

# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

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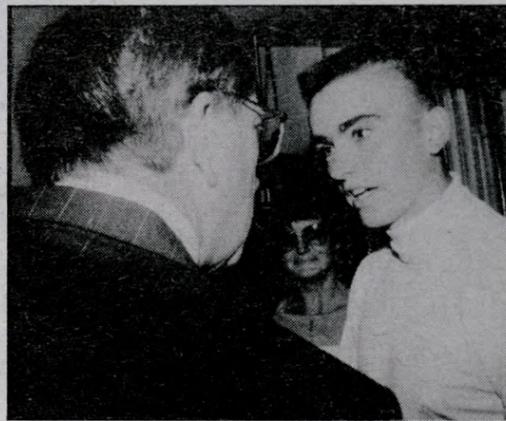
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## Desert Storm Soldier Comes Out

Jason Skerik, who served in the Persian Gulf War, and is currently a military policeman stationed at Ft. Gordon, Ga., publicly came out last week. He is pictured here talking to Senator Sam Nunn at a Democratic breakfast just before making his announcement on Sept. 3.



Atlanta—A year and a half ago, Jason Skerik was on the front lines of the Persian Gulf War. Now the Fort Gordon, Ga. soldier is on the front lines in the fight to overturn the U.S. Department of Defense's ban on gays and lesbians in the military.

The 21-year-old Army specialist stood in front of reporters, supporters and his own mother last week and told them all that he is gay. At a press conference in front of the Richard B. Russell Federal Building in downtown Atlanta on Sept. 3, Skerik acknowledged that his admission "will result in my discharge from the service, a choice not of mine, but of the military's alone." Later, Skerik said that he simply didn't want to live "always looking over my shoulder."

Earlier on Thursday morning, at a Democratic Party breakfast to boost the re-election campaign of Wyche Fowler, Skerik introduced himself to Georgia Senators Sam Nunn and Fowler as a "gay serviceman." Both Senators thanked him for "service" to his country.

"We're excited about Jason," said Tanya Domi, legislative director of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America (GLBVA), "because we wanted to target Nunn."

### Senator Nunn hints at hearings on ban

The senior Georgia Senator is the chair of the Senate's Armed Services Committee, and as such has been lobbied by HRCF as well as GLBVA to begin hearings on the DoD policy. Nunn told HRCF representatives earlier this summer that he would consider doing so, and at Thursday morning's breakfast, he reiterated that to GLBVA/Georgia president Del Temple.

"He said that he's already talked to Sen. Metzenbaum [who introduced the Senate version of the bill repealing the DoD ban] about hearings, and that they are seriously considering holding them next year," he said. "He wants to get credible witnesses on both sides, and hold hearings in a 'non-circus-like environment,' is the way he put it."

Temple spoke to Nunn after the speeches. Prior to the speeches, Nunn and Fowler both acknowledged gays and lesbians in the crowd but refused to speak at length.

Skerik, currently serving as a Military Policeman at Fort Gordon near Augusta, is the third gay person in the military to publicly come out in the last 30 days, the seventh since the discharge of Col. Margrethe Cammermeyer last May. With legislation introduced into both houses of Congress and increasing public sentiment that the ban is not fair, opponents of the DoD's ban are more confident than ever that the prohibition will fall.

"We've never been at this juncture before," said Tanya Domi, legislative director of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America. "We have a presidential nominee [Bill Clinton] who has said he would repeal the policy, a bill in the House, a bill in the Senate...it is really, really remarkable, in terms of the history of the issue, just how far we have come."

### Fed up with ban, military gays come out in record numbers

The "history of the issue" is a long one rife with

tales of harassment, discrimination and investigations for gays and lesbians in the armed services. Only one serviceman, Perry Watkins, has ever won a court case against the government for his discharge. Watkins won because he was able to prove that he had been candid about his sexual orientation from the start of his service, and had in fact re-enlisted with his commanding officers aware of his sexuality.

The last seven gays and lesbians to come out, however, have heralded a change. All seven have publicly challenged the DoD's ban, charging that the ban is discriminatory and has no basis in reality.

The ban was put into effect during World War II, ostensibly because homosexuals, virtually all closeted at the time, were considered to be particularly susceptible to blackmail. That argument doesn't hold water in the 90s, say activists, and in fact even Sec. of Defense Dick Cheney, while upholding the ban, called the reasoning an "old chestnut." Nunn and other proponents of the ban generally, including Joint Chiefs of Staff chair Gen. Colin Powell, now claim that homosexuality is "bad for morale," usually citing a "privacy" issue, saying that heterosexual soldiers would be uncomfortable in close contact with gays and lesbians.

Gay veterans say that just isn't true.

### Top brass want gays kept out

"It's the top brass who have the problem," said Temple, who is a 7 and a half year Air Force veteran discharged for being gay in 1987. "The rest, for the most part, do not care."

Jason Skerik agrees. "It's not that people are complaining, writing statements that 'I don't want to work with this guy because he's gay,'" he said. "My straight friends knew and we got along fine."

"It was something I didn't openly discuss," Skerik said, "but [commanding officers] knew, and didn't care. I can recall once we had a meeting with the whole platoon, and the platoon sergeant was talking about rumors. He said 'I'm sick and tired of these rumors about this person being gay, and that person being gay. It doesn't matter. Just drop it.'"

### Encouraged to come out by courage of other gay vets

Skerik said he decided to come out publicly shortly after his transfer from Bremerhaven, Germany, to Fort Gordon.

"I just didn't want to live my life constantly looking over my shoulder," he said, "afraid they would be watching me. I thought about it a lot over the summer, and decided to [publicly announce his sexual orientation]."

Skerik said that he was heartened by the other gays and lesbians coming out, and encouraged by the support he received from gay and lesbian veterans once he'd made the decision. Additionally, Skerik's family is behind him.

"It's his business. I'm fully supportive of my son," said the specialist's mother, Terry Skerik, who flew in for the press conference from her home in Crescent City, California. "The whole family supports him. You know you raise a child to be happy, and if his happiness includes homosexuality, then that's fine. I love him, and I'm proud of him."

CONTINUES ON PAGE 8



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This program is supported in part by the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs, the Fulton County Commission under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council, by the Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly, and by the continued generosity of individual donors. "The Harvey Milk Show", copyright © 1991, Pruitt and Hutchison / Poster design by Dan Pruitt

## Atlanta gays and lesbians mobilize to elect Bill Clinton

Atlanta, GA—On September 20th, hundreds of Atlantans will attend house parties as part of a national effort to mobilize gay and lesbian support for the Clinton/Gore campaign and enlist new Human Rights Campaign Fund members.

The parties, sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), will take place in the homes of over 125 HRCF members across the country. Atlanta will play host to at least thirty of the parties.

"It's more than just a fund raising effort," says Human Rights Campaign Fund Development Associate Donald O'Higgins. "September 20th will be a terrific opportunity to enlist our friends' support in the battle for the White House. We'll be comparing the failures of the Bush administration to Clinton's pro-gay/lesbian stance and encouraging everyone to volunteer and vote for the Clinton ticket."

According to Human Rights Campaign Fund Presidential Project Manager Paul Cooper, the job of recruiting supporters from the gay and lesbian community has actually gotten easier thanks to the anti-gay tone of the Republican National Convention. "Pat Buchanan's homophobic tirade served as a wake-up call to many lesbians and gays," states Cooper. "It is obvious that Bush has thrown in with bigots in a desperate attempt to get reelected."

"In Houston, Bush and his friends on the far right used the 'family values' theme to exclude loyal, patriotic Americans," continues Cooper. "Lesbians and gay men are fighting back and organizing ourselves for this campaign. These house parties show we will not be locked out of the American dream."

The events are dubbed "A Big Party for a Big Time"—an allusion to Bill Clinton's remarks at a gay fund raiser in Los Angeles. At that event, Clinton said, "This country is being killed by people who are trying to break us down and tear us up. We have to be big. This is a big time. Let us rise to the challenge."

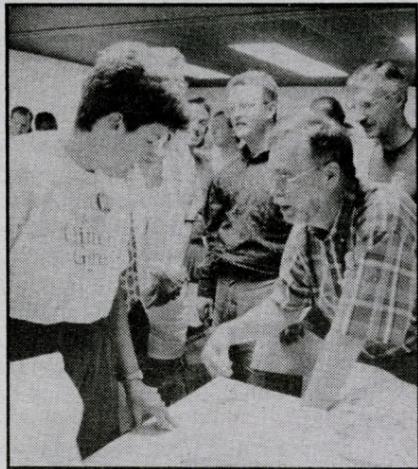
Readers interested in hosting a house party and/or contributing to the Human Rights Campaign Fund Presidential Project should call Donald O'Higgins at (202) 628-4160.

Those interested in attending a party and/or receiving more information about the HRCF Presidential Project should contact Atlanta HRCF Field Associate Don George at (404) 231-5751.

### Voter registration

In related news, a newly launched voter registration drive is attempting to add record numbers of gays and lesbians to Fulton County voter registration rolls.

The drive, sponsored by Legislative Equality for Gays and Lesbians (LEGAL) and the Fulton County Office of Voter Registration,



ELLEN GARDNER-COOK

**A recent organizing event for Human Rights Campaign Fund members to get involved with the Clinton/Gore campaign drew over 80 participants.**

expects to make over 1,000 new gay voters eligible to participate in the November 3rd presidential election.

"We know that some of Atlanta's lesbians and gays feel left out of the political process and never even register to vote," says LEGAL volunteer and Field Deputy Registrar Pat Allen. "That's why we'll be taking our drive out into the community where gays will be able to reclaim their rights and register without intimidation or inconvenience."

According to Human Rights Campaign Fund Public Policy Advocate Cathy Woolard, these Georgia voter registration efforts could be of critical importance to the outcome of the fall election. "Georgia is shaping up to be a very important state," claims Woolard. "The gay and lesbian vote could be the deciding factor in several key races, if we can get our voters registered and out to the polls on November 3rd."

LEGAL representative Bob Bridges shares the belief that voter registration is especially important this election year. "Our federal, state and county officials are making decisions that are of life and death importance to many in the gay community," states Bridges. "Getting lesbians and gays onto the voter registration rolls has got to be a top priority."

In all, some 20 newly sworn gay and lesbian registrars will be out signing up voters at a variety of cultural and civic events. Their efforts will culminate October 4 at the "From All Walks of Life AIDS Walk '92" where they'll be registering voters from noon to 5pm.

While this drive can only register residents of Fulton County, residents of other counties can register to vote at local area banks and libraries. They'll also be able to register directly at their county voter registration office.

Metro area registration offices can be reached at the following numbers: Clayton—477-3372; Cobb—528-2300; DeKalb—371-2241; Douglas—461-6041; Gwinnett—822-8787; Henry—785-5947.

The registration deadline for Georgians wishing to vote in the November 3rd election is October 5.

last month after the Hospital Authority voted to purchase the old Presbyterian Center on Ponce de Leon Avenue for its Infectious Disease Clinic. Many residents and business owners along the Ponce corridor are opposed to the move.

"Nobody except people with AIDS can tell the court what the clinic means to people with AIDS," said Chip Rowan, an attorney with the AIDS Legal Project of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society and one of the attorneys who filed the motion on September 3. "And nobody with AIDS is a party to the Corridor

CONTINUED TOP OF NEXT COLUMN

Association's lawsuit."

AIDS activists and advocates in Atlanta support Grady's attempts to move the clinic, citing long waiting lists at the current location caused by lack of space for additional clinic workers. Grady bought the 90,000 sq. ft. building in early August, and has now requested pre-qualifiers to design and build the new facility. The Association's lawsuit is an attempt to stop the move on the grounds that the facility violates city zoning codes.

"We want the court to be informed about the impact this has on people with HIV," said

Rowan, "and to move this case quickly."

"We feel that filing this motion is significant," he added. "Never before in my knowledge have people with AIDS tried to intervene in a lawsuit to represent their own interests. We want people with AIDS to use all means, including legal ones, to do that."

Rowan's clients also filed a motion to dismiss the Corridor Association's lawsuit. The suit could be heard in Fulton County Superior Court by the end of this year.

KC WILDMOON

## Activists urge CDC to adopt broader definition of AIDS

ACT UP/Atlanta demonstrated outside the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on Sept. 2, urging the CDC to expand its definition of AIDS to include symptomatic illnesses especially peculiar to women.

The demonstration, attended by 20 ACT UP members, was held during a planned open meeting of the CDC where information from clinicians was heard in consideration of expanding the AIDS surveillance case definition.

During the meeting it was brought to light that women and injection drug users are denied access to clinical drug trials, benefits, and even basic care because specific diseases

such as chronic pelvic inflammatory disease, rapidly progressing cervical cancer, and pulmonary tuberculosis are not part of the AIDS case definition.

The CDC was supposed to issue its new AIDS definition on July 1, but delayed it when activists said the definition was not broad enough. During the public comment period on the proposed expansion, Nov. 1, 1991 through Feb. 14, 1992, the CDC received more than 150 individual responses and more than 11,000 form letters or postcards.

The definition was last updated in 1987, and could add 160,000 people to the nation's overall AIDS toll which now stands at 250,000.

E. BENNETT



**ACT UP/Atlanta urges the CDC to broaden its definition of AIDS to include opportunistic infections of HIV+ women.**

## Gay Peace Corps worker may have been murdered

Washington, D.C.—Investigations by Amnesty International, family members, and others show that a gay Peace Corps employee visiting Guatemala to bring a male friend back here may have been murdered, and his death covered up by a U.S.-backed conspiracy.

Bill Yost, 44, died of mysterious gunshot wounds in a Mexican immigration detention center Aug. 15, wounds that a Pennsylvania funeral director said could not have been self-inflicted as officials claim.

Yost's friends and family, stonewalled by Mexican, U.S. Embassy, and Peace Corps officials, charge that a cover-up is underway because leaders in both governments want to forego diplomatic friction.

The North American Free Trade agreement, approved by the U.S., Canada, and

Mexico on Aug. 12, must be okayed by the three countries' legislatures. Congress will challenge whether Mexico is a reliable partner, lending credence to Yost family members' charges.

"We don't know if Bill was murdered," said Yost's sister Susan Straley of Belefonte, Pa. "We've gotten the autopsy reports from the embassy, but they're all in Spanish," she said calmly, but in clear exasperation.

Officials at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City and Mexican authorities refused comment, claiming each other is responsible for issuing details.

Amnesty International investigator Diego Zavala said many people have died in Mexican police custody, with their deaths attributed to suicide.

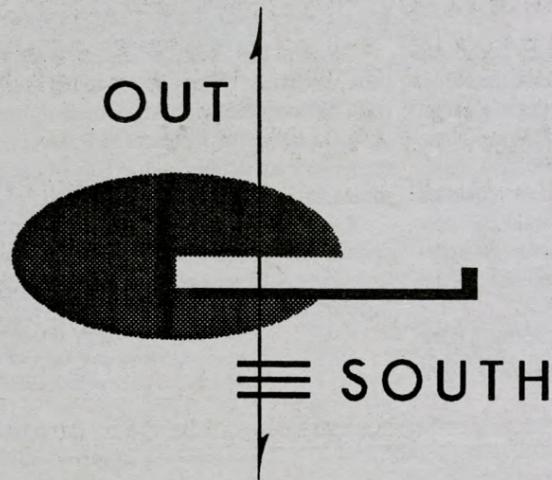
Yost's friends and family members called the idea of suicide ludicrous, and pledged to seek a complete probe of his death.

JOHN ZEH

## PWAs file motion to prevent lawsuit against Grady IDC move to Ponce

Atlanta—Attorneys representing three men with AIDS and the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS have filed a "motion to intervene" in the lawsuit filed by the Ponce de Leon Corridor Association against the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority.

The Corridor Association filed its lawsuit



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## Louisiana activists out Congressman

Shreveport, LA—U.S. Rep. Jim McCrery, R-LA, has denied claims by gay activists that he had gay affairs while maintaining anti-gay positions in Congress.

McCrery, a two term Congressman running for re-election, was outed by enraged Shreveport constituents on August 31, in advance of a cover story in The Advocate proclaiming the Congressman's homosexuality. The issue, dated September 22, carries a picture of McCrery on the cover with the headline: "The Outing of a Family Values Congressman."

Shreveport ACT UP members held a press conference to announce the magazine's latest exposé. "It was super," said ACT UP spark-plug Bobby Darrow. "Five of our most active members dressed up in coats and ties," he said, "prompting one reporter to say we all looked like Republicans!"

"And outside, some 50 Shreveport police in riot gear lined the street because the daily Shreveport Times had previewed the event."

McCrery's office issued a statement Monday and said it would be the congressman's final response on the subject.

"The sleazy attacks which I have had to endure for the last four years, and now my wife is having to live through, capped by this disgusting article, should not have to be endured by anyone, in or out of public office," the statement said.

McCrery has denied similar accusations since his first campaign in 1988, when an opponent asked him if he was gay. Louisiana newspaper correspondents on Capitol Hill, alerted last spring to McCrery's alleged sexual

orientation and anti-gay, anti-choice voting record by ACT UP/National Capital, did not report the outing, according to DC activists.

"It's time the media starts telling the truth and stops treating homosexuality as so horrible that they can't talk about it," said Margaret Cantrell, who put up posters outing McCrery last spring without hullabaloo.

Examination of Capitol Hill legislators' voting and sponsorship records by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force gave McCrery a disappointing 14 score for the 102nd Congress, compared to 64 in the 101st, and 63 in the 100th.

McCrery is not a co-sponsor of the bill to give gays and lesbians federal civil rights protections nor one to overturn the Department of Defense ban on them serving in the military, Petrelis said.

People for the American Way, another progressive but mainstream lobby, logged McCrery's five "anti-choice" votes on reproductive rights bills during the 101st session.

"Originally Rep. McCrery was better on our issues," said William Waybourn of the National Victory Fund, which raises money for pro- or openly gay and lesbian candidates. "But with the Republican Party's recent emphasis on so-called 'family values,' we've become expendable."

McCrery faces opposition from Democrat Rep. Jerry Huckaby, first elected to Congress in 1976. The two were thrown into the same district by reapportionment this year. Three other candidates are also on the October 3 ballot for the seat. They are L.D. Knox, an independent who once changed his name to None of the Above, Republican Donal Milton, and Democrat Robert Thompson.

JOHN ZEH

## Lesbian couple in Florida fight to be- come foster parents

Tampa, FL (AP)—Florida's child welfare agency is fighting an attempt by a lesbian couple to become licensed foster parents.

The state Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services allows gays and lesbians to serve as foster parents—unless they live together as a couple, HRS attorney Jack Farley told a Hillsborough circuit judge during a hearing on August 31. HRS would also fight attempts at foster parenting by a heterosexual couple living together, Farley said.

The agency is fighting an attempt by Bonnie Lynn Matthews and Elaine Kohler, two mental health counselors, to become foster parents. Matthews and Kohler sued HRS two weeks ago because they want to care for a 6-year-old boy the state placed in their home under a temporary license, then took away after two months when the agency learned they are gay.

"He was our kid. We were his moms,"

Kohler said after the hearing. The Tampa couple have been together about two years and have received tremendous support from co-workers and family members, she said.

Their attorney asked Judge Gasper Ficarrotta to immediately appoint a guardian ad litem to look out for the best interests of the child referred to in court papers as "M.C.," after his favorite rap star, M.C. Hammer. Ficarrotta said he would rule on the request by the attorney, Lora Smeltzly, this week.

The couple also want the right to complete the HRS training classes for foster parents, and Farley said they could. The women said they withdrew because HRS said there was no reason for them to continue.

But HRS still won't place a child with them unless "they change their unmarried couple status," Farley said.

The women should be considered single, and HRS has no right to peek into their bedroom, argued Smeltzly.

In Broward County this month, HRS licensed a lesbian to be a foster parent. But in that case, the woman, Sharon McCracken, is single, officials have said.

## Catholic bishop in South Carolina refuses to allow homophobia seminars in churches

Columbia, SC (AP)—Two seminars on homosexual issues, on August 31 and September 1, had to be moved after a bishop objected to holding them at Roman Catholic churches. The seminars, "Homophobia in Religion and Society," were planned for Monday at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Columbia and Tuesday at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston.

But Bishop David Thompson of the Catho-

lic Diocese of Charleston objected that the programs "would not be in the best interest of the church," even though they were co-sponsored by the Catholic Charities of the diocese.

The lectures are by the church-affiliated Center for Homophobia Education in Hyattsville, Md., which has conducted similar seminars for more than 15-years, said Sister Jeannine Gramick, one of the seminar leaders.

"We have presented this program in nearly all of the dioceses across the country," she said. "This is only one of a few times that this has happened."

She said she and the Rev. Robert Nugent are assigned to the ministry by the church. The programs were moved to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Columbia and the Circular Congregational Church in Charleston.

**Gay Rights Added Back To Calif. Civil Rights Bill:**

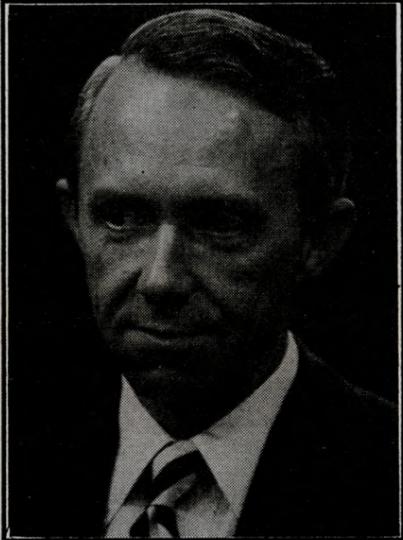
The California Legislature passed a sweeping civil rights bill on August 31 that includes job and housing protection for gays and lesbians. The Senate last week passed a version of Assembly Speaker Willie Brown's bill that eliminated protections for gays and lesbians, but Brown succeeded in restoring the provisions. The bill has now gone to Gov. Pete Wilson, who has given no indication that he will sign it into law. Last year, Wilson vetoed a gay civil rights bill, touching off many demonstrations, some of them violent, in California.

**Two Women Injured Outside Michigan Fest:** Two women were critically injured outside the Michigan Women's Music Festival on August 10 when they were struck by a van driving by lined-up vehicles waiting to get into festival grounds. The two women, Ama Zenya from Tascadero, California, and Amy Gaston of Potomac, Maryland, were air-lifted to a trauma care unit in Grand Rapids. Doctors say that both women should fully recover from their injuries. No charges were filed against the 21-year old driver of the van, Richard Wood, although some witnesses reported that they had seen Wood and his four passengers drinking at a tavern in a neighboring town for some time before the accident.

**Partners Of Gay Ontarians To Get Benefits:** An independent board of inquiry in Ontario, Canada, has ruled that the Ontario government must extend survivor benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian government employees. The board ruled that even though denial of the benefits was allowed under Ontario's human rights code, such a denial violated the Canadian Charter of Rights. "It's a historic day in the province," said activist Michael Leshneer, a lawyer in the Ministry of the Attorney General.

**Minister Who Performed Gay Union Turns Down Promotion:** A United Methodist pastor has turned down a promotion after she and four other ministers whipped up a frenzy with their participation in a union between two gay men in Indianapolis. The Rev. Ilon Sabo-Shuler had been named the superintendent over 75 churches in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area, but she turned down the offer, saying that she didn't want the religious firestorm to spread to Michigan. Indiana's bishop, Leroy Hodapp, issued a public warning to his clergy not to perform any ceremonies even resembling a marriage between gays or lesbians.

**Justice Souter's Votes On Gay Issues Good As Any Liberal:** The Washington Blade reported last week that "confirmed bachelor" Justice David Souter ranks even with the U.S. Supreme Court's most liberal sitting justices on votes concerning the gay and lesbian community. For the 1991-92 session, Souter, along with Harry Blackmun and John Paul Stevens, rated 70 out of 100 according to the Blade's ratings. The Blade calculated the ratings "by weighing the relative importance of each case to gays and factoring that against how the justice voted." The lowest possible score was 20, and two justices—Antonin Scalia and Chief Justice William Rehnquist—achieved that distinction. Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Antony Kennedy scored 50, while Byron White and Clarence "Have you seen this video?" Thomas ranked 40.



Supreme Court Justice David Souter, a "confirmed bachelor," ranked as high on votes on gay issues during the 1991-92 session as any liberal justice.

cases will be discussed. Students who say they already are sexually active can attend small group sessions or receive individual counseling before actually receiving condoms. Parents who do not want their children to receive condoms can send a letter to the principal of the school stating their objection, officials said. If that student is under age 18, officials will accept the parents' wishes.

**Challenge To Mandatory HIV Testing Will Proceed In Court:** A judge in Washington, DC, has rejected a motion by the federal government to dismiss a legal challenge to the mandatory HIV testing policy of the U.S. Job Corps. In an opinion filed Aug. 10, Fed. District Judge Thomas Hogan ruled that the plaintiff, James Dorsey of Detroit, had asserted a valid legal claim in alleging that the Job Corps' mandatory testing policy violates the federal Rehabilitation Act. Without first seeking Dorsey's informed consent, or performing required pre-test counseling, Job Corps tested Dorsey for HIV in 1987 upon his admission to the program's residential center in Dayton, Ohio. When tests revealed that he was HIV+, Dorsey was dismissed from the program. Dorsey filed suit in federal court in 1988. He is represented by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

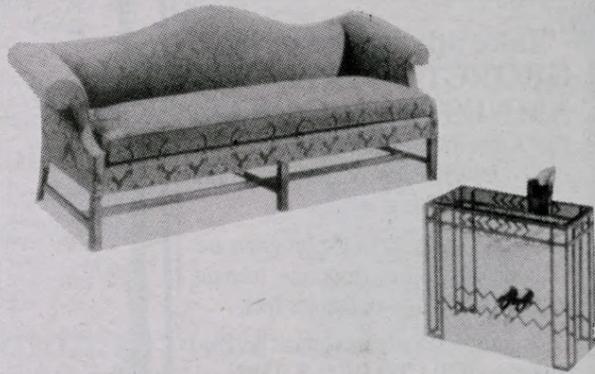
**Maine Univ. Drops ROTC Because of Military Ban On Gays:** The University of Southern Maine will cease offering the U.S. Army ROTC program next fall because of the military's ban on gays and lesbians, the university's president said. USM will eliminate the ROTC option for new students beginning next fall. Students currently enrolled in the program will be able to finish. "I have always been uncomfortable with discrimination on any basis," said USM President Richard Pattenau. William Slavick, an English professor who lobbied the Faculty Senate to take a stand against ROTC last May, applauded the decision. "The university could not tolerate the denial of dignity of any member of the community," he said.

**Software Manufacturer Announces Benefits For Domestic Partners:** Silicon Graphics, Inc. says it will extend spousal benefits to partners of gay and lesbian employees—making it one of about two dozen private U.S. firms to offer such a program. Larry Hicks, director of compensation and benefits for the company, said the change indicates the value Silicon places on all of its employees. Gay and lesbian partners of Silicon Graphics employees will be eligible for medical, dental and vision insurance plans, as well as its adoption assistance and employee assistance programs.

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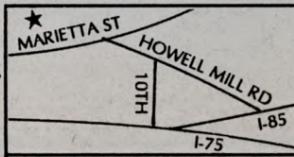
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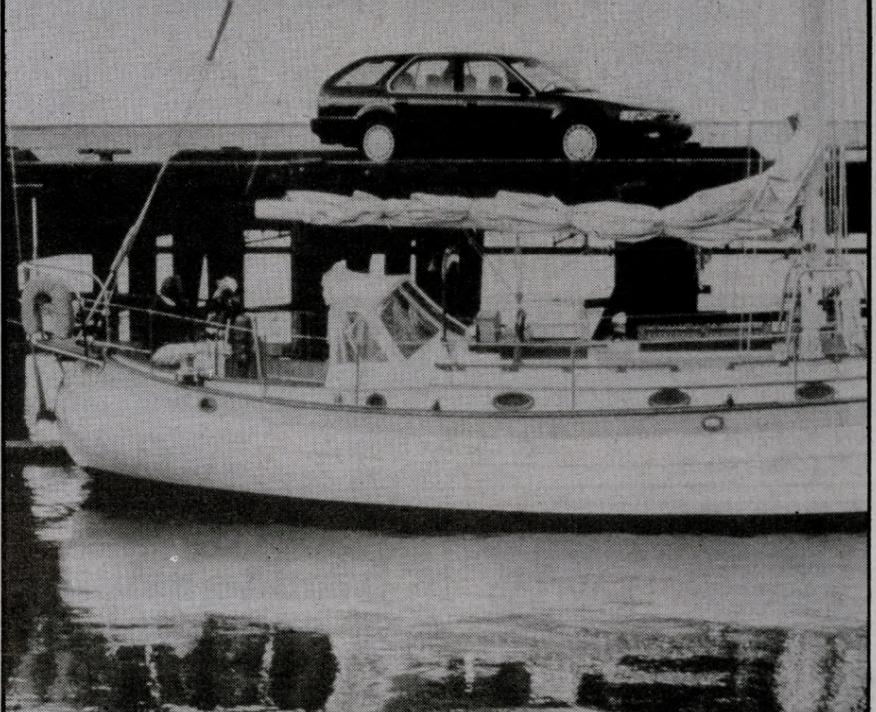
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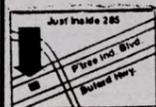
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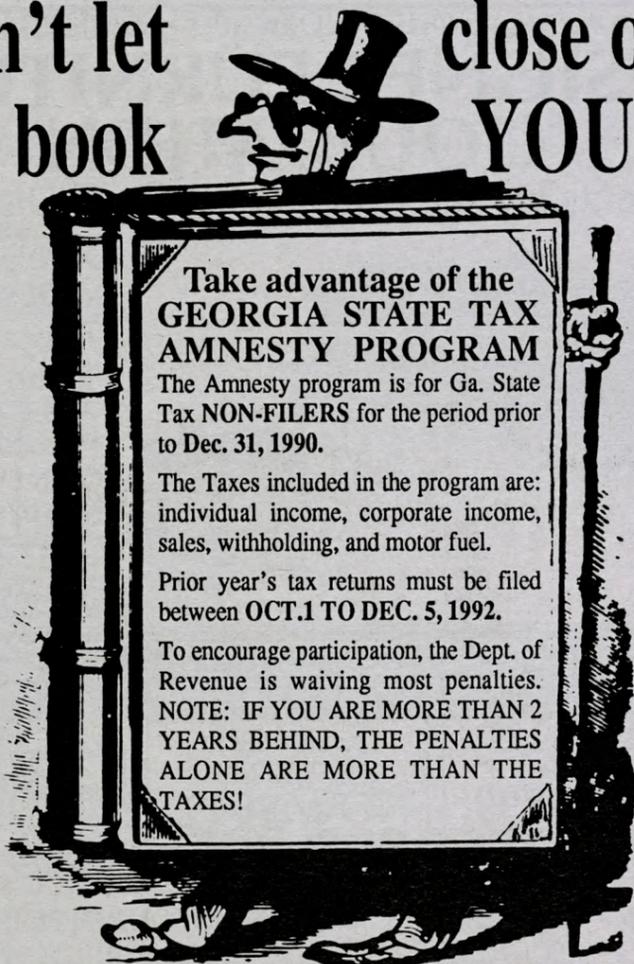
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**Project Open Hand/Atlanta** Feeding people with AIDS

**ARCA forum presents highlights from International AIDS Conference**

The AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA) conducted its 4th Annual AIDS Research Update Public Forum at the Civic Center on August 26th. This year's forum focused on developments discussed at the International Conference on AIDS in Amsterdam last July. A broad range of topics was addressed with an accompanying slide show by a panel of physicians and epidemiologists. Topics such as Vaccines, HIV in Women, Tuberculosis and New Drugs in Development were covered in short but dense presentations.

**Vaccines**

The experimental r-gp 160 AIDS vaccine was discussed not as a cure but a possible viral inhibitor that may maintain or raise T-cell counts. Dr. Sumner Thompson, Director of the Grady Hospital Infectious Disease Clinic, emphasized that patients taking the vaccine must receive multiple booster shots in order to maintain the vaccine's positive effects.

ARCA is currently conducting a clinical trial of the r-gp 160 vaccine. The trial will examine if the vaccine can safely boost the immune system of HIV-infected patients.

"This study was designed only for patients who do not intend to take AZT, ddI or ddC until their counts fall below 300 or they develop signs of illness," said Dr. Melanie Thompson, president and founder of ARCA, in a statement made last June.

Initially, 25 Atlantans were chosen to take part in the trial and of those selected, 8 are black, 17 are white, twenty percent are women, and their ages range from 18 to 58. These patients are now being pre-screened to ensure that they meet the trial requirements. An additional 15 patient slots were allotted to ARCA last week by the Walter Reed Army Institute, a major co-sponsor of the trial. The first injections of the vaccine are scheduled for September 22.

**HIV+ women**

Regarding HIV-infected women, Dr. Tedd Ellerbrock, an obstetrician/gynecologist with the Grady Women's Infectious Disease Clinic, underscored the need to identify larger numbers of infected women, learn more about the unique characteristics of their infection and include gynecologic as a routine part of treatment. Ellerbrock also noted that these women should be offered the same therapy offered to HIV-infected men.

**Tuberculosis**

Although less than 4% of HIV+ patients have tuberculosis, Dr. Ken Castro noted its increasing occurrence as an opportunistic infection. Dr. Castro, who is a special assistant for TB and HIV at the Center for Diseases Control, highlighted the recent outbreaks of a multi-drug resistant TB strain in hospitals, clinics and prisons in New York and Florida.

**New treatments**

Among the new treatments discussed, 3TC, similar in form to AZT, has shown to produce fewer side effects except headaches in some patients. Dr. Carl Dieffenbach of the AIDS Division of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases announced that the National Cancer Institute has re-opened a dose-escalating study of the drug.

Prior to the presentation, a health fair in the Civic Center lobby drew over 20 HIV service groups who staffed table stacked with educational and safer sex materials. Among those represented were ACT UP, the Atlanta Gay Center, National Assoc. for People With AIDS, National Black Women's Health Project and Outreach, Inc.

ARCA is a non-profit organization of physicians, other health care providers and patient advocacy groups. In addition to running trials, the consortium monitors over 3500 Atlanta patients through a nationwide database and provides education to the medical and patient community about research developments. To enhance its outreach efforts, ARCA has its own community advisory board composed of representatives from the black community as well as women and IV-drug users.

CRAIG WASHINGTON

**Some hope in fight against breast cancer**

(AP)—Although breast cancer is a shattering diagnosis for women, there is a growing reason for optimism. The disease is being discovered at earlier stages these days, when the cancer is more curable. The National Cancer Institute reports the five-year survival rate for women whose tumors haven't spread beyond the breast is now 92 percent. The rate is 71 percent if the cancer hasn't spread beyond the lymph nodes. Breast cancer strikes 1 in 9 women.

According to the current issue of American Health, in the past few years researchers and physicians have made remarkable progress in increasing cure rates while minimizing the need for deforming surgery and debilitating drugs.

"It's now clear that for most women removal of the tumor and surrounding tissue (plus radiation therapy) provides a cure rate equivalent to that seen with mastectomy, while being cosmetically more acceptable," says Dr. Samuel Hellman, dean of the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine and a pioneer in the breast sparing treatment.

A large number of studies have confirmed that for tumors about 1 1/4-inches in diameter, survival rates are essentially identical for the two surgical options: modified mastectomy—removal of the entire breast—and lumpectomy—removal of the tumor only—followed by a course of radiation. More than 75 percent of women with newly discovered breast cancers have tumors small enough to qualify for a lumpectomy, which generally provides excellent cosmetic results and is psychologically less traumatic for some.

Interestingly, however, only a minority of women choose breast-conserving surgery. Some worry that scarring may make their breast tissue so dense that it would be difficult to detect a recurrence should one occur. And for some women mastectomy can alleviate the intense psychological distress that may arise from fear of a recurrence.

Another quandary in breast cancer treatment centers on "adjuvant" chemotherapy—giving the patient potent drugs for several months after surgery to eliminate residual cancer cells. Recent studies have confirmed that even a brief course of adjuvant chemotherapy increases long-term survival.

CONTINUES TOP OF NEXT PAGE

vival rates for women whose cancers have spread beyond the breast to the lymph nodes. Chemotherapy also may delay recurrence among women whose tumors haven't spread.

Dr. Thomas Hakes, an oncologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Cen-

ter in New York City, believes it's difficult for a woman to choose a course of breast cancer treatment. "In the eyes of one patient, certain treatment may be worthwhile; in the eyes of another it may not. I can tell patients what I would do, but ultimately they must decide," he said.

## Georgia HIV+ dentist did not infect patients, study shows

Augusta, Ga.—Exactly a year after opposition to dentists who advertised "AIDS-free" offices escalated, dental scholars have revealed new evidence that the risk of contracting infection from an HIV-positive dentist is extremely low.

None of the patients treated by a Georgia dental student have tested positive for the HIV despite their care-provider's HIV infection, the Journal of the American Dental Association reported in its August issue.

Before being suspended from taking patients at the Medical College of Georgia dental school and public health clinics in Augusta, the student had treated 163 people.

Health officials tracked down all of them to offer testing and counseling, with follow-up checks every three months for up to a year after their last contact with the student.

The patients were seen in 596 clinic visits during which standard dental protocol was followed, including sterilization of all instruments and use of gloves, masks, and protective eyewear, the student said.

About half of the procedures were moderately invasive (non-surgical), but 42 were surgically invasive, such as tooth extraction or gum surgery. The latter procedures are most likely to transmit the AIDS virus because of the exchange of blood.

The dental profession and other health workers became subject to increased scrutiny after five patients of a Florida dentist

were infected with HIV under unclear circumstances.

A year ago, AIDS activists spotlighted the controversy over proposals to require HIV testing for health workers by targeting dentists who exploited the public's paranoia.

Dentists in Manassas, Virginia, Atlanta, and San Francisco advertised "AIDS-free" practices then. "Anyone involved in the direct delivery of dental care to patients who test positive for the AIDS virus will not be allowed to treat patients in our office," proclaimed one. "That's right! AIDS!"

Health officials and AIDS activists said such ads provide patients a false sense of security, and breed hysteria. The dental-care controversy shows that "a new AIDS paranoia is sweeping the nation," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force media director Robert Bray.

Ads by two San Francisco dentists were withdrawn after officials threatened to file false advertising charges. And an Atlanta dentist whose wife is a state legislator threatened to introduce a bill requiring mandatory tests if anyone demonstrates against his advertising an "AIDS-free" practice.

Dentists, it should be noted, adopted infection-prevention guidelines in 1976 to prevent the spread of the hepatitis B virus. "Not a single report of hepatitis transmitted in a dental practice" has occurred since the late 1980s, said Phil Weintraub of the American Dental Association. "The hepatitis virus is more contagious than HIV," he said. "We know that infection control procedures will protect patients. We know they work."

JOHN ZEH

## Compound from rain forest trees may offer protection from HIV

Development of drug may take up to 10 years

Salt Lake City (AP)—In the rain forest of a tiny Western Samoan island, a university professor found and saved trees containing a compound that protects cells against the AIDS virus in a test tube. The compound, prostratin, has been tested only in the test tube against the AIDS virus. It will be years before it can be tested on humans.

Nonetheless, Paul Cox, the Brigham Young University professor who saved the forest from bulldozers, is excited, as are National Cancer Institute researchers studying the drug.

"Everything we do seems to look better and better," said Cox, 38, an ethnobotanist and tropical rain forest biologist. Ethnobotany is the study of how indigenous people use plants for medicine.

The institute's research has yielded two promising results.

First, human lymphocytic cells were coated with prostratin and doused with HIV-1. Not only did the prostratin keep those cells from succumbing to the virus, which

causes AIDS, it protected cells when added as much as 24 hours after infection.

Researchers also found that prostratin inhibits the growth of tumors. That was a big surprise because prostratin is part of a group of organic compounds known to cause tumors. Cancer researchers can use this clue to better understand the compounds.

Gordon Cragg, director of the National Cancer Institute's natural products branch, cautions that prostratin could take a decade to develop as a drug safe for humans.

"The exciting thing is they've isolated this active compound," said Suraiya Rasheed, director of the viral oncology and AIDS research laboratory at the University of Southern California.

However, she said more study is needed into prostratin's effects on inhibiting the AIDS virus in normal lymphocytic cells from human blood.

Thomas Evans, director of AIDS research at the University of Utah, notes that dozens of potential HIV-fighting drugs are identified each year.

"There are a lot of different compounds that inhibit HIV in the test tube that don't pan out, either because they're toxic or because when they're used in animals or humans they just don't work," he said.

KRISTEN MOULTON

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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Due to a chance and fateful encounter in March 1988 at Taloolah's, Kim Edney and Jean Nolan will be celebrating four ecstatic years together on September 17th. Along with the anniversary of their commitment, Kim turns 26 on the 20th, and Jean 32 on the 26th. Congrats all around!

David VanderGriff and his partner Steve Palmer celebrated their 8th anniversary on August 31. This is an especially impressive feat since David lives in Atlanta and Steve lives in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The two met while attending the University of Alabama. David says Steve is in the process of moving "up north" and is looking for a place to open up his antique shop. Hope the housewarming party is next, guys.

BIRTHDAYS

Burt McDowell celebrated his 38th birthday September 6th. Burt's birthday wish is to appear on DeAundra Peek's TV show. Maybe DeAundra will be reading and invite Burt to be on the show. Rumor has it he is quite talented!

Shane Meder took his life partner Michael Nikolaus on a romantic rendezvous to a mountain retreat for his September 8th birthday. Congrats on your 30th Michael, hope you and Shane had a memorable celebration.

T.K. Buchanan celebrated her 27th birthday on September 4th. She and partner Connie Oxford spent the weekend with all of T.K.'s relatives at a party in Memphis, Tennessee. It was the first time in ten years that the entire family had been together.

JOB OCCASIONS

Reverend Doug Johnson has been called to be the new pastor at All Saints MCC. Doug has spent over 30 years in the Southern Baptist Church, but is recovering nicely. Doug will officially begin his pastorate at All Saints in late September. For information call (404) 622-1154.

Amanda Gagnon finally received her long-awaited promotion at Emory University's Computing Center. Now, she's got the tough decision of deciding where all that extra money will go...which bills to spend it on, in other words.

OTHER SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Atlanta vocalist Frank Miller and guest artist Janet Metzger will perform An Afternoon of American Song to benefit All Saints MCC. The concert will contain traditional



Frank Miller will perform, along with Janet Metzger, at a fundraiser for All Saints MCC on September 13.

hymns and contemporary secular music. Come out and hear Frank and Janet on Sunday, September 13, at 2:30 p.m. at All Saints, 575 Boulevard. Admission is a donation to the church.

The other day I saw the perfect portrait of family values. Coming out of Candler Park Supermarket during my daily constitutional, I came face to face with two hand-holding lesbians out walking with their freckled, overalled young daughter and the family dog. I had to do a double take to make sure it wasn't too good to be true. I didn't get their names, but if you recognize yourself in this occasion, you folks made my day...heck, my year! Now that's what I call good old fashioned family values, no matter what Danny Q. might say.

VOLUNTEER OCCASIONS

Sue Stone and Tonia Poteat of the Women's AIDS Hotline are just two of the many people involved in the new Lesbian AIDS Project. The project will provide information and education about AIDS to the lesbian population of Atlanta who may feel they are not at risk. They are also hoping to start a support group for lesbians with AIDS. For more information on the group call the Women's AIDS Hotline at (404) 888-9991.

compiled by  
CANDACE CHELLEW

If you would like to report an important "occasion" in your life, please call us at 876-0789 or write to us at: Southern Voice/Occasions; PO Box 18215; Atlanta, GA 30316

Soldier (con't.)

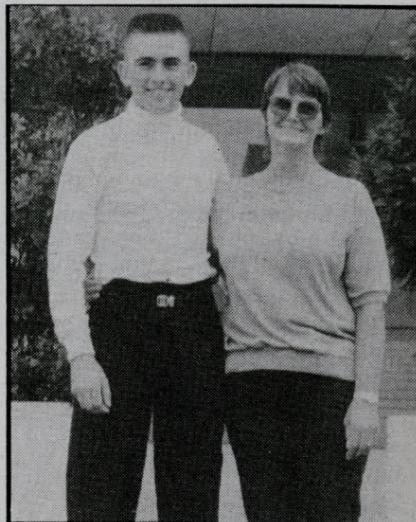
Skerik served in the 1st Cavalry Division, active on the front lines, while in the Persian Gulf. Now, his military career is in jeopardy. He is waiting now for the Army to begin processing his discharge, which he says he will fight, with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"I have been trained to be all I can be," Skerik said in his prepared statement, "to strive for excellence in all areas of my life. That is why I am here today, a proud U.S. soldier and citizen of America."

It was this pride and his self-respect, he said, that brought him to the steps of the Federal Building in Atlanta, to "protest the current military policy" against gays and lesbians.

"I feel I can no longer be silent about it," he said. "This is who I am."

KC WILDMOON



Skerik and his mother, Terry Skerik, who flew in from California to be with her son at the press conference

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## NEXT WEEK

Coming Out  
Conservative

Marvin Leibman, a founder of the modern conservative movement and a player in the election of Ronald Reagan, came out in 1990. Now he has written his autobiography which charts the future of conservatism in America.

Atlanta Gay & Lesbian  
Arts Festival

The motto of the first annual event scheduled for Oct. 9-18 is "The Art of Coming Out." We'll tell all about the artists and the events.

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

Some parents  
continue to love  
their gay children

To The Editor:

Recently my heart went out to Tim Davis who published a letter in Southern Voice that he had mailed to his father after hearing his father say, "I love you; but I don't approve of your lifestyle." Hearing those words obviously caused Tim great pain and anger, which is unfortunate. It is also unfortunate that the reaction of this man's family happens much too often, leading many gays and lesbians to remain closeted in order not to lose the love or respect of their family and friends.

I have another story to tell, and I am hoping that my family's reaction will give hope that sometimes the people you just know will not be able to handle the news are actually quite capable of doing so. I waited over 20 years to tell my mother and father about my lifestyle, but, finally, even the fear of their rejection could not stop the stronger desire that possessed me to let them really know me before it was too late. I took the risk, and after hours of the first "real" discussion we had had in a very long time, when they took me to the airport to catch a plane back to Atlanta, they handed me the following letter. I am so proud of them, I felt I had to share their reaction.

Dear Pamela:

We are so happy!

Sometimes it helps me to express my thoughts on paper because I do not always verbalize too well. It is for this reason I want to express our thoughts somewhat so that there will be no communication gap on our love and devotion for our still perfect daughter.

Our good thoughts, of course, are that there will be no more aloofness in our parent-daughter relationship. We have felt for a long time that something we may have done made you care less for us than in the years past. We feel now that is over and gone.

As a father who loves you very much, I can't help but comment on some fears I have for your future. I am referring to the hurt and anguish you can experience by becoming more public with this lifestyle. We are not ashamed of the lifestyle, of you, or to proudly proclaim that our beautiful daughter is a gay person. We do draw the line, however, of permitting anyone to hurt you through rude comments or unkind thoughts which tend to creep out. It caused me to say to you that we do not intend to reveal your long hidden secret to family members. In the first place, it is none of their business; in the second place, most of them hold outdated and narrow views on something they know nothing about.

My concern is that you seem to have moved into a position advocating gay rights or something close to it. I am not sure; we discussed very little of your activities. It alarms me, though, that if this is true it could affect your professional future and cause a lot of unhappiness. On the other hand, who am I to even suggest how to conduct yourself? We admire you greatly for the way you have handled the situation thus far and I don't think we can even comprehend the brave courage it must have taken to face your parents, and reveal what was to you a terrible admission of something you feared could cause a permanent break in our relationship.

As it turned out, it did not phase us one bit; nor did it cause us to reevaluate an everlasting love for you. No way! With our family, the four of us, love is not conditional. If it was, I, your father, would probably have been cast from the family a long time ago. I regret that society cannot accept that which they do not understand. Unfortunately, some people who voice indignation the loudest on some topics are the very ones who themselves can't afford to be exposed to their lifestyles.

Your admission failed in one significant respect, Pam. We still hold you on that pedestal, still think of you as very beautiful, still think of you as the most talented daughter in the world, still love you with our hearts and minds forever. We wish for you a lov-

ing relationship with a person worthy of having you as a close personal companion. Someday we hope to meet that person.

Mom and Dad

Thank you for considering the above. Oh, and, by the way, my parents are attending my commitment ceremony in October!

Pamela Evans

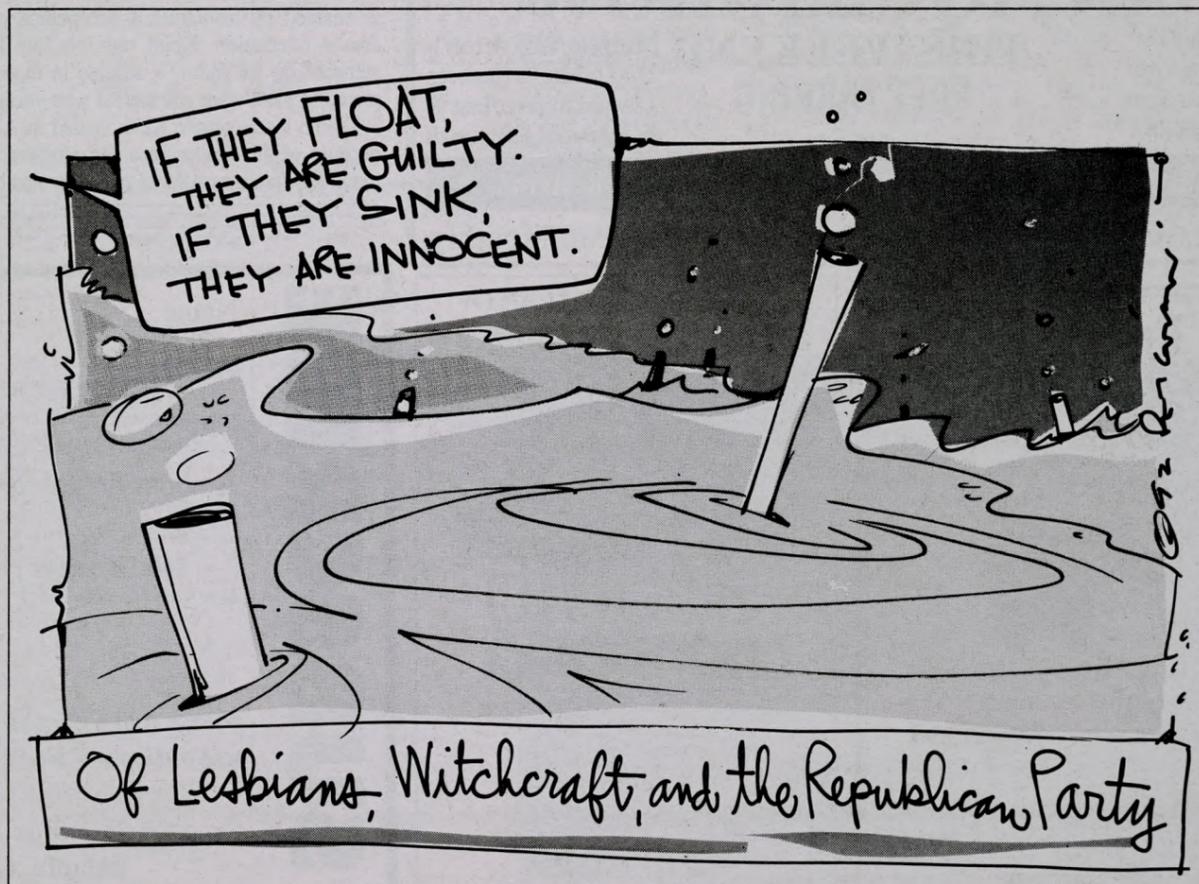
Pride goes find  
a church

To the Editor,

Southern Voice's coverage of the Gay Pride celebration has led us to a wonderful Atlanta church. The paper's report of Saint Mark United Methodist Church's invitation to Pride marchers prompted us to further investigate this congregation. We have regularly attended this church since Pride and have found the pastor, Dr. Mike Cordle, and the entire congregation to be exceptionally welcome and cordial to us. The members of Saint Mark UMC are supportive of our lesbian lifestyles and relationship.

We encourage any persons desiring to attend a "homosexual-friendly" church to visit Saint Mark. We have found this to be a "conventional" church with unconventionally wonderful ways of making gay and lesbian persons welcome and a part of the church family.

Thank you for mentioning this church in the Pride articles. Saint Mark's worship invitations extended to the Gay community was sincere. We would have never considered attending a church in that particular block of Peachtree Street had your paper not mentioned Saint Mark's participation in the Pride Parade.

Sincerely,  
Carol Bennett & Laura Mooney

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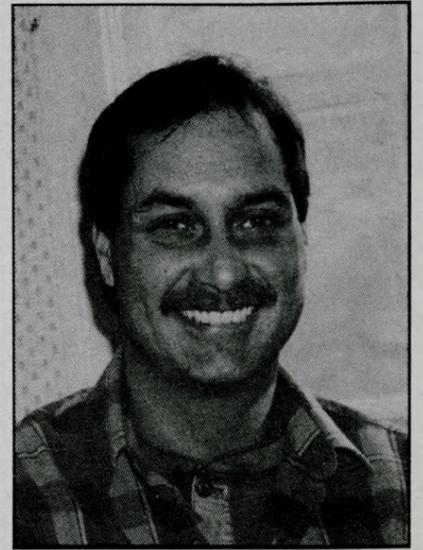
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**OUTLINES**

**KEITH PLANT**

**Age:** 30 something  
**Relationship status:** single  
**How long in Atlanta:** 11 years  
**Last book read:** "Anti-Intellectualism in American Life" by Hofstadter Richard  
**Pot peeve:** The Bush Administration



"When they bring a patient in from open heart surgery," Critical Care Nurse Keith Plant explains, "all there is is a pulse and a heartbeat. The job of keeping that person alive and initiating healing, is left to the critical care nurses in ICU, and it is extremely rewarding to be a critical care nurse. But you are confronted with life and death situations constantly, so you have to be in control of your emotions."

Keith's attitude towards nursing is extremely professional and in conversation it is readily apparent that being the best nurse that he can be is very important to him.

Yet there is another side of Keith that is very much a humanist. He blends this humanism with his serious approach to nursing in order to, he says, "guide him through his work with a perspective that is both humorous and concerned for the welfare of his patients." The only apparent anger in his life is directed against the Bush administration's efforts, or rather lack thereof, in the area of AIDS prevention and education.

While Keith maintains critical care nursing can be extremely stressful, he has retained his sense of humor. "I know that emotionally, being this type of nurse can take its toll. But if there is one thing I could teach other nurses it would be to never forget that the person attached to all the tubes and machines is a human being, to be treated with dignity and respect and, don't be so serious that you can't laugh at yourself or a situation, humor can be healing too."

Keith comes from a large New England family. "I consider myself to be a blessing to them." He qualifies the remark by adding, "I have two brothers and five sisters and I am their resource for AIDS education. Years ago, when it was known in the healthcare profession that HIV was being spread by people other than homosexual men (yet this information was being suppressed), I made sure my family knew about the importance of condoms and safe sex."

Keith's frank and open attitude about HIV is enabled by his family's acceptance of his sexual orientation. Keith says his late father summed up the family's attitude in this statement: "It's not what you are but who you are."

Like many people Keith settled in Atlanta because of the slower pace and temperate climate. He describes Atlanta as a "city that offers

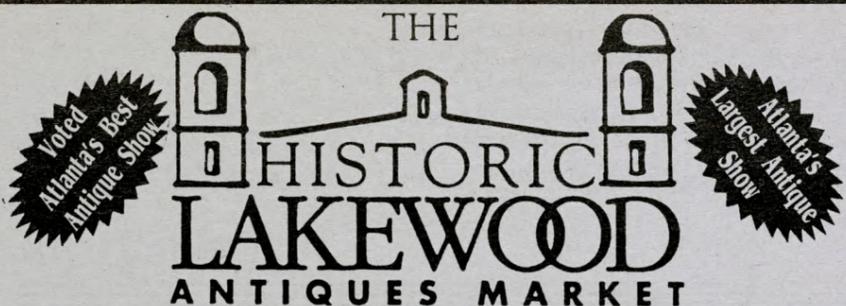
a great deal to anyone who lives here." He discovered Atlanta during a period of his life when he was a traveling nurse. "I worked in many cities, from Honolulu to New Orleans, but I kept changing planes in Atlanta. One early spring day several years ago I was enchanted by Atlanta's April warmth and the blooming dogwoods and azaleas and I decided this was the city for me."

Until recently Keith was a busy volunteer with several metro Atlanta AIDS services organizations. Yet the injuries from a recent, serious car accident prevent his current involvement. Keith previously used his knowledge to teach lay people (through a program at AID Atlanta), how to care for people living with AIDS. He was also on the Treatment Advisory Committee for NAPWA, and under the auspices of NAPWA gave lectures on how HIV affects the immune system. "I found all of this very rewarding, but because of time limitations, for instance in the program at AID Atlanta, I was only able to impart the basics. I always felt that the emotional needs of those sick and the caregivers were very important, but there wasn't enough time. Being able to respond to the question, 'Am I dying?' is not easy."

In addition to volunteer work, Keith uses his spare time to restore the houses he has lived in. He has resided in three Atlanta neighborhoods and currently lives in Inman Park with his exuberant and friendly Golden Retriever named Sandy. He claims he likes "doing much of the work of restoration" himself. His other hobbies include cooking, reading and taking long walks with his dog.

His recent car accident has altered his attitude towards life. "It can all be gone in an instant, so life is too short to play games." In this spirit he hopes to find a life partner who, "adds to my happiness."

IAN W. GINSBURG



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DAVID SALYER

## Shopping at the Ansley Kroger

I like grocery shopping. I like it so much, in fact, I often go several times a week. I never use those big metal cart things with the vacillating wheels. I like to carry one of those convenient hand baskets and cram it so full the handles bend from the weight. I rarely take a list with me, so occasionally I forget to pick up the one item that prompted me to go in the first place. This is especially irritating when the item in question is toilet paper.

Grocery stores are fascinating. I worked at one during college. I was one of those people who puts your food in the bags. At the time, nobody cared if it was paper or plastic. They were concerned about whether or not you smushed the bread. You can really tell a lot about people from their store behavior. Some shoppers drop liquid stuff on the floor and just walk away. They are scum. Once, when I had my grocery store job, a nice lady approached me to confess she'd dropped a gallon of milk on the floor. I replied, in typical teenage fashion, "So?" She said she wanted to pay for it. She actually wanted to pay for it. I said, "Why? Nobody else every does." From the look on her face, I'd say the whole situation was some kind of moral dilemma.

Another time, a really unscrupulous individual dropped a bottle of Kraft barbecue sauce on the floor. It must have been there for hours because it ate through the wax and permanently stained the tile. Think about that the next time you're eating ribs.

I've been to lots of grocery stores in the Atlanta area. I recently visited the A&P FutureStore at Peachtree Battle. With a name like FutureStore I expected to see "Star Trek" characters or, at the very least, that robot from "Lost in Space." But I didn't find it particularly futuristic, unless you think it's somehow visionary to force shoppers to watch CNN's Checkout Channel while waiting in line. I don't.

I also went to the Cub Foods on Piedmont. The aisles go the wrong direction. I was very disoriented. After I found my way out, I never went back.

Now I'm a regular at the Ansley Mall Kroger. I love this grocery store. Sometimes I get so excited about going, I forget my coupons. This is, in my opinion, an extraordinary supermarket. Kind of a cross between "This Is Your Life," "The Dating Game" and "The Twilight Zone." I just never know what's in store for me when that electronic door whooshes open and I step inside.

I think I like Ansley Kroger more than the bars. The lighting is certainly better for cruising purposes. I admit right here in front of God and everybody that I have cruised and been cruised by men at Kroger. I like when this happens. I've followed guys from produce to dairy and timed my shopping to coincide with their arrival at the check out. It's a challenge.

Yes, I'm a shameless flirt in Kroger. It's fun. And frankly, it turns a routine chore into something carnal. Double coupons and titillation. You can't ask much more of a grocery store.

You can tell a lot about a man by his basket. His shopping cart, I mean. For instance, if a man is buying five pounds of hamburger, Little Debbie snacks, a case of

beer and motor oil, I'm not interested. And I avoid eye contact with the ones who pick out cereals based on cartoon characters or bad movies.

Then there's the pet food aisle. This is crucial. I follow guys onto this aisle despite the fact I own no animals. If he puts dog food in his cart, I continue to follow him shamelessly through the store. Because I like dogs. Or rather men with dogs. And I might even smile at or speak to a man who buys his dog a squeaky toy or some chew snacks. I figure if he treats his pet this good, he's probably a decent human being capable of maintaining a healthy relationship. On the other hand, if he purchases kitty litter and gourmet cat food, I return to the produce section and start all over. I'm allergic to cats and this is clearly an omen.

Sometimes Kroger is a perversely queer Twilight Zone full of ex-boyfriends and the men you never called back. One day I expect to see Rod Serling standing behind a card table stabbing toothpicks into inedible tidbits for unsuspecting shoppers while intoning "Meet David Salyer...an ordinary homosexual with a need for bottled water and a craving for Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Fudge Brownie Ice Cream...he's about to find something that wasn't on his list today...the Ghost of Failed Relationships Past is waiting for him...and this routine shopping trip will become a stroll down sexual memory lane when he reaches aisle 7 in ... the Homo Zone."

### FIRST PERSON

Finally comes check out time. Most people choose the shortest line. I'm very patient; I don't care how long the lines are. I go for cute, competent and congenial. My favorite checker at Ansley Kroger is Mike. He works the express lanes a lot. He's very friendly. Whenever I buy La Croix bottled water, he always asks me if I've ever seen one explode. I always say no. He assures me it's spectacular. Now every time I drive home from Kroger with a bottle of La Croix I have this neurotic fear it's going to blow up and turn my car into the Hindenburg.

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## Republican Convention reaction?

To whom it may concern:

Let me start by saying—call me prejudiced, shallow minded, or worse if you like, but the "gay and lesbian" lifestyle is twisted and sick. The simple thought that you think you have "special" rights or deserve "special" attention in any way is revolting! All you deserve are the same human rights like "normal" people. If you have such a problem accepting this, stay in the closet where you belong. Start your own church, or religion—and pray to the devil. That's who you're following. He's your leader, it's obvious. Take for example this John Blevins. He corrupted the Baptist church in North Carolina, only to move on to another church in Chicago where he'll probably do the same. Sure he may have thought God told him it was OK—but it really wasn't God at all—it was the devil or one of his demons.

People have choices, and the majority of people think homosexuality is wrong. Why do you insist on forcing people to believe you are "normal" and it's OK to be gay? If you have to put so much effort into pressing the issue, doesn't that tell you something? It's not socially acceptable.

The politicians and businesses of Atlanta only go along with "you people" because there are so many of you in the area—they need your vote or your money. They don't agree with your lifestyle, they don't

accept you. Atlanta would be a great place to live and raise a family if it weren't for all the gays and bums.

You complain constantly about companies not wanting to hire people with AIDS. Why should they? You and your lifestyle would put the other employees at risk. You complain about not letting people into the country because of HIV+, why should we add more to the already overpopulated AIDS cases we have in the U.S.

Why do you people think you should have your own Olympics, bars, restaurants, churches, etc. If you are so "normal" and your way of life is "normal" why can't you get along with "normal" people without always shoving your sexual preference down our throats?

If you would keep your sexual preference out of the public eye—most of your problems would be solved.

The only bad thing about AIDS is it's not just the queers it's affecting!

Signed:

Proud to Know Right from WRONG

P.S. If you have a response—I do read your paper because it's free and it's a good laugh—and it's a real challenge to try to figure out how "you people" think.

*Editor's note: If you're really interested in finding out how "we people" think, I suggest you continue reading the paper. Obviously, you've missed something.*

## Fowler is no friend of ours

To the Editor:

Enclosed is a letter to me from Senator Wyche Fowler, Jr. (D-GA) in response to an inquiry I made during a phone call from his campaign staff. I had inquired about the Senator's record concerning gay rights and HIV/AIDS issues. The campaign volunteer offered to send me information regarding these issues and I received the following letter August 20th. I thought you and your readers might be interested in the Senator's homophobic views as the election approaches.

Sincerely,  
John H. Benton

Dear Mr. Benton:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on S. 574, the Civil Rights Amendment of 1991, which was introduced by Senator Alan Cranston. As you know, S. 574 would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of affectional or sexual orientation.

I certainly recognize your concern about homosexuality and other alternative lifestyles which would be covered by the Cranston bill, and your feeling that the bill

would sanction what many people believe are immoral activities. Let me assure you that I share your respect for the traditional family structures and family values, which I was taught by my parents and my church.

We are fortunate in the United States to have a Constitution which ensures that our citizens will never be forced to embrace or condone another type of lifestyle. However, this same Constitution is very explicit in its application of the principle of equality before the law for all people. I strongly support this critical principle on which our nation was founded. For this reason, I believe that no American should be subjected to legalized discrimination, though I do have serious reservations about the particulars of S. 574.

As you may know, S. 574 is currently pending in the Senate Judiciary Committee, and it is unlikely that the bill will be favorably acted upon. However, should this measure come before the Senate, please be assured that I will keep your thoughts in mind.

I appreciate your taking the time to write.

Sincerely,  
WYCHE FOWLER, JR.  
United States Senator

## Gay vote is crucial

To the Editor,

In eight short weeks, we will elect a new leader to set the pace towards the 21st century. For the first time in history, we have a candidate who is willing to go head-to-head with the homophobes and hatemongers of the religious right to guarantee equal rights for the gay and lesbian community. What is most exciting is our potential to make our voices heard!

The political organizations of our community are mobilizing to campaign for Bill Clinton and Al Gore. During the campaign, you will hear about the efforts of these organizations to make a real difference. These efforts, however, will be of little consequence unless the individual mem-

bers of our community get excited and get involved. The most effective way to do this is to talk to your friends and neighbors; get them committed to register and to vote.

For those who want to do more, our community political organizations have a place for you. They will put your talents to good use toward the most important cause to ever face the gay and lesbian community. Their phone numbers are available through either this newspaper or the phone book. Pick up the phone and call them.

Now is the time to speak up and speak out, to get involved, to register and to vote. Our lives and our equality depend on it! I'm determined to make a difference! Are you?

John L. Stephens





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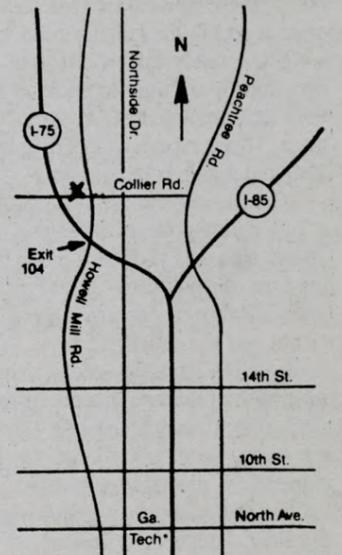
September 10th, 9:30 pm

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### UPCOMING

September 17—Wendy Bucklew  
September 24—P.S. Jonah

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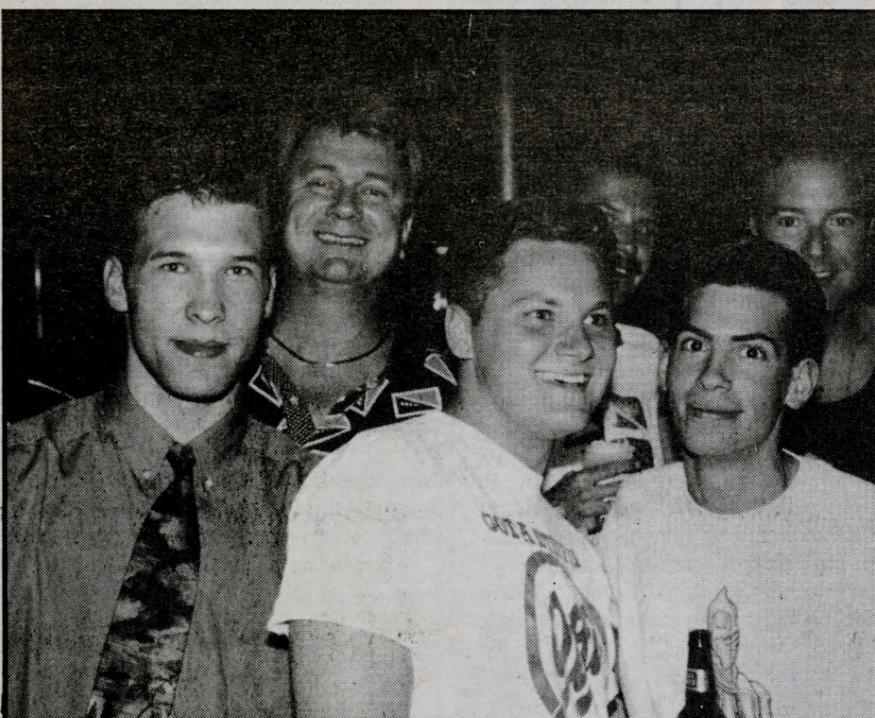


<b>MONDAY</b> Closed for employee recovery after our BIG WEEKEND— THANK YOU	<b>TUESDAY</b> 8:00 – Pool Tournament & RUGBY NITE	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> COLLEGE NITE beginning Sept. 16	<b>THURSDAY</b> Coffee House Live Acoustic Music Starts 9:30	<b>FRIDAY</b> Liquor Promo Parties & music with Yvonne Monet	<b>SATURDAY</b> Hottest women in town dance to Yvonne Monet	<b>SUNDAY</b> Music with Yvonne Monet Opens at 7:00
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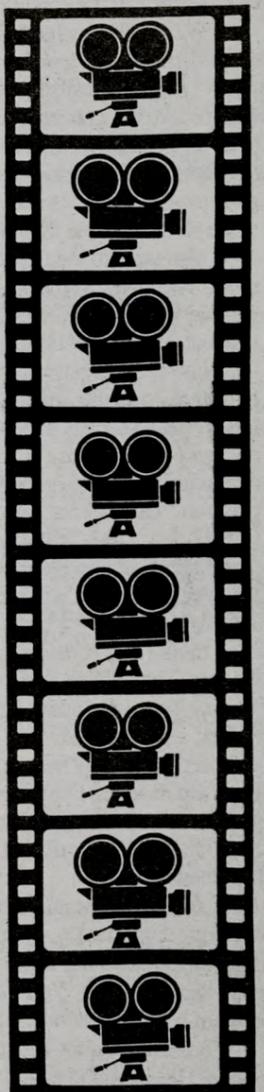
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# OUT & ABOUT

## GAY RODEO

### SOUTHEAST GAY RODEO

How many queers does it take to put a pair of boxer shorts on a goat? Two, if you're participating in The Southeast Gay Rodeo Association's Fall Rodeo Playday. (As many as you want if you're doing it in your own backyard, but that's your business.)

Goat Dressing is just one of the many so-called camp events taking place at the playday scheduled for September 19. SEGRA Fundraising and Public Relations Chairman, Rick LeClair, says it's the most popular too. In the event, a team of two must run to a goat tethered in the center of the arena. One person holds the goat while the other puts a pair of men's boxer shorts over the goat's hind legs and rear end. After that is accomplished, they race back to the judge. The team with the best time wins.

"The key is, the boxer shorts must stay on the goat long enough for the team to reach the judge," LeClair says. Sounds tricky.

But not quite as tricky as Steer Decorating. Here, two people must run to a steer, and while one person holds it, the other will tie a red ribbon on its tail. "Even some of the big guys have trouble holding a 300 pound steer, because he just doesn't want to be held," LeClair notes. He's probably not too wild about having a red ribbon tied to his tail either. What would the herd say?

The event du jour, in my book, however, would be the Lipstick Race, where contestants attempt to apply lipstick while riding around the arena on a horse. Lipstick lesbians and drag queens have the obvious advantage here.

But what would a rodeo be without horse events? One especially painful sounding contest is called Pole Bending, but actually involves a horse and rider moving through a linear pattern without knocking down the poles. The best time wins.

Another event, Tandem Bareback, is visually exciting as two riders attempt to switch places on the back of a horse while riding bareback. The catch is, they can't touch the ground while they switch. As with all rodeos, horse events are strictly b.y.o.h....bring your own horse.

This playday will also feature the first roping events ever for SEGRA, as cowpokes rope calves and goats on foot.

If you've read a copy of The Advocate or The Washington Blade recently, you may have seen ads for other rodeos around the country. (DC holds its first this year.) Apparently, gay rodeos have gained popularity recently, especially here in the south. LeClair explains, "It goes hand in hand with the growth of country music's popularity. Gay rodeo is a part of that history, and besides, people want to do something besides go to bars."

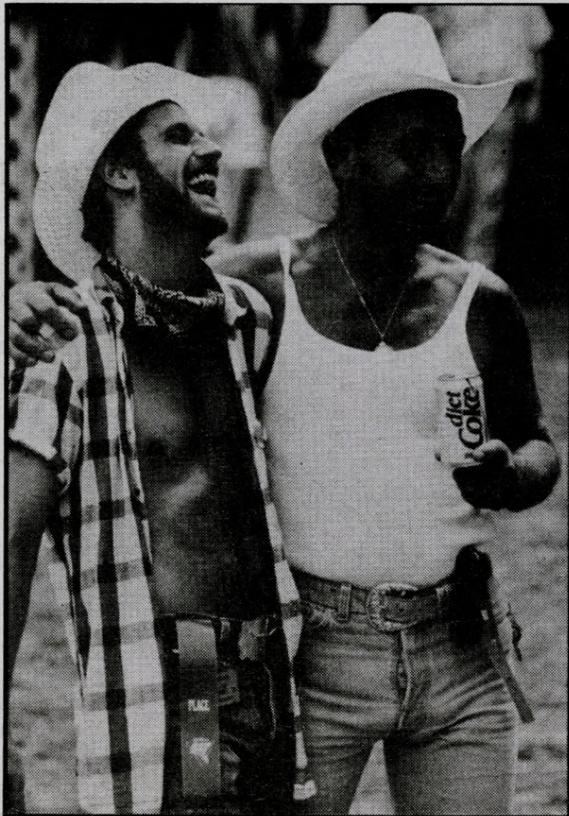
But apparently the bars are benefitting from the country craze too, with frequent country and western nights jamming their dance floors.

LeClair says about 400 people came to their last Rodeo Playday in June and they are hoping for more this time around. Those ever increasing numbers bode well for a successful first official SEGRA Rodeo, tentatively scheduled for May of 1994.

Contrary to popular belief, it's not just men who love the rodeo. According to LeClair, more women are getting involved. Competitions pit men against men and women against women to keep it all fair and square. And, speaking of fair, winners take home cash prizes.

And, speaking of cash, it won't cost a lot of that to check it all out. Admission to the rodeo is only \$3.00 (\$2.00 for SEGRA members). If you want to take part in events, registration is \$4.00 per event for non-members and \$3.00 per event for members. Registration is open because "People find out when they get there that an event looks like fun, and if they want to join in, they can," says LeClair. "At a real rodeo it wouldn't be allowed, but we want people to get involved."

And you have a chance to win back a little of your money by playing Horse Chips. In this contest, you can buy designated squares of the arena for \$2.00 a square, pick a time of the day, let loose the horse, and let the chips fall where they may. If the horse leaves a present in your square, you win a part of the pot.



Two happy cowboys at a previous SEGRA Rodeo Playday

One lucky winner took home \$400 from a past playday. And that's no horse feathers.

SEGRA's Rodeo Playday will be Saturday, September 19, with registration at 10 am and events starting at noon. The playday will be held at the C BAR J Ranch in Conyers.

Directions and more information are available by calling the Rodeo Hotline at 760-8126.

CANDACE CHELLEW

## MUSIC REVIEWS

### B-52's

Good god! Has it really been 15 years since Fred Schneider and the B-52's first graced us with "Rock Lobster"? 15 years? Really? And what's that I hear about Fred recently outing himself and taking his rightful proud place among us, his lesbian/gay/bisexual brothers and sisters, and it didn't damage his group's career or their record sales? Well, duh, Clive Davis!

"Good Stuff" is the umpteenth album from Fred and friends, who currently include Kate Pierson and Keith Strickland (sans original members Ricky Wilson who died in 1985 and Cindy Wilson, who left the band in 1991). And, you know what, it sounds just like their first album and just about every one in between, but that's okay for this group from Athens, Georgia; they found a sound that worked and stuck with it without wearing it out. So, how come they can do it, and not someone like, say, Rod Stewart, who's been putting out the same album every year since 1976? Gosh, could it be...energy? A consistently fresh approach to a wonderfully patented sound?

With a dedication to "all of our brothers and sisters who are living with HIV," "Good Stuff" kicks right in with the opening track, "Tell It Like T-I-S," a plea for people to speak out and fight for change, then hits us square in the pocket with "Hot Pants," which Fred wrote in the hopes that they will come back into style (and you know he means it at the songs close when he says, "hot pants, they're gettin' so hot, we might have to take 'em off!")

Through a total of ten tracks on "Good Stuff," the band

doesn't let up once, and of course, they show their love for glorifying, as Kate puts it, "the trashy parts of American culture" ("Is That You Mo-Dean," a love song to a UFO, for example). With production credits shared almost equally by Don Was and Nile Rodgers, this is 100% B-52's and it's heavenly.

Good Stuff? Good god, you said it!

**Red, Hot & Dance** In the wake of the Republican Convention, which columnist Molly Ivins referred to as not a political convention, but, rather, "a violation of human rights and Amnesty International should be called in," I can't help thinking how precious an album like RH&D is. Precious, because if some people had their way, this record and everything else it stands for would be outlawed. Think about it. Patrick Buchanan, the man who would be fuhrer, the man who vowed to close down the National Endowment for the Arts and fumigate the building if he were elected President, would cringe at the mere mention of RH&D—a charity record to educate the uneducated, assist the living, and allow the dying to do so with dignity and integrity.

I mean, Columbia Records, how dare you?! How dare you assemble a "bop till you drop" collection of top notch dance music from artists such as George Michael, Madonna, Sabrina Johnston, Seal, Sly & the Family Stone, etc., and donate all royalties and net profits to The Red, Hot + Blue Company, which distributes money to a variety of AIDS organizations? (Four million dollars and counting.)

And, really, have you no shame? Printing liner notes which ask questions such as "What would you rather be?...a) embarrassed by raising the issue of condoms? or, b) Dead?"

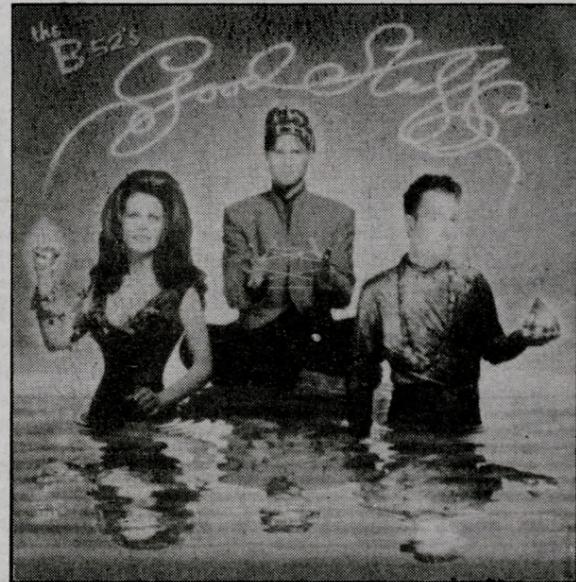
Moreover, how dare you include in those liner notes simple facts about AIDS, about how it is and isn't transmitted, and to dare suggest in those liner notes that "we can still have fun in the the age of AIDS. We just have to be smart about it."

I'll tell you how they dare, Mr. Buchanan, it's how we dare, too, and it's how many of us are still alive. We dared to tell the truth about who we are and who we aren't. We dared to tell the truth about AIDS and we dared to organize fundraisers, benefits, Bingo nights, marches, parades, dances, etc. We fed our friends when they were too weak to pick up a fork, we changed their diapers when they could no longer walk the ten steps to the toilet, and we held our friends' hands as they died.

And guess what we're gonna do now? We're all gonna buy a copy of RH+D and when we're done listening to it we're gonna dance our butts down to the voting booths on November 3.

And, Mr. Buchanan, when it's all over we'll find you a real job, where you won't be able to do any more harm, like maybe at your local record store. We'll need someone to keep stocking this sure-fire superstar-packed mega-hit on the shelves so people can buy it and give hope that this plague will someday be a distant memory, much like your most recent public speaking engagement.

KENNETH J. ALTMAN



14 O U T & A B O U T

When one considers American artists of this century, the most recognizable works belong to Norman Rockwell. His familiar images of the extended American family are part of our collective consciousness. Now, thanks to the efforts of the Rev. James M. Graham of Baltimore, one of Rockwell's most powerful images stands an excellent chance of becoming the first AIDS related stamp issued by the U.S. Postal Service.

Graham, who formerly operated a hospice for PWAs until the financial burden caused its closing, approached the Rockwell estate about the possibility of using this image to promote awareness of the AIDS crisis. The painting was first published in Look magazine in 1965 to illustrate an article about Lyndon Johnson's Great Society. No stranger to the Rockwell family, Graham rode bikes with Rockwell as a boy and sat in while the artist painted a portrait of Ghandi. It was this familiarity as well as the family's knowledge of Graham's effort in the AIDS pandemic which helped seal the agreement.

Although the Postal Service has rejected a total of 12 AIDS related stamps, Graham is heartened by the overwhelming response he has received from the public, and hopes that the image by Rockwell will be the one to break through and become an official first class stamp.

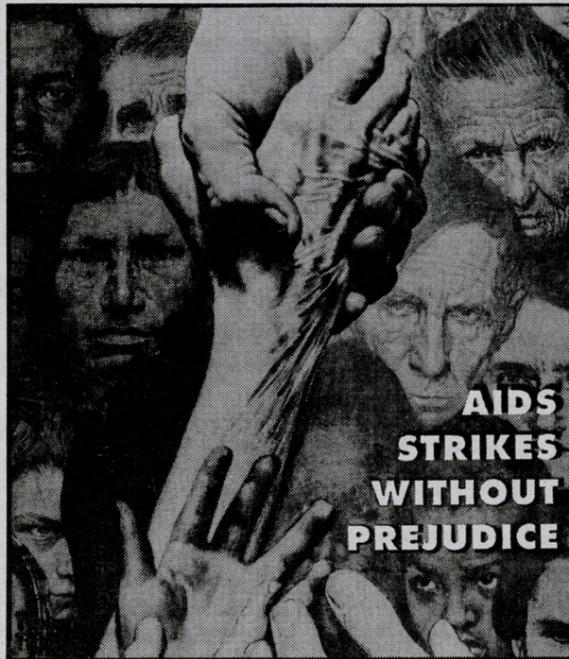
You can help by picking up a postcard (soon every bar and many businesses in Atlanta will have them) adding a 19 cent stamp and mailing it to the Postmaster General requesting that this image be made into a stamp. Cards for distribution are available by calling 1-203-597-9619 or you can write to: CWC, PO Box 2217, Waterbury, CT 06722. Sponsorships from business or individuals are being sought to cover the cost of printing the cards. Graham printed 30,000 one month ago and now has requests for over 1,000,000 more. This is a great effort and one which anyone can easily help to make a reality.

**Hollywood Hots**

Several stars came out early one recent evening as Arlene Bianco of Scandals hosted a champagne reception for Hollywood Hots president Richard Linn and the beneficiaries of the proceeds from the June fundraiser extravaganza. On hand to entertain the crowd and hand over the checks were Armorettes Dr. Ramona Reed and Kitty LeClaw. Reigning over the proceedings was that sit-com siren herself, Peg.

Richard Linn expressed his gratitude for all the hard work

**AFTER HOURS**  
DANNY ROBLE



A Norman Rockwell painting will hopefully become the first AIDS related stamp.

and financial support which helped raise \$14,000 at Hollywood Hots. Also expressing gratitude were the representatives of the three organizations which accepted the checks. On hand were Aubrey Bowie, development Director for Project Open Hand, David Willis, president of NAPWA, and Chip Rowan and Mary Jane Lubinsky of the Atlanta Legal Aid-AIDS Project. The first two groups received checks for \$4,000, the latter received a

check for \$2,500. Quite a shot in the arm for all involved.

I asked Richard if next year's Hots would be different in any way. "Not really...the only change might be a bigger show, with more elaborate costumes and sets."

I asked if there was a crowd favorite. "Well, the Armorettes generated the most tips during their appearance. In all, the entertainers generated \$4,600 in tips. Some people were coming to the stage and dropping hundred dollar bills into the tip jar."

**Nexus ArtParty**

What has been described as "the best party of the year" is slated for Friday, September 11 at Nexus Contemporary Art Center at its beautifully renovated warehouse space on Means Street. This will be the second ARTPARTY at the new location and guests will be able to see for themselves how the Center has grown and improved in the past year.

The most exciting new feature is the addition of 12 new artist studios. The studios surround a central courtyard between the Gallery and Nexus Press. The spaces are scheduled to be occupied by a wide variety of artists.

The entire complex will be open for viewing during the ARTPARTY. The courtyard will be the scene of music and dancing as Stephanie Pettis and Rio and P.S. Jonah provide entertainment. A wonderful array of food will be provided by a variety of Atlanta restaurants. The V list alone is a good indication: Veni Vidi Vici, Vickery's, Vie de France, and Violette to mention only four of the nearly fifty involved.

**Homophobia exhibit**

Of special interest is the inclusion in the ARTPARTY gallery show of Chicago artist Doug Ischar. His photographic installation called "Bystander" is a scathing exposure and indictment of homophobia. Ischar boldly goes where no artist has gone before, employing such unusual materials as x-ray machines, light boxes, film, and text to examine the recent increase in hate crimes against gay men and lesbians.

One section of "Bystanders" focuses Atlanta's "Handcuff Man," the lawyer convicted of drugging and burning the legs and genitals of young men both here and in Florida. Called "Man with a Future," the artist describes it as "a sardonic and bitter exploration of the ways human cruelty retreats behind cultural prejudice and thrives in an atmosphere of political indifference and legal contempt."

Ischar's exhibit runs through October 17.

What's the next event?

It's a **BIG SECRET!**

September 22, 1992



**FOURTH TUESDAY**

Fourth Tuesday, Inc. is a non-profit membership organization of lesbians from all backgrounds, coming together with the common purpose of creating and sustaining a safe and supportive environment in which to explore our concerns as lesbians, develop, share, and enjoy our strengths and resources, and experience positive images of ourselves through social, recreational, educational, and professional activities. Dinner programs are held on the Fourth Tuesday of every month providing topics of interest to the lesbian community.

**JOIN US !!**

Programs are held at the Castlegate Hotel, I-75 and Howell Mill Road. Reservations must be made by Friday at noon prior to each meeting.

**Information Hotline:**  
**(404) 662-4353**

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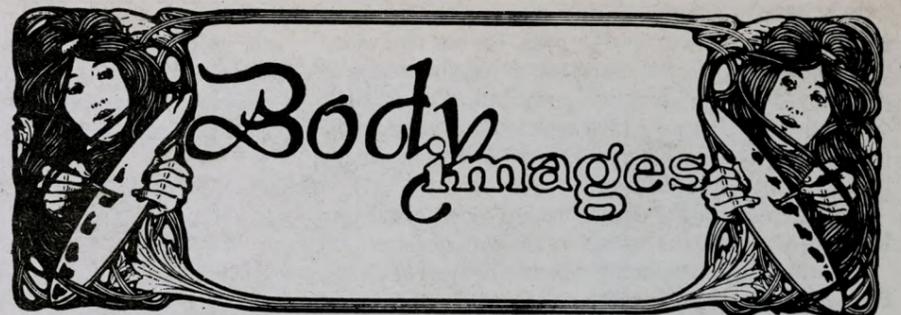


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Atlanta, Ga. 30307 524-0304

**HAPPENINGS**

**Thurs, Sept. 17, 7:30pm**  
**LIVING WITH BREAST CANCER**  
Lee Eberhart shares the story of her life journey with breast cancer.

**Thurs, Sept. 24, 7:30pm**  
**TWO WRITING WOMEN**  
Two local writers—Susan Shockey and Dianne Monroe—team up to share the evening. Susan will do her first public poetry reading and Dianne will read from her short stories and play.



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## C A L E N D A R

## 10 THURSDAY

**THROUGH RUBY'S EYES.** An acclaimed one-woman show written by and starring Barbara Banta runs tonight, Friday and Saturday. Seven Stages. 1105 Euclid Ave. 523-7647 for tickets.

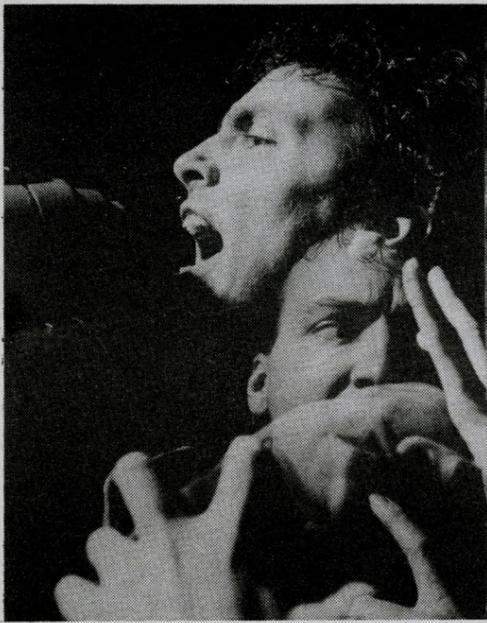
**THE VIRGINIA SLIMS SHOPPING FLING.**

Today through Sunday. Fabulous, although possibly politically incorrect, shopping fantasy featuring "hot fashions at slim prices." Cosmetic makeovers, hair styling and more all benefit AID Atlanta. Ga. International Convention Center. 659-0919 for more info.

**ARE YOU GIRLS TRAVELING ALONE?** Marilyn Murphy, columnist for Lesbian News in Los Angeles for 10 years, reads from her new book based on her columns. 7:30 pm. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

## 11 FRIDAY

**THE HARVEY MILK SHOW.** To those in last year's audience who laughed, wept, and shouted with joy, and to those who stood outside without tickets, word up: reserve now. Chris Coleman returns as openly gay San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk in this highly



acclaimed musical. Through Nov. 29. Actor's Express. 290 Elizabeth St.

**NEXUS ARTPARTY.** Tenth annual celebration featuring live music, fab food, and art as only Nexus knows. The gallery exhibits will include Doug Ischar's photographic installation "Bystander" (through Oct. 17), which uses light boxes, X-ray machines, and text to address the striking increase in anti-gay hate crimes. See story on back cover for details. Nexus Contemporary Arts Center. 688-1970.

**PINK TRIANGLES & BEFORE STONEWALL.** The Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance of Agnes Scott College presents its first annual film festival Sept. 11, 18 & 25. Triangles and

Stonewall are shown tonight. Watch this calendar for schedule of films for Sept. 18 & 25. All films shown at 8:15 pm. \$1 donation requested. Buttrick Hall on Agnes Scott campus in Decatur. 371-6575 for more info.

**WHY I LIVE AT THE P.O.** Southern Fried Productions presents Eudora Welty with a twist. A musical adaptation of the award-winning short story about the next-to-smallest post office in Mississippi with Papa Daddy, Stella Rhondo, Sister and the rest. Runs through Oct. 3. Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. 378-8646 for more info.

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

**ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE.** Through Sept. 19. As if breaking house records at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto weren't enough, Denise Hillis and Debbie Giraldo take a Midtown stage to dramatize a rare friendship between the country music legend and one of her fans. Part of the proceeds benefit the Ga. Council on Child Abuse. 14th St. Playhouse. 892-2414 or Ticketmaster, 249-6400.

**THE ART OF ARCHIBALD J. MOTLEY, JR.** Through Sept. 25. The first retrospective survey of a Chicago painter, considered one of the key figures in 20th century African-American art. The High Museum at Ga. Pacific. 577-6940.

**M. BUTTERFLY.** Through Sept. 26. Don't miss this Tony award-winning play about a naive diplomat who thinks he finds the "perfect woman" in Song Liling. Actor M. Ordone plays a Song you won't soon forget. Theatre in the Square in Marietta. 422-8369 for reservations.

**MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.** Through Oct. 3. Noted director Adrian Hall brings Shakespeare's comic battle of the sexes to the Alliance's main stage. 8pm. 892-2414.

**BACK HOME: REFLECTIONS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITIES.** Through Oct. 16. Portraits made by James Van Der Zee during the Harlem Renaissance, a Depression chronicle by Walker

Evans, contemporary artist Christian Walker's hand-colored family photos, and more. High Museum of Art at Ga. Pacific Center. 577-6940.

**GAY SPIRIT VISIONS.** Sept. 18-20. The third annual gathering for gay and bisexual men offers workshops from HIV and Spirituality to Erotic Touch. For a brochure write to: John Stowe, 232 Landsdowne Ave., Decatur, GA 30030.

**SEGRA RODEO PLAYDAY.** Sept. 19. An all-day event of traditional and "queer" rodeo events. Cash prizes and more. Events start at noon. C Bar J Ranch in Conyers. 760-8126 for more info.

**OUTSOUTH FESTE.** Sept. 24-27. The Southland's newest

## 12 SATURDAY

**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.** Yoel Levi leads the ASO in two of the most famous Viennese symphonies—Schubert's Symphony No. 5 and Mahler's Symphony No. 5. 8 pm. Symphony Hall. 892-2414 for tickets.

**HIV UPDATE.** This month's program features new AZT guidelines, discussion of the possible new strain of AIDS and antiretroviral combination therapies. Co-produced by AID Atlanta. 6pm, People TV, Atlanta Ch. 12.

**ELLEN JAMES SOCIETY.** Up front and out loud Atlanta band storms the stage at Variety Playhouse. 9 pm. 524-7354.

**JOSEF SUDEK: POET OF PRAGUE.** Evocative images of the great Czech photographer are on view beginning today. 200 vintage black-and-white photos from 1911-1976, most never seen in the West, cover subjects from views of Prague to gardens to nudes. High Museum of Art. Woodruff Arts Center. Tues.-Sat., 10-5; Sun., noon to 5. 892-HIGH for more info.

**ART AT THE EDGE: MINEKO GRIMMER.** Elements of Zen Buddhism and Shinto inspire the special installation created by Japan-born artist Mineko Grimmer for the High Museum's ongoing exhibition series, Art at the

Edge. The piece is an elegant sculptural installation created from wood, bamboo and other natural materials. Grimmer's is the 10th in the series of exploratory art. High Museum of Art. Woodruff Arts Center. 892-HIGH.

**CIVIL RIGHTS DINNER.** Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King and Molly Yard will speak at this tribute to Rev. C.T. Vivian for his leadership in civil rights. Vivian organized non-violent protests against segregation more than 47 years ago: a series of lunch counter sit-ins in Illinois in 1945. The tribute is sponsored by the Center for Democratic Renewal. 8 pm. Hyatt Regency Hotel. 265 Peachtree St. 221-0025 for more info and tickets.

## 13 SUNDAY

**BENEFIT FOR ALL SAINTS MCC.** Frank Miller and Janet Metzger join their talented forces for "An Afternoon of American Song", a concert to benefit All Saints MCC Church. 2:30 pm. Grant Park/Aldersgate United Methodist Church. 575n Boulevard. 370-1742 for more info.

**AIDS HEALING SERVICE.** A healing service for people with AIDS, their loved ones and those who have lost loved ones to AIDS. Dance, song, poetry and music blended with traditional scriptures. Performers include the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus. 4 pm. Sacred Heart Catholic Church. 353 Peachtree St. 522-6800.

cultural and artistic festival, co-sponsored by Southern Voice. Asheville, N.C. (404) 607-8225 for more info.

**OLDE ENGLISH FESTIVAL.** Sept. 25-27. The 17th annual event of food, music, drama and crafts is a benefit for local charities, including Jerusalem House. St. Bart's Episcopal Church. 953-1349 for more info.

**FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE.** Oct. 4. Put on your walkin' shoes for a cause that matters. Atlanta's 2nd Annual AIDS walk. Dionne Warwick, Kathy Mattea and others will perform. Find out how to be a part by calling 885-6800.

**THE SEARCH FOR INTELLIGENT LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE.** Lily Tomlin's one-woman show in which a number of different characters portray the progress of American women over the last 20 years. 10 am and 10:05 pm on Showtime. Also shows on Sept. 19, 22 & 30. Check your cable guide for times.

**ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS REHEARSAL.** No audition necessary if you attend this rehearsal. Join the best women's chorus in the country. 6 pm. First Existentialist Congregation. 584-6249 for more info.

## 14 MONDAY

**VOICES FROM THE FRONT.** In this superb documentary, moving personal accounts contextualize the historical progression of ACT UP in the United States, to form a wholly enlightening picture of the struggle against AIDS. Offers a damning critique of the inhuman systems that undermine the dignity of people with AIDS. Shows today, Tuesday and Wednesday. Cinefest Film Theatre. 66 Courtland St. Suite 211. 651-CINE for more info and times.

## 15 TUESDAY

**PROTEST AGAINST BLOCKING THE IDC MOVE TO PONCE.** The Coalition for the Grady Clinic on Ponce (a group of concerned local organizations) will hold a luncheon demonstration in front of Mary Mac's. Owners of Mary Mac's

and the Woodruff Bed & Breakfast Inn are leading proponents in a lawsuit to block the move of the Grady Infectious Disease Clinic to the Presbyterian Center on Ponce de Leon. Noon. Mary Mac's Tea Room. 224 Ponce de Leon Ave. For more info call 874-6782.

## 16 WEDNESDAY

**POSITIVE LIVING.** The premiere telecast of a 13-week series from the producers of "Out in Atlanta." This new series will be a forum for all persons living with AIDS, their loved ones, families and health care providers. Medical and nutritional information, interviews with activists, political leaders and educators, special events and activities and more. 2:30 pm on Cable Channel 12, People TV. Same show airs again on Sept. 19 on Channel 20 for North DeKalb residents at 10 pm.

Pictured:  
UPPER LEFT: Chris Coleman stars as Harvey Milk in "The Harvey Milk Show" opening on September 11 at Actor's Express. Photo by David Zeiger.

BELOW: "A Figure on the Lawn" by the great Czech photographer Josef Sudek will be on view at the High Museum of Art in the exhibition "Josef Sudek: Poet of Prague" opening September 12



# The White Orchid



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Love songs turn to get outta my life songs...  
we gotta right to sing the blues.

Fri. & Sat.—September 11 and 12, 10:30pm  
Kim Williams Lee Laforge Gina Grate

### Schedule of Entertainment

NIGHTLY: 6PM	LATE NIGHT: 10:30	SUNDAY
Tues. & Wed. <b>Allison</b>	Tues. & Wed. <b>WHITE ORCHID SHOWCASE</b>	Allison performs at noon <b>The Gayest Brunch in town</b>
Thur.-Sat. <b>Donna &amp; Co.</b>	THURSDAY <b>CATCH A RISING STAR</b>	<b>Cindy Nelson at 6pm</b>

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EATING OUT  
Your complete guide to restaurants

## Restaurant Listings

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515 N. McDonough St, Decatur • 373-2922

**Casal's** Virginia-Highland's newest restaurant. Informal fine dining. Seafood, steaks, veal & chicken. Vegetarian available. House specialties: cioppino, chicken petee. Homemade desserts. Dinner Sun-thur 5:30-10 pm; Fri/Sat 5:30-11 pm; Closed Mon. Full bar. Reservations accepted. Visa, MC, Diners, Carte Blanche.

1021 Virginia Ave., Atlanta • 873-9844

**Ciao Bella Café** Serving dishes from countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Open Tuesday-Sunday for dinner.

471 Highland Ave. (South of Ponce) • 688-8031

**Coco-LoCo** Serving the best Cuban/Caribbean food in Atlanta for the past 4 years, in a great tropical atmosphere. Visit our newest location downtown next to Peachtree center.

303 Peachtree Center Ave. Peachtree Center • 653-0070

2525 Piedmont Road Buckhead Crossing • 364-0212  
6301 Roswell Road Sandy Springs Plaza • 255-5434

**Crab House** Full fresh seafood menu featuring world famous garlic & steamed crabs & our fabulous All-U-Can-Eat seafood salad bar. Entrees \$9.95-17.95

Midtown: Piedmont at North Ave., Second Level, Rio Shopping Center • 872-0011

Marietta: 2225 Cobb Parkway • 955-2722

**Dusty's** Serving award-winning North Carolina-style pork, brunschwiler stew, chicken, and ribs. Dusty's Barbecue is celebrating 10 years of Hog Heaven. Prices \$4.50-10.95

1815 Briarcliff Rd. • 320-6264

**Gallus** Atlanta's first Gay restaurant serving the community since 1974. 2 floors, casual & fine dining. Daily specials, Full service menu and bar. Dinner 7 days a week 6pm-12am, Sunday Brunch 12pm-4pm. Reservations accepted. Visa, MC, Amex \$7.95-12.95

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**Hemingway's Bar & Grill** Key West's laid back atmosphere is just around the corner in Midtown. Island ambiance and menu. Lunch, Dinner, Late Night & Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days a week.

Juniper at 11th • 892-4922

**La Bamba** Atlanta's best Mexican restaurant. Sizzling fajitas, house specialties, combination platters and much more. Vegetarian combinations. Atlanta's only fresh fruit margaritas. Multi-color all weather patio. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. M-Th 11am-12mid; Fr 11am-1am; Sat 12noon-1am; Sun 12noon-11pm. Entrees 3.95-10.95.

1139 W. Peachtree St. (13th & W. P'tree) • 892-8888

**Marra's Seafood Grill** Serving Atlanta's finest seafood for 11 years. This "Best of Atlanta" restaurant offers only the freshest fish and shellfish—grilled to perfection or prepared with eclectic creativity. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:00, Dinner 7 days a wk. Lunch \$3.-10, Dinner \$8-14

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688-7324, FAX - 688-7430

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961 Amsterdam Ave. • 872-0114

**Milano's Pizza & Subs** Complete menu from salads to desserts.

736 Ponce de Leon, Common Market Place • 874-CALL (2255)

**San Gennaro** Keep the Neopolitan spirit alive with its festive atmosphere of a New York neighborhood trattoria. Enjoy our award winning calamari and other hearty Italian specialties indoors or alfresco.

2196 Cheshire Bridge Rd. • 636-9447

**Stringers Fish Camp & Oyster Bar** Serving a variety of appetizing seafood broiled, steamed or fried. Health conscious cooking, low country style, served in a casual atmosphere. Catch a good deal on a great meal. Lunch & Dinner Daily. Dine in or carry out.

820 North Highland Ave. • 873-2009

**The White Orchid** Atlanta's only Gay supper club. Dinner, entertainment and dancing in an intimate setting. Continental menu and full service bar. Dinner Tues.-Sun., Sunday Brunch. Reservations accepted. \$8.95-14.95.

1803 Cheshire Bridge Rd. • 892-3520

"She drives an old Volvo, makes her own jewelry, writes killer copy, looks half her age and her favorite is the Algerian Vegetable Tagine."



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sun-thurs 6-10 fri & sat 6-11



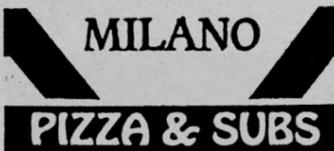
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**Cheese Pizza + 3 Toppings**

2 Large .....\$13.95  
2 Medium .....\$11.95  
2 Small .....\$ 9.75

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COUPON - FREE DELIVERY

**Family Combo Special**

1 Large Pizza with 1 Topping,  
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\$21.35 value

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COUPON - PICK-UP

**Cheese Pizza + 3 Toppings**

2 Large .....\$11.75  
2 Medium .....\$ 9.75  
2 Small .....\$ 7.75

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Buy one Entree  
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Offer valid for dinner only. Equal or lesser price entree free. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 9/10/92



892-8888

7739 W. Peachtree at 13th

# EAT

Two friends insisted that I take my tush to the **French Quarter Food Shop** (923 Peachtree St. 875-2489). "We go all the time," they said "and the people are just great, even when ten of us storm in wearing our Queer Nation T-shirts."

The FQFS is a true hole in the wall. Small, unassuming, and like Little t's (reviewed here last week), the tables are wrapped in plastic, although the napkins are cloth. There are a couple of tables on the curb, a few more in the cramped interior. At lunch you order from the counter and food is brought to you. At night the process is more formal—waitrons take your order and bring your food. A nice touch, but Commander's Palace this is not.

The menu is simple: nine kinds of Po-Boys; six entrees; three salads; and two desserts. The quality ranges from stellar to mediocre.

Errors first. A plate of jambalaya suffers from the ill-advised addition of uncooked white wine. It permeates the mixture, especially the pieces of white meat chicken. Advertised shrimp and andouille sausage are barely in evidence. Disappointing, to say the least.

On the other side of the coin, a deep fried soft shell crab (offered as special entree or appetizer) was so moist, crisp and sweet that three of us did pitched battle over its remains. A lemon, dill mushroom sauce adds to the excitement. If it's on the menu, order it. Red beans and rice are equally as well prepared though no where near as much fun.

Moist bread pudding, slathered in whipped cream and potent bourbon sauce is drop-dead good, especially its crusty edges. And a real bargain at \$1.95.

Other offerings fall between these extremes. Gumbo is flavorful, but on the thin side. Oyster and artichoke bisque is equally tasty, but overly thick.

Fried oyster and shrimp po-boys are decent, but lacking the snap and obvious freshness that a similar sandwich would pack in New Orleans. That observation aired, it should also be said that they are as good as, or better than, any like offering to be found in Atlanta.

The crowd at the FQFS is mixed and fun loving. Service is casual and mostly efficient, though there are lapses. Lunch is served Monday-Saturday; dinner, Tuesday-Saturday. Plan to spend \$9-\$15 a head.

## Steamy Stuff

Black & Decker has introduced a new gadget that would seem to be a worthwhile addition to busy kitchens or those with limited cooking capacity. The "Handy Steamer" sells for about \$45 and appears to avoid some of the pitfalls that sometimes occur when using a steamer insert in a regular pan.

The cooking bowls (one for rice, the other for veggies, seafood and the like) are clear so you can keep up with food's cooking progress, and the heating element shuts off if the water supply runs dry—no scorched pots here, thank you.

I'd be a happy camper if one appeared under my Christmas tree!

GARY KAUPMAN

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Your complete guide to restaurants

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Everyone's Saying: "Best Seafood In Virginia-Highland."

Variety Of Appetizing Seafood Served  
In A Casual "Dock-Side" Atmosphere

**Ice Cold Fresh Oysters On The Half Shell**

**Dinner Specials: Mon-Thurs**  
**Buy One Entrée, Get 2nd 1/2 Price**

Lunch Special: \$4.71 11am-3pm

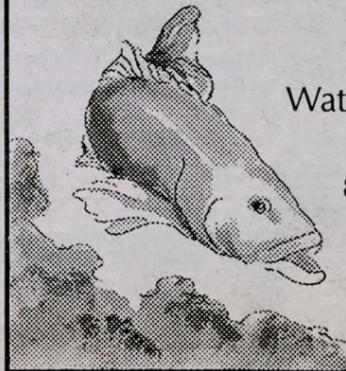
SUNDAY NIGHT IS SURPRISE NIGHT

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Watch Braves baseball with us!

830 North Highland Avenue  
873-2009

Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm  
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Sun 1pm-10pm



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SEAFOOD  
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Fine Dining  
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Influences of various  
cuisines creating a  
taste for everyone!

Dinner Only—Tues.-Sun.  
Hrs: Tues.-Th., Sun. 5:30-10:00  
Fri. & Sat. 5:30-11:00

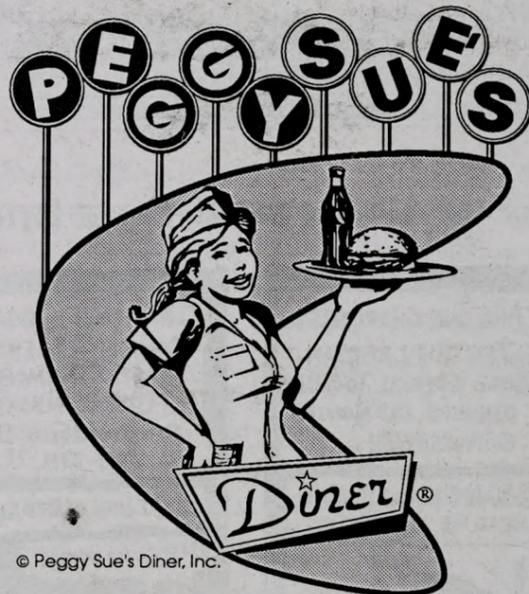
**873-9844**

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Healthy Diner Food?  
**YES!**

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M-Thurs 11-11; Fri & Sat 24 hours; Sun 11-11

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(corner of N. Rocksprings and Piedmont)  
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**One Potato, Two Potatoe?:** We are far too discrete to use names here, but we understand that at least one member of the board of directors of the Atlanta Gay Center is going around referring to the proposed new Atlanta Lambda Community Center as the lambada center. All of this makes Dish wonder: has this man had a lambadomy or does he just like to dance?

**Toothsome Travel:** One of the most attractive travel catalogs (at least if your tastes run to pumped and buffed men) that we've seen in some time arrived in our post box last week. In addition to the usual gay vacation meccas around the US, it features some truly lush looking spots in Europe, like the Canary Islands, Mikonos, Sitges and Ibiza. Only problem is, the "Man Around" catalog comes from a company in England. But you can get them to send you one. Just pick up the phone and dial 1/011/081/902-7177. The phone is attended 24 hours a day, so there's no need to worry about when you call. Pretty as the vacation pictures are, our fave part of the catalog is an ad for a chain of British clothing stores called the Clone Zone. Dish wonders is the lesbian correlative of this Dyke Duds? And exactly when do they plan to open a store at Lenox?

**Ask Any Angel:** The more spiritual among you may want to check out a new book authored by three folks, at least one of whom (Andrew Ramer) we know to be gay. "Ask Your Angels" (Ballentine Book, \$10) is loaded with history, fact and fictions about all sorts of divine spirits. Our fave part of the book though, are the dozens of exercises designed to actually put you in touch with your angels. They work, even with skeptics like Dish. Or, to quote the book, "talking with angels is an entirely natural relationship." We're even suspicious that Sherry Siclair (also known as the Grand Czarina of the Digging Dykes of Decatur) posed for the cover illustration. But then, maybe not. She's no angel.

**Oxymoron?:** If you are gay or lesbian and a Republican (Dish

# Dish

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



"Ask Your Angels" claims the little divine spirits are everywhere and trying to reach out to us

does not understand this, but is willing to admit that it apparently does happen) you may want to search out a copy of the August 24 issue of "Newsweek" for a look-see at a decent article on gay members of the GOP. By far the most startling revelation in said article is the fact that the Log Cabin Club (a GOP gay group) claims 38-40 percent of recently registered gay and lesbian voters "describe themselves as Republican." In Orange County,

maybe, but Dish knows hundreds of queers and only two who claim to be Republicans. And even they say they can't vote for George Bush and Dan Quayle.

**Not True:** Rumors that all the hotel rooms in Washington DC and surrounds are already booked for the weekend of April 23, 1993 are greatly exaggerated, say organizers for the 3rd March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. 'Tis true that hotels may tell you or your travel agent that this is the case, but that is because a group named Washington DC Accommodations has reserved many of the rooms and is just waiting for you to call them at 1/800/554-2220 to reserve your lodging for the March. Ask for Pat Endel when you call and tell her you want to stay with others from the southeast region (if that is the case). DC Accommodations is making a donation to the march for all reservations made through them.

**Honda Bashing On the Rise:** If you own a Honda Accord and live in an intown neighborhood, beware. Seems that someone has something against you—or your car. The police say that there has been a rash of incidents where the windows of Accords (and only Accords) are being broken out. Not Civics, not Preludes and certainly not Accuras, just Accords. And Nancy Schaefer thinks homosex is kinky??!!

**New Crime for the '90s:** Millions are starving, more are homeless, the deficit is climbing, crime is at an all time high, and optimism is at an all time low. But the police in Kansas City, Kansas have the time, energy and interest to look into the legality of a new service that charges \$50 an hour for a nude (or scantily clad) model to clean your house—you supply all the materials and, no, you may not touch. It seems that Kansas City has an ordinance that prohibits nudity in the work place and the cops intend to enforce it. Surrounding communities apparently have no such draconian regulations, so the owner of the service says he will promote his service in those areas.

SEPTEMBER 10 - SEPTEMBER 16, 1992

The Full Moon on the 11th is a Harvest Moon which is traditionally a time to gather in the crops and celebrate the approach of a new season. Also a good time to prepare for the weather change.

**ARIES**, time to pay some more attention to your health, especially in regard to the quality of food you are taking in and the quality of your rest. If you aren't sleeping too well, you may be carrying too much residual tension. Try to relax. **TAURUS**, your creative ability and energy may be very high right now, so use it carefully and be sure to have fun. Please don't try to pour all your creative ability into work and don't worry too much about a little chaos. **GEMINI**, if you are having trouble staying focused and centered right now, you may be looking at too many options at one time. It may be hard to do, but try to narrow the field down a little bit and you will feel like you have more control.

**CANCER**, as Mars moves into your 1st house of personality and physical presence, you may feel a surge of energy that will allow you to finish important projects at home or at work; it will

## STARSIGNS

also allow you to enjoy exercise a little more. **LEO**, your 12th house of dreams and visions is being activated by energetic and assertive Mars, so you may find you are dreaming more and possibly getting less rest. You may need an afternoon nap. Honor your intuition! **HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR VIRGO!** Hopefully you are having a wonderful month of celebrating with friends, family and loved ones. You should be enjoying yourself to the max and doing lots of fun things. This is your time of the year!

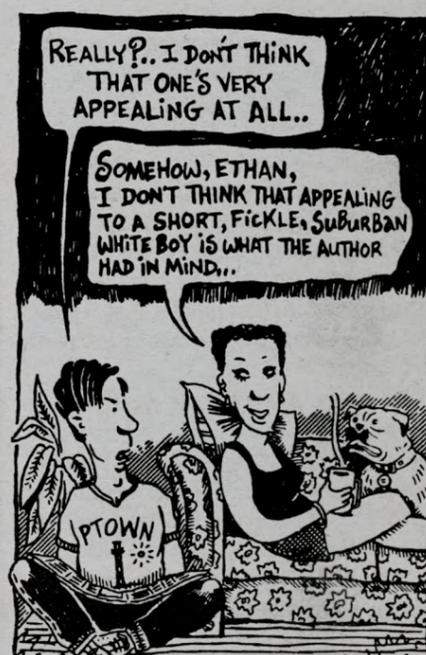
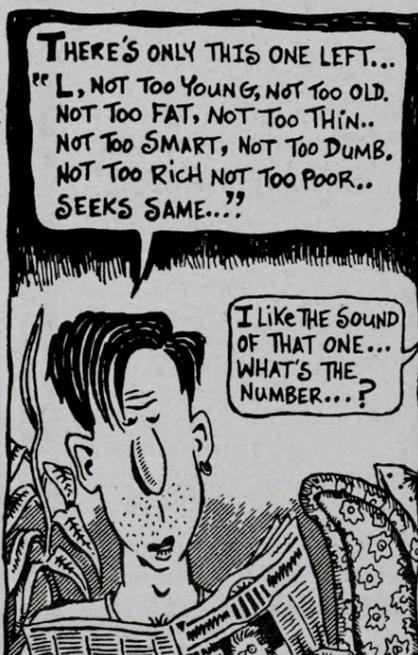
Dear **LIBRA**, if you are feeling somewhat off balance and a little confused about your life in general, you may need to take the time to sort out your personal priorities. Otherwise, it will be very difficult for you to make clear decisions. **SCORPIO**, this may not seem like the best time to start a new and intense relationship, but it is a good time to get out and make some new friends. Get

involved with community or political activities and have a good time. **SAGITTARIUS**, if someone interesting tries to move into a close personal/physical type relationship over-night, you may need to let them know, diplomatically of course, that you are not interested in a hit-and-run relationship.

**CAPRICORN**, even if you have had a real vacation this year, you may need to take another long weekend to relax, rest and regenerate. All this constant change is not always easy for you and it is not over by any means. So, take care of yourself! **AQUARIUS**, if you have been neglecting your spiritual life because of personal responsibilities or pressures in your work or career, then it is very important for you to make time to nourish your soul and renew your spirit. Popular **PISCES**, you may have lots of interesting people circulating in your life right now, wanting your undivided attention. Do your best to be discriminating, so you won't be overwhelmed by all this new input of image and energy.

MARY BAILEY RULE is a professional astrologer who specializes in personal and relationship chart interpretation as well as crisis management. She can be reached through her voice mail number, 717-4326.

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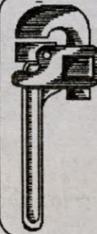
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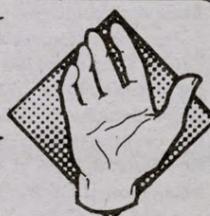
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AIDS Support Groups in Carrollton—All groups held weekly—confidential and free of charge. PWA/HIV call 214-8054. Friends & Family call Margo Barnard at 832-9866. Bereavement Group, call Pick Conner at 836-6505 (days) or 834-8195 (eve).

Support Group for HIV positive physicians and dentists. For more information contact: 634-0672.

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. 876-7257. Leave message.

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

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.

HIV/AIDS SUPPORT GROUPS IN CARROLLTON You don't have to deal with HIV/AIDS alone. All groups are held weekly—confidential and free of charge. PWA/HIV Support Group, call 214-

8054. Friends & Family of PWA/HIV, call Margo Barnard at 832-9866. AIDS Bereavement Group, call Pick Conner at 836-6505 (days) or 834-8195 (eve).

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.

SPIRITUAL HEALING CLINIC for HIV/PWA, caregivers, loved ones. First Tues. evening of each month. Facilitators trained & certified. Based on Brazilian spiritual healing clinics. Reservations & info 634-9693 or 256-9144.

Two weekly HIV support groups based on 12-step (but NOT recovery programs) available at First Metropolitan Community Church, 800 N. Highland Ave., NE, Tues. and Thurs. at 8:00pm. The Tues. mtgs are open only to those infected with HIV disease. Thurs. mtgs open to anyone affected by the disease. 872-2246 Tues-Fri. 1-5pm.

Jerusalem House houses up to 23 homeless PWAs. Our facility has expanded & needs help to furnish the new rooms. Individual / corporate donations needed / accepted. Send checks / pledges to Jerusalem House, Furnishings Prog, 100 Edgewood Ave, NE, Ste. 1002, Atl., GA 30303 or call 527-7627 for info.

HIV+ Narcotics Anonymous (NA) for African Am. Wed. eve., transportation avail; Family support group for loved ones of HIV+ African Am.; "Latex Lovers" sexpos. 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.

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.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 provides access to optional treatments for the HIV community in the Southeast. Our hours of operation are 12-5 PM, Tuesday through Friday. We are located at 44 Twelfth St., NE, with parking available in the rear. For further information phone (404) 874-4845, fax 874-9320, or write P.O. 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.

ACT UP/Atlanta: 874-6782 (office & 24hr. voice mail)

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)

Announcements

Special Project. If you'd like to help raise money for any AIDS service organization, call Donna, 879-9286 (or leave message). (5.30)

A low-cost support group is now forming for lesbians under 25. The group will be professionally facilitated. 321-0981. (5.29)

Make your contribution to history—The Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing would like your input to help build the Lesbian and Gay Collection at the Atlanta History Center. Next meeting Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 pm at AID Atlanta offices, 1438 W. Peachtree St. Call 876-1060 for info. (5.29)

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VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Recruit, train and manage volunteers for home-delivered meal system and kitchen. Send resume to: Karen Boyles, Executive Director, Project Open Hand/Atlanta, Inc., 1080 R. Euclid Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30307. (5.30)

Female, quadriplegic, late 30's, ventilator user, needs roommate / helpmate. Need someone to help as a driver / personal care attendant. Salary: \$30,000 annually. MUST HAVE EXCELLENT CREDENTIALS. Write letter of interest to Valencia, 1201 Glenwood Ave., SE, Atlanta, GA 30316-1939. (5.31)

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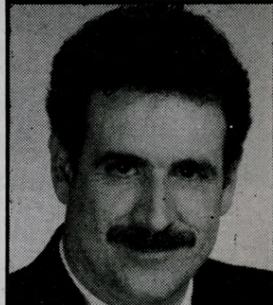
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Over 14,000 people and growing! Join GLAAD, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the national voice of gays & lesbians fighting for fair & inclusive coverage of our lives (here in the South, too!). Call (404) 605-7477 or write to GLAAD/Atlanta, PO Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30308. (5.31)

MORE VOLUNTEERS  
ON PAGE 22

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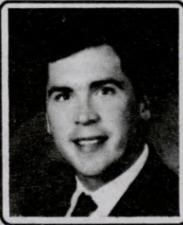
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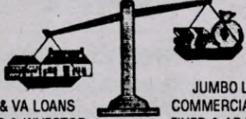
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PROJECT OPEN HAND needs volunteers to prepare and/or deliver meals to PWAs Monday through Saturday. A few hours a month can make a lot of difference. Contact Ralph McKay at 525-4620.

**Voice Connection**

**MEN**

GWM, 25, honest, sincere, looking for GWM 28-35 for good times, possible friendship leading to solid relationship. ☎ 50091

WM, mid 60s, 5'10", 160#, married, closeted. Can we share day-time viewing male/bi videos at your place? PO Box 18782, Atlanta, GA 30326. (5.30)

**KENNETH**

We met at Blake's Aug. 13th. Remember me from Berkeley, CA. Please contact me. Looking forward to hearing from you. Box 1306, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.31)

GWM, 23, attractive, 5'11", 150, model, relocating to Atlanta (Midtown) in mid-October. Seeking friends possible relationship. Send written response to Box 1305, 1189 Virginia Ave, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.31)

Tom from Atlanta, visiting Washington DC Thursday, August 6: sorry you had prior commitment. When will you return? Harry. ☎ 50081

BM seeks masculine top or versatile BM for uninhibited pleasure. Allow my tastebuds to explore. Box 57154, Atlanta, GA 30343. (5.30)

WM, 25, 5'9", 175 lbs., seeks other non-stereotypical WM 18-30 for friendship or more. I live in Chattanooga but travel to Atlanta weekly. All answered. ☎ 50090

**ROBERT**

We met Sunday night August 16th at Crazy Ray's, Thanks for showing me the city. I had a great time. Call me in Chattanooga. ☎ 50089

GWM, 30, 5'9", BL/BL, 170, looking for my "thirtysomething." Call VOICEbox for address or leave message. ☎ 50082

**TAG—YOU'RE IT**

Do you feel like the maytag repairman? No phone messages. No maintenance contracts. No service calls. Maybe I can change your life. ☎ 50085

Masculine, attractive GWM, 31, 6'1", 185# seeks masculine black male for fun & possible relationship. ☎ 50079

GWM, 32, 5'11", 165, HIV neg, short black hair, dark eyed top man needs light hair blued eyed bottom boy. ☎ 50086

GWM - Attractive, 6'2", 22, slim, seeks country boys, rednecks, masculine men, and butch daddies under 45 for friend or relationship. ☎ 50077

WM, 29, 6ft, 175, Bruce Willis type, DISCREET, closeted, seeks long, monogamous relationship with same. Henry, Rockdale areas. ☎ 50084

GWM, 29, Professional, nice-looking, HIV positive, is interested in meeting similar professional guys for friendship or possible relationship. ☎ 50080

GWM, 20; attractive, non-stereotypical, passionate, relationship-oriented, W.G.C. student seeks cute, young GWM student 18-22 for friendship or more. ☎ 50071

GBM, 36, 6'4", 185#; Top seeks tall and/or fat GWM into GR; welcome bald, beards, gray, hirsute, big feet. ☎ 50072

Hot, homy, hairy, heavily hung hunk, Daddy-type (early 40's) seeks sons, companions. Preferably tall, muscular, endowed. ☎ 50066

GWM, 31, 155, Br/Br, handsome, well-adjusted, hopeless romantic seeks swell guy (18-35) for relationship. ☎ 50065

WM, 31, 6'3", 230 lbs, professional, enjoys local music scene, movies, Braves, concerts, wants to meet intelligent non-stereotypical friends. ☎ 50067

Senior seeks to mentor, pamper, and have day-time relaxation and fun with attractive male 20-40. ☎ 50068

GBM, 35, Ph.D., honest, sincere, professional, financially secure, aggressive, seeks GWM, Italian, Hispanic with similar qualities. Let's talk / get acquainted. ☎ 50062

GWM, 22, college student, feels disgusted by the effeminacy and crudeness typical of gays; is looking for someone else who is not at home among them. ☎ 50064

GBM, 20, 6'3", 175, very attractive ex-model, seeks attractive, fit, professional yet fun GWM 21-35 for friendship or more. ☎ 50054

WM, 42, 180lbs, 6'2", HIV-, looking for masculine. Uncut, HIV-, blue collar kinda guy for afternoon shade breaks. ☎ 50052

Asians, Blacks, Hispanics! Mature WM, hot, fun, physical, more. Beginners welcome. ☎ 50056

BM, 18, 5'8", bottom seeks masculine male, any race, for fun, friendship and much more. ☎ 50051

Attractive, fit, professional GWM couple 26/38. Seek adventurous, imaginative, submissive, in shape guys into discipline, bondage, leather, servicing. Curious, inexperienced OK. ☎ 50055

**MASSAGE**

Attractive, gentle, strong, mature, WM, 45, 6'0", 165#, blonde/blue, seeks masculine men 25+, fun/friendship. ☎ 50045

Attractive GWM, 35, HIV+, seeks other GWMs for friendship & fun, I'm 5'6" BI/BI, 122#. Healthy. Call ☎ 50053

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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

GWM - handsome, lovable, blonde, submissive, surfer type. Love animals, Midtown, endowed, Gemini, positive, sincere, honest, drug free, musician. ☎ 50036

WM, 24, blond, blue, 6', 158#, seeks guys 18-30 for great times. ☎ 50043

Submissive WM, 30, fit and attractive, total novice, wants to learn strict discipline and dominance. At your service! ☎ 50037

Beguiling GBM, 30, Attractive-Long-Hair (bottom), seeks dominant attractive (top) but sensitive GWM Italian or Hispanic for relationship, good times. ☎ 50047

GWM, 23, cute, wants to meet guys 22-26, "semi-red necks," long hair a plus, pick up the phone & let's talk. No one-nighters. ☎ 50035

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

Dentures a Plus! Know what I mean? Short, husky, stud, 41, GWM. Looking for Mr. Right or Mr. Right Now. ☎ 50029

Professional GWM couple (28,29) seek similar couples for platonic friendship. Interests: movies, dinner, symphony, plays. Call us today at ☎ 50034

GWM does daytime cleaning, laundry, massage and service for attractive dominant. ☎ 50028

Attractive GWM, 40's, writer. Dark hair / beard. Blue eyes, 5'8". Into fitness, traveling, sex. Seeking prosperous 30's GWM author / publisher. ☎ 50031

Very masculine suburban WM, 40, 6', 175 lbs, dark curly hair, mustache. Seeks submissive daytime companion for discreet encounters & friendship. ☎ 50022

Laid-back WM 6'2", 175, 45, Sandy/Blue, wants a good buddy who's slim, Southern, professional, 30-42. Listening for you... ☎ 50024

WM, Blond, Blue, 6', 158#, seeks WM 18-30 for special friendship. Looking for someone w/weekdays free. Call ☎ 50032

A piece is missing from my life's puzzle. Is it you? GWM, 41, 5'8", Brn/Bl. Let's talk. Let's meet. Today! ☎ 50033

GWM, 29, handsome, trim, honest, compassionate, traditional acting, a sense of self-worth, a thinking individual, looking for same 25-35. ☎ 50026

**WOMEN**

Looking for a fun-loving friend-lover near Asheville, NC. I am feminine, healthy, a little shy, goofy (not looking), 30, and very much alive BIWF. Call me, talk to me, how else will we ever meet? ☎ 50093



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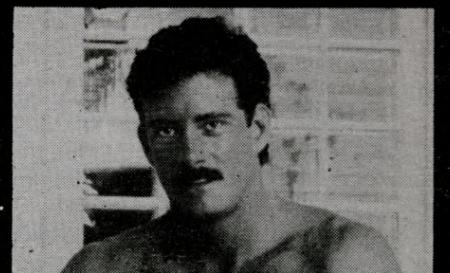
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CLASSIFIEDS

GWF: The 1st rays of sunlight filtered through gauze curtains, fell softly across my face and I smiled with a familiar thought. Would this be the day we'll meet? Rising from bed, I leaned towards the mirror. Deep chestnut eyes reflected 40 years of living—love, sadness, joy, desire, loss, accomplishment and hope. My gaze lingered and I imagined the spark that is you, vibrant, an enhancement to my life energy. A gentle woman, independent, sensitive, altruistic, unpretentious. Touched, as I, by the moon, water and earth. Your warmth is almost tangible. We are wiser now, able to place the past in proper perspective, to feel in the present while looking forward towards the future. Ready to trust, share and explore not only our sweetly intense ability to love, but also to share the opportunities and choices as they lie before us, sparkling like stars suspended in a clear night sky. Will our paths finally unite? My day has begun once again without you; it is my hope that by day's end you will, in return, write to me. PO Box 28662, Atlanta, GA 30358-0662. (5.30)

GWF, 30, affectionate, romantic. Enjoy sports, music, movies, walks in the rain, quiet evenings at home. No drugs. Friendship wanted first; honest, serious, loving relationship wanted most. Write CR, P.O. Box 2821, Smyrna, GA 30081. (5.31)

30 year old GBF looking for 30 & up GBF. No drugs and no drinking. ☎ 50087

Fem GWF, 22, into politics as well as old-fashioned romance. Seeking butch for possible relationship. TRAY ☎ 50078

Hot Chocolate professional, mother of one, 32, slender & attractive, seeking tall, slender, handsome woman to share quality time. ☎ 50076

GWM, early 40's, seeks feminine GWF 30's for non-sexual, non-monetary marriage. Wife will have resident status in 12 European countries. Serious replies only please: Box 1307, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.30)

Very attractive, feminine GWF, 31, professional, non-smoker who loves the arts, travel and theatre seeking same for fun or possible relationship. ☎ 50058

GBF, 38, professional, attractive, very effeminate, seeks the ideal aggressive female for serious relationship. Butches welcome. ☎ 50048

GWF, 28, intelligent, feminine, attractive non-smoker who lives near Asheville, North Carolina. Loves outdoors and romance. Seeks girlfriend for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 50057

GWF, 30, lonely, heart broken, seeking GWF for friendship, possible relationship. No more games. Honest, serious. Loves outdoors, movies and more. ☎ 50060

GBF, 22 looking for GF's between 21 & 30. For friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 50073

Pretty GBF, 25, 5'5", 120 lbs, very affectionate. Seeks gay fem female who's intelligent and serious about a friendship / relationship. ☎ 50074

GBF, 33, good looking, fun loving, serious, aggressive, drug free. Seeking 100% lesbian, 19-33 years old, companion to travel with on a Caribbean vacation. Absolutely no bisexuals, smokers, no drugs, for friendship and possible romance. ☎ 50069

F musician seeks others (M/F) for new band. Blues / Rock / Folk / Country. No pop. It scares me. ☎ 50070

GWF, 34, 5'5", Med., brown/blue, Creampuff Dyke, but no twinkie. No drugs, alcohol, bars. Seeks friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 50061

GF with interstitial cystitis wants to meet other G females with interstitial cystitis to form support group. Confidentiality assured. ☎ 50059

New to Atlanta, GBF, in search of that special lady who's not afraid of an interracial relationship. ☎ 50049

Seeking attractive hermaphrodite female for friendship & possible romance. Me: attractive, androgenous female. Intelligent, funloving. Let's talk. ☎ 50040

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

GWF seeks "sensual" lesbian over 27, not into playing games for long term monogamous relationship. ☎ 50041

Attractive GWF, 26, 5'6", 140#, shapely build, tomboy / feminine. Loves outdoors & old movies. Seek GWF, 25-35, feminine for possible romance. Call ☎ 50027

Music lover (Album 88 to Bonnie Raitt), romantic fem. seeks androgenous, fun-loving intellectual for REAL friendship / relationship. Let's talk and get to know each other. ☎ 50021

GWF, 25, Attractive, fit, independent, professional, non-smoker. Love outdoors, time w/friends & romantic evenings. Seeking GF for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 50042

Adventurous, fit, responsible, cute, non-smoker, romantic, sporty outdoors lady GWF seeks to meet friends and compatible GWF. ☎ 50030

Single black female, 30, professional, discreet, seeking same. Enjoy movies, theatre, music and love to have fun. ☎ 50044

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GWF. You are: 30-40, health conscious, non-smoker, independent, self-assured, honest, You're slim, attractive, comfortable w/sexuality without making a statement. You like movies, snow, beaches, quiet times, good friends. You are not into outside appearance only. I am all of the above & more. ☎ 50039

Looking for a friend, companion, and possible lover for fun, concerts outside, and sharing time. I'm 18, fem. Heaven seeker ☎ 50038

Are you educated, fun, attractive, slim, feminine, a cat-lover? This similar GWF, 25, is interested in friendship or romance! ☎ 50046

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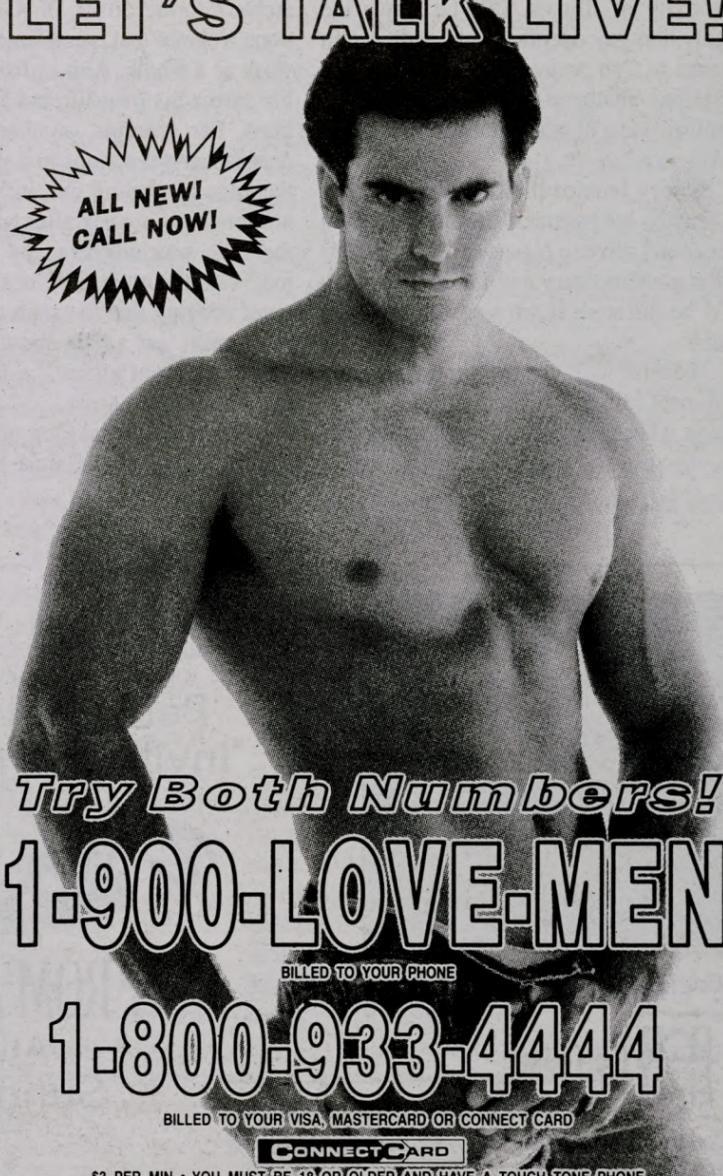
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# Photography exhibit at Nexus is first in the country to focus on hate crimes

Chicago photographer Doug Ischar's visual denunciation of the war against lesbian and gay Americans, on exhibit much of this and next month at Nexus Contemporary Art Center, is as startling as the latest statistics. The fact that bashing nationwide has gone up 130 percent since 1988—to use National Gay and Lesbian Task Force stats—is central to Ischar's work as an artist on the cutting-edge. As a gay man, his message is personal and painful and emotive.

This is the first major art exhibit in America on the subject of hate crimes, said Sydney Jenkins, director of the Nexus Gallery. "It puts Nexus ahead of the curve once again," he added.

Atlanta figures significantly in the work, which will go on from here perhaps to Cambridge, Mass., and New York.

The exhibit will be in place when 2,000 Nexus members gather at 8 pm, September 11, for the annual ArtParty. This is big-doings for Nexus. People will come from all over. Ischar's exhibit, which he calls "Bystander," opens that night. Not all the images are apt to please Bush/Quayle & Co., or anyone who is uneasy with sexuality.

Sexuality and perception drive hate crimes against gay people, said Sydney Jenkins, and in Doug Ischar's new work sexuality is a presence.

"The work is not sophomoric or juvenile," said Jenkins. "It is intelligent and sophisticated. When I came here as Gallery director I pressed for a visually innovative approach to social and political topics, and Ischar is one who delivers it."

It is also Ischar's inventive use of light boxes, x-ray machines, film and text that impresses the people at Nexus.

In a conversation from his home in Rogers Park, Chicago, the artist, an associate professor at the Chicago campus of the University of Illinois, said he wants the largely non-gay opening-night audience in Atlanta to "go away with their easy assumptions shattered, and to question the simplistic view of what it means to be queer in America."

Sydney Jenkins thinks the exhibit will do okay by his patrons. "People who get in the car and drive to Nexus expect to see art that is contemporary and jolting," he said. "It'd be different if we were in Gwinnett Mall."

The artist will be at the party, and guests who meet him are in for a surprise. For a person whose labor is one prolonged outcry, 43-year-old Ischar himself is agree-



Detail from Doug Ischar's photographic installation "Bystander" which opens Sept. 11 at Nexus Arts Gallery. The exhibit is the first in America on the issue of hate crimes.

ably low-key and detached and unwilling to strike artsy-fartsy poses. He speaks of his own history—for example, the suicide of his father—in muted tones. But when that history is translated in his work he takes no prisoners.

There are four installations, or sections, in "Bystander." One embraces the death of Ischar's former lover, of AIDS complications, a choice that is emblematic of Ischar's work as a whole. Almost from the start of his career his own life has fueled his options. For example, another section renders Ischar's reactions to a young man on the edge of coming out, in San Francisco not long ago; a week after Ischar met him, the man was murdered by an "ordinary joe," said the artist. The local press busted a gut denying that the slain man had been gay, that it was a hate crime. He was cast as an "innocent victim," a bankrupt term that outrages the artist.

Other images take up martyred Spanish writer Federico García Lorca and his

macho-idealization of "pure" Walt Whitman whilst at the same time denouncing the libidinal "decadence" of Iberian gay men. It was more than García Lorca's gay sexuality, it was also his progressive politics, that inspired the fascists to murder him in 1936, but the manner of the dark poet's death strongly affects Ischar and illustrates the pull that the Latin world has on him. Much of his childhood was spent in Key West and San Diego where that world was a fact of everyday life.

His interest is seen too in those parts of this exhibit that treat Fidel Castro and the thousands of Cubans who fled their homeland in 1980 when President Carter cracked the door only a little bit. Present-day persecution of Cuban gays and lesbians is the point. But it is the Castro image upon which Ischar projects an old-timey porn flick that will test the ArtParty guests who drop by for a little bit of culture.

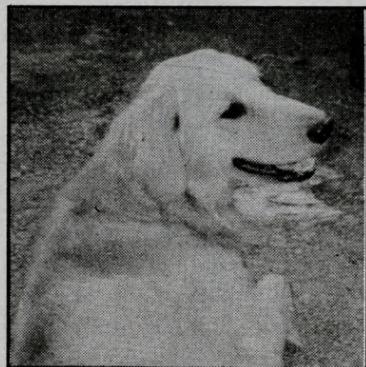
None of the four sections of "Bystander" is more troubling than the one

Ischar researched several months ago in Atlanta, of the "Handcuff Man," a wealthy Virginia lawyer named Robert Bennett. Police said Bennett drugged and mutilated male prostitutes he met in the underbelly of this and other cities. Can it be said that local police irresolution and judicial leniency in the Bennett case were kindled by the fact that the victims were street hustlers? In Doug Ischar's hands the question resonates.

"I'm not singling Bennett out for his crimes," said Ischar. "I'm more interested in the people, the powers-that-be, who allowed him to do what he did. There will always be a 'Handcuff Man' every few years, but we can hope there won't always be police and judges who look the other way."

The exhibit will be at Nexus through October 17.

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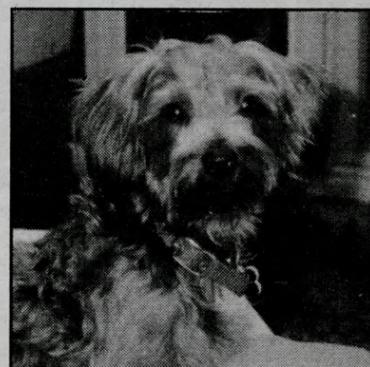
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