA) and AID Atlanta have libraries with treatment information for those dealing with AIDS and HIV.

Atlanta NAPWA has an extensive Treatment Resource Center on HIV. The library includes journals such as "AIDS Treatment News," Project Inform's "Quarterly Perspective," "BETA" from San Francisco, Gay Men's Health Crisis "Treatment Issues" from New York and "Being Alive" out of Chicago. Also available are several educational video tapes.

NAPWA also has the latest information on all the clinical drug trials currently available throughout the southeastern United States, plus copies of AmFAR's listings of clinical trials throughout the country.

The library is free to anyone affected by HIV. Library hours at Atlanta NAPWA are Noon to 5PM Monday thru Friday, and 11AM to 2PM on Saturdays. For additional information you may call the Atlanta NAPWA office at 874-7926.

The Joe Tomlin Memorial Library of AID Atlanta is a reference library which contains a wide variety of informational materials on the spectrum of AIDS/HIV. Begun in 1985 as a resource for the then AIDS Hotline, the library has grown from primarily newspaper clipping files to one which now contains medical journals, community-based organizations' newsletters, books, audio, and video tapes.

AID Atlanta's library includes "BETA," "AIDS Treatment News," "PI Perspective," and "PAAC Notes," as well as medical journals like "AIDS Patient Care," "JAMA," and "New England Journal of Medicine." There are also specialized newsletters such as "Seasons for Native Americans" and the "Pediatric AIDS Foster Care Network Bulletin."

The Joe Tomlin Memorial Library is a reference library which means that none of the materials may be removed from the library. The library is run by volunteers and the hours are currently limited to Tuesday evenings from 5 to 8 PM or Monday thru Friday from 9 to 5 PM by appointment. Call AID Atlanta's Education Department at 872-0600 for further assistance. AID Atlanta is also looking for volunteers to increase the hours currently available for library use.

Hospital must hire HIV+ pharmacist sans restrictions

A federal administrative law judge in New York ruled on April 20 that a hospital must hire an HIV+ pharmacist without placing restrictions on his employment. Steven T. Kessel, a judge in the Department of Health and Human Services, ruled that Westchester County Medical Center had discriminated against the pharmacist, identified only as John Doe, when it refused to hire him without restrictions on his duties. Kessel ordered federal assistance cut to the hospital until it complies with the ruling.

AID Atlanta gets new digs

AID Atlanta, the area's largest AIDS service agency, moved its facilities last week. The new facility, located at 1438 West Peachtree (Pershing Point), will house additional space for meetings, training groups, and volunteer projects, as well as clinic rooms for early intervention medical services, HIV testing and counseling. "This isn't the kind of business where you like to see expansion," said executive director Sandra Thurman. "Unfortunately, our caseload continues to increase, and with that comes the need to expand our operation to meet the community's demand for services." Interior and space design for the new building was donated by Stan Topol in memory of William Barry Stone. Local artist and AID Atlanta volunteer Randy Chumbley has agreed to paint and donate several works of art for the offices.

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of Ray Matthews

Born
Sunday, November 3, 1957
Fulton County, Georgia
Entered Into Rest
Tuesday, April 14, 1992
DeKalb County, Georgia

A memorial service will be held Friday, May 8, 1992 at First Metropolitan Community Church, 800 North Highland Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. Ray's family and friends will miss him greatly.

Psalm 23
The Lord is my constant companion.
There is no need that he cannot fulfill.
Whether his course for me points

to the mountaintops of glorious ecstasy
or to the valleys of human suffering,
he is by my side,
he is ever present with me.
He is close beside me
when I tread the dark streets of danger,
and even when I flirt with death itself,
he will not leave me.
When the pain is severe,
he is near to comfort.
When the burden is heavy,
he is there to lean upon.
When depression darkens my soul,
he touches me with eternal joy.
When I feel empty and alone,
he fills the aching vacuum with his power.
My security is in his promise
to be near to me always,
and in the knowledge
that he will never let me go.

To place an obituary

**Southern Voice publishes obituaries of members of the gay and lesbian community as both news and a community service, free of charge. To report a death call 876-0789 or write:
Southern Voice, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
Please include a name and phone number for verification.**

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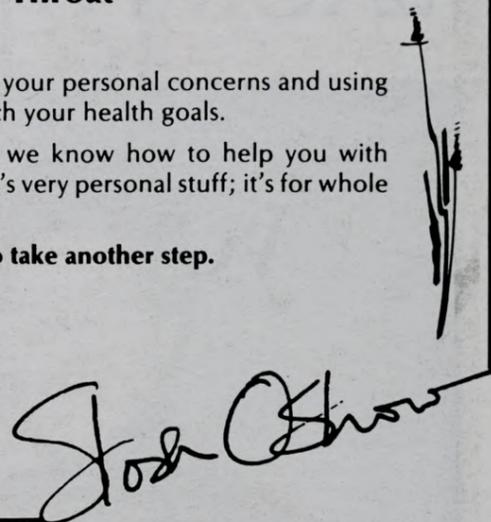
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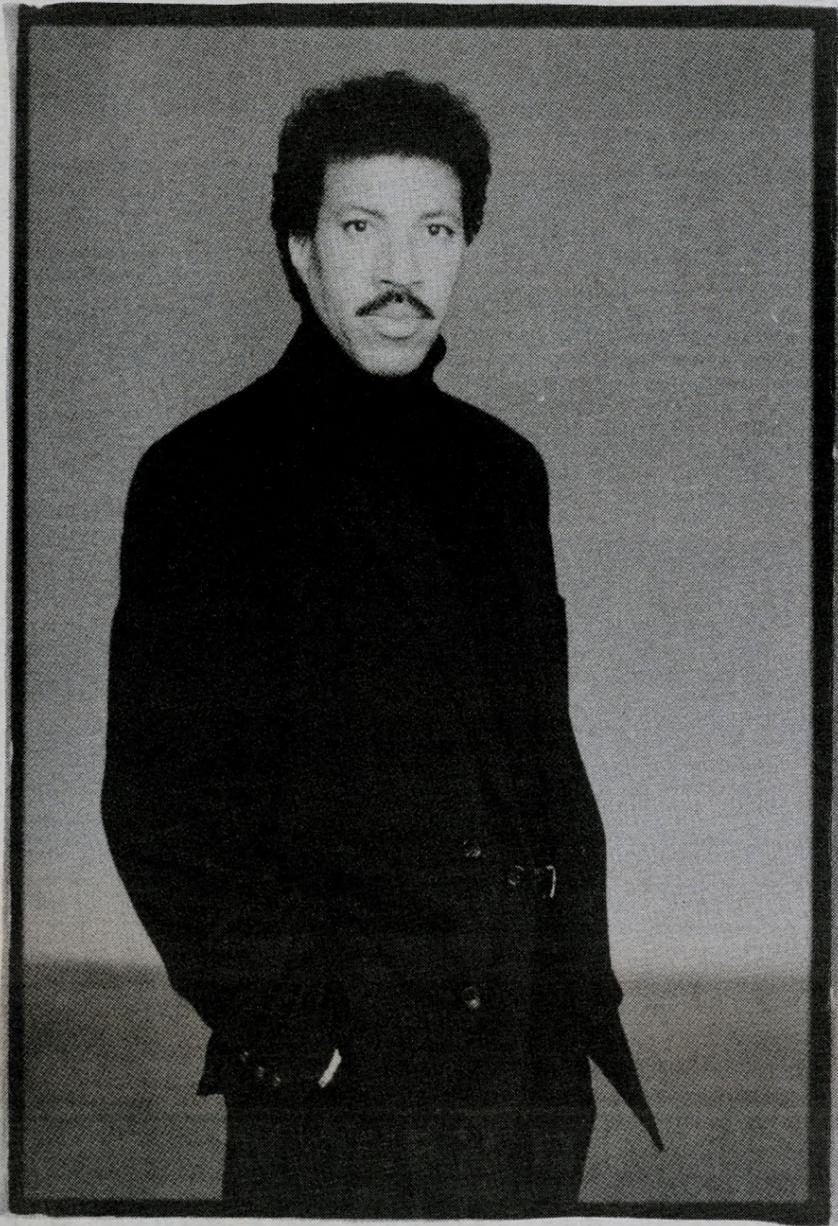
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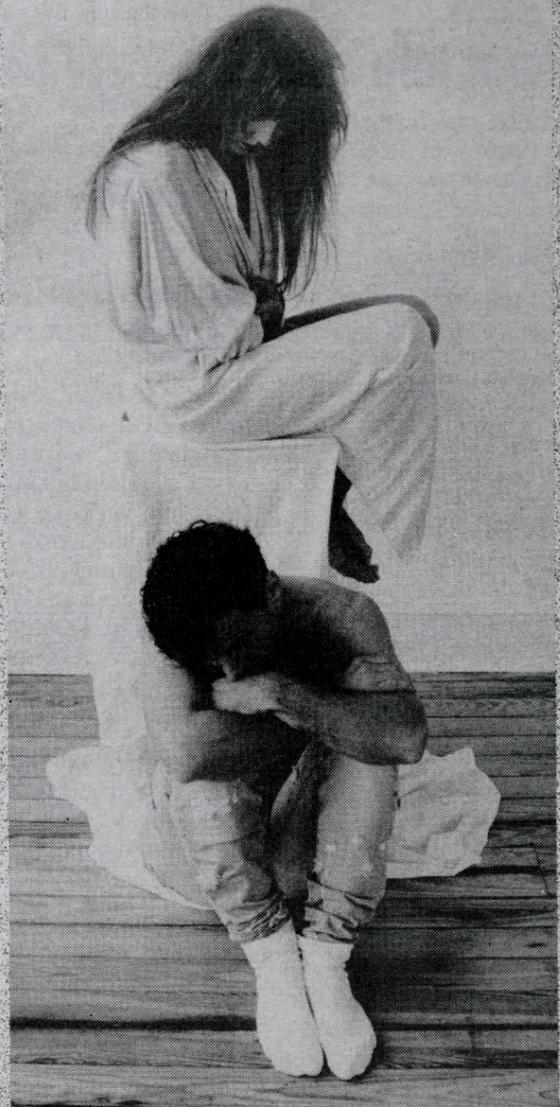
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NEXT WEEK

The homeless includes gay men and lesbians. A look inside gay hutsville.

Clothes crisis?

Stop worrying. We have the answer to what to wear to the HRCF Dinner, the Pride Prom, even the perfect activist outfit for the Pride March.

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.

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SOUTHERN VOICE

A moving idea

The other night on the tube, Barbara Walters asked a colleague if the folks who hate the nation's 25 million lesbians and gay men will let up in light of still more evidence that sexuality is biological. It ain't "preference;" it's like brown eyes or big feet.

You already knew that. And so did Jonathan and David and Ruth and Naomi.

Ms. Walters' colleague answered yeah, that the fact they're born that way will scuttle some bigots, and Barbara cut to a dog food commercial.

Sorry, wishful thinkers. He's wrong. Bigots don't sweat biology. Look around. Race is biology, right? Well, the first revolt of African-Americans took place in New York, on April 7, 1712. Sixteen rebellious slaves were "burnt, others hanged, one broke on the wheel, one hung alive in chains." Here we are, 270 years later, still playing footsie with Mr. Jim Crow.

I grew up in the lap of Jim Crow. I was born in this town, at 201 Carroll Street in Cabbagetown. I knew Atlanta when fat-cat good-ole-boys in Five Points ran it like a Wool-Hat farmer ran his sharecroppers. The only difference was they drank a higher priced bourbon in Five Points and paid politicians like Gene Talmadge to keep the uppities in their place.

Black folks tried being nice. What did it get them? Ten thousand men, women, and children were lynched in the states of the old Confederacy between 1880 and 1910. There is now a memorial in Montgomery, to the Americans lynched in the 1950's and '60's, during the glory days when we fools of the Left believed the era of racism was near its end. Think about those lynchings next time you hear some jerk defend the farce that the segs, in 1956, made of Georgia's ancient flag.

African-Americans got political power in Atlanta and Fulton County because of numbers and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It wasn't handed to them. They took it.

Power is what it's all about. And that's where you and I come in. That's where this piece gets fanciful.

It's time we 25 million got us some real power. Power that you can hold in your hand and convert into law. Standing outside in the rain and vociferating till you're hoarse won't get it. Writing letters to the editors won't. Kowtowing to pols who say they're your friends, unquote, sure's hell won't. Picnicking in the park once a year won't get you much more than affirmation that there's a lot of us and we come in all sizes, colors, and attitudes.

I say now is the time to take our cue from an itch that's as American as invading small islands in the Caribbean.

I say we load up the car and move.

I say we redistribute ourselves.

I propose we identify six or seven states of the Union—Georgia, for one—where there are mountains and rivers and pretty little towns and mostly medium-size cities.

And move to them. And become either

GUEST EDITORIAL

the majority or a pretty big chunk. A bloc, if you will.

I'm talking droves here. Give up Chicago and Boston and Detroit. Get out of Cleveland before Lake Erie catches fire again. And leave Los Angeles. You'll never be a star.

Three million adult lesbians and gay men added to the population of Georgia would mean a governor of our choosing—and she wouldn't be a yellow-dog Democrat who turned to jelly at the mention of Speaker Tom Murphy.

We'd buy houses in Macon and Augusta, start businesses in Waycross and Albany, practice law or medicine in Gainesville and LaGrange, design buildings in Dalton, sling hash in Vidalia, two-step till dawn in Marietta, hire gay, buy gay, and certainly improve the scenery—and register to vote. Two U.S. Senators, the majority of the U.S. House delegation, a majority of the legislature, mayors, sheriffs—well, you get the idea.

After Georgia, the world—or at least enough of it to make American gays and

lesbians a force that can't be ignored.

North Carolina too is ripe for the picking; it's beautiful, it has hills and sea and Chapel Hill. And Jesse Helms.

Tennessee is also ideal. And Virginia and Maryland. Delaware is a snap. Rhode Island. Wyoming, Idaho, Nevada, Montana, the Dakotas. Maine, for sure. Vermont and New Hampshire. Alaska. Oregon.

So far that's 36 U.S. Senators, and I'm still counting. That's power. Real power.

The Supreme Court is lost to humanity. America's right-turn is apparently permanent. So it's us and the rock and the hard place.

A third of the Senate, in the nature of politics, which is mostly swapping off, compromising, and kissing ass, translates as pure, undiluted power.

Sounds frivolous and it is, considering logistics and the fact that most of us are contrary to begin with. But it's not revolutionary. We're already a moveable bunch. The reason Bubba can say they ain't no queers in Tupelo is they got the hell out of there. New Orleans in August is not so bad when you were the town punching-bag back home in Mis'sippi.

It's said that metro Atlanta is home to a quarter million gays and lesbians. They weren't all born at the Gradys. A lot of them never dropped a gee in their lives and think you pick grits off a tree.

I know maybe 50 or 60 gay men and women in New York, in the theater mostly, and maybe two claim to be born New Yorkers, and one of those is really from Scarsdale. It's the same in L.A., Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Seattle, St. Louis, Denver. And there are no Floridians in south Florida; they all moved to Atlanta, to get away from the south Georgians who moved to Lauderdale.

What's another move?

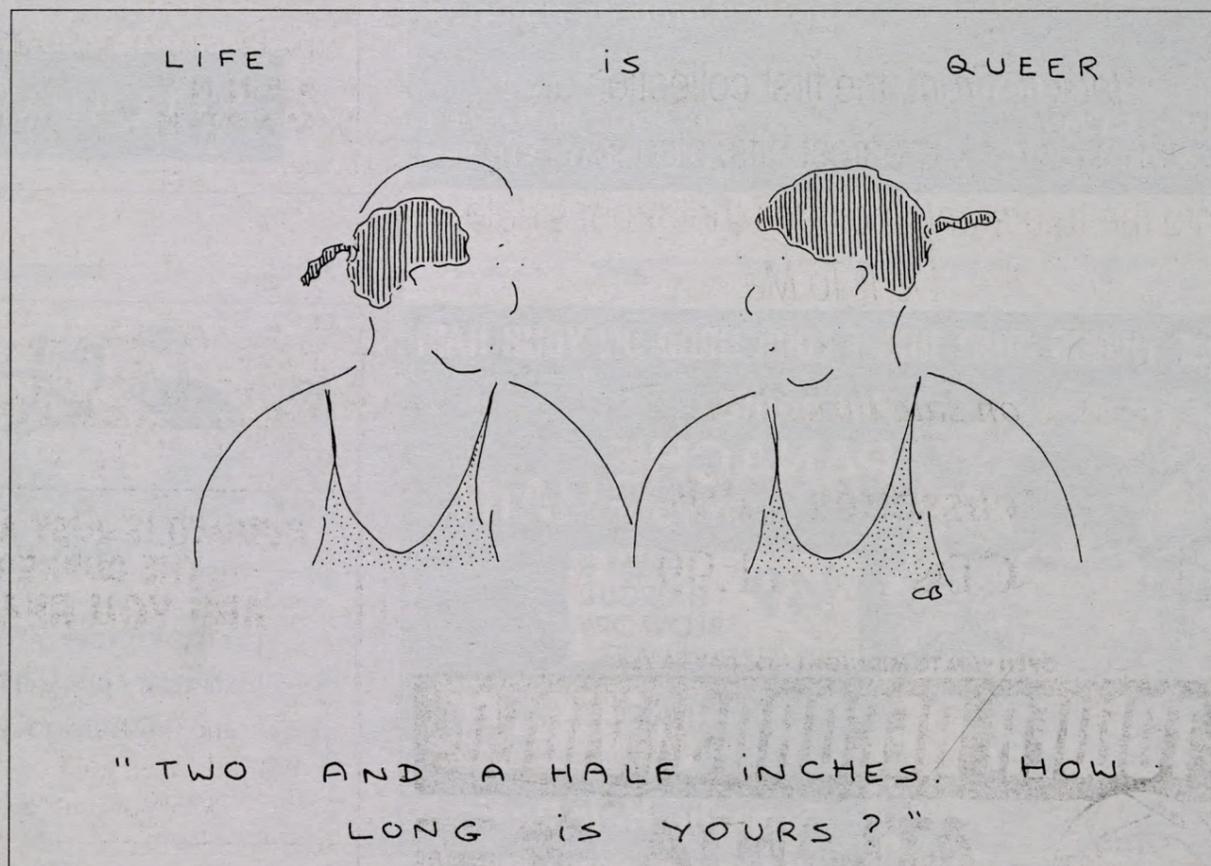
So, okay, you're asking, how do we bring it off?

I don't know.

But isn't it a great idea?

GENE-GABRIEL MOORE

Gene-Gabriel Moore is artistic director of Carroll Street Theatre, an emerging theater in Cabbagetown.



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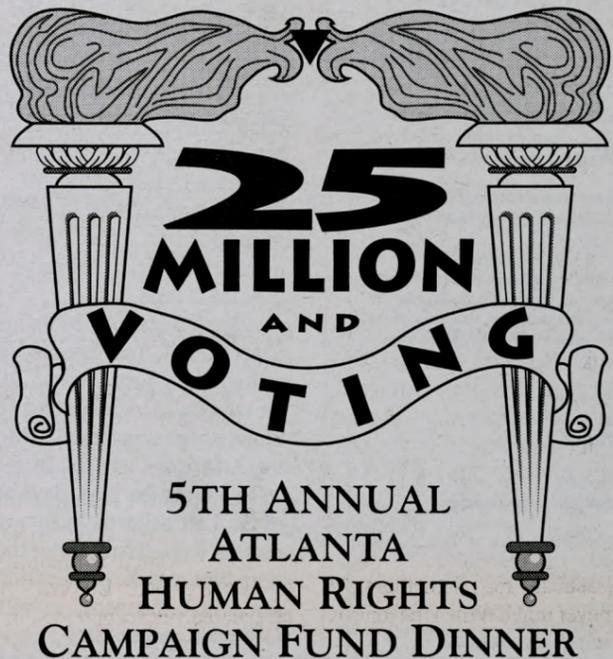
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SHELLY ROBERTS

Speaking of sex

I was asked to speak to a group in Miami not long ago. And in the course of discussing what my topic would be, the caller commented that it was too bad that I didn't have sex in the title of my talk, because attendance was always better. I agreed and explained how my own group often brought in a lesbian sex therapist for the yearly membership renewal meeting. It worked, hundreds of women showed up. We laughed. And chatted a bit more, agreed that the title of my speech would be "Cleaning Out My Closet," and hung up.

Approximately 36.5 seconds later, the phone rang again. Same lady. She said, "You know, I've been thinking about our conversation. Putting sex into the title really does get more people to show up. So, uh, how about if we call your talk, 'Cleaning Out My Sexual Closet'?"

Ooh-whooh. Well. Um. In a lot less time than it took Jack Benny to decide between his money and his life, I said, "Gee... I don't thiink so. I pretty much only share that with people I'm paying a minimum of seventy-five dollars an hour to."

But I agreed that we could call my speech, "Cleaning Out My Closet (and I promise to talk about sex.)" You'd be amazed how many people showed up. Now, I like to believe that all those women were faithful readers of mine, and really showed up to show sisterly support. And six or seven of them, at least, had actually heard of me. One or two of those, actually read something I'd written. But, never mind. When the topic is sex, clearly, we pay attention.

I looked for you at that meeting. But you obviously had to be out of town that night. So it seemed only fair that I share with you what I shared with them. Fair is, after all, fair. So, without further ado, I give you:

Roberts Rules of Lesbian Sex

Rule Number One: It is never a good idea to ask anyone to marry you **before** the first date.

Rule Number Two: Remember when your mother told you that it wasn't polite to talk with your mouth full? Your mother was right.

Rule Number Three: The three most important words in the English language are...no, not, as you may have been lead to believe, "I love you." They are, and stay with me on this...(and first you have to accept that "Omigod" is one word)...The three most important words in the English language are:

"Omigod, don't stop!"

Rule Number Four: With the exception of birthdays, anniversaries, February, April, June, August, and October, the one or two hours after a really good Christmas present, or a really good fight, after a few years, unless you work at it, Lesbian Sex could become a contradiction in terms.

Rule Number Five: If you are prone to seizure disorders, it is only polite, always, to go second.

Rule Number Six: If either of you is the owner of a loyal Labrador, or faithful French Poodle, it is definitely prudent to put the puppy on the porch. Especially, if "Oooh, Baby, oooh" gets a lot louder than "Would you care for a peanut butter sandwich and another glass of Gallo, my dear?" Particularly important if said devoted Dobie is attack trained to lunge for the larynx at the sound of its owner's first whimper. Just think how embarrassing that could be. Not to mention painful. (See Rule Number Seven.) As in many things lesbian, however, size is not a determining factor here. A pesky, protective Pomeranian or Pekingese can prove just as distracting. And rabies shots are not seductive.

Rule Number Seven: Probably the very first thing that should be laid are the ground rules. Remember, to some lesbians, S & M means something other than "soothing massage."

Rule Number Eight: Bathing is highly recommended. Highly. Especially in months with no R, or nearly any time the temperature reaches or exceeds the IQ of your average used car salesman.

Rule Number Nine: Turn off the TV. I don't care how long you've been married. No matter how exciting you may find old reruns of Cagney and Lacey, not every lesbian does. She may not be as turned on as you are by the sounds of Star Trek: The

Next Generation dialogue playing as background on the entertainment center in the Master Suite. (Mistress Suite? (See Rule Number Seven.)

Third generation video tapes of "Debbie Does Dolores," however, are considered an exception to this rule.

Rule Number Ten: Dental Dams. Damn. Until you know exactly who you're playing with, use them. We don't want any nasty surprises for any of us ten years from now. There are no exceptions to this rule. And, besides, you can get them in peppermint now. Also chocolate. (See Rule Number Eight.)

Rule Number Eleven: As they used to say about voting in Chicago elections, "Do it early and do it often." This is, according to the Bureau of Lesbian Statistics, absolutely imperative for the long term good health, not to mention survival, of any good lesbian relationship.

Rule Number Twelve: If you find yourself sleeping with more than one person (in the same bed at the same time or not), it is not wise to include actual names in your terms of endearment. Saying "Helen" instead of "Gladys" could not only prove seriously embarrassing, but also extremely hazardous to your personal well being. This is what the words "Honey," "Darling," and "Angel-Pookie-Sweetie-Love-Bottoms" were invented for.

And, by the way, with the exception of Rule Number Ten — there are no rules for lesbian sex. I thought you'd want to know. Shelly Roberts, a Ft. Lauderdale based writer, is in syndication in lesbian and gay publications throughout the United States and Canada.

The Beating, The Verdict, The Rage

To the Editor:

The pain is personal. Most of us receive a dose of news daily. When something tragic occurs, we shake our heads and say, "that's too bad," and go fix dinner. The Verdict did not give me a chance to give my usual polite response.

It had been a long time since I was speechless with rage. My mind spun to the video that mesmerized the nation. The Verdict meant that The Beating was fair? Justified? Reasonable? For me, the clear and indelible message was, The Beating was not criminal. As the violence spread from LA to Atlanta, I knew that my rage was a shared emotion.

I am sure that my rage is puzzling to those of you who had your usual polite reaction to The Verdict. To resort to violence would be easy and transform me from prey into predator. And in that instant, I would

become the thing I hate. For me, the difference between rioting and writing was hope for the future.

As you murmur the expected polite phrases and express concern, consider the violence this city has witnessed. Consider the circumstances that make people lose hope. Those of you who could care less as long as your privilege remains intact and your world very white, consider a system of justice that dispenses it selectively. Would you feel differently if Rodney had been white and the police and jurors black?

Join us in a demand for justice. Join us in speaking out against violence. None of us will be free until all of us are free.

Fix dinner late tonight.

In solidarity,
Pat Hussain

Pete said to repeat

To the editor:

History shouldn't repeat itself. Repeats are summer reruns on TV. Repeats are ordering the same drink or food every time you go out, seeing the same person (not a bad idea in this day and age), but history?

I was born in the late 50's in the south. The early 60's were a blur to me, but in the 90's I'm learning and seeing everything I didn't see back then.

First of all, the sudden surge in discrimination again is on the rise. White against blacks, anti-semitism, Baptist against Catholics. These were common in the 60's, but the government stepped in to protect everyone's rights. Well, didn't they?

Abortion protestors are the heated topic once again. Didn't Roe v. Wade solve all that? The government stepped in and said a woman's body is her own.

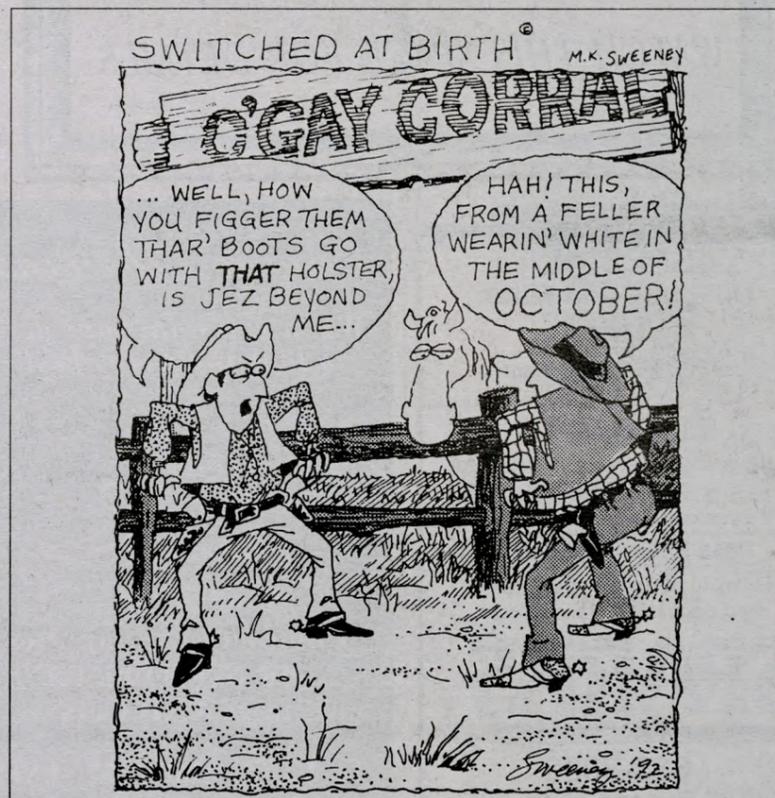
And gay people, wake up! We always hop to the same bars. We are repeating here, too. Why? Because this bar is feuding with this bar, this bar is for women only,

this bar is for snobby-preppy gays only, this bar is for blacks only, this bar is levi-leather types, this bar is all right if you like female impersonators or do shows.

Different taste is essential, but don't look at me funny or stare open mouth if I walk in "your bar." I'm sick of gay people who won't give a helping hand to someone else in need, or gay people who sit back and read others for the way they dress, look or act. Do we need the government to step in? Do you think they would discriminate if they closed every bar down? I think not. The queens, the leather and the preppy would all die together.

Let's not repeat the 60's and 70's in that sense. Sneaking around in back alleys to meet, doing drag shows in someone's living room, dancing with the same sex in secrecy. We are out; let's stay that way. And we have to do it as a unit, or surely those who sit on Capitol Hill will do it for us—and we certainly don't need them to step in anymore.

Ashley Nicole



FORECLOSURE

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In search of the Mother Lode

Lesbians are choosing to be mothers whether it's through artificial insemination or adoption.



More and more lesbians across the country will be receiving Mother's Day cards this year. Evidence of a lesbian baby boom is showing up in Atlanta and other cities as thirtysomething lesbians seem to heed the ever present ticking of their biological clocks.

There are a number of ways lesbians are changing the face of motherhood: donor insemination, adoption, children from a previous heterosexual marriage or contact, and taking a co-parenting role with a lesbian mother.

In general, women who take part in the Feminist Women's Health Center's donor insemination program are typically between the ages of 35 and 39. "I think as a generation of women who grew up in the '60s had other things to do, and didn't even consider having children," speculates Judy Siff, Director of the center's program. "Now, as the '30s tick away it's now or never, or they didn't know it was possible and now it is."

In the five years that the program has been in existence at FWHC, over 175 women have tried to have kids this way. Nearly 45% of those who try donor insemination are lesbians according to Siff, and that number is growing.

"I think we're seeing a lot of young lesbians having kids because what held a lot of lesbians back was not realizing there was an adequate option," Siff explains.

And it is an attractive option. The center deals only with sperm banks, where donors go through an intensive battery of medical and psychological tests. Most of the donors are graduate students whose family medical histories and physical traits are listed in a catalog that women can look through before deciding which donor they want to choose. Also, the donor gives up all legal rights to the child and cannot know who received his donated sperm.

One drawback may be how long the process can take and the expense. Siff says it usually takes four to six tries before a woman becomes pregnant. At the going rate per insemination, the bills can begin to pile up be-

fore you change your first diaper. But, Siff believes donor insemination is ultimately one of the best ways to become a mother.

"There are no accidental babies, it's a very self-conscious choice," Siff emphasizes. "It's a 100% wanted baby."

Adoption is another alternative to many lesbians, and there are many options in this area. Going through traditional channels like agencies or the state could take years to get a child. Many who have adopted say an easier way may be to locate a birth mother who wants to give up her child after it is born. Arrangements of this kind are usually handled by lawyers, after a birth mother is found through private referrals around the country. This process must be discreet however, because advertising for a birth mother is illegal. This arrangement is attractive to many birth mothers, since potential adoptive parents usually foot a portion of the medical bills.

Drawbacks to this may be the emotional strain of the process because birth mothers have ten days to change their minds about giving up the child.

Many lesbians are also trying to adopt children from other countries. Networks have been established to help women locate chil-

dren around the world and help arrange adoption.

Those who have successfully adopted warn however, that lesbians must exercise discretion when adopting. A lot of personal questions are asked during the adoption process and your home life is scrutinized. While no agencies have specific rules against homosexuals adopting, that information can make the process tougher.

Another disheartening situation for lesbian mothers, and those considering parenthood, is the apparent lack of support for lesbian moms within the community. Abby Zahn came to Atlanta from Massachusetts over two years ago. She has a three year old son named Joshua. Zahn tried to get a lesbian parents support group started, but it fizzled after the first few meetings. She says she doesn't understand why because there were many such groups prospering in Massachusetts.

Zahn points to a general lack of respect for lesbians with children. "In Massachusetts they accept our children as part of the community, and equate children at events to other accessibility issues like wheelchair access," Zahn says.

She has found no such acceptance in At-

lanta. "At the last Gay Pride parade, someone tried to sell me a 'No Breeders' T-shirt," Zahn remembers. "I was very insulted by that."

And if children of lesbians are looked down upon in general, boy children are valued even less. Many lesbian events bar male children all together, or put an age restriction on them.

Zahn asserts, "Boy children in the lesbian community are not as highly valued as girls. With my son actually standing there, some lesbians will be putting down males, like he has no ears or feelings."

Zahn is not without hope, however, pointing out that as more of the politically active women in Massachusetts began bearing male children, the attitudes began to change. She feels that will be the case here as well.

Some groups are still trying to beat the odds and make a parent's support group work. Judi Jones has begun a group that is open not only to lesbian mothers but gay fathers too.

"I just don't like anything that's separatist," Jones explains. "I think we are all in this boat together, let's help each other."

That helping hand extends even to those in the community who may just be considering having children, or those who just want to be around kids. All are welcome at group meetings, Jones says.

The group has met only a couple of times, and already boasts about 50 members. Jones hopes various in-city meeting locations and planned socials will help that membership grow. The group is currently meeting every other week, usually on Saturday nights. The first meeting of the month is a business meeting where parenting issues and group functions are discussed. The second meeting is a potluck or other social event that parents and children can participate in. Childcare is provided for all functions. For more information call Judi Jones at 373-3089.

For more support, in July parents can attend the 13th annual conference of the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. The annual conference is a gathering of parents, co-parents, partners, spouses and children. Kids get to discover they aren't the only ones in the world with gay parents and parents get to share the joy of first words and the pains of the "terrible twos" with like-minded folks. This year's conference takes place in Indianapolis, Indiana and features workshops, guest speakers, entertainment, fireworks and a family picnic. Workshops range from parenting skills to relationships to family planning (trying to get pregnant as opposed to trying *not* to). For more information you can call (202) 583-8029 or write: PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091.

No matter what method women use to have kids, it seems that motherhood will soon be an ordinary aspiration for lesbians. With that rising tide, many changes in the community will no doubt follow to accommodate this new unique family unit. Hopefully, that will also include new laws to protect the rights of the children, biological parents and co-parents.

Maybe Judy Siff says it best, "Y'know, parenting is parenting. How you get the child is the least of it. Sometime people pay a lot of attention to how they are going to become parents, but really the issues are what happens after."

Happy Mother's Day.

CANDACE CHELLEW
Pictured: Abby and Joshua Zahn

IN THE LIFE

Lesbians and Gays With Children

Type of Organization: Social/Support

Founded: March 21, 1992

Number of Members: 50 including children

Recent Accomplishment: First meeting

Future Events: No definite plans yet

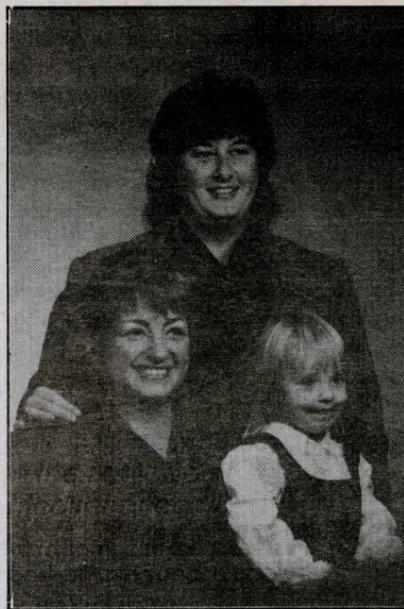
Contact: (404) 373-3089

The children are as important a part of Lesbians and Gays With Children as the parents. Founder Judi Jones says, "they need the support as much or more than we do." The oldest member of the group is 66 years old and the youngest is two years old. The group held its first meeting on March 21 with nine adults and five children. Since then the calls have been rolling in. So far, they seem to have a pretty even mix of male and female parents.

Some of the parents have custody of children from heterosexual relationships; some are non-custody parents. Some of the parents are adoptive; and some were artificially inseminated. Jones is a grandmother, and her daughter, Beth Donavahn, is also a lesbian mother and a member of the group. But however they became parents, all share common joys and common problems that come from being lesbian and gay parents in a community that often withholds support of "breeders."

If you haven't seen many parents with children at lesbian and gay events, you may think that few choose to be parents. Actually, lesbian and gay parents say it is because these events are not accessible to them or their children. "We make things accessible for the handicapped and the differently abled," says Jones, "why can't we make things accessible for the parents and the children?" Most lesbian and gay events do not offer child care, or restrict child care based on the child's sex, age, or level of development. At small social gatherings, parents are often made to understand that their children are not invited.

Coming out to their adolescent or adult children is often another problem for les-



bian and gay parents. Morris Suggs, now a grandfather, came out to his children when they were in high school and asked him if he was gay. "They don't like it," he says of their on-going attitude. His children are now parents, and he is uncertain how their attitudes will affect his future relationships with his grandchildren, now two, three, and four years old.

Teresa, another group member, has a twelve year old daughter who is suddenly embarrassed by her mother's sexual orientation, though she has been aware of it most of her life. "She is going through a difficult stage," says Teresa, "that 'I want to be normal' stage," and at school normal means heterosexual. Teresa was looking for a group to help her through this stage in her daughter's life when she called Lesbians and Gays With Children.

The primary focus of Lesbian and Gays With Children, says Jones, is "feeling good about who we are, so our children can feel good about who they are and who we are, too."

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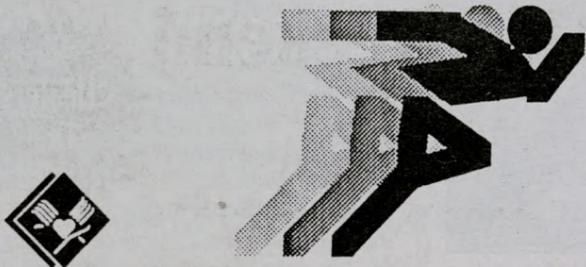
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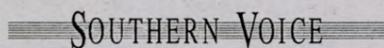
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Schaefer (cont'd)



persons aged 15-24, Family Concerns continues to offer abstinence as *the* answer to sexual education and awareness.

Schaefer says that she will continue to fight for her interpretation of sex education, prayer in schools and opposition to the distribution of condoms. Why? And what chance does she have of reaching her goals?

The daughter of a Superior Court judge, Schaefer grew up in North Georgia. She is married and has five children. As a Bible teacher, she was called by God to found Family Concerns through her experience leading a Christian Liberties Rally where she saw "how many God-fearing Americans we have not registered to vote."

Family Concerns was born in 1986 under the auspices of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta. Funding comes from both individuals and churches. Schaefer says she does not accept a salary from Family Concerns.

Family Concerns' office is located on the property of Edwards Pie Company in Candler Park. The organization pays a small

monthly rent. According to Ms. Schaefer, Edwards Pie Company approached her several years ago to provide office space for her organization. "They back our work and are in agreement with our goals," she said.

Many advocacy organizations become frustrated at the difficulty in making their voices heard. Lack of resources, volunteer burn-out, and bare-bones-budgets are among their complaints. But Family Concerns has a built in advantage: it can organize masses every Sunday from churches throughout the state. Schaefer attributes the organization's strength in numbers to "mutual goals."

"People come up to me all the time telling me they've started a Family Concerns ministry in their church," she said.

According to Schaefer, Family Concerns sends out 16,000 newsletters each month. There are Family Concerns ministries in Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, Texas and Oklahoma, although, she says, she does not know the total numbers of existing chapters. Additionally, Schaefer hosts two weekly commentaries on WAFS, a local Atlanta radio station.

Schaefer says she regularly reads gay/lesbian papers and magazines and keeps close tabs on community issues. But, despite her obsession with lesbians and gays and attempts to deny them their rights, Schaefer claims that Family Concerns does not hate homosexuals. Rather, it does not approve of their lifestyle. "It is illegal and I think biblically speaking, it is immoral," said Schaefer.

"Family Concerns has a well thought out method to change homosexuals," says Lynn Cothren. "Nancy Schaefer is not stupid. She is very precise in espousing her bigotry."

In fact, Edwards Pie Company recently

agreed to furnish space to Family Concerns for an organization which would shepherd gay men and lesbians out of the homosexual lifestyle.

According to Schaefer, the center will use the theories of Joel Afman, director of Katapau, a pastoral counseling center in Atlanta. Schaefer has known Afman for six years. Afman feels that men choose to be homosexuals because they are unconsciously looking to fulfill a need not met by their fathers. A large percentage of lesbian women, he says, were sexually abused by men or have a block toward men stemming from alcoholic fathers. And, he claims, lesbians have gaps in their relationships with their mothers.

Afman claims that homosexuals can change and claims that, in fact, he has. Afman says he lived a portion of his life as a gay man. He counsels about four people a day and claims to have "cured" between 150 and 200 people. While both Katapau and Family Concerns both battle with the issue of gay/lesbian lifestyles, the two differ, in that Family Concerns' agenda is political whereas Katapau counsels individuals.

Last year, Family Concerns also opened a pregnancy center on the Edwards Pie Company property. The center counsels between eight to ten pregnant women per day, according to Schaefer, and advises them on pregnancy and abortion, helping to put children up for adoption if the mothers choose. The center also provides a home for them throughout their pregnancy, she said. Family Concerns is on record as being strongly opposed to abortion.

Members of Family Concerns have run for elective office. Pam Glanton was a member of the Clayton County school board and

is running for one that county's House seats. Schaefer says she encourages her members to run for office. And, while Family Concerns neither endorses or supports candidates for office, Ms. Schaefer personally does both. She would not comment on any local or state elections, but did say she would vote for George Herbert Walker Bush in the upcoming presidential contest.

Family Concerns is very well organized and is intent on keeping the gay community from gaining any more rights, severely restricting access to abortions, censoring education to meet their agenda, and having children pray in school.

"We're for the family, we're for undergirding and upholding the family, we're for traditional values, we're for the same traditional values this country was founded on," Schaefer said. "We feel children should be able to pray in schools."

"Family Concerns has no qualms about restricting individuals' right to privacy and living their lives as they choose," said Teresa Nelson, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia. "The ACLU will continue to monitor their activities and will go toe to toe with them in defense of civil liberties."

"She's better organized than we are," said Kaupman. "And she's not going away." How can the gay community deal with Nancy Schaefer and Family Concerns? "Only by keeping aware of what they do and continuing to respond appropriately."

And perhaps, too, by maintaining a sense of perspective and humor, as activists have with chants such as "Nancy Schaefer, what a scare, we're more frightened of your hair."

LIZ LAPIDUS



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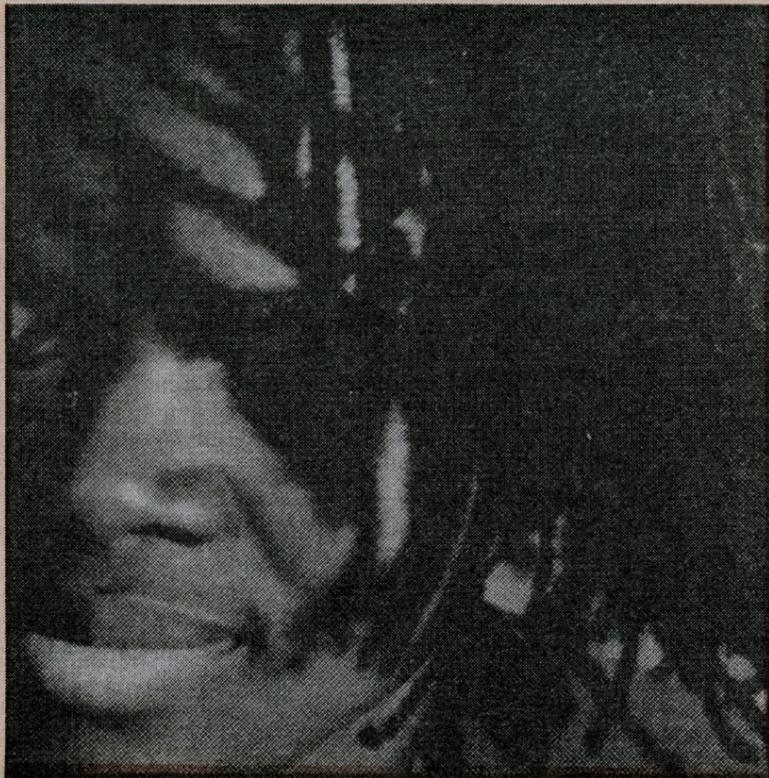
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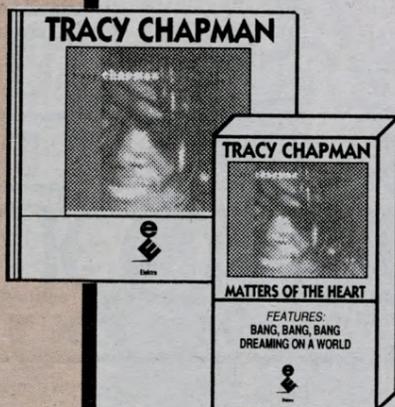


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OUT & ABOUT

MUSIC REVIEWS

FIRST PUT FINGERS

to the keyboard for Southern Voice nearly four years ago to review a new album by a new artist. I hailed the album as "social and political content...rarely heard" this side of the 60s, and expressed a hope that Tracy Chapman would bring to the world "music by and about the rest of us." I can't say whether or not that has happened, but Elektra Records has just released Chapman's third recording, meaning that more that just you and me are listening.

I have to admit that ever since I saw "In Living Color's" parody of Chapman a couple of years ago ("I Write A Fast Song"), I've not been able to listen to the Tufts University graduate without a bit of a chuckle. But that skit's premise—a pressured Chapman racing back and forth in her apartment, writing what she sees from her windows—is the heart of her music. It's truth, plain and simple, the everyday lives of everyday people, not sitcom perfect families on the screen to give us a laugh.

In that respect, there's nothing new on "Matters of the Heart," but that's the beauty of Chapman's music. She consistently, and eloquently, delivers the same messages on each album. If, as a recent Atlanta Journal/Constitution article asserted, the "real" news of today's world is more accurately presented by popular culture than mainstream media organizations, then Tracy Chapman is my idea of the 6 o'clock news.

As she did on that 1988 debut album, Chapman begins with as powerful a socio-political commentary as has ever been recorded—"Bang Bang Bang"—and ends with a love song of sorts—the delightful title song. Between Chapman's lyrics of hopelessness, despair and anger are others filled with hope, desire and light-heartedness, creating at once a vision of lost innocence (*If these are things that dreams are made of/I don't want anymore* from "If These Are The Things") and found courage (*I know I may be wishing/On a world/That may never be/But I'll keep on wishing* from "Dreaming On A World").

Chapman produced "Matters of the Heart" with Jimmy Iovine (who co-produced Patti Smith's excellent "Dream of Life" in 1988), and the pair have assembled a stellar set of musicians to back Chapman's music. Nothing here is overdone, and the addition of an array of percussion instruments serves to set off Chapman's sometimes quirky rhythms to perfection.

"Matters of the Heart" is a powerful recording from a powerful artist. More of us should see the world that Tracy Chapman sees.

KC WILDMOON

In the days before Stonewall, asking someone if they were a friend of Dorothy was a key cruise line to help gay men identify one another. The phrase illustrates how powerful an influence the musical art of **Judy Garland** had on gay men's lives. For further proof, remember that, as legend has it, the Stonewall Riots—and America's modern gay liberation movement—began when gay bar patrons in New York fought back a police raid that followed Judy Garland's death on June 29, 1969. New York cops should have known better: Nothing's fiercer and more ready for a fight than a grieving Judy Garland fan.

These days there's a sizable number of burly leathermen, radical sideburn Falangists, and even, to be sure, cocktail-and-showtune devotees, who could care less about La Judy. Still, for many of the rest of us, Garland is still God.

And even the angriest young person-in-black or the most die-hard members of the Connie Francis Fan Club will find it hard not to be softened up by the new box set, "Judy Garland: The One and Only" (Capitol). This exhaustive three-CD



collection features just about every song you could ever want by Garland (and then some) from her Capitol Records days in the 1950s and '60s.

Whether the offerings are from the 'Live Concert Recordings' CD, the 'Capitol Studio Sessions,' or the 'London Sessions,' Garland has a voice and a sensibility that cannot be denied. Yet this musical and stylistic talent rarely overwhelms her material, even when Garland sings her heart out for all the world to see.

Although each CD has its special moments, the 'Live Concert Recordings,' which features performances from TV appearances as well as stage events, has two of the best: The take-no-breaths-or-prisoners "Don't Rain on My Parade," a previously unreleased duet that Garland sang with daughter Liza Minnelli, and Judy's take on "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," a tribute she performed on her early '60s TV variety show at the time of President Kennedy's assassination.

The live CD also offers Garland's renditions of old favorites like "The Man that Got Away," "Come Rain or Come Shine," and "The Trolley Song," with stage chatter interspersed between some numbers to give you the full effect of Garland in concert.

As good as the live CD is, the Capitol and London studio sessions are possibly even better. Among the selections featured are some of Garland's best known songs from her movie musicals—"For Me and My Gal," "You Made Me Love You," and "The Trolley Song"—updated for a more mature voice and a more adult understanding of the lyrics. The featured version of Garland's signature song, "Over the Rainbow," is an out-and-out inducement to suicide. We all know and love to cry over the "Wizard of Oz" version, but this take by a more mature Garland who's done enough living, thank you, to understand the song's plaintive, pained qualities, will break your heart all over again. Garland wails, pleads, and almost cries the lyrics. But, amazingly, the song never strays into campy despair or maudlin sentiment. We believe. And Garland, the consummate professional songstylist, never lies.

For those of us who never heard a torch song we didn't like, we'll content ourselves with continuing to be known as friends of Dorothy.

JOHN BARNETT

BOOK REVIEW

TO FIND A GAY MAN

imagined whole and entire, not on the fringe but central to the story, you *have* to turn the pages of a book. Enter author Christopher Bram and his fourth novel, **Almost History** (Donald I. Fine, 411 pp., \$22.50, Pub Date April 27).

The book's hero, Jim Goodall, starts off his career (and Bram's novel) as a young foreign service officer who enters the State Department during the height of the McCarthy era. In one of the ironies of the novel's title, his sexual development is determined by his unfortunate place in history. Senator Joseph McCarthy didn't just hate State Department homosexuals, he blamed them for terrible historical events: the fall of China to the communists; the dropping of the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe. In a panicked Washington, it's small wonder that Goodall should react first with denial and then with steely-willed determination never to do the dirty deed that would compromise his dream of service to country.

In one of the novel's more deft narrative accomplishments, Bram manages to suggest what 15 plus years of arrested sexual development are like without making the reader endure the recapitulation of a decade and a half of self-imposed chastity. When next we meet Goodall, he is a rising upper-mid-level diplomat at the U.S. Embassy in Manila in the days leading up to Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos' declaration of martial law. His earlier sexual decision has made of him a rather prim, fussily butch gentleman, nicknamed "the Vicar" by his younger associates, who nevertheless appreciate him for a certain boyish quality.

Again history — or is it simply coincidence — intervenes, when Goodall's first State Department crush shows up and lures him to South Vietnam where in the chaos of war almost anything goes. In a wonderful set piece, Bram captures the excitement of an orgy among a motley collection of on-leave servicemen, aging expatriate colonials,



cynical adventurers of war, and Asian gay boys, while simultaneously mirroring Goodall's almost physical disgust, which is actually a symptom of his crumbling defenses.

By the time the novel finally deposits Goodall back in Washington, it's clear this is more a book of character than the gay "Year of Living Dangerously" it sometimes threatens to become. It is not a story of history — of great men and the rise and fall of dictatorships — but of the ordinary men who almost become history's agents, only to be spared its burdens.

At over 400 pages, "Almost History" is a bigish novel, one not built for 30-second MTV attention spans. Although sex is a persistent fascination, the novel's sexuality is almost never flashy, nor is it glamorized or gratuitously graphic. For those hungry for what television and the movies can't, don't, *won't* give — a gay man's life in perspective and in depth, both ordinary and interesting — "Almost History" makes for a very satisfying read.

JIM MARKS

Jim Marks is Assistant Editor of the Lambda Book Report.



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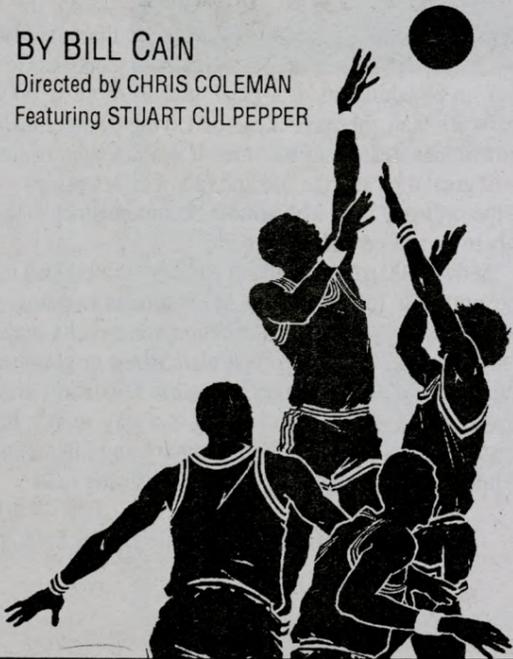
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OUT & ABOUT

C A L E N D A R

7 THURSDAY

JAIME MORTON. In a voice that is tender one moment and raw the next, Jaime delivers touching and personal lyrics. Charis Books. 524-0304.

BWMT MIXER. Atlanta's Black and White Men Together, a gay interracial organization, extends an invitation to new members. 892-BWMT.

PRIDE FUNDRAISER. Some activists will do anything to raise a buck! Come see members of the Atlanta Pride Committee in drag, along with the Armorettes (who really know what good drag is), in a Turnabout Show. A fun evening that's good for the community, too. 9 pm. The Armory. Also, the Pride booth will be at the Armory through May 10th selling merchandise and offering info on Pride.

8 FRIDAY

A WARM DECEMBER. Various writers of "A Warm December," the book of poetry and illustrations which celebrates the love a black male couple, will sign the book at Tracks at 10 pm. 306 Luckie St. And also at Charis Books on Saturday at Noon. 524-0304.

NUNSENSE. This Off-Broadway long-running hit play offers irreverent humor at a fevered pitch. Opens tonight and runs



through June 6. Onstage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 897-1802.

STAND UP TRAGEDY. A tough new play about the violence in which many young black men live — and die. Directed by Chris Coleman. Opens tonight and runs through June 14. Actor's Express. 280 Elizabeth St. 221-08312.

9 SATURDAY

QUEER NATION AT CRACKER BARREL. Come out and bring Mom or Dad or whoever and have a barrel of fun with QN as they tell CB, one more time, it ain't polite to fire folks 'cause they aren't straight. 11:30 am. Lithonia Cracker Barrel. Meet at 10:30 am at the Lindbergh MARTA to carpool.

ROSE EXTRAVAGANZA. To some people a rose is not a rose is not a rose. Atlanta Botanical Garden has devoted a whole week of events to the U.S. national flower.

The Rose Show is on May 9 & 10; May 12, 13 & 14 rosarians will be available to answer questions; and on May 15 Stephen Scanniello, author of "Roses of America," will speak. Atlanta Botanical Garden. Piedmont Park. 876-5859.

THE MAKING OF GONE WITH THE WIND. Christopher Plummer narrates the making of the most famous southern film of all time. Rare out-takes and behind-the-scenes material. 9 pm. WGTU. Channel 8. Also Sunday morning at 9 am.

CRAFTS FOR CRITERS. The Atlanta Humane Society ends "Be Kind to Animals Week" with this bazaar to benefit shelter animals. 10 am to 5 pm. Atlanta Humane Society. 981 Howell Mill Rd. 875-5331.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Yoel Levi leads the ASO in two tone poems: Sibelius' "Pohjola's Daughter" and Strauss' "A Hero's Life." Also featured is Grammy Award winning pianist

Richard Goode performing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24. 8 pm. Symphony Hall. 892-2414.

10 SUNDAY

HEARTSONG IN CONCERT. This gay singing group from Dallas, Texas offers a variety of music from gospel to classical to country and western. All Saints Metropolitan Community Church. 575 Boulevard. 7 pm. 622-1154.

11 MONDAY

WHAT KIDS WANT TO KNOW ABOUT SEX AND GROWING UP. Detailed, direct information designed so parents and kids can open or continue dialogue about puberty and sex. To meet the needs of 8 to 12 year olds, it includes info on AIDS, safer sex and gays and lesbians in a responsible and appropriate manner. The first airing is

for parents to preview. 11 pm. WGTU Channel 8. Also on Wednesday at 9 pm for the kids to watch with you.

12 TUESDAY

GREATER TUNA. The comedy starring Joe Sears and Jaston Williams about Texas' third smallest town, Tuna, where the Lions Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Opens tonight and runs through May 26. Alliance Theatre. 249-6400.

13 WEDNESDAY

LES MISERABLES. May 13 - 17. Victor Hugo's epic masterpiece of Paris returns for one week only. The triumphant return of the award-winning musical. Fox Theatre. 249-6400.

A CONVERSATION WITH MAGIC. Magic Johnson talks to kids and teens about AIDS-related issues. Linda Ellerbee moderates. 10 pm. WGTU. Channel 8. Also on Wednesday May 15 at 11 pm.



Pictured: BELOW: The cast of Stand Up Tragedy. Photo by David Zeiger UPPER RIGHT: Dave Clemmons as Jean Valjean and Tamra Hayden as Cosette in Les Miserables. Photo by Joan Marcus UPPER LEFT: Heartsong



O N G O I N G A N D U P C O M I N G

THE LISBON TRAVIATA. Through May 10. Terrence McNally's off-Broadway hit comedy which centers around two men who adore opera, and listen to the voice of Maria Callas as the background for their lives and relationships with two men who do not share their passion. 14th St. Playhouse. 881-0817.

ROMEO AND JULIET. Through May 16. Atlanta Shakespeare Company present the immortal love

story in the Tavern, a recreation of an Elizabethan theatre and pub. Shakespeare Tavern. 499 Peachtree St.

DECORATORS SHOW HOUSE. Through May 24. Marvel at the handiwork of 24 area decorators as they turn the 10,000 square foot home at 3594 Tuxedo Court into a "European Estate." Everything that fans of Met Home or H&G could hope for right here in Hotlanta and it benefits the

Atlanta Symphony. Call 264-4499.

GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL. Through June 7. The 7th annual event returns for seven weekends. Take a step back in time to a 16th century England country faire. Shows, food, crafts and more. 10:30 am — 6 pm, rain or shine very weekend \$10; \$5 for kids. 964-8575 for more info.

SCULPTURE BY BROWER HATCHER. Through June 27. A two-

part show of both interior and exterior work by one of Atlanta's premier sculptors. Heath Gallery, 416 East Paces Ferry Rd. (262-6407) and Eve Mannes Gallery, 116 Bennett Street (351-6651).

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND DINNER. May 16. The 5th annual dinner expects over 1,000 attendees. \$100 of the \$150 tickets go directly to HRCF to further the lesbian and gay

agenda on a national level. Entertainment by Robert Ray. For tickets call (404) 662-4280.

THE FLIRTATIONS. May 31. Lyrics that will make you laugh, cry and holler for more from America's premier gay a capella songsters. Variety Playhouse. 524-7354.

HOLLYWOOD HOTS '92. June 6. 7-11 pm. Last year Hollywood Hots raised over \$14,000 for local AIDS organizations. This year's event hopes to

raise \$25,000. Morningside Chase Apartments. For more info call 496-4352.

PRIDE PROM '92. June 6. 8 pm. This year's theme "The Cotillion of Fantasy" is sure to draw a large and diverse crowd. Pride Prom is a fundraiser for Pride '92 so come out and join in. Cash bar. Howard Johnson's Midtown. 662-4533 for more information.

4th ANNUAL LESBIAN AND GAY BUSINESS

EXPO. June 13. Over 100 lesbian and gay businesses show their wares. A great opportunity for businesses and consumers alike. 662-4599 for more information.

LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE '92. June 27 & 28. A week-end full of activities culminating with the march on Sunday. Lea Delaria emcees at Piedmont Park after the march. 50,000 are expected. See you there.

20 O U T & A B O U T

Pasta, so long as it is carefully sauced, is a versatile, inexpensive, and nutritious basis for a meal. Tastes good too. In its May '92 issue, Consumer Reports has confirmed something that I've suspected for a long time: Inexpensive dried pastas are every bit as good for you and taste every bit as good as some of the more expensive boutique brands—and cost loads less.

The report also confirms something that I've known ever since I tried the supposedly "fresh" pasta sold in refrigerator cases at the supermarket: They're about five times as costly as dried brands and have all the appeal of well-cooked Elmer's glue. (Not so the made-in-house products offered by the DeKalb and Harry's Farmers Markets, which are expensive but well worth the price when you are using an especially delicate or complex sauce.)

Highest rated in CR's list was A&P's premium Master Choice brand which has been my pasta of preference for some years now. At about 11 cents an ounce it's a few pennies more than Kroger's and A&P's house brands, which also tested well, but the Master Choice comes in a chic black box that looks far better than Kroger's bilious green one if you store it on the counter or on open shelving as I do.

De Cecco, the choice among my most trend-conscious friends, wound up way down in the ratings and costs about 18 cents an ounce. The blue and yellow box sure does look great, though. And it's available in a variety of sizes and shapes that far exceeds domestic brands.

CR also tested about a zillion brands of prepared tomato-based sauces. Guess what? Once again some of the most inexpensive big-name brands won out over some of the fancier boutique labels like Newman's Own and the abysmal and expensive Contadina—also in the refrigerator case.

Best rated here were three Ragu sauces—Chunky Gardenstyle Extra Tomatoes, Cooked Homestyle Tomato/Herbs, and Fresh Italian Tomato and Herbs—and Hunt's Traditional. Kroger Traditional was at the bottom of the list.

Especially in warm weather, I find that the best tomato sauce is one that consists of some sauteed garlic, onions, and mushrooms with coarse chopped canned toma-

EAT

atoes added. It takes about 10 minutes to cook and tastes worlds fresher than any canned brand. If you are lucky enough to have fresh basil or oregano, add some. Otherwise dried will do. Throw in some red pepper flakes and you have a decent faux fra diavolo. I think that Italian canned tomatoes are sweeter by half than domestic brands, and well worth the extra cost.

Speaking of Pasta

Bice (on the ground floor of the 1100 Peachtree Building) is the only one of the city's name-brand, luxe Italian eateries that I've not tried. Coincidentally, it is the only one of them that has bothered to contact Southern Voice and suggest that I eat a meal there. Friends who have dined at Bice tell me that it's really fine—far better than Pricci or Veni Vidi Vici. The grilled foie gras salad gets special raves from everybody. And the space—designed by mega-star Adam Tihany—is exquisite. Check it out.

If At First You Don't Succeed...

I don't know where the original Peking Dragon restaurant (version II of which just opened in Rio Mall) is. But if a meal sampled at the new digs recently is any indication of the kitchen's capabilities, these folks should have done more work at store number one before trying for a second shop. (Would you trust a Chinese restaurant that featured Buffalo wings on its menu?)

Not that the food is bad, mind you, it's just boring, ordinary, and not particularly inexpensive. The dining rooms are pretty—especially the back one which offers a nice view of the downtown skyline. And service is attentive. But you can do a lot better just around the corner at Hunan Palace which frequently offers a 20 percent off coupon in SV. It's

been a while since I've eaten there, but the traditional (or maybe they call it original) sweet and sour pork is a real treat—nothing like the day-glo orange, gelatinous mess that we're accustomed to getting in most places.

It Hurts So Good

Several months ago I mentioned that consumption of capsaicin, the ingredient in peppers that makes them hot, can increase your body's metabolic rate by up to 30 percent. Now, from Australia, comes word that capsaicin triggers the release of endorphins, natural pain killers which also give us a sense of pleasure and well-being. Evidently that's the reason some folks like their food really hot—it gives them an endorphin rush. Now if someone would only find a way to make spicy chocolate...or pepper-laced espresso.

Addiction of the Week

Speaking of chocolate, if you, like me, are an M&M addict, run, don't walk to your nearest store and stock up on the new almond version. (If you can't find 'em at smaller stores, try Winn Dixie.) They're the best thing to come down the pike since Hershey's put almonds in Kisses. Better still, there are only a dozen or so candies in a small bag, so at least you won't feel like as much of a pig if you eat the whole thing.

Cheap Meal of the Week

Most of us think of sweet potatoes as food for fall, but this is too good and too easy to wait six months to share.

Poke some holes in a sweet potato and microwave it for 6-10 minutes. While the tuber is getting nuked, sauté some onion, green bell pepper and red bell pepper until they start to get soft. If you're feeling adventurous splash the peppers and onion with some balsamic vinegar. (If you are avoiding fat like the plague, do the onion and peppers, sans oil, in the microwave, too.)

Plop the pepper/onion mix on the potato and glop some sour cream (or no fat yogurt) on top of that. A bit of fresh-ground black pepper adds interest.

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GARY KAUPMAN



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OUT & ABOUT 21

A cold wind scudded gray clouds across the sky, as the crowd of mourners gathered in front of the Little Five Points Liquor Store last Sunday. Friends and fans of Deacon Lunchbox, poet and performance artist killed recently in an automobile accident in rural Alabama, memorialized him in a New Orleans style funeral march.

Leading the march was a twenty piece jazz band, sounding out a mournful dirge. The chief mourner was **Opal Foxx**, lead singer of the Opal Foxx Quartet, who had worked closely with the Deacon. Opal, described by one insider as "Tom Waits on 'ludes in a dress," lead the procession headed down Euclid Avenue, past the rows of shops and galleries, where owners came out to pay their respects to Deacon and offer condolences to Opal.

As the parade neared its conclusion, the mood shifted from mourning to merriment, with the band striking up a rousing march and mourners producing discordant soundings from noisemakers. It was a fitting tribute to the poet whose voice was stilled too soon.

The day before the funeral procession, the annual **Inman Park Festival** got off to a perfect start as the sun broke through the early morning clouds and warmed the winding streets of that tree lined neighborhood. Several blocks of Euclid and Edgewood Avenues were cordoned off to allow artists and vendors to set up booths offering everything from cactus to massages. Having missed the festival last year, I anxiously awaited the noon opening of the Inman Park Tour of Homes, where one is allowed to inspect the restored grandeur of many of the areas finest examples of Victorian architecture. The experience of entering the home of someone you do not know is an unusual one, especially when the more personal environs are open, such as walk through closets, home offices and bathrooms. But these rooms are many times the most interesting, revealing more insight into who a person is and how they live than does their choice of wallpaper in the living room.

AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



This particular tour is the most enjoyable in the City, tied as it is with the concurrent street festival which features music, food, shopping and a parade which is more doo-dah than hoop-lah. This year's parade featured bands (Georgia Tech's pep band blasting out "When You Say Bud" and Inman Park's own Marching Abominables), floats, and various groups ranging from horseback riding cowboys and Indians to the Hare Krishna folks.

Musical entertainment in the tent on Euclid offered something for everyone from a jazz ensemble to bagpipes. One group of entertainers were heard before they were

seen. While browsing among the vendor booths, I heard a rhythmic "click, click, click." Looking up, I expected to see a policeman on horseback approaching but there was no horse—the steady clicking sound grew louder and the crowd of people parted to reveal an oncoming group of mother-daughter cloggers in stiffly starched petticoats.

If you missed this tour, a similar one (though much smaller scaled) will be held on May 17 as the Candler Park-Lake Claire community presents a "Tour of Funky Bungalows." With a name like that who could resist? Emphasis here is on smaller homes geared toward solar energy and other environmentally sound features. Get your \$7.00 tickets at the Little Five Points Pharmacy.

The theatre ticket to have is for **Greater Tuna**, the two-man play in which actors Joe Sears and Jaston Williams become the inhabitants of the tiny Texas town of Tuna. The twisted plot involves a murdered judge, in an Esther Williams swimsuit and becomes stranger by the moment. If you grew up in the South, you may recognize bits of neighbors and even family in this comic tale. The play opens on May 12 at the Alliance Theatre's Main Stage. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster at 249-6400.

It seems the demand for tickets to the **Harry Connick, Jr.** show was so heavy another show has been added on May 29 at the Chastain Amphitheatre. The thought of a calm, clear night under the stars with a white linen clad table decked with candles and good food listening to the mellow voice of Mr. Connick with someone you love is a tempting one. Ditto, **Indigo Girls** who will perform there on May 22. Kristen Hall opens. Call Ticketmaster at 249-6400.

For lovers of manic comedy, screaming mimi **Bobcat Goldthwait** brings his unique blend of comedy to the Georgia Tech Theatre of the Arts on Sunday, May 10 at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$14, \$15, and \$20. Call 894-9600 for tickets.

Pictured: Opal Foxx
Photo by N. Bennett

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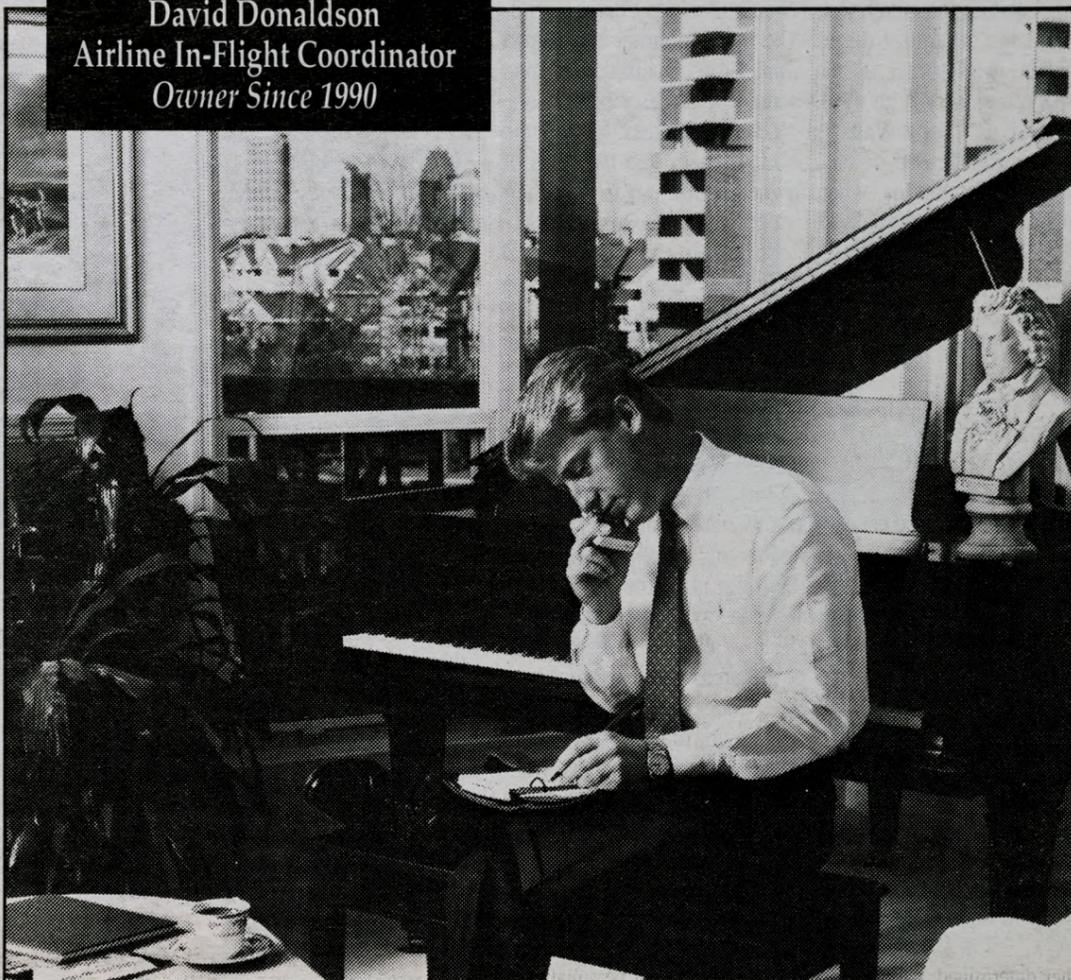
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Safe as Milk

by Jon Ludwig, Stephanie Kaskel, Brien Engel

May 14-June 6
8pm

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CHARGE TICKETS: 873-3391

Center for Puppetry Arts, 1404 Spring St. @ 18th *Limited Free Parking*

This project is supported in part by The New Forms Regional Initiative Grant to Artists, a program administered by The Arts Exchange and funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation with additional support from The Arts Exchange.

Little House in the Valley: A couple of weeks ago the National Enquirer carried a full page article about the fact that Kristy McNichol and her beloved (one Martha Allen) have bought a "little brown and white home on a quiet street in the San Fernando Valley." More exciting by half (if it's true) is the article's contention that, after McNichol told the producers of "Empty Nest" that she and "Marty" are (and want to be treated like) any other couple, the network nabobs backed off of their criticism of McNichol's open involvement with another woman. Like the article about Lesbianville, USA that we mentioned last week, this one, with a few editing changes, could have appeared, unapologetically, in the gay press. What's happening here, has the Enquirer hired a dyke editor?

Getting Down...and Dirty: Speaking of working together (NOT!), Dish has a suggestion for a better way for Bill Gripp to settle his purported grievances with Lynn Cothren—read the news story on page 3 of last week's SV if you haven't already done so. Rather than getting entwined in an expensive and unattractive lawsuit, Dish thinks Gripp should challenge Cothren to a mud wrestling match. (Mr. G. is bigger than Mr. C. so there would, of course, need to be some sort of handicap.) Surely hundreds (if not thousands) of local queers would pay a couple of bucks to watch this brawl. The proceeds could be divided between the Gay Center and the Pride Committee. And the winner could be required to apologize. On the surface, mud wrestling seems like a terribly childish and hetero-imitative activity, but then what would you call suing someone who is fighting for the same cause? Well, OK, "stupid" and "petty" do also come to mind.

Bad News: Each week, it seems, the powers that be in this country seem determined to make it a little more difficult and a little more frightening to be born a woman. Witness the following: An Arkansas judge has ruled that it is not a crime for a man to touch a woman's breasts (even without her permission or invitation) if no force or threats are involved. Dish wonders if, similarly, it would be OK for a woman to grasp a man's testicles

Dish

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN TELLING THE TRUTH AND TALKING TRASH



without his invitation. Not likely. Equally scary—though perhaps more expectable because it happened in the Navy—a woman petty officer has been told that she will be discharged if her boyfriend doesn't stop beating her up. Can you say "power of the patriarchy?" We know you can.

Thirty to One: A couple of weeks ago we mentioned that fact that Ann Landers was conducting a poll asking gay/lesbian readers to tell her whether they were glad to be gay or would rather be straight. We urged you to write Ann and you did. As of Ms. Landers' April 26 column, 75,875 folks had responded and almost 97 percent of them said that they were happy being gay. Ms. L. published a few of those responses. Our fave being one from a straight woman who said that she wished she was a lesbian because she found straight men to be "vain, exploitative, painfully self-absorbed and boring." Surely there is a dyke out there somewhere who is willing to do the homo "version of reparative" therapy with this woman.

Ad of the Week: Someone at Nabisco's ad agency has a verrrry camp sense of humor. TV and print ads for the giant bakery's new "Fat Free Fig Newtons" feature a woman who bears an eerie resemblance to Queen Elizabeth (underlaid with pentimento of the Queen Mum) saying, "Let them eat fat free fruit and cake." Across the bosom of the woman in question the words "Simulated Queen" are writ large. Dish hasn't yet tasted the cookies in question, but the ads are truly delicious. Not so much fun is the fact that the new Newton costs 33 percent more than its fat-free cousin and has 10 more calories per cookie.

Multicultural Beef: Progress comes in surprising packages. Its seems only a short time ago that Dish was taking the International Male catalog to task for the fact that its models all looked like they had just stepped directly out of a gym in Beverly Hills. Well, the vast majority of models are still (tanned and very pumped) white boys, but the summer issue does manage to include some extremely attractive Black and Hispanic men—also well pumped—and one dude who looks like the '90s version of '50s rough trade. There are even jeans, a T-shirt (worn by a white boy) and a necklace boldly embroidered with the letter "X." As in Malcolm, we assume. Our fave item in this issue? A stunning emerald green bikini—in crushed velvet. Would that we had the, er, guts to wear one.

May 7 - May 13, 1992

We are now in the fixed earth sign of Taurus, which can be a rather determined, passionate and yet stable sort of personality. Taurus represents that part of us that needs good solid roots in the Earth and stability in our immediate environment. This is a good time to take root.

Dear Friend **ARIES**, with Venus in your second house of personal income and material resources, you can count on definite opportunities for increase. However, this is not the time to go on a spending spree. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TAURUS**, if you haven't taken any time off for yourself in the past few months, then you should consider doing it now. This is your month and a perfect time for rest and recreation. Most **GEMINIS** know the secret of sustaining energy and a youthful perspective, by being hopeful and optimistic in heart and mind. However, it is also important to eat right, exercise and get enough rest.

CANCER intuition is a well-known fact, especially to their

STARSIGNS

close friends and family. It can also be used very effectively in business situations when some innovative common sense is sorely needed. **LEO**, don't ever underestimate the value and power of your ability to encourage other people. Stay within the bounds of sincerity and always remember to encourage yourself! Dear **VIRGO**, if you have been considering a healthier diet or some kind of exercise program, this is the time to do it. You may find it easier if you have an exercise buddy so you can encourage each other.

LIBRA, as we all know, money is important, but so is your peace of mind and sense of harmony and balance. If you are working in an environment that is upsetting or not supportive,

you may need to look elsewhere for something healthier. Dear **SCORPIO**, just because people don't always seem to understand your intensity or your intuitive mode of operation, doesn't mean you should try to be like anyone else but your wonderful Self! **SAGITTARIUS**, if you are feeling overwhelmed because you have taken on too much in the last few weeks, then it's time to sit down with a practical friend and set some priorities for yourself.

Dear **CAPRICORN**, if you are feeling stressed and absolutely stretched to the limit, then you need a break. Take at least 3 days, more if you can, and you'll find that your energy and perspective returns. **AQUARIUS**, this is an excellent time to make improvements on your home, clean out closets or paint. However, please don't try to do all the work yourself. **PISCES**, with all the major and minor changes going on in the world, you may be feeling overwhelmed with everyone's anxiety and frustration. Remember, you are sensitive to other people's thoughts and feelings.

MARY BAILEY RULE is a professional astrologer who specializes in personal, relationship and career interpretation. She can be reached at 264-6219.

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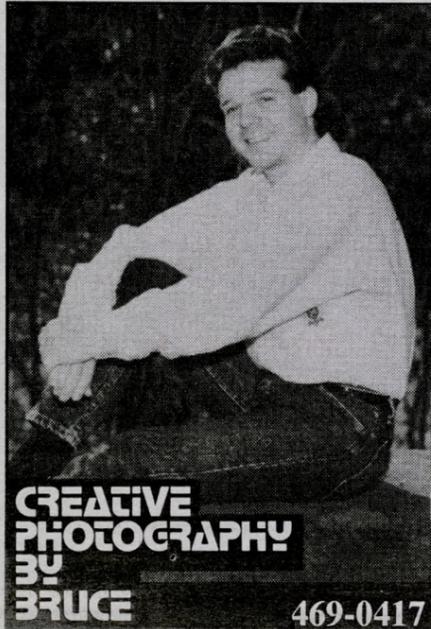
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469-0417

MARY WILLIAMS

Age: 44

How Long in Atlanta: 10 years

Relationship Status: Relating

Last Book Read: "Truth or Dare"
by Starhawk

Pet Peeve: Not enough time to get
everything done

"When I came out," comments Mary Williams, "I expected to be welcomed by a tribe of supportive women. Unfortunately, when you have three children, that just doesn't happen."

Mary is a single mother. Her children range in age from five to thirteen and she has a beef with the lesbian community. "A lot of lesbians have the freedom to do things on the spur of the moment, like for instance, a movie. When you have children it's a lot harder to be spontaneous, and there isn't a real understanding of this."

When Mary speaks there is a gentle firmness and quiet intelligence to what she says. Her appearance is captivating and she is beautiful in an understated and unassuming way. Her oval face and brown curls remind one of the radiance of a Botticelli painting.

And Mary has a lot of controversial opinions. "My ten year old daughter and I (Mary is out to her family and everyone else in her life) attend RhythmFest every year. The application says children are welcome and I pay for her to come. Yet there simply isn't awareness of the kids there. Women are very open with their sexuality and that's okay. But I feel kids are seeing things perhaps they're not ready to see. In a way this is a kind of abuse because there isn't awareness of how this could impact them."

She is also concerned about what she believes is an invisible discrimination toward her sons. "I definitely had the feeling that they were not welcome and they were treated like they weren't there."

The process has been slow, but within Mary's group of friends an understanding and bonding have taken place between her sons and their Godmothers. "It's okay," she emphasizes, "that role models be women. But children need that kind of Aunt Effy or Uncle Joe interaction. Like playing ball with them or taking them to the Zoo. It's a positive and wonderful experience, not negative."

Mary thinks that a lot of people are unable to deal with the energy level that children emanate. "Kids can be irritating and demanding—or wonderful and loving—it's just the way kids are and for the most part



lesbians are not used to that and can't seem to adjust."

Mary is careful to explain that her comments are not meant as a call to action. "I just want a dialogue, an understanding, so that all children of lesbians, male and female, feel safe within the community." Some of Mary's friends are adopting children and she thinks as there are more lesbian mothers, attitudes will change.

Mary grew up in Morgantown, West Virginia. A love of mountains and nature has pervaded her entire life and being. She attended West Virginia University and received an undergraduate degree in Psychology and a Masters in Counseling.

Before her divorce she and her husband lived in Oakland, Maryland, a small mountain community that she thought "would be good for the kids." Seeking a warmer climate and the energy of the big city, the family moved to Atlanta. Her coming out and divorce followed soon after the move South. While Mary was granted full custody of the children, she believes her ex-husband continues to play an important part in their upbringing.

Mary has recently established a practice in Inman Park that combines the healing arts of touch and counseling. "I decided to combine the two because they are so interrelated. A massage can make a person feel great but if it is their mental state that is causing the body problems in the first place, the pain will return."

And like a body that is balanced, in which all parts work together, Mary would like to see this harmonious approach extend into the community. "I don't believe in nouns, I believe in verbs—and everything is a continuing process."

IAN W. GINSBURG



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Want to meet new friends and have community? Enjoy new activities? Join the day program at Common Ground for people living with HIV/AIDS. Mon-Fri, 10:30-3:30. Call 874-6425 for information. Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network.

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

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AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN - 888-9991 - new project of the Feminist Women's Health Ctr. Learn how HIV is transmitted, testing locations, how to clean your "works," how to use condoms, dental dams or anything about HIV and AIDS. Trained phone counselors 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri, 10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anonymity assured. To volunteer call Tonia at 874-7551.

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HIV+ Narcotics Anonymous (NA) for African Am. Wed. eve., transportation avail; Family support group for loved ones of HIV+ African Am.; "Latex Lovers" sex-pos. HIV prevention prog. for GBM (need volunteers also); **FREE ANONYMOUS HIV TESTS**, counselling, referral (minority cultural sensitivity) begins mid Feb. For confidential info call **OUTREACH, INC.** 346-3922.

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.

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

AIDSCHAIM: Congregation Bet Haverim sponsors a support group for those affected by the AIDS crisis. Meets the 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7:30pm, Friends Meeting House, 701 W. Howard St., Decatur. Info/Directions? Edie, 642-3467.

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

P.O.O.H. - Positive Outlook On Health is a supportive network of HIV+ persons who share positive health attitudes and want to meet similarly oriented people for social and emotional interaction. Call 872-9954.

THE ATLANTA BUYERS CLUB (ABC). Open from 12-5PM Tues-Fri, and 10AM to 1PM on Sat. (closed Mon.). ABC provides access to alternate treatment for the HIV community in the Southeast, and we are located at 44 Twelfth St, NW, two blocks west of Peachtree. Call (404) 874-4845, or PO Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357.

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.

200 Announcement

Southern Voice is looking for a few good writers for feature stories, interviews and news analysis. Experience needed. Low pay, but looks good on your resume. Call Chris at 876-0789 for an appt. (5.12)

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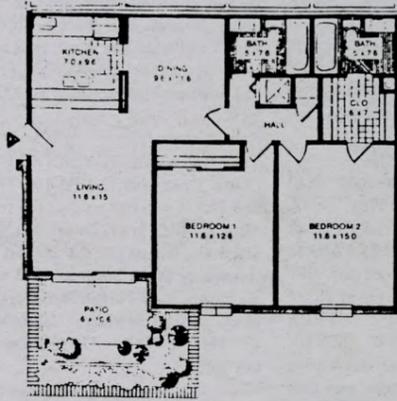
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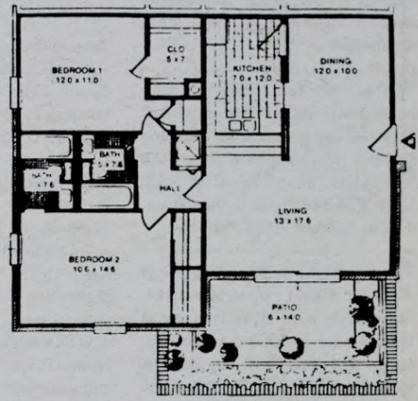
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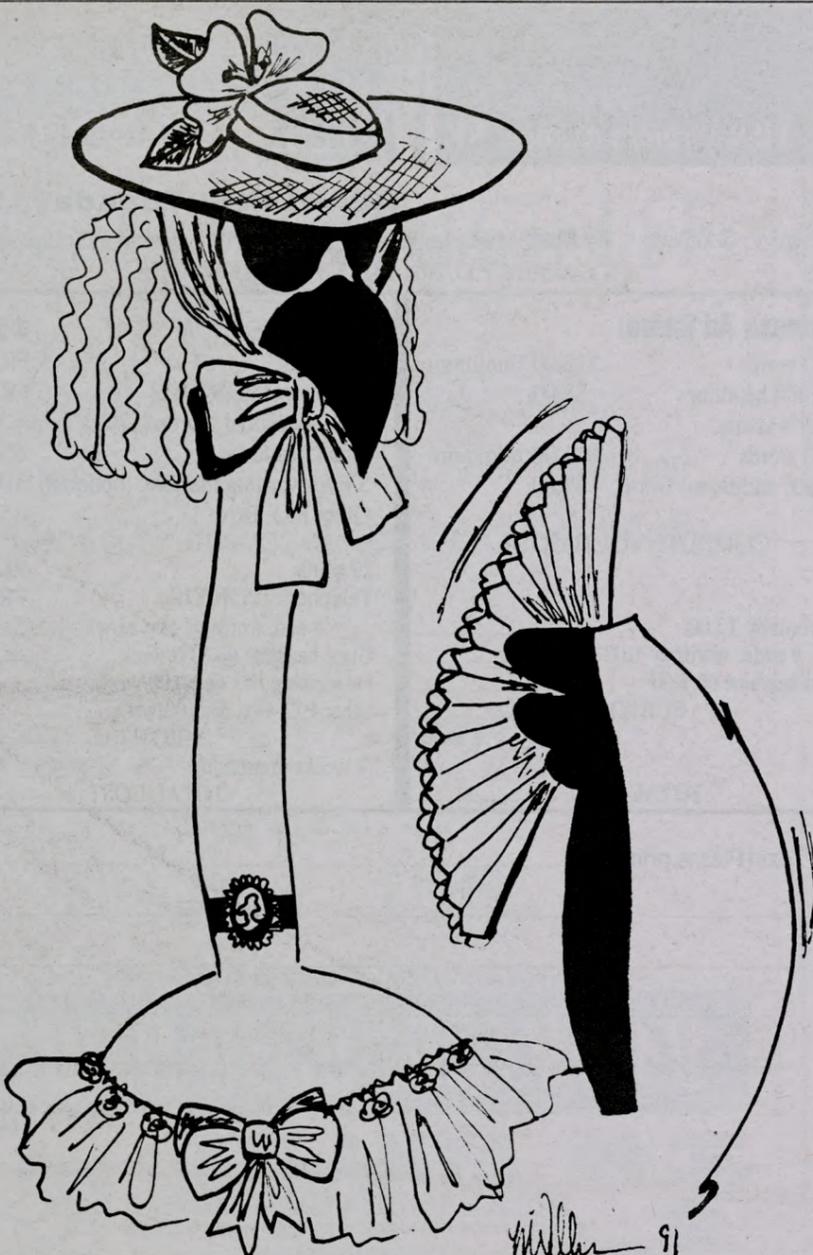
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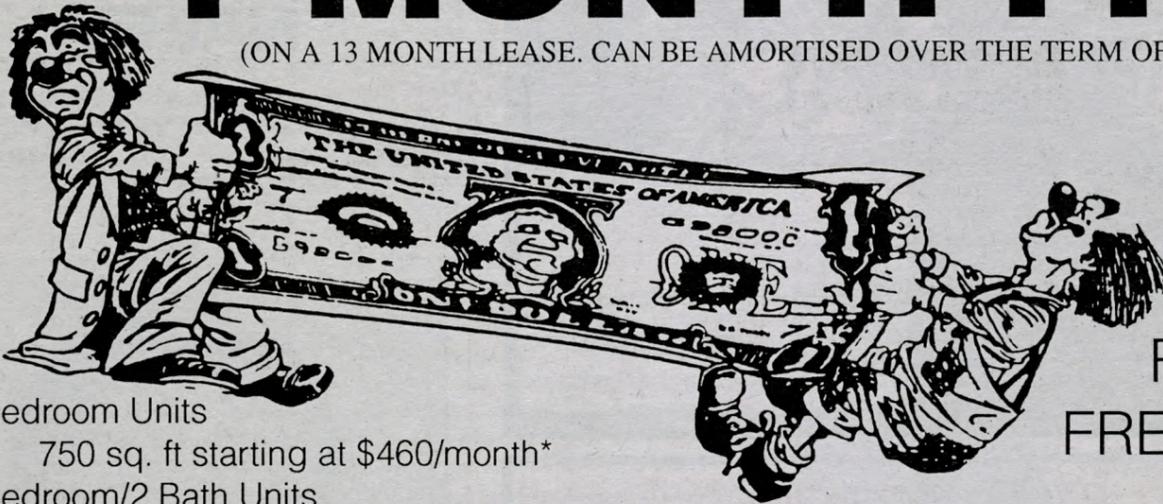
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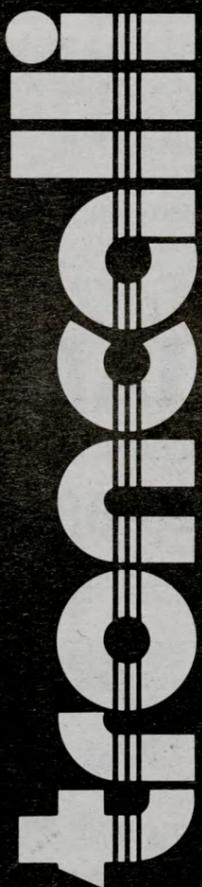


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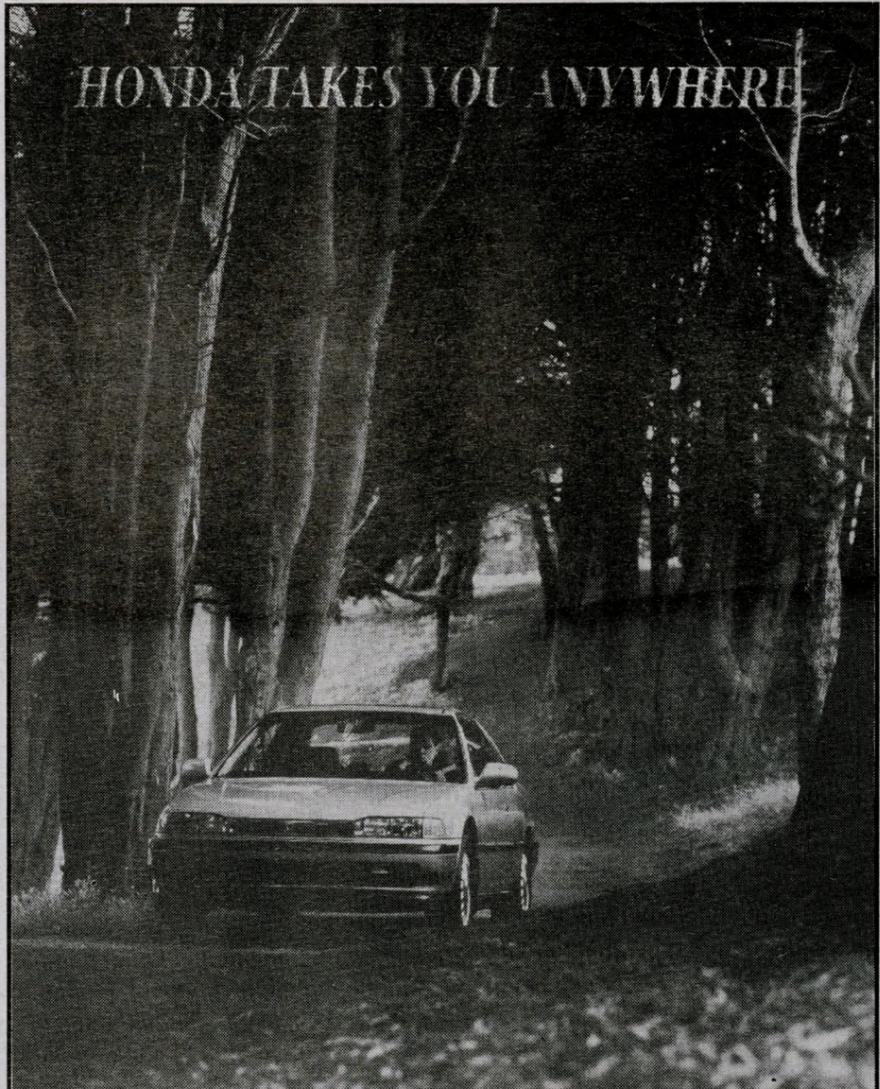
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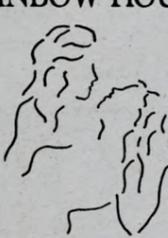
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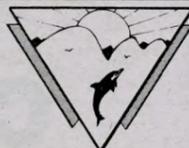
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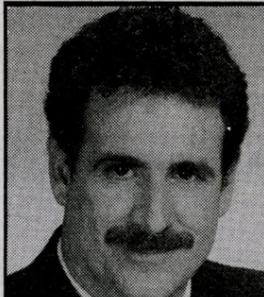
1600 Volunteer

Volunteers are desperately needed at the Atlanta Rehabilitation Center located at 1599 Memorial Drive in Atlanta. Positions are available in the following units; counseling, adult education, workshop and clerical. Please call 378-7591 and leave message for Ms. Rayona Bray. (5.9)

Volunteer Counselors are needed for Grady's Infectious Disease Clinic. Help orient new patients to HIV, clinic services, and healthful living skills. Contact John H. Templeton at 616-2440.

AID Atlanta is recruiting volunteers to become facilitators for SAFE SEX Parties in the gay community. These parties are lots of fun. Also volunteers to conduct safer sex/risk reduction workshops. Call Pat Grindel for information —872-0600. Volunteers needed in various areas of AIDS service and education. Training provided. Call AID Atlanta, 872-0600.

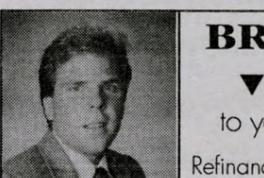
American Hospice is seeking a few heroes to work with AIDS patients and their families, assisting with shopping, reading, being a friend. If you can volunteer a few hours a week, call us. 698-8000.



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

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



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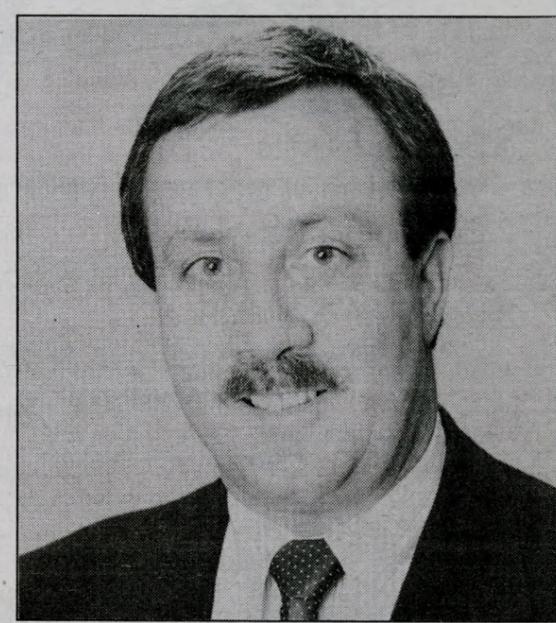


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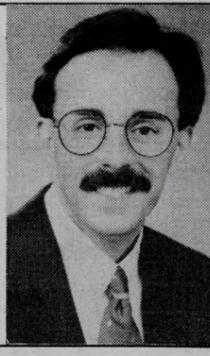
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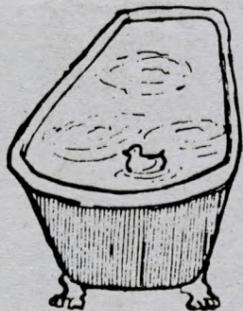
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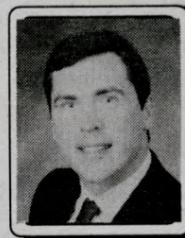
First, learn how much buyers have been willing to pay for homes similar to yours. Recent completed sales will provide this information. Next, check the prices on comparable homes for sale now - your competition. Finally, price your home to reflect the value it offers.



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CLASSIFIEDS

1700 Voice Connection

1701 Men

WM 34 wants to blow you to Buffalo and charm you with sparkling Southern wit. 6 foot, 165, short black hair, avg build, good looks. ☎ 50019

Attractive, trim, EZgoing GWM, good at massage. Good VCR flicks. Lay back and enjoy. All messages receive quick response. ☎ 50020

GWM, Successful retired writer, youthful personality, romantic but not possessive, seeks masculine, motivated, attractive, 18-30, to start new life / love, wisdom & all material advantages. Letter / photo. P.O. Box 1557, Naples, FL 33939. (5.12)

Sensitive GBM, bottom, 26, 5'10" seeks attractive GWM, 19-39, TOP, well endowed and romantic. For friendship, maybe more. No fems or bar flies. ☎ 50009

GWM, 32, attractive, tall & interesting with dark short hair & moustache seeking an attractive well-endowed GBM for fun & excitement. Age not an issue and all responses will be answered. ☎ 50011

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. ☎ 50012

GWM seeks Male submissives. You will live with me and for me. ☎ 50004

1702 Women

GBF, very tall, progressive looking, love variety, sucker for emotions, romantic surprises and corny movies. Favorites are dancing, talking from the mind and heart, eating, socializing, and life itself. Seeking woman with self-pride, crazy-streaked and monogamous. I want to learn and grow with someone. ☎ 50018

Hot, sexy black female, 21 years, seeks same for fun, friendship & more. It's my first experience. Call & leave a message ☎ 50017

Reach over 37,000 CALL TODAY!

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TO PLACE FREE AD

Simply fill out the classified order form at the beginning of this section. 20 WORD MESSAGE FREE. You may have an SV forwarding mailbox for \$10.00 or you may elect to use your own PO Box for \$5.00. Mail or drop off your completed order form with payment at our offices.

A simple instruction sheet will be mailed to you which will enable you to record your spoken message AT NO COST.

TO RESPOND

Check each week's paper for ads which interest you. Choose ad(s) with the symbol ☎ and call 1-900-454-2466. The system will guide you to the recorded message of your choice. Listen to the spoken ad and then leave your response.

Cost to you will be \$1.29 per minute charged to your phone bill.

TO RESPOND
1-900-454-2466 \$1.29/min.

GWF 31. Me- slim, very attractive, physically fit, books, music, movies, beaches, independent, sometimes professional but not mainstream. You- attractive, slim, non-smoker, active, feminine, independent, comfortable w/sexuality. No drugs, Bi's. Let's talk! ☎ 50001

GWF, 30, professional, new to Atlanta. If you are looking for a wine & roses lady w/a good sense of humor, sensual nature & a try-anything-once attitude, call me and throw caution to the wind. ☎ 50016

Progressive, good-looking, sensible, kind, professional GWF, 35, seeks same; ages 30-42, for friendship and possibly romance. Seeking a woman who is confident, attractive, honest and has a kind heart. No drugs, boozers, or smokers. ☎ 50002

GWF, 32, independent, intelligent, attractive, sincere. Enjoy outdoors, music, theatre, art, travel, good wine, and quiet evenings at home. If you share my tastes and are ready to engage in a loving and trusting relationship, Call—tell me about yourself. ☎ 50006

Do you like walking in the rain on hot summer nights? Do you like romantic dinners? Not into drugs or bar scene? Call me. GWF, 26, looking to meet GWF between 21-? for friendship, possible romance. ☎ 50003

WANTED: Passionate, intelligent woman, mid 30's, of a literary bent, somewhat butch, unafraid of commitment. Eccentricity a plus. I'm 34, beautiful enough, bright as hell, very dulled out by Jane Doe after Jane Doc. Call me if you're not neurotic. ☎ 50008

GWF, 22, very professional seeks GWF for friendship, fun, and possible relationship. I am tired of all of the games. So you have to be serious! No bisexuals, no drugs! ☎ 50010

Wanted: Virago. Not Virgo. Virago. If you know what this means without running to a dictionary first, then you're the one for me. ☎ 50007

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. ☎ 50013

1703 TV/TS

TV/TS, she-male, Feminine guy or aggressive lady sought by masculine black male (40 years) for first experience. Am disease-free, professional and average looking (+). Serious replies only. Possible relationship. Let's at least talk. ☎ 50005



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- Leathermen
- Crossdressers
- Black Men
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Phone Zone, 322 Mall Blvd. #166, Monroeville, PA

**IF NO ANSWER, CALL...
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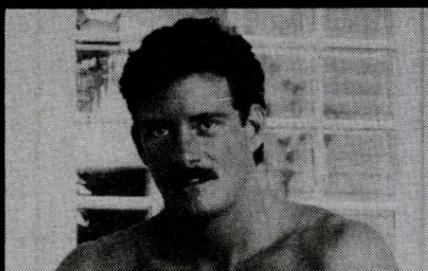
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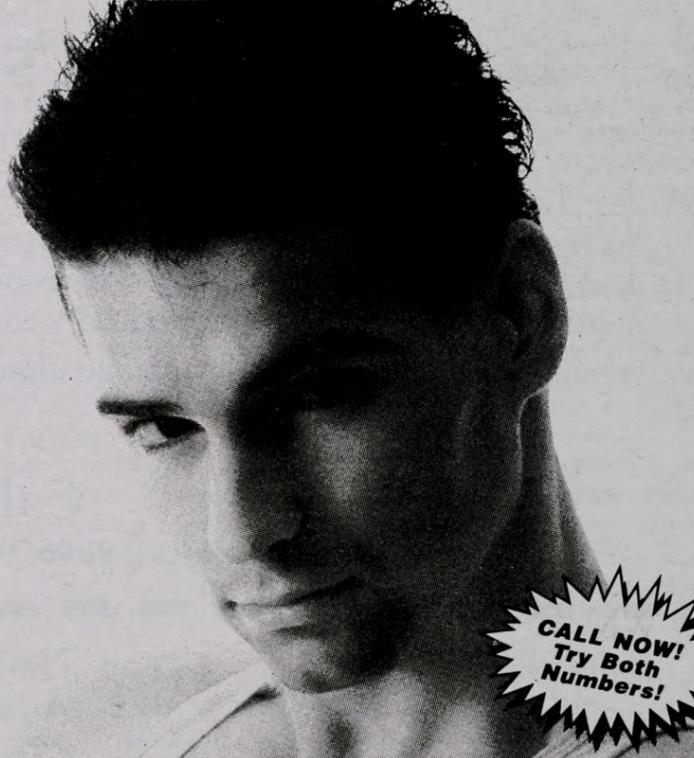
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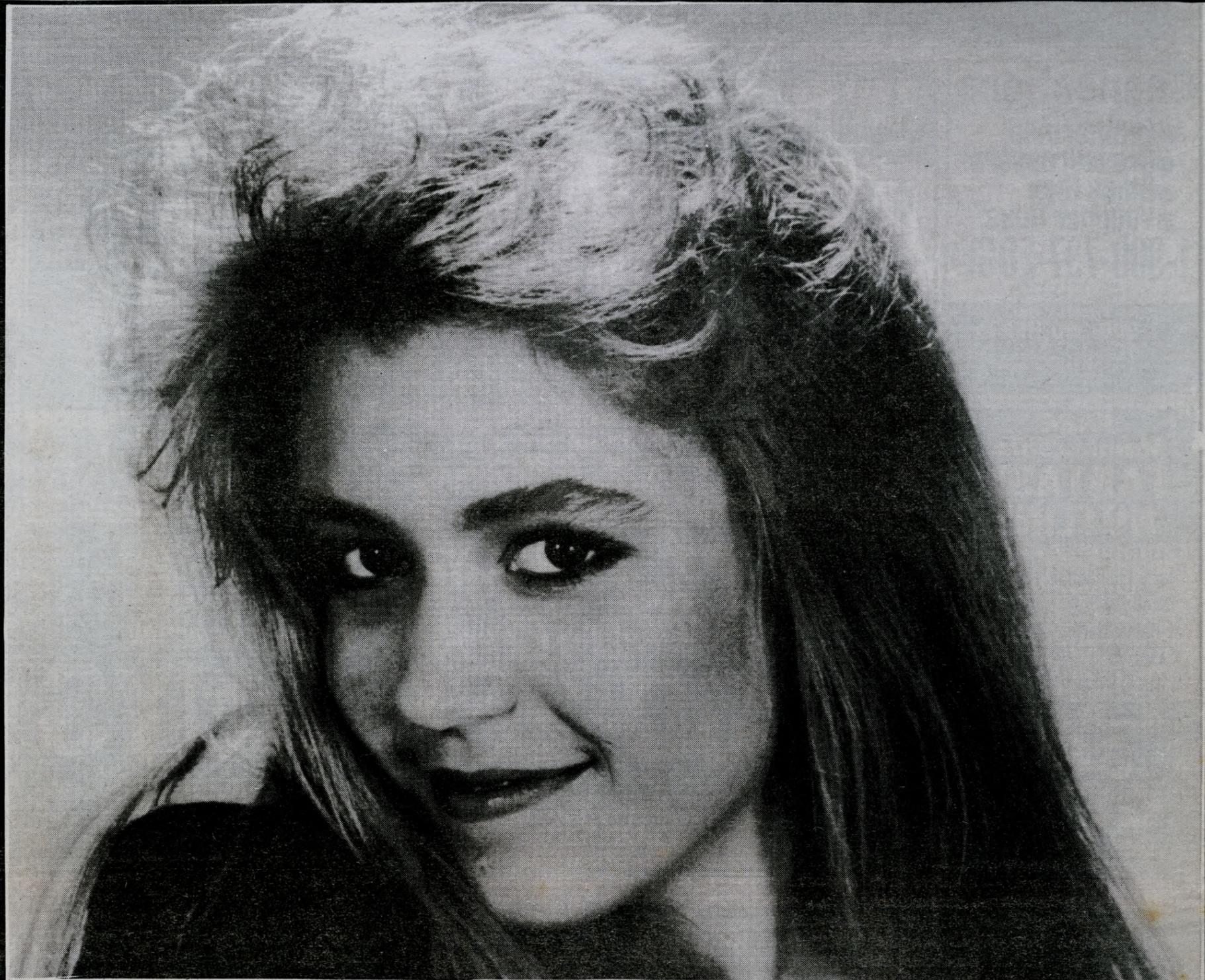
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