

# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

JAN 21 - JAN 27 / 1993

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# Victory in Colorado

*Judge puts Colorado's anti-gay law on hold; temporary injunction buys time to overturn Amendment 2*

Denver—Denver District Judge Jeff Bayless warned the crowd packed into his courtroom Jan. 15 that emotional outbursts would not be tolerated when he read his order blocking Amendment 2 from taking effect.

But the overflow crowd that watched the hearing on closed-circuit television in the Denver City Council chambers two floors above the courtroom did not heed Bayless' admonition.

When the judge finally rendered his decision after a 50-minute explanation of all the legal minutiae involved in his deliberation, the room exploded in cheers.

Listeners yelled, hugged and dabbed tears from their eyes as others joined in a loud but graceful rendition of "We Shall Overcome."

Downstairs in the courtroom, Richard Evans, lead plaintiff in the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the anti-gay voter initiative, walked to the front of the courtroom and hugged Jean Dubofsky, the plaintiff's lead attorney.

"This is the most incredible week of my life," he said. "For the judge to suggest that the expansion of civil rights and a skewed sense of morality is not a basis for denying rights to gays and lesbians—I've been waiting to hear that all of my life."

Bayless rendered his decision after a four-day hearing on an injunction to block implementation of the amendment until after a lawsuit filed by eight gays and lesbians, a heterosexual man with AIDS, and the cities of Aspen, Boulder and Denver is decided. The amendment was to have been signed into law on Jan. 15 by Colorado Gov. Roy Romer.

The Colorado attorney general's staff, wasting no time in appealing Bayless' decision, expected to present its argument to the Colorado Supreme Court on Jan. 19 as this paper went to press. Solicitor General Tim

Tymkovich said that a ruling from the high court would probably not come until late fall, delaying the lawsuit against the amendment until after the appeals process is completed.

Opponents of the measure took to the streets of Colorado Springs, home of Colorado for Family Values, the Christian fundamentalist group that sponsored the amendment, to celebrate the injunction. Among the 300 marchers was Nancy Wallis, who said she opposes the amendment because she opposes "the fanatic right."

"I'm a Christian too," she said. "But God's No. 1 rule above all else is to love one another."

Another 200 people protested outside Perkins' Chrysler-Plymouth, the automobile dealership owned by CFV founder Will Perkins. Joining those protestors was about 20 members of BACK OFF, a group that opposes the boycott of Colorado. BACK OFF members trashed Barbra Streisand tapes in the back of a pick up truck. Streisand has publicly endorsed the boycott effort.

Other supporters of the amendment, which prohibits state and local agencies from enacting any civil rights measures for gays and lesbians, have been viciously vocal in their displeasure with Bayless' decision, calling the judge "spineless," saying Bayless proved that "evil could conquer good," and suggesting he read the Bible.

But CFV leader Kevin Tebedo said that the decision was not a setback for his cause. "It's an opportunity," he said. "It's the checks and balances of our nation. We will now do some education work so the people understand that it's part of the process."

Lesbians and gays agreed that in the aftermath of the injunction, the battle to overturn the amendment was

CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

# Shake up at The Advocate

*Most of the women in positions of power at The Advocate have been fired or have resigned within the last few months. Two of those women, including former managing editor S. Bryn Austin (pictured), have filed lawsuits charging the 25-year-old national gay magazine with sexual discrimination.*

VICTORIA A. BROWNORTH

The Advocate, the national gay magazine of record for 25 years, is facing serious problems. But in a year fraught with anti-gay backlash and homophobia, those problems do not come from the straight community. Rather, they come from within the magazine itself.

Within two months, four of the five women on the editorial staff of the Advocate have either resigned or been fired. Two of those women are filing lawsuits charging the magazine with sex discrimination and sexual harassment. And a third lawsuit, brought by a gay male worker at the warehouse of the publication's parent-company, Liberation Publications, Inc. (LPI), charges the warehouse foreman, also a gay man, with sexual harassment and sex discrimination.

It has been a rocky year for the Advocate. In July, long-time editor-in-chief, Richard Rouillard, resigned in a storm of controversy. Rouillard made dramatic changes in the magazine during his tenure. Among the most important alterations was the change in the magazine's subtitle from "the national gay newsmagazine" to "the national gay and lesbian newsmagazine." Bolstering the name change was Rouillard's hiring of several lesbians as editors and two lesbian columnists, as well as the inclusion of lesbian writers and lesbian stories in the magazine.

But when Rouillard resigned last summer and former Senior Editor Jeff Yarbrough was chosen by publisher Niles Merton to replace him, the magazine went through a period of internal reorganization and, say insiders, turmoil.

In November, international editor Masha Gessen



resigned. In mid-November, three other women staffers became so concerned with the treatment of women at the magazine, that they sent a memo to the publisher citing some of the problems, and requesting a clear commitment to the role of women and people of color at the magazine. The memo specifically noted the importance of the Managing Editor, S. Bryn Austin, and her integral role in maintaining a balance in lesbian writers and material in the magazine.

The memo was signed by Washington, DC news bureau staffer Cheryl Coward, Chicago news bureau staffer Achy Obejas, and columnist Donna Minkowitz. Obejas called Yarbrough prior to sending the memo to Merton to alert him to its contents so he would not, in her words, "be blind-sided."

But the memo only created more problems for the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13

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## First FBI report on hate crimes minimizes gay-related violence

Washington, D.C.—The first federal report on hate crimes was released by the FBI Jan. 4 as a first step in fighting bias-related crimes, but gay/lesbian, and other civil rights leaders said it offered too little, too late.

Gay-related offenses included in the much-awaited document numbered 421, with 18 states, and the District of Columbia failing to provide data.

In all, 4,755 hate crimes were logged by the bureau, although its state by state tally showed 4,558.

Only 2,771-law enforcement agencies filed reports—two in California, 50 in Pennsylvania, 30 in Massachusetts, one in Kentucky, and 30 in Ohio. Fewer than one in five agencies nationwide cooperated.

A 1987 Department of Justice study showed homosexuals as "probably the most frequent victims" of hate violence. "Yet the under-reporting of crimes against us is startling," said Martin Hiraga, who heads the Anti-Violence Project at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

FBI officials claimed the report is a starting place from which to track and stop crimes motivated by one's race, religion, or sexual orientation.

"While these initial data are limited," conceded FBI Director William S. Sessions, "they give us our first assessment of the nature of crimes motivated by bias in our society."

NGLTF commended the FBI for its "ground-breaking first step in identifying the pervasive problem of bias crime" given state and local cops' resistance to compiling data.

But until all police agencies shape up to count and counter bias incidents, said Hiraga, "the national picture on hate crimes remains incomplete."

The police data, said hate-crimes expert Kevin Berrill, "don't even approach reality." Congress must appropriate funds to help budget-strained governments change forms and

provide training so officers can collect appropriate data, he said.

Berrill, former NGLTF anti-violence czar and co-author of "Hate Crimes, Confronting Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men" (Sage, 1992), has worked with the FBI's training programs as a volunteer.

"Many police departments have not made hate crimes an important priority," he said. "Response has languished, or lagged."

Compared to the FBI's 421 anti-gay incidents, NGLTF logged 1,822 incidents in five U.S. cities alone during the same period, said Hiraga, Berrill's successor at NGLTF.

"In what seems a shocking miscount, the FBI recorded only five total bias incidents in California. NGLTF documented 473 anti-gay incidents in San Francisco alone," Hiraga said.

The FBI report was mandated under the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990, signed by President George Bush in a formal ceremony. He was criticized by conservatives for inviting gays.

One reason anti-gay incidents are under-reported is that the FBI does not include verbal harassment in its tallies. It would have outnumbered the next crime of oral/aural hassles, intimidation, which accounted for nearly one of three reports listed.

Other crimes logged were vandalism (27 percent), simple and aggravated assault (17 and 16 percent, respectively), and robbery (three percent). Murder, forcible rape, burglary, arson, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft made up one percent or less of the total.

FBI officials said the tight budgets and low sensitivity to the problem complicated data collection. "Many agencies were either unable or unwilling to collect data," said Wayne Koka, the FBI official in charge of compiling the statistics. There is no mandate for (them) to participate."

Accurate collection of hate crime data is "especially urgent in the current climate of fear and intimidation against gays," Hiraga said. After passage of Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2 and in anticipation of similar initiatives in other jurisdictions, "we can only expect similar rises in homophobic violence," he said.

JOHN ZEH

## Operation Rescue stages protest against gay rights

Washington, D.C.—Five Operation Rescue (OR) members staged a demonstration at the White House on January 8 to protest President-elect Clinton's support of gay rights. Operation Rescue has threatened to disrupt the Clinton inauguration as a "thorn in the side" of the new administration.

"Gov. Clinton will make a mockery of the Bible when he places his hand on it," Operation Rescue founder Randall Terry whined. He was challenged by 60 or so anti-protesters, including gays and lesbians and pro-choice activists, who pointed out that he himself was violating biblical tenets by wearing clothes of mixed fibers.

"Pray for brains, Randall," people shouted.

Clinton is "a major set-back" for the pro-life movement, Terry charged. "He has committed to putting only pro-death judges on the court and to sign the Freedom of Choice Act."

He claimed that gays "don't want to be in the military" but really "want homosexuality to be mainstreamed. They want us to accept a perversion, an abomination."

Terry's anti-Clinton, anti-gay rhetoric is designed, activists charged, to raise big bucks in the true tradition of anti-gay moralists.

"Who's next?" people chanted to highlight OR's crossover on the issues.

"This was a counter-protest," Human Rights Campaign Fund lesbian program director Kay Ostberg told this paper. "We are against people who have seriously damaged their credibility by jumping issues. These are the same people who have shut down abortion clinics, stopped women from seeing their doctors, and are now jumping on hating gay and lesbian people [because] they're going to go where they can raise money for their message of hatred and bigotry."

"Terry's presence exposes the fact that his followers stand for a very narrow, right-wing agenda," said Ostberg, who's moving to Los Angeles to help run the Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

The two dailies here ignored Randall's ravings. C-SPAN's exceptionally elongated report curiously omitted one highlight—a stellar performance by the Church Ladies, gays in



Kay Ostberg of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, was one of 60 counter-protestors at the Jan. 8 Operation Rescue demonstration at the White House.

drag who were a hit at a "Basic Instinct" protest and other actions.

"With it's infamy, Operation Rescue draws the press," said Church Lady Richard Wood of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). "We are here to counter their lies."

Wood proudly donned a dress and wig to support the affinity group of people from Queer Nation, OUT! (Oppression Under Target!), and ACT UP performing street theater before returning to his job as executive assistant at NGLTF.

"At the end, Terry and his cronies required all of one cab to leave," he noted with a grin.

Also at the rainy rally were members of the Reform Judaism Religious Action Center. "Abandoning discriminatory policies barring gays and lesbians from the armed services would both remove a terrible injustice and send a powerful message of acceptance and affirmation of [lesbians and gays] to the general public," said Rabbi Lynne Landsberg, associate director, in a statement.

"Operation Rescue is the work of the devil," Church Ladies shouted. "The banner we wave is love."

JOHN ZEH

## Leadership changes at GLAAD/Atlanta

Atlanta—The Atlanta chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has a new executive director. Carl Lange took over the post on Jan. 11, replacing former director Pdraig McLoughlin, who resigned late last year.

"I'm looking forward to this next year,"



Founder and former executive director of GLAAD/Atlanta Pdraig McLoughlin

said Lange, adding that he hopes to start a membership drive and extensive fundraising efforts quickly.

"We've got a good reputation in the community," he said. "The problem is we don't have the financial base to do what we want. So I'm going to be concentrating on home base."

He also said he hopes the fundraising efforts will enable the organization to make the executive director a full-time position. Lange will continue to serve on the board of directors of GLAAD/Atlanta, where he held the secretary's office.

"We will all miss Pdraig," he said, "but we have much to look forward to."

McLoughlin is the founder of GLAAD/Atlanta, and served as its first executive director as well as co-chair of the group and representative to the GLAAD/USA steering committee.

"Our accomplishments have been achieved through hard work and much of that has been Pdraig's," said GLAAD co-chair Michelle Martin. "We have much to thank him for."

KC WILDMOON

GLAAD is an organization dedicated to combatting homophobia and heterosexism, with special emphasis on images of lesbians and gays in the media. Call the GLAAD hotline at 605-7477 for more information or to report what you see and hear on Atlanta's airwaves and newspapers.

## Battered lesbian seeks commuted sentence

Boston—A woman who says she killed her lesbian lover in self-defense after years of battering has asked the governor to commute her sentence—a move that leaves some in the gay community uncomfortable.

"There's often a belief or a wish to believe that battering in straight relationships is about male supremacy over women," said Beth Leventhal of the Network for Battered Lesbians. "There's a great reluctance to look at women's violence because of that."

Debra Reid testified Jan. 11 that Jacqueline Gary beat, slapped and threatened her throughout their four-year relationship. Reid said she stabbed her 52-year-old lover because Gary was threatening to hit her with a wine bottle.

"I was scared because I just couldn't get her off me," said Reid, who is serving a 9- to 14-year sentence at a minimum-security prison.

She testified before an advisory pardon board that has been reviewing cases in the light of "battered women's syndrome," evidence that continued battering leads victims to kill in self-defense.

Reid is the only lesbian among eight women who killed their alleged batterers to seek a commutation from Gov. William F. Weld.

Leventhal says there is evidence that abuse is just as prevalent between same-sex couples as it is among heterosexuals. She said her organization received up to 45 calls last year from people who were either in abusive relationships or knew of others who were.

Although Reid says she cannot remember the moment in August 1989 when she stabbed Gary with a kitchen knife she was using to cut vegetables, she took responsibility for the killing and told police at the time that she stabbed her. She was convicted of manslaughter.

During her trial, Reid said, she felt the prosecution made her sexuality an issue, focusing on where she slept with her lover. "I just felt like I was on trial for being a lesbian," she said.

Reid said she was able to escape a prior abusive relationship with a man because her family gave her support. But she said her family rejected her when she told them she was gay, and she had nowhere to turn in her relationship with Gary.

Investigators found evidence of abuse on both sides, said Fitchburg police Capt. Mark Louney. Reid acknowledged that she sometimes bit and kicked Gary, but said she only did so when Gary started a fight.

The advisory board will make a recommendation to Weld. Any commutations would also need approval from the governor's council.

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## AL students wear condoms to school

*Tuscaloosa, AL*—Two high school students here wore condom packages to school to promote AIDS awareness.

"I can't discuss the matter with anyone except school officials or their parents," Principal Ronald Lett said. "But I can tell you no discipline was involved in either situation."

In both instances, the students said Lett told them to remove the condoms before returning to class.

The two female students said they were trying to educate by wearing the packaged condoms with an AIDS awareness button and ribbon.

"I don't think it's saying, 'Go out and have sex.' It's saying, 'If you have sex, be careful,'" said Jennifer Glenn.

Glenn, a senior, said she attached a condom, still in its original red packaging, onto a button that read, "It ain't over yet. Get help, Fight AIDS." Both items were pinned to

her pants leg last Wednesday, she said.

"Obviously, a lot of kids at school do have sex. I think students need to be aware of AIDS," said Glenn.

On Thursday, junior Jennifer Haynes said she was referred to Lett's office for wearing a similar symbol, a red AIDS awareness ribbon with a packaged condom. Both items were fastened to her jacket.

Both students said their parents support their efforts.

The Tuscaloosa County Schools' Student Dress Code forbids "slogans, symbols, patches and obscene writings which are disruptive or suggestive."

Both students said they planned no legal action against the school system. Instead, they took a different tact.

"We made a whole bunch of AIDS ribbons and passed them out," Haynes said. (AP)

## Gay rights law survives in FL county

*Tampa, FL*—By a narrow vote, the Hillsborough County Commission has upheld a law banning discrimination against gays and lesbians.

A 4-3 vote last Wednesday to keep the measure on the books was hailed by supporters and condemned by opponents.

The ordinance, adopted in May 1991, bars discrimination against lesbians and gays in real estate transactions, and protects gay rights to public accommodations in unincorporated Hillsborough County.

"I'm elated," said Ed Zebrowski, a Human Rights Task Force spokesman. "I think the action by the board of commissioners reaffirms their commitment to fairness and equality."

David Caton, who led an 18-month fight that led to the repeal of a similar law in the city of Tampa during the November election, said the action shows contempt for voters and "is an embarrassment to this community."

"They sold out to the gays' special interest groups for political expediency's sake," Caton said, predicting commissioners who supported the measure eventually will pay a political price.

Commission Chairman Ed Turanchik, who cast the deciding vote, said potential political fallout didn't matter.

"It's a matter of principle, and you stand up for your principles," Turanchik said. "You've got to stand up for what you believe in."

Without debate, commissioners reaffirmed the board's previous support and declared no public hearing would be held. (AP)

## Mobile County leads Alabama in AIDS cases

*Mobile, AL*—For the second consecutive year, Mobile County led Alabama in the rate of AIDS cases reported to the state health department. The county had 96.9 cases of AIDS for every 100,000 people in 1992.

A 34-year-old man who has AIDS told the *Mobile Register* that gay men like himself are not the only victims of the disease caused by HIV. Statistics back him up.

Twelve percent of the state's 1,720 AIDS patients since 1983 were infected through heterosexual contact, said Jane Cheeks, director of the state health department's HIV/AIDS program. That's twice the national figure of 6 per cent, she said.

In Mobile County, 17.5 per cent of AIDS patients were infected through heterosexual contact.

The AIDS patient who spoke on condition of anonymity said people still perceive AIDS

as a disease primarily affecting gays.

"When I go to the doctor, I'm sitting next to 60-year-olds, prostitutes, drug users, blacks, whites, Hispanics, heterosexuals," he said. "All those groups are there. It's not one particular race, one particular group of people anymore."

The number of AIDS cases is expected to increase about 25 per cent statewide and 50 per cent in Mobile County this year, because the Center for Disease Control has broadened its guidelines for diagnosis. (AP)

## LA sodomy law challenged

*New Orleans*—A New Orleans man arrested last spring is challenging Louisiana's law against oral sex.

Lawyer John D. Rawls filed a motion last Thursday, asking state Judge Calvin Johnson to declare Louisiana's sodomy law unconstitutional. The 187-year-old law includes a ban on oral sex.

The law carries a sentence of up to five years in prison for "unnatural carnal copulation." It applies to homosexuals and heterosexuals alike.

Rawls motion was filed on behalf of Johnny L. Baxley, 49, who was charged after he allegedly offered to perform oral sex on a man and pay him \$20 to allow it. The man turned out to be an undercover police officer.

Rawls paraded a dozen expert witnesses to the stand—doctors, priests, sex therapists, sociologists and professors—who testified that oral sex is natural and commonplace.

Rawls charges that the law specifically targets homosexuals "because they feel they are breaking the law by engaging in sex while heterosexual couples function as though the law does not apply to them."

The judge is scheduled to rule March 1. (AP)

## UA Gay Alliance celebrates 10th anniversary

*Tuscaloosa, AL*—The University of Alabama Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Saturday, January 30. The celebration, which is co-sponsored by the Atlanta UA Lesbian/Gay Alumni Association, will be held at the Palmer Lake Pavilion on the University campus from 8pm until 2am. All interested students, alumni, and friends are welcome to attend. The admission of \$3-\$10, based on ability to pay, includes hors d'oeuvres, mixers, and entertainment. Adults may bring their own alcoholic beverages. For more information, contact (205) 758-0232.

**Man Gets 2 Life Terms For Killing Lesbian Neighbors:**

A 67-year-old Wayne County, Mich. man convicted last month of first degree murder for killing his lesbian neighbors was sentenced on Jan. 7 to two life sentences for the crime. James Brooks used a shotgun to kill the women during an argument over a fence they were building. In a taped confession played at the trial, Brooks claimed he "had to do it" because police refused to respond to his complaints about the openness of Susan Pittman and Christine Puckett's relationship.

**SF Supervisors Leave Money in Bank Of America:** Gay activists are bitter over the defeat of a San Francisco city resolution that would have censured the Bank of America for funding the Boy Scouts despite the youth group's ban on gays. The Board of Supervisors failed by a single vote on Jan. 5 to override Mayor Frank Jordan's veto of the measure, which would have withdrawn \$6 million in city funds from the bank. Activists blamed the defeat on Supervisor Willie Kennedy, who they say promised to support a boycott of the bank during her successful reelection campaign in November. Kennedy was one of three members to support the mayor's veto. "Sometimes you can keep your promises, sometimes you can't," said Kennedy, calling her vote fair and even-handed.

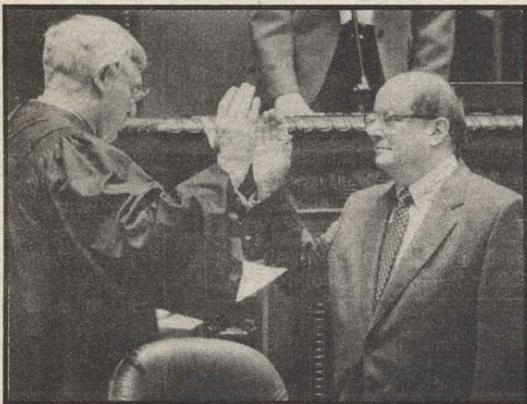
**Chaplain Rejects Gays As Parents:** With the clamor dying down about the discussion three lesbians had with students at a Boise, Idaho high school in November, a local chaplain has spoken against gay parenting to balance out the debate. The Rev. Chris McGreer last week talked to 90 juniors and seniors about "medical, psychological and sociological" disadvantages of the lifestyles of gays and lesbians. "Basically, I just provided them with the facts on the issue," he said afterward. Three teachers were suspended last November after they allowed three lesbians to discuss gay parenting with their students. All three were reinstated after a storm of protest.

**Attorney Seeks Probation For TX Gay-Bashing Murderers:** Attorneys for Leandro Ramirex, Javier R. Aquirre and Jaime Rafael Aquirre are seeking probation for the three after they pleaded guilty to the July 4, 1991 murder of Paul Broussard outside a Houston nightclub. The three are among 10 youths accused of beating Broussard to death with boards studded with nails. "They need to set a precedent that this is a very severe case," said Nancy Rodriguez, Broussard's mother. "It's not right to go out and do something against somebody—a hate crime—just because somebody is different."

**Head Of Presbyterian Church Favors Gay Acceptance:** At a meeting in Illinois, the head of the 2.9 million member Presbyterian Church (USA) criticized a 1978 ruling that keeps openly gay and lesbian people from being ordained as ministers or serving local congregations as deacons or elders. "The more we learn about this, the more it seems that sexual orientation is a matter of God's created order," said the Rev. John M. Fife, Moderator of the 204th Annual Presbyterian General Assembly. "We are going to have to grapple with it both biblically and theologically."

**Church To Go On Trial Over Gay Deacons:** Eugene, Oregon's Central Presbyterian Church's ordination of a gay man and a lesbian as deacons will be challenged in a trial in San Francisco before the Presbyterian Synod of the Pacific. The trial on Jan. 25 arises from a Portland church's official challenge to the ordination almost two years ago of Heather Boonstra and George Link. Leaders of the Eugene church are fighting to protect the ordination of the pair in defiance of official Presbyterian church policy, which prohibits the ordination of "avowed, practicing" gays. Hope Presbyterian Church in Portland said in its challenge that Central's actions are "in rebellion against the Word of God."

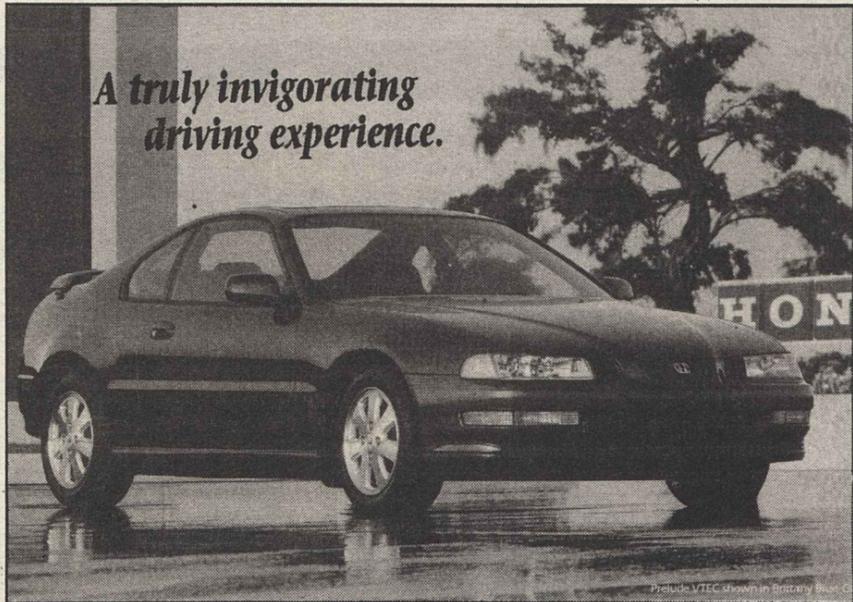
**Openly Gay Lawmaker Elected Minnesota Senate President:** The Minnesota Senate on Jan. 5 elected openly gay Sen. Allen Spear as its president for the 1993 session. Spear is now the nation's highest-ranking openly gay state lawmaker, said the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. Spear was first elected to the senate in 1972, and disclosed his sexual orientation publicly in 1974. "It shows that it's possible now for gay and lesbian people who are able to work efficiently within the system to rise on the basis of merit," said Spear, a history professor at the Univ. of Minnesota. To Minnesota lawmakers, the election was no big deal. "So what?" said Senate Majority leader Roger Moe. "Sen. Spear was elected president of the Senate by virtue of the fact that he is one of the most respected members of the Senate."



Sen. Allen Spear, openly gay Minn. legislator is sworn in as President of the Senate.

**Catholic Priest Dies Of AIDS:** A Roman Catholic priest who was forced to leave his Ohio parish after disclosing he was gay and had AIDS died on Jan. 10 of complications from the disease. The Rev. Robert Apking was hospitalized last November, seven years after he learned he had contracted HIV. Apking was forced to leave St. Christopher Church in Vandalia, Ohio in 1990 after he discussed his illness and sexual orientation in an interview with the Dayton Daily News. Prior to his death, Apking was a counselor and member of the board of trustees of the Miami Valley AIDS Foundation.

**Teen Charged In Murder Of Gay Florist:** Washington, DC police have arrested a 19-year-old in the murder of Kenneth Love, a 42-year-old florist. Love was found dead on Dec. 21 in his apartment. He had been beaten and mutilated. David Verosa Rider was charged with felony murder and held without bail. Friends of Love told police that the two dated for some time and that Love frequently gave Rider money.



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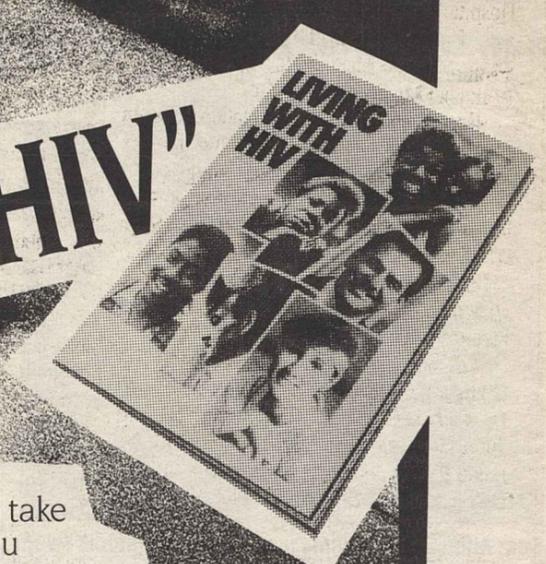
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## Almost half of HIV-infected are Black, Hispanic

Nat'l Commission on AIDS study stresses need for funds for prevention

Washington, DC—Almost half the people in America with AIDS are Black or Hispanic, and a national commission said last Monday the epidemic has to be addressed as a racial issue.

"We cannot approach the AIDS problem in a color-blind fashion," said Yale law professor Harlon Dalton, a member of the National Commission on AIDS, which released the report.

"African Americans and Hispanics-Latinos together account for 46 percent of the U.S. AIDS cases so far," but they account for 21 percent of the U.S. population, the advisory group said in the report.

As it has done with previous reports, the commission called for the government to spend more money for health care and education. It did not say how much.

The report was welcomed by Blacks Educating Blacks About Sexual Health Issues, or BEBASHI, an organization founded in Philadelphia in 1985 to emphasize preventive education in minority communities.

"It's monumental," said BEBASHI's Curtis Wadlington, adding he hoped it would translate into policy changes by the incoming Clinton administration.

Wadlington said the government has never made an effort to widen AIDS treatment and prevention services to minority neighborhoods. He said he believes prevention should

get as much funding as research and treatment combined.

"We can't take care of the dying, but we can prevent the disease for those who haven't already been infected," Wadlington said.

The chief AIDS sufferers in the United States have been gay men and intravenous drug abusers.

"Injection drug use has played a significant role in the disproportionate impact of AIDS on African Americans and Hispanics-Latinos," the report said. "In these communities the proportion of AIDS cases attributable directly to injection drug use is four times that for whites," 40 percent as compared with 9 percent.

"Low income and poor health are strongly linked," the report said. "Poor people of color often are isolated from all but the most rudimentary health care."

That is especially true in the cities, where public hospitals are crowded and where people who contract the virus are likely to have been in bad health already, the report said.

Dalton said that while the report pointed out how AIDS prevention programs need to be targeted to certain communities, he was concerned that white Americans will lose interest in fighting the disease "as soon as it becomes understood that the face of AIDS has darkened."

RICHARD L. VERNACI

## Study shows pet cats not a risk for HIV+ persons

San Diego—Researchers at San Diego Naval Hospital say pet cats don't put AIDS patients at greater risk of developing toxoplasmosis, a devastating brain infection, as many AIDS specialists have feared.

The report by members of the Naval Hospital's research team was based on a survey of more than 650 HIV-infected military personnel, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Researchers found no correlation between infection with the parasite that causes toxoplasmosis and close contact with a cat.

The toxoplasma gondii parasite is known to multiply in the intestines of cats, therefore AIDS patients still need to avoid contact with cat litter to guard against toxoplasmosis. They also should avoid raw meat because it can harbor the parasite, they cautioned.

"Some physicians have felt they had to tell their patients to get rid of their cats," said Dr. Patrick E. Olson. "That's really a hard thing for people who love their pets. But we found there's no reason for them not to keep their cats, which can provide a lot of solace."

Toxoplasma in the brain can cause headache, seizure, forgetfulness, confusion, problems with motor control and may even lead to a coma in AIDS sufferers.

Dr. Allen McCutchan, an AIDS specialist at the University of California, San Diego, Medical Center said he wasn't surprised that Navy researchers found no link between pet cats and toxoplasmosis.

"Our research showed that most AIDS patients who get toxoplasmosis had [the parasite] a long time, perhaps acquiring it as children or infants when they ate sand in their sandbox," said McCutchan. (AP)

## Two studies will look at HIV/TB connections

Two new clinical trials announced last month will address critical questions surround-

ing multi-drug resistant cases of tuberculosis (TB) in individuals with HIV, and the risk of TB infection to health care workers. The study was initiated by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and will enroll up to 500 HIV-positive patients and 300 health care workers at the Terry Bein Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS (CPCRA). The CPCRA AIDS clinical trial network has 150 affiliated community test sites in 17 cities throughout the United States.

The first study will determine the number of CPCRA patients with active TB who also carry strains of the TB bacterium resistant to one or more anti-TB drugs. Researchers hope to determine patterns of TB drug resistant strains. Additionally, researchers will examine the patients' socioeconomic background and other risk factors implicated with their HIV or TB infection.

"The recent rise in drug-resistant tuberculosis is concentrated in populations at high risk of coinfection with HIV, such as injection drug users and homeless persons," stated Anthony Fauci, M.D., NIAID director.

In the United States, health officials estimate that 15 million people are infected with a TB organism which could become activated at some point in their life. Alarming, 36 states, including Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia have reported drug-resistant TB cases in 1991. "This study will contribute to our understanding of the important factors in the epidemiology of drug-resistant TB, crucial to the design of prevention and treatment strategies," added Fauci.

The second study will examine the frequency of new TB cases among the staff at the CPCRA test sites.

"By determining how many people who work or volunteer in CPCRA sites convert from negative to positive on the TB skin test, we hope to gain a better understanding of the risks of TB transmission in an HIV clinic setting," stated Lawrence Deyton, M.D., chief of the community research branch of the Division of AIDS at NIAID.

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## AIDS AT THE CROSSROADS

### AIDS and Health Care Reform: We'd Better Start Paying Attention

At the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's recent Creating Change conference, only about a dozen of the nearly 1500 activists present attended a session dealing with health care reform. That's pretty typical of what happens when the subject comes up: Everybody wants to end the health care mess, but their eyes glaze over when you start talking about the details.

Well, we'd better start paying attention to those details. They could, quite literally, kill us.

Aside from the piecemeal tinkering with the present system that George Bush proposed, there are three broad categories of health care reform plans in circulation:

1) **Single payor.** This is the type of system Canada has, in which private health insurance is largely eliminated and replaced by a tax-funded government entity which pays for everyone's health care. The advantages are greatly lowered administrative cost, universal access to care and consumer freedom of choice in picking providers. The principle disadvantage is some rationing of specialized, high-tech procedures. Politically, any single-payor plan will face ferocious opposition from the insurance industry.

2) **Play-or-pay.** This approach retains private insurance connected with employment. Employers who don't provide health coverage would have to pay into a public system to provide health care for those who are presently uninsured. Insurers like this one better, but the potential tax burden makes small businesses nervous.

3) **Managed competition.** Potentially the least comprehensive of the three approaches, managed competition basically involves creating rule changes, tax incentives and other inducements designed to facilitate the formation of large insurance pools and HMO-type systems from which small businesses and others who presently have trouble obtaining insurance could get coverage. Managed competition would mean less government involvement in health care than the other two approaches.

Bill Clinton has been, in the words of AIDS Action Council's Jeff Levi, "something of a moving target" on the subject of health care reform. He started off the campaign talking about a play-or-pay approach that attempted to incorporate many of the advantages of single-payor, such as a unified system for handling claims. But by October he was talking about managed competition—without ever defining exactly how it would work. What exactly he has in mind is still far from clear.

Meanwhile, the insurance industry is kicking into high gear. The Los Angeles Times recently quoted one insurance executive as saying that the biggest firms have "swarmed

all over Washington, buying any lobbyist they can to corner the market." Aetna alone retains at least 10 high-powered professional lobbying firms. These guys are serious—there are big, big bucks involved here—and they are not our friends.

Aetna, for example, has been pushing what it calls "the managed-care solution," which essentially means putting bean-counters in charge of rationing medical care. Managed care frequently translates into a limited choice of providers—a possibility that can be truly scary for people living with HIV/AIDS, who may find that an AIDS-knowledgeable doctor is not among the choices offered them.

In whatever type of plan you look at, the details can literally take on life-and-death dimensions for people with HIV/AIDS. Some of the play-or-pay plans put forth in the last Congress, for example, didn't include coverage for prescription drugs, which can easily cost many thousands of dollars per month for a person with AIDS.

But even if drugs are included, there are still potential pitfalls. Knowledgeable AIDS physicians frequently prescribe medicines "off label"—that is, for purposes not yet included in the drug's official FDA labeling, which generally runs a year or two behind the state of the art in AIDS treatment. If off-label usage is not included in whatever plan is finally adopted, lots of PWAs won't get the medicines they need to stay alive. The technicalities can be numbing, but they're critical.

Many other items that may seem distant and unimportant to much of the public can take on crucial importance in AIDS care. Will hospice and home health care be included? Will they be covered adequately?

And since chances are that we're going to end up with a plan that retains some element of employment-based private insurance, will our domestic partners be included? Or will they be shunted off to separate-and-probably-unequal public system because we don't have the option of legal marriage?

These are just a few of the issues that urgently affect anyone living with HIV/AIDS; there are plenty more. And there is a real danger of our concerns getting lost in the shuffle in what will be one of the biggest lobbying circuses that Washington, D.C. has ever seen. The handful of lobbyists representing AIDS and gay/lesbian groups will be outnumbered 500 to 1 by the guys pushing the interests of the drug companies, the American Medical Association, the insurance industry and all of the other multi-billion dollar interests involved.

We need to start learning the details, dull as they may seem, and letting our representatives know what we want. Nobody is going to take care of us but us.

BRUCE MIRKEN

### AIDS deaths hit 10,000 in San Francisco

The 10,000th death from AIDS was reported last week in San Francisco, a milestone that demonstrates the magnitude of the epidemic's toll on the city.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health predicts that the cumulative number of AIDS-related deaths will more than double to 21,604 by the end of 1997. These projections reflect those deaths expected among the more than 38,000 San Franciscans estimated to have been infected with HIV to date since the beginning of the epidemic.

It is estimated that 28,000 men, women

and children are currently living with HIV infection in San Francisco, representing almost 4% of the City's population.

Although the number of AIDS-related deaths is staggering, recent studies offer a note of optimism. These studies show that early treatment with antiviral drugs and prophylactic regimens increases the survival of HIV-infected persons. Coupled with the increase in AIDS cases due to the new CDC case definition, the increased survival will result in a significant increase in the number of persons living with AIDS. Providing comprehensive primary medical care and support services for HIV-infected persons will be a major challenge for our health care system.

NEXT WEEK

Highlights of the gayer aspects of the Clinton Inauguration

The Fight for Our Children

A three-part series on the emotional and legal struggles faced by gay and lesbian parents to have and hold on to their children begins with a look at custody and the stacked deck against us in the court system.

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.

Mail your letters to: Southern Voice/Viewpoints P.O. Box 18215 Atlanta, Georgia 30316

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L E T T E R S

SoVo takes it on the chin, again

Dear Ms. Cash,

While not retracting any of my previous condemnations of Steve Warren as a film critic and/or any implied criticisms of Southern Voice as a publication, it does seem that your bitchy little response to my letter (which was written on a personal level and not meant for publication) does warrant some responses of my own.

With such a blurred understanding of semantics and definition, I can see why you're confused. I merely point out a clear example of internalized homophobia on Mr. Warren and Southern Voice's part, and suddenly you think I'm calling you homophobes. Having internalized homophobia does not necessarily a homophobe make, and I was assuming that you were intelligent enough to understand that. Perhaps 99% of the gay population suffers from internalized homophobia of some form or another, just as most people fall into sexist and racist ways of thinking, often on an unconscious level, despite their "enlightenment" and "political correctness."

However, I must say that I am surprised at the consistent prevalence of homophobic-think in Southern Voice (particularly against gay males), and hardly a week goes by that Southern Voice doesn't have something homophobic to say or imply. (Calling Liberace a "queen" in your most recent issue further illustrates my point; such a defamation might be acceptable in your

"Dish" column, but to gratuitously insert it into something you lifted off the AP wire is a different thing altogether—a distinction I'm sure evades you.)

Of course Southern Voice qualifies this deficiency most validly: "Southern Voice does not change the words of its writers [not that many couldn't use some good editing] or inject [its] opinions into their work," which is a nice piece of derring-do. In discussing previous Southern Voice writing with \_\_\_\_\_ (name of a Southern Voice writer deleted by Southern Voice at writer's request), I have heard him say it many times. After hearing it so many times, I am left to wonder if Southern Voice even has an editorial viewpoint, opinion, or theme (other than its obvious fringe-feminist element)—and, if not, what is its value as a publication?

Not that it matters. In the end, if Southern Voice is guilty of internalized homophobia (as I contend), then it commits the act unconsciously and ignorantly, and, therefore, deserves the forgiveness of Atlanta's gay populous. Nonetheless, give it some consideration.

As to why I think that "Edward II" is such an important film because, "frankly," you "don't get it..." I suppose I could talk about the technical aspects, which would be boring and stupid; or I could talk about how Mr. Jarman improved upon Christopher Marlowe's play immensely, but it is doubtful that you've read the original script.

As Derek Jarman says in his soon-to-be released book, "At Your Own Risk:" "I began to read between the lines of history. The hunt was on for forebears who validated my

existence... Most of Queer biography is located in fiction. Genet's prisoners, Cocteau's sailors; it was not possible to write in the first person, so we have a lack of information. The sexuality of so many queers was not loved in the history books. No one could be Queer and celebrated; Michelangelo, Leonardo, Shakespeare were all neutered. Hollywood invented heterosexual affairs for Michelangelo in 'The Agony and the Ecstasy' and took forty years to reinstate Queer Caesar in 'Spartacus.' This is why Hollywood is contemptible."

Edward II is an important film, and Derek Jarman is an important director, because both (one passively and one actively) contribute to the re-Queering of history.

Mr. Warren is contemptible because he laments the lack of Queer cinema put out by Hollywood, while refusing to give mainstream consideration to the independent film makers that produce admirable Queer films, usually on a shoestring budget. He might as well say that the only valid films are the ones produced in Hollywood, the films that, as Mr. Warren says, "surpass the million dollar mark" (which Edward II did, by the way, according to Variety tracking; Mr. Warren erroneously reported that it did not).

Derek Jarman further writes: "reviewers connived. No one spoke up—the words were taboo." I am speaking up. It is a shame (but entirely predictable) that you feel it necessary to take me to task for doing so.

Sincerely, Robert Weaver

Line-item veto crucial to community

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to the letter in Viewpoints of December 31, 1992—"What is more important, the line-item veto or a friend dying of AIDS??"

Understanding the individual's agony and sharing in his frustration over this issue, I can only respond this way. For my friend dying of AIDS, I can only comfort, show emotional support, and help make his remaining days as pleasant as possible. Beyond that, my friend will die. It is a sad and familiar story throughout.

Not to be insensitive, but personally, I feel it is time for us to move beyond partisan bashing. The election is over. The people have spoken. Now it is time to govern!

In order to fight a system we must understand how it operates. The line-item veto can be a tremendous asset to the community if a President is sympathetic to gay issues. The U.S. Congress will offer amendments to legislation regardless of whether or not the topic is related. Most Presidents have customarily not vetoed a desperately needed spending measure because of one or two unrelated amendments. An amendment can be anywhere from one line to 1000 pages. Senator Jesse Helms and others on the religious right will be joining forces to combat the future advancement of gay issues. We need to be alert!

I think it is prudent for the Congress to consider giving the President the line-item veto power he seeks, but with congressional review. This would allow the reinstatement of a vetoed item with a majority vote. It may not be necessary under the Clinton Administration, but Clinton can only serve two terms. Will the next President be as responsive to our community?

There is much work to be done, let us join together for the common good of our community. I took part in party bashing, but it's time for party bashing to be put aside.

My thoughts and prayers are with all those afflicted by this horrible thief of human life.

Cordially, Ed Boulware Washington, D.C.

Business as usual

To the Editor:

In your Dec 24, 1992 issue, [there] was an article about President-elect Clinton's transition team and how proud everyone is to have so many gays and lesbians thereon.

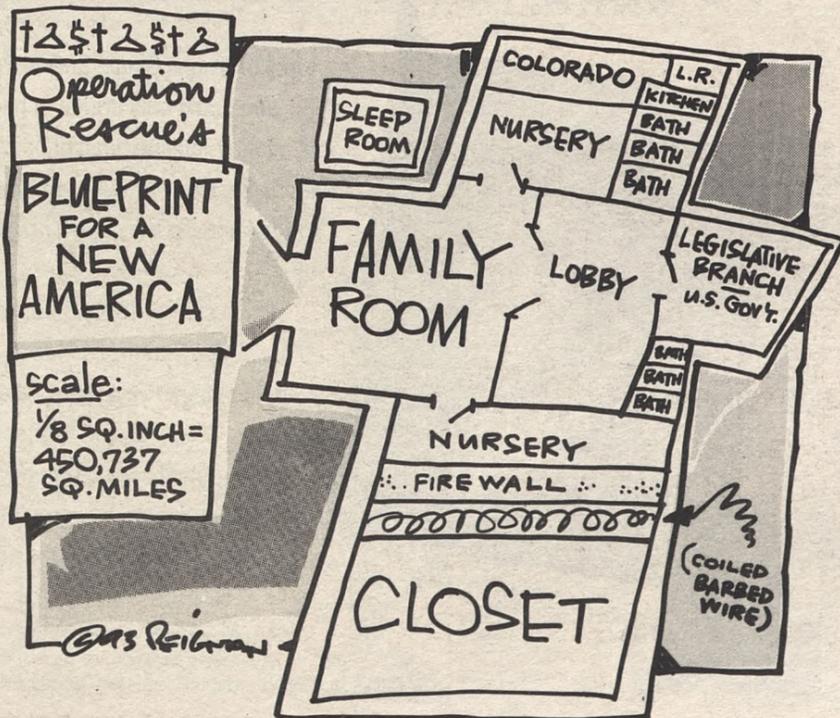
That's great. There were 13 people. ONE was female. Is this more "business as usual?" Is there a good old boy's network in our community? Is this an omen of less social change to come?

I sure hope I'm wrong on all counts!

Sincerely, M.C. Davidson Salley, SC

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Atlanta Police Department would like to alert the community to a series of homicides involving transvestites around the Ashby St. and MLK, Jr. corridor. There are five open murder cases to date in this section of the city. All incidents took place in the late night or early morning hours. The latest murder occurred Dec. 19, 1992 at 969 Camilla St. The murders are being treated as if they are connected. If you have any information concerning these murders please call the Homicide Task Force at (404) 853-3400.



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## OCCASIONS

### BIRTHDAYS:

Funny... That Way director and founder Deb Calabria turned 36 on January 11th. She celebrated by renting a motel room and inviting friends and members of the comedy troupe. "It was interesting to sit in a motel room with gay and lesbian comedians," Deb says. "We were playing with water pistols and conducting ourselves in other mature ways." Here's to being a grown-up!

Janice Blitzer from Loving Hands Wellness will celebrate the big 40 on Fri., Jan. 22. She says she had a party to "celebrate the living goddess within." Happy birthday, Janice!

Duncan Teague celebrated his birthday on January 8th. "Me and Elvis celebrated that day," he says. He, however, is "eons younger" than The King. Duncan did a night on the town to mark the occasion, "accompanied by many very attractive people." Hope it was grand, Duncan!

Also sharing a birthday with The King, (and Duncan) was Rodney Fry. Rodney is the co-chair of Black and White Men Together/Atlanta. Happy birthday, Rodney, hope it was a good one!

And a belated happy birthday goes out to K.T. Slaughter, who is so young that her age is simply not worth mentioning here. Well, okay, she turned 22 on January 6. Congrats K.T.—another year older, another year older.

### JOBS:

Debbie Fraker has been named Acquisitions Editor for the gay and lesbian journal Empathy. In her new position, she is responsible for gathering articles for the journal relating to the theme of the issue, and submitting them to the editor. In the latest issue, you can read Debbie's work entitled, "Dyke Porn Gets Me Wet, and Isn't That What It's All About?" If the title doesn't give you a clue, it's an article in defense of pornography. Empathy is edited by author James Sears and is available at Charis.

Congratulations to Carl Lange who has been named the new Executive Director of the Atlanta Chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Carl says he will focus on GLAAD fundraising and a membership drive in the next six months. Carl is the owner of Genesis Design, an industrial design consulting firm in Atlanta.



"Funny That Way" founder Deb Calabria (front) celebrated her 36th birthday in a motel room—and not alone.

### ON TV:

Be sure to tune in to Dateline on Channel 11 at 10 pm on January 26th. They will do a piece on the gay and lesbian community as part of an entire show on President Clinton's inauguration, and the role of gays and lesbians in his win. Part of the segment was filmed at Atlanta's First MCC. Look for some familiar faces!

### IN THE PAPER:

The Colorado situation has sparked many letters to the editor of the now way overpriced AJC. William J. Dunkley of Atlanta responded to a letter writer from Colorado Springs who claimed that Colorado for Family Values is driven by a concern for those "trapped in this (homosexual) lifestyle." To that William responds, "How dare he suggest that gays and lesbians need 'recovery.' The only recovery that is needed is from the ignorant discrimination perpetuated by people such as those in Colorado for Family Values." Well said, William. I urge you to keep the letters to the editor coming.

compiled by CANDACE CHELLEW

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

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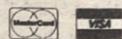
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AL COTTON

## A paean to purple

I was at Marshall's last summer shopping for new clothes for a new job—pants and ties and such. I had no intention of buying anything else, but as I walked by the casual shirts, I saw this sleeve barely peeking out, buried beneath four other shirts. There was just the barest glint of color showing through, but it was enough for me to see a truly glorious shade of purple. And of course it was my size.

Just out of curiosity, I looked through the other shirts, and the one in my hand was the only purple one there, in any size. Then I knew—the Goddess herself had clearly intended for me to own this shirt.

Such fateful shopping days are old hat for us—where would our community be for instance, if San Francisco men hadn't discovered the erogenous quality of flannel and handkerchief linen, or if Madonna hadn't tried to make a brassiere out of highway warning cones? But for me, this is just the latest chapter in my lifelong love affair with, to steal Alice Walker's phrase, the Color Purple.

When I was home for Christmas, this year, my cousin noticed my amethyst ring, and reminded me that I had always loved Purple, even as a child. She remembered that she bought me a Purple sweater for a previous Christmas. I looked when I got home, and found that very sweater.

Flash back to fourteen, and the two times I wore it during my adolescence. After she gave it to me, I remember looking at it and putting it aside—"Not today," I would think, instinctively hesitant to call attention to myself in the way that a Purple sweater would have. Finally I wore it, and nothing happened. Then I wore it again and got teased, and of course, that was it. My spirit not being up to the challenge of wearing Purple, I put it back in the closet (Coincidental? I think not.) But twenty years later, and I still haven't thrown the sweater away.

Fashion-wise, Purple is an intentional color, one that separates the Men from the Boys, a Color with Consequences. You don't just put it on without thinking about it, and it's certainly not something you'd wear if your mission is to blend into the woodwork. Spies never wear Purple. Choosing it may not generate a conscious thought, but there is always an awareness on having *done something* when you've chosen it.

Purple's strength derives from the fact that it's a mixture of red and blue, a combination of a powerful and passionate color and an introspective and spiritual one. The red qualities of Purple are clear in its royal heritage, as a color reserved for kings, with the wearing of it by a commoner a hanging offense. Purple prose is too lurid to read. And what color is used to make passion even *more* passionate?

When the blue predominates, the spiritual side shows up. In its guise as mild-mannered Violet, it sits at the end of the rainbow. New Age-wise, it rules the sev-

enth chakra, which deals with a person's cosmic consciousness, and where all seven colors combine to reveal the purity of white light. Church-wise, its use in the Methodist tradition that I was raised in covers all bases—your minister wore it both before Christmas (joyous) and during Lent (penitent).

In the law firms I've worked in, Purple is the color of strong women whose power has arrived. It's frequently chosen by female administrators of female partners, not so frequently by female associates who haven't made partner yet. Is this a tactical choice not to call too much attention to themselves? A fatal lack of self-confidence? Or simply good, professional, political Dressing for Success?

Strictly speaking, Purple is not traditionally a gay color—those are pink and lavender, which are perceived as weak, perhaps because of their association with us in the mind of a homophobic society. But I like to imagine that the person who brought it to our community was none other than Oscar Wilde himself—flamboyance personified, wearing his Purple topcoat and walking his lobster down the London sidewalks.

In any event, things that we choose as a community are usually chosen on instinct. And once Purple is seen as a color of powerful spirituality, then its adoption by us is clearly not accidental. There's tons of historical evidence of our community's spiritual heritage—in the church, in Native American rituals, in the arts, and in homophobic society's ferocious efforts to eradicate this heritage. We are the rightful heirs to the powerful, spiritual flamboyance that Purple represents.

As for me, I've noticed that when I reach for my Purple shirt, it's when I need a lift, a jolt of strength, a shot of spirit—as though simply the initiative of choosing Purple emboldens me, imparting a little psychological edge, perhaps just enough to make a difference.

But there are always those Purple statements that even the most Purple-hearted of us don't make. I backed away from the ultimate one last month when I bought my new car. There on the Isuzu lot was a Purple Amigo. I walked over to it, looked in the window, and briefly imagined myself a purple blur on I-85. But with the stress of buying a vehicle just before Christmas, combined with the fact that the Purple was more expensive, I settled for the classy black model. And it's quite satisfactory.

But I can't help but wonder—just as I wasn't up to a Purple sweater as a child, as a thirtysomething adult, is it a Purple car that I'm not up to now? Intellectually, I tell myself things like "Driving it everyday would take its specialness away," and "Cops would be more likely to pull you over for speeding," etc., etc., etc. Which just goes to show—there are always closet doors left to unlock.

If I make it to my '70s, I hope you'll catch me driving down the Interstate in my antique 2011 model Purple Corvette, daring them to pull me over and flaunting my Purple-nality from here to Ye Gaye Olde Folkes Home.

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Because of this, it pains me to say that I will not be able to purchase any more Celestial Seasonings tea until Coloradans have righted the terrible wrong done to their lesbian and gay neighbors by the passage of Amendment 2. The only thing more horrifying to me than the belief that some Americans are less deserving of human rights than others is the fact that a majority of Colorado voters chose to codify this discrimination in the state constitution! Not being a citizen of Colorado, I can only express my censure of this draconian measure by refusing to support the state in any way.

I have heard the Denver Convention and Visitors Bureau's plea to end the nationwide boycott of Colorado that, according to them, amounts to "blaming the victim." I am pleased that there are some who recognize that there are indeed many victims when discrimination is not only allowed but afforded special legal protection. I must point out, however, that I have no way of knowing who voted against the amendment, and I absolutely will not support those who would forcibly prevent the protection of anyone's human rights. Boycotting South Africa hurt black and sympathetic white merchants as well as white racists, but most black leaders agreed that it was a necessary sacrifice. Amendment 2 will be applied uniformly across Colorado. Therefore, I am forced to withhold my support uniformly throughout the state.

For the sake of your business and my taste buds, but much more importantly, for the sake of your fellow human beings, please work swiftly and resolutely to repeal this shameful legislation. If you believe half of what you print on your boxes, I think I can count on your support. As one of Atlanta's native sons said a few decades ago, "None are free until all are free." Maybe you could expound on that theme on one of your tea boxes.

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Your company may not personally or corporately approve of Amendment 2. We certainly hope you voted against perpetuating bigotry and the denial of basic civil rights to human beings who simply happen to share love and family responsibilities with another of the same sex. We also hope and pray that you will petition your state officials for immediate reversal of Amendment 2.

We are saddened by the need to inform you of our decision; however, our consciences demand that we support our brothers and sisters in Colorado and everywhere that basic human rights are threatened. We look forward to the time when Colorado will overturn Amendment 2 and we can once again enjoy your fine products.

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## COLORADO WATCH

An attack against a Colorado Springs therapist who opposes the religious right appears to be only the latest in a string of attacks against people who oppose Amendment 2. Ruth Williams was knocked unconscious on Jan. 2 by an intruder at her office who cut crosses in her hand and clothing, sprayed her with tear gas and mace, ransacked her office and spray-painted her walls with religious slogans. Williams transgression? Her car bears a "Celebrate Diversity" bumper sticker from the citizens group Citizens Project, formed last summer to monitor the religious right. The group had opposed Amendment 2.

Others who have made public statements, which Williams did not, have been the targets of violence, vandalism, hate calls and threats:

John Sheridan, head librarian at Colorado College, had two tires on his car slashed at his home, where he had displayed a "Vote No on 2" sign. Just after Christmas, vandals returned to his home on two consecutive nights, smashing two windows in his house and firing a bullet through his car window. Those attacks came after Sheridan announced that the Colorado Library Association was moving its annual meetings out of Colorado Springs because of that city's support of Amendment 2.

Richard Skorman, owner of Poor Richard's bookstore and restaurant, opposed Amendment 2 in letters to the editor of the Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph. He had the glass door of his business smashed and the restroom walls spray-painted with religious graffiti on two occasions.

The daughter of a Colorado Springs marriage counselor was forced off Interstate 25 south of Colorado Springs in her car, which displayed a "Vote No on 2" bumper sticker. The driver of the other car held a placard with the word "Lesbo" as he sped away.

Another woman who asked not to be identified had the front window of her house smashed after displaying a sticker that read "Hate-Free Home," an anti-Amendment 2 theme in the city.

And Steve Daigle received more than a dozen hate calls after his "man on the street" opinion against Amendment 2 appeared in a December Gazette Telegraph article. "They called me a faggot and damned me to hell and told me to read the Bible," he said. "Some of the calls were

answered by my 13-year-old daughter."

New on the boycott list this week are the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, the Rev. Cecil Williams (United Methodist Minister of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco), the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Lily Tomlin.

The Rev. C.T. Vivian, a former colleague of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., warned that the rest of the country must be ready to fight bigotry in all its forms, including homophobia. Vivian told a church group in Kansas City that the passage of Amendment 2 in Colorado meant that other states would try such a law. "We must get ready in every state in this nation," he said. "And the Old South will be the battlefield on this one, I am certain of this." Vivian did not directly address the boycott issue.

The anti-boycott movement is taking on more fuel from both the religious right and gays who fear the boycott will hurt Colorado's gay community worse than help it. In addition to two anti-boycott groups in Colorado, the Rev. Steven Gooden, a Los Angeles minister, urged all family and Christian based organizations to join the crusade to boycott the boycotters.

"I'm asking American citizens across the country to say 'Enough is enough. If you are going to try to bully the state of Colorado into your form of morality and decency, it is wrong,'" he said.

While no major gay organization has officially rejected the boycott, many individual gays are calling for a modified boycott that would not hurt gay businesses or communities that voted against Amendment 2 in the Hate State. Additionally, some Colorado AIDS agencies say they fear their fund-raising efforts will be hurt because entertainers refuse to come to the state for benefits. Members of the League of United Latin American Citizens have agreed to fight the boycott of Colorado because they fear that Hispanics will be among the first to "be hit in the pocket-book" by the boycott.

"My culture will come before my lesbianism," said Angela Romero, a plaintiff in the legal challenge of the amendment in Denver District Court. "I'm a lesbian, but from the beginning, I've opposed a boycott."



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# The Advocate

Continued from page 1

women staffers. Obejas was terminated by letter on December 20. Austin entered her resignation and left the magazine December 22, and on January 12 Minkowitz resigned.

Austin has begun the process of filing a lawsuit for sexual harassment and sex discrimination with the California Department of Fair employment and Housing Discrimination. She has been advised by her attorney, a specialist in the area of sex discrimination and sexual harassment, not to discuss her case with the press. When reached at her West Hollywood apartment Austin said, "It is true that I resigned from the Advocate, that I was discriminated against on the basis of my gender and that I was sexually harassed. I am in the process of filing with the State of California, but it is a long process and I have been advised by my attorney, Eric Davis, not to divulge information about the specifics of my lawsuit at this time."

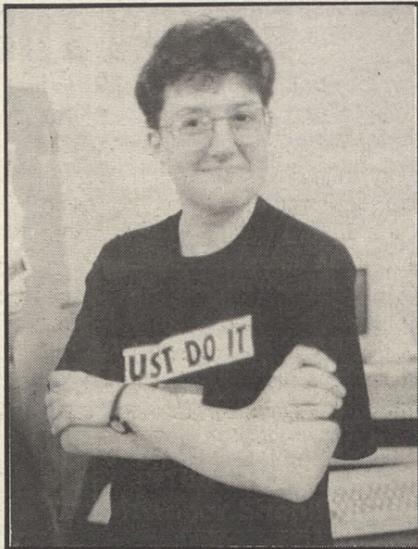
Obejas, who is filing a separate suit, was allowed by her attorney to speak at more length about her complaint. After a year as Chicago news bureau chief and one of three people of color on the Advocate's editorial staff, Obejas was notified by letter that budget cuts would force the magazine to terminate her position. But, said Obejas, the letter came immediately after she was threatened by Yarbrough with the loss of her job if she did not stop spending her time on "feminist bullshit," like the memo to Merton. In detailed grievance complaints filed on December 3 and 4 with the magazine's director of personnel, Steve Nelson, she explained the series of calls Yarbrough made to her, with various levels of threat. The grievances also cite efforts made by Yarbrough to discredit her with other editors, notably Arts Editor Kevin Allman and Austin.

"What is important to know," said Obejas, "is that Jeff had, in August, offered me his old job of Senior Editor—I was on very good paper with him until I wrote the memo with Cheryl and Donna. But we were so disturbed by his treatment of Bryn that we felt it was essential to explain the situation to Niles. Masha had already left and there were no other women there to support Bryn."

Obejas said that Yarbrough had tried to dissuade her from sending the memo to Merton, even citing Merton's deteriorating physical health. "Jeff said to me that Niles was 'unpredictable' due to his illness and implied that Niles was often in a state of dementia. He said that Niles might 'just up and fire all three of you,' And then a few weeks later I was out."

Gessen, who worked with Austin and Obejas, and who is not involved in the lawsuits was succinct about the problems for women at the Advocate.

"My leaving had everything to do with how the Advocate treats the people who work there," said Gessen, who formerly sued the now-defunct OutWeek magazine for sex discrimination



"I didn't want to lend The Advocate credibility by being the one woman's picture in front of the magazine" —Donna Minkowitz, who resigned in solidarity with Austin and Obejas.

and won. "The problems that I had working there had nothing to do with my job and everything to do with my being a woman. In the time I was there it was never a good place for women. But the magazine is over 80% male. Not every man at the magazine wanted to work with women."

As for the suits filed by Austin and Obejas, Gessen declined to comment on the specific allegations. But she did note that while Obejas worked with her, Gessen "never found in my experience that she was anything but professional, meeting deadlines and performing her job well." She was surprised that "any editor" at the magazine would cite Obejas for poor performance as Yarbrough is alleged to have done.

Now an editor of the Los Angeles Times Weekly Magazine, Rouillard did not wish to comment on the specifics of the lawsuits. But he said that accusations that Austin was not capable in her job as Managing Editor were "ludicrous. I don't think I could have found a better choice for Managing Editor anywhere else than Bryn," he said. "That position was created for her. They [the Advocate] didn't even have a managing editor before I placed her in that position. There weren't regular editorial meetings. There was no centralized management of editorial. The idea was hers and she did the job excellently. She was responsible for bringing in so many talented women, like Masha. And as for Donna, she's one of the finest journalists in the country. The Advocate was lucky to get her."

The former editor-in-chief said that many of the magazine's current problems are a result of poor management by the owners of LPI.

"There's no direction from this group of owners," said Rouillard. "And it's incumbent upon the publisher to give editors direction. Directing that magazine was always very difficult."

CONTINUES ON PAGE 15



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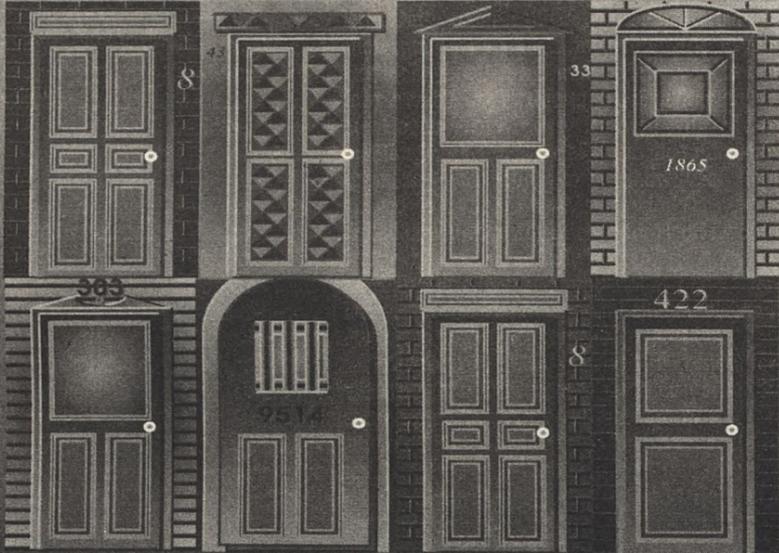
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## EYE ON THE MILITARY

Topping the list of recent activity on the subject of gays and lesbians in the military is the Senate confirmation hearing for President-elect Bill Clinton's choice for Secretary of Defense, Wisconsin Congressman Les Aspin.

According to a report in the Washington Blade, Republican members of the Senate Armed Services Committee questioned Aspin about Clinton's plan to repeal the Department of Defense's anti-gay policy. Sen. Dan Coats (R-IN), asked Aspin how the Clinton administration intended to reconcile the differences between Clinton's "mandate" that the policy be changed and military officials' contention that homosexuality would damage the military's "morale" and "effectiveness."

"Very, very carefully," Aspin answered. "We're going to be dealing with this thing during the next four years no matter what... Either [we] deal forthrightly and well, or deal with it backhandedly and bumble it. We need to deal forthrightly."

Aspin also said that in his view, "there are some obvious flaws in the current policy."

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-SC), who was recently given the Presidential Medal of Freedom award—the country's highest civilian honor—by Pres. Bush, was the first to bring up homosexuality, saying that he had concerns from "several issues" including "homosexuals in the military."

Committee Chair Senator Sam Nunn (D-GA), once considered a contender for the Sec. of Defense spot until reports surfaced that he had fired gay employees ten years earlier, did not ask any questions. Sen. Nunn supports the ban, and has been sending out a form letter to that effect to constituents for the past several months. The latest round of letters were sent on Dec. 30, 1992, and are identical to letters sent out earlier last year.

Meanwhile, gay and lesbian Capital watchers say while Aspin has not taken a leadership role in Congress on gay and lesbian issues, he has voted "correctly" on the majority of votes on those issues.

Top advisers are urging Pres.-elect Clinton to end the ban on gays in the military with a memorandum rather than an executive order, according to the Los Angeles Times. "Knowledgeable sources" told the Times that Clinton's aides would like to see him issue a "memorandum of instruction" to the Secretary of Defense in the first weeks of his presidency.

That directive would order the military to stop asking recruits and service members about their sexual orientation, and to immediately cease all investigations and disciplinary actions against gays. The sources said the memo would have the legal force of an executive order, but would lack the historical thrust, thus helping blunt some of the opposition from military leaders to the ban's final repeal.

67 state university presidents and chancellors have joined the call for the ban's repeal. The group sent a letter urging that Clinton "act swiftly and decisively" to eliminate the ban.

Meanwhile, a Washington-based lobbying group has run a test advertisement in Virginia's Hampton Roads military community that could lead to a national campaign to keep the ban on gays in the armed services. The Family Research Council ran an ad in last week's Sunday paper urging readers to call the Council and mail a coupon to Clinton in Little Rock, Arkansas, urging him to reconsider his pledge to lift the ban.

"If the ban is lifted...all military personnel, including families and retirees will be adversely affected," the ad said. "Unit morale, combat effectiveness, living conditions and benefits for soldiers, sailors and their families, will forever be altered."

Gary Bauer, president of the Family Research Council, said that the ad was a test. "We wanted to see what kind of response we received in an area of the country that understands military issues," he said.

The Washington Blade has reported that someone inside the Pentagon has released a counterfeit copy of the Pentagon's daily newsletter, The Early Bird, that derides the idea of gays in the military. Articles in the fake paper are written by such "writers" as "Bruce Aidsman," "Dick Butt," and "Mike Comstain." The articles related that Navy aviators who tore clothing off women during the Tailhook scandal did so because they were cross-dressers who wanted the clothing for themselves, and that Air Force pilots had started a new organization called AFAG (Air Force Aviation Gays).

Pentagon officials had no comment since the faux newsletter was "not an official publication." Speculation, however, points to the office of Pete Williams, the assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, which oversees publication of The Early Bird. Williams is widely rumored to be gay, and has been outed in many gay publications.

And finally, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has asked President-elect Clinton's designated attorney general and secretary of defense to investigate the brutal slaying of Seaman Allen R. Schindler, a gay man who was beaten to death in an anti-gay attack in October. A fellow seaman is charged in Schindler's death, and a second seaman was found guilty of resisting arrest and failing to report the crime.

Schindler's lover, James Jennings, said that Schindler frequently complained of anti-gay harassment from his shipmates. The 22-year-old Chicago man was being processed for dismissal because of his sexual orientation at the time of his murder.

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## The Advocate

Continued from page 13

Things must be done by the seat of your pants. They still don't even have AIDS counseling [even though several of the magazine's editors have died of the disease in the last year and several others are ill]. To try and blame the problems on Bryn or Masha or women in general won't work. They brought a great deal to the magazine and their leaving is an equally great loss."

Although she was not subject to the alleged daily harassment of other women in the L.A. office, Minkowitz resigned "in solidarity with Achy and Bryn," she said from her Manhattan office at the Village Voice. "I was so outraged by their treatment of Bryn and Achy that I didn't want to be their token woman columnist." Added Minkowitz, winner of several journalism awards, "I didn't want to lend the Advocate credibility by being the one woman's picture in the front of the magazine."

Editors at other gay magazines and newspapers across the country were disturbed by the lawsuits. Michael Goff, executive editor of OUT magazine, the Advocate's main competitor, said, "in the 90s it's all about queer magazines being co-sexual to the core."

Goff, whose editor is a lesbian, Sarah Pettit, and whose staff is gender balanced, said he began the magazine with gender parity in mind. "You can't just tack lesbians on as an afterthought and expect that to work," he said. "If you want a magazine for gays and lesbians you have to have gays and lesbians be part of the organic process. The pay-off of a co-sexual magazine can be tremendous. You learn respect for each other—men and women—at all levels."

Surina Khan, editor of Metrolina, the New England gay and lesbian magazine, was equally upset. "It's unconscionable that this is happen-

ing with the national gay and lesbian magazine of record," she said. "We have to have a commitment in our community to the diversity of that community. I am a lesbian and a woman of color and I know as an editor that it is not an easy thing to do to get that diversity into your publication. I have to go out and make the extra effort. But we need to represent all our voices. I hope that the Advocate realizes that we are very powerful as lesbians and people of color and we won't sit back and accept this."

And the new editor of the Philadelphia Gay News, Al Patrick, added, "Lesbians are a big part of the news and the community. Every reporter brings his or her own objective—if we deny lesbians we deny half of our community. It's really unfortunate that women are still having to fight this fight in our own community in 1993."

According to Herrera's attorney, gay civil liberties lawyer Mickey Wheatley, Herrera filed his sexual harassment suit in January 1992, but the brief in the case was just filed this week by the Advocate attorney, Roger Frank.

"Essentially what Frank has said is that my client cannot really have a basis for his suit because there is no protection or stipulation about same-sex harassment under the California law," said Wheatley. "This is a very cynical perspective that the magazine is taking. What they are saying—and this is a gay magazine and a gay lawyer and a gay defendant and plaintiff—is that gender is everything in sexual harassment, that you can't harass someone of the same gender! So they are saying that sexual harassment can only be gender-based. It's a terrible argument for a gay organization to be making. It just flies in the face of everything we are working to do in our movement to protect ourselves against discrimination."

Repeated calls for a response to these charges and allegations to the executive offices of LPI were not returned at press time.

## Colorado

Continued from page 1

not over.

"The injunction buys more time to educate the citizens and organize against the amendment," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force spokesperson Robert Bray. "This ruling is for a temporary injunction. The dagger of discrimination still dangles over the heads of lesbians and gays in Colorado."

In making his decision, Bayless said that Colorado's lesbian and gay community had showed an "urgent necessity" for him to stop the amendment from taking effect. He said it would place them in danger of "real, immediate and irreparable injury."

"I feel very happy that a lot of hard work was listened to by the judge," said Linda Fowler, Denver Mayor Wellington Webb's representative for lesbians and gays. "It says we're being

listened to and the court is open to appeal by all parties. Now we're protected in the interim.

"I'm very very happy," said amendment opponent Kevin McCall. "It means that we can be heard. I'm not sure what it means [for the outcome of the pending lawsuit], but I think it has a lot of significance for the gay and lesbian community."

The plaintiff's attorney, Jean Dubrosky, agreed with McCall, adding that the significance stretched beyond Colorado.

"[The decision] will have more of an impact than probably any other in this case," she said. "I think it will slow the effort to obtain similar state constitutional amendments."

Bayless' decision also keeps anti-discrimination laws on the books in Aspen, Boulder and Denver, where existing measures would have been automatically repealed by the amendment.

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## Gay Vermont legislator dies two days after being sworn in

Montpelier, VT—Ron Squires, an openly gay member of the Vermont Legislature and campaigner for the state's gay rights law, died Jan. 8 from complications of AIDS. He was 41.

Squires' family was with him when he died from viral meningitis, said Barbara Gentry, a spokeswoman at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital in Brattleboro, about 115 miles southeast of Montpelier.

Squires, a Democrat, was sworn in last week to his second term in a ceremony at the hospital. House Speaker Ralph Wright and House Clerk Robert Picher attended the swearing-in after the Legislature's formal Statehouse ceremonies.

The House had amended its rules to allow the hospital ceremony.

The Statehouse flag was lowered to half-staff in Squires' honor.

*"If Ron did anything to leave behind for us, he made it OK for us to do the right thing,"*

*[House Speaker Ralph] Wright said.*

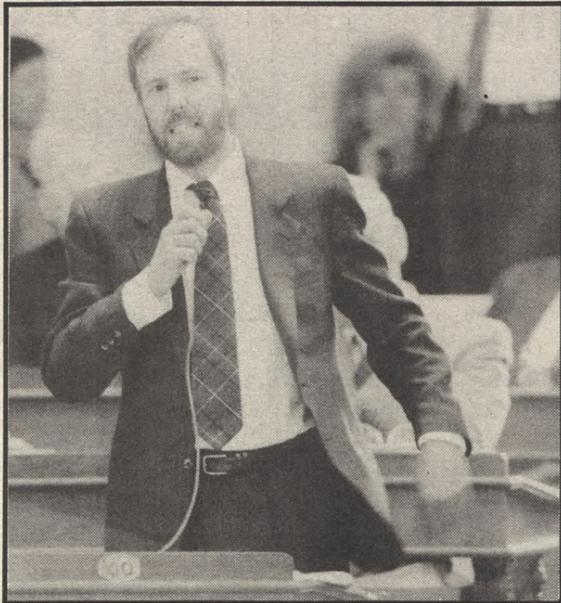
*"There's got to be members of this House who wondered up to this time whether supporting gay rights was right and proper. Ron showed it was right and proper."*

Squires worked in the last legislative session to win approval of a civil rights law protecting gays from discrimination on the basis of their sexual orientation, making Vermont the sixth state in the nation to extend such protections to gays and lesbians.

Mrs. Squires said the family had supported Squires as a gay man and when he became sick.

"The only thing that hurts me is that where he wanted to be, in politics, will be cut short," she said.

In an interview with The Associated Press in December,



Vermont Rep. Ron Squires peaks to his fellow House members in May 1992 while urging them to approve a law protecting the rights of gay and lesbian residents of the state.

Squires said he was proud of his work passing a gay rights bill last year, but didn't like to brag.

He acknowledged the vote was difficult for many legislators.

"There were several that made very courageous votes—certainly that I and some others didn't think they would have the courage to make," he said.

Squires said "everybody knew I was a gay man," so the strategy was for him to speak just before the vote.

The chamber was silent as he stood to speak—without notes.

"This bill is not about behavior and conduct or sex. This

bill is not about special privileges or rights. It's about giving gay men and lesbians the same rights that you all have... This debate has been about hate and bigotry and fear and ignorance," he told lawmakers before the vote last April.

"If Ron did anything to leave behind for us, he made it OK for us to do the right thing," Wright said. "There's got to be members of this House who wondered up to this time whether supporting gay rights was right and proper. Ron showed it was right and proper."

Squires was vice chairman of the House Government Operations Committee in the last session and the day before he died was appointed chairman for the new two-year session. He also served five years on the Democratic National Committee and was leader of the Vermont delegation to the Democratic National Convention in 1988.

Squires had not disclosed that he carried the AIDS virus until several days before he died. Anne Rider, Windham County Democratic chairwoman, said he had planned to reveal he had AIDS but had not decided when to make the announcement.

Rider said Squires didn't want to be known as a gay legislator because he was politically active in many other ways. Though he was worked in national party politics, he also worked hard at local issues, including trying to bring sewage service to a section of Guilford and relocating a welcome center on Interstate 91.

He also was a justice of the peace, cemetery commissioner and legislator.

"His joke was that he could marry you, bury you and tax you all at the same time," Rider said.

Squires, who lived outside Brattleboro in the town of Guilford, was hospitalized in November with pneumonia. He re-entered the hospital on Sunday with seizures and viral meningitis, his mother said.

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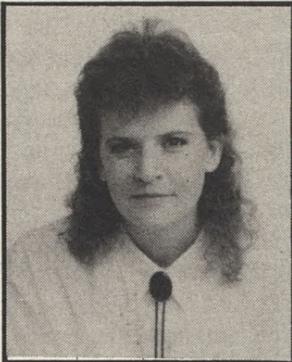
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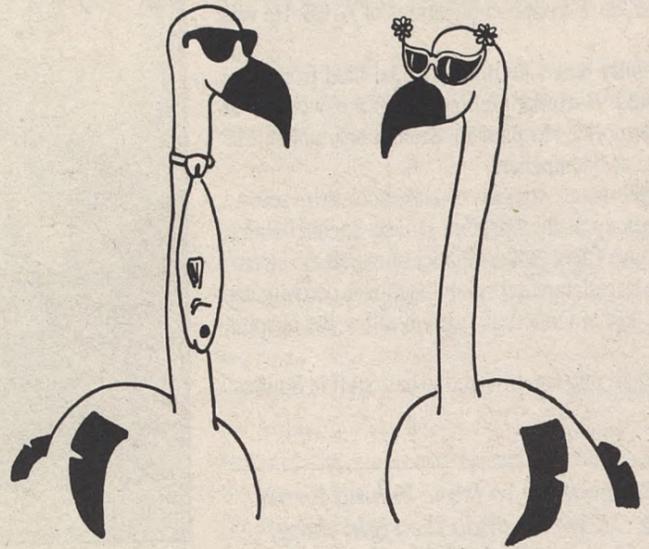
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# OUT & ABOUT

## GAY THEATRE

### LORENZO'S OIL

Jeez, Louise, Susan Sarandon should finally receive her overdue Oscar for her portrayal of the fiercely maternal Michaela in "Lorenzo's Oil," a moving and empowering true story of two parents who refused to accept their son's rare illness as terminal. A basic movie-of-the-week but with better production values, it's about ALD, a degenerative brain disease that afflicts young boys. When it strikes their son Lorenzo in 1984, Michaela and Augusto Odone (Nick Nolte) form their own "ALD-UP" chapter, doing research and fundraising, organizing and galvanizing the international medical community. Thanks to their efforts Lorenzo, who was given two years to live, is 14 today. Obvious as the parallels to AIDS are, they're mentioned once for reinforcement. Director George Miller sometimes wrings extra emotion from a story that has more than it needs, but don't let that discourage you from seeing this moving tribute to patient advocacy.

#### Chaplin

"Chaplin" reviews itself when Charlie says, "If you want to understand me, watch my movies." Richard Attenborough and a talented cast and crew have spent a lot of time, effort and money without increasing our understanding. Robert Downey, Jr. ages 64 years in the title role, but does little comedy. Highlights of Chaplin's career are represented by clips from the actual movies, which seems like a copout. Spanning seven decades, the screenplay dances lightly over his life and work. Charlie makes an enemy of J. Edgar Hoover in 1918 and as a result is deported from the U.S. 34 years later. The obsessive FBI director, whose homosexuality isn't addressed, tracks Chaplin's affairs with underage girls, which end in marriage before the actor can be prosecuted. Personalities fly by, mostly in cameos, to heighten the sense that you're getting a lot of dish, but "Chaplin" feels more like a lesson than an entertainment; yet it doesn't teach us much. If you want to understand Charlie Chaplin, watch his movies.

#### Trespass

All whites are greedy opportunists and all blacks vicious criminals in Walter Hill's "Trespass," an urban updating from themes from "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre." Arkansas firefighters Vince (Bill Paxton) and Don (William Sadler) stumble on a map to a million dollars in gold artifacts stolen from a church. While tearing up the East St. Louis building where it's hidden, they witness a gangland killing by King James (Ice T) and his "associates," including the ambitious Savon (Ice Cube). A siege ensues, punctuated by occasional bloodshed. King James and Vince are the more rational representatives of their races, but the most sympathetic character is a squatter (Art Evans) caught in the crossfire. Surreal touches recall Hill's "Streets of Fire," but this time the director's tongue is so far back in his cheek we can't be sure when he's kidding.

#### Damage

Louis Malle's "Damage" is from the "Fatal Attraction" school of AIDS-era cautionary tales. It's tastefully done, but David Hare's script has enough of a sleaze factor to take your mind off Woody, Mia and those rambunctious royals for two hours. Anna (Juliette Binoche) gives Dr. Fleming (Jeremy Irons), a defiantly erotic stare at a party. He's a rising politician and she's dating his son Martyn (Rupert Graves), but they're soon dancing the Kama Sutra all over her little flat. Fleming acts like a schoolboy with his first crush, ready to chuck his marriage to Ingrid (Miranda Richardson) and risk his son's hatred. Anna behaves more maturely, becoming engaged to Martyn and advising his father she plans to have two men for the price of one. This is not a movie about safe sex—their spontaneous passion leaves no time for condoms. In that sense it's irresponsible, but the acting is excellent and "Damage" is no tease; it's an intelligent, well made erotic drama.

#### Scent of a Woman

"Scent of a Woman," in which a colonel and a kid teach each other life lessons, offers too much bitterness on the way to its inevitably uplifting and heartwarming ending. Taking two and a half hours to tell a 90-minute story, it has too much of everything, especially Al Pacino, ego tripping as blind Lt. Col. Frank Slade, who plans to kill himself (how does he get a service revolver past airport security?) after a weekend in New York with a troubled preppie (Chris O'Donnell, throwing away a starmaking opportunity). Pacino's performance is technically



MICHAEL O'NEILL

Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon star in "Lorenzo's Oil," a true story of two parents who refuse to accept their son's illness as terminal.

perfect, but there's no soul behind the technique. His colonel punctuates everything with the exclamation "Hoo-ah!" but Hoo-ey! would be more appropriate. "Scent of a Woman" stinks.

#### Indochine

If "The Lover" was a short story, "Indochine" is a novel, full of the rich complexity missing from the other film. Old-fashioned in the best sense, "Indochine" is an epic romance on a scale rarely attempted these days, more rarely with success. In Indochina in the 1930s, Eliane (Catherine Deneuve) runs her father's huge rubber plantation and cares for Camille (Linh Dan Pham), the orphaned daughter of a Vietnamese prince. Eliane's affair with Jean-Baptiste (Vincent Perez), a young French sailor, ends badly around the time Camille meets Jean-Baptiste and falls in love with him, following him to a remote outpost when Eliane has him transferred, and becoming a revolutionary heroine. Lopez and Pham are attractive and convincing as the young lovers. Lesbians will note that a scene of Eliane and Camille dancing the tango together is hot stuff!

STEVE WARREN

## COUPLES

### GETTING THE LOVE YOU WANT

If you have ever been in a relationship, you know the first few months, or maybe years, can be sheer bliss. That light-headed, sweaty-palmed feeling, that thrill every time they call, that wanting to be with them all the time. Then one day, it changes. Things get harder and you wonder if you've made a mistake.

A new workshop can provide you with the answer and the tools you need to work through the tough times in personal relationships. "Getting the Love You Want" will be held January 22-24, with facilitators Dr. David Woodsfellow and certified Imago Relationship therapist Jamey Collins.

"There gets to be a phase in a relationship where things bog down and get boring," says Dr. Woodsfellow, a clinical psychologist with Phoenix Psychological Associates. "In this workshop we teach you how to return the joy, safety and pleasure to

the relationship."

The workshop is based on a theory developed by New York City psychologist Dr. Herville Hendrix.

"The theory is that the unconscious reason for relationships is healing," explains Dr. Woodsfellow. "In particular healing the wounds and unfinished business of childhood."

The theory holds that almost always the most repetitive conflicts in a relationship are old issues working themselves out. The misunderstanding of this can lead to the old problem of serial monogamy.

"People who experience serial monogamy are phobic about the difficult phase. They think it is avoidable or signals that the relationship is wrong," Dr. Woodsfellow says. "I think it is inevitable. It is a sign that the healing is beginning."

The workshop relies on three activities to help couples. First, there is a lecture on Dr. Hendrix's theory. Here couples learn how early experience affects who they are attracted to and how it affects what happens when the relationship begins to encounter difficulty.

Secondly, the participants will be asked to write about themselves and their partners. "In a workbook, each person will explore their perceptions of their partner and their memories of their own histories," the doctor explains. "Then we learn to weave the tow together."

Lastly, there is instruction on better communications between partners. Here couples are taught how to hear and understand one another, constructive forms of criticism, how to turn anger into a positive experience instead of a hurtful one ("The key here is creating security," says Dr. Woodsfellow), and how to build joy and pleasure.

The cost of the workshop is \$250 per person and \$500 a couple. The fee includes workshop and workbooks. Meals and hotel accommodations are not provided.

The price may seem steep to some, but Dr. Woodsfellow thinks it's worth it.

"This workshop can bring a couples as far as several months of couple's therapy, which is usually \$100 a meeting," he says. "Besides, it's really making a commitment to someone to spend this much time and money on improving a relationship."

For information on registration, and workshop location, call Jamey Collins at 728-9762.

CANDACE CHELLEW

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, "empathy" is the power of projecting one's personality into, and therefore understanding fully, the object of contemplation. It sounds like a book of that title might be soft and fuzzy, but "Empathy" by Sarah Schulman (Dutton, December 1992, \$18.00) is less of a New Age cuddly toy than a Brazil nut: hard, uncompromising, utterly self-contained; perfect in form and purpose.

The novel's outward form is so perfect—so hard and streamlined—that it is in danger of fending off all our efforts to reach its kernel, its meaning. The story seems simple enough at first glance. Anna Q. (think about it) has been jilted by a woman in white leather and lost all sense of her identity. She meets Doc, a post-Freudian therapist, on a street corner while he is handing out business cards to likely-looking neurotics. He tells Anna she is suffering from "empathy." They go through all the big-city-in-the-nineties stuff—AIDS memorials and "People" magazine, street people and personal ads—and eventually Anna meets Dora, falls in love, and undergoes a metamorphosis, of sorts. And it is that "of sorts" around which the novel hinges. It is only when we reach the end of the novel that we can appreciate Schulman's skill, that we are forced to acknowledge the terrible way the world warps our perceptions of sex and gender.

Schulman manipulates us ably, keeping us off balance at all times, throwing in scenes written as screenplays and almost too intense viewpoint switches. Now and again there are sentences that don't seem to mean anything, but we don't mind too much, because we know we are in skilled hands: all will make sense in the end, we believe. And, mostly, it does. But we have to work. And, as with all slippery, recalcitrant Brazil nuts, we may wonder at times if

BOOKS

NICOLA GRIFFITH



JULIA SCHER

Sarah Schulman, author of *Empathy*, is a regular contributor to *The Village Voice*, *The Nation*, *Lambda Book Report* and *Mother Jones*.

the kernel is worth all the effort.

If "Empathy" is a Brazil nut, then "Sea of Light" by Jenifer Levin (Dutton, January 1993, \$21) is a Turner painting: an enormous canvas whose seemingly unrelated layer upon layer of brushstrokes create a luminous whirlpool that pulls the reader's focus ever inward. The novel is too big, too complex to summarize here, but it is the story of nine people, among whom are: Babe Gelgado, a Cuban-American and one of two surviving members of a world-class college swim team whose 747 goes down in the Sargasso during Hurricane Angelita; Brenna Allen, closet case and

WASP coach of the North Massachusetts University team, who recruits a physically and emotionally torn Babe; and Ellie, Jewish lesbian virgin and captain of the team. The three women hurt each other, help each other, and learn from one another.

This is a novel about winning—not winning meets, but winning in life, winning in the face of uncertainty and fear, of abuse of authority, of the subtle and not-so-subtle racism with which we all grow up.

Levin paints furiously: we leap from the hearts and minds of Babe, her father, her brother, Ellie, Brenna, Chick—Brenna's best friend and only confidant, Kenny—the other Angelita survivor, Babe's Tia Corazon (a bruja)...and we live inside them all, occupy their dreams, shiver with their nightmares. We watch Bren driving her team hard, then harder as her lover, Kay, dies, and she can confide in no one. We come to realize that much of Babe's trauma and confusion stems not from having to reexamine her life in light of her near death, but from the twisted rituals of the dead swim team. And we find out that Ellie, the stubborn, over-worked captain who wants Babe's love, is afraid.

Levin shows us sleek, majestic creatures shaved smooth of body hair whose bones and muscles have a mystical relationship with the water. The best parts of the book are the descriptions of the swimmers. We see through their various eyes what it means to dedicate one's body to swimming: the physical change that six hours a day of training in and out of the water will bring about, the heartbreaking work, the tension, the pain. Athletes, we conclude, are different, yet just as we are reaching this conclusion, Levin shows us it is an illusion: people are people, regardless of what they can make their bodies do. A humane, richly textured book.

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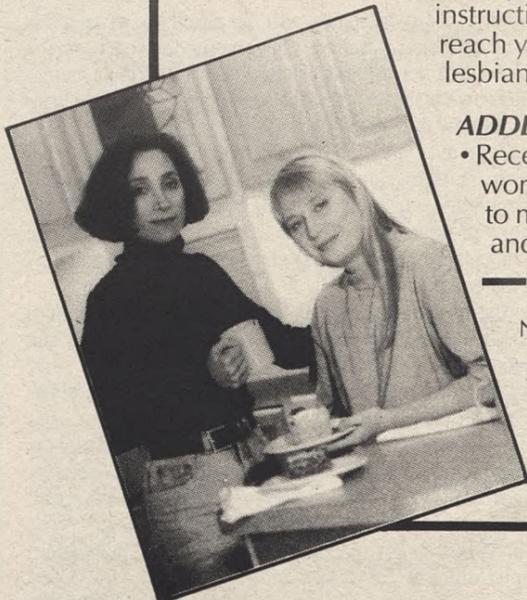
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## C A L E N D A R

## 21 THURSDAY

**SARA SCHULMAN.** Provocative lesbian writer Sarah Schulman will read from her latest novel "Empathy," about a lesbian trapped in a woman's body, tonight at 7:30. The presentation at Charis Books and More will also include a video of the Lesbian Avengers, a direct action group in New York. Call 524-0304 for more info.

**MARVIN'S ROOM.** Through Feb. 21. Horizon Theatre presents this offbeat allegory about caring and care-giving in the time of AIDS. A collection of oddball relatives pulls together when the heroine begins to come apart. The production can be seen Thur., Fri. and Sat. Call 584-7450 for ticket info.

**PRIDE PARTY.** The kick-off party for the 1993 Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride begins at 7:00 at the MCC Church on North Highland Ave. For more info call the Pride Line at 662-4533.

**A TASTE OF MYSTERY.** Agatha's, a mystery dinner theatre, presents "Arsenic and Old Maids." Along with a five-course meal and wine, guests are entertained by the annual reunion of the Butts family and their attempts to solve a murder. Thursdays through Sundays until April 7. Call 875-1610 for reservations.

## 22 FRIDAY

**ROCK FOR CHANGE.** Variety Playhouse presents a benefit for the ACLU to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling. Wild West Picture Show, Big Fish Ensemble, The Vidalias and the Doll Squad will perform beginning at 8:00 p.m. Call 524-7354 for ticket info.

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

**A LADY AND A WOMAN.** Through Jan. 24. SAME presents Shirlene Holmes' play about two black women who fall in love in the 1890's. Carol Leon Mitchell directs this touching story of lesbian romance in an age when such relationships had no precedent. Thurs.-Sun. SAME Auditorium at TULA. 75 Bennett St. 8 pm. 609-9590.

**BILLY BISHOP GOES TO WAR.** Through Jan. 31. Theatre Gael presents a sing-along musical of World War I and nerve rattling descriptions of the early days of aviation. Theatrical Outfit. 876-1138 for info and reservations.

**THE WOMEN.** Through Feb. 21. The classic American comedy by Clare Booth Luce hilariously



**DAISY AND HOKE.** Tri-Cities Theatre in East Point presents Driving Miss Daisy, the story of independent widow and the resisted introduction of a chauffeur by her concerned son. Performances can be seen Thursday-Sunday through Feb. 14. Call 681-6091 for more info.

**ARTISTS OF COLOGNE.** Seven experimental artists from Germany fill the Nexus Gallery with paintings, photographs, collages, video art, body casts and room installations through Feb. 27. The exhibit is co-sponsored by the Goethe-Institut Atlanta. Call 892-2388 for details.

**HATE ON TRIAL.** Bill Moyers reports on the recent trial of Tom and John Metzger, both found liable in the murder of an Ethiopian student by three skinheads in Portland. Exclusive footage of the trial is interlaced with interviews, commentary and analysis. GPTV Channel 8 at 9:00 p.m.

**ANTIQUA EXTRA-GANZA.** The Pride of the Dixie Antique Show and Sale will be held at the North Atlanta Trade Center

illustrates the differences, or lack thereof, between upper and working-class women in 1936 New York City. This all-woman cast is directed by Stephen Petty, director of the smash hit, "The Harvey Milk Show." Actor's Express. 221-0831.

**HANSEL AND GRETEL.** Through Feb. 27. The Center for the puppetry Arts presents an updated version of this Grimm Brothers' fairy tale. The adventure of the two children lost in the woods, the temptation of the candy house, and their run-in with the wicked old woman can be seen Mon.-Fri. at 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. and on Sat. at 10:30 and 12:30. Call 873-3391 for ticket info.

**ATLANTA'S BLACK HERITAGE.** Through Feb. 27. The Atlanta History

from noon until six and all day Saturday and Sunday. For info call 222-2222.

## 23 SATURDAY

**20 YEARS OF CHOICE.** The week long observance of the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision culminates with a march through downtown Atlanta and a rally at the Georgia State Capitol. Speakers include U.S. Reps. John Lewis and Cynthia McKinney, and Kay Scott, executive director of Atlanta Planned Parenthood. Marchers should assemble at Woodruff Park at 1:00 p.m. for a 1:30 step-off. Call 607-7959 for more info about the week's events.

**DINNER AND DANCE.** The First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta is sponsoring a lasagna dinner to be followed by an evening of live music provided by the O-Tones. The tasteful and tuneful night begins at 6:00 and profits benefit the Congregation. Call 378-5570 for details.

Center displays award-winning paintings, lithographs, drawings and sculptures in an exploration of the impact of Atlanta University's annual art exhibitions. Call 814-4150 for details.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART.** Feb. 5-7. The annual musical extravaganza to benefit NAPWA features the music of Sondheim, Elton John, and local composers Dan Pruitt and Patrick Hutchison among others. The show was written and directed by Jim Knoll. Ga. Tech Theatre for the Arts. \$22 for adults. 894-9600 for tickets.

**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

**SEERING AND WHITNEY.** David Seering and Susan Whitney perform at the Coach and Six on Peachtree Road Thursday-Saturday through Feb. 13. Call 872-6666 for more info.

**AGATHA CHRISTIE.** Two separate productions of the mystery writer's thrillers can be seen in Atlanta this month. The Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur presents "Cards on the Table" Thur.-Sat. through Feb. 20. Call 377-3714 for tickets. "Murder on the Nile" can be seen at North Dekalb Cultural Center Thur.-Sat. through Feb. 7. Call 396-1726 for tickets.

## 24 SUNDAY

**HRCF NIGHT AT THE EAGLE.** The Ponce de Leon nightspot hosts a benefit for the Human Rights Campaign Fund from 10:00pm-1:00am at the back bar. 320-0012 for more info.

**RALPH SIMPSON.** Morehouse College presents an organ recital by Ralph Ricardo Wilson at 8:00 p.m. in the King Chapel. The performance is open to the public and free of charge. Call 215-2680 for further info.

**FILMS OF PERSUASION.** The Jimmy Carter Library presents a series of documentary and fiction films that were shown to influence American public opinion during the Second World War. This week's film is THE RAINBOW, a Soviet film portraying the brutality of the Nazi occupation of a Ukrainian village. The screening begins at 2:00. Call 331-3942 for more info.

**BONSAI MASTER.** Ben Oki, internationally recognized bonsai artist presents a lecture/demonstration from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 at the Atlanta

which features Krewes, cabaret, food and non-stop dancing. This year Indigo Girls, Sam Harris and other celebs will attend. \$40. 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.

Botanical Garden. Call 876-5859 for details.

## 25 MONDAY

**TANGENTS.** Atlanta's public TV talkshow will feature a call-in segment on lesbians and gay men and the church. GPTV Channel 8 at 10:00 p.m.

**OUT IN ATLANTA.** A local lesbian and gay cable program can be seen tonight at 10:30 and again Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. on Cable Channel 12.

**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.

**WHIMSY.** Wildlife artist Betsy Burhans-Fowler exhibits a collection of acrylics and watercolor works at BurnNoff Gallery. Animal lovers can view the works until Feb. 13. Call 875-3475 for info.

## 26 TUESDAY

**MARIA SHRIVER IN PERSON: GAYS & LESBIANS IN THE 90S.** Shriver takes a look at the state of the g/l movement (wonder what Arnold thinks of that), including interviews with several Atlanta couples, Sharon Lane and Sidd Tope and Dan Lewis and Dave Anderson. 10 pm. Channel 11.

**ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISTS.** Works on paper by such artists as Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothco can be seen at the High Museum. The exhibit, organized by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, can be seen through April 4. Call 892-HIGH for info.

**GEORGIA ARTS DAY.** Georgia Citizens for the Arts, the state's only advocacy group working to increase public support for the arts, has set aside today to thank legislators for their support of the arts. Events



include a discussion of pending legislation concerning arts funding, a luncheon honoring art advocates and entertainment at Morehouse College. Call 876-1720 for details.

**A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE.** Through Feb. 13. Tennessee Williams' tragic heroine Blanche DuBois collides with her vulgar brother-in-law Stanley in this New Orleans drama. Alliance Theatre. 8 pm. 892-2414 for ticket info.

## 27 WEDNESDAY

**SWASHBUCKLING ROMANCE.** The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern begins 1993 with "The Rover," a tale about the soldiers to the banished Prince Charles. The play was authored by Aphra Behn, the first female playwright to have her work presented on the professional English stage, and runs through Mar. 6. Call 874-5299 for ticket info.

**NO EXIT.** Through Feb 21. Theatrical Outfit presents a new translation of this Jean Paul Sartre's play. The production is staged in film noir style, with the set, costumes and actor's skin tones all colorless. The play

can be seen Wed.-Sun. Call 872-0665 for ticket info.

**HIV UPDATE.** The nationally syndicated cable television program can be seen each Wednesday on Cable Channel 12 at 6pm. This month's program features a discussion on Kaposi's sarcoma and non-Hodgkins lymphoma. The award-winning documentary chronicling Atlantan Tom Fox's struggle with AIDS will also be aired.

Pictured: ABOVE RIGHT: SAME's OutProud Theatre presents Sondra Barrie and Brenda Porter in Shirlene Holmes' "A Lady and a Woman" thru January 27.

ABOVE LEFT: "Untitled," by Jackson Pollock, is one of 60 Abstract Expressionist works on view at the High Museum of Art beginning January 26. BELOW: Emily Merkle, Gary Williams, Tom Williams and Nita Hardy star in "Arsenic and Old Maids" opening January 21 at Agatha's—A Taste



THEATRE REVIEWS

**NEEDLESS TO SAY,**

there are not many good roles for women on the stage. Sure, there's always a love interest or two, but a Lady Macbeth or Joan of Arc is hard to come by, so it was a pleasure to see three plays this weekend in which women took center stage. It was also interesting to see what a theatrical company can do with a big budget, a low budget and no budget.

**The Women**, now at Actor's Express, is probably best known for the film that came after its record-breaking Broadway run. It has become a cult classic among gay men, and called a misogynistic betrayal in the feminist camp. I was prepared to be offended but instead ended up enjoying the evening very much.

"The Women," a realistic portrayal of the lives of wealthy women who have little to occupy their time, and no one to pick on but one another, was written in 1936. Playwright Clare Boothe Luce's marriage at 21 to an East Hampton multi-millionaire thrust her defenseless into a similarly well-armed camp. After six years in the vortex of New York's social whirlpool, she became disenchanted with the value systems swelling about her, and left to become one of the most accomplished women of her time.

Her distaste for the back biting, scheming, and lies that went on around her is evident in the unflattering portrayal of women in the play. But Luce believes that women can do other things. Mary Haines explains in her mother-daughter talk that "These days, darling, ladies do all the things that men do. They fly airplanes across the ocean, they go into politics and business..."

As the women in the play jockey for position, I wondered about the fascination of gay men with the dishy, steak knife wit of these outspoken women. Several male friends suggested several different reasons. Whatever the reason, the gallery of men who sat across from me were obviously enjoying the play.

The play has aged well and the humor was surprisingly fresh. Actor's Express did a marvelous job with a low budget—the set and costumes were elegant. But it was the actresses who truly brought Luce's world to life. Wendy Wolff was an elegant tribute to womanhood as the incandescent Mary Haines. Kathi Welch as Sylvia Fowler, the villain of the piece, was too loathsome for words. I sometimes felt she was physically going to turn into a



Wendy Wolff as Mary Haines in Clare Boothe Luce's cult classic "The Women," now at Actor's Express.

vulture or a snake like James Earl Jones in "Conan the Barbarian." Laura Anne Talley as the comic Countess de Lage is sidesplitting as she expresses her views on love and life. The perennially pregnant Edith Potter is played with flair by Cathe Hall-Payne. Pat Bell deftly demonstrates that there are no small parts as she steals scenes with characters who jump into reality at a moment's notice.

**A Streetcar Named Desire** by Tennessee Williams, at the Alliance, was not quite as enjoyable. The piece was dead on its feet as it struggled through the realities and unrealities of Blanche DuBois.

The decision to use actors from New York City in the main roles was not a particularly inspired one I feel. The Southern accents were atrocious, and Burke Moses (most recently of "One

Life to Live") imitating Marlon Brando imitating Rocky Graciano needed much more than his hairy chest to make him a hulking reality. The actors also seemed to lack a sense of the subtle gentility of Southern Culture on which the play hinges. Of the main characters, I found only Jay Patterson, as Harold Mitchell, to be marginally believable.

The acting was particularly regrettable since it took place in front of one of the most incredible sets I have seen in Atlanta since the David Bowie "Glass Spider Tour." The hidden back streets of New Orleans are transported to the Alliance, complete with fog rolling in the dimly lit alleyways of the French Quarter. Marjorie Kellogg is truly a world class set designer and it shows what can happen when cost is no object. This incredible backdrop is lit creatively and effectively by the designs of Ann G. Wrightson. It is too bad that the lights do not come up on actors who have a sense of the South.

**A Lady and a Woman**, now playing at SAME/OutProud Theater, looks tiny compared to the other two plays. It is an intimate piece about the love that develops between Biddie Higgins, a roving meat cutter, and Miss Flora Devine, an innkeeper and spiritualist healer. In a tiny theatre that would not even hold the cast of "The Women," a story unfolds that is both touching and inspiring. It had quiet moments that brought tears and an ache for these turn-of-the-century women who share a love that cannot be revealed.

The no budget piece appears to be furnished with spare chairs and tables from someone's attic. A second room appears through sheer curtains that suggest everything is not just happening on the 25 by 30-foot stage. But the story, and the two women who live it, are so engrossing that one soon forgets the sparseness of the set and the closeness of the audience that surrounds it.

Playwright Shirlene Holmes has drawn two fine timeless characters. The rapport that develops between Miss Flora (Sondra Barrie) and Biddie (Brenda Porter) as the play progresses is genuine and heartfelt.

On the whole the play is warm and sweet and shows just how much can be done with little when you really try.

The Women runs through Feb. 21 at Actor's Express—221-0831; A Streetcar Named Desire runs through Feb. 13 at the Alliance Theatre—892-2414; A Lady and a Woman runs through Jan. 24 in the SAME auditorium at TULA Gallery—609-9590.

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**ACCOMPLICE**

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**ONSTAGE  
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January is the month for new beginnings, and Atlanta entertainer Daisy Chain is going at it in a big way. Tune in on January 22 at 10PM to Cable 12 in Fulton County for the premiere of **Dishrag with Daisy Chain**. "Dishrag" is a comedy and interview show featuring performances by some of the best entertainers in the city. We will also be covering important issues, such as Make-up Safety, Proper Lash Application, and Dating for Fun and Profit," says Daisy.

Produced by David A. Moore, who is best known for his independently produced film "Have You Seen Krystal Lite?," the show will take a tongue in cheek look at life through the drag lens. Daisy promises there will be many parodies of television shows and commercials, including "The Psychic Drag Queen Hotline" where Daisy invites viewers to call and seek advice from a stable of gifted fortune-telling drag divas.

Country comic Cissy Rimwell will be a regular guest on "Dishrag" bringing a bit of Nashville to the show. When asked about her contributions to the show, Cissy replied, "I'm very excited to be doing television with Daisy. You know I was turned down when I auditioned for HeeHaw but I'd much rather work with Daisy than Lulu Roman."

"The Friday 10PM time slot is perfect for Dishrag" says Daisy, "People can tune in and enjoy a cocktail while they get dressed to go out. It's going to be great fun."

Also on tap for Daisy is an all-star benefit for the **March on Washington** to be held at the Metro at 48 Sixth Street. The show features a variety of entertainers and the go-go boys of Metro's Sextacy Sunday. The fun begins at 10PM Sunday, January 31. Come on out and help insure the success of the March.

The **Human Rights Campaign Fund** is sponsoring a bowling tournament on Sunday, January 31st at Express Lanes on Piedmont Circle. To join the fun, be at the Lanes at 9:30AM and bring the \$15 entry fee. This is the second annual bowling tournament for the HRCF and one major change has taken place. There will be two divisions; one for league bowlers and one for nonleague bowlers. Great prizes have been donated by Ansley Beach, Boot Camp at Ansley Mall, Brushstrokes, and The Boy Next Door. Two other prizes will also be given away; Sunday brunch for two at one of Atlanta's finest hotels and personalized two-step lessons by Wayne at a local country and western bar. Everyone will have an equal chance to win the prizes regardless of skill.

## AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



Daisy Chain is telling everyone about her new cable TV show, "Dishrag with Daisy Chain," which premieres Friday, January 22 at 10 pm.

Coming up prior to the bowling tournament is the HRCF Night at **The Eagle**, to be held in the back bar of The Eagle at 308 Ponce de Leon Avenue. The date is Sunday, January 24 from 10PM to 1AM. The back bartender will donate all tips to HRCF and there will be snacks to enjoy as well as the chance to meet the politically involved.

For those unfamiliar with the group, HRCF is the largest gay lobby in Washington. Local members are sponsoring these events in order to raise much needed funds to continue their efforts in promoting issues important to our community.

Currently, the group is concentrating on the present situation in Colorado, passage of the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill, health care reform, AIDS legislation, and supporting President-elect Clinton's promise to lift the ban on gays in the military. In addition, plans are under way for the Black-Tie Dinner to be held on May 22nd. This is the group's major fundraiser for the year and was a huge success last year, making it the third largest fundraising dinner event in the city.

In another blending of the political and the social, the American Civil Liberties Union is sponsoring a concert called **Rock for Choice** at the Variety Playhouse on Friday, January 22 at 8PM. The concert is being held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. The lineup includes Big Fish Ensemble, Doll Squad, The Vidalias, and The Wild West Picture Show.

Big Fish Ensemble got a big career boost recently as opening act for the Indigo Girls and have just released their latest CD called "Field Trip." Likewise, the Wild West Picture Show is getting quite a bit of attention with the recent release of their "Get Wet" CD. Tickets for the concert are only \$6 and can be purchased through TicketMaster at (404) 249-6400.

The **Kick-Off Party for Pride '93** will be held on Thursday, January 21 at the MCC on North Highland from 7PM to 9PM. The Pride Committee is working hard to insure that the '93 March and Rally are even bigger and better than last year's. Over the past several years, the attendance at the March has grown astronomically and it takes quite a lot of concerted effort to pull it off smoothly. This Kick-Off Party will provide interested people with an opportunity to meet the members of the committee in a social setting and to learn more about the many avenues of interest available to volunteers. Women and persons of color are especially encouraged to attend.

Best wishes go out to **Apple Love** who flies off to Belgium next month for a new lease on life. Apple is probably the most well-liked entertainer in the business and is known as a lipsync artist nonpareil. Two benefits are scheduled to help with Apple's expenses; one at Charlie Brown's Cabaret on Sunday, January 31st and the next on Monday, February 1 at Club Velvet. Good Luck, Apple!



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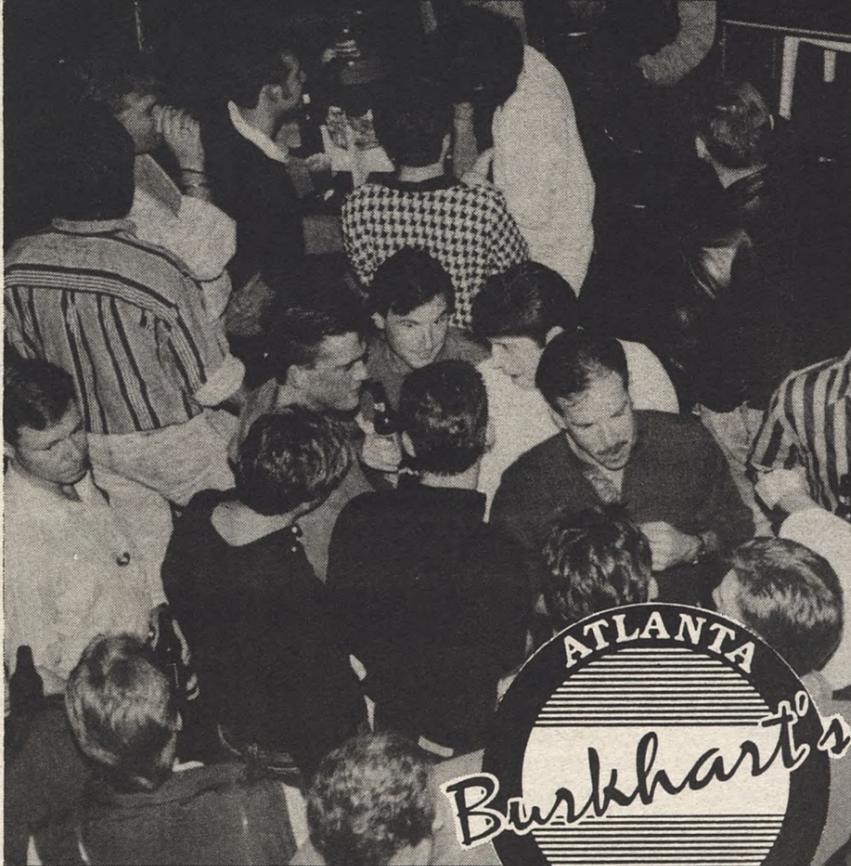
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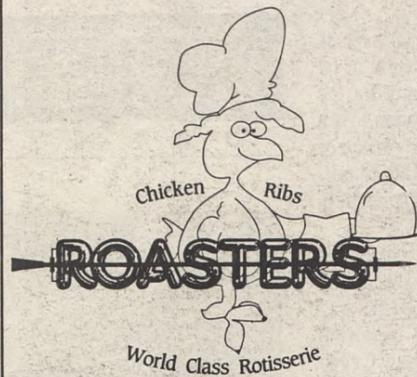
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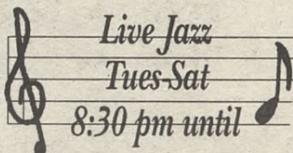
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# EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Have you gone off your diet yet? The one that you started New Year's Day? If you're like most folks you've already slipped about three dozen times and you're wondering if it's worth the trouble.

Give yourself a break.

Medical types and nutritionists agree that initiating dietary changes in the bleak dead of winter is a bad idea. They're not saying to go hog wild and add a dozen butter-basted eggs to your daily routine, but rather suggesting moderation in all things. If you want to cut back, wait until spring when the days (and your soul) turn warmer and less and lighter food are part of nature's rhythm.

I hope this gives you permission to try **Haagen-Dazs' Extraas** ice creams. They're available most everywhere, even late night at the 7-11.

Three of the four flavors that I've sampled are wow-and-zowie good. The fourth, carrot cake, sounds funkier than it tastes, but is a mediocre idea gone bad. If you want cake (or cookies) in your ice cream, do it right and get Ben & Jerry's mix of vanilla ice cream and (raw) chocolate chip cookie dough.

Part of what makes the other flavors so good is that they all combine ultra-rich, unctuously flavored ice creams with different kinds of nut crunch "clusters."

Best of the batch is Carmel Cone Explosion, with extra crisp almond crunchies that perfectly balance the smooth carmel cream base. Cappucino Commotion is only slightly less exciting. The ice cream needs a more assertive coffee flavor, but big, strong fudge chunks almost make up for that transgression.

Peanut Butter Burst comes in a close third, with chocolate chunks again saving the day.

In general the whole Extraas line is very adult and sophisticated. That's not to say that kids (or adult kids) won't like these flavors, just that your critical adult will appreciate the complexity of flavors and textures. Check it out.

Far better for your waistline is much of the food at **Roaster's Rotisserie** (2770 Lenox Rd. 237-1122). I ate here a couple of years ago when the place first opened and was put off by the sports bar like feel—wall to wall beer signs and bottles.

But when I went back a few weeks ago at a (lesbian) friend's urging, I found the atmosphere comfortable, relaxed, and without excess testosterone. The presence of several other obviously gay couples didn't hurt my comfort level one little bit either.

The quantity, quality and price of the food made me happy as a clam, too.

With the exception of BBQ ribs and a single steak, the menu is virtually all chicken and vegetables. The chicken invariably rotisserie cooked, the veggies almost uniformly well flavored and generously por-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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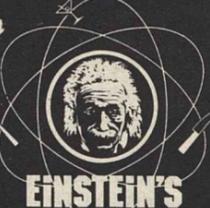
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# SEVANANDA

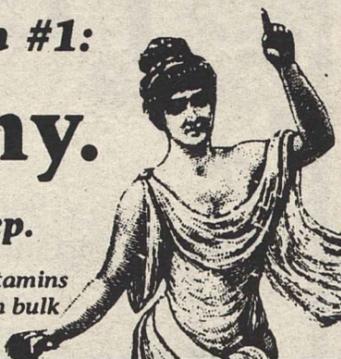
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## Restaurant Listings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

All major credit cards accepted. Reservations 658-9113.  
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 5:00, Fri & Sat 5-10:30, Sun 5-9. VISA/MC, AMEX. Entrees start at \$7.95.  
2140 N. Decatur Rd • 728-0041

**Marlo'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.  
3644 Shallowford Rd (W. of Buford) • 451-0979

**Marra's Seafood Grill** Serving Atlanta's finest seafood for 11 years. This "Best of Atlanta" restaurant offers only the freshest fish and shellfish—grilled to perfection or prepared with eclectic creativity. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:00, Dinner 7 dys a wk. Lunch \$3.-10, Dinner \$8-14  
1782 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 874-7363

**Mid City Fish** A light-hearted neighborhood restaurant for "serious seafood" featuring...crab cakes, grilled seafood and salmon. Our "we shuck 'em—you suck 'em" oyster bar offers happy hour prices on oysters, jumbo shrimp and buckets of beer daily from 5pm to 7pm.  
961 Amsterdam Ave. • 872-0114

**Milano's Pizza & Subs** Complete menu from salads to desserts.  
736 Ponce de Leon, Common Mkt Pl • 874-CALL (2255)

**Nuevo Laredo** Colorful authentic borderland Mexican café. New dishes to Atlanta includes chicken mole. Return to the restaurant scene of Chance Evans, original bar owner of U.S. Bar & Grill. Worth the trip! MC, AMEX, Visa. \$3.95-7.95. Open lunch & dinner 7 days.  
1495 Chattahoochee Ave • 352-9009

**Ocean Wave Cafe** Serving a variety of appetizing seafood broiled, steamed or fried. Health conscious cooking, low country style, served in a casual atmosphere. Catch a good deal on a great meal. Lunch & Dinner Daily. Dine in or carry out.  
820 N. Highland Ave • 873-2009

**RJ's Uptown Kitchen and Wine Bar** Enjoy Chef Scott's creative menu while dining on the patio or in the cozy dining room. Largest selection of wines by the glass in Atlanta. Great vegetarian selection. Friendly service, reasonable prices. Dinner 7 nights. Brunch Sunday.  
870 N. Highland Ave • 875-7775

**Roasters** Convenient to Lenox/Phipps shopping. Fresh vegetables, salads, sandwiches, BBQ ribs, beer & wine, and the best rotisserie chicken in town. Ask about catering. Mon-Thu 11-10pm, Fri & Sat 11-11pm, Sun 12-10pm.  
2770 Lenox Rd • 237-1122

**San Gennaro** Keep the Neopolitan spirit alive with its festive atmosphere of a New York neighborhood trattoria. Enjoy our award winning calamari and other hearty Italian specialties indoors or alfresco.  
2196 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 636-9447

**Treehouse Restaurant & Pub** A cozy fire sets the tone of this neighborhood pub. Menu changes every week—always pasta, meat, fish, chicken. Now serving lunch 11:30-2:30, dinner 6-10:30.  
7 Kings Cir, P'tree Hills • 266-2732

**Veggie Delight** 100% Vegetarian. Full menu including appetizers, salads, sandwiches, stir-frys & pasta. Specialties include a variety of veggie burgers. Prices start at \$3.00. Open Mon-Sat 11am-9pm  
Next to Plaza Theater on Ponce • 872-4539

**The White Orchid** Atlanta's only Gay supper club. Dinner, entertainment and dancing in an intimate setting. Continental menu and full service bar. Dinner Tue-Sun, Sunday Brunch. Reservations accepted. \$8.95-14.95.  
1803 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 892-3520

# EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

tioned.

The basic half or quarter spit-cooked chicken is moist, mild, and exceedingly tender. I'd love it were the skin more crisp, but since most of us could probably do without the calories and fat found therein, that's a minor quibble. Kudos to a kitchen that manages to cook the dark half of the bird 'til done without making an arid desert of its lighter half.

I wish I was more enthusiastic about the dark, sweet barbecue sauce that comes on the side with said bird (and with the ribs), but it adds little to the otherwise near perfect chicken. Why bother?

Two veggies come with your half or quarter bird. Turnip greens are smoky and strong, but not the least bit bitter; black-eyed peas, fat, tender and loaded with flavor. Fried corn on the cob is pure pleasure, slightly browned, tender, ultra sweet and just the slightest bit greasy—but less so than it would be if you applied butter or margarine yourself. Cinnamon apples are sweet enough to be dessert, but too good to put off to the end of the meal. Only a broccoli and cauliflower casserole disappoints. Not casserole at all, it's simply flowerettes of the two veggies (albeit crisp ones) in a mediocre cheese sauce.

Light, moist corn muffins actually taste like corn. They're great crumbled up in a bowl of excellent black bean soup (laced with smoked sausage). Chicken and sausage gumbo is long on file gumbo, short on okra, but give it a try. Chili is also available; it ought to be great if the other two soups are any indication.

A house salad piled high with warm, skinless chicken is just what the dieter (or even two) ordered. The warm chicken contrasts nicely with the cool, crisp greens. I wish the latter contained a bit of arugula, or endive, or something strong tasting and bitter, but a slathering of very good ranch or amazingly flavorful "lite" Italian dressing does a decent job of adding depth.

Servings are so big that desserts seem excessive, but the peach cobbler is loaded with fat peaches slices that seem to have never seen the inside of a can. The crust is not so fine as Deacon Burton's, but the sweet, juicy fruit more than makes up for it. If apple cobbler is based on the apples mentioned earlier, it should be a winner, too.

Roaster's is a good bet if you're on your way to or from Lenox/Phipps and want to avoid the expense and hassle of eating at the mall. It's also a very creditable alternative to The Colonnade—so long as you don't want your chicken fried and don't require clouds of blue hair and/or smoke to hasten your digestion.



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364-0212

**A Close Shave:** Local artist (late of New York) Quinn (who did most of the work on SoVo's float for Pride last year) dropped by our office last week with a stunning new hairdo. So we took the accompanying snap. When we asked Quinn "Why?" She replied, "Because I wanted to start the new year with a clean pate." Her stand-up comedy show will premier soon on WYUK.

**Hearthrob:** More than one of Dish's (gay) male friends has uttered sighs and groans every time Bill Clinton's chief spokesperson George Stephanopoulos appears on the tube. "He's just got to be gay," they slather, followed by "Look at that face," "Oh those eyes," and other words which modestly prevents our repeating here. Well, it seems that women, too think that George is pretty cute and that more than a few send cards and letters to his office. The New Yorker devoted a column to the subject a couple of weeks ago and quotes George's assistant Heather Beckel as saying, "They're [the letters] all different. They're not all blatant. And they're not all from young women." Beckel goes on to say that older women find Stephanopoulos appealing, too, but Dish wonders if some men haven't also inquired about Gorgeous George. We thought we'd get an answer when last week's The New Republic featured a piece by the guy who is subletting Stephanopoulos' D.C. digs (and thus also getting the messages that folks leave on George's answering machine), but alas and alack, the author mentions only hetero-lust. Beckel, by the way, says the Stephanopoulos has a steady girlfriend, named Joan, who lives in the City of Brotherly Love and that the relationship is serious. To which our George-loving friends reply, "piff and piddle, Joan's just a code name for John."

**Hip Homo:** Speaking of The New Republic (which is cutting Bill Clinton very little slack in what should be his media honeymoon), its openly gay editor Andrew Sullivan will be appearing in some of those infamous black & white Gap ads that have heretofore featured the likes of furniture designers, ballet dancers and not-quite-famous actors. None other than the Washington Post opines that Sullivan's selection "may indicate that brainy

# Dish

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



Local Artist Quinn, sporting a new do, says it's her way of starting the new year with a clean pate.

Washington types who know a lot about the infrastructure are now very much In." To our knowledge Sullivan is the first homo featured in one of these ads. Kinda strange, no?

**Recruit Me:** Speaking of Hip. The latest rage in the Big Apple is a group that calls itself The Lesbian Avengers. The group's coda? "BE UNRULY! GET EVEN! JOIN THE LESBIAN AVENGERS AND JOIN THE RIOT. WE RECRUIT." Seems that their first action involved zapping Wellington Webb (the mayor of Denver) as he broke breakfast bread with an editor from the Wall Street Journal in the posh Regency Hotel Dining Room. Eight angry dykes approached the pair shouting "We're here, We're queer. And we're not going skiing. Boycott Colorado." The Avengers kept up their pressure for two days as Webb made the tour of NYC media and industry types in an attempt to promote his city and state. Dish thinks that Atlanta needs a Lesbian Avenger Chapter. For info on these daring dykes call their hotline (212/967-7711 x3204) and ask them for some organizational help. By the way, author Sarah Schulman (who will be in town at Charis on Jan. 21) is an Avenger. Maybe she'll offer tips on organizing whilst she is in town.

**Bunkhouse Blues:** And speaking of Colorado, Dish is in receipt of a letter from one Adam Rudziewicz who owns a gay guest house (The Bunkhouse) near Breckenridge, Colorado. "The boycott...is hurting us more than the amendment ever could, because we are a "GAY ONLY" lodge.... We've lost 50 to 75% of our business because of the boycott..." If like Dish, you're not at all sure that boycotting Colorado is the answer, you may want to give Adam a call at 303/453-6475 and ask him about The Bunkhouse. He says the skiing is mighty good this year.

**Private Hell:** Mayhaps Dish is not adequately compassionate about examinations in the doctor's office, but we sure did get a giggle out of a recent letter from "Dignity Wear Ltd" —whose motto is "One more way we show we care." Seems that the folks at Dignity Wear have come up with "a line of medical garments that cover 'private' areas of the body but have special openings with velcro closures that allow doctors and care-givers to conduct examinations and procedures without unnecessary embarrassment to patients." The very idea of velcro near our "private" areas is enough to give our pubes the willies—so to speak.

January 21 - January 27, 1993

The Sun entered the fixed and progressive air sign of Aquarius on the 19th, just in time for the Inauguration and the Aquarius New Moon is on the 22nd. The Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rooster, begins on the 23rd, so we have all sorts of new and very interesting cycles beginning in close proximity.

**ARIES,** Venus is in your 12th house of dreams, visions and your connection with the collective unconscious. This is the perfect time for a weekend away from the urban intensity and out in the natural world to reclaim yourself and regenerate. **TAURUS,** change, change, change! If you are longing for a simpler and more natural world, then you may have to create it for yourself. What are your personal priorities? Are you living your own life or someone's idea of your life? Take Stock! Dear **GEMINI,** commitment may be one of the most misunderstood words/concepts in our language. Your commitment to your own personal values and priorities will get you through anything. That and your wonderful sense of humor. Don't leave home without it!

Gentle **CANCER,** have you been speaking your mind and sometimes your heart, surprising yourself and others with the intensity

## STARSIGNS

and strength of your feelings? Well, good for you! Keep it up, people need to hear what you are feeling and thinking. **LEO,** how does it feel to have a Leo in the Presidency of the United States and isn't it something the way he learned to listen to other people? As a Leo, you have such fantastic talents and abilities, polish them up and put them to use. **VIRGO,** Venus, the planet ruling beauty, harmony and the arts is now gliding through your 7th house of close personal relationships. You may find some Very Interesting Persons coming into your life, so pay attention and be a little more social.

**LIBRA,** with the Sun and Mercury joining Saturn in your 5th house of personal expression, passion and creative energy, you may feel ready to blast off on a great adventure. However, Saturn will keep everything organized and on time, so enjoy. **SCORPIO,** if you are getting tired dealing with your own pain or the emo-

tional and psychic pain of others and feeling bogged down with all this emotion, then you need to create ways of enjoying life and having a good time in the middle of the swamp. **SAGITTARIUS,** if you are getting a little tired of all the rain and clouds, whether external or internal, you may want to plan a quick trip to the beach. Find one with sunshine and go soak it up with good friends or your lover. Go for fun and sun!

Dear **CAPRICORN,** you are not a year older, you are a year wiser in the ways of this crazy world. So, pat yourself on the back and head into the fray with lots of optimism because you have so much to offer a very needy world. Happy Birthday, **AQUARIUS!** Hopefully with Saturn in your 1st house, you have planned and organized a very special month for yourself with lots of fun and interesting things to do. If you haven't, stop everything and plan a great celebration with friends. **PISCES,** Venus, the planet that looks like a sparkling diamond in the evening sky this month, is twinkling away in your 1st house of personality and self awareness. Take time to nurture your body and spirit and appreciate your wonderful shining self.

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

**The SIGHTING**  
©1992 BY ALISON BECHDEL

149

NO HAS MANAGED TO HEAVE HERSELF FAR ENOUGH FROM THE SLOUGH OF DESPOND TO MAKE IT TO HER WORKSHIFT AT THE CO-OP.

OKAY, NAOMI... THE DRIED, UNSULPHURED, ORGANIC BURDOCK CHIPS ARE ALL RESTOCKED.

GREAT. NOW DO THE SULPHURED, COMMERCIAL ONES, THEN THE WHEAT-FREE TAMARI-ROASTED TRANSITIONAL PRUNES.

NO! YOU'VE RESURFACED! I THOUGHT WE'D LOST YOU FOR A WHILE THERE. YOU FEELING BETTER ABOUT THE BREAKUP?

NO. I FEEL LIKE SLASHING HARRIET'S TIRES. Y'KNOW, I THINK SHE MIGHT BE SEEING SOMEONE.

REALLY? ARE YOU TWO TALKING?

UH-UH. SHE NEEDS TO HAVE "A PERIOD OF NO CONTACT." HA! I'LL SHOW HER NO CONTACT!

SO WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU? STILL INVOLVED WITH THAT WOMAN?

UH... YEAH, WHY?

TAKE IT FROM ONE WHO KNOWS, GINGER, AND END IT NOW BEFORE YOU MAKE EACH OTHER MISERABLE.

OOPS! LOOKS LIKE I'M IN THE GRIMADVICE AISLE... I WAS LOOKING FOR LURID GOSSIP.

HI, CLARICE! DID TONI SEND YOU OUT FOR PICKLES AND ICE CREAM?

I WISH. NO, I'M BUYING ALL THIS HEALTHY SHIT FOR HER NEW, I MEAN, OUR NEW DIET. NO MORE GREASY TAKEOUT BARBECUE TILL THE KID'S WEANED... HEY, HAVE YOU TWO HEARD THE WORD ON NAOMI?

WHAT ABOUT HER?

BOYFRIEND. NO!

YES! AND AS IF THAT'S NOT BAD ENOUGH, SHE'S STARTING UP A BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP!

OH, COME ON! IS THIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL? SO SHE'S BISEXUAL! BIG DEAL! AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH STARTING A GROUP?

WELL FOR ONE THING, THEY'RE ALWAYS MAKING US CHANGE THE NAMES OF THINGS TO INCLUDE THEM! IT'S... IT'S AWKWARD!

1993

The Local Organizing Committee for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, etc. NEEDS YOU NOW! COMMUNITY MEETING

UH-OH. RED ALERT OVER AT THE BULLETIN BOARD. IT'S HARRIET... AND SOMEONE ELSE.

MARIA HELENA DOLAN

THIS ONE HOT  
EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS



Frankly, I've become, somewhat immodestly, accustomed to the praise and raves when folks eat my just-off-the-plant peas, corn, tomatoes, lettuce, etc. Convincingly, I demure, and ascribe the complex favors and astonishing vitality of these plants to Mother Nature.

While ultimately the Creatrix authors everything, I have "broken my fingernails, my back, and occasionally my heart" trying to make it possible for the little green ones to issue forth.

If there are any secrets per se to my indubitable success, they can be summarized in four basic tenants. To wit:

1) Tons of organic—and only organic—inputs; 2) Careful seed selection and sowing; a little planning; 3) Adequate moisture and light; 4) Strict observance of lunar planting influences.

In succeeding columns, I'll address each in turn. To begin with, of course, is your soil.

As I explained last Spring, soil is not dirt. Instead, it is a living matrix, composed of various elements which must react harmoniously together for plant life—and hence, all life—to thrive.

Basically, (in round figures), soil elements are: water = 30%, mineral matter = 47.5%, air = 20.4%, organic matter = 2%, and living organisms = .1%

The smallest portions may be the most important. Without the microbial activity (i.e., the living organisms), our soil would be as sterile as the lunar surface. Contemplative types, take note—the microcosm therein actually supports the macrocosm without.

No organic recycling would take place without microbes. We, and all else, would be incapable of eventually turning to dust without the little buggers. Plant processes would cease; and so would everything else without the oxygen output from our little carbon-sink friends.

How, then, might we assist the little microbes in their work? In precisely the manner that Nature does; with organic amend-

ments. No sacks of petroleum-derived fertilizer appear magically in the forest, do they? Yet, if we haven't trashed, slashed, raped and polluted the forest stand, the trees all seem healthy, tall, and strong, do they not?

What feeds them, then? Sure, small animal carcasses will find their way into the soil after the microbes do their work. Hardly adequate for a hundred year stand of thousands of oaks though, eh?

What keeps them so tall? Leaf litter. Yes. All those tons of shed photosynthesizers eventually are completely recycled (microbes, again), making the continuation of the process possible. Other tree parts and various and sundry carbon-based cast-off life forms add to the stew; but the major portion is leaf litter.

One might wonder as to why anyone sane would expend such prodigious energies in raking up leaf litter, putting it into plastic bags, sending it out to further engorge our already overburdened landfills...And then we ostensibly sane folks expend hard-earned money (or plastic) to purchase plastic-wrapped fertilizer to place onto our needy plants!

According to an Associated Press story on Dec. 26, 1992, "At least 56 of Georgia's 181 landfills are slated to close by the end of next year, leaving officials wondering how to get rid of the state's trash."

"If we don't do something here, my fear is that we could be down to 50% remaining landfills by the end of the next calendar year," said Ross King, a lobbyist for the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia.

"To get around the space problem, the county commissioners' group and the Environmental Protection Division are supporting legislation to allow landfill operators to pile up garbage higher than originally allowed." Do we really WANT this to

happen?

What are the main components of landfills? Surprisingly, construction waste (including lumber, unrecycled fixtures, et al) = about 30%. Yet, a lot of this could be recycled, compacted, or reduced. Habitat and other organizations are always looking for usable donations. Home Depot has opened a building materials recycling center, and if successful, plans to open more of them.

That being as it may, in the Fall, about 50% of landfill additives are yard waste—mainly leaves. Year round, the figure is about 25%.

We could keep landfills open much longer by the simple expedient of not throwing away rake-up, and instead using it as Nature intended—mulch and fertilizer.

And we could garden so much more effectively. I have transformed much of my turgid, red clay, inhospitable hard-scrabble into dark brown, friable, humusy, rich soil—through years of adding leaves, chopped tree/plant parts, and manure. And let's not totally discount the occasional dead animal, and even bone meal from cremated friends.

Every so often, I find a rodent or bird offering left by feline revelers, and I return them to earth. But when one of the household animals leaves their body/overcoat, I usually plant something with them. Thus I am always reminded of their continuing presence.

Feral Merrill now hosts an ENORMOUS catnip stand. After all, this is where he loved to hang out and roll around when he was alive. The plant has reached spectacular heights since I put him under her leaves.

La Empresa, most awe-inspiring of felines in the Bad Cat club, remains true to the contrariness of her nature. She lies beneath a dogwood with a double trunk; and I may just leave it that way.

Old, faithful, immobilized, part-collie Angie made the corn stand especially tall last summer. Charlie's bone meal caused a sensational bulb display. Indeed, he was so enamored of the prospect, he put it in writing so that we survivors would carry out his wish.

And over everything...mulch.

Fourth Tuesday

presents

Winning in Business and in Life

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 1993

What are the keys to "pulling it off?"  
Where does self-motivation come from?  
How do you network most effectively?

Don't miss this informative meeting with M. Anne Ballard!

Fourth Tuesday is a lesbian organization promoting social and business networking Programs are held at the Castlegate Hotel, I-75 and Howell Mill Road.  
Reservations must be made by Noon on Friday, Jan. 22nd.  
Information Hotline: (404) 662-4353



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## O U T L I N E S

## DICK RHODES

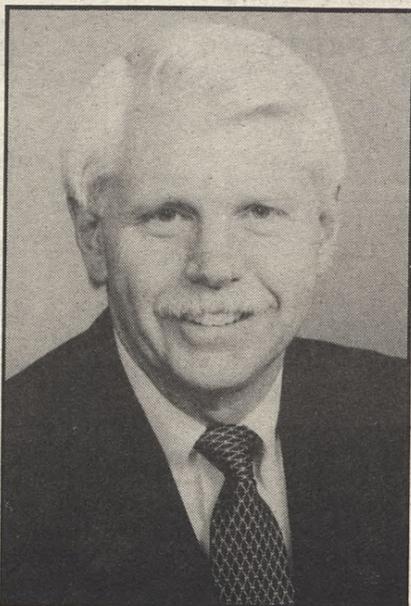
Age: 55

How long in Atlanta: 25 years

Relationship status: In committed relationship for 1½ years

Last book read: "Hardball: How the Game of Politics is Played" by Christopher Matthews

Pet peeve: "Lesbians and gays who, if you're not supportive of them 100% of the time, you're their enemy."



Dick Rhodes often talks turkey, even if he is hobnobbing with the legislature at the annual "Wild Hog Celebration," or the Georgia legislature's lobbyist-inspired annual edible hee-haw. And there is never a shortage of opinions when you're in a conversation with Dick Rhodes. The white-haired, outspoken veteran of mainstream and lesbian and gay politics can weave a southern story with the humor of Golden Girl Rose Nieland. Yet the moral is often a clear definition of whatever cause of the moment Dick is championing. He uses words like "mainstreaming" that make other lesbians and gays shake their heads. He refers to the often strife-torn and fickle body-politik of the lesbian and gay community as "cannibalism." A proponent of the now-defunct MACGLO ("it was the right idea"), his plea to stop the infighting and to focus on the issues affecting the lesbian and gay community has so far fallen, for the most part, on deaf ears.

"It wouldn't be so complicated if everyone stopped fighting for their own turf and agendas," Dick states. "End the ban on lesbians and gays in the military, passage of the lesbian and gay civil rights bill and Universal Health care. It's a hell of a lot easier to concentrate on these inclusive issues rather than for instance on the March on Washington's list of 57 demands." While Dick credits the experience of being at the 1987 March as "influential and life changing," he did not join the local committee or allow them to use his name in support for the current march. "I'm going again, as I think every lesbian and gay, who can should. But political correctness is great, but what good is it without basic human and civil rights!"

Dick currently calls himself a "citizen" lobbyist. "I'm not paid by anyone," he explains, "and I don't work on any one person's behalf. I use my knowledge of how the Georgia legislature works to push issues important to the lesbian and gay community, like repeal of the sodomy laws, the changing of the state flag, and correcting the language in the anti-stalking legislation to be gender inclusive."

Dick puts his behind-the-scenes work in perspective this way. "Every time progressive legislation comes up for a vote there are five or six good Christian women with nothing other to do than to be at the legislature and hammer their fundamentalist point of view to the representatives to vote against it. You should see how these people network! When legislatures are in the closing week of a session and voting on 700 bills, if no one speaks to them and educates them about a specific bill affecting our community, then it's a lost vote. With so much legislation it's impossible for them to focus on specific bills

without some help from us (the lesbian and gay lobbyists)."

Dick has used his mainstream approach to propel him through the ranks of DeKalb County Democratic politics. He is now the elected Chairman of the DeKalb Democratic Party. "I haven't been in the party apparatus for forever. I'm an example of an ordinary person getting involved and doing the gruntwork and sticking it out." Dick's original involvement was through LEGAL as a 1988 district caucus member and later as a delegate to the 1988 Democratic Convention. He also campaigned that year, unsuccessfully, for a house seat in North DeKalb.

He recalls a funny story about being gay that took place at a candidate forum when he was running for the house seat. A man raised his hand and asked Dick if he indeed was "homosexual." Dick's answer was, "if you'll tell me why that question is so important to you, I'll answer—but if you need a date for Friday night, I already have one." The answer he says, "broke the ice" and since then his sexuality has never been an issue. He explains he has used his chairmanship so far to try to "make the Democratic party more inclusive, to erase the barriers of white North DeKalb and Black South DeKalb and to make sure there are Democratic candidates running and winning in vacant seats and to target seats held by Republicans. "This is a party," he envisions, "in which everyone's opinion can be heard and respected."

If it seems that politics are all there is to Dick Rhodes, there is another side to the man who makes a living as Director of Purchasing at the Lanier Plaza Hotel. "I buy everything from the liquor to the toilet paper." He bartends at the hotel occasionally as well to supplement his income. Working in the Hotel Restaurant field is a logical outgrowth of his attendance at the University of Florida where, though he says he was more interested in partying, he managed to get a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management.

Dick was born and raised in Tampa where his parents (he is an only son) still live. Though he is out to his parents he says there is a cultural limitation (being a Southern Baptist) to his mother's understanding and support of her son. "She's very liberal for being Southern Baptist, believing in freedom of choice, but it's hard to cut through all those years of dogma."

IAN W. GINSBURG

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

## AIDS Organizations

AID Atlanta—872-0600  
AIDS Education/Services for Minorities—POB 87277, Atlanta, 30337, 762-6002  
AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991  
AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide).  
AIDS Legal Project—688-5433  
AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246  
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317  
AIDSCHAIM—Eddie, 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. 87BAGLE  
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 Square. 873-6700  
Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871  
Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957  
Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961  
Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712  
Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

## Direct Action/Political

ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201  
ACT UP—874-6782 (O)  
Catalyst—(404) 776-1478  
Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—605-7477  
Gay Republicans—Republicans for Individual Freedoms, 2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339  
Georgia Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—(404) 662-4199 or POB 5282, Atlanta 30307  
GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628  
Human Rights Campaign Fund—Field Committee, 231-5751  
L.A.B.I.A. (Lesbians Against Battering In Atlanta)—822-9570  
LEGAL—605-7476  
National Association of People with AIDS Hotline—874-7926  
National Organization for Women—875-0176  
Neighbors Network—257-5550  
Queer Nation—605-7396  
Straight But Not Narrow—242-2256 (voice mail)  
STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line—605-STOP

## Professional

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

## Spiritual

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154  
Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—409-0203  
Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350  
Congregation Bet Haverim—642-3467  
Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—215-0585  
First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta—872-2246  
Gay & Lesbian Mormons—570-2561 (dig. page)  
Integrity (Episcopal)—642-3183

Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta—636-7109  
Oakhurst Presbyterian Church—378-6284  
Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—373-5830  
Unitarian Universalists—634-5134 or George at 688-2242

## Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699  
Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899  
Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME  
Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007  
Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—SASE to: GANG, POB 7546, Atlanta 30357  
Hodlanta Soccer—876-7372  
Hodlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061  
Hodlanta Volleyball—621-5062  
Lambda Car Club—POB 941263, Atlanta 30341  
Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535  
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

About Crossdressing—Janet, 624-3770  
African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—239-8184 (voice mail)  
Amazon Salon Young Feminist Network—223-3718  
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 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 Svcs Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206  
Women In Kahoots—(WINK) 438-1421  
Women of Wisdom—289-8819, POB 8871, Atlanta 30306.  
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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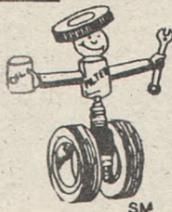
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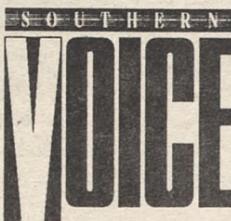
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- E.D.'s Gourmet Records, 1510 Piedmont
- Funny Business, Ansley Mall
- Laundry Lounge, Ansley Mall
- Mail Boxes Etc, 1579 Monroe
- Morningside Chase, 1445 Monroe
- New Order, Ansley Mall
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- Bill's Health Market, Lindbergh Plaza
- Book Warehouse, 3097 Piedmont Rd.
- Cafe Intermesso, 1865 Peachtree St. (Box)
- Catering Specialties, 1863 Peachtree St.
- Coco Loco, 2625 Sidney Marcus Blvd
- Expressway Bowling Lns, 1936 Piedmont Rd.
- Garden Hills Cinema, 2835 Peachtree Rd.
- McDonald's, 2929 Peachtree Rd. (Box)
- Oxford Books, 360 Pharr Rd.
- Oxford Books, 2345 Peachtree Rd.
- Oxford Too, 2395 Peachtree Rd.
- The Darlington Apts, 2025 Peachtree Rd.
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- Sage Hill, 1799 Briarcliff (Box)
- Southern Star, 231 W. Ponce (Box)

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- Grady IDC, 35 Butler St
- GSU MARTA Station, Butler St (Box)
- Main Library, Carnegie at Forsyth (Box)
- The Pear Garden, 111 Luckie St.

GRANT PARK

- Adams Realty, 460 Cherokee Ave. (Box)
- Arts Exchange, 750 Kalb St.
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- Charis Books, 419 Moreland
- Eat Your Vegetables, 438 Moreland (Box)
- Fellini's Pasta, 1174 Euclid Ave (Box)
- First Existentialist Cong, 470 Candler Park Dr.
- Johnny's Pizza Cafe, 467 Highland
- LSP Community Center, 1803 Austin Ave.
- LSP Pharmacy, 484 Moreland
- Sovananda, 1111 Euclid Ave. (Box)
- The Atomic Cafe, 1655 McLondon
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- Bulldog & Co, 893 Peachtree St.
- Cafe Mythology, 1140 Crescent Ave.
- Caremark, 1031 Juniper St.
- Cha-Gio, 966 Peachtree St. (Box)

Common Ground, 1053 Juniper

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- Feminist Women's Health Ctr, 580 14th St.
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- Goodles 64 3d St.
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- Midtown Manor, 811 Piedmont
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- Skate Escape, 1086 Piedmont
- Subway, 699 Ponce de Leon
- The Eagle, 306 Ponce de Leon
- The Phoenix, 567 Ponce de Leon
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- St. Charles Deli, 752 N. Highland
- Southern Voice, 1189 Virginia (Box)
- Stone Soup, 1248 Virginia
- Superior Foods, 865 N Highland (Box)
- Taco Max, 1006 N. Highland
- The Silver Grill, 900 Monroe
- Woody's, 981 Monroe

**Mortgage rates in '93 look very good**

Predictions concerning interest rates for home mortgages for 1993 are hopeful.

According to the latest reports filed by the National Association of Realtors, the average rate of 7.9 per cent in 1993 will actually be lower than that of 8.3 per cent for 1992 on a 30-year fixed rate mortgage.

Similarly, the Mortgage Bankers Association confirmed an optimistic forecast for mortgage interest rates in 1993. Predicting an average of about 8 per cent in 1993 on 30-year mortgages, chief economist David Lereah defended his position despite the fact that he "foresees low inflation" and expects the job market to pick up and the economy to grow at 3 to 3.25 per cent.

Other reasons that these forecasts seem optimistic is that most experts anticipate that the economy will grow "only modestly" and that, based on Washington insiders close to the new administration, President Clinton will propose a relatively small economic stimulus package.

These conditions would create a good climate for stable long-term interest rates, most economists agree. Yet there will be some slight rise in interest rates within a 12 month period.

Foreseeing 30-year mortgage rates ranging between 8.25 and 8.5 per cent, David Berson, a chief economist at Fannie Mae, the large secondary market mortgage lender, attributes a subtle rise from the first to the second half of the year as "the economy gets stronger."

"In the absences of a pickup in the economy, I would expect long-term rates to fall next year below 8 per cent," he explained.

Though a growing economy usually causes interest rates to rise, economists generally forecast a low inflation rate because of a still-shaky job market which will hold down wage pressure, in addition to the continuing recession in Europe and Japan that will keep prices from rising very much.

"Things acting to push rates up and those acting to push rates down will be in rough balances," Berson said.

Robert Van Order, chief economist at Freddie Mac, another major secondary mortgage lender, concurs with Berson and others in the financial lending community. He thinks that 30-year rates will "average 8.4 per cent over 1993, rising slightly to 8.5 per cent by the end of the year with an economic growth rate of 3 per cent."

These predictions stand in only mild contrast to those of the National Association of Realtors which also expects only a "modest economic stimulus package from the Clinton administration" due to the fact that it is generally agreed that he will pay closer attention to the federal budget deficit than was indicated earlier during his campaign.

Lereah bases his opinions upon the slow activity in the job market. "The wage market right now is pretty soft," he emphasized, "Wages and benefits have been declining."

There is definitely a much wider range of opinions on these issues outside the real estate and lenders industries.

Reports from sources like James F. Smith, finance professor at the University of North Carolina, foresees interest rates rising early in 1993—as high as 8.75 per cent on a 30-year mortgage—if President Clinton proposes a new spending program to stimulate the economy.

However, Smith does agree with housing economists that not much money will actually be spent in a stimulus package and predicts that "rates will fall to the 7.25 per cent range by the end of the year."

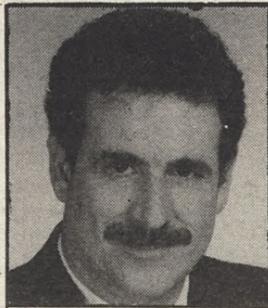
Looking much further into the future, Smith forecast that interest rates will continue to fall to as low as 5 per cent in 30-year mortgages by 1995.

His reasoning is that the Federal Reserve, the controllers of the money supply independent of Congress and the White House, is determined to get inflation down below 1 per cent annually, "as was normally the case between 1952 and 1965."

During that same period, Smith pointed out, mortgage rates generally remained between 3 to 5 per cent.

"I don't think we'll get to 3 per cent, but we could get to 5 per cent in less than a few years," he said.

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**FREE Meals** for people with HIV/AIDS now available in the Smyrna area. Meals delivered to your door. Please contact a client manager at 525-4620 for details. (5.51-)

Good Samaritan Project provides care and support for persons living with AIDS. Support groups, buddy program, clothing/food bank, practical support, education, pastoral care. Call 873-4589. (5.51)

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Central Hospice Care will provide in-home care for persons who are terminally ill and their families. Serving Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Clayton, Cobb, Cherokee and Rockdale counties. Volunteers are needed to provide emotional support, companionship and practical assistance. Training. For information contact Delcy Harber at 988-8662. (5.51)

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 Corner at 836-6505 (days) or 834-8195 (eve).

**AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN**—888-9991 - new project of the Feminist Women's Health Cr. 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.

**AIDSCHAM:** 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**

Interested in leasing housing to lesbian/gay travelers for special events? (1994 Superbowl, 1996 Olympics) For information, send \$ASE with name, address, phone, to R.T., PO Box 17535, Atlanta, GA 30316 (6.8)

Nationwide Gay Pilot's Assoc. Newsletter, personals, chapters, events, totally discreet. 703-660-3852. P.O. Box 1291, Alexandria, VA 22313. (5.48)

**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**

Part time, flexible. \$20 to 35/hr. Small company in Buckhead. Duties: Sales, Clerical, Customer Relations. Excellent Telephone Manners a must. Must be mature, drug-free and have good handwriting. Sent handwritten resume to: Box Holder, Unit 1, 1544 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta, GA 30324. (5.48)

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Gay male seeking part time employment evenings and weekends. Experienced in office equipment, word processing, and customer service. Excellent references and stable employment history. Please contact Mark at (404) 325-7600 to set up interview. (5.48)

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**Real Estate**

**FOR RENT**

Weekly Rates - \$99 and up. Howard Johnson, Midtown. 875-5511. (5.51)

Decatur/Agnes Scott - 5 BR, 2 BA, fenced yard, hardwood floors, large rooms. \$750/mo. Owner/Agent. Call Michelle Address 872-3467. (5.49)

South Cobb Dr./285 - 2 BR, 1 BA, fenced yard, large kitchen, AC, washer-dryer hook-up. Friendly neighborhood. 15 minutes to downtown. \$475/mo. 333-6323. (5.49)

Candler Park 1 BR, 1 BA. Large living room, kitchen. Near Emory, LSP, VA-HI. Single person, non-smoker, no pets. \$425/mo. includes utilities, except phone. 378-0912. (5.49)

Virginia-Highland cottage: unfurnished, quiet, small—for one person. \$100 deposit, \$300 month + utilities. Available on or before Feb. 1st. 872-3162. (5.48)

Buckhead/Midtown home. Near, 75, 85 and Peachtree St. Newly renovated, 2 BR, 1 1/2 bath, central air, dishwasher, disposal.

Vaulted ceilings, decks—\$750. 876-3430. (5.48)

**INMAN PARK**—Dramatic 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA Townhouse, vaulted ceiling LR w/sep DR, skylights, hdwd flrs, balconies, fpic, sec sys, breakfast room. \$1,100/mo. 523-1209. (5.48)

**FOR SALE**

**VIDEO STORE** - Waynesville, NC. Over 5,000 videos. \$125 K. Owner must sell. (704) 452-2200. (5.49)

Riverdale. Contemporary tri-level, spacious 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA. Vaulted ceiling, fireplace. Privacy. Quiet cul de sac. Non-qual./fully assumable. \$18,000 down. \$71,000 balance. 30 min to downtown Atl. Steve 997-2952. (5.48)

**Roommates**

GWF seeks non-smoker, no pets to share 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA condo. Shallowford at I-85. \$350/mo. includes W/D, cable. Call 315-1536. (5.49)

GM Hispanic seeks GM to share small 2 BR apt. in Little 5 Points. Must love cats. \$225 + 1/2 util. 525-3843. (5.50)

85/Pleasantdale: GWF, non-smoker seeks same to share 2 BR, 2 BA apartment. Washer/Dryer. \$275/mo. + 1/2 utilities. 662-5988 after 6:30 pm or leave message. (5.49)

GWM seeks M/F to share 2 BR, 1.5 BA apt. in house. Morningside area. \$375/mo. + 1/2 utilities. 874-1120. (5.48)

GW wanted to share 2 BR, 1 BA, 1600 sq. ft. apt. w/fireplace, 16 ft. ceilings. \$312 + 1/2 util. and security deposit. Call 874-1005. (5.49)

VA-Highland, non-smoking, GF to share 2 BR renovated apart, \$325 + 1/2 util, no pets, call 872-4929. (5.50)

INMAN PARK GWF, 44, non-smoker has 2 BR, 1 BA home to share. \$300/mo. + 1/2 util. Must like pets. 577-0644. (5.49)

**ROOMMATES ON PG 34**

**INDEX**

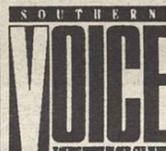
- AIDS SERVICES\*
- ANNOUNCEMENTS\*
- ACCOUNTING/TAXES
- EMPLOYMENT
  - Part Time
  - Full Time
  - Seeking\*
- HEALTH
  - Fitness
  - Personal Growth
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  - Household Goods/
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  - TV/TS

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Giant headlines	\$3.00
SV forwarding mailbox (optional)	10.00
Other P.O. Box	5.00

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20 words	FREE
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Giant headline @ 3.00/week	_____
Forwarding box @ 10.00/week	_____
Other P.O. Box @ 5.00/week	_____
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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**

Good Samaritan Project provides care and support for persons living with AIDS. Volunteers needed as buddies, to help with clothing/food bank, for practical support, office work and fundraising. Call 873-4589. (5.51)

**MIDTOWN AREA**

Southern Voice is looking for one or two volunteers to deliver papers in the Midtown area on Tues./Wed. Requires car, insurance, and about 3 hours of your time. Small stipend. Call Gary 876-1831. (5.50)

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 Cleve, Ken or Tonia at 525-4620.

**Voice Connection**

**WOMEN**

Lonely GBF, 35, attractive, professional, seeks attractive, feminine woman for one-on-one relationship. No Butch/Bi's. ☎ 1249

GWF, 31, 5'2", 113 lbs, professional, attractive seeks similar GWF for movies, dining, working out, travel & possibly more. ☎ 1247

DONNA - In the blue velvet jacket at Michelle's Oxford gig - Are you still married? Call me anyway - urgent - heart attack. ☎ 1245

GBF, 27, new to Atlanta, discreet. Enjoys a night in rather than a night out. Wants a fem for friendship. ☎ 1239

GBF, 5'8", 139 lbs seeks GF who is intelli-

gent 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, travelling professional needs affectionate, eclectic, striking, sexually adventurous sophisticate for weekend romantic pursuits. No flakes, druggies or gamers (I don't know the rules!). ☎ 1127

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

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

WF, 26, 5'11", 140 lbs, br/br, looking for gay/bi female for fun, friendship, and who knows. 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, cigarettes. ☎ 1099

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

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

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

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

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

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

GWF, femme, 25, w/5yr. old daughter seeks GFs for friendship. The rest is destiny's call. Call me today! ☎ 1026

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

GF seeks fun, intelligent, good looking fe-

male 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

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

Looking for a fun-loving friend-lover near Asheville, NC. I am feminine, healthy, a little shy, goofy (not looking), 30, and very much alive BiWF. Call me, talk to me, how else will we ever meet? ☎ 1025

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

GBF, 33, good looking, fun loving, serious, aggressive, drug free. Seeking 100% lesbian, 19-33 years old, companion to travel with on a Caribbean vacation. Absolutely no bisexuals, smokers, no drugs, for friendship and possible romance. ☎ 1017

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

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

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

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

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

**MEN**

Tall, dark, sexy, hairy black male, 28. Seeks honest, sincere, muscled, affectionate Bi/GM Top Man for mutual friendship / more. ☎ 1251

Intelligent GWM seeks same for lunchtime companion or friend. Perimeter mall area, early / mid-afternoon, Monday thru Friday. ☎ 1248

GWM, 35, TEDDYBEAR, 5'10", 275 lb.+ seeks hunk w/mind, for conversation and adventurous safe sex. Call voice box-let's talk! ☎ 1250

GWM, tall, smooth, slim - would like to meet aggressive, hairy, stocky, masculine man - 40 to 50. Bald a plus. I'm HIV+, healthy, friendly, good looking. ☎ 1246

Spankings needed. WM, 26, seeks strong,

athletic man, 20s, who is kind but firm. PO Box 80036, Atlanta, GA 30366-0036.

Horny GWM, 30, 5'4", wants to do helicopter spins on your face! Love hot letters / photos / videos. Call-leave address ☎ 1243

Single woman seeks GM for marriage of mutual convenience. ☎ 1244

Jonathan, you responded to my ad. Your phone number was erased. Please call again. ☎ 1092.

GWM, 32, 5'9", 145#, athletic, extremely well-endowed, new to Atlanta, seeks fun sessions with similarly hung buddies 25-50. Send detailed response to "Boxholder," 1579F Monroe Drive, NE, Box #119, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Gdlkg GWM, 32, rdsh br/gr., clean-shaven, 5'10 1/2", 189#, healthy, good stocky build, collegiate/professional type, sks collegiate/professional type, 22-42, with ticklish feet for hot tickle sessions. "Bottoms" only. Sane, sensual, safe fun. Live in Birmingham but can travel. ☎ 1241

GWM, 54, 5'10", 165, healthy, mature, romantic, secure professional seeks quality, slender GBM, age unimportant, for friendship, perhaps relationship. ☎ 1242

Adolescent Florida Executive, 6 ft., 170 lbs. Blond. ISO spontaneous, artsy, skinny, young companion for dinner, romance here, sailing, diving, vacations there. ☎ 1240

GBM, 25, sexy, versatile, endowed, seeks brother w/similar qualities and w/sincere interest in developing friendship into more. No fems. ☎ 1238

WM, 32, 5'10", 155#, F/A, loner type seeks fellow non-fam WM Southerner 30-50 wanting possible one-on-one relationship. ☎ 1237

BM seeks masculine BM to become ? buddies. ☎ 1236

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GWM, 29, 5'11, 170, BR/BL. Attractive,

receding, honest, monogamous. Seeks safe, romantic, fit, smooth WM around same age. Possibly permanent relationship. ☎ 1084

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 healthy WM for fun and excitement, any age, weight. ☎ 1060

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

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

WM, 25, 5'9", 175 lbs., seeks other non-stereotypical WM 18-30 for friendship or more. I live in Chattanooga but travel to Atlanta weekly. All answered. ☎ 1062

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

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

GWM, 22, college student, feels disgusted by the effeminacy and crudeness typical of gays; is looking for someone else who is not at home among them. ☎ 1049

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

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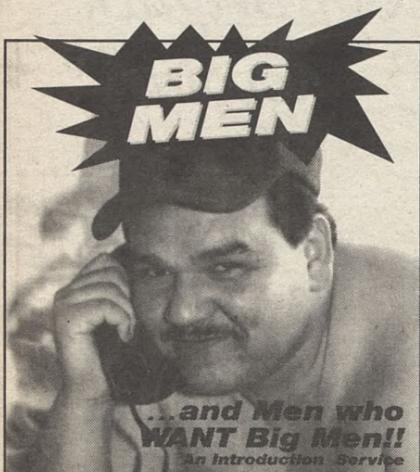
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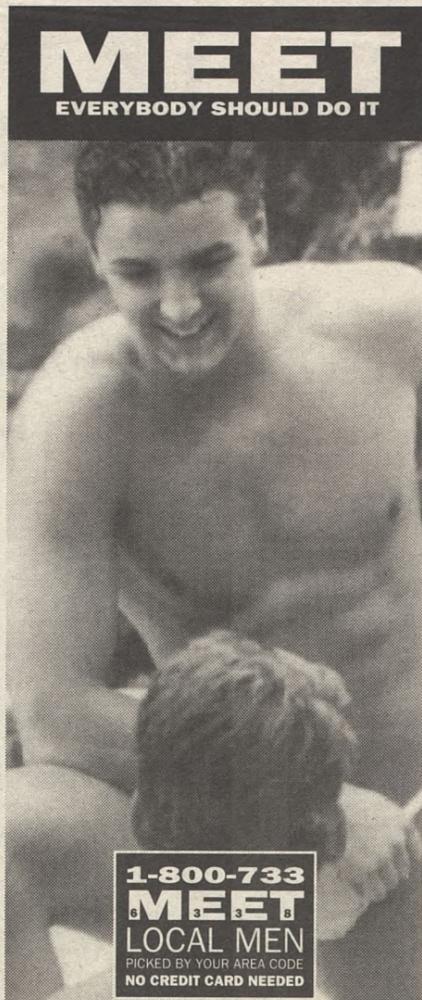
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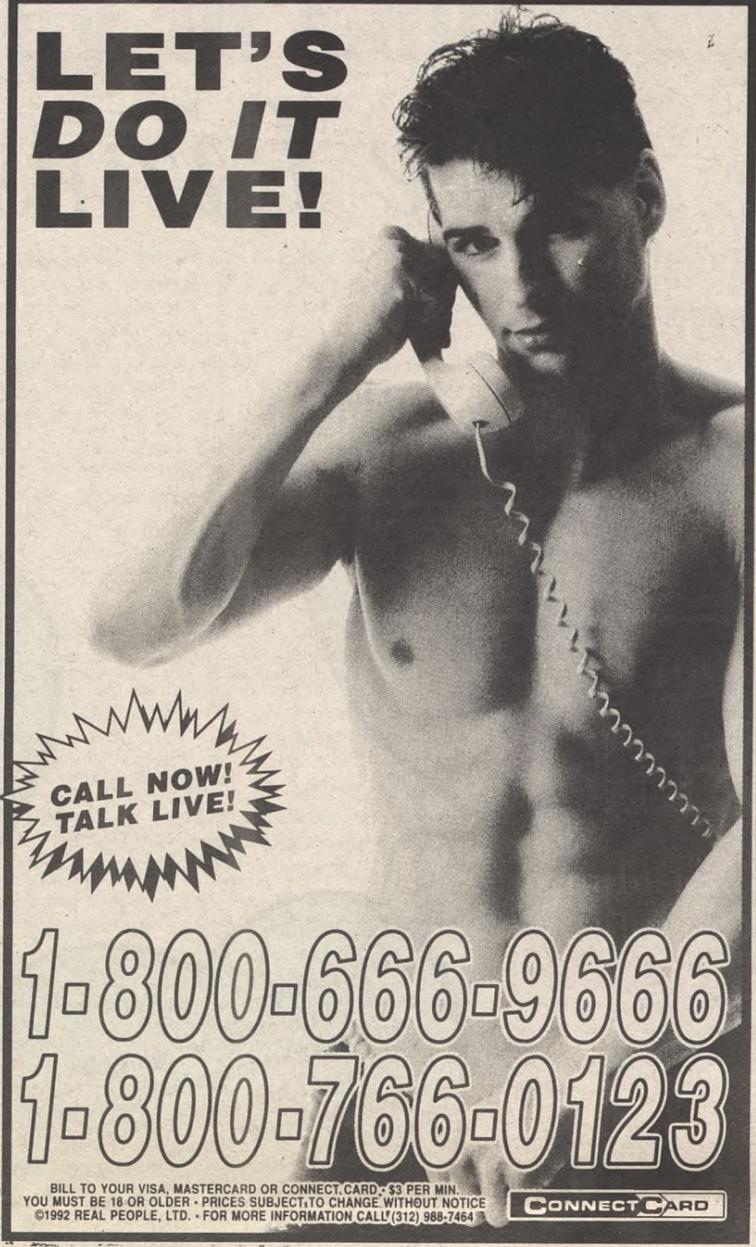
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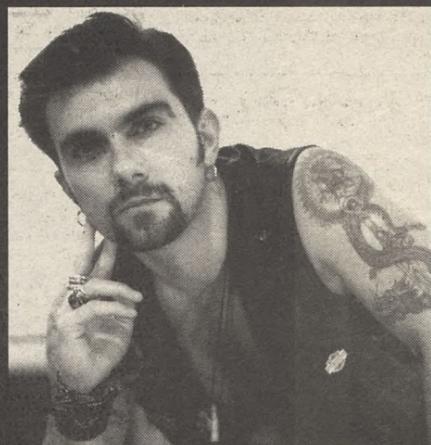
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floral arrangement  
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J...  
Since the day we met you've filled  
my heart with more love and "fear  
at times" then I ever imagined  
anyone could, and for that, I love  
you. Always be mine...you better  
always be mine...  
Enchanted Heart

There once was a young men who  
yearned for a lover and a clean  
tidy home. The lover is me and 4  
years have passed, alas the home  
resembles a nuclear blast. Love is  
stronger than 409. I love you  
honey, please be mine.  
D.B.J., III

Hey Darlin—  
I'd much rather whisper  
uncensored material into your  
ear...but I need to say the more  
mushy stuff to fill the space. I am  
lovin' this lovin' you. Every day is  
Valentine's Day for me...  
S.D.B.



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