

S O U T H E R N

# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

FEB 25 - MAR 3 / 1993

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## years & counting

To celebrate our 5th anniversary, we've counted and compiled some very interesting facts...about you.

The Southern Voice  
Readership Survey  
results are in!

PAGE 17

*You Can Make A Difference*  
**LIFT THE BAN!**  
 Our Lives Depend On It

The **single** best thing you can do to help President Clinton LIFT THE BAN is to send Senator Nunn, Senator Coverdell, *and* your Congressperson each a personal letter (three separate letters) asking them to support the President on lifting the ban. Handwritten letters are best. Typed personal letters second best.

Furthermore, commit to yourself to write these three letters each and every month for the next six months (February, March, April, May, June, July). This is in addition to any phone calls you have made or will make. The religious right is well-organized and has activated and will continue to activate millions of people through their churches, TV and radio stations. We must meet this challenge. We must respond whenever they respond. President Clinton cannot do it all himself. He needs our help!

Senator Sam Nunn  
 U.S. Senate  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Paul Coverdell  
 U.S. Senate  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

**In addition to letters, there are several other good ways you can help:**

1. If you know people outside the perimeter whom we can contact to become part of a letter writing campaign, please call: 758-7486.
2. If you would like to host a house party to educate and activate some of your friends on the military issue (especially if they live outside the perimeter), call: 875-2681.
3. If you are a veteran (gay or straight) who supports lifting the ban—and want to do something, call 231-5751.
4. If you would like to contribute financially or have other ideas for us, call 231-5479.

**5. Commit to be part of the March on Washington on April 25. For info call: 1-800-832-2889.**

For inexpensive train tickets to the march, call 266-8228.

**MEETING**

To become more involved in the Human Rights Campaign Fund's "Lift the Ban" Campaign, come to a meeting: Saturday, February 27 at 10:00 am at NAPWA Headquarters, 44 Twelfth Street (around the corner from Vickery's Restaurant)

The fight we wage over the next six months is more than the military issue. It's a fight for our lives, a referendum on all our issues. The outcome will determine the course of our community's social progress well into the 21st century.

**PLEASE HELP.**

*Human Rights*  
 CAMPAIGN FUND

*Don George*

Don George, Chair  
 Atlanta Field Committee  
 Human Rights Campaign Fund

## Gay man beaten and robbed in Midtown

Atlanta—Thomas Stewart thought he was safe in his Midtown neighborhood. He had come to Atlanta from New Orleans, where two years ago he was the victim of a gay bashing.

"I kept telling my friends 'I feels so safe here,'" he said. "So different from New Orleans."

But Stewart was wrong. Around 2:30 am on Feb. 6, as he walked along 10th Street near Myrtle—"I was going from a friend's to my home just around the corner," he said—Stewart was beaten and robbed by two men who first approached him saying "Give us your wallet, faggot," and then began to beat him with a bat or a large security flashlight—Stewart said he couldn't be sure which.

"Before I could even get my wallet out they hit me," he said. "They kept saying 'be quiet,' and I tried to tell them if they'd stop hitting me I'd stop screaming."

Finally, the 5'8", 132 pound Stewart managed to pull his wallet from his pocket. The two assailants kicked him a few more times, then jumped in a car a sped off. Stewart lay bleeding on the street.

"I remember being afraid, when I heard them get in the car, that they would run me over," he said. "And I lay there thinking, I

Police have no leads on the assailants. A few days after the attack, Stewart said Det. Danny Smallwood phoned him.

"He told me they'd had a number of incidents in the area in the last month," Stewart said, "and that they had a special unit watching."

Det. Smallwood denied that report when contacted by Southern Voice. He said that the Atlanta Police did have a staff that "watches particular areas for increasing" incidences of violent crime, "but we don't see a pattern building" in Midtown.

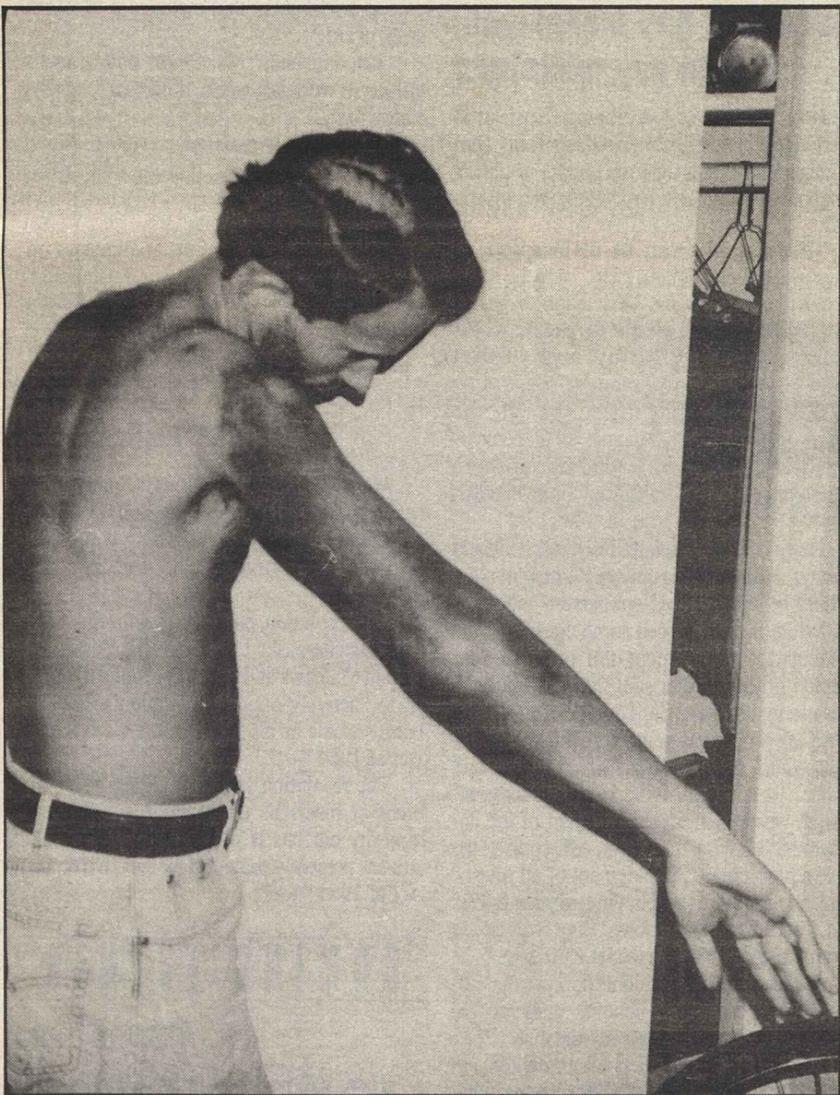
"There are a lot of robberies there," he said, "but no more so than any other area."

For Stewart, the wounds, inside and out, have been slow healing. He said it took nearly ten days for him to regain the use of his right arm, and that he is still in considerable pain. But he is almost more concerned about his treatment by police and hospital workers during his ordeal.

"I was bleeding and cold," he said, "but the police officer didn't have a blanket or anything to put over me. And I kept begging him to take my name and address because I was afraid I would die nameless in the street. He finally took it when the ambulance came."

Once at the hospital, Stewart said he was virtually ignored while he waited to see the doctors.

"No one would get me a glass of water, no one came to help clean the blood off me,



Thomas Stewart was attacked and beaten on Feb. 6 in Midtown, sustaining multiple bruises, a large gash in his head and several lost teeth. His assailants stole his wallet and called him a "faggot."

can't believe this is happening again. I hadn't done anything to put myself at risk."

Stewart dragged himself toward the sidewalk and called for help. A police officer and an ambulance soon arrived, and Stewart was taken to Grady, where doctors spent seven hours stitching his skull and lip. His other injuries were extensive bruises on the entire right side of his body and several lost teeth.

no one would help me make a phone call," he said. "The guy who did come and wash me up works in the IDC [Infectious Disease Clinic]."

"I don't understand this," Stewart continued. "I wonder if we need a gay advocate down there to help our people when they need assistance."

KC WILDMOON

## Georgia House of Representatives votes to allow police to test for HIV

The Georgia House of Representatives passed a bill February 19 that allows law enforcement officers to force individuals in custody to be tested for HIV. While civil rights advocates voiced concern that the broad language of the bill would permit abuses, the House overwhelmingly approved the act 136-29.

"I believe in a belief that God is what this country is founded on, not these homosexuals and queers. And you can print that," said Rep. Ralph Twiggs (D-Hiwassee) chairman of the House Public Safety Committee and sponsor of the bill. It was Twiggs' committee that passed the piece of legislation without allowing opponents to speak during the final hearings for H.B. 162 on February 17.

"The bill does nothing, absolutely nothing to protect an officer from transmission factors involved in normal arrest procedures," said Len Terrell, lobbyist for the Georgia AIDS Coalition. "It is a useless piece of legislation which has great potential for being abused."

Ambiguity is an overriding concern of opponents and they say several provisions of the bill present the possibility for misuse. The bill provides "that when a person being taken into custody injures or otherwise contacts a law enforcement officer the officer may take certain steps to determine whether the person has an infectious disease." The word "contact" is not defined in subsequent language of the act. The "certain steps" an officer must take to "determine whether" a person "has an infectious disease" are similarly not defined. Opponents say this vague language permits a range of abuses by law enforcement officials.

The bill soundly fails to protect police officers from the transmission of AIDS according to Len Terrell. There is no way to determine if suspects are infected by looking at them and testing of suspects after contact does not prevent infection says Terrell. He also raises the possibility that a suspect may be in a "window period" and test negative even if he or she has been infected. Terrell believes the key to preventing the spread of AIDS is education, an issue not addressed in H.B. 162.

Larry Pellegrini, lobbyist for GAPAC notes that the AIDS Omnibus Act of 1988 already addresses the issue of testing for HIV. The law empowers the Department of Human Resources to test individuals "in-

fectected or suspected of being infected with HIV" and provides the method for obtaining a test through a superior court judge when a suspect refuses consent. H.B. 162 by-passes the DHR by allowing an officer to apply directly to the court. Pellegrini also says that the confidentiality clause provided for in the AIDS Omnibus Act is removed by the current bill.

According to the Department of Human Resources, there are no documented cases of HIV transmission in the U.S. during an arrest process.

The bill now travels to the Senate for approval where opponents hope to have better luck in defeating the act.

Other legislation currently under consideration by the General Assembly:

H.B. 666. Introduced by Rep. Jim Martin (D-Atlanta), the Comprehensive Sexual Assault Bill that provides greater protection for rape victims and removes consensual adult sex practices from state regulation is now being reviewed by the Judiciary Committee. Pellegrini believes the bill will likely be assigned to a subcommittee that will hold hearings on the bill this summer.

H.R. 234. Introduced by Rep. Brian Joyce (R-Lookout Mountain) and eleven others, this resolution urges the U.S. Congress "to take all steps necessary to preserve the ban prohibiting the service of homosexuals in the military." Alabama passed a similar resolution earlier this month.

H.R. 257. Introduced by Rep. Mitchell Kaye (R-Marietta), this resolution amends Georgia's constitution to allow voter initiative petitions. Pellegrini states that this is the first step by religious fundamentalists to enact an anti-gay law similar to the one passed by Colorado voters in November.

H.B. 716. Introduced By Rep. Brian Joyce (D-Lookout Mountain), this bill states that life begins at conception, "the contact of spermatozoan with the ovum," and seeks to greatly restrict a woman's ability to terminate her pregnancy. The proposal would criminalize abortions except in cases where the life of the mother or fetus is endangered or in cases of rape.

S.B. 246. Introduced by Edwin Gochenour (R-Macon), the bill is an amendment to the sex education curriculum and provides that "any discussion of homosexuality shall emphasize that medical and mental health research finds homosexual behavior to be unhealthy."

S.B. 274. Introduced by Pam Glanton (R-Riverdale), this bill provides that a parent or guardian have access to all sex education course materials including "the names, occupations, and employers of all guest speakers before their engagement."

CRAIG PATE

## Group in charge of federal buildings taped military ban rally

Atlanta—Thanks to a tip from a sleuthing Southern Voice reader, the identity of the agency responsible for filming the "Lift the Ban" rally on Feb. 13 is now known.

From an upper floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Building, federal protective officers charged with the protection of federal buildings taped the rally held on the plaza of the Richard B. Russell Federal Building across the street. According to Fleming James, executive assistant to the regional administrator of the General Services Administration, the GSA has taped all demonstrations and rallies held on the property of federal buildings in the region since September 1989, when demonstrators from ADAPT (Ameri-

can Disabled for Accessible Public Transportation) virtually shut down the Russell Building.

"It's in case there's any kind of incident," James said, "so we'll have a record of exactly what happened."

In the event of any incident, the tapes are used for training—"What we should or could have done," according to James—or for evidence in court. If the demonstration goes smoothly, he said, "basically, they just stay in a drawer until we tape over them."

James, who said he was unaware of the policy until he saw news reports of the rally on television, added that the policy was being reassessed by the GSA's legal department.

"The tapes aren't used for any kind of surveillance," he said, "and we don't want that appearance. That's the reason for the reassessment."

KC WILDMOON

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## SC wants to keep military ban, poll shows

Charleston, SC—President Clinton's popularity in South Carolina is higher now than at any time during the fall campaign, but his stance on gays in the military is unpopular in the state, a recent poll shows. The telephone survey was conducted by Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research Inc. of Columbia, Md., for The Post and Courier and WCBD-TV of Charleston.

Forty-nine percent of those surveyed said the country is headed in the wrong direction, with Clinton's early stance in favor of gay rights appearing to be his main problem.

According to the survey, 62 percent of South Carolina voters say the 50-year ban on gays should not be lifted, a figure comparable to other states in the pro-military South. Only 32 percent of those surveyed favored lifting the ban.

"You can probably correlate his negatives with his position on gays in the military," pollster Del Ali said. "If he came out against gays in the military you could probably flip-flop the numbers."

Mason-Dixon surveyed 827 registered voters by telephone Feb. 10-11.

One gay activist said the results weren't surprising considering South Carolina's conservative voting history.

"South Carolina, as a whole, didn't want to elect Bill Clinton so you're going in with that prejudice to begin with," said Kevin Campbell, co-chair of the Lowcountry Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

While most South Carolinians don't want gays in the armed services, 71 percent say they don't think gays should put up with other forms of prejudice. About 20 percent disagreed.

The poll also showed that 54 percent of South Carolinians wouldn't mind gays entering the military if they weren't "militantly" gay or overtly open about their sexual orientation.

Fifty-five percent of blacks and 41 percent of women were more often in favor of lifting the ban, while 71 percent of whites and 69 percent of males were opposed.

Blacks and women were more likely to support the new president than white males, a trend that has become reflective of the two major parties. (AP)

## AL Episcopal churches won't OK gay marriages, ordain gay ministers

Huntsville, AL—Alabama Episcopal churches will research sexuality while continuing to not ordain gay or lesbian ministers or approve same-sex marriages, the bishop said.

"There is an awful lot of inappropriate heterosexual behavior out there," said the Right Rev. Robert O. Miller. "We hope to gather data, collate it and give it to people at the national church level so it may be reported on at the 1994 General Convention."

Miller, speaking Feb. 12 at the denomination's 162nd annual state convention, said all churches within the American church have been asked to study human sexuality.

He said he will uphold the church's stand on gays until there is a change. "I may not like it, but I'm a pretty obedient person," he said.

While there has been some conflict in the Episcopal Church about the ordination of women priests, Miller said that has not been the case in the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama.

"Only one small segment of the church is opposed to the ordination of women," said Miller. "It is not an issue in this diocese although we do still have a problem of the deployment of women priests. Of course, we have a problem of a deployment of all priests. I am very supportive of having women priests and would like to see more." Five women are serving in Alabama Episcopal churches.

Miller does not condone homosexual activity. But he strongly believes gays are entitled to the same rights as anyone else.

"They are full members of our church and need all the pastoral care and love we can give them," he said. "The church does affirm their rights as a human being and believes they should not be discriminated against in any way." (AP)

## FL transsexual wins lawsuit

Jacksonville, FL—Lt. Belinda Joelle Smith is back on the job as a corrections officer, eight years after being fired for "conduct unbecoming an officer" for dressing as a woman before her sex-change operation.

Smith, who was known as Lt. William Harvey Smith when he was fired for dressing

as a woman while off duty, got the job back as part of a settlement that included a \$149,500 cash award.

"I'm satisfied," Ms. Smith said after returning to work last week. "I needed to get my career back."

The Florida Commission on Human Rights ruled on Feb. 21, 1992, that the 1985 firing was discriminatory because it was based on a disability—transsexualism.

Ms. Smith, who had the sex-change operation in September 1990, said she fought for her job for herself and all victims of discrimination.

## TN county to consider anti-gay resolution

Maryville, TN—The Blount County (Tennessee) Commission will be asked soon to consider a resolution condemning homosexuality as an "immoral and unacceptable lifestyle."

The resolution, prepared by Commissioner Tom Hatcher, asks U.S. Sens. Jim Sasser and Harlan Mathews and U.S. Rep. John J. Duncan Jr. to "actively oppose legislation to include homosexuals or bisexuals in the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

The resolution says that giving gays, lesbians or bisexuals the "same legal status as minority citizens is morally offensive to the citizens presently protected by the Civil Rights Act of 1964." (AP)

## COMING EVENTS

### Athens, Ga.

There will be a benefit for AIDS Athens, on Friday, March 5 at Boneshakers, Athens new, and only, gay bar. Boneshakers opened Feb. 25.

Owner Greg Martin, of Madison County, has lived and worked in Athens most of his life, and felt that the timing was right for the new establishment. "The need was definitely there, and the community has thus far been very supportive," he said.

"Athens had a gay bar four or five years ago, but since then there's been little," Martin continued. "Various clubs have always had certain nights set aside, when most of the audience was gay, but there's no one place the gay community can feel comfortable at all the time."

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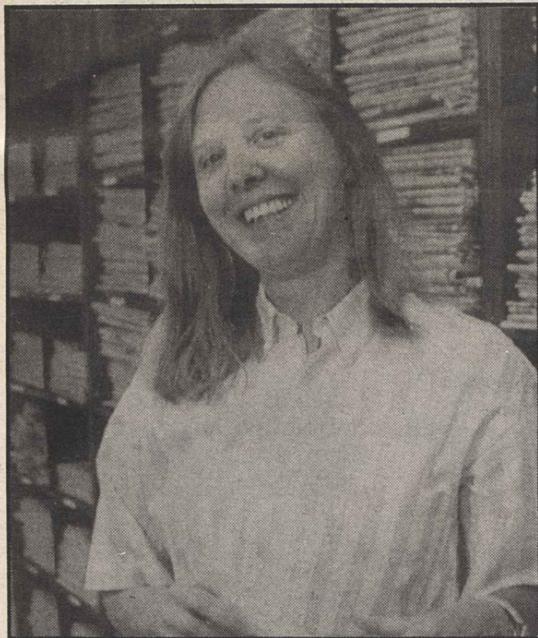
**Shilts Is HIV+:** Randy Shilts, author of "And the Band Played On," said in an issue of the San Francisco Chronicle that he tested positive for HIV on the same day in 1985 that he finished the book. He said he kept his condition secret for fear it would detract from his role as a reporter on AIDS issues. "Every gay writer who tests positive ends up being an AIDS activist," he wrote, "and I didn't want to end up being an activist. I wanted to keep on being a reporter." Shilts said he changed his mind last week in the wake of rumors within the gay community and inquiries from reporters. "I want to talk about it myself rather than have somebody else talk," he said.

**Texas Gays, Lesbians Call For Marriage License:** State Rep. Glen Maxey, Texas' only openly gay legislator, has filed a bill that would allow people of the same gender to obtain a marriage license and become legally married. Maxey said his colleagues tell him privately that they support the bill, but do not want to vote on it. "This legislation has a long, long journey before it is signed by the governor of Texas," he said. Travis County (Austin) Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir said the prohibition against same-sex marriages deprives gays and lesbians of a legal tool used to settle many questions and rights. "Without having to incur additional legal expense, marriage licenses establish legal parameters for medical conservatorship and remainder interest in real and personal property," she said.

**Los Angeles Reinstates Gay Officers:** The Los Angeles City Council voted last week to strengthen its anti-discrimination policies to protect gay workers and reinstate three gay police officers who claim harassment forced them to quit. Among other things, the new provisions would make discrimination against gays and lesbians grounds for dismissal from city employment, said Deputy City Attorney Art Walsh. The council promised to adopt the new regulations as part of a settlement that also includes full reinstatement and \$770,000 in damages for former Sgt. Mitch Grobeson and two unnamed officers, Walsh said. The settlement also requires the Police Dept. to include gay issues in its in-service and academy training programs and includes a complaint procedure that will apply to all city departments. The changes are expected to be formally approved by the council in about two weeks.

**NY Education Board Ousts Chancellor:** The New York Board of Education voted last week to oust Chancellor Joseph Fernandez, who insisted that condoms be available in high schools and tried to teach grade-school students to be tolerant of lesbians and gays. "Good luck, God bless you. Maybe we didn't deserve you," Board President Carl H. McCall told Fernandez after the 4-3 vote not to renew his contract. The vote was taken after nearly seven hours of public comment, much of it bitterly against Fernandez. The board could still vote to reverse itself before his contract expires on June 30.

**Detroit News Columnist Urges Gay Media To Come Out:** Deb Price, a syndicated columnist for the Detroit News, urged gay and lesbian journalists at a Texas conference to be open about their sexuality. "In general, I think people who are gay in any place, but particularly journalism, need to come out and participate," she said. "We can teach the truth by breaking the silence. We need to participate in dialogue and designing projects." Price, who became the country's first openly gay columnist in a major daily early last year, was speaking to the Texas chapter of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association.



AP PHOTO

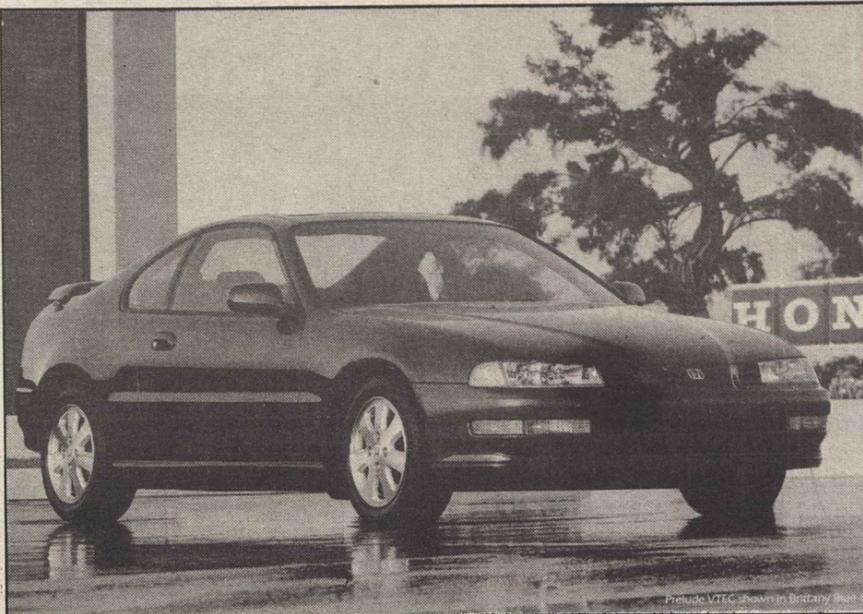
price, who became the country's first openly gay columnist in a major daily early last year, was speaking to the Texas chapter of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association.

**Complaints Surround Gay, Christian Publications At Libraries:** Library officials in Fairfax, Virginia will consider banishing free newspapers and magazines from county libraries after complaints about publications aimed at gays and fundamentalist Christians.

The Washington Blade, a gay and lesbian newspaper, has generated several complaint calls since it was placed in Fairfax's libraries in December, according to library officials. The Gabriel Express, a fundamentalist broadsheet, has generated complaints since last summer, but the Library Board has not removed it from libraries. The complaints have prompted the board to consider dropping all free papers.

**Court Rules Dallas Police Cannot Ban Hiring Gays:** The Dallas Police Department cannot use Texas' 114-year-old sodomy law to ban hiring of gays and lesbians, the 3rd Court of Appeals said last week. The appeals court ruling marked another showdown in a 3 1/2 year battle between a Dallas lesbian and the city's police force over the state's sodomy law. Mica England sued the state of Texas, the city of Dallas and former police chief Mack Vines after being denied a job in 1989 because she admitted being a lesbian. Dallas Police say they will continue to screen for gays in their hiring procedures until the issue is firmly settled. In a separate case last March, the same court upheld a 1990 state district court ruling that the sodomy law is unconstitutional. That case has been appealed to the Texas Supreme Court.

**Bible Quotes On King David Spark Uproar In Israeli Parliament:** An Israeli legislator provoked a walkout by religious colleagues last week when she cited the biblical story of David's love for Jonathan during a debate on gays in the army. Angry lawmakers tried to shout down Yael Dayan, daughter of Moshe Dayan, when she quoted David's eulogy for his friend Jonathan in 2 Samuel, 1:26, in which David proclaims that his love for Jonathan: "thy love for me was wonderful, passing the love of women." Hanan Porath of the National Religious Party jumped from his seat, saying "It's a shame and disgrace to talk like this about David and Jonathan. Who allowed you to do this?" Dayan said she was not interpreting the passage to mean David and Jonathan were lovers, but asked, "Are we to censor the Old Testament? Should we expunge the phrase 'thy love for me was wonderful, passing the love of women?'"



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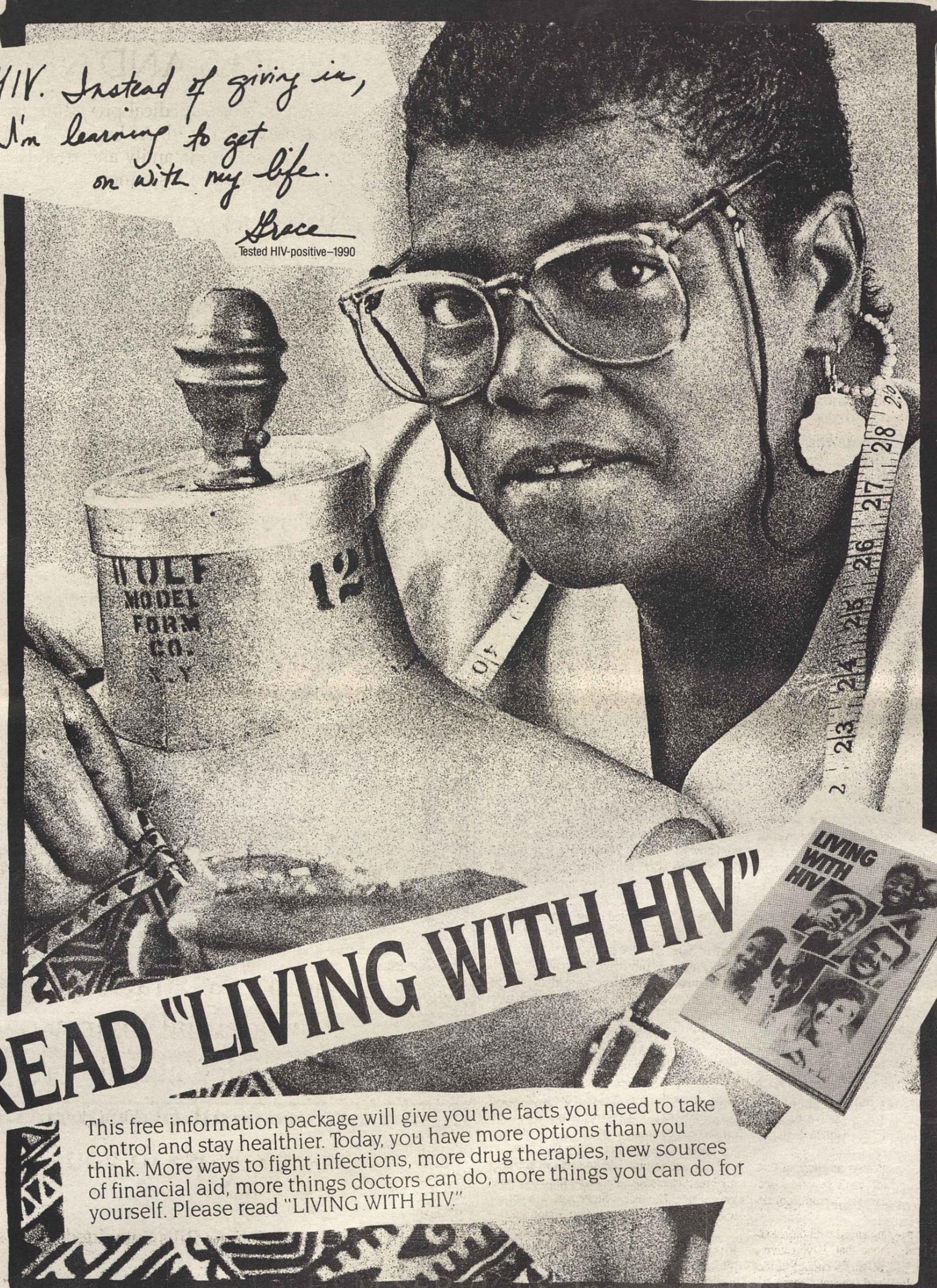
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## Harvard student may have found "Achilles' Heel" of HIV

Doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston believe a Harvard University medical student may have found "the Achilles' heel" of HIV, according to a report in the latest issue of the scientific journal *Nature*.

Thirty-one-year-old M.D./Ph.D. candidate Yung-Kang Chow has created a novel drug strategy that stopped replication of HIV in test tubes, but Chow and his co-authors of the *Nature* paper, along with other AIDS experts, caution that test tube results do not always translate to success in human tests.

Chow's strategy resulted from a question asked him by his supervisor at Mass General, Dr. Martin S. Hirsch, director of AIDS research at the hospital. Hirsch asked for Chow's comments about why a combination of AZT and ddI showed some effectiveness against HIV even after it had developed resistance to both drugs.

Chow began a series of test tube experiments, using AZT and ddI in combination with either of two other drugs—pyridinone and nevirapine. The results showed that the drug combination stopped replication of the virus, stopped the spread of the virus to healthy cells and successfully treated it in infected cells.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Dis-

eases, said that the strategy creates a combination of mutations (for drug resistance) incompatible with replication.

"It is essentially the combination of drugs telling the virus, you have a choice: either you are going to be sensitive to one of the three of us and are going to die, or you are going to mutate yourself out of existence," Fauci told the *New York Times*.

The *Times* also reported that the National Institute of Health has chosen ten medical centers across the country to test the concept in 200 patients with advanced HIV infection. The location of the centers has not been announced.

Fauci also cautioned against false hope, telling the *Times* that "[e]ven though this is potentially very important, we have to restrain ourselves from immediately making the leap to say that this is the answer to the treatment of HIV."

The NIH tests of the drug will use two groups, one taking AZT, ddI and nevirapine and the other taking only AZT and ddI for comparison purposes. Four patients at the University of Alabama in Birmingham are already receiving the three-drug combination to test safety, according to Dr. Hirsch. The patients have experienced no immediate adverse effects.

## Different strains of HIV hamper finding a vaccine, says researcher

*San Antonio, TX*—The virus that causes AIDS is different throughout the world, and an AIDS researcher says that reduces the chances of finding an effective vaccine soon.

That's because scientists are still using one of the earliest strains to produce vaccine candidates, said Ronald Kennedy, a scientist at Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio.

The virus used in laboratories is different from most types found around the world, Kennedy said last Monday.

"I'm kind of pessimistic because, right now, the things that we're trying are laboratory-isolate vaccines. And, looking at HIV infection worldwide, there are geographically diverse isolates," Kennedy said in an interview Monday at a daylong AIDS seminar for teachers and school officials.

Kennedy directs one of 12 federally funded Centers for AIDS Research in partnership with Wilford Hall Medical Center at San Antonio.

He told the *San Antonio Express-News* that most vaccine researchers are still using copies of the AIDS virus discovered by French researchers in the early 1980s.

"It's not highly representative of HIV-infected individuals in the United States or Africa," he said.

Kennedy said scientists are hoping that, even though a vaccine can't prevent infection, it can keep an infected person from developing AIDS.

"They keep pushing ahead with these vaccine trials with the hope that, if you give a little immunity, maybe that's enough to decrease the virus load and prevent disease. It's an argument. But I don't think it's a scientifically sound argument," he said.

Kennedy, who has been studying AIDS virus samples from the East African country of Tanzania, said he recently received an isolate that is the most lethal he has ever seen.

Scientists at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., are studying the components of the virus sample, which came from an infected health care worker who may have died as soon as six months from infection.

The more typical HIV isolates from Tanzania are different from those seen in the United States, he said.

A common surface molecule on U.S. viruses known as GP-41, which is being used in some new tests to detect HIV infection, is present only on about half the Tanzania viruses, he said. (AP)

## Clue to cure for breast cancer may come from Stone Age women

*Boston*—Breast cancer is 100 times as common now as it was in the Stone Age, a finding that suggests ways to dramatically reduce the frequency of the disease, a researcher said Feb. 15.

The study, presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is the product of the new field of evolutionary medicine. Its central tenet is that human society has changed drastically since the Stone Age but human biology hasn't.

"From the standpoint of our biology and chemistry, we're still Stone-Agers," said one author of the breast cancer study, Dr. S. Boyd Eaton of Emory University.

The determinations of Stone Age lifestyles come mostly from studies of present-day tribes of nomadic hunter-gatherers, who are the closest modern equivalents of Stone Age humans.

American women currently face a one-in-eight or one-in-nine lifetime risk of developing breast cancer. And lesbians may be at even greater risk. The risk in Stone Age women was about one in 800 or one in 900, Eaton said.

He found that women in hunter-gatherer tribes begin menstruating later than women in Western societies, have their first child earlier, have more children, nurse more frequently and have earlier menopause.

Those factors lower breast cancer risk by reducing the rate at which certain cells divide in the mammary ducts inside the breasts, Eaton said. More rapid cell division is associated with a higher risk of the out-of-control cell reproduction characteristic of cancer tumors.

Eaton said that hormonal injections could be used to mimic Stone Age conditions, possibly producing dramatic declines in breast cancer rates.

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## LONG TERM SURVIVING

DAVID STANLEY

During a lot of private conversations in the past few months, the topic of sex has been more and more common. Questions arise about sex between HIV positives and HIV negatives, whether or not oral sex is all that risky, and whether or not one needs to be completely open about HIV status as long as safe sex is practiced. With all the talk about safe sex in our community, it is becoming apparent that the dialogue still needs to be widened. More debate needs to take place and to be heard. More facts need to be sought out and then listened to by the entire community.

We've done a good job slowing down the infection rate in our community, much better than other segments of society, but there appears to be some backsliding, and that raises the danger for all of us. Complacency can only be allowed if both you and your monogamous partner have tested negative for over a year. Complacency, otherwise, can kill you. If anyone wonders about the safety of their actions, they should check it out. Don't ever believe that there is safety in ignorance.

I've talked to many HIV positives who say that they will have nothing to do with HIV negatives beyond platonic friendships. Reasons include frustrations from the necessary cautions, fear of infecting someone else, especially someone they love, and the feeling that only another HIV positive can understand the fears and thoughts that come with the infection.

I can counter those concerns with these thoughts: The cautions are necessary even between two HIV positives. Sex with others should be safe, no matter what the HIV status of either partner. If you have fears of infecting someone new, then you're using methods in which you don't have faith in the safety. You should examine your methods, explore the alternatives, and adopt habits that make you feel comfortable at all times.

No one ever understood my fears and thoughts before I was infected, so I can't expect anyone to understand my fears and thoughts now. Love is beautiful and so rare these days it seems, I can't see automatically eliminating the majority of potential partners, especially when you have limiting factors, such as my fetish for thin waists. My options are already too severely limited.

Regarding oral sex, as a gay male, I can't discuss dental dams, so please excuse me that I only speak of fellatio. People have been infected by giving head, without a doubt, but questions abound about the risks if there are no sores or cuts in the mouth. I read in

Paris just two years ago that oral sex was safe. Has anyone with a healthy mouth been infected by HIV? Does anyone really know?

I know some HIV negatives who won't go near the penis of an HIV positive with their mouths. Then again, I know some negatives who swallow with no concerns whatsoever, AND they're still negative. Which story is correct?

And what about swallowing? I've heard that stomach acid instantly kills HIV, but they say not to swallow. Why not?

Some people think tops are fairly safe. I can answer that one, because I have personal knowledge of that risk. Being a top is NOT that much safer. You can catch HIV through the urethral channel, same as you can catch gonorrhea or syphilis. Don't fool yourself.

The bottom line is that most sexual acts will carry some risks. Many are riskier than others. Some, however, have risks so low, you stand a better chance to be struck by lightning, and so can be considered somewhat safer than other acts.

Are you willing to take a small risk, but guard against a higher risk? Only you can make that decision, but it seems the trend is developing to do this. Just make sure you have all the available facts before making this decision, and make sure you feel comfortable with your decision.

Finally, if you practice safe sex at all times, is it necessary to always inform every partner of your HIV status? Obviously, many out there keep mum, thinking this is the only way they can continue having sex. From personal experience, I can say that yes, some will back away from an encounter because of your status, but most have faith in their safe sex methods and will go ahead. Your sex life can continue while being honest and open. It just may take slightly more effort.

You also have to consider the rights of your partner. Don't they have the right to know that they are taking a risk, even though it's extremely small? Be honest, sometimes in the heat of passion, you may not be exactly diligent in your methods. Sometimes, things slip up. And what if this chance encounter turns into something regular? What are the chances if you tell him you're HIV positive AFTER you've already had sex?

These are the questions I've been hearing lately, and no one seems to have the definitive answers, even among the best informed groups. We need more facts, perhaps more professional research, and we need a better dialogue of the ethics of sex in our community. Open up and talk. Our community will be better for it.

## OBITUARY

### Rich Flowers

Rich Flowers (Flores), 35 years old, died of complications from AIDS on January 9, 1993 in Chattanooga, TN.

Rich attended and graduated from Columbia University and several other international schools with degrees in architecture.

In February, 1992, he began to co-anchor Gay Cable Network's Sports Show, out of New York City, and later, pen "Sportspride," a nationally syndicated sports column for the LesGay community. His pet peeve was the lack of gender parity and diversity in the LesGay sports community.

Rich was a controversial writer, incorri-

gible as a person, lovable, handsome (and he knew it), highly intelligent and sensitive. He had a great attitude about life and romance, and fought his physical obstacles with great humor.

He is survived by his parents, Molly and Juan Flores and three siblings. He will be sorely missed also, by friends Lee & Mary Sharmat and the staff of Gay Cable Network. His ashes were distributed around Riverside Drive Park, January 16, in New York City—just where he belonged.

Rich was a contributor to Southern Voice.

## Senate votes to keep ban on HIV+ immigrants

Washington, D.C.—The Senate approved an amendment on February 18 to maintain the controversial ban on HIV+ immigrants, in an attempt to prevent President Clinton from carrying out his promise to lift it.

Word that Clinton would make good on his campaign pledge to lift the six year old ban came on February 8 from a memo leaked by the Department of Health and Human Services. The White House confirmed later that day that the ban would be lifted but said that no timetable had been set.

The amendment, attached by Republicans to a bill reauthorizing the National Institutes of Health, was approved 76-23. Thirty-four Democrats voted for approval. A similar amendment

is expected to be considered in the House.

The White House appears to be backing off Clinton's campaign pledge after the Senate action. "If you look at the vote margin, he doesn't have that many options," said Dee Dee Myers, White House press secretary. "He's going to review it. I think the Senate made a pretty strong statement about it."

Sen. Don Nickles (R-OK), chief sponsor of the amendment, said the vote would send the administration a signal that allowing HIV+ foreigners to immigrate, or to allow gays in the military are not something the American public wants.

"Frankly, I think President Clinton made a lot of promises to special interest groups that are

not in sync with the American people, and this is one," he said.

Martin Hiraga of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force commented last week, when the announcement was made that Clinton would lift the ban, that there is a connection between lifting the ban on HIV+ immigrants and homophobia.

"Those who have most supported the ban on HIV+ persons coming into the U.S. have been the very same people who have opposed gay men and lesbians coming in. It's an indication of the level that the far right will stoop to oppose anything progressive," he said.

The 1987 rule drew cries of discrimination from AIDS and civil liberties activists and

prompted the 1992 International Conference on AIDS to move from Boston to Amsterdam. South Africa is the only other industrialized nation that restricts entry of people with the AIDS virus.

Since the policy began, about 600 people a year have been kept out of the United States.

If the Senate measure becomes law it would have a major impact on 274 HIV+ Haitian refugees who are being held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Rev. Jesse Jackson has been on a hunger strike since Feb. 14 in protest of the conditions at Guantanamo Bay and to urge lifting of the ban. Some Haitian refugees began a hunger strike earlier this year.

## Media campaign launched to fight religious right

Washington, D.C.—A new campaign has been inaugurated to combat an increasing rise in anti-gay advertisement. At a press conference on February 17, Ann Northrop announced the formation of a new gay media outlet called The Gay and Lesbian Emergency Media Campaign (GLEMC). The group is concerned with countering the rise of anti-gay images being promoted by religious and right-wing organizations.

During the press conference, Northrop, executive director of GLEMC, showed excerpts of the group's new video, "Hate, Lies and Videotape." It is a quick response to the video, "The Gay Agenda," a slick 20 minute documentary-style film which promotes stereotype gay/lesbian behavior while using images of hate propaganda. The film offers a barrage of statistics—with no source for the numbers—such as "the average homosexual" has between 300 and 500 sexual partners in his life, and "28% engaged in sodomy with more than 1,000 men." The tape is currently being shown around the Pentagon and select military bases around the country, and has allegedly been distributed to members of Congress.

"The Gay Agenda," produced by Bill Korn, a pastor at Springs Life Church in Lancaster, Ca., was widely circulated throughout Oregon in 1992 in hopes of securing votes to pass the anti-gay

amendment. Korn, according to the New York Times, produced the film to counter what he calls the media's "lopsided" portrayal of gays as normal. Currently, "The 700 Club," a religious program produced by televangelist Pat Robertson, is advertising the video for \$13.95. Northrop is concerned that the tape will unduly influence the upcoming hearings concerning the lifting of the ban on gays/lesbians in the military.

"I am terrified of the effect that ["The Gay Agenda"] will have on the Committee members. I believe that the distorted images being viewed will not only increase fears of gays and lesbians but will incite that population of males, 18-24, to commit acts of violence toward gays and lesbians."

Other speakers echoed Northrop's concerns. Loretta Ross, Program Director of the Center for Democratic Renewal, an Atlanta-based organization that monitors Ku Klux Klan activities, talked of the similarities between bigotry toward gays and hate groups of earlier times. She issued a warning about the increasing sophistication of these groups in promoting hate messages as well as the melding of groups like the KKK and Neo Nazis.

Northrop ended the press conference by announcing that she planned to distribute copies of the group's video to Members of Congress and to officials at the Pentagon. A longer, more in-depth



Ann Northrop, executive director of the newly formed Gay and Lesbian Emergency Media Campaign, presents the group's first product, "Hate, Lies and Videotape."

video is in production.

For more information, please contact GLEMC, 39 West 14th St., #402, NY, NY 10011, (212) 229-2863, Fax: (212) 929-2732.

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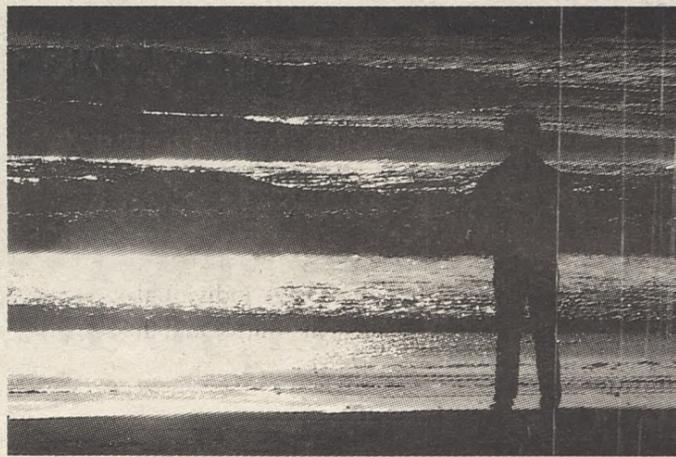
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## Gay son lobbies NY Senator father on rights bill

Albany, NY—The gay son of a conservative Republican state senator, whose colleagues are warily considering gay rights legislation, has begun lobbying his father to support the measure.

"You should know you're voting for me, voting for my life," Martin Daly said he told his father, state Sen. John Daly, last week.

Daly's plea to his father was reported Feb. 12 by the Buffalo News. The senator, popular with his colleagues and a 20-year veteran of the state Legislature, is from Niagara County in western New York.

"I thought I could have some impact on [the legislation], and it would be hypocritical not to try," Daly, a seventh-

grade English teacher, told the newspaper.

"A family relationship should not be a determining factor in a decision that will effect all the people in this state," the elder Daly said in a statement issued Feb. 12 through a spokesman.

"I love and respect my son," the senator said, adding that his action on the bill would be based on conscience and judgment.

The legislation to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians in such areas as employment and housing passed the Democratic-controlled Assembly for the first time last week. The bill, originally proposed more than 20 years ago, is still stalled in the GOP-controlled Senate. Majority Leader Ralph

Marino, a Long Island Republican, has said it will only come to the Senate floor for a vote if his Republican colleagues want it to.

Last week, Martin Daly, 34, took the first step in trying to win over his father. The younger Daly said his father has known for many years that his son is gay.

"He was very non-committal and offered to read the bill," the son said. "I said, 'What's to read?' But I decided not to push it in that initial conversation."

The legislation, also backed by Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo, simply adds "sexual orientation," to a state law barring such discrimination on the basis of race or religion.

As a result of his son's appeal, the elder Daly told the Buffalo newspaper he will try to craft a compromise with other Republicans, leading to a bill outlawing any kind of bias. It could be combined with stalled proposals to create tougher criminal penalties for crimes motivated by bias against a person's race, sexuality or gender, he said.

"But I think it's a disservice to homosexuals to [pass a bill] the way they want to do it," the senator said. "It puts a spotlight on them, and you're saying, 'They're different.'"

Martin Daly said he plans to keep lobbying his father who, he said, has seldom acknowledged his son's sexual orientation.

"He's uncomfortable acknowledging his gay son," Martin Daly said. "We have a tacit agreement not to talk about it."

Both men said Martin Daly had never tried to influence his father on any issue before. This is different, the son said, because "I kind of got fed up with the lack of leadership and moral courage" in the Senate on the proposal.

You're going to be causing greater friction because you're saying—in law—"They're different."

Advocates for the bill said Sen. Daly, a Catholic, could help blunt opposition from the New York State Catholic Conference.

Martin Daly said he plans to keep lobbying his father who, he said, has seldom acknowledged his son's sexual orientation.

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Both men said Martin Daly had never tried to influence his father on any issue before. This is different, the son said, because "I kind of got fed up with the lack of leadership and moral courage" in the Senate on the proposal.

"So I called the Pride Agenda [a group lobbying for this legislation] and told them I was gay and that I have a father in the state Senate and asked could I help," he said.

"I think some [legislators] have this image of a small, bizarre fringe of guys in leather, dancing at the Pride Parade," Martin Daly added. "I think it's important to put a face on" the proposal. (AP)



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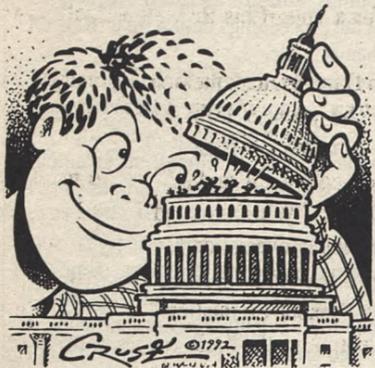
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SOUTHERN VOICE

**Colorado Redux—  
New National and  
State Strategies  
Needed**

NICK DANNA

Georgia is on the list. Our state has been targeted by the so-called "religious right" as one of those states ripe for a state constitutional amendment to outlaw civil rights protections for lesbians and gays. If the powers of fundamentalism can win in Colorado, a state known for its liberalism, they figure they can win right here in the heart of the Bible Belt. Nancy Schaeffer and her Family Concerns shocktroops recently forced the state board of education to amend the sex education guidelines and she is now ready to attempt to amend us out of Georgia's Constitution.

What can we do to defeat the right-wingers here in our Baptist-dominated state? First, we can learn from what happened in Oregon, Colorado and Tampa, Florida. We must take seriously this threat to our toehold on liberty here in metro Atlanta.

In Colorado, the fundamentalists grabbed the initiative by defining the rules of the game. They claimed that gays wanted "special rights." The gay and lesbian community responded too late to counter this propaganda. Opponents of the Colorado amendment had more money than its supporters and the pre-election polls all showed that the hateful amendment would be defeated. Too many Coloradans assumed it couldn't happen there. We sadly know better.

We must begin by forming a statewide organization which unites African-Americans and whites, gays and straights, the business community and working people. We must challenge the churches and synagogues to stand for the deepest religious values of justice and love. We need to call upon all our elected officials to join us in this fight. And we must raise money, lots

of it, to do many things.

Currently most of Georgia's lesbian and gay money goes to national organizations in Washington. The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) receives hundreds of thousands of dollars each year from Georgians. This money is used to support candidates for the US Congress and Senate who are supportive of gay and lesbian rights. This money, in the form of campaign donations, as well as HRCF staff and volunteer time, is supposed to garner votes for us in Congress. The problem with this approach is that the candidates we help elect are often afraid to vote for us publicly because they are looking back over their shoulders at the voters in their home districts. Since US House members must run for election every two years, they are loath to upset the good folks back in Gwinnett or Cobb County by voting for unpopular causes.

And HRCF is not alone on the national scene. The Victory Fund financially sup-

**GUEST EDITORIAL**

ports openly gay and lesbian candidates running for office. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) also lobbies Congress and the White House and gets its funds from citizens like us. All three of these national organizations do praiseworthy work on our behalf.

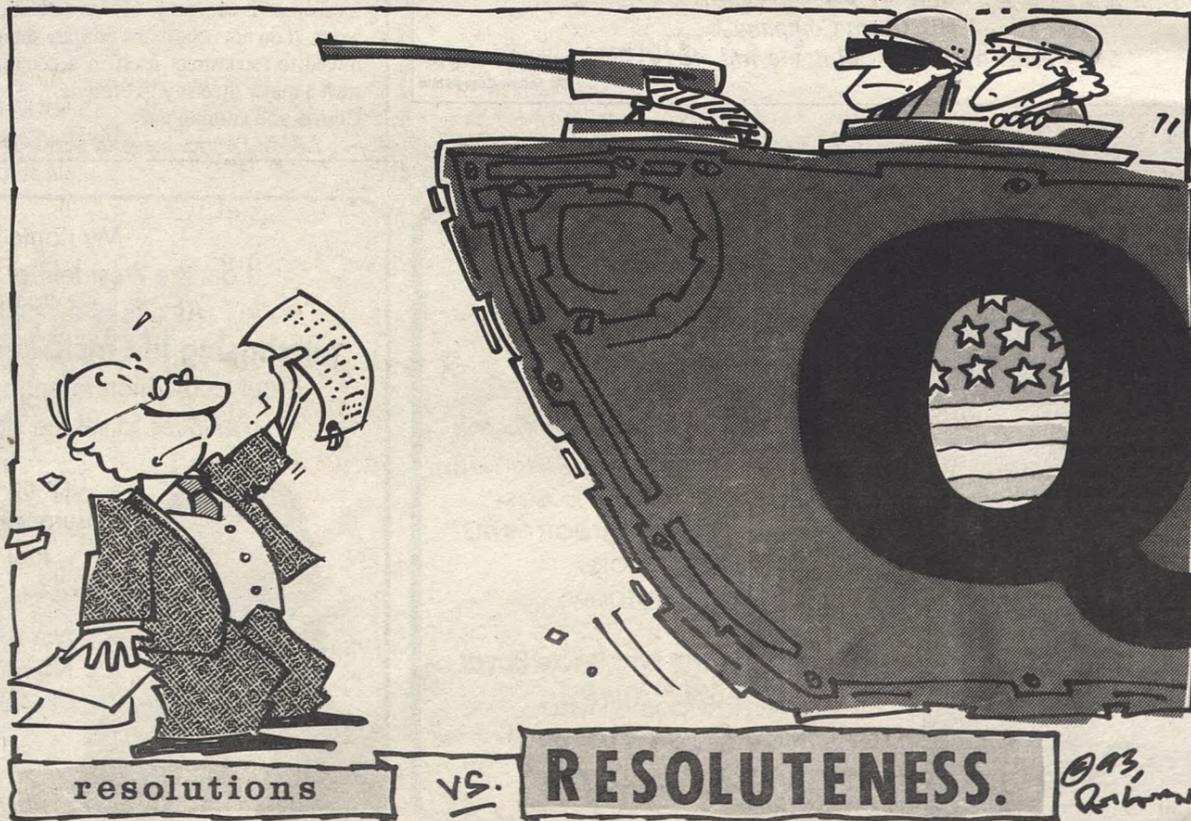
It is my position, however, that we must reorganize the gay political strategy from a solely national to a combined national-state approach. I question whether we should support three Washington-focused national political organizations while ignoring the threat to our rights back home. The boards and staff of these three groups must pool their resources of money and staff. And money saved in Washington could be shared with state level organizations. The national staff who are freed up could become regional coordinators who help states like Georgia lobby and organize at the state level. When our US Senators and Representatives see that gays and lesbians are

organized and powerful back in their home districts, they won't be able to so easily take our money and still vote against us.

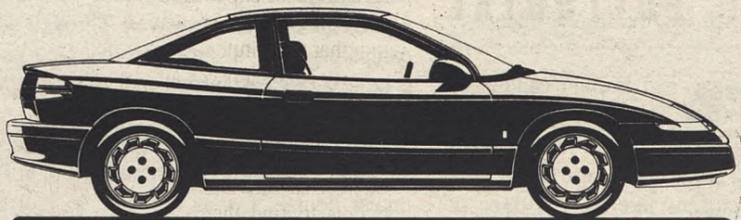
Local Georgia groups like the Georgia Political Action committee (GAPAC) need to become truly statewide in scope. GAPAC has hired a lobbyist for lesbian/gay issues at the state legislature. We need to support GAPAC with money so this lobbyist can continue to work after the legislature goes home in March. This lobbyist can travel the state to help organize Georgians wherever we are—which is everywhere. With a gay political presence in Valdosta and elsewhere in our state, our State and US legislators will have to start taking us seriously.

We need to raise money to form a coalition with other like-minded groups. We need a campaign that sends out speakers to radio stations, TV talk shows and to editorial boards of TV stations and newspapers. We must speak to churches, chambers of commerce, colleges, labor groups, and other civil rights and socially conscious organizations. We need to be pro-active by devising responses to the fundamentalists even before they begin to spew their lies and half-truths over the airwaves. Through ad campaigns we will proclaim that Georgia is large enough and grand enough to accept all of its children.

All of this will also take lots of leadership and thousands of volunteers and volunteer hours. Now is the time to call a meeting of leaders of various organizations and elected officials who should be our allies in the fight that is surely to come. Perhaps by showing our strength now, we can even dissuade the fundies from their self-ordained task. It is time to call upon the ACLU, the State Chamber of Commerce, The NAACP, the anti-Klan network, women's rights and other civil and social agenda groups to join us in this fight. It is time to challenge clergy and laity from churches and synagogues to be true to their belief in a loving God. It is time to let business, government and labor know that Georgia cannot afford to be seen as another state that officially discriminates against a portion of its citizens.



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## EYE ON THE MILITARY

President Clinton's plan to end the ban on gays and lesbians in the military has finally taken a back seat to his economic plans, but the subject has certainly not gone away. Court cases continue, more lesbians and gays in the armed services have publicly come out, more public figures have endorsed the plan, and Republicans and unsupportive Democrats are continuing to try to scuttle it.

On the positive side, DC Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton, NAACP's Roger Wilkins, Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony, and former Senator Barry Goldwater all favor lifting the 50-year-old ban.

Several World War II black veterans in Augusta have sided with Clinton on the issue, saying that the arguments now used to keep gays out are the same ones used by opponents of armed forces integration before 1948.

to halt discharge proceedings against sailor Mark Phillips. Phillips had asked the judge to suspend the proceedings until a final decision on the ban is made.

"They are treating me to the letter of the law, but his is sure moving a lot faster than the Tailhook investigation went along," Phillips said. "The [Tailhook servicemen] committed sexual misconduct crimes and I haven't."

Marine Sgt. Justin Elzie, a ten-year serviceman from Cheyenne, Wyoming, came out during a television interview on Jan. 29. "I don't take my sexuality to work," he said. "I wouldn't go grab a guy in the shower. It's not professional as adults."

No action against Elzie has been taken as of this writing.

### Fallout

Attempts to fight Clinton's plan popped up in several areas. An bill to codify the ban for the Virginia National Guard was killed in a committee on Feb. 9. A Republican assemblyman, James K. O'Brien Jr, introduced the measure on Jan. 12.

In Wisconsin, home state of Sec. of Defense Les Aspin, an effort to promote a cheese boycott is underway, but the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation warns that the boycott would backfire on the state's farm families.

At Dartmouth College, the ROTC program has gotten a one year reprieve from being moved off campus because of the President's efforts to remove the ban. The ROTC program was scheduled to be kicked off campus this April because of the ban, but the Ivy League school's trustees decided they would delay action until April 1994 because they are encouraged by Clinton's actions. The trustees voted in 1991 to drop the officer training program based on its feeling the "Defense Department has failed to provide some rational basis for its bar to the participation of homosexuals in any aspect of military service for this country."

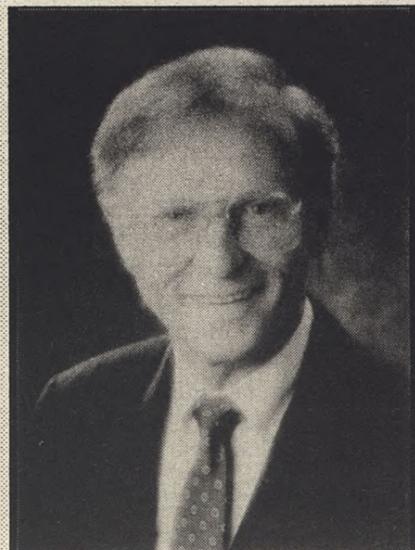
### No slowdown in recruitment

Recruiters in several states say that the changes Clinton instituted in the recruitment procedure on Jan. 29 have made little difference in new recruits.

"The puzzling thing is," said Petty Officer Keith Groves, who works in the Navy recruiting office in Louisville, KY, "very few have even mentioned this."

Gary Henry, public affairs officer for the Navy Recruiting District that includes Kentucky, Tennessee and parts of Indiana, Virginia, Alabama and Georgia, said the region exceeded its recruitment goal by 14 percent last month.

"This has been debated for more than a month," Henry said. "If there was going to be a backlash, we'd have seen it in our January numbers."



Sen. Paul Coverdell of Georgia voted to codify the ban earlier this month

"[Gays] are human beings and nobody has a right to discriminate against them," said Allen Brown, a 69-year-old veteran of World War II.

But Georgia Senator Paul Coverdell continues to stump against the ban. On Feb. 13, he, Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, and Rep. Mac Collins of Georgia met with soldiers at Fort Benning and other military bases, ostensibly "to hear how today's military personnel feel about [Clinton's] decision." But Coverdell, like Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn, opposes lifting the ban, and voted to codify it during a Republican attempt to attach an amendment to the Family Leave Act earlier this month.

"The military is by design trained to uniformity and sameness," Coverdell said last week. "I do not believe the military should be forced to reconstruct itself to accommodate such a major diversity in lifestyle."

### Courts and coming out

A U.S. District Judge in Seattle refused



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AL COTTON

# What an Experience

I think gay people don't fully appreciate the importance of our assembling as a community. What we choose to do to when we gather en masse ends up defining us, if only because it represents our common body of experience, our community vocabulary so to speak.

That's why, for men, all of us have assembled (or should) for events that bring us together to celebrate something we do, whether it be gay bowling or softball tournaments, choral conventions, leather runs, spirituality conferences or seminars like The Body Electric. For lesbians, there's the venerable institution of women's music festivals—a woman who hasn't bared her breasts in rural Michigan or north Georgia hasn't really lived (guesses this author, not from his own experience).

For our collective community, however, there are few places where both men and women gather to discover, create and celebrate a gay commonality. There are pride parades and national marches, and in some areas organizations like our late, lamented Southeastern Conference, where I first felt co-sexual solidarity. And for ever increasing numbers of lesbians and gay men, there is The Experience.

I'd heard about The Experience for years, all the way back to when it was The Advocate Experience, the creation of the late publisher David B. Goodstein. And I'd either avoided, put off, dodged or been busy all those various weekends for several years. Finally, I did it, in spite of two party invitations for Super Bowl Sunday. (You Experience-ers need to watch the calendar better next time.)

What kept me away all these years were Experience stereotypes. It sounded pretty authoritarian to me—plan to spend 14 hours in a motel conference room, if you bring a watch check it at the table, and sit where you're told until we tell you otherwise. Not the ideal outline for a celebratory community experience, I thought.

And ever since I heard someone refer to "an Experience smile," I've wondered who all those Experience graduates were collectively imagining to be in what type of underwear. I wasn't sure it was genuine.

But having done it, I now see how much of the weekend's structure arises from the results it aims for. The Experience looks to me like Goodstein's response to the anarchy of '70s gay politics. Such anarchy is instinctive in our community—each and every one of us had to break familial agreements (not to mention hearts) when we came out.

But back in the late '70s, there was little support for openly gay people after coming out. Support groups that did exist were run by volunteers still in early stages of healing—people who brought their pain and personal issues into the organizations they volunteered for. And many successful professionals were firmly closeted and reluctant to deal with the chaos and anarchy of gay society, where individuals were free to act very individually. Not the ideal recipe for a functioning, powerful community.

Thus, the exercises in The Experience are geared toward healing and un-closeting

people, with an emphasis on making and keeping personal agreements and nurturing a sense of integrity. And while integrity can always use good publicity, much of The Experience feels to me like preaching to the converted.

So many gay people in our community have come so far out, have done so much therapy and inner child work, have built such a powerful community—The Experience almost seems dated, certainly less crucial for our community than it was ten years ago, perhaps because of its own success.

But other parts have aged quite well, like its New Age-iness (the "We Are Radiant Energy Dancing Through Life" aspect), which must have been off-putting outside California in the early '80s. I like all that chakra and aura and crystal and channeling stuff, so I wanted more talk of such "woo-woo things," as our monumentally focused facilitator Honey Ward termed them. Since co-founder Rob Eichberg is better known than she, that makes Honey The Experience's better kept secret—she has a ferocious ability to focus on people who are speaking their truth.

There are certainly no cobwebs gathering around The Experience's vision—"By the year 2000 it will be impossible to get agreement, anywhere in the civilized world, that it is not OK to be lesbian or gay." I found its central decision making tool—the Consciousness Measuring Scale—to be useful and usable in monitoring progress toward empowerment. And truly remarkable is the extent to which it bonds people

who might never have otherwise met over the space of a weekend. Many small groups continue to meet regularly long after experiencing The Experience.

I was also impressed by its comfort with straight attendees. The Experience is billed as a workshop arising from the gay community as a gift to society as a whole, and every weekend has some straight people in attendance. (Our group of 43 had about half a dozen, two of them men.) I have the straight woman in my group to thank for reminding me how visible our strength is when we allow it to shine—even straight people can "get" it.

I do have a qualm or two. There is an authoritarian aspect to the proceedings that seemed harsh, at times almost abusive, of personal autonomy—I hear it's gentler now than it used to be. One of its exercises was especially unpleasant, and continues to echo in my mind well after the fact (which probably means it worked). Others who attended objected to the number of volunteer observers, and the very late nights.

But let me testify. I came to The Experience stuck in a major Slough of Despond, and almost cancelled to spend the weekend alone. But I didn't, and late Sunday night I emerged from the Comfort Inn exhilarated, richer in friendships and self-knowledge, wearing one of those perky Experience smiles myself, and carrying in my mind the image of a gay and lesbian community as exquisite as a rose—beautiful, admirable, powerful, even dangerous but only to those who don't treat it with care and respect. Year 2000, here we come.

For information about how to attend the next Experience Weekend in Atlanta (April 29-May 1), call 365-0317, or write 3133 Maple Drive, Suite 110, Atlanta, 30305.

## L E T T E R S

### GSU not separating church and state

To the Editor:

It appears that discrimination is institutionally sanctioned at Georgia State University, at least in the Counseling and Psychological Services Department (CPS). For twenty years the department has provided special classes based on religious affiliation. As you look through the class schedule for the CPS department, you will notice classes designated as "PSI" or "PSI only." PSI stands for Psychological Studies Institute, one of the seven ministry statements of the mission of the Mount Paran Church of God (Mt. Paran Ministry Statements). These classes are closed to graduate students not jointly enrolled at PSI, but are taught by state employees (GSU professors and staff) and are required classes for the Master of Science degree. Many of the classes have been taught on the GSU campus; others are taught at Mt. Paran. All require special authorization for enrollment.

Why do students affiliated with a particular church receive special treatment in the CPS department? Why are their classes reserved for them while other students are forced to contend for openings in the other available classes? An example of this is the two sections of Individual Analysis (required course) listed for summer quarter. One section is reserved for PSI only. There are 25 slots in each section. Since there are fewer PSI students than regular students, PSI students have the advantage of getting the class they need for graduation, while other students must wait until there is an opening in a non-PSI section.

How can a state university, supported by the taxpayers, provide favored status to a right-wing Christian fundamentalist group and discriminate against Georgia State University students who are not jointly enrolled in the Church of God's ministry? How can a state institution justify using state employees to provide services to a religious organization?

There is one Master of Science in Community Counseling degree offered at Georgia State. PSI students are enrolled in the program on the same basis as other students. If PSI students are in the same Master's program, why do they need to have their classes set apart from the general student population? The chair of the CPS department says this is done for the "convenience" of the PSI students so they can move through the Master's program together as a group. Is this adequate justification for discrimination?

I am asking all concerned students, alumni, and taxpayers to protest to the University system, their state representatives, the attorney general, and any others who should be concerned with the apparent discrimination against students not enrolled in the PSI/Mt. Paran Church of God's ministry.

Sincerely,  
J.A. Giancola

### Author responds

To the Editor:

Thanks very much for printing Rebecca Ranson's profile of me and Nicola Griffith's review of my novel "Pagan Babies." My long conversation with Rebecca was a pleasure, and to be interviewed by a writer of her stature was a privilege.

I was extremely surprised, however, that Ms. Griffith described "Pagan Babies," in her last paragraph, as a "fine piece of work," since she spent the rest of the review criticizing my novel for failing to conform to her definition of the form: namely, that "a novel should be a seamless, organic whole."

This notion is, quite simply, preposterous, and suggests that Ms. Griffith is unfamiliar with the aesthetics of modern, much less post-modern, "short story teller's technique," even though the contemporary novel, following the lead of such modernist giants as William Faulkner, James Joyce, and Virginia Woolf, most often presents experience as a fragmented, discontinuous reality, not as a "seamless" artifice of the kind that might have been valued in the eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries. Evidently Faulkner's "As I Lay Dying" or Woolf's "The Waves" would not be novels, either, according to Ms. Griffith—never mind the even more boldly experimental post-modernist novels of John Barth and Thomas Pynchon, or recent cutting-edge works by Paul Auster and Kathy Acker.

It's true that paperback genre fiction must conform to rigid rules and expectations. When science fiction, mystery, or romance readers pick up a new title, they don't want those expectations overturned. But serious fiction strives to remain true to the contours of individual experience and to the jagged, surprising turns of consciousness and emotion that constitute most people's lives.

My characters, Janice and Clifford, rebel against familial, religious, and societal pressures that try to mold them into conventional, stultifying roles, and they suffer a number of life-altering crises in their attempts to find themselves. To have organized "Pagan Babies" into a tidy, "seamless" package that never dares to "interrupt our journey into the hearts and minds of Janice and Clifford" would have been false to the complexity and drama of their experience. And it would have been condescending and dishonest to the reader, especially a gay reader. In short, it seems either deliberately unfair or amazingly naive to judge a novel, in 1993, by an aesthetic standard that has been out of date for nearly a century.

Perhaps the only valid definition of the novel is one wittily proposed some years ago by the critic and poet Randall Jarrell: "A novel is a prose work of a certain length that has something wrong with it." I'm sure Ms. Griffith would agree that "Pagan Babies" conforms to that standard at least.

Sincerely,  
Greg Johnson



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## FIGHTING THE RIGHT

Saying they wanted an end to the suffering and bickering, a Colorado group filed an alternative to Amendment 2 last week that would not offer "special rights" to lesbians and gays, but would give them equal rights. Greg Walta, a Colorado Springs lawyer, said he and his group "Come Together Colorado" will attempt to gather the necessary signatures to get their initiative on the November ballot.

The initiative, which repeals Amendment 2, prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing or public accommodations, and forbids the state from offering any "preferred legal status" for any person based on sexual orientation in the same three categories.

Walta said the voters were "misled" by Colorado for Family Values.

"We are trying to take both sides at their word," said Walta. "If they don't want special rights, fine. Let's make it so they don't get special rights. Colorado for Family Values insists it doesn't want to endorse discrimination."

But CFV, creators of the anti-gay amendment, are showing their true homophobic colors by opposing Walta's plan, calling it a "watered down gay rights bill."

Meanwhile, the Colorado Supreme Court has fast-tracked the lawsuit challenging Amendment 2, ordering transcripts from a lower court hearing delivered by March 1—seven weeks earlier than usual. The court will rule on an appeal by the state of Denver Judge Jeffrey Bayless' injunction stopping the amendment from taking effect before he hears arguments on a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the amendment. That suit is scheduled to go to trial on Oct. 12.

On the boycott front, comedian Paula Poundstone elected not to honor the boycott. Instead, she paid for a series of 15 billboards in Colorado Springs, home of CFV, intended to enlighten Amendment 2 backers.

People are not understanding "the gay experience," she said. "People [are] not understanding that people are beaten up and singled out and left out of particular things as a result of being recognized as being gay. I don't think a lot of people know that. They think, 'I would never do that to somebody,' and so they assume no one else is doing it. Not true."

Poundstone's billboards hold simple messages such as "Hate takes way too much energy" and "Maybe you misunderstood the question. No one is asking you to have sex with gay people, just to give them equal protection under the law."

Tempers are flaring over a New York group's boycott of Celestial Seasonings, a Colorado tea company. CS president Mo Seigal refused to give \$100,000 to Boycott Colorado, and New York Boycott Colorado launched a boycott effort, threatening to picket



Comic Paula Poundstone has bought 15 billboards in Colorado Springs to educate backers of Amendment 2.

restaurants that did not stop serving the herbal teas. Now, the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office are considering whether to file extortion charges against the New York group.

Boycott Colorado spokesperson Jan Williams charged Seigal with doing "more in a few days to harm the gay rights movement than anyone. He's making the gay community out to be criminals."

Seigal claimed that CS was the real victim. "I've said all along that I personally opposed Amendment 2," he said. "[But] what about my rights and the company's rights? We are not a political company, and it's our right to remain so."

### Elsewhere

Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker, who replaced President Clinton as that state's chief executive, says the time is not right to include gay rights in a proposed state civil rights bill. Saying that gay and lesbian civil rights are relatively new, he added that "they certainly don't have the history of odious discrimination affecting so many citizens as do women and racial discrimination."

Tucker made the comments during a two-hour question and answer program on the Arkansas Educational Television Network.

In Montana, a bill to require law enforcement agencies to improve reporting of hate crimes was attacked last week as another attempt by gays to get official validation of their lifestyle.

"We feel this is another attempt by the sodomites and lesbians to further their agenda," said the Rev. Rick DeMato, a Baptist minister from Helena.

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# The Fight for Our Children: And baby makes three

Part 2 of a 3-part series

CANDACE CHELLEW

When gay men or lesbians decide to have children, the process they face, no matter what the method of birth, can be long and trying.

"In the gay and lesbian community, there is no such thing as an unwanted child," says Judy Siff.

She should know. As the Director of the Donor Insemination program at the Feminist Women's Health Center, she has seen many women try and try again to have children. She also gave birth herself through donor insemination, as did her partner of 11 years, Judy Gerber.

Siff and Gerber have a 7 year old daughter and a 4 year old son.

"At the time we did this, we were a little more naive than I hope lesbians who are making this decision today are," says Siff. "I think we weren't sufficiently frightened by the possibility of AIDS. We were living in California at the time and we networked through friends to find donors."

With the help of agencies like the FWHC, those fears can be relieved. All donors are tested for HIV.

Siff and Gerber are just two of the many thousands of lesbians and gay men who are making the choice to become parents.

Siff sees this trend emerging because she thinks gays and lesbians are now seeing the option of family life opening up to them.

"It never really occurred to me that I could be a parent in the biological sense. I remember the day I heard of donor insemination, it was almost like a dream come true," Siff recalls.

Apparently, it's a dream come true for many people. The Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International estimates that there are about 4 million gay men and lesbians raising 8 to 10 million children. The figures are based largely on the assumption that 10 percent of the population is homosexual and on rough estimate that one-third of lesbians and one-fourth of gay men are parents. For the most part, however, the numbers reflect children of heterosexual unions. That trend seems to be changing, as more and more gays and lesbians turn to donor insemination, either anonymous or known donor, adoption and foster-care.

"We are no different than other people. The desire to have children is usually connected in most people's minds with heterosexuality," says Siff. "But it's only connected that way because people think of it in terms of heterosexual sex. But they are separate things. The desire to have kids doesn't come from your sexual orientation."

Lynn Pasqualetti and Laura Bevins would probably agree. The two got together when Lynn's two girls were very young. Now that Mercedes is almost 15, and Tascha is almost 13, they have a new addition to the family, 4 month old David, whom they got through a private adoption.

"It all started over chicken wings at Taco Mac," Pasqualetti smiles. "We were chatting with some friends and we said, 'If someone gave us a kid, we'd take it.' Our friends said, 'That's weird, we know someone in Lincoln, Nebraska.' We put the wheels in motion and on October 18th, we helped her deliver David."

"She had planned to give him up for adoption," continues Bevins, "so this is her one gift she can give David, a home."

Bevins sees the emerging gay and lesbian baby boom as a positive step for the community.

"Years ago the focus on gays and lesbians was all negative. But we are progressing and realizing that we are good people, and we have a right to raise kids and have families," she emphasizes. "Our whole image is changing. We are taking pride in ourselves."

## Fears and foes

Rights are slow in coming from the courts, however. The lack of legal marriage rights and continued homophobia, explicit or otherwise, at state run adoption agencies and in the courts can make raising kids a risky business for gays and lesbians.

"You do what you can on the legal level," says Gerber. "There are powers of attorney, wills and medical papers but all that we do is just a stretch that hasn't been tested in court."

It's that fear that can keep some gay and lesbian parents in the closet forever.

Jim Thompson, (not his real name) would not do an interview with Southern Voice without the use of a pseudonym.



Thompson went through a private adoption to get his 18 month old son.

"The reason I want to remain anonymous is because there is nothing more important to me than this child," he says with tears coming to his eyes. "I don't know what I would do if anybody ever took him away from me. It's a very scary feeling. My attorney says don't worry, but I live in a conservative state, where all it takes is a few people to start a witch hunt."

Seeing Thompson with his son, it's easy to understand the paternal instinct to protect the young. The boy is happy, toddling around the house in his bathrobe, squirming off the lap of a stranger to get to Daddy, where he will be safe.

It is for the children that Gerber and Siff requested no picture of them be run with this article, even though both of them are very out in the community at large.

"When people find out that our children's moms are lesbians, it's a coming out, not just for us, but for the kids too. We have to take into consideration how they feel," says Siff.

One of the most visible lesbians in our community, Cheryl Summerville and her partner, Sandy Riley, did not want to participate in this article for much the same reason. Sandy recently gave birth to a little girl through a known donor, Jeff Cheek. Summerville says it's time for them to leave the spotlight for a while and regroup as a family.

But the issue of being out is a double-edged sword as Gerber herself points out.

"It's hard for gay and lesbian parents to be out because the laws are stacked against us," she explains. "But the more we are out, the more people will discover there are actually gay and lesbian parents and the stigma will eventually disappear."

## Where did I come from?

For now, gay and lesbian parents are dealing with raising kids and many of the same issues straight parents face like PTA, after school activities, diaper changing and dating.

Extra challenges face these special parents too, like what to tell the children about where they came from.

As for Siff and Gerber's kids, "They know that they don't have a daddy. They have two mommies and that's what makes them so very special," says Siff.

For Pasqualetti and Bevins it's much the same. "As time goes on, David will know he has a biological mother," Bevins explains. "She's written letters to him before and after the birth telling him how she was feeling and why she did this."

Thompson says his son's biological mother visits occasionally, but has no role in the parenting of the boy. "I will tell him that he is adopted and how much harder it is to adopt than to just have a baby, and that I really wanted him," says Thompson.

They also must deal with how open they will be with their children and society at large.

Siff sums up the feeling of all the parents interviewed. "It's important to feel good about being gay or lesbian and be willing to share that with those you want to," she advises. "The children will feel good when we do. If we are secretive, then the kids will be too."

## The waiting game

Probably the biggest challenge facing gays and lesbians who want children is the lengthy stressful process they must endure to have a child.

In the private adoption process, there are scores of legal papers to be read and signed and an agonizing ten day wait where the biological parent can change their minds and decide to keep the children.

This happened in Thompson's case on the day he was scheduled to pick up his son from the hospital. He waited two months before the parents decided they would honor the agreement. While Thompson is thankful he now has his son, he says he will be eternally sorry that he missed the first two months of his son's life.

Pasqualetti and Bevins had it easier. The biological mother was nearly 40 years old, and knew she would give the baby up for adoption. But it didn't make going through the process any less stressful. "Every time we crossed one hurdle we felt relieved," says Bevins, "then we realized there was another coming up. There is an underlying tension until it's done."

As for donor insemination, the emotional highs and lows of trying and failing a number of times can take its toll on couples. Some may give up and try another way to get children, others may choose to wait and try again. It is rare that donor insemination is successful the first time.

## Stay away from the state

Possibly the first option for children that opened the door for gays and lesbians to adopt was the AIDS crisis and the subsequent leap in the number of HIV+ babies.

"When HIV+ children were being abandoned in hospitals across the country, the gay and lesbian community was the only community experienced in dealing with HIV, so of course those people were the first to come forward for HIV+ children," says Michael Bailiff, Director of Childkind.

Childkind is a licensed foster placement agency for the State of Georgia. They specialize in HIV+ children or children with AIDS, medically fragile children, daycare for HIV+ children and voluntary foster placement for children of parents who are entering drug treatment programs.

But now, even that option is limited for gays and lesbians.

"As education about HIV and AIDS increased, the states were able to find their own foster parents," Bailiff continues, "and they have backed away from our community, saying 'We don't need you anymore, now that we have found 'normal' people who will take the child.' Fulton County especially is becoming more homophobic."

When Childkind got its placement license in January of 1992, Bailiff says he wanted to recruit more gay and lesbian foster parents, but given the unwelcome climate of the state and Fulton County he says that would have been "cutting off his nose to spite his face, because then the state would not place children with Childkind. I had to back down because our job is to place children," he says.

But, he continuously sees the state agencies doing great injustices to children in his opinion, while saying they want what's best for the kids. He is especially confused about the desire to place ethnic children in ethnic households.

"I don't understand punishing a race of children because you want to keep them with that race. We had one little girl for two years who went through five foster placements when she could have been adopted by someone of a different race who would have loved her," Bailiff notes. "The best interests of that child were not served."

As for gays and lesbians who are considering adoption, Bailiff recommends staying away from the county systems.

"I would go through private agencies in order to foster and then adopt," he advises. "If you go through the process, I think people need to be open and honest and if they are refused, they need to press and find out why. If it is your sexual orientation, call Lt. Governor Pierre Howard's office and tell him you want the system equalized so gays and lesbians can adopt. Fight for your rights."

*The third and final installment in this series will appear in our last issue in March. Topic: The children of lesbian and gay parents speak out.*

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## AIDS trading cards stir debate

Walnut Creek, CA—Instead of Jose Canseco, you get Rock Hudson. Instead of gum, a condom.

They're AIDS trading cards, a new series from the small Northern California publishing company that created a furor last year with a "True Crime" set featuring psychopaths.

The new cards are prompting a fresh round of debate.

"There have been people who thought that these cards had a morbid cast to them," says Catherine Yronwode, co-owner of Eclipse Enterprises, the Forestville-based company that created a stir with its "True Crime" series.

But she maintains "we're not dragging out horrid details."

For instance, the Rock Hudson card lists



ROCK HUDSON

career highlights and ends with a paragraph on his 1985 announcement he had AIDS and subsequent death. Others in the series include Magic Johnson and Arthur Ashe.

Also featured are people seeking a cure "so it wouldn't just be...like a Vietnam War memorial of names," Yronwode said in a telephone interview from her office about 60 miles north of San Francisco.

The True Crime series, featuring criminals and crime-fighters, drew a storm of protest last year—while racking up \$1 million in sales—as victims' rights groups decried the cards as glorifying violence and profiting from tragedy.

The AIDS Awareness trading cards, 99-cents a 12-pack and due out this month, have drawn mixed reactions.

One opponent, Bob DeMoss of the Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family, worried that by popularizing "condoms to the level of bubble gum you reduce the specialness of sex to that of a casual handshake."

Others were concerned that the series features some people who did not acknowledge having the disease.

"It's unfortunate the way the company went about using these celebrities," said Nicole Russo of AIDS Project Los Angeles. "To all of a sudden have their likenesses being used...without any notification is unfair."

San Francisco AIDS Foundation spokesman Joe Fera worried about the privacy issue, but was pleased the cards carry condoms and medical information.

"It's very hard to try to determine where the line is between good taste and exploitation," he said.

Yronwode has declined requests to remove some people from the set, although she concedes, "we're treading on a very fine journalistic line here."

In defense of the cards, she points out that 15 percent of profits will go to Broadway Cares—Equity Fights AIDS, a New York-based organization that makes grants to HIV-infected people in the entertainment industry. The cards also include an AIDS hotline number.

Yronwode said she doesn't know whether AIDS Awareness will be as successful as True Crime, which were banned in Nashua County, N.Y., because of the uproar over their content.

In an interesting twist, Eclipse has been sued by Kenneth Bianchi, featured on a True Crime card for his role in the Hillside Strangler sex murders in Southern California.

Bianchi filed a \$6.75 million suit in federal court in Spokane charging his name was used without his permission and seeking a share of the profits.

"To be sued by a murderer...I'm completely stunned," said Yronwode.

MICHELLE LOCKE

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# Southern Voice Readership Survey Results

## Gender

Male—62%

Female—37%

Transperson—1%

## Age

21-30—34%

31-40—42%

41-50—18%

## Education

Over 95% of Southern Voice readers have had some level of college education. Here's how the numbers break down:

Some College or Vocational—24%

Undergraduate Degree—41%

Masters Degree—22%

Ph.D. Degree—4%

J.D. Degree—3%

M.D. Degree—1.4%

## Politics

86% readers are registered to vote

## Party Affiliations

Democrat—55%

Independent—35%

Republican—7%

Libertarian—2%

Socialist—1%

## Income

• The Average Household Income of Southern Voice readers is \$48,411.06; 21% make over \$70,000 annually

• The highest percentage of readers have an annual household income between \$75,000 and \$99,000

• Male readers average income is \$4335 higher than female readers

• Readers with an annual income over \$250,000 all live in the city

## Five years and counting...

If you were at the 1987 National March on Washington, then you know the energy and the optimism that abounded during that week, and how it seemed to follow everyone back home. It followed us, too. We saw and learned a lot during that week. One thing we learned was that Atlanta, being the gay and lesbian hub of the South, needed and deserved a newspaper. But not just any newspaper, mind you. What Atlanta needed was a publication that could help bring together a somewhat fractured and apolitical community and make it a driving force for the gay and lesbian civil rights movement, and the fight against AIDS, which crystallized in Washington, D.C. during October, 1987. To accomplish that we knew the newspaper must be accessible to many people—male, female, out, closeted, political, not so political, young, old, etc. It needed to have something for everyone, and at the same time maintain a steady vision that hopefully would be a consistent catalyst for self validation, unity and activism. Big job? We had no idea how big.

Southern Voice was launched on March 1, 1988. We started out small, real small. If you've been a reader since then you know what we are talking about. Sixteen pages published every other week. We had few physical resources, but we had some very good friends who supported us emotionally, and financially when they could. And we had a few loyal advertisers who came aboard in the beginning based purely on their faith in an infant publication. And we had you—the reader. In our first few months of publication we expected few people to read the paper. We were wrong. With the first issue you grabbed it up from boxes in Little 5 Points and Virginia-Highland, racks in Midtown bars and businesses, and from friends who were eager to share the latest issue of SoVo. You've always been there and your numbers have grown stronger every year. Now you live in Columbia, S.C. and

Montgomery, Ala. as well as in Lake Claire and Buckhead. And it seems you get more vocal each week! The number of letters to the editor we receive is staggering at times. At last count we had received over 60 letters written either to us or copies of letters sent to President Clinton, Senator Nunn and others expressing your thoughts about the military ban. If you don't see your letter then you'll know why—we simply don't have room to print all of them. But please keep writing. We want to hear from you, other readers want to hear from you and make no mistake about it—so do your elected local and national officials.

We want to extend our warmest thanks to all of you for the attention you have paid us over the past five years. Your comments and criticism and words of support mean more to us than you could possibly know. And even though sometimes we might not like what you say, we still need and want to hear it. We also need you to keep us informed of those events and issues which are important to you. We cannot be everywhere all the time. Sometimes, we aren't even aware of a situation until you call and let us know about it. Please continue to do so.

The Southern Voice Readership Survey, you may remember, was conducted last summer by Overlooked Opinions, Inc. We apologize for taking so long to get the info to you, but there were a lot of numbers to crunch and digest. We didn't have room to print everything, but we paid close attention to all of your responses. Your opinions on the content of the paper were especially considered. Soon you will be seeing some changes that reflect what you said you wanted to see in Southern Voice. Some of the results surprised us and some tickled us pink. We hope you find the reading as interesting as we did. Let us know what you think.

CHRISTINA CASH,  
EDITOR

## Sex

• People involved in relationships reported having unsafe sex an average of 1.87 times in the last year

• 95% of gay men report they have engaged in oral sex in the past year

• 11% of lesbians report they have engaged in oral sex in the past year

• City dwellers report having anal sex twice as often as people in the suburbs

• Intown residents are the most likely to report having more frequently engaged in unsafe sex in the last year

• 70% of readers have not purchased dental dams/condoms in the last month

## Outness

• On a scale of 1 to 10 readers' average degree of outness is 4.14

• Gays and lesbians who live in the country have a higher degree of outness to their mothers.

## Dining

• Southern Voice readers eat out an average of 6 times a week

• 37% of readers in the 21-30 age group eat at a drive thru every other day

• Readers living in small towns dine out on pizza most frequently

• Mexican food is eaten out most frequently by readers who live in rural areas. In fact, they dine out on Mexican more than any other type.

• Age group 21-30 is most likely to order take-out.

• People 41-50 eat the most seafood.

• People 31-40 eat the most Chinese and Thai food.

## Leisure

• Lesbians are more than 3 times as likely to play golf as gay men

• Under 21 age group makes the highest number of long distance phone calls, followed by 41-50

• 38% of readers have gone to a straight bar in the last 30 days

• The Caribbean is the most visited vacation spot outside the U.S.

• 32% of Southern Voice readers go to gay and lesbian bars more than once a week

• Lesbians are twice as likely to play ball sports as gay men

• Gay men are 10% more likely to enjoy cooking than lesbians.

• Lesbians are 13% more likely to enjoy writing than gay men.

• 19% of readers have rented an erotic video in the last 30 days

## Tidbits

• 85% of SoVo readers look to SoVo for advertisers

• 54% of SoVo readers have purchased underwear in the last month

• 6% of readers live with people under age 18

• 3% of SoVo readers live with partners of the opposite sex

• 4% of SoVo readers live with parents

• More than twice as many women live with their children than gay men

• 20% of SoVo readers have accounts at three or more banks or credit unions

• 37% of SoVo readers live alone

• 41% of SoVo readers are involved and living together

• 47% of readers own bicycles

• 4% of SoVo readers own vacation homes

• 53% of SoVo readers own leather coats or jackets

• 4% of SoVo readers own fur coats

• 25% of SoVo readers live in the suburbs

• People who live in the suburbs have the highest average household income

• 40% of SoVo readers own cats

• 80% of SoVo readers own a VCR

• People under 21 see the most movies, followed by 41-50.

*Results are based on 811 respondents to a survey conducted by Overlooked Opinions, Inc. in June/July 1992.*

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# OUT & ABOUT

## GAY DOCUMENTARY

### COMING OUT UNDER FIRE

Allan Berube and Arthur Dong think the highly charged debate over the U.S. military's ban on gays lacks perspective—about 50 years and a world war's worth.

Berube, author of "Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Women in World War Two," and Dong, an Academy Award-nominated filmmaker, have teamed up to create a TV documentary based on Berube's book.

They have \$310,000 in funding, including one of the few National Endowment for the Arts grants given in 1992 to a gay-themed project. They have a wealth of material drawn from Berube's 10 years of research. And they have a year of work ahead for a project they would like to see finished now.

"The media doesn't deal with the history of [the ban]. It deals with emotions and hysteria, the sensationalism of the issue. What we're trying to do with the film is to bring that history out," Dong said.

Gay soldiers' letters, rare film footage and government documents will be woven together to re-create the era of those caught in the anti-gay crusade and those who pursued it, said Dong and Berube.

Estimates put the number of gay men who served in the U.S. armed forces during World War II at between 650,000 and 1.6 million, with a smaller number of lesbian enlistees.

It was an uneven, sometimes surreal course the military and soldiers found themselves navigating. Medical examiners administered a test to try to uncover gays, asking searchingly, "Do you like girls?"

Gay and lesbian purges were conducted, Berube said, but the voracious wartime demand for troops saw the military keep gays in by trying to reform them, segregate them in certain jobs or just turn a blind eye.

"Effeminate" draftees were viewed skeptically as a potential detriment. But military-sanctioned shows featuring soldiers decked out in drag were popular and high-profile.

The troops themselves generally were tolerant, Berube was told by gay veterans. They recalled taking more heat for being New Yorkers, Southerners, Jews or blacks than being gay or lesbian.

Dong and Berube began work on their film for public television on Jan. 19. That was, ironically, the 50th anniversary of the military's first official anti-gay policy, notes Berube.

"It was a radical departure from the previous policy," said the San Francisco historian. "There had been no procedure to deal with homosexuals."

Instead, it was behavior—acts of sodomy—the military targeted, and a conviction meant imprisonment. Then, says Berube, medicine intervened in 1940 as the United States teetered on the brink of war.

"Psychiatrists were beginning to have much more influence. They said homosexuals were mentally disturbed, not criminal, and therefore shouldn't be punished," he said. "It was kind of a humane gesture. But the military only bought half of the idea, that they were sick."

Instead of prison, gays were punished with dishonorable discharges that stigmatized them. Benefits also were denied.

The total number of men and women discharged as homosexuals between 1941 and the late 1980s approached 100,000, Berube said. The impact is greater than the numbers reflect, he and Dong contend.

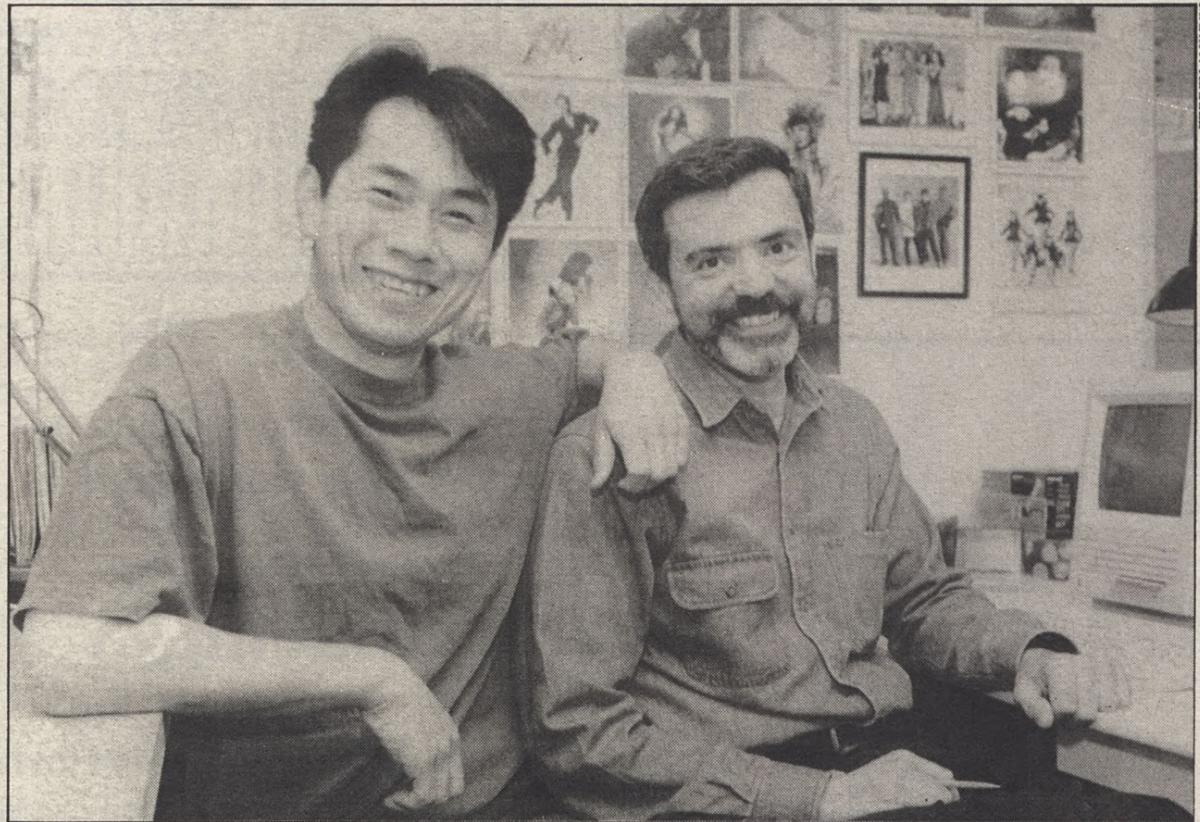
"The federal government in the 1950s based their anti-gay policies on the military policies. That's part of the story we're telling," Dong said. Gays themselves underwent a political change as well, he added.

"This is one of the first causes that gays and lesbians had to fight for. Many will say—this is up for debate—that this is the seed of modern gay and lesbian liberation, the fight for civil rights," said the Los Angeles filmmaker.

Dong, who received an Oscar nomination for his 1982 film "Sewing Woman," is directing "Coming Out Under Fire." He and Berube, who began fund raising two years ago, are sharing producing and writing duties.

In addition to \$50,000 from the NEA, the project received a \$250,000 grant from the nonprofit Independent Television Service, created by Congress to fund innovative TV programming. The city of Los Angeles pledged \$10,000.

Berube said he welcomes the wider attention television could bring to his 1990 book. But for the World War II gay



Allen Berube, right, and Arthur Dong have teamed up to create a TV documentary based on Berube's book "Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Women in WWII."

veterans who didn't live to see the reassessment, the point is moot, he said.

"That generation has had to go through a lot of suffering," he said. "I have friends who focused a large part of their life trying to get justice and never got it. For them, the wait was too long."

LYNN ELBER

## THEATRE REVIEW

### COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA

by William Inge, now being presented by Southern Fried Productions at Mercer University Auditorium is the best Southern Fried show I have seen. The film version with Shirley Booth and Burt Lancaster was depressing 1950s kitchen-sink drama about self-pitying losers. But Director Jeff McKerley and his cast have taken a fresh, compassionate look at these characters' lives, making us like the characters and care about them. The play does not seem dated, but rather, very up-to-date.

Lola (Linda Morgan) and Doc (Jeff McKerley) are approaching middle age with youthful dreams destroyed. They married as teenagers, the result of pregnancy. Doc dropped out of medical school and became a chiropractor—regarded as second-rate by society and by Doc himself. Worse, he becomes an alcoholic. Lola cannot have children, yet Doc, with his old-fashioned notions of a woman's place, would not let her get a job. Lola has become depressed, letting the housework go, wearing robe and slippers all day, trying to get some interest in her lonely life by trying to start conversations with the milkman, her neighbor, the Western Union delivery man, all of whom put her off. At the time of the play, Doc has been sober for a year, is in AA, and repeats the Alcoholics Anonymous prayer every morning.

But conflict arises with the presence of the flirtatious Marie, their college student boarder, well played by Donna Bennett. Marie charms Doc and carries on with athlete Turk (Anderson Chambers), even though she has a boyfriend back home. Tensions reach the boiling point when Doc—who has a crush on Marie—catches Turk leaving her room early one morning. Doc says nothing, but goes straight to the cupboard and gets out a quart of booze. Chaos follows.

The play has lost none of its immediacy as a study of an alcoholic personality. Doc is quiet, kind, well-mannered, and

responsible when sober; violent and abusive when drunk. Jeff McKerley well portrays the sober side of Doc, but he is less successful with the out-of-control side.

Linda Morgan brings freshness, spunk, and energy to the role of the depressed Lola. Not the helpless, pathetic slob she was in the film, this Lola is a woman with limited education and experience of the world but with much vitality and enjoyment of life. She is also far stronger than she appears on the surface.

Both Doc and Lola are burdened by rigid societal expectations. Doc, raised in a well-to-do family, thinks he is a failure because he became a chiropractor instead of an M.D. He feels



Linda Morgan as Lola

trapped by his marriage and blames Lola for his lack of success. Doc also believes his wife should not work, even though they have no children. Lola has energy and would like to have had a job, but she feels defined by the expectations of a woman's role in the late 1940s. Also, her self-esteem has sunk because she has gained weight and, according to prevailing anti-fat prejudice, is no longer attractive. Their rigid ideas, accepting society's stereotyped judgments rather than

the situation itself, trap the two. The play's title refers to a little dog Lola once had who ran away. In Lola's dreams, Little Sheba represents her lost hopes and even her own neglected self.

This play shows how these people are trapped by limiting negative expectations. And with the prevalence of alcoholism and substance abuse, the dictum society places on women today to be thin, and the way everyone feels they must be successful in financial terms, this play is just as relevant today as it was in 1950.

CHARLENE BALL

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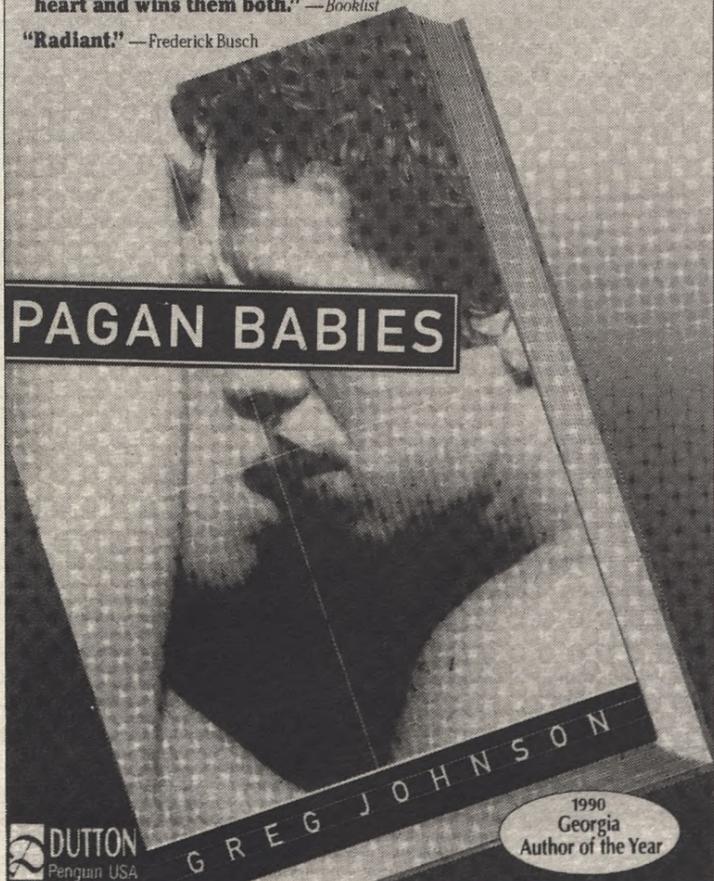
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C A L E N D A R

25 THURSDAY

**CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY.** Charis Books and More hosts an evening focusing on some of the many contributions by African-Americans. The presentation begins at 7:30. Call 524-0304 for details.

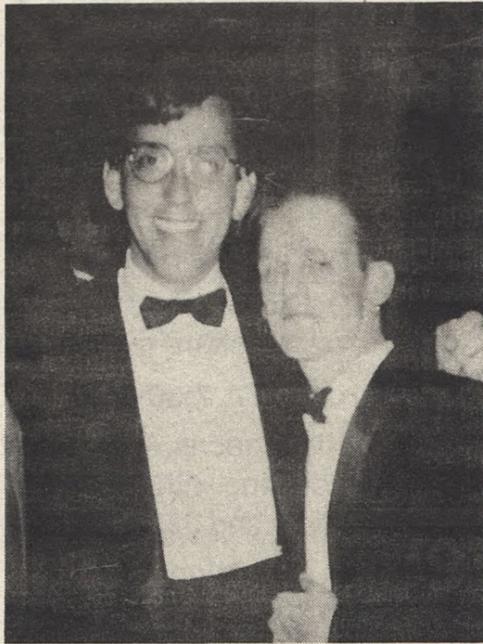
**INVESTING WITH PRIDE.** Investment Executive James Dean will present an hour-long seminar focusing on a portfolio of high-quality stocks of companies that openly make beneficial contributions to the gay and lesbian community. 7:30 p.m. on the 15th floor of the Lenox Bldg. in Buckhead. Make reservations by calling 262-5818. Seating is limited.

**VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE.** AID Atlanta is recruiting volunteers tonight at 8:00 at its office on Peachtree. Learn the ways you can help in the fight against AIDS. Call 872-0600 for more info.

**THE WIDOWS.** Theatrical Outfit presents a staged reading of this new musical centering on the wives of prominent figures in the 1960s. The script and lyrics were written by Terry Sagedy with music by Nancee Kahler. The performance begins at 8:00. For further info call 872-0665.

**ASSASSINS.** Georgia Tech presents a musical about Lee Harvey Oswald, John Wilkes Booth and other notorious figures of history. Thursdays-Sundays through March 6. For ticket info call 894-2745.

**ALEXANDER NEVSKY.** Yoel Levi leads the ASO and Chorus in this



Prokofiev cantata tonight through Saturday. The program also includes Debussy's "Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun." Call 898-1182 for ticket info.

Call 892-HIGH for more info.

**THE MAGIC FLUTE.** Classic TheaterWorks presents the Mozart opera tonight and tomorrow at 8:00 and Sunday at 3:00p.m. The performance takes place at the Stillwell Theater located on the Kennesaw State campus.

26 FRIDAY

**BONESHAKERS.** A new bar and disco opens its doors tonight in Athens. Boneshakers is located at 433 East Hancock Ave. Call 353-1558 for info.

**ORGAN RECITAL.** Goethe-Institut Atlanta presents German artist Matthias Eisenberg tonight at Emory's Cannon Chapel. The program begins at 8:15. For details call 892-2388.

**SONG OF THE EXILE.** The High Museum presents this film about an estranged mother and daughter who come to terms with their relationship as part of its "Stories of Women Series."

27 SATURDAY

**ROSE PRUNING DAY.** Rosarians from the Greater Atlanta Rose Society will share their secrets and demonstrate how to prune roses in the Rose Garden of the Atlanta Botanical Garden from 8:00 to noon. For more info call 876-5859.

**THE MEETING.** What might have happened to the civil rights movement if Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X had joined forces. American Playhouse

presents Jeff Stetson's play exploring the issue. GPTV Channel 8, 10:00 p.m.

**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.

**DEDE VOGT.** Local fave performs in a benefit for the 1st Existentialist Congregation. Special guest is Angela Motter. 8 pm at the E-Con, 470 Candler Park Drive. Tix \$8.

28 SUNDAY

**SUNDAYS AT FIVE.** The Arts Exchange presents a tribute to African-American History Month with performances by the Ritual East Band, Azanah, the Dawah Ensemble and the Isis performing Company. Arts Exchange is located on Kalb Street. Call 624-4211 for details.

**HISPANIC FESTIVAL.** The Atlanta Virtuosi presents "The Music of Astor Piazzolla" at Agnes Scott College beginning at 4:00 p.m. The program features the jazzy-Tango compositions of the Argentinian musician. Call 938-8611 for further info.

**MY BED IS MY BOAT.** This one-man show pays tribute to the imaginative genius of Robert Louis Stevenson. The show, presented by the Spruill Center for the Arts, begins at 2:00 p.m. at the North Dekalb Cultural Center. Call 394-3477 for ticket info.

**JITRO.** The Czech Republic Choir is one of the

top children's choirs in the world. The group performs at Georgia Tech beginning at 8:00 p.m. Call 894-9600 for info.

1 MONDAY

**OUT IN ATLANTA.** Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program can be seen tonight at 10:30 and again Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. on Cable Channel 12. This week's show features a replay of the Lesbian/Gay Inaugural Events in Washington, D.C.

**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.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN PHILHARMONIC.** Music South presents its Fourth Annual Black History Celebration at the MLK Chapel on the campus of Morehouse College. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. For additional info call 346-3417.

**BOB DYLAN CELEBRATION.** GPTV presents the tribute concert to the legendary musician tonight and tomorrow at 9:00. Performers include Eric Clapton, Mary-Chapin Carpenter, Tracy Chapman, Sinead O'Connor and Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam. GPTV Channel 8.

2 TUESDAY

**THE SECRET GARDEN.** Theater of the Stars presents this Broadway favorite at the Fox Theater through March 7. The story is based on Francis Hodgson Burnett's turn-of-the-century children's story. For ticket info call 252-8960.

**JUNE ANDERSON.** The soprano, recognized as one of the world's leading opera singers, will perform at Georgia Tech beginning at 8:00 p.m. Call 894-2788 for ticket info.

3 WEDNESDAY

**ONCE ON THIS ISLAND.** This exotic musical fantasy with the passion, exuberance and fire of the Caribbean, captured 8 Tony Awards last year. Set on an island in the French Antilles, the action takes place on one night as a



group of peasants wait out a violent storm. Runs through April 3. Alliance Theatre. Wed.-Sat. 892-2414.

**OUT OF THE DARK.** This ten-part German crime and detective film festival is jointly presented by the Goethe-Institut and the High Museum. Tonight's feature, beginning at 7:00, is "Eine Stadt sucht den Morder" (1930), directed by Fritz Lang and starring Peter Lorre. For details call 898-9286.

**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 Saturday at 10:00 p.m. It also airs on City Channel 6 at 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Pictured:  
ABOVE LEFT: Eric Spivey (right), host of Out in Atlanta, and Bob Hattoy at the Triangle Ball. Out in Atlanta will replay its coverage of Inauguration Week on March 1  
ABOVE: June Anderson, one of the world's leading sopranos, will perform March 2 at Georgia Tech  
BELOW: Tony Winston performs at the Coach & Six through March 13

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

**COME BACK LITTLE SHEBA.** Through Feb. 27. The story of a deep-seated frustration in a marriage and 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 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 can be seen Thurs.-Sat. at 8:00 and Sun. at 2:30. For reservations call 897-1802.

**THE ROVER.** Through Mar. 6. The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern begins 1993 with 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.

**LETTICE & LOVAGE.** Through March 13. Theatre in the Square's hit production of an eccentric tour guide, and a rigid personnel director, Lovage, who tries to repress

Lettice's behavior has been extended. Tues.-Sat. Theatre in the Square, Marietta. 422-8369.

**TONY WINSTON.** Through March 13. Popular jazz pianist/singer Tony Winston, first cousin of new age pianist George Winston, performs at The Coach and Six Restaurant through March 13. Three performances nightly Thurs.-Sat. Call 872-6666 for further info.

**PORTRAITS AT TWILIGHT.** Through Mar. 14. 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." Thur.-Sun. at 8:00 p.m. at the 14th Street Playhouse. Call 370-1350 for more info.

**ONCE ON THIS ISLAND.** Through Apr. 3. The Alliance Theatre presents this Broadway musical fantasy set in the Caribbean. The song and dance begins at 8:00. Call 892-2414 for ticket info.

**6TH ANNUAL HRCF DINNER.** Sat., May 22. A black-tie evening of political inspiration, entertainment, silent auction, cocktails and dinner with 1,500 members of the gay and lesbian community. Tickets are on sale now. \$150. For more info call 662-4280.



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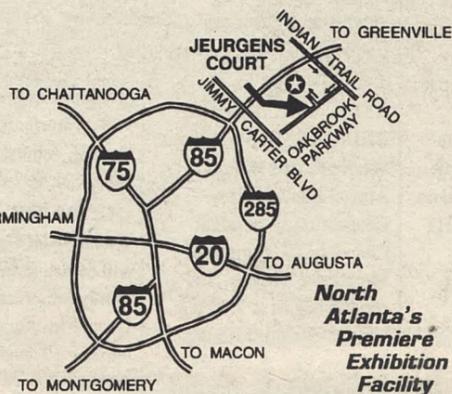


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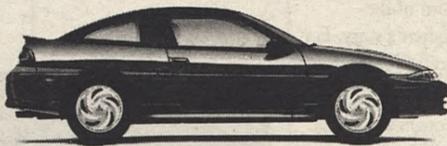


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It's been a busy '93 so far for comic Cissy Rimwell. I met with Cissy at the Midtown apartment she is leasing (by the week). Surrounded by memorabilia from her long career in country music (mostly faded handbills and a collection of matchbooks from motels), Cissy sipped a vodka-laced orange juice as we chatted.

DR: So, what brings you to Atlanta.

CR: Work, honey. And the chance to get away from Nashville.

DR: Don't you like Nashville?

CR: Oh, I'll always be tied to Music City, but it's too conservative. I mean, how progressive can a city be if they don't even have a big gay population? Oh, there are some gay people there. I've met them both.

DR: Let me see if I have this right. You're a country singer but you don't sing?

CR: Well, you see, despite a long career of chart topping hits, I find that due to poor management and discrepancies with the IRS, I am between recording contracts. And I have found that in order to maintain my position as a queen of country music, I really don't have to sing—I just have to talk about singing.

DR: What were some of your biggest hits?

CR: Oh, lets see, there was "Daddy's on Parole," and my trucking song, "You Parked Your Rig on Top of my Heart," and the immortal "Trailer Park Mistress."

DR: Do you have your own band?

CR: Yes, I do. They are called "The Cissy Boys" but they are working more and more on their own these days. They mostly perform in prisons. Incarcerated men seem to love the Cissy Boys.

DR: Tell me, Cissy, about your part in the Super Style Show.

CR: Oh, I can't wait! I am scheduled to host a portion of the show and I am also going to emcee a fashion show featuring some of Atlanta's most fashionable club kids wearing their most outrageous outfits. My list of supermodels includes Scyntilla Vortex, Trina Saxxon, Christian, and Barbie Q, with some gorgeous boys thrown in.

DR: How did the JoHanna's show come about?

CR: Well, my new agent lined this up for me. I auditioned for this fella in his office. It was just me and him and a glass-topped desk. Let's just say he liked what he saw.

## AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



Cissy Rimwell will perform, along with Funny...That Way, on March 6 in a benefit show for the National March on Washington.

DR: So it's a variety show?

CR: Yes, sugar, Amira Hansen will be there, as well as Jeff Mason, Chris Cato, Dale Sprayberry, Bill Miller, Hampton, and Lamont and Tony Toomer. Music, comedy, rap—it's kind of a Sullivan Show for the '90s.

DR: What do you think of Atlanta so far?

CR: I love it, sugar. And most everybody has treated me real fine. I may relocate here. I am looking for a nice trailer park in Midtown, do you know of one?

DR: No, I don't.

CR: Someone told me about a nice one near the park. She said it was right next to a bar called the Piedmont Drinking Club, I think. That would be perfect. Not that I drink excessively...no, sometimes I use a drink as a prop—to prop me up!

DR: What else are you doing?

CR: I'm performing with Deb Calabria and the other talented people of "Funny...That Way" in ComeAlot. We are going to Nashville to perform. Wait 'til they get a load of me! I hope the tabloids don't find out.

Then it's back to Atlanta where we will perform "ComeAlot" at the Existentialist Church at 470 Candler Park Drive on Saturday, March 6 at 8:00 pm. That performance will be a benefit for the Georgia Chapter for the March on Washington. Oooh, deja vu!

DR: How can my readers get tickets?

CR: The tickets are for sale at Brushstrokes in Ansley Square and Charis Books in Little Five Points. They are only \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

DR: I loved ComeAlot. What can we look forward to from "Funny...That Way?"

CR: We're in pre-production of a new play that Deb Calabria has written called "Bones and Mae." It's about a couple who have been together for years and the colorful people who inhabit their lives.

DR: Is there anything else we need to know about you?

CR: Well, I've been asked to appear on the American Music Show by Funtone Records mogul Dick Richards to promote my show at JoHanna's and my good friend Miss DeAundra Peek has asked me to be on her show also. DeAundra says they play my 8-tracks at the recreation room at Odum's, and everyone at the Opry has been dying to work with DeAundra.

DR: You're a member of the Opry?

CR: Yes, although I haven't worked there in quite a while. But I used to perform on alternate Tuesdays when Skeeter Davis couldn't make it.

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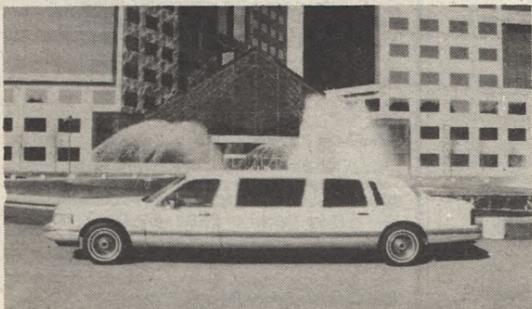
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# EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

The surroundings at **The Chile Tree** (469 N. Highland Ave. 688-0836) are a little less posh and polished than Marra's which I reported on here last week, but the luncheon fare sure is yummy.

I was enthusiastic about this tiny Mex-Mex eatery when it opened for dinner a couple of months ago; now lunch is on the menu. If good food, reasonably priced, is on your like-list, get thee there soon.

Some of the lunch items are recruits from the dinner menu—excellent ceviche, exquisite sopa de lima, and a too-mild-for-me pollo pibil (chicken baked in a banana leaf.)

Others are new for lunch: beef stewed with pineapple, plantains, tomatillos and hot chiles; chicken enchiladas; veggie enchiladas and a chayote squash stuffed with various vegetarian goodies.

I tried the stuffed squash and can't sing its praises loud enough. The flat squash is piled high with chopped mushrooms, onions, garlic, corn and ground pumpkin seeds and topped with a chipotle-spiked salsa. There's a nice variation in textures as well as a range of flavors from mild to pretty darn spicy. Best of all, it's an incredibly healthy dish with almost zip fat.

An appetizer of pickled cactus pieces and tomato in a lime vinaigrette is tart and bracing, but easy on the tongue. The cactus strips look like fat green beans, taste vaguely like pickled green pepper, and have a soft (but not squishy) texture. Good stuff.

Our chicken stuffed relleno (also from the night menu) emerged from the kitchen topped with the cinnamon-laced creme fraiche that normally comes on the cheese stuffed poblano pepper. Yum. Try ordering it that way.

Lunch at the Chile Tree is low key and reasonable—little on the menu runs more than \$5. Try it when you're tired of burgers and fries or when you want to impress a friend or client with your knowledge of small and eclectic eateries.

Several folks called last week and asked, since I seem to dislike Surin so much, just where I do go for Thai food. South of the Perimeter, **Hot Pepper Thai Cuisine** (2257 Lenox Rd. 320-1532) gets my vote. If the special of fresh salmon in green curry (over noodles) is available, order it. Salmon may not be a very authentic Thai foodstuff, but the mild pink flesh looks and tastes spectacular in what must be the city's best green curry—a perfectly balanced mixture of aromatic basil, sweet coconut milk, and hot peppers.

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, The Peasant Corp is in search of those with "Peasant Memories." Like folks who had their first date, an especially good laugh, a fantastic birthday, you know the stuff, at a Peasant restaurant. The six best memories will each get dinner for 10 at the Peasant-owned eatery of their choice.

The press release for this contest is mighty hetero in tone, so to be sure that the Peasant folks remember their homo customers, drop by any of their places and get an entry form. Tell them about your very gayest or most lesbianic Peasant Times.



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**Ken's Cock:** In a second section cover, the New York Times asks "is America ready for Ken's makeover?" Queer male America should be. The '90s version of Barbie's boyfriend is tanned, pumped, has streaked hair, an earring in his ear, and a leather vest on his chest. And if that isn't enough, how about the (metal) cockring on the chain around his neck? (His jeans, alas, are still empty.) The Times says all this is part of a trend of "gender blurriness" that's big in the toy industry right now. What *that* means is that toy makers are "trying to sell certain kinds of toys to both sexes." Is Barbie in denim and leather on a Harley next? We sure hope so.

**D.I.'s in Drag:** Speaking of fashion, Dish is in receipt of an article from the "Beaufort Countian" (that's where Parris Island is located) detailing a performance (The Wizard of Claus) by the "theatrical detachment" of the Parris Island Band. Along with said article is a very large photo of a Marine (in blonde wig, camo drag, and fishnet hose) portraying the "Wicked DI of the East." Dorothy is replaced by a character called "WM" (and played by a woman Marine). It all sounds too kinky for words, but we're sure that our perception is entirely too bent. But then, maybe not. Parris Island Commandant Maj. Gen. G.A. Deegan says that "nobody contributes more [to the professionalism of Parris Island] than the depot band." Dish is pleased to see that a Marine Maj. Gen. can acknowledge the value of drag.

**Ivanagate:** Get out your remote control ready, Ivana Trump will soon be appearing on the Home Shopping Network to sell her clothing and jewelry "collection" to "millions of women nationwide." If this is happening can Colin Powell (selling arms and ammo) be far behind? Gag Dish with a spoon.

**Richard B. Russell Passes the Torch:** While we stood on the plaza of the Richard B. Russell Building a couple of weeks ago demonstrating our distaste for Sen. Nunn's homophobia, we had a hot flash. Unless we are entirely delusional, it was from none other than Sen. Russell that Sen. Nunn took over chairmanship of the senate armed services committee. The late Sen.

# Dish

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



Russell, we do also believe, was the chair of that committee when Pres. Harry S. Truman issued the executive order to integrate the armed forces. Russell yelled like a stuck pig predicting the end of the world if Truman's plan was carried out. Sound familiar? And how about the fact that Russell never married and regularly referred to his mother as "the love of my life?" Hmmm.

**Bump and Grind:** Right-wing hatemongers and sexaphobes take note. In early February two Tallahassee police officers

answered a call from a bar where a heterosexual couple was giving new meaning to the term dirty dancing. Seems that Sean McDonald and Kristen Tice were having real live, face to face, on their feet, sexual intercourse in front of about 100 patrons of a local night club. The couple ignored gentle police attempts to halt their bliss, and one cop finally "grabbed him and spun him around and disengaged them." Sean and Kristen, who did not know each other before they started dancing, were charged with disorderly conduct. No word on whether or not the couple used a condom. Dish sure hopes so.

**Go Figure:** Speaking of erotophobia, a reader from New Mexico (we actually have at least two subscribers there) has sent us an article about the uproar that ensued when "The New Mexico Daily Lobo" (the paper at the U of N.M.) published a full frontal nude photo of a man with a surgical steel stud in his penis. The picture illustrated an article about the history of piercing. The same issue ran a photo essay about a gay male couple—including one shot (through a keyhole) of two men about to kiss. The paper's editor said that he received more complaints about the photo of the two (fully covered) men than the one adorned penis.

**Wise Words:** Dish has never much liked the Atlanta Business Chronicle. Quite frankly we fail to understand why American business needs an advocacy journal, but hey, we're kinda weird. But a couple of weeks ago The ABC ran a "Counterpoint" editorial supporting the idea of lifting the ban on gays and lesbians in the military. Strong stuff from an organ long on status quo and short on social consciousness. The article makes some excellent points, like this: "It's funny to watch the old boys—many of whom thought Anita Hill was a trouble maker—suddenly see uninvited sexual advances as the humiliating frightening thing that they are." And, "[Gays are] bound to have more intestinal fortitude than some fist-wielding marine with big biceps. I'd be proud to have someone with that much inner strength and resolve protecting my country." The author of this wiseness is (of course) a woman—Carol Carter. Dish salutes her and the Chronicle.

**February 24 - March 3, 1993**

The 24th, is Ash Wednesday and we are in a new moon cycle making this a perfect week for releasing old and draining emotional ties with others and beginning to build a new life. The ancient spiritual reality of Lent is forgiveness and release to prepare for the surge of new life that comes with spring!

**ARIES**, with Venus still cruising your 1st house, you have numerous opportunities to "stop and smell the roses" or at least slow down and smell the coffee. Life is more pleasant and the difficulties not quite as frustrating when we savor the good times. Dear Sweet **TAURUS**, this is not the time to get STUCK in an emotional swamp about anything! This is the time to plant seeds of intent and water your spiritual garden with devotion and positive expectation. It's time to grow! **GEMINI**, if you are having exciting opportunities come your way only to disappear at the last minute, you may need to create a job, business or partnership of your own, instead of waiting for others to provide situations. Go for it! **CANCER**, this is the week to take very good care of yourself, including fresh food, plenty of rest and regular exercise, even if it is only a short walk in the evening. If your stress level is really high, you may need a massage to completely relax. **LEO**, if

## STARSIGNS

patience is not one of your stronger virtues, then you may need to find some way to develop it a bit more. With all the chaos in the emotional and physical worlds, it is often difficult for people to follow through and be really awake. **VIRGO**, if there are some unpleasant or difficult people in your life right now, it may be reflection of the way you are treating yourself. Are you often too hard on yourself, being critical when you really need to be compassionate and understanding?

**LIBRA**, this is not a good time to make snap decisions or hasty judgments about other people. If you are having difficulty with someone at work or the other half of a partnership, then center yourself before dealing with them. **SCORPIO**, with the Sun, Mercury and Mars forming a potential grand trine with your natal planets there is a great deal of very nourishing and creative

energy circulating through your life. An excellent time for a vacation to play, rest and regenerate. **SAGITTARIUS**, if you are feeling a little bit squeezed in between Pluto in Scorpio and Uranus/Neptune in Capricorn, then the Universe is encouraging you to grow beyond your old sense of yourself and your abilities. Time to let yourself expand, again!

**CAPRICORN**, are you ready for this switch in energy with Uranus moving ahead of Neptune? You may feel more inclined to speak out or stand up for yourself in awkward situations. Do it with love and compassion for all involved and it will work. **AQUARIUS**, time to really start planning ahead for the next 14 years at least. With Saturn in your Sun sign, you may be able to make some very clear choices about your life and what you would like to build in the future. Don't worry too much about details. Happy Birthday, **PISCES!** Hopefully everything is moving along well and you are having a wonderful birthday month. Be sure to do lots of things that you enjoy and let close friends and loved ones know what you are thinking and feeling. Have fun!

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

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OCCASIONS

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Phil Carpenter and Darryl White celebrated, are you ready for this, their 17th anniversary on Valentine's Day. How appropriate, you two. The couple met eons ago while teaching in Jacksonville, Florida, ran into each other later at The Gizmo in Montgomery, Ala. and have been together ever since. How did they celebrate their 17th? Sleeping late and lying around all day, they admitted rather sheepishly. Well, that's a darn sight better than sleeping around all day! Hope you have many more to celebrate, guys.

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Andy Coan marked his 31st year on Feb. 20th. Or is that the first anniversary of your 30th birthday, Andy? Whatever you see it as, we all hope it was a happy one with many more to come!

Karen Gregson celebrated her 23rd birthday with a move to inside the perimeter. After years of small town living she says she's going to paint the town, now that she's made it to the Big "A." Congrats and congrats! By the way the birthday was officially celebrated Feb. 15th.

**VISITS:**

Craig Pigg and David Spirt are playing host to Craig's sister Vicky Macut and niece Sarah Anne. Craig says Sarah Anne is 2 1/2 years old and is "the apple of her uncle's eye." The two are visiting from Shalimar, Florida before they move to Phoenix. Craig says he and lover David Spirt will take the two to see the sights, especially the Sci Trek Museum. It seems that Vicky is a Trekker and is dying to see the Star Trek exhibit at the museum. You may want to take a tri-corder

with you to Arizona, Vicky. My sister in Phoenix tells me there are a lot of unknown life forms out that way! Enjoy the visit and let us know when you come back to town!

**ON TV!**

Lynn Pasqualetti and Laura Bevins will be featured in an interview with CNN on gay and lesbian families. "Apparently, they are looking for 'normal' gay and lesbian families to profile," says Lynn. "They asked us about what we do and when we didn't give them an outrageous answer they seemed a little disappointed," Lynn laughs. "I don't know what they expected, but we're homebodies." Word has it that CNN is still looking for a few more 'normal' gay and lesbian parents to be featured.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH:**

First MCC will celebrate Black History Month with a Super Weekend of festivities, Feb. 26-28. On Friday, Feb. 26th, they will host local actors, singers, dancers, writers and poets to share cultural truths. Saturday the 27th a play dealing with acceptance called, "I Feed the Pigeons, Well, I Watch the Sun" will be performed and on Sunday the 28th catch the treat of hearing The "Preachin' Deacon" J.R. Finney. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the UFMCC's Dept. of People of Colors, and an incredible speaker to boot. The theme for this year's celebration is "Empowering Through Diversity: Accepting Each Other's Differences." The church is located at 800 N. Highland Avenue. Call the church office at 872-2246 for info.

compiled by CANDACE CHELLEW  
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## O U T L I N E S

LAURETTA  
& ELVIN ROUSE

Age: both 51

Relationship status: married for 5½ years

How long in Atlanta: Elvin-native; Lauretta-7 years

Last book read: "Becoming a Man" by Paul Monet and "The 10th Deadly Sin" by Laurence Anders

Pet peeve: "Intolerant Fundamentalists will send us into orbit faster than anything."



I are becoming better friends and I don't have any patience with the reborn religious crap my ex-wife and our daughters throw around." Both parents say their sons' and daughters' sexual orientation is now just incidental. "My concern," Elvin explains, "is that their lives are going to be harder because they're gay."

When Elvin speaks about his son, his voice is tinged with sadness. Tony has AIDS and Elvin doesn't want to waste a minute with anger or recrimination. "Life is short, you never know what could happen. I tell other people, especially other parents in denial, that they are shortchanging themselves, because you will never know what wonderful people gays and lesbians are." Elvin is as concerned for Tony's partner Alan as he is for himself. "Alan is going through a lot with Tony's illness. We all need each other's support."

Both marched in Pride Parades last year, but on opposite sides of the continent—Lauretta in Los Angeles with her son, Elvin here in Atlanta. "It was so incredible that I cried down the entire length of Santa Monica Boulevard." Elvin shares his wife's enthusiasm. "Being part of the parade in Atlanta was such a moving experience. It was an affirmation of my faith and love for Tony and Alan and all lesbians and gays. I encourage all parents of lesbians and gays to march."

Lauretta and Elvin remain active Atlanta P-FLAG members. She recalls that there are common threads to everything P-FLAG parents feel. "There's the guilt thing at first, the 'what could I have done differently.' We try to get parents to realize there is no blame involved and gradually most learn that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Your sons and daughters are fine—just the way they are."

Both of them agree that knowing about their sons and daughters has brought them closer together. "They are brave people," Lauretta concludes. "It has taught Elvin and I acceptance and tolerance and a lot about love."

IAN W. GINSBURG

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

## AIDS Organizations

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

## Arts/Entertainment

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

## Bars

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280  
Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986  
Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786  
Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895  
Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655  
Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025  
Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403  
The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477  
Crazy Ray's—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655  
The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE  
551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052  
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)  
Gay Spirit Visions—378-7224

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 11705, Atlanta 30355  
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, GA 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—984-9875  
KO-Existence—875-8936  
Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262  
Leather S/M Discussion Group—873-2453  
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous—325-4909  
Lesbian Support Group—627-7387  
Lesbians 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  
Bi, Lesbian & Gay Student Union of W. Ga. College—706-834-3569  
Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—727-6692  
Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Comm. College 426-8160  
Georgia Tech Gay Alumni Group—POB 50291, GA Tech Sta., Atlanta 30332; 873-2263  
Georgia Tech Gay & Lesbian Alliance—497-0684  
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Student Union of the Univ. of Ga.—POB 2438 Athens 30612-0438 or call 404/549-9368  
S.E. Alternative Lifestyles Association—248-9307  
Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479 or 284-1347

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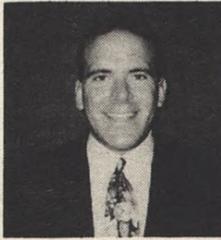
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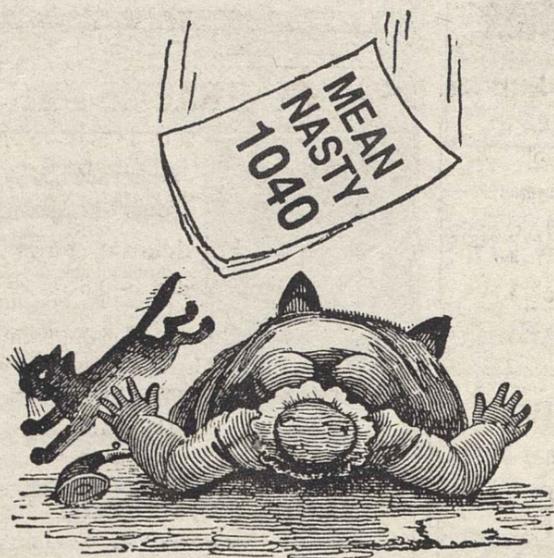
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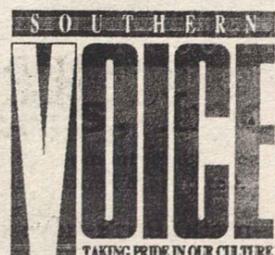
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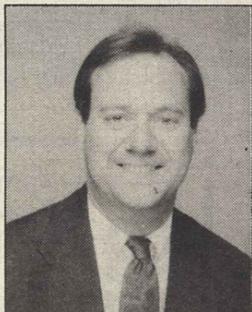
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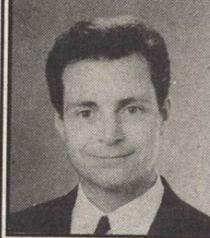


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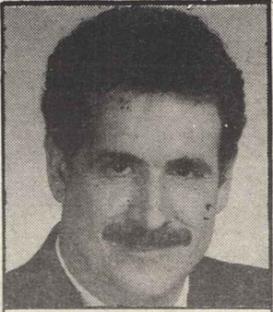


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Support Group for HIV positive physicians and dentists. For more information contact: 634-0672.

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

AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN- 888-9991 - new project of the Feminist Women's Health Ctr. Learn how HIV is transmitted, testing locations, how to clean your "works," how to use condoms, dental

dams or anything about HIV and AIDS. Trained phone counselors 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri, 10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anonymity assured. To volunteer call Tonia at 874-7551.

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

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

HIV+ Narcotics Anonymous (NA) for African Am. Wed. eve., transportation avail; Family support group for loved ones of HIV+ African Am.; "Latex Lovers" 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/Directions? Edie, 642-3467.

P.O.O.H. - Positive Outlook On Health is a supportive network of HIV+ persons who share positive health attitudes and want to meet similarly oriented people for social and emotional interaction. Call 872-9954.

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

Atlanta Gay Center - Plus groups for HIV-

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

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

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

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Therapy Group Forming for Gays & Lesbians - one in Gwinnett County, the other in Stone Mountain. For more information, call Janice Canon, LCSW 299-2813. (6.4)

Lesbian Support Group beginning for women considering artificial insemination and/or the adoption process. Call 908-1704. (6.2)

Wilderness Network of Georgia: Outdoor adventure group for gay men: hiking, camping, backpacking, canoeing, outdoor activities, weekend trips. Send self addressed stamped envelope to PO Box 55156, Atlanta, GA 30308. (6.7)

The entertainment committee of Atlanta Lesbian & Gay Pride is looking for artists and performers for the 1993 Pride Festival. Singers, dancers, poets, musicians, etc. submit your name to the committee by either calling the Pride Line at 662-4533 or contact the entertainment chairman (Chris Hatcher) at 424-4756. Pride Festival June 1-27, culminating June 26-27. This year expects to draw over 100,000 people. (6.3)

The Lesbian/Gay Chapter of the ACLU welcomes new members for volunteer positions, board membership, and other activities. We meet on the fourth Wed. of each month. Contact us at 233 Mitchell St., SW, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30303 or leave a message at 523-5398. (6.3)

**ELVIS ELVIS ELVIS**

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

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

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Journalist for new gay & lesbian TV show. News and entertainment segments. Send samples and resume to CMB Communications, POB 420935, Atlanta, GA 30342-0935. (6.1)

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)

**SEEKING**

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Ashford Dunwoody area. Roommates needed. 3 BR, 2 BA. Clean, non-smoker, no pets, chemical free. Call Maria 455-9501. (6.1)

Decatur/Emory: roommate wanted for 3 BR townhouse. \$250 + 1/4 util. Private BR & BA. Townhouse has fpic, den, patio, pool. 370-1388. (6.4)

Professional GWM, straight acting, looking for same to share 3 BR, 2 BA home close to 75 and 285. \$300 + 1/2 utilities. No smokers, drugs, fems. 565-4475, Mike. (6.4)

Briarcliff/Emory - GWM couple seeks non-smoking, responsible GM. \$400 monthly includes studio w/bath, utilities, pool. 325-2472 (message). (6.2)

EMORY - G/Bif, responsible, non-smoker to share large 4 BR house with professional female. Excellent location! Yard, W/D, lots of space. \$375 + 1/2 util. 633-7486. (6.3)

I-85/Shallowford: GF seeks GF/M to share large 3 BR condo. \$350/mo. includes utilities, W/D, cable. Non-smoker, no pets - must like cats. 315-1536. (6.1)

Vinings: 28yo stable GWM, non-smoker seeks similar to share 2 BR, 2 BA apartment. \$350 includes all. 319-7876. (6.2)

85/Pleasantdale Access Road - 2 BR, 2 BA apartment, W/D. \$275 plus 1/2 util. per month. Safe, nice, quiet neighborhood. GWF non-smoker seeks same. 662-5988 or leave message. (6.1)

GWM Professional seeks same to share unique 2 BR, 1 BA home in VA-Highland. \$425 all-inclusive except phone. \$100 dep. References. SERIOUS CALLS ONLY! 875-8891 (6.2)

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)

**Services**

**PIANO INSTRUCTION**

For adults. Buckhead / Midtown area. Beginners / Accomplished. 872-3772. (6.2)

Sewing in my home. Women, men, costumes & home interiors. IN-Stitches. Call 875-7156. (6.3)

**Travel**

**BED & BREAKFAST**

Washington, D.C. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. In quiet townhouse. Near tourist attractions, gay bars. \$49. Call Luke at 202-387-1921. (6.3)

In-town 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)

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)

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.

**Voice Connection**

**WOMEN**

Un-categorical GWF, 40s. Shy, dry humored, non-smoker/drinker. Writing, theater, film, health, nature. Star gazer not bar blazer mentality. No role players, games. P.O. Box 93352, Atlanta, GA 30377. (6.4)

GWF, attractive, slim, 40, feminine, non-smoker, self-supporting, seeks: butchish GWF to lead in country dancing, friendship, hopefully more. 1308

**"WHERE ARE YOU?"**

GWF, fem, lipstick lesbian, pretty, 30's, looking for someone special to date. I love art, music, guitars, dancing, poetry, theatre, travel, romance, hugs, candlelight dinners, positive people, motivation. Do not want: drugs, negative people, one night stands, games, butch women, men. Show me an ad can work by replying! I know you're out there, we just haven't met yet! 1310

GBF-25 tender years is an assertive, progressive and extremely conscious college student who prefers a self-assured understanding feminine woman. 1259

Zesty tall XLarge 35W artistic w/hangups likes gabbing cinema tunes games emotions lonely for WF admirer 30-50 size who cares 1256

ME: VERY attractive Bi-Racial Fem. YOU: Feminine female with dynamic DRUG FREE body. Please write: 2625 Piedmont Rd. #56-258, Atlanta, GA 30324. (6.1)

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

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

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

**MEN**

MUSCULAR, CLEAN CUT GWM, grad student, short, lean, dark, hairy, non-smoker, HIV+. Safe, imaginative. Seeking MUSCULAR jocks into showing off, j/o, being worshipped. 1315

Skyler, give me a call. Chris from Juniper St. 1314

France • Loire Valley - French boy likes friendship in USA. I love USA and I will love my friends from your lovely country. 1311

WM, 32, 6'3", 235. My interests: country/rock music, pop culture/Simpsons/Batman, Braves movies, art...Your interests? 1313

GWM, 40, wishes to meet guys under 25 for fun, friendship, or whatever! 1316

Sincere GWM, 22, seeks GWM, 23-28 for long-term, monogamous relationship. Serious only need respond. 1312

GWM, attractive, 40's, oral expert for heavy equipment. Gay/Bi/Str tune-ups given. Best in town. Call soon! 1317

GWM seeking friends, possibly more. Age, race unimportant, sincerity and honesty are. No drugs or alcohol. Photo/phone. All answered. Box 1314, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (6.3)

Clean-cut, 36yo GWM, blonde, green, thick, hunky body, honest, well-grounded, successful, energetic, oral and sexually-charged. Wicket kisser. Seeks guys who

are honest, well-balanced, have aspirations and energy. Turn-ons, thick, hunky men with a little meat on them, Italians, dark hair. 1309

GWM, 5'8", 160#, retired senior, healthy, financially responsible, seeks male 25-40 for daytime relationship. 1307

Attractive, quality GWM, 50 BI/BI, 6 ft. 185 lbs. HIV+, top, healthy, masculine. Seeking same 25-40, Latino a plus. Respond to: Boxholder, PO Box 12182, Atlanta 30355. (6.1)

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 lunchtime companion or friend. Perimeter mall area, early / mid-afternoon, Monday thru Friday. 1248.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BM seeks masculine BM to become? buddies. 1236

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

			
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PERSONALS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GWM, 50; seeks younger, mature, masculine, non-smoking GWM/GAM who appreciates the companionship of an older

gentleman for possible relationship. ☎ 1103

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

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

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

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

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

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

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, DIS-

CRET, 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

TV/TS

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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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