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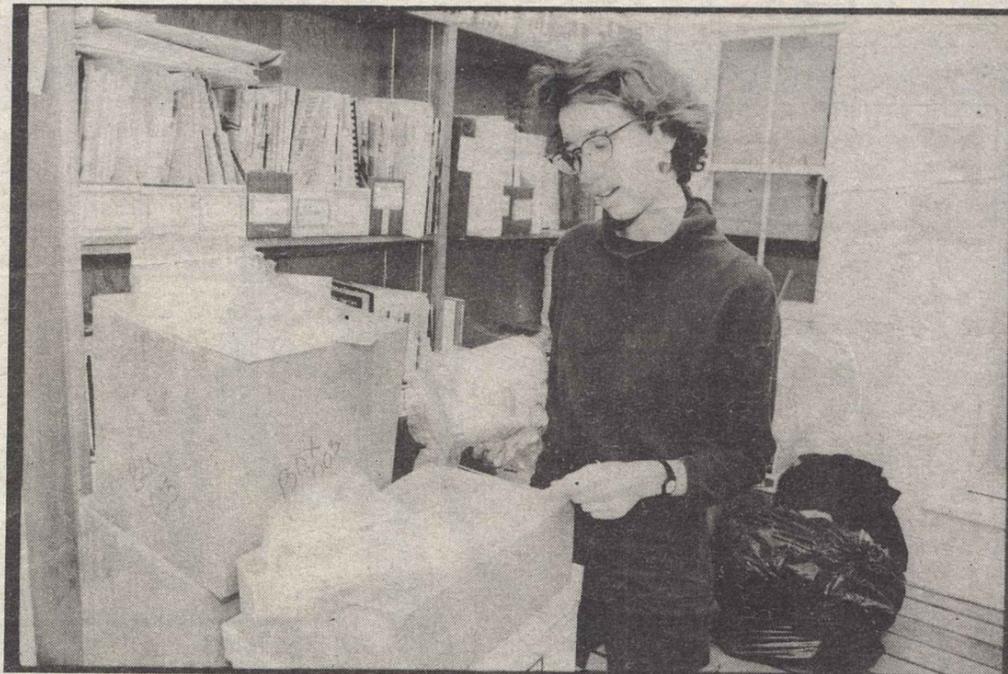
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To Russia With Love

Julie Dorf, director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, recently spent a week in Russia to urge the repeal of sodomy laws which often result in the imprisonment of gay men. The 10-person delegation, which included openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), also met with AIDS activists and delivered medical supplies for people with AIDS.

DENNIS CONKIN

"Our trip to Moscow was really successful in a lot of ways," says Julie Dorf. "Particularly on the issue of gay prisoners. We succeeded in getting the Ministry of Justice to come to our meeting with statistics. That's a first," she says.

Sitting in a crowded cafe on San Francisco's Castro Street, Dorf, 37, the director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, sips hot apple cider and takes a drag from a cigarette.

"They acknowledge that in the last six months 10 gay men have been put in prison purely for consensual adult homosexual acts. The numbers may be going down, but they're still putting them in prison," she told Southern Voice.

Dorf says at least 60 and possibly hundreds are in prison in Russia solely because they are gay.

Dorf returned on Dec. 9 from a week in the former Soviet Union where she led a 10-person delegation that included openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) to meet with Russian lesbian and gay groups, officials and AIDS activists.

"The other main accomplishment was to set up a procedure with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Officer to verify the information we get from activist sources, she says.

"It was a great accomplishment. Over the next six months, we'll have a pretty accurate list of gay men in prison under Article 121 of the Russian penal code."

The law enacted in 1931 outlaws all adult male homosexual acts. A draft of a replacement penal code, without the anti-gay law, was prepared two years ago, but it has only recently been given to the Russian Parliament for discussion and is given a slim chance of passage.

"With the cold war over, we have even more opportunity than before to support human rights in Russia, Frank said in a press statement about the trip. "I'm pleased to be able to help emphasize that the rights of

gay men and lesbians must be among those rights."

Frank delivered a letter signed by other members of US Congress urging the repeal of the sodomy laws.

"It's total chaos in the country right now. The draft is a hodge-podge of foreign penal codes that don't make any sense as a unified document and it's unlikely to pass," Dorf said.

In addition to meeting with Russian officials about the persecution of gays under the penal code, Dorf also met with AIDS activists—and delivered seven boxes of donated medical supplies including 15,000 disposable syringes, multi-vitamins, bandages, IV equipment and Tylenol.

The group hand delivered the supplies because Project Hope, a charitable group that contracts with the U.S. government to deliver donated medical equipment from community based groups such as ILGHRC, refused to do it.

"They turned us down about six months ago for no real reason. Essentially they say that the supplies were not on the priority lists for health needs in the country," Dorf says.

On World AIDS Day, ILGHRC delivered the supplies and met with AIDS activists and public health officials.

"We met with doctors and about 15 patients at the Moscow HIV clinic. Anyone with HIV has to be in the clinic. There's no outpatient treatment available in Russia. The doctors and the patients know very little about HIV," she says.

The group also brought along a fair amount of ddI," a drug used to forestall the development of AIDS in people with HIV infection.

"But, we decided not to give it to the doctors because..." CONTINUES ON PAGE 13

Photo: Julie Dorf, director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

13 openly gay and lesbian people are serving on Clinton transition team

Washington, D.C.—COALITION '93, a network of gay and lesbian organizations, praised President-elect Clinton for his appointment of lesbians and gay men to serve on his transition team. The COALITION identified thirteen individuals who have been asked to be part of transition staff, transition policy groups, or transition clusters that are analyzing federal departments and agencies, or to attend the Economic Summit.

"President-elect Clinton made a commitment to seek out the best and the brightest from America's diverse communities to serve our nation. With the appointment of talented lesbians and gay men to his transition team, he has shown clearly that he will call

upon men and women from our community for service to America," said William Waybourn, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and one of the three Coalition '93 chairs.

Among the open gay men and lesbians serving in transition posts are:

Andrew Barrer, the director of Coalition '93 who has an extensive background in the health care industry, is analyzing the Health Care Financing Administration with the Health and Human Services cluster;

Chai Feldblum, an attorney who was instrumental in the effort to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act, is studying the Office of Legal Counsel for the Justice CONTINUES ON PAGE 14

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Lawsuit dropped against IDC

Clinic scheduled to open in July

Atlanta—Business leaders along the Ponce de Leon Ave. corridor have dropped a lawsuit filed in Fulton County Superior Court, clearing away the last obstacle in front of Grady Hospital's new Infectious Disease Clinic, to be located at the old Presbyterian Center.

Grady Hospital bought the property on Ponce de Leon Avenue last summer, despite protests from neighborhood residents and business, who feared the hospital would be detrimental to the area. The Ponce de Leon Corridor Association, an association of area businesses, filed a lawsuit against the hospital, the city of Atlanta and the state of Georgia to stop construction on the facility immediately after the purchase, but that lawsuit was voluntarily dropped on the day of the case's hearing last week.

The Association's president, Douglas Jones, said that the group dropped the lawsuit when Grady's lawyers told them they would not discuss the project as long as the suit was pending.

"We basically were hoping to negotiate and come up with an acceptable solution to the whole thing," he said. "All we want is assurances that we can feel comfortable with that they will not expand the hospital further along the corridor."

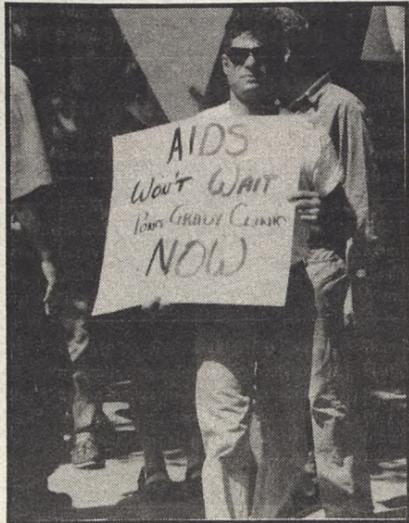
"We think that's reasonable," he continued, "and hope they feel the same way."

Jones added that the Association would consider reinstating the lawsuit if talks with the hospital authority are unfavorable.

AIDS activists and advocates were elated with the news that the suit had been dropped.

"The lawsuit is over," said Chip Rowan, an attorney with the AIDS Legal Project who was representing three PWAs who had joined the suit. "So now there are no legal obstacles. There really was nothing to stop Grady from proceeding with the renovations before, but it does remove any cloud. For now."

"At this point we don't have any problems, for the first time," said Kathleen Brockel, executive director of the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS. "I'm really pleased about the lawsuit being



A lawsuit filed by the Ponce de Leon Corridor Association to prevent the expansion of Grady's Infectious Disease Clinic came under heavy protest from AIDS activists.

dropped."

Brockel also said that NAPWA has secured the services of an architect who specializes in hospital design. That architect is meeting with Grady's architects and reporting back to NAPWA regularly.

Originally scheduled to award the contract for the renovations by the end of the year, the Hospital Authority's Building and Grounds Committee decided last week to review the plans for another month before awarding the contract.

"As we've been working on the plans, we've made changes in our idea on how we will deliver care," said IDC director Curtiss Morris. "And we've made changes to the existing plans to accommodate that."

The committee, said Morris, wanted more time to look over those changes in the plans. The committee will make a contract decision at their next meeting in late January, and construction would begin immediately, he said.

Morris also said the one month delay should not affect the authority's scheduled opening of the new clinic on July 1, 1993.

"All of the user groups have signed off on the latest version of the plans," he said. "All that remains is the contract awarding."

KC WILDMOON

DHR will hold off on HIV reporting

Atlanta—The Board of the Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) voted on Dec. 16 to delay implementation of a controversial new rule requiring that physicians report to the DHR names and addresses of patients who test positive for HIV. The rule would have taken effect on January 1.

"They temporarily rescinded the rule at our request," said Dr. Joe Wilbur, head of DHR's Infectious Disease division, "to allow us to get some new procedures into place."

Wilbur said the department wants to use a "unique identifier" system, which would answer some questions about confidentiality. The reporting rule applies only to confidential testing, and not to anonymous tests.

"There will be no master list," he said. "The local health department or physician will have names and addresses. A computer system will give each individual a unique code, and that's how we'll have it."

Wilbur said the system would prevent duplication of patients. "We'll know how many," he said, "but we'll have no way of getting back to them. The local health department, doctor, or clinic will be handling all that for counseling, treatment, etc."

After the details are worked out on the new procedures, the rule must go through the normal process within DHR for new regulations, including public hearings. Wilbur said

he hoped the rule would be implemented on July 1, 1993.

Chip Rowan, an attorney for the AIDS Legal Project, said that his group wants to discuss the issue with DHR.

"We think it's great news," he said. "We're very happy, and we think that DHR and our people can get together to do something positive."

"Perhaps this is the beginning of a new, better relationship [with DHR]," he added.

AIDS activists and advocates have long battled with the state department over AIDS/HIV-related issues, including funding for AZT and educational materials. At a demonstration in front of the DHR last fall, DHR officials met with members of ACT UP/Atlanta and invited the group to participate on the AIDS/HIV Educational Advisory Committee. Also on Dec. 16, an ACT UP member participated in that committee meeting for the first time.

"I can't believe how well it went," said ACT UP member Brad LaFoon. "Another member of the committee brought in the same materials I'd brought in that target the gay and lesbian community."

According to LaFoon, most of the committee agreed that the gay/lesbian specific materials were necessary, although committee members representing the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) and the Red Cross said they would have to get approval from their organizations before approving the ma-

CONTINUED TOP NEXT COLUMN

terials. LaFoon and a DHR representative will meet with MAG members to go over the materials before the next committee meeting, sometime in late January or early February.

"I was impressed that they want to target

the gay and lesbian community with specific literature," said LaFoon. "It was a lot more than I expected."

KC WILDMOON

Georgia AIDS Coalition names lobbyist

Atlanta—The Georgia AIDS Coalition (GAC) has named Len Terrell, a co-founder of AID Gwinnett, as the AIDS/HIV lobbyist for the 1993 Georgia General Assembly session.

Terrell will lobby legislators on HIV/AIDS and related health issues at the state capitol next year, both on proactive legislation and to prevent negative legislation from passing.

"Obviously we want to make sure that any draconian measures are not enacted," said GAC's Frank Behrens. "Things like quarantines or other more ridiculous ideas that have come up in the past."

"We certainly want to do our best to prevent negative legislation," said Terrell. "But additionally, my indication is that we need to take our message to the more rural areas, to get past the boundaries of metropolitan Atlanta. That is a big thrust of what I'll be trying to accomplish."

Behrens said that Terrell will also work on making sure the legislature fills gaps in Ryan White CARE Act funding as well as holes in the Americans with Disabilities Act on the state level.

"And we'll be covering broader issues such as housing," Behrens said.

Terrell acknowledged that fighting the fundamentalist right will be a challenge.

"I want to operate on a level playing field," Terrell said. "I want to address real issues as opposed to emotional ones. Butting head to head [with fundamentalists] does not benefit the groups I'm involved with. I think my approach will be somewhat different, less openly confrontational, but that doesn't mean we'll yield on key issues."

The new GAC lobbyist will also work with



Len Terrell, whose son died of AIDS in 1990, has been named HIV/AIDS lobbyist by the Georgia AIDS Coalition

healthcare groups on related health issues, such as tuberculosis.

The lobbyist position is funded by the Georgia Association of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR) and the Georgia Political Action Committee (GAPAC). Behrens said that GAPHR's involvement made it possible for GAPAC to fund a gay and lesbian lobbyist for next year's legislative session. Larry Pellegrini was named earlier to that position.

Terrell, 52, is a retired merchant from Loganville, Georgia. He, his wife, Peggy, and three other families founded AID Gwinnett in 1989. The Terrells' son Ric died of AIDS in 1990.

KC WILDMOON

Federal suit charges "reckless conduct" in death of Milwaukee PWA

Milwaukee—Less than a month after the U.S. Justice Department declined to pursue criminal charges against Racine County, Wisconsin for its alleged mistreatment of jail inmate Dennis Hill, a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Milwaukee on behalf of Hill's estate.

Hill died at the Milwaukee County Medical Complex on November 23, 1991 just five days after being rescued from the Racine County Jail where he had received no treatment for his advanced stage of AIDS. Hill, a 47-year old African American, had been arrested for swerving in traffic November 16. Despite telling the arresting officers he was not intoxicated but sick with AIDS, Hill was held with no medical attention until the afternoon of November 18.

The complaint graphically described the condition Hill was in when his friend, Margie Watson, and a social worker from the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) came to bail him out:

"Dennis Hill was lying on his right side... he was covered with vomit, his pants were down to mid-thigh and were ripped, and fecal material had stained his clothing, blanket and bunk. He was shaking uncontrollably, breathing with great difficulty and was unresponsive to questions and could only utter unintelligible grunts. He demonstrated a great deal of pain when touched. His forehead was clammy and cold to the touch and his hair was soaking wet. He was in obvious and constant pain and suffering

life-threatening conditions due to being deprived of his medications and appropriate medical care."

The suit charges Racine County, Racine Sheriff Robert Rohner and seven other defendants, including a licensed practical nurse, with "deliberate indifference," "reckless conduct," and "discrimination" towards Hill. The suit alleges their behavior "caused him to suffer unnecessary physical and emotional injury which hastened his death."

"The failure of Racine County Jail employees to understand AIDS and to respond with professionalism to the medical needs of Dennis Hill resulted in a shocking denial of humane treatment that brought him to the last days of his life," said Doug Nelson at a press conference announcing the lawsuit. Nelson is Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

In conjunction with World AIDS Day December 1, ACT UP chapters from Chicago, Milwaukee and Minnesota, along with friends of Dennis Hill, marched on the Racine County Jail to protest the treatment of Hill and to demand that Racine County initiate AIDS education efforts and humane policies toward the treatment of prisoners with HIV/AIDS.

They then carried a casket with Hill's name on it to the Courthouse office of Racine County Executive Dennis Kornwolf, who did not appear to face the activists. They charged that more than a year after Hill's death, Kornwolf had not taken action on a promise to develop a county-wide AIDS policy, including education on AIDS for county employees.

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Florida stands by its ban on gay adoptive parents

Sarasota, FL—Adoption by gay and lesbian parents would deprive a child of a role model and risk unknown effects on the child's sexual development, Florida's social services agency contends.

The Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services justified its reasons for maintaining a ban on gay adoptions in a legal brief filed last week in response to a challenge by two gay Sarasota men who want to adopt.

"With regard to parenting, heterosexual parents work more than homosexual parents to provide their children with an opposite sex role model," said the brief written by HRS attorney Anthony Deluccia. It concluded children with gay parents suffer from "deprivation."

The brief also says having gay or lesbian parents "limits the child's choice of sexual preference" and "does not appear to be in the child's best interest."

Accompanied by several academic articles on homosexuality, the brief says existing research doesn't provide enough answers for the state to permit adoption by gays.

"Since sexual preference is not a consti-

tutionally protected right" and scientific studies are inconclusive, the brief said the state has "a legitimate, sufficiently important and compelling interest to prohibit adoption by homosexuals."

Attorneys for the Sarasota couple, James W. Cox and Rodney M. Jackman, plan to file court papers later this month asserting their reasons to permit gay adoptions.

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Nina Vinik, who is assisting in the legal fight against the ban, said prospective parents should be evaluated individually on whether they will love and care for a child.

"HRS is directed to act in the best interests of the child, and those interests are served by getting them into loving homes," she said. "There are countless children in the state of Florida who are wanting adoptive homes."

Florida and New Hampshire are the only states that specifically ban gay adoptions.

Last year, the 1977 Florida law was declared unconstitutional in Monroe County, but HRS declined to appeal to keep the precedent isolated. Challenges are still pending by the gay Sarasota couple and a lesbian Fort Lauderdale couple. (AP)

Judge upholds La. law against exposing someone to AIDS

Houma, LA—A judge on Dec. 11 upheld a Louisiana law making it a crime to knowingly expose someone to the AIDS virus. The ruling by State District Judge Baron Bourg cleared the way for sentencing for Salvador Gamberella, 38, who faces up to 10 years in prison for exposing his ex-girlfriend to the deadly virus.

Gamberella was convicted last month by a jury. Prosecutors say they will seek a sentence of 20 years because Gamberella, who is free on bond, has a previous felony conviction.

The AIDS transmission law makes it illegal for a person who knows he has tested positive for the HIV virus to have sexual relations with someone without first telling the potential partner of the presence of the virus.

The law had been challenged by the American Civil Liberties Union, which said it violated due process and invaded privacy rights. Bourg rejected those arguments in an eight-page opinion.

"The court is not prepared to believe that the intentional transmission of the HIV virus by a person who is aware that he is infected with the virus to a person who is not aware of that fact and who cannot consent to the exposure is constitutionally protected behavior under any constitution," Bourg said.

Bourg said it was a "reasonable exercise of the police power of the state" to ban deliberate transmission of the virus.

"We are faced here with a disease, which if permitted to continue to spread, obviously will kill more people and cause more suffering over a longer period of time than did even the Black Plague which ravaged Europe in the 14th century," the judge wrote.

ACLU attorney Denise LeBouef said the decision would be appealed.

"I think Louisiana courts are going to want to take a look at this law," she said.

The ACLU challenged the law before Gamberella's trial, but Bourg opted to go ahead with the trial before acting on the motion. During the trial Gamberella said that he had informed his ex-girlfriend of his exposure to the HIV virus. She testified that he had not.

Louisiana is one of 25 states with a law forbidding the exposure of a person to AIDS. A judge earlier struck down a similar law in Illinois. That decision is being appealed, the ACLU said. (AP)

Birmingham lesbian/gay hotline survives

Birmingham, AL—An agreement reached between the Birmingham AIDS Outreach and Lambda, Inc. will allow Birmingham's Gay/Lesbian Information Line to remain in operation.

Lambda, which rents space in the Swann Building, had been forced to close its coffee house earlier this year, and financial difficulties almost killed the information line as well. But the Alabama Forum reports that Lambda and BAO worked out a compromise that would allow space for the line in the building. In return, BAO will use some of Lambda's furnishings.

Building manager Cindy Nelms said that if someone wanted to rent the space used by Lambda, she would have to do so, but that Lambda would be given a thirty day notice.

Asheville MCC hosts PWAs for Christmas

Asheville, NC—The Metropolitan Community Church in Asheville will hold a Christmas party/dinner for people with AIDS on December 25 at the Kenilworth Presbyterian Church.

MCC-Asheville's outreach committee has organized the event, which will be attended by PWAs from MAC and WNCAP. Food and holiday gifts will be provided.

Campaign Launched To Bring "Heterosexual Ethic" To California: Following Colorado's lead, a conservative California religious group has launched a campaign to add an anti-gay rights measure to their state's constitution. A fund-raising letter sent by the Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition calls for a "statewide ballot proposition on the heterosexual ethic" in California. The letter holds up the success of Colorado's Amendment 2 as an example. "Pro-family activists won a measure prohibiting 'special rights' in Colorado," the letter states. "There is no guarantee that a campaign such as this one will succeed [in California], but the greatest danger is not doing anything at all."

Gay Groups Draft Sample Executive Order To Reverse Military Ban: Gay and civil rights organizations have begun to draft sample executive orders to offer the Clinton administration on how to end the military's ban on gays and lesbians. Some of the proposals call for the creation of an advisory committee to assist the Defense Department and anti-homophobia training for officers who would carry out the policy. A presidential order should also restore health benefits, and allow gays to re-enlist. And any new code of conduct should govern the sexual behavior of gay and straight soldiers alike, gay activists say.

Retiree Convicted In Lesbian Neighbors' Deaths: A Wayne County, Michigan man was convicted last week in the shotgun slayings of his two lesbian neighbors. The Detroit Recorder's Court Jury deliberated 2 1/2 hours before finding James Brooks guilty of two counts of first degree murder and one felony firearms count. Brooks confessed that he shot Susan Pittmann and Christine Puckett on May 5 during a dispute about a fence the women were building. Brooks threatened the women with a shovel, and while one went in to call police, he returned to his home and fired, wounding them, then returned to their property and shot them point blank.

Gay Physicians Blast AMA: The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights denounced the American Medical Association for refusing to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation. At its semi-annual meeting earlier this month in Nashville, the AMA's governing body refused in a voice vote to include sexual orientation in its membership policy. "The AMA purports to be the voice for the nation's medical community," said AAPHR president Dr. Larry Prater, "yet ignores the many thousands of physicians in this country who are lesbian or gay. It becomes increasingly difficult [to] take the AMA seriously when it continues to deny our very existence."

Man Sentenced For Shooting Three In Anti-Gay Attack: A 39-year-old Boston man was sentenced to 18 to 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to shooting three men in an anti-gay attack outside a gymnasium in the Back Bay section on Jan. 24. Robert C. Ingraham pleaded guilty to three counts of murder, two counts of civil rights violations and a charge of unlawfully carrying a handgun. Ingraham shot three men outside the gym after making anti-gay remarks. All three survived the shooting.



Fundamentalists Used Harsh Anti-Gay Rhetoric During Clinton Campaign: Fundamentalist minister Rev. W.N. Otwell led weekly protests outside then-candidate Bill Clinton's Baptist Church in Arkansas during September and October, urging Clinton's minister to "withdraw fellowship" from the Democrat. After gay activists started counter-protests, the fundamentalists began using harsh anti-gay signs and chants, including dressing in hazardous waste suits, carrying spray cans that said "homo-cide spray." As many as 150 gay rights activists protested the right wingers.

Lafayette, IN, City Council Votes To Ban Sexual Orientation Bias: A city law barring discrimination against gays and lesbians passed its first Lafayette City Council hurdle and faces a final test next month. People on both sides say the issue has split the community. 500 residents watched as the council voted 5-3 for the ordinance. It must now be passed one more time before it becomes a part of the city's human relations ordinance.

becomes a part of the city's human relations ordinance.

Stanford Extends Benefits To Gay Employees: Stanford University agreed last week to extend employee benefits such as health insurance to domestic partners of gay workers, but not to those of unmarried heterosexuals. Stanford President Gerhard Casper and the university's Board of Trustees reached the decision after "an impressively thoughtful and careful examination of the issue," said Barbara Butterfield, the vice president who will administer the program. The Faculty Senate had recommended that unmarried heterosexuals receive the same benefits. The program will begin on Feb. 1, 1993.

"Gay" Synagogue Withdraws Funds From Bank Of America: San Francisco's Congregation Sha'ar Zahav voted last month to withdraw its funds from the Bank of America because of that bank's support of the Boy Scouts of America. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a Reform Jewish synagogue "with a special outreach to the gay and lesbian Jewish community." Founded in 1977, it now has over 500 members.

Supreme Court Re-enters Dispute Over Hate Crimes: The Supreme Court has re-entered the debate over "hate crime" laws, agreeing last week to decide whether states violate free speech rights by imposing longer prison terms for bias-motivated crimes. The court said it will review rulings that struck down such a law in Wisconsin. A decision is expected in July. At least 20 other state laws call for longer prison terms for "hate crimes." Nearly every state has some type of hate crime law. The Wisconsin law authorized longer prison terms if defendants chose their victim because of race, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.

GA Parole Board To Consider Release Of Two Men In "Devil Worship" Slaying: The state will reconsider parole requests for two men convicted of killing two Chattooga County men in a case that carried overtones of homosexuality, devil worship and drug use. Samuel Tony West and Kenneth Avery Brock were convicted of killing Dr. Charles Scudder and Joey Odum on Dec. 16, 1982 in their home in Chattooga County. The deaths of Scudder and Odum received national attention after Chattooga County authorities investigating the slaying labeled the pair homosexual devil worshippers.



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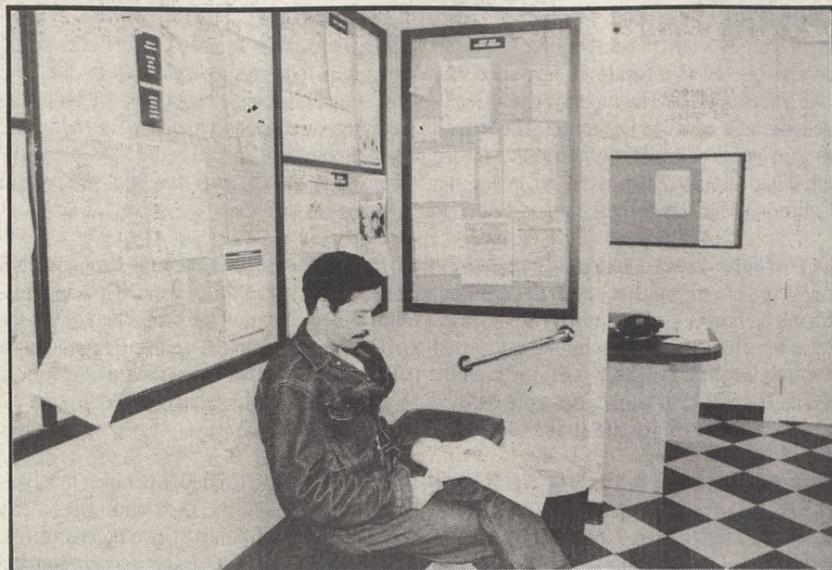
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JUDI PARKS

Castro pharmacy geared to people with AIDS

Castro Village Pharmacy, in the heart of San Francisco's gay mecca, doesn't sell cigarettes or cards.

The pharmacy, founded by Paul Morabito, a 28-year-old gay businessman with HIV infection, and supported by McKesson Drug Company, is the first pharmacy in the world that specifically serves people with AIDS.

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includes a full-time coordinator of services for people with AIDS, a computerized system to keep track of clients' treatment authorization requests, and an automated and computerized drug dispensing machine that cuts the average waiting time for a prescription—from AZT to acyclovir—to ten minutes. Pictured here is the customers' service area.

DENNIS CONKIN

FDA petition seeks to expand access to AIDS drug trials for women

New York—A coalition of AIDS activists is asking the federal government to change the rules that guide the testing of experimental drugs because they discriminate against women.

Food and Drug Administration guidelines recommend that women of child-bearing potential be excluded from the earliest stages of clinical drug trials because of the unknown effects that an experimental treatment might have on a fetus and a woman's reproductive system.

Although not legally binding, FDA guidelines generally are adopted as standards by most drug companies. In a petition filed last Monday, the activists argue that the current guideline "leads drug companies to...err on the side of exclusion."

The petition was filed by the HIV Law Project of the AIDS Service Center of Lower Manhattan, the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and the AIDS Project of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The petition said the FDA approved a drug study, since discontinued, at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey that was limited to male participants only. It also noted that Upjohn Co. excluded women from one trial because the drug it was testing may have had some adverse effect on female dogs.

Hoffman-LaRoche Co. required women in one of its studies to be past menopause or surgically sterile in order to participate since it had not yet studied the effects of the drug on animal reproductive systems.

Monica Revelle, a spokeswoman for the FDA, said the agency had not yet seen the petition and therefore had no comment. The agency has 120 days in which to respond to the charges.

As of January, only 1,151 women had participated in government-sponsored clinical trials of AIDS drugs—including 154 who were pregnant—compared with 13,628 men, the petition said.

For many people with AIDS, participation in clinical trials is their only chance for medical care and access to experimental drugs that could stave off the deadly virus. And many HIV-infected women have no intention of becoming pregnant.

"Exclusions may be a matter of life or death for women whose only hope of treatment may be enrollment in a clinical trial," the petition said.

Drug companies typically exclude women to minimize the potential liability in the event a fetus is damaged. That, in effect, "values the life of a yet-to-be-conceived fetus over the life of a woman with AIDS," said Theresa McGovern, an attorney with the HIV Law Project of the AIDS Service Center of Lower Manhattan, who led the petition.

The irony, she said, is that drug manufacturers routinely guard against such liabilities by warning subjects of potential dangers and requiring them to sign statements of "informed consent."

MARIANN CAPRINO

Insurance benefits for terminally ill may soon be tax-free

Washington, DC—A dying person could avoid tax on the proceeds of a life insurance policy under a proposal published last Monday by the Internal Revenue Service.

Under present law, life insurance benefits paid on the death of a person are treated as ordinary income, subject to a tax of up to 31 percent, if paid out before death.

"With this ruling, we remove the burden of an unfair tax and will allow the terminally ill to make use of their insurance benefits when they need them most," said Rep. Barbara B. Kennelly, D-Conn. She is sponsoring a House bill that would have the same effect as the IRS proposal.

The IRS regulation would allow tax-free payment of "living benefits" to an insured person who is expected to die within 12 months. The proposal applies to existing as well as future policies.

Any life policy written after next June 30 would qualify only if the contract limits the amount an insurance company can withhold from the face value of the policy to cover administrative costs.

The IRS will hold a public hearing on the proposed regulation March 19. It could become final any time after that date, depending on testimony at the hearing.

JIM LUTHER

Clinton team urged to improve AIDS efforts

Washington—Leaders from a coalition of 42 AIDS groups bearing a concrete strategy to redirect America's battle against AIDS were welcomed by a key adviser to President-elect Bill Clinton here Dec. 9.

The National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA) presented its AIDS Agenda for the Clinton administration and the new Congress to transition-team AIDS specialist Tim Westmoreland, who is on loan from Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA).

"It's a really good sign in terms of where this administration is headed," said Jeff Levy, legislative director at the AIDS Action Council, NORA's day-to-day lobby and research arm.

NORA offered a blueprint for implementing the National Commission on AIDS's recommendations ignored by the Bush administration.

What is needed now, said AAC head and NORA co-chair Daniel Bross, is strong leadership from the Oval Office and Capitol Hill to fully mobilize America's energy and commitment—"public and private, economic and moral."

Westmoreland told NORA leaders from the Human Rights Campaign Fund, American Civil Liberties Union, American Psychological Association, the National Pediatric AIDS Center, et al that he could not make any promises.

"He said he could not be specific on what would come down from the President," said Levy. "He made it clear that his job is to make options, not specific recommendations."

But veteran AIDS specialist Westmoreland told the NORA lobbyists not to worry. "He said, and we have reason to believe this, that we could be hopeful," Levy said.

"The fact that health is a domestic policy issue that has its own team and that there is someone specially focusing on AIDS lends credence to our belief that Clinton will hold

to his campaign promises of keeping AIDS on a high visibility plain," said Levy, who once headed the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

After the one-hour session, NORA told the media details of its consensus on what the new administration and Congress should do to fight AIDS. "With the start of the new administration," Bross said, "We must see key initiatives—both administrative and legislative—that announce the new President's intentions to address HIV/AIDS systematically, comprehensively, and with compassion."

At least \$3 billion is needed to "approach the real need for AIDS programs and services," Bross said, listing other components an appropriate AIDS budget including full funding of Ryan White CARE program and increased funding for community-based prevention efforts among others.

Bross also urged the new Congress to remove "senseless restrictions" on sexual behavior research promulgated by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) et al which "seriously impede AIDS prevention and epidemiology efforts."

He urged integration of HIV prevention into a larger health promotion program that included realistic attention to behaviors of young people, both school-based sexuality-education and out-of-school efforts. Lesbian and gay youth, he stressed, must not be forgotten.

AAC represents over 900 community-based AIDS service providers and is the only national group dedicated solely to shaping federal AIDS policy. It has reorganized operations to face new opportunities and challenges created by Clinton's election and 118 newcomers to Congress.

NORA is an alliance of over 150 national AIDS, public health, civil rights, and research groups to articulate an appropriate federal response to HIV disease.

JOHN ZEH

Minorities account for half of all AIDS cases

San Juan, Puerto Rico—Fifty percent of all new AIDS cases in the United States occur in minority communities beset by poverty and lack of adequate medical care, according to a member of the National AIDS Commission.

Dr. Eunice Diaz, the only Puerto Rican member of the commission, said last Thursday that African-American, Asian and Latino AIDS patients have largely been left unattended because of widespread racism and discrimination in the United States.

The Santa Barbara, Calif. resident said that most of the existing programs fail to recognize the needs of minority groups, who feel abandoned by the system.

"Neither the programs nor the efforts already in place target these groups. There is a lack of attention because of discrimination, racism and stigmas—because many believe minority groups caused the problem," Diaz said.

Diaz is visiting the island to participate in the First HIV-AIDS Network Congress being held at the Department of State.

"The Anglo-Saxon community will not do it for minority communities," Diaz said, insisting that minorities have to integrate their religious, political and civic groups in the battle against the disease.

Diaz added that the election of Nydia Velazquez and Luis Gutierrez to the U.S. House of Representatives and the re-election of Jose Serrano makes her feel optimistic about the future of the fight against AIDS.

"Nydia Velazquez is totally committed to the AIDS cause and I know she will help us immensely," she said.

Diaz also praised the efforts of Surgeon General Antonia Coello Novello, who has sup-

ported the work of the National AIDS Commission.

"But she is in a very tough position because she is identified as being part of the Bush administration," Diaz conceded.

LUIS A. TORRES-NEGRON

HIV lurks in pre-ejaculatory fluid, studies say

London—HIV, in addition to infecting semen, can lurk in the lubricant released before ejaculation, according to two studies of 23 infected men, reported in the Dec. 12 issue of *The Lancet*, a British medical journal.

"Many men believe oral sex without ejaculation is completely safe. That is clearly not the case based on the potential infectivity of this fluid," said Dr. Peter Schlegel, co-author of one of the investigations and associate professor of urology at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. The second study was done by investigators at Harvard Medical School and Boston University's School of Public Health.

The two studies do not indicate the risk of getting AIDS by contact with pre-ejaculatory fluid. "Any risk with HIV is unacceptable. This is not something you play Russian roulette with," said Gordon Nary, executive director of Physician's for AIDS Care in Chicago.

Pre-ejaculatory fluid "is produced during sexual stimulation before intercourse, so placing a condom on the penis earlier may be important to prevent contact with this fluid, not just at the time of intercourse," Schlegel said.

"We're not talking about a lot of fluid, but a small amount of it may be important."

RANDI HUTTER EPSTEIN

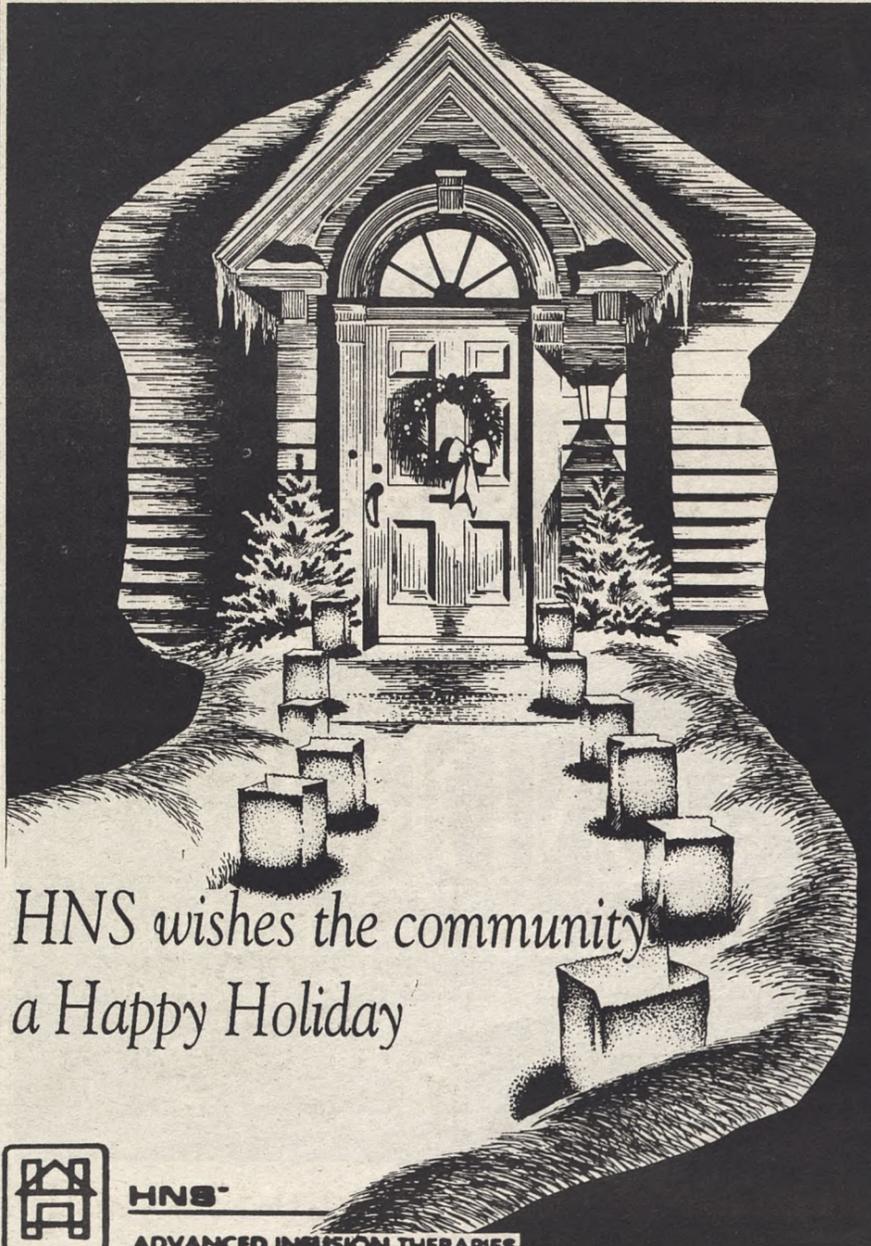
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OBITUARIES

Ricky Flippen

Ricky Lee Flippen, of Washington, DC, died on Tuesday, December 1, 1992 at George Washington University Hospital in Northwest of complications associated with AIDS, according to his longtime friend, Bob Strain of DC. He was 35 years old.

In the early 1980s, Flippen worked for several years at the Federal National Mortgage Association in Northwest, according to Strain. Then, as a result of his interest in the role of massage in caring for people with AIDS, he received training in massage therapy and established a private practice in DC.

Flippen was active with several 12-step programs and support groups for people with AIDS. According to Strain, he provided free massages for many people with AIDS who could not afford them.

Flippen was born and raised in Washington, PA. After studying vocal music for a year at West Virginia University, he moved in 1975 to DC. Here, according to Strain, he studied vocal music for two years at Howard University.

Ricky left a number of friends in Atlanta, many of whom he met at the Celebrity Gay Spirit Visions Conference in North Carolina.

In addition to Strain, Flippen is survived by his mother, Shirley Flippen; and aunt, Mae

Johnson, both of Elyria, Ohio; two sisters, Kathy Mullens of Dale City, VA; and Vicky Flippen of Harrisburg, PA; and many special friends in the DC area.

Flippen's remains were cremated. The ashes will be scattered in the mountains of western North Carolina.

Ryan Scott Bolton

Oct. 8, 1965-Dec. 7, 1992

My love soldier and clown dog sleep quiet and full. Visit me when you can.

With a Cheshire cat grin and a devil-may-care I picked up the crystals and tossed them in the air. Watching them fall a rainbow shower of color each one a treasure in my life for my lover, and I'll send a message under the moon. You'll find sweet kisses for you, Ryan, call you to me in the dream time.

J. Michael Dollins

Michael Dollins departed this life for a musical engagement in the Cosmos, due to complications from AIDS, on November 3, 1992. He is survived by his companion Bernie Pierce, cat T.C., and many friends. We will miss your musical ability and puppetry skills greatly. You are at peace now. "Pretty Boy," enjoy yourself. Till we meet wherever.

Bobby McNeir

To place an obituary

Southern Voice publishes obituaries of members of the gay and lesbian community as both news and a community service, free of charge. To report a death call 876-0789 or write:

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NEXT WEEK

Gay street patrol

in Washington, DC is making everyone nervous—including gay activists.

Meet Ms. Wiggins.

Storyteller Jack Schiffman's 5th grade teacher taught him all he needed to know about love—and being different.

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

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of Southern Voice.

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

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SOUTHERN VOICE

License to discriminate

With so much emphasis these days on trying to establish lesbian/gay civil rights, I have a proposal which may solve our problem. It is not original. In fact, I borrowed it from Professor Derrick Bell, visiting professor at NYU School of Law. I propose that we ask Congress to enact the Sexual Orientation Preference Licensing Act. Professor Bell has recommended this statute to be adopted for racial minorities.

In essence, the statute would allow discriminators to pay for their behavior directly instead of dragging them into court to prove that they, in fact, violated a law which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Specifically, the law would allow "all employers, proprietors of public facilities, and owners and managers of dwelling places, homes and apartments" to obtain "a license from the federal government authorizing them to exclude or separate per-

sons on the basis of sexual orientation." The license would be very expensive, but not prohibitively so.

After obtained, the license holder would be required to pay a 3% tax on income derived from or products sold to heterosexuals while the license is in effect. License holders would be required to prominently display their licenses and operate in accordance with a "straights only" policy. Licenses would not be available to those who might hire or rent to one token lesbian or gay individual.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Lesbians and gay men who want to pursue discrimination claims would still have the burden of proof, but the burden can be met by using statistical and circumstantial as well as direct evidence provided by straight testers. Successful plaintiffs would be entitled to damages of \$10,000.00 per incident of unlicensed discrimination, including

attorney's fees.

The money collected from the purchase of the licenses would go into an "equality fund." The fund would be used to underwrite lesbian/gay businesses, offer no-interest mortgage loans to lesbian/gay home buyers, and provide scholarships to lesbian/gay students seeking college and vocational education.

This proposal, of course, has one glaring pitfall. People can hide their sexual orientation whereas individuals cannot hide their race. Even still, there are plenty of out lesbian/gay individuals who face insurmountable discrimination because of this fact.

To paraphrase Professor Bell, "by requiring the discriminator to both publicize and to pay all [lesbians and gay men] a price for that 'right,' the law may dilute both the financial and psychological benefits of [homophobia]." And, I can think of a list of potential licensees: Cracker Barrel, Delta Airlines, Gulf States Paper Corporation, City of Tampa, Florida, State of Colorado, and the U.S. Military to name just a few.

DAVID VAN DER GRIFF

An open letter to the community

To the Hearts that Light Up the Night,

When one receives a gift it is always in good taste to send a thank-you note. This is my thank-you note to all of you. My heart can never express the gratitude I feel for each and every one of you.

When I started the Christmas Lighting I never dreamed that in three years, this worthy cause would be so wonderfully received. Yes, it is called the "Danny Donohoe Christmas Tree Lighting," but one can never go the journey alone. Its mere existence is because of all the people who have shown me love and compassion.

Words cannot express how grateful I am to each and every one of you. To all the bars who gave me a chance to prove myself, their undying hospitality does not go unnoticed. In this day and age when it is so easy to be selfish, loving hearts have embraced me and my endeavor. Through your effort and generosity this Project Open Hand Benefit will enable us to give so that others can live. When someone is hungry, sick or desolate, sexual orientation, race or creed has no name.

Let this Christmas Tree be symbolic for all the people it will help. Let it light up their hearts and minds, like it has illuminated mine. When one light flickers, it is good to know that there are many more that shine brightly, and you the Atlanta Community and the wonderful people who have helped me, are those lights.

My sincerest thanks,
Danny Donohoe

Lip service not enough to fight AIDS

To the Editor:

This year's political debate included the issue of whether the federal government was doing enough in the fight against HIV/AIDS. One erroneous impression left by this debate was that more money is spent on HIV/AIDS than on cancer or heart disease.

The determination of how much is appropriate to spend on any disease is a complex and difficult issue, and the debate is not advanced by the defensive use of politically generated statistics. The simplistic use of numbers of deaths as a measure of relative spending is just not valid. Other questions such as the age of the population group affected, the rate of increase of the disease and the number of years research has been underway, for example, are important factors. Much of the \$5 billion spend on HIV/AIDS is from social security, medicare, medicaid and other

entitlement programs and is not available for research and prevention.

We, the Board of Heartstrings of West Georgia, have heard the voices of those directly affected by this disease. We believe, and our experience confirms, that ours is a compassionate community; however our experience also, sadly, tells us that a recent editorial statement by the "Times Georgian" that "There is no sensible, thinking soul on the planet who does not have compassion for AIDS victims and their families and who doesn't want to do all humanly possible to help them," is unfortunately just not true.

While we are often inspired by the courage and bravery of those directly engaged in their personal battle with this disease, we have too often witnessed the anguish of the young person engaged in a desperate struggle for life who cannot feel compassion from his family. While we live in a nation with unsurpassed medical technology, we know too many, fearful of societal discrimination and judgment, who are intimidated and afraid to reach out for help.

While we know that disease responds to expressions of love, companionship and human warmth, we also know too many who are driven into pathological isolation and loneliness. While we know many have received strength and support from their church and faith, sadly, we know too many driven away by the shrill voices of self-righteousness, judgment, and rejection. While we have

made progress since the days when Ryan White was publicly discriminated against, we have dear neighbors with gay HIV-infected children, siblings, lovers, or friends who sit quietly in their business meetings, churches, bridge clubs, and other social settings while words of intolerance, ignorance and bigotry are thoughtlessly spoken.

So, has the government done enough? We, along with the National Commission on AIDS and others, think not. The government, particularly the President, can offer more effective leadership and education. Knowledge and education are not enemies of morality.

We enthusiastically support programs advocating sexual abstinence during adolescence, but the evidence is clear and obvious; many of our young people are sexually active. Mentioning condoms is not obscene—unnecessary suffering and death are. We have to find more creative ways to help our young people navigate the treacherous waters of adolescence and young adulthood. We now know how HIV is and is not transmitted. Greater public awareness of these facts can lead to greater tolerance and understanding.

All families are affected by confrontations with serious diseases. Let us not be politically seduced into arguing and competing amongst ourselves. Let us feel our pain and free our compassion to motivate us to focus on prevention, healing and love.

Sincerely,
George P. Stoddard



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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dawna Wade and Nina Deadwyler will celebrate their 3rd anniversary on December 30th. Just to prove that life sometimes literally drips with irony, the two had their first meeting at the Cracker Barrel in Lithonia. They have been back to the Cracker Barrel since then...but this time they picketed instead of perusing the menu. In fact, Nina's first ever picket was also the site of their first date. Now that's romantic!

JOBS:

David Van der griff will soon be jetting off to sunny California, but it's no vacation. David will be out there to take the California Bar Exam. He will be back East in March, but alas, he may be coming back to pack his bags and make it a permanent relocation. Good luck David, we will miss you!

NEW ARRIVALS:

SoVo has a new arrival of sorts, a new Office Master...Molly. The eight-week-old tiger-striped kitten now has run of the place and has captured everyone's hearts. Molly is named for my heroine, columnist Molly Ivins, because she investigated the entire office and had an opinion on everything. After the investigation Molly attacked a photo of fellow Texas journalist Linda Ellerbee. The staff isn't sure of the implications of that one. Welcome, Molly.

HOLIDAY OCCASIONS:

Ed Stencil, President of GAPAC, will celebrate his holiday this year with his biological family in Rome and also with his friends here in Atlanta. He's lucky, he says, that they all live within an hour of each other so

he can spend most of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with both sets of loved ones.

Mary Elliot, with the Southeastern Gay Rodeo Association, says she will also spend time with family and friends this holiday. She has a daughter in town that she will see, then she'll spend some of her Christmas Eve and Christmas at Hoedown's dancing off that Christmas feast. After losing a son and her mother recently, Mary says the most important thing about Christmas is spending time with your family and friends, because "We don't always have tomorrow."

Doug Johnson, new Senior Pastor at All Saints MCC, will have lunch with his mother, sister and brother on Christmas Day. He also will spend a part of the day with his friends at Galano. On December 26th, like most other years, he will spend the day with his four children and three grandkids. He is especially proud to announce that one of his sons is graduating from the Southern Theological Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Chuck Lockwood will take part in his family's traditional Christmas Eve steak dinner. Christmas morning they will wake up to breakfast and then their present opening ceremony, where they sit in a big circle and open presents one at a time. ("It's a two hour ordeal!" says Chuck.) Then it's back to the table for more food. Hope there's a Thighmaster under the tree for you, Chuck!

compiled by CANDACE CHELLEW
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AL COTTON

A dose of holiday perspective

A recent newspaper article caught my attention, holiday-wise. It was about a nurse who got AIDS in a struggle with a dying prisoner over a needle in a hospital fight. It was a horrible story, but what really got to me was her concern over the timing of her death. She was quoted as saying, "I just hope when the time comes, the Good Lord decides not to let me die during a holiday because that would ruin that season for the whole family forever."

For me, nothing sums up the Runaway Train of Holiday Expectations better than this story. Starting at Halloween, you can watch this roller coaster start to gain momentum, as it prepares to stage manage everyone's emotions, invalidating all those that aren't seasonally appropriate. I like to create adjectives, and the one that keeps coming to mind every December is "holidistic," since only a sadist can truly appreciate what our holiday season has become.

Lots of people have advice on ways of coping with Christmas sadness and malaise. Some friends have found new ways of being charitable. Others make sure that they'll be surrounded by people who are precious in their lives, or just choose quiet time alone.

But with the Runaway Train already charging down the tracks, any choice that doesn't involve cards, presents, trips or Honey Baked Hams requires an enormous amount of creative energy. Re-envisioning rituals and ceremonies, ignoring unhealthy traditions and starting new ones—these are not light orders, and accomplishing them in the middle of a season already charged with angst and activity is tough.

My basic plan is to let the holiday season be about whatever it wants to be. Christmas has my permission to be festive and bountiful, debauched and Dionysian, tragic or ecstatic, even both boring and dreary. Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men notwithstanding, I'm working very hard not to manufacture any emotions that I don't actually feel.

In enacting this plan, it helps me to remember Christmases that weren't drawn by Norman Rockwell. I vividly recall the Christmas I spent changing locks and closing bank accounts, escaping from an abusive relationship. Another coincided with my mother's surgery. Several years ago, two distant relatives died the week before Christmas. Christmas, 1987, every one in my family knew, was to be my grandmother's last.

These Christmases were not about joyous families huddled around the fireplace, or even the television. They were trying times that called on the inner resources that help us deal with life. They had enough real emotion to keep me from having to buy into any of those faux, seasonal emotions manufactured by society for the holidays. Remembering them is like a tonic—bracing, even purgative. It is liberating, in some ways an heroic act, to allow yourself to be sad for Christmas.

For me, last Christmas's heroic act was my declaration of biologically-familial independence. I had spent my first 33 Christmas Eves with my parents, 32 of them in

Tennessee and one in Alabama—Mom and Dad had bought me a toy grocery store for Santa to bring, and it wouldn't fit in the car, so we stayed home for Christmas Eve and then drove to my grandparents on Christmas Day.

But work needs, calendar quirks and personal priorities combined to give me the gift of being among my gay family here in Atlanta for Christmas Eve. And the next day, I picked up a boyfriend at the airport. Two very special days.

This year, the malaise was setting in—no presents bought, no logical or easy choices about when or whether to travel, no easy fix. I needed a dose of perspective. And I got it from the most unlikely of places—George Bush's choice to send forces into Somalia.

In deciding to enter Somalia, Bush not only had to ignore the "it-would-ruin-Christmas-forever" mindset, he also had to send our military forces on the most un-military of missions—saving lives. A political commentator pointed out that the decision to commit forces where no political interest is at stake is unique in the history of the world. Who else would have taken such a chance with the only motivation being to help?

My dose of perspective was another Christmas scene Rockwell missed—the Somali people cheering our troops' arrival in Baidoa, a large white hand picking up a tiny black one at an orphanage, soldiers moved to tears by the misery—and a much better dose it was than the usual sitcom exploration of the True Meaning of Christmas. As I watched our military assert our country's moral authority, I brushed away a tear and felt proud to be an American for the first time in awhile. At last, a mission I don't mind paying taxes for.

But George Bush saving Christmas? Where did this gift come from? Perhaps losing an election was good for our president's soul, making him understand how the Grinch felt toward all the Whos in Whoville. For the spirit of the season, I'll reserve judgment on him—even Scrooge changed at the end of "A Christmas Carol." But I won't believe he's changed until he invites ACT UP into the White House for Christmas cocoa.

And if this visit from the Ghost of Christmas Famines Present does nothing but help change the definition of a military mission, then that's an unexpected and remarkable legacy for Bush and a Christmas present the entire world can appreciate.

By the time you read this, you will have already dealt with your holiday demons as well, and made peace with yourself about your choices. You will have reconciled the streams of interplay between integrity and compromise that gay people deal with all the time. I would encourage you to feel comfortable with whatever this year's choice was. If it didn't turn out well, to echo SoVo's holiday survival article, don't beat yourself up. Simply make a note to do something different next year.

And my Christmas wish is that by this time next year, we will have a President who is awake to humanitarian concerns both at home and abroad from the start, leading a Marshall Plan against AIDS. And that in Somalia, a bowl of rice will no longer seem like a gift from God. Happy Holidays.

C A R B O N C O P Y

The Editors
Creative Loafing

I have never written to you before, but I was compelled to respond to Neal Boortz's December 12 column concerning the Colorado boycott. We, the gay and lesbian community, are sick and tired of being told we are demanding "special rights" when we expect to be treated as worthwhile humans, to be safe in our homes and neighborhoods, to not be fired simply because of who we share our lives with, and to be treated equally under the law. These are equal—repeat EQUAL rights we want, the same basic rights that the majority of Americans take for granted as their birthrights.

Usually Mr. Boortz seems to be influenced primarily by selfishness, but he has taken a step down to outright lying. Neal, tell me, what "special rights" did lesbians and gays lose on November 3? The right to keep a job if they can do the work? The right to love another adult without fear of becoming a felon? The right not to be kicked out of one's home? Do these really sound like "special rights"? Aren't these rights that heterosexuals already enjoy? And if we ask for what everyone else already has, what is so "special" about that?

The truth is that the "special rights" tactic is similar to the "separate but equal" arguments used for decades to deny African-Americans the most basic constitutional

rights. ("Oh, those Negroes already have what they need, they don't need any special rights, like sitting on the front of the bus or going to our schools or eating in our restaurants." "Oh, those gays already have rights, they don't need special rights, like the right to a job and housing and due process of the law.") It is unfortunate that the people of Colorado have fallen for this ruse, but it is so true that apathy and gullibility are the precursors of hatred and bigotry.

The recent rise in right-wing violence in Germany has predictably raised cries of "we have to make sure the Holocaust never happens again." A completely noble thought, to be sure, but those uttering it usually fail to realize that the anti-gay hatred spewed by the Pat Buchanans, Nancy Schaeferes, and Pat Robertsons is as insidious, fallacious, and as calculated to appeal to the common prejudice as any anti-Semitic propaganda from the Third Reich. All the same ingredients are there: bad economic times, a frustrated "silent majority," a campaign based not on facts but on laughable insinuations that an unpopular minority is demanding and getting more than their just due.

Don't say "It can't happen here," because if people like Neal Boortz influence enough citizens, it could.

Paul E. Bartels

The Atlanta Constitution
To the Editor:

In response to all the uproar about sex education, including homosexuality, being taught in the schools: first of all, these references to what "the Bible says" and what "God says" confuse me.

I am no biblical scholar, but I do know that the Old Testament was written centuries before the birth of Christ in rather primitive times. The entire Bible has been translated over and over again and revised time after time throughout the centuries.

Often these revisions and translations were made or overseen by evil and hateful men. (I can say that because there are evil and hateful men today that hold important positions in many religions.) Often the message of the Bible was altered to do their own bidding or support their own views. I know for a fact that there was one pope hundreds of years ago that came right out and ordered a complete revision of the Bible.

We must remember that the Word of God comes through the Bible and it is not intended to be taken literally. The Bible is filled with metaphor and allegory.

Before anyone starts quoting the Bible and telling us what "God says" they should do a little homework to discern who actually recorded those words, under what conditions, in what language, at what point in history, in what context, and who was responsible for the book's or passage's translation.

I recently had a poem translated from French to English and received from several experts, several different interpretations. And French is a modern language! Imagine how impossible it would be to translate a completely dead language!

To hear someone say that "God says" homosexuality is a perversion, makes my skin crawl. God created all men out of His divine, unconditional love, including homosexuals. Ask any gay person and he or she will tell you that he/she was born that way and never CHOSE to be gay. Instead they chose to love themselves. If there's no choice, there can be no sin, no affront to God.

The real perversion is when people claim

to know the mind of God and instead distort His word, pass judgement on others, promote hatred, and foster ignorance.

The message Christ brings us through the New Testament, is painfully clear: we must love each other. Or as Rodney King said: "Why can't we all get along?" All this uproar about homosexuals has gotten out of hand, and all the finger-pointing has grown rather tiresome. Let's get our act together and get on with the business of helping others.

Larry Wittenbrook

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COLORADO WATCH

On the Colorado watch this week, more right wing groups, buoyed by Amendment 2's success, are joining the fight against gay rights. Televangelist Pat Robertson's National Legal Foundation has now taken over the job of handling queries about Amendment 2 from Colorado for Family Values, which spearheaded the amendment drive.

The Denver Post obtained correspondence between the foundation and CFV that shows the groups consulted in 1991—long before Amendment 2 was placed on the ballot—to iron out ballot language. CFV maintained throughout the campaign that its election strategy was coordinated locally and not by national religious or political groups.

"If language denying special privileges to homosexuals is in the amendment, it could possibly allow homosexuals to argue that they are not asking for any special privileges, just those granted to everyone else," wrote Robertson to staff counsel Brian McCormick in one letter. "I believe that 'No Special Privileges' is a good motto for the amendment's public campaign, but I fear the possible legal ramifications if it is included in the amendment itself."

On the boycott front, the U.S. Conference of Mayors executive committee voted last week to move its June 1993 conference out of Colorado Springs. The drive to move the conference was begun by Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, joined by New York's David Dinkins, Chicago's Richard Daley, Seattle's Norm Rice, and Philadelphia's Ed Rendell, all of whom said they would not attend the conference if it were held in Colorado. The Republican Mayor of Colorado Springs, Robert Isaac, is a past president of the conference, and had long pushed to hold it in his home city.

The ACLU of Southern California has also endorsed the boycott effort. "Colorado is a place of intolerance and where intolerance has now been codified," said the organization's executive director, Ramona Ripston.

And in Oregon—a state which defeated an even more draconian measure than Colorado's—Portland has embargoed trade with Colorado and its fellow Oregon city Springfield, which has an anti-gay rights city ordinance.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force dispatched two staffers to Colorado to help start up "Ground Zero," a gay rights action group in Colorado Springs, home of the CFV.

"There is a palpable environment of fear and hate in Colorado right now," said

NGLTF's Robert Bray, who, along with Peri Jude Radecic, made the trip to the Rocky Mountain State. "Violence and harassment against gays have increased since the vote. In Colorado Springs I saw some shops with signs that read, 'No Special Rights—Homosexuals Stay Out.'"

Bray said that the community is coming together, however, to fight the amendment.

Members of Colorado's entertainment community are teaming up with their California counterparts for an advertising campaign designed to help repeal the amendment. Coloradans and Californians for Fairness in the Nation (COFFIN) will place ads in gay publications seeking money to help repeal the measure. The group's executive members include Denver concert promoter Barry Fey, Tonight Show co-producer Bill Royce, George Michael's manager Rod Kahanee, and Aerosmith's manager Tim Collins.

Additionally, Tim Gill, chairman and founder of the Denver-based software developer Quark, Inc. announced that he would contribute \$1 million toward the fight against Amendment 2 in an effort to teach people that discrimination is wrong.

"It's important to me, as an employer," he said, "that I create a state where people don't have to feel concerned they will be treated as second-class citizens."

And the Regional Transportation District, a Colorado state agency, has flown in the face of Amendment 2 by adopting a policy to protect employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"The simple fact is that we have gays and lesbians at every level of this organization," RTD director Roger Sherman said. "As elected officials, we have an obligation to stand up for what is morally right."

The boycott effort is a hot topic in Colorado. Many there have urged against the boycott, saying that staying away will not help in the fight against the amendment. The Denver Center for the Performing Arts has offered its stages as a forum for public awareness, asking that artists not cancel appearances.

Organizers of Aspen's Gay and Lesbian Ski Week are still hoping for a big crowd in late January, although sentiment for the boycott has sent many looking for another area for their ski vacations.

Aspen, Boulder and Denver all voted against the amendment, and have anti-discrimination laws on the books that will be repealed when the amendment takes effect on January 1.

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Dorf

Continued from page 1

cause they didn't know how to dispense it. There's no consistency to the way patients are treated medically. It's an absolute complete mess," according to Dorf.

The dDI supply has been left with AIDS activists in Moscow—and when foreign doctors familiar with treating HIV infection arrive to train their Russian counterparts, the drug will be turned over to them for dispensing.

Dorf says that HIV statistics are hard to come by—and there is "tremendous stigmatization" in Russia for people suffering from HIV disease.

"No one really knows the real situation with HIV. There is mandatory contact tracing and you can go to jail for being gay and for infecting someone. There is anonymous testing, but people are forced into contact tracing if they are positive, so it's only anonymous if you are negative," she says.

"The few people who are known to the government don't know anything about their options," she says. "It's an incredible mess," she says.

The trip to Russia was Dorf's 14th since 1985—and she says she plans to keep returning.

"I studied Russian at Wesleyan College in Connecticut and I went to Russia after my first year. I was very fortunate to fall into a group of dissident friends and was involved in Jewish and gay rights issues from the start. My first group of gay friends were all ex-prisoners," she says.

The high profile lesbian activist has appeared on Russian television and is well known to authorities—but she's never had her visa revoked.

"I have been strip searched at the border and have had documents taken from me, but I've never had the visa denied," she says. "They know who I am and what I'm up to and if they were really concerned, they'd deny me a visa," she says.

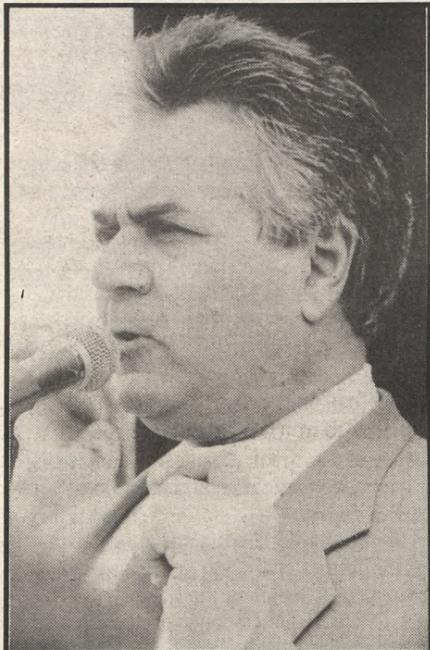
When lesbian and gay rights groups began forming in the country and TEMA, the first gay newspaper founded by activist Roman Kalinan began publishing in 1990, Dorf incorporated ILGHR.

"It seemed like there needed to be some kind of external group to help with the work of individual activists or groups in different countries. So we formed the first international human rights organization to work on persecution due to sexual orientation and HIV status," she says.

ILGHR has a working relationship with other human rights groups such as Amnesty International, which used to give civil rights violations based on sexual orientation short shrift.

In 1991, following international pressure, AI expanded its mandate to track, document and protest human rights abuses of gays and lesbians around the world.

"If we could bring the United Nations and other groups like Amnesty International and



Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) delivered a letter from Congress members urging repeal of the sodomy laws in Russia.

Human Rights Watch to include our issues, and while I don't think they are our enemies, they haven't and we can and must do this work for our community," Dorf says.

With a budget of about \$100,000 a year, most of the funds are raised from individual contributors.

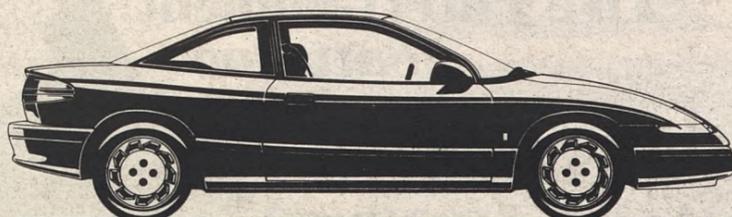
"All lesbian and gay groups are working for our liberation but none was focused solely on international human rights and we're trying to make as strong an impact as we can," Dorf says.

"We're not talking about anything special. We're talking about basic human rights such as the freedom of assembly, freedom from prison and incarceration. It's not that big a difference from other human rights issues. We're talking about the inclusion of gays and lesbians in all those basic human rights around the world," Dorf says.

Among the recent ILGHR accomplishments are organizing and sponsoring the First International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival in the Soviet Union in 1991, support of the successful struggle to legalize a lesbian and gay rights group in Argentina, an international pressure campaign to secure the release of two men facing 20 years on sodomy charges in the Bahamas, and documentary support for attorneys working on asylum, sodomy and other discrimination cases in Canada, the United States, Sweden, Australia and Argentina.

"It's extremely challenging work. My main message to the lesbian and gay community in this country is that it is our responsibility and duty to do this. Homophobia and HIV discrimination know no borders. It's our duty to counteract the export of homophobia. It's our duty to hear and respond to the cries for help from lesbians and gay in other countries."

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Transition Team

Continued from page 1

Department cluster;
David Geffen, recording and entertainment industry magnate, attended the Economic Summit in Little Rock;
Bob Hattoy, an environmental leader whose speech on living with HIV/AIDS was a high point of the Democratic National Convention, is serving as a Senior Advisor to COALITION '93 and is Deputy Political Director in Constituency Relations on the Transition staff;

Fred Hochberg, President and Chief Operating Officer of Lillian Vernon Corporation, is looking at the Small Business Administration for the Economics cluster and attended the Economic Summit;

Bruce Lehman, patent and trademark attorney and former counsel to the House Judiciary Committee, is handling the Patent and Trademark Office in the Commerce Department for the Economics cluster;

Dennis Maust, who just completed service as a Major in the United States Air Force, is covering NASA for the cluster on Science and Technology;

Howard Menaker, a business leader with experience in the private sector and trade associations, is part of the team handling government operations and the General Services Administration;

Steve Morin, a psychologist who is also Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, is working on public health issues in the Health and Human Services cluster;

Robert Raben, an associate at a large law firm, is reporting on the Office of Interagency



Chai Feldblum, an attorney closely involved with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, is studying the Office of Legal Counsel.

and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Education cluster;

Greg Stull, Senior Lecturer in Theatre at Mary Washington College, is part of the Arts cluster;

Kurt Vorndran, Senior Policy Analyst with the National Council of Senior Citizens, is evaluating the Social Security Administration as part of the Health and Human Services cluster;

Tim Westmoreland, chief AIDS expert for Rep. Henry Waxman's Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, is the primary AIDS analyst for the Health Policy group.

"The active involvement of open lesbians and gay men in the Presidential transition process marks an important moment in gay and lesbian history," said Waybourn. "For the first time, open lesbians and gay men have been called upon by the President-elect of the United States to serve their country. We are honored to do so and are proud of the extraordinary talents and abilities demonstrated by members of our community. We are sure they will serve with distinction."

COALITION '93, comprised of eighteen major gay/lesbian community and AIDS organizations, was formed to serve as a resource to President-elect Clinton as he seeks to ensure an Administration that reflects the diversity of America.

Charter members of Coalition '93 include: ANGLE, AIDS Project Los Angeles, Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, Gay Men's Health Crisis, GLAAD USA, Human Rights Campaign Fund, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, LLEGO, National Association of People with AIDS, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, National Minority AIDS Council, National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of Black and White Men Together, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Stonewall Community Foundation, United for AIDS Action. Senior Advisors to Coalition '93 are Robert Achtenberg, David Mixner, Bob Hattoy, and Hon. Gerry Studts.



Bob Hattoy, an environmental leader whose speech as a gay HIV+ man was a high point at the Democratic National Convention, is Deputy Political Director in Constituency Relations.



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Brian Boitano denies report that half of male skaters are gay

Los Angeles—Brian Boitano, probably the world's best male figure skater, calls a story linking his sport with AIDS "ridiculous" and "a joke."

The Calgary Herald reported last week-end that 40 male skaters and coaches have died from AIDS in North America in recent years and at least a dozen prominent American and Canadian male skaters are HIV positive.

The newspaper story said it conducted two months of interviews and spoke with some 125 skaters, coaches, judges, officials, people with AIDS and their friends and families.

"It's a joke. I think the guy made it up," Boitano said Dec. 16. "This guy [the reporter for the Herald] is bogus. Forty cases, who's he talked to? I haven't met any skaters who have talked to him [the reporter]."

"...he's wrong when he says half the skaters are gay. There's no doubt in my mind or any of the skaters in this competition. All the professional, elite skaters here, we all agree on that."

"It's so ridiculous. That is not true, what the guy said. I know, I've been around the skating thing. Just like the majority of people in life, the majority of people in skating are straight. That's a fact. Nobody in skating would deny that."

Boitano, 29, was in Southern California to compete in the Challenge of Champions, an international skating event at the Forum. He's won the male figure skating competition in the event four straight years since turning professional after winning the gold medal in the 1988 Olympic Games.

"I don't know anyone in skating from the United States who's HIV positive, I really don't," Boitano said. "I don't know of any skater in this country who's died from the disease."

"You just can't generalize in terms of what people do. There are as many people that have this disease in sports as in business. It's everywhere."

"People, open your eyes. That's all I'm

asking people to do. It's not connected with one kind of life or one way."

The Herald listed as among those whose deaths were AIDS related: Canadians Brian Pockar, a three-time national champion; 1988 Olympic dance bronze medalist Rob McCall; former world junior champion Dennis Coi; and Shaun McGill, a world professional silver medalist in 1988. Among the others were former U.S. medalists Tim Brown and John Carrell.

The Herald quoted Arthur Luiz, co-president of the newly formed International Gay Figure Skating Union, as saying at least half of North America's top male skaters are gay.

"I don't even know who he is and I've never heard of this association," Boitano said. "I'm sure it does exist, but he's wrong when he says half the skaters are gay. There's no doubt in my mind or any of the skaters in this competition. All the professional, elite skaters here, we all agree on that."

"I think he [the reporter] is flat wrong. Why didn't he speak with somebody from the head of the AIDS organization for America? Why didn't he talk to someone from the Gay Association? Why are you going to take what this guy says as gospel? Where's his proof?"

As busy as Boitano has been with training, he took a break last month to skate in an AIDS benefit at Toronto in honor of McCall. The benefit raised \$500,000.

Boitano plans to participate in other AIDS benefits.

"It's not a sexuality issue," he said. "The issue is helping people and educating people. The ironic thing is most of the figure skaters are straight. We're doing it to help people. It doesn't have anything to do with sexuality."

"The bottom line is, if people think that this problem is any less in any other sport or business, they're wrong. This is a problem everywhere, and it's not a sexuality issue, and I think that's the most important message to get out to the public now."

"The skaters are doing great things. The reporters are turning it into a sexuality thing, and that's not going to help anybody. It's nobody's business how any of those who died got this disease or from who they got it."

"It's a people disease. People who are naive are going to buy into this kind of story. They buy into it and they end up having unsafe sex. It's going to hit their city, too. It's going to hit town X in Missouri."

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OUT & ABOUT

AIDS FILMS

PHILADELPHIA

There's a slew of new Hollywood studio projects in various stages of development all about AIDS. And surely you remember all of Hollywood's past glorious efforts on this topic: "An Early Frost," uh...hmmmm...I guess that's about it. Perhaps a Ryan White movie-of-the-week here or there, but little else has passed by their slippery pens.

The truth of the matter is the really powerful AIDS films have all been small-budget productions. Bill Sherwood's "Parting Glances" remains an independent release classic, and the solid American Playhouse contributions of "Longtime Companion" and "Andre's Mother" still stand the test of time. These films managed to face the epidemic in the mid- to late-80s and not destroy the audience's hope with wads and wads of despair brought to you by human disintegration.

Now the big Hollywood guns—or should we say—the big Hollywood hypodermics are out ready to inject America's soporific, apathetic, AIDS-phobic tushy. Here's the laundry list: Jonathan Demme's "Silence of the Lambs" is slated to direct "Philadelphia," Francis Ford Coppola is working on a script for "Cure," HBO bought the rights to Randy Shilts' "And the Band Played On" ages ago, and Barbra Streisand has threatened to roll out the old war horse, Larry Kramer's "The Normal Heart." Nothing much is known about Coppola, HBO or Streisand's projects, but Demme's "Philadelphia" has been leaked to the press.

Here's a little glimpse into Tri-Star's "Philadelphia," the first major studio to produce an AIDS-themed film. Demme's film has been through several drafts now and several different titles, from "People Like Us," to "Probable Cause," to its present, more generic title.

Here's the story in a nutshell. Andrew Beckett, a successful, high-powered junior partner at one of Philadelphia's most prestigious law firms, suddenly discovers he has Kaposi's Sarcoma. Very quickly he is severely debilitated and summarily fired. He decides to sue the Firm. In order to fight this Firm, he hires an old adversary, a homophobic fly-by-night lawyer. Hmm. Is that the first person you'd choose to represent you? What's more alarming is that the script calls for an impassioned plea for understanding, a jury-side plea for compassion, courtesy of the newly-enlightened, formerly homophobic lawyer.

To top off these questionable scripting choices, Demme has cast Tom Hanks—that's right, *Tom Hanks*—as the Beckett character. His last serious film was Tom Wolfe's "Bonfire of the Vanities," and do we all remember what a career-capping performance that was? The story-destroying star system at work in Hollywood feature films has crippled some very promising projects in the past. Robert Altman's "The Player" spent a good ten minutes slagging off the industry for hypothesizing inane parings of serious subject matter with the likes of Julia Roberts or Melanie Griffith. Hanks and AIDS could have come straight from Altman's parody.

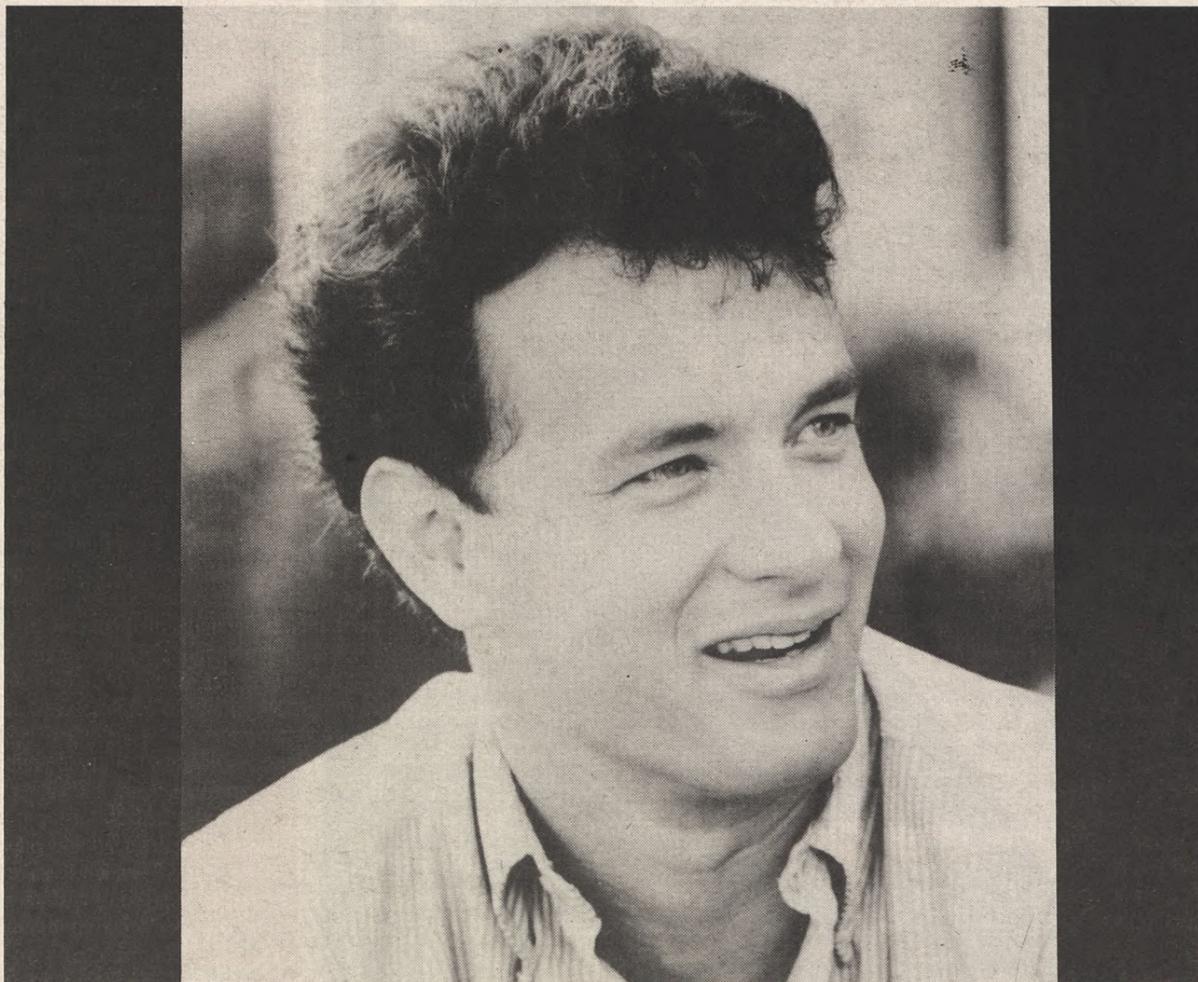
Charming in "Big," smarmily oafish in "A League of Their Own," Hanks has never been able to believably pull off the "high-powered executive" character. In "Bonfire" his mawkish, elfin Wall Street powerbroker was positively hilarious. Pity it was supposed to be a serious role. What will Hanks do with Beckett, one wonders?

That said, Denzel Washington—who has amazed audiences with his spectacularly subtle and powerful "Malcolm X"—plays Beckett's attorney. Thankfully someone realized the need for a solid anchor. It's a shame Demme couldn't imagine Washington for the lead.

Rounding out the cast so far is Beckett's lover Antonio Banderas of Almodovar fame and "Mambo Kings" renown. That's the sort of mish-mash cast one gets when one of Hollywood's Golden Boys takes the helm.

At this point it's too early to tell whether we're staring down the throat of an AIDS monster or an AIDS masterpiece—scripts change. But as we witness the backroom machinations grinding deep into the soul of another gay-oriented Hollywood project, "The Harvey Milk Story" (starring Robin Williams), one must wonder.

Are the big studios hoping that the great comic talent of Williams and Hanks will salvage material otherwise too weighty for "The Mighty Ducks"-going American audience? Will Hanks pull some fabulously goofy faces at the perfect dreary courtroom drama moment? Will Williams dazzle us with schtick so we fall in love with that lovable buffoon from the Castro? Eeek. Well, anything is possible. But as the "Basic Instinct" controversy has hopefully taught us, let's not count our rotten eggs before they've hatched.



Tom Hanks has been cast as a lawyer with AIDS who fights the system in Jonathan Demme's (Silence of the Lambs) upcoming film "Philadelphia."

There is a certain degree of joy in knowing that Hollywood now believes that AIDS is a topic that people will pay \$6.50 to be moved by. After a long, long decade of the "Gay Plague," it's nice to know that most folks seem to give a damn.

MATTHEW CIBELLIS

BOOK REVIEW

A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

There are 24 stories in *A Member of the Family* (ed. by John Preston; E.P. Dutton; hardback; \$22). Devoted to gay men remembering their family—fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, uncles—they make up a kind of cubist portrait with each writer picking out a different part of his family past to blow up and enlarge. Reading several at a single setting can be somewhat disorienting, something like confronting a huge eye, then a huge nose and then a huge cauliflower ear, but never seeing the entire face they belong to. Complicating matters is the range in time, space and race, from Martin Palmer's recollection of a father "born the year after the civil war ended" to Christopher Witke remembering himself as a gay teen in 1979; from Harlan Greene in South Carolina to Bernard Cooper in Southern California; from Michael Nava's Chicano past to Larry Duplecham's African-American past to Arnie Kantrowitz' Jewish past. How to make sense of so much difference?

Individually, however, each story has a simplicity born of the singleness of its focus. In a collection like this, everyone will find favorites. I confess I'm a pushover for Martin Palmer's tales: I was enchanted by his account of gay men recreating Babbette's Feast in a wintry Alaska shack in "Hometowns," and equally fascinated by his account of growing up in Tallahassee, Florida, in the years before World War II. There are only the tiniest of gay references in his story, chief of them the time when, in his idiosyncratic way, Palmer's father communicated to his thirteen year old "sissy child" an accepting understanding of who he was.

The easy tenor of Palmer's story, however, is the exception rather than the rule, for these are, in the main, stories of estrangement—of the distance cast between us and the ones we love by the secrets of our sexuality. From the opening line of John Preston's introduction, "I had to leave my family to be gay," this sense of estrangement pervades the tales that follow. It's no-

where crueler or stronger than in Michael Nava's composed account of growing up literally the family's bastard son. Brian Kirkpatrick picks at the scar of being adopted, never knowing who his mother was. Albert Clarke recalls in painful detail his horrible, abusive father and his father's mother, "a voracious mountain of flesh," virulently homophobic.

Even with gay family members there is that distance. Arnie Kantrowitz and Andrew Holleran recall two unmarried uncles, but they have only suspicions and questions. Oddest and saddest of all, perhaps, are the three stories in which Clifford Chase, John Champagne and Michael Bronski talk about their relationships with their also gay brothers. In each case, whatever youthful closeness exists between the siblings shatters as puberty and adulthood enters.

Yet if there is estrangement, there is also story after story that moves beyond that into something else: the confrontation with the truth, the consequent struggles, the grudging toleration and then something like acceptance, welcome back into the family bosom. Preston again sets the tone, telling a wonderful story of his later friendship with his younger brother, a U.S. Marine, and his mother, proud of her book writing son, who "passes out photocopies of my reviews." The gay brothers grow up and find in their sexuality a commonness that restores, however tenuous, a bond.

Larry Duplecham's mother, a "black foursquare Southern Baptist," can't accept his homosexuality, yet she "greeted my white male lover/friend/life partner at her door with hugs and kisses." Bernard Cooper, in an absolutely splendid piece, luminously told, finds a connection when his father, elderly and Jewish, marries a willowy black woman in her forties, and, when he comes out to him much later, Cooper feels "a pang of regret for not having told my father about Brian and me sooner."

So what's the big picture? Aside from reaffirming both gay diversity and the abundance of our talents, I think a message underlies these often very lonely, nearly always well wrought stories. I think these stories tell us, if not why Bill Clinton got elected president, why the homo hate fest at the Republican convention failed so miserably. The estranging silence has been broken, again, and again. It's no longer us; a tiny, embattled, lonely, silent minority against the whole world. Because many of us have come out, if only to those closest to us, it's not just us, it's our families the political bigots are attacking. And people protect their own. I have no illusions that the future will be anything but rocky, full of setbacks and dangers. But this book holds a comforting message: telling the truth is worth it, because with the truth comes hope.

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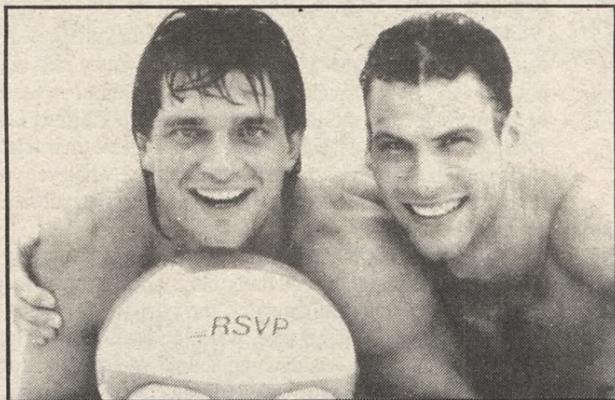
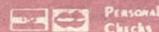
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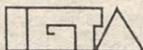
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C A L E N D A R

24 THURSDAY

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE. First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta holds a service of scripture and song at 11:00 p.m. The celebration ends with individual candlelighting and the singing of "Silent Night." Call 872-2246 for info.

CHRISTMAS EVE ON SESAME STREET. How will Bert and Ernie get around a cash shortage to give the other the perfect gift? This and other holiday dilemmas enliven this children's classic. 7:30 p.m. on GPTV Channel 8.

25 FRIDAY

CHAPLIN. Richard Attenborough's film about the motion picture legend Charlie Chaplin opens today. The film features Robert Downey, Jr., Anthony Hopkins, and Kevin Kline.

GPTV HOLIDAY SPECIALS. Georgia's public stations presents an evening of Christmas



specials beginning at 6:30 p.m. "A Carnegie Hall Christmas Concert" features opera divas Kathleen Battle and Fredrica von Stade and trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. The concert is followed by "Jose Carreras, Diana Ross and Placido Domingo: Christmas in Vienna" at 8:00 and "Christmas at the Washington Cathedral" at 9:00. "Richard Tucker Opera Gala" features the music of Bernstein and Cole Porter at 10:00. The evening concludes with "Christmas at the Mansion" at 11:30 with

Gov. Zell Miller and Shirley celebrating the season with several local performers. GPTV Channel 8.

EBENEZER AND TINY TIM. Through Dec. 26. The Alliance Theatre presents Tom Key as a flying Scrooge in its production of Charles Dickens' immortal holiday tale "A Christmas Carol." The all-Atlanta cast will call up the ghosts of Christmases past, present and future. Call 892-2414 for ticket info.

KIDS IN THE HALL. You don't need cable to see the hilariously poignant HBO series. Channel 69 carries an hour's worth of episodes each Friday night at 12:35.

26 SATURDAY

THE NUTCRACKER. Through Dec. 27. The Atlanta Ballet presents the 100th anniversary of this holiday ballet. The magical tale of a little girl's Christmas Eve adventure attracts an audience of young and old alike. 873-5811 for ticket info.

TUNA CHRISTMAS. Through Dec. 27. Back for one week only at Symphony Hall. There's no place like Tuna for the Holidays. 873-4300 for tickets.

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

PLANET OF THE APES FESTIVAL. Cinemax hopes to relieve any post-holiday stress with eight and one-half hours of the sci-fi classic Apes series. The original '67 film is followed by "Beneath the Planet of the Apes," "Escape from the Planet of the Apes," and "Battle for the Planet of the Apes." The fest begins at 11:30 a.m.

27 SUNDAY

STRANGERS IN GOOD COMPANY. When seven old women—portrayed by non-professional actors playing themselves—are stranded in a deserted farmhouse, a crisis develops into a magical time of humor and spirit. Directed by Oscar-winner Cynthia Scott. GPTV Channel 8 at 2:00.

28 MONDAY

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's own public access gay television show features interviews, news, entertainment, history and more. 10:30 p.m. Cable Channel 12, People TV. Same show airs again on Wednesday at 9:30 p.m., and at 10 p.m. on City Channel 6.

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

29 TUESDAY

A NIGHT IN OLD VIENNA. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra presents Viennese favorites including Strauss waltzes and lively polkas and marches. Tonight and Wednesday at 8:00 p.m., two performances on New Year's Eve at 7:00 and 9:30, and again on Jan. 2 at 11:00 a.m. Call 898-1182 for ticket info.

EUROPA EUROPA. Cinemax airs the acclaimed film about a Jewish-Polish teenager who survives the WWII years by pretending to be a German. 1:30 a.m.

DON CONOSCENTI. Original music at the Oxford Acoustic Cafe. 8:30 pm at the Pharr Road Oxford Books. 266-3333 for more info.

ATLANTA'S BLACK ARTISTIC HERITAGE. This exhibit, on display through Feb. 27, explores the history and impact of Atlanta University's annual art exhibitions, 1942-1970. At the Atlanta History Center Downtown. 814-4150 for information.

HANSEL & GRETEL. An updated version of the Grimm classic. The Center for Puppetry Arts, through Feb. 27. Mon.-Fri. 10 & 11:30 am, Sat. 10:30 am & 12:30 pm. Also Wed. 1pm. For tickets, call 873-3391.

30 WEDNESDAY

THE RESTLESS CONSCIENCE. This two-hour documentary focuses on the activities and motivating principles, the moral and political evolution of the people who manned the anti-Nazi underground in Nazi Germany. 10:00 p.m. on GPTV Channel 8.

ONGOING AND UPCOMING

CATS. Through Dec. 27. That classic 80s theatrical warhorse, returns to the Fox for Christmas. Let's not forget that Andrew Lloyd Weber is responsible for "Memory." 249-6400 for tickets.

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

OUTSTANDING AMERICAN PAINTINGS. Through Jan 17.

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

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

DREAM MAKERS. Through Feb. 21. The High Museum of Art presents an exhibition of 118 original drawings and paintings and 75 rare children's books in a

survey of children's book illustrators from the 18th century to the present. Characters such as Raggedy Ann and Andy and works of present-day favorites Maurice Sendak and Dr. Seuss will be featured. 892-HIGH for more info.

BWMT/ATLANTA CELEBRATION. Dec. 31. Black and White Men Together host a party to bring in the new year starting at 10:00 p.m. Food, music, party favors and free champagne highlight the evening. Call 892-BWMT for details.

MASQUERADE '93. Feb. 13. Tickets are on sale now for the Mardi Gras party in Atlanta which benefits Project Open Hand. Last year

over 2,000 attended the gathering which features Krewes, cabaret, food and non-stop dancing. Call 525-4737 for more info and tickets.

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MEN. March 4-7. The 17th annual conference will take place in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. "March Forth" is this year's theme as southerners prepare for the National March on Washington on April 25. Entertainers include Suede, Romanovsky & Phillips, Danny Williams and Lea DeLaria. Workshops, vendors and more. For more info: SECLGM '93, PO Box 4954, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-4954 (205) 750-0257.

Pictured:

BELOW: Robert Downey, Jr. (right) making his debut as the Little Tramp, turns a high society wedding into a crazy romp, in "Chaplin" opening Dec. 25 in metro theatres

UPPER LEFT: William Fred Scott, Artistic Director of The Atlanta Symphony, leads the ASO in "A Night in Old Vienna" Dec. 29 -31. Photo by Don Chambers



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Artist helps Childkind with greeting cards

Daniel Troppy recently drew Elton John's attention for his Christmas cards which benefit Childkind. But you may know of him for a different reason. "People see me around town, and they say 'Oh, you're the guy who drives the Jesus Jeep!'" says Troppy. The "Jesus Jeep" is a white converted postal service jeep decorated with religious references, iconography and Christmas ornaments.

Even if you don't know Troppy or his car, you can buy his handmade greeting cards, called The Hope Card, at Atlanta shops like Nature's Art, Funny Business, and Affairs. They are also sold at the Museum of Modern Art in Los Angeles, the Dallas Museum of Modern Art, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

Troppy has been making greeting cards for over a year as his primary occupation. From the beginning, part of his income from the cards has been donated to Childkind. In November, Troppy sent samples of his cards to Elton John, inviting him to order cards for the season.

"Unfortunately, I got to him too late," says Troppy. Though Troppy did not hear from John himself, the singer's publicity company sent a letter explaining that Mr. John had already purchased his holiday cards but would like to make a donation. A check for \$100 for Childkind was enclosed. "I thought it was very nice of him to send the donation," says Troppy.

Though his art may often be whimsical, Troppy's dedication to his fundraising efforts for Childkind is very serious. "I'd like to work on getting a catalog done with them," he says of future dreams. In January, Michael Bailiff, director of Childkind, has plans to begin marketing Troppy's cards directly through the organization as part of their own fundraising efforts.

"We've been using his cards ourselves, and people are always calling and saying how can I get them," says Bailiff.

Troppy would also like to get the children themselves involved in the artwork. In an effort



Daniel Troppy, whose greeting cards benefit Childkind, recently received a check from Elton John for the organization.

to raise awareness about the organization, he would like to see the children's artwork put on shirts, mugs, key rings, etc. and sold. "A lot of people in this city are still not aware of what Childkind is," he says, "and that's sad."

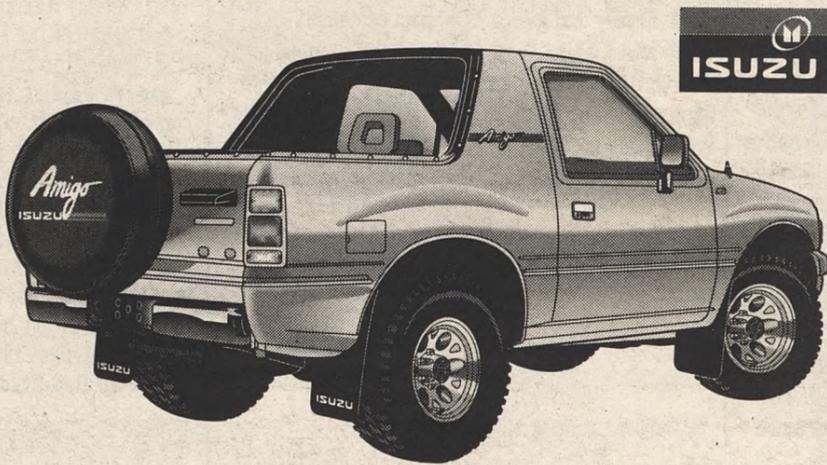
"Aren't you going to ask how I got started?" he finally asked. "In December of '91, I had taken my first AIDS test, and I was worried and praying, and I bartered with God: 'If you'll just make me negative, I'll do something for an AIDS organization.'" Troppy's test result was negative. "I've made a promise and I'm going to keep it," he explains.

"Daniel is a very giving person, and he doesn't have to do this. There are a lot of artists who donate occasionally, but he does this on a regular basis," says Bailiff. "I don't think he does this to sell more cards, and that's the key. He could sell these cards and people would buy them without the explanation [about Childkind] on the back."

DEBBIE FRAKER

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Christmas means many things to many people, but if you asked them to sum up in one word what comes to mind when they think of Christmas, most would say "Lights."

Perhaps no other example of the lights of Christmas so enchants and amazes the child in all of us than the spectacle of a home decked out in an explosion of twinkling strands of lights. The holiday spirit seems to grab hold of people in such a way that compels them to adorn their homes with thousands and thousands of lights in shades of white, gold, green, blue and red.

Every year, certain homes around Atlanta keep up this tradition with an amazing amount of creativity and expense. But the cost of electricity seems to be a small price to pay for having your home become the center of so much attention. At many of these luminous residences, traffic comes to a complete standstill as carloads of the curious come to stare open mouthed at the illuminated outlines and the decorated landscape of the yards.

The enjoyment of these homes requires a car and a knowledge (gained mostly by word of mouth) of the location of the homes, most of which are in the outlying suburbs of the city. Of course there is a very pleasant alternative to aimless, outer Perimeter driving. You can sit back and enjoy a scenic tour of many of the most well lit wonders around Atlanta from the comfort of a luxury touring bus. That is, if you take **The Official Christmas Lights Tour of Homes.**

This tour, started several years ago by Don Weston and a group of friends, has grown from a small caravan of cars into a smoothly run operation with the sightseers riding comfortably on chartered buses. The visual adventure began on Monday evening, December 21. A varied assortment of spirited people gathered at the Holiday Inn Decatur. The first awesome sight of the evening was the nearby roof of the Fidelity Bank, home of the 70 foot, rooftop Christmas tree. It's beginning to rival Rich's tree, and the lighting ceremony isn't nearly as crowded.

The bus I rode was equipped with video monitors which showed George King's documentary film "10,000 Points of Light" which examines the famous Elvis-Christmas house formerly located in Stone Mountain. This film celebrates one family's obsession with Elvis kitsch which they combined with the kitschiest of Christmas ornamentation. But the film was just a warm up to the spectacle of all the homes on the tour.

Not just a holiday diversion, the tour is also a fund raiser for Childkind, the service organization which cares for infants and

AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



STEPHEN F. MORLEY

For a thoroughly light-hearted treat, take someone you love to see **The Muppet Christmas Carol**. Kermit does a fabulous Bob Cratchit.

children with AIDS. At only \$10.00 per ticket, the tour was a real Christmas bargain. If you missed the tour of lights this year, make a small pilgrimage of your own and mark your new '93 calendar with a note for next December.

The annual **Lighting of the Tree** at the Gallus was a

splendid affair of accolades for Danny Donahoe. He was recognized for his fundraising efforts by the Atlanta City Council, which proclaimed December 13 as Danny Donahoe Day. Not to mention the letter President-elect Clinton wrote sending his blessings. Performing for the large crowd gathered in the street between the Gallus and the Metro were, among others, Hal Gresham, Megan McFarland, Ramona Dugger, Brenda Burnette, and the mother and son team of Kelly and Alex.

Speaking of the Metro, those Seventies Sirens of Eleganza are back at home on Friday night at 12:30. The dolls fit at the Metro like a glove. And d.j. Al Opecia is there spinning the best of the old and new. He even played "Lovin' Is Really My Game" by Brainstorm last Friday. That took me back a ways.

How many movies have you seen that caused you to get up and leave? I can think of two, the most recent one being **The Living End**, written, directed and filmed by gay director Gregg Araki. This is the should-have-been-interesting story of two young men, both HIV positive, who deal with their status in very different ways. One is normal, the other is psychotic. Both are pathetic.

There is nothing remotely real about the anti-social, murderous behavior displayed by the hustler, who first shoots three gay bashers in self defense, then moves on to cop killing and taking pot shots at out-of-order automatic teller machines. Everything is dark and depressing, the characters hate themselves and we do too. Even the token straight girl is miserable.

The saddest part of the whole affair is that some members of the gay media rush to embrace a film of such poor quality. It's as if anything a gay person creates is automatically great and therefore deserving of our accolades. "The Living End," on the other hand, is nothing short of internalized homophobia coupled with the worst film making possible. Buy a good book instead.

Or better yet pack up your favorite little person and take him or her to see **The Muppet Christmas Carol**. This much-talked-about film is the first complete project to come from Jim Henson Productions since Henson's untimely death. British actor Michael Caine stars as Ebenezer Scrooge, in what is a very close adaptation of the Dickens tale.

A fun time is guaranteed for all with Kermit the Frog as the long-suffering Bob Cratchit, the wonderful Miss Piggy as Mrs. Cratchit, and an army of Muppets filling the other roles. Forget the pressures of the holidays and enjoy a good laugh.

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Caesar Salad with Homemade Dressing & Croutons

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Chicken with artichoke hearts and mushrooms in a fresh tarragon sauce. Served with sautéed spinach and potatoes.
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515 N. McDonough St, Decatur • 373-2922

Café Mythology An international coffee house serving desserts, special coffees and your favorite cocktail from our fully stocked bar. The perfect after dinner, after theatre, after symphony or after ballet stop, or just the right ending for that special evening on the town. Hours: 5pm-2am seven days.
1140 Crescent Ave • 873-0794

Casal's Virginia-Highland's newest restaurant. Informal fine dining. Seafood, steaks, veal & chicken. Vegetarian available. House specialties: cioppino, chicken petee. Homemade desserts. Dinner Sun-Thur 5:30-10 pm; Fri/Sat 5:30-11 pm; Closed Mon. Full bar. Reservations accepted. VISA, MC, Diners, Carte Blanche.
1021 Virginia Ave • 873-9844

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451 Cherokee Ave • 658-9113

Joni's Italian Cafe Authentic Italian Cuisine in a casual atmosphere. Seafood, chicken, veal & a large selection of vegetarian entrees. Fresh sauces and pasta dishes. Hours: Lunch Mon-Fri 11:30-2:30, Dinner Mon-Th 5:10, Fri & Sat 5-10:30, Sun 5-9. VISA/MC, AMEX. Entrees start at \$7.95.
2140 N. Decatur Rd • 728-0041

Mario's Italian Restaurant Italian cuisine served since 1969 in a casual and cozy atmosphere. Favorites include snapper piccata, lasagne, and chicken romano. Vegetarian too. Lunch Mon-Fri 11-2, \$3.25-5.25, Dinner Sun-Thu 5-10, Fri & Sat 5-10:30, \$6.25-14.95. Private Parties.
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Equal Opportunity. Most vegetarians take good care of themselves at holiday meals by packing in extra on the veggies and politely declining whatever roast beast may be offered up to them. But, if you're planning on feeding one or more folks who eschew meat at your annual holiday feast, there are two steps you can take to make their meal more pleasant.

First make your stuffing without meat. Add chesnuts, walnuts, pecans, oysters, apples, oranges, raisins, apricots, prunes—let your imagination go wild—for texture and taste, but avoid recipes that call for giblets or sausage. (If all your revelers are willing to eat fowl, but some prefer to avoid red meat, just use turkey sausage in the stuffing.) In any case avoid cooking the stuffing in the bird. Much as it may improve the flavor, there is just too much risk of salmonella oozing into the stuffing and not being heated to a high enough temperature to neutralize the nasty little bugs. And your bird will cook faster too.

Next, whip up some meatless gravy. It's fast and easy. Just cook some flour in (preferably olive) oil (equal parts oil to flour) stirring or whisking constantly over medium-high heat until the flour is nice and brown—about 10-15 minutes. Add a little of the water that you used to cook some vegetables to the roux then add that paste to more veggie water. Whisk over high heat until it begins to thicken. Add a splash of dry sherry, port, or red wine, several sprigs worth of fresh thyme (or sage, or tarragon) leaves, salt, and pepper. Dried herbs will do (careful not to use too much), but fresh ones are far more aromatic. If you really want to make it rich, whisk in some pats of unsalted butter at the last minute. Yum.

Leftovers

I mentioned this here last year, but it's worth repeating. For brunch following Christmas, make some patties from your leftover stuffing, saute in a little oil (or bake) until crisp. Top with a poached egg and some gravy, sprinkle with some chopped parsley and get ready for a treat. No gravy? Try salsa, cranberry relish or even hollandaise if you're in the humor to do some work.

Best Bets

If you're thinking about buying an appliance for yourself or a loved one (and remember that Project Open Hand is always in need of small microwaves), here's a quick review of the gadgets that the December 1992 "Consumer Reports" magazine recommends this year.

In microwaveville, CR found the Panasonic NN-4471A the leader of the pack, with the Amana C65T and the Samsung MW3500T close behind. One thing that might help you make up your mind is that the suggested retail on the Samsung is \$40-50 less than the other two. Then again, the Panasonic has a special popcorn mode, and sports 110 more watts of cooking power than the other two. Me? I'd buy the one that looked the best in my kitchen.

Best of the midsize ovens that CR tested was the Sharp R-3H83, with the Panasonic NH-5652A next. The testers noted that the Sharp was especially easy to use and pro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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--- Gary Kaupman, Southern Voice, September 24, 1992

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A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

gram. Good news for those of us who remain electro-technically challenged.

Juicers are supposed to be the way cool gift this year. The good news is that you need not spend a fortune to buy a great one. The bad is that you *will* spend a whole lot of your hard earned shekels making the juice.

CR tested 14 juice extractors and gave top marks to The Panasonic MJ-65PR (about \$80) and the Sanyo SJ-3020 (about \$60). The Juiceman II (promoted heavily on some very camp cable channel infomercials) finished way down in the ratings and costs almost \$300 to boot. Avoid it.

On the other side of the coin, take a look-see at these numbers. A quart of homemade apple juice will cost you about \$3.75 worth of apples, while two quarts of the same stuff can be purchased at the store for around \$2. The difference with orange juice was not as stiff—homemade costs about one-third more.

But you can't buy carrot, or broccoli, or rutabaga juice at the Big Star, so if eclectic combos turn you on, you still need a juicer. My favorite mix is equal parts apple (Granny Smith) and carrot (organic if you can) juice. Sweet and tart all at once, add a few rice cakes and it makes a great light lunch.

Of course, you could just eat the raw veggies, get all the juice and far more fiber, and forget all the mess. But that wouldn't be any where near as much fun. And then too, you wouldn't have all that neatly compressed organic matter for your compost pile.

Other electronic gadgets recommended by CR: The Braun Multipractic UK11 food processor for about \$100; the Singer 795 hand held blender for about \$25; the Black & Decker Handy Steamer (for veggies, meat and seafood) for about \$40; and the Gaggia 41276 Espresso maker at just over \$400. You have to like espresso a lot more than I do to spend that kind of money, but I wouldn't return it if one appeared under my tree.

Speaking of Coffee

Il Centro, on the lower level of the new wing of Phipps Plaza right across from Abercrombie and Fitch, serves up some mighty fine coffee and the best biscotti that I've ever eaten.

The pale wood, faux stone, and spot-lit interior are very, very European as are the tiny round tables. All the usual coffee drinks in high test and decaf are offered. My Americano decaf was exceptional—very complex, loaded with flavor, and smooth as silk. The aforementioned (chocolate) biscotti is denser than most I've sampled and studded with pistachios to boot.

If you're not in the mood for coffee, try a Granita frozen fruit drink (in banana and peach the night I visited) that's rich, smooth and naturally sweet. Fab with a piece of buttery shortcake. There are also a limited variety of pastries, packaged coffees, and chocolates. Good stuff, but the mallside location and high lighting level hardly make it the place for an intimate tete-a-tete.

Better news for homos: the long-delayed **Javaco** coffee house is set to open New Year's Eve at 1931 Piedmont Circle, next door to the lamentable Don Juan's. Javaco promises to be *the* happening evening hour place. Call 872-6676 for particulars.



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SUBLIMINAL AD.

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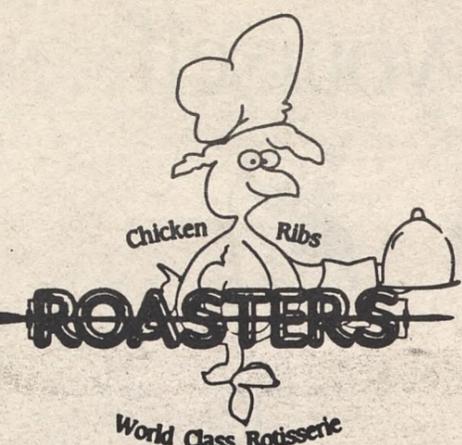


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QUEER CAROLS

If you're like a lot of us, Christmas carols just get tougher to sing every year. The sexism alone is enough to make you gnash your teeth, let alone the heavy tone of most of these tunes. It's especially difficult to be inspired by anything that smacks of religion these days given the religious right's dedication to our elimination. So, here are a few offerings of alternative lyrics to some well known carols that we think make the holiday a whole lot more festive and fun...

GOD REST YE MERRY LESBIANS

God rest ye merry Lesbians
let nothing you dismay.
Remember all our foresisters
who brought us to this day.
Remember Sappho and Miss Edna
St. Vincent Millay—
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!
Lesbian joy!
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!

From goddesses and runes antique
the blessed wisdom came,
and Placed into our hearts and minds
the pleasures of the same
So that all Lesbians can stand
together and proclaim—
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!
Lesbian joy!
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!

God rest ye merry Lesbians
let nothing you dismay.
Remember all our foresisters
who brought us to this day.

Remember Gertrude, Alice,
Martina and Rita Mac—
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!
Lesbian joy!
Oh, tidings of Lesbian joy!

GOOD QUEEN HARRY HAY

(To "Good King Wenceslas")
Good Queen Harry Hay looked down
on the heirs of Stonewall.
To his people gathered round
"My," he said, "We've grown well."
"Gay rights laws in seven states,
who'd have ever thought it?
Military ban to go—
just the way we sought it!"

Good Queen Harry Hay had seen
Homo-tribulation.
Forty years since Mattachine,
we've become Queer Nation.
Lesbian and Gay groups thrive
in each town and city.



Thousands march in June
parades,
making Harry giddy!

LESBIAN TWELVE DAYS OF SOLSTICE

- On the first day of Solstice
my true love gave to me
- a free pass to Michigan!
- On the second day of Solstice
my true love gave to me
- two Birkenstocks!
 - and a free pass to Michigan!
- On the third day of Solstice...
- three French nuns!
 - four dental dams!
 - CRIS WILLIAMSON!
 - six silky undies!
 - seven Naiad novels!
 - eight maids a-milking!
 - nine Lezzies dancing!
 - ten crystals gleaming!
 - eleven herbs a-growing!
 - twelve lusty kisses!

HARK, THE NELLIE FAGGOTS PREEN!

Hark, the nellie faggots preen,
glory to each newborn queen!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,

Blaine and Antoine reconciled!
Joyful all ye nellies rise!
Join the fairies in their cries!
With falsetto notes proclaim:
"Queens aren't born just every day!"
Hark, the nellie faggots preen
glory to the newborn queen!

JOY TO THE WORLD! BILL CLINTON WON!

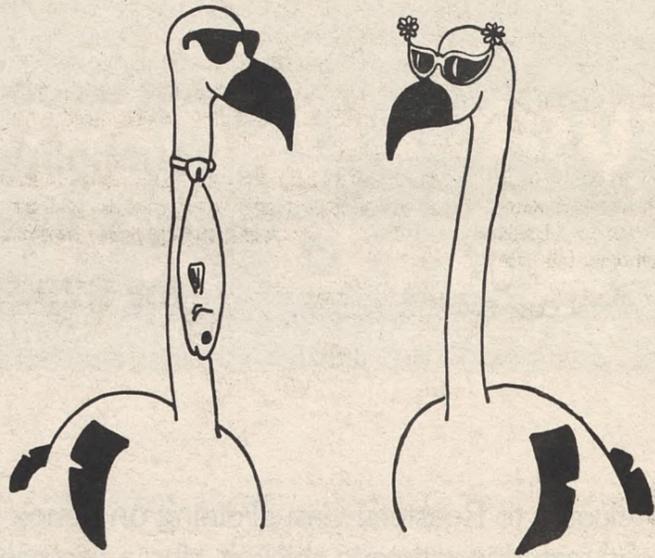
Joy to the world, Bill Clinton won!
George Bush and Quayle are gone!
Let ev'ry heart declare the truth:
the homophobes didn't win,
the homophobes didn't win.
The nasty old homophobes are quite
chagrined!

Joy to the world, Bill Clinton won!
Al Gore is such a hunk!
We'll all feel so much chipper with Hillary
and Tipper,
and policies that we need
an end to Reagan-ite greed.
Compassionate policies that must succeed!

Joy to the world, Bill Clinton reigns!
He better follow through!
We'll hold him to his word, so AIDS can
soon be cured.
The Pentagon must relent
of its anti-Gay sentiment.
So in four years we'll re-elect our President!

JAMAKAYA
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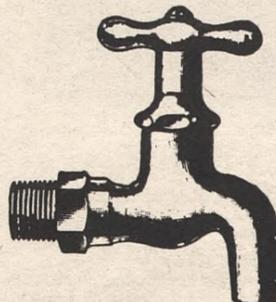
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(exp. 12/31/92)

Merry Christmas from the Staff & Mgmt.

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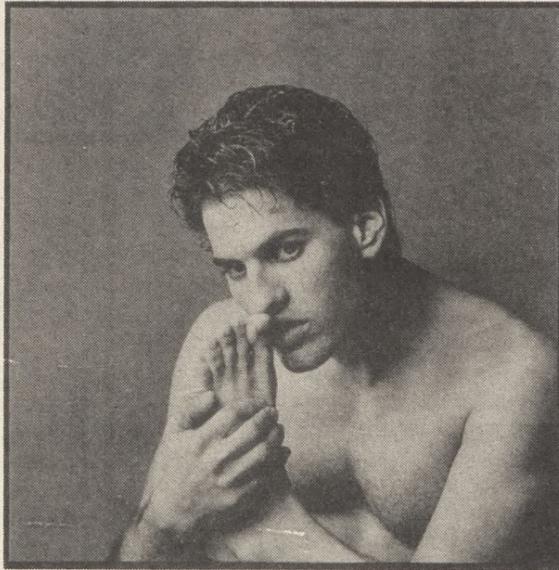
Capitol Idea: James Wilson and Michael King of beautiful Lawrenceville, Georgia have come up with an idea that we believe merits your (immediate) attention. Messrs. Wilson and King want to send a simple letter to President-elect Clinton (and VP-to-be Al Gore) offering their energies and resources to the incoming administration as it tries to deal with 12 years of governmental abuse and neglect. Sounds nice, but there is more. Wilson and King want you (and a few hundred of your nearest and dearest friends) to join them in signing that letter. How? Simple just write these two gentlemen at PO Box 464848, Lawrenceville, GA 30246 and ask them to send you a copy of the full letter and a multiple signature sheet for you and your friends to autograph. But do it soon, they'd like to have the signed sheets back by December 31.

Credit Where Credit Is Due: The Spectrum Institute, an L.A. based group, is calling for Credit Unions to end membership discrimination based on marital status—and thus also sexual orientation, since queers can't get married. Most credit unions limit their membership to the employees (and their blood or married kin) of certain companies. By simply adding the term "household member" to the definition of "family" in their by-laws. The L.A. City Employees Federal Credit Union and the L.A. County Civic Center C. U. have both recently made the change so that an unmarried partner can be a depositor (or get a loan) at those institutions. Since Credit Unions are owned by their depositors, the impetus for such change can easily (and correctly) come from you. For a "how to" kit on this project, write to Family Diversity Project, POB 65756, Los Angeles, CA 90065 or give Spectrum a ring at 213/258-8955. Dish would like to see this change made at the City of Atlanta Teacher's C.U.

Foot Fetish: The promotional material for "Stellar Men," a new book of homoerotic photographs by none other than Stanley Stellar, contained the attached photograph of a man named

Dish

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



Michael, Foot and Face is but one of the photos in the newly published book "Stellar Men" from Bruno Gmunder Publications

Michael and a foot—we know not whether it is his or whether it belongs to some other lucky man. In either case this roused certain memories for Dish—the contents of which are a might

too risqué to repeat here. Suffice to say the picture made us moist. We hope it will do the same for you. If you'd like to see more (some in color) check with your fave book store; Bruno Gmunder is the publisher.

Tacky But True: Dish visited our nation's capital last week and toured the building that is home to the National Endowment for the Arts. We were surprised and somewhat taken aback, but nonetheless pleased to see staffers walking around wearing buttons that say "Arrivederci Radice" referring of course to the fact that closeted lesbian NEA chief Ann-Imelda Radice will be toast come January 20. Liberal workers in the building are making no effort to hide the fact that they hate Radice and several of her cronies. Spokeswoman Jill Collins' departure is heralded with a button that says "And Jill came tumbling after." Collins is reported to be so upset that she complained, "We are human beings, too!" at a staff meeting. Human? Maybe. Humane? Never.

Poof Goes The Homo: We are indebted to the Associated Press for telling us what we already knew—albeit rather sadly and indirectly. In an article published in USA Today last week (actually, the Calgary Herald ran the original story) quotes some very frightening statistics about the number of male professional skaters and coaches who have died from AIDS or are HIV infected. The story goes on at some length about the facts, but never once makes the connection between the (alarming) stats and the fact that lots of male figure skaters are gay men. One particularly obnoxious quote came from Peter Dunfield, an Olympic level coach from Ottawa: "I'm almost frightened by it." Almost frightened? Or how about this from six-time Canadian champ Toller Cranston: "I've always thought that skating should not be singled out for AIDS attention, but it's becoming more and more disturbing." AIDS attention? Excuse Dish, but we wonder just where Cranston and Dunfield have been for the past 10 years. In a land called Denial?

December 24 - December 30, 1992

The week from Christmas Eve to New Year's Eve can often be a blur with all the social activity and last minute efforts. If you can find a few minutes for yourself just to be grateful for all you have, to let go of the old year and do a little personal preparation for the New One, life will be much sweeter.

ARIES, your new year begins with the Sun, Uranus and Neptune all lined up in your 10th house of career and vocation. This may not be the best time to have any confrontations with folks in authority, but do keep your ear to the ground at work for opportunities. **TAURUS**, your health and your career may be important issues right now, so don't sacrifice yourself or your well-being just for a job, or what looks like a good career move. There are too many options available, so take really good care of yourself. Dear **GEMINI**, how are things in the fast lane? It is still a good time to communicate with those you love no matter where they live and to take time for activities that are grounding and nurturing. Be sure to spend some time outside in fresh air.

CANCER, this is a good time for being with friends and hopefully family. It is also a good time for adding unwanted inches in places that always seem to resist reduction. Lots of fresh fruits and vegetables and some sensible exercise will do

STARSIGNS

wonders. Generous **LEO**, how is your bank account holding up? You may be known for your wonderful ability to give and share with others, but overdoing it will only give you a good case of the worries in January. Keep It Simple, Sweetie! **VIRGO**, Jupiter is in your 2nd house of personal finances and material resources, so keep a close eye on expenditures during the holidays. With Jupiter's expansive energy in your money house, it may be difficult to control your spending. Invest instead!

LIBRA, expansive Jupiter in your 1st house of personality and physical appearance can have several influences, including an enhanced waist line, a sudden need to be much more expressive of your thoughts and feelings and possibly the urge for a larger living space. **SCORPIO**, with Mars in your 9th house of long-distance travel and greater interest in the big wide world, this may be the season to travel around and see what other folks are

doing. It could be fun and, with the right person, very romantic. **SAGITTARIUS**, romance may not be right around the corner, but it probably isn't too far away either. Use your free time to put your mutable, ever-changing life in some sort of carefree order and spend quality time with friends and family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CAPRICORN! Be sure to celebrate for the entire month. Find as many unique and creative ways to enjoy yourself with friends and loved ones. Try not to worry too much about how everything is going to work out next year. **RELAX! AQUARIUS**, with so much activity in your 10th house of career, your 11th house of community awareness, your 12th house of the collective unconscious and your 1st house of identity, you may feel slightly overwhelmed. Just handle one thing at a time. **PISCES**, with Saturn cruising through your 12th house of the Unknown and the Unseen, you can use the organization energy of Saturn to keep an excellent dream journal as well as creating a little more structure in your often very spontaneous life.

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

Dykes To Watch Out For

HOPE in HELL
©1992 BY ALISON BECHDEL

Panel 1: "I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!" "I KNOW! I KEEP PINCHING MYSELF TO PROVE IT'S NOT A DREAM. WE WON!"

Panel 2: "HUH? WON WHAT?" "THE ELECTION! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?"

Panel 3: "OH, HARRIET. SHE'S DATING SOMEONE." "MO, FORGET ABOUT YOUR PATHETIC PERSONAL PROBLEMS FOR A MINUTE! BUSH AND THE BIBLE-THUMPERS ARE GONE! WE'RE ACTUALLY GONNA HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO CAN PRONOUNCE THE WORDS 'GAY AND LESBIAN!'"

Panel 4: "PLUS FOUR NEW WOMEN IN THE SENATE, ONE OF THEM THE ONLY BLACK SENATOR SINCE RECONSTRUCTION! THE ANTI-GAY INITIATIVE IN OREGON FAILED! THE PRO-CHOICE REFERENDUM IN MARYLAND PASSED! I FEEL HOPEFUL! I FEEL YOUNG AGAIN!" "YEAH, WELL DON'T THROW OUT YOUR GERITOL YET! THE HOMOPHOBES WON IN COLORADO, IOWA DEFEATED AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT, AND THE SENATE'S STILL 94 PERCENT BOYS!"

Panel 5: "YOU'RE SUCH A RAY OF SUNSHINE, MO. I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY HARRIET LEFT YOU." "WOMAN'S A FOOL." "MAXIMUM MEMBERSHIP \$35"

Panel 6: "MEANWHILE, ACROSS TOWN..." "HI, BABE! JUDGE LOPEZ LEFT EARLY TODAY, SO I DID TOO. YOU NAPPING?" "HMM. YEAH, I'M BEAT."

Panel 7: "GOD, TONI, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE ACTUALLY GONNA HAVE A BABY! I'M FEELING SO MUCH MORE POSITIVE ABOUT THE WHOLE THING SINCE THE ELECTION. DIDJA KNOW CLINTON'LL BE THE FIRST DEMOCRAT TO APPOINT A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE IN 25 YEARS?!" "THAT'S NICE, SWEET-HEART."

Panel 8: "HAVE YOU DECIDED WHAT TO TELL YOUR FOLKS YET?" "UH-UH. I'M HOPING THEY'LL SWALLOW 'IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.'" "MMM... KNOW WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT PREGNANCY SO FAR?" "YES. CAREFUL, THEY'RE TENDER."

Panel 9: "WHOA! I THOUGHT YOU WERE EXHAUSTED!" "I FEEL SUDDENLY REJUVENATED. MUST'VE BEEN ALL THAT TALK ABOUT THE SUPREME COURT."

MARIA HELENA DOLAN

← THIS OLD HOE →
EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS

By the time you read this, the *Holidaze* will have inexorably advanced to at least the level of your eyeballs. And I suspect there are a number of folks who find themselves facing the preeminent horror: de riguer giftgiving, without a clue as to what might constitute a suitable object.

This Old Hoe to the rescue!! The desperate could perhaps view the following suggestions as lifelines to fasten hold of...

What do gardeners like to do when they're not gardening? Why, *reading* about gardening, of course. There are literally dozens of extremely wonderful books on every conceivable aspect of this multifarious subject.

I couldn't even begin a comprehensive list, even if I had the space here; we're talking about an embarrassment of riches! Instead, permit me to inform you of two recent reads which will assuredly stand the test of time.

Even if you don't garden, but possess the merest passing interest in Women's Studies, or Women's History (excuse me, Womyn's Herstory), then Jennifer Bennett's astonishing tome MUST be read.

I've never seen a compendium such as "Lilies of the Hearth—The Historical Relationship Between Women and Plants."

Because no one has ever written one before. Bennett took eight years to flesh out her illumination of this point: "To understand the changing face and social position of the disembodied force called Mother Nature, [transmogrified into the television] defender of purity in canned fruit, is, I discovered, to understand something of the changing role of mortal women and their ties with the earth and plants. These ties are so subtly interwoven in the tapestry of women's history that they are scarcely noticed, yet the silent partnership between women and plants has affected all aspects of society, including business, science, religion, art and medicine."

Just the illustrations alone are well worth the \$14.95 price. Bennett takes us from neolithic cthonic mother deities to Medieval Wise Women to "privileged" surplus women to "a new

look at the earth goddess," with stops for Josephine Bonaparte and the women who were transplanted in the New World.

True, the book is heavily Eurocentric; but a delight nevertheless.

Also deserving mention is Elizabeth Lawrence's "A Southern Garden—A Handbook for the Middle South." 1992 represents the 50th anniversary of the first publication of the book, reissued by the University of North Carolina Press. Ms. Lawrence was an extremely knowledgeable, genteel, dedicated soul, with a wonderfully descriptive ability. You can take her observations as still-viable gospel, and an invaluable tool.

Ms. Lawrence was also a product of her class and her time—ruling class early 20th century North Carolina. So there are some jarring anomalies when she's read with a more evolved consciousness.

For instance, I noticed that every (presumably white) person from whom she receives plants is named: Miss Rowntree or Dr. Toten. But then she refers to "the old colored man who sells flowers," and "the colored woman who has the stall in the market." Apparently, these folks have no names, in her world.

(Interestingly enough, I read "Gone With the Wind" for the first time just prior to reading the Lawrence book. In terms of offensiveness, I must say, there simply is *no* comparison.)

Unapologetically in the mood for Queer trash? Forget gardening—try the Dyke Private Dick genre. Read all of P. D. James and Sara Peretsky, but still not satisfied? Try J. M. Redmon's "Deaths of Jocasta," in which our favorite PWT Baby Butch (finally) gets laid a lot, whilst saving women from anti-abortionist murderers in the midst of some of New Orleans' Queerest and funniest.

Sandra Scopettone's "Everything You Have is Mine" has a totally different tone (New York dreary); decidedly less colorful though equally irreverent dramatis personae; and an intro-

duction to computer bulletin board obsession.

In its own gritty little way, this book really interests, too. But back to the greens...voluptuous plants from local dealers are always welcome. Get professional help for selecting if you're not knowledgeable here. Don't saddle friends with unwanted orphans, or prima donnas requiring continual pampering.

Most plantspeople also favor artwork with plant themes. You can obtain plant prints from a variety of sources, at various price levels.

Some of my favorites include ArtSouth in Avondale Estates, where the Dykes are friendly and the prices are reasonable; Chapter One Books in Decatur, with the classical prints in bins, and the decidedly anglophile books, and the store at The Atlanta Botanical Gardens, which seems to stock a little of everything, from books to prints to rain forest deeds to seeds. (Of course, custom frames cost more and will involve a time delay.)

If your gardener gets down 'n' dirty, a complete and luxuriant bath might be just the thing. Start with a thirsty cotton towel. Next, throw in some hand scrub—the all-natural kind with grains. Stir with vegetable glycerin soap. Simmer in a Luffa sponge scrub mitt (the Luffa grows on a vine). Finish with a bracing body toner, followed by hand cream.

Naturally, I only purchase the cruelty-free stuff as Sevananda. And while you're there, why not pick up the ingredients for a home-assembled pot pourri? Lavender, pineapple sage, cloves, cinnamon, star anise, orange rind, rose petals, whatever, can be found by the pound in huge jars in the herb section. Make the very air wonderful.

Then there's that rare thing, the gift of time. A small card (on recycled paper, natch) announcing three hours of housework, or volunteering to do some particularly dreaded task once a month for the year, or whatever your friend needs, might be more appreciated than most objects.

And of course, there's the gift of yourself. Friends and found/formed families are THE BEST 'things' to have, at this time of year or any other.



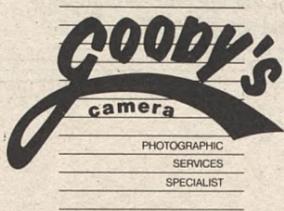
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OUTLINES

**SANTA CLAUS
aka Kris Kringle**

Age: Young enough to get the job done

How long in North Pole:

Way too long, but the elves don't think Key West is really happening anymore

Relationship status:

quite jolly, thank you

Last book read:

"Mr. Benson" by John Preston

Pot peeve: Kids who leave me

vegetables and soy milk



Thanks to a generous travel budget, I found myself last week in the private den of the one and only Santa himself. As we warmed ourselves with some cocoa, I commented on the prominence of red velvet in the decor. "Really, I'm sick to death of it, but, well, my guy did the whole place and I hate to tell him it's getting old. The suit, the upholstery in the sleigh, the bathroom wallpaper...he just really likes red."

I asked Kris, who has a reputation as being a one-night-stand kind of fellow, to tell me about "his guy."

He told me that he and his fellow, Craig, met on the job. Craig is an M.D. in Sports Medicine specializing in reindeer landing injuries.

As the aroma of his pipe filled the air and the mood became more personal, I asked him about his career and day to day life at the Kringle household.

"Kris, there's a grey-haired woman out in the shop with a clipboard. I know that many people mistake her for 'Mrs. Claus,' and she's often portrayed that way in media. Who is she really?"

"She's the real backbone of this operation. Her name is Icicle Toywoman and she really keeps things whipped into shape. I know people think she's the Mrs. or something, but I really don't feel it's my responsibility to inform everyone in the world. They're going to think what they want to, and Ice thinks it's funny," he said letting out one of his signature ho-ho ho's.

"When we're doing one of our public appearances she'll grab me around the waist and kiss me on the cheek and she just gets the biggest laugh out of it all."

He revealed that life hasn't always been

like a bowl full of jelly in his organization.

"We did have a bit of infighting quite awhile back over overland air traffic routes during the commercial airlines's busiest season. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen were all in a snit so I hired Winnie and Nelson, two reindeer mediators and we worked out an agreement for input from flying employees and consensus on altitudes."

In a rare moment of candor, Santa leaned back in his chair, a tired look in his eyes and said, "I know what you really want to know. Everyone wants to know how I do it all in one night. Well, I have a lesbian twin sister you see. She'll kill me for telling you this. She helps me out every year and takes half of my route, but she's not comfortable in the limelight and doesn't want any part of the publicity. She runs a little coffee shop and bookstore in Northampton, Mass. and kind of wants to keep a low profile since the 20/20 coverage. I think she's missing all of the fun though."

And speaking of the fun, our time was up and Santa had to get back to a bustling schedule. He left with a few parting thoughts.

"I'm really tickled pink—well lavender—with how things are going this season. More people are getting the gifts they want than any time since the early '50s. You people in America have just elected a new president who looks like he might be a real human being, not some ice queen parading around in a suit and tie.

And then there's the fact that your country's armed forces are using their power to feed people rather than kill them. Amazing! It really is going to be a happy holiday!"

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 Federaton 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-Existance—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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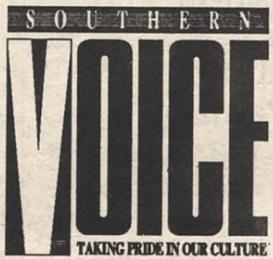
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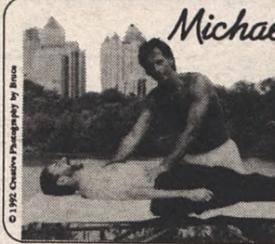
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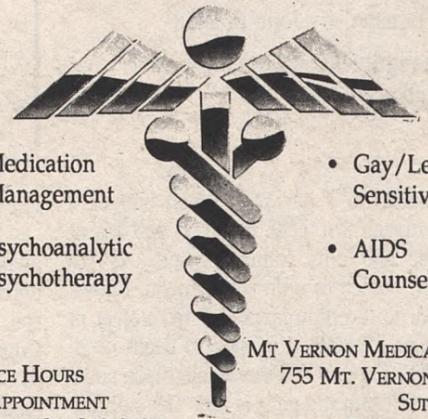
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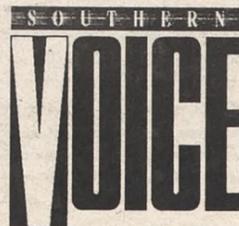
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AIDS Services
& Education

Drs. Ray Crossman and Nivine Megahed (Licensed Psychologist) announce a group for People Affected by HIV/AIDS and People Bereaving HIV-related Losses. The group will begin Thur. Evenings, 6-7:30 pm at 1598 Monroe Avenue (Corner of Monroe & Piedmont) Call 262-6812 for further info. (5.47)

Heartstrings of West Georgia—an AIDS education and support org. We help meet the needs of those affected by HIV/AIDS and increase public awareness. For free monthly newsletter, call 214-AIDS or write "Heart to Heart," PO Box 633, Carrollton, GA 30117.

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

P.A.L.S. Pets Are Loving Support — Providing P.W.A.s with information on obtaining canine and feline companions, free pet food and reduced vet care. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Donations for pet supplies and food. Transportation of food and pets. Foster homes. Donate. Volunteer. 876-7257. Leave message.

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

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

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

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

Group, call 214-8054. Friends & Family of PWA/HIV, call Margo Barnard at 832-9866. AIDS Bereavement Group, call Pick Conner at 836-6505 (days) or 834-8195 (eve).

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

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

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

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

HIV HEALING & SUPPORT GROUP. Facilitated group for HIV+ persons wishing to explore emotional and spiritual therapies in warm, safe environment. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Unity-Midtown Church Activity Center, 1065 Spring. 874-1937.

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

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

emotional interaction. Call 872-9954.

THE ATLANTA BUYERS CLUB—ABC provides access to optional treatments for the HIV community in the Southeast. Hours are 12-5 PM, Tuesday through Friday. We are located at 44 Twelfth St., NE, with parking in the rear. For more information phone (404) 874-4845, fax (404) 874-9320, or write P.O. Box 77003, Atlanta, GA 30357-7003.

Atlanta Gay Center — Plus groups for HIV-affected people. Fridays, 8:00pm and Sundays, 6:00pm. 63 12th Street. Call 876-5372 for more info. Helpline, 892-0661, for info, counseling and referral. 6:00-11:00pm 365 days a year.

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

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

Announcements
GAY BASHING

Please attend an organizational meeting for a Midtown Citizens Patrol—at the Library on Peachtree (at 16th Street), December 23, 1992 at 6:00 pm. Help make the holidays safe. Police will be represented. For more information, call 621-4650 and leave message. (5.44)

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS Emergence/Atlanta has just formed. A group for Lesbians/Gays interested in studying Christian Science/Metaphysics. (404) 215-0585. (5.52)

Employment

PART TIME

Busy, successful, attorney seeking ambitious, positive attitude, clean-cut, wholesome, attractive GWM student 18-24 as personal assistant / house boy / companion. 371-0978. (5.44)

FULL TIME

Telemarketing—Make \$10, \$12, \$15 per hour setting appointments for largest AT&T security systems dealer,

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Ansley Park — Duplex 2 or 3 BR. Deluxe private apt. Hardwood floors, 9 ft. ceilings, walk-in closets, very spacious & quiet. Private Entrance. Overlook wooded park. No pets. \$1200 + util. 873-9999. (5.44)

FOR SALE

2 New Houses on high peak in Grant Park. Beautiful view. 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA. Classical trim: Vintage beveled glass windows, Turkish marble, ceramic tile, slate fireplace, hardwood floors, much more. 321 Pavillion St. Go South on Hill Street from I-20, cross Ga. Ave. Turn left on Pavillion or call 524-2128. \$110's. (5.45)

Little 5 Points — Plush Loft living, 2600 sq., 2 Bed, baths, office, open Corian kitchen, living plus space, great skyline, deck, pond. \$1450/mo. 522-5161. (5.45)

ROOMMATES

SHARE LARGE 3 BR Apt, 1-75 / Howell Mill, Separate bathroom. Utilities, Washer/Dryer included. Non-smoker, male only. \$350/month. 352-9095. (5.46)

285/85 N — GWF to share large house. \$325 includes utilities. No drugs. No pets. 246-0617. (5.45)

Grant Park: Quiet GWM seeks M/F roommate 2 Bed, 1 BA house no drugs / alcohol. \$250 + 1/2 util. 659-8873. (5.44)

GF/M to share 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA home in Austell. Fireplace, private deck, garage, in quiet area. \$350/mo. No dogs pls. 819-9941. (5.45)

Milledgeville—GWM professional seeks private room with bath, 3-4 nights/week, or roommate situation, in Milledgeville or nearby. (706) 369-9933, Athens. (5.44)

VA-Highlands GWM, quiet, professional, non-smoker to share bungalow — 2 BR, 1 BA, den. A/C, W/D, must like cats. \$350 + 1/2 util. 842-0924. (5.45)

Clairmont/85—Non-smoking, recovering & responsible person to share 2 BR, 2 BA apt. \$300 + 1/2 phone & cable. Vivian 329-0344. (5.45)

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FRENCH LANGUAGE tutoring by experienced university instructor. Great holiday gift! \$10/hour. L5P. 524-8068 (message). (5.45)

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Tired of high moving van fees? Man w/pickup will move you cross-town, or cross-country. Drive only: \$15.00/hour. Pack & move: \$25.00/hour. Call 256-6799. (5.43)

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SKI CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO. Gay owned bed and breakfast in historic mountain town. Hot tub, gourmet breakfast, ski bus, apres ski parties, more. Call for lift-lodging packages. (303) 349-1201. (5.50 - E.I.)

Volunteers

CUMBERLAND AREA

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)

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.

Voice Connection

WOMEN

GBF, 5'8", 139 lbs seeks GF who is intelligent and serious about a friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 1231

GWF seeks same age 30-38, intelligent, attractive, good values, emotionally healthy, playful. No drugs or smokers. ☎ 1232

Progressive GWF looking for other progressive women for friendship or possible relationship. ☎ 1235

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

MORE PERSONALS
ON PG 32

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. Femmie, 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, ciga-ретtes. ☎ 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

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

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

MEN

Good looking GWM, 6'1", 190, successful, secure, romantic top seeks relationship oriented cute bottom, 28-38. ☎ 1234

Tall, dark, hairy, sexy black male, 28, bottom, seeks single, mature topman for mutual friendship and more. No fems. Call for details. ☎ 1233

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

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By Mail: Mail completed order form with payment to SOUTHERN VOICE CLASSIFIEDS P.O. Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316.

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Books for sellers, buyers and investors

Since it has become a challenge to sell a house in today's distressingly soft housing market, the astute seller and real estate agent alike need all the resources available to assist them in this once-routine task.

Home sellers will want to read "How to Sell Your House in a Buyer's Market" by Martin M. Shenkman and Warren Boroson (John Wiley and Sons, New York, \$14.95). Published in 1990, this is considered to be the most practical and helpful guide in the current real estate buyer's market. Offering dozens of ideas for selling a home when there are more sellers than buyers, the authors explain every useful sales technique from preparation for the sale to promoting the house to a successful closing.

When you are the home buyer, it is important that you know more about the prospective property than meets the eye. Generally agreed to be the best of home inspection books is "The Complete Home Inspection Kit" by William Ventele, Jr. (Lengman Financial Services, Chicago, \$15.95). It is well-organized, easy to read and filled with many practical tips for home buyers. There are many useful illustrations and photographs included as well as handy inspection checklists.

Don't think you have enough or any money to purchase a home? Think again. Real estate authors Shenkman and Boroson team up again in "How to Buy a House With No (or Little) Money Down" (John Wiley and Sons, New York, \$12.95) which most experts say is one of the finest "how-to-buy-a-house books" currently on the market. It's filled with solid information in addition to methods for buying a home without having to take much money out of your pocket. The basics in home buying techniques are emphasized with focus on low-cash financing strategies.

For homeowners wanting to save money on their mortgage, there's "The Common Sense Mortgage" by Peter G. Miller (Harper Perennial, New York, \$8.95). Readers learn how to increase their monthly payments to pay off their mortgage quickly in order to save all those interest dollars. The author also explains how the lending system works, how to pick the right mortgage and the dozens of "alternative" mortgage types that are now available in addition to mortgages to avoid.

Whether you're a purchaser of a house or condominium for your personal residency or as an investment property, "Housewise" by Suzanne Bringham (Brown Publishers, New York, \$18.95) is a must-read before you buy anything. Much of what the author has to say about looking at a home as both a place to live and an investment comes from first-hand experience. She has renovated over 70 residences, actually living in many of them while they were being improved.

"Renovating Your Home for Maximum Profit" by Dan Lieberman and Paul Hoffman (Prima Publishing, Recklin, California, \$21.95) is a complete do-and-don't guide to home renovation. The authors cover virtually every component of a house and carefully explain the importance of what to upgrade and what to omit. They include charts, photographs, lists and illustrations to make the text more understandable.

Perhaps investing in real estate has always been one of your dreams but you've been apprehensive about making a move. There are a number of books to read for the beginning to advanced real estate investor.

No longer in print but still widely available in paperback in some bookstores, "How to Get Rich in Real Estate" by Robert W. Kent (Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey) demonstrates how to start investing with as little as \$1,000 by purchasing small apartment buildings and renting the units to long-term tenants. It is classic in its explanation of the fundamentals of getting started in realty investing.

Also no longer in print, "The Monopoly Game" (Fourth Edition) by Dave Glubetich (Impact Publishing Company) is still considered to be the best book about investing in single-family rental houses. All the fundamentals of why houses can be extremely profitable investments is explained in detail. It's probably on the shelf of your local library and definitely worth reading.

So classic is "Nothing Down" by Robert G. Allen (Simon and Schuster, New York, \$16.95) that this single volume is credited with changing real estate investing "by showing readers how to acquire homes and investment property for nothing down, which means no cash from the buyer's pocket." Approximately 50 methods for nothing down acquisitions are explained in the 1984 edition which is preferable, according to the experts, over the 1990 edition which was not as complete.

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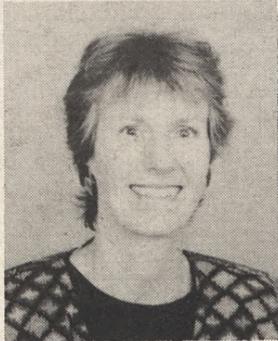
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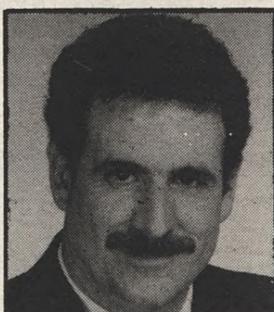
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WM, masculine, 6'3", 185 lbs., 43, HIV-, closeted, seeks similar, masculine, HIV-, hung, WM for private regular mutual satisfaction. ☎ 1098

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

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

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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 addres 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 mascu-

line male, any race, for fun, friendship and much more. ☎ 1048

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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

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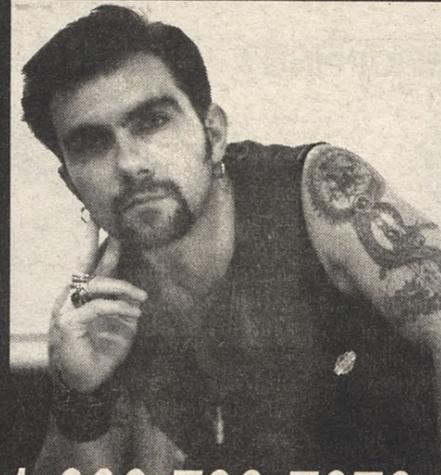
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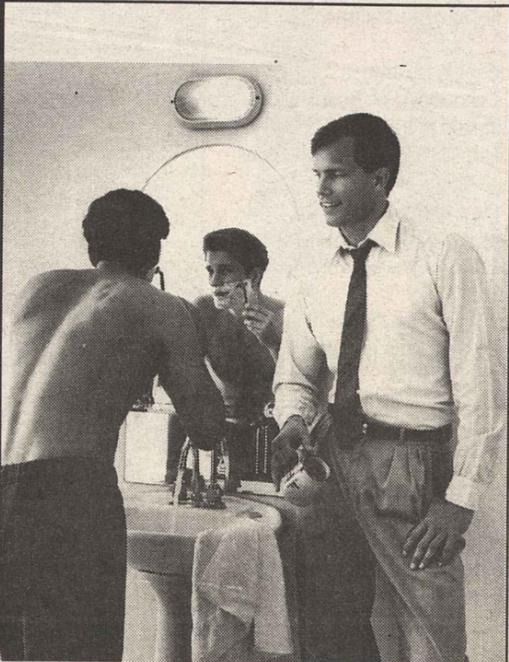
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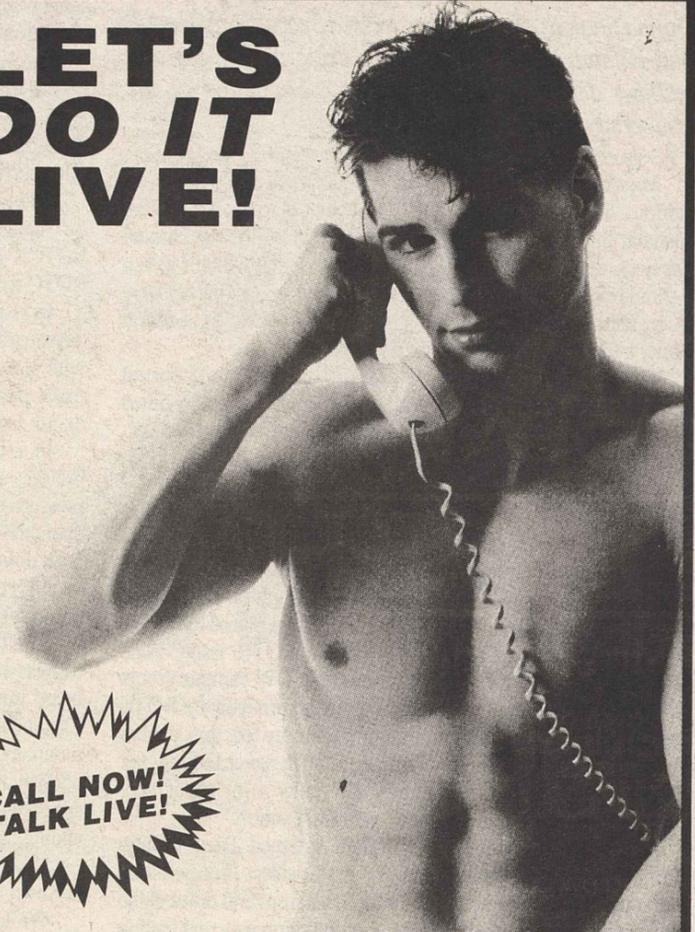
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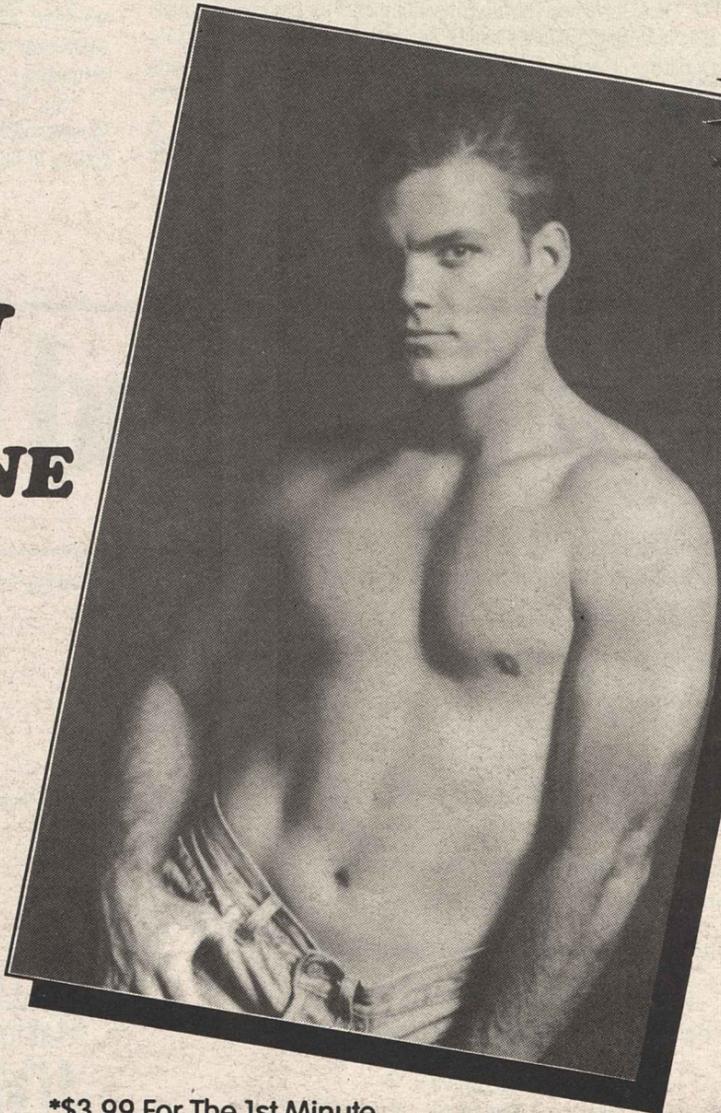
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Wis. activists have mixed feelings about Shalala

Donna Shalala, the newly appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services, was often criticized by gay and lesbian activists while she was Chancellor at the University of Wisconsin

Madison, WI—In an interview concerning the ROTC on campus last year, University of Wisconsin Chancellor Donna Shalala, the newly appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services, declared: "I have a lot of colleagues that would say that I should not get involved in gay and lesbian issues, particularly in a state as conservative as Wisconsin. For me, it's a moral issue, a fundamental issue of civil rights."

Despite this avowal, gay and lesbian activists in and around the University of Wisconsin (UW), who have alternatively dined with and sparred with Chancellor Shalala in recent years, responded with mixed feelings to the news that she has been named HHS Secretary.

Everyone interviewed seemed impressed by Shalala's political acumen and her personal warmth and charisma. "She wins over everyone she meets," said one activist. But all expressed disappointment that she failed to follow through on progressive reforms during her tenure at UW, particularly in regard to ROTC.

"She consistently stonewalled on the ROTC issue," said Brad Birkland of the Ten Percent Society, a UW campus group. "Other smaller schools have moved more aggressively on ROTC and domestic partnerships. That a university of this caliber couldn't do those things is ridiculous. Shalala never brought her influence to bear on these things. She talks a lot about very progressive ideas but there's been very little action."

"I respect the woman, but URGH!" groaned Tracy Prouty, former co-President of the Ten Percent Society. Prouty, along with other student leaders, dined with Shalala several times at the Chancellor's residence. "I credit her with giving us a real feeling of possibility," said Prouty. "I had very high expectations of her but she hasn't lived up to them."

Jane Vanderbosch of The United, a coalition of gay and lesbian groups in Madison, also called Shalala a "real disappointment."

Vanderbosch cited Shalala's failure to move on ROTC and the defunding of the university's Women's Transit Service as the "lowlights" of Shalala's tenure at the UW. Shalala's much publicized "Madison Plan," an ambitious timetable for increasing minority enrollment, was "nothing but window dressing," according to Vanderbosch. The plan was first scaled back, then abandoned altogether.

"And where was the Madison Plan for women?" asked Vanderbosch bitterly. "Nothing has been done in terms of sex equity on this campus. It would cost them a bundle!"

Some of the disappointment with Shalala is based on the widely held perception that she herself is a lesbian. One lesbian activist referred to the chancellor's administrative offices as a "den of dykedom," with many lesbian aides and other employees. Several half-hearted attempts have been made to "out" Shalala through the distribution of a flyer and chalking on pavements around the university, but neither the gay nor mainstream press here publicized it, and many gays and lesbians in Madison

denounced the tactic. Shalala has declined to comment on the allegation.

The ROTC issue has caused the most frustration and led to several confrontations with Shalala and the UW Board of Regents. Students have repeatedly petitioned to have ROTC kicked off campus because it is in violation of state, city and university rules barring discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The UW Student Association, the Faculty Senate, Chancellor Shalala and the Board of Regents are all on record opposing ROTC's discriminatory policy, but the Regents refuse to ban ROTC from UW campuses.

In an interview with this reporter a year ago, Shalala said she "absolutely" understood the frustration students and faculty feel with the UW's inconsistent policy on ROTC: "I share their frustration and I can see that the policies are inconsistent. But I do not have executive authority on this issue."

In a comment that might shed light on how she reacts to protests as HHS Secretary, Shalala seemed unruffled by the pressure tactics of the Ten Percent Society, whose members had disrupted meetings of the Board of Regents: "The students have been doing what students who care deeply about an issue ought to do. They're not supposed to be patient, and they're acting accordingly. That's their role. And I have to do my best."

In November 1991, Shalala met with Pentagon officials to express her opposition to the military ban against gays. As a board member of the National Association of Universities and Land Grant Colleges, she got that group to agree to raise funds to mount a court challenge to the Pentagon policy—money that has not yet been raised. She won the derision of gays and their supporters when she suggested that the most hopeful course for ending the ban was in writing letters to the Secretary of Defense.

"She just wanted to shift the pressure from the university and her own failure to lead to Washington," complained Birkland.

While gay and lesbian leaders faulted Shalala's lack of leadership, Shalala had a very different assessment of her role: "There's no question in my mind if you could see my mail on this issue, that there is not a lot of public support for the University's position—as led by me—on this issue. But there are some things you just have to do, and in some cases it involves personal risk."

Asked whether she faced opposition for her ROTC stand from fellow administrators inside and outside the UW system, Shalala commented, "As you well know, there's a lot of homophobic behavior in this country, and that's in large part why public leaders have been reluctant, not just on the ROTC issue, but in general on gay and Lesbian issues."

"But at some point you have to have a bottom line in your life," said Shalala. "For educators, you've got to have a consistent position on the fundamental issues of civil rights."

There have been positive developments for gays and lesbians at UW during Shalala's tenure. In 1991, the University Housing Department opened the university's married student housing complexes to unmarried couples, including same sex partners registered under Madison's domestic partnership ordinance. A Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual Campus Center is financed through student fees and the Dean of Students has begun publishing a newsletter for gay/lesbian students.



Donna Shalala will be responsible for fulfilling Clinton's promise of naming an AIDS czar to coordinate a nationwide fight against AIDS

Vanderbosch says these things came about through student activism, not because of any leadership from Donna Shalala herself. And she warns, "It's still not okay to be queer here. There are still gay bashings by the fraternities on Langdon Street. Homophobia is still rampant throughout the university. I don't think she's provided aggressive leadership at all."

Even those disgruntled with Shalala admit she is much better than the previous chancellor. She has been more accessible to students, is said to be receptive to different points of view and is recognized for her administrative expertise and fundraising skills. Everyone remarks about her intelligence, high energy and infectious spirit.

"A lot worse people could have been appointed to be Health and Human Services Secretary," conceded Birkland.

Vanderbosch, the harshest in her criticism of Shalala, said her fondest hope was that as HHS Secretary Shalala "can bring integrity and leadership to the fight against AIDS." Shalala has promised to fulfill Clinton's campaign pledge to appoint an AIDS czar to coordinate the nationwide effort against AIDS and to make it a priority of HHS.

"She'll certainly be held accountable if she does not," Vanderbosch warned, "and Donna's no stranger to gay activists getting in her face."

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