

S O U T H E R N

# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

DEC 17 - DEC 23 / 1992

## Make the Yuletide Gay!

Southern Voice Holiday Gift Guide has ideas for everyone on your list to make this holiday the gayest ever

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VOLUME 5 / NUMBER 43 PLEASE RECYCLE 75c WHERE SOLD



## Clinton endorses Lighting of Tree

*Annual Atlanta holiday event honors memory of those dead from AIDS, benefits Project Open Hand*

Atlanta—Hundreds of people gathered on 6th Street on Sunday night for Danny's Lighting of the Tree at the Gallus, an annual holiday event honoring the memory of people who have died of AIDS. The event, benefiting Project Open Hand, raised \$15,000—\$5,000 over the goal.

But this year, along with the usual array of community leaders and activists, entertainers and politicians, those who attended the lighting heard newly elected state Sen. Ron Slotin read a letter from President-elect Bill Clinton.

Clinton was responding to a request from "Light Up The Night" Board member Earl W. Moon that he come to Atlanta to throw the switch on the tree. Clinton was unable to attend, but sent the letter (see sidebar) instead. The Gallus's Danny Donohoe was thrilled.

"I'm so excited," he said. "It means we have an administration that's going to fight AIDS. He said it in the letter. And that last paragraph—it made me cry. It's wonderful. This is Christmas."

Donohoe said that a letter from the next president of the United States was a far cry from the lack of attention from the previous administration.

"It puts a star on the tree lighting," he said, "makes people realize that there is hope, that there is compassion in the world, especially when there are politicians like this sincerely helping with the cause."

Clinton, who officially resigned as Governor of Arkansas on Dec. 12 and was elected president by the electoral college on Dec. 14, has pledged to further research and education on AIDS during his administration. He has also promised to appoint an "AIDS czar" who will oversee the country's efforts against the disease.

On World AIDS Day (Dec. 1), Clinton released a statement from Little Rock saying that he would work to bring the country together around the issue.

"For too long, America and the world have faced this epidemic divided and frightened," he said. "Today we must all pledge to work together on the research and prevention programs that will make the AIDS epidemic a part of our past."

BILL CLINTON

P.O. Box 615

Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

December 13, 1992

To the gathering at  
 Danny's Lighting of the Tree:

Throughout the year all Americans have a special duty to help those who are less fortunate than themselves. During this holiday season that duty is increased.

During the campaign that Hillary and I just finished the problems AIDS causes in our society were impressed on us in many personal and vivid ways. As Governor of Arkansas my administration worked to stop the misery AIDS causes the people who live with it daily.

As President I will have a special responsibility to help stop the continuing growth of HIV in our nation. I will fulfill that responsibility. We must continue to educate our nation on how to avoid becoming infected. Research into this deadly virus and how to eradicate it will increase. Just as important as research and education we must deliver services that help ease the burden that people living with HIV and AIDS face each day. We will also help the companions, parents, and loved ones of those brave PWAs.

Hillary and I wish that we could be with you and the chairpersons of your event in Atlanta, Danny Donohoe and my friend Councilwoman Myrtle Davis. Georgia, Atlanta and its people are very special to us.

Hillary and I join you in honoring Project Open Hand for the selfless contribution it makes daily. The preparing and delivering of meals to people with AIDS who cannot help themselves is of utmost importance.

I commend the gay and lesbian community of Atlanta for the fine work you are doing tonight. The gay community has taught all of us about kindness, caring and compassion during its fight against AIDS. I have learned from your fight. Your fight will be mine as your President.

We wish you a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,  
 Bill

## Sex ed opponents fear "homosexual agenda"

Marietta (AP)—Opponents of a committee's report turned out in force to criticize changes recommended in Georgia's sex education curriculum, including a plan to teach fourth-graders about AIDS.

Supporters had their say too as more than 200 people offered testimony Dec. 7 at a seven-hour public hearing conducted by a panel of the state board of education.

The board is reviewing recommendations by a com-

mittee appointed by Gov. Zell Miller.

The proposed changes set off a storm of debate. The department of education has been swamped with letters and phone calls, mostly from people who say the proposed changes promote premarital sex and homosexuality.

"The fundamentalists turned out in mass," said ACT UP/Atlanta's Mona Bennett, who attended the hearing

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12

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## Gay/lesbian lobbyist will be on floor of GA General Assembly this year

*Larry Pellegrini is the first such lobbyist named in Georgia*

Atlanta—Larry Pellegrini has been chosen as the state's first lobbyist for gay and lesbian issues by the Georgia Political Action Committee (GAPAC).

Pellegrini's job will include lobbying the Georgia legislature on all issues that impact the gay and lesbian community except AIDS.

"We're saying AIDS is not a gay exclusive issue," explains Ed Stencil, President of GAPAC. "Larry will be used in a peripheral way on that issue, but the Georgia AIDS



Larry Pellegrini was named by GAPAC as the state's first lobbyist for gay and lesbian issues

Coalition will have their own lobbyist at the Capitol this year."

Pellegrini, who is President of the Gay/Lesbian chapter of the Georgia ACLU, says he understands the tough job that he faces, but feels up to the challenge. "Our work is cut out for us in every arena," he observes. "But I feel we as a community have to be involved in all the things that affect our lives, and politics has one of the most profound affects on us."

Some of the issues Pellegrini anticipates lobbying for are hate crimes legislation, reproductive rights for women, sodomy reform, health care delivery and other civil rights issues including changing the Georgia flag.

Stencil says GAPAC has been considering adding a gay and lesbian issues lobbyist for some time, but this year felt right.

"There is a compelling need for such a lobbyist. There are so many different issues that are vital to the way we live here in Georgia," Stencil points out. "There is a growing sense in the community that we must be heard."

Stencil and Pellegrini both say they hope having a lobbyist at the Legislature will spur community involvement and interest in the form of volunteers and financial contributions to help the cause.

Pellegrini, who has already gotten acquainted with quite a few of the legislators, says dealing with some of the new, more conservative members of the law making body will not be easy. But, he says, the gay and lesbian community can learn a valuable lesson from them.

"They were groomed for these positions by the fundamentalist movement," he notes, "and they worked hard for what they wanted and got it. We should do the same."

CANDACE CHELLEW

## D.C. Council votes to keep sodomy law

Washington, DC (AP)—The District of Columbia City Council decided against repealing the city's sodomy law during a meeting that was disrupted by shouts and jeers from gay-rights protesters.

Council members deadlocked 5-5 Dec. 1 in the first vote on the law in more than a decade.

The law forbids sodomy between consenting adults. Leaders of Washington's gay community have called it a violation of the constitutional right to privacy.

"The times have changed, and this archaic law ought to be changed," said Councilman Jack Evans, who led the effort to scrap the law. "A significant part of the city believes that its fundamental civil rights are being violated."

But several council members who said they supported the repeal accused Evans of ignoring standard council procedures and trying to change the law without committee meetings or public hearings. They said he was rushing to respond to political threats from the large number of gay residents in Ward 2, the area he represents.

"I'm absolutely shocked by those who are willing to do it this way," Councilman John Ray said. "For those of you who want to sink to legislation through intimidation, fine. I'm not."

As the lawmakers angrily debated the issue, gay-rights activists began jeering them. Council Chairman John Wilson or-

dered D.C. police to remove three protesters from the council chamber, including Deacon Maccubbin, owner of Lambda Rising bookstores and long-time Democratic gay activist.

"You're a disgrace," he shouted at Councilmember Hilda Mason, a senior socialist who uncharacteristically reneged on a pledge to support passage.

"You lie," he screamed. "You're lying to the people!"

Protests against the law intensified this year after D.C. police raided a gay social club and arrested 14 people on sodomy charges. The charges were later dropped, and City Administrator Robert L. Mallett told police the law generally should not be enforced against consenting adults.

Gay rights activists have said the law should nevertheless be repealed, because it helps foster animosity against gays and lesbians.

After the vote, some activists accused some council members of betrayal.

"They flimflammed us," said Mindy Daniels, president of the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance. "This is a direct affront to the entire gay and lesbian community."

The council voted to repeal the sodomy law in the late 1970s, but conservative lawmakers in Congress had the decision overturned.

Another vote is possible next year after the council reshuffles its leadership and swears in several new council members.



Queer Nation/D.C. members Michael Petrelis (right) and Stephen Smith.

## Queer Nation/D.C. holds kiss-in at Georgia Senator Sam Nunn's office

Washington, D.C.—Nearly a dozen Queer Nation/D.C. chapter members and supporters staged a kiss-in at the office of Senator Sam Nunn on December 7 to protest his firing of two gay staffers and opposition to ending the Pentagon's ban on homosexual servicemembers.

The Georgia Democrat's staff cooperated, allowing the gay militants and media to take over his foyer, but have not set a personal meeting with their boss.

QN members and at least one national gay rights group based here urged that Nunn not be named to a key cabinet post in the Clinton administration. Another national group was blasted for withholding news of Nunn's firings.

Joining Queer Nation at the noon political soiree were activists from Gay and Lesbian Activists' Alliance (GLAA) and planners of April's March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Rights.

A lone homophobic dissident disrupted the otherwise peaceful protest by shouting anti-gay epithets in the hallway. He was challenged by one vocal GLAA member and ejected by Capitol police, who let gay protesters, all male, exchange kisses.

The direct action occurred as the American Psychological Association convened a day-long summit of 33 mainstream and gay groups to ease implementation of the military ban's repeal. No date has been set for release of details of their transition proposal.

Nunn, Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has acknowledged that he terminated two gay men in 1981 and '82, saying that the Central Intelligence Agency and Department of Defense feared that homosexuals were security risks.

The senator, considered a possible Secretary of Defense or State under the new president, has openly expressed opposition to Bill Clinton's pledge to lift the Pentagon's ban on gay men and lesbians in the armed forces.

"If Sam Nunn's name is on the short list for Secretary of Defense," said Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "we hope it's stricken. What he did was loathsome and discriminatory."

Both ex-employees, Greg Baldwin and Ralph White, have disclosed details of their

termination. One—Baldwin—praised Nunn's handling of his firing, while White was critical of the senator.

Prior to the kiss-in, QN members had an hour-long meeting with Nunn staffers to push their demand that the senator co-sponsor an amendment adding gays to civil rights laws and end his opposition to the military's ban.

The activists were not totally pleased by winning a meeting, however. "We made one small step forward," said QN member Michael Petrelis. "But we were unable to get a commitment on [Nunn's] opposition to gays in the military."

"We want one now, in writing," the activist demanded at a crowded hallway press conference.

While staffers did not rule out an in-person meeting with Senator Nunn, "they weren't too crazy about the kiss-in," he said.

Gay men were allowed to smooch inside the senator's reception area and the Dirksen Building hallway.

Homosexuality is "an abomination," shouted a man of apparent Jamaican descent, who refused to identify himself.

"That's what The Bible says!"

Countered GLAA's Rick Rosendall, a federal employee and Washington Blade columnist, "Read the U.S. Constitution."

"Listen to the President-elect. He said [America] belongs to everybody, [that] we don't have one person to waste."

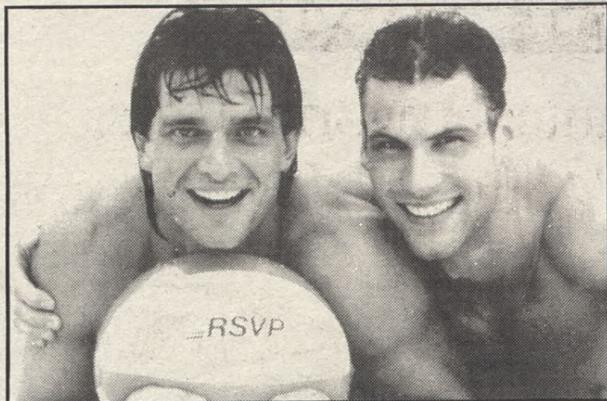
Petrelis and QN's Stephen Smith of D.C.'s new Cannabis Buyer's Club for people living with AIDS, kissed each other, declining to join the aural foray.

Senator Nunn, who was out of town, has said he employs gay workers who do not require security clearances.

"Gay receptionists are not good enough," said Petrelis. "Let them handle classified information."

JOHN ZEH

*To tell Senator Nunn that homophobia is unacceptable, and to ask him to support President-elect Clinton's commitment to lift the military ban on gays, call (202) 224-3521 from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. until noon on Saturdays. Or leave a message on the answering machine at any hour.*



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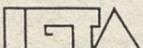
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## Miami Beach passes gay rights law

*Miami Beach, FL (AP)*—City commissioners approved a gay-rights ordinance, the first in Dade County since a crusading Anita Bryant led opposition that overturned a similar county-wide law 15 years ago.

"Our community is pronouncing loud and clear that there is no room in our city for bigotry," commissioner Abe Resnick said last Wednesday. "Hopefully, other communities are going to follow our measure, opening their minds and eyes."

The ordinance forbids employers and landlords to discriminate based on race, religion, sex, family status, age or sexual orientation.

After commissioners passed it unanimously, a crowd of observers leapt to their feet and cheered.

Supporters of the ordinance say it not only bans discrimination against gay people, but acknowledges them as an integral part of Miami Beach.

"It recognizes that the so-called gay and lesbian community is contributing and intends

to contribute in the future," said Beach attorney Mike Finesilver, a former state prosecutor.

Exempt from the new law are religious institutions, small businesses and small apartment buildings with resident landlords.

Bob Skidell, who ran for mayor of Miami Beach last year and was a key player in the Bryant's 1977 "Save Our Children" campaign, denounced the measure as one designed to give gays the right to "flaunt their sexual conduct."

"This ordinance, in effect, is to legitimize the homosexual presence in our community by forcing child-care centers, youth centers, theaters, arts and recreation facilities and apartment buildings to open their doors to homosexual role models," Skidell told commissioners.

Miami Beach moved to protect its gay residents as other communities are attacking gay rights laws.

## Tampa beginning to feel economic pinch from repealing gay rights law

*Tampa, FL (AP)*—With one conference canceled and another in jeopardy, tourism officials are concerned that last month's vote to repeal Tampa's gay rights law is taking a toll on the city's economy.

Organizers for the national Catholic Campus Ministers Association canceled a 1994 regional meeting in Tampa following the Nov. 3 referendum that overturned a controversial sexual orientation amendment, said Mary Lou Janson, spokeswoman for the Tampa-Hillsborough Convention and Visitors Association.

The meeting could have brought as many as 300 people and been worth about \$100,000 to the hotel, said Lynn Axt, a hotel marketing executive.

Joanne Sullivan, a Catholic nun who helped organize the meeting, said the group is opposed to discrimination in any form. "We couldn't, in good conscience, support a city that was going against what we believe in," she said.

It didn't matter, Sullivan said, that Bishop John Favalora of the St. Petersburg diocese supported repeal. The group is now considering holding its meeting in Miami, she said.

Tourism officials are even more concerned about the possible loss of the GALA Festival, an annual gathering by the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses scheduled for the Tampa Convention Center in 1996.

Jim Clark, executive director of the visitors bureau, estimated the festival could bring \$3.5-million to the city. "We put a lot of time and effort into booking that and we'd like to keep it," he said.

The president of the chorus association plans to announce next week whether it will boycott Tampa, said Mark Puig, executive director of the Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus.

The association is based in Denver and is considering moving to another state, Puig said.

Puig said the boycott is not his idea. "I want them to come despite the vote. It would be an educational opportunity. We could make a big statement by coming. Martin Luther King didn't stay out of the South. He marched in Selma."

Clark said it would be unfair to boycott Tampa when other cities haven't even considered adopting anti-discrimination measures covering gays and lesbians. "At least we

brought it out and talked about it," he said.

Officials are particularly concerned that a boycott of Colorado, which has banned measures outlawing discrimination against gays and lesbians, will spread to Tampa.

## Duke president urges Clinton to rescind military ban

*Durham, NC*—Duke University President H. Keith Brodie has urged President-elect Bill Clinton to move ahead with his plan to rescind Defense Department regulations barring gays from serving in the armed forces.

In a letter to Clinton dated Nov. 23, Brodie praised Clinton for "the principled position that you have taken in opposition to discrimination in the armed forces."

"I understand that many thoughtful people, both in the military and outside of it, are urging you to go slowly in rescinding the discriminatory regulations barring homosexuals from serving in our armed forces," Brodie said. "While I can appreciate the sincerity of those who make this argument, I am also struck by the similarities between it and the arguments that were made to President Truman when he indicated he intended to issue an executive order to prohibit discrimination against blacks in the military," Brodie said.

Brodie urged Clinton to take action on Jan. 20, when he will be inaugurated, to rescind the directive and ask the Department of Defense to produce a plan to implement the change "within some appropriately short term."

## Asheville plans community center

*Asheville, NC*—Asheville's gay and lesbian community is about to get a community center, reports Community Connections, a gay monthly. The Asheville Gay and Lesbian Community Council has culminated three years of work on the center by signing a lease on a building, to be opened in January 1993.

The Council intends to use the center for meetings and support services for the community, and is soliciting ideas from the community at large for its use. To help, or for information, write: Asheville Gay and Lesbian Community Council 129½ Biltmore Ave., Asheville, NC 28801.

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**Shoppers Protest Lack Of Gay Rights Legislation:**

A group of Rhode Island shoppers spent more than \$10,000 in Massachusetts last weekend to protest the state's not having gay civil rights legislation. "It's just to remind people in the state that we don't have our rights; rights that everyone else has taken for granted," Julian Pell, a spokeswoman for the Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, said. She said the alliance was urging people to shop in Connecticut and Massachusetts this year because those two states are among seven that have passed laws to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

**NJ Tries to Stamp Out Hate:** Bias crimes would become a civil offense, and victims would have the opportunity to sue their attackers for damages, under terms of a bill that has been sent to New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio. The proposed law would subject anyone charged in criminal court with purposely intimidating a person or group because of race, color, religion, handicap, sexual orientation, gender, or ethnicity to a civil lawsuit for injury or property damages. And Gov. Florio has launched a statewide campaign to "stamp out hate" in the Garden State.

**OR County Gives Go-Ahead To Domestic Partner Coverage:** Despite outspoken opposition from many of those in attendance, Multnomah County, Oregon commissioners voted unanimously to grant medical coverage to the unmarried domestic partners of non-union employees. The county is the first Oregon public agency to offer medical coverage to unmarried and gay couples. "This is good public policy and good personnel policy," said Jeanne Goodrich, the county's deputy director of libraries. "The most expensive way to provide medical coverage is by not providing coverage."

**Secret Service Not Laughing At Columnist's "Joke" Threat:** The U.S. Secret Service wasn't laughing when a gay radio advice columnist joked he'd "kill" Bill Clinton if the President failed to follow through on his promise to end the ban on gays in the military. Dan Savage, on KNDD-FM in Seattle, said his tone certainly didn't suggest he was serious about doing harm to Clinton. "This is hysterical," he said. "Bill Clinton is the only president I've ever voted for who's won. I love Bill Clinton. I want to have his babies."

**Castro Center May Not Become A Reality:** Dreams of a community center at the Castro in San Francisco are fading, according to the San Francisco Independent. A committee of Supervisors has been working since the summer to find a community based tenant for a building that became available, but so far the group has come up empty. "We're not giving up hope that we'll find someone to take over the building," said John Wood, co-chair of the Advisory Committee for Usage of 400 Castro Street, the task force formed by the supervisors. The bank originally set a Nov. 17 deadline for the group, but has extended that deadline a month.



**Activist burns BankAmericard in protest of their support of the Boy Scouts of America.**

conduct governing Sheriff's Department personnel will be amended to specifically forbid prejudice or harassment based on sexual orientation.

**Albany, NY Passes Gay Rights Ordinance:** The city of Albany, NY, has passed a human rights bill that includes protections for gays and lesbians. "It's an understatement that this is the most emotional issue we've ever had," said Harold Greenstein, one of two aldermen who were undecided but voted for the measure. "I feel discrimination is wrong and un-American. If I have to make an error in judgment, I want to make it on the side of tolerance over intolerance." Alderman Keith St. John, the first openly gay black elected official in the country, sponsored the bill, which makes it illegal to discriminate in jobs, housing or public places. It exempts religious groups.

**Minneapolis Must Pay Damages to Three Lesbian Employees:** Three library employees in Minneapolis were awarded more than \$90,000 in damages after a civil rights panel ruled that the city discriminated against them by not providing health insurance for their lesbian partners. Ann DeGroot, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council, called the ruling "a major breakthrough" in recognizing discrimination based on sexual orientation. The panel rejected the city's argument that providing the benefits would be too costly.

**Judge Orders Denver To Pay Sick Leave To Lesbian Who Cared For Her Lover:** A Denver District judge has order the Denver Career Service Board to pay a lesbian city employee for three days of sick leave she took to care for her seriously injured life partner. The city denied Mary Ross sick leave in 1990 and 1991 based on an "irrational" definition of immediate family, which includes spouses, parents, siblings and in-laws but excludes grandchildren, aunts and uncles as well as non-married lovers, Judge Richard Spriggs said. Denver's anti-gay discrimination law will be revoked when Colorado's Amendment 2 takes effect early next year, but the amendment will have no basis on this case since it was not in place when the board denied Ross the benefits.

**SF Supervisors Call For Moving Bank Of America Accounts:**

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has called for the city to remove its accounts from Bank of America because of that company's support of the Boy Scouts of America. The nonbinding resolution passed by the Supervisors urges the city to transfer accounts totalling about \$6 million. Bank of America originally said that it would pull support of the Boy Scouts because of BSA's anti-gay discrimination policy, but later reneged.

**Lesbian County Marshal Settles Suit Against Sheriff's Academy:**

A lesbian deputy county marshal settled her lawsuit against the San Diego Sheriff's Academy last week after Sheriff Jim Roache agreed to amend his department's rules of conduct. The suit was filed in Nov. 1991 by Laura Shands, who attended the academy in 1990. She claimed that the academy created an education environment that was "pervasively hostile" to gays. As part of the settlement, the rules of

conduct governing Sheriff's Department personnel will be amended to specifically forbid prejudice or harassment based on sexual orientation.

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## Dental tools must be heat sterilized to prevent HIV transmission, report says

A recent study reported on the HIV transmission risk involved with two routine dental tools commonly used by dentists if rigorous sterilization practices are not followed. The study and subsequent results was published in the November 21 issue of *The Lancet*, a British medical journal.

Researchers tested a dozen high-speed drills and 30 prophylaxis angles, used to clean and polish teeth, after they had been used on patients with HIV infection. Researchers reported that "in all cases" HIV particles were detected "trapped" inside the dental equipment and later blown out in simulated use. The researchers noted that the equipment had previously been chemically disinfected with a germicide. The report concluded that dentists should heat sterilize dental tools in an autoclave which utilizes steam heat, or use a combined chemical and heat disinfection procedure to virtually eliminate the risk of HIV infection between patients.

"HIV and the hepatitis B virus both escaped the typical chemical disinfection process," stated Dr. David Lewis, a microbiologist with the University of Georgia and lead researcher with the study. Another problem with germicidal disinfection of dental tools according to the researchers was that the equipment was lubricated with grease and oil which could prevent contact of the germicidal solution with the viral particles and other pathogens which may be present. "Heat, on the other hand, is effective against HIV and a range of other live viruses, including

Hepatitis B, which is considered a greater threat in the health care environment," added Lewis.

"I don't think people should be overly concerned at all because clearly dentists have been doing a good job sterilizing equipment, otherwise, we would have had a broadened epidemic—because we all go to the dentist," stated Dr. June Osborn, a virologist who chairs the National Commission on AIDS.

HIV viral particles on the flat external surfaces of the dental equipment is most easily killed by germicide solutions but virus particles in the crevices of the tools, according to the research report, could be shielded from the disinfectant by blood or tissue matter.

"The epidemiological surveys that have gone on clearly argue against there being a significant risk [of dental transmission] because there was only...one known case," stated Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and chief of the federal AIDS research effort. A survey last May by the American Dental Association among its 150,000 members showed 84% of the dentists and dental students surveyed used hand held devices which could tolerate heat sterilization. The American Dental Association recommended that patients seeking dental care alleviate their concerns with available educational material and ask their dentist what sterilization procedure he or she use to disinfect dental tools.

ARTURO JACKSON III

## Trials begin on drug to block HIV replication

Washington, DC—The AIDS Clinical Trials Group is beginning a study on a new drug that blocks replication of HIV by inhibiting a regulatory protein called tat. The study has begun at four sites—Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins, and the University of California at San Diego.

Preliminary studies have shown that the drug, Ro 24-7429, appears to hold HIV replication in cells already infected with HIV, not just prevent the initial infection of cells. Those studies also have shown that HIV may be less likely to develop resistance to Ro 24-7429 than to AZT, ddI and ddC.

The NIAID sponsored trial, ACTG 213, will enroll 96 men and women who are infected with HIV, are older than 12 years, and have not taken any antiretroviral therapy for 28 days prior to entering the study. The participants must have CD4 cell counts ranging from 50 to 500 cells per cubic millimeter of blood.

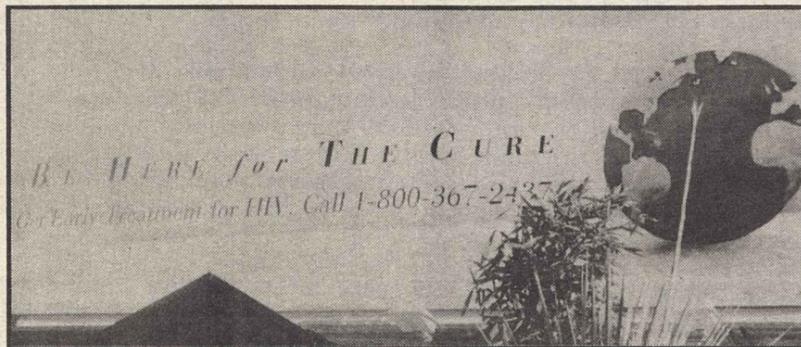
Investigators will compare four groups of 24 patients who will receive for 12 weeks either Ro 24-7429 or AZT or ddI. At the end of 12 weeks, physicians will give the highest tolerated dose of Ro-247429 to patients who received AZT or ddI. These patients will continue on AZT or ddI as well.

## Atlantan named to drug company's advisory board

Burroughs Wellcome Co. has appointed its 1992-93 HIV Community Advisory Board, including one Atlanta woman. The board will consult with the company on programs and issues related to HIV, serving as advocates and guiding the development of strategies that address service, and treatment needs.

Sandra McDonald, president of Outreach Inc. in Atlanta, joins nine other community advocates on the advisory board. McDonald founded Outreach as the first community-based organization in Georgia to provide AIDS awareness and prevention programs to the black community.

## New AIDS awareness campaign urges early treatment



San Francisco—Four of the leading AIDS service organizations in the country joined together to launch an AIDS awareness campaign urging people who are HIV positive to seek early care and treatment for HIV disease.

The community-based campaign is designed to urge that people who are HIV positive take all necessary steps to stay healthy. "Be Here for the Cure" was originally designed by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and debuted in that city in February 1992.

Wash., DC's Whitman Walker Clinic, the SF AIDS Foundation, AIDS Project Los Angeles and Seattle's Northwest AIDS Foundation are sponsoring the project.

## Aresenio produces AIDS video for teens

**Boston**—Before he finished producing a video on AIDS for teen-agers, talk show host Arsenio Hall says he, too, was unaware of many facts about the disease.

So he rounded up his celebrity friends to help get out the message to the MTV generation that they aren't immune from the AIDS crisis.

"If we can take on AIDS and HIV like it was World War II, we can beat this thing," Hall said a news conference last Sunday before a screening of "Time Out: The Truth about HIV, AIDS and You."

"I did it [made the video] to try to alleviate ignorance and realized I was ignorant myself about a lot of things," he said.

Local celebrities, politicians and sports stars joined Hall to promote the video. Magic Johnson, the former basketball star infected with the HIV virus, is host on the video.

Donnie Wahlberg of New Kids on the Block joined the likes of Gov. William F. Weld and Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., to call for more attention to AIDS by the nation's leaders.

"I'm not taking about getting up and making a little speech. I'm taking about sending money, allowing videos to be shown, allowing condoms in schools and nightclubs," Wahlberg said.

"I'm 23 years old right now and I'm in my sexual prime, and it's a shame that kids my age have to be so concerned about their life and growing up and having girlfriends and having sex," he said.

Also in attendance were Cam Neely of the Boston Bruins, Kevin McHale of the Boston Celtics and Larry Kessler of the AIDS Action Committee, who in honor of the season, held up a green-wrapped condom.

Emerson College and Hall sponsored a screening of the video at the Colonial Theatre in Boston for a mostly young audience of about 1,500 people.

Hall, who has been host of a late-night talk show since 1989, produced the video, which includes appearances by Paula Abdul, Tom Cruise and rap singer Sinbad, dressed as a condom.



Hall said he hoped the video taught responsibility without being preachy.

"One of the things I tried to do with the video was [to] be fun and entertaining and sneak a message in," he said.

The video is available at area video stores. Hall said he hoped to make it available through schools and public libraries as well.

Hall said the video tried to show how responsible condom use can be part of the total sexual experience. But he said he toned down some graphic elements to ensure that teens and their families would feel comfortable watching it together.

"I'm one of those people that believes that things must start in the home. I didn't learn my lessons in the street and I'm glad I didn't because I heard a lot of crazy stuff," Hall said. "My dad was a guy who sat me down and talked to me. My dad distributed my first condom to me."

Gov. Weld said, however, that "no amount of money and no assembly of celebrities can make people act wisely. Many new HIV cases, in fact most of them, arise from behavior that is avoidable."

STEPHANIE SCHOROW

## HIV vaccine trial is expanded

**Washington, DC**—An expanded clinical trial of an experimental vaccine to prevent HIV disease has begun in Seattle, Baltimore, St. Louis, Nashville and Rochester through the network of AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Units sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

The trial will employ two genetically engineered products based on gp120, one of HIV's envelope proteins. The goal is to gather extensive information about the safety and immune-stimulating ability of each preparation by testing both in a large and diverse population of uninfected people. An important aspect of the investigation will be to determine if host factors specific to different populations influence how the volunteers respond to each experimental vaccine.

"Ideally, a preventative vaccine will stimulate binding antibodies, neutralizing antibodies and/or cellular immune responses of sufficient intensity, duration and breadth to prevent the virus from causing disease," explains

Dr. Daniel Hoth, director of NIAID's Division of AIDS.

The study will recruit 330 volunteers ages 18 to 60 years old who test negative for the HIV infection by the standard HIV ELISA antibody test. All participants will be counseled to avoid behavior that puts them at risk for acquiring HIV. Anyone who becomes infected naturally during the trial will be carefully examined and given the option of switching to a separate study where the course of their disease will be monitored closely.

"We are pleased that progress in HIV vaccine research allows us to move these products into the first Phase II trial of prophylactic candidate HIV vaccines," said NIAID Director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci. "Because the trial seeks participation from a broad spectrum of uninfected people, we need the full support of all segments of the community affected by AIDS."

"We anticipate that this trial will generate valuable data for planning large-scale efficacy trials for those populations that will derive the greatest benefit from effective vaccines to prevent HIV infection," he continued.

## To place an obituary

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**AIDS AT THE CROSSROADS**

**Question Authority: A Tale of Two Patients**

The case of San Franciscan John Kuivenhoven got a fair amount of national media attention in early November. The way most press accounts described it, the situation was pretty simple: Kuivenhoven had been mistakenly told he had AIDS in 1986, when doctors at Kaiser Permanente, a major HMO, determined he had *pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia but did not bother to test for antibodies to HIV, the virus understood to cause AIDS.

For six years they treated him for AIDS, and though he suffered serious side effects from AZT and other medications, Kuivenhoven never questioned his doctors' judgment. Then, last June, he got a letter asking him to come in for tests because his T-cell count (a primary measure of the immune system damage characteristic of AIDS) was unusually high. The new tests showed that Kuivenhoven is in fact HIV-negative and that his six years of AIDS treatment had been a terrible mistake. Not surprisingly, he is suing.

The accounts that I've seen—including the Associated Press story used by many gay and lesbian papers—leave a lot of questions unanswered. For example, did no one bother to do a T-cell count on this guy before last June? If they didn't, then Kaiser is in fact guilty of almost unbelievable negligence: T-cell counts have been a standard part of HIV/AIDS care since the early days of the epidemic, and when Kuivenhoven's ordeal began AZT was recommended only for those with advanced disease, generally meaning a T-cell count of 200 or below. And if T-cell tests were done and the numbers were normal, why wasn't this discussed with the patient, who was apparently having a bad reaction to the AZT?

A jury will have to sort all this out, but if things are as they seem, Kuivenhoven's doctors may have been inexcusably inept.

But at the risk of seeming heartless, it must also be noted that this unhappy man, who told reporters, "I guess I'm like a lot of people who believe that doctors are like God," could have prevented this whole nightmare by simply asking a few questions. He may have felt safe being treated by a large, famous medical group in a city known as a center for AIDS research and care. But think how different Kuivenhoven's last six years might have been had he simply asked his doctor, "Just how badly damaged is my immune system? And how do you know for sure?" Had he behaved like an active consumer of medical care rather than a passive patient, he might well have been spared his ordeal.

Meanwhile, at about the time Kuivenhoven was finding out he might not have AIDS after all, a friend of mine was preparing to die. Michael Callen, well-known AIDS activist, writer and singer, has been battling Kaposi's sarcoma of the lungs, and the chemotherapy his doctors

had recommended was making him so sick that he'd decided it was no longer worth it: Better to stop the treatment and be able to get a little enjoyment out of whatever time he had left—even though he'd been told the chemo was the only way to keep his KS from slowly killing him.

But Michael isn't the type to just sit around in quiet acceptance of his doctor's dictum that his only choices were chemo or death. He started hunting for alternatives, and found his way into an experimental protocol involving shark cartilage. He and several other participants also added low-dose radiation therapy to the shark cartilage treatments.

For a full account you'll have to reach Michael's article in the November 15 issue of the New York weekly QW, but the bottom line is that he has had a near-miraculous regression of his KS. Although it is way too early to declare that a cure is at hand, enough others have had similar results that the doctors working on the shark cartilage study are hastily putting together a new trial to look at the combination of shark cartilage and radiation. And my friend who was preparing to die is very much back among the living.

While Michael was no doubt helped by the fact that he is about as well-connected in the AIDS world as one can be, there is a lesson here for anybody being treated for any serious illness, and also for the rest of us. The lesson, short and simple, is *question everything*.

For anyone receiving medical care, that means acting like a consumer—getting all the information you can on your own, asking questions, being sure you understand what's going on or making your doctor explain further if you don't. And if your doctor is annoyed by your asking so many questions, that's a good sign it's time to find another doctor.

That same attitude should apply to everything we hear about AIDS—from the government, from the research establishment, from the drug companies and especially from the media. No matter how well-intentioned any of these folks might be, they're not perfect—and they're looking after their own interests first, not ours.

Assume nothing. Put unquestioning faith in no one. Ask questions. John Kuivenhoven learned all of this the hard way; the rest of us shouldn't have to.

BRUCE MIRKEN

(Note: A new book, "HIV+: Working the System," by Robert A. Rimer and Michael A. Connolly, to be published in January by Alyson Publications, gives an excellent PWA's eye-view of many of these issues. It's a must read for anyone dealing with a life-threatening illness.)

## NEXT WEEK

## To Russia With Love.

A group of gay men and lesbians, including Rep. Barney Frank and Julie Dorf, director of the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, recently flew to Russia to seek the release of thousands of gay prisoners held for violations of sodomy laws. Dorf tells what she found there.

## The Ponce Corridor Association's lawsuit is dismissed in Fulton County Superior Court. Could it be the new Grady IDC can be built without interference?

VIEWPOINTS is intended to provide a continuing forum for the lesbian and gay community. We encourage you to share your ideas, comments and feelings on these pages.

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Submissions should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than two pages. We are happy to offer anonymity when letters are printed, but all submissions must be signed. Please also give us your phone number in case we have questions. We reserve the right to edit for space.

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SOUTHERN VOICE

## Fight for your right to party

Now is the time for all good gay men and lesbians to come to the aid of their party. That's right. Now is the time for galebis (a neologism compressing Gays, Lesbians & Bi-sexuals into one word) to form that party, the NATIONAL STONEWALL PARTY, throughout the United States. A party of our own to thwart the intolerance raging against us. A party to consolidate our votes to effect the preferred outcome in local, state, and national elections.

John Dos Passos writes: "In times of change and danger when there is a quicksand of fear under men's reasoning, a sense of continuity with generations gone before can stretch like a lifeline across the scary present." Our "continuity" reaches beyond millennia; more recently, 23 years back to the Stonewall uprising in New York City in June, 1969. The "scary present" will remain long after the euphoria over the Clinton election subsides. From Stonewall we drink at the font of courage to stand up for ourselves; in the "scary present" we remain ever vigilant for new incursions on much-deserved rights fairly won.

Galebis face danger in placing too much faith in the promises of a given candidate, even a successful candidate. Two such promises are currently etched on the national consciousness: Lifting the ban on galebis in the military and the appointment of an AIDS czar. Yes, they will come about in some form; likely not as quick nor as comprehensive as you might expect. Further, executive orders issued by one president can be rescinded by another, even overturned by Congress. If Bill Clinton is a one-term president and, worse, another Reagan-Bush type assumes office again in 1996, we're back to square one. And still unorganized.

Why another party? Why now? And why the NATIONAL STONEWALL PARTY?

Third parties are often dismissed as irrelevant; critics misjudging the party's success by the percent of votes their candidate won in the last election. In this country third parties have been the vehicle for independent

presidential ambitions: Roosevelt (Teddy), La Follette, the two Wallaces (Henry & George), Thurman, McCarthy, Anderson, & Perot. Successful parties are built from the bottom up; not from the top down.

Political wisdom has it that third parties will play an increasingly important role in the nation's politics by the turn of the century. Three reasons stand out: 1) widespread disenchantment in the much-touted sameness of the two major parties; 2) the possible fractioning (and/or takeover) of the Republican Party by the religious right; and 3) the changing role of the media and information technologies.

Election '92 was an end run around the established, orthodox media. Throw in the economic crisis and the fact that several polls indicating that more than fifty percent would welcome a new party and you have the recipe for radical change. We have the opportunity to be the largest and most effective of the third parties.

New parties often have start-up difficulties: a single idea seeking a constituency, failure to incorporate the mainstream, limited regional attraction: we have a very large

## GUEST EDITORIAL

constituency—a good ten percent of the electorate. And we are assimilated into the mainstream because we are the mainstream: From service workers at Wendy's to member of Congress, from Silicon Valley engineers to priests and nuns, clerks, waiters, secretaries, teachers, lawyers, doctors, and every other profession and management types. And we are not regional: while we are greater in number in certain cities we also inhabit every corner of this country.

Let us ride the winds of change, not be swept aside by them. Galebi politics has turned the corner. We are entering a new era. And our enemies force our attention to new areas: Colorado and Oregon. Soon to come are Ohio, Washington, Texas—maybe your state.

With 600,000 followers in 250 chapters from a base of 25,000 churches, and a well-financed war chest, our foes are well-orga-

nized. And, to quote a worker in the field campaign to defeat an anti-gay measure in Maine, the "gay community is not organized for this kind of fight nationally."

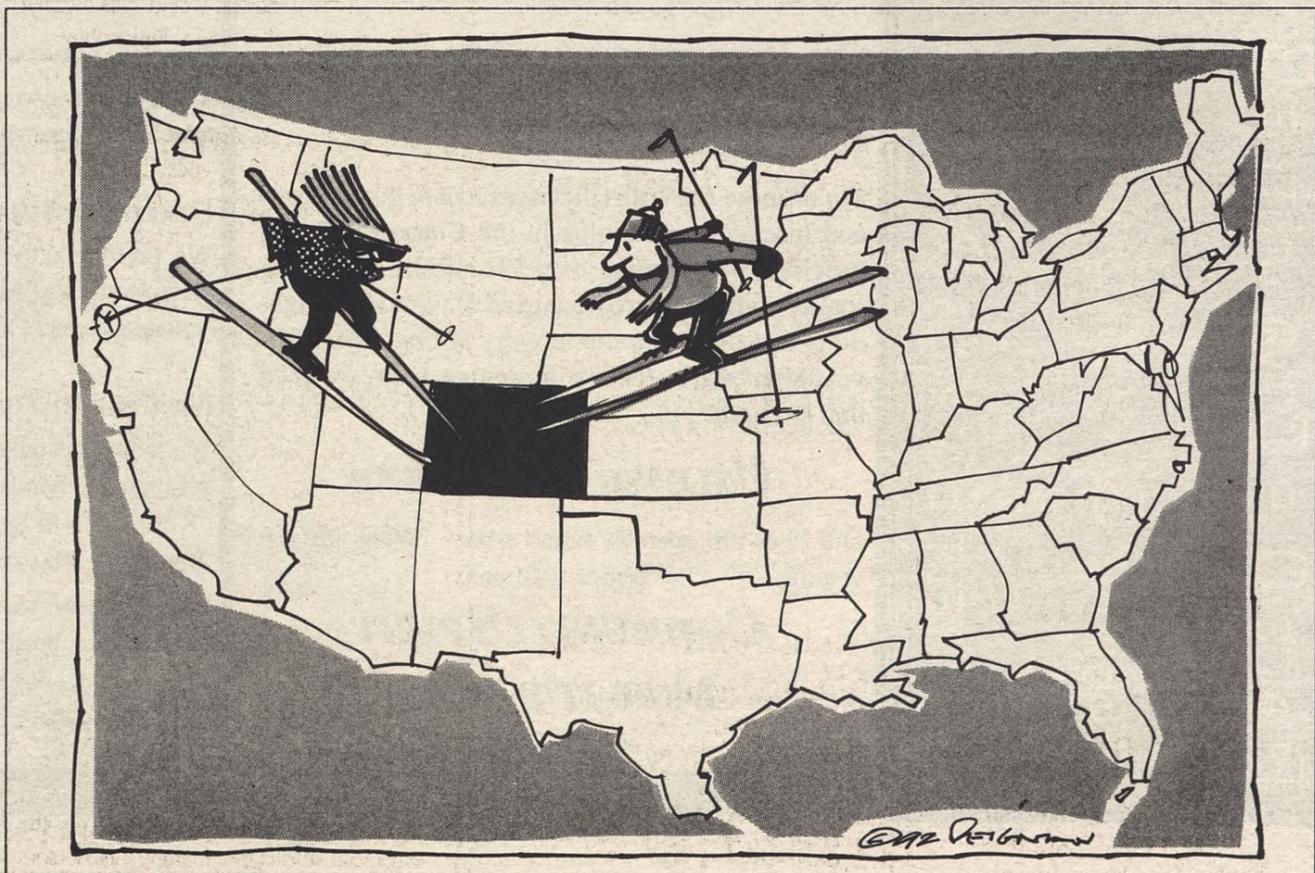
Despite defeats, the various facades of the Christian Coalition, vow to struggle on—their defeats, like the blood of martyrs, nurturing future efforts to redouble their activism. While the voices of hate continue unabated the voices of reason must be channelled into a single, united voice, a single national party to silence them at every turn. We will not be marginalized; we will not be re-closeted. We have taken to the streets for our lives; we now go united to the polls for our souls!

I do not presume to write a platform for the NATIONAL STONEWALL PARTY. That is our work together. We can, however, begin organizing now. The off-year elections tend to favor zealots with single-minded intentions because turnout is lower. 1994 is just around the corner. Perhaps we can piggyback on the April '93 March on Washington as a venue for getting together and large-scale party recruitment. The Gay Games '94 in New York City might serve as a site of a founding convention.

A closing word. Our youth is our great hope. We organize to bequeath them an ongoing party beholden to their needs, their safety, their continued freedom wherever they live. Jefferson felt that constitutional democracy can only survive if people are well-informed. Analogously, I submit that our freedom can only survive if we are well-organized to insure that freedom. In less than two years we celebrate twenty-five years of the Stonewall uprising. At 2019, a golden anniversary. Some young galebi reading this today could be the presidential candidate from the NATIONAL STONEWALL PARTY in the 2020 elections.

And who's to say that America won't wake up one fine morning to discover two First Ladies in the White House. Or two First Men. See you in Washington in April. Meanwhile, please write if you are interested in policy, party formation, and establishing local chapters at P.O. Box 423684, San Francisco, CA 94142.

DAN McDONALD



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SHELLY ROBERTS

## In the book

A funny thing happened to me on my way to the Miami International Book Fair a couple of weeks ago. Now that my book "The Dyke Detector" is finally a paper and ink reality, I found myself in a booth there learning—absolutely and positively—what it means to be an OUT lesbian. Not that you should be surprised by anything that happens if you write a book with a title that includes the "D" word and actually sign your own name to it. But this day was a reality check of the first order.

Due to some peculiarities in the scheduling system at the fair, my booth wasn't available on Saturday, the day that every literate lesbian in three counties showed up. Saturday was the day of the Lesbian Literature Panel. A first for the book fair, and much publicized. Blanche McCrary Boyd, Lillian Faderman, Jewel Gomez, and Diane Salvatore all talked about their books. Barbara Grier, co-founder of Naiad Press, talked about herself. And all the book-buying lesbians in the South talked about each other. It was a fine day. A fabulous day. A lovely lesbian day. It was, of course, not the day they gave me a booth for "The Dyke Detector."

(Roberts' Rules of the Universe: Rule Number One—Never look inside an eggroll. [West Coast Corollary—Never look inside a burrito.] Rule Number Two—If you have a book to promote to all the people who show up on Saturday, you will be scheduled on Sunday.)

To be fair to the Fair, they are good about getting booth space for local authors whose publishers aren't represented.

And I was duly grateful to be included. After all, with a title like "The Dyke Detector" they could only pretend so far that it was about the cartography of Holland drainage canals.

Anyway, there Judi and I were, at the busiest intersection of the book fair, with a big, can't possibly miss-it-if-you-tried, day-glo blue and red sign that said the book's title right out in capital letters in the middle of all the families who had chosen to spend their Sunday in literary pursuit. I didn't really expect to have to frisk the crowd for letter bombs. These are the Clinton 90s after all. But, gosh, I do try to underestimate the hatred potential in any crowd that doesn't include the Secret Service. Especially when it's the existence of my own, and my loved one's, continuously beating pulse I'm concerned with.

For entertainment value, I'd love to be able to tell you that they firebombed the booth, tarred and feathered us both, and ran us out of town on a rail. Well, I'd hate to have to tell you that, but it would be really exciting, don't you think? Instead, I have to report that it was almost an excruciatingly normal afternoon. I have to report it, because so many of you don't believe that it's possible yet. It's possible.

We thought it would be different at first though. The two young ladies who were squeezing fresh lemonade in the space next to ours—barely 20s, very straight—were very, very hostile. You could feel it in the negative ions floating between our booths. The hair went up on the back of my neck the way it does when you expect expletives. I knew they were upset. What I didn't know was that they were upset because they thought we had a homo-hate book. They actually thought that we were the radical right against "gay people." Understandable, sort of, since most of the straight world uses "dyke" as a swear word. So the ladies, see-

ing it on our sign, assumed that anything that used the word so blatantly must be an anti-. And they were ready to register their disapproval. Phew. Their attitude was as refreshing as their lemonade.

It was mostly like that all day. Oh, sure, there was one guy in his fifties who stopped at the booth, looked at the book, and, putting it back on its stand, commented, "Well, no thanks. But I do like to watch." We booted him to the next booth.

There were lots of families who came round the corner, saw the sign, and skirted the booths. But you knew that there were going to be discussions at home later that night. There were also teenage boys hoping for porno, and some moms with kids who eyeballed the display as though we might be contagious. But just as many answered their kids questions by saying, "Oh, that's about ladies who love each other. Want some lemonade?"

One couple shopped the set-up, and I, always poised to respond to the expected prejudice, had to do a real quick reversal when they pulled out a checkbook and asked me to autograph a copy to Bonnie, their friend who had moved to Colorado. "She's going to need all the support she can get now."

When the singular representative of the radical right, wearing—I'm not making this up—a sandwich board. (Something rhyming womb and tomb) passed by, she shouted "Judgement Day is coming!" I responded that I hoped she was ready. Which, I should have known better, triggered her into a stream of biblical invective that topped her decibel level and trailed on down the row. Usually, rather than engage the terminally couth-diminished, I just refer them to emergency clergy. But I responded, and gave her a platform.

Whatta surprise. Straight couples, straight single men, the few gay and lesbian people who hadn't gotten the Saturday lesbian memo, and book fair officials all made their way over to us. To be supportive. Really. To be encouraging. To cluck their tongues at the rude bad manners and diminished capacity of our detractor.

It was warming and encouraging. And, you know what? Maybe she was partially right. Maybe judgment day is already here. And the nice surprise is that we're not the ones being judged and found waiting.

And isn't that one for the books.

*Shelly Roberts is the author of The Dyke Detector: How To Tell the Real Lesbians From Ordinary People. She lives in Pompano Beach, Fla.*



## L E T T E R S

### None too happy with Nunn

To the Editor:

The officers, board of directors and members of LEGAL (Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians) wish to express our outrage regarding dismissal of several employees based solely upon their sexual orientation by Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia.

This dismissal confirms our doubts of Senator Nunn's ability to make sound, non-biased, decisions concerning gays and lesbians in the military and elsewhere. His rationalization for these actions on the bigotry of others is inexcusable. As citizens, taxpayers and constituents we find this defense unjustifiable.

We are strongly urging President-elect Clinton to remove Senator Nunn from consideration from for any post in the Clinton administration. For President-elect Clinton to appoint Senator Nunn to any position at this point would be to validate Senator Nunn's bigotry and homophobia, and make a mockery of Clinton's many campaign promises to include everyone in his view of America.

Further, we call upon Senator Nunn to admit his mistake, apologize to the individuals so wrongly dismissed, and if possible to reinstate those individuals, or hire other openly lesbian or gay staff. We appeal to Senator Nunn to cease his opposition to the lifting of the military ban of homosexuality and urge him to work with the President-elect to make the implementation of this policy as smooth as possible. We urge Senator Nunn to work for the passage of the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Only when these acts have been repudiated at the highest levels, and bigotry is no longer acceptable and respectable, can this country truly be the land "with Liberty and Justice for All."

Sincerely,  
Daniel L. Gandy  
President, LEGAL

### Project Open Hand still needs your help

To the Editor:

On behalf of Project Open Hand/Atlanta's volunteers, staff, board, and the 700 AIDS sufferers who daily receive our meals, I want to thank the Gay and Lesbian community for its ongoing commitment to Open Hand's challenging mission.

The past year has been extremely difficult because of the rapid increase in the number of people receiving two meals a day, seven days a week. During 1992 we added an average of 87 new clients a month, reaching a total caseload of 700 clients in December.

Despite a severe strain on our financial resources, Open Hand continues to keep no waiting list and to turn no person away who needs our meals. Constant fundraising efforts are essential for us to keep up with the growth in service.

We take pride in the fact that 80 cents of every dollar donated to Project Open Hand goes for food and direct service with 20 cents allocated for administration and fundraising. The total cost of providing a meal remains at \$2.50. This means, however, that the cost of serving our current clients is \$3,500 a day.

Again in 1992, as in the past, the Gay and Lesbian community has supported Open Hand with a wide range of fundraising activities and personal involvement as volunteers and donors. In the coming year Open Hand will face greater challenges with the client load expected to reach 1,000.

I have no doubt that our community will continue to be there for our brothers, sisters, and neighbors who need daily nourishment. Bless you, and thank you for caring.

Richard Dailey  
President-Elect  
Board of Directors  
Project Open Hand/Atlanta

### Christian hate too close to Hitler

To the Editor:

After reading the article "Fighting The Right" in your December 3 issue, I was very upset. I had pretty much forgotten the reasons that I gave up preaching many years ago. But this article brought to mind most of them.

I have been an ordained Chaplain since February 18, 1983, but stopped preaching not long after I was ordained. I was fed up with the Christian church—with the bigotry that it projected.

I remember Bible passages about the Anti-Christ and how the world would get behind him. And I see things that Pat Robertson is doing that Hitler did to gain public support.

And the Coloradans For Family Values remind me of some people that run around town with white sheets over their heads. They also bring to light the ideas of the Nazi and the Skin Heads.

Yes, I do now remember why I left the church and why I have never returned to it. I remember how it tore me apart to see Bible-believing people having to hate someone. At that time it was Black people that entered our church. And it was a member of the church that asked me not to invite them any longer. It also tore me apart to have to walk away from the life that I felt was something that I could do some good with.

I find it very hard to believe that a wonderful and just God would ever approve of the actions of people like Pat Robertson and the Coloradans For Family Values.

Sincerely yours,  
A Very Hurt Ex-Chaplain

### Stop the Republican bashing

To the Editor:

We're queer, we're Republicans—get used to it!

My lover, Barbara, and I are sick and tired of the constant Republican-bashing by the gay newspapers in this country. In a recent Southern Voice column "Dish," gay Republicans were again bashed, which brings up a simple question: where is it written that all gay people must be Democrats?

Our movement's goal is to have control over our bodies. But what about the freedom to have control over our minds without being bashed?

As a former economics teacher, I believe in a capital gains tax cut, a line item veto and a balanced budget amendment—all of which cause me to vote Republican.

The gay rights movement stresses that straight people should be open-minded and accept gay people as Americans who have a right to live their lives as they decide.

It's time for the gay community to stop being hypocrites and accept all our brothers and sisters—Democrat and Republican.

Sincerely,  
Diane L. Fremont  
Virginia-Highland



HNS wishes the community  
a Happy Holiday



**HNS**  
ADVANCED INFUSION THERAPIES

## Sex Ed

Continued from page 1

and spoke in favor of Gov. Miller's committee recommendations. "They took particular pleasure in slamming homosexuality, and want 'just say no' to be Georgia's sex education."

"Georgia needs a more reality-based sex education than that," she continued.

Under the proposal, AIDS lessons would begin two years earlier than they do now. The committee also recommended presenting homosexuality to high school students in a neutral way.

"The only safe sex is abstaining until marriage and not having sex, even then, until one has an AIDS test," Becky Fern, a member of the DeKalb County Medical Auxiliary, said in her testimony. "Gentlemen, we are talking about life and death. We cannot convey to our children that safe sex is using a condom."

Archie Nalbanian, a Cobb County contractor and father of four girls, ages 2 to 16, said only parents can know what to teach their children about sex.

"We're not doctors or lawyers, but we're experts in dealing with that individual child," he said. "Teachers have a hard enough time teaching reading and writing."

One woman said the proposed changes were part of a larger "homosexual agenda."

"I am in favor of sex education," said Linda Watson, a Newton County mother and former counselor of pregnant teen-agers. "But schools are here to educate children—not to promote a cultural agenda."

Supporters of the proposal implored the board not to succumb to pressure.

"I don't think parents always know what's best for their children," said a woman who identified herself as a counselor of teen-ager mothers, and who said she had been a teen-age mother herself.

"I wonder sometimes what my life would

have been if these things had been taught 20 or 30 years ago," she said.

Nancy Fuchs, a school counselor at Gainesville Middle School, said the materials used in the school sex education program are presented in a scientific and tasteful manner.

"The overlying and continuing message given to our students is that abstinence before marriage is the best alternative. However, if a person chooses otherwise, there are safety precautions that are mandatory in this time of increasing incidences of AIDS and teen-age pregnancy."

Speakers, who were allowed three minutes a piece, included pro-choice and AIDS activists.

Tricia Grindel, director of education of AID Atlanta, said it is unrealistic to talk about abstinence. "We're doing our youth an injustice if we don't teach them how to protect themselves. I deal with AIDS every day. I see the grief and anguish on mothers' faces as they bury their children who have died of AIDS. I don't want anyone here to go through that."

School board member Lewis Shurbutt opened the hearing by saying the board wants to emphasize abstinence. Responding to criticism aired before the hearing, he said there is no mention of oral or anal sex in the curriculum proposal.

He also said the recommendations would allow parents to remove a child from sex education classes, and that it would be up to local officials, consulting with parents, to decide how to implement the proposals.

At one point, as critics and supporters alternated comments, Shurbutt interrupted to say, "We need to build some bridges. We are closer than some of you think."

Support for the committee's recommendations has also come from the Department of Human Resources Board of Directors, who last month unanimously approved a resolution to that effect.

A second hearing is scheduled for Jan. 27 in Fort Valley.

## OBITUARY

### JOHNNY D. WALSH

Johnny D. Walsh passed from this life on December 8, 1992 due to complications from AIDS. He was 33.

Raised in England, Germany and Augusta, Georgia, Johnny earned a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre from the University of Georgia in Athens. He was attending the Georgia State University, College of Law while working as a Legal Secretary for the law firm of Mack & Bernstein.

As an artist, actor, and activist, Johnny worked for 10 years with numerous theatres and gay organizations in Atlanta. He performed in productions with SAME, Seven Stages, and Theatrical Outfit and made guest appearances at The Eagle. He was an editor of Amethyst, a writer for Southern Voice and The News, and founding editor of The Journal of AID Atlanta.

Johnny is survived by his companion of 8



years, David Strawn and their cat, Patty, as well as by Mrs. Ruth Strawn.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 20th at 2:00 p.m. at SAME's performance space in TULA Gallery, 75 Bennett Street, Suite N1. In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to Project Open Hand.

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# AIDS Quilt founder believes Clinton offers a glimpse of hope

East Lansing, MI (AP)—The man who founded the AIDS quilt project said last Wednesday the election of Democrat Bill Clinton raised his hopes in the battle against the disease.

Cleve Jones said Clinton's leadership on AIDS could lead to better consolidation and coordination of American AIDS policy.

"For the first time in 12 years, I feel a glimmer of hope," he said.

"I absolutely believe the election of Bill Clinton and the rejection of the Republicans' hate campaign provides us an opening in which we may make some real progress."

Clinton has promised to name an AIDS czar to oversee and coordinate national policy on acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Jones, of San Francisco, began the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt project 5½ years ago by making a quilt as a memorial for his best friend who died of AIDS. The quilt now lists the names of 25,000 people who have died from the disease.

Jones spoke at a statewide conference on AIDS sponsored by the HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan and the Detroit-area AIDS Community Alliance.

He stressed that AIDS is now a global problem that affects 40 million people worldwide, most of whom are heterosexuals, not homosexuals.

Americans' view that AIDS was a homosexual problem hindered efforts to educate people about its transmission and must end, he said.

Jones urged a national policy calling for early education about HIV.

"It makes absolutely no sense that every single board of education in every single town, city and community in this country has the opportunity to prevent their young people from being educated about HIV. We need national policy, we need it consolidated and coordinated," he said.

"I believe we need explicit, graphic education in the elementary schools. Until we find a cure, this is absolutely the only effective weapon we have to curb the spread."

Members of conservative religions may oppose that, but Jones said people will die needlessly if opponents succeed in blocking AIDS education.

"It is the right, the responsibility of the parents, the educators, clergy, to put forth their values, to try and communicate their values to their children," he said.

"But that is no excuse for withholding information because not all of those children will follow that path."

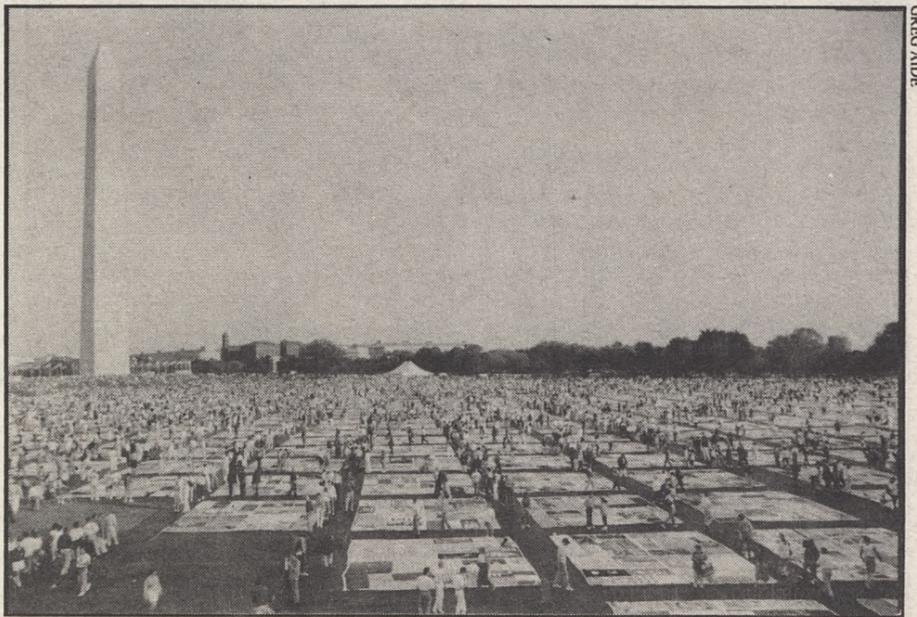
He said at a press conference that he plans to drop references to AIDS and to refer only to HIV disease. Counting only people who have developed full-blown AIDS vastly underestimates the scope of the epidemic, Jones said.

"I myself am HIV positive. I have not yet developed any opportunistic infections. I am probably going to die of this disease, but I'm not counted," he said.

Randall Pope, chief of the HIV/AIDS section in the Michigan Department of Public Health, said more than 3,300 cases of AIDS had been reported in Michigan as of Tuesday.

But he said counting all those who carry the HIV virus would add another 10,000 to 15,000 to that total.

JUDY DAUBENMIER



GREG AIDE

The NAMES Project Quilt now has over 25,000 panels. Founder Cleve Jones began the project five years ago when he made quilt as a memorial for his best friend who died of complications from AIDS.

doctor and family members said.

"He went very quickly and it was where he wanted to be," said his mother, Louise. "He wanted to be at home, he wanted to be with his family."

His family will continue his efforts to educate others about AIDS and fight for a cure, Mrs. Ray said. Her son had "wanted people to understand AIDS is not just this word that happens to somebody else—it can happen to everybody," she said.

Ricky had been in and out of the All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg for months, being treated for pneumonia, infection, and eye problems. He also had experimental drug therapy

under a federal AIDS program through the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

His last hospital stay—which included a get-well call and inaugural invitation from Bill Clinton shortly after the election—ended a day before Thanksgiving because he wanted to be home for the holidays.

Ricky's brothers, Robert, 14, and Randy, 13, also carry HIV. Their sister, 11-year-old Candy, is not infected.

The brothers are believed to have been infected by tainted blood products used to treat their hemophilia. In 1991, the family agreed to a \$1 million settlement with pharmaceutical companies that manufacture blood products.

## Ricky Ray is dead at 15

Sarasota, FL (AP)—Ricky Ray, the eldest of three hemophiliac brothers whose struggle against AIDS was nearly overshadowed by their early battle for community acceptance, died at his Orlando home early Sunday. He was 15.

His family was at his bedside when he died of multiple organ failure at about 3:40 am, his



PHOTO: Lynn Sheppard

Sese Abejon and Diane Lee

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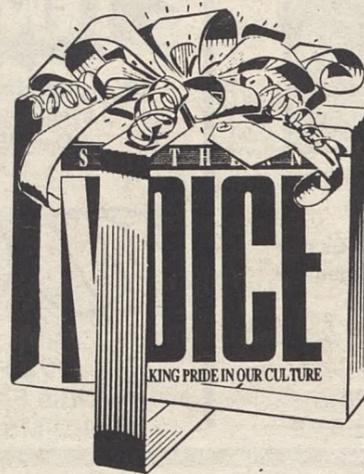
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## COLORADO WATCH

Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson is leading a call for the U.S. Conference of Mayors to move its annual meeting out of Colorado Springs next June to protest Amendment 2, which bans basic civil rights protections for gays and lesbians. Joining Jackson in urging the move is New York Mayor David Dinkins.

Jackson wrote to conference officials two weeks ago to ask that the conference be moved. Marcia Okula, the mayor's special assistant for lesbian and gay issues, said that he spoke with several members of the conference last week while on a trip to Washington, DC.

"Mayor Jackson believes [the conference] should be moved," she said. "After speaking with some of the other conference members, he believes there will be strong support for moving it."

The Conference of Mayors, which unanimously passed a resolution supporting gay rights and urging governments to legally protect gays and lesbians in 1984, will make a decision on the conference location next month.

Dinkins, through a spokesperson, said that he "would recommend to his colleagues that they consider not holding the event in Colorado Springs," and that he will stay away if the meeting is held there as planned. New York City has banned employee travel to Colorado, and openly gay and HIV+ city councilmember Tom Duane has promised to draft legislation for an economic boycott as well.

The boycott movement has picked up steam: Whoopi Goldberg, filmmaker Jonathan Demme, and producer Ed Saxon have all endorsed the boycott, and tennis star Martina Navratilova, who lives in Aspen, says she will move if the amendment is not repealed. "I am gay," she said. "I can't live a lie. And I can't



Mayor Maynard Jackson is urging the U.S. Conference of Mayors to move its annual meeting from Colorado Springs next year

live in a state that does not regard everyone of every race, creed, color and sexual orientation as equal."

Additionally, Laurel Entertainment has dropped Colorado as a possible site for the filming of a television mini-series based on Stephen King's "The Stand." "Frankly it was neck and neck between yourselves and another state until recently when a new factor surfaced and swung the decision way from Colorado i.e. the passage of what we consider to be anti-gay legislation by the majority of Colorado voters," said Laurel CEO Rich Rubinstein in a letter to Colorado Film Commission Director Michael Klein.

The New York-based Women's Sports Foundation has dropped plans to relocate to Colorado Springs, the hometown of Amendment 2 sponsor Colorado for Family Values. "Amendment 2 violates our policy of nondiscrimination," said WSF spokesperson Marj Snyder.

And a Denver-based order of Catholic nuns that unanimously opposed Amendment 2 last summer may move its 1993 convention out of Colorado because of the initiative's passage.

From inside Colorado, action is being taken to repeal the offending amendment. Newly elected state House Minority Leader Sam Williams said that he is drafting a Constitutional amendment to repeal Amendment 2. "We've got to do something," he said. "It's costing us too much." Williams said he "had to fight off" moves by the National Black Caucus to boycott the state. The NBC is scheduled hold its 1993 convention in Denver.

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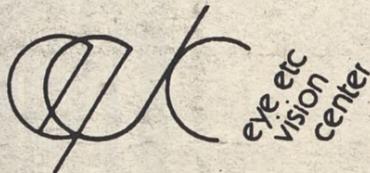
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**The Hate State:** Dish is just a tad ambivalent about a carte blanche boycott of Colorado because of that state's recent passage of Amendment 2. But we sure do like (and will use) postcards like the one illustrated here. The very tasteful (they are green and white) cards are the brainchild of Project VisAbility, which will be happy to sell you five of them for \$1 (plus \$1.50 postage). Send your order (and dollars) to Project VisAbility, PO Box 1823, Boulder, CO 80306. And while you're at it call the Colorado Department of Tourism (800/433-2656) and tell them you plan to ski elsewhere this winter.

**Lumping Lewis:** Sometimes Dish feels like we're the only living breathing human being (at least one who writes for a newspaper or magazine) that thinks that ol' Lew Grizzard is a racist, sexist, homophobic pig. Grizzard's performances draw sell-out crowds and his books sell by the zillions—even get good reviews, Goddess forbid. Thus it warms the cockles of our heart to tell you that the Nov. 20 issue of "Entertainment Weekly" contains a scathing review of Grizzard's latest homage to ignorance and hate, "I Haven't Understood Anything Since 1962 and Other Nekkid Truths." (Grizzard's books are way worse than his columns. Try this quote on for size: "If you were in a jail cell with Jeffrey Dahmer, would you rather be hungry or horny?") Ken Tucker, the author of this scathing review, quotes an unnamed journalist from Arkansas who described Grizzard as "a horny little moron who likes to hurt people." That friends, is the real naked truth.

**Adding Estrogen:** "Esquire" is not exactly Dish's most favorite reading material—generally a little too much testosterone for us, thank you very much. But the December issue's "Women" column is four full pages about the author's experience of hanging out with a bunch of radical lesbian sex bombs in San Fran-

# Dish

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

## Boycott Colorado!

The HATE State

For those of you who have no doubt that Colorado should have its hand slapped (among other things) for passing Amendment 2, these postcards are available by mail order.

cisco—E. Jean Carroll refers to them as "she-studs at the frontier of the new orgasmic experience"—including Debi Sundahl, publisher of "On Our Backs." The often funny piece includes descriptions of almost every possible (and a few impossible) lesbian sexual positions, variations, techniques and a few methodologies not yet named—even female ejaculation and dildo packing. Good stuff. Amazing, even, considering where it's pub-

lished! But beware, those of you who tend to attacks of environmental illness—even "Esquire" is packed with perfumed ads. Yuk!

**It's Tacky Time Again:** Make your plans now to attend what must surely be one of the most terribly tacky events of the holiday season. This year's (third) Annual Tour of Christmas lights is scheduled for Monday, December 21. Hop on one of several chartered busses and roam the metro area in search of holiday decor that will set your head to spinning with delight (or vertigo). Granted you could do this tour on your own, but you'd probably spend way more than the requested \$10 donation (it goes to Childkind) on gas alone and you wouldn't have anywhere near as much fun as you will on a bus full of kindred souls. George King's fave holiday video "10,000 Points of Light" will be shown on the buses and tacky snax and beverages will be served. Tickets are available at The Boy Next Door, Charis Books, Movies Worth Seeing and both LazerAge locations. The tour departs at 7pm from the Decatur Holiday Inn and should last about three hours.

**Eligible for What?:** A local company (Glamour Publications) has announced the availability of its new book, "Atlanta's Most Eligible Bachelors," at many bookstores around town, but, we suspect, not at Charis. PR for the book says nominations and referrals for this year's crop of bachelors came from "men and women" but this whole process reeks of heterosexism—and commercialism—to Dish. See, once you buy the book for \$9.95 "interested women" get to select their fave hunk, call a 900 number and leave a message on his voice mail. (If you are a man, call one of the eligible dudes, and get a civil reply, please call and tell Dish about your experience. We would like to believe in the tooth fairy. We really would.)

**December 17–December 23, 1992**

Well, buckle your seat belts, the cycle for the New Year is going to start with super high energy! Beginning with Hanukkah on the 20th, the Winter Solstice on the 21st, followed by a Solar Eclipse in between the Solstice and Christmas, we will be moving quickly into an entirely new era. Get Ready!  
**ARIES**, as the Sun moves from your 9th house of exploration, and intellectual stimulation, be prepared for a little bit of stress and strain around your career activities. You may have to coordinate a balancing act between personal needs, career and home. **TAURUS**, the intensity of your need for close, intimate and sexual experience may be a driving force for a week or two. It may help to be aware of any undercurrents of loneliness or feelings of rejection that are trying to surface. Be easy with yourself. **GEMINI**, moving right along is not always completely effective unless you are very clear and definite about where you really want to end up. Don't keep your worries to yourself! Share with friends, after all, you're always there for them, right?  
**CANCER**, home for the holidays is not always fun and joy, but if you insist on cooperation and fair play among friends or family, things can be much better for everyone. Don't be shy, even if

## STARSIGNS

someone is bigger than you are, you're probably tougher! **LEO**, with Venus in your 7th house of close, personal relationships, your natural charisma should be extended and you can also see and appreciate the wonder and beauty of other people, especially those you love and care about the most. **VIRGO**, as the Sun joins our favorite planetary couple, Uranus and Neptune, in your 5th house of creativity, fun, play and passion, you may feel like going in several directions at once. Very important to focus your energy and have some FUN!  
**LIBRA**, the bases are loaded, pardon the baseball analogy (although baseball is considered a Libran game), with Venus and Saturn in your 5th house of passion and creativity and Jupiter in your 1st house. Express your feelings or you may pop fly an out!  
**SCORPIO**, it is definitely time to chill out, especially with all the emotional impact of the holidays and Mars approaching a trine

with Pluto in your 1st house. That can be explosive as well as revealing and healing. Get plenty of rest. Happy Birthday, **SAGITTARIUS**, until the 21st, of course. With Mercury now moving forward in your 1st house of personal expression, you may feel that you can think straight again. However, not the time to take on 13,000 new projects! OKAY?  
 Dearest **CAPRICORN**, Happy Birthday! After another year of Uranus/Neptune in your 1st house of natural personality and self awareness, you deserve a major celebration. Congratulations from all of us. You have had to change and grow a lot this year!  
**AQUARIUS**, as of the Solstice on the 21st, the Sun joins Uranus and Neptune in your 12th house of the collective unconscious and may accelerate your dreams, visions and intuitive processes. You may need quiet time or a visit with Mother Nature. **PISCES**, if you are tempted to get involved in social or charitable activities during the holidays, good for you. Just be sure you don't take on too much or take on problems that aren't really yours. This is a good time for romance too!  
 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...** 1992 By Eric Orner.

**RELATIONSHIP CONSULT WITH MADAME ZOLNA;**  
 ZOLNA, I THINK THAT I'M FALLING IN LIKE WITH DOUG, MY NEW SUPERVISOR AT WORK..  
 The Crystal Ball says lotsa Sun for promiscuous and Fire Island this Holiday Weekend!

**I DUNNO, THOUGH, OFFICE ROMANCES ARE TRICKY, MAYBE NONE OF OUR CO-WORKERS SHOULD KNOW.. ANYWAY,.. I STAYED LATE AND GAVE HIM A BACKRUB...**  
 AND?..  
 Wait a Sec- MAKE THAT LOTSA RAIN... Yea.. definitely cold and wet.

**AND WHAT? AND THEN HE KISSED ME. AND THEN...? THAT'S ALL?.. WELL,... WE FOOLED AROUND A LITTLE BIT IN THE COPY ROOM..**  
 Whoa there Darned if it Don't look like SUN after all! Partly Cloudy though.

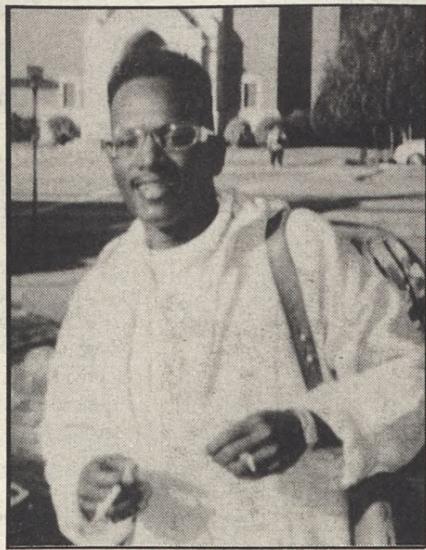
**PERHAPS EXPLAINING THE PHOTOSTATS YOUR COLLEAGUES DISCOVERED THIS MORNING...**  
 OH JEEZUS..  
 HEY GUYS- CHECK THIS OUT!  
 IT LOOKS LIKE A PHOTO COPY OF SOMEONE'S BUTT.  
 HEY! I THINK IT'S ETHAN'S..  
 I WONDER LOOKIT THE WHOLE TONGUE THAT IS?  
 TATOO ON HIS THIGH!

OUTLINE

TONY CHILDS

Age: 39  
 How long in Atlanta: native  
 Relationship status: single

Pot peeve: people who don't talk about HIV/AIDS and substance abuse openly



It's hard to imagine being in prison and HIV+—that people in hazardous material suits and thick red rubber gloves would come after you, burn your mattress, confiscate your things and then herd you to a cell in which you were segregated, separated and cut off from the rest of the prison population. This is not fiction, it is a very recent part of Georgia's past. This was how in 1989 Tony Childs found out he was HIV+.

It is difficult as well to capture the essence of Tony on paper. He is street-wise, warm, compassionate, energetic, and articulate all at once. You don't miss a word he says because he knows what he's saying. Tony recalled his past during an afternoon break at the Burroughs Wellcome HIV Update Forum held at the Penta Hotel. Tony was a participant and facilitator at the forum, helping with presentations and registration.

Looking decades younger than his 39 years, Tony sipped a coke and talked easily about his harrowing experiences and his rebirth as a peer counselor at Outreach Atlanta, a non-profit organization that provides AIDS awareness and prevention programs to the minority community.

Tony became a peer counselor as a direct result of his prison experience and working with a counselor from Outreach at the infectious disease clinic. "It wasn't a surprise when I found out that I was HIV+. I was a substance abuser, did IV drugs, drank—my attitude was, okay, now that I know, what can I do about it and what can I do for other people in the same situation. My first counselor was very important to me. Because he was Afro-American and he listened, and he was very sick—and I listened and I learned."

Tony takes his safe sex and HIV prevention message or "Latex Lovers" to the streets. "One of the methods of our madness at Outreach," Tony says with a smile, "is you've got to gain the confidence of the people. I've been there, I know where they're coming from. Traditional methods that have worked in the white gay community just don't on the streets. People are always going to get high and I can't stop that, but I can show them

how to protect themselves when they're shooting drugs. With many people on the streets preventing HIV is not at the top of their priorities, just getting through the day or shooting up—that's more important. So I sit down with them and talk and when they're ready and they can say to me, 'I'm tired of this lifestyle,' I show them how to help themselves through counseling. I can't do it for them but I can point them to the first step."

Because of Tony's "diversity of experience," as he calls it, he is able to take his safe-sex message to the clubs as well. And he is grateful for the support Loretta's, Club Ritz and Waterworks have given him. "I can raise money easily. African-American gay men give freely at the clubs," he comments. "It's harder to get them involved as volunteers."

To break the barrier, Tony brings safe sex demonstrations to non-threatening places where, he says, "the African-American male, gay, bisexual or otherwise, can be with his peers—I don't ever preach about their sexuality or preference. My function is to tell them what precautions they should take."

Tony grew up in Southwest Atlanta. As a talented musical theatre actor and dancer, Tony taught in the Fulton county schools and performed with Jomandi and many other African-American theatres. He is out to his family, and is very close to his 82-year-old aunt who has always been very supportive, he says, even when he was incarcerated. She is a volunteer as well in another aspect of Outreach's many programs.

"I live positively," Tony says, "day by day, and I love myself more and I allow my spirituality to be led by a higher power whose will will be done."

IAN W. GINSBURG

ORGANIZATIONS

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—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
- "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—257-5550
- 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
- Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—215-0585
- 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—876-0090
- 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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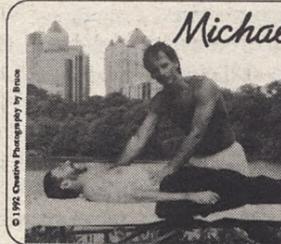
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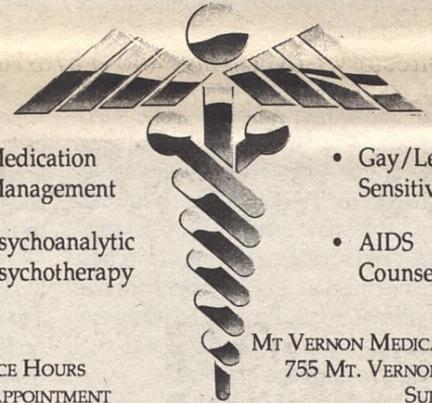


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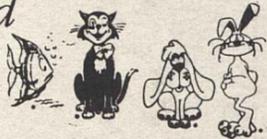
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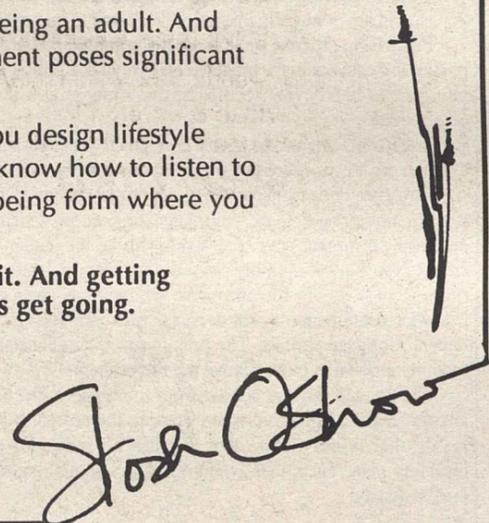
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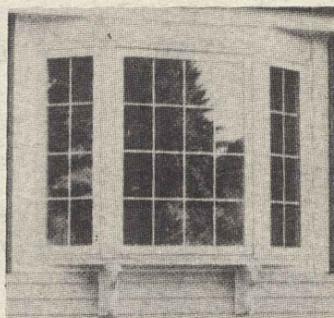
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**Mortgage Protection: Rip-off or Necessity?**

If you're a current homeowner then you're probably being inundated by the flood of solicitations from banks, insurance companies and other types of financial institutions wanting to sell you mortgage protection.

"Is your house really a home?" asks one such letter. "Will it be a home if you are not there to pay the mortgage?" warns another. "Will your children have a backyard to play in?" pleads yet another.

Clearly these bleak scenarios, seasoned with heavy dosages of guilt and images of impending doom, are what's called "hard sell" in marketing and advertising circles by these "caring" agencies only thinking of "you and yours." Yet what's really being sold is "credit life insurance" posing as "mortgage protection" primarily to people who have recently bought a home.

Both the Consumer Federation of America and the National Insurance Consumer Organization last summer took strong stands against credit life insurance. In fact, they called such policies "the nation's worst rip-off."

After studying the majority of such policies sold across the nation, they concluded that policyholders were paying through the nose. Their report estimated that in 1988 consumers were "overcharged nearly \$1 billion on credit life insurance policies." Both national consumer groups have further called for government regulatory action in addition to the need for widespread awareness among homeowners.

"While the pitches might not be illegal," explained Wayne Cotter, research director of the New York State Insurance Department, "we'd definitely rule them scare tactics." Cotter noted that the marketing tactics employed are really a throwback to a bygone era of the stereotypical nuclear family when most women were homemakers who could be left vulnerable if their breadwinner husbands died.

Most critics agree with Cotter but this doesn't mean that these huckstering mortgage protection policies have become exclusionary, at least on the surface. Mortgage holding corporations such as GMAC, one of the four largest in the nation, routinely solicits same-sex couples who jointly hold title to single-family homes. Other major corporations such as The Prudential have mortgage life insurance that they offer to same-sex couples who are joint homeowners.

But it's important to note that information regarding claims stemming from such policyholders hasn't been fully investigated or analyzed. Of course, these companies do include questions about potential policyholders' medical history in which AIDS figures quite prominently alongside cancer, diabetes and high blood pressure.

A salesman was so desperate and/or eager to sell me and my significant other a brand new policy that he suggested (off-the-record) that we answer no to the HIV+ diagnosis and then "worry about the insurance company's objections or refusal to satisfy a claim" if there arises such a need.

Most surveys of financial advisors report that few of them recommend mortgage protection, suggesting instead "a single life insurance policy that would pay your survivors enough to cover any liabilities."

J. Robert Hunter, president of the National Insurance Consumer Organization based in Alexandria, Virginia, says of mortgage protection, "With computerized listings, agents can reach almost everybody who buys a house. On the surface, it seems like a good purchase. But you should never buy life insurance dedicated to one event."

Purchasing separate policies to cover individual liabilities means paying the costs of extra broker fees. "Buying a policy just for your mortgage is like buying toothpaste one squeeze at a time," Hunter emphasized.

Predictably, insurance agents continue to be cautionary, warning that you can't ever become too careful or over insured.

However, critics and consumer advocates disagree when it comes to such policies as "pure" mortgage protection which includes a decreasing term that pays benefits directly to the lender. These policies feature a lower monthly premium (so they look attractive on the surface) than whole life insurance but without any cash buildup. Likewise death benefits will decrease each month as the size of the unpaid mortgage shrinks. The premiums remain constant while the monthly amount is fixed against the life of the policy.

Finally, can anyone benefit from mortgage protection? Experts answer in the affirmative when you are the sole breadwinner of a family that is heavily in debt and has no insurance coverage or disability plan. Then, they recommend, it's something to be considered seriously.

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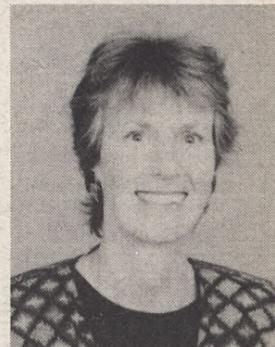
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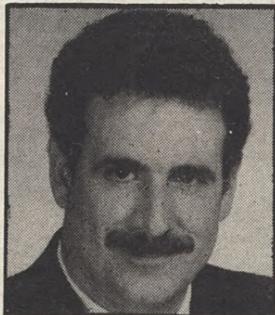


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Southern Voice is looking for an individual who works intown and lives near Cumberland Mall (or Vice-Versa) who can deliver papers to the Cumberland area weekly. Call Gary 876-1831. (5.46)

Human Rights Campaign Fund - 1993 Dinner Committee needs volunteers for: ad sales and corporate sponsorships. Use your sales and people skills to make a difference in our community. Call 662-4280. (5.43)

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

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

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

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**WOMEN**

Attractive, attentive, gregarious, honest, intelligent, intense, off-the-wall, romantic, sensual, late 30's, travelling professional needs affectionate, eclectic, striking, sexually adventurous sophisticate for weekend romantic pursuits. No flakes, druggies or gamers (I don't know the rules!). ☎ 1127

GF seeks that special someone to fill her arms—and warm her nights. Call me, let's get together! ☎ 1124

GWF, romantic, feminine, 32, attractive, intelligent, searching for similar sincere WF who desires honest caring friendship (Atlanta, Macon, Covington). ☎ 1123

WF, 26, 5'11", 140 lbs, br/br, looking for gay/bi female for fun, friendship, and who knows. Femme, no butches, 21-35. Fit & no drugs. ☎ 1126

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

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

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

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

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/5yr. 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

Hot Chocolate professional, mother of one, 32, slender & attractive, seeking tall, slender, handsome woman to share quality time. ☎ 1020

GBF, 38, professional, attractive, very effeminate, seeks the ideal aggressive female for serious relationship. Butches welcome. ☎ 1019

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

New to Atlanta. GBF, in search of that special lady who's not afraid of an interracial relationship. ☎ 1003

**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

Single black female, 30, professional, discreet, seeking same. Enjoy movies, theatre, music and love to have fun. ☎ 1007

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

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

**MEN**

GBM, tall, athletic, professional, discreet, youthful 33, masculine, seeks sexy similar for friendship, fun, mutual enrichment. ☎ 1120

GWM, 32, 5'9", 142 lbs. Professional, handsome, seeks same. ☎ 1125

Responsible, stable, mature, romantic WM - masculine, 40s, professional. Great mentor. Seeks quality friendship with novice / curious WM 18-25. Discretion Assured. ☎ 1115

BM, 30's masculine, endowed, versatile, trim, seeks same in Hispanic or BM. ☎ 1116

GWM, 37, healthy HIV+, brave, honest, respectable but iconoclastic, slim, bald, artistic, self-employed seeks another brave man willing to explore life. Chattanooga. Box 1313, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (5.45)

Very goodlooking WM, 26, clean cut, muscular, All-American looks, seeks wealthy, generous, supportive WM for mutually beneficial fun. Any age, weight. ☎ 1117

HOT TOP: Clean-cut, boyish, 38, blue eyes, plays safe. Seeks cute bottom for hot fun. ☎ 1118

French passive seeks buddy. Dominant white professional wants aggressive French active companion. Affectionate man for hungry partner. Let's start something! ☎ 1119

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

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, DISCREET, closeted, seeks long, monogamous relationship with same. Henry, Rockdale areas. ☎ 1058

BM, 18, 5'8", bottom seeks masculine male, any race, for fun, friendship and much more. ☎ 1048

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

Hot, horny, hairy, heavily hung hunk, Daddy-type (early 40's) seeks sons, companions. Preferably tall, muscular, endowed. ☎ 1054

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

GBM, 20, 6'3", 175, very attractive ex-model, seeks attractive, fit, professional yet fun GWM 21-35 for friendship or more. ☎ 1051

Beguiling GBM, 30, Attractive-Long-Hair (bottom), seeks dominant attractive (top) but sensitive GWM Italian or Hispanic for relationship, good times. ☎ 1038

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

WM, 42, 180lbs, 6'2", HIV-, looking for masculine. Uncut, HIV-, blue collar kinda guy for afternoon shade breaks. ☎ 1044

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

Senior seeks to mentor, pamper, and have day-time relaxation and fun with attractive male 20-40. ☎ 1072

**MASSAGE**

Attractive, gentle, strong, mature, WM, 45, 6'0", 165#, blonde/blue, seeks masculine men 25+, fun/friendship. ☎ 1042

Attractive GWM, 35, HIV+, seeks other GWMs for friendship & fun, I'm 5'6" Bi/Bl, 122#. Healthy. Call ☎ 1079

Very masculine suburban WM, 40, 6', 175 lbs, dark curly hair, mustache. Seeks submissive daytime companion for discreet encounters & friendship. ☎ 1035

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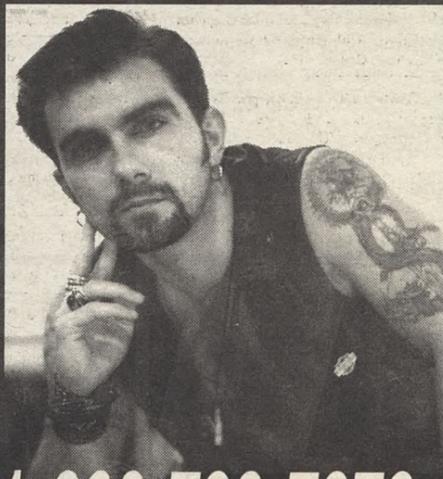
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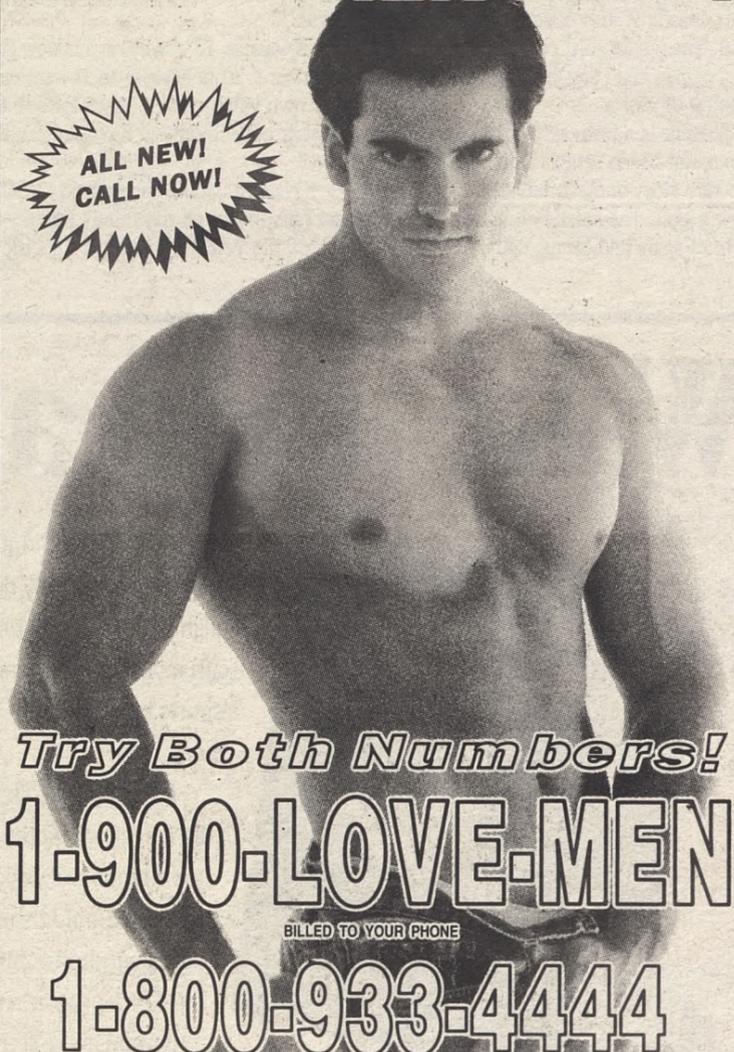
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# Christmas isn't the only holiday in December

With images of Santa and the Baby Jesus coming at you from every direction this time of year, it's easy to believe that everyone celebrates Christmas. But there are other important celebrations which unfortunately go virtually unnoticed by the media and world at large.

One is **Hanukkah**, or the Festival of Lights. This holiday celebrates the re-dedication of the Temple by the victorious Maccabees in 167 B.C. The Maccabees had forced out the Greeks, whose King, Antiochus, had attempted to suppress the Jewish religion. The re-dedication celebration lasted for eight days. That is why the Jews today light the eight candles of the Menorah during Hanukkah.

Because Hanukkah, which runs December 19-26 this year, coincides with the Christian holiday of Christmas, it has taken on several of the same characteristics, like gift giving. Jews exchange gifts daily during the celebration.

"We always liked that as kids," says Michael Kinsler, President of Congregation Bet Haverim, "because we always felt like, 'Hey, we have eight days, you kids have only one.'"

The seasonal closeness of the holidays has also given new importance to the holiday.

"Orthodox Jews see Hanukkah as a very low priority holiday," Kinsler notes. "There is no pomp and circumstance, and very few special prayers. It's a commemorative holiday where no gifts are exchanged."

The more modern Jews celebrate Hanukkah with friends and family and exchange gifts because the Christmas season is so predominant with these themes. But, unlike the Christian tradition, Hanukkah is not seen as a "religious" holiday by the Jews.

At Congregation Bet Haverim, Kinsler says a Hanukkah party is planned for Sunday, December 20. "Every year we have our annual board elections during Hanukkah, and then have a party afterwards," he explains. "Everyone brings their Menorah and we have a huge lighting of all the candles before we enjoy a potluck dinner."

For more information about the celebration and Congregation Bet Haverim, call 642-3467.

One of the most ancient traditions celebrated during this season is also called **The Festival of Lights**. The winter solstice on December 21, marks the longest night and the shortest day, and the beginning of winter.

"The solstice is a festival to ensure the sun's return," explains Maria Helena Dolan. "It's probably the oldest story humankind has of the dying and reviving god. The solstice is when the god or sun is born again and brings with it the prom-

ise of life and rebirth."

Traditionally, the solstice is celebrated with a huge bonfire where the people would use the fire to light their hearths. In these modern times where not everyone has a fireplace, wish candles are lit from the fire instead in a symbolic gesture of bringing light back into the world. There is also the ritual circle that acknowledges the power of nature, and the ritual of bowing to the four corners of the earth to align oneself with the natural forces.

Many of the old traditions of solstice can be seen in the traditions modern society associates with Christmas. Christmas Eve came from the solstice tradition of beginning the festivities the night before the solstice ritual. Germanic tribes would hang lights and balls from trees to hasten the sun's return, and to provide light and a sense of festivity to the occasion. Angels were put on top of some Christmas trees to make the pagan symbol more palatable to Christians when they adopted the custom. Kissing under the mistletoe is a very pale reflection of some of the sexual fertility rites practiced in ancient cultures.

Solstice celebrations were very important to agricultural communities, where Dolan says people "understood that they are a part of nature, not apart from it." Solstice gave farmers a timetable for planting and harvesting. In our modern non-agricultural communities, it gives people a sense of place.

"What you do in pagan practices is recognize we all are children of the same mother and we all have equal importance," says Dolan, "trees, fish, humans, or rivers. It gives you a sense of where you are in the cosmic dance."

It can also give people who feel disconnected from their heritage a sense of rebirth. Notes Dolan, "One of the best ways to honor your ancestors is to practice what they practiced."

A tradition that is but an infant when compared to solstice, Hanukkah and Christmas, is **Kwanzaa**. The African-American holiday celebration was founded 27 years ago by Dr. Maulana Karenga, just after the Watts Riots in Los Angeles. Today it is celebrated by some 20 million people of African descent around the world.

"Kwanzaa is a way to encourage African Americans to believe in their own culture and their own value system," says Patrick Bell, "and to work collectively as a whole to advance the race."

Kwanzaa begins this year on December 26th and runs for seven days until January 1st. Each day of the celebration has a specific day and



Members of the African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance in a Kwanzaa celebration.

meaning.

The first day is Umoja, which means unity. This is a time for the community to come together and celebrate African American values and traditions. The second day, Kujichagulia, is for self-determination. On this day the community comes together to name and define themselves. Generally, the community talks about who they are as both individuals and as a group. On the third day, Ujima, collective works and responsibilities are stressed. Here the community is encouraged to build and maintain the community. The fourth day is called Ujamaa and focuses on cooperative economics. This is the day to explore the idea of building and maintaining African American owned businesses to bring goods and services to the community. Day five is Nia or purpose, where using the collective work of the community to uplift the people is emphasized. The sixth day, Kuumba, centers on the individual creativity of the people. At the gathering, participants sing, dance, or show their art to highlight the creativity of the race and how it reflects the beauty and heritage of the culture. On the last day, Imani or faith is the focus. The individuals of the community are urged to believe with their hearts in their people, parents and teachers, and have faith in the community as a whole.

During Kwanzaa seven candles are lit, three green ones, three red ones and a single black

candle.

"The three green candles signify a prosperous future, the three red candles signify the struggle, and the black candle signifies unity that binds all these things together," Bell explains.

There also is the tradition of the Umoja cup, where fresh fruit and vegetable juices are used "as an offering to our ancestors and to those who are not yet born."

Bell says Kwanzaa is not a religious holiday and many Christian African Americans celebrate Christmas as well. Kwanzaa also includes the tradition of gift giving, with a practical twist.

"The gift is something that will benefit the individual or community as a whole," notes Bell. "It may be a book about our history or something else that the person would use in everyday life."

Kwanzaa is usually celebrated in many small circles of friends and family, an aspect which Bell says makes the tradition very meaningful to gay and lesbian African Americans.

"In the larger African American community, we tend to be invisible or cast out," Bell explains. "When you go through the ritual of celebrating Kwanzaa it is really about unity and community, which is something very dear to us as gays and lesbians. It takes on that extra special meaning."

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