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VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

MARCH 25 - MARCH 31 / 1993

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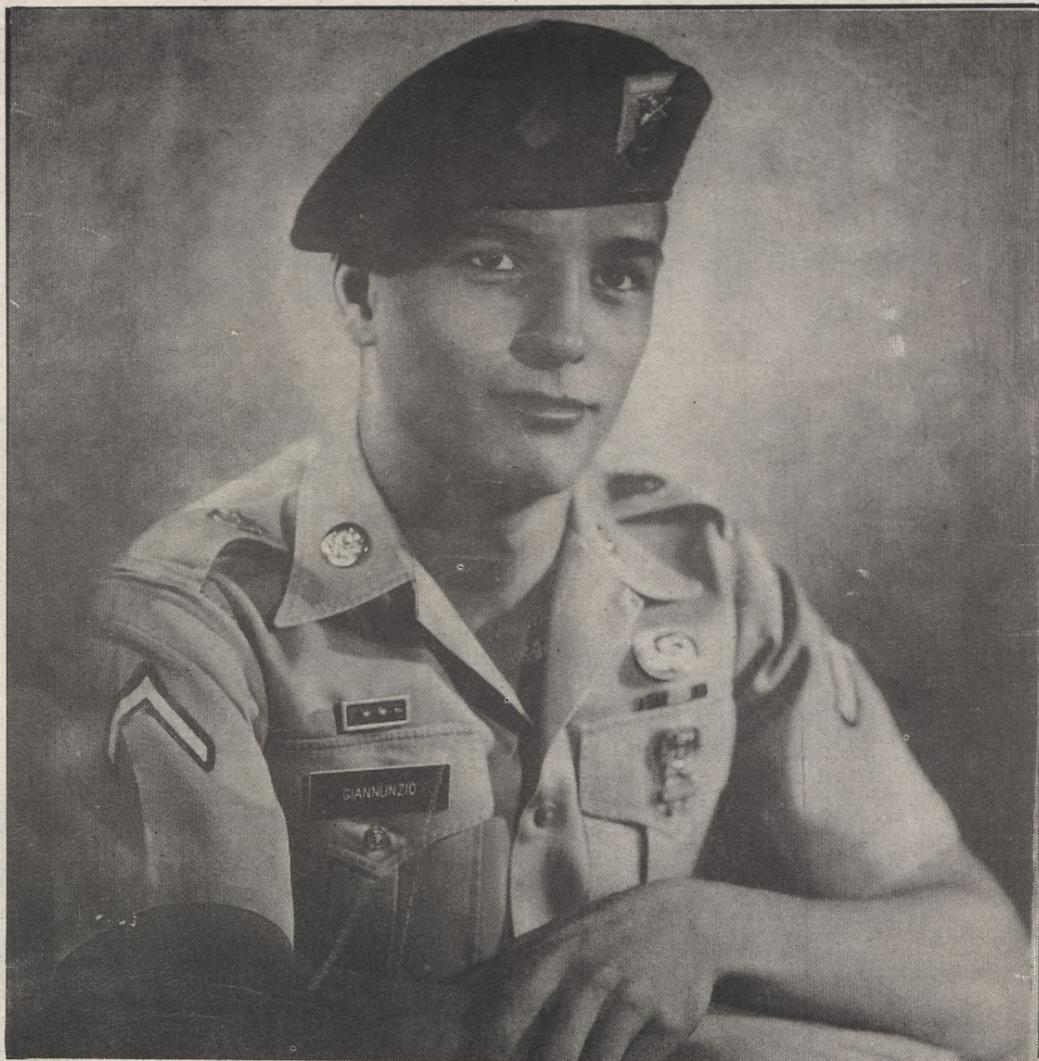
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In Love and War

Eugene Giannunzio, a straight man and an ex-Green Beret, will return his Purple Heart to Sen. Sam Nunn until the ban on gays in the military is lifted. He's returning the medal to show support for his friend who died in Vietnam.

Atlanta—Eugene Giannunzio and Lloyd Darling were friends in an unlikely hell called Vietnam. For five months in 1968, Giannunzio, a Green Beret, was attached to Darling's unit of the 101st Airborne Division. That Darling was gay made no difference.

"We were at war," Giannunzio said. "It never dawned on us to think there was a problem."

It made no difference, either, at 2 o'clock in the morning on Sept. 5, 1968 when 2000 North Vietnamese soldiers overran the 132 soldiers of Darling's division near the Cambodian border. All but 18 of those soldiers—Darling among them—died in a 20 minute fight.

"The sergeant told us to pull back," Giannunzio recalled, "and [Darling] didn't. He covered for us, that's what he did."

When the fighting was over, and the North Vietnamese gone, Darling's body was at the head of the line.

"He should have pulled back," Giannunzio said. "He was launching grenades. I guess he just decided to keep launching."

Eugene Giannunzio kept that memory with him, and now, 25 years later, he is taking a stand for Lloyd Darling's memory. Giannunzio will speak at the March 27 Lift the Ban rally here in Atlanta, and on Monday morning, he will present his green beret and his medals—including a purple heart awarded because of his injuries in that battle—to Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn.

"I'm going to give him my medals, my purple heart, and my green beret to hold onto in honor of my friend and others like him," Giannunzio said. "It's my duty to stand by my friend. In doing that it shows support to him, and to others."

Giannunzio, who is heterosexual, said that he was not even aware that the military routinely boots out gays and lesbians until the issue made the mainstream news earlier this year. He said that, to him, the ban is insulting.

"This was my friend that died," he said. "It was like throwing it in his face, taking away his honor. It would be like coming back to a big ceremony, and everyone got invitations, but he did not."

"This whole idea," Giannunzio continued, "of whether or not straight people can handle gay people...if they can't handle gay people, then they can't handle

war either."

Giannunzio will not be the only straight veteran at Saturday's rally. Also on hand will be former Air Force Captain Steve Byers, a 1987 graduate of the Air Force Academy in Colorado and veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

"I completely disagree that the military is not a social laboratory," Byers said. "The military should be forced to take the lead on social change. The civil rights issue—when the military integrated black soldiers—proved that it worked. And that's a valid reason to force the military to do it, on a purely civil rights basis."

Byers agreed with the perception that the military

RALLY TO END PREJUDICE IN THE MILITARY

Saturday, March 27
Piedmont Park, 1pm

Speakers include Crae Pridgen,
Ginny Montes, national secretary of NOW
and Eugene Giannunzio

does create and maintain a homophobic atmosphere. Speaking about the potentiality of violence against known gays and lesbians, he said that "it's going to get worse, and then it will get better."

"I'm worried about the violence that I think will happen," he said. "And the answer will have to come from the top and mid levels down. [The violence] just can't be tolerated. Examples will have to be made—and not just a slap on the wrist."

Gay and lesbian activists are hoping that just such an example will be set in the trial of three Marines, set to begin next month, charged with beating Crae Pridgen on the very night President Clinton announced his plans to lift the ban. Pridgen, who will also be among the speakers this Saturday in Piedmont Park, told Southern Voice that the military issue has focussed the nation's attention on an old problem—gay bashing.

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The Next Time Someone Says Gays Shouldn't Serve In The Military, You Set Them *Straight.*

You don't have to be *gay* to know discrimination is wrong. Thousands of gays and lesbians are proudly and effectively serving their country in the military. Right now, fear and prejudice are their toughest enemies. Help win this war by supporting President Clinton in lifting the ban.

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University of South Carolina ROTC cadet comes out

In a letter to his commanding officer, Jay Belangia admits he is gay and asks for harassment from fellow cadets and instructors to stop

Columbia, SC—A University of South Carolina Army ROTC cadet proclaimed his gayness in a letter delivered to his commanding officer last week.

In the letter, Cadet Jay Belangia also asked that the abuse, harassment and threats to his life by his instructors and fellow cadets be stopped. Belangia believes his ROTC instructors are trying to compile a list of disciplinary infractions against him in order to dismiss him from the program.

"They're trying to kick me out for conduct reasons when the real reason is that I'm gay," says the 23-year-old veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

Before October of last year, Belangia states that he "was pretty deep in the closet." During the fall semester, someone anonymously sent a letter to his commanding officer effectively "outing" Belangia. The person also sent the USC sophomore photographs of him in a Charleston gay nightclub. In early November, someone spray-painted graffiti on the door to his dorm room calling him a "faggot" and "cocksucker."

It was during this time that Belangia stopped trying to hide the fact that he is gay.

The oldest of four children, he came out to his parents and to his close friends. He also began to be more vocal about his support for human rights, especially for lesbians and gay men. He wrote a letter to the editor of the USC student paper as a veteran and ROTC cadet supporting the lifting of the ban against gays in the military.

Following the publication of the letter to the editor, his troubles with the ROTC exploded. He received several threatening phone calls in response to his statement and recognized a few of the voices as those of fellow cadets.

Belangia says he has also been harassed on the training field. He is called "girlie" and "loose ass" by his instructors. During practice on the rifle range, another cadet jumped in his face yelling that he was going to be the "fucker" and Belangia would be his "fuckee."

"When I reported it, my instructor said, 'You should've hit him.' Well, I would have gotten into trouble if I had decked the guy," says Belangia.

Early this year, he began hearing from other cadets that he was kicked out of the ROTC program. In late February, he met with his commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel William Carpenter, to discuss the incidents of harassment and the letter about the military ban printed in the student paper. Belangia says that during the hour-

long meeting Lt. Col. Carpenter "beat around the bush," telling the cadet he has a first amendment right to talk with the media and that his personal life is his own business. Immediately following the meeting, Belangia says an instructor who also attended told him, "That's what he is saying to your face but it's not what he is saying behind your back."

The message Belangia says he received from the meeting was that Lt. Col. Carpenter couldn't prove that he was gay, but there would be enough conduct infractions to kick him out of the program by the end of the semester. It was at this time that he decided to write the letter announcing to the military that he is gay. He spent part of his spring vacation developing the three-page letter he delivered to Lt. Col. Carpenter's secretary March 17.

"The straw that broke the camel's back was when it was made clear to me that they were going to kick me out," says Belangia. "If they are going to kick me out, I want it to be for the real reason—because I am gay."

Belangia reports that he had no problems with the ROTC program before the issue of his sexual orientation arose and that he still possesses an excellent service record. "I've got more medals on my uniform than my colonel does."

He was stationed in Germany for three years and served one year in Saudi Arabia as part of a South Carolina reserve unit. He believes the military has taught him to stand up for what he believes in, and what he believes in is equal rights for lesbians and gay men.

"If they ask me why I am so vocal," says Belangia, "I'll tell them it's their fault because they are the ones that turned me into a leader."

He has also taken a leadership role in several student organizations at USC. He is an officer on the Executive Council of the Residence Hall Association, and as a member of the Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association (BGLA) he has pushed to include sexual orientation in the university's non-discrimination policy.

Belangia says he is unsure about what will happen as a result of his action. Under current military policy he cannot be discharged because he is gay, but he can be assigned to a non-paid reserve unit. This action would result in the loss of his ROTC scholarship. He hopes he will be allowed to keep the scholarship and remain in the program.

"They're a lot of good people in ROTC. Not everyone is homophobic and not everyone is straight."

Neither the Army ROTC Public Affairs Office at USC nor Lt. Col. Carpenter would comment on Belangia's status in the program.

Belangia describes delivering the letter to his commanding officer and coming out in a very public way as "something I needed to do" and adds, "I have to do what's best for me and what's best for my community."

CRAIG PATE



Hundreds arrested during NY St. Pat's Parade

New York City—Hundreds of marchers protesting the exclusion of Irish gays and lesbians from the St. Patrick's Day Parade staged a countermarch March 17 up Fifth Avenue. 228 were arrested, most for violating a court order, including openly gay City Councilman Thomas Duane, who was cheered as he stepped into a police wagon. Five were charged with disorderly conduct.

The demonstrators began marching an hour before the start of the annual parade and got about two blocks before they were met by a line of police. Most of the demonstrators knelt or squatted and police cuffed them and moved them to police vans and buses.

The New York protest was mounted by

the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization, whose demands to be allowed to march under their own banner had thrown the 232nd parade into turmoil and tied up the courts for months.

Roman Catholic opposition has kept gays from marching under their own banner in the parade. The Ancient Order of Hibernians, the parade sponsor, lost control over the parade, then regained it in recent months as legal and political battles flared over allowing gay participation. A judge ruled March 16 that the gay group could not stage a protest parade on the avenue.

SAMUEL MAULL

AJ/C delivers on same-sex commitment announcements

Atlanta—The announcement of the Sue Anne Gresham-Laine Peek commitment ceremony appeared in the Style section of the Atlanta Journal Constitution's March 21 edition, ending a "yes we are"-no we're not" saga that was a main topic among media pundits last week.

"We applaud the Atlanta Journal Constitution's continuing progress in the de-censorship of gay and lesbian lives," said Carl Lange, executive director of GLAAD/Atlanta. "The coverage of commitment ceremonies provides lesbian and gay couples with an equal opportunity to celebrate their relationships, a right that has been so long denied."

GLAAD/Atlanta took the lead in discussions with AJ/C editor Ron Martin on the issue after the paper printed Gresham and Peek's announcement last month, but changed the wording to indicate that Peek was a man. The announcement submitted by the women had no indication of the gender of either woman.

GLAAD got a commitment from Martin to begin printing lesbian and gay commitment announcements, and the paper printed some 250,000 copies of the March 14 edition with the Gresham-Peek announcement. But those copies were pulled, allegedly on the orders of publisher Dennis Berry, on March 11, and the entire section was reprinted that evening without the notice. Insiders at the Cox Communications-owned paper say that the reprint cost the company between \$35,000 and \$50,000.

Word of the change in plans leaked as early as March 12—Southern Voice had obtained a copy of the original press run at that time—and by March 17, the issue was talk show fodder on Atlanta's AM radio stations.

While no one at the paper is talking officially about the matter—editor Martin did not return repeated phone calls to his office last week—AJ/C staffers say that a final decision

was made late last Wednesday evening to run the announcements. The March 21 Style section once again had to be redesigned to include the Peek-Gresham notice, and on Thursday the section was printed and ready for distribution.

Gresham and Peek, who have both taken the last name Morgan, were delighted with the outcome.

"I'm inspired that we can make a difference," said Laine Morgan. "When we see discrimination of any sort, anywhere, we need to challenge it and not take no for an answer. We should not buy into those old scripts, but write new ones."

The decision to begin printing lesbian and gay announcements has engendered a flood of phone calls to the paper, largely from people opposed to the change who threaten to cancel their subscriptions.

"We're not keeping a tally," said one staffer, "but it sure would be nice to get some supporting calls."

That opposition, says at least one staff member, may be the reason that the commitment announcement in last week's paper ran on the back of the Style section, two pages away from the wedding announcements. But other staff members say the late redesign of the section is the reason for that placement. Southern Voice did speak with Amy Belleau, the section's editor, who said that she had only been informed that the announcements would run, and had no details of the placement.

The procedure for running commitment ceremony announcements is much the same as that for legal wedding announcements—couples must fill out a form and send it to the paper within 10 days of the ceremony and at least one member of the couple must have an Atlanta connection. The paper prints the announcements of both commitment ceremonies and weddings after the event takes place.

KC WILDMOON

If you'd like to add your voice to those supporting the AJ/C's addition of lesbian and gay commitment ceremonies to its Style section, call the Features desk at 526-5441.

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FL likely to be next battleground for gay rights

Tallahassee, FL—Existing gay rights laws could be repealed and new ordinances that protect homosexuals would be barred under a state constitutional amendment proposed March 15.

"Homosexuality is not a civil right," said David Caton, director of the American Family Political Committee of Florida—an offshoot of Rev. Donald Wildmon's American Family Association—which filed the proposal with the state Division of Elections.

If written into the Florida Constitution, state law would limit discrimination to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, handicap or marital status.

Caton's group led the "Take Back Tampa," campaign that repealed a gay rights law last fall. They would have to obtain 429,000 signatures by Aug. 9, 1994, to put a similar proposal on a statewide ballot in November 1994.

The proposal comes on the heels of separate decisions by two circuit judges, striking down Florida's existing law banning homosexuals from adopting children. The rulings both said the 1977 law, passed during beauty queen Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade, was discriminatory and unfair.

A bill filed in the Florida House would repeal the law, but it has been stuck in committee after getting only one hearing.

Florida doesn't have a state gay rights law, though several communities have passed ordinances, such as Key West, Miami Beach and Palm Beach County. Proposed gay rights measures are pending in Broward and Alachua Counties.

State tourism promoters would rather let individual communities decide on such ordinances rather than change the state constitution, citing a loss of convention business in Colorado after such a law was passed.

"Whenever there's controversy, associations and meeting planners try to steer clear of it," said Barry Kenney, director of the state Division of Tourism.

The amendment is opposed by groups such as Floridians Respect Everyone's Equality, which supports equal rights for gays and lesbians.

"We don't want Colorado's hate exported to Florida," said chairman Jeff Peters. "This is the American Family Association and other religious right groups."

Peters was reached in Denver where foes have obtained an injunction staying a similar amendment. He said several groups were planning strategy for about 11 states where American Family Association affiliates of Caton's group are expected to file such amendments.

Lesbian and gay activists from across the state will gather in Orlando on March 27 to come up with a plan to counteract the anti-gay movement.

"The line's been drawn," said Allan Terl, a Fort Lauderdale attorney and gay rights activist. "If they get the correct number of signatures, if there are that many bigots in the state, then we'll do our best to tell the accurate story and let reason and good sense prevail."

Caton, who says his group has a mailing list of 68,000 homes and 6,000 churches, said he expected wide backing from churches but wasn't claiming the endorsement of any particular church.

"In the state of Florida there are approximately 3 million Southern Baptists and Catholics" and 400,000 children whose parents send them to private religious schools, Caton said. "Those groups alone are sufficient to produce the required number of signatures."

He predicted President Clinton's efforts to drop prohibitions against homosexuals in the military would bring a backlash of support.

"Once the gays in the military issue comes up again I believe there will be a lot of people calling up saying 'I want the petition,'" he said. (AP)

Two men plead guilty to harassing gay bed & breakfast owners

Russellville, KY—Public apologies will be part of the sentences of two Logan County men who have pleaded guilty to harassing the gay owners of a bed and breakfast inn.

Brian L. Harris and Christopher Rager, both 19 and from Russellville, pleaded guilty in separate incidents involving the Stone Mountain Inn, owned by James Cates and Jim Turner.

Turner and Cates have since ended their personal relationship but are still operating the inn, which opened last October amidst a storm of controversy because it welcomed openly gay, lesbian and bisexual guests.

Turner has said he is looking to sell his share of the business because he no longer lives in Logan County and can't oversee daily operations.

Harris pleaded guilty to second-degree criminal trespassing on March 5 and was meted a 30-day jail sentence that was probated for one year. He was accused of nearly running down a security guard at the inn. As part of his sentence, Harris must publish an apology in the Logan County newspaper and seal a portion of the inn's driveway.

Rager pleaded guilty Jan. 27 to harassing communications and was meted a 10-day jail sentence that was probated for one year. He will be required to perform three days of community service beginning this week and must also make a public apology to Cates. Rager admitted to phoning the bed and breakfast and harassing its owners. (AP)

Auburn gay group adopts a mile

Auburn, AL—The Auburn Gay and Lesbian Alliance has become the first gay/lesbian group in Alabama to participate in that state's Adopt-A Mile program. According to the Alabama Forum, AGLA Chair John Bales signed the papers on Feb. 2, making official the group's adoption of a one mile stretch of highway between Dean Road and College Street in Auburn. Bales said that the group will not receive notice about when the sign will go up, and there are concerns about potential vandalism, especially since one of the signs will be placed in front of Kappa Alpha's fraternity house. Kappa Alpha is noted for its "Old South" celebrations, replete with ante-bellum costumes and events.

TN politician makes gay joke at GOP fundraiser

Kingsport, TN—U.S. Representative James H. "Jimmy" Quillen (R-TN) has caused a stir in his East Tennessee district with a rude joke about Rock Hudson.

"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, if Rock Hudson loved women, he'd still be among us," Quillen told the audience at the Sullivan County Lincoln Day Dinner, a Republican fundraiser.

According to Tennessee's gay weekly, Query, Quillen's remarks were reported in the Johnson City Press and The Weekly Beat, followed by an editorial in The East Tennessean, East Tennessee State's student paper, calling for the removal of the Congressman's name from the university's medical school.

HUD Gives Limited Partner Benefits To Gays:

According to the Washington Blade, the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development has instituted a policy that allows gay employees to take family leave in the case of illness to a same-sex spouse. The policy also protects employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation. The policy took effect on Nov. 2 1992, but was not announced until January, because then-HUD Secretary Jack Kemp, a Bush appointee, had been waging a three-year battle against the policy. The policy came about as a result of a collective bargaining agreement with Local 747 of the American Federation of Government Employees.

Indiana Senator Fired Gay Staffer: The Washington Blade has reported that a gay man has alleged that he was fired from the staff of Sen. Dan Coats (R-IN) in 1990 because he is gay. Glenn O. Hatmaker also said that one of Coats' senior staffers told him that the senator ran a "Christian office" with no place for gays. When contacted by the Blade, Mark Souder, now the deputy chief of staff in Coats' office, denied having said any such thing to Hatmaker. Coats is a leading opponent of President Clinton's plan to lift the ban on gays in the military and is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Three Stand Trial In Oregon Firebombing Deaths: After a prolonged jury selection process, the trial is expected to begin next week for three reputed skinheads accused in the firebombing deaths of a black lesbian and a gay white man in Salem, Oregon. Phillip Wilson Jr, Leon Tucker, and Yolanda R. Cotton are charged with aggravated murder, arson and assault in the killings last September of Hattie Mae Cohen and Brian Mock. The two died when someone threw a Molotov cocktail-type device through Cohen's bedroom window in the basement apartment they shared.

Jesse Jackson Arrested During Rally For HIV+ Haitians: The Rev. Jesse Jackson was among 41 protestors arrested during a rally last week to protest the detainment of HIV+ Haitians at the U.S. base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. "The President has two standards," Jackson said as he was taken away. "We want Clinton to take the high road and do what's right." Meanwhile, the Navy reported that the Haitians threw rocks at military personnel and burned 12 wooden camp houses last week during a weekend disturbance. Thirty Haitians were taken to the brig after the disturbance.

Princeton Halts Donations To Scouts: Princeton University plans to end its annual donations to the Boy Scouts through United Way because the youth organization bars gays and atheists, a university spokesman said. United Way chapters in San Francisco and Portland, Maine, have already stopped funding to the scouts over the issue, and the Chicago chapter is considering doing so. Blake Lewis, national spokesperson for the Scouts, says that loss of contributions from a handful of organizations won't push the Scouts to change their exclusionary policy.

Ettelbrick Joins National Center For Lesbian Rights: Paula Ettelbrick, outgoing legal director at Lambda Legal Defense, will be joining the National Center for Lesbian Rights on June 1 in the newly created position of director of public policy. Ettelbrick will be opening up NCLR's New York office, which will house the Policy Project. In her new position, Ettelbrick will work with lesbians around the country to establish policy position reflecting the needs of lesbians in the areas of health care, employment, and family law.



TOM TYBURSKI

Paula Ettelbrick, former legal director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, will join the National Center for Lesbian Rights on June 1 as its director of public policy.

Residents Oppose Lecture By Gay Couple: A lecture on gay lifestyles planned for this week at South Dakota State University has come under attack by residents of Brookings, SD. Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris, who were married in 1989, will speak on March 23 at SDSU. But rural Brookings resident Theresa Mitchell said she's trying to bar the couple from speaking. "I'm the one that's trying to create a riot," she said. "I think we ought to do something. They call it sensitivity and human relations but it's brainwashing."

Students Fight Establishment of Gay/Lesbian Group: A group of Southern Utah University students have launched a campaign against a fledgling campus gay, lesbian and bisexual club. The group is passing petitions urging students and area businesses to drop financial support of the school if the club is sanctioned by the administration and allowed to compete for student-fee funds. The club, known as GLB, was formed last winter to provide a social and support network for gay, lesbian and bisexual students. According to its faculty advisor, most students on campus support it. "Unfortunately, the ones against it have gotten all the press," said Ana Dittmar. "Frankly, they are fanatics."

AIDS Patient Can't Address Students At High School Assembly: A Maryland superintendent has banned a gay man scheduled to speak at a high school assembly because some might consider his message "R-rated." "It has nothing to do with the fact that he has AIDS," said Washington County superintendent Wayne Gersen. "It's the content of his message." Gary Donaldson contracted AIDS from a blood transfusion in 1984. The former roofing contractor said he found it ironic he couldn't talk about AIDS at the high school when he knows of at least one student with AIDS who attends the school.

Cornell Student Assembly Votes For Gay Dorm: One living unit on the Cornell University campus will be reserved for gay students, if the university president approves a plan created by the student government. The Student Assembly approved the resolution to create the exclusive living quarters 11-7 last week. After the assembly passed a similar resolution last December, university President Frank H.T. Rhodes gave the plan a cool reception, asking students to reconsider the idea and solicit more opinion from the campus community. "The community has finally spoken," said assembly president Pankaj Talway.



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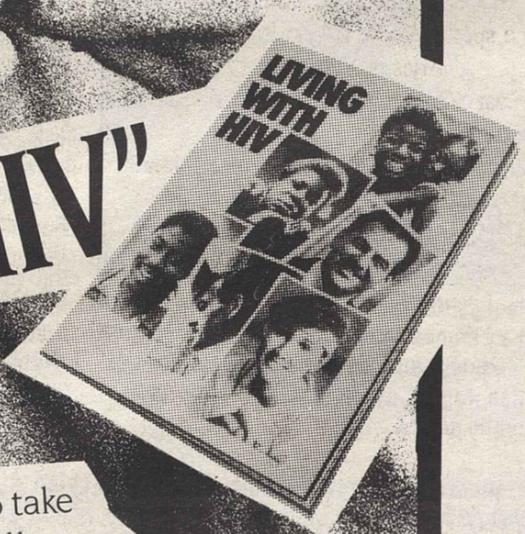
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House votes to end ARIES safe sex project

Washington, DC—The House wants to put an end to a program that counsels gay and bisexual men on how to avoid unsafe sex. And it endorses keeping AIDS-infected immigrants out of the country.

Lawmakers voted, 278-139, March 11 to bar further federal funding of Project Aries, a national project that provides free, anonymous telephone counseling to men taking part in its research project.

The measure passed just before the House overwhelmingly endorsed continuing the ban on AIDS-infected immigrants, which the Senate had approved earlier. Both House actions were attached to a bill reauthorizing the National Institutes of Health through fiscal 1996.

The debate came as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said violence against gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans rose to record highs last year in five major metropolitan areas. The group also concluded that violence against gays in the military is on the rise.

Project Aries has been under way at the University of Washington in Seattle since 1990 and is the recipient of a four-year, \$2 million grant.

"If we're really serious about cutting the budget, these are the kinds of things that need to be stripped out," said Rep. Sam Johnson, R-Texas, sponsor of the amendment. He said his opposition to the project wasn't related to its sexual nature.

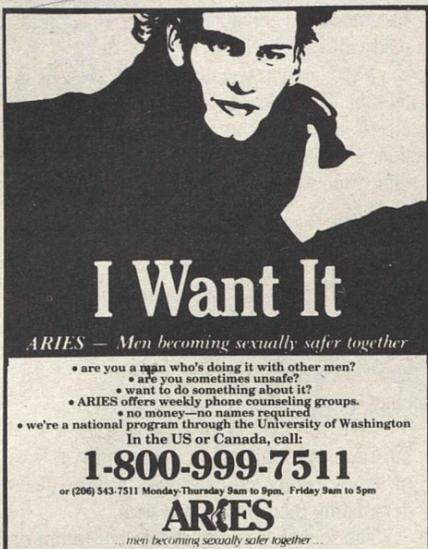
But Rep. Robert K. Dornan, R-Calif., in a speech on the House floor Wednesday, said Aries is "some sort of a homosexual 800-number...that just talks dirty on the phone."

Dornan took issue with Project Aries' philosophy that AIDS, not sex, is the problem. "Sexual behavior, heterosexual and homosexual promiscuity with strangers have caused this plague," he said. "It was incubated by sodomy and dirty sex."

Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash., rallied to Aries' defense. "This is not a morality play. This is life and death," said McDermott, who is a physician.

Project Aries director Roger Roffman blasted Johnson's argument of cost savings, saying only \$339,000 of the \$2 million grant remains unspent in the program, which involves about 360 men.

"The Public Health Service estimates



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it costs \$200,000 to care for one person with AIDS," Roffman said. "If only 12 people who participate in this study do not [become infected], this study will have entirely paid for itself."

Johnson said Project Aries duplicates services offered by hundreds of local and national hotlines. But Roffman said Aries offers gay people more than basic AIDS prevention information, instead seeking to change the high-risk sexual practices that can lead to infection.

Once the four-year project is concluded, Roffman said, researchers will recommend the most effective and cost-efficient ways of counseling gay and bisexual men against unsafe sex.

The House approved the NIH reauthorization by a 283-131 vote. The Senate passed its own bill last month, and a compromise version will be drafted by a conference committee.

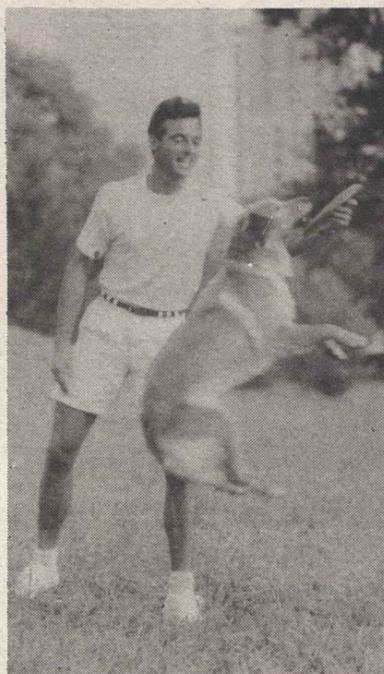
The bill includes \$3.2 billion for the National Cancer Institute; \$1.5 billion for the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; \$400 million for breast cancer and other gynecological cancer research; and \$72 million for prostate cancer research.

It also codifies President Clinton's January executive order that lifts the 4-year-old ban on federally supported fetal-tissue research. The provision, which opponents say would lead to more abortions, prompted former President Bush to veto the NIH bill last year.

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Seattle to become hub of women's medical research

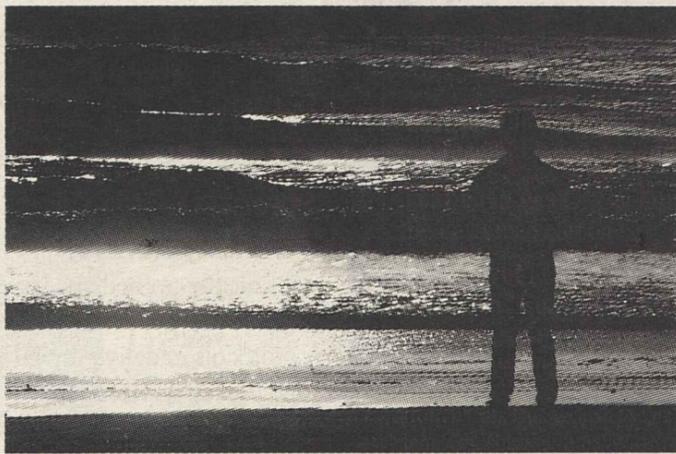
Seattle, WA—A \$625 million study of major chronic diseases among women will make Seattle the focus of attention on the issue, the federal official who launched the 14-year project says.

Last year the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center was awarded \$140 million by the National Institutes of Health to administer the Women's Health Initiative, designed to involve 150,000 women in clinical trials at 45 research centers.

As a result, NIH director Dr. Bernadine Healy said March 4 at a CityClub luncheon, "You're going to be the hub of the universe on this." (AP)

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Scientists meet to discuss AIDS vaccine progress

New York—In a plunge into uncharted territory, scientists are hoping to show that vaccine-based therapies can help people already infected with the HIV.

Vaccines are usually used to prevent infection. The idea behind "therapeutic vaccines" is that even after an AIDS virus infection, a vaccine may spur the immune system into responses that suppress or eliminate the virus.

"We're talking about using vaccines to hopefully help people who have a well-entrenched virus which has really invaded their body," said Dr. Bernadine Healy, director of the National Institutes of Health. "This has never, ever been done in the world of vaccines."

"We've never been able to cure a viral infection. And this offers the promise at least of letting people co-exist with a virus that's devastating their immune system."

The scientists spoke at a recent forum on AIDS vaccine and immune system therapies, sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Crisis and the Community Research Initiative on AIDS, and in later interviews.

So far, about 10 experimental therapeutic vaccines have begun testing in infected people, said federal researcher Margaret Johnston. Available results on six of the vaccines show they can get the immune system to react, and that they appear safe, she said. No clear results are yet available on the other four, she said.

There are encouraging but unconfirmed suggestions that such vaccines might help stabilize losses of CD4 white blood cells, a key component of the immune system, she said. There is no significant indication yet that the vaccines can reduce the amount of HIV in the body, she said.

And the big question—whether these vaccines can actually help an infected person's health—is not yet answered, she said. Researchers have to find out whether the immune responses they are finding really help people live longer and aid quality of life, she said.

"The challenge is like no other virus the scientific community has had to tackle," said Johnston, associate director of the AIDS division at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

One key question confronting researchers

is just what kind of immune response would be useful to fight an AIDS infection. AIDS is different enough from other viral infections that past experience offers no ready guidance, noted researcher Fred Valentine of the New York University Medical Center.

Besides, HIV changes itself through mutations much faster than any other virus scientists have seen, raising the question of whether a response attained against one virus strain would work against another, he said.

Results presented for candidate vaccines showed that when given to HIV-infected volunteers, some could provoke the immune system into anti-HIV responses that virus itself had not elicited. The reactions included creation of proteins called antibodies and responses by germ-hunting white blood cells.

Most of the vaccines were designed to stimulate the immune system by presenting a particular HIV protein or a piece of a protein. An exception is the so-called Salk vaccine, which uses a killed whole AIDS virus that is stripped of a major protein called gp120.

With a whole killed virus, "there are a variety of things to respond to, and the body can select what it is best poised to respond to," said Richard Trauger of Immune Response Corp. of Carlsbad, Calif.

Studies so far in HIV-infected people show that the Salk vaccine can elicit a wide variety of antibodies that bind specifically to different virus proteins, and boost the response of immune system cells to HIV. Preliminary evidence suggests this might help the health of a person, but that is not confirmed yet, Trauger said.

The product is nicknamed for polio vaccine pioneer Jonas Salk, who was instrumental in its development, Trauger said.

Testing multiple vaccine candidates is justified because "no one candidate at this point has proven to be superior, and because these products are inherently different," Healy said.

The lack of an obvious front-runner so far was driven home at the meeting when one audience member asked a panel of speakers which vaccine they would try if they were HIV-infected and relatively healthy. Not one speaker could name a favorite on the spot.

"I don't know which of these agents is best," Valentine said.

MALCOLM RITTER

Study examines fathers who sexually abuse daughters

Durham, NH—Fathers who have the sole responsibility for their children are more likely to abuse them, according to a recent study.

"This could be due to other factors, such as the father's possible inability to forge a strong marital relationship," said Linda Williams, associate professor with the UNH Family Research Laboratory.

The study also found that fathers sexually abusing their children fit into one of five groups. They are those who were sexually preoccupied with their daughter at a young age, those who did not become interested until their daughter reached puberty, those who fantasize about others while abusing their daughter, those who abuse to satisfy needs for closeness and comfort and those who abuse to retaliate against their wives.

"This finding disputes commonly accepted notions that incestuous fathers are a monolithic group," Williams said last Thursday.

However, the study also showed fathers who take an active role in child rearing are less likely to commit incest.

"There's good reason to encourage dads to help with the general care of their chil-

dren," Williams said.

"This may foster more empathy for the child, more parental care and concern," she said. "A father may realize that what he does affects the child."

Williams and David Finkelhor, co-director of the lab, interviewed 118 incestuous and 116 non-incestuous fathers about their family histories and child-rearing habits.

Williams said more than 100,000 new cases of incest are reported each year in the United States. Though girls are at more risk for sexual abuse from a stepfather, one in 100 is abused by her biological father, she said.

By finding correlations between the father-child relationship and incestuous behavior, the study will help in developing new prevention and treatment strategies, she said.

The study also found incestuous fathers were likely lonely teens who developed few meaningful friendships.

The men described themselves as sexually preoccupied and promiscuous as teens, but also more sexually shy and inept. Few described their adolescent years as sexually normal, Williams said.

The study also showed, contrary to what had been believed, that most incestuous fathers had sexually abused at least one other child in addition to their daughters.



One month and counting

With the National March on Washington just one month away organizers are working at a fever pitch and endorsements for the historic gathering continue to roll in.

Shortly after the National March headquarters received messages of hate on its voice mail, religious leaders called on members of their congregations to come to the nation's capital on April 25.

Among those urging their members to come to the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation were: the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in North America, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Union of

Hileman continued, "The April 25 March will be a pivotal moment in history. With the largest march in history...we will send the message that the nation wants an end to hate."

The support from the religious community was in strong contrast to voice mail messages that greeted March organizers arriving at work on the morning of February 13.

In one of the messages, identified as being from the White Ayrian Resistance, a voice was heard saying, "It looks like Bill Clinton, America's President and leftist leader, has some sort of love for homos and has a secret fetish for men in uniform..."

March organizers said the calls underscored the need for a massive civil rights demonstration.

Said Pat Hussain, a member of the March Executive Committee from Georgia, "We will empower ourselves as a community by coming together in record numbers. We should pay attention to these hate messages, but we can counteract them...The single most powerful thing people can do is come to the March...and tell their family they're gay and lesbian."

With calls pouring into headquarters, more events and endorsements being announced almost daily, and last-minute logistics needing to be nailed down, organizers are working around the clock.

"There's no question about it. We're running on pure energy around here," said Scout, another March co-chair. "I don't think anybody's expecting to get a nap until this is over. We've got calls coming in from around the country everyday. With the issue of gays in the military, I think everybody is pretty clear they want to be in Washington."

Organizers are expecting at least one million people to pour into the Capital, and signs are beginning to point to even more.

"Travel agents are telling us that between 250,000 and 500,000 people are already scheduled to fly into National Airport between Wednesday and Friday," Hussain said. She also noted thousands more will drive into Washington or use Amtrak.

Among those endorsing the March in the last few weeks were Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson. In making his announcement, Jackson noted that Atlanta has "a long history of support for civil and human rights and includes sexual orientation in its own non-discriminatory policy."

Other March endorsers include the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Organization for Women, which will hold a Lesbutante Ball and Women of Power Luncheon during the week of the March.

William Gibson, the chair of the NAACP's

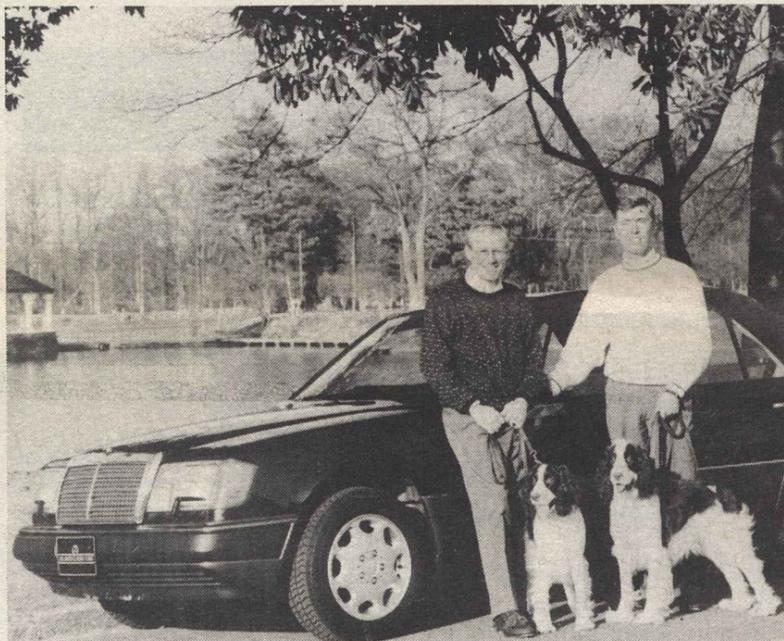
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Photo: The 1987 National March On Washington.

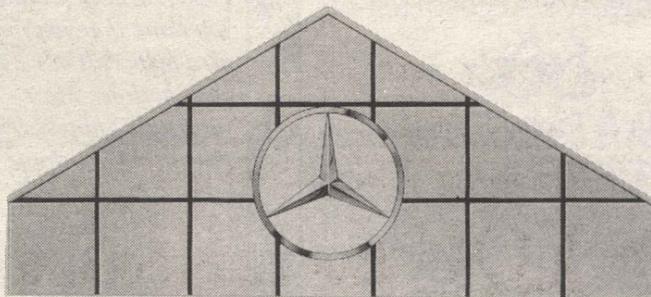
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QN/Atlanta launches education campaign

Queer Nation/Atlanta has formed a subcommittee to help educate Georgia's public about employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The group is planning a billboard campaign using the "separation notice" given to Cheryl Summerville, the lesbian who was fired from a Cracker Barrel restaurant in Tennessee last year.

"It seems there is a lack of public knowledge about the legality of employment discrimination based on sexual orientation," says a spokesperson for Queer Nation.

The group believes that most people don't realize that discrimination against lesbian and gay workers is legal in Georgia and many other states, and that there is no avenue to pursue if an employee is fired because of his or her sexual orientation. Many hold the wrong assumption that federal law protects lesbians and gay men. A local attorney has on several occasions ob-

tained settlements by threatening lawsuits. Even Marilyn Quayle publicly stated that job discrimination against homosexuals was illegal.

Queer Nation notes that the public attitude is against discrimination based on sexual orientation. A 1989 Gallop poll showed that 71% of Americans think that homosexuals should have equal rights in terms of job opportunities. The main effort of the education campaign is to create an awareness that although most oppose this type of discrimination, it still exists. The group wants to promote the idea that "Employment Is A Basic Necessity, Not A 'Special Right.'"

Queer Nation hopes to time the billboard campaign to coincide with the March on Washington in April. The education committee is planning fundraising efforts in the coming weeks to raise money for the billboard. These include seeking individual donations and t-shirt sales.

CRAIG PATE

National March on Washington

Continued from page 9

Board of Directors, said, the group's endorsement "marks the beginning of a new and very important coalition."

"The NAACP supports efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians in areas of American life where all citizens deserve equal protection and equal opportunity," said Gibson. "The NAACP endorses and will participate in this historic national march."

Among the last minute logistics yet to be finalized are the March route and exactly where Georgians will gather. Organizers had hoped the March would step off from the Washington Monument, walk around the White House, and rally at the National Mall in front of the Capitol. Problems arose when the National Park Service reiterated its plans to close down the main section of the Mall until June 1, so reseeding can be completed.

If there are safety considerations, the Park Service can overturn a requirement that the Mall be closed during reseeding, Scout said. One of the alternate March routes would have people walking over a bridge and another would require marching down a one-lane street.

Scout said organizers are arguing those routes would cause a safety problem, because of the number of PWAs who could need medical care at any moment. It could be difficult to reach them on the bridge or a crowded one-lane street. A decision on the matter is expected within the week, Scout said. Meanwhile, Georgians will line up in the 46th spot in the parade, behind Michigan.

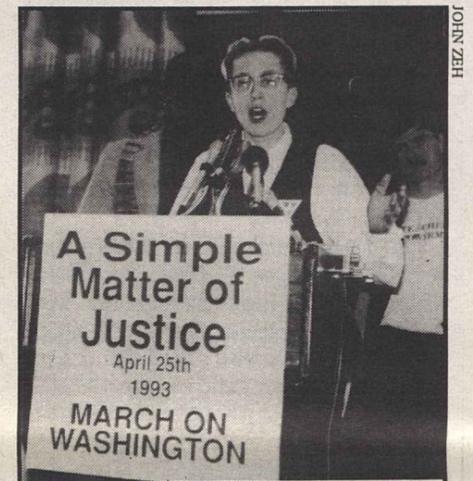
Organizers are also urging attendees to purchase a bracelet. The wrist bands, to be numbered from 1 to one million, will help organizers, and the National Park Service, in obtaining an accurate count. The bracelets can be purchased the week of the historic event at the March store, which will be located near the DuPont Circle area. Bracelets will also be on sale at the March or those interested can call March headquarters at 1-800-832-2889, Hussain said.

Organizers hope people will register for the March by calling headquarters or sending in a registration packet along with a \$15 check. Packets can be obtained from the Georgia Organizing Committee for the March.

Related events

While it's difficult to highlight all of the 200+ events scheduled around the March, plans call for days of lobbying, a civil disobedience action, a Names Project Quilt Display, a Lesbian and Gay Museum, a Wedding-Interfaith Ceremony of Commitment, and a Harvey Milk Memorial Design Unveiling and Tribute to Leonard Matlovich.

Other events include a Lesbian Physicians Conference, a Forgotten Scouts Beautification



Scout, co-chair of the National March on Washington Committee

Project and participation by the Gay Pilots Association. The wide range of events should educate the nation about the diversity of the lesbian and gay community, Hussain noted.

Lobby Days begin with a federal legislative briefing on Wednesday, April 21. Office visits will be scheduled on Thursday and Friday, April 22 and 23, and Monday and Tuesday, April 26 and 27. Lobbying goals include making legislators aware that gays, lesbians and bisexuals live in their districts and urging passage of a federal Civil Rights Act for lesbians and gays.

Civil Disobedience takes place on Monday, April 26 and participants will assemble at 9:30 a.m. at the Capitol. Included in the day's demands are a call for universal health care and more research and development on women's health care issues, said Carol Lippmann, co-chair of the National Civil Disobedience. The group is demanding total and equal access to the health care system for all, including people of color, women, the underinsured, the homeless, prisoners, persons with AIDS and non-citizens.

At this year's March, the **NAMES Quilt** display will include only panels received during the March on Washington weekend. NAMES Project volunteers will escort panel makers onto the Quilt and then pin on the newly-presented panels to form a display. The Quilt will be displayed on the Ellipse.

The **Wedding-Commitment Ceremony** is expected to draw about 4,000 couples, said the Rev. Kit Cherry, with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. The ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 24 at 11 am in front of the IRS Building on Constitution Ave. Guest speakers will include Craig Dean and Patrick Gill, who are suing the Washington D.C. government for the right to marry, she added. For more info call Frank Zerilli at (213)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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

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SOUTHERN VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Gay and lesbian parents must be extra careful

I am a lesbian mother raising two children with my life partner of almost 11 years. We have a four year old daughter which I gave birth to and another daughter 1 1/2 years old born to my partner, Melinda. As most gay and lesbian parents we are devoted to raising healthy children, and we love them immensely.

Recently Melinda took some photos for one hour developing at a mall photo store in the town of Holyoke, Massachusetts. When she returned to pick up the photos she was told the machine was broken and she would have to wait a short while. Soon the Holyoke police showed up and she was told there was a pornographic picture of a young girl among the prints. The photo in question was our then three year old daughter standing naked in a pair of adult socks and boots with both her hands touching her labia. There was another similar shot without her hands touching her genitals. The other pictures were various family shots, as well as many pictures taken at the Presidential Inauguration which we had recently attended. Melinda relayed to the police the circumstance under which the photo was taken. Our daughter had just gotten out of our whirlpool spa and put on my sock and boots all by herself. It was a funny sight and we photographed it. Melinda explained that we had no idea our daughter had reached down to touch herself as one of the pictures was being taken.

The first question we were asked was, "who is this child?" As an aside I should say that we live just north of the town of Holyoke, in a very liberal and openly lesbian community. We are out in almost every aspect of our lives. Melinda felt if she told the truth about our daughter, the police would understand and release her. So she explained that the child in the picture was her partner's biological daughter, and that we co-parented her. Questions were then asked about me. Soon the police asked Melinda to follow them down to the police station for further questioning.

I was home painting a doll house for our daughter's coming fourth birthday. Melinda phoned me from our car phone in a panic. But our trouble was just beginning.

I immediately found a lawyer who called the Holyoke police station and intervened on Melinda's behalf. Later, Melinda would tell me the harrowing tale of verbal abuse she was subjected to at the hands of the police. She was called a child abuser and molester. She was told children don't know how to do this sort of thing, that we must have taught her how to touch herself in this way. Several officers with children said you simply do not take naked pictures of children this age, especially touching themselves. Melinda repeatedly explained we did not intend to get this pose on film, it simply happened accidentally.

Why was her explanation not enough? I believe the Holyoke police, ignorant and bigoted, decided as a lesbian she was not only suspicious, but guilty. We agree that if someone suspects child abuse it *should* be reported. However, in this case if one looks at the entire set of pictures and hears the explanation, the situation is understandable, and not all that unusual. We have yet to tell this story and not hear someone remark about the nude photos they have of their children touching themselves in equally compromising places.

Melinda was clearly a victim of a hate crime, and our entire family was then subjected to unnecessary scrutiny. Luckily the Holyoke police had no jurisdiction over this case since we do not live in that county. After 40 minutes of brutal accusations Melinda was released. She was not arrested, but she was told a report would be filed with the State Police and with the Department of Social Services in our County.

The next 48 hours proved to be the most traumatic time of the entire incident. We had no way of knowing what the police report would say. Based on Melinda's experience we expected it would paint a very grave picture of us as parents. Thus we feared someone would knock on our door and try to remove our children.

In fact, nothing along those lines ever did happen. The report filed was not as embellished as we had imagined. It stated all the facts surrounding what had occurred, concluding that there was suspicion of child

sexual abuse by an unknown perpetrator.

Our lawyer immediately began working with the District Attorney's office and with the Department of Social Services to get the investigations expedited. It took two weeks for us to be cleared completely. The DA's office and DSS handled the matter professionally and ethically. We were not discriminated against as a lesbian family, in fact it seemed to make no difference to them at all.

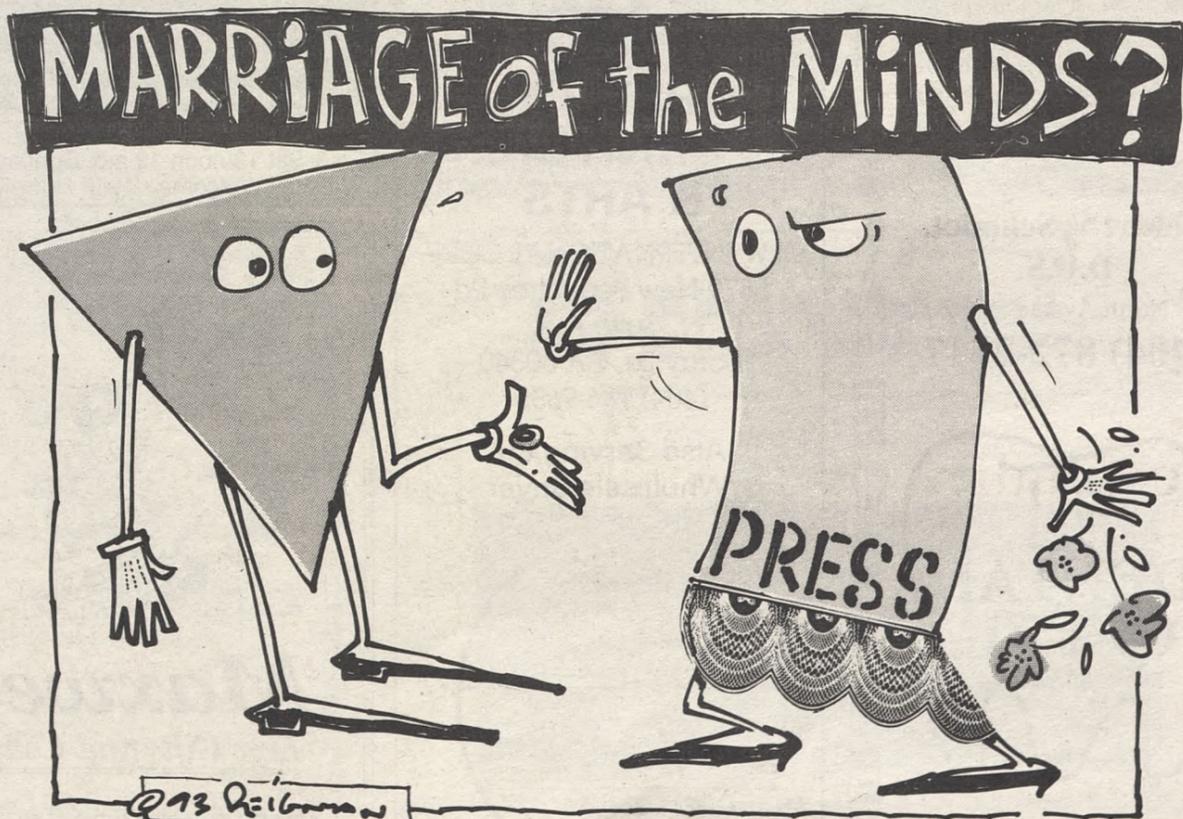
Since the report was made by the police, an investigation was required. However, after seeing the picture and hearing our explanation, everyone involved seemed to agree it looked very innocent. Still, DSS came to our home and spoke with our daughter, asking her about her private parts, and if anyone had ever touched her there. She said, "No." She was then asked what would she do if someone did touch her there? She replied, "I would go home." Clearly this would not happen at home. The DSS worker cleared us on the spot saying it was very obvious that our daughter was safe and healthy.

The story has a happy ending. We learned that we can hold up under extreme stress and fear. We are a strong and loving family. Still we are vulnerable because according to the standards of Conservative America we are not a strong and loving family. We live in a reasonable and liberal community where the DA's office and Social Services treated us fairly. But what if we had lived in Holyoke, or rural Georgia, or some unknown town in the Midwest? What if we hadn't had a car phone, and a lawyer, and the support of many friends and family? I can't safely say the story would have ended the same way.

Gay and lesbian America is in a blossoming time. Babies are being born and adopted in droves. We are solidifying our relationships and stretching our love to include the children we used to think we couldn't have.

I am telling this story to all of you so that you are careful. Conservative America wants to find reasons to take our children. Know that we are vulnerable.

MARY ANN P. COFRIN



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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES:

Judy and Marv Colbs celebrated their 42nd anniversary on March 18. They have two daughters, “one gay and one not gay,” says proud mother Judy. Judy is the President of P-FLAG/Atlanta, and a tireless volunteer and worker for our community. The cozy couple will celebrate with dinner at Ciboulette. The rest, Judy says, “is not appropriate for print.” And what is the key to 42 years of marriage? “Living long enough,” she says. Congratulations to both of you kids!

Bob McNeir will be celebrating the 4th anniversary of his 33rd birthday on March 28th. Wait a minute! Doesn’t this mean he is really 37? Whatever his age, his spouse Michael is planning to take him to dinner and ??? afterwards.

Leah Johnson and Meredith Kelly of Alpharetta, Georgia, will be celebrating 5 years of wedded bliss on March 30. Leah told me to announce her plans to surprise Meredith this year with a gambling cruise on the Mississippi River. Leah, do you need a traveling Porter for this trip? I’m available. Happy Anniversary!

BIRTHDAYS:

Mona would like to wish her friend Anthony Ricciardi a Happy Belated Birthday (March 12). So you thought you could sneak it by her, huh? Happy Birthday, Anthony!

Jim Bagby of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Jim celebrates his birthday on March 29 and will be in the company of his vast number of friends. If you’re ever in Santa Fe, you’ll find Jim at The Cargo Club almost every night!



Jim Bagby demonstrates the pain he will feel on his birthday March 29.

Happy Birthday on March 30 to Jenny Ligons of Winston-Salem, NC. Jenny was my first message on the Occasions Voice Mailbox! So, here’s an extra special good wish to you girl! I believe Diane said it was the Big 4-0!

Happy Birthday on April 1 to Lynn Morris in Nashville. Lynn has been trying for years to have her birth date changed to “anything but April 1.” Well, Lynn, Happy Birthday from Southern Voice. And that’s no April Fool!

MARK du PONT

The calls have been pouring in...for dates in July and August. Surely, there are some immediate Occasions worthy of printing! Let me hear from those April and May Occasions ASAP. And remember to give me plenty of time as deadlines are 10 days prior to issue date. Call the Occasions Voice Mailbox today at (404) 325-7600 and follow the simple instructions. Do it today!

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Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON



Great balls of fur

It was blizzard Saturday night, and I was slowly hiking down Ponce to the Eagle, wondering if anyone was going to be fool enough to try to get out on a night like this.

(Of course the answer was "Yes." For the first time in years, we were having our genuine Gay National Holiday—a Snow Day. The standard ritual? Everyone prays for enough snow not to go to work, and then as soon as it's cancelled, we all yell, in unison, "Let's go to the BAR!!!")

After I got there (and spotted a Bear cap being worn by a very attractive man), I remembered that the Southern Bears were supposed to meet tonight—a new social group that had over 100 people at their initial meeting. The meeting had been cancelled, but about 15 of them had shown up anyway.

Quite impressive. 15 men crawling out on the most treacherous driving day of the year, merely on the outside chance that this meeting would occur—this is just the latest evidence of the ascendancy of the Bear phenomenon. Not since the dreaded Clone has a single word so successfully entered the vocabulary of gay male erotic attraction or so succinctly described a collective community object of desire.

How does one launch an archetype? The Bear began at Bear magazine, a 'zine started in 1988 to fill a void in the gay pornography market. If you looked at porn back then, you'd think there only two types of sexually desirable gay men—incredibly chiseled (and kinky) Leathermen, or hairless 19-year-old boys. For jack-off material, real people needed not apply.

The publishers of Bear managed to hit a gay male nerve dead center—why can't these people look *something* like people we're likely to see in our bars? From such an idea has sprung a mini-industry of Bear t-shirts, magazines, clubs, caps, advertisers, contests, weekend gatherings of bears and their admirers—a veritable smorgas-Bear-d of fur and flesh.

What's a Bear? To the extent that there's consensus (and you could get some debate on this), a Bear has (1) facial hair and body hair (the more the better), (2) a bit (or more) of girth, (3) down to earthness, (4) good cuddling skills, and (5) an absence of capital-A Attitude. Things that don't disqualify you from being a Bear, but are not necessary: (1) pecs, abs, lats, and muscles generally, and (2) Leather and/or S/M. Disqualifiers: (1) sweaters, (2) colognes and (3) hairless youths.

Compare this with the Clone Archetype of our previous gay generation. Clones arose in response to our earliest stereotype, the long-haired, caftan wearing, screamingly bitchy gay man—remember Paul Lynde, Alan Seus, "The Boys in the Band?" For lots of "sissy boys" who were beat up as kids, when they found a community to be a part of, the first thing they created was an image diametrically opposed to that stereotype—they went for the hyper-masculine.

The result was gyms, bodies of death, boots, button fly jeans, flannel shirts and mustaches—a code that came to signify pride in their physique and a complete repudiation of beat-upable little boys they used to be. Along with the look came the Attitude—an untouchable, idealized sex machine, as distanced from emotion as any straight man, perpetually guarded and on guard, like all

scared little boys.

I came out into Clone-dom, and was immediately intimidated. No amount of exercise will relieve me of my fondness for chocolate and cheese, and my mind is too restless for the hours of weight-lifting and muscle-sculpting that were necessary for The Look. I wasn't willing to wax my back or make Jenny Craig rich to end up with a superficial boyfriend.

The first place where I felt really attractive was at Leatherbars, where men who preferred generalized masculine looks usually go. I can remember how incredibly empowered I felt when I finally found a place where I was considered physically attractive—I finally understood where that swagger in the walk comes from. The reward for Clones, who worked their buns off for tight buns, was a feeling that no dumpy 14-year-old Queerling ever imagines he'll feel—the sense of being beautiful.

But muscles don't stay, and a self-image based on muscles alone will be easily vanquished by the arch-villain cellulite. And how does that old saying go? "If everyone only went home with people better looking than themselves, then no one would be going anywhere." Clone Attitude all too often led to bars full of men admiring each other from afar, but too fearful of rejection to actually speak to anyone. And that taught us all to idealize unattainable sex objects. "He's so gorgeous, I could never approach him for *anything*," is an attitude that still inhibits relationships in our community.

Bearishness invites us to think about sex (and each other) differently. For Bears, cuddling is as likely a fetish as fisting, beer bellies as acceptable as washboard stomachs. Instead of pining away for unattainable beauty, Bears are busy eroticizing the people around them. Bear clubs, initially dismissed by some Leathermen as groups of fat slob who wouldn't work hard enough to get their bodies in shape (and therefore hadn't earned their inclusion into the club), now seem like a healthy and natural evolution toward the individuality and self-acceptance we need as a community.

Back to Blizzard Saturday night. I walked right up to Mr. Bear Cap, a New Englander somewhat bemusedly stranded in the snowbound South. We talked for awhile and swapped phone numbers, then he bounded off through the snow to catch up on his rest. Times were, I would have felt brushed off and dejected. But hey—I spent an hour talking with a really nice, attractive man who, with any luck, will be hanging out in Washington at the end of April.

And I'll know where to find him. The Bear contingent has picked the Lincoln Memorial at noon every day that weekend for Bear gatherings. Accessible, inexpensive and spacious—how apropos.

For Southern Bears info, write P.O. Box 13964 Atlanta, 30324. Meetings are at 8 pm on the second Saturday of the month at the Eagle; March's snowed-out meeting will be March 27.

L E T T E R S

Speaking out 101

To the Editor:

On Feb. 18th a large ad placed by private sponsors [in Southern Voice] asking for support for President Clinton's efforts to lift the ban against gays in the military stirred me into action.

Although I had previously written to Pres. Clinton and Sen. Nunn I felt it was important to write to all four of the individuals listed.

I am by no means an activist but I feel that it is important to speak out and to present positive gay examples to a nation of ignorants who think that all gays are weirdos or child molesters.

One of the biggest problems has always been to know where to write while the anger was still fresh and the motivation to respond still strong. The publication of names and addresses is one of the most important factors in getting people such as myself to sit down and write.

My friend of 13 years, a Navy man, recently died and was given a military funeral. When the flag that had draped his coffin was given to the oldest of his 5 brothers and 4 sisters in the name of President Clinton, I found it important to talk to each of them about the significance of the gesture. I told them to remember that their brother was a gay man in the military who had faithfully served his country and to speak out against the voices of discrimination that want to uphold the ban against gays.

Who knows, maybe through this painful and tragic experience of losing a loved brother we have got the voices of his family to speak out on behalf of the honor of their brother and ultimately for the honor of all of us. Only time will tell.

Sincerely,
Rolf Ingenleuf

Both women victims in murder-suicide

To the Editor:

Thank you for your detailed and accurate as possible reporting of the recent murder-suicide in our community. Your efforts to dispel hysteria and false mainstream reporting is to be commended, and not unusual for your paper.

However, there were two tragedies. One was Venus, the obvious victim, and the other tragedy was Bisa, the perpetrator who was also a victim. Can we ignore that in our effort to try to make sense of what happened?

Bisa committed a horrible, heinous act of violence that sent a tidal wave over our community. Many, many victims were left behind to suffer the consequences.

Yet, Bisa also touched many lives in a positive way. The thing I've learned most from this event, being a family member of Bisa's, is nothing is a bad/good issue. There are many sides of a person and nothing is a guarantee.

Will Bisa be missed...? Yes, I loved her very much and expect to miss her for a very long time. And so will many others.

Sincerely,
Brooke Hopkins

P.S. Focusing on Bisa as "the bad guy" is too easy of an explanation. If things were just that simple!

Strong response to letter advocating that gays carry guns

To the Editor:

In response to Mike McCulley's letter in the March 11th issue of SoVo "Maybe it's time to pack some heat," I am writing to express my full concurrence with Mr. McCulley's opinion that the time has come for the gay community to begin toting pistols. I disagree, however, with his recommendation of the Glock .45 as the preferred firearm of choice for defense against the bigots. The recoil of this gun is significant, and it will prove to be unwieldy in the hands of inexperienced shooters or for those with weaker wrist muscles. Semiautomatic handguns are also prone to jamming. Any Smith and Wesson .38 loaded with hollow points with a barrel length of 4 to 6 inches should provide adequate, manageable protection for any individual. The mechanisms of revolvers are simpler and require less maintenance.

I even advocate the usage of handguns of lesser caliber, such as the .22 or .32. The responsible use of weaponry involves the ideology that the sole purpose of the gun is to defend, not to kill or maim. Any of the aforementioned pistols can be used to deter and stop assailants, not to slaughter.

I fear that if Midtown suddenly becomes overrun with angry, trigger-happy dykes and fags, we will have soon descended to the same base, violent mentality that we abhor in hate-mongering rednecks. Still, I am grateful that queers can now quibble openly about guns. Perhaps at some juncture we'll be being kissed by our lovers after winning turkey shoots in South Georgia...

Sincerely,
Jamie Davis

To the Editor:

Mike McCulley's Viewpoints letter of 11 March is so disturbing that I'm not sure where to begin. I have not heard views like his expressed very often in our community, so I can only hope that his letter is unrepresentative of popular opinion.

I understand McCulley's anger surrounding the Thomas Stewart bashing last month. It is to be expected that the community be outraged by this. But aren't there better, more constructive uses for this anger? It can be channelled into awareness-raising, self-defense programming, public safety planning, public protest, and more. McCulley's suggestion that we all buy guns is short-sighted and will not solve the problem.

And to assert that gay-bashing only comes from outside the perimeter is truly ridiculous. Yes, most of us feel safer in the city, where our sheer numbers offer us a certain amount of protection; but Atlanta is not gay Nirvana, and most of us city-dwellers probably have stories of being bashed by our own neighbors. Let's not kid ourselves.

I hope that this issue starts a dialogue in the gay and lesbian community. We can set the terms of how we'll respond to the violence. Do we arm ourselves with firepower, then sit around and wait for the "fascists" to come after us, only to blow their brains out victoriously and exclaim "I win! I win!?" Or do we go to the roots of the problem and work toward real change?

We can decide.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Bevacqua

CORRECTION: Well, we *really* messed up in issue 6.3. We owe an apology to Laura Roscoe and Shannen Wysong whose photo we ran on page 3, mistakenly identifying them as Sue Anne Gresham and Laine Peek. Sue Anne and Laine are the brave couple who challenged the AJC on their policy of only printing "legal marriage" wedding announcements. The decision by AJC to change their policy must have startled us so much that we temporarily lost our minds. Apologies to all.

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Apology demanded for racist, gay jokes made at Republican fundraiser

Washington, DC—The NAACP and a gay organization want Oliver L. North and some Virginia Republicans who made jokes about blacks and gays at a GOP dinner to apologize, but the Republicans say they see no reason to apologize.

Speakers told the jokes March 12 at a roast in Fairfax honoring former Virginia Rep. Stan Parris. The Washington Post reported March 18. Many of the jokes focused on Clinton's proposal to allow gays and lesbians in the military.

"Anybody who's trying to take a roast—an evening when people are assigned to make humorous or non-serious statements—to try to stretch that into a political interpretation is really reaching," said Charles Black, former chairman of the national party.

Black told the audience Clinton wanted the Marine Corps hymn to include the lyrics, "Don we now our gay apparel."

According to the Post, state Sen. Warren E. Barry called Clinton's plan on gays in the military a "fags in the foxhole" proposal, and Fairfax County GOP Chairman D. Patrick Mullins said it gave new meaning to the military warning "watch your rear flank."

Mullins told the newspaper most Republicans consider the gay lifestyle to be offensive.

"I didn't really consider it gay-bashing," he said. "But you know, the gays are a constituency that traditionally don't support the Republican Party, so when we have a roast there are comments made, just as there are about Sen. [Charles] Robb, the President and the Democrats." Robb is a Democrat.

Oliver L. North told the crowd that he tried to telephone Clinton, but the White House switchboard wouldn't let him through until he disguised his voice with a lisp. North, whose conviction in the Iran-Contra scandal was dismissed by a federal appeals court, is expected to run for the Senate.

"Ollie was poking fun at Clinton, and that's all..." says North spokesman Mark Merritt.

Barry, who is white, also called a bridge linking northern Virginia with the largely black District of Columbia as the "Soul Brothers' Causeway," the newspaper said.

Barry said his jokes were not intended to offend. He said "the thing was supposed to be a humorous evening."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored

People and the Fairfax Lesbian and Gay Citizens' Association called on the speakers to apologize.

"We found the remarks deplorable and racist, and the most

grievous part of the whole affair is they don't see anything wrong with it," said the Rev. Kenny Smith, president of the Fairfax branch of the NAACP. (AP)

Lift the Ban Rally

Continued from page 1

"This type of thing is nothing new," Pridgen said. "If not for the media attention, my bashing wouldn't have gotten any attention. These types of things have been going on for years and years before this issue ever came up."

Pridgen said that the attack brought him a new awareness of political activity, forcing him into the spotlight.

"I was beaten by three people who were supposed to be protecting my rights," he said. "They took away my dignity. And the only way I thought I could get it back was to follow my heart, to do it for people who can't, to stand up and say we're not going to take it any more."

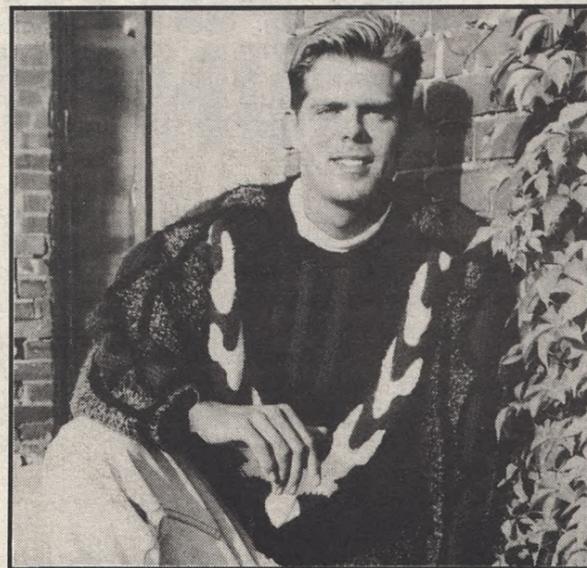
Pridgen answers critics who point to the attack on him as an example of why the ban should remain in place by pointing back at gay-bashing military personnel.

"The three Marines that beat me should not have the right to wear the uniform," he said. "It's not a sexual issue. It's how you conduct yourself. The military is going to have to sit down and teach every person in the military tolerance."

Where we stand

Discharge proceedings against gay and lesbian soldiers are still moving forward on several fronts, although those recommended for discharge are now placed on standby reserve until a final decision is made by the President and Congress. Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn, the chair of the Senate's Armed Services Committee, has just announced that Senate hearings on the issue will begin on March 29. House hearings are still on hold, and may not begin until June, even though the President has set a July 15 deadline for the process.

In California, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals denied the government's request to stay an order declaring the ban unconstitutional in the case of Petty Officer Keith Meinhold. At



Grae Pridgen

issue is whether or not Judge Terry Hatter's ruling applies to all gay soldiers or only Meinhold.

The newly formed Campaign for Military Service has launched an effort to bring the issue to the American people, rolling out a bus "Tour of Duty" that began March 14 in Fargo, North Dakota. The bus tour, which features gay and lesbian as well as heterosexual veterans and supporters, will be in Atlanta March 31 and April 1.

And this weekend, Human Rights Campaign Fund-sponsored rallies will be held in over twenty cities as part of HRCF's Operation Lift the Ban Weekend. Saturday's rally in Atlanta, sponsored by the ad hoc Coalition to Lift the Ban, is part of that operation.

KC WILDMOON

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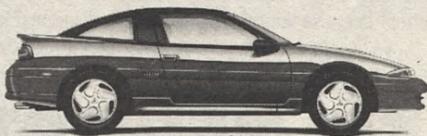
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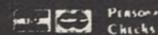
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My Two Moms:

A look at children of lesbian and gay parents

Part 3 of a 3-part series

They are common problems for teenagers: school finals, wishing for a car, and moaning about too many household chores.

But 12 year old Tascha and 15 year old Mercedes Pasqualetti have one thing that makes them very unique...their parents are lesbians.

They are part of a growing number of households run by gay and lesbian parents across the nation.

Estimates of the number of children with gay or lesbian parents range from 6 million to 14 million, in at least 4 million households. While those estimates, from sources like the American Bar Association, might seem high, those who make them point out that the majority of such families are "invisible," in that few outsiders realize there is a gay or lesbian parent.

"The great majority of gay and lesbian parents are not out in the open about it," Tim Fisher, director of communications for Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International in Washington, D.C. told the New York Times. GLPCI has 40 chapters in the United States and Canada. There are at least 100 other informal support groups for homosexuals in the country including several in Atlanta like Gay Fathers of Atlanta, and Lesbians With Children.

So if a great majority of gay and lesbian parents are invisible, that makes the Pasqualetti children a minority within a minority. Mercedes and Tascha's biological mother, Lynn Pasqualetti, has "been on every gay and lesbian board out there," according to Mercedes. "So we don't have to come out, she does it for us."

Which is just fine with them. They both say they enjoy telling people about Lynn and her partner Laura Bevins, because "it's fun to see the reaction." But Mercedes does take precautions.

"First I wait to see if they are homophobic and whether or not I can trust them," she says.

Neither can recount any horror stories about rejection by friends, in fact, it's just the opposite in most cases.

"I have a friend from Indonesia who didn't know what a lesbian was until I explained it to her," says Mercedes. "But after I explained, she thought it was okay. And another friend has an aunt who is a lesbian."

Tascha has a similar story. "A few of my friends know," she smiles. "One of my friends has a step-sister who is a lesbian."

That's not to say they haven't felt some homophobia from their peers. Mercedes remembers a boy in the 7th grade who was spreading rumors about Lynn and Laura being lesbians, but she knew he had a gay brother and wasn't handling it well. "I told him he could talk to me about it if he wanted to, but there was no reason to be mean," she remembers.

Another time, Tascha says a boy at lunch was calling two girls "lezzies" because they were sitting together.

"Well, a counselor came by and said, 'Tell me the definition of lesbian,' and he couldn't, he just knew it was supposed to be bad," Tascha says. "They don't like what they don't understand, but once they do [understand], they're fine with it."

My two Moms

And Tascha and Mercedes don't mind sharing what it is like in a home with two moms. Recently, They gave speeches on the subject at a school counselors conference. There, they found they were the target of some strange questions.

"People ask, 'Do you watch TV, like normal people?' or 'Do you do this like normal people?'" recalls Tascha. "I don't see them asking straight people these questions, because they're supposed to be normal and we're not, right?"

Mercedes was equally aghast at a question posed to another child of a gay parent. "Someone asked this girl if she was attracted to her sisters," she recounts, wide-eyed with disbelief. "The girl told her that she wasn't, she fought with her sisters. She asked the lady if she was attracted to her sisters. The woman was offended by the question."

So, what is life like with two moms? Wonderful, according to Tascha and Mercedes.

"Laura is the parent during the day, and Lynn is the parent during the night," Tascha explains. "They have their shifts, but they are equal."

The moms have code names, too. Lynn is Mom 1 and Laura is Mom 2.

"When you say, 'Mom!' and both of them answer you have to say, 'No, that one,'" laughs Tascha. "So it's easier to say Mom 1 and Mom 2."

It's going to get confusing soon around the Pasqualetti-Bevins household, however. Laura recently adopted an infant named Daniel, "so to him she will be Mom 1 and Lynn will be Mom 2," says Mercedes. So, things will get a little confusing until his voice changes, I guess.

Harmful Secrets

Being in a gay or lesbian family is not always easy, however. Paula Fomby's mother is a lesbian. She writes in Mother Jones magazine that "being the child in a gay family, for me, meant telling lies. My mother asked me not to tell my friends that she was gay, comparing the embarrassment to a secret we shared about an eraser I had once stolen from a stationery store. There was little danger that I would say anything. Through high school, I constructed my social life around the fact that my mother and her lover were asleep by ten o'clock, making sure I had no guests in our house, who might seem them go to bed. Should anyone actually see them disappear behind the same closed door, I was quick to invent an explanation."

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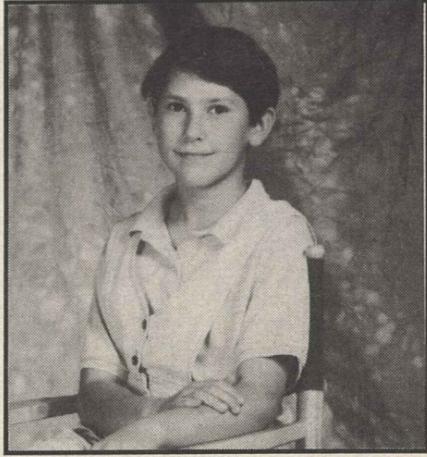
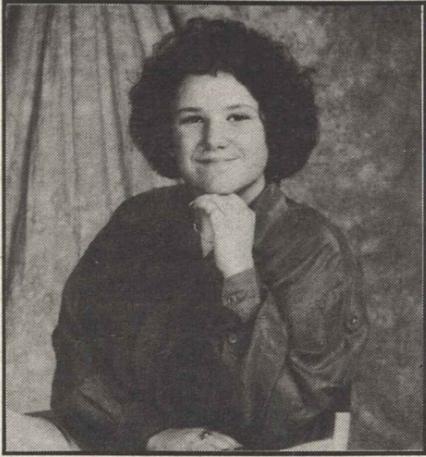
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Mercedes and Tascha Pasqualetti are just two of the estimated 14 million kids who are being raised by lesbian or gay parents.

Tascha and Mercedes say they've never felt secretive about their parents sexual orientation.

"It depends on how the parents think of it," explains Mercedes. "If they are in the closet, then the kids will be secret. But our parents are out there, so it's okay."

Paula has come to accept her mother's lesbianism, and is even active in the community herself. She ends her testimonial by saying, "I've heard enough jokes and insults to know that people don't really believe the gay family exists in large numbers and turns out healthy, well-balanced children. It is time for society to expand the definition of family. With a broader sense of family available to children, there would be no reason to be ashamed of any kind of love."

Research says gay parents are OK

The "invisibility" of gay and lesbian families has led to a drought of research on the subject of whether or not gay families turn out the "healthy, well-balanced children" that Paula writes about. And most of the research done is on lesbians and not gay men. Experts say the reason is because most of the research was born out of custody battles between lesbian mothers and their ex-husbands. It's typical for the father to take the mother to court using her sexual orientation as a reason that she is "unfit" to have custody. There are far fewer cases in which an ex-wife has to go to court to battle her gay husband for custody of their children.

The most-often quoted research on the subject is by Dr. Martha Kirkpatrick, a Los Angeles psychiatrist who compared 5- to 12-year-old children of lesbian mothers with the children of straight mothers. Her findings: no significant psychological differences.

Likewise, Dr. Susan Bradley, psychiatrist-in-chief at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children told *Chatelaine* magazine that most kids of gay and lesbian parents do not have gender disorders, and most kids with gender disorders don't have gay parents.

Another study, conducted by Dr. Julie Gottman, a clinical psychologist in Seattle, was published in 1990. It showed that as a group, the children of lesbians did not differ from children of heterosexual mothers in their social adjust-

ment or their identity as a boy or girl.

They study compared two groups of 35 adult women with 35 who had been raised by lesbian mothers after a divorce from the fathers. The average age of the children studied was 25 years old.

"What mattered most for their adjustment was whether the mother had a partner in the home, whether male or female," Dr. Gottman told the *New York Times*. "If so, those children tended to do somewhat better than the others in self-confidence, self-acceptance and independence. But the sexual orientation of the lesbian mothers had no adverse effects."

Tascha and Mercedes could have told you that. Just a short visit with them in their Druid Hills home reveals two very happy kids.

Activist kids

Mercedes goes to Druid Hills High School where she is on the "accelerated track." "That means I'm taking courses one year ahead of kids on the regular track," she says. She is on the track team and she just lettered in swimming.

Tascha is a 6th grader at Fernbank. Her favorite subjects are science and health and she wants to one day become a pediatrician.

It's important to note that no study found any impact on a child's feelings about being a boy or a girl or sexual preference from being raised by a gay or lesbian parent. For example, a 1983 study of 9- to 10-year-old girls and boys who were raised by lesbians found that none wished to be the opposite sex.

As for Tascha and Mercedes, they continue to live their normal life, but are dedicated to making a difference and educating people about their parents.

But sometimes the best laid plans can miss their mark. Tascha remembers being a part of Channel 2's special report called "The Closet Minority."

"We were in the commercials walking our pig in the park and people would say, 'I didn't know you had a pig.' They didn't even notice what the piece was about," she laughs, "they just noticed the pig."

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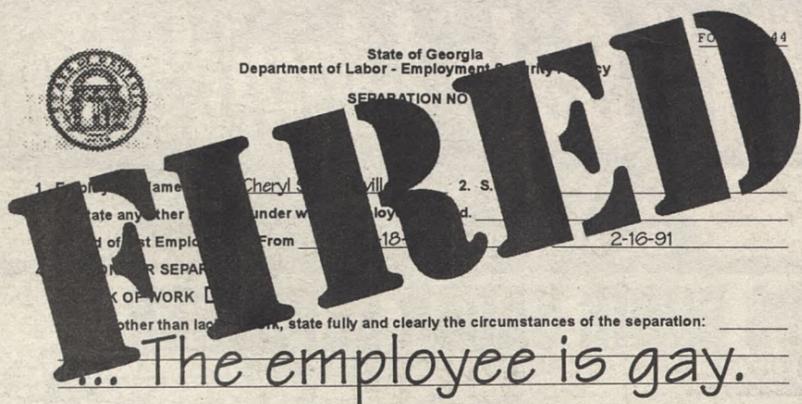
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RIGHT WATCH

Entertainers are taking different avenues to protest Colorado's oppressive Amendment 2. In Fort Collins, a cappella group **Sweet Honey in the Rock** cancelled an April 25 concert at Colorado State University because of the amendment.

"In keeping with the vision and work of Sweet Honey in the Rock, the group has decided to participate in the activities of the boycott until the situation is changed," said Madeleine Remez, a group spokesperson, in a letter to CSU officials.

But **Mandy Patinkin** took a different track, headlining a show at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts and donating his entire \$35,000 fee to help finance a National ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project briefing book about Amendment 2. The book will be used to fight measures similar to Amendment 2 that are being proposed in several other states.

Before his DCPA performance on March 6, Patinkin also appeared at a benefit at a Denver restaurant, with all proceeds going to the Colorado ACLU.

And then Patinkin promised that "Falsettos," a Broadway musical about gays, will play in Denver next March. Patinkin stars in the show.

Also on the boycott front, the Washington Blade has reported that the Spanish television network Univision picked up the tab incurred by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists when that group voted to move its annual conference out of Colorado. The decision cost the group \$70,000 in hotel payments. The Blade also reported that Cowles Media Foundation, owners of the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, handed over \$5,000 to help defray the costs. The NAHJ conference will be held in Washington, DC in June.

In other news from the Hate State, attendance at this year's **Aspen Gay and Lesbian Ski Week** was off projections by 50%, with only 1500 showing. Over half of 600 skiers returning a questionnaire distributed by organizers said that they would not return next year unless Amendment 2 is overturned.

Two surprising turnarounds are in the news in Colorado: ex-Colorado for Family Values leader Tony Marco has blasted the group's anti-gay tactics, contending they promote violence against gays and disillusion Amendment 2 supporters. And Greg Walta, the Colorado Springs attorney who started a campaign for a compromise that would ban discrimination but prohibit special rights, has withdrawn from the effort because he has not received enough support from other towns in the state. CFV had decried the compromise effort, saying it would destroy "the meaning of a protected minority" and urging voters to oppose it "with all their strength."



Sweet Honey in the Rock honored the Colorado boycott by canceling an April 25 concert there.

In the Colorado House, legislators passed a measure appropriating \$32,000 for the state's legal defense of Amendment 2.

Idaho: Fearing a tourism boycott, the Idaho Travel Council has joined a growing list of state leaders and groups opposed to that state's anti-gay initiative. The council last week condemned a ballot measure proposed by the conservative Idaho Citizens Alliance (ICA).

ICA organizer Kelly Walton is a former member of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, which last year led the battle for Oregon's Measure 9, which in addition to banning gay rights bills also defined homosexuality as abnormal and perverse.

New Mexico: An anti-discrimination bill that passed the NM Senate cleared one House committee but was killed by a second. Governor Bruce King had said that he'd rather not have the gay rights bill reach his desk.

"If something happened [and] I didn't happen to sign it," he said, "I'd want everyone to know it's not just me."

Texas: State Rep. Glen Maxey has introduced a bill that would ban discrimination against gays, lesbians, and bisexuals seeking employment, housing and public accommodations. Maxey, the state's only openly gay legislator, said he has the support of 27 other lawmakers.

Maine: The Republican governor of the state says that he will not let a proposed gay rights bill become law unless it provides for a statewide referendum, or passes with significant majorities in both houses. Gov. John R. McKernon said the same thing in 1991, the last time such a bill was considered by the Maine legislature.

Washington: The state House approved a civil rights bill extending the state's anti-discrimination protections to gays and lesbians, but the measure faces a tough test in the more conservative Senate. Gov. Mike Lowry hailed the vote and said he would stake some of his personal popularity to try to persuade senators to follow the House's lead.

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Elizabeth Taylor honored by American Film Institute

Beverly Hills, CA—Elizabeth Taylor, veteran of 54 movies, seven marriages and countless illnesses, won the applause of Hollywood as she received the 21st Life Achievement Award of the American Film Institute.

"When I first heard about the award, I went into a state of shock," she told the star-filled Beverly Hilton Ballroom audience Thursday night. "It's been so long since I thought about myself as an actress."

Intensely active for the cause of AIDS, Taylor has not appeared in a feature film in 13 years. But the audience was reminded of her talent with film clips on double screens of such films as "National Velvet," "A Place in the Sun" and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

The violet-eyed star sat between singer Michael Jackson and husband Larry Fortensky and heard the tributes of her fellow workers. Afterwards, Fortensky escorted his wife to the stage to receive the award.

In the evening's most touching moment, Taylor remarked: "My mind goes to four magnificent men who, had they lived, might have stood here and received this award themselves—Monty, Rock, Jimmy and of course Richard."

The screens displayed her co-stars Montgomery Clift ("A Place in the Sun"); Rock Hudson ("Giant"), whose death from AIDS launched Taylor's devotion to the cause; James Dean ("Giant"); and Richard Burton, her hus-



Activist/Fundraiser Elizabeth Taylor receives a Life Achievement award from the American Film Institute for her films.

band and frequent co-star.

The program, which was emceed by Carol Burnett, will appear on ABC television later this spring.

BOB THOMAS

Eleanor Roosevelt most influential woman of 20th century

Albany, NY—Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, tops a list of the 10 most influential American women of the 20th century, according to a national survey of 100 college professors.

The list was announced March 12 by Thomas O. Kelly II and Douglas A. Lonnstrom, co-directors of the Siena Research Institute at Siena College. They conducted their survey in cooperation with the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls.

Roosevelt, who worked to improve the lives of women and minorities in the 1930s and 1940s, received 586 points under the survey's scoring system. The rest of the top 10, in order, are: 1931 Nobel Peace Prize winner Jane Addams, civil rights activist Rosa Parks, Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger, anthropologist Margaret Mead, feminist and writer Charlotte Perkins Gilman, author Betty Friedan, former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, Helen Keller,

and social reformer Alice Paul.

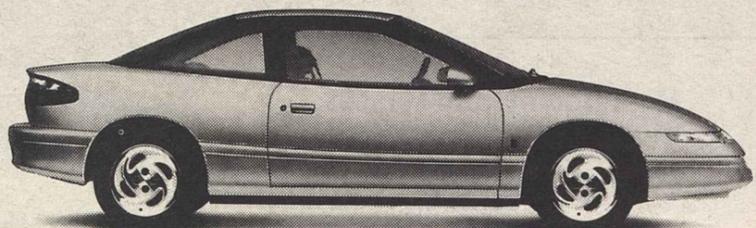
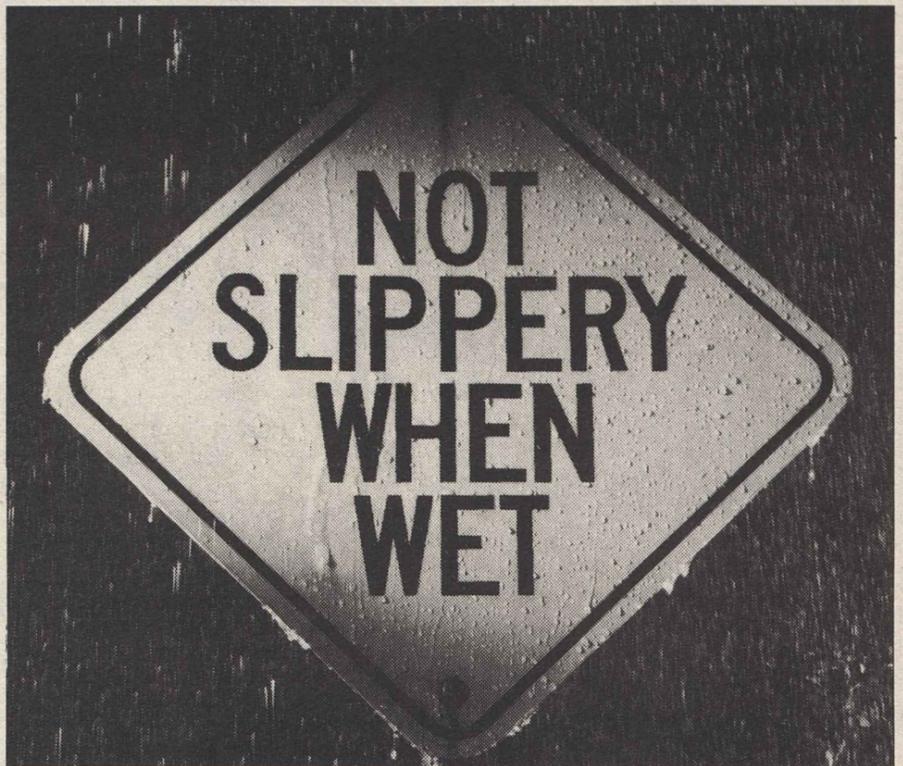
"We were able to formulate something of a benchmark in terms of consistent and significant achievement among American women," Kelly said.

Those surveyed were asked to name the top three women in each of 17 categories. A first place vote received three points, second place received two and third place one.

The top finishers in several categories:

- Art—Georgia O'Keeffe
- Film—Katharine Hepburn
- Industry-commerce—Frances Perkins, U.S. Secretary of Labor from 1933 to 1945
- Law—U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor
- Medicine—Margaret Sanger
- Literature—Willa Cather
- Music—Marian Anderson
- Science/mathematics—Rachel Carson
- Sports—Babe Didrickson Zaharias
- Women's movement—Susan B. Anthony
- Religion—Mary Baker Eddy
- Television—Lucille Ball

(AP)



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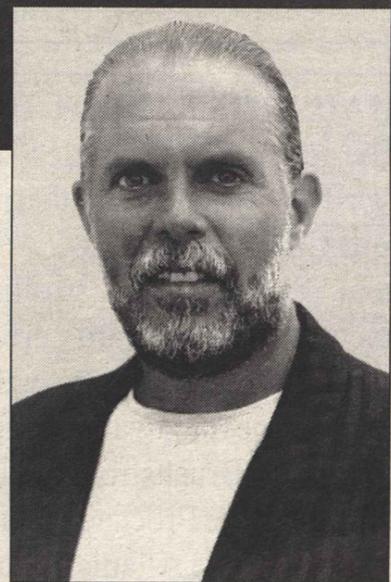
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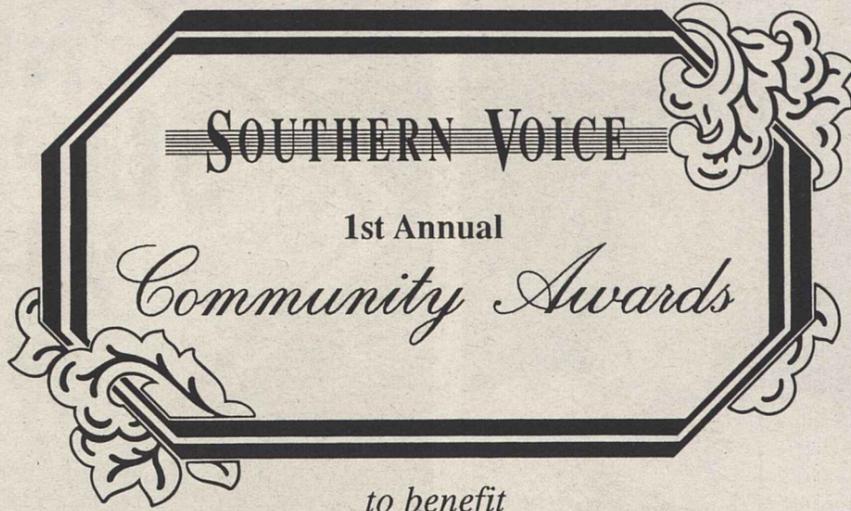
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MAIL THIS BALLOT TO: PO BOX 18215, Atlanta, Georgia 30316. The top four vote-getters in each category will be published in the April 15 issue of Southern Voice. The "Sovie" Awards will be presented April 17 at Zoo Atlanta. Doors will open at 6:30 for drinks, hors d'oeuvres and strolling through the zoo, which will be open exclusively for award ceremony attendees. Ceremonies will begin at 8:00, and the winners will be announced. SoVo will also present several special awards of their own. **TICKETS:** \$20.00, available at MalePak, Brushstrokes, Charis, Maddix Deluxe, and the Southern Voice Office. Proceeds benefit Atlanta's Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and the Atlanta Lambda Community Center.



OUT & ABOUT

INTERVIEW

RAKESH RATTI

Wearing a black leather jacket, forest green sweat shirt, jeans and a soft smile, Rakesh Ratti talked about his recently released book, "A Lotus of Another Color: An Unfolding of the South Asian Gay and Lesbian Experience."

The initial idea for the anthology of essays and poetry came from many South Asian gays and lesbians. They wanted to reach out to others like themselves who were isolated, Ratti said. For the 34-year-old, who edited the collection, the book represented the culmination of many years of self exploration.

That journey began when Ratti was born into an Indian family in the state of Punjab. He was the youngest of seven children, two girls and five boys.

Writing about his family in one of the book's essays entitled, "Feminism and Men," Ratti noted, "My father's attitude toward his sons and daughters was like night and day; the boys were the light of his eyes, especially me, as the youngest, but he had few kind words for my sisters. Just as my mother had to be subservient to my father, the daughters in the family were expected to cater to the sons."

As an adolescent, Ratti wrote that he became "a mouth-piece for my mother and my sister...whatever gave birth to my early activism led me into many a battle with my father over his attitude toward women."

Now, as "A Lotus of Another Color" hits bookstores near where his father lives, Ratti is set for another confrontation with the man he calls a "gentle autocrat."

"The South Asian cultures stress family and children a great deal and anything that deviates from that is looked upon with suspicion," Ratti says. "I was raised in Hindu culture. There was no religious condemnation of gays, no framing of it in terms of sin. But there are cultural restrictions and social and legal restrictions."

Says Ratti, "I expect to encounter a lot of conflict when I go home this week to California, because stories about the book have been published in South Asian magazines and newspapers. A part of me is actually delighted that my father has no choice but to come out as parent who has a gay child. He can no longer hold onto his fear of what will happen if the world finds out."

When Ratti was nine years old his family moved to suburban California. Recalling that time, Ratti said, "I didn't speak a word of English. That was the first trauma—not being able to communicate with anyone outside my family and being ostracized by classmates. Along with the language, I didn't eat the foods they ate or dress the way they did."

However, within a year, Ratti was fluent in English and getting better grades, so he stopped feeling ostracized, but continued to encounter a great deal of prejudice as an Indian.

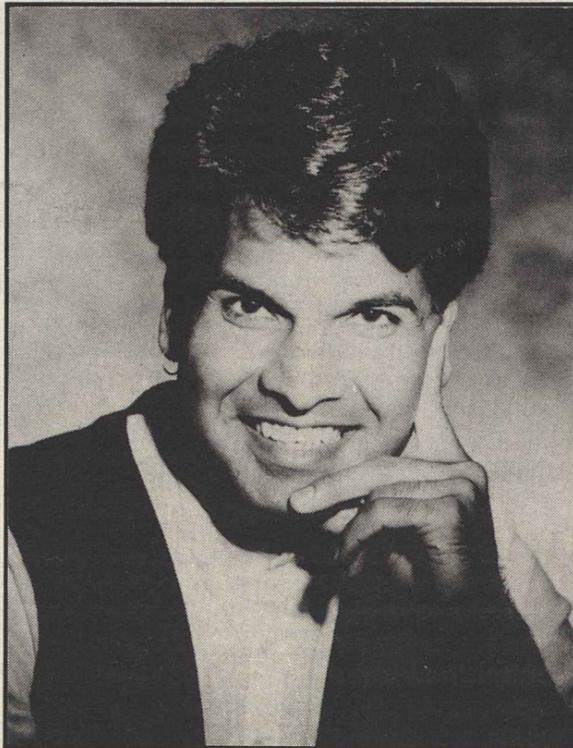
By the time he was 12, Ratti became aware of his sexual feelings toward men and he knew what that meant in society's eyes. Looking back on that time, Ratti says, "In terms of my mental health, it was good that I was into sports and did well in school, because kids tend to pick out some prominent things about kids and frame their identity around that. It bought me time to deal with my sexuality in my own time."

For Ratti, dealing with his sexuality was compounded by his ethnic beliefs about being gay. In addition, Ratti felt oppressed as a South Asian in a predominantly Euroamerican society and as a South Asian within gay/lesbian America.

In all three instances, he had the same experience—he felt invisible.

That feeling of not being seen forms the basis of "A Lotus of Another Color." Ratti says the idea for the book came from "having discussed with other South Asians the pain we had experienced and the need we felt to help others avoid that same pain or at least to minimize it and to also document our own experiences."

The second objective of the book was "to take the opportunity to define who we are, rather than continuing to let the



DAVID HILL

world define us." Ratti says so many South Asians had lived keeping "our sexual identity and our cultural identity fairly separate. Coming together with other gays and lesbians allowed us to start integrating the two. We wanted to be noticed in the South Asian community. We remembered the isolation we felt as adolescents—even though we knew other gays, many of us were convinced we must be the only South Asian gays and lesbians."

This was compounded by the fact that "living in the United States, many of us are faced by the need to hold onto a culture that becomes more and more distant the longer we live in this society," said Ratti. "We try to keep in touch with our culture, while searching for a way to balance this with having to educate gay/lesbian Euroamericans."

"A Lotus of Another Color" was released in February of this year and Ratti says, "Now that it's out, I'm having a hard time not popping out of my skin."

The book is set to be distributed in the United States and Europe by Alyson Publications, but Ratti is working to get it into cities across India. That desire is in part a response to Ratti's return visit to the country after he finished college.

Looking back on that time, he said, "The three months in India was seminal in some way. I was going there to travel and visit with family I had not seen since I left India, but I was also eager to find out what kind of a lesbian/gay life there was in the country."

Ratti said he ran into an individual here or there that he thought might be gay, but he didn't know for certain. "I felt a little bit of a stranger in a strange land. I didn't know what cues to pick up on to know if someone was gay."

Ratti moved to Atlanta in 1990, to work on a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Georgia State University. His heart is in both psychology and writing, he said. In addition, Ratti works as a volunteer with Project Open Hand and he is on the board of GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation).

Talking about "A Lotus of Another Color," Ratti said, "Everything we humans do in life is an attempt to give it some meaning and through the book I give meaning to a part of my life that in the past has gone ignored or been castigated."

About the response he could get from South Asians, he said, "The more flack I get, the more people the book is reaching. It means they've heard of the book and have to stop for a minute and think about it and acknowledge the existence of something they may have denied before."

C. MITCHELL

THEATRE REVIEWS

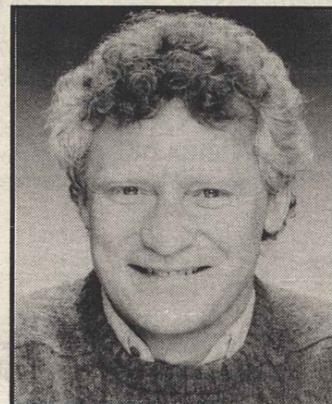
THE WAKEING

/The Madness of S. Gregory Bane Humor, grief, and ritualized violence are portrayed in two one-act plays about AIDS by Atlanta playwright Bill Bagwell now running at SAME's OutProud Theatre. Directed by Stephen Petty, both plays feature Theo Harness, an accomplished actor with numerous credits with Actor's Express and OutProud Theatre.

"The Wakeing," a one-man show, is a showcase for Harness. He plays Dieter Gares, a flamboyant gay man with advanced AIDS who has rented the American Legion Hall (a nice linguistic touch) and is holding his own wake, with flowers, food, and gifts for his friends. Exhausted, stumbling, amnesiac, and scared, Dieter nonetheless summons up bursts of irrepressible energy. He holds several intense phone conversations, chats with the audience, quotes from his favorite poets, swoops and bows about the stage in a flowered caftan, dances and declaims, all while making last-minute preparations for the party.

It's a plum role for an actor, and Harness gives it larger-than-life flamboyance, childlike exuberance, and irresistible charm. We feel glad for the privilege of meeting Dieter, whose love of life never burns so bright as when he finds himself on the brink of death.

"The Madness of S. Gregory Bane" is a more disturbing play. Part sadomasochistic fantasy, part character study, part statement about hypocrisy and irresponsible sex among gay men with HIV, it alternately drew me in and put me off. On the positive side, performances were intense, Greg Hall's in particular, as Curtis Jenson, an arrogant stud who callously infects men with AIDS while claiming to be straight. He is taken prisoner by Gregory Bane—Harness—a man who has become unhinged because of the deaths of his friends from



Theo Harness

AIDS. Bane puts Jenson through various eroticized threats and tortures. The two men feel a mutual attraction, but are locked in a struggle half erotic, half full of hate. As "The Wakeing" is an affirmation of life, "Bane" is a dance of death, set in a shrine to death.

The play is well written, well acted, and well presented. But its coupling of violence, Christian imagery, and eroticism bothered me.

Violence has been eroticized more and more in our culture. The gay men's community is now experiencing a similar fear of violence that women have experienced for centuries. Women, children, and "faggots" are perceived as natural victims in our culture, and many straight men prove their manliness by abusing (sexually or otherwise) women, children, and "effeminate" men. So a play by and for gay men that eroticizes violence is disturbing to me because it seems to play into the mainstream culture's eroticizing of violence. I thought of John Stoltenberg's discussion of violence and sexual excitement in "Refusing To Be A Man" while watching this play.

But even given my reaction to the violence, I found the show riveting. Stephen Petty, who directed "The Harvey Milk Show" and "The Women" at Actor's Express, directs, keeping the intensity unrelenting. As Petty is also a dancer and choreographer, he ensures that the men move, fight, and embrace with the grace and sureness of dancers. The set is visually evocative, with something fascinating to look at in every corner. And Bill Bagwell's poetic language is full of humor, allusions, double meanings, and other verbal richness.

CHARLENE BALL

C A L E N D A R

25 THURSDAY

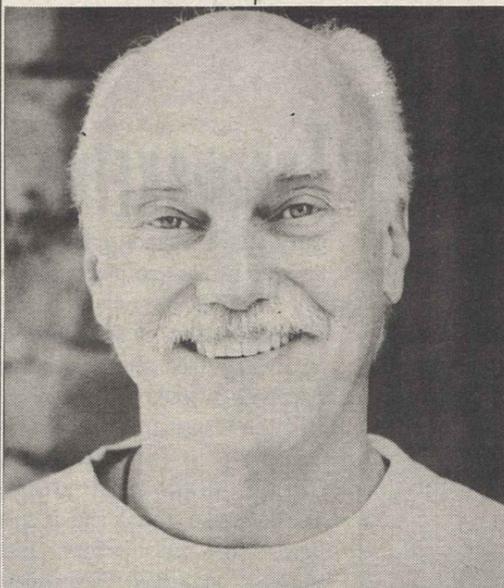
CODES OF RESISTANCE. Lesbian historians Liz Kennedy and Madeline Davis will lecture on the Lesbian Bar Communities of the 1950s at Emory University beginning at 8:00. White Hall, Room 206. Call 727-2136 for more info.

EMBODYING HEALING. Bob Timms and Patrick Connors, local therapists, will discuss ways that childhood sexual abuse affects our lives, bodies and relationships and describe new therapeutic approaches. The presentation takes place at Charis in L5P beginning at 7:30 p.m. Call 524-0304 for info.

FESTIVAL DE LA FEMME. A series of six one-act plays by local and regional female playwrights will be presented in the Discovery Arena at Neighborhood Playhouse tonight through Apr. 10. Call 377-3714 for details.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN. Theatre in the Square presents Arthur Miller's classic tale of the American dream gone awry. Tues-Sat at 8:00 p.m. and Sun at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. through May 1. Call 424-4603 for ticket info.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY. Robert Shaw leads the Orchestra and Chorus in "Great Opera Choruses" tonight through Sat. beginning at 8:00 p.m. Call 898-1182 for futher info.



26 FRIDAY

HOMECOMING HOP. The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus presents the music of the 60s in its spring concert. Help elect your favorite candidate for Homecoming Queen tonight and tomorrow in the Henry Grady High School Theatre beginning at 8:00 p.m. Call 977-6310 for ticket info.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE. Onstage Atlanta presents the Tennessee Williams' classic about the Wingfield family. 420 Courtland St. Call 897-1802 for further info.

JULIUS CAESAR. The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern presents this tragedy of honor, politics and murder Wed-Sat at 7:30 through May 15. 499 Peachtree St. For reservations call 874-5299.

27 SATURDAY

RALLY TO END PREJUDICE IN THE MILITARY. This rally in Piedmont Park coincides with HRCF's "Operation Lift the Ban" weekend, a 4-day nationwide event Mar. 25-28 in which 20 cities will hold rallies and town meetings to support lifting the military ban against gay men and lesbians. 1 pm. See cover story for more info. 231-5479.

13TH ANNUAL AZALEA DANCE. The Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance presents its annual spring dance. 8 pm. 1st Existentialist Cong. 470 Candler Park Dr. 378-9769 for more info.

DAMNED IN THE USA. The film Rev. Donald Wildmon fought to keep you from seeing makes its Atlanta premiere. (See story

page 24). 4pm at Tower Place 6 Theatres; 8:30 pm at Cinevision, 3300 NE Expressway, Bldg. 2, Suite A. 729-8487.

COLLECTION OF ANGELS. Bobo's Monkey Gallery in L5P presents this exhibition to benefit AIDS Legal Project. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. 441 Seminole Ave. Call 522-4123 for details.

HIV UPDATE. The syndicated cable television show airs every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. on People Television Channel 12. This month's show looks at the standard practice for managing Mycobacterium Avium Complex and also examines human rights issues and the changing role of AIDS activism.

DANCING NAKED. Emory Framing and Gallery presents a collection of photographs by Marilyn Suriani Futterman examining the world of exotic dancers. The show runs through May 8. 2126 N. Decatur Road. Call 634-6568 for info.

28 SUNDAY

GAY BY NATURE OR NURTURE. This half-hour CNN special looks at the hottest issue these days other than the military. Were we born this way or did our environment "make" us this way? Let's hope CNN had the sense to include that it really doesn't matter how we got this way, every human being deserves equal rights under the law. Here's hoping. 9pm. CNN.

Short 5-minute segments during the week lead up to the full program on Sun.

KAREN ANN EDWARDS. First MCC presents a concert by "the Sandy Patti of UFMCC." 7:30. 800 N Highland Ave. 872-2246 for more info.

WOMEN VETERANS. The Atlanta History Center presents a program entitled, "What Did You Do in the War, Grandma?" looking at the role of women in WWII, from Rosie the Riveter to nurses who died on the beaches of Italy. 2:00 p.m. 814-4000 for info.

29 MONDAY

OSCAR FEST '93. Come to Backstreet to watch the stars come out—and get their Oscars. Big screen TV and lots of gifts from EMI Records who did the sound track from "The Crying Game." (See story on page 24). 8pm. Sponsored by Backstreet, EMI Records and Southern Voice. No cover. 876-1819 for more info.

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program can be seen tonight at 10:30 and again Wed. at 5:30 p.m. on Cable Channel 12. This week's program features Leigh VanderEls of Southern Voice, members of The Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and the Atlanta Lambda Community Center talking about the upcoming 1st Annual Southern Voice Community Awards which benefits both organizations. **AN EVENING WITH RAM DASS.** The guy who



tripped with Timothy Leary and Aldous Huxley comes to town with his message on "Awareness, Compassion and Current Events." 7:30 pm. Ga. Tech Theatre for the Arts. \$15. 238-2266 for more info.

COLA ATLANTA MUSICAL AWARDS. Georgia-based music and musicians will be honored for their work throughout 1992 at the Fox Theatre beginning at 7:30 p.m. Arrested Development, Mathew Sweet, Doug Stone and Daisy are among the nominees. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster by calling 249-6400.

30 TUESDAY

IN OUR CHILDREN'S FOOD. FRONTLINE examines how the government has failed to certify the safety of pesticides heavily used for decades and why the only source of data on pesticides safety is the industry that profits from them. GPTV Channel 8, 10:00 p.m.

31 WEDNESDAY

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

Pictured: BELOW: John Parcell is Brutus in Julius Caesar at the Shakespeare Tavern through May 16. Photo by Michael Holland ABOVE LEFT: Ram Dass will speak on Mar. 29 at the Ga. Tech Theatre for the Arts. Photo by Lisa Law ABOVE: Marianne Hammock and Harrison Long in "the Film Society" through Apr. 18 at Horizon Theatre Photo by Kathryn Kolb

ON GOING AND UPCOMING

THE WAKEING. Through Mar. 28. OutProud Theater presents this one act play by Bill Bagwell along with its companion **THE MADNESS OF S. GREGORY BANE.** The plays feature three men who have very different responses to the devastation of AIDS. Features actor Theo Harness, directed by Stephen Petty. TULA Auditorium. Call 609-9590 for reservations.

ONCE ON THIS ISLAND. Through Apr. 4. 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. Alliance Theatre. Wed.-Sat. 892-2414.

THE FILM SOCIETY. Through Apr. 18. Horizon Theatre Company presents the story of an innovative teacher who tries to shake things up at a South African boarding school. The play is

by Jon Robin Baitz. Call 584-7450 for tickets.

ANGEL WORKS. Through Apr. 18. Seven Stages presents three short plays directed by Joseph Chaikin. The shorts include "The War in Heaven" by Chaikin and Sam Shepard and "The Sandbox" by Edward Albee. Through Apr. 18. 523-7647 for reservations.

PASSION. Through Apr. 25. Actor's Express presents the story of a couple who have been married for 25 years but are experiencing an upheaval in their relationship. The feelings of the main characters are simultaneously expressed by two other actors. Thurs-Sat at 8:00 p.m., Sun at 7:00 p.m. Phone 221-0831 for reservations.

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR MARCHING. Apr. 3. This cabaret and dance co-hosted by Charlie Brown and Peg Bundy benefits the GA chapter of the National March on Washington. Tickets are \$10 in advance at Charis, Boy Next Door,

Hairanoia and Brushstrokes; \$12 at the door. 8 pm at the Trolley Barn.

ALGPC AUCTION. Apr. 4. Due to the "Blizzard of the Century," the benefit for the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee has been rescheduled. 3:00 p.m., Sheraton Colony Square. Features original etchings, engravings and lithographs by some of the greatest European masters including Cezanne, Chagall, Goya, Picaso and Rembrandt. \$10 per couple. 220-8111 for further info.

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS CONCERT. Apr. 10. One show only from this phenomenal chorus. Special guests from The Voices of Hospitality. 8 pm. Ga. Tech Theatre.

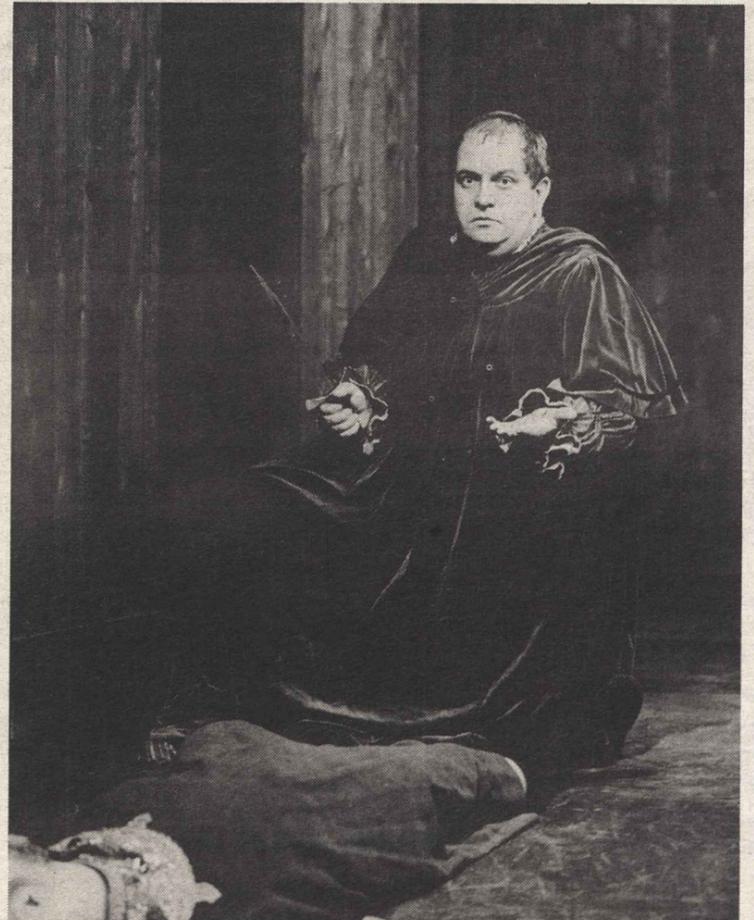
CAROLE AND BREN IN CONCERT. Apr. 16. 8pm. First Existentialist Cong. 470 Candler Park Dr.

1ST ANNUAL SOUTHERN VOICE COMMUNITY AWARDS. Apr. 17. This benefit for Atlanta Lesbian & Gay Pride and the Atlanta Lambda Center will recognize and honor

members of the community. Entertainment, food and stroll Zoo Atlanta at your leisure. Doors to the Zoo open at 6:30 pm. Awards ceremony begins at 8 pm. Eric Orner, creator of "The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green" and Cathy Woolard of the Human Rights Campaign Fund are the emcees. \$20. Tickets available at Maddix Deluxe, Charis Books, Brushstrokes, MalePak. 876-1819 for more info.

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON. Apr. 25. Over 1 million are expected in Washington for a 10-day schedule of over 200 related events, including the March itself on Apr. 25. Call 1-800-832-2889 for info on travel, accommodations, events, etc. Call now!

6TH ANNUAL HRCF DINNER. 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. \$150. For more info call 662-4280.



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The movie Rev. Donald Wildmon tried to stop opens in Atlanta

Thanks to the Metropolitan Film Society, the once-banned English documentary, "Damned in the U.S.A.," will finally premiere in Atlanta on Saturday, March 27. This Emmy award-winning documentary ambitiously and articulately covers the recent clash over artistic censorship in America.

The 69-minute film attempts to give a clear, balanced account of the war raging between the religious right and the intelligentsia in America. Specifically, the film explores the recent battles fought over artistic freedom of expression and the government and society's support and funding of the arts.

"Damned" shows the actual works that the mainstream media never would let the public see because of their graphic and possibly offensive nature. These images include Andres Serrano's "Piss Christ," which showed a crucifix submerged in urine, and Robert Mapplethorpe's photo of an arm inserted in a man's rectum, but they are allowed to be viewed in context of the greater bodies of work.



THE ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE FOUNDATION

Also highlighted are the protests and court battles surrounding photography exhibitions by Serrano and Mapplethorpe, the explicit rap music lyrics of the group 2 Live Crew, and the irreverent movie "The Last Temptation of Christ," which presents a liberal account of Christ's last days.

Over two dozen experts, participants, and witnesses involved in the various controversies are interviewed at length. By interviewing everyone from the Rev. Donald Wildmon, president of the American Family Association, to Playboy's Christie Hefner, the material seems again "topical" and "refreshingly even-handed," according to Variety.

Ironically, "Damned" got dragged into the cultural battle it was only supposed to be reporting on. Calling the movie "blasphemous and obscene," interviewee Rev. Wildmon objected to his portrayal in the film and tied up the U.S. distribution of

"Damned" until this past January with an \$8 million lawsuit for defamation of character.

"It's as if the ardent plea voiced by Boston comedian Jimmy Tingle, whose stand-up routine appears sporadically throughout the film, had been answered," says the Washington Post.

"Get me censored," Tingle cries. "Please! I need the exposure."

"Damned in the U.S.A." is unrated, but contains art and/or

pornography depending on how you look at it.

The movie has two Atlanta showings on Saturday, March 27. Your first opportunity to end a very political day comes at 4:00 PM at Tower Place 6 Theaters. Your second chance is at 8:30 pm at Cinevision, 3300 NE Expressway, Building 2, Suite A. Admission is \$5.

For more information, contact the Metropolitan Film Society at 729-8487.

Stop "Crying," come to Oscar Fest '93

Thanks to EMI Records, Backstreet and Southern Voice, you don't have to watch the Motion Picture Academy Awards show alone with your pets. This year on Monday, March 29 Oscar Fest '93 will be held at Backstreet in honor of "The Crying Game" and its six Oscar nominations. Starting at 8PM, the awards will be shown in Charlie Brown's Cabaret on a big screen television. Seating is available for the first 100 people, and there is no cover.

EMI Records, the "Game"'s soundtrack record label, will hold a drawing for \$100 cash after the awards show. The first 100 people will receive "Game" cassettes and CDs. The soundtrack includes the new hit single, "The Crying Game," by Boy George.

After six Oscar nominations and big box office returns, "Game" seems to be

the little movie that could. It's a spectacular success for a low budget, Irish/British-made art film, with no big stars, an IRA terrorist for its hero, and a central romance that's way off the beaten track.

The movie's formula—a terrorist, a hairdresser and a really big secret—at least make it the kinkiest, most unlikely hit of all time.

The secret has become the year's most talked-around moment in the year's most talked-about movie.

The movie is nominated for six Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. Jaye Davidson gives a daring and outstanding performance as the love interest. For his efforts, the Academy gave him a nod with a Best Supporting Actor nomination. With only a few more days until the secret's out, you should try to see the film this weekend. Then, at 8:00 on Monday, March 29 at Backstreet, you can see if "Game" sweeps the awards with a great crowd.

For more information contact SoVo's Andy Jones at 876-1819.

DAVID GARDNER



Jaye Davidson is up for Best Supporting Actor (yes, Actor) for his mysterious role in "The Crying Game."

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Recently, while watching "Oooh La La," which is Linda Paris' video art gallery on Cable 12, I caught a clip from an opening held recently at **Bobo's Monkey**, the "gallery of funk and color" in Little Five Points. The very next day I received news of an upcoming opening at Bobo's called "A Collection of Angels." This show will open with a reception on Saturday, March 27, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm and will benefit the AIDS Legal Project. The ALP provides free legal services for low-income PWAs facing problems involving health insurance disputes, public benefits, housing, employment discrimination, and other legal issues.

The artists expressing their vision of angels are Teresa Sanson, Rosemary Mendicino, and Cooper Pierce. Sanson presents her Angel Series in acrylic on canvas, Mendicino crafts her spirits in porcelain sculpture, while Pierce "expresses the body and soul" of his angelic figures with sculpted wire.

The gallery is located on Seminole Avenue just behind Eat Your Vegetables and is open Wednesday through Sunday, 12:30 til 5:00 pm "A Collection of Angels" runs through June 31.

The **Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus** will present their much anticipated Spring Concert on Saturday, April 10, at the Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts. Joining the 105 voices of the AFWC will be the Voices of Hospitality. The program will include "Somewhere" from West Side Story, an original composition by principal accompanist Joy Peterman which will be choreographed and danced by Pat Wells, a piece by Jan Frasier, and songs made famous by artists as diverse as Patti LaBelle, Sade, and Patsy Cline.

Begun in 1981 by director Linda Vaughn (who plans to step down after this season), the AFWC has made tremendous progress from a membership of just 7 to its present 105. And the Chorus has grown more than just numbers: they have performed all over the country, from the World Congress Center here in Atlanta to Washington for the 1987 March, to Cincinnati, to Denver last year for the GALA IV, a convention of gay and lesbian choruses from all over the world. They will return to Washington in April for the 1993 March and will perform before the gathered thousands. Selections for that occasion include "Azanian Freedom Song," "Fair Warning," and "Fie Upon You, Fie!"

Tickets for the April 10 concert are \$10 in advance and \$12

AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



Wild About Harry will appear March 26 at Eddie's Attic.

at the door. Pick up your tickets at Charis Books and More, Atlantis Connection, Brushstrokes, ArtSouth, The Boy Next Door, and the Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts Box Office at 350 Ferst Drive. For more information, call (404) 438-5823.

In other musical news, **Wild About Harry**, a 40s styled classy jazz band, will appear at Eddie's Attic on March 26. Band leader and songwriter Bill DeMain says he got the name from Eubie Blake's song "I'm Just Wild About Harry." We can't wait to hear the band that publications like *Billboard* and *Nashville Scene* have called "provocative, sensuous, superb, wonderful and witty." Wow. Bryan Cumming, multi-instrumentalist for the band, is an Atlanta native. He has been a writer and performer with artists such as The Pointer Sisters, Sha-Na-Na and Al Jarreau. Molly Felder, lead singer, is a veteran jingles singer with all the silk and sass needed to carry the band's wide range of styles from bossa nova to pop to swing.

Be sure to catch them at Eddie's Attic.

Discovery Arena at the Neighborhood Playhouse presents **Festival de la Femme**, a series of 6 one-act plays local and regional female playwrights Pamela Parker, Ronda Kusick, Sandra Hughes, Corey-Jan Albert, and Virginia Antoinette Davis.

Showing on March 25, April 2, and April 10 will be "Whatever Happened to Marriage" by Virginia Antoinette Davis, and "Colorized Dreams" by Corey-Jan Albert.

On March 26, April 3 and April 8, the plays will be "The Framing of Agnes D." by Ms. Davis and "Mothers" by Neighborhood Playhouse Playwright in Residence Pamela Parker. "Mothers" involves a three-generational meeting of mothers and daughters in the hopes of talking the family's matron from joining the Peace Corps. The one act is directed by Lesley Fredman, and features Angela Bratcher, Anna House, and Karen Christensen.

On March 27, April 1 and April 9, the duo of plays will be "Peggy" by Ronda Bowe Kustick and "Moses in La Palma" by Sandra Hughes.

All showtimes are 8:00 p.m. and tickets are only \$6 per night or \$12 for a three night series. Neighborhood Playhouse is located at 430 West Trinity Place in downtown Decatur, behind the police station.

Ram Dass, psychologist, philosopher, and spiritual teacher will present a lecture entitled "Awareness, Compassion, and Current Events" on Wednesday, March 31. The location will be the Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts.

A former Harvard professor of psychology, the former Richard Alpert began exploring the outer limits of human consciousness by taking LSD, peyote, and other psychedelics. His fellow explorers were Timothy Leary, Aldous Huxley, and Alan Watts. Alpert's spiritual search led him to India in 1967 where he became a devotee of guru Neem Karoli Babi. In India, he studied yoga and meditation and was given the name Ram Dass by his guru, which means "Servant of God."

The lecture will focus on topics familiar to readers of Dass' books: compassionate action, understanding personal boundaries, spiritual practices, meditation, relationships, and preparation for dying. Tickets for the event are \$15 and can be found at Atlantis Connection, Health Unlimited, Oxford Books, The Phoenix and The Dragon, The Sphinx, and at the door.



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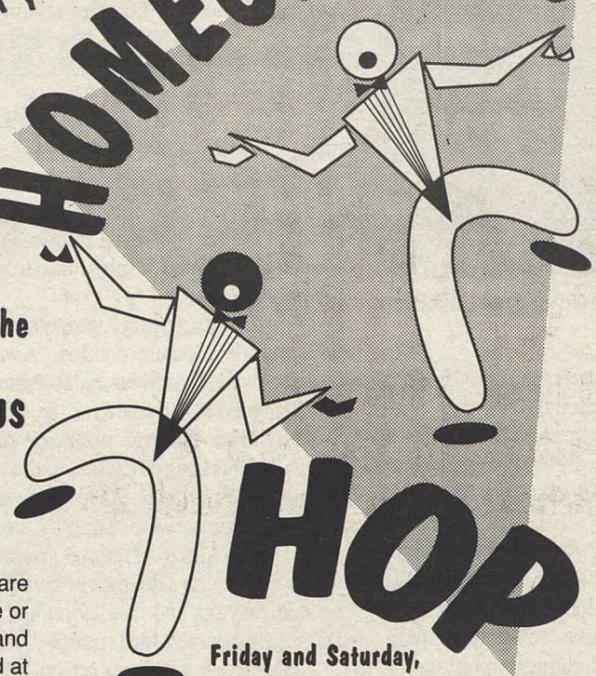
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HOMECOMING HOP



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Jeffrey McIntyre, Artistic Director

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door, and can be purchased at The Boy Next Door, Brushstrokes and Charis Books and More. Please call 977-6310 for more information.

Friday and Saturday, March 26 & 27, 1993 in the Henry Grady High School Theatre. Starts promptly at 8 pm.

National March on Washington

Continued from page 10

464-5100.

Hopes are that the temporary **Lesbian and Gay Museum** will lead to a permanent museum, Hussain said. Archivists from around the country are sending in materials. The Gene Autry Museum will provide materials on the gay cavalry and lesbian stagecoach drivers, while the Lesbian Herstory Archives will offer memorabilia from its collection, which has traced African-American lesbians from the turn of the century to the present, Hussain said.

The Harvey Milk Memorial Design Unveiling and Tribute to Leonard Matlovich will include theatre and visuals, according to Ken McPherson, with the Never Forget Foundation. Speaking of the event, which will take place at the Congressional Cemetery on Saturday, April 24 at 11 am, McPherson said, "I'm hoping we will create a cathartic experience that will acknowledge the many people our community has brought forward."

On Sunday, April 25, following a pre-March breakfast and church services, there will be speakers and entertainment at a 9:00 a.m. assembly rally. The March itself will start at noon, L.G.B.S.T. (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Standard Time) and the afternoon stage and rally will begin at 1 p.m.

Here's a very partial list of some of the other events planned during the March week. Not all plans have been finalized so complete info is not available on all events:

-A March on Washington Concert, Fri., April 23. Cost: \$12. Performers include Toshi Reagan, Betty, and Castlebury & Dupree. Call 202-628-0493.

-A Sing Out on the Capitol Steps, Fri., April 23. Free. The combined choir of gay and lesbian choruses and friends sing, "Together, Proud and Strong." Call 215-795-0615

-An Asian and Pacific Islander Dinner and Social, Sat., April 24. Cost: \$35 after 3/15/93 and \$45 at the door. Call 301-345-1230.

-HOEDOWN! Fri., April 23. Cost: \$20. Call 202-298-0928.

-A Lesbian Country Western Dance, Fri., April 23. Cost \$10/non-members and \$5 members. Call 301-840-8402.

-A National Association of Black and White Men Together and March on Washington Banquet, Sat., April 24. Cost \$35 before April 1, \$40 after that. Call 301-670-6842.

-Pomo Afro Homo, Sat., April 24. Call 202-543-7903.

-An ACTUP/DC "Hands Around the Capitol!" demonstration, Sat., April 24. Call 202-328-2437 for more information.

-AMERICANS WE, Sat., April 24. Cost: \$15, \$20, \$25. A concert featuring the combined bands of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America. Call 1-800-551-SEAT.

-March on Washington Party at Tracks, Sat., April 24. Call 202-488-3320.

-Divas Simply Singing, Sun., April 25. Cost: \$25-\$250. Performers include: Thelma Houston, Dionne Warwick, Melba Moore and many more. Call 202-544-1076.

-Guys and Dolls, April 13-30. Call 202-628-0493.

C. MITCHELL

Be sure to pick up the April 15 issue of Southern Voice. We will provide a pull-out section that you can take with you to Washington which will include detailed related event information, a map of D.C., the exact March route, where to line up for the Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee contingents, transportation information and much more.

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| <p>GAY PRIDE, SAN FRANCISCO</p> <p>OLIVIA'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY! Concert, Dance, Parade, Hotel Available</p> <p>June 25-27, 1993</p> | <p>MEXICAN CARIBBEAN & YUCATAN CRUISE</p> <p>OUR FOURTH VALENTINE'S CRUISE! Miami, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel & Key West</p> <p>February 11-18, 1994 \$995 to \$2,495 †</p> |
| <p>CANADA & NEW ENGLAND CRUISE</p> <p>Toujours l'amour. Montréal, Québec City, Charlottetown, Halifax, Bar Harbor, Provincetown, & New York.</p> <p>July 2-9, 1994 \$1,095 to \$2,595 †</p> | |

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

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Thursday through Sunday, March 25-28



LIFT THE BAN Bar Nights

Thursday, March 25 and Friday, March 26

★ The Otherside, Bulldogs—Thursday, March 25 ★

★ Blake's, Backstreet, Metro & Burkhardt's—Friday, March 26 ★



LIFT THE BAN Rally for Rights

Saturday, March 27, 1 p.m.

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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

OK, so I'm a little behind the curve on this one, but if you didn't heed the spate of critical gushing about **Mandalay** (5945 Jimmy Carter Blvd. 368-8368) a couple of months ago, now is a good time to go check it out. Don't let the drive to sub-arctic regions (or the fact that the place is hidden away behind a Hooters) keep you from trying this bright, innovative cuisine.

This is Atlanta's first Burmese eatery (the country is now called Myanmar); it's a transplant from California where Burmese bites are all the rage. I haven't eaten this food before, so I don't have a frame of reference for Mandalay's authenticity. But the preparation here seems uniformly good and many of the flavors remind me of the food that I ate in Maylasia. Like good Thai and Indian food, the flavorings and textures are generally complex, complementary, and bracing. Good stuff.

The dining room at Mandalay is nothing special, a rectangular room in a small strip mall. The walls are white, the plants plastic, the lights florescent, and the music American pop pabulum. The laminated menu is an Asian variation on Shoney's, replete with color photographs that are neither very appetizing nor necessarily accurate.

As at most Asian restaurants, it's best to take a crowd (well, at least a quartet) to Mandalay, order lots and share. Both times I have eaten here, the food has come out in the same progression that it was ordered, but courses came helter skelter to the larger parties surrounding us.

In the appetizer department, you probably can't go wrong with Thai-like strips of satay (chicken, beef and pork all on one platter)—smoky, tender and made even tastier with a sweet peanut/coconut sauce. There are also meat samu sas (sound familiar?) deep fried, curried pastries that are remarkably like the Indian cousins, only lighter and easier on the tummy.

But for the ultimate in light, try a big plate full of tender green beans dipped in a airy tempura batter, fried golden and served with an orange hot-sweet sauce. The result is, crisp, virtually greaseless. Similarly prepared onions are also on the menu. Yum.

All the aforementioned are tasty as can be, but the real show starts with lap pat dok, a composed salad of toasted tea leaves, yellow lentils, ground shrimp, fried garlic, green pepper and sesame seeds. It's an earthy, addictive combination unlike anything I've sampled in Atlanta. Think of it as vegetarian larb. A variation spiked with ginger sounds equally intriguing as does a mango version that may or may not still be on the menu.

Fish chowder—thickened with split peas, spiked with lemon grass—is equally exotic and almost as interesting as the tea leaf salad. Coconut chicken and black pepper broths offer equal promise for amusement.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



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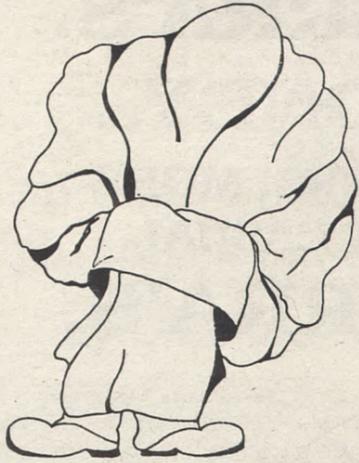
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

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

Mario's Italian Restaurant Italian cuisine served since 1969 in a casual and cozy atmosphere. Favorites include snapper piccata, lasagne, and chicken romano. Vegetarian too. Lunch Mon-Fri 11-2, \$3.25-5.25, Dinner Sun-Thu 5-10, Fri & Sat 5-10:30, \$6.25-14.95. Private Parties.
3644 Shallowford Rd (W. of Buford) • 451-0979

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

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

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

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

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

RJ's Uptown Kitchen and Wine Bar Enjoy Chef Scott's creative menu while dining on the patio or in the cozy dining room. Largest selection of wines by the glass in Atlanta. Great vegetarian selection. Friendly service, reasonable prices. Dinner 7 nights. Brunch Sunday.
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San Gennaro Keep the Neopolitan spirit alive with its festive atmosphere of a New York neighborhood trattoria. Enjoy our award winning calamari and other hearty Italian specialties indoors or alfresco.
2196 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 636-9447

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

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

EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

India meets Mandarin Chinese with a sweet and sour squid dish named after the restaurant. Loads of spinach replaces the traditional green pepper and pineapple with much improved results. The shiny orange sauce, barely sweet, barely sour, is a vast improvement of the typical Sino variant, allowing the mild flavor of the lightly fried squid to come cleanly through.

A plate of curried chicken is almost as Indian as the squid is Chinese, deep of flavor, but sparked with fat slices of raw onion and gobs of basil. Altogether satisfying. Equally flavorful, but a tad on the dry side is a whole boneless breast of chicken marinated in God-knows what collection of goodies and then grilled. It's tender too, but cries out for a simple relish of, say, mango, cilantro and cucumber.

More exotic by half, pan fried thin noodles have the texture of very fine shredded wheat. Mixed with scallops, shrimp, fish flesh, cabbage and carrots and seasoned to the max with salt and black pepper, this is a rich and exciting dish that could make me forsake pud Thai if it were available closer to home.

The menu abounds with additional opportunities for experimentation. I can't wait to try dry fried string beans, rice cooked with coconut milk, several variations of eggplant, and tea smoked duck.

I can pass on the opportunity to ever try another glass of paluda ice cream, sort of a moist sundae laced with tapioca, rose water syrup, and slippery little strips of what our waitress described as "Burmese jello"—or more like Asian incredible edibles. A plate of fried bananas with a bit of ice cream is probably a better way to end your meal.

Service is friendly, helpful, and not in the least pushy. Alcohol isn't served, but you're free to brown-bag; a good yeasty Asian beer would be my alcoholic beverage of choice here, but the hot tea provided by the restaurant does just fine. You should be able to eat 'til you pop for about \$15 a head, less if you are willing to settle for a simple meal of one or two courses.

While I was out Norcross way, I dropped into **Taste of Thai** (5775 Jimmy Carter Blvd. 662-8575.) Like Mandalay, this place has gotten lots of favorable criticism.

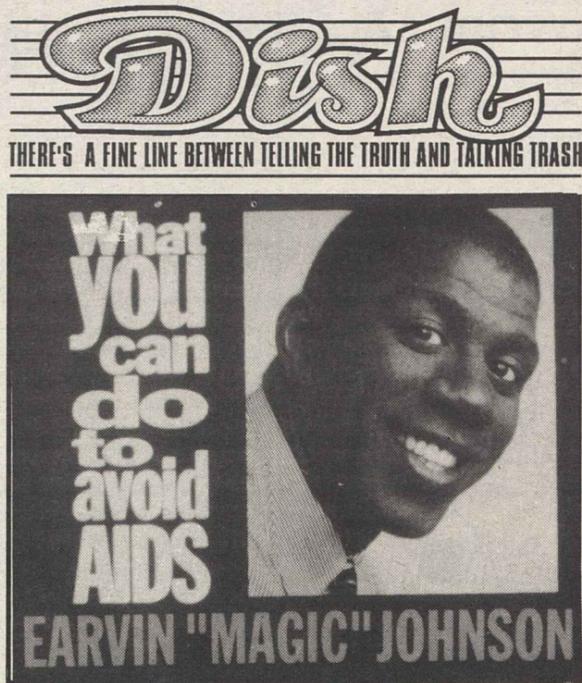
The menu is extensive and loaded with interesting sounding goodies, but little that I sampled was worth a return trip. A salad topped with evanescent squiggles of crispy fried catfish is only OK despite a plethora of exotic sounding ingredients. Panang curry is long on basil and green pepper, short of the deep rich flavor that makes it so satisfying elsewhere. Pud Thai is sweet and pungent, far and away the best thing we sampled. Coconut ice cream is gritty with ice and short of coconut flavor.

Taste of Thai is OK if you're already in the neighborhood, but it's hardly worth the drive.

Who Cares?: What do men really think? A new book published by Pocket Books and penned by one Mark Baker (who also wrote two other thrillers—"NAM" and "COPS") claims to have the answers. One of our post-feminist friends asked why anyone would care about what men think. Dish took umbrage at her remark, but then we read the press release about this nasty little book and we began to agree. Catch these two quotes from men Baker interviewed: "Women say men can't commit. I can commit, but I don't want to commit for eternity. I may not want to commit for more than a weekend. I'll commit for this weekend, and I'll commit for two weekends from now, but I want you the hell out of here tomorrow." And, "Other than a spot of trouble getting them to wear the lavender armbands to identify them in public—the little Nazis had a good idea there—I have no problem with homosexuals at all." After that bit of nastiness, said press release goes on to say that the book "gives men the opportunity to reveal their true feelings and expose their vulnerable and sensitive side." Sure makes Dish want to run out and buy a copy, how about you?

Required Reading: OK, so Dish is too often a little late on our reading, but we do get around to it. Check the March issue of The Atlantic for the most exhaustive survey yet on the facts regarding the origins of (homo)sexual orientation. (Pardon us for a moment, but we demand to know why people are so damn interested in what makes folks queer, while they never question what makes them straight—after all, it's just two variations on a theme.) The article gives a thorough review of every pertinent study—except for the one about lesbians released last week. But it's the author's conclusion that we find most germane: "...But we cannot rely on science to supply full answers to fundamental questions involving human rights, human freedom, and human tolerance. The issue of gay people in American life did not arise in the laboratory. The principles needed to resolve it will not arise there either." Blessed be.

Chris Cross?: Seems that cutie pie figure skater Christopher Bowman was beaten and robbed early this month at a hotel in



Pittsburgh's somewhat shabby Hill District. At least that's what police reports say. Bowman claims the police have it all wrong—that he lost his wallet, was not at the hotel, and called an ambulance because he felt sick. Like Dish's mama used to say, "Pretty is as pretty does."

Ron's Rap: Ron Reagan Jr. (who has the cutest buns west of Iowa City according to friends who notice such) is back on TV. This time its for a primetime news magazine being developed by the Fox TV network. The weekly, hour long show will originate in LA and cover a wide range of issues. Dish hopes there'll be a segment on homo children of ex-presidents. Surely there will. Surely.

Dread Locks: Dish (who originated and regularly promulgates the concept of a bad hair day) is always amused by the way folks obsess about their locks. Hair (like parts) is hair, no? Well evidently not if you (like Hillary R. Clinton and George Stephanopolous) get your tresses trimmed by the likes of Joel Galloway, hairburner to the stars in Little Rock. Mr. Galloway (who looks mighty het to us) books all his appointments for a year in a three week period and then has a waiting list of 10 anxious clients a day. And Joel will only see you every four weeks, according to an article in USA Today. We wonder if that rule remains hard and fast for Hillary and George—who looks like he needs a trim a week to us.

Life Saver: Given the Georgia General Assembly's recent evisceration of the sex education curriculum for Georgia kids, Dish would like to make a suggestion. If you know a teenager or young adult who has passed through what passes as an educational system in Georgia, rush on out to your fave bookstore and pick up a copy of the tape "What You Can Do To Avoid AIDS." Magic Johnson's audio book recently won a Grammy for Best Spoken Word and it deserves it. Cost is a mere \$5.99, add a condom and you've got a damn cheap lifesaver.

Activists or Entrepreneurs?: Well, we're not sure that a line has to be drawn between the two, but we've got some big questions about the folks in Maryland who are marketing pale pink checks with brighter pink triangles emblazoned on them. Not a bad idea, and not bad looking either, but we have doubts about one of their marketing tactics. The "In the Pink" folks are suggesting that you buy their product NOW so that you can pay your federal, state, and local taxes with one of their pieces of paper. Problem is, most folks we know get a refund on their income taxes...and pay their property taxes through escrow accounts with their mortgage companies. Maybe they should try to sell them to the IRS so that they could send refunds to homos across the country on color-coded checks. If you're interested, drop a line to In The Pink, PO Box 5794, Bethesda, MD 20814.

March 25-March 31, 1993

Mercury is now direct, and Uranus is slowly but steadily moving ahead of foggy ol' Neptune. So, how do planets millions of miles away have anything to do with us? It's because of all that high-frequency energy bouncing around the solar system, pushing on us to stretch and grow.

Happy Birthday, ARIES! Now that Spring is in full gear, hopefully you are too. Move ahead with personal projects you're fully committed to, but hand off or drop those that don't engage your full attention or energy. **TAURUS**, it's time to get out of the house and into the yard or garden, even if it is only a flower box. You need to get your fingers into the dirt and feel all that new life surging through the Earth and your fingers. **GEMINI**, now that your ruling planet Mercury is back in forward motion, you should be moving ahead too. Decisions should be easier and you may even feel more confident about agreements and commitments. Be careful about over-scheduling your time.

CANCER, if you're feeling restless or that your home doesn't suit anymore, you may need to consider moving. If you are offered a position in another location, take time to explore the situation



before deciding. Dear **LEO**, are you involved in projects that you feel passionately about or just treading water, waiting for something more exciting to come along and capture your interest? Time to live Your Life! **VIRGO**, patience, perseverance and plain ol' common sense are just a few of your marvelous qualities. Be sure you are as patient with yourself as you are with masses of details and persevere with your own well-being. **LIBRA**, have you had a break this year or planned your vacation? Get on it and make some definite plans for a trip that will give you rest and relaxation without wrecking your pocket book. Go somewhere with incredible beauty. Dear **SCORPIO**, your health is still a very important issue. Take time for yourself, get a massage or a check-up, if it has been awhile since your last one.

Get plenty of rest and some fun relaxation, eat well and exercise regularly. **SAGITTARIUS**, what's happenin'? Not enough or too much? These are definitely the times that try our souls, so be patient and compassionate with yourself and other folks who seem to be really off the wall. Take time out for a movie!

Conservative **CAPRICORN**, if you are having difficulty getting clear about your goals and priorities, then you may need some time to get in touch with your feelings and pay more attention to your gut instincts and natural intuition. **AQUARIUS**, there are many opportunities around you right now, just waiting to be noticed and put to good use. Stay flexible, open-minded and optimistic so you will recognize these wonderful situations. **PISCES**, if you are on an emotion roller-coaster, you may need to improve your social life by getting out of the house and into a fun or helpful activity. Don't just sit around and mull things over. Find someone with humor and perspective to talk to.

MARY BAILEY RULE is a professional astrologer who specializes in personal and relationship chart interpretation as well as crisis management. She can be reached in Santa Fe at (505) 982-3104 to order charts or arrange a chart interpretation.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

**Human Rights Campaign Fund
Revs Up for Annual Dinner**

House parties are happening all over Atlanta and parts of the Southeast in an effort to raise awareness about the upcoming HRCF Dinner. The annual Dinner will happen on May 22 at the Georgia World Congress Center in the Tom Murphy Ballroom. Last year, more than 1200 people attended. The goal this year is 1500 people.

Pamela Evans, Co-chair of the 1993 Dinner Committee, says that "House Parties are a fun and informative way to spread the word about HRCF and the issues important to all gays and lesbians like the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act, AIDS funding and research and women's health issues. "Also," she continued, "some people are hesitant to come to the dinner for a variety of reasons. 'Where will I get the money?;' 'What are you supposed to wear?;' 'What about privacy?;' 'Where does the money go?;' and 'I don't even know what HRCF is!,' are just a few of the comments I've heard," she went on to say.

HRCF is the largest gay and lesbian lobbying group in the country. The parties give people an opportunity to get their questions answered, not to mention have a good time and perhaps have their political awareness raised.

"This is how it works," Pamela volunteered. "You agree to host a house party and invite at least five people. HRCF furnishes the invitations, you furnish the space, refreshments and attendees. Two people from the Community Awareness Committee will attend the party and give a brief presentation which includes time for questions," she continued. "It's as simple as that."

If you are interested in giving a House Party, volunteering to assist with other HRCF activities, or are interested in attending the

Dinner but want more information, call the Atlanta Dinner Committee at 662-4280 or write PO Box 8152, Atlanta GA 30306.

Greater Atlanta Music Ensemble

The Greater Atlanta Music Ensemble, an alternative musical outlet open to gays and lesbians, is looking for folks to join in the music. If you are looking for a forum to express your musical talents, auditions are not required. Be prepared to work hard if it has been a few years since you last played. Openings are available in all sections. GAME is currently rehearsing every Monday evening from 7:30-9:30pm at St. Bart's Church at 1790 LaVista Road NE (just north of Briarcliff). For information call Frank at 872-3135.

North Carolina Lesbian/Gay History Project

The newly formed North Carolina Lesbian/Gay History Project is seeking materials relating to lesbian/gay history in that state. The Project is seeking paper materials, such as North Carolina gay publications, personal papers, letters and journals; photographs, slides and home movies; video and audio tapes of North Carolina television and radio programs; and items such as buttons, bumper stickers, banners and t-shirts of North Carolina interest.

Materials accepted by the Project will be limited in size because of storage limitations.

In addition to collecting materials, the Project also plans to launch an awareness campaign and begin recording an oral history project.

Volunteers, or those with materials to donate, should call (919) 777-0675 (Winston-Salem) after 6 pm or (919) 286-5160 (Durham).



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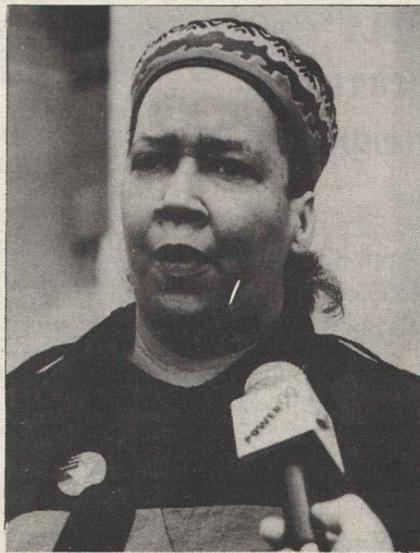
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O U T L I N E S

PAT HUSSAIN

Age: 43

Relationship status: 7 years—
"Very Committed"How long in Atlanta: Native, tempo-
rarily living in Washington, DCLast book read: "Get Off My Ship"
by Lawrence GissonPet peeve: People who can only tolerate
their own issues

Pat Hussain missed the March On Washington in 1987 because she couldn't get off from work. This year she won't have that problem. Oh, she'll still have to work, but now she is serving on the March On Washington Executive Committee as an Outreach Liaison.

"I remember in 1987 looking for coverage of the March to see what happened and there was nothing on the screen," she says in disbelief. "When I learned there were half a million people there, I wondered how it happened."

As Outreach Liaison it is Hussain's job to make sure every gay or lesbian in America knows about the March. That is an easy task in urban areas, but in the rural parts of the country, creative ways had to be found to get the word out.

"The idea is to go to small towns and take the March newspaper and flyers and go to the laundromat, or the grocery store and leave them on bulletin boards," she explains. "It's working from Georgia to Wyoming."

Outreach seems to come easy for Hussain. Even during a long distance phone interview her outgoing, playful manner makes the time whiz by.

"When I came out in my late 20s, I thought I was bisexual," Hussain recalls. "So, I did what I always do when I have a question about something, I went to the library. I read about homosexuality and bisexuality and decided I couldn't find out about myself from a book."

Opening books came easier than opening bar doors, however. Hussain found herself in the parking lot of a bar called Numbers on Cheshire Bridge Road. For a month she engaged in the same ritual of arriving at the bar, sitting in her van, standing just at the entrance to the bar and then going home.

It was her sister-in-law who finally got her into the bar. "After a drink she said, 'Are you okay?' I said, yes and she left. When I can afford psychotherapy, I'll find out what that was all about," Hussain laughs.

After that, she says, there was never any thought of being in the closet.

"I found out I was alive and could feel and I was so relieved I didn't care what other people thought," she says.

She took that sense of pride to work with her, and found a very accepting company, which promptly sent her to Huntsville, Alabama.

"When they transferred me, I asked them, 'Why do you want to send a black lesbian to Huntsville, Alabama?' So, I resolved not to mess with any women while I was there," she says.

That resolve disappeared when a woman named Cherry showed up.

"The first time I met her she walked up to me and said, 'Hi, my name is Cherry and you're going to love me,'" Hussain recounts. "And I thought, wait till you find out I'm a dyke. But then she chased me till I caught her."

Pat and Cherry Hussain had a commitment ceremony at First MCC in Atlanta. No one was more surprised than Pat herself.

"I told her when we met that I was a free spirit, and I would flap my wings and fly away when I wanted to," says Hussain. "But she has clipped my wings and hidden them somewhere. They may already be gone in a rummage sale, because I can't seem to locate them."

Their romance was not as storybook as it may seem. Cherry was married when they met and the bitter divorce ended with Cherry losing custody of her two children.

"The divorce decree acknowledges that her ex-husband is abusive, and says that because of her openly lesbian lifestyle she was denied custody," Hussain states.

That's when Hussain's sense of fair play was uprooted. A community activist was born. Hussain now wants to see the streets of D.C. filled with people who want their fair share.

"The people who oppose us are not a moral majority, they are a vocal minority," she reasons. "Our silence has given them the consensus they need to attack us from a moral perspective. We can no longer be silent."

Make your March plans now!

CANDACE CHELLEW

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

Arts/Entertainment

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—872-4432
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
"Funny...That Way"—875-2275
Greater Atlanta Music Ensemble—872-3135
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
Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178
The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477
Crazy Ray z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
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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
Lesbian Avengers—577-5513 (Lisa)
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 Atl—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 Naturalist 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 Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 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 (eve)
Asians & Friends—Atlanta—876-0090
Athens Lesbian Information Line—(404) 613-7661
Atlanta Area Bisexual Support Group—872-6720
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
Coalition of African Descent—681-4868
Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
Chrysalis Women's Center—881-6300
Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
Emotions Anonymous—872-0979
First Women—Write G.G. Richardson, POB 724711, Atl. 30339, phone 612-9473.
Friends Atlanta—662-4501
Gay Fathers of Atlanta—296-8369
Gay Help Line—6pm-11pm 892-0661
Gay/Lesbian AA & Al-Anon—881-9188
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
Real Gay World BBS—404-266-0856
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 West 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

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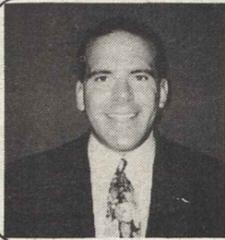
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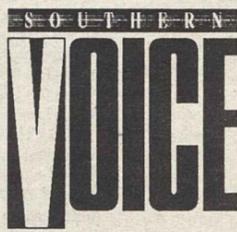
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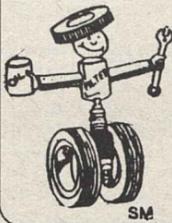
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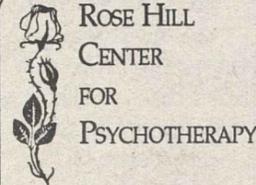


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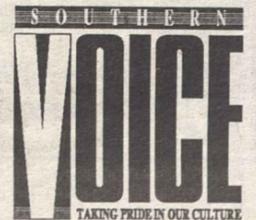
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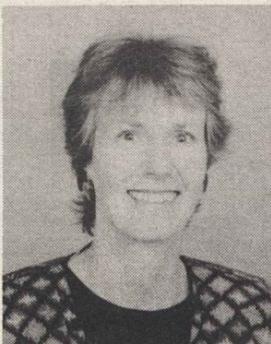
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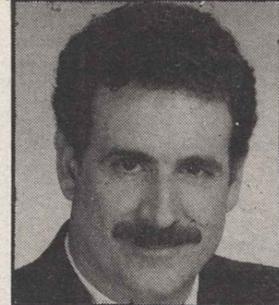
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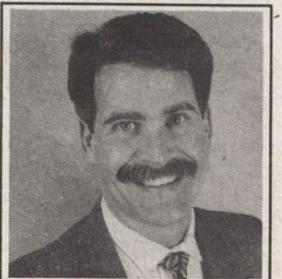
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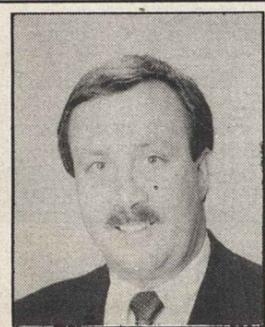
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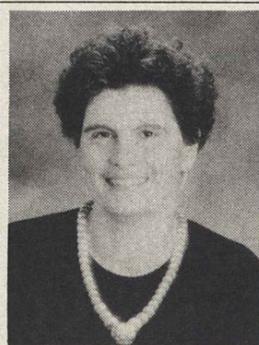
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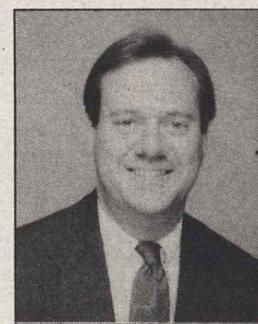
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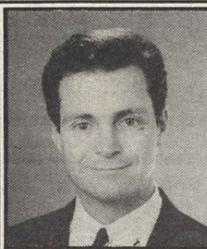
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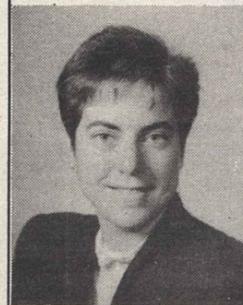
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AIDS Services & Education

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HIV/AIDS SUPPORT GROUPS IN CARROLLTON You don't have to deal with HIV/AIDS alone. All groups are held weekly - confidential and free of charge. PWA/HIV Support Group, call 214-

8054. Friends & Family of PWA/HIV, call Bobbie Jacobs at 214-8777. AIDS 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 and info call 634-9693 or 256-9144.

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

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

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

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

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

for social and emotional interaction. Call 872-9954.

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

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

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

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

Announcements

SISTERHOOD IS POWERFUL

Join Sisters & Allies in celebrating Women's History Month and our 10th year, March 20, 1993, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Experience a day of building healthy relationships across barriers of race, class, sexual orientation, and physical ability - exploring the issues of diversity while honoring the integrity of each individual. Place: Friends Meeting House, 701 West Howard Ave., Decatur, GA. For more information, call Be Present, Inc. 624-9509. (6.5)

Lesbian Support Group beginning for women considering artificial insemination and/or the adoption process. Call 908-1704. (6.6)

Call for art—focus on goddess/solstice for May/June show. Send color photo/slides to First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr., NE, Atlanta 30307. (6.5)

Celebrating Gay Spirit Visions. Gay men seeking to explore and celebrate alternative spiritual expressions are invited to

join our ongoing, diverse group. Meetings monthly on the 2nd Saturday, 10 AM-2PM. Call Martin 378-7224. (6.14)

For All Men! Atlanta Men's Center open support group for men. Every Tuesday from 7pm to 9pm across from 12-Step Bookstore. Call 888-9811. (6.5)

IRIS

Accepting for Spring issue. Short stories, poetry, art and photography. Send SASE to PO Box 7263, Atlanta, GA 30357. (6.5)

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)

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

Employment

PART TIME

Experienced Server - personable, well-groomed, Spanish a plus. Apply in person at 469 N. Highland between 4-6pm. (6.6)

Gardeners wanted—experienced and assistants. Turn your hobby and spare time into cash. To \$10.00/hr. Flex-time. 621-7929. (6.5)

GABE'S-THE LODGE

is hiring waiters experienced in fine dining. Apply in person at 936 Canton St./Roswell between 3-6PM or call 993-7588 for interview. (6.5)

FULL TIME

Principal Accounting Clerk—Beginning salary \$19,743. Graduation from an accredited senior high school or G.E.D. equivalent, preferably with an Associate

Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business or Public Administration or a related field, and three (3) years experience in responsible financial record-keeping work. Related experience and related academic training may be mutually interchanged on a year for job basis. Completed applications will be accepted at the Personnel Department, listed below, until 4:45 p.m., Friday, March 26, 1993. Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before March 26, 1993. EOE, including disabled. Resume in lieu of application not accepted.

Senior Planner—Beginning salary \$32,975. Master's Degree from an accredited college or university in Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Social, Physical or Information Sciences or a closely related field and three (3) years professional planning experience involving responsibility and personal accountability for the definition of or preparation of significant substantive elements of a planning program including one (1) year experience supervising the work of subordinate employees. Experience in the above field and related academic training may be mutually interchanged on a year for year basis. Completed applications will be accepted at the Personnel Department, listed below, until 4:45 p.m., Friday, March 26, 1993. Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before March 26, 1993. EOE, including disabled. Resume in lieu of application not accepted. Applications available at: Fulton County Personnel Dept. 141 Pryor St., SW, Suite 4035 Atlanta, GA 30303 (6.5)

EDITOR

Southern Voice, the South's leading gay and lesbian newspaper, seeks a highly qualified and creative individual to serve as editor. Writing, editing, design and layout experience required. Working knowledge of PageMaker and Microsoft Word a must. Journalism degree a plus. Send resume and clippings to: Christina Cash, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316. No phone calls, please. (6.5)

Full time Assistant Bar Supervisor. The Otherside nightclub, gay clientele, for men & women, seeks a highly qualified and creative person to assist in management. Person must be experienced, 55 hr. work week, people and staff oriented. Send re-

sume to owner, Beverly McMahon, 1924 Piedmont Rd., Atlanta, GA 30324. No phone calls please. (6.5)

Female quadriplegic, ventilator user, late 30's, needs roommate/helpmate. I live in Southwest Atlanta and need a driver/personal care assistant. Some time off each day and one weekend per month. MUST HAVE EXCELLENT CHARACTER. Medical background helpful but not essential. Salary—up to \$28,000 for the right person. Write letter of interest to Creative Pathways, Inc., 4247 Parkview Court, Stone Mountain, GA 30083. (6.5)

SEEKING

Discreet female relocating to Atlanta. Human Resources Professional, 10 yrs experience. Seeking job leads or contacts. Please call/leave message 621-9645. (6.7)

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Financial Advisory Service, Estate Planning. Call 876-0208, ask for Paul. (6.7)

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FITNESS

Dedicated workout partner needed with Sportslife Club Cobb member. Serious replies only, platonic please. Shift worker w/flexible hours, intermediate ability. 873-3819 x6579. (6.6)

PERSONAL GROWTH

WOMAN'S SEXUAL JOURNEY

A workshop of healing and humor Sunday, March 28 or Saturday, April 3, 1-5pm; \$25. 679-8314. Mary MacArthur, LCSW, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Certified Sex Educator (6.5)

MORE ON PAGE 38

INDEX

- AIDS SERVICES*
- ANNOUNCEMENTS*
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In Person: Bring completed order form with payment to Southern Voice offices (M-F, 9-5pm) 1189 Virginia Ave. NE.

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

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Group forming for partners of survivors of sexual abuse. Professionally led. For more information, call Connie Tuttle, M.Div. 377-6659. (6.6)

10 week relationship enrichment group for lesbian couples. Communication problem solving/intimacy. For more information call Connie Tuttle, M.Div. 377-6659. (6.6)

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Firewood for sale. \$100 per face cord. Free Delivery. Call Frank, 875-8369. (6.4)

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Wear your colors with Pride. Beautiful hand crocheted scarves. Great gifts. \$15.00. Betty, digital beeper, 533-1706. (6.7)

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Midtown/Juniper 2 BR, 1 BA carriage house, CH/A, fireplace, security patrol, off-street parking. \$550/mo. Katrina, 881-1700 (Days) (6.6)

Virginia-Highland-Completely renovated downstairs duplex. 2 BR, 1 BA, living room, formal dining room, washer/dryer, dishwasher, tile porch, carpet, AC, etc. No pets-quiet, mellow. Call for off-street parking. \$400 dep. + \$800/mo. + util., 1 yr. lease. For appointment, 872-3162. *Unfurnished. (6.5)

EMORY/LENOX-Luxurious condo. Spacious. All amenities. Balcony overlooking pool. 3 BR, 2 BA. \$800. 934-9867. (6.5)

Lake Claire / Candler Park - 3 BR, 1 BA house, hardwood floors, central air, fenced yard, large deck, quiet street. \$850/mo, no utilities. Available April 1st. 378-0229. (6.5)

Virginia-Highland / Morningside-Unique 2 BR, 2 1/2 BA, garage, 2 decks. All amenities. \$1400/mo. Sm pet. 876-4932. (6.6)

FOR SALE

7.98 Acres near Cohutta Wilderness. Beautiful view, mature hardwoods, creek and nice home site. 6 miles from Ellijay. \$3250 acre. 404-296-8709 or 404-522-1035. (6.7)

Roommates

GWF seeks M/F for your own BR & bath in new condo in Grant Park, W/D, fplc, DW and more \$400/mo. + 1/2 util. 521-0042. Ask for T.J. (6.6)

GWM Professional seeks same to share nice home in BUCKHEAD / BROOKHAVEN Peachtree Rd. area. \$350 + 1/2 utilities, \$150 deposit. Serious Inquiries Only! 264-9884. Please Leave a Message. (6.5)

Dependable GWF non-smoker wanted to share condo in Lithonia. Easy access to I-20 and Marta Bus Line. \$200 per month

plus utilities. Call 808-4588. (6.5)

GWF seeks responsible, stable GM or GF to share 2 BR, 2 BA apt. in Decatur beginning 6/1. Have 2 cats. Carolyn 294-4233. (6.7)

Seeking 2 roommates to share 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA house off Briarcliff. Private, deck, W/D, fenced back yard. \$350/mo. includes util. 633-3048, leave message. Serious calls only. (6.6)

Morrow/Southlake area - seeks GM/F to share 4 bedroom house in quiet neighborhood. \$300/mo. 961-2773. (6.6)

Services

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WORD WORKS

Resumes, manuscripts, copy editing. Crisis orders welcome. Free pick-up/delivery. 20% discount with this ad. Quick turnaround. 319-6497. (6.8)

Travel

Elegant beach front efficiency apt. and/or bedroom w/private baths on beautiful Mexico Beach in lesbian's home. Daily/weekly rates. 904-648-8764. (6.14)

Intown Atlanta - A gay-hosted B&B suite in restored Victorian Inman Park. All amenities incl. kitchen. Secured Parking. \$70.00 or extended rates. 523-5804. (6.5)

Volunteers

Central Hospice Care will provide in-home care for persons who are terminally ill and their families. Serving Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, and Rockdale counties. Volunteers are needed to provide emotional support, companionship and practical assistance. Register now for upcoming Training Session. For info contact Delcy Harber at 988-8662. (6.7)

The Atlanta Chapter of National Association of People With AIDS is seeking people living with HIV to be trained as volunteer peer counselors. Peer counselors serve as role models for others living with HIV, and therefore need to have a positive living approach to their health care and lives. For info please call Alicia at 874-7926. (6.7)

PRIDE WEEK '93-Show your pride and have some fun by helping to plan and stage PrideWeek '93, Atlanta's annual lesbian and gay pride celebration. Volunteers are needed for all aspects of the events, including fundraising, park set-up, and merchandising. To volunteer, call the PrideLine at 404-662-4533. Get involved and help make PrideWeek '93 the best ever! "It's Time to Tell America!" (6.4)

Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival needs volunteers to help organize, fundraise and promote AGALAF '93. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7pm at Common Ground (corner of 11th St. and Juniper). Call 404-874-8710. (6.6)

DO YOU SPEAK SPANISH AND WANT TO VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME TO WORK WITH THE ELDERLY? The DeKalb Community Council on Aging is looking for volunteers to assist the Spanish-speaking elderly. If you have a few

hours each month, please call Debbie Bowling at 284-4865, or at 370-4081. (6.5)

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

GWF - Androgynous; likes dancing, music, walks, wine and candlelight, beer and pool. Seeking GWFs with personality, brains, and a life. 1349

GWF, 21, seeks GWF, 21-25 for friendship and possibly more. No smokers / drugs. 1347

GWF, 22, seeks similar. Intelligent, career minded, enjoy having fun, laughing, experiencing new things. Seeking friendship, possible romance. 1344

Single Black Female seeks same for friendship and other possibilities. 1324

Attractive BF couple with children seeking female couples for friendship. Interests incl. park, movies, playing cards & social gatherings. Box 1404, 1189 Virginia Ave, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (6.6)

GWF - attractive professional, MA, approx range 35-45, 5'5", enjoys nature, walks, theater, movies, books, travel, "nesting," quiet but gregarious. Box 1402, 1189 Virginia Ave, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (6.6)

GWF, feminine, 31, seeking a feminine, emotionally stable, humorous, affectionate, thoughtful, drug-free, intelligent woman. Is this a hopeless search? 1322

Two straight acting GWM European lovers seeking two GF (lovers). Looking for marriage of mutual convenience. Age not important. Box 1401, 1189 Virginia Ave, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (6.6)

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

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 sophisticate for weekend romantic pursuits. No flakes, druggies or gamers (I don't know the rules!). 1127

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1029

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

MEN

Playful anal GWM, 45, 5'10", 150#, seek/ share higher anal erotic states. Taoist erotic massage, HIV-, your status no barrier. 1350

GWM, 32, 5'9", 145#. Hungry well? Me, too. Seeking other GWM into size fono strings fun. Boxholder #119, 1579-F Monroe Dr., Atlanta 30324. (6.9)

MAN HUNTER

Handsome, hungry, healthy white buck. 42, 6'2", 215# wants younger white tail, ? to 32 for hot spring mating. Negative, safe "skin" shooter. Write: Moose, Box 13793, Atlanta 30324. (6.8)

BM, 29, 5'5", 160#, seeks BM 21-35, caring and sincere for friendship and discreet encounters. Call me, let's talk. 1348

Hot, horny bottom seeks hunky hung top for good times, safe fun and more. 1343

Sincere GWM, 28, 6'4", 230 #, dk blonde/blue, seeks GWM, 21-28 for committed monogamous relationship. 1345

GWM, mature, seeks muscular attractive strict, 25-40 master who needs household and other services. 1346

BiWM, 33, 6', 160 lbs, masculine, Macon, seeks Bi or GWM for sincere friendship / relationship. PO Box 351, Macon, GA 31202. (6.7)

Black hardcore former project boy from NYC, tall, dark, street-wise, no-nonsense seeks absolutely manly, sexy, handsome, dark black soulmate. 1339

GWM, 55, 6'2", 180, romantic bottom, secure professional, seeks tall slender top. No fems. Age, race unimportant. Box 347147, Atlanta 30334. (6.6)

WM, 240 lbs, 6'4", masc. Looking for strong minded black male, discreet and into sports. 1334

Relationship oriented! Enjoy quality times with caring muscular BM, 41, HIV+. You must be a similar GM. No drugs/smoke. 1336

BM, 30, 170, nice body, attractive, needs a spanking by masculine BM top. 1337

GBM 24, 6', 215, good-looking, masculine, intelligent, sincere, with varying interests seeks similar in GWM for possible long-term relationship. 1338

GWM, 40, slim, non-smoker, non-bar, affectionate, humorous, out-doorsey. Seeking a nurturing, monogamous relationship/friend. Enjoy classical music, also simple/country lifestyle. Box 1403, 1189 Virginia Ave, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (6.6)

Teddy bear type attractive WM, 5'9", 245 lbs, clean, healthy, happy, seeking masculine, healthy BM (Top) for friendship/

possible relationship. 1340

Black male with feet fetish seeks masculine black male for uninhibited pleasures. 1341

Friendship is primary for this liberal, professional, 37, GWM who seeks similar GBM to enjoy literature, movies, plays, dinners, etc. 1342

Fun, attractive, intelligent GWM, 22 into theatre, astrology, and film seeks intelligent, sensual GWM, 20-45 for potential relationship. 1325

Amateur wrestler, 6 ft. 185, blonde/blue, 45, good shape, seeks others interested in wrestling, safe fun. 1326

GWM, 38, 6'2", 200, seeks tall prof. for friendship or more (30-45). Plususes for you might be hairy, uncut, sincere, Fr. A/P, and not into the normal scene! 1321

GWM, 30, French active seeks good looking slender WM's, 20s. Size unimportant. Cut with no beards please. Fems welcomed. Discreet. 1320

GWM, handsome, romantic, sincere, sense of humor, caring, gentle and strong. If you appreciate and possess these qualities, let's talk. 1319

Attractive GWM, 30, 5'5", 132, Brn/brn, hairy, seeking tall, handsome, sincere, non-smoker, GWM for romantic permanent relationship - no barriers. 1318

Tall, single, slim, dark sexy black male 6ft. 3in., 185 lbs seeks same Bi/GM Top Males 30-45, single, muscular for friendship and more. No fems. 1323

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

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

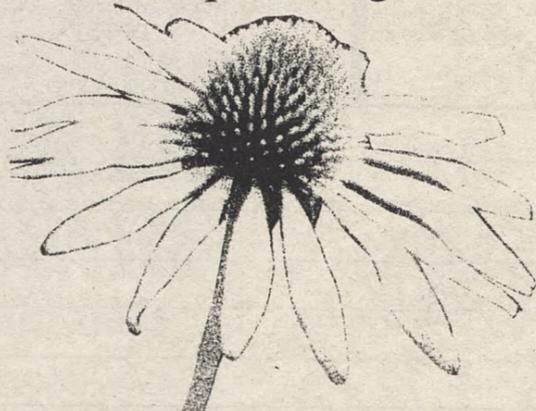
Clean-cut, 36yo GWM, blonde, green, thick, hunky body, honest, well-grounded, successful, energetic, oral and sexually-charged. Wicket kisser. Seeks guys who are honest, well-balanced, have aspirations and energy. Turn-ons, thick, hunky men with a little meat on them, Italians, dark hair. 1309

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

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

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DIRECTIONS

PERSONALS

with same qualities. No fems. ☎ 1257

Horny, hairy, hung GWM, 23, 165 lbs. NEEDS a daddy to spank him. "Chris" ☎ 1261

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GBM, 25, sexy, versatile, endowed, seeks brother w/similar qualities and w/sincere

interest in developing friendship into more. No fems. ☎ 1238

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

BM seeks masculine BM to become ? buddies. ☎ 1236

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOT TOP: Cleancut, 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

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

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

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

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, 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

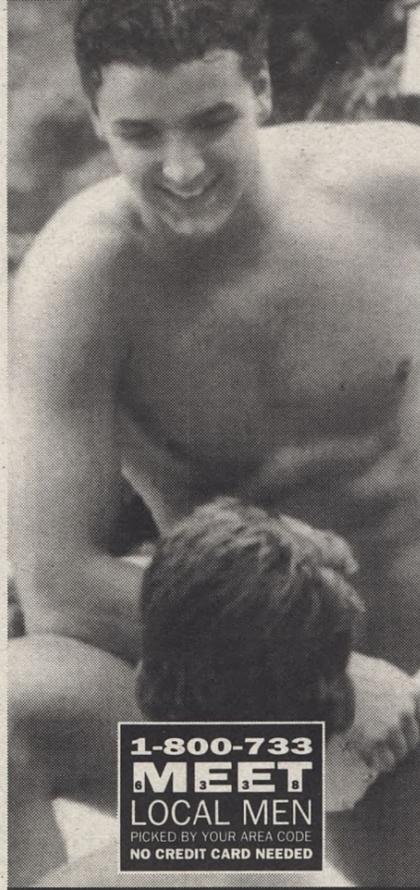
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30 yr. BM 5'8", 170#, handsome, clean ISO sexy TV/TS. Race unimportant. Columbia, SC—Love travel. Love boots. Call today ☎ 1258

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

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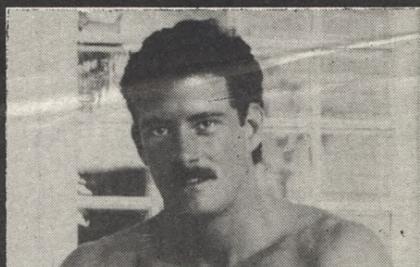


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