

VOICE

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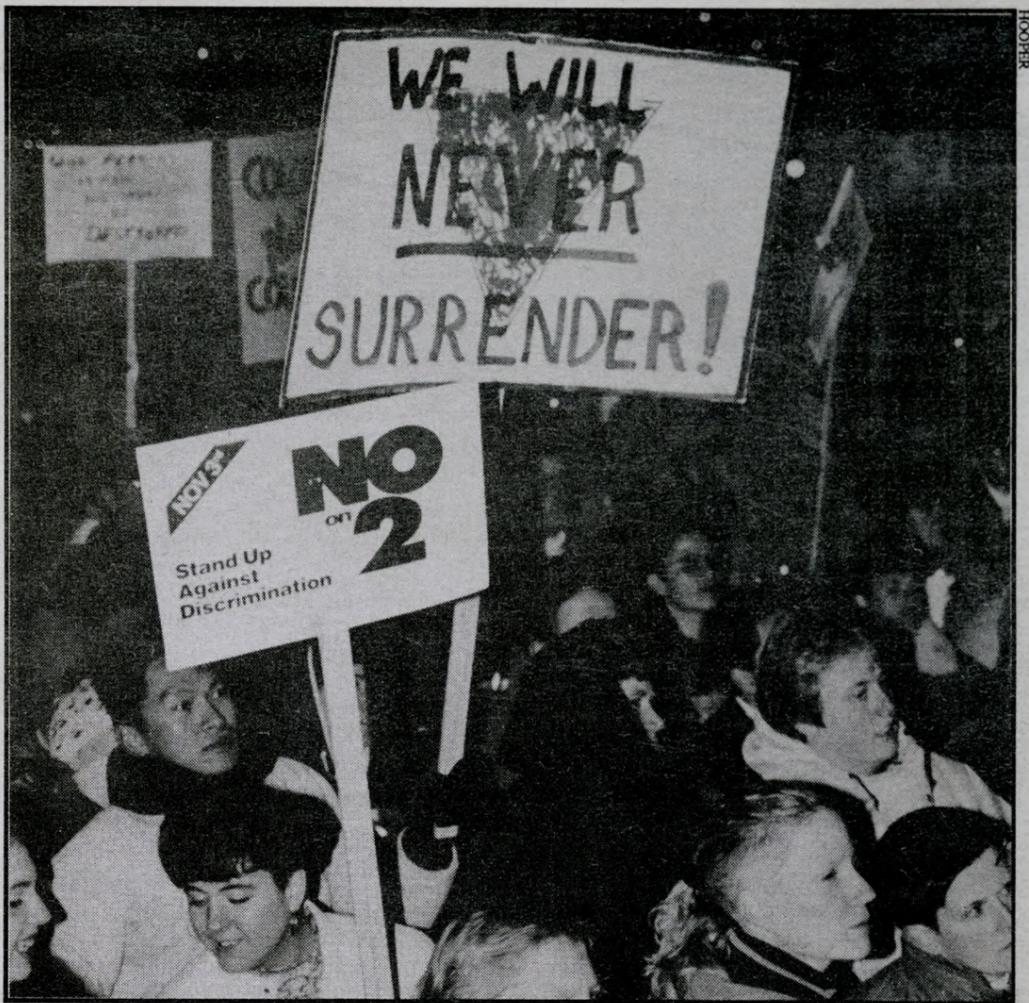
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Fighting the Right

Christian fundamentalists, using the weapon of "special rights" for gays and lesbians, won battles in Colorado and Tampa, Fla. Certain that the religious right will continue its fight in other states, gays and lesbians issue a call to arms

KC WILDMOON

The smoke has cleared from the 1992 election battlefield. Surveying the results, gays and lesbians have reason to cheer: President-elect Bill Clinton seems determined to keep promises made to the community during the campaign; more gays and lesbians were elected to public office; more gay-supportive officials were elected by the voters; and gays and lesbians aren't sick, abnormal and perverse by law in Oregon.

But if, as former presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan so clearly put it at this year's Republican National Convention, America is engaged in a Christian Holy War, the battle lines have been drawn and gays and lesbians have been named the Infidel.

Even as gays and lesbians celebrated those Nov. 3 victories, the religious right was celebrating victories of its own. People for the American Way, a liberal lobbying organization, reported that the religious right won over 40% of state and local races and issues contested by conservative forces. That number includes the defeat of an Iowa state Equal Rights Amendment for women, a campaign waged in part by televangelist Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition. During that campaign, Robertson used gay-baiting techniques, including writing that feminists who supported the ERA wanted only to encourage women "leave their husbands, kill their babies, practice witchcraft, and become lesbians," to garner forces to defeat the measure.

Such indirect attacks were common, and 1992 marked an increase in direct ballot attacks on the civil rights of lesbians and gays. In such votes, the right came out even, with victories in Tampa, Florida and Colorado, while gay rights won the day in Portland, Maine, and Oregon. And the right takes encouragement from both, using outright wins and close votes to bolster support, and losses to raise money, preying on fears and hatred. Additionally, most political pundits agree that the presence in the White House of Bill Clinton, considered an "enemy" by the religious right, will help swell the coffers of conservative, Christian-based organizations across the country. Indeed, even the almost forgotten Rev. Jerry Falwell has threatened to restart his financially troubled Moral Majority if Clinton makes good on his promise to lift the military ban on lesbians and gays.

But the threat to existing and future civil rights is having a galvanizing affect on the lesbian and gay community as well. Laws like Colorado's Amendment 2 have sounded an alarm that the religious right is dead serious in its opposition to gay rights. And across the country, gays and lesbians are responding to what many see as a call to arms.

Rocky Mountain Low

Even as they extended protections to bears by passing a measure that outlaws the spring bearhunt, Coloradans voted 53%-47% for Amendment 2, guaranteeing that no government entity in that state can ever "enact, adopt or enforce" any measure that would grant gays, lesbians, or bisexuals "minority status, quota preferences, protected status or claim of discrimination." Amendment 2 also repealed gay rights ordinances already on the books in Denver, Boulder and Aspen.

Lesbians and gays in the state were shocked at the outcome, since pre-election polls had indicated that the ballot initiative would lose by a safe margin. What were to have been victory parties across the state turned into quiet gatherings, as the would-be celebrants watched election returns in disbelief.

Immediately after the election, gay Coloradans were hurt and stunned, and according to some reports, in disarray. But Tony Ogden, co-author of Denver's gay rights ordinance and a founder of Equal Protection Colorado (EPOC), which led the fight against Amendment 2, says that his fellow Coloradans are back on their feet and ready to fight.

"There's so much momentum," he said. "We've added 4,000 names to our mailing list after the election. And we've had so many people call, straight people, to say 'I'm sorry. I didn't understand.'"

"I'm sorry" may not help gay Coloradans for the present. While Coloradans For Family Values (CVF) leaders claim that they did not intend for Amendment 2 to throw blanket approval over discrimination, most believe that is exactly the amendment's purpose, and that it will also signal a sharp increase in anti-gay violence.

"I can tell you, our community does not feel safe," said Sue Anderson, executive director of Denver's Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

Earlier this year, three gay men were murdered in separate incidents, and a fourth, heterosexual, man was gunned down in a convenience store by attackers who thought he was gay. And since February 1991, nearly half the civil rights allegations filed with Denver's Human Rights Office have been complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation. With the repeal of Denver's gay rights measure, those who are discriminated against now have no recourse.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

Photo caption: Thousands gathered on the steps of the Colorado state capitol in Denver on Nov. 4 to protest the passage of Amendment 2.



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Charlotte rejects amendment to prohibit discrimination against gays

Charlotte, NC (AP)—City council members last week rejected amending the city's anti-bias ordinance to protect people from discrimination based on age, disability, sexual orientation or family status.

Prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations like restaurants, bars and hotels because of sexual orientation has become a lightning rod for debate since the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee proposed the amendment two weeks ago.

The 7-4 vote came after nearly two hours of discussion.

Critics argued homosexuality is morally wrong and the ordinance would sanction it. Proponents countered that Charlotte needed to

take a stand of tolerance and acceptance toward its gay and lesbian community.

The council chamber, which has a capacity of 260 people, was packed by 6 p.m. for the 7 p.m. meeting. Another 100 citizens stood outside in the lobby.

Supporters of the ordinance pinned red, white and blue ribbons to their lapels. Opponents wore small yellow signs that read "NO."

"This change would legitimize what the Bible abhors," said the Rev. Charles Page, pastor of First Baptist Church.

Diana Travis, a native Charlottean, told council members that she was a business owner, a homeowner, and a board member for the United Way, as well as a lesbian.

"Never once have I gotten my tax money sent back to me because it said, 'This is lesbian money; we don't want it,'" Travis said.

But council members weren't swayed.

"I do not think a case was made for the ordinance," said Mayor Richard Vinroot after the vote was taken.

Vinroot said the ordinance would have been symbolic. "I happen to think it was the symbol. Council made the right decision," he said.

Gay and lesbian Catholics confront church's anti-gay stand

Washington—Gay and lesbian Roman Catholics, angered at a June Vatican decision telling U.S. bishops to oppose civil rights legislation for homosexuals, petitioned the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) here Nov. 16 to repudiate the stand and support laws protecting sexual minorities.

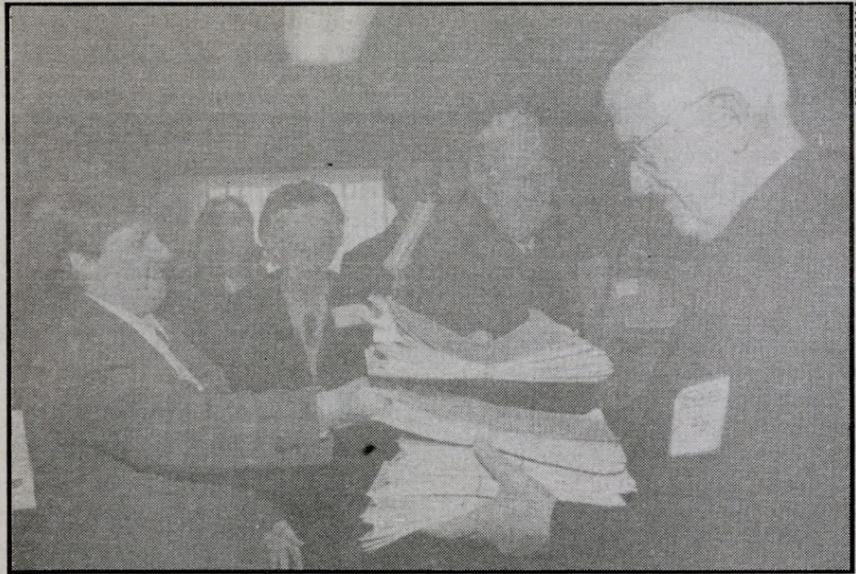
Joined by non-gay Catholics, they presented petitions with 12,748 signatures blasting the Vatican's decree that such laws may have a "negative impact on the family and society."

The gay groups' petitions urged the bishops to support local, state, and federal laws guaranteeing equal rights for homosexuals.

In response, Malone acknowledged "the pain and hurt which many have experienced" but said legislation safeguarding gays' "legitimate rights" must not create "a new class of legally protected behavior." The Vatican's position "rightly warns against that."

Dignity/USA has some 4,000 members in 85 chapters across the nation and is part of an international movement in the Catholic church. New Ways is an educational and bridge-building ministry of reconciliation between the Catholic homophile community and the church.

At the noon vigil, over 60 people heard



Mary Anne Duffer, Vice President of Dignity USA, hands Archbishop James Malone some of the 12,748 petitions urging the Catholic Church to change its stand on lesbian and gay issues.

The pronouncement also called homosexuals unsuitable for adoption, foster care, teaching, coaching, and military service.

Bishop James Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, accepted the documents from leaders of Dignity USA, New Ways Ministry, with support from the Women's Ordination Conference et al.

Delegating a bishop to accept challenges to the Vatican's statement was a "striking" response from NCCB, said Greg Link, New Ways director.

After a rally and prayer vigil outside the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Dignity/USA president Kevin Calegari confronted Malone.

"We will accept no compromises, no limits, on the rights that we have as human beings and in our church," he said. "You have to know the pain we feel."

Dignity's Calegari charge that "our church, which is supposed to preach justice, has committed a horrible injustice. We will not let the bigots get away with trashing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Homosexuality was one of several timely issues greeting the bishops at their semi-annual meeting here.

In addition to accepting the signatures from disgruntled gays, NCCB made two other unusual moves. It rejected a pastoral letter reaffirming traditional roles for women in the church and met with leaders of people who say they were sexually abused by priests as youths.

And one NCCB official warned that election of Bill Clinton as president raises "prospects of sweeping pro-abortion initiatives" by

CONTINUED ABOVE RIGHT



Southern Country Atlanta, an organization that promotes country and western activities in the gay community, presented the proceeds from their recent round-up to Childkind and Project Open Hand. Southern Country's next event is Dec. 12, with a Christmas celebration and C&W show at Backstreet. Pictured (l-r) are Mike Windham of Southern Country, Audrey Bowie of Project Open Hand, Michael Bailiff of Childkind, and Mark Robertson of Southern Country.

the government. Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles urged "friends of life" to "pull together as never before" to fight the Freedom of Choice Act pending in Congress which would codify a woman's right to abortion. Pro-choice feminists at NCCB's session, male and female, were outraged.

Baltimore Archbishop William H. Keeler was overwhelmingly chosen as NCCB president, succeeding Cincinnati Daniel Pilarczyk, who agreed to accept the gay Catholics' petitions.

The Women's Ordination Conference, a group based here, said it "deplores the secret intervention" of the Vatican directed at the bishops. "God made us to love and serve," said coordinator Ruth Fitzpatrick, "not to discriminate."

She called failure to denounce the Vatican's letter "systemic sin, silent capitulation, if not outright incitement to economic, social, political, and physical violence against lesbian and gay persons."

JOHN ZEH

NEA refuses funds to three gay film festivals

Washington, DC (AP)—Arts organizations are blasting the National Endowment for the Arts for refusing to help finance three gay and lesbian film festivals, calling the rejection a political gesture to appease conservatives.

"This is an outright homophobic attack on these three organizations," said Larry Horne, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Media Coalition in Los Angeles, which produced one of the film festivals.

"We think all of it [the films shown] is of high artistic quality and we don't understand why the NEA has rejected our grant," he said.

In a brief statement Nov. 20, the endowment said its acting chairwoman, Anne-Imelda Radice, found that the film festivals "do not demonstrate artistic excellence and artistic merit worthy of support by this agency."

Arts organizations said the decision was a politically motivated slap at lesbians and gays. They called on President-elect Clinton to move quickly to appoint a successor to Radice, whose previous decisions rejecting sexually explicit art have fueled criticism.

NEA spokeswoman Jill Collins said she didn't know what material in the film festivals prompted Radice to reject them. However, she said Radice reviewed the grant proposals and watched some of the films.

The rejected grants totaled \$17,500 and were to go to the Gay and Lesbian Media Coalition in Los Angeles, the New Festival in New York and the Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

All three of the film festivals have been held. Their organizers had been seeking operating support from the NEA through the National Alliance for Media Arts and Cultures, an arts-service agency based in Oakland, Calif.

Earlier this year, before John Frohnmayer was forced out as NEA chairman by conservatives who accused him of funding pornographic art, the agency agreed to give \$250,000 to the

alliance to redistribute to various arts programs. The alliance recommended to the NEA in April that 53 organizations share the money.

Soon after the recommendations were made, Radice was installed as acting chairwoman, replacing Frohnmayer. In making the vetoes, Radice lived up to a promise made at that time to veto any work she considered offensive. Immediately after her appointment, DC activists held a press conference to out Radice, calling her pledges hypocritical.

The three gay and lesbian film festivals were the only projects on the alliance's list that the NEA turned down, said alliance director Julian Low. However, a fourth organization, Great Lakes Film and Video Inc., which sponsors a series of film festivals, including one with a gay orientation, was permitted to use the money only for the Milwaukee Black Film Festival, he said.

The National Campaign for Freedom of Expression, an arts advocacy group, said Radice's "outrageous act is a direct attack on the gay and lesbian community."

DEBORAH MESCE

Sex education hotline

The Georgia Department of Education is being flooded with calls about proposed changes in the state's sex education curriculum—and the calls are overwhelmingly opposed to the changes. The changes, recommended by a panel appointed by Gov. Zell Miller, recommend that students be introduced to AIDS at an earlier grade level than the current, and that homosexuality be presented in a neutral light as opposed to the right wing mandated negative one.

A public hearing for North Georgia citizens is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 7, from 2pm to 9pm at the Cobb County Civic Center in Marietta. A similar hearing for South Georgia residents has not been scheduled.

To express your opinion of the proposed sex education curriculum, call the Department of Education at 656-2446.

We're here.



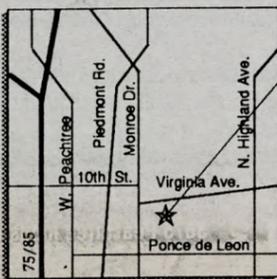
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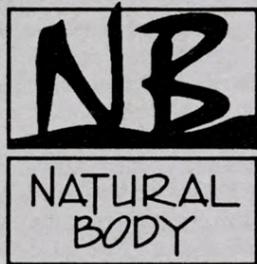
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Children of lesbians well-adjusted study shows

Charlottesville, VA (AP)—A University of Virginia psychologist's study of 4- to 9-year-old children of openly lesbian parents shows the youngsters are not being hindered in any significant way by their upbringing.

"The results suggest that it is quality of parenting, rather than the sexual orientation of parents, that is important for children's development," Charlotte J. Patterson said Nov. 18.

Beginning in 1990, Patterson studied 37 children from 37 lesbian families in the San Francisco area. Most of the mothers conceived through donor insemination. The children were about an even mix of girls and boys.

The study showed that in sexual identity or social skills, as demonstrated by friendships, grades and participation in sports, hobbies and chores, the children were comparable to those born to heterosexual couples.

"Children of lesbian mothers seem to be experiencing normal psychosocial development," said Patterson, an associate professor at Virginia. "They are not hindered by the sexual orientation of their parents."

The study showed no evidence that these children were more apt to grow up homosexual, though "judges have denied custody from being worried about that particular issue," Patterson said.

Her study showed, however, that there were two areas of notable contrast between children of lesbians and children of heterosexuals. Les-

bians' children seemed to experience greater stress, indicated through incidents such as insomnia, anxiety and anger. However, they also showed a greater sense of well-being and well-adjustment.

"This is a new finding based on a small sample and needs to be replicated," Patterson said. "But there are two possible interpretations. They are experiencing more stress and still do feel pretty good about themselves despite that, or they're more secure in expressing feelings both positive and negative."

The stress also could come because of "heterosexist, homophobic or other attitudes," she said.

There are an estimated 5 million to 10 million children of lesbian and gay parents in the United States, most of whom were born in heterosexual relationships, Patterson said.

There also is a rising number of lesbians in the country having children in what she called a "lesbian baby boom."

About 26 of the children in the study were raised by lesbian couples, and a smaller number were raised by single lesbians. The families were predominantly white, upper-middle class and well-educated.

Patterson said she hopes to do a follow-up study on the same families as the children mature.

"A lot of people are wondering how things are going to go during adolescence," she said.

SC P-FLAG is growing

Columbia, SC (AP)—Leslie Johnson isn't afraid to say her son is gay, and she's helping other parents of gay children learn to live with it.

"Our children are wonderful human beings. To allow people to treat them as less than human, I won't put up with that," says Carole Lender, who helped Johnson establish a Greenville, S.C. chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

South Carolina founders emphasize the federation's slogan of "Keeping families together."

"You don't throw children out because they didn't fit your preconceived ideas," Lender said.

When Lender and her husband discovered their son was gay, several emotions surfaced, she said.

"My first response was, 'Poor thing,' and my second was, 'He didn't trust me.' Third was, 'I need to know more about this.' So I made an appointment with a psychiatrist who said, 'Love your son. It isn't your fault. It isn't an emotional illness.' That helped a lot," Lender said.

Johnson said it took years to accept her son's homosexuality, even though she loved him.

"But then my acceptance grew and grew to the point that if you asked me today, 'Do you want your son to be heterosexual?' I'd say, 'No. My son is who he is because he is homosexual, and I wouldn't want him to be different.'"

Court throws out Florida Hate Crimes Act

Miami, FL (AP)—A Miami appeals court has thrown out Florida's Hate Crimes Act, which includes sexual orientation, as too vague, but the state attorney general's office said last week that the ruling will be appealed.

The law, which went into effect in October 1989, increases penalties for crimes motivated by bigotry and racial prejudice.

In the meantime, the law remains in effect in all of Florida except Broward, Dade and Monroe counties, he said. On Nov. 18, the Third District Court of Appeals, which covers those three counties, struck down the law as

"utterly ambiguous and totally confusing."

The law fails to spell out clearly what constitutes a hate crime, the court said.

"People of common intelligence must necessarily guess as to its meaning and differ as to its application," Judge Phillip Hubbard wrote in the 17-page opinion.

The three-judge panel also unanimously overturned the hate-crime conviction of a Dade County man who beat up two black men after calling them "niggers" and complaining they didn't have jobs.

His convictions for battery and aggravated battery were allowed to stand, however.

The law's supporters were unhappy with the latest ruling.

"We are truly disappointed by the court's decision," said Joan Peppard, associate southern counsel for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. "We don't believe the statute is invalid, and we are going to continue to be active."

Southeast Conference announces theme, agenda

Tuscaloosa, AL—The 17th Annual Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men (SECLGM) will be held March 4-7, 1993, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. According to Cindy Vordenbaum, co-moderator of the Board of SECLGM, Inc., the theme for the conference will be "March Forth," chosen to coincide with the March on Washington on April 25.

"We need to create an environment that will stimulate and inspire lesbians and gay men to support and participate in what will probably be the largest march in history on the nation's capital," she said, adding that "The Southeastern Conference is a great way to capture that spirit and move on to the big event."

Much of the conference weekend will be comprised of workshops on issues affecting the lives of lesbians and gay men. Additionally, entertainers such as comics Danny Williams and Lea Delaria and musicians Suede and Romanodysky & Phillips will be on hand.

The conference will be held at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa. For more information, write SECLGM '93, PO Box 4954, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-4954, or call (205) 750-0257.

Australia Lifts Ban On Gays In The Military: The Australian Cabinet has voted to lift the ban on gays in the Australian military. The decision was made nearly two months after a special Labor Party committee recommended lifting the ban. Australian Defense Force chiefs and an organization that represents rank and file soldiers oppose the move.

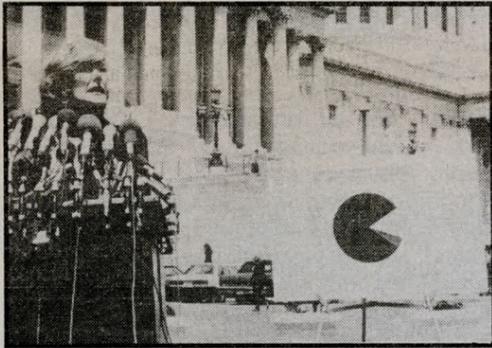
Teachers' Records Cleared Of Reprimands Over Lesbian Speakers: Three Idaho high school teachers are returning to class with their personnel records free from any reprimands for allowing lesbians to speak to students. School officials withdrew a set of School Board-ordered sanctions against the teachers last week. The teachers were suspended with pay two weeks ago and then reinstated with reprimands in their personnel records after they allowed three lesbians to speak to their classes. The school district said it would establish a clear policy on guest speakers and special topics.

Navy Man Sentenced To Life For Killing Gay Man: A Navy corpsman who said he killed a school counselor because the man made homosexual advances toward him and a friend was sentenced to life in prison last week. Todd Everett Fluette, 19, was convicted in August of murdering Michael Wayne Hamilton, 48. Hamilton was stabbed to death Dec. 8, 1991, in San Diego's Balboa Park. Fluette was stationed at the Balboa Naval Hospital with David Allen Kring, 23, who has pleaded guilty to murder in the same case and is serving a 25-year-to-life sentence. Evidence in the trial included an audio tape that was covertly made by another corpsman, in which Kring and Fluette discuss their roles in the murder. At one point, according to prosecutors, Fluette is heard laughing about the fatal attack.

Woman Says MD State Police Refused Employment Because She's A Lesbian: A Maryland woman has filed a lawsuit in Baltimore Circuit Court claiming that the Maryland State Patrol refused to hire her because she is a lesbian. The suit, filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, asks for admission to the police academy for the plaintiff, as well as back pay and benefits. The suit claims that the woman applied to the state police in May 1989 and passed several physical and psychological exams before she was asked if she was a lesbian. After acknowledging her sexual orientation, she received a letter saying she would not be considered, the suit claimed.

Gay Airman Sues For Reinstatement: An airman who was discharged after admitting his homosexuality sued for reinstatement last week, saying he is encouraged by the successes of the lawsuit filed by Navy Petty Officer Keith Meinhold. Former Staff Sgt. Thomas Paniccia filed the lawsuit in federal court in Phoenix, AZ, challenging the constitutionality of the Pentagon ban on gays and requesting an order returning him to his job while the case is resolved.

Schroeder Criticizes ROTC Affidavit On Homosexuality: U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-CO) has filed a letter of complaint with Defense Secretary Richard Cheney criticizing the ROTC's efforts "to identify and eliminate gay and lesbian cadets through signed affidavits." The affidavits ask each cadet to affirm if they understand that "homosexuality" is ground for being dropped from the ROTC program, and that anyone dropped from the program "because of homosexuality" may be required to repay any scholarship money he or she has received.



Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-CO) shown here in May, 1992 announcing the bill in Congress that would lift the military ban on gays, has filed a letter of complaint criticizing the ROTC's recent efforts to identify and eliminate gay and lesbian cadets.

The suit, filed Nov. 16 in U.S. District Court, says the official called the man's father asking for payment of the man's Visa bill because his son was terminally ill and on medical leave from his job. The man, identified as T.E.M., seeks unspecified damages against Commerce Bank of Omaha.

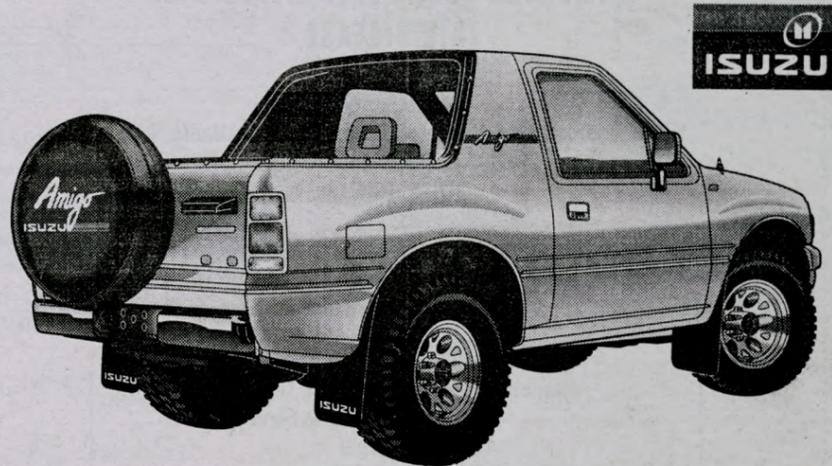
RI Republicans In Congress Support Lift On Military Ban: Rhode Island's two Republican congressional delegates said they support President-elect Clinton's proposal to lift the ban on gays in the U.S. military. "It seems awfully harsh, when there's been no adverse effect on their professional performance, to ban someone because what may occur in their private lives," said Rep. Ron Machtley. Machtley is an Annapolis graduate and veteran of sea duty who now sits on the House Armed Services Committee. Rhode Island's other Republican delegate, Sen. John Chafee, is a WWII Marine veteran and secretary of the Navy from 1969 to 1972.

Black Gay & Lesbian Conference Site, Co-Chairs Announced: The 6th National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference and Institutes will take place Feb. 11-15, 1993 at the Hilton Hotel in Long Beach, California. The conference co-chairs will be Jonathan Poullard and Vallerie Wagner, both of whom are Board members to the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and commissioners to the Los Angeles Unified School District's Education for Gay and Lesbian concerns. The theme for the conference is "Black Lesbians and Gays: Building Bridges, Making Connections."

Student Senate Denies Recognition To Conservative Group: The Old Dominion University Student Senate denied recognition last week to a student group that will not accept gays, communists or non-Christians as full members. The action means that the conservative Student's Alliance will not be able to use campus rooms for activities or receive funding from the university. The student government said the alliance's bylaws violated anti-discrimination policies governing campus student groups. The alliance is appealing the decision to Dana D. Burnett, the university's vice president for student affairs, said Senate member Robert Goode, who voted to recognize the group.

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Date: Wednesday, December 9, 1992
Place: Atlanta Penta Hotel, Georgia Ballroom
590 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia
Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Program topics include

- *What's Hot in HIV*
- *Living with HIV: Empowering Yourself*
- *Substance Use and HIV*
- *Antiretroviral Treatment Options*
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Caregiving in the Second

Decade of AIDS: *a new paradigm for powerful living and renewal*

Facilitated by Rob Eichberg, Ph.D.

Tuesday, December 8, 1992

6:30 Registration, 7:00 - 10:30 Program
Colony Square Hotel, Peachtree & 14th Streets

At the second decade of AIDS, it is clear that we are no longer responding to a crisis which may soon come to an end, but to a long term problem which requires commitment and staying power.

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There is no cost for attending this event.

To pre-register, or for more information, please call 404-874-8969.

Caregiving in the Second Decade of AIDS is sponsored by The Experience, and co-sponsored by AID Atlanta, Atlanta-NAPWA, Caregroup Inc. of Georgia, Caremark, Community AIDS Network, Critical Care America, Emory AIDS Training Network, Georgia Home Nursing, Georgia Home Therapeutics, and Home Nutrition Services.

Advertising for this event has been donated by Home Nutrition Services.

Little documentation on long-term effects of childhood sexual abuse

St. Louis, MO (AP)—It probably isn't surprising to hear that women who were victims of incest as children are more likely to suffer disabling psychiatric problems than other women.

What is surprising is that little has been documented about the long-term effects of childhood sexual abuse.

So Stephen Dinwiddie and Elizabeth Pribor, two researchers and teachers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, tested some assumptions about incest's effect on victims.

"This very basic descriptive study was designed to see if we can put some numbers and some percentages on what is a general perception," Dinwiddie said. "That's a first, in our opinion, a first and very basic step."

What Dinwiddie and Pribor learned in their study, published earlier this year in the American Journal of Psychiatry, will surprise few.

"The impact of child psychiatric trauma is a very important factor in the development of serious disorders in children and in adults," said Linda Smith, a psychotherapist in the department of psychiatry at St. Louis University Medical Center.

There is a great deal of anecdotal literature that ties incest to psychiatric problems, Smith said, but "it can be very helpful to put it in the scientific arena."

It's been difficult to research the prevalence and long-term impact of incest and sexual abuse because the victims often feel shamed and stigmatized. "These are people who have learned from a very young and vulnerable age that you just don't talk about it," Dinwiddie said.

By age 16, one woman in five has had sexual contact with a relative, and one in three has had unwanted sexual contact with an adult, statistics cited by the researchers.

"It's certainly uncomfortably common, often tragically so," Dinwiddie said.

In their study of 75 area women receiving psychotherapy, Dinwiddie and Pribor found the 52 incest victims in that group each, on average, had suffered seven psychiatric illnesses, more than twice the number suffered by the 23 women who hadn't been

sexually abused as children.

The incest victims also suffered certain psychiatric disorders more frequently than did the other women.

The incest victims most often suffered a fear of public places, alcohol dependence, depression, panic attacks or phobias—all potentially disabling and all highly treatable.

While Pribor and Dinwiddie don't claim to have found a link between severity of abuse and depth of illness, they did find that the women who had been most severely abused had higher levels of anxiety-related problems, like panic attacks and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"It would make sense that people who are more severely abused would have more severe problems," Pribor said.

The researchers also learned that of the 24 women who previously had received therapy, 21 weren't satisfied with their treatment. They said their counselors dismissed sexual abuse as a possible reason for their problems.

Unlike their therapists, the women themselves "saw incest as something massive, painful and terrible—an issue important for them to address," Dinwiddie said.

A therapist's dismissal of something so important to victims can delay or block recovery, he said.

Phyllis Froehle, vice president of Voices In Action, an international organization of incest and sexual abuse survivors based in Chicago, agrees therapists must ask everyone about abuse.

That's because of her own experience. Not until she was an adult did a question from a therapist help her recall that she'd been sexually abused as a child.

But therapists, she said, sometimes can't deal with the issue. "There are those who say, 'You just don't need to talk about that,' 'I think you made that up,' 'Why don't you put that in your past?'"

Dinwiddie and Pribor now are studying men who were sexually abused as children to see what psychiatric illnesses they may suffer and what role gender plays in their experience.

J.L. HAZELTON

Gays in small cities not practicing safe sex

Chicago (AP)—Getting gay community leaders to preach the dangers of AIDS may help cut the rate of small-town gay men who are practicing unsafe sex, a researcher says.

The first large national study to look at gay sexual practices outside major urban areas found 31 percent of the gay men surveyed reported engaging in high-risk behavior in the previous two months, and each man averaged eight encounters.

That compares with only about 10 percent of gay men still engaging in such behavior in San Francisco, where AIDS deaths and education campaigns have persuaded many gay men to use condoms, the lead author said.

"The front line for prevention has probably shifted now to small cities," said Jeffrey A. Kelly, lead author and professor of psy-

chiatry and mental health sciences at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

"And much more active efforts are urgently needed if we're going to prevent HIV infections in these communities," he added by telephone last week from Milwaukee.

The amount of knowledge the small-town men had about AIDS risks made no difference in whether they engaged in high-risk sex, the researchers reported in the November issue of the Archives of Internal Medicine.

"People change behavior not based on knowledge, not based on education about risk, but based on...what's socially acceptable," Kelly said. He noted that U.S. smoking rates began declining after smoking became less fashionable, not after its risks were first publicized.

"A small group of influential people can change the behavior of an entire community simply by talking about AIDS," Kelly said.

BRENDA C. COLEMAN

To place an obituary

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Lesbians at high risk for breast cancer

A substantial number of American lesbians—perhaps 1 in 3—may eventually develop breast cancer, according to a report prepared by a National Cancer Institute (NCI) epidemiologist and scheduled to be published this month.

Lesbians typically seek gynecologic care less often than heterosexual women do, even though several risk factors for the disease are associated with lesbians, said the report's author, Dr. Suzanne Haynes. "They are in double jeopardy," she said.

While activists have long contended that there is a national crisis in lesbian health care, they were nonetheless surprised by the prevalence of breast cancer that Haynes found. For instance, Amelie Zurn, director of lesbian services at the Whitman-Walker Clinic, a Washington, D.C. health care agency, said she was "a little shocked" by the findings.

Haynes said the report synthesizes several previously conducted studies and is the first to link risk factors for breast cancer to an increased incidence of the disease among lesbians. Haynes said she prepared the report independently and received no funding from the NCI, which is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Lesbian health activists said that a report like Haynes's was long overdue. "Any research that is done will help," said Caitlin Ryan, coauthor of the National Lesbian Health Care Survey, a large-scale study that was completed in 1985. "To date, virtually nothing has been done. It's taken so many years for the lesbian health issues to be talked about publicly." Added Zurn, "We need more hard data to get larger-scale lesbian-specific studies."

As Haynes was putting the finishing touches on the report, 4,000 people rallied in Boston Oct. 17 for more federal support for breast cancer research, and Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-CO) called on federal officials to cut \$210 million from the defense budget to fund a proposed program of mammograms for low-income women.

Earlier this year, NIH executive director Dr. Bernadine Healy launched the Women's Health Initiative, the nation's largest-ever fed-

eral study of women's health issues, but lesbians have criticized the program for not including studies of lesbian health issues. Haynes said she hopes that her report will encourage other researchers to look at those issues.

Although the NCI estimates that about 1 in 8 of all American women eventually develops breast cancer, Haynes said her report indicates that several factors can increase the incidence of the disease among lesbians. Those factors include:

- Childlessness. Mortality studies of nuns suggest that women who never bear children have a higher incidence of breast cancer than women who do. As more lesbians decide to have children through artificial insemination, their risk of breast cancer may decrease, Haynes said.

- Alcoholism. Several studies have tied alcoholism to breast cancer, and Haynes's report cites both the National Lesbian Health Care Survey and a Kentucky study in concluding that alcoholism is more common among lesbians than it is among heterosexual women.

- High body mass. Consumption of a high-fat diet is among the factors that may affect a woman's chance of developing breast cancer, Haynes said.

In the National Lesbian Health Care Survey and in several other less comprehensive surveys, lesbians and unmarried women said they were far less likely than heterosexual women to seek regular gynecologic care. Haynes attributed the difference to societal factors.

Unlike lesbians, many heterosexual women are given Pap-smear tests and breast exams when they visit physicians to receive oral contraceptives. "If lesbians are not going to the physicians who normally do breast-cancer screenings, they are not going to be screened," Haynes said.

Homophobia in the medical profession is also a contributing factor, she said. A study of physicians in San Diego concluded that obstetrics, gynecology, and family practice "were judged to be the homophobic specialties in the medical field," she said.

CHERYL COWARD

This article first appeared in The Advocate.

AIDS on increase in rural Georgia

Atlanta (AP)—AIDS is increasing faster among Georgians who live outside metropolitan Atlanta, health authorities say.

"This shows that it's not just a metropolitan disease," Dr. Bruce Whyte, a state epidemiologist, said Nov. 19. "It's in all communities and all populations."

In 1991 1,286 Georgians were diagnosed with AIDS, according to a survey released last Thursday by the state Department of Human Resources and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Most cases were diagnosed in Atlanta and the surrounding eight counties—920, or 72 percent.

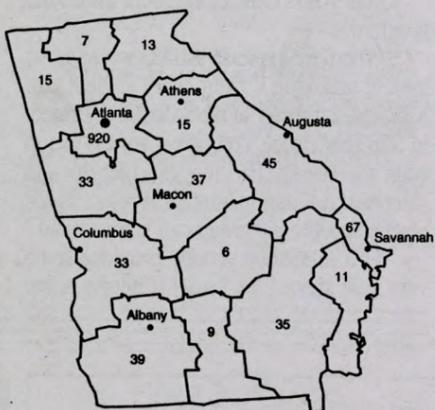
Eighteen percent of cases—236—were found in Albany, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Macon and Savannah. The remaining 130 cases were diagnosed in rural portions of the state.

But while AIDS is still more prevalent around Atlanta than elsewhere, it increased faster outside the capital last year, the survey found.

AIDS cases decreased 4 percent in Atlanta between 1990 and 1991, but increased 16 percent in the rest of the state, the survey said.

This reflects a trend across the Southeast, Whyte said. Recent studies show that infections of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, are increasing more rapidly in the rural parts of the region than in its cities.

Experts suspect this is not only because



Number of AIDS cases by health district in Georgia (1991)

the epidemic is still spreading, but also because rural areas are now getting the doctors and equipment needed to test for HIV, Whyte said.

Also, he said, more people live in rural areas in the South than in cities. Thirty-six percent of Georgia's 6.5 million residents live in Atlanta.

The survey divided Georgia into 15 health districts. It found 33 cases in the Columbus area, 37 in Macon, 45 in Augusta, 67 in Savannah, 39 in Albany and 15 in Athens.

Whyte also studied HIV prevalence among new mothers. He found 70 births to HIV-infected women in Atlanta last year, compared with 94 across the rest of the state.

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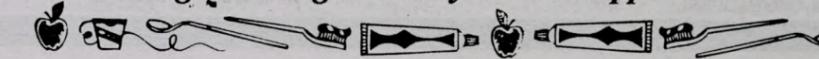


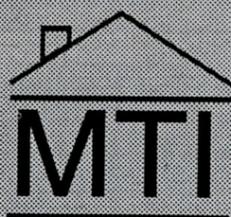
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Telephone counseling program helps gay men avoid risky sex

Seattle, WA (AP)—Steve was a man held hostage by his hormones, and they almost did him in. He'd have sex with men in toilet stalls, sex with strangers in city parks, without condoms unless the other guy insisted.

He wasn't stupid. He knew about AIDS, and he knew his reckless, anonymous encounters could kill him. But still he didn't stop.

"Even with all the willpower in the world, sometimes you can't do the things you know you should," said Steve, 32, who did not want his full name used.

Realizing he needed help, Steve finally picked up the phone and called a toll-free number his doctor had told him about: 1-800-999-7511.

He reached Project Aries, which offers free, anonymous group counseling over the telephone to gay and bisexual men trying to quit sexual practices that can spread AIDS.

The only U.S. program of its kind, Project Aries addresses a growing problem in AIDS prevention: keeping gays from lapsing into unsafe sex even when they already know, at least in theory, how to lessen their risk.

The anonymity of the telephone attracts those who are at especially high risk for unsafe sex: men in rural areas or small towns where there is little support or AIDS education for gays. It also draws urban gays with reason to hide their identities: public officials, clergy, even AIDS educators embarrassed to admit that they slip occasionally.

"We hear from people who say they never would have come to an in-person group," said Aries counselor Melanie Martin. "They feel they can open up. I've talked to men who have never spoken to another human being about how they feel."

The 90-minute sessions are frank and detailed. Some deal with basic facts, such as the risk of AIDS involved in various sexual acts. But most address more personal matters: negotiating with sexual partners over safety issues, setting goals and sticking to them, learning to identify and avoid situations that lead to unsafe sex.

Other AIDS education groups praise the program.

"When we look at AIDS, we have to look at attacking it from every angle," said Ken Jones, director of the Stop AIDS Project in San Francisco. Volunteers for his group walk the streets, inviting gay men to join safer-sex discussion groups. Project Aries reaches people his group can't, Jones said.

"This telephone service provides some very safe space," he said. "It allows some

people to ask nitty-gritty questions they might not ask in a face-to-face group."

The program has been criticized by conservative groups that oppose homosexuality on religious grounds. Under the headline "Dial 1-800-SODOMY," a magazine called the New York Guardian questioned the use of tax dollars to provide "sex advice to homosexuals."

But Project Aries director Roger Roffman says that even those offended by homosexuality should appreciate the pragmatism of his program's overriding goal, which is to prevent AIDS in a high-risk group of men.

Consider a 1991 survey by the San Francisco Department of Health: Among gay and bisexual men age 25 and younger, 29 percent said they'd had unprotected anal intercourse within the previous six months.

"If we're able to help them become sexually safer, then that is a substantial contribution to the nation's public health," Roffman said.

The best way to reach such men, he said, is to accept their sexual orientation without judgment. "Our intent is to support and empower people, starting with the assumption that they're OK," Roffman said.

AIDS has made many gay men re-examine what they want from sex. Martin said she's been surprised at the number who conclude that what they really want most is intimacy.

"About every other person will say something like, 'I want to have a monogamous long-term relationship with somebody. I want to meet Mr. Right.' We teach ways to look for that, if that's what they want."

When the sessions end, participants will be interviewed periodically to see if they stick to safer sex. There's no data yet, Roffman said, but anecdotal evidence indicates the program is doing some good.

Steve now lives an openly gay lifestyle in Los Angeles, working as a special-events producer for AIDS service groups. He is thankful his past behavior did not infect him with the AIDS virus. He's now in a monogamous relationship and says he's "95 percent safe."

Project Aries opened his eyes to how needless it was to expose himself to risky sex.

"You can break those habits," Steve said. "When you're having sex with someone, why let them kill you by having unsafe sex? You need to take control of the situation and kick them out."

DAVID FOSTER

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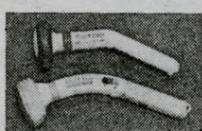


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The Men's Movement

What's in it for gay men?

RuPaul

An interview with the Queen of Manhattan

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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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L E T T E R S

Democrats no better than Republicans... and homosexuals flaunt too much

To the Editor:

A dear friend of mine sent me a copy of the Outlines on Ken Leggio. My letter is in response to Mr. Leggio's pet peeve, "Gays and lesbians who support George Bush." I hope Southern Voice is open-minded enough to not edit my remarks, possibly changing the context of my words in the process.

While I agree with his summation that President-elect Clinton appears to be more openly sympathetic to gay issues, blankly throwing support behind any individual because they appeal to the gay community should not be mandatory for all homosexuals. There are more issues at hand here, at least to this reader, than being gay. Neither do I feel that every gay individual wants to be "out."

Many of our gay brethren are able to live comfortable lives without wearing banners or pins, and without drawing attention they neither desire nor need. A parallel I would like to cite is that all African Americans are not of the mindset of Malcolm X and should stick together and only support black owned businesses, etc. I feel a problem many homosexuals have is that there is a need to only associate with their own. Some are unable to blend in with society and feel the need to stand out and be noticed. On the contrary, privacy is still desired by many gay people.

One thing that I will agree with Mr. Leggio about is that he is entitled to his opinions. In the United States, he can express them. Americans share a luxury that many of the world's peoples do not.

Mr. Leggio is so overwhelmed at the Clinton victory and yet, as with many gay Americans, he is blinded by the fact that the

touted Democratic policies are in actuality no different than Republican policies. The Democrats have controlled Congress for the last 50 years. The Congress, in its infinite wisdom, did not see any need to augment the President's budgetary request for AIDS research which was \$1.5 billion dollars this year. Nor, did it see fit to pass any legislation that would have prevented discrimination against sexual preference.

The Congress passes many declarations such as National This and That Day. To this reader's knowledge, none pertain to or mention homosexuals. Congress sought to reduce funding for the National Endowment of the Arts based on its own prejudices. Many people blame Jesse Helms and Congressman Dannemeyer. Yes, both of these gentlemen are bigoted when it comes to gay issues. But there are others—the silent types. Congress supported this proposal and will support many others.

Leggio is just as bad as the rest of society when he condemns Americans for their freedom to choose their leaders. Gay and Lesbians for Bush are equally entitled to express their opinions and need no pity from him or anyone else.

Many of us feel that presidents get this country in trouble based on how they handle foreign affairs. Furthermore, they have no control of the deficit nor the budget because Congress has the final say on how every federal dollar is spent. Presidents can destroy this country by becoming isolationist or reckless in their foreign affairs approach. We live in a global society and economy. For this voter, that was the overwhelming issue.

Mr. Leggio should not be so quick to

blame the Republicans. Consider that the Democrats in Congress are equally to blame. We should also blame ourselves for not pushing the Congress to further our goals.

Sorry not to be overjoyed. Now that Clinton is in and Bush is out, let's not celebrate until we see progress. Remember whatever the President does, Congress can undo. The President may lift the ban on homosexuals in the military, but Congress may reinstate the ban with an amendment to an appropriations bill.

Ed Boulware
Washington, D.C.

No dues is good dues

To the Editor:

I am a graduate of both Auburn University and the University of Alabama. All year long I am badgered for money by both institutions—everything from "alumni dues" to "annual giving." I am even called on the phone and asked for money by their students in the Spring. What I am doing now is sending back the request for money donation with a note saying that I will no longer give money to the university until the homophobic policies currently enacted by the Alabama legislature against using state monies for homosexual organizations is rescinded.

I encourage all lesbians and gay men graduates to do the same. Make our voices heard the only way people seem to listen in this country—when money is involved. I believe if both universities get enough mail and/or verbal rejection of their requests, action will be taken that will change the laws in the state and give equality to all people regardless of sexual orientation.

Sincerely,
Michael Raye

C A R B O N C O P Y

Honorable Roy Romer
Governor, State of Colorado
136 State Capital Building
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Governor Romer,

Perhaps you remember me. We worked together in the 1980 Carter/Mondale campaign in which I served as the Jefferson County Coordinator, and before you learned I was moving to Georgia in 1985, you personally asked me to work in your then upcoming gubernatorial campaign.

Some friends have asked me to assist them in their efforts to support a national Colorado boycott in response to the passage of Amendment 2. Because of my friends, relatives, and many fond memories in Colorado, it breaks my heart to see the urgent need for such a boycott.

The support of 47% of the voting population for our cause is not sufficient to consider not boycotting Colorado. The people of Colorado have to be forcefully shown that this amendment is Nazi in nature and fascist in fact. Our side is now forced to teach Colorado a painful economic lesson that this behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

My recommendations to support the Colorado boycott will include the following:

Skiing will be first. I, myself, had left my skis with an aunt in Littleton, and I had planned to visit this winter. I am now having my skis shipped to a friend in Salt Lake City and will visit him in February.

Any product manufactured, produced, or brewed in Colorado will be boycotted. Unfortunately, this will restart the old Coors boycott and will include products by Hewlett Packard, Digital, and TRW.

Any thought of attending any business or pleasure meeting or convention in Colorado will be discouraged.

The entertainment industry will be encouraged to avoid scheduling any tour stops in Colorado. Film production in Colorado will be discouraged.

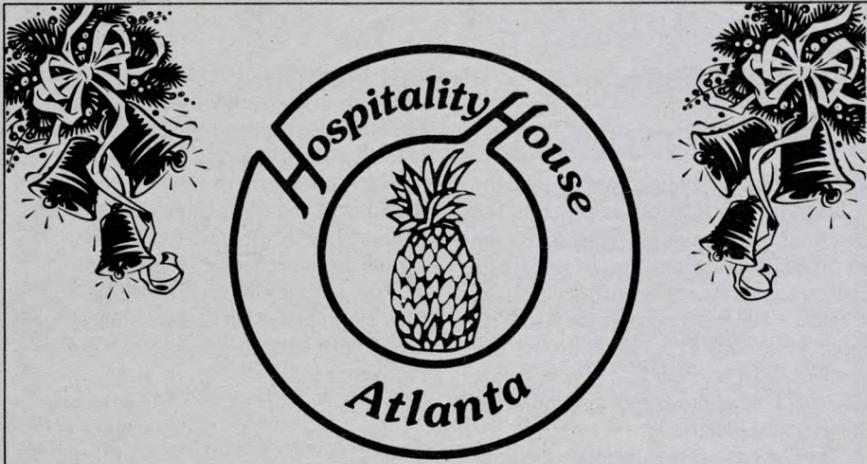
These are just the first thoughts I have had toward a Colorado boycott. Due to the Reagan/Bush economy, I am unemployed and have many hours available to devote to this cause, and that will be my intention.

Arizona has just shown us how effective

a boycott can be. As distasteful as this business is, it is very important that Colorado be taught, in as painful a manner as possible, that discrimination in any form is wrong and will not be tolerated. At the same time, we wish you all the luck in your efforts toward the same goals. I'm sorry that the entire state has to pay for the sins of that 53%.

Sincerely,
David Stanley





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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES:

Congratulations to Dik Holland and Patrick Hutcheson, who celebrated their 14th anniversary on November 18th. We wish you many more happy years together.

Michael Edwards and Dan Pruitt celebrated their 13th anniversary on Nov. 21. The two recently spent three weeks in Europe where they tasted (yes, food!) the entire continent so we hear. Congrats also to Dan who turned 40-something Nov. 13. Happy anniversary you two and a very happy birthday to Dan.

BIRTHDAYS:

You only turn 50 once, and Liz Hill's friends and loved ones made it a birthday to remember. Liz hit the big 5-0 on November 25th...and was whisked away to the Bahamas by her partner Joan Karpeles and six of their closest friends (Chris Carroll, Barbara McCann, Jane Seville, Saralyn Chestnut, Sherry Konter and Rebecca Quintana). Joan says it was a complete surprise for Liz, who just thought she and Joan were headed to a state park or other tourist site when they left the house. Instead, Joan drove her to the airport where their friends were waiting. (Debra Snell was on hand too, with a video camera to get Liz's surprised look in technicolor glory!) They had a lovely time in the Bahamas, thank you, but Joan says Liz spent the first day there "in total shock." But the celebration is not over. Liz will be the guest of honor at a big birthday bash planned for December 5th. Liz, can I borrow all your friends for my next birthday? Please?

JOBS:

Saralyn Chestnut has been appointed as Director of the Office of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Life at Emory University. She says her finest hope in this office is "to improve the overall quality of life at Emory for lesbian, gay and bisexual students, faculty, and staff by increasing campus-wide awareness of our contributions, issues and points of view." Saralyn has been active in the gay and lesbian and women's movements in At-

lanta for the past 19 years. She organized the March 1992 International Women's Day celebration, the December 1991 "Take Back Our Rights" Symposium, and the Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference in 1989. She is a member of the board of directors of the Georgia Political Action Committee (GAPAC), a founding member of the Atlanta International Women's Day Coalition, and a member of the Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance (ALFA). A Britain Fellow at Georgia Tech since 1989, she was a caseworker in the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services from 1976-1983.

The Rev. Dr. Mona West has recently come on board as Staff Pastor at First MCC. She is new to the Atlanta area, having just moved here from Anderson, South Carolina. While there she taught Biblical Studies at Anderson College and was the Assistant Pastoral Leader at Greenville's MCC. At First MCC she will be working with the membership ministry, as well as assisting Marge Ragona with Christian Education. Mona plans to become more involved with UFMCC through teaching courses at the denomination's Samaritan College. She also is revising the College's curriculum, and hopes to eventually become Dean. Congratulations, Mona!

OTHER OCCASIONS:

Check out the great picture and short bio on Cheryl Summerville in the most recent issue of OUT Magazine. Cheryl is profiled in an article called "Kicked Out," which profiles people who never went for the spotlight, but ended up there anyway because of discrimination. Cheryl, of course, was fired from Cracker Barrel after they found out she was a lesbian. Cheryl tells OUT that her firing was really devastating. "I never had any problems, and this was like someone spit in my face," she says. "I'm just as good as anybody else, if not better than some of 'em." Truer words were never spoken, Cheryl. And as a side note...why is a magazine called OUT delivered in a plain wrapper? There's an irony here somewhere...

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

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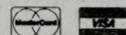
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SHELLY ROBERTS

Seeing red

Okay, okay. This is it. I promise that this will be the absolutely last time I even mention the Republicans again till '96. Promise. Promise. Promise. After all, the campaign is over. The election is over. It's time for the country to bind, and heal, and pull together for the greater good, and all those excruciatingly boring things that defeated candidates profess nobly in speeches made only after it's crystal clear that the electorate has finally come to its collective senses and decided to "t'row da bums" outta office. And, besides, we won. But, well, gosh, I just can't resist one final curiosity that has everything to do with coming to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

You see, I wonder if anybody else happened to notice Barbara Bush wearing a red ribbon at the end of the political campaign and thought it was strange? It was at the last debate or in the video bites during the CNN binge that possessed our TV during the last nail-biting "I've never-voted-for-a-winning-candidate-before" days around our house, and I've never heard anybody else mention it.

It was not a hallucination. Barbara Bush was definitely wearing a red ribbon. It was firmly festooned to the ample bosom (Republican women don't have, to speak of, actual breasts) of the wife of the husband whose inactivity caused Magic Johnson to resign the AIDS commission, a few hundred thousand to die excessively, and ACT UP to be created. A red ribbon. On Barbara. What could she have been thinking? Maybe there's some gumption in the old gal yet.

Now perhaps you also heard the rumors of her earlier, but curtailed, AIDS activities. Vaguely I remember hearing that she did some. I don't remember the details. The White House wasn't issuing press bulletins on the subject. Maybe somebody close to her had AIDS. Or a peripheral family member. Or maybe it was just the kind of good works up-standing Connecticut Republican women of a certain age expect themselves to do. So she was doing it. I heard that somewhere. But apparently, so did someone else. Somebody on The Republican National Re-elect George And Keep All The Aging, Rich, White Boys In Our Club Fully Employed Committee, who caught her at it and told. And made her stop. After all, every Republican knows that AIDS doesn't really exist. And even if it did, who (Republican) cares? It only affects homosexuals, needle parkers, and people foolish enough to go to the dentist, or have blood. And their families and friends. So what in the world was Barbara doing offering assistance to Not-Our-Kind of people who surely wouldn't have the good breeding to vote for our George when he needed all the help he could get. So she stopped. It made a Republican kind of sense.

Yet, here she was on television wearing her red ribbon.

The only thing I could figure was that there had come some real understanding in the Republican strategy sessions that THEY WERE LOSING. And that it didn't take a brain surgeon to figure out that they needed to appeal to more people who COULD VOTE FOR THEM. People like liberals, more of whom there suddenly were. Liberals support AIDS causes, don't they? Can't you just see the fascinating little wheels

spinning? These were the same people who, after years of "Pro-Life" proclamations were suddenly on the defensive, declaring themselves for "A Women's Right to CHOOSE..." (extremely lowered voice here:) to give her baby up for adoption.

Black is white. Left is right. Politics is as usual. But even so, I still didn't get exactly why The Committee would permit Barbara her ribbon. It didn't make sense.

Then, driving down Oakland Park Blvd. in Ft. Lauderdale, the light bulb came on. It lit up a cheap black and red billboard that said:

Say No to Drugs. Wear a red ribbon.

Excuse me?! I saw it again on the side of a bus shuffling South along Highway 1 too:

Wear a red ribbon. Say No to Drugs.

Be damned. The ultimate Republican co-opt. Black IS white. Or red. Anybody Democratic (Or Perotpheral) seeing Barbara, gets a pro-AIDS support image. Anybody Republican asking, (and who else would get close enough to ask) and, viola, it's "anti-drugs." Perfect. It either adds the President's wife to the legion of stars and celebrities and millions of ordinary AIDS concerned people, or it corrals those self-same protesters into a Republican anti-drug constituency. Brilliant.

Not ALL that brilliant, though. It didn't work. All it did was cause alarm bells to go off till I found that sign of Republican times on Oakland Park. And shook my head in angry reminder of why I didn't want the ex-head of the CIA running my country. And I wondered why anybody else would.

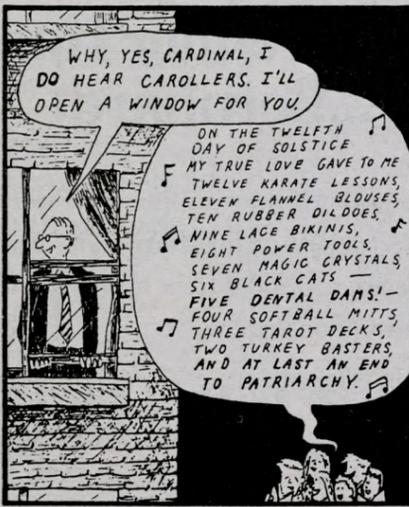
There are some things in this life that I must confess I truly do not understand. Male-to-female transgendered lesbians, for example. (But that's another column.) And gay and lesbian Republicans. An oxymoron if ever I've heard one.

Fortunately, enough voters didn't buy into the tricky dirtsters. We did actually win. So our ribbon stays our ribbon and more things are going to be right with the world soon. Phew! What a relief.

Oh, and, uh, by the way, about my not mentioning anything like this again till nearer the year 2000. Well, if the subject should come up, hey, just treat it like any other political promise you heard in 1992. Except, of course, the ones Clinton made to us.

FIRST PERSON

STONEWALL RIOTS BY ANDREA NATALIE



CARBON COPIES

The Honorable Roy R. Romer
Governor of Colorado
State Capitol Building
Room 136
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Governor Romer:

It is with dismay that I write to you concerning the passage of the initiative rescinding local ordinances protecting gay citizens in Colorado this week. I certainly agree with you that this is sad not only for gay citizens of Colorado, but truly sad for all of Colorado.

Although not a resident of your state, I have always admired the natural beauty of Colorado and visited on vacations and trips. Unfortunately, this is no longer possible. Such intolerance, although available in quantity on a personal level in my home state of Georgia and across the United States, cannot be condoned or supported by either me or my family. We do not respect or support legislated intolerance.

Just think of the economic consequences to the Colorado tourism industry of our decision to avoid Colorado. As an example, on my recent vacation to Colorado eighteen months ago, my companion and I spent 10 days in Colorado. Our total vacation expenses included: lodging expenses of \$535, auto rental expense of \$150, auto fuel expense of \$30, meals of \$180, souvenirs of \$75, and

museum admissions of \$45. A total of \$1,015 on major expenses. I did not include the airfare of \$238 because only a portion of it benefits the Colorado tourism industry, and I do not have the resources to determine the Colorado portion.

I do realize that over 40 percent of Colorado voters did vote against the initiative, and I am troubled that all those who oppose this measure may suffer any economic or social consequences, for I do know my family and I are not the only ones in the United States to feel it necessary to avoid Colorado at this time.

And consider the gay citizens of Colorado. They must not only suffer from unequal protection under the law, but they must also suffer the same economic and social consequences as all of Colorado, while they continue to pay state, local and sales taxes to support Colorado. It is truly unfair, and I regret that I must contribute to their economic ostracism under the current circumstances.

I am encouraged by your opposition to the initiative and will actively observe how the future of this measure unfolds.

Sincerely,
David R. Mayersky

Mr. Lewis Grizzard
Atlanta Journal-Constitution
72 Marietta Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30302

Dear Mr. Grizzard:

I must admit that I rarely read your column because of your sexist, "red-necked" espousals. However, the headline of today's column caught my eye, so I decided to read on.

How generous of you to want to protect us defenseless homosexuals from the tyranny of macho drill sergeants. I feel so much safer now that I have someone like you to look after my well-being. NOT!

It is people like you who think they know what is best for everyone else that are a real problem in advancing any civil rights action. You are so set in maintaining the status quo. Just wait, you say. It is attitudes like yours that kept blacks and women in subservient positions until they stood up for themselves and said this is wrong and the rest of society will have to adjust, whether they like it or not.

While we still have far to go in the area of equal rights and opportunities for blacks and women, at least we are moving forward. The same respect for gays and lesbians is at issue now and the military is only one aspect of public policy to be addressed, stating that discrimination will not be tolerated.

Lon Mabon
O.C.A.
P.O. Box 407
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Dear Mr. Mabon,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued opposition to the gay and lesbian issues. Your efforts have solidified the gay community and most importantly it has unified the nation to accept the challenge. Famous and ordinary, rich and poor, gay and straight, all have been united in the effort to combat your pilgrimage of anti-Christian behavior.

Your most recent antic, Measure 9 was the most blatant display of bigotry I have ever observed. You have made your inten-

I cannot imagine why anyone, gay or straight, would voluntarily choose to serve in the military. But, if my brothers and sisters want to choose that lifestyle, that should be their right, free of discrimination of any basis.

President-elect Clinton knows he made a promise to the gay and lesbian community. I trust he will honor that commitment. If he does not, he will have a lot of angry gays and lesbians to answer to at the march on Washington next April.

But back to you, Mr. Grizzard. It is attitudes like yours that allow the Tailhook incident to be dismissed as a group of men having some fun like always, for Anita Hill to be discounted just because she is a woman, and which keeps blacks, as a group, from being able to get mortgages from banks at reasonable rates. It is an attitude that exists today towards gays and lesbians, as well. It is a subtle, yet strong, form of discrimination. It is very dangerous because, on the surface, it appears to be so compassionate. But, in reality, it is as oppressive as the statements of the outright sexists, racists and homophobes of our society.

Sincerely,
Brian A. Glenn

tions only too obvious. You are not a Christian and you have attempted to destroy the lives of many by your display of hate and perversion.

Through the ages many minorities have been persecuted but in the end, the true Christian attitude has always prevailed and I have every confidence that it will again.

Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and I do thank you for persistence in your endeavors.

Sincerely,
J.R.M.

Openly gay politicians stress preparation against religious right

Chapel Hill, NC — Last weekend this city hosted the eighth annual conference of openly gay and lesbian public officials. About 75 office holders, some elected and some appointed, arrived to spend three days charting the course of the gay rights movement.

The officials discussed tactics and swapped stories from their own elections. While many had encountered serious smear campaigns from their opposition, most found that being upfront about their sexuality tended to defuse the issue.

"You can't shock people with what they already know," said Dale McCormick, a state legislator from a small Maine town, who had been a highly visible gay and lesbian rights campaigner before her election.

The keynote speeches were both hopeful and sobering. Seattle City Councilperson Sherry Harris, the first black lesbian elected to public office in the United States, gave a thought-provoking

speech on the tactics of the religious right. Her home state of Washington has been targeted by the same groups which attempted to pass an anti-gay rights law in Oregon, and which succeeded in doing so in Colorado. Harris analyzed the ways in which the right uses gay "scare" tactics to raise money, and how they have successfully exploited fear of homosexuals as a way to push other, unrelated issues on their agenda.

"The campaign to keep gays out of our schools is really a campaign to put religious indoctrination back into our schools." She also warned the audience that the gay and lesbian community cannot afford to become complacent after the Clinton victory.

"We've got to be prepared and we have no time to lose. Being a member of another minority group who knows what it's like to experience the wrath a majority population can inflict, be-

lieve me folks, we haven't seen anything yet. If we don't stop this movement [the anti-gay rights drive] now, we won't be able to retreat back into the closet and think that if we don't tell anybody, then it's all going to be OK. They will find us. And when they do, they will burn down our houses, they'll arrest us and our lovers for illegal relationships, they will make sure that we lose our jobs, they will blacklist our businesses, they will murder our family members."

"And they are going to do this all in the name of God."

U.S. Representative Barney Frank also stressed that this was not time for the community to become complacent, particularly as we are being presented with an opportunity to finally overturn the military's ban on homosexuals.

"We have to remind people that this is not a fight we picked. This is overwhelmingly a case

of people minding their own business and being exposed," Frank said.

He saluted President-elect Clinton for speaking out on the issue, but said that it was time for gays to demand that some of their silent allies in Congress stand up and be counted. Frank thinks that Clinton's victory shows that it is possible to take a public stand on gay rights without sacrificing one's career.

"I never urged anyone to commit political suicide...But the level of risk is clearly much lower than they thought it was, than even we thought it was...I think we have a right to point out that the political risk is much less. But we also have a right to point out that this is personal."

The conference will meet next year in Chicago.

KEITH HARTMAN



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Ousted lesbian soldier continues to fight

Seattle, WA (AP)—Getting grubby, being where the action is and a secret desire to become the first female general in the United States military attracted Margarethe Cammermeyer to the armed forces in 1961.

Now stripped of the gold-buttoned tunic and garrison cap, the former chief nurse for the Washington state Army National Guard has mounted a courtroom battle to reclaim her life as a soldier.

Four simple words put an end to an exemplary 26-year career.

"I am a lesbian," Col. Cammermeyer told officials during a top-security clearance interview in 1989. Discharged last June, she is one of the highest-ranking soldiers ever to be thrown out of the military because of homosexuality.

Filed in U.S. District Court in Seattle, Cammermeyer's suit claims the military ban of gays is unconstitutional and demands her reinstatement as colonel.



In three decades, Cammermeyer earned a Bronze Medal in Vietnam, a Ph.D in nursing and was selected over 34,000 others as the Veteran's Administration Nurse of the Year in 1985.

Commanding officer Maj. Gen. Greg Barlow cited the National Guard nurse for superior performance. Her four sons swore their mother "would die with her boots on."

But integrity was as important as a military oath.

"Coming to terms with sexual orientation is not choosing to be different, but to be one person in sync regardless of the consequences," she said in a recent interview. "It is being able to say, 'This is who I am.'"

Cammermeyer lives with her son Andy, 18, in a quiet suburb south of Seattle. Her partner, Diane, who works as an artist and teacher, splits her time between Seattle and a home in California.

Diane's artwork, family photos and a cross-bow from a Vietnamese village decorate the walls of the Des Moines home. An exercise bike claims a prominent spot in the livingroom

where the lean, six-foot Cammermeyer works out every morning.

The intrigue of war had been part of Cammermeyer's life since her parents sheltered underground resistance fighters in WWII Norway.

Cammermeyer's mother often told Grethe the story of pushing her through the streets of Oslo in a baby buggy, making sure nobody was following when she stopped at an apartment building where resistance fighters were hiding. Grethe was lifted from the carriage to reveal a cache of weapons underneath the mattress.

Plans for a TV movie are being negotiated while Cammermeyer writes her autobiography. And when she's not running the seizure and sleep disorder clinic at the veteran's hospital in Tacoma, the ex-colonel is on the lecture circuit.

During the media glare, Cammermeyer says Diane has been her "grounding," the one person she can talk to about all the life-changing events.

While publicity has been an intrusion, shining a light into the gay military closet has had its advantages. Previously afraid to be seen in public, Diane and Grethe are now going to social functions together.

"We are enjoying the opportunity to participate in our community in ways we never did before," Cammermeyer said.

As an Army nurse in Germany she met and married a young officer in 1965. They served in Vietnam together where Cammermeyer earned the Bronze Medal for treating wounded soldiers during the Tet Offensive in 1968.

When she had her first child, Cammermeyer left the military but rejoined four years later in 1972 when the rule against mothers in the armed forces was dropped.

While none of the boys joined the service, they are proud of their mother and object to how the military treated one of its star officers.

The boys had suspected their mother was a lesbian when she told each one, individually, in a tearful confession two years ago.

"It's just something we knew, like you know when it's going to rain," said 23-year-old Matt.

And in the end it didn't matter. "It was like, so what? She's still Mom," he said.

Cammermeyer left her marriage and moved to San Francisco in 1980 to continue her military and nursing career. She returned to the Seattle area in the mid-1980s to be closer to her children and complete a doctorate at the University of Washington.

When her commanding officer recommended her for a federal level position, Cammermeyer applied for security clearance to pursue the job of chief nurse for the National Guard.

In her battle to be reinstated, she has attracted supporters from around the country. But harsh critics—both civilian and military officials—have lined up too.

"I cannot control that, but I also cannot be muted," Cammermeyer said. "People who talk hate, talk from a position of ignorance."

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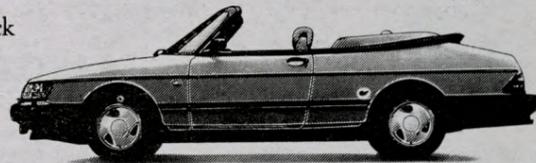
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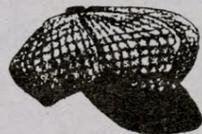
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12 days of Christmas will benefit Project Open Hand

It's not everyday you get to attend an award winning benefit. But Danny Donohoe's annual 12 Days of Christmas and Lighting of the Tree is not just your everyday benefit.

In 1990, the Christmas Tree Lighting won the "PWA Benefit of the Year" at the Atlanta Bar Awards. In just three short years, this has become a very important humanitarian cause. This year, organizers hope to raise \$10,000 for Project Open Hand.

The 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held December 13th at 8:30pm at the Gallus Restaurant. The 90-minute show before the lighting will feature performances from some of Atlanta's most talented, including Hal Gresham and Megan McFarland.

Money is raised by selling the lights on the Christmas tree for \$5 a piece, and the star for \$1,000.

"You can buy a light in memory of someone, and they will be listed in the program," says show producer Gregg Daugherty. Many people buy several lights at a time to remember friends and family who have died of AIDS.

Daugherty says the tree lighting has been a success beyond their wildest dreams. "Danny wanted to do some sort of unique benefit, and I had heard of a lighting of the trees in San Francisco, where people buy the whole tree," remembers Daugherty. "We tossed the idea around and decided on the

tree in memory of someone seemed very powerful, like lighting a candle."

The tree will sit on the veranda of the Gallus, which will be the stage for the performers. Sixth Street between Cypress and Peachtree will be blocked off so spectators can watch the show.

You might think an outside performance in December would not be a big draw, but Daugherty says 125 people showed up last year, braving an 18 degree windchill factor. Now, that's an award winning benefit.

"Last year, the Metro across the street, set up heaters on their porch and handed out Russian tea, so people could have a place to warm up while they enjoyed the show," says Daugherty.

At the end of the show, the crowd will sing some familiar Christmas carols and the official tree lighter will throw the switch. At press time, there was no one officially named to light the tree. Last year, the honor fell to Lillian Lewis, wife of 5th District Congressman John Lewis.

Before the evening of the lighting, there will be a plethora of activities for the 12 Days of Christmas. Planned activities include a balloon lift, a hunk auction, Christmas Turnabout, and a Gay Taste of Atlanta.

For more information on the 12 Days of Christmas, and how to purchase a light, contact Daugherty at 875-9917.

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Gay and lesbian cruises offer unique blend of luxury and comfort



BY THOM CARDWELL

For many vacationers, cruises are truly the stuff of which dreams are made. They're about the luxurious, the exotic, the faraway, the fantastic.

Coming back down to earth for a minute, they're also (perhaps surprisingly to those who have never taken one) practical, economical, and social. In fact, cruises are considered by seasoned travelers and industry analysts alike to be one of the few remaining bargains in the face of current sky-rocketing prices for airline tickets, hotel accommodations, restaurants and many other "hidden" travel expenses, ranging from tips to admission for entertainment.

Smart gay and lesbian travel consumers wanting to be indulged in luxury with numerous amenities while still getting the

greatest value for their vacation dollars have turned to cruise operators catering exclusively to the gay and lesbian vacationer over the past several years.

Whether it's an all-men or all-women cruise, these large ocean liners serve their passengers as hotel, restaurant, transportation and entertainment center with countless amenities and even many "extras"—all for the single prepaid fare. This is where the greatest dollar value lies with cruises according to many travel agents and repeat passengers of which there are many from my own informal survey.

Then there's a lot to be said about the "comfort" factor of shipboard travel. "Unpack once, and you're set for the rest of the trip," remarked one veteran of several RSVP cruises. He recounted how relaxing it was just sitting in a deck chair while the ocean liner carried him effortlessly from port to port. "That's definitely my idea of luxury and relaxation," he declared.

RSVP

It's almost inevitable that whenever anyone talks about all-gay cruises that they immediately think of RSVP. Since 1986 when founder/owner Kevin Mossier chartered one cruise ship for a week in the winter, RSVP has been phenomenally successful at creating just the right "gay atmosphere" to attract thousands of happy voyagers.

To what does Mossier attribute their tremendous success when the travel industry as a whole is suffering in the face of economic uncertainty and lack of consumer confidence?

Certainly, he admits it's the all-gay atmosphere. "It's one of the only times you really, truly get to be totally relaxed. It may be the first time people really let their hair all the way down," Mossier said.

This attribute, many admirers of RSVP cruises claim, spreads throughout the ship so that typically there's a high spirit of camaraderie that develops among the cross-section of people from the ages of 20 to over 60.

For their 1993 season, RSVP is offering three new 7-day cruises that include a Valentine's Day celebration on the Crown Jewel to the Caribbean from February 14 to 21 departing from West Palm Beach and traveling to San Salvador, St. Thomas, San Juan and Labadie; a Caribbean adventure on the SeaBreeze from March 7 to 14 departing from Miami and traveling to Blue Lagoon Island, Playa del-Carmen, Cozumel and Key West; and the Mexican Riviera on Enchanted Isle from March 7 to 14 departing from Miami and traveling to Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan

and Puerto Vallarta, among other cruises.

Do you believe that dreams can come true? RSVP does. They've unveiled the first-ever gay-owned and operated cruise ship for 1993. The SeaSpirit is a 100-passenger super-yacht specifically designed for gay travelers. It will launch RSVP's Paradise Series beginning this December during Christmas week and sail through April of 1993 for 16 weeks through the British and U.S. Virgin Islands. Stops in the Caribbean will be to the islands of Tortola, Jost Van Dyke, Norman Island, Virgin Gorda, Salt Island and St. John. Special "singles-only" weeks have been scheduled for January 9 to 16 and March 6 to 13.

For more information on RSVP schedules, prices, brochures, videotapes and reservations contact your local travel agent. Those catering to gay and lesbian clientele in the Atlanta area include: Trips Unlimited (404)872-8747, Exclusively Cruises (404)892-8872 and All Points Travel Services (404)873-3631.

Olivia Cruises

"Our 1993 itineraries have a common element," explained cruise director Jillien Cruse of Olivia Cruises, the leader in all-women cruise vacations. "Each place we visit was home to ancient civilizations, ancient peoples who left visible and remarkable signs on the landscape."

This season their 20th Anniversary Valentine's cruise to the Mexican Riviera is from February 13 to 20 to Club Med's Mexican Resort. Then it's Playa Blanca from May 1 to 8, to Ecuador, Galapagos Islands from August 20 to September 1 (which is already sold-out so you can only hope for cancellations) and the Caribbean from November 20 to 27.

What will the women be doing on these cruises? "Sightseeing is just one of the activities available to Olivia cruises," answered Cruse. "We'll be snorkelling in some of the most beautiful water in the world in the Mexican Caribbean and the Mediterranean as well as sunning ourselves along crystalline beaches."

Of Olivia cruises lesbian writer Marilyn Murphy has written, "The cruise was like a lesbian house party, one at which it was acceptable to absent yourself when you felt like, one at which you had no responsibilities. Everything you might want or need for a good time was there without your asking."

Unquestionably, an added attraction of these cruises has been the entertainment programs that turn, as writer Cynthia Marquard observes, these ships into "floating women's music festivals." Past sails have featured Olivia recording artists Cris

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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Fighting the right

Continued from page 1

And if personal safety were not enough, community leaders now fear that Amendment 2 will nullify state laws preventing insurance companies from blacklisting gays.

"I think it's a huge issue, and no one has paid any attention to how Amendment 2 affects that," said Pat Steadman, an attorney with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees who also consults with gay activists.

AIDS activists are also concerned with that possibility.

"All other issues aside, insurance is still the wild card out there," said the Colorado AIDS Project's Cindy Cornelius. "I worry about how insurance companies make their decision. Let's face it, these guys are a business."

And in Colorado, the business is discrimination—something that's tough to prove when "you're a member of an unprotected class," according to Denver human right director Steve Newman.

That discrimination was too much to face for 26-year-old Marty Booker.

"I refuse to live in a state where a few people can, at will, make my life a living hell," he wrote in a suicide note the day after the election. "I love you all. I'm sorry my crime in life was LOVE—albeit to the same gender."

For Booker, who tested positive for HIV in 1990, suicide seemed the only alternative. Other gay Coloradans understand the depth of that despair.

"I don't think the voters understand how painful this is—to be told that you're inferior, a second class citizen," said Denver psychologist Glenda Russell two days after the election.

And 23-year-old Denver resident Lawrence Pacheco echoed the feelings of many of Colorado's gays and lesbians when he said, "I feel like I've been kicked in the stomach. Do they really hate us that much?"

Us vs. Them

"They" of course is the religious right, represented in Colorado by CFV, which waged an ugly campaign—not so much for "family values," but against "special rights" for lesbians, gays and bisexuals. Like many conservative Christian groups, CFV had no qualms about stretching the facts, distorting the truth, and outright lying to sway voters to pass Amendment 2.

CFV brought out an "expert"—in reality discredited psychiatrist Paul Cameron—to perpetuate myths about gays and gay sexuality; they aired on Colorado television a slow-motion video of only the most sexual parts of San Francisco's Gay Freedom Day Parade; they released "studies" that showed that "over half" of child molestations are done by homosexuals; and they claimed that gays and lesbians are already protected by the U.S. Constitution and

need no further "special rights."

Fifty-three percent of Colorado voters bought it. How do gays and lesbians go about counteracting such misinformation? EPOC's Tony Ogden believes a grass roots education campaign is the way to go.

"It's got to be education and outreach at this point," he said. "Laws can change overnight. Attitudes don't."

Throughout the Colorado campaign—and Oregon's Measure 9 campaign as well—the "Family Values" troops told voters that anti-discrimination measures for gays and lesbians constituted special rights, and the tactic worked. Even when conservative voters admitted that discrimination was possible against the lesbian and gay population, the "special rights" argument kept them from voting against the amendment.

"I don't have any problem with them, per se," stockbroker Michael Hayes told The New York Times. "I just felt it was unfair to equate their interests with those of other minorities like Hispanics or blacks."

"Most Americans don't understand that the constitution does not protect gays and lesbians," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force spokesperson Robin Kane. "We need to explain to people that without a civil rights law, gays and lesbians can lose their jobs just because of who they are."

The Human Rights Campaign Fund's Cathy Woolard agreed.

"We don't have equal rights to begin with," she said. "We can't get married, we don't have equal rights to benefits, we can be discriminated against in housing, public accommodations, employment. All we're asking for is for that to stop."

"It's up to gays and lesbians to take [the special rights] issue head on," said NGLTF's Kane. "It's important to come back to it, to question what they mean by special rights. It's not a special right to get a job on merit. It's not a special right to walk down the street without fear of being attacked because of our sexual orientation."

In fact, says Kane, the special rights argument could be turned on its head.

"The only group of people seeking special rights is the fundamentalist right wing," she said. "They want the special right to discriminate against those they hate."

Don't buy Colorado

To protest the passage of Amendment 2, many in the lesbian/gay community have called for a boycott of the Rocky Mountain State, similar to a boycott of Arizona when voters in that state refused to allow a Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. Already several organizations have cancelled plans for conventions in Colorado, including the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, a gay physicians' group,

CONTINUES TOP OF NEXT PAGE

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and the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Entertainers, too, have joined the call. At an AIDS fundraiser last week, Barbara Streisand urged a boycott, and gay author Armistead Maupin cancelled his scheduled appearance in Denver. The City of Atlanta will no longer allow city employees to travel to Colorado at the city's expense, and software giant Quark has said it will pull its \$20 million account out of Denver banks unless they have a formal anti-discrimination policy covering gays.

"We are calling on all citizens of the United States and of the world to boycott Colorado as a destination for business or recreational purposes, and to boycott all products originating in the state of Colorado," said Terry Schleder, and organizer for the new group "Boycott Colorado."

But others urge potential boycotters to go slow, arguing that many of Colorado's urban areas—including Denver, Boulder and Aspen—voted against the measure, and that elected officials in those areas, as well as Gov. Roy Romer, are also opposed to Amendment 2. But for Schleder and others, the boycott effort needs to be considered a "shared sacrifice."

"We realize fully that this call for a boycott will have an impact not only on those who support bigotry, prejudice and discrimination, but also on those who oppose it," he said. "We hope that our friends will understand that we are in a major civil rights crisis."

Take 'em to court, or to Congress

A comprehensive education campaign and a boycott are not the only weapons in the arsenal of gay rights. Within days after the Nov. 3 election, three Colorado cities—Denver, Aspen, and Boulder—and seven individuals filed suit challenging the constitutionality of Amendment 2.

"We're on the cutting edge," said Ogden. "We've got a lawsuit that will in all likelihood go to the Supreme Court. We could end this once and for all."

Hopes are high for overturning Amendment 2 in the court system, especially since a California court recently ruled that a similar measure in Concord, Calif., was unconstitutional, and a state court of appeals in Oregon struck down Measure 8, an earlier ballot initiative that repealed then-Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's executive order protecting gay and lesbian state employees.

But court battles can be long and arduous. For many activists, the one sure way to stop the right is to pass a federal lesbian/gay civil rights bill.

"That doesn't mean people should turn away from what's going on in their hometowns," said HRCF's Woolard. "But this needs to be a part of our vision for the future. We have a four year window of opportunity and we have to try to pass this legislation so we can stop these fires in our backyards."

Our own backyards?

Yes, our own backyards. With the success of Amendment 2 in Colorado, efforts are al-

ready underway in at least six states to launch similar campaigns, and Oregon Citizens Alliance founder Lon Mabon has promised to return to that state with a "Colorado-styled" measure. Those are just the officially announced campaigns. Not included are the nearly 35 states rumored to be targeted, Georgia among them.

"I've already heard there'll be a bill to abolish sex education altogether," said Vicki McLennan, state lobbyist for the Georgia chapter of the National Organization for Women. "Another was an Oregon-type bill, and another was to move statutory rape from 14 to 18 years old. Obviously if they're calling around trying to get co-sponsors on that type of legislation, they're ready to roll."

McLennan said she fears what she calls a "scattershot approach," a tactic used by the religious right in past legislative sessions.

"They put in a lot of bills and that makes it hard to track," she said. "That's the way they keep us busy."

Busy will be the key word for Georgia's upcoming legislative session as lobbyists and activists scramble to put out fires and save time to work for pro-active legislation. Larry Pellegrini, president of the Georgia American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian/Gay Rights Chapter, sees a hectic future once the General Assembly opens next year.

"We're going to be the targets of just about everything the fundamentalists do," he said. "I would bet that they'll find some way to tie us to the lottery."

In all seriousness, Pellegrini says that the recently completed presidential election was just the beginning.

"We've got to get out and meet elected officials," he said. "There can't be a single gay man or lesbian in the country who would stand back and let fundamentalists shove their agendas down our throats."

Cathy Woolard agrees. "There's a lot of work to be done," she said. "Not the least of which is come out, come out, come out, and let people see our lives."

These are interesting times indeed—as the religious right broadens its attacks on gay and lesbian civil rights, so must lesbians and gays put an end to complacency. NGTLF's Kane says her organization is ready.

"This is the first year we've faced statewide anti-gay constitutional amendments," she said. "It's not new anymore. We're going to take what we've learned and share it."

Sharing the information is crucial, Kane says, because "the word is out that the Colorado and Oregon measures don't stop at the borders."

"The wake up call has sounded, the focus has been presented," said Woolard. "This is the time to make political hay, and whoever is best organized will reap the political benefits. It could be us or it could be them. I'm leaning with us."

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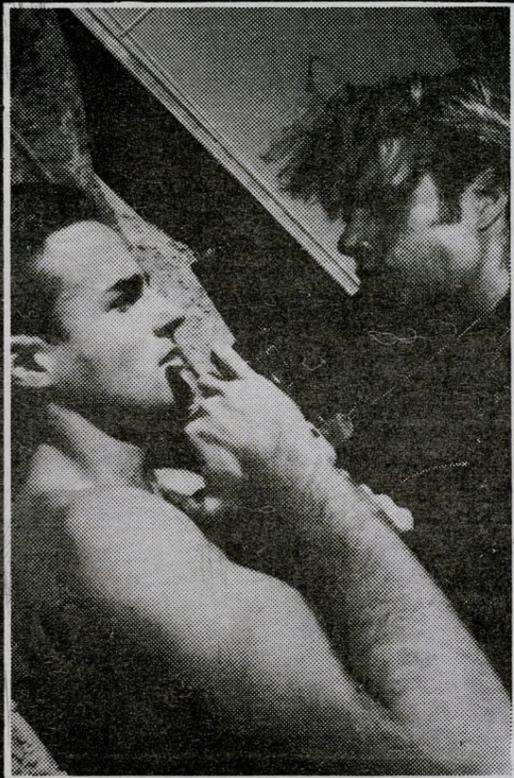
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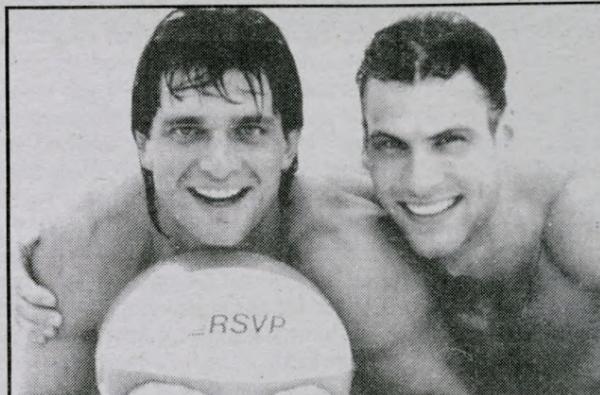
THE LIVING END

an irresponsible movie by gregg araki

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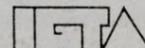
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OUT & ABOUT

FILM REVIEW

THE LIVING END

"Death is weird." Luke certainly has a way with words. He's not a poltergeist, or some sort of chatty ectoplasm from "The Addams Family." He's the essential, living, breathing, HIV+, gun-touting anti-hero from Gregg Araki's strange film world of the undead in "The Living End."

Created with a Morrissey-induced fervor in an industrial rock frenzy, "The Living End" was designed to do anything but entertain. Produced on a shoestring budget of \$23,000, according to Newsweek (not Araki, who now keeps mum on the subject.), "The Living End" shows its low-budget wear and tear. It also shows the filmmaker's concern with story and substance, rather than technically clean edits or stunningly filmed spectacle. Audiences will feel the dirty, discordant Los Angeles atmosphere on their skins as they take in each clumsily shot, statically lighted, often bizarrely edited sequence.

Unsatisfied with easy answers to the AIDS crises, Araki thankfully gives the viewer no simple solutions—or icky hospital dramas, or tedious graveside chats. Instead, he revels in the huge, perplexing question mark of a conclusion that leaves an uncertain future for his two unsung heroes, Luke and Jon.

Luke (played by Mike Dytri) is a drifter; Jon (Craig Gilmore) is a freshly diagnosed "member of the club"—the HIV-infected club. They seem to keep missing one another on the streets and freeways of Los Angeles until Luke literally lands on Jon's car in desperate need of an escape after shooting three gay bashers to death. Jon obliges, and in a city like L.A., that's a sure sign that Jon must be morose, scared, lonely, or all of the above. The road movie from hell—or more probably from limbo, where the innocent victims of an untimely death go—begins here.

Originally titled "Fuck the World," Araki's film is clearly not a simple "statement" film about AIDS like "Longtime Companion" or "An Early Frost." In fact, the closest thing to a statement Araki makes rolls onto the screen at the end of the credits:

"Dedicated to Craig Lee (1954-1991) and the hundreds of thousands more who will die because of a big white house full of republican fuckheads [sic]."

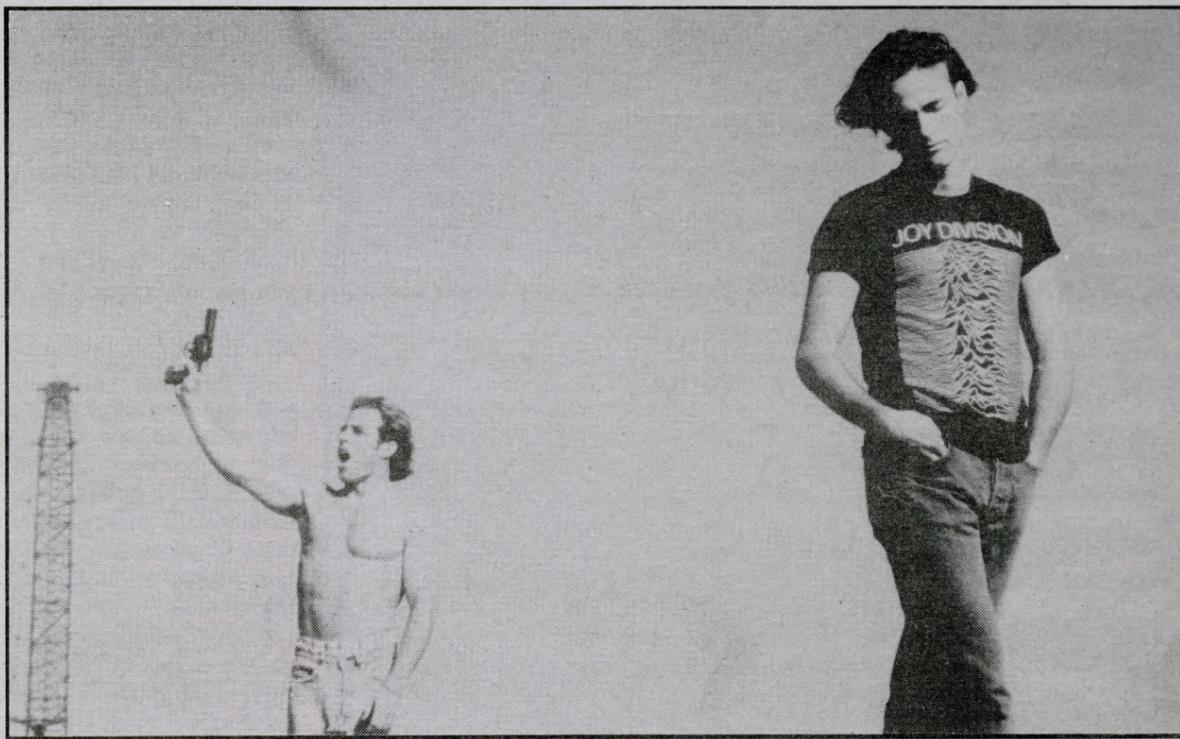
Neither is this a gay film, although there is plenty of unabashed gay sex throughout. If anything, this is a film that should reach "the infected" more deeply and crystal-clearly than anyone else on the planet. Araki has drawn the lines clearly; there are those who are part of this club and those who are not. One side has its reasons to keep climbing the ladder of social and economic success and the other group has nothing to lose. As Luke explains to Jon, "Don't you get it? We're not like them. We have to grab life by the balls...we're free!" It's this strange and unwanted taste of freedom, in all its glory, that Luke shows Jon.

With that said, Araki—who states in the production note that he is HIV-antibody negative—says he does not see "The Living End" as an AIDS film. It's a very personal journey that went on in the head of one of America's new "Queer Cinema" golden boys which was hurriedly and sometimes sloppily transferred to the screen. Fortunately, Atlanta audiences will be able to get a taste of Araki's vision due to a lucrative deal with October Films (distributors of Mike Leigh's brilliant, independent masterpiece "Live is Sweet"), which will be released "The Living End" in Atlanta on Dec. 4. (You can catch it at The Screening Room.)

The industrial rock of Waxtrax records propels "The Living End" (named after a Jesus and Mary Chain song) and evokes the alternative, post-punk ennui that motivates Jon and Luke's spiraling descent into criminality, unsafe sex, and a special, deadly hatred for parking police officers. But the music does not overpower, and many of the questionable cinematic choices dissolve, revealing some great screen moments between Jon and Luke. Araki spells out the bittersweet torment of their affair in striking detail throughout. At one point, for example, Luke writes on the wall of a telephone booth: "Jon and Luke, til death do us part."

Araki is right on target in calling this film "irresponsible." He seems to be suggesting that years of neglect from the White House has spawned an irresponsible attitude toward AIDS in general. The White House has not been irresponsible in a vacuum, however, and "The Living End" may be only the thin end of the wedge.

MATTHEW CIBELLIS



Luke (Mike Dytri) unleashes an expression of his new-found "freedom;" his lover Jon (Craig Gilmore) offers a more pensive approach in a scene from Gregg Araki's new black comedy "The Living End."

INTERVIEW

GREGG ARAKI

Filmmaker Gregg Araki is not likely to be wearing freedom rings or sporting a big pink triangle. Black is his color choice, "Choose Death" his favorite bumper sticker, and a gunsight his defining political symbol: a crosshairs tattoo emblazoned on his upper arm speaks his mind. His presence in a room reeks of a counterculture attitude ready to express itself, ready to cut to the chase. But he listens to others, and he speaks precisely and intelligently with a dark, dark sense of humor.

A photographer takes loads of pictures, but Araki asks several times if he should take off his shirt; it appears he likes to show off his well-defined upper body. Along with his build, he's proud of his films, and seems particularly pleased with the success of his latest release, "The Living End."

"The first week it came out, we were the number one film...in terms of the 'per screen average' in Variety," Araki enthuses, "Not that I read Variety, or anything," he quickly corrects himself, "but...we were in the headline!"

MC: This film is clearly not designed to be mainstream. You're obviously not trying to tug at Hollywood heartstrings.

ARAKI: Sure. Didn't this film tug at your Hollywood heartstrings?

MC: No. No, seriously. It took me a long time to get into this film. At one point Luke kills a cop without explanation. Is this just another act of random violence?

ARAKI: Random violence. Yeah, it's jarring, but what's so wrong with being jarred?

MC: Nothing, but once Luke kills this faceless cop the movie really picks up the pace. There's a lot of dramatic build, but then all of a sudden, there's action.

ARAKI: Just like "Lethal Weapon"...Mel Gibson with HIV. That's interesting, because I don't think it's an action movie at all. It's a couple-on-the-run movie, an outlaw-type world. The whole notion of doomed lovers that are on the run is my favorite pet genre, and I always wanted to make a film like that.

MC: And then you dedicate it to those who've died and their friends in the White House.

ARAKI: Yes, to our wonderful Republican friends in the White House.

MC: How politically active are you?

ARAKI: I'm not a real political person, not a group activist. I'm more into expressing politics—or my lack of politics—through my art. My ex-boyfriend was always trying to get me to

go to these things, but I didn't want to go.

MC: So this success with "The Living End" must really be nice. Is it a sort of revenge?

ARAKI: I don't really think about revenge. I just want to make movies.

MC: What's your next film?

ARAKI: My next film is "Totally ***ed Up." It's about these fucked-up kids and their misadventures in the city. Kids hanging around in L.A. going to clubs, hanging around, having sex, and waking up with their boyfriends.

MC: Your gay characters listen to progressive rock.

ARAKI: Industrial, man. My characters listen to something besides Madonna.

MC: Madonna's not your hero?

ARAKI: I must say, when she first came out my friends and I collected all of her stuff. But then we got sick of her.

MC: How did you get into the subject of AIDS in the film? What, you're gay, so you make an AIDS film? OK, you're 30, have you lost an entire generation of friends?

ARAKI: No, I've actually been very lucky. Maybe it's because I don't have any friends. [Laughs] A boyfriend of mine just died a couple of days ago, and the funeral is Saturday. But the first person I've known is the person the film is dedicated to, Craig Lee.

MC: What kind of crowds is this movie attracting? I can see so many gay people watching this and thinking, "This is way too alternative for me."

ARAKI: That's one of the major problems with my films. My films have been so much more influenced by the...the Smiths...than by "gay culture." I hate all those typically gay things like...oh, Bette Midler. All that stuff is fine, you know, Bette Midler, Madonna, your convertible VW, that's fine. Do anything you want. But it's not something I'm interested in. My films have always had this problem with the gay or sexual ambiguity ghettoizing the films. At least half of the gay audience is really put off by its punk-rock attitude.

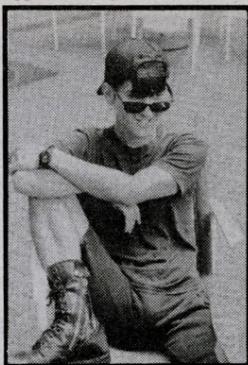
MC: How much are you saying with the music? Some of the lyrics are very hard to make out.

ARAKI: In general, the music doesn't tell the story. The Romantic themes, the general nihilism, and the whole attitude of the film comes from the post-punk music scene. That's why the Madonna fans in their convertibles will see the film and won't get it. But nevertheless, the film has done really, really well so far.

MC: How do you quantify that?

ARAKI: The film is being released in 100 cities, much more than I ever thought. You know, the mainstream acceptance of alternative culture is so peculiar. Like Gus Van Sant, I mean, Gus makes the weirdest films. He's really popular and though his films don't make \$200 million, they still do really well. It never ceases to amaze me what the mainstream is able to absorb.

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Gay author wins National Book Award

Paul Monette's moving autobiography, "Becoming a Man: Half A Life," was named winner of the National Book Award for non-fiction on November 18. The National Book Award, generally considered the United States' most prestigious book award, carries a \$10,000 prize.

Two gay authors were finalists for this year's National Book Award. In addition to Monette, Dorothy Allison received a fiction nomination for her widely praised first novel, "Bastard Out of Carolina." The fiction award was won by Cormac McCarthy for "All the Pretty Horses." There were a record 561 books submitted for consideration this year.

According to a report in the New York Times, in accepting his award, Monette said that writing the book "literally kept me alive," following his diagnosis with AIDS. According to the Times, Monette said that when his lover died of AIDS, "writing was so unimportant a thing. I would not save a single life." But as time went on, he "became hungry about leaving a record."

The Washington Post's David Streitfeld said that the selection of "Becoming a Man" "was clearly a popular choice with the audience...as the news was greeted with a huge round of applause." In announcing the award, nonfiction chairman Douglas Day said the book was "beautiful, moving, astonishing and unique."

Monette's book details his life growing up in New England, attending prep school and Yale University, and his career as a teacher, up until the time he met his lover and irrevocably left the closet. A highly personal, often disturbingly honest book, it begins with Monette "forty-six now and dying by inches...I still shiver with a kind of astonished delight when a gay



Gay author Paul Monette won the prestigious National Book Award for non-fiction for his autobiography "Becoming a Man."

brother or sister tells of that narrow escape from the coffin world of the closet."

Monette's other books include "Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir," "Halfway Home" and "Afterlife."

Monette's book led a very strong field, including a biography of Harry Truman by David McCullough, and Garry Wills' analysis of the Gettysburg Address, "Lincoln at Gettysburg." It follows a major disappointment for gay and lesbian readers last year, when Adrienne Rich failed to win a National Book Award for her volume of poetry, "An Atlas of the Difficult World." Rich has won an NBA for an earlier book.

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OUT & ABOUT 21

C A L E N D A R

3 THURSDAY

NEW PLAY PREVIEW. Different Voices Theatre Company performs excerpts from its upcoming production at Charis Books and More in Little Five Points. The readings include scenes from plays by Terry Baum and Dana Leslie Goldstein. Call 289-8261 for further info.

CREACH/KOSTER. They have been described as "the dance company that evokes masculinity through powerful, seamless movement." You can see them through Saturday at Seven Stages Performing Arts Center. 8 pm. Call 523-7647 for more info.

BEING JEWISH IN GERMANY. Goethe-Institut Atlanta presents a documentary focusing on two groups of Germans, Jews and non-Jews. 7 pm. For more info call 892-2388.

4 FRIDAY

HOPE IN HARMONY. This group of 25 musicians presents their annual concert to benefit local AIDS organizations tonight through Sunday. This year's concert is called "One Solitary Life" and proceeds benefit Childkind and Haven House. First MCC. 800 N. Highland Ave. 843-2361. \$5 donation requested.

HOLIDAY ARTISTS SALE. Unique and beautiful gifts can be found at Charis Books and More from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Local women artists will be featured. 524-0304 for details.

CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HOMES. Grant Park Learning Center presents a Christmas candlelight tour of nine Victorian homes tonight and Saturday. Proceeds benefit the neighborhood day-care center. Call 521-0418 for more info.

GOSPEL CHRISTMAS. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra is joined by the All-Atlanta Chorus in this holiday Concert. The program includes popular classical works and gospel tunes as well as holiday carols. Leslie Dunner conducts. For info call 898-9243.

THE NUTCRACKER. The Atlanta Ballet presents the 100th anniversary of this holiday ballet. The magical tale of a little girl's Christmas Eve adventure runs through Dec. 27. 873-5811 for ticket info.

HOLIDAY ART PARTY & SHOW. Art opening and party featuring local artists and musicians tonight from 8 to 11 pm. Art sale continues on Sat. from 10 am to 4 pm. Both events are free. First Existentialist Congregation. 470 Candler Park Dr. 378-5570 for more info.

5 SATURDAY

CRIS WILLIAMSON IN CONCERT. Hear the mother of women's music in concert with The Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus. 8 pm. Ga. Tech Theatre for the Arts. Tickets can be purchased at Atlantis Connection, The Boy Next Door and Charis Books. 523-7455 for more info.

HIV AND WOMEN. The syndicated cable television program, HIV UPDATE focuses on issues that face the rapidly growing number of HIV-infected women. The program is repeated each Saturday in December at 6:00 p.m. on cable channel 12.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS. 12 days of events to benefit Project Open Hand include a hunk auction at

Burkhart's tonight; a balloon lift at Bulldog's tomorrow night, photos with Santa at Velvet on Mon. night, and a comedy Christmas show at Crazy Ray'z on Tues. night. Call 892-8983 for more info.

DREAM. Emory Framing and Gallery presents an exhibition featuring the works of artists Lilly Cannon, Mary Carmichael, Phyllis Stapler, and Jill Wiscombe. The show runs through Jan. 23. Call 634-6568 for info.

CRIMES OF THE HEART. Through Dec. 12. Southern Fried Productions presents Beth Henley's moving play about three very different sisters awaiting news of the family patriarch. Fri.-Sun. Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. 378-8646.

6 SUNDAY

ARTS FOR PRIDE. SAME's fourth annual holiday sale of fine art, fine crafts, food and fun. Do your holiday gift buying here! 10 am-6 pm. Call 609-9590 for details.

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS. The Atlanta Botanical Gardens celebrates the holiday season with lights, greenery, carolers, crafts and chestnuts roasting on an open fire. From noon until 8:00 with the tree lighting at 6:00. 876-5859 for info.

7 MONDAY

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY. Tom Key will read Truman Capote's holiday story set in rural Alabama in the 1930's. The

one night only performance will take place at The 14th Street Playhouse at 8:00 p.m. Cider and fruitcake will be served following the reading. 898-1137 for details.

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's own public access gay television show features interviews, news, entertainment, history and more. 10:30 pm. Cable Channel 12, People TV. Same show airs again on Wednesday at 5:30 pm, and at 10 pm on City Channel 6.

GAY USA. A gay and lesbian news show produced in New York includes national and international coverage. Cable Channel 12, People TV. 11pm.

8 TUESDAY

CAREGIVING IN THE SECOND DECADE. Rob Eichberg, creator of the Experience weekends, leads a free three-hour workshop for persons involved in the caregiving of HIV patients. 250 person limit. Colony Square Hotel. 7-10:30 pm. 874-8969 to register and for more info.

SINGING FOR FUN. Singer-guitarist Elise Witt performs a folk music concert at the High Museum at the Georgia-Pacific Center. The program begins at 12 p.m. For further info call 577-6940.

THE 1940's RADIO HOUR. Through Jan. 2. Theatre in the Square in downtown Marietta presents the 11th Anniversary production of its holiday favorite. The show includes comedy skits, live sound effects and more than 20 popular tunes from the 1940's. Tues.-Fri. at 8 pm; 7 pm and 9:30 pm on Sat.; 3 pm and 7 pm on Sun. 422-8369 for info.



9 WEDNESDAY

SULLI. This dynamic solo acoustic performer plays original music with rock, country and blues flavor. She struts her stuff at Monterey Jacks on Piedmont at 8:30. Call 233-8020 for details.

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS. This 1940s story of a mountain family reunion at Christmas explores the many definitions that "family" takes. The world premiere production runs through Dec. 19 at Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur. 377-3714 for ticket info.

Pictured: ABOVE: Leslie Dunner, associate conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will lead the ASO and the All-Atlanta Chorus in "Gospel Christmas" at Symphony Hall on Dec. 4 & 5. LEFT: Denise Wilbanks in The 1940's Radio Hour now playing at Theatre in the Square through Jan. 2. Photo by Kathryn Kolb BELOW: "Jeaux Deau" by Jill Wiscombe is one piece featured in "Dream," an exhibition featuring the work of 4 local women artists opening at Emory Framing & Gallery on Dec. 5.



ON GOING AND UPCOMING

FLYIN' WEST. Through Dec. 13. The world premiere of Atlanta playwright Pearl Cleage's poignant story of the strength and struggles of black women homesteaders in 1898. Directed by Kenny Leon, artistic director of the Alliance Theatre. Tues.-Sat. at 8 pm; Sun. at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm. Alliance Theatre. 892-2414.

HENRY IV. Through Dec. 19. Shakespeare's epic tale of chivalry and comedy. Wed.-Sat. at 7:30 pm. Shakespeare Tavern. 499 Peachtree St. 874-5299.

WORKING. Through Dec. 20. Stage Door Players, present Studs Terkel's Broadway musical about the work-a-day lives of real

Americans. The pleasures and discontents which the non-fictional characters experience in their jobs are expressed through drama, music and dance. North Dekalb Cultural Center. Thursdays through Sundays. For more info call 396-1726.

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS. Through Dec. 23. Atlanta's signature Christmas show returns for its fourth year. This collection of traditional mountain stories and songs is written into script by Phillip DePoy and Eddie Lee. Theatrical Outfit. 1012 Peachtree St. 872-0665.

EBENEZER AND TINY TIM. Through Dec. 26. The Alliance Theatre presents

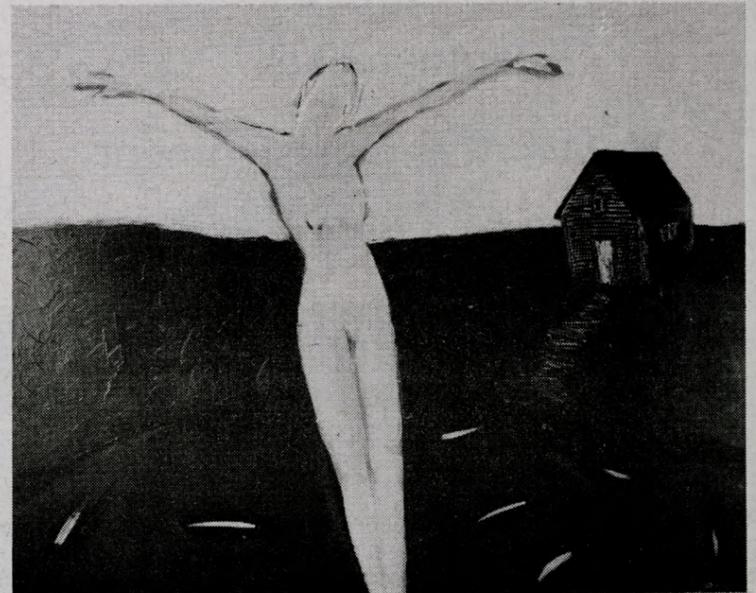
Tom Key as a flying Scrooge in its production of Charles Dickens' immortal holiday tale "A Christmas Carol." The all-Atlanta cast will call up the ghosts of Christmases past, present and future. Call 892-2414 for ticket info.

OUTSTANDING AMERICAN PAINTINGS. Through Jan 17. The 100th anniversary of Randolph-Macon Woman's College of Lynchburg, Virginia is celebrated at the High Museum of Art with an exhibition of American art. Works by Whistler, O'Keeffe, Pendergrast and Homer are included in the showing. For more info call 898-9285.

DREAM MAKERS.

Through Feb. 21. The High Museum of Art presents an exhibition of 118 original drawings and paintings and 75 rare children's books in a survey of children's book illustrators from the 18th century to the present. Characters such as Raggedy Ann and Andy and works of present-day favorites Maurice Sendak and Dr. Seuss will be featured. 892-HIGH for more info.

MASQUERADE '93. Feb. 13. Tickets are on sale now for the Mardi Gras party in Atlanta which benefits Project Open Hand. Last year over 2,000 attended which features Krewes, cabaret, food and non-stop dancing. Call 525-4737 for more info and tickets.





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Cruises

Continued from page 15

Williamson, Teresa Trull, Dianne Davidson, Tret Fure, Deidre McCalla and Lucie Blue Tremblay.

Since Olivia cruises have the reputation of selling out quickly, there's obviously a consumer market among lesbians to travel together abroad luxury liners. Judy Dulgacz, president of Olivia, attributes the demand to the fact that women are making more money. "There's such a desire to go away and not be defending yourself the whole time," she explained.

For complete information, schedules, brochures and prices, contact Jillien Cruse at Olivia Cruises at 800-631-6277, 415-655-0364 or FAX 415-655-4334.

Advance Damron

Don't have any specific plans for this Christmas? Why not spend it with Mickey, Minnie and the whole gang with Advance Damron Vacations? The Houston-based tour operators have organized one of their famous "Adventure" Series packages to Disney World from December 23 to 27. Celebrate the wonders of Christmas under the lights of the Magic Kingdom in Orlando. In addition to DisneyWorld, you'll visit Epcot, MGM, Universal Studios, Sea World and more. While experiencing a fun-filled holiday adventure, you'll be sharing it with friendly like-minded people from across the country, Damron president David Greiss promises that this special tour will be unforgettable.

For information and reservations about this adventure among other travel services provided by Damron, call 800-695-0880, 713-682-202 or FAX 713-680-3200.

Hanns Ebensten

An operator of exotic tours for men-only for many years is Hanns Ebensten Travel. The Key West-based founder and travel promoter

Ebensten is known throughout the gay travel industry as an individual who is passionate about exploring the globe. Each year he offers comprehensive and exciting tours to many different faraway spots.

For 1993 Ebensten is offering a two-week Nile Cruise from February 3 to 17 and a two-week Thailand Tour from April 3 to 17 that will travel to Bangkok and Beyond.

If you're wondering about the lure of an all gay male tour, this veteran traveler has the answer. "It's not a great sexual jaunt," explains Ebensten, "It's just that you're seeing the wonderful places that we all wish to visit with the most congenial company."

For more information and reservations, contact Ebensten at 305-294-8174 or FAX 305-292-9665.

Atlantis Events

For devotees of sunny playful resort areas, Atlantis Events offers an all-inclusive price tour package at Club Med. The 1993 season includes Club Med Playa Blanca from January 30 to February 6, and Club Med Sonora Bay from May 22 to 29. An authentic Mexican village along the west coast, Playa Blanca is located 120 miles south of Puerto Vallarta in the lush foothills near Chamel Bay. Sonora Bay, 17 miles from Guaymas and about 300 miles south of Tucson, Arizona, offers the unique combination of desert, mountains and sea among the dramatic setting of pueblo-style buildings. At both resorts, Atlantis organizes for men-only a wide range of activities and entertainment with excursions to additional spots at an extra cost.

For complete information, contact the West-Hollywood-based company at 800-6-ATLANTIS or your travel agent.

Alexander's Tours

For land-lovers, Alexander's G&L Tours has recently announced its plans to offer 24

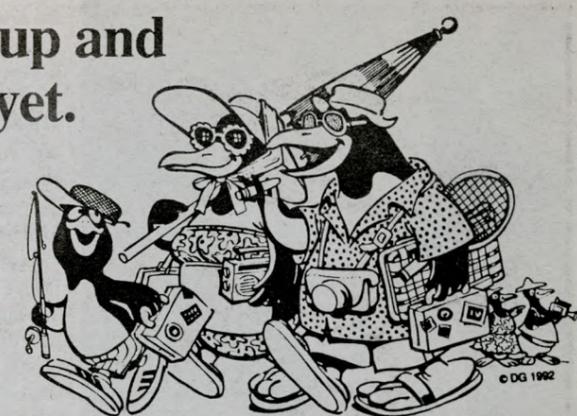
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motorcoach tours, beginning April 2, for 1993 throughout the Western United States. Dubbing them their own "Wild-Wild West" adventures, some of the destinations include Yosemite National Park, the Grand Canyon, Hearst Castle, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Palm Springs.

Company founder and experienced tour operator for many years Alexander de Hilster says that his tours "are perfect for the first-time visitor to the USA or for the well-seasoned traveler looking to explore new horizons in the company of other gay and lesbian travelers." The Dutch-born de Hilster chose this part of the country for his tours since he has a personal interest in the history and culture of the Southwest.

Additionally, de Hilster is advertising mini-stay packages for tourists visiting Los Angeles, San Francisco and Palm Springs. These can be arranged on an individual, combination or extension of the motorcoach tours through his company.

For more information, call de Hilster at 800-831-9202, 310-289-1776 or FAX 310-657-7435 or, in Atlanta, call Business Travel at 404-892-0770.

Gaylord's Travel Club

Gaylord's Travel Club is a recently-formed

members-only organization catering exclusively to the gay and lesbian traveler with an eye for value. An outgrowth of the Orlando-based Andrea Tours, members will be eligible for a wide variety of benefits, including reduced-rate airline tickets, substantial discounts and incentives at more than 200 attractions, hotels, restaurants and retail outlets throughout Florida and the Caribbean.

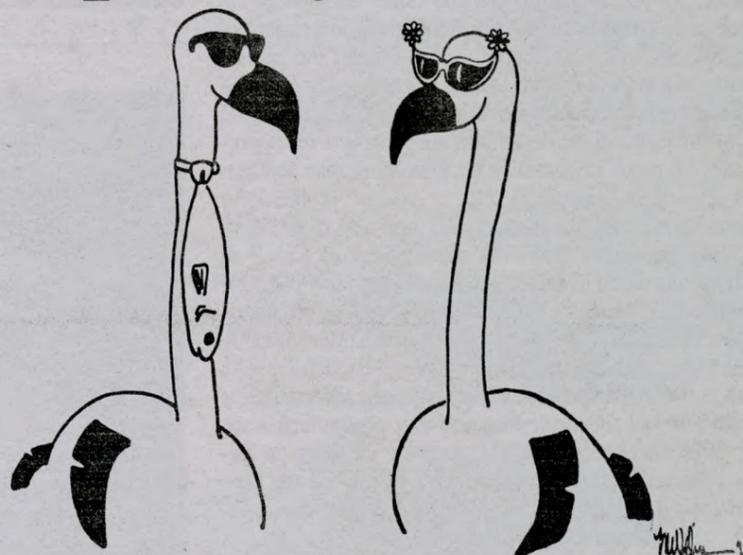
Wanting to give their clients as many substantial discounts for travel as possible, William R. Ehrig of Andrea Tours who initiated the club membership concept is pleased thus far with the response from "mainstream" tour and travel suppliers.

"Within the tour and travel industry, the gay and lesbian market is finally emerging as a valuable and desirable demographic," he said.

For the past two years, ever since Andrea Tours opened its doors, Ehrig has been thinking of ways to extend and expand opportunities for the gay and lesbian traveler so the idea of Gaylor's "evolved rather naturally."

Budget-conscious travelers can contact him at 800-742-3695.

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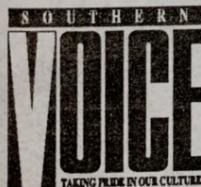
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24 OUT & ABOUT

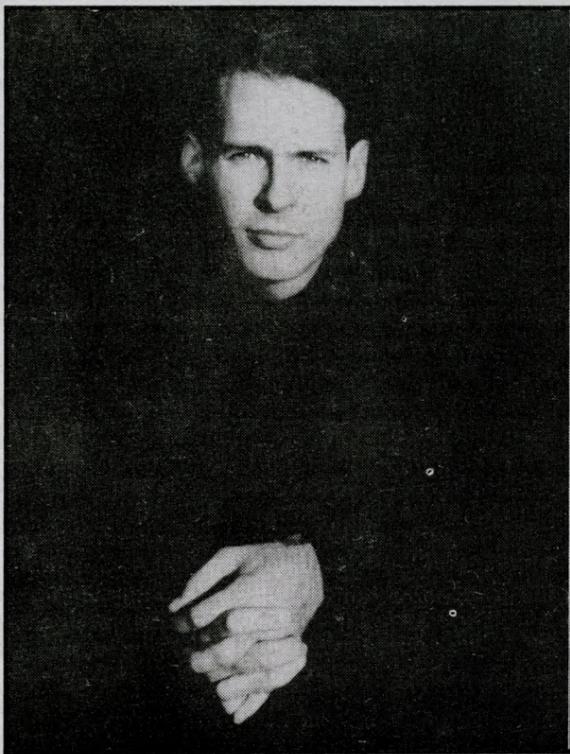
In an attempt to save money and as a protest against the rising cost of cable TV, I attempted to do without it recently. As you might expect, the noble attempt at life without cable failed miserably. I missed the wide variety of channels from which to choose, and I missed the perfect reception. Not to mention the fact that it is not easy keeping up with what's over the entertainment horizon without cable.

Of course, one of the best things about cable is the opportunity to see more gay positive programming than the networks offer. Prime examples: "Out in Atlanta" produced by Leif Eric Spivey and John Ishmael, and their new show "Positive Living," as well as "Gay USA" from New York City. And the wiggled out world of DeAundra Peek is a weekly ritual for thousands. All of these are seen on Cable 12 in Fulton County.

Now there is an all gay video service which offers monthly videos of their slick coverage of gay issues and entertainment. Known as **Network Q**, this professionally done newsmagazine is created by and for the lesbian and gay community. Each month subscribers receive a VHS tape of the latest in gay centric news and cultural happenings. I previewed the September release, which was filmed in and around Santa Fe, New Mexico. The camera took in the sounds and color of that Southwest city, visiting galleries, shops, an outdoor cafe, as well as a pulsating laser lit night club. In between, were comedy skits, an AIDS treatment update, and political news. The most interesting segment was "Out in America," a regular segment, which features one man or woman each month and tells the story of their life and their coming to terms with their sexuality. September's focus was on a gay postman in a very small town in southwest Louisiana. He told of how he grew up in the area, how he came out at a very young age, and how he fought and won the right to keep his job with the Postal Service. We see the Victorian home he shares with his lover and we learn of his current battle with the AIDS virus. The simplicity and honesty of the story was compelling.

The October edition of Network Q come to us from sunny Palm Springs, California and will be highlighted by a speech by then Presidential candidate Gov. Bill Clinton to ANGLE, Access Now for Gay and Lesbian Equality, in Hollywood. In the pre-Democratic convention speech, Clinton declares he

AFTER HOURS
DANNY ROBLE



Steve Dancz will perform in a benefit for AID Atlanta on December 10 at the Variety Playhouse.

will overturn the military ban on lesbians and gays, as well as focusing real government effort in the war on AIDS.

Also in the October edition are performance artist James Lecesne's "Word of Mouth," travel coverage including a tour

of Liberace's Palm Springs mansion, the short film, "Gay Youth," and more comedy from Minister Mike and John Topping.

The November edition was filmed in Washington D.C. while the NAMES Project Quilt was on display and will feature expanded news coverage, including interviews with conservative gay activist Marvin Liebman, Congressman Gerry Studds, executive members of the March on Washington, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Director Urvashi Vaid, and Kate Clinton, comedian and host of PBS' "In the Life." Network Q is available for \$24.95 per month and can be obtained by calling 1-800-368-0638.

The fall season of **The Jennifer Perry Show** on DeKalb's Public Access Channel 12 reads like a Who's Who of top Atlanta musicians. The show, which is taped before a live audience, is seen on Channel 12 on Sunday nights at 11:00 pm. How is this for a fall line up? Rache Alpert, Sulli, Chuck Cooper, 5 Year Mission, Somerville Phillips, Melanie Hammet, and Angela Motter. Motter will sing selections from her new album "Outta Control."

In the past Jennifer has brought a wide range of gay and lesbian programming to the screen, including an interview with Connie Sue Cornsilk (Lily White) and Patsy June Cowpatty (Kitty Litter). Another show brought together female impersonator Lauren Michaels and Jennifer as love-starved teenagers up to Friday night mischief with members of the Swinging Richards band. Lily White added color as the owner of a trailer park tavern. It sounds like Jennifer's show offers something for everyone...check it out.

Don't forget to attend SAME's **Arts For Pride Show** on Dec. 6. This is a great place to start your holiday shopping.

Also, on Dec. 10 be sure to catch **Steve Dancz** in concert at the Variety Playhouse. Dancz, born and raised in Athens, Ga., has composed and conducted musical scores for television ("Designing Women") and motion pictures. The Atlanta concert is a release party for his new CD, "Promised Land." Proceeds will benefit AID Atlanta. Dancz has a history of benefit performances. In 1991 he performed in Athens in a benefit for the homeless.

The concert begins at 8pm. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations.



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Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Dec. 24th at 11:00 p.m.

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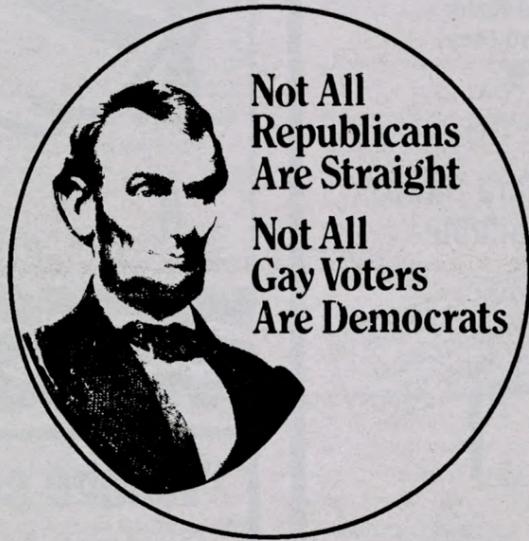
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A be a Homo?: Regular readers know that Dish has issues with folks who use the words "Republican" and "gay/lesbian/queer" in the same breath. It's not that we don't understand what the GOP is trying to do—we did, after all, live in Buckhead, wear plaid polyester pants, and vote for every Republican candidate that we could...until we came out. Then there simply was no choice; we just could not figure out how to be greedy and worried about survival all at the same time! But we continue to get mail from homo Republican groups bemoaning the need for queers and Republicans to get over their phobias about each other. And until now, we just have not understood. But here comes Gore Vidal (in a recent issue of QW) and tells us that he is "fairly convinced" that Abraham Lincoln had an affair with a man named Joshua Sneed. Vidal says the two exchanged "very romantic" letters. This news sheds a different light on things. Mayhaps those who call themselves gay Republicans have an unresolved father fetish for Abe and that big stovepipe hat of his. Yes, we know this excludes (at least most) lesbians, but then Dish *really* doesn't understand a woman (of any sexual orientation) calling herself a Republican!

A Call For Members: Dish recently received a fax announcing the formation of a new group called "Narrow, But Not Straight." (Could these also be Republicans?) The release states that the group has absolutely no relationship with "Straight, But Not Narrow" and goes into some detail about its principles: "We seek members whose beliefs are exclusive and narrow...; "...[therefore] we believe that the most progress can always be made by taking an oppositional stance;" "If you are tired of consensual bickering and inefficiency, then join us..." Unfortunately there was no contact number on the fax, but the group will hold an organizational meeting at 7:30pm, Wednesday, December 9, at the Peachtree Branch of the Atlanta Public Library, 1315 Peachtree St. Be there and be narrow.

Dish

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



Wonder Women: Get thee quickly to a December issue of Vanity Fair for one of the best photo layouts we've seen in some time. Annie Leibovitz' "A Few Good Women" features stunning images of 11 women who have made us laugh, cry and rejoice over the past year. Our faves: Anita Hill—looking very, very strong and unimpeachably honest. Paula Coughlin (she who broke silence on the Tailhook scandal)—looking very, very

butch. And Ann Richards—old, wise and tough as nails. In the same issue: A probing, saddening piece on Lane Bateman, the gay drama teacher at tony Phillips-Exeter Academy convicted on porn charges. A knock-out look at Candace Bergen. And an eye-catching ad for Banana Republic's boxer shorts.

Quote of the Week: "It was only after I found out that Bill Clinton had smoked dope *and* protested the war that I began to trust him." —Armistead Maupin at SAME's recent showing of the film "Armistead Maupin is a Man I Dreamt Up."

Headline of the Week: "How Safe is Our Meat?" directly under a story with the headline "Gay Sailor Reinstated in Navy."—In USA Today. Dish thinks the folks at Gannett need to do some research. "How Safe is Our Seafood?" would have been far more politically correct.

Idea of the Week: The Arts Festival of Atlanta has issued a call for artists of all stripes to participate in its 1993 festivities. At least one homo artist we know has suggested that '93 be "The Year of the Queer" at the Arts Fest and we agree. To receive a brochure chock full of info about how you might participate, call the Arts Festival office at 885-1125 and ask them to mail you a copy of their Visual Arts Prospectus.

Free for the Asking: Speaking of the war making appendages of our government, did you know that a copy of that famous study of queers in the service done last summer by the General Accounting Office can be yours free for the asking? Write to the US General Accounting Office, PO Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 and ask for GAO/NSIAD-92-98 and GAO/NSIAD-92-98S. The latter is a set of statistical tables that will warm the cockles of you anal retentive heart. For faster service, pick up the telly and dial 202/275-6241.

December 3 - December 9, 1992

STARSIGNS

With the election over and Mercury now direct, life may seem to be a little easier but don't be lulled into mental or spiritual complacency. We will have our hands full for the remainder of the century. The Full Moon on the 9th is a lunar eclipse, so stay centered!

ARIES, with the Sun moving through your 9th house of values, personal ideals and world perspective, you may benefit greatly from a long-distance journey to explore new horizons and cultures. You also might just meet Someone Very Interesting! Dear Sensitive **TAURUS**, others may not always recognize the depth of your feelings, maybe because you are sometimes slow to express your emotions. It will help others to understand and appreciate your depth, if you will be a little more open. **GEMINI**, with the Sun illuminating your 7th house of close personal relationships, you will be seeing a reflection of your own belief in yourself and your abilities. Walk away from anything negative that is arising from your own personality.

CANCER, a great deal of your personal security is related to your physical well-being, so don't ignore health issues. Do your

best to stay in good physical condition with regular exercise. Also a great time for your creative abilities to express and safe sex! **LEO**, this is a wonderful time for all fire signs to shine. With the Sun moving gracefully through your 5th house of creativity, passion and children, you may feel like indulging in a more playful approach to life. Find more ways to have fun. **VIRGO**, financial issues may be on your mind right now, especially if you have had to over-extend your credit line. Not to worry, but instead rely on your enormous personal resourcefulness. You will always find a way through the forest.

LIBRA, with the Sun shining in your 3rd house of communication and Venus in your 4th house of home, parents and current family, this is a wonderful time to mend fences and lead the way for those you love to forgive and get on with life. **SCORPIO**, if you are faced with a difficult decision having to do with family, life at home or your parents, remember that you are amazingly

resourceful and have that wonderful ability to pull the rabbit out of the hat. But don't carry the whole load. Happy Birthday to you **SAGITTARIUS**! If your self-esteem is a little shaky, even though you are surrounded by folks who love and admire you, you may need to sit down in front of a mirror and have a very firm and positive talk with yourself. Do it!

CAPRICORN, your 12th house of dreams, visions and the collective unconscious is being activated by the Sun right now, so your dream life may be spilling over into your daily life. Pay close attention to recurring themes and trust your instincts more. **AQUARIUS**, with the Sun shining in your 11th house of community activities and social causes, this is the perfect time to be actively involved with your favorite charity or effort for social change. Bring all your charm and diplomatic ability to the front lines. **PISCES**, your life may be a little intense with this lunar eclipse highlighting your 4th house of home and 10th of career and vocation. Not a good time to leave your job or make a major career change, but do up-date your goals and have some fun.

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.

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

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CONFUSED? BEWILDERED?

Just pretty Much Absolutely uncertain?

Then,

WHY NOT EMPLOY THE LABORATORY-TESTED, 4-STEP, GUARANTEED, ETHAN GREEN METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE SEXUAL PREFERENCE OF YOUR NEW Boss...

STEP ONE: OBSERVE THE LITTLE THINGS CAREFULLY...

- DOES HE SQUARE THINGS OFF ON HIS DESK?...
- DOES HE EAT CAESAR SALADS AT LUNCH?..
- DOES HE HAVE FRAMED PICTURES OF PETS ON HIS DESK?
- DOES HE BRING A GYM BAG TO WORK?...

STEP TWO: SURVEILLANCE...

FOLLOW HIM ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON. WATCH CAREFULLY TO SEE IF HE APPEARS IN TRENDIER NEIGHBORHOODS CARRYING CRATE + BARREL PACKAGES...

GIRLFRIEND: HOW'R WE DOING? HI HANQUE, I'D LIKE A CAPUCINO AND SOME LOBSTER BISQUE.

(FRIENDLINESS WITH THE WAITSTAFF IS A GOOD SIGN)

STEP THREE: GO OUT ON A LIMB...

VOLUNTEER TO STAY LATE HELPING HIM WORK ON THAT SPECIAL PROJECT...

Y'KNOW ETHAN, I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR STAYING AND HELPING ME OUT TONITE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITH OUT YOU.

NO PROBLEM, DOUG.

WOW, I'M REALLY BEAT...

STEP FOUR: MENTION HIS SHOULDERS LOOK A BIT TIGHT...

UM... DOUG?... WANT A MASSAGE?...

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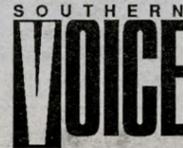
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Marietta: 2225 Cobb Pkwy • 955-2722

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Next to Plaza Theatre on Ponce • 872-4539

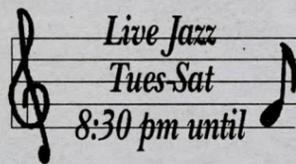
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Since my snit about the California Pizza Kitchen a few weeks ago, more than a few folks have told me just how much they also dislike this homogenized attempt at trendoid dining too. Several also suggested that I try the new menu at the original **Rocky's Brick Oven Pizza** (1770 Peachtree St. 876-1111).

It's been some years since I've eaten at the original Rocky's—which I liked when it first opened...and when I lived within a reasonable commute—so I've visited twice in the past week.

The new menu features 30 varieties of pasta—divided into chicken, seafood, vegetarian, and traditional categories—all (save one) priced at \$9.50, as well as 15 varieties of pizza, seven salads and a smattering of calzones. If variety is truly the spice of life, then this should be one lively dining establishment.

And it is.

With its red candles, red and green lights, and entertaining mix of Italian oompah and opera emanating from the sound system, Rocky's feels, sounds and looks as if it were a decades-old eatery buried somewhere in the center of Long Island. The servers are got up in nuevo-Sicilian drag and sport a distinctly urban set of styles and hairdo's. The crowd is mostly families and dating couples, with an occasional table of queers thrown in for spice. Most everybody appears to be having fun, and the feeling is infectious. Think of it as Buckhead-goes-slumming.

For my money, one of the best salads in the city is Rocky's house offering—a mixture of lettuce, onions, peppers (roasted and not), artichoke hearts, and croutons topped with a simple balsamic vinegar/olive oil dressing. While I'd prefer some mustard in the dressing to tie all the flavors and textures together a bit more, the \$5.95 price for a "small" one (which easily serves three) makes me forget my quibbles.

Also decent—though not as interesting and priced at a buck more—is the very cheesy Caesar salad.

The potato Rudolph Valentino remains my fave pizza here. The thin, crisp Neapolitan crust is topped with an almost minimalist looking scattering of potatoes, fresh rosemary and paper-thin curls of prosciutto, but the flavors are writ large—a world class complement of sweet, tart, and salty. The topping is already oily, but an additional slug of herb-infused, extra virgin olive oil from the bottle on the table makes this one major fantasy food.

A large pie costs \$15 and easily serves three unless you are ravenous. Add two bucks for the salad and \$3 for a glass of very '50s, sweet-strong red wine and you've got a knock-down good \$10 dinner.

Truth is, Rudolph V. is so good that it's the only pizza I regularly order here. But if the idea of potatoes and dough doesn't float your boat, order any of the pies based on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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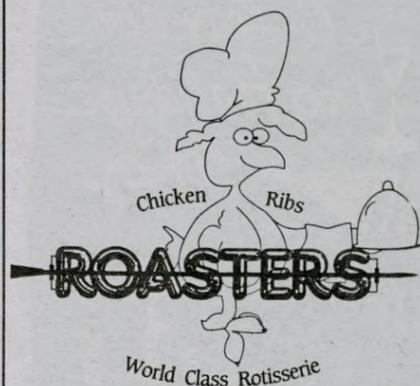
Tuesday, Dec. 1 Gallus Celebrity Bartenders serving Christmas spirits w/Mr. & Mrs. Claus	Wednesday, Dec. 2 Spaghetti Night at Opus 1, Mrs. B's, Phoenix, Frank's Place, Buddies (Cheshire)	Thursday, Dec. 3 Mrs. B's Project Open Hand Turnabout-Special Guest Pool Sluts
Friday, Dec. 4 Country Homecoming Christmas Show at The Metro	Saturday, Dec. 5 Burkhart's Hunk Action	Sunday, Dec. 6 Bulldogs Balloon Lift
Monday, Dec. 7 Velvet —Photos with Santa's Dancing Elves	Tuesday, Dec. 8 Crazy Ray'z —Comedy Christmas Show	Wednesday, Dec. 9 Peg & Danny Christmas Caroling meet at Gallus 9:30 pm
Thursday, Dec. 10 Heretic —X-mas Leather Show & Fashions	Friday, Dec. 11 Backstreet —Mickey Day's Memorial Christmas Show with Big Ruby hosting	Saturday, Dec. 12 Blake's —Holiday Taste of Gay Atlanta

Sunday, December 13

Danny's 3rd Annual Lighting of the tree

at the *Gallus*

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Plantation Heights Shopping Center
2770 Lenox Road
237-1122

EAT
A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

onion, garlic, mozzarella (or gorgonzola) and olive oil. Avoid those that rely on Rocky's rather ordinary red sauce or you'll likely be unhappy.

Based on five samplings, the same advice probably holds true for pasta offerings.

Far and away the least amusing noodle dish that we sampled was a big plate of spaghetti with Italian sausage. The latter was well flavored with a nice balance of fennel, pepper and (not greasy) meat, but its texture was almost objectionably grainy. The marinara is just this side of boring, with a distinct tomato-pasty sharpness.

The same sauce is a little more successful over a huge order of ricotta and spinach stuffed shells. A big melted glob of Rocky's excellent homemade mozzarella helps add dimension and balance.

The menu offers a number of pastas sauced with various ingredients and sauteed "plumadori" tomatoes. While I haven't tried any, my guess is they would outperform the marinara-based selections by a mile.

On a brighter note, a casserole dish of rigatoni mixed with fresh spinach and topped with four kinds of cheese and unctuously mild balsamic vinegar sent me swooning on one visit, but pissed me off on another when the noodles were burned on the edges and still cool in the middle.

As with most pastas, the serving was huge, so I took half home and reheated it with some more fresh, sauteed spinach added. Yum!

Ricotta- and Parmesan-filled ravioli in a mild, creamy pesto are near-perfect comfort food after a hard day at work. But New Zealand green lip mussels (pretty and tasty though they are) have no relationship to the peppery garlic, lemon, wine sauce that comes with them and a bed of firm, fresh-tasting linguini. Better to head up the road to Peachtree Battle and chow down on an order of domestic mussels (in an elegant, heady marinara) at Broadway Danny's.

Which brings up an interesting comparison. Most of the pasta dishes at Danny's are less expensive than at Rocky's, but the variety is smaller, and the sports-bar-like atmosphere is no where near as comfortable as Rocky's. Consumers would be well served if the operators of both restaurants emulated the better parts of their competitor's stores.

Somehow, pasta and a salad and a glass of that funny retro red wine at Rocky's doesn't hold the same charm as the same combo with pizza. And it costs \$5 more. But there are still 25 kinds of pasta that I haven't tried—a real challenge to anyone who lusts for noodles as much as I do.

Is this really what you want?



I don't think so.

EATING OUT

Your complete guide to restaurants



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—Creative Loafing Reader's Poll

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O U T L I N E S

DOYLE HENSON

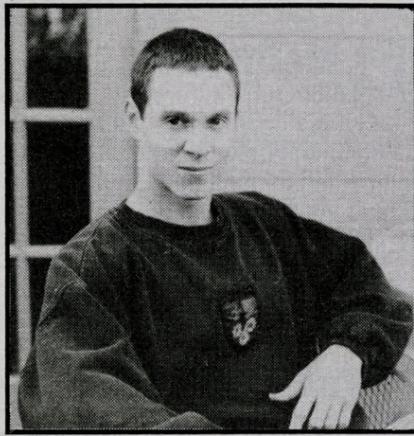
Age: 27

How long in Atlanta: 7 years

Relationship status: single and ready

Last book read: "Sex" by Madonna

Pet peeve: Bigots and gay Republicans



With Doyle Henson spirituality is a way of life, a philosophy that saved him from an abyss of drug addiction and alcoholism. He is friendly and forthright as well about his HIV+ status. Doyle remarks matter-of-factly that "being positive has been the best thing that has ever happened in my life."

"Some people might think that I have really lost touch—that I'm in some kind of ultra denial. I won't let HIV become this big cloud over my entire life," he explains. Doyle uses an arsenal of metaphysical weapons against HIV, from meditating and visualization, to his own version of spiritual healing. "It's been three years," he states proudly, "since my diagnosis and I haven't had any health problems."

On the evening of the interview, Doyle was drinking a strawberry smoothie and was dressed for working out at his favorite gym. His physique is compact and powerful, and it's hard to believe that he once abused his body almost to the point of death.

"When I moved to Atlanta, drugs were and unfortunately still are a part of the gay culture, and were readily available. And I was promiscuous, trying to sleep with as many handsome men as I could so I kept going further into drug addiction and all the stuff that went with it. And sex was this slamming aggressive non-loving power trip rather than being about tenderness."

After getting out of the "worst relationship of his life," Doyle ended up broke and living out of his car. "I went through my withdrawal in the back seat."

Though his conversion was not immediate, he met Bill Lowe (of Tula Art Gallery fame) about two years ago and they became friends. In conversation one day Bill told Doyle that his (Doyle's) lifestyle was interfering with the vibration of goodness in his being from within and without. "It was this incredible revelation and it wasn't so complicated that it took days to sink in. It just hit me right then and there that he was right." Doyle has been clean and sober since that conversation.

Doyle jokes about the size of the town he grew up in. "Lizella, Georgia was, and is, so small that when RuPaul decided to find one of the most remote places in the Southeast to make a film, he came to Lizella."

But other matters about his childhood were not so laughable. "My parents converted to Jehovah's Witnesses when I was seven," he remembers. "Many people don't realize what a strict religion it is. There are no holidays, birthdays or celebrations. There was one good aspect however," Doyle says with a smile, "it taught me to stand up in the face of adversity—you try going door to door when you're seven years old!"

There were dysfunctional parts as well to the puzzle of Doyle's childhood. "My father was an alcoholic and still is, and he was abusive—mentally mostly but a couple of times physically—when he was sober. When he was drunk he was your best friend."

Doyle knew he was gay from a very young age. "I was the one in elementary school that everyone would pick on." In high school though he says he was ambivalent. "I was into the whole bathroom sex scene." Doyle attended Georgia College in Milledgeville for one year before coming to Atlanta. "I was outed by an angry redneck classmate one day, and the odd thing about it is, he is tres gay now and lives in Atlanta." Though Doyle was maintaining good grades he found college life too difficult because of the small town atmosphere and moved to Atlanta.

It would be incompatible with Doyle's openness if he wasn't out to everyone in his family. "I told my parents when I was eighteen. They were better about it than most parents from small Southern towns. I'm kind of in your face about this kind of stuff, so I guess they didn't have a choice."

Currently Doyle is managing a frame shop in Buckhead. He lives in a lovingly restored Virginia Highlands home and shares the house with his owner, who has also been Doyle's roommate for four years. Doyle is a Madonna worshipper, and has a lifesize cut-out of her in his room. "I admire her attitude—it's all summed up in 'Express Yourself,'" he adds.

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O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

AIDS Organizations

AID Atlanta—872-0600
AIDS Education/Services for Minorities—POB 87277, Atlanta, 30337, 762-6002
AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991
AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide).
AIDS Legal Project—688-5433
AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317
AIDSCHAIM—Edie, 642-3467
Atlanta Buyers Club—(404) 874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357.
Childkind—936-9655
First MCC AIDS Ministry—872-2246
Georgia AIDS Therapy Information Network—1-800-551-2728
The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—633-0634
National Assn of People With AIDS/Atlanta—874-7926
The Names Project/Atlanta—605-7386
Outreach, Inc.—(404) 346-3922
People's United Pet Support—370-0178
Pets Are Loving Support (P.A.L.S.)—876-PALS
Positive Outlook On Health—872-9954
Project Open Hand Atlanta—525-4620

Arts/Entertainment

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—872-4432
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—627-7830
"Funny...That Way"—875-2275
Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc.—609-9590
Southern Country Atlanta—938-0609

Bars

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280
Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786
Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895
Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655
Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477
Crazy Ray's—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052
Frank's Place—778 N. Highland. 881-0259
Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983
Goodies—64 Third St. 873-3355
The Heretic—2069 Cheshire Bridge. 325-3061
Incognito—857 Collier Rd. 355-5189
Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
The Metro—48 6th Street. 874-9869
New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247
Opus—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055
Petrus—1150 Peachtree St. 873-6700
Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961
Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712
Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

Direct Action/Political

ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201
ACT UP—874-6782 (O)
Catalyst—(404) 776-1478
Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—605-7477
Gay Republicans—Republicans for Individual Freedoms, 2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339
Georgia Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—(404) 662-4199 or POB 5282, Atlanta 30307
GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628
Human Rights Campaign Fund—Field Committee, 231-5751
L.A.B.I.A. (Lesbians Against Battering In Atlanta)—822-9570
LEGAL—605-7476
National Association of People with AIDS Hotline—874-7926
National Organization for Women—875-0176
Neighbors Network—874-5171
Queer Nation—605-7396
Straight But Not Narrow—242-2256 (voice mail)
STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line—605-STOP

Professional

Bar Owner's Assn—POB 15114, Atlanta 30333-0114
Fourth Tuesday—662-4353
Georgia Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251
HomeGirls—622-0105
LEAGUE (Employees of AT&T)—404/872-2359
Nat'l Federation of Career Women—(404) 659-0315
OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)

Spiritual

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154
Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—409-0203
Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350
Congregation Bet Haverim—642-3467
First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta—872-2246
Gay & Lesbian Mormons—570-2561 (dig. page)
Integrity (Episcopal)—642-3183
Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta—636-7109

Oakhurst Presbyterian Church—378-6284
Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—373-5830
Unitarian Universalists—634-5134 or George at 688-2242

Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME
Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—SASE to: GANG, POB 7546, Atlanta 30357
Hotlanta Soccer—876-7372
Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
Lambda Car Club—POB 941263, Atlanta 30341
S.E. Gay Rodeo Association—POB 7881, Atlanta, 30357, 760-8126
Women's Rugby—659-6916 or 761-8939
TRICKS Bridge Club—2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339
Underwater Escapes—289-0696

Service/Support/Social

African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—239-8184 (voice mail)
American Educational Gender Info Service—POB 33724, Decatur 30033, (404) 939-0244 (evenings).
Asians & Friends—Atlanta—262-3375
Athens Lesbian Information Line—(404) 613-7661
Atlanta Corporal Punishment Club—Box 11863, Atlanta 30355
Atlanta Couples Together—365-2455
Atlanta Gay Center—876-5372
Atlanta Lambda Community Center—POB 15180, Atlanta 30333, 662-9010
Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Comm—662-4533
Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance—POB 5502, Atlanta 30307, phone 378-9769
Atlanta Lesbian Singles Organization (ALSO)—843-4492
Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016
Black and White Men Together—892-BWMT
Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
Chrysalis Women's Center—881-6300
Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
Emotions Anonymous—872-0979
First Women—Write G.G. Richardson, POB 724711, Atl. 30339, phone 612-9473.
Friends Atlanta—662-4501
Gay Fathers of Atlanta—296-8369
Gay Help Line—6pm-11pm 892-0661
Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America—623-4099

Gay/Lesbian Task Force to the Public Safety Comm. of City Council—330-6504
Georgia Girth & Mirth—POX 9678, Atlanta 30319, (404) 621-5710

Georgia Lesbian Ecofeminists—525-9085
The Group—892-0661
Gwinnett Lambda—POB 464848, Lawrenceville 30246, 871-GAYS

Hospitality Atlanta—627-0520
Interact of Atlanta—804-1477
KO-Existence—875-8936
Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262
Leather S/M Discussion Group—873-2453
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous—325-4909
Lesbian Support Group—627-7387
Lesbians and Gays with Children—633-1325
Lesbians Over 50—850-1005
Lesbians With Children—740-1729
Men of Little 5 Points—POB 5425, Atlanta 30307
Name the Violence—370-1317
Out Youth—POB 78401, Atlanta 30357, 239-9286 (no calls after 10pm)
Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)—892-5868
Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—296-0830 or 875-9440
Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Athens—(706) 208-1704

Queer Youth—P.O. Box 54032, Atlanta 30308; 605-7396
Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048
Single Lesbians Group—466-3287
Support Group for Battered Gay Partners—(404) 873-9832 (staff counselor)
Uniformed Services Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206

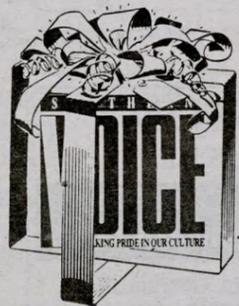
Women In Kahoots—(WINK) 438-1421
Women of Wisdom—723-1112, or write POB 451065, Atlanta 30345-1065.
Wordsmith Society—Chris at 498-0137
Young Adult Support Group—876-5372
Zami—908-3356

Students/Alumni

Agnes Scott Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance—Box 501, Decatur 30030; 373-1632
Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—727-6692
Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Comm. College 426-8160
Georgia Tech Gay Alumni Group—POB 50291, GA Tech Sta., Atlanta 30332; 873-2263
Georgia Tech Gay & Lesbian Alliance—497-0684
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Student Union of the Univ. of Ga.—POB 2438 Athens 30612-0438 or call 404/549-9368
S.E. Alternative Lifestyles Association—248-9307
Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479 or 284-1347

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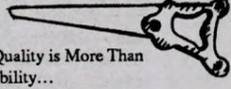
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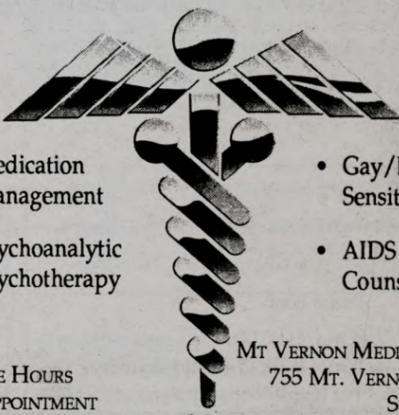
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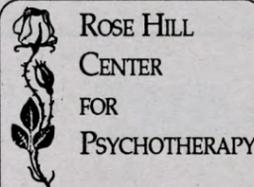


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- Canine Showcase, Anselly Mall
- Chapter 11 Books, Anselly Mall
- Crazy Rayz, 1492 Piedmont
- E.D.'s Gourmet Records, 1510 Piedmont
- Funny Business, Anselly Mall
- Laundry Lounge, Anselly Mall
- Mail Boxes Etc., 1579 Monroe
- Morningside Chase, 1445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

AVONDALE ESTATES

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

BUCKHEAD

- Bill's Health Market, Lindbergh Plaza
- Book Warehouse, 3097 Piedmont Rd.
- Cafe Intermezzo, 1865 Peachtree St. (Box)
- Catering Specialties, 1863 Peachtree St.
- Coco Loco, 2625 Sidney Marcus Blvd
- Expressway Bowling Lns, 1936 Piedmont Rd.
- Garden Hills Cinema, 2835 Peachtree Rd.
- McDonald's, 2929 Peachtree Rd. (Box)
- Oxford Books, 360 Pharr Rd.
- Oxford Books, 2345 Peachtree Rd.
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- 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)
- The Pear Garden, 111 Luckie St.

GRANT PARK

- Adams Realty, 460 Cherokee Ave. (Box)
- Arts Exchange, 750 Kalb St.
- La Grace, 562 Boulevard S.E.
- Moreland Tavern, 1196 Moreland SE

LENOX

- Lenox MARTA Station (Box)
- Roasters, 2770 Lenox Rd.
- Tower Records, Around Lenox

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 Cong, 470 Candler Park Dr.
- Johnny's Pizza Cafe, 467 Highland
- L5P Community Center, 1803 Austin Ave.
- L5P 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, Towne Center Oaks
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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.
- Cafe Mythology, 1140 Crescent Ave.
- Caremark, 1031 Juniper 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
- LaBamba, 1139 W. Peachtree St.
- 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

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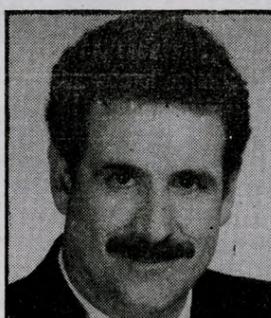
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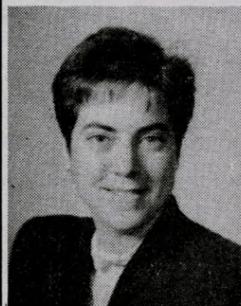


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Attractive GWF with chronic fatigue syndrome seeking same for walks, picnics, books, friendship & life in the slow lane. ☎ 1113

Pretty GBF seeks loving counterpart. Should enjoy books, classic jazz, cards, outdoor activities. Should detest drugs, alcohol, Madonna, cigarettes. ☎ 1099

GWF, 28, professional, well-educated, cultured, refined, feminine, attractive, seeks sophisticated, feminine GWF who possesses good values for friendship / monogamous relationship. We'll share sports, travel, theater, dining. ☎ 1106

GWF Couple (27, 26) seek other GWF couples for platonic friendships for movies, dinner, going out, etc. Please call ☎ 1094

GWF, 22, responsible, educated, crazy, wide-open, kind-hearted. New to GA. Looking for similar new buddies. P.S. - Having dance withdrawals. ☎ 1102

GWM flight attendant seeks GWF airline employee to marry my lover for flight privileges ONLY. Will reciprocate—Let's talk! (Preferably AAL) Please write to SV Box #1310, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.41)

Lifting weights is not the only thing this GBF has the arms for. Feminine smile and gentle touch needed. ☎ 1097

GBF, Floridian: Quiet, sensitive, cerebral, professional, avid reader, traveler. Into New Age thought. Seeking like-minded sisters for correspondence / friendship. ☎ 1093

Cute, feminine, GWF, 26, educated, motivated, professional, energetic, somewhat wild and wacky, seeks kindred spirits. No drugs or butch. ☎ 1024

GWF, 28, intelligent, feminine, attractive non-smoker who lives near Asheville, North Carolina. Loves outdoors and romance. Seeks girlfriend for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 1018

GWF, femme, 25, w/Syr. old daughter seeks GFs for friendship. The rest is destiny's call. Call me today! ☎ 1026

GWF seeks attractive, romantic lesbian over 30 for relationship. ☎ 1028

GF seeks fun, intelligent, good looking female for friendship, possible relationship. Me: 5'8", 150 lbs and a good catch. ☎ 1075

Youthful GWF, mature BiWF seeking differently pleased females for role-playing, fantasy. Instructions for beginners. POB 620021, Atlanta, GA 30362. ☎ 1074

30 year old GBF looking for 30 & up GBF. No drugs and no drinking. ☎ 1023

GWF, 35, fem seeking GWF with SUPERIOR intelligence, satirical wit, conversational skills. BUTCH OK! MUST HAVE A BRAIN TO RESPOND. ☎ 1081

GW Feminine, Latin Lover. Sexy, 5'7", 125lbs - 30 something. Independent, strong. Funny. You—tall blonde feminine - 30 something - opposites attract! ☎ 1029

Fem GWF, 22, into politics as well as old-fashioned romance. Seeking butch for possible relationship. TRAY ☎ 1022

MARRIAGE

GWM, 27, seeks GWF for marriage of convenience. Would father child if you desire. Former Olympian. Degree sports administration. ☎ 1076

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? ☎ 1025

Very attractive, feminine GWF, 31, professional, non-smoker who loves the arts, travel and theatre seeking same for fun or possible relationship. ☎ 1021

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. ☎ 1017

GF with interstitial cystitis wants to meet other G females with interstitial cystitis to form support group. Confidentiality assured. ☎ 1015

Pretty GBF, 25, 5'5", 120 lbs, very affectionate. Seeks gay fem female who's intelligent and serious about a friendship / relationship. ☎ 1013

GWF, 30, lonely, heart broken, seeking GWF for friendship, possible relationship. No more games. Honest, serious. Loves outdoors, movies and more. ☎ 1002

GBF, 22 looking for GF's between 21 & 30. For friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 1014

F musician seeks others (M/F) for new band. Blues / Rock / Folk / Country. No pop. It scares me. ☎ 1011

MEN

S College '87-'89, GBM, 24, 5'7", masculine, Christian, chemically free, outdoorsy, into fitness, versatile, romantic, monogamous. Seeking similar my age. SV Box 1312, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.44)

MB 25, 6', 170 lbs, new to town seeks other males 21-35 for friendship. Interested? Leave msg. ☎ 1112

Good looking, fun, passive HIV+ man, new to Atlanta wants safe kink (bondage, spanking, etc.). Also into local music scene. ☎ 1114

GWM, 36, HIV+, healthy, discreet, masculine, submissive seeks BM top for friendship, fun, weekends in Atlanta. POB 928, Athens 30603. ☎ 1109

Latino GWM, 24, 6', sincere, good personality, seeks secure male for friendship—possible relationship, race unimportant. Healthy, no fems please. ☎ 1108

No bullshit white man. Healthy, 41, 6'2", 220 uncut top. Wants safe fun with oral and butch bottom men. Like 18-32, short hair, buzz cuts, country, semi-redneck, or students. Blondes, reds, big plus, but not required. Box 13793, Atlanta 30324. (5.43)

GWM, 35, 6', 165, versatile, seeks single masculine hairy GWM over 6' for friendship & poss. relationship. No head games. ☎ 1110

Are you out there? GWM, 29, seeks honest, caring GBM (21-40) Prince Charming. I want my happily ever after. ☎ 1111

GWM, 50; seeks younger, mature, masculine, non-smoking GWM/GAM who appreciates the companionship of an older gentleman for possible relationship. ☎ 1103

Submissive, GWM 48, eager, willing, ready to serve. Seeks aggressive, strict, well built, top, dominant with small fist. Call soon!! ☎ 1104

WM, 34, attractive, well built, masculine, with strong intellectual curiosity seeks that same combination in someone else, 27-38. ☎ 1107

GWM, 34, 5'8", 160lb., BR/BL. Goodlooking, athletic, muscular. Cultured, well-educated, stable, masculine, romantic, adventurous. Seeks same in mature GWM 30-45. ☎ 1100

Novice GWM Slave Boy, short, cute, lean, muscular, hairy, 35. Seeks light training from Muscular Daddy, GWM, HIV-, smoke/drug free. ☎ 1105

GBM, 31, 6, 195, stocky seeks WM 18-20 to watch videos, concerts, safe fun. P.O. Box 174, 461 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta 30308. (5.41)

BiWM 6'4" 260lbs, 34, looking for sports-minded BM masc. (TOP) discreet to handle it. ☎ 1091

GWM, 29, attractive, 5'5", 132lbs, BRN/BRN, beard, moustache, hairy. Seeks attractive 6'+, 30's, non-smoking GWM for relationship. ☎ 1092

WM, masculine, 6'3", 185 lbs., 43, HIV-, closeted, seeks only similar, masculine, HIV-, hung, WM for private regular mutual satisfaction. ☎ 1098

GWM, 37, BL/Blue, attractive, intelligent, healthy, passionate, masculine, trim, muscular, hairy, long "married" and horny. Seeks attractive, daytime top buddy. ☎ 1096

GWM, 25, 5'3", 135, br/bl, looking for hot safe times with 35 or younger top. PR, Latino, Oriental preferred. ☎ 1095

GWM, 41, 5'11", 165, BR/BL, romantic, relationship oriented, looking for long term relationship with caring, down-to-earth WM, 26-32. Call ☎ 1080

GWM, 5'8", 160#, healthy, professional, generous, seeks lunch partner and afternoon relaxations. ☎ 1082

GWM, 29, 5'11", 170, BR/BL. Attractive, receding, honest, monogamous. Seeks safe, romantic, fit, smooth WM around same age. Possibly permanent relationship. ☎ 1084

Attractive GWM, 33, with boyish good looks, in great shape, seeks young, handsome, hunky GBM for hot times and friendship. ☎ 1090

GWM, 50; apiarist, aviculturist, herbalist, horticulturist; humble, meek, healthy seeks masculine, aggressive partner to share simple country life (handicapped welcome). ☎ 1089

GWM 38, 170, 6', clean cut daddy type. Work out. Seeks 25-40 for submissive relationship, non-smoker, HIV neg. ☎ 1087

White male bottom looking for top man, any race or age for daytime get-togethers—very discreet. ☎ 1086

GWM, 30, country music lover eager to learn C&W dance, needs partner, teacher, new friends. Interested? Please respond. ☎ 1079

Above average, masculine GWM, 40 seeks similar attractive and sincere GWM 25-40 for relationship. POB 550183, Atlanta, 30355. ☎ 1083

GWM, 37, 6'2", 200, smooth uncut seeks hairy bearded guy 30-40 for friendship or more. Smoker OK. ☎ 1085

Wrestlers wanted by athletic WM 5'11", 190#. ☎ 1068

GWM, 25, honest, sincere, looking for GWM 28-35 for good times, possible friendship leading to solid relationship. ☎ 1065

Tom from Atlanta, visiting Washington DC Thursday, August 6: sorry you had prior commitment. When will you return? Harry. ☎ 1064

GWM, 39, handsome, professional, masculine, healthy, in shape, hairy, horny. Seeks attractive top for discrete, safe daytime fun & friendship. ☎ 1067

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. ☎ 1066

GWM, 26, college student, 6'0", 165 lbs, muscular, clean-cut, looking for wealthy WM for fun and excitement, any age, weight. ☎ 1060

GWCM, 23, seeks non-smoking GWCM 18-30 with a genuine love for life and laughter to help paint "picket fences." ☎ 1078

GBM, 5'9" - 196 lbs. seeks top GBM for honest, serious friendship and or relationship. Serious persons please. ☎ 1077

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. ☎ 1062

GBM, 36, 6'4", 185#; Top seeks tall and/or fat GWM into GR; welcome bald, beards, gray, hirsute, big feet. ☎ 1055

GBM, 35, Ph.D., honest, sincere, professional, financially secure, aggressive, seeks GWM, Italian, Hispanic with similar qualities. Let's talk / get acquainted. ☎ 1050

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. ☎ 1049

GWM, 30, 5'9", BL/BL, 170, looking for my "thirtysomething." Call VOICEbox for address or leave message. ☎ 1061

GWM, 32, 5'11", 165, HIV neg, short black hair, dark eyed top man needs light hair blued eyed bottom boy. ☎ 1059

WM, 29, 6ft, 175, Bruce Willis type, DIS-CREET, closeted, seeks long, monogamous relationship with same. Henry, Rockdale areas. ☎ 1058

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GWM, 20; attractive, non-stereotypical, passionate, relationship-oriented, W.G.C. student seeks cute, young GWM student 18-22 for friendship or more. ☎ 1056

Masculine, attractive GWM, 31, 6'1", 185# seeks masculine black male for fun & possible relationship. ☎ 1053

Attractive, fit, professional GWM couple 26/38. Seek adventurous, imaginative, submissive, in shape guys into discipline, bondage, leather, servicing. Curious, inexperienced OK. ☎ 1047

GWM, 31, 155, Br/Br, handsome, well-adjusted, hopeless romantic seeks swell guy (18-35) for relationship. ☎ 1046

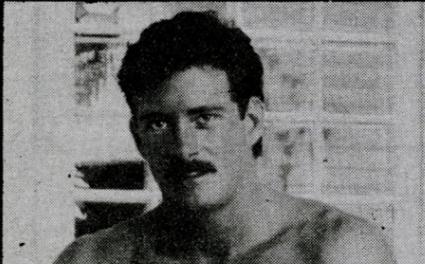
GWM, 29, Professional, nice-looking, HIV positive, is interested in meeting similar professional guys for friendship or possible relationship. ☎ 1052

WM, 31, 6'3", 230 lbs, professional, enjoys local music scene, movies, Braves, concerts, wants to meet intelligent non-stereotypical friends. ☎ 1045

Asians, Blacks, Hispanics! Mature WM, hot, fun, physical, more. Beginners welcome. ☎ 1043

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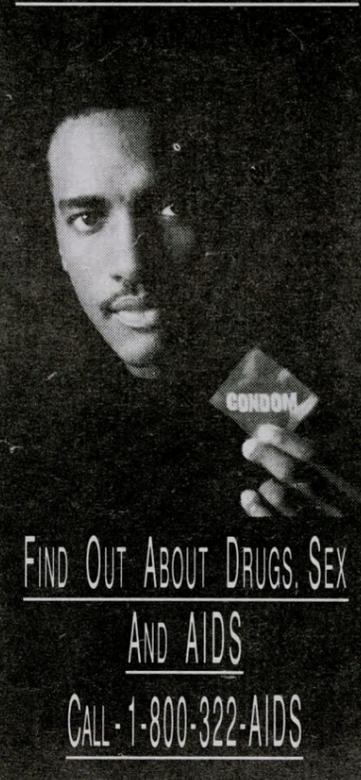
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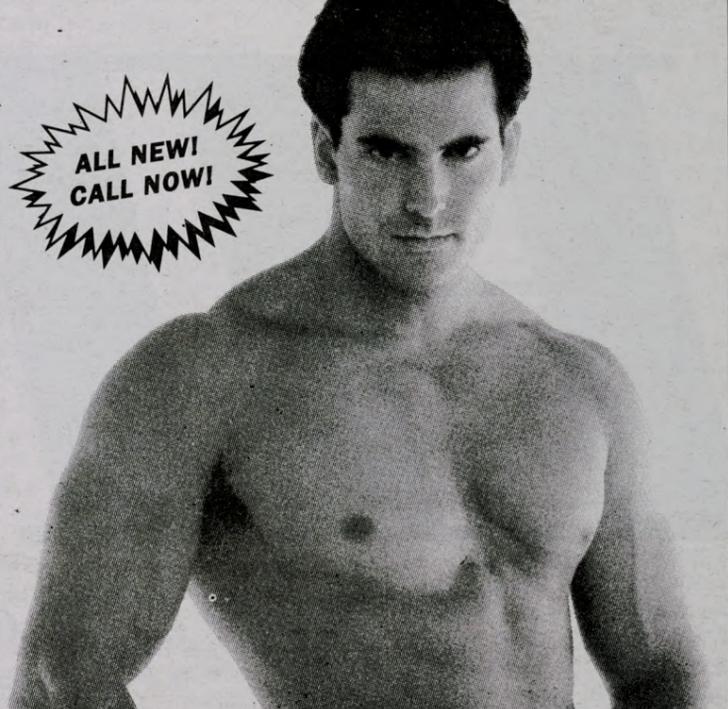
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Military gays say lifting ban won't prompt coming out

Washington, DC (AP)—If President-elect Clinton lifts the ban on gays in the military, many gays and lesbians already in uniform say they will heave a collective sigh of relief and get back to work.

What they won't do is declare their homosexuality.

"It will not change my day-to-day life at all," said a gay Navy lieutenant who recently came off active duty and is a reservist. "However, I'll be completely relieved because I love the Navy... This would be one less hindrance to me just wanting to be able to serve my country."

"The people I want to know already know," said a naval petty officer who also is gay. "I don't think anyone's really going to come out of the closet."

The lieutenant and the petty officer, like everyone else interviewed for this story, insisted on anonymity.

A lesbian Army reservist whose partner is on active duty said she hopes many gays in uniform do come out—even though she said she and her partner won't.

"If the ban is lifted and no one comes out, gee, it's all for nothing," she said.

During his presidential campaign, Clinton said he would issue an executive order ending the 50-year-old policy. He has reiterated that promise since the election, despite warnings from top military men that the action would be disastrous for the services.

Pentagon policy states that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service" and that the presence of gays in the military impedes "discipline, good order and morale."

No one knows how many gay people are serving in uniform. About 14,000 men and women have been kicked out of the services during the past 10 years for being gay.

The Associated Press interviewed a cross-section of gay and lesbian soldiers, sailors and airmen to learn how they feel about Clinton's promise and the controversy that has been raging since he made it.

Those who spoke insisted not only on anonymity but that their locations be omitted. Several would talk only on phones away from their base, fearing their calls could be monitored.

"For most people, myself included, the issue is not whether or not you can come out, whether or not you want to, but whether or not it should be a point of concern," said a gay



A hat and a rainbow flag left at the Viet Nam Memorial on Veteran's Day acknowledging the presence of military gays and lesbians during the Viet Nam war.

Marine aviator. "Just like religion, politics and what your favorite baseball team is, your sexual preference has no place at work."

An Air Force officer who is a lesbian agreed, adding, "There are other things besides the military that give people reasons not to come out—like family."

Most said they have been watching the debate with a mixture of optimism, worry and anger. They are hopeful that the pressure to lie will disappear if the ban is lifted. But they are disgusted by some of the arguments by some top military brass who support the prohibition.

Gen. Colin Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. Gordon Sullivan, the Army Chief of Staff, have said the presence of gays would interfere with heterosexual troops' right to privacy. Some former military leaders have said it might become necessary to separate troops not only by sex but by sexual orientation.

But gay members of the military who talked to the AP scoffed at that argument.

"They make a big deal, like there are 20 guys in one shower," the Marine aviator said. "There aren't anymore... On all the ships, except in very extreme circumstances, the bathing arrangements are private."

One lesbian who spent more than four years as an Army counselor and is now in the reserves, said the only time she didn't have privacy was during boot camp.

"There were 60 people in a huge room. No one was going to do anything there," she said.

And the Air Force officer, who has served extensively overseas, said she rarely saw communal bathrooms.

"What's the difference between a college dorm of women and a barracks in the military—and they survive," she said.

Sen. Sam Nunn (D-GA) who reportedly is on Clinton's list of potential defense secretaries, has argued that open gays in the military would become targets for harassment or violence.

That may be true, the gay members of the military said, but the military has the power to stop such behavior.

"The leadership has the capability to make this either its worst nightmare or a relatively minor bump in the road," the Marine flyer said. "It all comes down to whether the leadership supports it as it should—with a vengeance."

"The military is capable of doing anything it chooses to do," the counselor said. "If they want to correct this issue and enforce it, they can do it. If they choose not to, they won't. And that's the bottom line."

KIM I. MILLS

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