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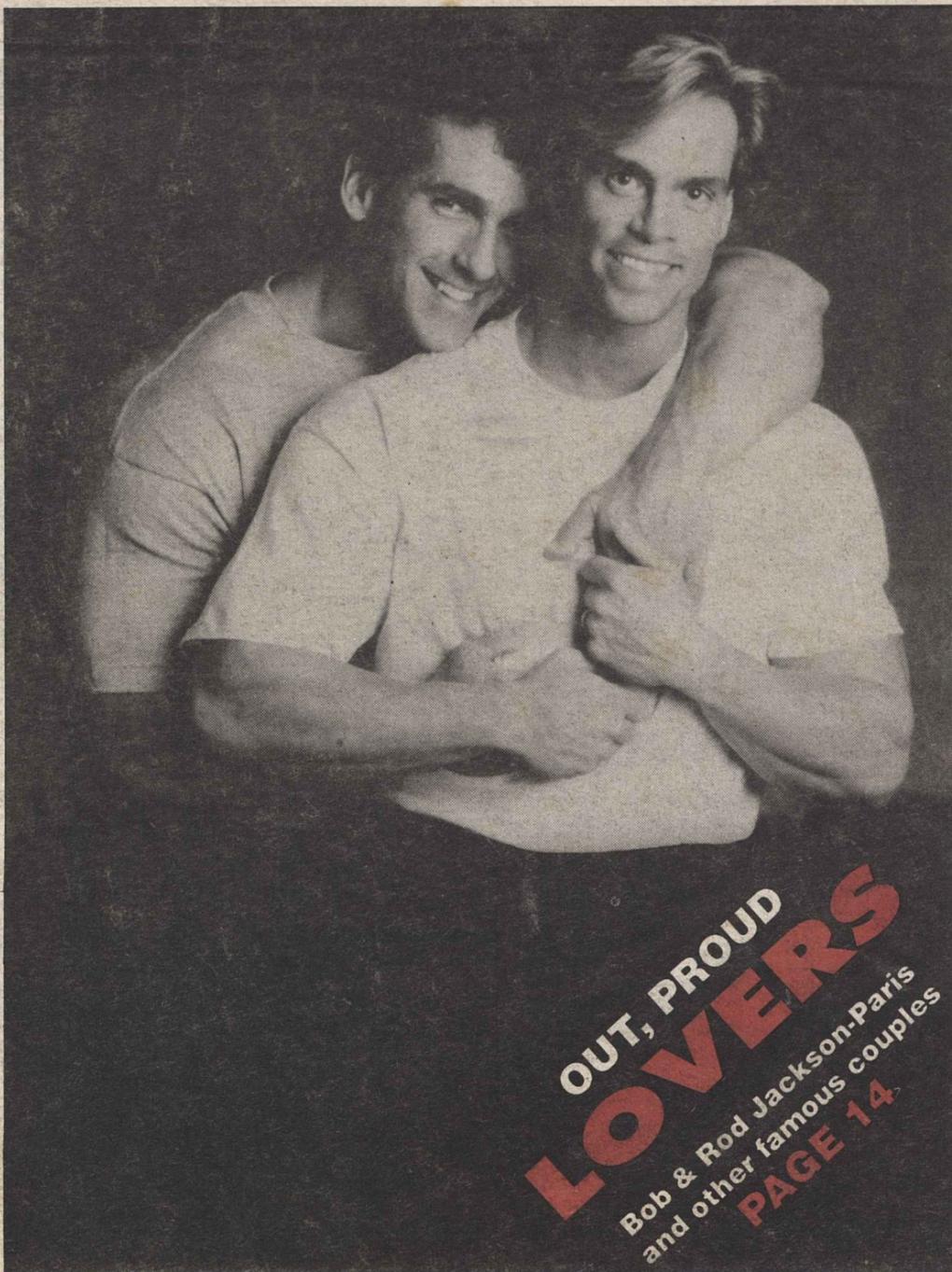
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**OUT, PROUD  
LOVERS**  
Bob & Rod Jackson-Paris  
and other famous couples  
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BLAKE LITTLE

## Republicans fail to put military ban into law

*Violence erupts in wake of Clinton's announcement; Nunn promises hearings will be fair*

Washington, DC and Atlanta—A Republican attempt to codify the military's ban on gays and lesbians by attaching an amendment to the Family and Medical Leave Act failed last Friday by a 62-37 vote in the Senate. Georgia's senators split their votes on the amendment, with Democratic Senator Sam Nunn voting against and Republican Paul Coverdell voting for.

In the House of Representatives, a bill writing the ban into law was introduced on Thursday by Rep. Joe Burton (R-TX), but sources in Washington say that bill is unlikely to ever reach the House floor for a vote.

Before the Senate vote was cast, the Pentagon put President Clinton's orders into practice, saying on Feb. 3 that it would no longer question recruits about sexual orientation but will give every enlistee detailed guidance on forbidden sexual conduct.

In a separate action also ordered by Clinton, the Pentagon temporarily suspended the formal dismissal of gays and lesbians already serving. Gay service members will still be subjected to discharge procedures, but instead of being kicked out, they will be put on "standby reserve," taking away all pay and benefits but leaving them eligible for reinstatement in the event the gay ban is ended.

Clinton has ordered Defense Secretary Les Aspin to prepare an executive order lifting the ban by July 15, and both the House and Senate Armed Services Committees have pledged to hold hearings on the matter.

Those hearings will be crucial to ensure Congressional support of Clinton's plan to end the 50-year-old ban of gays and lesbians from the nation's armed services. Cathy Woolard, a Human Rights Campaign Fund lobbyist in Washington, met with Sen. Nunn, the chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, for about 45



Crae Pridgen was beaten by three Marines who dragged him from a gay bar in Wilmington, North Carolina.

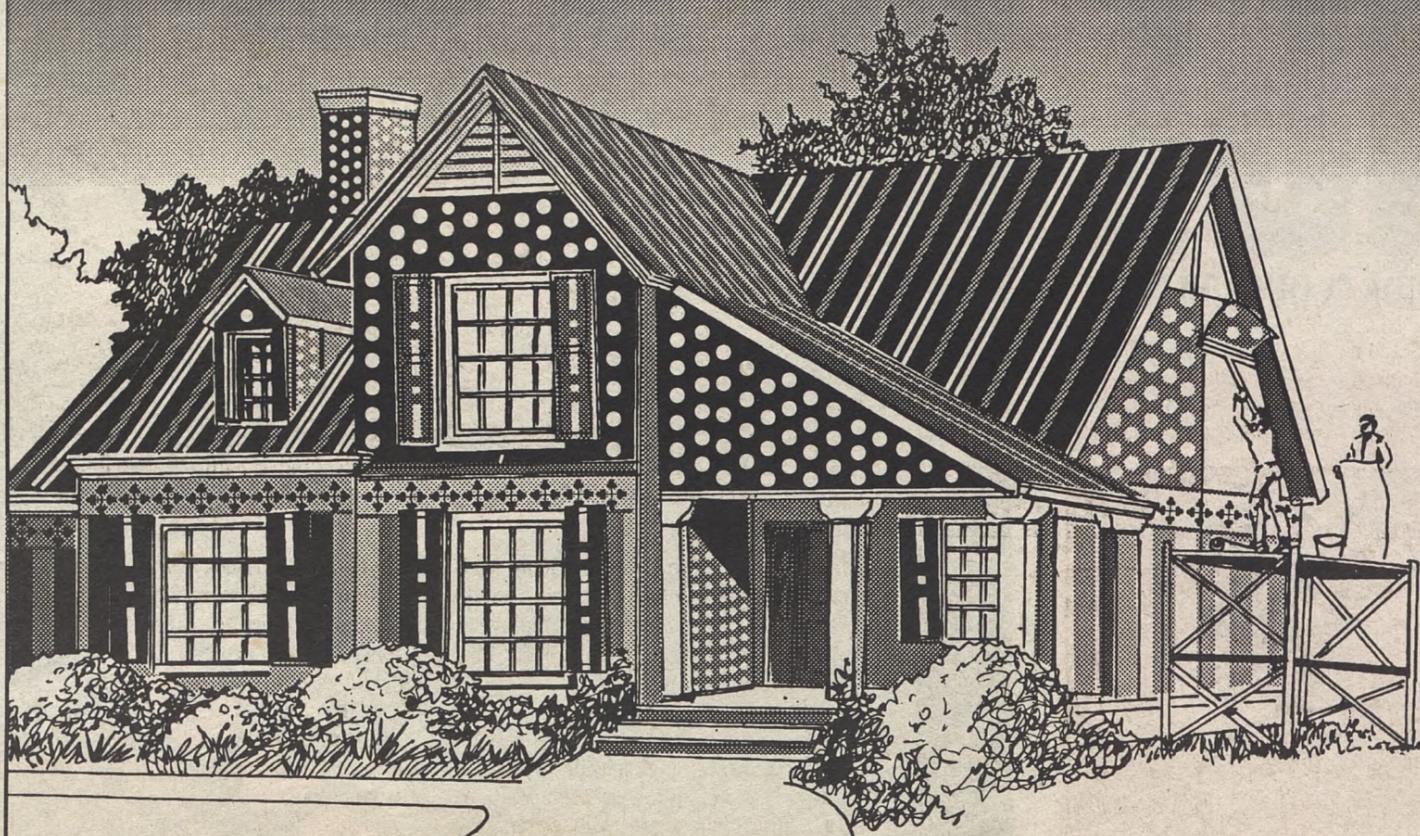
minutes last Thursday, and came away saying that Nunn's support is important. Nunn has repeatedly stated his opposition to lifting the ban.

"Having Nunn change his mind is critical," said Woolard. "I don't think Clinton will change his mind [after the hearings], but if Nunn doesn't it will make it difficult for us to protect [the executive order] from Congress afterwards."

Woolard said that at Thursday's meeting Nunn pledged that his committee's hearings would be fair, **CONTINUES ON PAGE 9**

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## Achtenberg picked for Assistant Secretary of HUD

Washington, DC—Openly lesbian San Francisco Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg has been picked for a high level appointment in President Bill Clinton's new administration.

Clinton tapped Achtenberg on Feb. 2 to be Assistant Secretary at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). She will head the agency's 700-person fair housing and equal opportunity unit. If confirmed by the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, Achtenberg, 42, will be the first openly lesbian appointed to a top federal post. Ironically, the unit Achtenberg will head does not monitor anti-gay housing discrimination because there are no federal

"I would not presume to speak for the lesbian and gay community, but I have to say for this lesbian that she is honored to be selected to serve," she said.

Achtenberg's appointment has already come under fire from several public interest groups. Sources told the Washington Blade that at least six representatives of such groups met on Jan. 19 with HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros to express concerns about the rumored appointments of Achtenberg and Susan Baron for the HUD general counsel position.

A meeting attendee, who spoke with the Blade on the condition of anonymity, said that Cisneros told the group that Achtenberg "was the one name that Clinton spoke to him directly about. He said her name was not going to be removed."

Housing advocates have expressed concerns that Achtenberg, who is a former law professor and civil rights attorney elected to



Roberta Achtenberg, openly lesbian San Francisco supervisor, accepts President Clinton's nomination to become Assistant Secretary of HUD, the highest level federal appointment ever of an openly gay person.

protections against such bias.

"It is a distinct honor and privilege, as I am sure you can appreciate, to have received this vote of confidence from this president who has my devotion and respect," she said.

Achtenberg acknowledged that she is the first openly lesbian nominated for such a high post, but downplayed the issue during a press conference announcing the appointment.

"I believe I was chosen because I was a public officer, because I have demonstrated my commitment to his government to support people who most need it. I believe my record stands," Achtenberg said.

She declined to speculate on what the appointment might mean to the national gay and lesbian movement.

the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1990, has no experience in fair housing issues.

The Blade's unidentified source said that the meeting participants were concerned because "we didn't want to have another assistant secretary that would have to have on-the-job training."

Her departure from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors leaves the city with one openly gay member, Carol Midgen. Harry Britt did not seek reelection last year.

The former co-chair of the Clinton/Gore presidential campaign, Achtenberg is the domestic partner of Judge Mary Morgan, a San Francisco Municipal Court judge. The couple has one child.

## Bush official takes parting shot at gays

San Francisco—The Washington Blade reports that a Bush Administration official earlier this month rescinded a National Park Service policy barring employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. But last week, the Department of Interior's new Secretary, Bruce Babbitt, said he plans to revoke the directive.

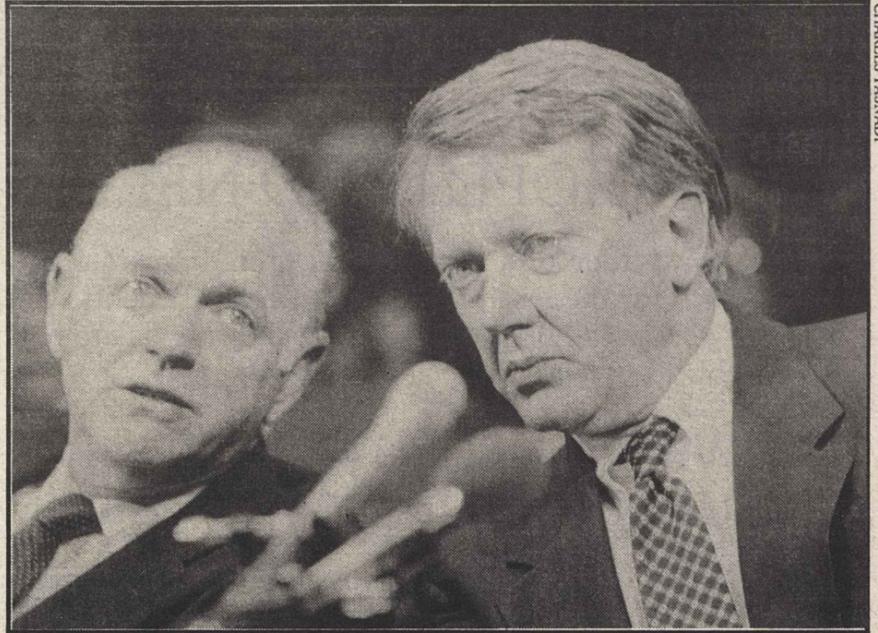
"The Secretary said he would take action to see that the memorandum is removed," said Robert Walker, spokesperson for the Department.

John Schrote, director of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) for the Western Region of the National Park Service, wrote in a Jan. 19 memo that, "This is a matter that must be left to Congressional action rather than administrative fiat. Pursuant to the au-

thority vested in my office and in my capacity as the Director of Equal Employment Opportunity, I hereby direct that the Western Region's policy on sexual orientation is revoked, effective immediately."

In 1988, the Western Region added "sexual orientation" to its equal opportunity policy and was planning to add it to future announcements of job vacancies. Schrote's memorandum came in response to one written six months earlier by Acting Regional Director Lewis Albert concerning the Boy Scouts of America.

Boy Scout troops have been volunteering for routine park maintenance work for the National Park Service for several years. After the Superintendent of Golden Gate Park expressed concern about his openly gay employees facing possible harassment from Scouts, Albert sent an internal memo to all park officials in the Western Region



Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, says he will remove a directive issued by an outgoing Bush official which rescinded a National Park Service barring discrimination toward gays.

requesting they inform the Boy Scout leaders in their areas that the park service would not tolerate harassment of its gay employees. The memo included a draft of a letter they could use to relate that.

"We have specifically included sexual orientation in our non-discrimination statements since 1988. We consider verbal or physical harassment toward anyone to be incompatible with a professional working environment. We encourage our gay and lesbian employees to be open about their lives in the workplace if they wish, just as heterosexuals are. We believe they can and do provide excellent examples for those who may not personally know anyone who is homosexual."

Schrote, a Bush appointee, waited until one day before the new administration took over to charge Albert and the Western Region with "attempting to apply its internal EEO Policy Statement to an outside organization, the Boy Scouts of America," he said in a four-page memo.

Schrote also implied that the department had an "Affirmative Employment Program" specifically for gay men and lesbians.

"It was a desperate act by a desperate

man," commented Becky Mills, Western Region Equal Employment Opportunity manager. "Schrote misread our memo. We were clearly not requiring the Boy Scouts to adopt a specific policy. We were letting them know that we have a policy of non-discrimination."

As apparent punishment, Schrote decided the Western Region should lose its own sexual orientation policy.

"Neither the Department nor any of its bureaus or offices ought to afford any particular group rights above and beyond those granted by the laws of the United States," he wrote. Though he has since left the National Park Service, technically his directive is in effect, though park officials say nothing has been done to implement it.

"We are not planning to take 'sexual orientation' out of our policy statement," said Don Henry, an EEO specialist with the Western Region. "We are going to keep the policy just as it was. We have brought it to the attention of [openly gay Clinton transition staffer] Bob Hattoy and hope that the new administration negates the memo. It was the last dying gasp of an extinct administration."

SIDNEY BRINKLEY

## High school students protest dress code

Boys wear skirts to class

Atlanta—If girls can wear pants, why can't boys wear skirts? That is the question about 50 students were asking February 5 at a sit-in staged at Druid Hills High School in Decatur. The eighth and ninth grade students were protesting the in-school suspension given to an eighth grader after he wore an ankle-length skirt to school.

The boy wore a skirt February 3 "because they're comfortable and they look good," he said. During his fifth period class, the boy claims the instructor tried to take the skirt off. He was sent to the administration office for creating a class disturbance and was given an in-school suspension.

The following day, seven more eighth grade boys wore skirts to show support. The boys said that most of the other students thought their choice of fashion was cool, but said there was some harassment by the faculty.

One of the students who wore a skirt said, "[One of our] teachers said, 'I didn't know there were that many homosexuals in the school.'"

The boys also said they were called

"queers" by another teacher.

According to Christine May, Communications Director for the Dekalb County Board of Education, it is the school system's policy to allow principals to prohibit dress that creates a disturbance or is a danger to the students.

"If they want to wear a skirt, I have no problem with that as long as it does not interfere with the instructional program or become disruptive," said Druid Hills principal John Wallace.

An equal number of girls and boys participated in the Friday sit-in. The crowd sat calmly at the entrance of the high school allowing teachers and students to pass in and out of the building. They passed around a bright red poster with the word "Freedom" in large silver letters, and each of the protesters signed it. A few of the boys wore skirts. All the students agreed that they should be allowed to wear what they choose and seemed as determined as their leader to have their opinions known.

"I'm here to stand up for my right to wear whatever I want to wear," said one student.

At press time it was not known if any disciplinary action would be taken against the protesting students.

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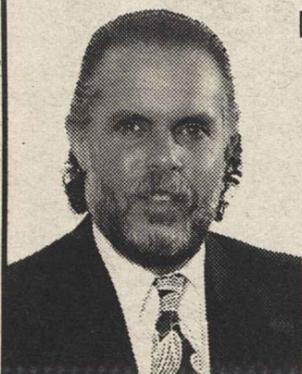
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## NC paper names gay columnist

*Chapel Hill, NC*—A gay and AIDS activist in North Carolina has become the fourth openly gay columnist for a mainstream daily newspaper.

David Jones, a long time activist in the Triangle area, is now writing a column on alternate Sundays for the Chapel Hill Herald on gay, AIDS and other health issues. Jones joins Deb Price of the Detroit News and Victoria Brownworth and Mubarak Dahir of the Philadelphia News as daily newspapers across the country begin to reach out to the lesbian and gay community.

"The editor [of the Herald] decided that the paper needed a gay voice, so he asked [Chapel Hill city councilman] Joe Herzenberg who would be a good person to write a column and Joe suggested me," Jones told Q-

Notes, Charlotte's monthly lesbian and gay newspaper.

Jones said he was given no "off limits" subjects from the editorial staff at the Herald.

"I was worried when I turned in that first column [aimed at the new North Carolina Secretary of Environment, Health and Natural Resources Jonathan Howes] because it was pretty harsh," Jones said, "so I waited a few days until the editor had read it and called and asked him about it. He said, 'No, this is just what we want.'"

Jones promised that he would take no prisoners in his column, which will go weekly in the future.

"I'm going to be pretty tough on the people who have opposed us," he commented.

## Taunts and threats cause girl with AIDS to flee Florida

*Lakeland, FL*—A 7-year-old girl with AIDS will no longer have to put up with taunts from her classmates after returning to her native Maine after tumultuous four-month stay in Florida.

Autum Aquino arrived at Portland International Jetport at around 10:30 p.m. Friday following a 10-hour flight from Lakeland in a twin-engine private plane flown by volunteers from a non-profit group called Pilots of Christ.

"It became this constant thing of defending ourselves and we didn't want to do it any more," said Theresa Dannemiller, who also has the virus. "We didn't want to spend what ever time we have left fighting."

Ms. Dannemiller will drive back to Maine. In the meantime, Autum will stay with relatives, she said.

Autum sparked controversy last August when she became the first Polk County pupil to reveal to officials she has AIDS. While some at her school were supportive, many others were not.

Ms. Dannemiller said that a teen-age boy threatened Autum with death if she attended school, and that the Ku Klux Klan set up a hot line with a message that she shouldn't be allowed in school.

"I'm still afraid," Ms. Dannemiller said. "These people aren't going to stop...I want to feel safe—and I don't here."

In Maine, Autum was a celebrity and received support from her classmates and their parents as Ms. Dannemiller educated Portland residents about AIDS.

"I just want to go back and be a family," the mother said before Autum boarded the flight. "I know that can happen in Maine."

Floridians have been blamed before for driving out an AIDS family. The Rays left Arcadia for Sarasota after their house was burned down by an arsonist when their three hemophiliac sons, who all carried the AIDS virus, won a court order to attend public school. The eldest of the boys, Ricky Ray, died late last year. (AP)

## NC PBS drops gay/lesbian variety show

*Durham, NC*—North Carolina's public broadcasting system has dropped the gay and lesbian variety series "In the Life" after just two episodes, reported Q-Notes last week.

The Center for Public Television's (CPT) reasons for cancellation were that the show does not appeal to the general audience, that it is not educational, and that the program's production values are poor. Georgia Public Television used much the same rationale when they decided not to air the program, which is hosted by comic Kate Clinton, last year.

North Carolina's gay and lesbian activists blasted CPT's decision, saying the reasons behind the cancellation don't hold water.

"They said that the show doesn't appeal to the general audience. Well, that's the mission statement of PBS—to give a voice to those who have no voice," said Chris Ingle, co-chair of the North Carolina Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality. "They said it's not educational—well, neither is Lawrence Welk. And as far as the production values go, I've seen some pretty bad things but that didn't mean those programs weren't entertaining and informative."

Ingle also charged that CPT has made ill use of its Gay and Lesbian Advisory Panel. "We're supposed to be sent gay and lesbian programs to screen for broadcast," said Ingle, who is a member of the panel, "but we haven't been contacted once."

Ingle blamed CPT's decision on negative calls and letters from viewers, and urged North Carolinians to call in support of the program.

## FL man seeks signatures for anti-gay law

*Tallahassee, FL*—A petition filed with the Secretary of State's office seeks to put on the state ballot an ordinance barring gay rights.

Anthony Martin of Palm Beach needs to gather 429,428 signatures by Aug. 9, 1994, to put the proposal on the 1994 general election ballot.

Meanwhile, those opposed to an anti-gay amendment announced formation of a group called Floridians Respect Everyone's Equality, or FREE.

"It's pathetic to try to remove basic human rights and dignity from a group of people based on their sexual orientation," Robyn Blummer, director of Florida's American Civil Liberties Union, said Saturday. "If he and others like him would just get over their homophobia, we could live in a substantially better world."

Local governments in Miami Beach, West Palm Beach, Key West, Palm Beach County and Hillsborough County have passed some form of ordinance protecting against discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Residents in Tampa, which is in Hillsborough County, voted 58 percent to 42 percent in November to repeal their city's gay-rights ordinance. (AP)

## Charlotte Concert

Charlotte Gay Men's Chorus will hold a Valentine concert on Saturday, February 13 at 8 pm at the Christ Episcopal Church, 1412 Providence Road. Tickets are \$5.00 and available from any chorus member and Rising Moon Bookstore. Call (704) 536-3967 for more information. Special guests at the concert will be Four Single Men.

**NY Assembly Passes Gay Rights Bill:** The New York State Assembly on Feb. 1 passed a gay rights bill and sent the legislation to the State Senate. By a 90-50 margin, the Assembly voted to add sexual orientation to the state's civil rights law, which provides for civil rulings and compensatory damages for discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, education and credit. The state's only openly gay lawmaker, Deborah J. Glick, spoke for the measure. The Senate majority leader, Ralph J. Marino, said he would allow the bill onto the Senate floor only if a majority of Republican members favored doing so.

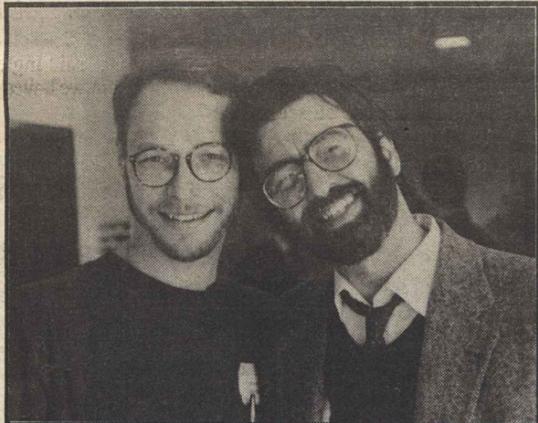
**Britain Will End Classification Of Homosexuality As Illness:** According to London's Capital Gay, Britain's National Health Service will stop classifying homosexuality as a disease in April 1994, when new NHS guidelines go into effect. "It's clearly a disgraceful situation and should be rectified immediately," said Harry Cohen, a member of Parliament who criticized the government for delaying the change.

**Feds Say Gotti Crew Torched Gay Bar:** A reputed Gambino crime family associate was charged with helping to torch a tavern that competed with a Long Island gay bar allegedly controlled by John Gotti Jr. and his pals. Matthew Sorrentino, a 32-year-old restaurant worker described by law enforcers as a member of young Gotti's crime crew, pleaded innocent at an arraignment on Jan. 26 and was released on \$200,000 bond. According to confidential sources cited in court papers, John Radice, a Gotti associate, wanted the gay bar Thunders burned out because it was in competition with Infinities, a gay bar just a block away. Two men, who were paid \$4,000 by Radice and Sorrentino, burned the building with 10 gallons of gasoline, the sources told the FBI.

**Fourth Paper Ads Gay Column:** Gabriel Rotello, former editor of Outweek, began this week to write a column on gay issues in New York Newsday. Rotello becomes the fifth openly gay columnist in a mainstream newspaper, joining columnists in Detroit, Philadelphia, and Chapel Hill, NC (see article on page 4). Rotello's first column was about the need for an openly gay columnist, and he told the Washington Blade that his editors had given him "almost no guidelines," only that he "write about a lot of things and not just politics."

**Lesbian Mother Complains About Boy Scouts:** A lesbian mother in a St. Louis suburb has asked school officials there to bar the Boy Scouts from recruiting in classrooms because of that organization's official discrimination against gays, according to The Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph. Dayna Deck, an attorney, activist and parent of two children, said "the Boy Scouts are a religious organization and should not be allowed access to school." School officials have denied Deck's request to speak to students about the Scout's policy excluding gays, but did ask Scout leaders to stop recruiting during school.

**Boston City Council Passes Domestic Partnership Act:** Boston city employees'



extended families and domestic partners will soon be eligible for medical benefits—unless Mayor Raymond Flynn vetoes a new city ordinance. In a 7-5 vote, the city council passed the Family Protection Act, which would extend benefits to city workers' gay or unmarried heterosexual partners, and to other relatives who aren't usually eligible for coverage. The act would also allow any city resident to file an affidavit which would, for instance, guarantee them visiting rights in jails and hospitals. The act was sponsored by David Scondras, an openly gay council member.

**Montana Legislative Committee Rejects Bill Legalizing Gay Sex:** A bill that would have removed same-gender sex from the definition of deviant sexual conduct was rejected last week by the Montana House Judiciary Committee, with opponents arguing the measure is unnecessary and could promote teaching of homosexuality in schools. But the 13-5 vote against the bill does not mean it is dead. The measure will be sent to the House floor for possible debate over the committee's action and a potential vote to kill the bill for good.

**Female-To-Male Transsexual Found Dead In Car Trunk:** Police in Hartford, Conn., are trying to find out why a transsexual was found dead in the trunk of a burning car on Jan. 26. Christiaan D'Arcy was found trussed and strangled in the trunk of the car, abandoned in flames on an Interstate 84 exit ramp. While anatomically female, D'Arcy was undergoing treatment to take on the physical characteristics of a man, police said. Her body had a three-to four-day growth of facial hair when found by police. Several witnesses saw a person, apparently a man, running away from the fire under the adjoining railroad line near the time the fire was reported.

**Peer Counseling Program For Gay Teens Begins In Mass.:** Massachusetts will spend \$200,000 on a new health and suicide prevention campaign aimed at gay and lesbian youth. Supporters say this is the first such state supported program in the nation for gay youth who are at risk. "This initiative will aid efforts to reach gay and lesbian youth in an understanding and sensitive manner on various health issues including suicide," said Dept. of Public Health Commissioner David Mulligan. The program follows hearings conducted by a special state commission on gay and lesbian youth, where gay teenagers testified about their painful experiences coming to terms with their sexuality.

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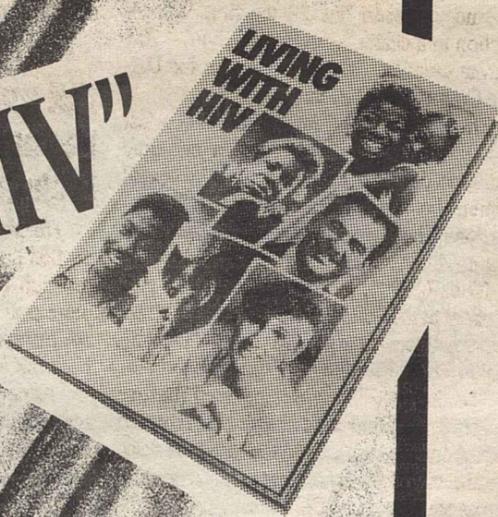
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## AIDS panel urges Clinton address

Washington, DC—The National Commission on AIDS has urged President Clinton to address the American public about the epidemic, boost research spending and lift immigration restrictions on people with the virus.

The 15-member commission last week released a letter it has sent the new President on ways to "mobilize America's response to AIDS."

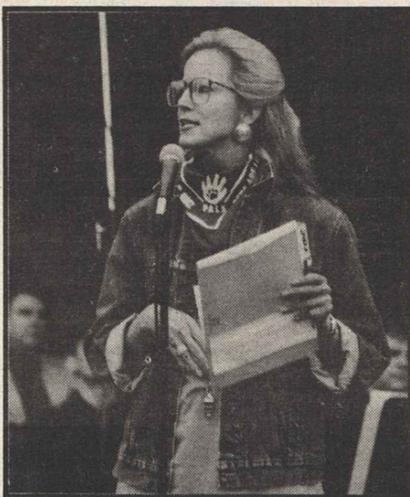
It urged him to make good on a campaign promise to appoint an AIDS coordinator at the White House. AID Atlanta director Sandy Thurman, NCA chair Dr. June Osborn, and two others are reportedly under consideration for the position. The announcement is expected any day.

The commission, which was often at loggerheads with former President Bush, urged Clinton to "discuss the AIDS crisis with the American people" early and often.

"Americans have heard almost no discussion of AIDS by our Presidents during the first 12 years of the AIDS epidemic," it said.

A cover letter by Dr. Osborn and Dr. David E. Rogers, the vice chair, said that despite the human horror of the epidemic, the country still lacks a comprehensive plan to address the crisis.

"We are not caring adequately for many



Sandy Thurman, executive director of AID Atlanta, is among four people being considered by President Clinton to head a national campaign against AIDS

of those who are ill. We live in a climate that still tolerates irrational stigmatization and rejection of those who are infected with [HIV]," they wrote.

CHRISTOPHER CONNELL

## Risky behaviors dropped after Johnson revelation, study shows

Atlanta—Basketball star Magic Johnson's announcement that he had the AIDS virus apparently prompted people in a Maryland clinic to have fewer sexual partners and one-night stands, according to a new study.

The researchers didn't mention Johnson when they questioned the people. That made the study released Jan. 28 the first to track reaction to a celebrity revelation about AIDS without creating a bias, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The agency asked how often in the last three months each person had a one-time sexual encounter or had three or more sexual partners, both risky behaviors for AIDS transmission. They also were asked how often they used condoms.

Nov. 7, 1991, Johnson, who played professional basketball with the Los Angeles Lakers, announced that he had HIV. That happened to be the midpoint of the study.

Of the 186 people surveyed before Johnson's announcement, 31 percent reported having one-night stands in the previous three months and 32 percent reported three or more sexual partners, the CDC said.

After the announcement, 20 percent of the 97 people surveyed reported one-night stands and 21 percent reported three or more partners, the CDC said.

LAURAN NEERGAARD

## Accurate count of HIV+ Americans tough for CDC

Decatur, GA—AIDS experts trying to come up with a more accurate picture of the epidemic were warned that infected Americans may not trust the government enough to let it count them by name.

"When do they hear the CDC is interested in them? When they want their names," Jeffrey Levi of the AIDS Action Council told the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "They have to feel they're going to get something back in return."

The CDC convened a meeting of AIDS experts in suburban Atlanta on Jan. 27 to help it set guidelines to find out just how many Americans are infected with HIV. Its estimate of 1 million is a rough guess.

The CDC is considering whether to advise states to report cases by identifying patients, either by name or special code. Identification would ensure that patients aren't counted twice and would enable doctors to get them appropriate care, the agency said.

Since the start of the epidemic, state health departments have collected the names of patients with full-blown AIDS and forwarded that number to the CDC. The tally is now about 240,000. Only 24 states count by name the people who have HIV but not AIDS itself, so there's no real data on HIV cases.

LAURAN NEERGAARD

## NIH head tells medical researchers they must include women

Hartford, CT—The longstanding misconception that only men can be used for medical research is being overturned as women gain more political influence and researchers realize mistakes of the past, the director of the National Institutes of Health said.

After being ignored for years by medical researchers, women must keep attention focused on them to reduce their risk of heart disease, breast cancer and other problems, Dr. Bernadine P. Healy said Jan. 26.

"Clearly, it's time for medical researchers to wake up," Healy told a group of health-care professionals, state legislators and women from throughout Connecticut at the end of a two-day conference at the state Capitol. "Remember that women pay taxes, too."

Traditionally, tax-funded medical research has been performed exclusively on men because of concerns about pregnancy and menstrual cycles in women. Healy said it's unfair that women's health problems have been ignored.

Healy, NIH director since March 1991, launched the agency's Women's Health Initiative, a 15-year, \$625 million project to study the causes, prevention and cures of diseases that affect women. The NIH, based in Bethesda, Md., has an annual budget of about \$10.3 billion.

"The importance of women's health has become a national focus," she said. "Unfortunately, medical research has had the assumption that women are just like men."

THOMAS BECHER

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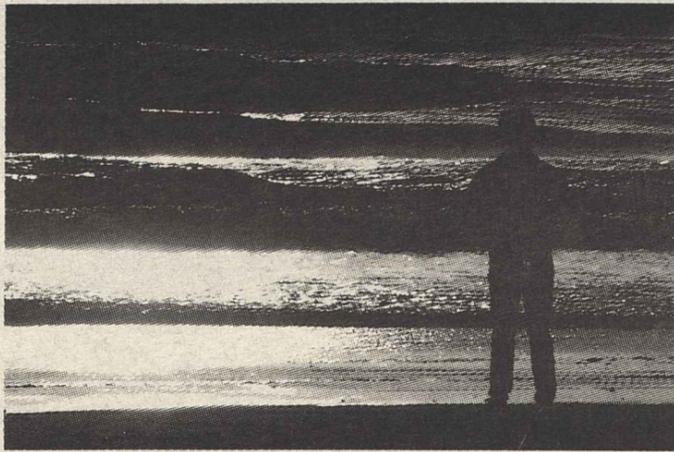
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## HIV Research Update

One of Atlanta's greatest human resources is ARCA, the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta. ARCA allows persons to participate in clinical trials of new HIV drugs and yet maintain relationships with their primary care physicians.

ARCA welcomes phone calls from persons interested in participating in their trials. Individuals and their physicians may call ARCA at 876-2317. Upcoming studies include the drugs 3TC and d4T (AZT-like drugs). ARCA is currently pursuing trials with gp120 (a therapeutic vaccine), and protease and tat inhibitors (drugs that interfere with the life cycle of HIV).

Women and minorities are encouraged to participate in ARCA drug trials. ARCA has launched an outreach effort to make other studies more available to women and communities of color.

Recently, I spoke with ARCA's President, Dr. Melanie Thompson, and its Executive Director, Amy Morris.

**Southern Voice:** I'd like to ask you some questions about the status of HIV research, and ARCA's role in developing effective treatments for HIV disease. How does ARCA decide which drugs to test?

**Morris:** Constant surveying of the scene. It takes cultivating the pharmaceutical company or the right person at the government level, and proving that ARCA can do the study as well as other sites. We also listen to the patient community.

**SV:** ARCA is pursuing a therapeutic vaccine trial with gp120 for persons already infected with HIV. How is gp120 different from gp160, which you're now testing?

**Thompson:** gp120 is directed at a different protein on the outside wall of the virus. These vaccines try to make the body recognize an invader and produce antibodies to it.

**SV:** I believe you also have an upcoming trial of the drug 3TC.

**Morris:** Yes. 3TC is an AZT-like drug, but it may work better used in combination with AZT, rather than either drug used alone. Some of the first efficacy trials will combine 3TC with AZT. We're finding that many people are becoming resistant to AZT. The hope of new drugs is that people won't be resistant to them.

**SV:** Is one of the risks of combination therapy that persons may develop resistance to two drugs at once, instead of graduating from one antiviral to the next?

**Thompson:** That's one of the big unanswered questions right now. The question for most people is how soon will resistance occur. The thought about combination therapy is that possibly you can deliver a more suppressive effect to the virus. Resistance tends to occur when the virus is multiplying fast. If you can keep the viral burden down so that there's less multiplication going on, there may be less chance for those mutations to happen that cause resistance.

**SV:** If a person walks into your office with a T-cell count of 1000, will they develop resistance to AZT or combination therapy as fast as a person with a T-cell count of 200?

**Thompson:** The first thing I say to patients is "I don't know." Nobody knows the answer to that question. This is a major issue right now. There's some preliminary data from a large Australian-European study that suggests taking AZT with T-cell counts of 750 may have some beneficial effects. We don't have the design worked out, but we're going to be doing some studies looking at immediate versus delayed combination therapy.

**SV:** One to two years down the road, what are some upcoming drugs that have shown some promise against HIV at least in the test tube?

**Thompson:** Some of the first drugs to be

coming out are the protease and the tat inhibitors. They interfere with different stages of the life cycle of the virus. The protease inhibitor is not just one drug. There are probably eleven companies making them. Hopefully, these drugs will be useful in combination with AZT-like drugs.

**SV:** Can you give me an educated guess on how long it will be, if all goes well, before we see more elaborate combinations of drugs: therapeutic vaccines combined with antivirals, protease and tat inhibitors, plus forms of immunotherapy?

**Thompson:** There are a lot of questions rolled into that one question. Every combination is different. For the most part, you need data to suggest that any given therapy by itself has some effect against the virus. I think, however, those studies are coming pretty rapidly down the pike. We're talking with some companies about getting some combination studies with protease inhibitors here.

**SV:** If protease inhibitors prove beneficial, how long before persons might be able to buy them with a prescription?

**Thompson:** At least a couple of years. But I want to add that there are a lot of high tech therapies being looked at, like CD8 expansion. There's an entirely new class of treatments coming along that currently can only be done in a laboratory setting on a very few patients because of the intensity of the technology. Those studies are upcoming, but it will probably be a year or more.

**SV:** Are physicians beginning to take patients off AZT at the 16th week and place them on ddI?

**Morris:** That was the last press release regarding ddI use. I think physicians will cautiously consider either switching people to ddI or adding ddC.

**SV:** Recently, I heard that ddC, even when used alone, might benefit some people.

**Morris:** Early studies suggested ddC was not as efficacious as AZT as a first line therapy. The FDA approved ddC for use in combination with AZT based on some very small numbers. Those studies are still ongoing.

**SV:** Depression is a real problem for many people with HIV. Sometimes people are given anti-depressants. Can these drugs have an adverse effect on T-cell counts?

**Thompson:** There's a fair amount of information in mental health literature that suggests depression lowers T-cell counts. So I think it's beneficial to treat depression. There's no evidence that I know of that anti-depressant drugs have a negative effect on the immune system. However, people should be checked for drug interactions on a one by one basis.

**SV:** Psychiatrists are expensive. Can a private physician prescribe anti-depressants?

**Thompson:** My bias as an internist is that psychiatrists keep up with the field and the drugs somewhat better than others. Traditionally, psychiatrists are better at picking the appropriate drug for a person. Also, there are public supported mental health catchment areas depending on where people live to go for assistance.

ARCA's studies are principally funded by individual pharmaceutical companies and through the federal government. For ARCA to pursue trials of its own design, it needs cash donations from the public and the business community, in addition to monies collected at fundraisers.

However, ARCA relies on every sort of donation: office equipment, tax deductible cash contributions from individuals and corporations, people's time. Volunteers also are needed to perform clerical tasks and assist with community outreach programs. Interested persons should contact Matt Pieper at 876-2317. To maintain confidentiality, volunteers are not asked to work directly with persons in trials or handle data relating to them.

TERRY FRANCIS

# Military

Continued from page 1

## MILITARY RALLY

Show your support for President Clinton's efforts to lift the Department of Defense's ban on gays and lesbians at a rally to Tell Sam to Lift the Ban. The rally is sponsored by a broad coalition of individuals, gay and lesbian groups and civil rights organizations, and will be held on Saturday, February 13 at 11 am at the Richard B. Russell Federal Building (location of Sen. Sam Nunn's Atlanta office), 75 Spring St. in downtown Atlanta.

Featured speakers will include former Army Staff Sgt. Miriam Ben-Shalom, head of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America, and other lesbian and gay veterans. Organizers are also asking participants to bring Valentine cards for the President and First Lady.

"This is an important part of our organizing for repeal of the ban," said HRCF Field Committee chair Don George, one of the organizers of the rally. "We need everybody out there for this one."

For more information, or to help out, call 231-5751.

and that all sides of the issue would be heard. Locally, HRCF's Field Committee chair Don George and attorney Chip Rowan received similar assurances during a Thursday meeting between Bob Hurt, Nunn's administrative assistant, and other concerned gays and lesbians.

"It was a good positive first step in a dialogue on the issue," said Rowan. "Mr. Hurt said that Sen. Nunn is certainly welcoming gay and lesbian input on the hearings."

While the smoke was clearing from the initial battle over the military's ban, President Clinton received the support of civil rights leader

Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and head of the MLK Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change. In a speech at an AFL-CIO dinner in Detroit on Feb. 5, Mrs. King praised Clinton's "commitment to end discrimination against gay people in the military."

"Gay and lesbian people have served in the armed forces with honor from the early days of the republic on down to today, and many have given their lives for the freedom that we enjoy today," she said. "I strongly feel that any law or policy which denies them their full citizenship rights has no place in a great democracy."

### Violent reaction

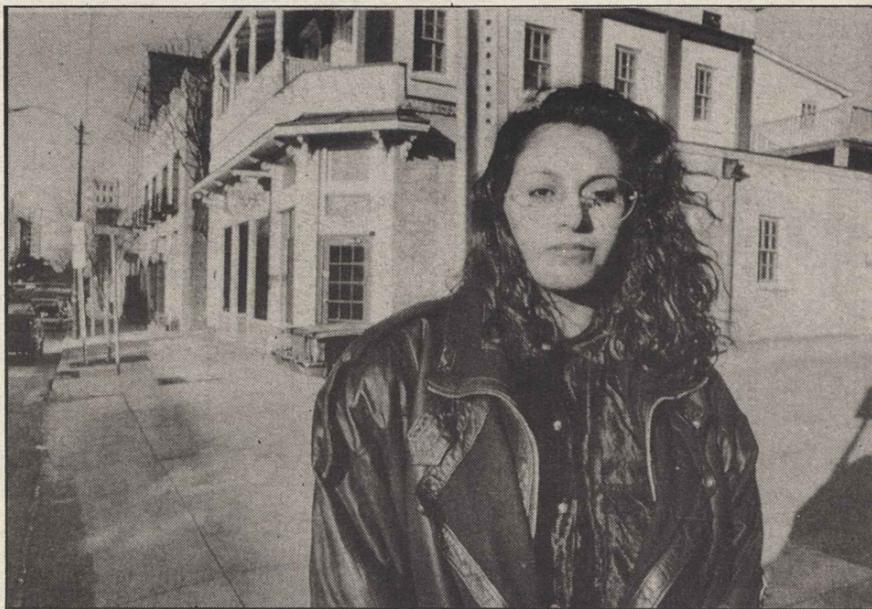
Just hours after President Clinton announced the plan to lift the ban on Jan. 29, three Marines stationed at Camp Lejeune near Wilmington, North Carolina staged their own form of protest. In the early morning hours on Saturday, the three dragged 28-year-old Crae Pridgen outside Mickey Ratz, a gay bar in Wilmington, and began punching and kicking him. Pridgen said the three shouted "Clinton's going to pay" while they beat him.

The three—lance corporals Patric G. Gardone, Colin C. Hunt and Walter G. Watkins—were each charged with four counts of misdemeanor assault and were released on \$400 bond. A witness to the attack, Martina Buckley, has also filed charges of communicating threats against Gardone.

Pridgen credits Buckley with saving his life. During the attack, he said, she "jumped on top of me and said that if they were going to beat me, they were going to have to beat her." Otherwise, he continued, "I believe I would have been dead."

Pridgen has not been silent about the assault. On Feb. 1, he met with representatives of North Carolina Gov. Jim Hunt in Raleigh and presented them with a letter to the governor.

"I could just stand by and let the problem manifest," Pridgen's letter read, "but after being beaten brutally by people that are supposed to



JAMIE MONCRIEF

Martina Buckley stands outside the Mickey Ratz bar in Wilmington where she helped defend Crae Pridgen as he was beaten by three Marines from Camp Lejeune.

protect our freedom and the country that we live in, my heart would not let me."

Hunt released a statement deploring the incident, saying that he was "outraged and ashamed that any North Carolinian would engage in such hate crimes."

But Pridgen did not stop in Raleigh. On Wednesday, he travelled to Washington and met with top Pentagon officials. Later in the day, he met with North Carolina Rep. Charlie Rose, who delivered a letter from Pridgen to President Clinton asking for a meeting.

Gen. Colin Powell, the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said through a spokesperson that the joint chiefs are "closely monitoring" the civilian investigation of the attack on Pridgen. The spokesperson, Col William Smullen, said Powell "deplores any act of violence or intolerance against any group or individual," adding

that the military would weigh separate action against the three Marines after the civilian investigation is completed.

Sen. John Glenn (D-OH), a retired Marine colonel and member of the Armed Service Committee, said that the nation's military leadership should speak out against violence against gays.

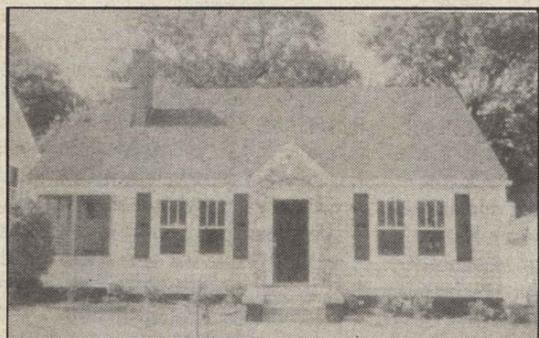
"Regardless of the service chiefs' position on lifting the ban, it is incumbent upon them to send a strong signal that no acts of violence or hate against homosexuals will be tolerated," said Glenn, who favors lifting the ban.

Sen. Nunn agreed with Glenn, telling the "Today" show's Katy Couric on Wednesday, "I don't want to judge that individual case, but I think every military commander needs to issue very firm orders to their units that they will not tolerate any of this kind of behavior."

KC WILDMOON and wire reports

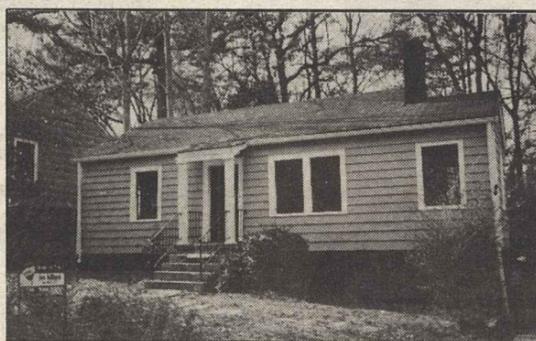
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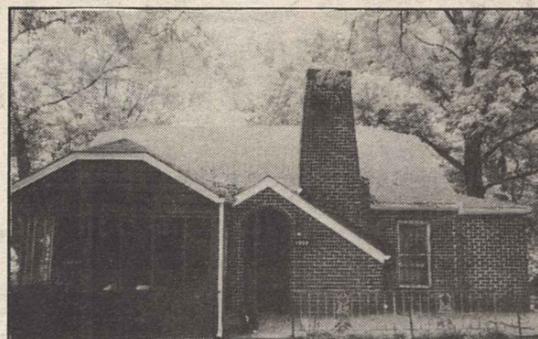
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**RIGHT WATCH**

People for the American Way has released a report on the political activities of the religious right, citing specific activity in 42 states, and noting "hot spots" where particular activity is at its strongest.

The report warns that televangelist Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition is poised to take control of several county and state Republican parties. If right-wing activists are not "forcefully challenged," said PAW president Arthur J. Kropp, "they will surely succeed."

The religious right's new emphasis on grassroots activity, the report cautions, gives its leaders room to carry on a "political holy war, largely out of the spotlight of the national media and at the level of government where they can most directly impact American's daily lives."

"The real battles of concern to Christians are in neighborhoods, school boards, city councils, and state legislatures," said Christian Coalition head Ralph Reed.

On the state legislative front, a Montana House committee rejected a bill legalizing gay sex. House Majority Whip Jim Rice, a Helena Republican, argued that the existing law is the best barrier to ensure that the teaching of homosexuality doesn't invade the schools.

"Leave things the way they are and let people go about their lifestyles," he said.

Montana Gov. Mark Racicot had said he would have signed the bill had it reached his desk.

Work on anti-gay ballot initiatives are proceeding in Florida (see page 4) and Washington state, where Gov. Mike Lowry has pledged to fight such initiatives.

"Discrimination has no place anywhere in this country, and absolutely no place in the state of Washington," said Lowry. "We must drive a wooden stake through the ugly heart of discrimination and protect the rights of everyone."

Lon Mabon, president of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, which sponsored the virulently anti-gay Measure 9 in that state last year, has formed the Citizens Alliance of Washington.

Mabon held an organizational meeting of the group on Jan. 29. The meeting was held under tight security. Mabon said earlier the group would prevent anyone from attending the meeting in "an attempt to deceive" or infiltrate the group.

"Sometimes, you know, you can tell," he said. "Members of Queer Nation, for example, have a certain appearance."

The meeting was picketed by protestors who staged a candlelight vigil and chanted

"Hands Off Washington" and "Leave Our State, Take Your Hate."

Officials for three Boise, Idaho churches warned last week that gays will be discriminated against under the Idaho Citizens Alliance's anti-gay ballot initiative.

"It's clearly a violation of the constitutional right to equal protection under the law," said the Rev. John Thornton, a bishop with the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho.

ICA officials said the church's were not representative of the mainstream, and that their stance was "left-wing."

Conservative Baptists in the Baptist General Association of Virginia voted last week to form a splinter group to promote their fundamentalist beliefs. The conservatives, who will not leave the Association, were angry over its overtures to lesbians and gays and other issues. The new organization quickly passed resolutions condemning homosexuality and abortion, and calling for political action supporting those views.

On the Colorado front, The American Booksellers have found a creative way to (not) participate in the boycott of the Hate State. Rather than cancel a planned Children's Booksellers School in Denver on Jan. 28-31, the Booksellers added to the faculty Sasha Alyson of Alyson Publications (publishers of "Daddy's Roommate," Heather Has Two Mommies," etc.), and donated \$10,000 toward the repeal of Amendment 2.

"The passage of Amendment Two in Colorado inhibits the civil rights of homosexuals and facilitates discrimination against them," read the resolution passed by the ABA's Board on Jan. 24. The resolution strongly deplored the amendment, and urged the ABA's membership to work against it.

Opponents of Amendment 2 also said that U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter's reversal of the military ban on gays may help their cause. Hatter's ruling reinstated Keith Meinhold to the Navy, but only applies to the Central District of California.

Jean Dubofsky, the lead attorney for the coalition seeking to overturn the amendment as unconstitutional, said the Hatter decision, and the decision by Denver Judge Jeffrey Bayless to delay implementation of Amendment 2, are part of a trend that began three years ago. "The nation's judges are saying people can't be discriminated against because of their sexual orientation," she said.

"You are seeing more and more efforts to restrict the rights [of gays and lesbians], and the courts are saying more and more, 'You can't do that,'" Dubofsky said. "The precedents are rolling in faster and faster."

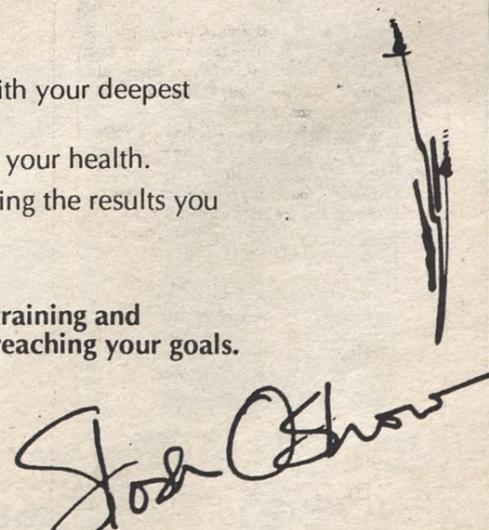
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VIEWPOINTS is intended to provide a continuing forum for the lesbian and gay community. We encourage you to share your ideas, comments and feelings on these pages.

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

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

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**You can make a difference in the fight against AIDS**

Recently, grassroots efforts have made great strides where AIDS advocacy is concerned. Last summer Georgia ran out of money for AZT, the most commonly prescribed drug used to fight HIV. This left about 1400 people on their own until next spring: these were uninsured people with little or no income who had to find a way of paying for this essential and very expensive drug themselves.

Individuals in the AIDS community lobbied to get emergency AZT funding for the balance of the fiscal year. For the first time, such an effort was successful. It was a realistic request. And it worked!

Last Friday, January 29th, Atlanta was one of the 26 sites hosting regional HIV planning meetings. The purpose was to outline a proposal for improving the federal response to AIDS for the new Clinton administration. People from metro Atlanta, rural Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee came together to develop an HIV plan. The participation and general enthusiasm to offer input on the federal level was fantastic.

Our legislators are elected officials who

have a responsibility to the voter. Through effective lobbying and other advocacy efforts, you can make a difference. First, it is essential to get the facts about the issues. Secondly, it is important to realize that as individuals we can make a difference because this is essential to the democratic process. And finally, it is necessary to learn successful techniques. Remember: knowledge equals power.

The Community AIDS Network, the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS, and the AIDS Legal Project are sponsoring the third annual Legislative

**GUEST EDITORIAL**

Forum, entitled "AIDS & Georgia Politics '93" on

February 11, 1993 from 7:00-9:30 pm at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel. This is a free workshop and everyone is welcome to attend. This workshop will give you the skills necessary to make a difference in legislation and public policy regarding HIV in Georgia.

In his inaugural address, President Clinton spoke of a new springtime through change for the American people. Perhaps the third annual legislative forum, "AIDS & Georgia Politics" can be concrete application. We invite you to come make a difference. Join us February 11th.

LOUISE HUDAK  
Project Director, Community AIDS Network

**L E T T E R**

**Keeping an eye on the General Assembly**

To the Editor:

I want to thank you for the article by Craig Pate concerning the legislative agenda being faced by GAPAC lobbyist Larry Pellegrini. While I found the article informative about the issues, I did not see anything about how members of the gay and lesbian community can support Mr. Pellegrini in his efforts on our behalf.

It might also be useful for Southern Voice to print a list of the address and phone number of each legislator. (Please remember, we are everywhere, not just in Atlanta and its suburbs, so please print a complete listing.)

Again, thank you for your continuing good coverage of the legislature and Georgia politics.

Sincerely,  
Charles W. Gossett

Editor's note: Thanks for your letter and your concern. Beginning February 7, Mr. Pellegrini will hold a Legislative Update session for those who want to stay informed, and want to learn more about lobbying the Georgia General Assembly. The sessions will be held on alternating Sundays at 1051 Hudson Dr., in the white house behind the N. Highland YWCA. Mr. Pellegrini can also be reached at his beeper number (404) 533-8637. Watch Southern Voice for the latest news as it happens in the Georgia General Assembly.

**L E T T E R**  
**Let us serve our country**

To the Editor:

As a Gay American Veteran, I can no longer remain silent. I have listened for the last few weeks to the debate about lifting the ban on gay men and lesbians in the military. Gay men and lesbians have been serving their country proudly since the Revolutionary War. It has only been recently that gay men and lesbians have felt they could speak out about their sexuality.

Are we any less patriotic or devoted to serving our country because of our sexuality? I say NO, because we firmly believe in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights protecting freedom for ALL people and believing in equality for ALL people. Our sexual orientation is only a small part of our total character. Civil rights do not involve a popularity contest. If Americans were allowed to vote for Civil Rights in the sixties, African Americans would likely still be in slavery.

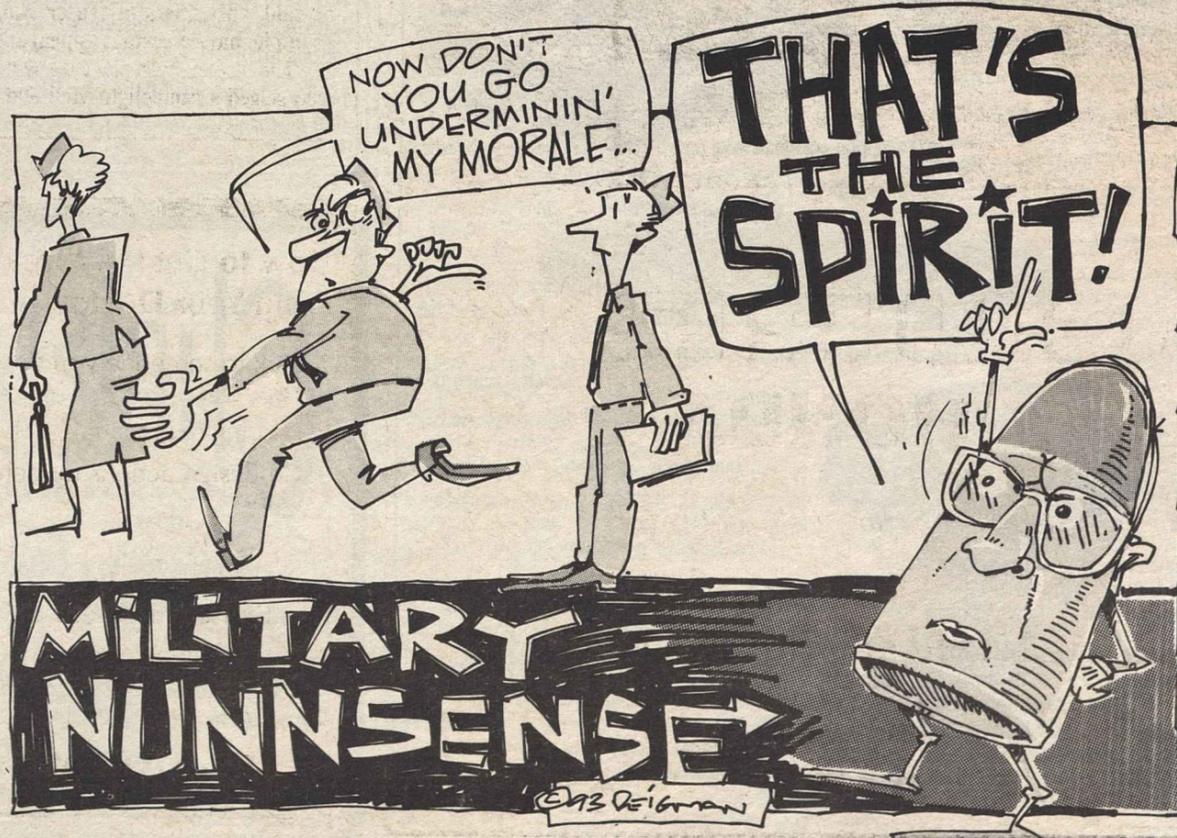
It is not having Gay men and Lesbians in the military that is disruptive, it is rampant homophobia in our society that is disruptive and destructive. We need to accept and embrace our diversity if we are to grow as a nation. We need to look at the positive contributions of those wishing to serve in the military, not to focus only one aspect of a person. It takes a special person to want to serve in the military, especially knowing that if you are gay, you are not wanted and run the risk of being discharged, assaulted or even killed if your sexual orientation is discovered.

Gay Americans are battling in the streets daily to protect our rights to work and live where we want, for health care and to be safe from hate crimes. We don't want special rights, we just want our civil rights, including the right to serve our country proudly.

The answer to this debate is simple. Just stop asking about our sexuality and don't discharge us simply because we are gay or lesbians.

Sincerely,  
David Lester

cc: President Bill Clinton  
Senator Sam Nunn  
Senator Paul Coverdell  
Rep. Cynthia McKinney  
Rep. John Lewis





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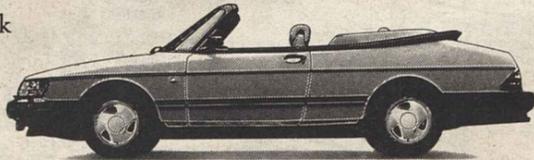
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OCCASIONS

BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Belated Birthday to Atlanta dancer and choreographer Jim Chappelleaux. He celebrated the annual occasion on February 6th. Be sure and wish him the best next time you're in the Kroger at Ansley Mall.

Happy B-day wishes also go out to Allan Jones. Allan is a little modest and won't tell us his exact age, but word has it he doesn't look a day over 27. Allan will celebrate on February 10th.

Cupid would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Van Sewell who celebrates on Valentine's Day, February 14th. We're sure Cupid will throw many arrows in Van's direction! Hope they hit their mark.

catch Kelly on stage every Saturday night at Crazy Rayz.

Susan Levy called to wish Elizabeth Roe a Happy Birthday. Susan tells us that you celebrated the occasion on February 5th, but she didn't tell us how old you are. Hmm... maybe that's your birthday present.

JOBS:

Congratulations to Brian Rountree who just landed a job at the Phipps Plaza location of Johnny Rockets. Brian reports the diner is very gay-friendly and a happenin' place at that. Consider stopping in for a bite when you're in the neighborhood, and say "hello" to Brian.

VALENTINE OCCASIONS

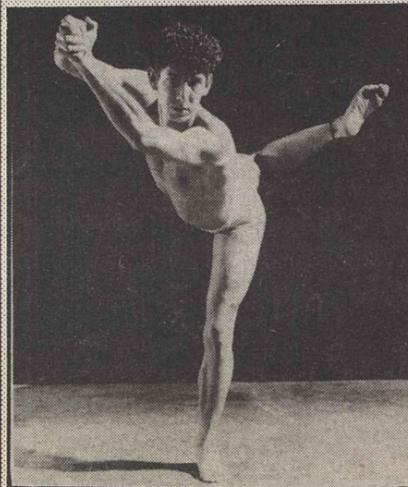
Lynn Pasqualetti and Laura Bevins usually skip Valentine's Day because of the busy tax season. Lynn is a certified tax preparer and things get very hectic this time of year, and romance is usually put on hold. "We start our celebration after April 15th," says Laura. "We usually go to the Post Office at midnight to watch everyone frantically trying to mail their returns." You hopeless romantics!

Michael Kinsler and his partner David Ezell are planning "an intimate dinner for six." Michael and David will be joined by two close lesbian couples for dinner on Saturday night—one couple is from Atlanta, the other are friends from Montgomery, Alabama. Then, Michael says, they will spend Valentine's Day (Sunday) attending antique shows.

Gareth Fenley and Bea Connor will spend Valentine's Day with family. The first part of the day will be spent with Bea's mom in Chamblee, and they'll spend the rest of the day with Gareth's mother. "Bea is closer to my mom than I am," says Gareth. "They are known as the brain trust because they always win at Trivial Pursuit when they team up." In fact, probably the most romantic thing about Valentine's Day for the two will be this "occasion." Gareth jokes, "Bea thinks I'm her invisible girlfriend so this is sort of our public coming out as a couple."

Happy Valentine's Day to all lovers, coupled or not!

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



Atlanta dancer Jim Chappelleaux celebrated his birthday on February 6.

Rob Harlow must have felt like he was in a time warp when he celebrated his 24th birthday. On Saturday, January 30th., Rob's boyfriend Clay Calhoun (who recently celebrated his 25th birthday—Happy Belated wishes) threw a birthday bash for Rob featuring a whole cast of friends dancing the Time Warp from the Rocky Horror Picture Show. In addition, Clay has asked Rob to marry him, and the answer was "yes!" They will say their "I do's" with hundreds of others at the Commitment Ceremony at the March on Washington in April. Laurie and Suzi Kezh will be "Best Couple" and John Allan will be "Best Man." Congratulations to all!

Happy Birthday to Miss Kelly Barnett who will celebrate on February 21. Be sure and



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SHELLY ROBERTS

# Radio Daze

Uuuuuuuuncle! Okay. Okay! I give. Oops. Sorry. For a minute there I thought I was back in an endlessly looping argument with my older sister back when we were little. Or, rather, when I was littler than she was. And she didn't have to make sense just because she was bigger. Isn't it strange what can trigger those old vulnerability tapes.

It's the radio program I'm playing that's doing it. You see, I'm talk show addicted. A relatively harmless affliction most of the time. And as I sit at my computer, clicking my fingers to the bone to bring you pithy observations of our lifestyle, it keeps me company. Kind of like overhearing the office manager telling people in the conference room to go outside to smoke, or stop hogging the Xerox. Reminds me of my corporation days, except that I don't have to apply yucky brown goo to my face, or change into uncomfortable shoes just to make a living.

For the past several weeks the (radio) company has been very rude. We've been Topic A a lot lately. I'm sure you noticed *Gays in the Military*.

Today I've had to put up with the declarations of people with IQ's slightly higher than your average avocado, debating the merits of our right to breathe and cadence march on the planet.

Hello. Delburton from Muskegeee. You're on the Air with Stupidman.

First time listener, long time caller. I...about this homo-SEXUAL thing...?

Yeah...

Well, I wouldn't want MY brother to marry one [yuck-yuck-yuck]. And why do they call themselves SEXUAL if they aren't doing it all the time? That's disgusting, and they all ought to be castrated.

Couldn't agree more. The women too. Let's take another call. Charlemagne from Bakersfield, you're on the air.

Hi. The Bible says that it's an abomination to lie in the fields with the beasts. And I don't think that those homosexuals are very nice, do you?

Charmalene, homosexuals say that bestiality involves a human male and a female animal, and that makes it a heterosexual problem. But I don't believe that for a second. Thank you for calling. Tobias from Ocala, you're on.

What about the showers, man? We put them in the army, and they're gonna all want to take showers with us decent, natural, heterosexual, real men. What about those showers? It will ruin the army. We can't let those gays take showers with real people. Why can't they just stay in San Francisco? Or get themselves dry cleaned!

Hey, don't bend over, man. Who's next? Irmagene from Inkster...

Hi, Stu, you sound real cute tonight. I just want to say that I think having all those homosexuals in the army would be a really good thing...

Why is that Irmagene?

Well, you know how plain those barracks are that you always see on television. Well, they could spruce it up. Hang curtains. Add flowered bedspreads. They could add pretty ties, and color-coordinated shirts to those boring uniforms. So it would be good to have them in the army. And they could fix those army haircuts.

Hey, now those are reasons for allowing those people in...interior design, fashion sensibility and coiffure. They could have their own platoon...be, what?, The Style Corps?

Next caller, go ahead.

This whole discussion is disgraceful, and you ought to be ashamed of exploiting people's civil rights just for your own amusement. I think that homosexuals are fine, honorable citiz...[RRRRRRRRRRRR]

Oops, sorry, folks. Technical difficulties. Lost that caller. Let's go to a car phone from Long Beach.

Yeah. I gotta tell ya. I don't want no faggy sissies in MY army redecorating nothing, and giving me no AIDS. They wanna die, let 'em do it on their own time. We don't gotta put up with that. Ya drink out of one of them's cups, bango, you got it!

Jill from Tacoma, what've you got to say?

I don't think that they should let those lesbians be in our army. They should only let in really nice, normal girls. They could take messages and make coffee, like they used to. What's wrong with that?

Absolutely nothing, Jill. Okaay. Let's go to Armbruster from Decatur. How ya doin' guy?

Listen, what if we was in a foxhole, see, and there's this humongo tank comin' across at us, like it's gonna roll right over us, spittin' shells, and there's mortars, and a whole squadron of dive bombers overhead, and a company of infantry with these flame throwers, see? And a grenade gets lobbed into the dirt, right at our feet, and six guys with bayonets comes charging out of nowhere at us? And, I mean, like this guy in the foxhole with you, what if just right then, he wants, like, a little kiss? I mean, WHAT THEN?

It would ruin our Army, Armbruster, that's what. Thanks for calling. You're listening to W-EGO. Keep calling in and telling the truth as you have come to know and believe it, Brethren and Sistern, amen. Let's take a break. We'll be right back.\*

Don't you just love having the merits of your life debated by people you wouldn't invite to your garage sale? It seems to me, that it's the necessity of every lesbian and gay man in the military to stay IN for the six months that the President has allocated for discussion and debate.

But it is the OBLIGATION of every one of the rest of us to come out to the most ordinary of our straight neighbors and associates. Every place and every circumstance that won't cause a hand grenade to be rolled under the porch. Because, if we don't make ourselves known for who we really are, when the six months are up, and they vote against us again, whose fault will it be that the rest of the world judged us on the only images we've ever given them? The images they get from books they have to hide under their mattresses.

\* All calls based on actually overheard conversations on radio talk shows discussing whether it would be prudent to allow gays in the military. (As though we weren't already there.)



# L E T T E R S

## Civil rights not for popular vote

To the Editor:

Colorado is the first state to support and legalize discrimination by popular ballot. We all know what happened when women's rights were subjected to the ballot box. The ERA went down to defeat. Equal rights for every minority group has been won in the courts, not by ballot. Civil rights should never be a matter of popular vote. If so, neither women, people of color, or the Jewish would have the support of anti-discrimination laws. If placed to a popular vote today, these groups would doubtlessly lose their current protection. Civil rights for all people is a matter of democratic fairness, not religious conviction.

The boycott of Colorado is meant to send a message TO THE NATION that such intolerance will not be condoned; that gays will not roll over and play dead. We cannot afford to be passive when confronted with a frontal assault by those conservatives who believe that America should be governed on religious principle, not equality. The national media has reported that a similar measure will be introduced in the Georgia legislature this session. Will we be the next Colorado?

The more adverse publicity and economic decline suffered by Colorado, the more other governing bodies will reconsider such steps. We cannot expect the straight community to

suddenly wake up, realize that gays are unfairly discriminated against, and from the goodness of their hearts correct the situation. Money and power (or should it be—money is power) are understood by governments; we should use ours for our benefit. We should be supporting the Human Rights Campaign Fund, GAPAC, LEGAL, and other organizations dedicated to confronting bigotry and prejudice.

Sincerely,  
James S. Fitzgerald, Ph.D.

## Serving in the closet

To the Editor:

General Colin Powell recently spoke to the U.S. Naval Academy on the issue of gays in the military. He continues to espouse the view that "the presence of acknowledged homosexuals would be detrimental to the military." As an Army veteran who served with distinction, let me say how detrimental it was to my mental health while serving "in the closet." If France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Canada, Australia, Israel, etc., can allow acknowledged gays in their Armed Forces without compromising military readiness or effectiveness, what is our problem?

Sincerely,  
Herbert P. Rehberg

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

NBC News-Close Up  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
NY, NY 10112

Dear NBC:

Regarding the "Gay Nineties" with Maria Shriver, I realize it was supposed to be Gay positive—but it was scary in its implications.

We do not deserve our basic human rights because we are the "same" as the rest of society—we deserve them because we are human. This sameness=deserving is not a valid concept—it is dangerous! In a community (Atlanta) where last year's Gay Pride March celebrated and rejoiced in our diversity, this show was a travesty.

Blatant queens, leatherpeople, transpersons, etc. are not extremes or fringe groups that should be deleted from our image. They gave us our name, publicly defined us, were Out first and were the bravest and steadfast in the fight for our rights.

Basically, a lot of the show was quite Neo-Quayle—being coupled, having money and stability are not the "price" of rights. Remember somewhere a concept of inalienable rights? Not rights as a reward for the correct life style.

Extended, this image is similar to what our national policy has been. If a people is Other (Black, Muslim, Arab, etc.), if we don't understand them, or if they don't look and act like us, it is not valued. Then we are willing to either destroy it, ignore it, use it, or ignore while others destroy it. (Our society has done this to the homeless also—virtually disfranchising them.)

The show also pushed the concept of coupledness—what about the single gay or lesbian—are they anxiously waiting to be in a relationship to be a better member of society?

Does this sound like the 1950s, '60s? Does the new era of gay and lesbian freedom and awareness have to come through the back door of passe values and conservative prejudices?

Respectfully,  
Dr. Stephanie Miller

Senator Sam Nunn  
303 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Nunn:

As a concerned constituent, I feel that it is my duty to write to you concerning your position on lesbians and gays in the military. Unfortunately sir, you cannot see beyond your own personal prejudices and see that firstly, gays and lesbians continue to serve this country honorably regardless of this futile ban, and second, that continued persecution of American citizens based on who they are is a morally reprehensible act.

Your attempt to bully President Clinton into reversing his position is shameful. As a lifetime resident of the State of Georgia, I am embarrassed to call you a fellow citizen. You have proven yourself to be an inveterate homophobe. From the firing of two of your aides because of their sexual orientation to your present position, you have come to represent all that is wrong with the South. President Clinton, on the other hand, represents a New South—where all people are welcome, regardless of status. The President realizes that all Americans are valuable; it is tragic that you can not see the same.

Again Senator Nunn, let me state that I fully support the efforts made by President Clinton and those senators and congressmen who seek to end bigotry in all its forms. Gays and lesbians turned out in record numbers to ensure the election of such a forward thinking man. Many of us elected to stay home, or to vote for the opposing candidate in Senator Wyche Fowler's bid for re-election. We are a powerful political force, Senator. You would be wise to acknowledge this.

Although I have no hope of changing your mind, I at least have made my voice known.

Sincerely,  
Cecily Walker

cc: Etcetera Magazine  
Atlanta Constitution

## OUT, PROUD LOVERS

continued from Page 1

### Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris

Proud, public and very much in love. A pair that would excite even Saint Valentine, the patron saint of lovers. Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris, the very visible married gay couple, will be in Atlanta to attend Masquerade February 13. The Seattle pair are among a growing number of gay and lesbian couples who have put their relationship in the public eye.

Bob Paris, 32, a former Mr. America and Mr. Universe, and Rod Jackson, 31, a model, were the targets of Cupid's arrow seven years ago. Rod was working at a gym in Denver and Bob was in town for a bodybuilding seminar. Rod describes their meeting as the classic example of love at first sight. "Our eyes met and I felt as if the wind had been knocked out of me."

They spent the next six months trying to avoid each other, but eventually found that they couldn't stay apart. Three and one-half years later they were married in traditional church wedding with over 200 guests. Rod explains their decision to be married in 1989 by stating that he and Bob were in love. Being married is what two people do when they are in love. "That is what we both had always dreamed of," says Rod. "Why would we do anything different than if we were heterosexual?"

The couple spend a great deal of time lecturing on American high school and college campuses. Their goal is to be proof that a healthy and loving relationship is possible for same-sex couples. They also have a mission to help teens, especially gay and lesbian youth, build self-esteem. They convey the message that each person needs to learn to love and accept himself or herself.

What the pair of bodybuilders is not out to do is try to

create a new image of the gay male. Rod says his pet peeve is when someone stands up at one of their speaking engagements and says, "Thank god you're so masculine." He argues that this is not a stereotype the couple are out to change, and believes a person should not try to be more "masculine" or "feminine" to meet other people's expectations.

"One of the things we're fighting for is that people be allowed to be who they are," declares Bob. "It's nonsense to say that our message is 'all men should attempt to be masculine.'"

Traveling across the country speaking to students does take its toll on the couple's relationship. The stress of a hectic lecture schedule adds to the strain of everyday adversities. "We encompass each other's world so completely, we have to fight," says Bob. "We fight like crazy and then make-up like crazy." There is always energy to make-up adds Rod.

Being honest and open with one another seems to be the strength of their relationship. "What keeps us together is talking to each other," says Bob. "Communication is the key." The two believe the bonds they create between themselves are critical, especially because there are few societal support systems for gay couples to depend upon.

The pair usually celebrates Valentine's Day by buying each other a dozen red roses. A couple of years ago they began a new tradition of exchanging home-made cards. The night before, they go to different parts of their home and draw special Valentines to each other. On the morning of the 14th, they exchange the cards and then head out the door to work, they laugh.

What do they plan to do to keep their relationship strong for the next seven years?

"The same things we've been doing all along," says Bob.

"We're head over heels for each other still," adds Rod.

Bob and Rod may be the most out couple right now, but there are others who are completely open about their rela-



Barney Frank and Herb Moses

tionship, and serve as role models for gay and lesbian couples. Here are a few.

### Barney Frank & Herb Moses

Herb Moses wrote U. S. Representative Barney Frank a letter in 1987 congratulating him for coming out and asking to meet the congressman. The two met for dinner soon after. Barney was planning a vacation to Provincetown during one of the congressional recesses and invited Herb to join him for a few days. Herb says the pair have been together since.

Herb, a mortgage banker, participates fully as a congressional spouse, accompanying Barney to social events in his home district and in Washington, D.C. While being under public scrutiny is sometimes stressful, Herb enjoys being with Barney and being open about their relationship.

When asked what makes their relationship successful, Herb replied, "We love each other a lot and don't sweat the small stuff. We never fight. Life is very exciting and the little things kinda take care of themselves."

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### Urvashi Vaid & Kate Clinton

Urvashi, who recently resigned as executive director of The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and Kate Clinton, feminist comic from hell, have been an item for about five years. The two will be able to spend more time together in Provincetown now that Urvashi is no longer caught up in the hectic schedule of national politics. Urvashi is planning to write a book about the state of the gay and lesbian movement in the U.S. Watch for it, and watch for Kate if you are planning on going to the Dinah Shore Golf Tournament in Palm Springs in March. Clinton will appear along with Ellen DeGeneres and other big names for the expected 3,000+ crowd.

### Armistead Maupin & Terry Anderson

Terry Anderson met Armistead Maupin at Hartsfield International Airport in 1986 when the author visited Atlanta for a reading of his latest book. The reading was a benefit for SAME, the organization for which Terry worked. The two realized they had much in common, including a southern upbringing. Terry, 30, grew up in Marietta, and Armistead, 45, is from Raleigh, N.C. When Armistead left Atlanta, Terry went with him. Terry serves as Armistead's business manager, a job he enjoys and one which Armistead fully appreciates. The two were in town several months ago on a tour of Armistead's new book, "Maybe The Moon."

The pair live in San Francisco and recently bought second home in New Zealand, a 20-acre sheep farm.

### Roberta Achtenberg & Mary Morgan

Achtenberg, who has just been named by President Clinton to a high position in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (see story page 3), will not only be the first open lesbian named to such a high post, she'll also be the first open lesbian mom. She and partner Mary Morgan, who is a municipal court judge in San Francisco, have a pre-school son Mary had by artificial insemination. Will the two move to D.C. with Roberta? Word has it they'll stay in SF at least for the time being, though it will be tough for the

family to be apart. Mary was on hand when Roberta accepted Clinton's offer last week.

Loving same-sex relationships are not a creation of the modern gay rights movement. There are examples of loving and healthy relationships among lesbians and gay men throughout history—although not as public as current ones. Here are some.

### Oscar Wilde & Lord Alfred Douglas

Playwright and social gadfly of Victorian England, Oscar Wilde fell head-over-heels for Lord Alfred Douglas, a member of one of the most aristocratic families in England. Alfred's father, the Eighth Marquess of Queensberry, was disgusted by his son's relationship and repeatedly harrassed Oscar publicly. Queensberry's calling Wilde a "sodomite" led to a libel suit which in turn led to Oscar being convicted of being a homosexual.

When Oscar was imprisoned, Alfred did as much as he could to secure his release, even petitioning Queen Victoria. His father offered him a large sum of money if he would renounce Wilde. Although he was in desperate need of money, he refused, stating, "I have nothing on earth to live for except Oscar."

Near the end of his life Alfred reaffirmed his love for Oscar, "I have never known anyone to come anywhere near him."

### Gertrude Stein & Alice B. Toklas

Alice B. Toklas met the already famous writer Gertrude Stein in Paris in 1907. Alice later recounted that Gertrude had been struck by love at first sight. Three years later, Alice moved into the apartment on the Rue de Fleurs and began managing the household. She cooked and cleaned and typed Gertrude's manuscripts. The two ran a modern "salon" with visitors such as Pablo Picasso and Ernest Hemingway. Alice always remained in the background, her chosen role to love and care for Gertrude. Alice called her mate "Lovey," and Gertrude called her "Pussy."



Roberta Achtenberg and Mary Morgan

The two are buried in the same tomb in a Paris cemetery with Alice's name and date of birth carved on the back of Gertrude's tombstone.

### Willa Cather & Edith Lewis

Cather left the first love of her life, Isabelle McClung, to take a job with a magazine in New York. Soon after her arrival she met Edith Lewis. While their relationship was slow to start, they eventually moved into an apartment and lived together for thirty-nine years. Edith traveled with Willa throughout the Southwest, the setting for her novels "O Pioneers!" and "My Antonia." She helped Willa cope with the death of her parents, brother and beloved Isabelle. Willa eventually grew tired of modern life and desired to leave New York. In the end, though, she remained with Edith, who wished to stay in the city. Edith survived Cather by twenty-five years, and following her death she was buried next to Willa in New Hampshire.

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## Controversy continues at The Advocate, money problems cited

Los Angeles—Problems continue at the Advocate, the nation's oldest gay and lesbian publication. Following news of several pending lawsuits from former employees alleging sex discrimination and sexual harassment, the magazine also appears to be having financial difficulties.

Troubles began with the series of lawsuits. But the lawsuit filed by former employee Gonzalo Herrera, charging male-to-male sexual harassment in his job as a warehouse worker, has brought controversy in the gay and lesbian press. Attorneys representing Liberation Publications, parent company of The Advocate, offered an argument against the suit that many gay and lesbian advocates have found offensive. Roger Funk, attorney for LPI, states that since California law did not specify same-sex harassment in its sex discrimination guidelines, the Herrera suit had no legal basis.



On January 25 LPI issued a press release, as did their attorneys, citing withdrawal of the argument. LPI spokesman Dan Poirier said that LPI had originally filed the demurrer to "expedite the resolution of the case." But the press release acknowledges a change in legal remedy in the case.

"The demurrer in question was filed by one of our law firms because Liberation Publications hired said attorneys to take whatever action necessary regarding this suit," said President and chief operating officer David Russell. "This was one of the avenues they pursued."

Russell, acknowledging the concern voiced by several gay and lesbian organizations over the anti-gay undertone of the

demurrer, said, "This was one of the avenues our attorneys pursued. We as a company would never bring harm to the lesbian and gay community, and upon reviewing the status of this case, are withdrawing the demurrer. However, we will fight this suit with extraordinary vigor and in a court of law."

Herrera alleges in his suit that his foreman, Steve Rivera, sexually harassed him in 1989 when he worked for Rivera.

The controversy over the Herrera suit is only part of the recent turmoil, however. During the same week The Advocate was fighting the Herrera case, there were massive layoffs at the magazine. Both the New York and Atlanta news bureaus were closed and Washington news bureau staffer Cheryl Coward, hired in October from the Washington Blade, was one of those laid off. Chris Bull, New York bureau staffer for the last several years is set to replace Coward in Washington. Among the lay-offs was Doug Brantley, Senior Features Editor at The Advocate for the last three years.

Various industry magazines have focused on the Advocate's financial and internal problems. Articles in Ad Age and Folio have outlined the problems. And several pieces have appeared in local newspapers in Los Angeles, notably the L.A. Weekly and the L.A. Times. Editor in chief Jeff Yarbrough has acknowledged that the magazine is going through a "transition period," as well as some financial difficulties, but believes that magazine will be back on track soon.

In the interim, the magazine has hired several new women for editorial positions, including Sharen Shaw Johnson, a veteran of USA Today, as international editor, and Trudihope Schlomowitz, a former Advocate assistant art director, as managing editor. Schlomowitz replaced Bryn Austin, who resigned in December and is planning to file a lawsuit accusing The Advocate of sex discrimination and sexual harassment. Johnson replaces Masha Gessen, who resigned in November but who continues to write for the magazine.

One insider said of the current problems, "The Advocate has been around for 25 years, and it is going to survive. Perhaps there was a little too much growth in too short a time. I think what people are saying is the death of the magazine is really just some very public growing pains."

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## Dorothy Allison banned in Oklahoma

Dorothy Allison, whose novel "Bastard Out of Carolina" was a finalist for last year's National Book Award, will not be appearing at a workshop in Oklahoma that had been scheduled for late April, according to the New York Times.

Executives at the National Book Foundation, which gives the annual National Book Awards, and also arranges for award winners and finalists to visit communities around the country and talk about writing, say that Allison's appearance was canceled because she is a lesbian.

Neil Baldwin, the executive director of the foundation, and Diane Osen, director of special projects, said that Ann Hamilton, the executive director of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, told them in separate conversations that Allison was an unacceptable speaker to the group because of her sexual orientation. Hamilton, and other officials at the Book, are saying that the cancellation was due to a scheduling problem.

"She said that 'there is no way this woman

by the writer, a 1983 collection called "Women Who Hate Me" (Fireside), and thought that its sexual themes would be problematic if there were children in the audience.

Hamilton and two of her colleagues at the center, David Clark, the center's president, and Marilyn Vesely, its director of public information, insist that scheduling conflicts alone caused the cancellation. "We don't discriminate against writers because of sexual orientation," said Clark. "I think there is some terrible misunderstanding here," he said, "and perhaps we did not work with the foundation as we should have."

Hamilton said she was furious over Baldwin's accusations and insisted she had "no idea why he is doing this, except perhaps that banned books sell more copies."

Baldwin bristled at the suggestion and said: "Selling books is not our job; it's the job of the publishers. Our mission is to promote writers."

The controversy is particularly disconcerting to Allison, who after years of seeing her



Dorothy Allison, scheduled to appear in Oklahoma in April, had her trip cancelled by homophobic hosts.

is coming to Oklahoma," Baldwin told the New York Times. "She said, 'This is the buckle of the Bible Belt.' She said, 'We have only two major events a year, and we do not want one of them to be a gay event.' I asked her to repeat what she said and she did. Yes, all along there had been discussions about scheduling problem. There always are when you're dealing with busy authors. But the conversation I had with her was definitely not about schedules."

Hamilton denied that she had mentioned Allison's sexual orientation; however, she conceded that she had "expressed personal concern" that apart from the scheduling difficulties, "Allison's work would not be appropriate for all audiences, especially children." At the time, she said, she had only read one volume of poetry

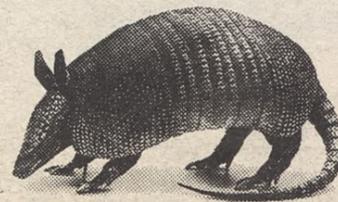
work marginalized because of her sexuality, finally thought the issue had receded.

"I'm 43 years old and I've been queer my whole life," she told the Times. "And I have learned that most people, especially in the arts, don't want to get caught expressing their prejudices in public and make up elaborate excuses when they do."

She said nobody at the Oklahoma center had spoken to her since the appearance had been canceled: "They have done and said nothing that would make me feel that Neil Baldwin misread the situation."

As to Hamilton's suggestion that the scandal would help book sales, Allison replied, "I don't need her help to sell my books."

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## Gay man appointed to Milk's position resigns

*Harry Britt leaves SF Board of Supervisors after 14 years*

San Francisco—Harry Britt, Harvey Milk's successor on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, left office earlier this month after 14 years on the Board. Britt, who decided not to seek reelection last year, was appointed to fill Milk's unexpired term after Dan White murdered the openly gay supervisor and Mayor

George Moscone in November 1978. Milk had named Britt and three others as possible successors in his will.

"I'm not leaving City Hall because I'm unhappy," Britt told the San Francisco Examiner. "But I feel I can leave now because I've accomplished what we set out to do."

In 1990, the voters of San Francisco passed Britt's "pet project"—domestic partnership legislation, making the city by the bay the first governmental entity in the country to register unmarried couples. That same year, San Franciscans elected two lesbians to the Board—Carole Midgen and Roberta Achtenburg, and the first out gay on the Board of Education—Tom Ammiano.

"A relative unknown and an avowed recluse," according to the Examiner, Britt was reluctant to step into the political arena in 1978. He did so, however, because he feared then-Mayor Diane Feinstein would appoint a more conservative gay to Milk's supervisor seat.

"I never even thought of being a politician," he said. "I'm quite a private person and I've never enjoyed the public eye."

But Britt was successful in his nearly a decade and a half of public service. Now, however, he says he's glad to step down.

"I feel very lucky to have been a part of extraordinary history," he said.



Harry Britt

## Lesbianism runs in families, study shows

Chicago—Lesbians and bisexual women are two and a half to five times more likely than heterosexual women to have lesbian or bisexual sisters, a study says. But it's unclear whether it's heredity or environment at work.

J. Michael Bailey, an associate professor of psychology at Northwestern University, and colleague Deana S. Benishay studied the families of 84 lesbian or bisexual women and 79 heterosexual women ages 25 to 40.

The lesbians and bisexuals had 99 sisters, of whom 12 were lesbians or bisexuals, for a rate of 12.1 percent, Bailey said. The heterosexual women had 83 sisters, of whom two were lesbian or bisexual, for a rate of 2.4 percent.

"Female sexual orientation does seem to have a familial component to it," Bailey said Jan. 18.

The study, published in the February issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry, does not sort out what influences lesbianism.

Bailey, who led an earlier study based on male twins that found genes influence male homosexuality, is researching the role of genes in lesbianism. In the male study, Bailey found that twins who share identical genetic material are much more likely to be gay than are fraternal twins or adoptive brothers. Another study which

establishes a link between sexuality and biology was conducted by Simon LeVay. LeVay found that the hypothalamus was smaller in gay men than in heterosexual men. The hypothalamus is the part of the brain responsible for sex drive.

Bailey maintains there has been no clear demonstration that parental behavior plays a significant role in determining sexual orientation. "Cultures tolerant of homosexuals do not appear to raise more of them than less permissive societies," he said.

Sheri Berenbaum, a psychologist at Chicago Medical School in North Chicago, said Bailey's study is the largest and best in a field sparse with data.

The study may contain some bias because subjects were recruited through newspaper ads instead of being randomly chosen, she said. But she added, "I would be pretty sure it doesn't account for the results."

The study also explored whether lesbians were more likely than heterosexual women to have gay brothers, and it found that they were, but the difference was statistically insignificant, Bailey said.

The lesbian subjects had 110 brothers, of whom eight were gay, and the heterosexual subjects had 81 brothers, one of them gay, he said.

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ACTIVISM

# Lesbian Avengers rise in the South

Atlanta—Under cover of a book promotion tour, lesbian novelist Sarah Schulman last month held meetings across the South to organize groups of Lesbian Avengers. Schulman's spark lit fires in Atlanta, where 25 women joined on the spot, and Durham, North Carolina, where 15 joined. The spark smoldered or went out in other cities including Asheville and Raleigh, North Carolina, and Newport News, Virginia.

Formed in New York City last June by Schulman and five friends, the Lesbian Avengers mix playfulness and anger in their made-for-TV demonstrations. They harassed the mayor of Denver, chanting "Boycott Colorado!" wherever he appeared on a recent promotional trip to New York. "There's a lesbian secretary in every organization," said Schulman, "and the one in the mayor's office faxed us his detailed itinerary."

At Atlanta's Charis Books, on January 21, Schulman read briefly from her poetic new novel, "Empathy." Then she screened a 40-minute Lesbian Avenger video and opened discussion, steering

Kung and Schulman agree that demonstrations should be quickly, efficiently planned without enduring typical feminist process. Lesbian Avenger meetings have three key principles, she said. One: no theoretical discussions, ever. Two: no critiques, only new and different proposals. Three: no telling others what to do. Anyone who suggests an idea is responsible for making it happen.

Schulman's direct-action focus developed through five years with ACT UP. Lesbian Avengers so far have avoided arrest while pushing the limits of legal action. "The need for an independent gay and lesbian movement, with our own voice separate from the government, has never been stronger than now," said Schulman. "The moderate leadership is flocking to Clinton, faxing their resumes. They're going to become one with the government."

The first meeting of Lesbian Avengers/Atlanta was held February 1 with about 25 women "of all types" attending, said Kung. Their first



Lesbian Avengers/Atlanta will hold their first action at Lenox Square, Valentine's Day

ing the talk to what a local group might do. "A good action is funny, irreverent, and gets publicity," offered audience member Lisa Kung. "In Atlanta you need to incorporate Southern gentility." When Kung suggested wearing pink prom gowns, Schulman sprang forward, saying, "You're the one! I'm going to pass around this sign-up sheet. Write your name and phone number on here, and Lisa will call you."

Kung, a rugby player, 1991 Emory graduate, and employee at WGST, is already an experienced organizer. Last September, she and five friends started the Amazon Salon. The informal group of about 45 young lesbians meets to "sit, talk, and eat every two weeks." The Salon has also published a new 'zine called "sweet tart: the magazine of, by, and for gratuitously naked women," which made its debut last week.

action is scheduled for February 14, Valentine's Day. The group will go to Lenox Square bearing roses and Hershey's kisses for "our orgasmically challenged straight sisters," Kung says. "It will be a quiet, polite action. Everyone knows lesbians are the most romantic people, so we thought we'd spread it around a little bit."

Kung also said that each rose and kiss will likely be accompanied by a card saying, "You have just been kissed by a lesbian." Lenox will never be the same.

GARETH FENLEY

For information and help organizing a group anywhere, call the Avenger Hotline in New York at (212) 967-7711, ext. 3204. To join the Atlanta Lesbian Avengers, call Lisa Kung at 223-3718. To join Amazon Salon, call Sara Look at 223-3718.

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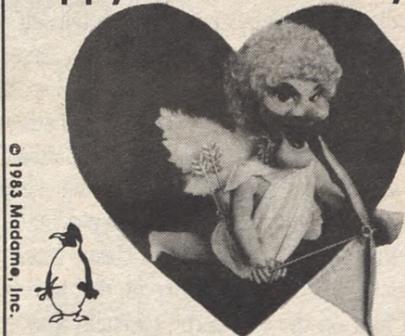
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## Stars come out for "The Celluloid Closet"

San Francisco—Fifteen hundred people jammed San Francisco's Castro Theatre last week for "An Evening with Lily Tomlin and Friends," a fundraiser to make a film of the late Vito Russo's book "The Celluloid Closet." Tomlin, who was a close friend of the gay film critic/historian, has made the making of the film a pet project. She has sent out thousands of "personal" letters describing Russo's book as "the seminal reference on how lesbians and gay men have been depicted by Hollywood," and asking for tax-deductible contributions toward the film project. Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman ("Common Threads: Stories from the QUILT"; Epstein also made "The Times of Harvey Milk") hope to finish the film this year. An estimated \$40-50,000 was raised toward the film's \$800,000 budget.

Tomlin went all out on this show, opening as lounge singer Bobbi Jeanine, who recalled 40 years of San Francisco social history and gay bars in terms of tired pop tunes. She summed up, "In the '70s the anthem was 'I Will Survive.' In the '80s it was 'Will I Survive?' Now it's the '90s and we must survive!"

Besides a number of other character bits, Tomlin did her favorite monologue, "Tell Miss Sweeney Goodbye," about a second grader with a crush on her (female) teacher. She also brought along film and video clips—one with Russo, one with Bette Midler, and a blatant parable about differentness from an old TV special. It was hard to look back at these things and say Lily hasn't been out all these years.

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"Ernestine" also sang a duet with Lypsinka, and Robin Williams did a wild stand-up set about politics and bigots including Jesse Helms playing with himself while looking at Robert Mapplethorpe's photos ("No, Jesse. Bosnia's obscene. That's just uncomfortable"), and spoke of the need for movies to reflect "how complex and different all of you are, how amazingly unique." "The Celluloid Closet" is just one sign of the change that's coming, he promised. He didn't mention that he's likely to be playing Harvey Milk in Gus Van Sant's "The Mayor of Castro Street," but Harvey Fierstein, who emceed the event, did, adding, "I'm gonna train him on the gay part." Fierstein also announced his pilot for CBS "with the first openly gay character played by an openly gay actor."

Van Sant was in the audience with his "Drugstore Cowboy" star Matt Dillon, but they left at intermission, before Williams performed.

Russo himself returned via videotape to explain how movies encourage gay-bashing. In the '40s, he said, gay

characters were fun; but when we became liberated "we became real and therefore threatening" and no longer funny. Film clips were shown that will be used in the screen version of his book. "Our plan is to let the images tell the story," Friedman said when he and Epstein took the stage; but they also have David Leavitt writing a narration.

You missed this evening of once-in-a-lifetime entertainment, but you can still play a role in gay cinematic history with a donation to "The Celluloid Closet." Send it to: Reflective Image, 347 Dolores St., Suite 307, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Like lesbian comic Marga Gomez said, "There's no big-budget queer movies, so we gotta make our own."

STEVE WARREN



Lily Tomlin and Harvey Fierstein at "An Evening With Lily Tomlin and Friends"



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# OUT & ABOUT

## WRITER'S PROFILE

### GREG JOHNSON

whose new novel, "Pagan Babies," will go on sale at bookstores around the country by mid-February, always knew he would be a writer. Born in 1954 in San Francisco, Johnson grew up in Tyler, Texas, writing "desperate imitations of Edgar Allen Poe" and passing them around class to his friends in Catholic School. He was published for the first time in the college literary journal at Southern Methodist University and won a college fiction contest. He also kept sending materials to literary journals and during his study at Emory University, where he received a doctorate in American Literature, he had his first national recognition with a prose piece published in the *Colorado Quarterly*. He also fell in love with Atlanta where he now lives. Admitting that he strayed once or twice from Atlanta, Johnson says that he always came running home, where he has established himself as a writer and a teacher of Creative Writing at Kennesaw State College.

"Pagan Babies" focuses on the relationship between a gay man and a straight woman, a relationship that, at times, has romantic overtones. Is the book drawn from his own life? "It's not autobiographical exactly. I don't think in those terms while I'm writing. When the book was finished, I thought about Janice and Clifford (the major characters) and thought that I had split myself apart. Each of them has characteristics that I have. I'm not like either, not as extreme. The characters had an energy in their lives that kept me going. I live a pretty quiet writer's life. It appealed to me to see what they were going to do to each other next. Growing up Catholic was first-hand experience. Growing up gay I knew."

Johnson was "fascinated" about why people get involved for long periods of time where the "romantic element complicates and disturbs the relationship." He wanted to explore the issue of relationships of gay men with straight women, women who were in love with them and believed they could change the men or overlook the gay side.

Another autobiographical element of "Pagan Babies" is in the AIDS death of Clifford's friend. In 1982, Johnson's best friend died at Crawford Long Hospital. The doctors didn't even know what it was then and his friend went from an apparently healthy man to death in six weeks. Johnson wrote a poem about his friend and has a book of poetry, "Aid and Comfort," which is largely about AIDS, also being published this month. Although Johnson asserts that he is a writer first and everything else second, he admits that AIDS is "more and more a dramatic, pressing subject, more important to write about."

Describing himself as generally "apolitical," he says that he did attend the Clinton rally in Atlanta, does make some phone calls and write letters about pending legislation but that his major political message is in his work. When asked what he does for relaxation, he says, "normal things." Normal things include movies, dinner, aerobics classes, short trips and time with friends, most of whom are professionals in fields other than the arts. Gay writers who have informed and influenced Greg Johnson's work are Walt Whitman, Tennessee Williams, Oscar Wilde, James Merrill and Adrienne Rich. Some of the other writers he loves are F. Scott Fitzgerald, Flannery O'Connor, William Faulkner and Joyce Carol Oates.

In fact, Johnson is now working on the authorized biography of Joyce Carol Oates, whom he met five years ago. He had already written several critical studies of her work which he discovered in college and always found fascinating. Their friendship evolved and he requested permission to write her biography. A new writing form for Johnson, he is now engaged in interviewing her family and friends and reading her papers and personal correspondence which is housed in Syracuse. Johnson says he is not used to writing anything where he has to "talk to people and travel." "It's a daunting project," he says smiling. The manuscript is due at

Dutton in 1995.

Not only is Johnson on the eve of publication of two books and working on the Joyce Carol Oates biography, he is also hard at work on a new novel which involves a student of mortuary science so he's "reading all these illustrated books about embalming." He jokes about what the librarians must think when he orders up these books.

Greg Johnson obviously likes a challenge. He wants to experiment, take risks. He challenged himself to be a writer. And he is.

REBECCA RANSON

*Rebecca Ranson is a local playwright and the Executive Director of SAME.*

## BOOK REVIEW

### PAGAN BABIES

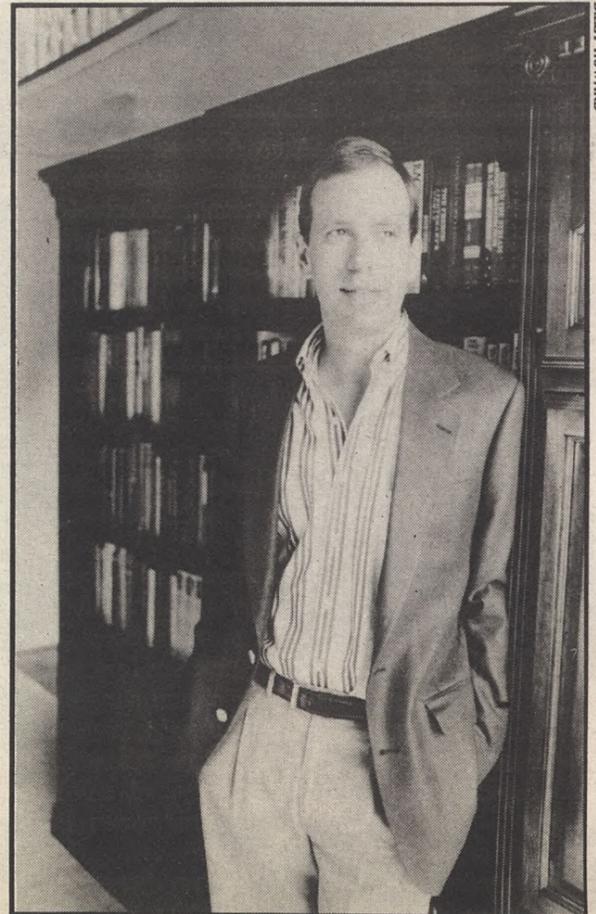
In 1990, Greg Johnson's second short story collection, "Distant Friends," earned him the Georgia Author of the Year award. In the Atlanta resident's first novel, we witness a transition from short story writer to novelist that is just a little bumpy.

"Pagan Babies" (Dutton, February 1993, \$20) is not an easy novel to read, at first. The two protagonists, Clifford Bannon and Janice Rungren, meet in third grade at a Texas catholic school, and we follow them through the next three decades as they find, then lose, then rediscover themselves both as individuals and soulmates. Clifford finds the body of his mother, dead by her own hand; is expelled for sex with Jimmy the Janitor; gets Janice pregnant; and realizes he is gay. Janice, meanwhile, turns from Good Girl, to Bad, then back again; has several miscarriages; and loses her fiancé, Jack, to Clifford. This should be intense stuff...but it is not.

A novel should be a seamless, organic whole, a journey into the world of the writer's characters. Although Johnson's prose is wonderfully lucid and precise, delicate at times and sharp at others, the way he chooses to tell the story of Janice and Clifford—alternating viewpoints, examining life-shaping events with hindsight—is a short story teller's technique.

Those who have already read "Men on Men 4" may recognize pages 110 to 122 of "Pagan Babies," which appeared in the *Stambolian* anthology under the title "The Valentine." This short narrative works well as a stand-alone piece, but when encountered halfway through the novel it interrupts our journey into the hearts and minds of Janice and Clifford like a rock in the road. We are told things that we already know, over and over, and sometimes the characters telling us are not sure themselves of facts about which we, as readers, are certain. Johnson may intend this as a reminder of the way memory and perception work in reality—as we grow older and wiser, events often appear in a different light—but it tends to destroy the characters' integrity.

In the first part of the book, Clifford is not portrayed with much sympathy. We watch him dealing coldly with his mother, a manic depressive who pretends to the world that her divorced husband is dead, and though we are told why Clifford acts this way, we are never shown. The effect of being told, of being given access to Clifford's reasoning but not feelings, is to leave us with the impression that Clifford stands behind two or three panes of glass: unreachable, untouchable in ordinary ways. This may be a deliberate technique of Johnson's, to show the removal from normality of a boy whose parents are divorced and whose



Greg Johnson, author of "Pagan Babies," teaches at Kennesaw State College

mother subsequently kills herself, but it makes it very hard to sympathize with Clifford. Nor is this sequestering away of his characters limited to the main players. Janice's mother, who in the first part of the book suffers so severely from agoraphobia that the lives of the whole family are impacted, suddenly, in the second part of the novel, shrugs off her disability and resumes a normal life. We never find out why. Johnson describes facts in great detail, but never motives.

Another technique that has the effect of distancing reader and characters is to miss out the dramatic turning points of the plot—for example, Clifford's discovery of his mother's body—only to revisit them in hindsight. In short story telling, this is a useful means of exploring reactions to a life-shaping event; in a novel, it does not work well.

And yet, somewhere around the 175 page mark in this 312 page novel, everything starts to fall into place. All of a sudden, Johnson's technique starts to make sense; we see where he has been going, and it is worthwhile. What started as a jerky, not very sympathetic portrait of a gay man and a straight woman who seem to have nothing in common, becomes a powerful and compassionate examination of the way people need each other. Women and men, Johnson tells us, may be different, but we can put joy in each other's lives. This suddenly vigorous and moving second part of the novel forces us to reexamine our reactions to the first half. If only Johnson had gone back through the book and taken out all the repetition, this could have been one of the best first novels I have read. As it is, it is a fine piece of work that promises us great deal for the future.

NICOLA GRIFFITH

*Nicola Griffith, an Atlanta resident, is the author of Ammonite.*

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C A L E N D A R

11 THURSDAY

**AIDS AND GEORGIA POLITICS.** A free legislative workshop will be held tonight at Colony Square Hotel in Midtown. Discussion will include AIDS bills currently before the General Assembly and successful advocacy efforts of 1992. The program begins at 7:00 and is sponsored by the Community AIDS Network of Atlanta, Atlanta NAPWA and the AIDS Legal Project. Call 321-9336 for more info.

**CONVERSATIONS WITH DR COLE.** Feminist, educator, African-American spokeswoman and Spelman College President Johnnetta Cole will read from and sign her new book **CONVERSATIONS: STRAIGHT TALK WITH AMERICA'S SISTER PRESIDENT** at Charis Books and More. 7:30 p.m. Call 524-0304 for info.

**VIGIL TO OPPOSE VIOLENCE.** The International Outreach Against Hate will hold a candlelight vigil to protest the xenophobic violence occurring in Germany and around the world. The vigil begins at 6:30 p.m. at Hardy-Ivy Park at the intersection of Peachtree and West Peachtree. Call 257-5550 for details.

**THE FILM SOCIETY.** Horizon Theatre Company presents the story of an innovative teacher who tries to shake up the system at a conservative South African boarding school. Thurs.-Sun. through April 18. Call 584-7450 for ticket info.

**OLYMPIC WINTERLAND CONCERT.** Artists from Norway join the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra to



musically unite Atlanta with Lillehammer, the site of the '94 Winter Games. The performance begins at 8:00. For tickets call 892-2414.

**CIRCUS.** The Greatest Show on Earth, the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, will be at the Omni through the 14th. Call Ticketmaster at 249-6400 for reservations.

12 FRIDAY

**OPEN HOUSE AT ALFA.** Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance will hold an evening of games, conversation and munchies from 8:00 to 11:00 at 64 Clay Street. Call 378-9769 for directions.

**PORTRAITS AT TWILIGHT.** A trip into the twilight zone of the American experience, Different Voices Theatre Company presents a trio of

pieces with a twist which requires audience participation. Features the gender-bending gothic spoof "This Brooding Sky." Thurs.-Sun. at 8:00 p.m. at the 14th Street Playhouse through Mar. 14. Call 370-1350 for more info.

**MAGIC OF RICHARD RODGERS.** Guest Conductor Newton Wayland leads the ASO in a tribute to the composer of some of Broadway's favorite songs. Fri. and Sat. at 8:00 p.m., Sun. at 11:00 a.m. For info call 898-1182.

**THE GAY DESPERADO.** The High Museum presents this 1936 film about a bandito who uses American gangster movies to teach his gang the tricks of the trade. The light-hearted romance begins at 8:00. Call 898-9286 for details.

**THE VILLAGE PEOPLE.** The '70s disco group has been revived for a national tour. See live performances of **MACHO MAN**, **Y.M.C.A.** and **FIRE**

**ISLAND at Masquerade.** 695 North Avenue. Call 577-8178 for ticket info.

13 SATURDAY

**MASQUERADE '93.** The Mardi Gras party in Atlanta which benefits Project Open Hand blasts off tonight at 9:00. Last year over 2,000 attended the celebration 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.

**TELL SAM TO LIFT THE BAN.** A public demonstration in support of President Clinton's plan to lift the ban on gays and lesbians in the US Armed Forces will feature speaker Miriam Ben-Shalom and other gay and lesbian veterans. 11:00 a.m. at the Richard Russell Federal Bldg on Forsyth Street. For info call 231-5751.

**HIV UPDATE.** The nationally syndicated cable TV show will focus on HIV and nutrition this month. The program airs weekly at 6:00 p.m. on People Television 12.

**FINDING CHRISTA.** The personal story of woman who recounts her reunion and new relationship with the daughter she gave up for adoption in 1962. The film begins at 8:00 p.m. at the High Museum. For more info call 898-9268.

14 SUNDAY

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH.** All Saints

ONGOING

presents a story of an astronomy professor who becomes disabled in a car accident and her fight to overcome the disability. Wed.-Sat. at 8:00, Sun. at 5:00. Call 522-0911 for info.

**ACCOMPLICE.** Through Feb. 28. A labyrinthine thriller laced with sex, intrigue and adult humor. The comedy/murder mystery is presented by Onstage Atlanta and runs Thurs.-Sat. at 8:00 and Sun. at 2:30. For reservations call 897-1802.

**SWASHBUCKLING ROMANCE.** Through Mar. 6. 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. Call 874-5299 for ticket info.

Metropolitan Community Church celebrates Black History Month with a 7:00 service interspersed with music and readings from African-American leaders of the past. All Saints MCC is located at 575 Boulevard in Grant Park. For additional info call 622-1154.

**VALENTINE'S BALL.** The Otherside hosts its annual Valentines Day Ball tonight from 7:00-11:00. The evening will include an 18-piece orchestra. Tickets are \$7.50 and proceeds benefit Project Open Hand. Call 875-5238 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 "Let There Be Light" (1945), John Huston's documentary showing the rehabilitation of returning veterans suffering from battle-related mental illness. The screening begins at 2:00. Call 331-3942 for more info.

**SAM HARRIS.** The Star Search alumnus performs a Valentine's Day Concert at JoHanna's Upstairs at 9:00. Tickets are \$21.50. Call 885-1816 for reservations.

15 MONDAY

**HEALTHQUEST '93.** AID Atlanta presents a two-hour seminar providing information on treatments and an overview of community services available for people with HIV disease. The program begins at 6:30 and takes place at the Academy of Medicine, 875 W Peachtree Street. Call 872-0600 for more info.

**OUT IN ATLANTA.** Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program can be seen tonight at 10:30 and again Wed. 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.

16 TUESDAY

**GREEN APPLE QUICK STEP.** The up-and-coming rock band performs at The Point tonight at 10:00. Tickets are \$3. Call 872-

**TULLIE SMITH FARM KITCHEN.** The Atlanta History Center presents a program on 19th-century open-hearth cooking. Participants will see a full meal prepared using traditional utensils and recipes. The class begins at 10:00 a.m. Call 814-4049 to register

17 WEDNESDAY

**LIBERATORS.** This public television special reveals the untold story of African-Americans who were forced to battle discrimination in a segregated army at home as they fought for their country

overseas in WWII. GPTV Channel 8, 10:00 p.m.

**ATLANTA ART SHOW.** Held in the Apparel Mart downtown, the show features landscape gardens from 400 to 1500 square feet. Daily hours are 10:00-7:00 through the 21st. For more info call 220-2223.

**POSITIVE LIVING.** This locally produced show about people living with AIDS can be seen on People TV Channel 12 at 2:30 p.m. and again on Sat. at 10:00 p.m. It also airs on City Channel 6 at 5:00 p.m. on Thurs.

Pictured: ABOVE LEFT: Staff Sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom is the featured speaker at the "Tell Sam To Lift The Ban" rally on February 13

BELOW: "Accomplice" runs through February 28 at Onstage Atlanta. Dr. Jim Braude (top right) is one of the stars in this comedy murder mystery. ABOVE: Southern Fried Production's "Come Back Little Sheba" runs through February 27 at Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium



ONGOING

**PSYCHO BEACH PARTY.** Through Feb. 21. Art Attack presents its inaugural production at Neighborhood Playhouse in downtown Decatur. The play is a spoof of beach party movies and can be seen Friday-Sunday evenings. Call 881-6304 for ticket info.

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

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

tones all colorless. The play can be seen Wed.-Sun. Call 872-0665 for ticket 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.

**THE FISHERMEN.** Through Feb 21. In celebration of Black History Month, Jomandi Productions presents an encore production of this rattling tale of a family in crisis. The play can be seen at 14th Street Playhouse. Call 876-6346 for info.

**LEMON SKY.** Through Feb. 21. This autobiographical play by Lanford Wilson traces his early relationship with his father and stepmother and his coming

to terms with his own sexuality. SAME presents the piece at 8:00 Thurs.-Sun. at TULA, 75 Bennett St. For ticket info call 609-9590.

**GETHESEMANE.** Through Feb. 21. Angel Media Group presents the story of a man and a woman confronting AIDS and incest during one turbulent night in the 'Garden of Terror.' The production can be seen Downstairs at Theatrical Outfit in Midtown. Call 321-9063 for ticket info.

**COME BACK LITTLE SHEBA.** Through Feb. 27. The story of a deep-seeded frustration in a marriage with the inevitable and furious eruption. Presented by Southern Fried Productions at Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. Fri. and Sat. at 8:00, Sun. at 2:00. Call 378-8646 for more info.

**NIGHT SKY.** Through Feb. 28. Seven Stages

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**G**ethsemane, by J.M. Kearns, now playing in the basement of the Theatrical Outfit, is a claustrophobically intense two-character drama about two desperately unhappy people. Jerry, played by Harold Leaver, is a gay man who has just discovered he is HIV-positive. Melissa (Leigh Sloan Hannah) is a straight woman and his friend. As the evening wears on, we learn that both Jerry and Melissa are incest survivors.

The acting is intense and absorbing. Harold Leaver is full of unrelenting rage as Jerry; his thin nervous body razor-like, like the sharp objects he teasingly plays with. We see only flashes of the attractiveness and charm that



Harold Leaver & Leigh Sloan Hannah in "Gethsemane"

gracing the cover of Vogue.

Theatre has changed in half a century; when "No Exit" was written, homosexuality in the theatre was alluded to only indirectly, and gay and lesbian characters almost always symbolized depravity. Sartre's Ines seems like a cliched lesbian bogeywoman out of hetero-pornographic nightmares.

Yet all the characters transcend cliché and have a vibrant life still because they talk brilliantly. How they talk! Ines has the best lines, pure expressions of existentialist ethics: "You always die too soon—or too late;" "You are your life; you are nothing but the sum of your deeds."

A prospect of hell with these three is, on the whole, less hellish than one with the depressed contemporary pair downstairs. There is something to be said for being able to articulate one's pain with intelligence and style, even as one sinks into the depths.

OutProud Theatre's current production is *Lemon Sky*, by Lanford Wilson. The title refers to the sky of California

in the late 1950s, bright and cheerful on the surface, but with the rumble of thunder faintly audible underneath.

"Lemon Sky," a memory play about disillusionment, separations from family and grief, describes a boy's disillusionment with his idolized father and that father's "ideal" American family.

Alan (David Webster), seventeen, goes to live with his father's family in California one summer. Douglas (Bob Salie), left Alan and his mother when Alan was small, moved to California and remarried, and now lives with his wife Ronnie (JoAnn Edwards) and their two young sons Jerry (Michael Ogletree) and Jack (David Perkel) in a San Diego suburb. Two teenage girls also live with the family as foster children. Penny (Andrea Laiosa) is self-effacing and shy; Carol (Laurie Beasley) is aggressively sexual. It is immediately evident that this family's life is not as picture-perfect as it appears on the surface. Tensions grow until the acton reaches a nearly tragic climax.

Under Lawrence Keller's intelligent direction, the actors create fully realized characters. No one slips into stereotype, easy to do in a play with characters right out of 1950s TV sitcoms. David Webster is clean-cut and likeable as Alan. JoAnn Edwards deserves praise as Ronnie, a housewife who embodies the feminine mystique, devoted to her husband and children. But Edwards plays her as a shrewd, kind, strong woman whose strength—her loyalty—is also her weakness. She is loyal to her husband and too willing to forgive him, even when confronted with proof after proof of his duplicity.

Bob Salie is appropriately sleazy and blustery as Doug, the overbearing father. Laurie Beasley, as Carol, gives an accurate portrait of a girl too experienced for her years about sex and drugs: outwardly hard, yet painfully vulnerable.

CHARLENE BALL

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Tuesday, February 23, 1993



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## 10 PERCENT



If you haven't bought the perfect gift for your special someone for that special day, how about a night on the town? No, not a night leaning against a bar, standing and modeling, but a real date. JoHanna's is providing a perfect Valentine's show for lovers of all kinds as they bring **Sam Harris**, one of the country's most talented singers to their stage. Most of my readers are familiar with Sam. He was the first winner of the Star Search male vocalist grand prize (a mere \$100,000) several years ago and was quickly signed by Motown Records. His first album, "Sam Harris" sold over a million copies in only 3 months. I listened to my tape over and over. His version of "Over the Rainbow" (which is more akin to Patti LaBelle than Judy Garland) went through the roof. "Sam I Am" was the title of his second release which showcased Sam's skill as a writer and producer and also sold over a million.

Sam is a familiar face on television as well as the concert circuit, having performed at the Universal Amphitheater in Los Angeles and New York's Carnegie Hall. His most recent tour has been with a new show called "Broadway, Ballads and Blues" wherein he infuses standards by some of the great composers with new life.

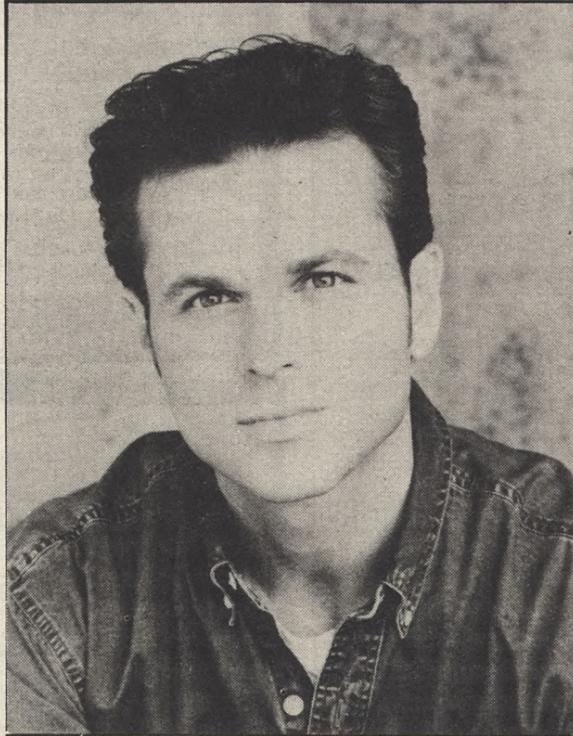
Chuck Richards, the hard working talent director for the Masquerade and All Walks of Life, is responsible for bringing Sam to Atlanta for a performance at **Masquerade** on February 13 as well as JoHanna's. Says Chuck, "Sam is very excited to be playing in Atlanta—this will be his first club date here." Chuck hopes that the show will be the first of many by other top name cabaret performers. Singers such as Jane Oliver, Betty Buckley, and Ann Hampton Calloway are being sought for future dates.

Tickets for this rare opportunity to see such a big talent in such an intimate setting are only \$21.50. Reservations are encouraged and can be made by calling 885-1816. Showtime is Sunday, February 14, at 9:00 pm.

Also in observance of Valentine's Day, the creative mind of Mr. Chuck Morgan, publisher of club magazine Popcorn, will present a **Queen of Hearts Pageant** in his Popcorn Lounge upstairs at Velvet. The date is Saturday the 13th and all glamour gals are encouraged to attend in your Valentine's

## AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



Recording star Sam Harris will appear at Masquerade on February 13.

finery. A cash prize will be given to the winner. Popcorn will celebrate their first year of publication on February 20th with a tremendous party in the Lounge.

The talented people of Southern Fried Productions are presenting their latest play, **Come Back Little Sheba** by

William Inge. Perhaps you have seen the film adaptation starring the late Shirley Booth as Lola. The story concerns the ill-fated marriage of Lola and Doc, who had an affair when they were both very young, and had to be married to avoid scandal. Doc, a recovering alcoholic, gave up his plans for the future and allowed the resentment to build up over the years. Emotions flare when a young female border moves in with the couple. An explosion is inevitable.

The play opens on February 5th and runs through the 27th at the Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium on the Mercer campus. Ticket prices are only \$9.00 general admission, \$6.00 for students and seniors. Matinees are only \$5.00. Reservations and information line is 378-8646.

**Hoedown's**, Atlanta's only gay country and western bar, is presenting a major benefit for AID Atlanta's PWA Emergency Assistance Fund and the First Metropolitan Community Church Grady Memorial Hospital TV Fund on February 23. The show, beginning at 9 pm, is aptly titled "Hoedown's Heart of Country" and will feature a variety of entertainment, as well as something never before seen in this city, an auction of thirteen of the hottest cowboys and cowgirls from the country and western community. Here's your chance to rope the dogie of your choice for a very worthy cause. In addition to the auction, there will be country and western dance productions and another auction of autographed collectibles from some of the biggest stars in country music.

The line dance group **Southern Stampede** will perform as well as a dancing group of Hoedown regulars. Also appearing will be the very talented Miss Tessa, an entertainer from Texas who has single-handedly raised several thousand dollars for AIDS causes across the country. She is also Miss SEGRA, of the Southeastern Gay Rodeo Association. In addition, talented singer Melissa Bridges will also perform.

The organizers of this are grateful to "Jose Cuervo" who serves as corporate sponsor, covering all the expenses of the benefit. They have gone out of their way to be helpful and that is too rare in the corporate world.

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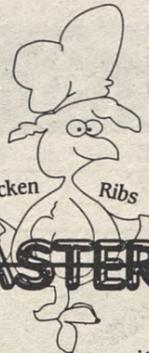
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**2525 Piedmont Rd Buckhead Crossing • 364-0212**  
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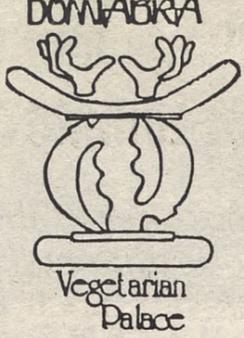
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# EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Run, don't walk, to **Bacchanalia** (3125 Piedmont Rd, 365-0410) before the crowds discover it and you have to wait a week to get a reservation.

Bacchanalia is located in an old house on the east side of Piedmont, just south of Peachtree. The two small dining rooms (one for smokers) are done up in a not quite casual, not quite formal, country European style that's easy to live with and eat in. Burgundy walls, white trim, tapestry tablecloths, and heavy silverware all suggest formality. But twig drapery rods, grape cluster napkin rings, and dozens of tall flickering candles prove that the owners also have a sense of humor.

The fixed price (\$27.50) menu offers appetizer, entree, and dessert courses, with seven to nine selections in each category. Just reading it is enough to start my salivary glands working—sauteed duck liver with apple and calvados, grilled prawns with grilled red onions and salsa verde, roast monkfish on crispy garlic mashed potatoes with fried leeks, warm date tart with shaved reggiano parmesan, banana betty with chantilly cream. See what I mean?

The chefs call this feast "country European cuisine." I'd say more like California wine country (there is a strong emphasis on flavored vinegars and rich reductions) but when the food is consistently this good, semantics are moot.

A starter terrine of potatoes and goat cheese, served warm and atop a bed of exquisitely fresh, slightly bitter greens, is as good as anything that has passed my lips in the last five years. The just-warm terrine is beautifully browned, earthy and rich, and perfectly balanced. A shimmering ring of basil-infused water surrounds and moistens the greens with such finesse that you'll never notice the lack of oil.

On another plate, a drizzle of rich, woody syrup made from porcini mushrooms surrounds a small mound of rich risotto, flecked with meaty shitake mushrooms. To quote the friend who ate at Bacchanalia with me, "This is rice? Wow!"

Yet another possible starter, Belgian endive leaves topped with thinly sliced pears, crumbled stilton cheese, red grapes and a delicate pear vinaigrette, had me scribbling "Balance, balance, balance" in my notes.

All of the first courses (as well as warm crusty French bread with sweet, sweet butter) do exactly what they are supposed to do—seduce the taste buds and leave them cheering for more.

Enter the entrees. Small nuggets of pearly white rabbit loin braised with apple smoked bacon, apples, prunes, cabbage and pine nuts are a masterpiece of commingled flavors and textures. The nutty, sweet rabbit is beautifully balanced (there's that word again) by the tart apples and aromatic cabbage. The bits of smoky bacon and crisp pine nuts provide tiny explosions of contrast with every other fork full.

Did I just say that potato terrine was the best thing I'd eaten in five years? Well, I lied. By all means order the rabbit if it's on the menu.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



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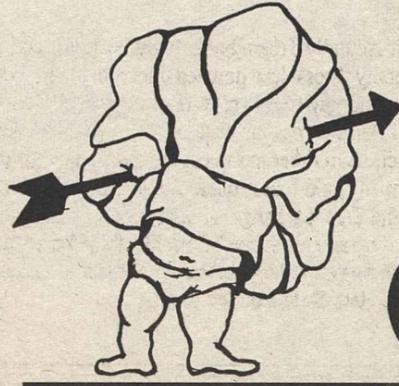
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**Restaurant Listings**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

**Gallus** Atlanta's first Gay restaurant serving the community since 1974. 2 floors, casual & fine dining. Daily specials, Full service menu and bar. Dinner 7 days a week 6pm-12am, Sunday Brunch 12-4pm. Reservations accepted. Visa, MC, Amex \$7.95-12.95  
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**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. VISAMC, AMEX. Entrees start at \$7.95.  
 2140 N. Decatur Rd • 728-0041

**Mario's Italian Restaurant** Italian cuisine served since 1969 in a casual and cozy atmosphere. Favorites include snapper piccata, lasagne, and chicken romano. Vegetarian too. Lunch Mon-Fri 11-2, \$3.25-5.25, Dinner Sun-Thu 5-10, Fri & Sat 5-10:30, \$6.25-14.95. Private Parties.  
 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/Phipp's 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  
 2180 Pleasant Hill Rd. • 476-8424

**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 allfresco.  
 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 Mon-Sat, Sunday Brunch. Reservations accepted. \$8.95-14.95.  
 1803 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 892-3520

**EAT**

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

Only slightly less stellar, two perfectly grilled mahi mahi steaks on a bed of orange, fennel, and red onion salad. The contrast between the warm, salty-sweet fish and the cool, tart-sweet salad is just this side of heaven. Would that every chef in town had such a deft and steady hand with what are essentially the simplest of ingredients.

I didn't have the gall to ask the lady at the next table to let me sample her curried scallops with eggplant relish and fried sweet potato sticks. But judging from the little squeals of joy escaping her lips, it, too, was pretty mighty fine.

Aficionados of red meat, fear not. The menu offers at least one steak and one lamb dish every night; pork and duck also appear on occasion. And bless the owners' PC hearts, there's not an ounce of veal to be found.

Dessert? A double-crust bitter lemon pie is jam-packed with mouth puckering lemon zest. It's tart enough to set your salivary glands pumping, but the light crust and creamy, just sweet, sorbet provide a perfect counterpoint.

If sweet is your bag, try the espresso pot de creme—exquisitely rich creme Anglaise laced with strong espresso. Swoon material!

For something more eclectic, order a plate full of moist, sweet dates garnished with curls of creamy parmesan cheese. It's a fruit and cheese course unlike any you've encountered lately.

Bacchanalia's wine list is extensive, eclectic and fairly priced, though there are only five selections by the glass. If you order the rabbit, pair it with the Kistler pinot noir—it's almost heaven.

But surely, at a restaurant so young and one that attempts so much, there must be some things that do not approach perfection.

OK, you're right. My biggest gripe is that our entrees arrived barely more than warm on chilly plates. Not a problem if you're prone to gobbling, but less than ideal if you like to sip wine and make eyes at your sweetie while you nibble.

When the small dining rooms are not full, the staff's presence is more noticeable than it should be. Given the physical layout of the place, there's not much (other than more customers) that will likely cure that problem. On the other hand, our waiter was efficient, friendly, and informed without being intrusive. There were a few choreography problems with his helper, but nothing offensive.

The fixed price menu (and \$27.50 tariff) may be off-putting to some. It's possible to order ala carte, but those prices are not displayed on the menu, and that may be annoying to others. But most of us won't be eating here as frequently as we do at the Colonade, so why worry? There are dozens of lesser restaurants where you can easily drop more than \$27.50 on three courses of vastly inferior food.

Bacchanalia is offering a Valentine's dinner (on the 13th and 14th) with dinner for two (and two glasses of champagne) for \$75. Gary recommends it. And Cupid would doubtless approve.

**When In Austin...:** Dish is tickled pink to report that Jay and George Erwin-Grotzky of Austin, Texas had their picture and an announcement of their 10th anniversary (and renewal of vows) published in that city's paper, The American-Statesman. Just the fact of this sort of public acknowledgment makes us happy, but the fact that it appeared in a newspaper owned by none other than the very same Cox family that owns Atlanta's dailies makes us delirious. Word has it that the J/C will soon publish a same sex wedding announcement, though we're not sure that its (homo) content will be quite as obvious as that of the Erwin-Grotzky's. In the mean time, you might try talking to the folks in the society section and to see if they'll announce *your* wedding.

**George Boy:** Dish is indebted to the sharp-eyed reader who sent us an item from the Jan. 24 issue of Parade magazine about George Stephanopolous. Seems that gorgeous George has on at least one occasion had his hair done by Christophe of Beverly Hills who also does Hillary's locks. Dish trusts that this is an indicator of concern with style, not vanity, on George's part. Or as our reader friend said, "Go on, girl!"

**What's Wrong With This Picture?:** The new movie, "Sommersby," starring heartthrobs Jodie Foster and Richard Gere, features the two rumored-to-be-gay stars as husband and wife. In a recent interview, Gere opined that the movie is "about masks, about lies, about how to fulfill our hearts, seeing that through lies the deeper truth emerges." Hmm... Dish wonders if Gere was thinking just that when later in the interview he ducked the question of whether he and supermodel wife Cindy Crawford are gay. Oh, the times they are not a changin' in Hollywood it seems.

**A Little on the Side:** Dish would like to thank Newsweek for this latest insight into the nature of our relationships. An article in a recent issue cites Helen Fisher's new book, "Anatomy of Love: The Natural History of Monogamy, Adultery and Di-

# Dish

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



Jodie Foster and Richard Gere play a married couple in "Sommersby." Can you guess what's wrong with this picture?

vorce," wherein the idea of lifelong monogamy as natural to the human animal is distinctly and decidedly refuted. Fisher is quoted as saying, "I think the basic human reproductive strategy is serial pair bonding in conjunction with clandestine adultery." Ms. Fisher may be right, but we're pretty sure that it was lesbians who invented serial monogamy!

**Fashions for Choice:** Dish was elated to catch a brief glimpse

(on CNN a few weeks ago) of Church Ladies for Choice, the newest group that heckles pro-life forces at New York rallies. (We'd bet they got the idea from Atlanta's very own Southern Ladies Against Women [SLAW], but that's another story.) Anyway, a week or two after CLFC was on the tube, The Advocate carried an article about their upcoming publication, "The CLFC Cookbook, Etiquette Guide, Hymnal and Activity Manual." Dish needs no clearer sign that the Democrats are back in charge than the appearance of camp at an anti-choice rally. We were also pleased to note that some of the Ladies were receiving compliments from the anti-choice protestors—"What you're doing, it's a sin, but I like your dress." Like our mama always said, "Where there is fashion, there is hope."

**A Few Nice Men:** Dish finally saw (and enjoyed) "A Few Good Men" last week. We were especially impressed with Jack Nicholson's malevolent portrait of a maniacal Marine colonel. A friend, however, thought the portrayal "cartoonishly Neanderthal." That is until he read a quote in the NY Times from a Marine Colonel who suggested that, rather than dishonor his branch of the military by admitting homos, the Marines would be better off being disbanded altogether. Dish finds this reasoning a tad extreme, but is more than a little intrigued by the likely end result of such actions. Actually, all we are saying is give (a) piece a chance!

**Trojan Horse?:** Actually Trojan book might be more accurate. Columbia University Press has donated more than 60 books from their lesbian and gay study series (Between Men-Between Women) to 11 libraries across the state of Colorado. The books were sent, unsolicited, in order to protest the passage of Amendment 2. The company said that it made the donations "with the conviction that the free exchange of knowledge will lead to greater understanding and tolerance." Dish like this idea so much that we are considering emptying our library shelves and sending the contents to the Hate State's public libraries.

**February 11- February 17, 1993**

Happy Valentine's Day! Isn't it interesting the day we celebrate with hearts and flowers is in the middle of winter. Be sure to tell all the folks you love and care about how you feel, and have a wonderful day!

**ARIES**, time out for home and family. There may be repairs needed on the house or repairs and healing of the heart. Take the time to be with the people you love, and give them the time they need. Share your wonderful energy and attention. **TAURUS**, right now Venus is moving through your 12th house of dreams and visions, putting you in touch with your own unconscious. Stay aware of the stories in your dreams, draw the pictures and look for recurring themes while you trust your intuition. **GEMINI**, that wonderfully expansive planet, Jupiter, is still moving backward in your 5th house of romance, creativity and recreation. All that expansive energy may be a little difficult to channel or direct in positive ways, so be gentle and tenacious.

**CANCER**, here we go again with Mars in its stop and go backward pattern. Hold onto your emotional hat and find ways to express your feelings, past or present. Clear your heart, let the feelings flow like water and you'll be much better off. Dear **LEO**, let

## STARSIGNS

yourself dream and start to believe in those dreams again. The greatest betrayal is when we turn our back on our own dreams. It is time for you to believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts. Where is that Yellow Brick Road? **VIRGO**, Mercury is now in your 7th house of close personal relationships, so get in touch with dear friends and loved ones, and communicate with your new friends, too. Let folks know where you are and what you are doing. They'll be glad to hear from you. **LIBRA**, with Jupiter in your 1st house and Venus in your 7th house of close personal relationships, you could have some really fascinating people show up in your life, even close friends from the past who you haven't seen for a long time. **SCORPIO**, Mercury is in your 5th house of creativity and Mercury is in your 9th house of travel, vision quest and spiritual understanding, so

you may find yourself thinking or doing some unusual things for the next few weeks. Take a few risks, okay. **SAGITTARIUS**, Venus is gracefully moving through your 5th house of creativity, romance and recreation so make sure you schedule time for all three activities for the next few weeks. This is a golden opportunity for personal expression and growth.

**CAPRICORN**, things may be shifting around in your 7th house of close personal relationships, so be patient with the people whom you love and care about, and be patient with yourself if things don't turn out exactly the way you want them to be. Happy birthday, **AQUARIUS!** With Saturn in your 1st house of personality, personal concern and self-awareness, you may feel a little bit cramped or even fenced in, but remember it is only a temporary situation. **PISCES**, with Mercury in your 1st house of self-awareness and personal concerns, you definitely need to express your deepest thoughts and feelings, get it on paper, use words, pictures, whatever fits, but just get it outside yourself!

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



# A Bill For Your Rights



## The National March On Washington April 25, 1993

The Georgia Organizing Committee for the March On Washington (GOCMOW) desperately needs your contribution to continue their work. This money will help with local fundraising, contributions to the National March Committee in Washington and enable them to send PWAs to Washington.

\$5    \$10    \$20    \$25    \$50    \$75    \$100

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**889 Artwood Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30307**

**Pets Are Loving Support (PALS)** is a non-profit organization that provides care and support to the pets of Atlantans living with HIV/AIDS. With this help, pets and owners can remain together to share the healing power of love and companionship that flows from the human-animal bond. PALS provides free pet food and supplies to pet owners, foster homes for pets when an owner is ill, and veterinarian care for those owners who cannot afford it for their pet. On occasion, pets become available for adoption. To find out more about PALS call (404) 876-PALS or write to them at 1438 W. Peachtree St. Atlanta, GA 30309.



**The Atlanta Buyers Club** has gained access to two new products, peptide-T and PCM-4. Peptide-T is a synthetic peptide composed of eight amino acids. It is in phase II clinical trials in at least seven investigation sites around the country. Current trials are investigating peptide-T's affect on AIDS related neuropsychological complications and HIV/medications related neuropathy. Administration is intranasal (inhaled) and dosage may vary depending on your physician's recommendation. Cost is \$55.00 per vial.

PCM-4 is a combination of polypeptides from purified porcine spleen tissue and a plant extracted from the Eleutherococcus Senticosus Maxim (Siberian ginseng). Distributed by Omega Nutri-Pharm, the company is conducting a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Omega states that in vitro studies demonstrate a booster effect on T lymphocytes, B lymphocytes and facilitation of gamma interferon release. Further stated is that patients generally have some increase in appetite, energy and sense of well-being. Cost through ABC is \$75.00 for a 30 day supply.

There are some things a person living with AIDS shouldn't have to live without.

presented Mayor Jackson with a letter January 29 thanking him for his leadership in opposing Colorado's Amendment 2. Atlanta was one of the first cities to call for a boycott of Colorado in response to the passage of the constitutional amendment that prohibits protection from discrimination for gay, lesbian and bisexual persons.

The grassroots organization Ground Zero, formed to secure basic civil rights for gay and lesbian citizens, believes the pressure from the boycott is forcing the state to deal openly with the legalized discrimination issue. The group asks that Jackson continue to support the fight for equality.

**Mayor Jackson gets thanked.** Patricia Hewitt, a member of Colorado's Ground Zero,

**Legislative Updates.** Beginning Sunday, Feb. 7, there will be open Town Meetings every other Sunday to update the community on the prior weeks' events at the State Legislature. The meetings will recap the bills introduced and are intended to give detailed information about what is happening at the capitol for those who wish to stay informed. Also, for those who would like to become involved in helping on the issues, we will also offer some simple lobbying techniques that allow you to be pro-active in expressing your interests.

# STOP IT. HOMOPHOBIA

**Help end discrimination now.**  
**Queer Nation/Atlanta**  
605-7396 (TDD/TTY)

During the first week of the legislature this year, there were over 600 bills introduced. A good number of these could affect the lives of lesbians and gays in Georgia in a negative way unless we get out the word and lobby against them. Some bills have just a line or two pertaining to unfair treatment, but the effect could be devastating. At this time there are some 90 bills based on their possible affect on our community.

Meetings are on alternate Sundays at 2pm at 1051 Hudson St. (the white house behind YWCA on N. Highland). The next meeting is Feb. 21.

*Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus - With a Little Help from Our Friends . . .*

*Liz Carrier, Sighs, Louisa Branscomb and Born Gypsy, The Self-Righteous Brothers, and the AFWC Ensemble.*

Showtime is 8:00pm • February 20th at UUCA, Cliff Valley Way, Atlanta. Cost is \$10.00 in advance at Charis Books and More and The Boy Next Door. \$12.00 at the door.

A portion of the profits from the performance will go to breast cancer research.



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**Thurs, Feb. 18, 7:30pm.**  
**PERRY TREADWELL**  
Co-founder of The Men's Experience will read from his new book, MAKING FRIENDS: LEAVING LONELINESS BEHIND, about friendships between men and women.

**Thurs, Feb. 25, 7:30pm.**  
**CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY**  
Charis staff members Iris and BJ and other special guests highlight and celebrate some of the many contributions of African Americans.

OUTLINES

SHARON LANE and SIDD TOPE

Age: Sharon 35; Sidd 38

How long together: 3 years

How long in Atlanta: Sharon 5 years; Sidd 8 years

Last book read: "Women Who Run with Wolves" by Clarissa Pinkola



When Sharon Lane and Sidd Tope met at the Tower Lounge three years ago, they didn't count on falling in love—nor the challenges they would soon face.

"Both of us had just gotten out of relationships, and we weren't looking for new ones," remembers Sharon. "But we hit it off right away and from that day forward we were partners."

After only 11 months together, Sidd was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. MS is an auto-immune disease where the body's defenses attack the myelin sheath that covers the nerves in the brain. The sheath helps to speed nerve response. Early symptoms may be slow speech and a poor grip which leads to dropping objects.

"When Sidd was first diagnosed, the symptoms were few and far between. About eight months later, they became more pronounced," Sharon says. "Last summer she had a major attack. Her brain became inflamed and she slipped into a coma."

Sidd is doing better now. She suffers from partial paralysis that limits her activity, and she has trouble sometimes remembering things and expressing herself. On the day of our interview she had contracted the flu and couldn't answer any questions, but listened attentively to most of the conversation.

It is obvious that the disease has changed Sidd's and Sharon's lives.

"I've grown in many ways because of Sidd," Sharon explains. "I've become much less selfish. I don't know if I would have learned how to give like this without first falling in love with her, and then seeing her slip away, and trying to fill those voids in our lives as they developed. It has been a wonderful experience for me. That's very hard to say."

Other hard lessons have been learned, too. Sharon has recently begun dating again.

"Before she got sick, we had talked about the possibility that if it came to the point that we couldn't have a complete relationship, Sidd wanted me to date again. It was a hard conversation because she was doing so well, and I didn't want to do it," Sharon explains. "Now, dating helps me to keep my life in balance."

I listened with amazement at how easily Sharon shared the intimate details of her and

Sidd's relationship. But they've had practice. Sharon and Sidd were interviewed by Maria Shriver for her First Person show on gays in the 90s which aired a few weeks ago. Sharon and Sidd didn't make the final cut, but they were glad they got a chance to participate.

"I liked the show, but was disappointed we weren't on it. But I was more disappointed that they showed the lighter side of the issue," Sharon says. "They asked more in-depth questions like, 'Is it true that lesbians play heterosexual roles in their relationships?' I thought it was an interesting question, but they didn't pursue it on the show."

They were selected for the show when a local field producer for First Person saw an ad in Southern Voice for the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus' concert with Cris Williamson. They were looking for a single woman of color but didn't find one. It came down to Sharon and one other woman—but the deciding factor was the show's request to film at the member's place of employment.

"When it came down to it, I was the only one who would ask," Sharon says thoughtfully. "It's amazing how much fear we have that our sexual orientation would cause us to lose our jobs."

Sharon was already out at her job at IBM. When Sidd first got sick, she told her supervisor that she had to be with Sidd because they were partners.

It's that kind of openness and honesty that has taught Sharon and Sidd what is most important in life. There is no cure now for MS, and no guarantee that Sidd will completely recover from the damage already done. But, Sharon says, Sidd is still number one in her life. "She has a wonderful personality and sense of humor and she continues to share that with us," Sharon smiles. "She still enjoys living. It's wonderful to see how much there is to enjoy in life other than all the surface things that we think are important."

CANDACE CHELLEW

ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Organizations

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

Arts/Entertainment

- Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—872-4432
- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
- "Funny...That Way"—875-2275
- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc—609-9590
- Southern Country Atlanta—938-0609

Bars

- The Armory—836 Juniper, 881-9280
- Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
- Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786
- Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895
- Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655
- Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
- Burkhardt's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
- The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477
- Crazy Ray's—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
- The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
- 551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052
- 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
- Peppers by Frank Powell—980 Piedmont Ave. NE 872-4000
- Petrus—1150 Peachtree St. 873-6700
- Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
- Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
- Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square. 874-3961
- Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712
- Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

Direct Action/Political

- ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201
- ACT UP—874-6782 (O)
- Catalyst—(404) 776-1478
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—605-7477
- Gay Republicans—Republicans for Individual Freedoms, 2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339
- Georgia Advocates for Battered Women and Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atlanta 30312
- 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
- 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
- Republicans for Individual Freedoms—PO 13162, Atlanta, GA 30324, 239-1679
- 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, George at 688-2242

Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

- Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
- Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
- Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME
- Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
- Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—SASE to: GANG, POB 7546, Atlanta 30357
- Hotlanta Soccer—876-7372
- Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
- Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
- Lambda Car Club—POB 941263, Atlanta 30341
- Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535
- S.E. Gay Rodeo Association—POB 7881, Atlanta, 30357, 760-8126
- Women's Outdoor Network—624-3418
- 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
- Caregivers to PWAs Support Group—874-1109 or 875-6109
- 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
- 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 Support Group for Battered Lesbians—822-9570; Crisis Hotline—688-9436
- 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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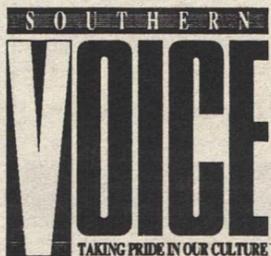
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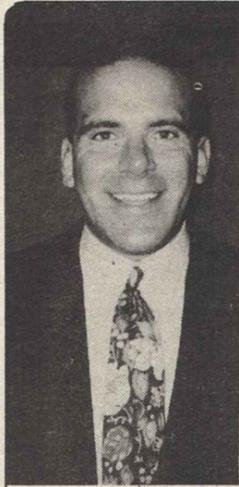
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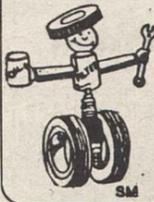
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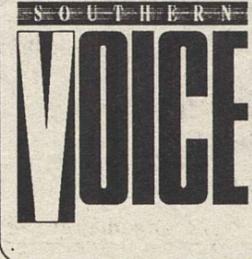
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Good Samaritan Project provides care and support for persons living with AIDS. Support groups, buddy program, clothing/food bank, practical support, education, pastoral care. Call 873-4589. (5.51)

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 Bobbie Jacobs at 214-8777. AIDS Bereave-

ment Group, call Pick Conner at 836-6505 (days) or 834-8195 (eve).

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

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

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

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

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

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

In search of gay or lesbian Elvis impersonator for book. Call Nancy. (703) 979-9316 (6.1)

Looking for Physically Challenged persons to start up support group. Please call Chuck at 892-4980. (5.51)

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

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

\$200-\$500 WEEKLY - Assemble products at home. Easy! No selling. You're paid direct. Fully Guaranteed. FREE Information-24 Hour Hotline. 801-379-2900. Copyright # GA015850. (6.1)

**FULL TIME**

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is seeking an energetic and competent individual to serve as Director of Development, a senior staff position. The incumbent will coordinate and implement all fundraising activities including the development of a long-term organizational marketing strategy. Qualifications include: 3-5 yrs fundraising experience (preferably political) including major and minor donor solicitation, direct mail and events, w/demonstrated ability to perform; working knowledge of computer databases, spreadsheets and wordprocessing software including WordPerfect 5.1, Lotus or Excel, and Paradox; supervisory experience; strong communications skills; attention to detail and follow-through; a strong commitment to electing openly gay and lesbian candidates. Please send a detailed resume and references (a must!) to: Search Committee, Post Office Box 34715, Washington, DC 20043. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. (6.1)

Good opportunity for full and part time positions available in home accessories. Gift shop on the verge of enlarging. Must be

experienced in display and sales and enjoy people! 457-3936. (5.51)

House Cleaning Assistant, 30 hr./wk. Dependable, honest, hardworking individual needed. Opportunity for advancement. Leave message 9-5. 873-6739 (5.51)

Furniture Manufacturer has upholsterer, seamstress, and warehouse positions available. Call 458-7576. (5.51)

Professional, healthy HIV+ gay male seeking P/T caregiver/housekeeping situations. 10yrs. Soc. Serv./Home Health exp. Reasonable rates, flex hours. Dig. pager 708-6736. (6.2)

**Health**  
 PERSONAL GROWTH

Support Group for Lesbians - You and your relationships. Short term, Monday night meetings. Mondays, 13 weeks. 6:30-8:00 pm. \$25 per session. Call Claudia Scarbrough, MA, NCC. 717-4146. (5.52)

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LIQUID AROMAS. For order form of the highest quality aromas send name to: The Image Factory, PO Box 190813, Dallas, TX 75219. (5.51)

**Real Estate**  
 FOR RENT

KIRKWOOD - One bedroom duplex cottage. Newly renovated, two fireplaces, W/D, lots of windows. Some utilities inc. \$490/mo. 378-0841. (5.51)

Candler Park - Efficiency apt. in house basement on McLendon Ave. \$400/mo. includes all utilities plus phone & cable TV. No drugs. 377-0136. (5.51)

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

**FOR SALE**  
 MIDTOWN CLASSIC

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**ORMEWOOD DUPLEX**

Dynamite duplex, brick, Central H/A, front & back porches, great condition. Perfect for Owner Occup. 70's. RE/MAX N.A. Phyllis Ivers 394-0100. (5.52)

INTOWN. Office space available. For sale at \$95,000 or lease \$850 per month. Creative financing available. Renovated building, four private offices. David Schenck. RE/MAX Executives. 659-4757. (5.51)

BROOKWOOD PARK - Exciting 1 BR condo, upper floors of secure hi-rise. Private grounds, pool, tennis courts. Unit all renovated. Just move in and relax - \$63,000. Call 874-6690 and leave message. (6.1)

**Roommates**

GWM, 40, seeks roommate for Buford Hwy townhouse must like pets. \$325 utilities included except phone. \$100 deposit. 320-3360. Serious! (6.1)

Emory/Druid Hills GWM seeks roommate to share large newly decorated home with beautiful garden. Private bath, maid service, W/D, non-smoker, no drugs, no pets, \$350 + 1/3 utilities. Security Deposit. 377-6914. (6.1)

Decatur/Agnes Scott GWF seeks GF to share 2 BR, 1 BA home. W/D, fenced yard, \$300/mo. + 1/2 util. Call 378-7990. (5.52)

Seeking young professional GWM to share 3 BR townhome. Must be neat, responsible, non-smoker, no pets. Fun environment. Call Shane or Shannon 378-3960. (5.51)

Ormeewood Park: GWF seeks roommate who works 3 to 11 to share 2 BR, 1 BA house. \$200/month + 1/2 util. 627-2962. (5.51)

Share 3 BR house with GW couple. \$350/mo. includes util. Washer/Dryer incl. Smyrna, off I-285. 434-5605. (5.51)

GF/M or couple to share 3 BR, 2 BA ranch - W/D, game room, swimming pool, fenced pasture; lg. totally private yard. Barnsvill-Thomaston Area 264-4339. (5.52)

**Service**

Psychic Readings for Gay & Lesbian clients. 458-6110. (5.52)

**Travel**

Intown Atlanta - A gay-hosted B&B suite in restored Victorian Inman Park. All amenities incl. kitchen. Secured Parking. \$70.00 or extended rates. 523-5804. (6.1)

**Volunteers**

Pets Are Loving Support, Inc. P.A.L.S., a non-profit organization which provides ongoing care and support to pets of Atlanta area persons living with HIV/AIDS, is looking for the following volunteers. Interviewers to register new clients. Drivers to deliver pet food to members one Saturday each month. "PALS" to work one on one with members and their pets. ALSO VOL. COORDINATOR NEEDED: "People Person" to lead volunteer recruitment and placement efforts, assist in training and support of 100 current volunteers, oversee related administrative functions and volunteer databases. 5-10 hrs/wk. (6.1)

Palmetto AIDS Life Support Svcs of South Carolina is sks volunteers to work directly with PWAs and also vols to serve on the District Advisory Council. Trng \$18 for persons volunteering for 6 mo. or more. Also open to professionals, etc at the cost of \$50 for the weekend. For application or info., write or call: PALSS, PO Box 410, Spartanburg, SC 29304, 587-0844, 1-800-723-7257. (6.1)

Kimberly Quality Care's Hospice needs volunteers to provide assistance and support to terminally ill persons and their families. Call 936-5100. (5.52)

The number one health problem facing women in our country is domestic violence. It is the single largest cause of physical injury to women—more than rape, muggings and automobile accidents put together. The Women's resource Center of DeKalb County is currently seeking volunteers for the following positions. Crisis Hotline, child advocacy, office support, shelter advocacy and legal advocacy. Help us end the cycle of violence. For more information, please contact the Women's Resource Center at 688-9436. (6.2)

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)

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 Ken, Cleve or Tonia at 525-4620.

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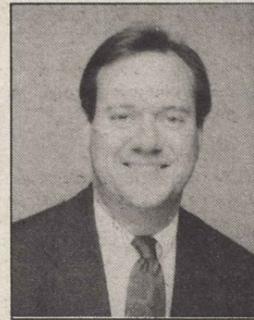
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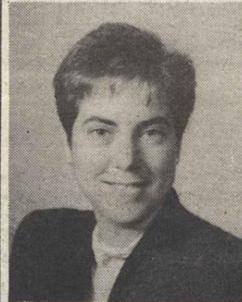
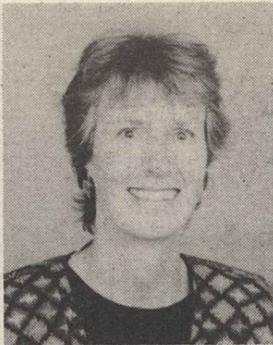
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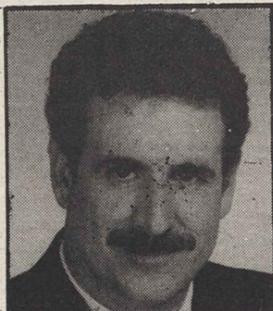
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LOVELINES

Angel girl—  
Your hair is big/in Decatur you dig/  
your cat's a bit strange/at night he's  
deranged/but I wouldn't miss/one  
single kiss/you sparkle and shine/  
my darlin' Valentine. —"Little  
Missy"

Our Place 404,  
In with the new, out with the old. So  
be it. Sorry I had to be so bold. Hope  
this doesn't cause you to bust a stitch,  
but you always knew I was a bitch.  
—S.

Shannon,  
On Valentine's Day, I continue my  
search for your double. We already  
know that I have 750 million across  
the United States. You must have  
one. I love you—Jane

Larry  
You're my "Prince Charming." It's  
been a magic first year. You make  
my life worthwhile, remember the  
best is yet to be. Love, Your  
"Cinderfella"

Honeybuns,  
Morning-glories nor moonlight  
beams dare to compare to your radi-  
ance. Love is as endless as the dol-  
phins swim the tides. 8 1/2 years is a  
flickit within you embracing arms.  
 Lovingly, Veanne

My Alan:  
If a journey of a thousand miles be-  
gins with one step, we're already  
well ahead—by four years worth of  
strides, to be exact. I love you, my  
darling. —Roy

Mon Bees Annie—  
Although I may not be the most rom-  
antic of lovers—after 12 years to-  
gether, I still think you have an in-  
credible mouth. —Yourn Bees Annie

To SoYo humans  
111133333333 33333333 333344  
4444 444444 3333. "" "78%" "T  
Love, Molly  
P.S. Give me that catnip treat. Now.

T of the D  
I love your muscles, I crave your  
hips, I want your love, right between  
my... G of D

To Joan,  
You are my resting place, and I am  
your zoom kitty. Stay with me until  
we're old enough to look back on all  
of this and sigh.—from Debbie

Dear Jane,  
I can't wait to cuddle on the  
couch with you. Love E.T.S.

Virgo  
Love your biceps - They  
win. —Gemini

Shnook,  
Your washer/dryer sings to  
me in a way that Madonna  
never could. I love you.—  
V.

N.  
I am glad you're gone. I used  
to love you & now I don't. You've  
ruined your chance to float my  
boat.—Sandy

To all the men I love,  
Although not the ideal Valentine  
situation, a girl can never have too  
many handsome men by her side.  
Happy Valentine's Day, Patron St.  
Jane

To my bud I say,  
Let's have a moment of silence for  
last year's St. Valentine Day Massa-  
cre. To L.L. I ask, you and me  
back—how about it?—Flash

To the Cast of Dorchester Place,  
This is for each one of you who has  
brightened a somewhat dreary year  
of '92. You guys, and you know  
who you are E.T.S., S. Tucker &  
Jane Louise, really have made a dif-  
ference in my life. You all mean a  
great deal to me and I wouldn't trade  
ya for nothin. Not even a batch of  
uncooked brownie mix! I look for-  
ward to an exciting '93 and may we  
never grow apart. I love you!!! Shane

Truvy.  
Roses are red, violets are blue, you're  
leaving two weeks, too-da-loo!!!!

From the 10 million hairs on your  
head, to the 14 on your belly, oohh  
baby, you sure do make me feel  
nelly. —Nurse Jane

and not what we deserve this  
Valentine's Day. I love you. Mean  
it. Really. —Jane Louise

On stick, keyboard, wheel, or fire  
Kokopelli stirs desire,  
so firm of focus in your play  
the hands of god, recorder forte.

Softball, Sunday mornings, tattoo,  
volksmarching, dolphin touches,  
Micky and George, "Puke  
Holes," new Jeep, best  
tomahawk, Berry, surprise  
party, etc. Thanks for the  
memories. J.P. Let's make  
more! Forever...Cathy

Sweet Baboo  
Sparkle, magic, and Elvis,  
too; Lucky me to love  
you. I'm glad you're my  
wife; you bring beauty to  
my life. Love, Your White  
Rose

To Beth:  
Best friend and lover, partner for  
life, I hold you in my dreams each  
night. And in my heart forever  
through time, you're my only Val-  
entine. Chris

Thanks for my surprise party! I pray  
I'll be lucky enough my next 40 years  
to continue having such loving  
friends and so wonderful and accept-  
ing a family.—Cathy Mac

Taylor,  
Never in my most erotic dreams  
would I have imagined you would  
give me so much pleasure—for that  
I respect and adore you! Forever  
wanting to be yours—Bill

Maria  
Love - Need - Want Ya - Forever.  
143 —K.J.

Mom  
"Thanks for loving us" Jake, Jenny,  
Wesi

Smo Jo— The stamp and  
refridgerator, mexican, pictures,

those long talks, CID, football, pink  
thing, FRED, cook-outs, Piedmont,  
Rug-rat, Ohio, women's  
festival...that's why I LOVE YOU.  
—The Sex Goddess

Monkey Kid,  
Wish I could hold you now, caress  
you body with my lips, and watch  
frogs mate on the melting snow in  
the sunshine. "Tee-Wee" just isn't  
the same without you. No ring on  
my finger still, but if you asked me  
to, I might change my life forever.  
See you in the future, soulfriend. I  
love you. —Madonna

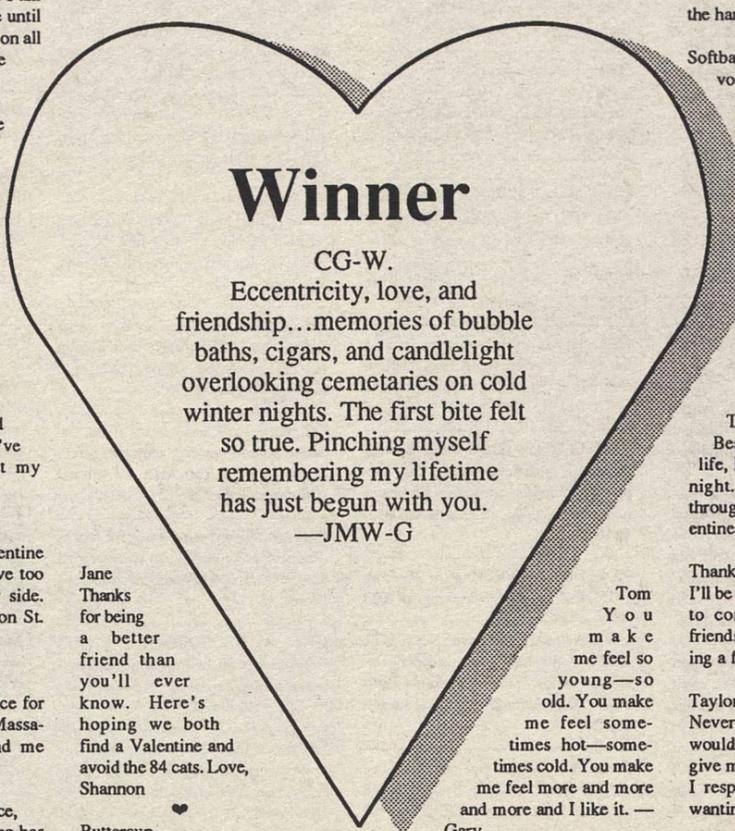
Punkin Lips  
Rock-a-bye Baby in the tree top, 1-  
2-3 when the wind blows the cradle  
will rock ABC. Love, (BIG) Little  
Thing

To Jon "Baby Bear" Martin  
I promise you my love, understand-  
ing and compassion — I offer you  
beautiful days, tender evenings and  
passionate nights! —Forever:  
Gianmichael

Kathy J.  
You're the one thing I can't do with-  
out. Thanks for being my compan-  
ion and best friend. I love you  
muchly! —Maria D.

Pris  
Five years have passed since those  
skintight black pants - lust turning  
to love, I never would have guessed  
- you say you knew from the start  
this partnership would last - I'm so  
glad you knew, honey, and took the  
chance! Love, Funk

To Debbie, my sweetie,  
Thanks for being the head I kiss at  
night and the quaff I muss in the  
morning, for being so indefatigable,  
true to your reputation, and not ever  
once boring. You'll never wear me  
out, 'cause I love you so much. —  
Joan



Winner

CG-W.  
Eccentricity, love, and  
friendship...memories of bubble  
baths, cigars, and candlelight  
overlooking cemeteries on cold  
winter nights. The first bite felt  
so true. Pinching myself  
remembering my lifetime  
has just begun with you.  
—JMW-G

Jane  
Thanks for being a better  
friend than you'll ever  
know. Here's hoping we both  
find a Valentine and  
avoid the 84 cats. Love,  
Shannon

Buttercup,  
I'll always be there to hold you  
up by your beltloop. Love, your  
roommate

To Alice,  
Hillary may be smart. Tipper may  
be pretty. But, honey, in my heart,  
you'll always be First Lady. Love,  
Gertrude

Poity

Tom  
Y o u  
m a k e  
me feel so  
young—so  
old. You make  
me feel some-  
times hot—some-  
times cold. You make  
me feel more and more  
and more and I like it. —  
Gary

For Finny,  
From the ocean of love, I have  
plucked a sunfish. Since you sailed  
my way, my life has real porpoise.  
From Sharkey

To My Evil Twin, F. Tucker, &  
E.T.S., May we all get what we want

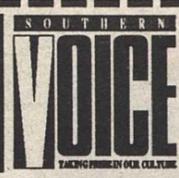
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Attractive GBF (a little tomboyish at times), seeks aggressive yet beautiful, articulate and intelligent counterpart. 22-32 for friendship or more. ☎ 1253

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

Two single GFs looking to expand network of friends. Interests include movies, picnics, etc. Expand your horizons. Call us today. ☎ 1254

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

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 intelligent and serious about a friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 1231

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

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

Attractive, attentive, gregarious, honest, intelligent, intense, off-the-wall, romantic, sensual, late 30's, travelling professional needs affectionate, eclectic, striking, sexually adventurous sophisticated 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 female for friendship, possible relationship. Me: 5'8", 150 lbs and a good catch. ☎ 1075

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

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

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

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

band. Blues / Rock / Folk / Country. No pop. It scares me. ☎ 1011

**MEN**

Couples—Masculine, clean-cut GWM 33 physically fit, healthy, seeks similar 20s & 30s who occasionally enjoy the company of another. ☎ 1260

BM 35, 5'8", 155 lbs, healthy, trim, versatile, well endowed, masculine seeks GM with same qualities. No fems. ☎ 1257

Horny, hairy, hung GWM, 23, 165 lbs. NEEDS a daddy to spank him. "Chris" 2490 1/2 Barnett Shoals Rd. Athens, GA 30605. ☎ 1261

Masc GWM 32 Fresh Active seeks horny young MEN, looks unimportant (18-25) Pref smooth, young-looking. Let me worship you. ☎ 1255

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 lunch-time 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

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

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. ☎ 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. ☎ 1100

tured, well-educated, stable, masculine, romantic, adventurous. Seeks same in mature GWM 30-45. ☎ 1100

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

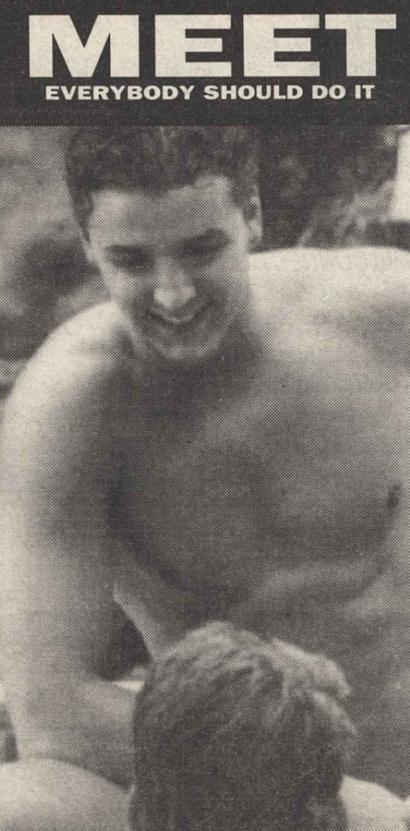
GWM, 29, 5'9", 160, Br/Hz. Very masculine, good-looking, muscular, health-conscious, honest, educated, high-achiever, humanitarian, stable, laid-back, casual, playful, out-going, open-minded, with varied interests, seeks same. ☎ 1066

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

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

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PERSONALS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TV/TS

30 yr. BM 5'8", 170#, handsome, clean ISO sexy TV/TS. Race unimportant. Columbia, SC—Love travel. Love boots. Call today ☎ 1258

BM, 38, seeks very feminine (looking) TV/TS or very butch lesbian for first encounter. Am disease-free, discreet. Let's talk. ☎ 1252

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