

S O U T H E R N

# VOICE

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## Quayle tones down anti-gay rhetoric

Los Angeles (AP)—Vice President Dan Quayle, trying to win back moderate voters, sought to soften the hard-line Republican stance against abortion and gay rights on September 8.

Quayle, in the midst of a three-day West Coast campaign swing, said even he disagrees with parts of the GOP's conservative platform. He declined to give specifics.

The vice president was mounting what he acknowledged was an uphill fight to keep this economically distressed state from voting Democratic for the first time since 1964.

On a widely watched morning television show, he spent an hour fielding questions from Los Angeles residents worried about jobs, the AIDS crisis, school budget cuts, abortion rights and what one man called the "homophobia" evident at last month's Republican convention in Houston.

Quayle was told that many moderate Republicans and Democrats who voted for Ronald Reagan felt excluded from the GOP.

The party does have "a conservative voice and a conservative philosophy," Quayle responded, but "I just don't buy this idea that we are excluding."

Quayle said homosexuals should vote for Bush if they agree with him on most issues, whatever their disagreement with some platform planks. One of those planks opposes efforts to include sexual orientation as a protected minority status under civil rights laws and declares the GOP against any laws recognizing same-sex marriages or sanctioning gay adoptions.

"If you go down all the 150 issues, I'd even have some disagreements with them," said Quayle.

He sought to play down the platform's support for a constitutional ban on all abortions, though he strongly supports an amendment making most of them illegal. He spoke instead of wanting to see the abortion-legalizing Roe vs. Wade decision overturned so states could set their own rules.

"This is a step-by-step approach," he told reporters. "I am trying to use the political arena to change attitudes, to have more reflection on the tragedy of abortion."

On other subjects, Quayle:

—Apologized anew for President Bush's breaking his no-new-taxes pledge two years ago, saying, "We raised taxes on the American people and we put this country right into a recession...He's learned."

—Tried to keep the heat on Bill Clinton concerning the Democrat's draft record, four years after undergoing intense press coverage on a similar issue. "Bill Clinton simply has not told all the facts," he said.

—Met privately with former President Reagan, who he said reminisced about the standards Hollywood observed during Reagan's acting years. Quayle, who has been fighting with Hollywood over traditional values, said, "Ronald Reagan strongly supports what I am doing and saying."

—Contended that his widely publicized criticism of television character Murphy Brown for giving birth out of wedlock was intended as "a wake-up call to the deadbeat dads of America" but was distorted by Hollywood "as criticizing single women and single mothers."

Concerning allegations of "gay-bashing," Quayle said on KTLA's morning television show, "I don't think you've heard any of that rhetoric coming from me...(or) the president."

Quayle has said gay relationships do not deserve the same status as heterosexual marriages—a position echoed in the Republican platform.

And in his Aug. 20 convention speech, Quayle criticized the idea that "every so-called lifestyle alternative is morally equivalent." He said the next day he believes "like most Americans...that lifestyle is wrong. That's not saying people don't have the right to make that choice."

"Listen to what the president says and what I say and more importantly watch what we do," said Quayle. "We are the ones that have implemented a non-discrimination policy when it comes to gays and lesbians...We're proud of that record."

He defended the military ban on homosexuals as "a little bit different issue." Democrat Bill Clinton has promised to reverse that ban.

CHRISTOPHER CONNELL

## Georgian files first AIDS cap lawsuit under ADA

Tim Bourgeois died ten days after lawsuit was filed

Atlanta—Tim Bourgeois made history ten days before his death. On August 27, a legal complaint in his name was filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), charging Garner Fast Foods with illegally cutting his health insurance benefits by a potential \$960,000. It appears to be the first AIDS cap lawsuit under the Americans with Disabilities Act. On September 6, Bourgeois died at West Paces Ferry Hospital. A gay man and resident of Norcross, he was 28 years old.

When Garner hired him to work at a Hardee's restaurant in October 1989, Bourgeois enrolled in a group health insurance plan that provided lifetime benefits of up to \$1 million, according to the com-

plaint. After he made claims for treatment of AIDS, however, Garner allegedly made a change: it limited AIDS-related benefits to \$40,000.

Bourgeois called the AIDS Legal Project at Atlanta Legal Aid. "We talked with him in late spring, and made a strategic decision to wait until the ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] went into effect July 26," said staff attorney Chip Rowan. "The problem with litigation is clients sometimes don't live through it. Tim knew that. We knew he might die soon, and he was very, very clear. He wanted this case to help others, and he told us to go ahead."

The EEOC, the federal agency that must decide

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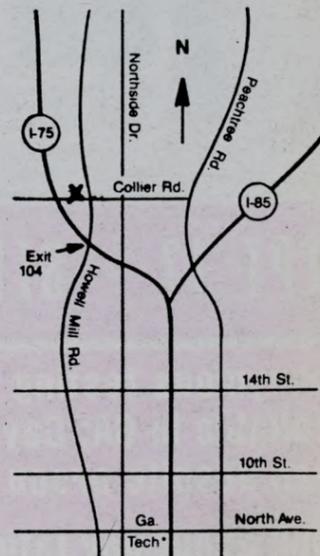
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## Anonymous HIV tests still available

Gay Center Clinic open despite arson

Atlanta—Neither smoke nor flame nor bureaucratic regulations have stopped anonymous HIV testing in Georgia. While Atlanta Gay Center staff and volunteers cleaned up after an arsonist, administrators in the state Division of Public Health (DPH) pondered exceptions to a new rule that says doctors must report the names of HIV-positive people.

The rule, championed by Columbus physician John Watson, Jr., will take effect January 1. All test-takers who test positive for HIV will be listed in a state data base. In anonymous testing, however, names are never recorded. The reporting rule allows anonymous testing to continue at sites "operated by or on behalf of the Department of Human Resources."

Joe Wilber, director of DPH's communicable disease branch, told Southern Voice that he discussed the rule with DPH director Frank Houser. "Approval is up to Dr. Houser and me," said Wilber, "and we are going to pass anyone who wants to do anonymous testing—including private physicians, if they want to be an 'approved site.' We're going to make them charge a reasonable [low] fee, though."

Every county health department in Georgia is already required to do anonymous testing. DPH also supports other programs by training their staff and volunteers, providing medical supplies, and doing their lab work—all for free.

word "gay" with a euphemism. "When something like that [the arson] happens, you not only have to rebuild, you have to do more than before," he said. "We're not going to cut back or be any less outspoken."

After seeing media reports of the fire, Bob Meeks, owner of All Forms Insurance, sent an agent to the Gay Center. Meeks has written policies for the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee, gay bars, and gay businesses for 15 years. "Insurance is available, and we can get it if they want it," Meeks said. "It's a practically guaranteed acceptance with the Georgia Underwriting Association, and it's very inexpensive."

"We've had several people offer to try and help us find insurance," responded Gripp, "and we will certainly investigate all the offers. We'll be happy to consider serious proposals from anyone who wants to submit one."

As of press time, no arrests had been made in the Gay Center arson. Burglary is a possible motive. Change was stolen from a donation jar and a refreshment fund, and break-ins and thefts have occurred at the clinic and center before, said Gripp. Aside from leaving a single penny in the jar—possibly a sign of disrespect—the arsonist left no message.

A second fire of "suspicious origin" occurred at the Piedmont Counseling Service, the office where Bill Gripp works, on Sept. 9. The fire department arrived at 7:01 am and had the blaze under control in 13 minutes. Origin of the fire is under investigation by the Arson Squad said Tim Szymanski, public information officer for the Atlanta Fire Department.

The Gay Center clinic has won high acclaim for its anonymous testing program. Of

## Atlanta City Council president wants condom sales

Public hearing to be held before vote on measure

Atlanta (AP)—The president of the Atlanta City Council says he stands behind a proposal to require businesses that sell liquor to also sell condoms in hopes of stemming the spread of AIDS.

"Abstention is not working in our society," Marvin Arrington said. "It's a tough, tough issue and I don't purport to have the right answers, but what are the naysayers doing?"

The council decided Sept. 8 to delay voting on the proposal until a public hearing is held. No date has been set for the hearing, Arrington said.

"I am willing to debate it in any public forum," he said. "Sex is here. Look at the statistics on teen pregnancy. You have to be blind not to see teen-age pregnancy. We are just being naive."

Under the proposal—modeled after a Boston measure that was vetoed by Mayor Raymond L. Flynn—any business that sells liquor would be required to sell condoms. Such

businesses include restaurants, hotels, theaters and caterers.

"I think it's the prudent thing to do," said Clint Monger, manager of Taco Mac restaurant in Sandy Springs, just north of Atlanta. "I'm sure we'd sell them if we had to."

The measure was approved last week by the City Council's Public Safety Committee. Arrington said he recommended returning the proposal to committee after several hotel and restaurant owners complained.

"One said he would hate to be sitting in a restaurant and see a 14-year-old girl getting exposed to condoms, but I think it's a very good time to get exposed," said Arrington, a former chairman of the board for Outreach Inc., a non-profit group that assists people with AIDS.

"I've seen 13- and 14-year-olds die from AIDS. AIDS is not a secret," he said.

Arrington suggested the measure's sponsor, city council member Carolyn Long Banks, make the proposal after he learned of Boston's measure.

Flynn vetoed the Boston proposal requiring restaurants and bars to install condom vending machines because it would encourage sex, he said.

Boston's city attorney also said the city couldn't legally tie entertainment licenses to condom sales, Flynn said.

## AIDS activists pressure Congress and Bush for stronger commitment to AIDS

Washington, D.C.—AIDS activists from around the nation arranged meetings and staged "door-to-door drop-ins" with U.S. Congressmembers and staff September 8 and 9 to maximize federal funding for AIDS research, care, and prevention programs.

Lobbyists blasted both President George Bush for exaggerating his administration's AIDS spending and Congress for short-changing research spending.

"The disease is winning and young people are dying," warned a straight-forward Daniel T. Bross, AIDS Action Council (AAC) executive director, convener of AIDS Watch '92. "We need greater commitment from every level of government."

Bob Hattoy, a person living with AIDS (PLWA) who addressed the Democratic Convention on prime time TV, helped kick-off the eleventh-hour push by nearly 200 activists. "I'm angry that we're being lied to by this administration and members of Congress," he said. "I'm on Capitol Hill to tell the truth."

The Los Angeles environmentalist and Bill Clinton campaign staffer was joined by San Francisco activists Reggie Williams and Martin Delaney, among others, at a packed press conference. The 20 participants wore red ribbons to symbolize the escalating AIDS struggle.

The two-day lobby effort occurred as Vice President Dan Quayle expressed a more tolerant view on abortion and homosexuality and tried to distance himself from conservative allies. But AIDS Watch activists were not impressed.

"A few special interest groups" have held the Bush White House "captive" to gain control of HIV program content, charged Williams, who heads the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. Their sense of morality "should not dictate the effectiveness of prevention strategies which community-based organizations all across the country have shown to work."

Delaney, who founded Project Inform to dispense AIDS treatment information, spot-



Tony Sykora of Georgia spoke in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 8 about the dramatic rise in AIDS cases in rural America.

lighted Bush's billion-dollar response to Hurricane Andrew's destruction. "One more time, when we believe that suffering matters, we can find the money. The suffering from AIDS is surely as great. The loss in human life from AIDS is staggeringly greater."

Lobbyists want full funding for AIDS research at the level sought by the National Institutes of Health, \$1.195 billion, or \$332 million more than Bush's request. And they seek Senate approval of the total NIH budget, \$9.376 billion, or \$165 million more than the House of Representatives has approved.

"We're asking for a relatively modest amount of money," said Delaney, "We will be here en masse until we get what is needed to address this problem."

Tony Sykora, a PLWA from Cobb County, Georgia, warned that rural America is experiencing a "tidal wave" of HIV and AIDS cases. "We're in dire need of help to stem the tide. Cutting funding is nothing short of genocide," he charged. "I implore all Americans to write their elected officials to apply pressure for more funding."

Added Delaney, "The family of man has AIDS. If [Bush] can't, simply, [understand] it, he's asleep at the wheel."

JOHN ZEH



The Atlanta Gay Center Clinic, one of only three anonymous HIV testing sites in Atlanta, is open despite a fire on Aug. 28 believed to be the work of an arsonist.

In return, the programs agree to provide free testing, although they can charge a nominal fee (usually \$10-\$15) to those able to pay. In Atlanta, three DPH-subsidized programs offer anonymous HIV testing: AID Atlanta, Outreach Inc., and the Atlanta Gay Center.

Gay Center Clinic open despite arson, but no fire insurance

Arson hasn't interrupted testing at the Gay Center, which was open for its regular 16 hours last week. Clients went to the main building at 63 12th Street while the clinic office next door was locked. Inside, "everything is covered with soot," said center director Bill Gripp. The clinic ceilings are black, he said, and all carpet and fabric-covered furniture is ruined. Although the fire was confined to the kitchen, it was hot enough to melt plastic venetian blinds in the next room. To refurbish the clinic, said Gripp, "We need people to help with the cost."

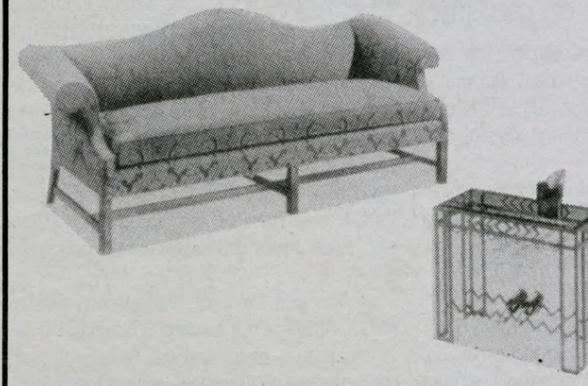
The Gay Center has no fire insurance. "No one would sell us any," said Gripp. "We tried a number of agents over the years, and nobody would sell insurance to anybody called the Atlanta Gay Center." He added that the center refuses to be intimidated into replacing the

approximately 2,500 people who visited for tests last year, 95% or more returned to learn the results, said Gripp. In 1990, the National Community AIDS Partnership (NCAP), which funds hundreds of U.S. programs, recognized the Gay Center as one of its 10 outstanding grantees. The return rate for tests was "the highest anyone had ever seen," said David Sheppard, a consultant for NCAP's local funding partner, the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation.

In comparison, the return rate for anonymous HIV tests at DeKalb County's public clinic is 65%, "a little bit above the state average," and the county does 5,000 to 6,000 such tests a year, said program director Stuart Brown. DeKalb County also does 4,000 to 5,000 "confidential" tests, said Brown; the return rate for those is "on the order of 25%." After Magic Johnson came out as HIV-positive, the demand for anonymous testing jumped by 25%, he said, and remains steady at the new level 10 months later.

GARETH FENLEY

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**Book about gay father causes uproar in NC town**

*Goldsboro, N.C. (AP)*—When a child pulled "Daddy's Roommate" from a shelf in the kids' library, he began a conflict that touched on censorship, homosexuality, divorce and who chooses books for the library.

Library director Therese Bigelow likened the Goldsboro furor to the controversy surrounding the publication of "The Joy of Sex" in 1974, which wound up behind counters in many libraries.

"People change. We could probably order a book like that now and not hear a word about it," she said.

"Daddy's Roommate" uses simple terms and illustrations—showing Daddy and his roommate, Frank, eating, working and sleeping together—to tell the story of a gay, divorced father from the child's perspective.

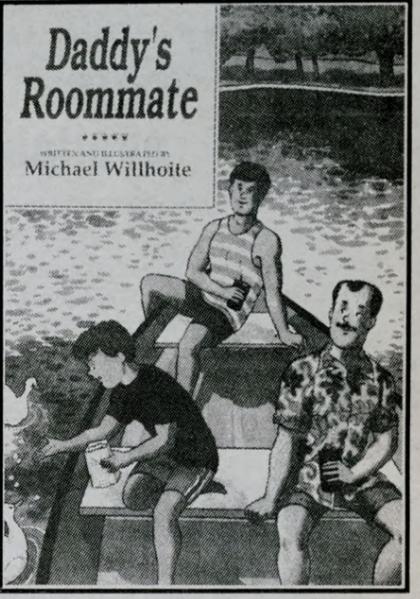
Similar disagreement over the book has occurred this year in Roswell, N.M., and Springfield, Ore. as well.

"In most cases, (librarians) say it's the most controversy they've had about a book in memory," said the book's publisher, Sasha Alyson of Alyson Publications in Boston.

It all started when one of Joe and Karen Grant's children plucked the book from the "easy reading" section of the children's library. The Grants filed a formal complaint. After a review, Ms. Bigelow moved the book to a section of the children's library dealing with juvenile social issues.

Grant said the book's seemingly simple message is deceiving and implies approval of divorce and homosexuality. And he thinks "Daddy's Roommate" really doesn't help the child of a gay father.

"I think it would probably help him accept his father more, maybe, but at the cost of denying his own emotions about the whole



issue. And that might be of benefit to the father, but is it a benefit to the child?" he said.

Some say the book has no place in the library. Others want it moved to the adult section so parents, rather than children, would see it first and could decide if it's appropriate.

The issue went to the library board, which decided 7-2 last month to keep the book in the juvenile social issues area.

Delmus Bridgers, a city councilman and member of the library board, said he's not worried about the book.

"If that would be the worst thing we've got in this town, I'd be tickled to death," Bridgers said. "I have 12 grandchildren and I don't think their reading it would have any effect on them. People ought to be educated as to what is going on in this world."

Grant hasn't given up, and says his campaign has wide support in the community. Letters to the Goldsboro News-Argus since the board's vote have run strongly in favor of moving the book out of the children's section.

SUE PRICE WILSON

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**Three Tenn. men may face attempted murder charges for beating gay man**

*Chattanooga, Tenn. (AP)*—The Hamilton County grand jury will decide whether three men should go to trial on attempted murder charges for allegedly beating a man they suspected to be homosexual.

Mark Fults was critically injured outside a suburban apartment complex two months ago when three men accused him and a friend of being gay and beat them, Fults' attorney Jack Brown said.

"Their only provocation was that they thought he was gay," Brown told The Chattanooga Times on Thursday.

Fults could not be reached for comment. Gabriel Goins, Richard Day and Terry Calbough appeared at a preliminary hearing in city court on Sept. 3. There was no testimony during the hearing and their cases were bound over to the grand jury. All three are charged with attempted first-degree murder.

Fults was hospitalized for 16 days and injuries included a collapsed lung, Brown said.

Fults weighs about 110 pounds and suffers from a congenital disease that weakens bone and muscle. Brown said his frail appearance may have lead the men to believe Fults had AIDS.

**Jacksonville, FL teachers using rubber gloves**

*Jacksonville, Fla. (AP)*—Some school principals here have given rubber gloves to teachers caring for students with skinned knees and bloody noses after learning that about 100 Duval County children are infected with the AIDS virus.

Educators don't know how many of the

youngsters attend public schools.

Teachers should "look at any blood as a problem," said J. Alfred Bowers, the school system's physician.

Of the 1,117 cases of AIDS had been diagnosed in Duval, 44 cases were in children under 13 years of age. Between 60 and 70 others are HIV-positive and capable of transmitting this disease.

Teachers should be washing their hands, keep medical gloves in their desks and wear the gloves when in contact with bleeding students, Bowers said.

**Thirty condom dispensers installed at Clemson**

*Clemson, S.C. (AP)*—Thirty condom-dispensing machines have been installed at Clemson University dormitories and fraternity houses in a move one school official said reflects the reality of AIDS.

The AIDS Task Force, a group of faculty staff and students who study issues about AIDS and its effect on the university, recommended installing the machines, said Almeda Jacks, Clemson vice president for student affairs.

Students have had access to free condoms from Redfern Student Health Center for three years, said Parvin Lewis, university health educator. Students also could buy condoms at the university bookstore and in the University Union.

In 1991, Redfern distributed 14,000 condoms and 13,000 free birth control packets to students.

The University of South Carolina dispenses 20,000 to 25,000 condoms a year through its student health center, said USC spokeswoman Debra Allen.

The condoms are sold for a minimal fee, she said.

### Police Chief Commends Officers For Handling Of RNC Demo

Houston Police Chief Sam Nuchia has released a report commending his officers for their handling of a violent confrontation with gay rights and AIDS activists during last month's Republican National Convention during which three demonstrators were hospitalized. The report was criticized by civil rights groups demanding that Mayor Bob Lanier appoint an independent investigator to review the fracas outside the Astrodome at the conclusion of the Aug. 17 march. Police riding horses and carrying clubs charged protesters as they set fire to several street barricades and likenesses of President Bush. Activists claimed they were brutalized after being herded into a dead-end street. Police say they merely responded to unruly protesters who hurled bottles at them and tried to unseat mounted officers. The four-page report said the demonstrators repeatedly violated laws, including extending their parade past a two-hour limit. Other alleged violations included igniting a smoke bomb, obstruction of a street and criminal mischief. Nancy Bunin of the Clark Read Foundation, a Houston civil rights group, called the report "a whitewash filled with inaccuracies and omissions."

**Battle To Ban Gay Rights Heats Up In Oregon** Members of the Oregon Citizens Alliance are distributing fliers door to door in a stepped-up effort to pass Measure 9, the anti-gay rights initiative, in November. The OCA is distributing 500,000 copies of a four-page broadsheet urging "Vote YES on Measure 9! To Stop Special Rights for Homosexuals." The initiative would amend the Oregon Constitution to define homosexuality as abnormal and perverse. It would prohibit any government from extending specific civil rights protections to gay men and lesbians. Opponents say the measure would legalize discrimination against gays and touch off a witch hunt. Ellen Lowe, a spokeswoman for the "No on 9" campaign, said the flier is inflammatory, quotes material out of context and relies on guilt by association—linking homosexuality with pedophilia, for example—to make its points.

**Indiana Town Passes Amendment On Gay Rights But Votes Down Ordinance** The Lafayette, Indiana City Council on Tuesday approved an amendment concerning gay rights on September 8, but then voted to defeat the human relations ordinance that contained the amendment. If the ordinance had passed, Lafayette would have become the first city in Indiana to pass an ordinance protecting discrimination based on sexual orientation. The amendment's sponsor, Councilman Jerry Ledbetter, vowed to continue his support of the proposal. He had written it after witnessing discrimination against his son, Greg Ledbetter, who is gay. Several gay people told the council they had been fired from jobs, forced out of homes and harassed because of their sexual preference. But Hal Metz, president of Lafayette Citizens for Decency, told the council that voting for the ordinance would be trampling on his rights as a citizen. "The gay rights ordinance is specifically designed to destroy families," Metz said. "You cannot have homosexuality and marriage. We must defend the family."

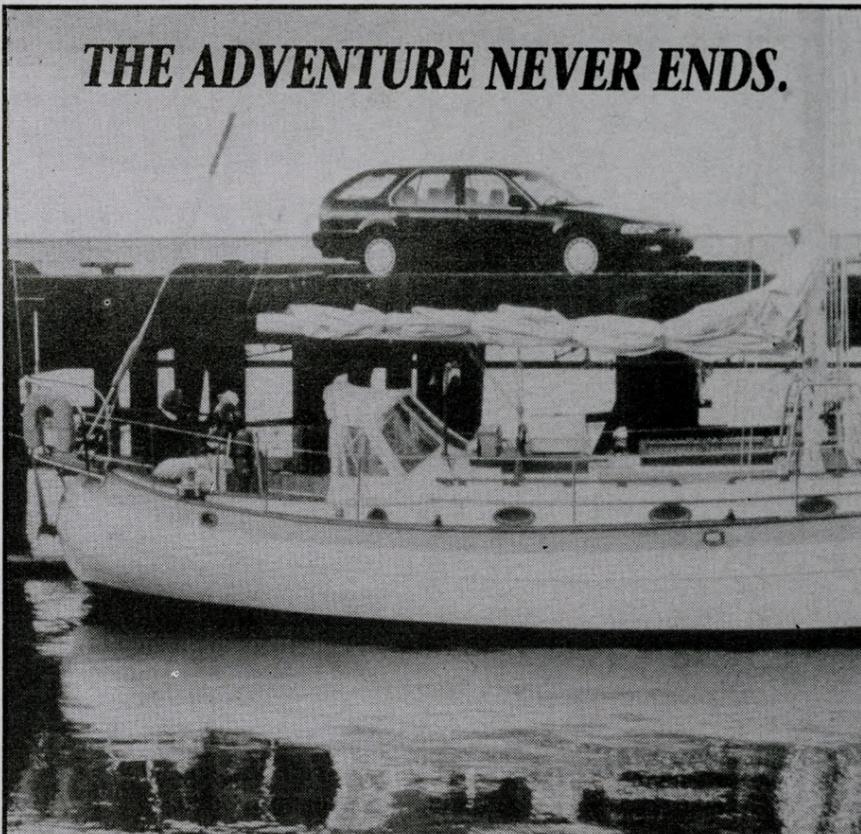


Ken Jones, director of the San Francisco Stop AIDS Project

local Boy Scout Council President Ronald Brundage told Merino he no longer meets "the high standards of membership which the Boy Scouts of America seeks to provide for American youth." Merino, 37, has worked with the Explorer program for five years. "I'm preparing a response now that asks why I no longer fit their 'acceptable standards.' I'd like to know what exactly has changed," he said. Merino says he plans to appeal the decision.

**Gay Flag Under Attack In San Francisco** Religious fundamentalists in San Francisco are calling for the removal of the rainbow flag, a gay pride symbol, that flies over the Harvey Milk Branch Library in Noe Valley. The library is named in honor of the first openly gay member of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors. Milk was assassinated in 1978. Complaints against the flag were lodged with the city by the Christian Coalition. Coalition member Josef Youmtomb called the flag a "divisive symbol that proves once again that gays are given more rights." Other members of the group called the flag a "glorification of the homosexual lifestyle."

**Ashe Tennis Challenge Kicks Off AIDS Campaign** Tennis great Arthur Ashe announced recently that a tennis challenge featuring eight of the best players in the world would kick off a personal 15-month campaign to battle the AIDS epidemic. "The commonality of all people affected by this virus is that they are humans," he said. Ashe said he expected the campaign to raise between \$2.5 million and \$5 million by November 1993. The kickoff for the campaign by the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS was the AIDS Tennis Challenge held on August 30 at Flushing Meadows. The event was hosted by United States Tennis Association. Top players included Andre Agassi, Jim Courier, Mary Jo Fernandez, Steffi Graf, Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, John McEnroe, Martina Navratilova, Pete Sampras, Monica Seles and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario. Ashe won Wimbledon in 1975 and is the only black to have been ranked No. 1 in tennis.



## THE ADVENTURE NEVER ENDS.

# CURRY HONDA

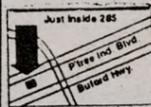
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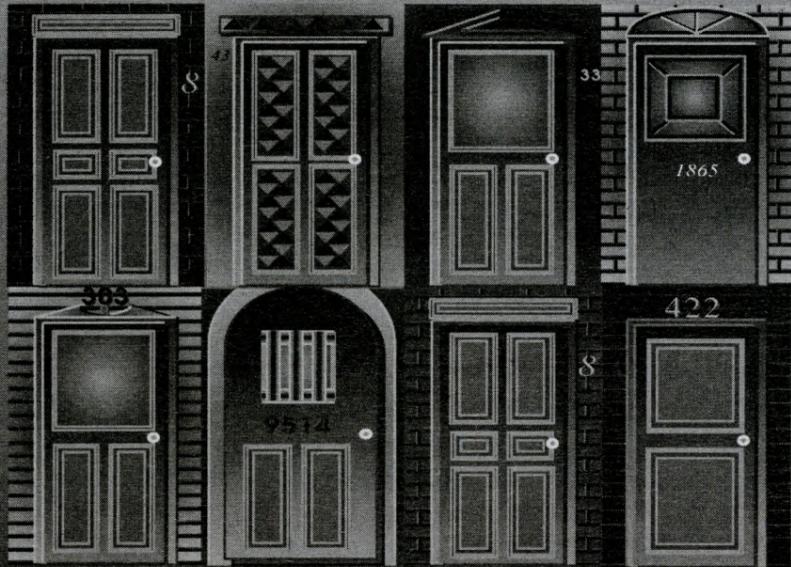
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## ddl more effective than AZT for some

*San Francisco*—Researchers reported that ddl (didanosine) was found to be a more effective antiviral than AZT (zidovudine) among 643 HIV-positive study volunteers who were asymptomatic or diagnosed with AIDS-related complex (ARC).

A total of 913 study participants, including 270 individuals diagnosed with AIDS, were monitored by researchers at 44 medical centers across the country. The objective of the study was to determine the effectiveness upon changing antiviral treatment from AZT (600 mg) to either a low (500 mg) or high (750 mg) dose of ddl among people at various points on the HIV disease spectrum who had previously tolerated AZT for at least 16 weeks. The results of the multi-site trial was published in the August 27 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

"The implications of the study are that it's better for our patients who have tolerated AZT for 16 weeks to change to ddl," stated James Kahn, MD, a UCSF assistant professor of medicine and principal investigator of the study.

Participants in the study receiving the higher dose of ddl generally were reported to have fared better than those taking AZT, but not as well as those on the lower dose of ddl. All the study participants taking ddl showed an initial improvement in the CD4 (T-helper) cell count, indicated a posi-

tive immune system response. Researchers noted that over time, the CD4 counts among those taking ddl began to decline, but at a slower pace than those taking AZT. The drug ddl also proved to be less toxic to blood cells, while those taking AZT experienced more instances of anemia and low white blood cell counts, common side effects associated with long-term use of the drug.

The study, known as ACTG 116B/117, was conducted between 1989 and 1991 by the federally-sponsored AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) and was funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease of the National Institutes of Health. Early results of the study were presented in the fall of 1991 to the federal Food and Drug Administration, which led to the approval of ddl for use by people diagnosed with AIDS who could no longer tolerate AZT and others exhibiting progressive HIV disease. Researchers emphasized that the study highlights the potential importance in changing from one antiviral drug to another, and the need for further research to identify the timed optimal effectiveness of these drugs, either alone or in combination. "Hopefully, it (the ddl research data) will allow for expansion of criteria for which it's now approved," added Kahn.

ARTURO JACKSON III

## Georgia State Offers Therapy Groups for HIV+

*Atlanta*—Three years ago it was an experiment. The folks at the Psychotherapy and Behavior Therapy Clinic at Georgia State University wanted to judge the interest in, and efficacy of, a therapy group for people who were HIV+. Not a support group, a therapy group.

The experiment was a success and the clinic now offers three ongoing therapy groups for individuals who have HIV.

What are the differences between these groups and the support groups offered by numerous organizations around town?

Each of the three groups is lead by two graduate students who are close to completing their Ph.D.'s in psychology. The students receive supervision from well known Atlanta psychotherapist Dr. David Loftis.

The weekly groups are ongoing and limited in size to eight, and while there are openings in all three groups, these are not open, drop-in arrangements where the composition may vary from meeting to meeting. By joining, you make a commitment to attend regularly and to work on your personal growth issues.

"The result of those commitments is that the group is more stable than a support group," says Jay Beard, co-leader of one group. "The members say they like that stability."

"Members of these groups are dealing with the same issues that anyone in a regular psychotherapy group would be dealing with," adds Loftis. "But the fact is that they are dealing with a potentially fatal disease and that intensifies the process. Time becomes precious and these folks are less likely to waste time."

"Having a serious disease forces therapy issues," concludes Nicki Scofield, co-leader of a group with Beard.

Members of the groups tend to be gay white men from their 20's to their 50's, but there are a few blacks and Hispanics and at least one non-gay person. Despite the fact that the groups are held at GSU, most of the members are not students. Fees for the groups are low and on a sliding scale, so affordability should not be an issue.

The groups are not appropriate for those who are not easily ambulatory or who may be suicidal. "This is not crisis intervention," warns Loftis.

Those who may be interested in joining one of the groups should contact the Clinic at 651-2859 after September 21.

## NBA Joins AIDS Battle

*Baltimore (AP)*—NBA players from around the nation visited Baltimore last week to learn how to be AIDS/HIV peer counselors following Magic Johnson's announcement that he is HIV-positive.

"We feel that the presence of well-informed peer counselors within the team structure will be invaluable...and they will share within the larger community the fact that AIDS is a preventable disease," said Dr. Alan Goldberg, the program's coordinator at The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

The training session included basic education about AIDS and the HIV virus, visits to patients with AIDS, role playing and sessions with young adult peer counselors.

Hopkins educators have conducted locker room discussions about HIV and AIDS over the past eight months to demystify the disease for NBA players. The program has installed an AIDS/HIV hotline and begun voluntary, confidential AIDS testing.

## AID Gwinnett quietly goes about its business

A pregnant black woman tests seropositive. Her physician informs her of a clinical trial through which she could receive free AZT but her lover advises her against participating in government experiments that use black people as guinea pigs. A man suffering from AIDS-related dementia has to cancel an appointment which may cost him his welfare check in order to keep his clinic appointment since the earliest rescheduling would be at least three weeks away. A young woman with chronic pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) must find affordable housing because her mother doesn't want her younger children to catch AIDS from kissing their sister.

These people live in Atlanta, right? Wrong. These PWAs are all residents of Gwinnett County. And quiet as it's kept, for the past two years AID Gwinnett has been helping these PWAs, and many more, keep their heads above water.

"There's a lot more people out there who need help than we see. That's probably because they don't know we're here. If this article gets the word out, that's what counts," says Ron Johnston, AID Gwinnett Vice Chairperson, who became involved after attending an AG support group with two friends who were infected.

Gwinnett County is a predominantly white middle class enclave with a median household income of \$100,000-120,000 per year. According to the 1990 census, Gwinnett residents are approximately 91% white, 5.2% black, 2.4% Hispanic and 3.9% other groups. Over the past decade, Gwinnett attracted a heavy influx of young professionals mostly from out of state which boosted a population increase of 111% between 1980 and 1990.

However, Johnston describes AID Gwinnett's clientele as anything but homogenous. "Our clients range from people who are absolutely scraping bottom on Social Security to people whose household incomes are over \$100,000."

### Helping despite resistance

AG Educational Coordinator Kathy Farriba noted, "Many of the families that moved here brought teenagers and younger children with them. Our main thrust as far as educating the community goes is reaching young people. Of course being in the Bible Belt, you're gonna get resistance as far as what you can talk about in the schools. But we're a very new organization, and we really haven't yet made a concerted effort to get into the schools."

The youth outreach group, which currently consists of three young women volunteers and Farriba, holds presentations mostly for church youth organizations. Farriba admits such contact is limited and direct methods such as condom demonstrations are prohibited.

But Farriba commends the Gwinnett County Commissioners for being highly supportive. Councilperson Renee Untermann sits on AG's six-member board of directors and often uses her influence in gaining AG access to high ranking officials and private committee meetings. When the Sheriff's Department expressed interest in staff training, Untermann referred department heads to AG. Beginning later this month, AG will sponsor 8 four-hour seminars presented to Sheriff Department employees.

### History of AID Gwinnett

In early 1989 Dr. Elliot Raizes (now an AG board member) was the only known infectious disease doctor in the county. Beth Raizes, Dr. Raizes's wife and secretary, observed the growing number of PWAs who had no services or support offered by the county. One of those PWAs was the son of Peggy Terrell, now the chairperson of AID Gwinnett.

Len Terrell, Peggy's husband, notes "This was a disease you couldn't talk about with your family. There were no real services in Gwinnett and most people didn't want to go into Atlanta for that."

Beth Raizes contacted the Terrells and other relatives of PWAs and arranged regular meetings where people could talk about how they were affected. They soon mobilized to address the lack of services in Gwinnett County. In October, 1990 AID Gwinnett was given official status as a non-profit service organization, and now serves over 40 clients with a staff of 53 volunteers.

### Outreach and services

On Saturday, September 19th, AG will hold an educational seminar entitled "How To Live in the Age of AIDS" at the Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville. The workshop covers a gamut of pertinent topics including medical concerns, psychosocial implications, daily living and legal/insurance issues.

"This is our third seminar," Johnston notes. "We're doing them quarterly. Every time they get bigger. We're going to include a panel discussion about living with AIDS. There will be several different categories on stage. People who have AIDS, HIV-positive people, companions, people who have lost children. We're gonna have a 48-year-old grandmother there who just found out that she's positive. She isn't gay or an IV-drug user. She doesn't fit any profile in the world, but she's positive. That's the scary part. It's spreading out quickly."

Not only do these seminars provide people with the education necessary to cope with these times, they also serve as effective publicity events for AG. AG recruits many of its volunteers through these workshops. "People get interested. The volunteers tell them about us and we tell them, if they're interested we'd like them to join."

In addition to its educational workshops, AG provides a myriad of other services. Every month, AG conducts a variety of support groups to accommodate different segments of the affected community. Groups for PWAs meet twice a week; family and friends, twice monthly; and children of PWAs, once a month. A visitation group makes routine visits with hospitalized PWAs and AG schedules transportation assistance for those commuting to AG meetings and doctor appointments.

AID Gwinnett is growing by the day, a clear sign that AIDS is reaching further and further out into rural America. Group facilitator Tom Hightower noted, "Every day the PWA list grows; the phones ring off the hook. A lot of people think they don't have a problem in Gwinnett, but they do."

To volunteer for AID Gwinnett or to find out about its services call (404) 962-8396.

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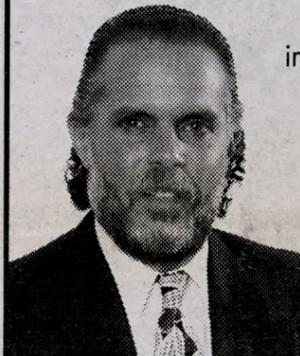


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2

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## OCCASIONS

### ANNIVERSARIES

Paula Needle and Ruth Anne Davis will celebrate six years together on October 4th. No official celebration plans yet, but we're sure it will be romantic. The two met at Congregation Bet Haverim. Congratulations!

Hugh Brandon and Kyle Abbott celebrated their five year anniversary on September 14th. The two Auburn alums marked the event by attending the Auburn football game on September 12th.

Kathy Jones and Maria DeLanghey will celebrate five years together on September 27. Here's wishing you two many, many more.

The picnic, originally scheduled for last Saturday was postponed due to heavy thunderstorms. "We just came back, turned on the music, and the people started arriving," said Patrick Bell of AALGA. Bell said the event was organized by AALGA to gather both visiting and local gays and lesbians to network and to enjoy each other's company. It was also an opportunity for black lesbian and gay organizations to distribute information about their services. The picnic was also the debut of the new AALGA flag which features a pink triangle floating on black, green, red, and gold stripes.

### SPECIAL NOTE

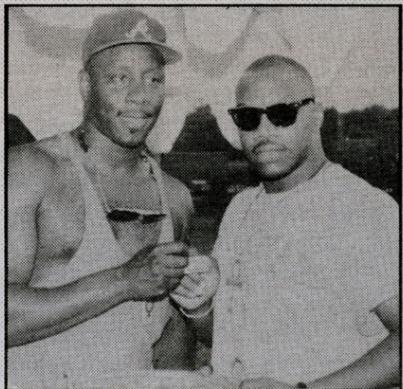
Several weeks ago in Occasions, you read that Joshua the Miracle Kitty was recovering from surgery in the Chellev/Gagnon household. I am sad to report that after a relapse, Josh was put to sleep on August 17th. The house is very empty without his presence, and he is sorely missed. But, good can indeed come from tragedy. The good Doctors (Janette Friel and Melissa Rayfield) at Inman Animal Hospital, made a donation to Cornell Feline Health Center in Ithaca, New York, in Josh's memory. The Center is dedicated to finding ways of preventing and curing diseases in cats, educating vets and owners and aiding vets when unknown diseases occur. The Center is part of Cornell University, but must rely on outside donations to continue its valuable work. If you want more information on the Center write Cornell Feline Health Center, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Ithaca, New York 14853.

### BIRTHDAYS

Lisa Daniels celebrated her 33rd birthday September 8th. At last report she was still trying to find time in her busy schedule to slow down and celebrate. Hope you found something relaxing to mark the occasion, Lisa, and Happy Birthday!

### JOBS

Roy Griffin has joined the staff of the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS. He'll be conducting education programs for PWAs, their families and friends and loved ones. Roy was a charter member of NAPWA, and is a long-time survivor of AIDS.



La Don Bell of Savannah (left) hands Quinn Jenkins of Dallas, Texas a condom at the People of Color Pride Picnic on Labor Day. Bell distributed more than 500 condoms to dramatize the need for safe sex.

### THANK YOU NOTE

ACT UP/Atlanta would like to thank the people who gave practical support during their Aug. 1 picnic-style Action and Vigil at the old Presbyterian Center on Ponce de Leon, hopefully the future Grady Infectious Disease Clinic. Thanks go out to Queer Nation/Atlanta; Outreach, Inc; the Project Open Hand driver who brought the lunches which couldn't be delivered to their clients—food was not wasted, and AIDS activists were fed; the Chicago people passing through who bought Haagen Dazs, cokes and juice; and the phantom leather benefactors who brought the fried chicken. A special thanks goes out to Larry Pellegrini who brought by doughnuts at 2 am, only to find the vigil had ended at 10:30 pm. Sorry, Larry, hope you didn't go into sugar shock eating all those yourself.

### CELEBRATIONS

Over 150 people attended the first annual African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance (AALGA) In the Life: People of Color Pride Picnic in Piedmont Park on Labor Day, Monday, September 7.

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

## Bourgeois (con't.)

whether Bourgeois has a right to sue, quickly opened the case. "Usually when you file something in the EEOC, it goes into a black hole," said Rowan. "This time, they called me." An investigator told Rowan that the case is receiving personal attention from the commissioner in Washington.

With its sweeping and ambiguous provisions, the ADA may or may not put an end to AIDS caps. The law prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, including HIV status, in all terms and conditions of employment, including fringe benefits. Regarding insurance, it says employers can still sponsor plans that rely on "traditional underwriting and classifying of risks that are not inconsistent with state law." Rowan

argues that a Georgia law outlawing AIDS caps in certain plans is relevant, even though it doesn't directly apply to the Garner plan.

Alpharetta-based Garner Fast Foods owns at least seven Hardee's franchises in metro Atlanta, according to the complaint. Garner's attorney Joe Bynum said he remembered talking to Rowan, but had not seen the complaint.

Tim Bourgeois is survived by his lover August Gonzalas as well as two parents and many other relatives. His body was buried in the family hometown of Gonzalas, Louisiana. Memorial contributions may be made to From All Walks of Life.

GARETH FENLEY

## NEXT WEEK

**Positive Living** This new cable TV show from the producers of Out In Atlanta focuses on the HIV community.

**The move** of the Grady Infectious Disease Clinic to the Presbyterian Center on Ponce de Leon has prompted a lawsuit by business owners and an outcry from activists who say the move is for the best. Next week we'll tour the Presbyterian Center and give you both sides of the story.

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

## This time we have a chance

To the Editor,

Our community now stands at a pivotal point in our struggle to take our rightful place in American society. In this election, the gay and lesbian electorate finally have a real chance to make our voices heard and to promote our fight for equal rights, ending the military ban on homosexuals, real progress on the AIDS crisis, and reproductive choice for women. However, to be part of that electorate, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE!!

Voter registration is a fairly simple process. You will need some sort of identification and you must register in the county in which you reside. The process takes about five minutes to complete. If you have moved since last registering or have not voted within the past three years, you must re-register. You must be at least eighteen years of age by the date of the election (November 3, 1992) and, if a convicted felon, must have completed your sentence and probation. Those are all of the qualifications.

Voter registration is not an automatic process. No matter how many governmental agencies have your name and address, the only one that counts when it comes to voting is your county voter registration office. Also, the voter registrars will not come to you; you must go to them to register.

Most counties have many permanent voter registration sites. Public libraries, schools, fire stations, police precincts, and other public offices and agencies are frequently used for permanent sites. Also, temporary sites are set up, usually just prior to elections, in churches, shopping centers, apartment house lobbies, parks, community events, and organizational meetings.

In Fulton and DeKalb counties, organizations such as LEGAL (Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians) are sponsoring temporary sites throughout Midtown and surrounding areas and around Decatur. Look for them! If you're not registered, DO IT! There is no cost (You'd be surprised at the questions registrars get!) and you will not be subjected to campaigning (registrars must be totally non-partisan while on duty).

For those of our family who are outside Fulton and DeKalb counties, contact your county voter registration office (listed in the phone book under county government) or look for temporary sites in your county.

Let's not miss this opportunity to further the cause for equality! We need everybody's help and everybody's voice.

Make the commitment now to REGISTER and to VOTE!

October 5, 1992 is the last day to register. Do it.

Sincerely,  
John L. Stephens

## Spend money for HIV reporting on AZT

To the Editor,

There are several issues going on that directly affect each and every one of us in the gay community. It is time for Gay Atlanta to be seen and heard.

As you may have already heard, the State has run out of the funds it was providing to pay for AZT to those that can not afford this drug. At the same time, the Department of Human Resources has unanimously voted to form a Central Registry to list those people who test positive for HIV. This registry will cost over \$1,000,000 a year to run. DHR says its reason for this

Central Registry is to offer treatment to those who may not otherwise know that they are HIV Positive. It is ironic that they say this because the treatment funding source is bankrupt.

Do you want your personal and confidential medical information given to the government? Tell your doctor that you do not agree with this policy, and you want him to lobby the DHR to reverse it, then write the Governor and demand that the same money be spent on AZT for those that can't afford it.

The other major issue that will affect our people is the proposed Infectious Disease Clinic on Ponce de Leon Avenue. Fulton County has voted to go ahead with this project but a group calling itself the Ponce Corridor Business Association has filed a law suit to stop construction of the new clinic. Their suit claims such reasons for opposition as the landscaping won't fit in with the neighborhood and they don't want another social agency in the area. These people want our business but they don't want to support things that affect our community. Places like Mary Mac's Tea Room and The Woodruff Bed and Breakfast, to name a few, are behind this law suit. A boycott of these businesses is in affect so don't support them with queer money.

There are protests and a general boycott of businesses on Ponce de Leon Avenue that support the Business Association planned. These business names will be announced soon. Please, attend these protests and spend those queer dollars at queer friendly places.

Ken Jowers



## VOTE '92

The logo you see here is one of many you'll see around town until the Nov. 3 election. LEGAL (Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians), HRCF (Human Rights Campaign Fund) and Art Vote '92 have joined forces to set up voter registration sites targeting the lesbian and gay community. These drives can only be used by Fulton County residents, others must register in their counties of residence. The deadline to register for all Georgians is Oct. 5.

Additional drives may be set up for DeKalb County. For more information call LEGAL at 605-7476. For more information on Art Vote '92 call 876-1060.

The following is a partial list of voter registration sites in Fulton County in the month of September. You must have one proof of identity (drivers license, social security card, etc.) to register. No proof of residence is required.

- Sept. 19 — Ansley Mall, noon-4 pm.  
Atlanta Arts Festival, Piedmont Park, all day.
- Sept. 20 — Winn-Dixie, Midtown Promenade, noon-4 pm.

Atlanta Arts Festival, Piedmont Park, all day.

Sept. 21 — Ansley Kroger, 3330 Piedmont Ave., 5-7 pm.

Sept. 22 — 4th Tuesday Dinner, Castlegate Hotel, 6-8 pm.

Sept. 23 — Better Bodies, Midtown Promenade, 5-7 pm.

Sept. 24 — Grady IDC, 80 Butler St., 8 am-noon.

Sept. 26 — Ansley Mall, Noon-4 pm.

Ansley Kroger, 3330 Piedmont Ave, noon-4 pm.

Atlanta Arts Festival, Piedmont Park, all day.

Corner of Virginia and N. Highland Ave., noon-4 pm.

## It should be easy to volunteer

To the Editor:

In the past four months I have tried to volunteer with two different groups concerning the well being of women stricken with HIV. My experience has been no calls back after I called to volunteer, maybe a call back after I called the second or third time, promised literature to be sent to me that never arrives, and no follow up. The first thing I noticed is most organizations operate between 9 to 5 which causes a problem if a prospective volunteer is employed between these hours. But I also wonder if HIV/AIDS infective persons only have problems/questions and needs between 9 to 5!?

I realize funds are short for everyone, organizations included, but people should be able to volunteer their time and services (that they would otherwise be paid to do) without a hassle and be received with open arms.

I also realize there are groups helping and being supportive of people in need and I commend them, on the other hand there are groups that may be too "grass roots" to be effective therefore causing frustration. I would like to see this subject explored by Southern Voice to enlighten everyone who may be interested in volunteering to support their brothers and sisters.

Sincerely,  
Still trying to volunteer

Editor's note: We have an article planned for late October or early November on AIDS services available in the Atlanta metro area, including information on how to volunteer. Because of your letter we will look very closely at how these organizations respond to, recruit and train volunteers.

## NOTICE OF HEARING

A notice of hearing has been filed for Friday, October 2, 1992 at 10:00 am at 166 Pryor St., SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303 by the Georgia State Board of Examiners of Psychologists against David Ryback, Ph.D. for allegations concerning failure to maintain appropriate treatment boundaries with a patient. For further information: Fran Cullen, Staff Attorney, 40 Capitol Square, Suite 132, Atlanta, GA 30334. (404) 656-0816.

OUTLINES

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**MEGAN MCFARLAND**

**Age:** 39

**Relationship status:** "Has a sweetheart"

**How long in Atlanta:** 15 years

**Last book read:** "Where the Spirits Ride the Wind" by Felicitas Goodman

**Pet peeve:** Dishonesty



Megan McFarland calls herself an "observer of life." When she tells a story, whether it is from her own life or others, her eyes dance and there is a low-key, sit on the edge of your seat electricity to her presence. It is not a contradiction in terms. A veteran of the Atlanta theatre scene, Megan is able to make the wall between actor and performer disappear without even trying. She is a natural. For instance:

"I'm from Missouri—and you know once a mid-westerner—it never leaves you. My mother is a charismatic Christian. She knows I'm queer, and it provides a kind of cannon fodder for her beliefs. If we go to church in Jefferson City, she will find a seat in the choir directly in front of me and she will point and cry all through the service. My aunt, meanwhile (who ordained her own son into her own evangelical ministry), will pray fervently for my redemption. I think they fight over who gets my supposed sins."

Megan is currently appearing upstairs at JoHanna's, the site of the old Gene and Gabe's in a variety of venues on different nights including: the fictional WSUE, a local cable station where as she puts it, "you don't think twice about what we're doing because if you do, you're thinking too hard," and an interactive murder mystery with audience participation.

"It's a lot of fun," she comments, "and it's great getting the chance to work with some other wonderful off-the-wall actors." Megan has also acted in productions at Theatrical Outfit, Georgia Shakespeare Festival and Seven Stages Theatre.

And much of her Atlanta notoriety comes from her participation in a series of ongoing Country Soap Operas called Della's Diner by Tom Edwards, of which there soon may be another installment.

As if this wasn't enough Megan has a singing career as well. "I love to sing," she says with honest passion about her alter-ego. She expresses this love through a group called the Big City Jazz Quartet. They perform jazz oriented music from the forties and fifties.

Though born in Missouri, she spent the majority of her youth in Montgomery County, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C. "I

wasn't a great student because I loved being in the plays and that's where my interest was." She remembers that she had crushes on her girlfriends, but really didn't act upon her desire because "I didn't know then that it was an option."

After high school she continued her dramatic training at a local junior college that was known for its theatre department. "I spent three years at a college that was a two-year program," she recalls laughing. Without ever actually graduating she got a job at a dinner theatre and did the usual grind of waiting tables and acting. The dinner theatre eventually opened a franchise in Atlanta and she moved here to open the new establishment.

Megan was married to a co-actor in the dinner theatre because she was still under the illusion that it was what was expected of her. At this period in her life she says she simultaneously ended the marriage, went into therapy and had an affair with a woman. Much of this was spurred by a return trip to Maryland and her experiences acting at a cabaret where the staff was entirely lesbian. "It was like for the first time in my life a light bulb went off in my head," she remembers, "and I realized, heh, this is an option."

Megan is out to her entire large family. For the most part, they are not as narrow-minded as her mother. One of her brothers lives in Marietta and has been very supportive and she has a first cousin who is gay as well. Megan lives in a typical older, Virginia-Highland apartment. She shares her space with birds, plants and a cat and dog, co-owned with her lover. Gracing the walls of her apartment are several doors and ladders, many of them antique. The doors she says, "are places to dream through and the ladders are places to reach beyond."

IAN GINSBURG

IN THE LIFE

**Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance of Agnes Scott College**

Type of Foundation: Educational

Year Founded: 1991

Recent accomplishment: 1st Annual Spring Break Out

Upcoming event: 1st Annual Film Festival, Sept. 11, 18 & 25, 8:15pm, Rm. G-12, Buttrick Hall on Agnes Scott campus

Contact information: Missy Mullinax, Agnes Scott College, Box 501, Decatur, GA 30030, (404) 371-6575 or Jean Peters (404) 371-1632.

Missy Mullinax is proud to say that the Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance of Agnes Scott College is officially recognized and funded by the school. Lesbians in a women's college may not come as a surprise, however. "We talk about it in the classroom all the time," says Mullinax. This year the Alliance will present a homophobia workshop, endorsed by the Dean of Students Office and particularly targeted to new students. It will be facilitated by local therapist, Marlene Johnson.

The Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance meets every other Monday. They discuss and plan their own events, share news of Atlanta area activities to get involved in, and "talk about how to educate other students."

Last year's Spring Break Out, held as part of their International Women's Day celebration, brought gay and lesbian students together from all over the city. Mullinax estimates that about 150 students were there from Emory, Georgia Tech, Oglethorpe, Georgia State, Kennesaw College, Spellman, Atlanta University, and Agnes Scott.

With this year's Film Festival, the Alliance hopes to draw support for their organization from the overall Atlanta lesbian and gay community by opening up the event for everyone to attend. They have purposefully chosen films that represent the diversity of their lesbian community. "People have a tendency to think of lesbians only in terms of white women," says Mullinax. The films they are showing will help dispell this myth.

DEBBIE FRAKER

AL COTTON

## Celebrating a Gay Spirit

I am an organizer of the Gay Spirit Visions Conference, which is a group of gay men who gather together annually at a mountain retreat in North Carolina to celebrate. Last year, over 100 men from across the continent showed up. It was quite festive.

When I told someone at work about this, she asked, "Well, what is it, 'exactly,' that you're celebrating?" And I stammered and sputtered, and hemmed and hawed, and said something non-committal, non-threatening, un-specific. And I learned that under the pressure of having one straight person ask about my Gay Spirit Vision, I couldn't come up with the answer.

Since then, I've been thinking. And if I had that opportunity back, my answer would be, very simply, "Our Survival."

### Picture yourself as a child

I like to look at pictures of gay men when we were children. Paul Monette did an interview in "USA Today" for his excruciatingly personal autobiography "Half a Life," which was accompanied by a picture of him in high school. On the cover of Martin Duberman's equally personal memoir "Cures," there is a picture of him in his late teens—youthful, closeted.

When I scan these pictures (with an intensity that often surprise me), I focus on the eyes. I always think I can see something there, something poignant, vulnerable, true. Duberman's picture is full of promise, but manic, ultimately untrustworthy; Monette's is of someone eager, almost too eager, to please.

There is also one of those pictures of me. I'm in kindergarten in Fayette, Alabama, four years old, maybe five. I'm wearing the first piece of clothing that I remember really liking—a navy blue t-shirt, with groups of red and white stripes. I have the requisite 1962 crew cut—the one I hated because I detested the barber shop. There is no dance in my eyes, no smile. The black-and-white photography underscores the picture's moody, '60s chiaroscuro.

Was I sick that day, or tired, or was there no peanut butter cracker at recess? I don't remember; I just know that I look sadder than I remember my childhood being. I even remember being disappointed when I brought it home, knowing that school pictures are not supposed to look like that.

These pictures make me wonder—do those teenagers with the deer-in-the-headlights look in their eyes already feel the onrushing anguish of a lonely gay adolescence? Can they sense the enormity of the work that lies ahead, just to build enough self-esteem to break through to the other side? Can a four-year-old already know that the sexuality he will develop will be unacceptable to society? And would he smile if he knew that there would eventually be a place where he can play the way he wants, love the way he wants, and not be Sissied and Faggoted and Queered into hiding? Or would he avoid the fight and just surrender?

Can a four-year-old know any of this? I only have to look at that picture to know the answer is yes. My computer's thesaurus says that synonyms for "gay" are blithe, happy, light-hearted, lively, merry, vivacious, airy, bright, sunny. There is no Gay visible in this child.

### The Gay Spirit comes out

But it must have been there, because I am here. It is the Gay Spirit, like the one hiding in my kindergarten picture, that keeps us going—if in fact we keep going.

Coming Out is when we first begin to nurture this Gay Spirit. Starting in some bed or backseat or hayloft, we discover the power of saying Yes, and it transforms everything we do. We learn the beauty of play, and creativity flows into our lives, and our hearts are refreshed. I don't think I ever wrote a word of any significance before Coming Out, in spite of all that money and time spent dissecting Faulkner and Yeats at Vanderbilt. I had to figure out how to say Yes in my heart before I could tell anyone what was in there.

Now that I've thought about it, I can glimpse the outlines of my Gay Spirit. It starts with Visibility—making sure no one denies my existence for me. It has learned to Discriminate, knowing the necessity of making choices at all levels, from "Yes, these people will be in my life," to "No, that shade of mauve just won't 'do'."

It honors Anarchy, because I needed it to tell the world to fuck itself, I'm going to live my life. It honors Tolerance, because intolerance is what tried to grind me up and spit me out. It honors Healing because learning to heal myself is my greatest achievement. It honors those whose Spirits we have

lost to suicide or addiction or societal bashing or disease.

And it occasionally indulges in bitchy humor, because it has no patience with Those Who Don't Get It.

My Gay Spirit chooses as its target the most humorless concept in our society, Masculinity, and tries to redefine it. Remember that Pink Floyd song—"All in all, it's just another brick in the wall?" My task is to get rid of some bricks, using anything from objecting to offensive humor, to working "for" something—a cleaner environment, a less nuclear world, a more tolerant society, a better croissant at Burger King.

And the Vision leads to a world that heals its wounds by addressing Masculinity with a combination of humor and tolerance and anarchy, by being visible and choosing rightly. It envisions a world that does not seek to extinguish the Gay Spirit, but instead nurtures it, even among those who are not in the Tribe of Men Who Love Men.

Some of this can be done here—for instance, I can sometimes see it happen in bars. When bars work for us, they give us a place to frolic, to dance and touch and play dress-up, like we never really got a chance to do as children. But bars are doing other things, too, like objectifying people and fostering escapism through addiction and compulsive promiscuity. Not the best trade-off.

So some of the work must be done elsewhere. This year, on the weekend nearest the Autumnal Equinox, we will Celebrate our Collective Gay Spirit Vision by going to Our Own Place. We'll feel each other's touch, explore the shadow that hovers over and enriches our lives, examine where our power comes from, and share our gifts—by dancing, drumming, talking, hugging, snuggling, et cetera ...

As for me, I'll be En-Visioning all those little boys that look like me in that picture—to let them know that I'm working to make it easier for them. And I'll send a message back about 30 years, to thank one special child for guarding his candle against a really strong wind, and to tell him how much I appreciate all his hard, hard work.

For last minute registration to the Gay Spirit Vision Conference call (704) 526-5838 or (404) 873-2422.

## C A R B O N C O P I E S

Letters to the Editor  
The Atlanta Constitution  
P.O. Box 4689  
Atlanta, GA 30302

Dear Editor:

Once again the HIV/AIDS community becomes the target of a self appointed moralist, this time in the guise of a physician. John Watson Jr., a former president of the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG), an organization whose contributions to the state legislators exceeds any other entity in Georgia, is curiously an appointee to the Department of Human Resources by Governor Zell Miller. Mr. Watson recently put forth a formal request to the Dept. of Human Resources (DHR) Board's public health subcommittee that will require physicians to report the names of people who test positive for the HIV virus that causes AIDS, supposedly for the purpose of "contact tracing." It cleared the subcommittee and now if physicians do not report the names, they can be fined or imprisoned.

First of all, this program would not be effective because we would continue to have anonymous testing sites, not to mention it will probably deter people from being tested for fear of being reported and then discriminated against. We can do contact tracing without names reporting. Secondly, it will cost tax payers over a million dollars to administer. Shouldn't he be more concerned about spending State dollars on the AZT drug Fund that will run out in October, leaving over a thousand people in Georgia without the medicine? Instead, he concentrates on developing punitive policies for physi-

cians and care providers who administer to the HIV/AIDS community.

Where are the priorities here? Mr. Watson in an interview stated, "I'm sorry but 90% of you did this through your lifestyle, the thief always complains he's sent to jail when he's caught." Is he equating people with HIV/AIDS with criminals or thieves? He further stated, "I cannot feel that sorry for those people if they wish to do that and particularly if they pass it to their wife or spouse. We must protect that vast majority of people out there who live what we consider to be an acceptable lifestyle." Who is "we" and what is "acceptable" to Mr. Watson?

The Governor appointed Mr. Watson as a physician to the DHR to work for all citizens of Georgia. Who has since, appointed him as God?

His self righteous statements implying that people who contracted HIV through homosexual contact or IV drug use must somehow now suffer the consequences is outrageous and unacceptable from a government health agency official. I urge the Governor to remove Mr. Watson from the DHR and replace him with a more responsible and compassionate physician who remembers what his "Hippocratic oath," was all about. Dr. Watson, Shame On You!

Sincerely,  
Leif Eric Spivey

cc: Governor's office  
National Association of People with AIDS  
ACT/UP Atlanta

Nancy Boxill  
Commissioner, 6th District  
Fulton County Commission  
141 Pryor Street, SW, Tenth Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Commissioner Boxill,

On behalf of the officers, Board of Directors, and members of LEGAL, Legislate Equality for Gays And Lesbians, I would like to express our deepest thanks for your sponsorship of the ordinance to prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Your leadership serves as a guide to all elected officials, and makes us proud to be represented by you.

This ordinance helps to keep Fulton County in the forefront of the struggle for human rights, and will serve as an example to other jurisdictions throughout the state

Dr. Frank Hauser  
Director of Public Health  
Georgia Department of Human Resources  
878 Peachtree St. Room 878  
Atlanta, GA 30309

RE: Sex Education Recommendations

Dear Dr. Hauser:

I was pleased to read in today's Atlanta Constitution of your recommendations to the sex education panel created by Gov. Miller.

You are correct to point out that heterosexual marriage is not the destiny of everyone who is or will be sexually active. To present legal marriage as the only context for sexual responsibility leaves far too many persons outside its narrow confines.

I commend you for supporting realistic and inclusive sex education programs in Georgia.

Sincerely,  
Ken Mabry

and nation. Its passage also fulfills the efforts of a number of people who worked with you and other commissioners for over three years. Please extend our thanks to all those who aided you in this task, especially the other commissioners who supported and voted for it.

If LEGAL can be of any assistance as you continue to strive to make Fulton County a better place to live and work please do not hesitate to call on us. We look forward to working closely with you in the future.

Respectfully yours,  
Dan Gandy, President

Legislate Equality for Gays And Lesbians

cc: Michael Lomax  
Etc. Magazine



# Gay Naval Academy cadet tells his story in new book

Joe Steffan was a rising star at the U.S. Naval Academy, placing near the top of his class, appointed a battalion commander in his senior year, and twice chosen to sing the national anthem at the annual, nationally televised Army-Navy football game.

But six weeks before graduation, Steffan heard from a friend that the Naval Investigative Service had been questioning other midshipment about rumors that Steffan was homosexual. Knowing that he had broken no rules of conduct at the Academy, Steffan confronted his superiors and was asked point blank whether he was a homosexual. Frightened, unsure, but determined to be honest, Steffan said yes. Discharge proceedings began immediately—solely based on the acknowledgment of his sexuality, not on incidents or com-

plaints of any kind—and he was quickly stripped of his standing, his class ring, and his right to graduate.

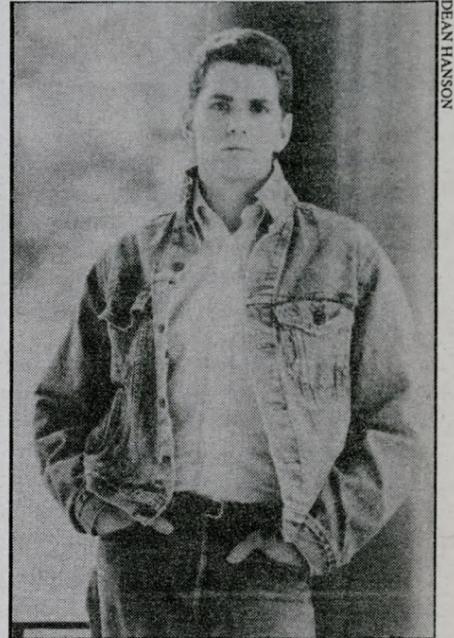
This month Steffan, at 27 years old, recounts his ordeal in "Honor Bound" (Villard, \$22.50) and begins an author tour of major cities, including Atlanta. It's well timed: the military's ban on homosexuals has become an election-year issue, albeit one that's overshadowed by the debate over abortion, the economy, and the "cultural elite." For Steffan and the thousands of Americans affected each year, the ban is a discriminatory policy ready for change.

Steffan's story remains unresolved; his lawsuit against the Navy, seeking his reinstatement to the military and a declaration that banning homosexuals from the military is un-

constitutional, is still on appeal in federal court. But he says that isn't really important for the book.

"In my mind the book is not just about my lawsuit, it's about the issue, and regardless of how the lawsuit is resolved, the bottom line is we will win this battle," Steffan says. "I think [presidential candidate Bill] Clinton's chances of winning this fall are quite significant, and he's already said he'll change the policy. So I'm in an optimistic state of mind. But there still will be legal issues to resolve, around whether or not I'll get my diploma, and whether or not I'll be reinstated."

The military ban on homosexuals received a wave of attention following the Gulf War, and again in recent months as several gay



Joseph Steffan

DEAN HANSON

men and women have publicly challenged the policy.

"This is in touch with a movement, a transition that our country is going through, that's really at the cutting edge of what our society is all about right now, and that is the acceptance of diversity," Steffan says.

Steffan thinks the ban is just one example of the military failing to keep pace with changes in society at large, noting the problems the Navy in particular still has accepting women in its ranks—the recent Tailhook sexual harassment scandal led to the resignation of the Secretary of the Navy.

"Part of the reason the military is having so much difficulty making the transition and keeping up with society is that the leadership of the military has been inside it, often, for 30 plus years," Steffan says. "They've lived in this parallel society, and they don't understand why issues like sexual harassment and sexual orientation are so crucial to resolve."

"It's important to move away from the old military of the macho, heterosexual male ideal, and move toward a military that is accepting of all people. Because obviously, the military can be every bit as effective if everyone has the opportunity to serve." Steffan notes that of the 16 NATO member nations, only two—the United States and Great Britain—currently exclude homosexuals from service.

Steffan hopes his book, which is as much a document of his transformation into a future naval officer at the Academy as it is the story of his dismissal, will serve as a blueprint for others' battles.

"The experience of gay men and lesbians in the military, like the experience of women and African-Americans in the military, is one more example that people can look back on as a paradigm for future experiences, and say, 'Look at what happened in the past, and look at what reasoning was used for policies in the past,'" he says. "I know I'm not the last person to be discriminated against on this earth, and I'm grateful I've recorded this experience for people in the future."

JOHN FLINN

Joseph Steffan will speak, answer questions and sign his book on Sept. 25 from 3-5 pm at Dobbs University Center on the Emory campus. For more information call 712-1808. Steffan will sign his book on Sept. 26 from 3:30-4:30 pm at Oxford Books, 262-3333 for more information.

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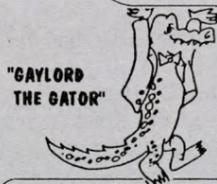
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# OUT & ABOUT

## BOOK REVIEW

### COMING OUT CONSERVATIVE

In 1938 when Marvin Liebman was 16, an intellectual New York Jewish boy and member of the Communist party, he sold the party magazine, *New Masses*, outside Macy's. Nearby, another older boy sold the magazine of the right-wing Christian Front. In his autobiography, "Coming Out Conservative" (Chronicle Books; \$19.95), Liebman recalls "Although I hated his politics, I thought he was cute-looking in his corduroy knickers." The teenage political antagonists made a truce, went into Macy's men's room and "the Christian anti-Semitic and Jew-communist movements merged for a brief moment."

There's a lot of Liebman in that story. Politics has been his life, his movement from communism to conservatism foreshadowed in the attractiveness of the other boy "with his freckles and Christian upturned nose." (Eventually, Liebman would convert to Catholicism.) His sexual attraction to other men is key, too—not least in the irony that he is one of the founders of the right-wing that dominates the "family-values" Republican party and is himself a gay man.

He has lived—and still lives—an interesting life. His first crisis came during World War II, when he was booted out of the Army Air Corps for being homosexual. He married (the marriage was annulled six months later), and then became involved with a radical wing of the American Zionist movement. This led to Exodus-like adventures, Hollywood contacts and, most important, his discovery of his gift for fundraising and public relations.

It was while promoting a book by the survivor of a Soviet slave labor camp that Liebman became a fervent anti-communist. His next assignment was to publicize the plight of Chinese refugees flooding Hong Kong after the communists' take over of the mainland. The assignment proved a defining moment, as Liebman learned how to organize political movements and began making the friendships with conservative patrons who would support his efforts. It eventually led to his first big achievement, the successful effort to block Communist China's admission to the United Nations.

Liebman's story of a young man on the rise is told with a kind of nervous energy, as Liebman seems to meet every important person of his time. In Hollywood, he stages a public rela-

tions event in Bette Davis's home, and dates an aspiring actress, Nancy Davis, who we all now know as Nancy Reagan. He seems to have had all the gay sex he wanted, although his relationships don't appear to have been long lived.

This is the life of a doer, not a thinker. In his conversion from communist to anti-communist, for instance, Liebman's basic values don't seem to change. They remained the rather general ones of "peace and goodwill to all men" and an "economic system where workers and farmers benefit from their labor." He moves easily from politics to theatrical production since for him the two are essentially the same—he's a behind the scenes guy pulling the strings.

Liebman came out publicly in 1990 in a letter to friend William Buckley published in the *National Review*, which Liebman helped establish in 1955. In his letter to Buckley, and in an interview with *The Advocate*, Liebman explained that part of his coming out was his concern about the rise of homophobia and other bigotry within the conservative movement. "In pre *National Review* days ... the American right was heavily, perhaps predominantly, made up of bigots. Political gay-bashing, racism and anti-Semitism survive ... but for the most part hidden in the closet. I think they are waiting to be let out again."

It is something of an expected disappointment, then, that there is so little reflection in this book. For instance, Liebman's longtime best friends are Bill and Pat Buckley. Yet he wastes no time speculating on the attraction of these ultra WASPs for a poor Jewish boy.

But a bigger disappointment is Liebman's failure to seize on the motives and ideals that led him and other gay men such as former Congressman Robert Bauman and conservative fundraiser Terry Dolan to pledge their allegiance to a movement whose naked hatred and fear of gay people is now in display as never before. To read Liebman's account, you'd think that issues like AIDS had never come up. A former public relations head at the NEA, he dismisses the conservative objections to Robert Mapplethorpe and others as mere "hogwash." While it is true that Liebman was in England between 1969 and 1975, and his period of greatest involvement was from 1953 to 1968, it's hard to believe he didn't hear a lot of anti-gay rhetoric and political strategy. For more insight into how the Reagan-Bush years look from a gay insider's point of view, read Eric Marcus' "Making History."

But for a view of the way Washington *really* works, you can't beat Liebman's account of the way he and other anti-big government Reagan revolutionaries were smoothly and quickly absorbed into the federal bureaucracy. But after all, isn't that the American way: bad mouthing the government, while taking and spending the government's money.

JIM MARKS

## ARTS FESTIVAL

### ATLANTA GAY AND LESBIAN ARTS FESTIVAL

You'll soon have a way to mark National Coming Out Day, with a special event—The Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival. It will be held every year around October 11, National Coming Out Day, and will include a week's worth of performance and visual art.

Lee Bomhoff, co-chair of the Festival's Visual Arts Committee, says they planned the event around NCOD since Atlanta has never officially had an event to celebrate the occasion. But how will an Arts Festival do it?

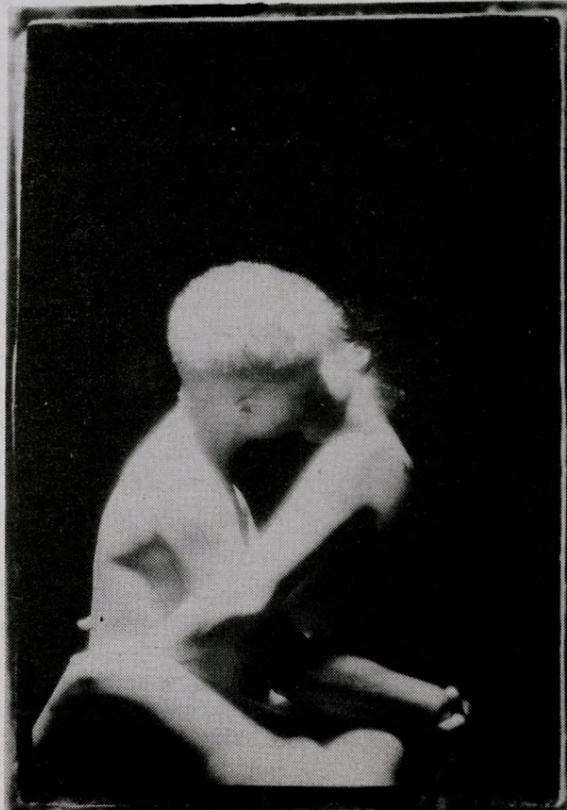
Easy, Bomhoff explains. There will be performance and visual art which reflects the artists' sexuality either in the work itself or by the fact the work is queer born.

There are two different aspects to the visual work that will be displayed in the juried show at Nexus Contemporary Arts Center on October 9.

"Some of the art will reflect the artist's sexuality," he says. "Maybe it will express how their orientation shaped their lives, or depict relationships with lovers, or even portray homoerotic themes like Tom of Finland."

But, not all art work will reflect those themes directly. "We wanted to keep it open to people who didn't feel the impulse to explicitly explain their sexuality in their artwork," Bomhoff explains, "but, want to say, I'm part of the gay and lesbian community and this is what we're doing in the arts."

Bomhoff feels that the fine arts are one of the best places for artists to express their sexuality, and shatter that often felt isola-



SKYE MASON

One of the official press photos of the first annual Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival scheduled for October 9-18 to celebrate National Coming Out Day.

tion among gay and lesbian people by revealing our queer souls to one another.

"What can I do with my work to encourage more openness and dialogue among people about their sexuality?" Bomhoff queries. "The arts have always been an area where people's emotions and drives are explored and celebrated. It's clinical to come out on Phil Donahue." Bomhoff hopes the festival will be more empowering to the community as it deals individually and collectively with the issues of coming out.

Atlanta lesbian artist, Quinn, who also co-chairs the Visual Arts Committee, concurs, "It's about being out, being okay with being out, and being loud about being out."

AGALAF is the brainchild of Atlanta dancer Jim Chappelleux who Bomhoff says, "felt there was a need for more gay contact in fine art and performance in Atlanta." As proof, Bomhoff points to the lack of homosexual related fine arts events listed in the local papers, gay or straight.

AGALAF is still accepting entries from visual artists in all mediums. A panel of jurors will decide which art will be displayed at the show. Those jurors include: Karen Chance, artist and curator of the exhibition, "Dealing With Death" at New Visions Gallery; Christian Walker, a nationally recognized artist whose retrospection was recently on view during the National Black Arts Festival; and artist and curator Bill Curtis.

The jurors will be meeting on September 20th, so interested artists should act fast by calling the Visual Artists Hotline at 621-5769, to be considered.

As part of the Festival, 800 East, the alternative arts and performance space in Little Five Points, has plans to produce "Homo," a visual and performance art weekend in October. According to Wayne Sizemore from 800 East, the show will focus on homosexual arts and performances. For dates and time call 522-8265.

As for the Visual Arts part of the Festival, it will be held October 9 at Nexus at 535 Means Street, and feature a lively mix of homoerotic, political and performance art. Most pieces at the Festival will be for sale since Bomhoff notes, "It's sometimes difficult for gay and lesbian artists to reach their patrons in other shows and festivals."

The schedule for the performance part of the festival was being worked out as we went to press. Watch this paper for final scheduling information.

For more information about AGALAF call 874-8710, and next year you'll be looking forward to National Coming Out Day so you can visit this fine festival once again.

CANDACE CHELLEW



JIM MARKS

Marvin Liebman, a gay man, is one of the founders of the modern conservative movement which has taken gay-bashing to an all time high.

14 OUT & ABOUT

Some years ago, a psychic told Debbie Giraldo that she would one day have her name up in lights in a hit musical. Debbie rolled her eyes and suppressed her reaction to the confines of her brain. "This woman is off her rocker..." But fate has a way of steering us exactly where we belong, and Debbie Giraldo is now starring in the wonderful musical **Always, Patsy Cline**.

Sharing the billing is the very talented singer/actress Denise Hillis who portrays country-blues legend Patsy Cline in this musical adaptation of the true account of a friendship between Cline and one of her earliest and most ardent fans, Louise Seeger. Giraldo brings the salt-of-the-Texas-earth Louise to life as she sits at her circa 1956 kitchen table sharing the story of how she first heard Patsy Cline sing and became hooked on hearing The Voice. Louise called the local country radio station several times a day requesting the latest recording by her idol.

The fan met the idol at an early appearance in Houston where the two developed an immediate friendship. Louise was amazed to find that Patsy was "just a down home country girl" like herself. The two spent many hours talking and sharing the joys and trials of marriages gone sour and childrearing.

The next day Louise drove Patsy to an early morning interview at the local radio station and then on to the airport. Patsy and Louise exchanged addresses and promises to keep in touch. True to her word, Patsy wrote within two weeks. Thus began a letter and phone correspondence which was to last for the remaining two years of Patsy's life. She was killed in a plane crash in Camden, Tennessee in March of 1963.

Governor Zell Miller was on hand for the performance of "Always, Patsy Cline" on Tuesday, September 8, which would have been Patsy's 60th birthday. He brought a proclamation naming the day in honor of Cline. With the dimming of the house lights, the rowdy, cowboy clad band entered from the lobby, bidding everyone hello. They took their places center stage, before them a yellow kitchen dinette, complete with '50s coffee percolator. The show takes place on two levels, the present-day Giraldo as Louise narrating the story, while Hillis as Patsy and the band belt out a wide range of Cline's hits.

Hillis has the monumental task of bringing the resonant vibrato of Cline's voice to life and she succeeds in the extreme. Few voices can match Patsy's clarity and tone but Hillis has captured the essence of Patsy while avoiding outright mimicry.

After the show, I had the pleasure of meeting the two lead

**AFTER HOURS**

DANNY ROBLE



Debra Hillis as Patsy Cline in "Always, Patsy Cline" now at 14th St. Playhouse

actresses who invited me along with them to Colony Square to have a drink and catch the coverage of the play on TNN's Crook and Chase. Joining us were producer Randy Johnson, husband and wife executive producer team Laura and Ian Mittler, managing director Joseph Lackey, and the man responsible for conceiving the show, Ted Swindley.

When asked how performing the show in Nashville, before people who knew and worked with Patsy Cline, would affect her, Giraldo responded, "It will be a little intimidating...I just hope Charlie Dick (Patsy's husband) isn't in the audience. We were kinda hard on Charlie." This refers to one of the more outrageous lines in the play where Louise describes Charlie as exactly what his name implies.

The show runs at the 14th Street Playhouse through Saturday, September 19th. Tickets are \$18.50 to \$25.00 and worth every penny. Tickets are available at the Woodruff Arts Center box office at (404) 892-2414 and at all TicketMaster outlets (404) 249-6400.

On the bar scene, I was one of the determined set who braved the rainy Labor Day weekend weather to visit the Heretic. This large complex on Cheshire Bridge Road draws a diverse crowd, many whom are devotees of leather. The leather crowd often have private parties in the back bar and admittance is restricted to those clad in leather, uniform, rubber or bare chest. Most nights though, anything goes. A central dance floor is surrounded by fencing, as is a dance cage at one end of the floor. On the Friday of my visit, Barbie Q and Trina Saxxon of Eleganza vamped their way through several numbers and gave away t-shirts and bolos as part of a Cactus Juice shooter promotion. One lucky recipient correctly answered the trivia question by naming all four members of Abba... after the show complimentary drinks were passed out to the crowd. Trina filled me in on her new Wednesday night happening at Bulldog's called BULGE. This erotic event is sure to spice up your mid-week blahs. Look for more on BULGE and Bulldog's here next week.

Wayne Sizemore and Ed Woodham, those innovative minds behind 800 East are leading the way on the cutting edge once again. From 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 19th to 7:00 a.m. on Sunday the 20th, they will present their third annual 24 Hour Show. This marathon event will feature a continuous round of performances by bands and performers of all descriptions. The walls will be covered (literally) with avant garde art for your inspection and purchase.

Also, Wayne and Ed are putting out a call for gay and lesbian artists and performers interested in taking part in their next show on October 9 and 10 called HOMO. This show of art and performance will focus on homoeroticism by artists who know the subject well. Works by Larry Anderson and Lee Bomhoff will be on display.

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## CAL 17 THURSDAY

**OLYMPIC FLAG JAM '92.** Atlanta's opening ceremony of the four-year '96 Olympic celebration has a spectacular line-up of performers including Gladys Knight, Alabama, Santana, Travis Tritt and Trisha Yearwood. Sister Whitney Houston co-hosts with Dick Clark. 7:30 pm. Georgia Dome. 249-6400.

**LIVING WITH BREAST CANCER.** Lee Eberhart shares the story of her journey with breast cancer. Come hear this strong and amazing woman talk about how she lives with the disease that now strikes one in nine women. 7:30 pm. Charis Books. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

**RUSTWATCH '92.** A forum sponsored by People For The American Way on combating censorship. Speakers include Arthur Kropp, Alice Lovelace and Ga. State Rep. Nan Orrock. 5:30-7:00 pm. 7 Stages Theatre. 1105 Euclid Ave. 355-4884.

**MICHAEL VENEZIA.** Recent works by Venezia who is a founder of ARTCARE, an annual art charity for AIDS. Venezia is also one of the producers of "Angry Love" which will be on exhibit at the Atlanta Arts Festival. Opening reception at 6:30 pm. Exhibit runs through Oct. 15 at The Lowe Gallery. 75 Bennett St. 352-8114.

## ON GOING AND UPCOMING

**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 HARVEY MILK SHOW.** Through Nov. 29. 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



## 18 FRIDAY

**LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL.** The Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance of Agnes Scott College presents its first annual film festival. Susana, Khush and The Mark of Lilith show tonight. Watch this calendar for schedule of films for Sept. 25. All films shown at 8:15 pm. \$1 donation requested. Buttrick Hall on Agnes Scott campus in Decatur. 371-6575 for more info.

**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. For last minute reservations call (704) 526-5838 or (404) 873-2422.

**CARING & SHARING.** The American Red Cross

acclaimed musical. Actor's Express. 290 Elizabeth St. **BYSTANDER.** Through Oct. 17. Photographer Doug Ischar captures the terror and insanity of hate crimes against gays and lesbians in his exhibit at Nexus Contemporary Arts Center. 535 Means St. 688-1970.

**WHY I LIVE AT THE P.O.** Through Oct. 3. 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. Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. 378-8646 for more info.

**GREATER TUNA.** Through Oct. 4. The characters of Tuna, Texas

will hold a 20-hour course for friends and caregivers of persons with HIV/AIDS today and tomorrow and next Friday and Saturday. \$25 and some scholarships are available. To register and for more info call 881-0668, ext. 336 or 313.

**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.** Yoel Levi leads the ASO in Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 3, Berg's Violin Concerto and Tchaiskovsky's poignant and soulful lament Symphony No. 6 ("Pathetique"). Tonight and tomorrow night at 8 pm. Symphony Hall. 892-2414.

**OREOS WITH AN ATTITUDE.** The Atlanta African Film Society premieres this film about a "buppie" couple living in New York City who decide to adopt the "perfect" socially acceptable child. 8 pm. Georgia-Pacific Auditorium. 133 Peachtree St. 525-1136 for more info.

are in East Point! Sears and Williams are not there but their spirits are. Tri-Cities Theatre. 2750 East Point St. East Point. 681-6091.

**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

## 19 SATURDAY

**QUEER NATION GOES TO SIX FLAGS.** Join QN/Atlanta for a "Queer Day Out" at Six Flags. Everyone is welcome to participate. A car caravan will leave the Lindbergh MARTA station at noon. 605-7396 for more info.

**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.

**THE ATLANTA ARTS FESTIVAL.** One of the country's oldest and largest arts festivals returns to Piedmont Park today and runs through Sept. 27. Visual arts, artist's market & crafts, video art, theatre, music, dance and food. Highlights include the Lee Harper Dance Co., Dynamo Theatre and Roscoe Mitchell. 885-1125 for more information.

**HOW TO LIVE IN THE AGE OF AIDS.** AID Gwinnett presents an educational seminar on learning the truth about AIDS. Gwinnett Medical Center, Education Center. 962-8396 for more info.

**WOMEN MAKE MUSIC.** SAME presents an evening of women's music featuring Kathleen Hatfield, Lisa & Linda, Sharon Lane and Monessa Guilfoil. 8 pm. TULA Galleries, 75 Bennett St. 609-9590.

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.

**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

**UNIV. OF ALA. LESBIAN/GAY ALUMNI MEETING.** For directions and time call 284-3479 or 284-1347.

**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.

## 20 SUNDAY

**OPEN HAND JAM.** A day full of music from 20 entertainers to benefit Project Open Hand which feeds two hot meals daily to 500 people with AIDS in the metro Atlanta area. Artists include DeDe Vogt, Caroline Aiken, Big Fish Ensemble, Gerard McHugh and many others. \$7 donation requested. 2 pm-midnight. Eddie's Attic. Decatur. 231-4985 for more info.

**GRANT PARK TOUR OF HOMES.** Visit restored Victorians, new Victorians, bungalows and houses in progress in this turn-of-the-century neighborhood. This is the 19th year of this spectacular tour sponsored by the

Grant Park Neighborhood Association. Noon to 6 pm. 523-8475 for more info.

**THE ROCHEs** Quirky folk-rock from the three sisters from New Jersey. 8:30 pm. Variety Playhouse. 1099 Euclid Ave. 524-7354.

## 21 MONDAY

**THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: THE KENNEDYS.** The second and final installment (first show runs Sunday night at 9 pm) exploring the Kennedy's extraordinary political trajectory. Tonight's show covers JFK's presidency and assassination, the assassination of Robert Kennedy and the dark days of Teddy Kennedy's accident at Chappaquiddick. 9pm. GPTV. Channel 8.

## 22 TUESDAY

**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. 8 pm on Showtime. Also on Sept. 30. Check your cable guide for time.

## 23 WEDNESDAY

**POSITIVE LIVING.** This new series is 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. 27 on Channel 20 for North Dekalb residents at 10 pm.

Pictured: ABOVE LEFT: DeDe Vogt will perform at Open Hand Jam on Sept. 20 at Eddie's Attic. Photo by Teri Greene. BELOW: Lee Harper will present her almost one-woman show "Hurdles" at the Atlanta Arts Festival on Wed. Sept. 23 at 8 pm in Piedmont Park



of the sexes to the Alliance's main stage. 8pm. 892-2414.

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

**CITY OF ANGELS.** Sept. 30. A special benefit night of the 1990 Tony Award winning play for Atlanta NAPWA. 8 pm. Fox Theatre. 87407926 for tickets.

**BURKHART'S COUNTY FAIR.** Oct. 2-4. Burkhardt's presents a carnival benefit for From All Walks of Life. Performing artists, arts & crafts, game booths and

more. 897-1804 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 NAMES QUILT.** Oct. 9-11. The entire quilt, over 20,000 panels, will be on display in Washington, D.C.

**A**s You Like It If Atlanta Shakespeare Company's production of Will Shakespeare's jauntiest play got more riotous it would have tumbled into Peachtree Street. Great energy suits this play, and director Tony Wright and a beneficent Rosalind have given it. Wright has gone for broad humor and zero subtlety. He succeeds both for his stage, which is in a friendly, foot-stomping tavern, and by and large as a framer of Will's luminous talk. This is his first time out as a director of Shakespeare. It is a calling he should be urged not to resign.

Simply put, "As You Like It" is a pungent romp about romantic, bucolic love, and it is up to its puns, allusions, and euphemisms in classical bawdy, that is to say, smut, genial smut, often silly smut. It's meant to be fun, and it is.

This is also Will's most powerful utterance on what happens when hormones bloom. It came hard upon the heels of "Romeo and Juliet," but something befell the poet in the days between. Who knows what? But here is his Rosalind disguised as a man. She calls herself Ganymede, which was not very cordial slang in Will's day for a young gay male. Ganymede, aka Rosalind, pretends to be Rosalind whilst she/he instructs love-racked Orlando in how to seduce the real Rosalind. The possibilities multiply. They sure did on Will's stage, where beardless boys played women, a fact that makes Rosalind's famous epilogue—"If I were a woman"—a bump in the modern ear.

It is in AYLI too that Will salutes rival Christopher Marlowe, with a throwaway line about "a great reckoning in a small room," bearing sadly on the murder of Kit—which oddly made the audience laugh; perhaps it was the delivery, and the "love at first sight" line, which is a kind of anthem in this play. People are

## THEATRE

forever demonstrating it.

It is upon Rosalind that the play hangs. A witty and saucy performance by Clarinda Ross proved the strength of her grasp of Rosalind's impetuosity and concupiscence. She achieved the arduous task of making Rosalind's pretense seem real. There was no stuttering parody of the male in it; no spit and scratching, no mock-macho. From her first entrance she cast an enchanting personality. With one look at her, Orlando lost his heart—and we believed him.

The cast otherwise had a good deal to like about it; some solid acting and some that was not.

Jeff Portell is a talented player, but he played great-hearted Orlando with a quirky detachment; it was as if his mind was far away from the Forest of Arden. Where was Orlando's symphony of spirit and his full measure of gullibility in the face of Rosalind's male impersonation? Not the easiest mix to achieve, and many an Orlando before Portell has fumbled as well.

Dina Shadwell, as Audrey, was both brazen and properly naive, and John Purcell as Touchstone, her pursuer, left, as you might expect from seasoned Purcell, his own comic stamp on the part. He invested the character with a surplus of squeals, grunts and stammers. And his passion for Audrey was rewarded with the most laughs from a magnanimous audience.

Heidi Cline's feckless Phoebe was as spry as a fawn and especially charming when the features of Rosalind in boy's attire bewitched her. Unstinting Meredith Gordon, in togs as Elizabethan as a lame Spandex, made a scenic wrestler and a fit speaker



MICHAEL HOLLAND

Clarinda Ross as Rosalind (and Ganymede) in the Atlanta Shakespeare Co. production of "As You Like It."

of scenic lines.

Carol Haynes's costumes were rich, but the staging smacked otherwise of minimalism. Expected was a sylvan forest where the bounty of green contrasted with the stony keep of the evil usurper. Designer Jeffrey Watkins conceived a forest that was no forest at all, not a tree, not a bush. But very pleasing and true were the courtly tunes that Bo Ketchin composed for bridges and Will's homely little songs.

"As You Like It" runs through Oct. 24 at the Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern, 499 Peachtree St. 874-5299.

**Much Ado About Nothing** Director Adrian Hall's fame precedes him and fuels expectation. He is to regional theater what Joseph Chaikin is to the avant-garde, but while Chaikin's recent "Waiting for Godot" made Little Five Points briefly a center of world theater, Hall's leisurely direction of Shakespeare's two-plays-in-one made one think what a waste it was to gather so many talented actors on one stage.

What is missing on the Alliance Theatre stage is the vision that has made Hall a much-sought director, especially of Shakespeare. And large vision, not idle tinkering with place and time, and certainly not playlot smirks added for a couple of easy yucks-Benedick and a crude play on "come."

The reach for those yucks, sad to say, was emblematic of the evening.

There was some good work by Gregory Wallace. He gave Claudio a quality not often seen; a glib veneer that ran against the character's grain. (Claudio is a twerp.) Al Hamacher (as Dogberry) and David Milford (Verges) were more Warwickshire rustics than Sicilian wiseguys cum clowns, and that was interesting considering we were in north Africa. The lines say Messina but the costumes said Libya during the rule of fascist Italy. (It is the fashion to set *Much Ado* anywhere but where Will set it, in 16th century Sicily.)

Jack Willis was fey as Don Pedro, and Del Hamilton, as the Don's bastard brother, was suitably ominous and spiteful. Allen McCalla, as Borachio, came to his role with agreeable enthusiasm and a gift for speaking the words that ought to provide instruction to several of his co-players.

The ongoing war of words between Candy Buckley's Beatrice and Stephen Markle's Benedick should have swept us along as Shakespeare intended, but at the preview performance I saw neither actor had found the character. Markle seemed to have no idea where on earth to look for his. That's what a director is for.

"Much Ado About Nothing" runs through October 3 at the Alliance Theatre. 892-2414.

GENE GABRIEL MOORE

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ACTOR'S EXPRESS PRESENTS

# THE HARVEY MILK SHOW

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**H**oneymoon in Vegas

Peter Boyle has a cameo in "Honeymoon in Vegas" as a Hawaiian showtune queen. He asks Nicolas Cage whether he finds him attractive, then launches into a medley from "South Pacific." The only point of the scene is to waste time. In fact, that's the only point of "Honeymoon in Vegas." This is one of those movies that gives itself away in the trailer; the additional hour and a half is only padding.

**Bob Roberts**

Mr. Roberts goes to Washington in "Bob Roberts," which generally fails to make fiction appear stranger than truth. Tim Robbins, who wrote, directed and plays the title role, creates an original film by combining familiar elements in a new way. Like "This is Spinal Tap," it's structured as a documentary, following Robert's campaign for a Pennsylvania Senate seat. Personifying yuppie values, the self-made \$40 millionaire dabbles in Dylanesque folksinging with a conser-

## MOVIES

vative twist; and like many conservatives, he'll do *anything* to get elected. It's entertaining, but a lot like watching CNN for two hours.

**Twin Peaks—Fire Walk With Me**

Hey, David Lynch, fire walk with *this!*

Lynch has reunited most of the TV cast for the movie detailing the final week of Laura Palmer's life, and pushes harder than necessary for weirdness. As Laura, Sheryl Lee gives the most interesting performance by an actress since Sharon Stone's in "Basic Instinct," (why did those people just turn the page?), but the movie overstays its welcome. I was ready to kill Laura myself to get it over with. Women dance together in their underwear to stimulate male fantasies here, but lesbianism is never considered.

**Wind**

A brilliant, exciting, beautifully photographed documentary about the America's Cup race would play a few "art" theaters on its way to PBS, but this cliched drama set against the race gets a full commercial release. Matthew Modine and Jennifer Grey are the lovers who break up when he loses one race and reunite when he wins the next. That's the elementary story of "Wind," except that the all-male crew has a gratuitous workout scene in a rustic gym (no com-



Matthew Modine and Jennifer Grey star in "Wind" which is set against the backdrop of the America's Cup competition. Unfortunately, "Wind" is dead in the water.

plaints here). If you're into sailing, wait for that documentary. "Wind" is dead in the water.

**Sneakers**

I thoroughly enjoyed "Sneakers." I could cite a dozen discrepancies in the script to show how clever I am, but only a worse nitpicker than I would care. The overall casting joins Robert Redford, Dan Akroyd, River Phoenix, Sidney Poitier and David Strathairn as security dudes who steal a black box that's the mother of all hackers; it can break any computer code. When it falls into the wrong hands, our heroes pull a high-tech caper to retrieve it. Director and co-writer Phil Alden Robinson abandons the sentiment of "Field of Dreams" for a film that's just as manipulative, but a lot more fun—good, commercial moviemaking.

**Light Sleeper**

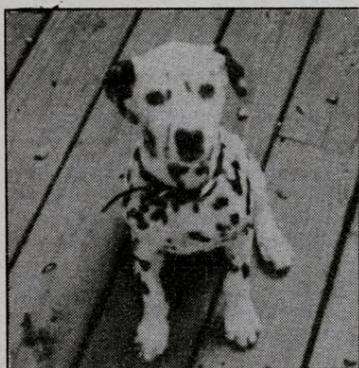
"Light Sleeper" continues Paul Schrader's tour of the service profession. Susan Sarandon is a drug dealer who's getting out of the business. Willem Dafoe's her delivery boy who has to decide, at 40, what to be when he grows up. Her other courier, David Clennon, is gay. No one cares except one client, who "doesn't deal with

fags." Dramatically, "light" is the operative word. Though well acted and never uninteresting, "Light Sleeper" is far less intense than most of Schrader's work and further diluted by an unrealistic ending. Perhaps its most telling revelation about the '90s is that this is the decade of lite drama.

**Pet Semetary Two**

Edward Furlong, now 14, is becoming Hollywood's Prince of Sequels after "Terminator-2" and now "Pet Semetary Two." Brought by his widowed father to Lublow, Maine, he incurs the instant enmity of the school bully but forms a fast friendship with the local fat boy whose stepfather (Clancy Brown) is the sadistic sheriff. After the old Indian burial ground resurrects a few other bodies, Furlong tries to revive his mother. Director Mary Lambert gives the events style but no zip; the unkillable theme was far more amusing in "Death Becomes Her." "Pet Semetary Two" is aimed at an audience too young to see it without accompanying adults. They may dig it, but I nearly died of boredom.

STEVE WARREN



ZELDA... "Remember to bring your pets."



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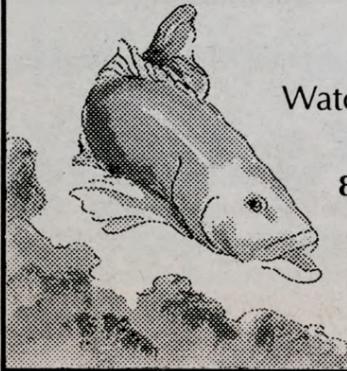
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## EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Were Fannie Flagg's infamous Iddie and Ruth alive today, there's little doubt that you'd find them at the **Whistle Stop Cafe** in Juliette, Georgia. (Take I-75 south to exit 61, turn left and go about 8 miles. Look for the Whistle Stop sign on your left, then turn right.)

Since the movie, Juliette has become a mini tourist attraction with a smattering of too-cute shops filling about half the storefronts used in making the movie. Unless you are a keen collector of kitsch, you'll probably find little of interest.

The cafe itself is different story. The decor is simple: booths line the walls, a U-shaped counter fills the center of the room and a few tables are scattered across the floor. Walls are covered with bric-a-brac and memorabilia—some of it period, and some of it contemporary with the movie. The waitrons are local women, pleasant and efficient enough, but afflicted with the kind of ennui that working around hoardes of polyester clad tourists seems to breed. The owner/manager however looks and acts not unlike an Iddie for the '90s. Her good hu-

Every plate comes with a solitary fried green tomato. Luckily side orders of these crisp, astringent treasures are offered up for a mere \$2.25. These are covered with a light batter and, while true aficionados may argue that fried green tomatoes should be coated in breading rather than batter, they really hit my gustatory G-spot.

Other veggies are almost as good: greens smoky and tender; knock out potato salad laced with mustard and horseradish; and lush, buttery lima beans. Cornbread, extra crisp on the outside, is gobble-down good and banana pudding smooth and easy on its way down too. Only iced tea (thoughtfully served in carafes so that your glass never runs dry) is lackluster.

The Whistle Stop Cafe is open from 8a.m.-2p.m. Monday-Saturday and from noon-7pm on Sundays. Arrive by 11:30 on Sundays and get your name on the seating list early, or expect a 30-40 minute wait. Be sure and check out the view of the river and dam, just over the tracks and next to the mill. And tell Iddie we said "hi."

**Work in Progress**

The **African Brown Bag** (699 Ponce de Leon in Ford Factory Square) is open, though still what owner Geneva Francois refers to as a "work in progress." I had a great meal there a couple of weeks ago. But be warned that the floor is still bare concrete, a mural on one wall is not finished (though the white giraffes look surreally spectacular), and several chunks of the ceiling have yet to be put in place.

Brown bag paper (appropriately) covers the tables and (more inappropriately) also filters the light from overhead fluorescent fixtures. Even your check comes on a small square of paper bag.

The menu (Xeroxed on white paper) is rudimentary: a couple of salads, four entrees and two desserts. But simple is OK, when it's lavished with this kind of care. A so-called Italian salad combines marinated pole beans with slabs of tomato, onions, lettuce and artichoke hearts. The whole thing is swathed in a luscious combination of olive oil, lemon juice and gobs of fresh herbs—most noticeably dill. Plenty for two, it's a bargain at \$4.75.

Points of pita bread lined with oil and more fresh dill share the bread basket with what might best be described as brown focaccia, heavy on the rosemary. Both are so good that you will want to take care not to fill your tummy before your entree arrives.

Two chicken leg quarters poached in beer are advertised as being cooked with lemon-grass, garlic and sage, but rosemary is the predominant herb flavor. That's ok by me. Accompanying brown rice and braised cabbage round out the serving, presented in a clay pot saucer. It's pretty to look at and mighty easy to eat.

Ocean perch, beautifully baked with lemon and butter, is served with the same rice and veggies. It too is scented with rosemary when dill might have been better, but neither of us issued a wimper of complaint and the plate was polished clean by meal's end.

A lemon tart probably isn't worth the calories, but a fat slab of pound cake definitely is. Good as it is plain, the buttery cake cries out for toasting and a big scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Expect to spend \$10-15 a head at the African Brown Bag which is open for dinner only, Tuesday-Saturday from 6-10pm. It's a little pearl awash in Atlanta's seemingly endless sea of homogenized eateries. Check it out soon if you don't mind rough edges.



"Well worth the trip." Debbie Fraker and Joan T. Sherwood can't resist one of the many photo-ops for fans of the movie at The Whistle Stop Cafe in Juliette.

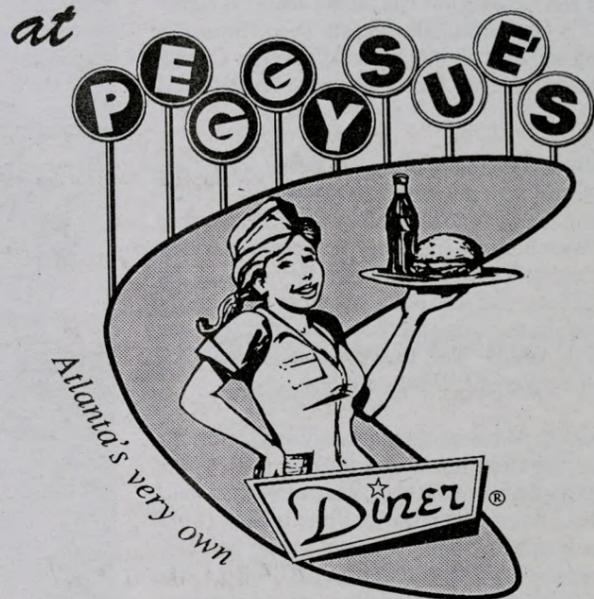
mor and warm welcome are infectious.

Given the unrepentantly tourista nature of this endeavor, the food could downright be miserable and most folks probably would not notice. The edibles, however, are remarkably good.

Sunday dinner/supper the day we visited was a simple meat-and-three combo, with an unsampled hamburger and fries available as an option for those who simply can't abandon the thought an after-church meal at McDonalds.

Turkey and stuffing was far and away the best of the meat offerings. Real turkey—not pre-masticated particles of breast meat—cover a pile of moist and mild cornbread stuffing. The whole thing is napped in better than decent gravy. The folks from the Colonade would do well to come here and take notes. Ham is sweet and tender, but there's no doubt that it came, shrink wrapped, from some factory in Iowa rather than from the smokehouse of a farmer just up the road.

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373-2922 Decatur, on the square  
373-2925 (FAX) (across from new courthouse)

**Read My Hips:** Dish just returned from the Big Apple where we found the tasteful photo which adorns this week's column. The ad in question is for Purgatory, the Sunday night queer dance club at the Sound Factory Bar on 21st Street. Politics are hot right now all over NYC. Clinton/Gore signs are in shop and apartment windows all over the city and out into the 'burbs. The bars are almost as cruisy as in the late '70s, but in addition to talk about who's hot, there's plenty of political banter and Clinton/Gore buttons are almost as numerous as muscle T's. One particularly exquisite Puerto Rican man lectured us long and hard on why we most vote (for Clinton) while we pretended that we hadn't yet made up our mind. Swoon!

**Queer Hurricane Care:** We suspect that we are not the only one who has wanted to do something for the victims of hurricane Andrew and somehow do it with the word queer attached. Well, the Key West Business Guild may have come up with an answer. They are soliciting funds, which they will in turn donate to the disaster relief fund of the American Red Cross. If this idea pleases you as much as it does Dish, send your gay/lesbian dollars to the Key West Business Guild/Relief Fund, PO Box 1208, Key West, FL 33041.

**Assuaging Guilt:** Those who do not regularly peruse the letters section of the Constitution need to know that Ex-Pres. Jimmy Carter penned a missive to that paper last week in which he suggested that it was inappropriate for Virginia Slims (which cause Goddess knows how many cases of cancer and heart attacks) to be sponsoring a fund raiser for AID Atlanta. Said Carter, "If they [Virginia Slims] are really interested in promoting health, they could start by agreeing to halt all advertising and sale of cigarettes..."

**Gender Bender:** The Dallas Voice tells us that a 43 year-old transsexual woman in California is being evicted from the Boy Scouts (after a 10 year stint as a volunteer) not because she is a transsexual (which she is) but because she is a lesbian (which she also is). This seems patently discriminatory to Dish, but

# Dish

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



then we seem to remember something about a lesbian transsexual not being allowed to participate in the National Lesbian Conference a couple of years ago. The NLC folks we believe defined their behavior as political correctness; at least the scouts are more up front about their bigotry.

**What's God Got to Do With It?** Some kind and observant soul sent us this in the mail; looks like it came from the A-J/C, but there was no date or source included. It seems that a group of 23 religious leaders (including an Episcopal nabob of some description) have sent a missive to Pres. Bush (himself a self-avowed Episcopalian) and the Republican Party suggesting that the use of God's name in a partisan political contest is nothing short of blasphemy. "We need to be very clear that God belongs to no one side, for we believe we all belong to God," saeth *this* epistle. Try convincing Pat Robertson of that.

**God Finishes Last:** Nevada voters appear to agree with the sanctity of the above sentiment. Seems Emil Tolotti of Reno ran for the US Senate seat held by fellow Democrat Harry Reid ...and collected a vast two percent of the vote. At least part of Tolotti's poor showing is being attributed to the fact that he ran under the name "God Almighty." Even "none of the above" got more votes. Kinda makes us want to move to Nevada.

**Double Standard:** Did you know that VP (and homophobe extraordinaire) J. Danforth Quayle is related to some folks who run a newspaper in Arizona (The Arizona Republic, in which Danny owns some unspecified amount of stock) which gladly accepts personal ads which run under the categories of "Male Seeking Male" and "Female Seeking Female." A Quayle spokesperson told Newsweek that the Veep was "unaware" of the fact that his pockets are being at least partially lined with queer dollars. That's not all he's unaware of!

**Jelly Belly:** Up until now our favorite sex toy catalog has been the very tasteful and low key edition published by Good Vibrations in San Francisco, but Catalog X from Ft. Lauderdale may have replaced it. Like G.V. this one is both co- and homo-sexual in nature. But unlike G.V., C. X. contains glorious full color photos of such treasures as glow-in-the-dark undies, penis candles, glow-in-the-dark dongs, Eurasian jelly dongs, and orange jelly dongs. If this makes you moist send \$2 (and a statement admitting you're over 18) to Catalog X, PO Box 030487, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33303.

September 17—September 23, 1992

Fall officially arrives with the Equinox as the Sun moves into Libra on September 22. Since we haven't had our usual wilting hot August, we may have an Indian Summer which is a long pleasant fall with cool evenings. However, we are going to need some serious cold weather this winter to slow down all the fleas and mosquitoes.

**ARIES**, with Uranus, the planet of change, innovation and individual expression, going into direct motion in your 10th house of career, you may feel very inspired and empowered to move ahead on special projects. Remember to look first, if you leap. **TAURUS**, your love of beauty can be a valuable asset in your home and in your career. Be sure to surround yourself with things that remind you of beauty and harmony and choose colors that create peace in your atmosphere. **GEMINI**, now that Mars is in your 2nd house of personal income and material resources, it may be easier for you to focus on finances and actually generate a more substantial financial foundation. Check out all offers and opportunities carefully.

**CANCER**, if you have been wanting to change things around at home or redecorate, this could be a good time to do it. Also a good time to be at home to relax and regenerate. If someone or

## STARSIGNS

something is disturbing your peace of mind, take care of it now. Dear **LEO**, it is very important for you to express the ideals and feelings of your heart now. Have courage and don't be impressed or held back by fear or doubt. Let special people know that you love and care for them and appreciate their efforts. Happy Birthday, **VIRGO!** As you begin your Solar Year, do your best to clarify your priorities and get them down on paper. Put your list where you can refer to it often and you will find you are more focused and productive. Have a wonderful year!

Happy Birthday Dear **LIBRA!** With the Sun, Mercury and Venus all in your 1st house of personality, appearance and personal awareness, you must be positively radiant right now. If not, you may be fussing at yourself and need to get off your own case. **SCORPIO**, if you are considering a new relationship or feel yourself intensely drawn toward someone, it may help to take a deep breath before dashing in. If you want a long-

term, lasting relationship, then take your time, otherwise, rush right in. **SAGITTARIUS**, you may find yourself more in the public eye for awhile, but not to worry. You'll be looking good with the Sun, Mercury and Venus in your 11th house of community activities. Get out there and get involved, you'll meet some good folks.

**CAPRICORN**, with Uranus in your 1st house going direct on the 22nd, it should be easier for you to move ahead with your pet personal projects. However, it will be important to maintain balance with career/home as well as your personal life and needs. **AQUARIUS**, if you have a personal problem that has been troubling you for awhile, it may help to seek advice from someone older and wiser or at least more experienced. Remember, you don't have to carry all the responsibility yourself. **PISCES**, please do your best to focus some of your attention on finances and financial planning, especially if you have been putting it off for awhile or if you are behind on taxes or bookkeeping. The number crunching Elves may show up but don't hold your breath!

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.

### Dykes To Watch Out For



MARIA HELENA DOLAN

**T**he sounds of a summer afternoon might include ice tea glasses clinking, lawnmowers loudly growling, ceiling fans circulating—and furries scratching frantically.

As all Georgians know, Summertime = Fleatime. These pitiless little bloodsuckers just love our long, hot summers. And since this winter failed to provide a hard freeze, fleas abound now.

Harbinger of itchy misery, this tiny pest can induce suicidal despair with its seemingly ineradicable infestations. I myself have waited, lamented, and contemplated poisons in our low-tox house.

But... compromise and alternatives were agreed upon. Yes, the animals have fleas. But the creatures have not driven us from the house or into the toxic arms of foggers/organophosphates.

Instead, we use a combined frontal assault; flea comb, pyrethrin powders, diatomaceous earth, precor, and frequent vacuuming. (Plus, we ripped out all the wall-to-wall carpeting. That stuff is the best flea incubator/nursery known to humankind.)

Flea larvae love carpets, cracks in floors, the space between molding and the floor, couch cushions, etc. They hatch from kazillions of eggs the adult female lays—following a requisite blood meal—and proceed to fatten their incredibly tiny but voracious selves on all the organic debris we so thoughtfully provide during the normal shedding of skin cells, hair, etc.

The precor—a hormone which inhibits flea maturation—sprayed during the pre-adult stage will keep them eternally youthful. Which means they fail to develop an appetite for blood. Of course, the adults are still laying eggs, so you'll have to deal with them.

The diatomaceous earth, previously mentioned in this column, should be applied to all floor areas, pet bedding, etc. DE cuts the exoskeleton of the adult. Precious body fluids evaporate and the suckers die. I put DE down periodically, and within 24 hours, the level of animal scratching demonstrably nosedives.

However, bear in mind that DE is a powder (actually, the ground-up fossilized remains of small marine life), and it can get into your lungs, like all powders. Asthmatics, etc. should be particularly cautious. DE works on adults; nymphs and larvae

**THIS OLD HOE**  
EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS

escape the worst effects, and will grow to maturity. And your house may appear as though a cocaine kingpin had an explosive accident all over the place, what with the white powder in every nook and cranny.

For cats, regular (let me emphasize that word, regular) flea combing is very helpful. As anyone with crab lice experience knows, the fine teeth of the comb cause the insect pest to be momentarily caught.

It is then incumbent upon you to squash the sucker flat. However, the faint hearted or remarkably uncoordinated can flick them directly into a bowl of soapy water, and subsequently flush 'em. Verily, I say unto you, there is a fiendish satisfaction in hearing that hard exoskeleton 'crunch' beneath your nails, though.

Combing is problematic for large, hairy dogs. Instead, we use Pennyroyal flea baths and dips on the dogs, augmented in between with pyrethrin powders (all available at Cheshire Pet Supply, among others).

In sooth, 'tis true that 'natural' products can be as toxic as chemical concocted ones. Lucretia Borgia won her fame using herb derived powders, after all. But the herbal derivatives 1) come from plants, not petroleum, and so have a different order of impact on the environment, from inception to manufacture; 2) plant products tend to break down faster, so you poison your immediate environment for a shorter period of time.

No matter how you proceed, never underestimate the power of frequent vacuuming. I get on my hands and knees to suck out cracks in the hardwood floors, and around baseboards.

When I finish with the entire house, I fold the bag over, tape it shut, and throw it out. If you leave the bag in the vacuum—the fleas will jump back out!!

Now, I have neither the time nor the compulsivity to vacuum on a daily basis; daily is ideal. Nor have I bothered to precor the yard in Spring. But, I do keep the grass mowed and the weeds down—outdoor fleas dislike direct sun.

Let's face it; fleas are part of life's Unavoidable Triumvirate:

death, taxes, fleas. They seek warm-blooded hosts, preferably furred.

But looking at the problem realistically. We can see that, for example, dogs are like big flea moving vans.

Since they must go outside to eliminate wastes, it is inevitable that they will provide a ride inside for the bloodsuckers.

Yet, even cats who stay indoors usually have them. Hardly surprising, since animal-less friends of mine say that they get fleas in their house, too!

Fleas are here. You just don't have to be driven mad or chem crazy by them.

**EARTH ALERT: ANTI-FLEA HERBS**

I wish I could grow Rue, Pennyroyal, Fennel, and Fleabane in the house. I honestly think that strategic placements of these would make a difference. But the furries in our house compulsively devour/shred/dig up all household greenery.

So, I've settled for outdoor plantings. If they keep away even one flea, I'm grateful. Briefly, here's the dirt on these perennials:

Fleabane (Erigeron). Ruled by Venus, this dainty plant puts out small, delicate, daisy-like flowers. I have the trailing type (there are bushy ones, too). I keep her in a clay pot near the porch favored by cats.

Fennel (Foeniculum Vulgare). Ruled by Mercury. I had a patch in front, but we ate it, so I'm not certain as to its abilities. Paul Breyer says, "When the seed is ground to a powder, it deters the presence of fleas and may be used as a pesticide for one's domestic pets."

Pennyroyal (Mentha Pulegium). Sacred to Demeter and Venus, this herb has long been used for its potent 'cidal effects, even as an abortifacient. I haven't grown it, since it is rather poisonous overall. (Love to hear your personal experiences here).

Rue (Ruta Graveolens). Sacred to Mars and the Sun, Rue is also known as Herb of Grace. It must have great banishing powers, because everything else in the garden seems to hate it, and will not thrive near it. (Which is why I dug it up. The Rue did quite well, and nothing would come up around him).

I'm going to try potting it next year. James Adams, in *Landscaping with Herbs*, says "Rue, as a strewing herb or in wash water, thwarts the onslaught of fleas into the house by pets."

**HLM Announces:**



The Amnesty program is for Ga. State Tax **NON-FILERS** for the period prior to Dec. 31, 1990.

The Taxes included in the program are: individual income, corporate income, sales, withholding, and motor fuel.

Prior year's tax returns must be filed between **OCT.1 TO DEC. 5, 1992.**

To encourage participation, the Dept. of Revenue is waiving most penalties. **NOTE: IF YOU ARE MORE THAN 2 YEARS BEHIND, THE PENALTIES ALONE ARE MORE THAN THE TAXES!**

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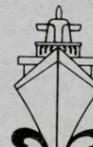
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- Ansley Therapy Associates, 1904 Monroe
- Brushstrokes, 1510 Piedmont
- Burkharts, 1492F Piedmont Rd.
- Canine Showcase, Ansley Mall
- Chapter 11 Books, Ansley Mall
- Crazy Rayz, 1492 Piedmont
- E.D.'s Gourmet Records, 1510 Piedmont
- Funny Business, Ansley Mall
- Laundry Lounge, Ansley Mall
- Mail Boxes Etc, 1579 Monroe
- Morningside Chase, 1445 Monroe
- New Order, Ansley Mall
- Royal Bagel, Ansley Mall
- San Jose, 1510 Piedmont
- Scandals, 1510 Piedmont
- The Boy Next Door, 1447 Piedmont
- The Cove, 586 Worchester Dr.

**AVONDALE ESTATES**

- Avondale Pizza, 70 N. Avondale Rd.
- Shakespeare & Co., 122 N. Avondale Rd.

**BUCKHEAD**

- Bill's Health Market, Lindbergh Plaza
- Cafe Intermezzo, 1865 Peachtree St. (Box)
- Catering Specialties, 1863 Peachtree St.
- Coco Loco, 2625 Sidney Marcus Blvd
- Expressway Bowling Lanes, 1936 Piedmont
- Garden Hills Cinema, 2835 Peachtree Rd.
- McDonald's, 2929 Peachtree Rd. (Box)
- Oxford Books, 360 Pharr Rd.
- Oxford Books, 2345 Peachtree Rd.
- Oxford Too, 2395 Peachtree Rd.
- The Darlington Apts, 2025 Peachtree Rd.

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- Sutton Place Apts, 3580 Buford Hwy
- Turtles, 3061 Buford Hwy

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- Buddies, 2345 Cheshire Br.
- Chrysalis Women's Ctr, 2045 Manchester
- Dunk N Dine, 2277 Cheshire Br. (Box)
- Hairanoia, 2000 Cheshire Br. (Box)
- Hoedowns, 1890 Cheshire Br.
- Let Music Play, 2345 Cheshire Br.
- Opus, 1086 Alco St.
- Showcase Cinema, 2323 Cheshire Br.
- The Heretic, 2069 Cheshire Br.
- Two Pesos, 1895 Piedmont
- White Orchid, 1803 Cheshire Br.
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- Decatur Fitness, 701 Church St.
- Everybody's Pizza, 1593 N. Decatur Rd. (Box)
- Golden Buddha, 1905 Clairmont Rd.
- Karuna Counseling, 1549 Clairmont Rd.
- Rainbow Grocery, 2118 N. Decatur Rd. (Box)
- Sage Hill, 1799 Briarcliff (Box)
- Southern Star, 231 W. Ponce (Box)

**DOWNTOWN**

- Atlanta Journal/Constitution, 72 Marietta (Box)
- C&S Bank, 75 Piedmont (Box)
- Georgia Power, 270 Peachtree St. (Box)
- Grady IDC, 35 Butler St
- GSU MARTA Station, Butler St (Box)

- Main Library, Carnegie at Forsyth (Box)
- Pleasant Peasant, 555 Peachtree St. (Box)
- The Pear Garden, 111 Luckie St.

**GRANT PARK**

- Adams Realty, 460 Cherokee Ave. (Box)
- Arts Exchange, 750 Kalb St.
- La Giace, 562 Boulevard S.E.

**LENOX**

- Tower Records, Around Lenox
- Lenox MARTA Station (Box)

**LITTLE 5 POINTS**

- Actor's Express, 280 Elizabeth St.
- Charis Books, 419 Moreland
- Eat Your Vegetables, 438 Moreland (Box)
- Fellini's Pasta, 1174 Euclid Ave (Box)
- First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr.
- Johnny's Pizza Cafe, 467 Highland
- LSP Community Center, 1803 Austin Ave.
- LSP Pharmacy, 484 Moreland
- Sevananda, 1111 Euclid Ave. (Box)
- The Atomic Cafe, 1655 McLendon
- The Bradley Building, 772 Edgewood
- The Movie Store, 299 Moreland

**MARIETTA**

- Life Grocery, Roswell St.
- Turtles, Town Center Mall

**MIDTOWN**

- AID Atlanta, 1438 W. Peachtree St.
- Arts Center MARTA (Box)
- Atlanta Gay Center, 63 12th St.
- Backstreet, 845 Peachtree St.
- Blakes, 227 10th St

- Bulldog & Co, 893 Peachtree St.
- Cha-Gio, 966 Peachtree St. (Box)
- Common Ground, 1053 Juniper
- Einstein's, 1077 Juniper
- Feminist Women's Health Ctr, 580 14th St.
- Frijoleros, 1031 Peachtree St.
- Goodies 64 3d St.
- Hemmingway's, 1049 Juniper
- Loretta's, 708 Spring St.
- Midtown Manor, 811 Piedmont
- Midtown MARTA Station (Box)
- NAPWA, 44 12th St.
- North Ave. MARTA (Box)
- Subway, 10th & Piedmont
- The Armory, 836 Juniper
- The Gallus, 49 6th St.

**NORTH ATLANTA**

- Borders Books, 3655 Roswell Rd
- Dunk'n'Dine, 4520 Roswell Rd
- Incognito, 857 Collier Rd.
- Life Grocery, Roswell St. Marietta
- Turtles, Town Center Mall

**PONCE CORRIDOR**

- Atlanta Family Health, 155 North
- Braden Fellman, 931 Ponce de Leon
- Buddies, 239 Ponce de Leon
- Franks Place, 600 Ponce de Leon
- Goody's, 304 Ponce de Leon
- Renaissance Bookstore, Rio Mall
- Skate Escape, 1086 Piedmont
- Subway, 699 Ponce de Leon
- The Eagle, 306 Ponce de Leon
- The Phoenix, 567 Ponce de Leon
- Tin Lizzies, 699 Ponce de Leon
- Tortilla's, 774 Ponce de Leon (Box)
- Turtles, 1039 Ponce de Leon

**SOUTHEAST ATLANTA**

- Moreland Bar & Grill, 1196 Moreland Ave.

**UNIVERSITIES**

- Emory, Dobbs Univ. Ctr. (Box)
- GSU Sparks Hall, Courtland at Gilmer (Box)
- GSU University Ctr, Courtland St. (Box)
- Georgia Tech Student Ctr, Techwood Drive
- Kennesaw State College, Student Ctr.

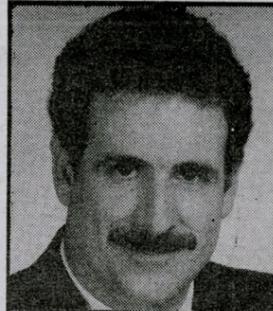
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- 12 Step Books, 784 N. Highland
- Alli Katts, 784 N. Highland
- American Road House, 842 N. Highland
- Atlantis Connection, 1402 N. Highland
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- Boot Camp, 597 Cooledge Ave.
- Camille's, 1186 N. Highland (Box)
- Caramba Cafe, 1409 N. Highland (Box)
- Condomart, 632 N. Highland
- Corner Compact Disc, 1048 N. Highland
- Jake's, 931 Monroe
- Maddix deLuxe, 1034 N Highland
- MCC of Atlanta, 800 N. Highland
- Midtown YWCA, 957 N. Highland
- Movies Worth Seeing, 1409 N Highland
- Nature's Art, 1025 Virginia
- Second Hand, 784 N Highland
- Southern Voice, 1189 Virginia (Box)
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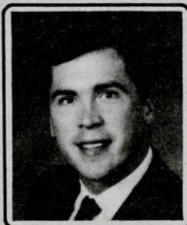
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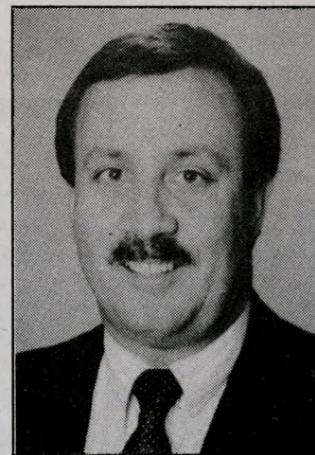
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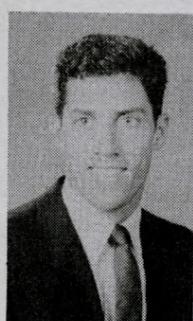
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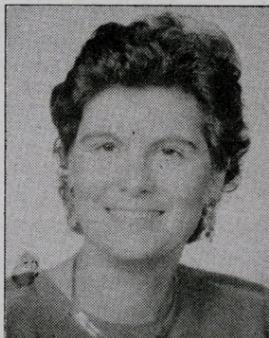
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Support Group for HIV positive physicians and dentists. For more information contact: 634-0672.

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

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. For reservations & info call 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" sex-pos. HIV prevention prog. for GBM (need volunteers also); **FREE ANONYMOUS HIV TESTS**, counseling, 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.

**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**

Artists and craftspeople: apply now to participate in SAME's 4th Annual Arts for Pride Festival to be held on Dec. 6. Call 609-9590 for application. Due Oct. 7. (5.31)

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

Team looking for experienced, competent goal keeper. Must be over 30 years old. Must be able to attend Sunday afternoon games and wednesday evening practices. Call Lisa at 881-1614. (5.30)

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

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Hairstylist and nail-tech with clientele for fun new 60s-style salon in Midtown. Cabel's Glamorama 875-2155. (5.30)

Landscape Persons needed full time. Start \$6.00/hr. Thomas 266-2753. (5.30)

Office help needed in manufacturing environment. Various clerical duties—flexibility required. Please call Michael Little at (404) 577-4469. (5.30)

**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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**VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND**

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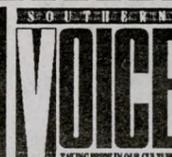
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x # issues	_____
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x # issues	_____
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20 words	FREE
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SV forwarding mailbox (optional)	10.00
Other P.O. Box	5.00

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20 words	FREE
Telephone VOICEbox	FREE
# add. words @ 50¢ ea/wk	_____
Giant headline @ 3.00/week	_____
Forwarding box @ 10.00/week	_____
Other P.O. Box @ 5.00/week	_____
SUBTOTAL	_____
(4 weeks minimum) x # weeks	_____
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	_____

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Seek GM individual, responsible, to share home in Decatur. Near East Lake station. Private bedroom & bath. \$350 + 1/3 util. Call John, 377-9870. (5.31)

Share large 3BR apt. near Cross Creek with own bathroom. Utilities, washer/dryer included. Non-smoker, male only. \$350/month. 352-9095. (5.30)

Share my quiet 3-bedroom, 2-bath Stone Mountain home. Own master bedroom with private bath. Non-smoking, pets negotiable. 498-8843. (5.34)

**Services**

**HOUSE CLEANING**

Margie F. Too much to do & not enough time? I can help 872-2815. Leave message - I'll get right on it. (6.18)

**ATTN: WORKING WOMEN**

Reliable Lesbians to run errands, do gift shopping, hospital / nursing home visitations, pet care, letter writing, housecleaning—more! 633-9113. References. (5.33)

**Travel**

LESBIAN PARADISE! With 20 charming, antique - filled rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking trails, yummy breakfasts, peace & privacy, we're your perfect vacation choice! Golf, tennis, antiquing, summer theatre nearby. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 118SV, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978. (5.30)

Our Place—a North Georgia Mountain Retreat. Available in a variety of reservation plans, including weekend bed & breakfast or entire cabin rental. Fireplace, deck and waterfall. Beautifully furnished. (404) 297-9825.

**Volunteers**

Volunteers needed to work on the presidential campaign of the Bill Clinton / Al Gore ticket. 231-5751. (5.36)

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)

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

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

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.

**Yard Sales**

Dyke and Fag Yard Sale, faboo bargains galore! — Saturday, September 19th, 9am-4pm. 889 Artwood Rd. off Ponce near Decatur.

**Voice Connection**

**MEN**

North Georgia - GWM, I am looking for someone to date who is sincere and honest. I am very healthy and stable. I like movies and walks in the mountains. If you are tucked away in North Georgia, write to: PO Box 250, Gainesville, GA 30501. (5.31)

GWM, 26, college student, 6'0", 165 lbs, muscular, clean-cut, looking for wealthy WM for fun and excitement, any age, weight. ☎ 50096

GWM, 29, 5'9", 160, Br/Hz. Very masculine, good-looking, muscular, health-conscious, honest, educated, high-achiever, humanitarian, stable, laid-back, casual, playful, out-going, open-minded, with varied interests, seeks same. ☎ 50094

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

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)

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

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

WM, mid 60s, 5'10", 160#, married, closeted. Can we share daytime 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

**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

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

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

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

**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, 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

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

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

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

**VOICE CONNECTION**

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Simply fill out the classified order form at the beginning of this section. 20 WORD MESSAGE FREE. You may have an SV forwarding mailbox for \$10.00 or you may elect to use your own PO Box for \$5.00. Mail or drop off your completed order form with payment at our offices.  
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Attractive, fit, professional GWM couple 26/38. Seek adventurous, imaginative, submissive, in shape guys into discipline, bondage, leather, servicing. Curious, inexperienced OK. ☎ 50055

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

**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" B1/B1, 122#. Healthy. Call ☎ 50053

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



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CLASSIFIEDS

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", Bm/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

Cute, feminine, GWF, 26, educated, motivated, professional, energetic, somewhat wild and wacky, seeks kindred spirits. No drugs or butch. ☎ 50046

GWF, femme, 25, w/5yr. old daughter seeks GFs for friendship. The rest is destiny's call. Call me today! ☎ 50095

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, sparking 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)

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

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

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)

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

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

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, fun-loving. Let's talk. ☎ 50040

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

GBF, very tall, progressive looking, love variety, sucker for emotions, romantic surprises and comy 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 com-

patible GWF. ☎ 50030

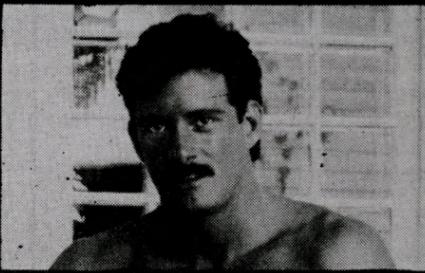
Single black female, 30, professional, discreet, seeking same. Enjoy movies, theatre, music and love to have fun. ☎ 50044

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

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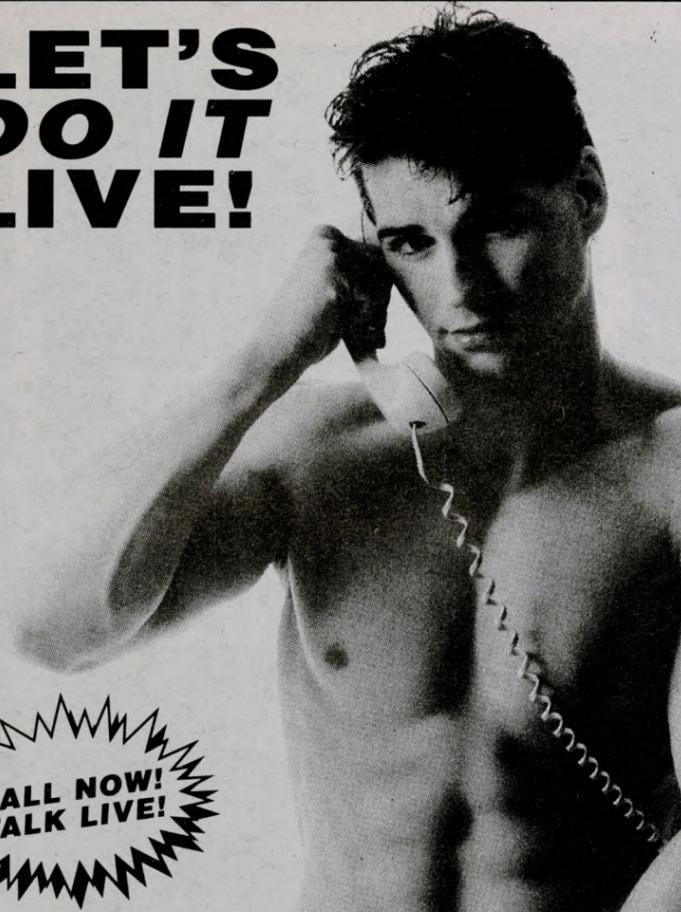
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THE GAY  
CONNECTION™  
For Atlanta

# Lesbian journalist makes history talking about gay issues

Deb Price of the Detroit News is the first gay columnist to write for a mainstream newspaper

Washington, DC (AP)—Outbursts of hatred and outpourings of gratitude have been among the responses to a new national gay columnist and her stories about gay and lesbian concerns.

"To have a gay person talking about gay life is an incredible thing," says Deb Price, Washington news editor for the Detroit News.

Price, 34, isn't the first gay columnist or the first columnist to write about a gay issue, but she is believed to be the first gay columnist to write regularly about gay issues for daily, mainstream metropolitan newspapers. Price began her column May 8 for the News and for distribution to 80 other Gannett newspapers nationwide. About a dozen from Niagara Falls, N.Y., to El Paso, Texas, have run it, and it has appeared twice in USA Today, Gannett's national newspaper.

In August it became available to other papers through the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. Price tacks a little flag on a U.S. map in cities where newspapers have run her column, which she says isn't just for lesbians and gay men.

"What I really hope to do is get straight people and gay people talking, bridging a gap that's existed forever," she said, "and I think that's what's happened."

A parent and a sibling wrote that they want to pass on her column to gay relatives who need some direction and support. Another woman just wanted to share that her lesbian boss has been her best boss ever.

As expected, not all readers are pleased to see the column when they pick up The Detroit News every Friday. Michigan state Rep. Dave Jaye, a conservative Republican from Utica, wrote to the News: "Competition from electronic media is causing some newspapers to degenerate into titillating tabloids. A weekly



Deb Price stands in her office in Washington, D.C.

homosexual column is one symptom of this decline. Will bondage columns be next?"

Price was surprised by some of the mail.

"You're just astounded that people would write such hatred and sign their name and leave their address and telephone number," Price said. "I keep telling myself, 'I'm a symbol, nobody knows me, it's not personal, try not to take it personally.'"

Bob Giles, editor and publisher of the News, said most of the feedback has been negative. But the paper also has seen a steady stream of positive notes from relatives of gay people and ministers counseling confused teen-agers.

"We knew it would be controversial," Giles said. "But the nature of controversy has simply

reinforced my belief that a column of this kind has a very appropriate place in this newspaper."

The News and Gannett haven't put any restrictions on what she writes, Price said. As a news editor, she stops short of making political endorsements while still trying to be informative on political issues. There are personal notes as well — Price frequently mentions her companion of seven years, Joyce Murdoch, an editor for The Washington Post.

Price believes risks like hers must be taken by gay people.

"If people want their company to offer employment benefits for domestic partners of gay employees, somebody's got to ask," she said.

"That's a gay person's responsibility, that's not a straight person's responsibility."

She believes similar columns will follow in other papers. She says her narrow life—that of an educated, white, female journalist living with the same in a relatively progressive city—can't possibly tell the whole story for gays.

"Things change when a black person moves into a neighborhood, things change when a Jewish person is allowed in a country club, and things change when an openly gay person is allowed to stay in the military," she said.

"In other words, things change when people are allowed to be themselves and other people know who they are."

LISA ZAGAROLI

September 25, 1992

## JOSEPH STEFFAN

### HONOR BOUND

A GAY AMERICAN FIGHTS FOR THE RIGHT TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY

JOSEPH STEFFAN



Joseph Steffan will be speaking, answering questions and signing his book. "Honor Bound" tells the incredible story of Joe's rise to leadership at the Naval Academy at Annapolis until, only weeks short of his graduation, he was stripped of rank, denied his degree and told to resign or be kicked out because he refused to deny a rumor that he was gay.

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