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APRIL 22 - APRIL 28 / 1993

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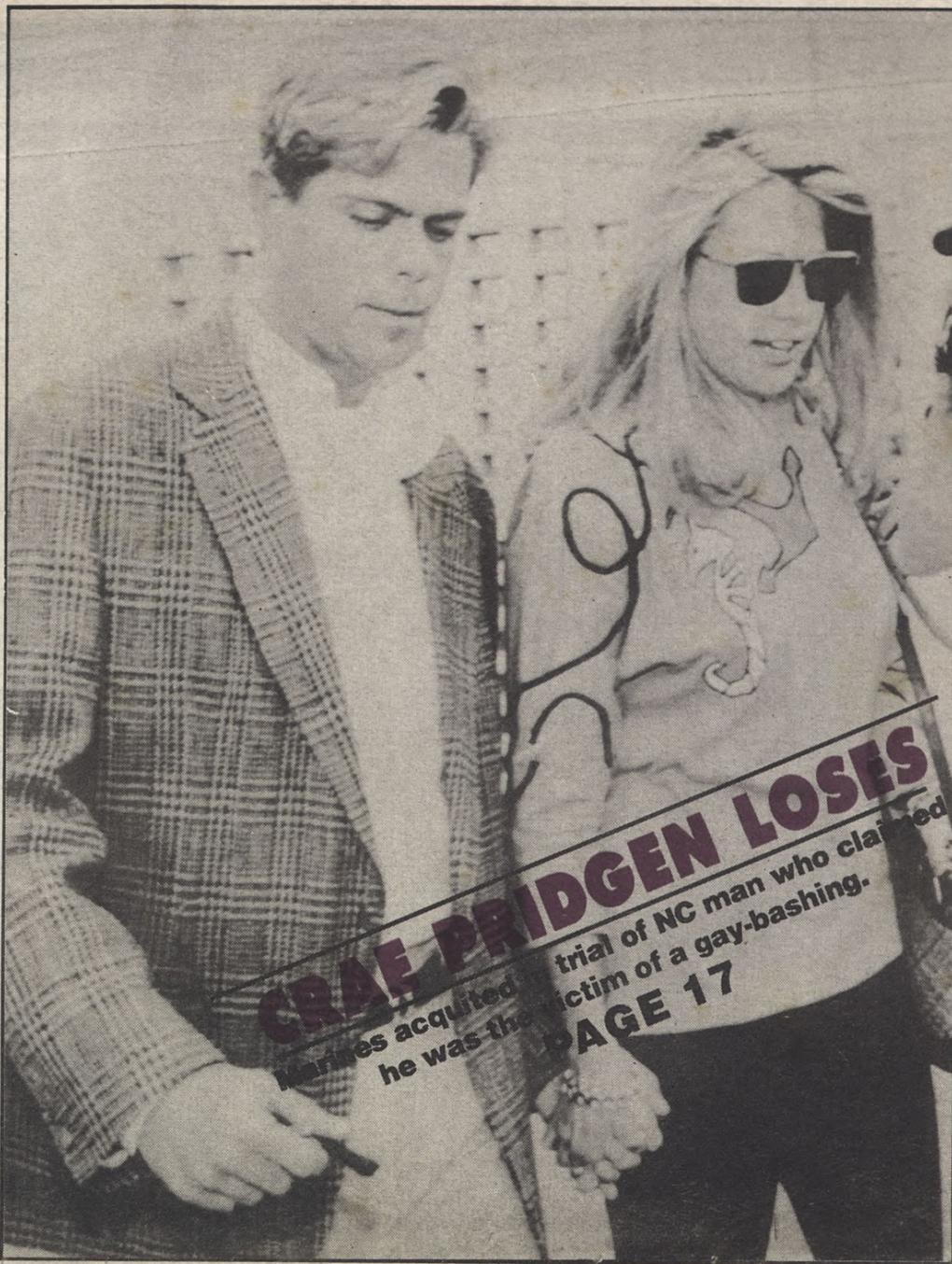
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Clinton meets with gay leaders

Activists tell President his leadership is vital on gay and lesbian issues

Washington, DC—In an historic first, President Bill Clinton met last week in the Oval Office with leaders of several lesbian and gay organizations. The group gathered to discuss the President's participation in this week's National March on Washington, and to reiterate the importance of his support in the struggle for the civil rights of the country's lesbians and gay men.

"It was a really positive meeting," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force director Torie Osburn, who attended the meeting. "What was most positive was how absolutely comfortable the President is with gays and lesbians, and the acute sense he has of his administration's leadership on gay and lesbian issues."

Although the meeting ended with no firm plans for Clinton's participation in this week's March, Osburn said that, barring a change of heart, there will be "at least a telephone hook up" with the President from Boston, where he is scheduled to deliver a speech.

"Things can change," said Osburn, "but there was a clear commitment on his part—unanimously understood by the people in that room."

"Although the President stated his schedule takes him out of Washington over the weekend, he is committed to participating in some way," said March co-chair Billy Hileman.

Earlier, Clinton had been invited to address the March crowd, but the President had already planned to be at a retreat with Senate Democrats in Virginia on Saturday and at the American Association of Newspaper Publishers in Boston on Sunday.

"I mean no snubs," Clinton said at a news conference before the meeting with lesbian and gay leaders, "but presidents usually don't participate in marches. That has nothing to do with my position on the fundamental issue of anti-discrimination."

March officials and other leaders hope that a satellite or telephone hook up will be possible, citing similar speeches delivered by George Bush and Ronald Reagan to anti-abortion rallies.

The April 16 meeting marked the first time a sitting president has held a White House meeting with the lesbian and gay community, and those present said that in itself sent a clear message to the American public.

"Meeting in the Oval Office with the President of the United States has enormous symbolic significance,"

said Osburn. "The President has a key role [in the fight for the civil rights of lesbians and gay men], and that's what we wanted to get across to him."

Osburn dismissed any suggestion that last Friday's meeting would be used as a substitute for Clinton's addressing the marchers.

"Our concern, frankly, was that it would be a substitute—meeting with 8 people instead of a million," she said. "And we were determined not to allow that."

"We've got to fight the right and educate the middle," Osburn continued. "The President's role is essential in this. If he's supportive, it sends a message to all of America. The President's moral leadership signals a new era for this fight."

Osburn also said that the Clinton administration is working behind the scenes, and in often unnoticed ways, to listen to the gay community. Even though Clinton himself will be out of town for March week, at least three Cabinet secretaries—HHS Sec. Donna Shalala, HUD Sec. Henry Cisneros, and Attorney General Janet Reno—have scheduled meetings with various members of the community during the week.

Additionally, openly gay Clinton staffer Bob Hattoy met with Pink Panthers leader Lawrence Saltzman and Queer Nation leader Michael Petrilis last week, hearing their calls for a special investigator in the Allen Schindler murder case.

"[Hattoy] is researching how to get a special prosecutor to oversee the military trial (set to begin June 1)," said Saltzman, who organized the meeting. "It's a very complex constitutionality issue, but there is a strong possibility [for a special prosecutor]."

Osburn sees the flurry of activity as a sign of a new acceptance.

"There is clearly a dialog at a level that has never taken place before," she said. "The political space has opened up tremendously since the election."

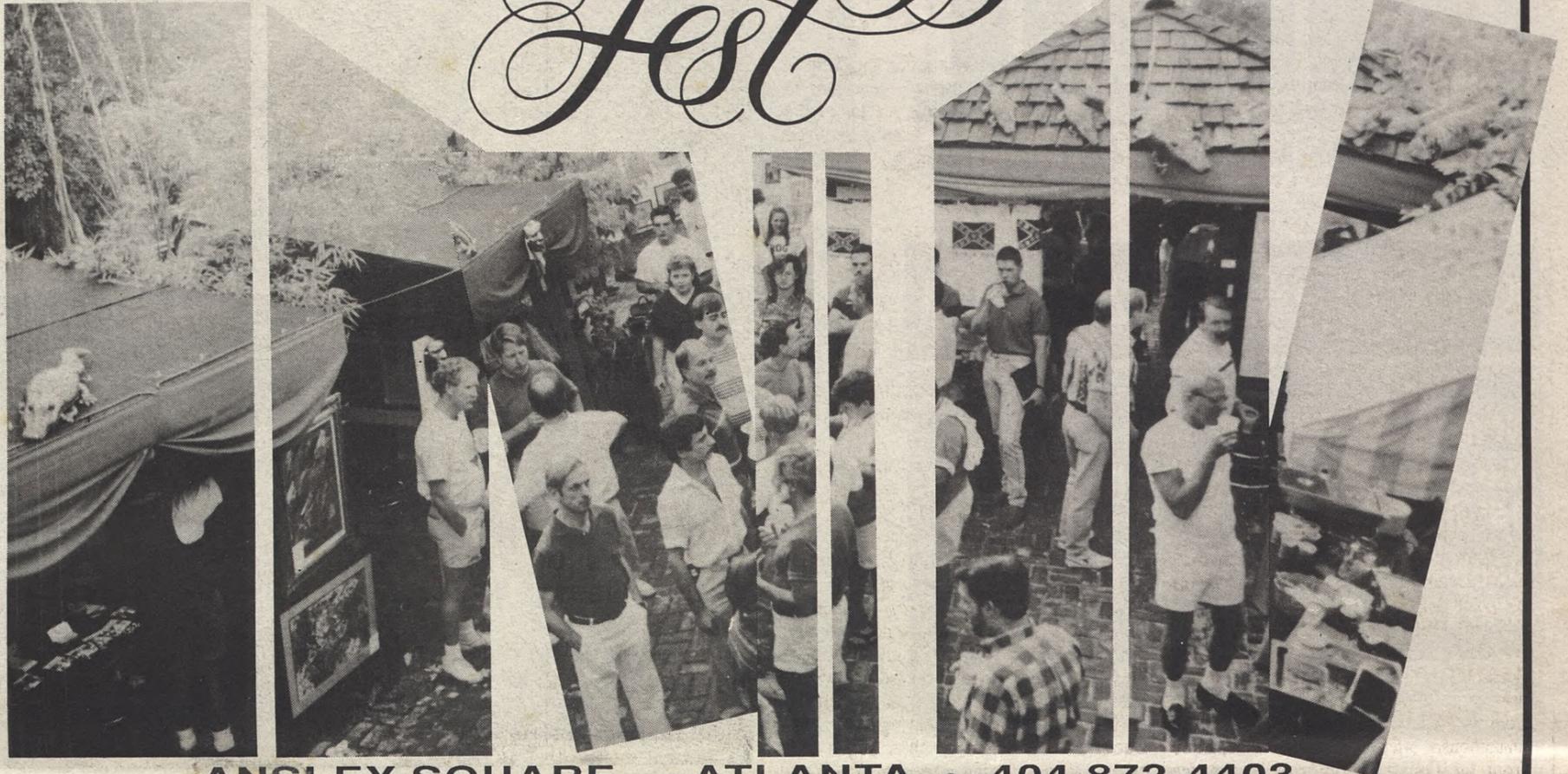
Also attending the meeting with Osburn and Hileman were MOW co-chair Nadine Smith, HRCF's Tim McFeeley, Phill Wilson of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Conference, the Victory Fund's William Waybourn, Tom Stoddard of the Campaign for Military Service, and Andrew Barrer of COALITION '93.

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SoVo Awards hailed as major success

Mayor Jackson spends evening with lesbian and gay community

Atlanta—The after dark temperatures were cool, and most of the animals were out of sight, but on Saturday night Zoo Atlanta was the place to be as the Southern Voice 1st Annual Community Awards (dubbed the SoVies) honored some of Atlanta's finest individuals and organizations for their achievements in 1992.

Southern Voice readers both nominated the candidates and selected the winners of the awards, and proceeds from the show benefit the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and the Atlanta Lambda Community Center. Some 180 people attended the event, including Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, who was given a special award for his efforts in moving the U.S. Conference of Mayors out of Amendment 2-laden Colorado. At press time, a total on the amount of money raised was not available.

Before the show opened with a rousing rendition of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" by the Armorettes ("which, as we all know, is a paramilitary organization," said emcee Cathy Woolard), attendees were treated to food provided by P-FLAG, and countless displays of feathered finery by the Zoo's male peacocks. The peafowl kept up their haunting cries throughout the evening, but the sound only added to the wildlife ambiance.

In front of a mountain set (designed by Don Rushton) that echoed the rocks in the elephant display across the way, emcees Woolard, HRCF's public policy director, and Eric Orner, creator of "The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green," presided over a nearly perfect evening. Award recipients broke from the Academy Award tradition by being unanimously brief, and in another departure from the Oscars, politicizing acceptance speeches was not frowned upon.

But despite the wide range of nominees, the evening was notable for its abundance of humor and strong sense of community.

"Our readers selected an incredibly diverse group of nominees," said Southern Voice general manager Leigh VanderEls. "There was so much diversity, and so much respect shown for that diversity."

Jeff Graham, accepting ACT UP's award for Most Effective Political Organization along with co-winner HRCF, symbolized this recognition of diversity when he announced that ACT UP would share the award with other political organizations.

"There is not one true path," Graham said. "This is truly a community award."

Graham also proved that politics can poke fun at themselves when he told the audience, "I'm sure the reason we were given this award is that people were afraid we would seize the microphone if they didn't."

On a more serious side, Southern Voice initiated two awards during the ceremony: the

Venus Landin Memorial Award and the John Howell Achievement Award. The Landin was awarded to Patrick Bell for his tireless work in the service of community. Bell, who is active in the African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance, the City Council's Lesbian and Gay Public Safety Task Force, and countless other organizations, was visibly overwhelmed by his selection.

"Every morning I tell myself I am blessed," he said in offering his thanks for the honor.

Linda Vaughn, outgoing director of the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus, received the Howell award for her eleven years of leadership with the Chorus, creating a nationally respected body of vocalists.

Mayor Jackson, in receiving his award, lauded the lesbian and gay community, and reiterated his support in the struggle for civil rights for the country's lesbians and gay men.

"Anybody asked to pay taxes and old enough to vote ought to have not only some of their rights respected, but all of them," he said. "[The upcoming March on Washington] will make a difference in how America perceives this issue."

Jackson, who stayed the entire evening, also told the lesbian and gay Atlantans that "without question, you add to Atlanta dramatically," ending by telling the crowd that the struggle is "number one, to get free, number two to stay free—and never stop."

Jackson was introduced by Woolard, a former Atlanta activist, who announced that the award was actually being given because Jackson "is the politician who used the words 'lesbian and gay' more than any other politician...narrowly beating out Pat Buchanan." The mayor then began the evening's only running joke, about the word "lesbian" preceding "gay."

"I'm not sure if the honor is for saying the words, or for saying them in the right order," the mayor said.

Other award recipients continued the joke, nodding to Woolard and pointedly saying "lesbian" first.

Other highlights of the evening included Woolard's introduction of the nominees for Hippest Heterosexual. Woolard said she was surprised to learn that eventual winner Mona Bennett is, in fact, heterosexual.

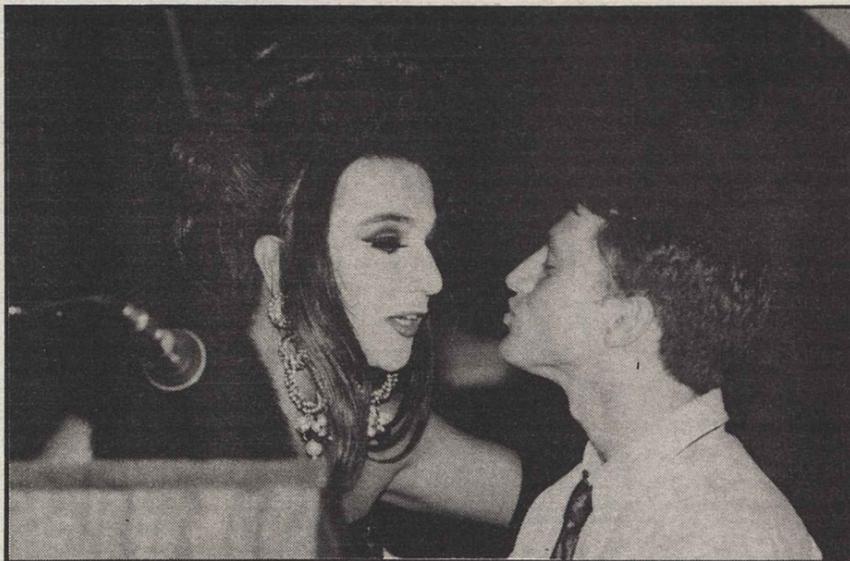
"She's so hip," said Woolard, "I thought she was a lesbian."

Glamour Goddess award winner Amber Richards gave the peacocks a run for their money, but she downplayed the idea that looks are important when she accepted the award.

"True beauty isn't in the reflection you see in the mirror," she said. "It's the reflection other people see from your heart."

And to no one's surprise, Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn was given the Get Out of Town

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12



Amber Richards thanks Eric Orner as she accepts her award for Glamour Goddess.



Melody Reifer & Sharon Lane of VOICES



Mayor Jackson seemed to enjoy himself.



The Armorettes started the evening with a rousing military number.

Maine likely to pass gay rights bill

Augusta, ME—Maine is poised to become the 9th state in the nation to pass a gay rights bill—and the second this month—but the Republican governor of that state has promised to derail the effort with a veto.

Governor McKernan, who departed for a week long schedule of business out of state Thursday, reiterated that he personally opposes the bill and will reject it if it reaches his desk.

Although both houses of the Legislature are backing the bill for the first time this year, the margin of support is substantially smaller than the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto.

Despite McKernan's threatened veto, Maine's gays and lesbians are celebrating the support of the two legislative branches.

"Everyone in Maine is totally excited," said Sen. Dale McCormick, one of Maine's two

openly lesbian legislators. "It's a completely different feel about this bill, a real change."

McCormick told Southern Voice that the legislature held its ground during the fight to pass the bill, including defeating numerous amendments that would have diminished the measure.

"We defeated all amendments," she said, "including one to register all homosexuals with the secretary of state. We called that the 'pink triangle' bill."

A citizens' group has launched a petition drive seeking a 1994 referendum on a proposal to bar any gay rights laws. McKernan has said that he would prefer a vote on the legislative bill.

Despite the apparent inevitability of a veto, hope sprang eternal among the bill's supporters.

Rep. Susan Farnsworth, who along with McCormick is openly lesbian, said she believes McKernan could be persuaded to change his mind if he is presented with more evidence of the increasing hate violence and discrimination against lesbians as gays, as well as the negative tone likely in any referendum campaign.

She said the nightly candlelight vigils outside the governor's mansion that supporters began April 14 also could influence the governor's thinking.

"I believe that public support will only grow," she said.

Sen. Gerard P. Conley Jr., the Portland Democrat who sponsored the bill, said he too hoped the governor would change his mind and that "he seems to keep coming up with more reasons" to oppose the measure.

McCormick was not available following the House vote, but his press secretary said he anticipated a veto if the bill reaches his boss' desk.

"Nothing's changed," Cory Tilley observed.

The bill would ban discrimination against lesbians and gays in matters involving employment, housing, credit and public accommodation, but religious groups would be exempt. Similar protections are provided under the Maine Human Rights Act against discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin and physical or mental handicaps.

The outside referendum campaign, led by a group calling itself Concerned Maine Families, revolves around a proposal to "prohibit protected class status based on homosexual, bisexual or lesbian orientation," according to its title.

Secretary of State Bill Diamond said April 15 his office had completed its technical review of the petition and would likely clear the petitions for circulation on Friday.

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Gay lobbyists brave Alabama legislature to promote awareness

Montgomery, AL—Gays lobbying the Alabama Legislature for the first time said no one was hostile, but some people didn't know how to react to pink leaflets promoting "lesbian and gay awareness."

"Some of them looked at it like, 'Oh, my God,'" Stefan said.

Stefan, who had his name legally changed to one word, is coordinator of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Alabama. Six members of the group spent April 6 visiting state officials' offices and handing out the pink triangular leaflets.

"We haven't had anyone start quoting Bible verses to us," said Stefan, a Mobile AIDS services worker. But he said one of the governor's secretaries "just sort of freaked out. I don't know if she thought she would catch something from us."

The alliance was formed in January by more than 50 people representing 20 groups across the state. It resulted, in part, from the Legislature passing three pieces of anti-gay legislation last year.

—A resolution praising the Auburn University Student Government Association for opposing a campus charter for a gay and lesbian student group.

—A resolution prohibiting the use of state funds for any campus group that advocates violation of sodomy laws.

—A law requiring public schools that offer sex education classes to teach that homosexuality violates state law.

At the time the legislation passed, no one representing lesbians and gays was present at the Capitol. April 6 marked the first time an organized lesbian and gay group has lobbied the Legislature.

"Our purpose today is to raise the awareness of our publicly elected and appointed officials that yes, Alabama does have lesbian and gay citizens," Stefan said.

George Hite Wilson, representing the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance at the University of South Alabama, said the group's goals include:

—Getting state textbooks changed so that they recognize significant events in gay history, such as the slaying of San Francisco Councilman Harvey Milk.

—Get legislation outlawing hate crimes rewritten so that it includes attacks on gays and lesbians.

The alliance lobbyists came primarily from Mobile and Birmingham. "The community in Montgomery is afraid of a backlash and they are afraid of being visible, particularly since so many of them have jobs connected to state government," Stefan said.

PHILLIP RAWLS

Two NC students circulate names of members of gay group

Chapel Hill, NC—Two University of North Carolina students circulated copies of names from that school's gay and lesbian group at a Student Congress meeting last month in an attempt to prove the group did not need funds from the Student Government Association.

According to Charlotte's Q-Notes, Darren Allen and Chris Tuck distributed the list containing the names of 63 UNC-CH students, faculty and community members. The pair said that only nine of those names had paid dues, proving that the organization was a "political" one and should not be funded by the University.

Members of Bisexuals, Gay men, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity (B-GLAD) immediately charged that the list had been stolen from their offices, and that the list was not a membership list, but a list of attendees at a recent function. B-GLAD filed a document with the school's Honor Court, charging that Tuck and Allen had violated six provisions of the Code of Student Conduct. The charges are under investigation.

Allen has filed criminal charges against Matt Stiegler, co-editor of B-GLAD's newsletter, alleging that Stiegler threatened to physically assault him. The trial, scheduled for April 15, had not been held at press time.

Kentucky bed & breakfast still making news

Russellville, KY—The Stone Mountain Estate continues to offer hospitality to gays and lesbians despite earlier conflicts with this small community and a lawsuit filed by one of the owners against the other.

James Turner filed a lawsuit late last week in Logan Circuit Court, seeking half the estate from his former lover, Jimmy Cates. Turner, who has left the estate—a five-bedroom home on 10 secluded acres—contends that he and Cates mortgaged the property together.

Turner and Cates went their separate ways earlier this year. Cates remains at the bed and

breakfast, which was his home before the two men met.

Meanwhile, Cates announced a Derby Day weekend, scheduled April 30-May 2, to coincide with the Kentucky Derby in Louisville. The package (\$189) includes lodging, Derby tickets and transportation to and from the horse race. For reservations, call 1-800-995-1238.

The bed and breakfast was at the center of controversy and threats from local residents. The men said last year that they received dozens of threatening telephone calls and had to hire security guards. The threats have since stopped.

Cates had said earlier this year that he was looking for another partner to run the business with him after Turner's departure. (AP)

Board members of Tenn. AIDS project sued

Johnson City, TN—Some members of the Tri-Cities AIDS Project (TAP) Inc. are suing to remove members of the board of directors for fraud. The lawsuit, filed two weeks ago in Washington County Chancery Court, alleges the board members improperly conducted elections, withheld financial records and terminated members in violation of state law and the agency's corporate by-laws.

The lawsuit seeks a court order to remove the defendants from the board and bar them and some former board members from serving for a period to be determined by the court. The lawsuit also seeks reinstatement of six TAP members allegedly terminated by the board in February. (AP)

Greenville, SC—Voters United for Equality (VUE) will conduct its next meeting on Thursday, April 29 at 7 pm in the Open Book conference room, on Pleasantburg Dr. in Greenville. Included on the agenda is a recap of the April 25 March on Washington. Newcomers, especially those who participated in the march, are welcome.

VUE is a human rights advocacy group which fights homophobia and discrimination against gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals. For more information, call (803) 843-1070 or (803) 235-5019.

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DC Council Overturns Sodomy Law: The District of Columbia City Council voted on April 7 to overturn that city's 45 year old sodomy law, but the religious right has vowed to take the issue to Congress, which has oversight over all the District's laws. Congress nullified a City Council attempt to overturn the law once before, in 1981. Gay activists hope the more tolerant atmosphere of the Clinton administration will help when Congress considers the measure. "The political climate is a lot more tolerant," said Queer Nation's Steven Reichert. "Also, we have a White House that is a lot more sympathetic and will help lobby on behalf of DC home rule."

Gays Picket Paper Over Decision To Yank Comic Strip: Lesbians and gays are picketing Hagerstown, MD's Herald-Mail Co. over that paper's decision to pull the comic strip "For Better Or For Worse" when writer Lynn Johnston introduced a gay storyline. "We don't appreciate the fact that they are showing an intolerance to lesbians and gays," said picketer David Koonce. "They are bowing to the pressure of the conservative right." The group plans to continue weekend pickets of the newspaper. In the comic strip, a teenager comes out to his parents and is initially thrown out of the house. His mother relents, and promises to try to understand. The Atlanta Journal is running the strip during this storyline.

Norway Approves Gay Marriages: Joining neighboring Denmark, the Norwegian parliament has passed a bill giving gay couples the same legal rights as married heterosexual couples, except the right to marry in a church and to adopt children, the Washington Blade reported last week. The bill, passed by parliament on April 1, will take effect on August 1. Denmark passed such a law in 1989, and the Blade also reported that Sweden and Finland may be close to granting gay couples legal rights.

Gay-Positive Poster Will Go Back Up in MN High School: A gay sensitivity poster is expected to be put back on the wall at a Minnesota high school after supporters outnumbered opponents by a wide margin at a school board meeting. Only one person spoke up against the poster, while several supporters explained why they believe it's an important poster and should be allowed to remain. The controversy began when anti-gay activists circulated a petition to have the poster removed. At the end of last week's meeting, school board chair Dick Gaffron said "at this point, I consider the subject closed."



Newly-elected municipal judge Shelley Gaylord

Wisconsin Lesbian Elected Municipal Judge: Shelley Gaylord, an openly lesbian attorney from Madison, Wisconsin, handily won a municipal judgeship in that city on April 6, defeating her opponent by 10,000 votes in a special election. Fourth Tuesday chair Wendy Goldberg-Gaylord, Gaylord's sister, wrote in April's Fourth Tuesday Forum that Gaylord has been an attorney for 14 years, and that she "has dedicated herself to children's advocacy, gay and lesbian rights [and] the rights of battered women." Gaylord had major endorsements from a broad spectrum of organizations and individuals, including the Madison daily newspaper.

Schools Cancel AIDS Prevention Programs After Parental Opposition: Officials at two Michigan high schools have called off AIDS prevention programs after

parents opposed the appearance of a gay speaker. The talks by educators from the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project were canceled last week over the sexual orientation of program coordinator Steven Wood, said Nancy Byers Sprague, who organized Wood's schedule. "I was very taken aback," said Sprague. "I'm not used to that much anger. It made me realize just how strong the feelings and the fears about homosexuality are here." Wood said he was less concerned with opposition toward gays than with the information the students missed. "They're sacrificing their kids," he said. "Kids in the [Upper Peninsula area of Michigan] are having sex...Our only agenda is saving lives."

Judge Says Rochester Discriminated Against Gay Alliance: The city of Rochester, NY, must grant a property tax exemption to a gay rights group, a state Supreme Court judge has ruled. Justice Andrew V. Siracuse ruled that the city discriminated against the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley, Inc. by denying an exemption for the group's community center. The city had argued that the Alliance was an advocacy group for gays and did not meet the state requirement that an organization be educational or charitable to qualify for an exemption. But Siracuse said the Alliance "advocates not homosexuality but the legitimate rights and needs of the gay and lesbian community, rights recognized by the city in its anti-discrimination ordinance. This is essentially an educational function."

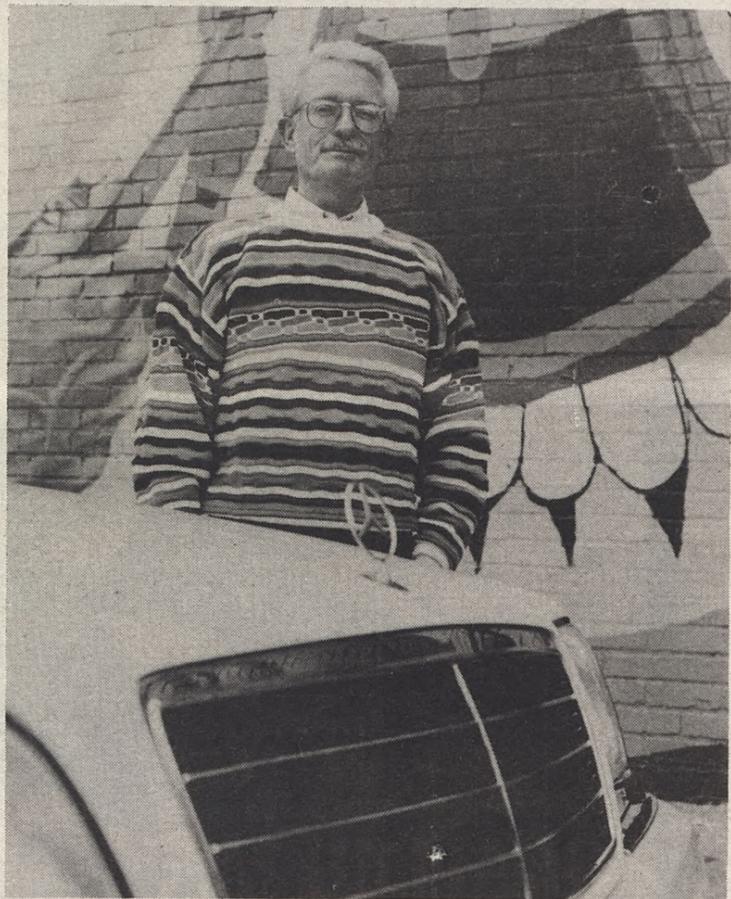
Presbyterian Synod Upholds Ordination Of Gay Deacons: The Presbyterian Synod of the Pacific's judicial commission defied a national church policy last week by upholding the ordination of a gay man and a lesbian as deacons. The commission voted 6-1 after Portland's Hope Presbyterian challenged the ordinations of Heather Boonstra and George Link. The synod's ruling will likely be appealed to the General Assembly, said Larry Torgen, pastor at Hope Presbyterian. The General Assembly has repeatedly denied gays the right to serve the church as deacons or ministers based on a 1978 policy statement that homosexuality is "incompatible with Christian faith and life."

Student, School Reach Compromise On Homoerotic Art: An art student is displaying his homoerotic art in a room at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock under a compromise reached with the art department. Steven Leonard and several other students last week protested the removal of Leonard's drawings from a gallery in the Fine Arts Building, claiming that the art department was censoring Leonard's work. Gallery curator Shannon Dillard Mitchell said that as a compromise, Leonard's work was put up in another room that is monitored to prevent unsupervised children from entering. "I agreed to this," Leonard said. "This would have been OK with me from the beginning."

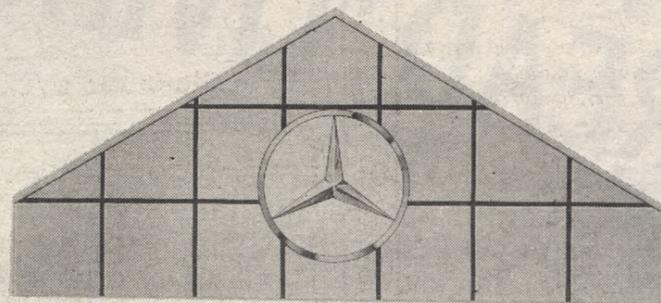
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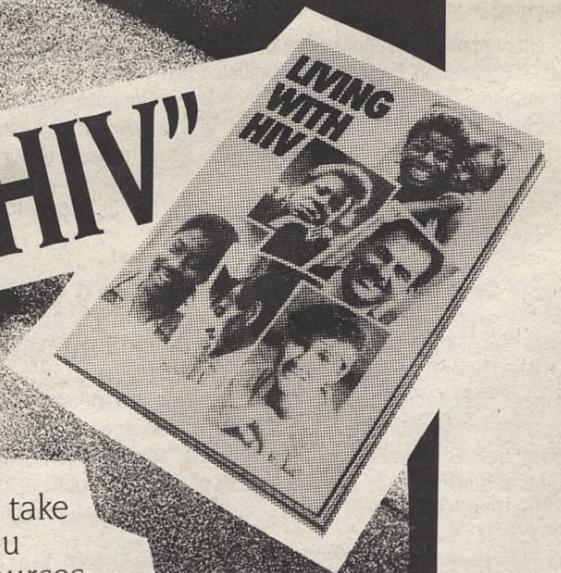
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Clinton budget calls for extra \$600 million to fight AIDS

Washington, DC—President Clinton's budget April 8 called for almost doubling the money that goes to cities with large caseloads of AIDS patients. Altogether, the White House proposed spending an extra \$600 million to fight the disease.

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, in outlining her agency's \$641 billion budget for fiscal 1994, said Clinton's budget calls for spending \$2.7 billion on AIDS next year.

That funding would include \$658 million—a \$310 million increase—for the Ryan White Act, which provides emergency relief to cities with large numbers of AIDS cases.

"It's a wonderful starting point," said Helen Fox of the National Minority AIDS Task Force. "It's hard for me to say whether or not it's the right amount, because there's too many people yet who are unidentified."

The health department's budget—the largest of the federal government's bureaucracies because it includes Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid—also would boost funding for women's health, providing an extra \$328 million primarily for the prevention and treatment of breast cancer.

Shalala dismissed complaints that attention to other diseases has suffered because of the focus on AIDS and women's health. "There's no evidence of that," she said.



Dept. of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala

To combat the resurgence in tuberculosis, the agency would spend an extra \$10 million next year, for a 1994 total of \$46 million.

The budget also claims that over a five-year period, the health department will contribute \$122 billion to bringing down the deficit, largely through cuts in Medicare.

KAREN BALL

AZT study called into question

In response to a letter published in a British scientific journal in which European researchers question the efficacy of AZT use in early stage HIV disease, Burroughs Wellcome, makers of the drug, hastily convened a press conference last week to address confusion related to the study.

The letter, published in "The Lancet," concluded that asymptomatic patients infected with HIV who took AZT received no benefit from the drug when compared to persons taking a placebo.

In the ongoing study known as the Concorde trial, British and French researchers published the interim letter because of interest in the study's findings. But other AIDS researchers, including Dr. Robert Schooley of the University of Colorado and Dr. Michael Tapper of Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, assert no meaningful conclusions can yet be drawn.

"How do you respond to a study where all the data are not available?" said Dr. Schooley. "I see it as a fragmentary observation."

"This is basically a non-peer reviewed letter to the editor," asked Dr. Tapper.

The Concorde letter raises far more questions that it answers. During the trial, 30% of patients taking placebo switched to AZT based on their CD4 counts, but were stratified as staying on placebo.

No one on AZT crossed over to the placebo arm of the trial. What conclusions can be drawn from the placebo arm of a study in which nearly 1/3 of its participants switched to AZT during the trial based on their CD4 counts is unclear.

The Concorde group also calls into question the value of CD4 counts as a predictor of disease progression, currently the yardstick used by physicians for initiating prophylaxis treatment for HIV related infections such as pneumocystis carinii pneumonia "PCP."

In addition, the dose of AZT given in the study (1000 mg. per day) is nearly twice the recommendation made today (500-600 mg.). (Earlier studies have indicated a trend toward more toxicity in sicker patients receiving a higher dose of AZT.) Yet Concorde may show that persons receiving the 1000 mg. of AZT

tolerated the drug well.

Among other questions left unanswered by the Concorde letter are these: When is the optimal time to begin AZT therapy and at what dose? Do patients derive less than optimal benefit from AZT if it is taken as a monotherapy rather than in combination with DDC or DDI and possibly Nevirapine (as well as other anti-virals).

Four previous studies have indicated that AZT used as a monotherapy is beneficial for finite periods of time for some patients in stalling disease progression.

According to Dr. Daniel Hoth, a director with the government's AIDS research program, "What the news media should endeavor to do is communicate to doctors and patients...that there is no reason to change any treatment they are on based on a letter in a single medical journal."

TERRY FRANCIS

Miss America joins Miss Indiana, Miss Iowa for AIDS benefit

Fort Wayne, IN—Hoosiers have a lot to learn about AIDS, says the reigning Miss Indiana. Shelli Yoder of Shipshewanna, who finished second in last year's Miss America pageant, said knowledge of the disease is especially lacking in rural areas of Indiana.

"When you come from a rural community, you have the tendency to say, 'It can't affect me,'" said Yoder.

Yoder, Miss America Leanza Cornett and Miss Iowa Katherine Ann Lemkau attended a benefit last Monday sponsored by the Noble County AIDS Task Force. The three women—the top three finishers in Atlantic City last September—said they felt an obligation to throw their titles behind the AIDS cause because more young women are contracting the deadly disease.

"The closeness that we have together is not just as pageant contestants, but as women who have come together for a cause," said Cornett, who spoke out about AIDS during the Miss America pageant. "It's our disease. It's our issue." (AP)

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AIDS prevention grants awarded to 10 cities

Washington, DC—Grants totaling \$1 million were awarded April 2 to AIDS prevention groups in 10 cities to study the spread of the deadly disease among substance abusers, young people and minorities.

The grants, distributed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, range from \$62,000 to \$135,000. They were funded by the federal Centers for Disease Control.

"Our targets in these 10 projects are gay and bisexual men, minorities, youth, substance users and their needle-sharing partners, particularly women," said Thomas Cochran, director of the mayors conference. "These are groups whose risk of infection is very high."

Receiving grants:

—Boston AIDS Consortium, Boston, \$120,095.

—Kansas City Health Department, Kansas

City, Mo., \$105,000.

—Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Milwaukee, Wis., \$129,000.

—Family Health Project, New York, \$104,000.

—Northern Virginia Planning District Commission, Annandale, Va., \$59,742.

—Plainfield Division of Health, Plainfield, N.J., \$56,152.

—Wake County Department of Health, Raleigh, N.C., \$101,998.

—San Bernardino County Department of Health, San Bernardino, Calif., \$100,000.

—Puerto Rico Community Network for Clinical Research on AIDS, San Juan, P.R., \$102,657.

—Lucas County District Board of Health, Toledo, Ohio, \$121,356. (AP)

OBITUARIES

Shane Christopher Zakis

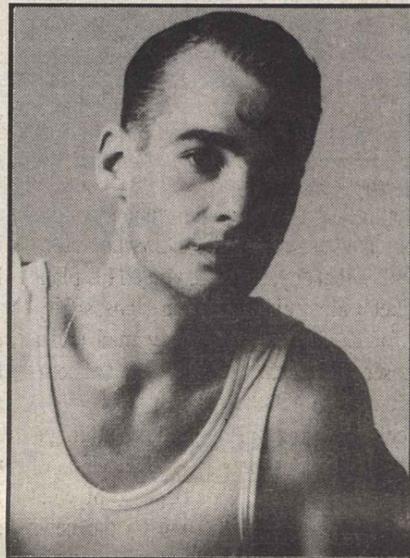
Shane Christopher Zakis passed away on the morning of April 6 at age 23. He died at home, in his partner's arms, of a coronary embolism related to AIDS.

Throughout Shane's life the magic of his spirit influenced a diversity of people. Shane's many achievements started early in life, at sixteen he participated and completed the S.C. Governor's School for the Arts as one of the only two males admitted into the dance program in 1986. Shane went on to dance for the Charleston Ballet Theater, while working as an Assistant Manager for Bennetton clothiers in Charleston, SC. At 18, he organized a Fashion Show Benefit for AIDS research through the Charleston Ballet Theater and the Charleston Fashion Industry.

He moved to Atlanta in 1989 to dance with the Atlanta Ballet. Due to AIDS, Shane had not danced professionally since early 1990 but continued to teach dance through 1991 at Arthur Murray dance studios while briefly living in Florida.

Shane is survived by his loving partner and soul mate Ron Morrow and their dog Joey, his parents, Susan and Conrad Zakis, a brother, Lee D. Zakis, all of Charleston, SC and his grandfather, Daniel Keddie of Pittsburgh, Penn.

There will be a wake held in his memory at the end of April. For information please contact Tamara at 688-4319 or Ron at 521-9891. Shane had requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made to Project Open Hand Atlanta.



—My dear sweet Shane, your last performance went off as choreographed. Your spirit shall be with me forever. I love you with all my heart and soul. —Puntun

Chris B. Morrow

Chris B. Morrow, a special friend to many people, passed April 12, 1993, at his home in Buckhead. He was with family and friends.

We will remember you, Chris, for your spontaneity, insight and the special kind of humor you had. We will always remember your laugh and the special times we shared. You always had a story to share...We cannot wait to hear another...We love you, Chris.

Your Friends.

Deaths Elsewhere

Richard Failla

New York City—Richard C. Failla, the first openly gay person elected to the New York State Supreme Court, and a leader on gay rights and AIDS issues, died April 4. He was 53.

Failla was appointed a Criminal Court judge in 1985 by Mayor Edward Koch and won an uncontested election to the state Supreme Court in 1988.

Failla's legal career began in the Navy, where he served as a lieutenant in the judge advocate general corps in the Philippines and Vietnam. When gay sailors were discharged in accordance with the military's ban on homosexuality, he volunteered to defend them.

Following his military service, Failla worked for the Manhattan district attorney's office and became the director of a federal project to upgrade legal representation for indigents in the Manhattan and Bronx courts.

When the AIDS epidemic arose, Failla

joined the board of directors of the Gay Men's Health Crisis; he later became its vice president. He also served on the state Health Department's AIDS Advisory Council.

Survivors include his mother, Florence, and a brother, Robert, both of Tampa, Fla., and his father, Frank, of Safety Harbor, Fla.

Richard Schmiechen

Los Angeles—Filmmaker Richard Schmiechen, who won a 1984 Oscar for the documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk," died April 7 from AIDS complications, said David Haugland, the filmmaker's companion and business partner. He was 45.

Schmiechen's most recent film, "Changing Our Minds: The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker," was nominated for a documentary feature Oscar this year.

He produced "The Times of Harvey Milk," a look at the slain openly gay San Francisco city supervisor, which also won two Emmys and a Peabody Award.

In addition to Haugland, he is survived by brothers Jim and John and sister Beth Miller.

Primitive Baptist preaches hate in Kansas

Lawrence, KS—A minister who picketed a gay-rights parade during the weekend said he got a "surprisingly good" reaction from passersby.

"You think of Lawrence as being more or less given over to the gay agenda, but we've had a lot of good, favorable smiles and thumbs up," said the Rev. Fred Phelps of Topeka. "We've gotten some of the other kind, too—real mean people."

Lesbians and gays marching in the parade came face-to-face with followers of Phelps, a minister who condemns gays, but both sides avoided conflict and the parade went off peacefully.

There were a few rude gestures and taunts on both sides, but Phelps' pickets didn't interfere with the marchers April 10. About 250 people in the Lawrence procession, which began at one end of town and stopped in a park at the other, passed the Phelps picketers. The two groups sang songs and shouted their differing slogans.

Lawrence police in squad cars preceded and followed the marchers, and officers were seen on bicycles or standing among protesters. No incidents were reported, police said.

Earlier that day, Phelps changed his plans to picket a memorial service in Kansas City, Mo., for Kevin Oldham, a gay man and a composer of classical music who died of complications from AIDS.

Phelps, of the Primitive Baptist congregation, has said he began picketing funerals of gay AIDS victims in 1991 because of what he perceived as a glorification by the news media of gay men who contracted the dis-

ease. He contends his group acts as an "off-set" to the coverage.

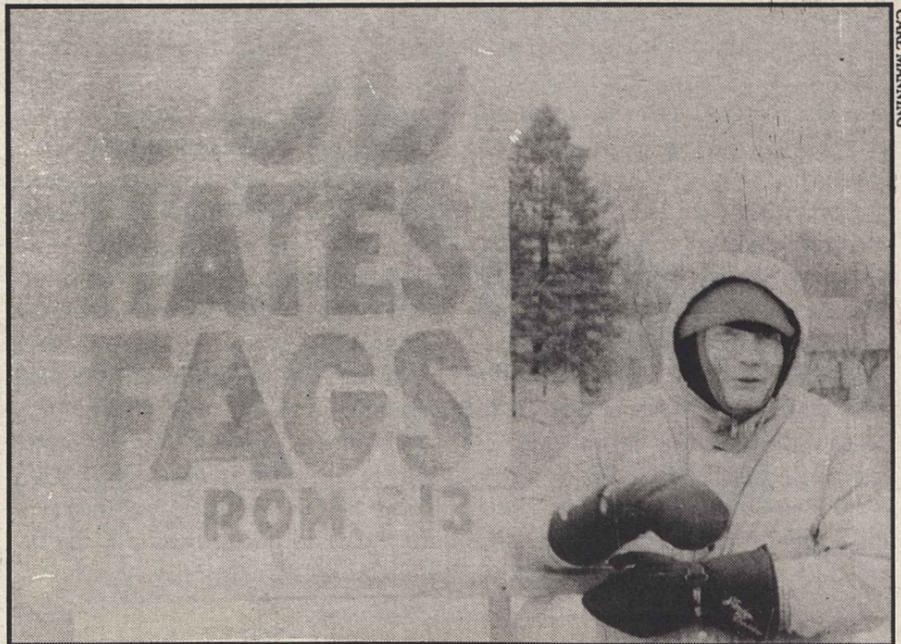
Phelps has vowed to challenge Kansas City's ordinance prohibiting such demonstrations from 90 minutes before to 90 minutes after a funeral or memorial service. But on Saturday he and about 25 supporters left the site of the memorial service in Kansas City hours before he would have been subject to arrest.

He also has said he'll test the constitutionality of a year-old Kansas statute that outlaws pickets at such gatherings. Phelps said a scheduling conflict with the Lawrence event prevented him from staying long enough in Kansas City to challenge the ordinance.

Phelps has posed a thorny problem for lawmakers here in the heartland: how to balance free-speech rights against the rights of grieving relatives of people who have died of AIDS to bury their dead in peace. The 63-year-old disbarred lawyer—he was disciplined in 1979 for harassing a defendant and misrepresenting testimony—began picketing the funerals of gays who died of AIDS in Topeka and Wichita about two years ago, confronting mourners with posters proclaiming "God Hates Fags: Romans 9:13."

"I'm talking about the destruction of a civilization called Sodom and Gomorrah," Phelps said last week during a regular protest at a Topeka church. "The Lord Jesus Christ says when things get that way in any civilization it's doomed. So it's not likely that any tacky little old city ordinance or state law or act of Congress is going to stop me."

Opponents of censorship said they are



Topeka Primitive Baptist preacher Fred Phelps

troubled by the official attempts to silence Phelps.

"You answer wrongheaded and outrageous, hateful speech, the kind that Mr. Phelps dishes out on a regular basis, with more speech, better speech, not with less speech," said Dick Kurtenbach, director of the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri.

But Phelps' tactics have drawn the condemnation even of conservatives.

"We are ashamed that this man has chosen to destroy the work of Christ with his prideful, holier-than-thou attitude," the conservative group FIRED UP said in a letter to

The Kansas City Star. "The sin of pride is as bad as the sin of homosexuality."

Phelps said the only reason he hasn't picketed a funeral since the Kansas law was enacted is that, except for one person who didn't have a funeral, "Kansas papers have not glorified a single fag" since then.

But he said he's eager to test the laws in court and shrugs off the suffering he may inflict on mourners.

"Do 'em a world of good, this preaching," he said.

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United Nations opens door to international gay group

New York City—In an unprecedented move, the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) was granted roster consultative status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (EcoSoc) at a March 29 session.

Center ILGA, the local ILGA chapter sponsored by the New York Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center and the coordinator for the world ILGA UN Project, was the driving force behind the lobbying effort for consultative status. Roster consultative status allows ILGA to submit papers to the UN on issues concerning the worldwide lesbian and gay community.

"Our application for consultative status was deferred two years ago, and we were braced for more of the same treatment this

round," said Rina Malonzo, co-chair of Center ILGA. "We lobbied each Economic and Social Council member one by one. Some member states registered strong objections against—and I'm quoting here—our 'nefarious and evil acts' and the 'pathological problems which may harm our children.' It took some time to work past the resistance."

The approval for consultative status represents a compromise victory, however. ILGA had requested approval for Category II, which would have bestowed approval for the group to speak as well as submit papers.

The original lobbying effort was started over ten years ago by ILGA. In 1991, ILGA became the first lesbian and gay group to be accepted as an affiliate NGO with the Department of Public Information. As such, Cen-

ter ILGA represented the worldwide ILGA membership at weekly NGO briefings at the UN. This "observer" status was a critical step toward the approval of consultative status, which permits ILGA a more active role, and increases its potential for impact on UN affairs.

As a consultative representative, ILGA may submit written proposals to further its goal of including lesbian and gay rights in the United Nations human rights agenda.

"This is a groundbreaking turn of events," said Richard Burns, director of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. "Center ILGA and other ILGA delegate groups from around the world have been working for years for permission to participate at the UN. It's a long-awaited victory."

Founded in Europe in 1978, the International Lesbian and Gay Association was conceived as a worldwide, interactive network of grassroots organizations to overcome legal, social, cultural and economic discrimination on a global level. Today, there are over 300 ILGA members (both organizational and individual) in more than 60 countries on five continents.

In addition to the UN Project, Center ILGA also works with Amnesty International on behalf of lesbian and gay prisoners of conscience, and on immigration and asylum issues.

Further information on Center ILGA is available by calling (212) 620-7310.

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

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

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SOUTHERN VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Ban on gays in military is unAmerican

by CORETTA SCOTT KING

The armed services have always had a large number of gay personnel who have served their country with honor. Many have paid the highest price to defend the freedom the ban's supporters profess to hold dear. Any Generals, Admirals or politicians who don't know this need to be awakened for a reality check.

The arguments advanced in favor of the ban are disturbingly reminiscent of some that African-Americans faced during the racial desegregation of the military. Black Americans were told that their presence would somehow diminish morale and promote divisiveness. Back then the advocates of segregated army units said that they, themselves, of course harbored no prejudice, but they were concerned about "others" who might feel that way.

Back then, advocates banning integrated military units also were reduced to fear-mongering about life-threatening health problems. In his last-ditch attempt to halt desegregation of the military, for example, Georgia Senator Richard Russell raised the specter of disproportionately high rates of syphilis infection among some black communities.

These were unmerited, specious arguments then, and it is regrettable that they are being used today to deny another group of patriotic Americans their citizenship rights.

The controversy over President Clinton's decision to rescind the ban does reveal one very urgent need, which should be addressed at the earliest opportunity. There is a prob-

lem of homophobia among some military personnel. This was brutally underscored by the recent beating of a gay man in a North Carolina bar by soldiers, by no means the first such incident.

Such incidents make it clear that the armed services have failed to provide adequate citizenship education. Military enlistees should be required to complete a course in the values of tolerance and multicultural living as part of their basic training.

Before they can serve, all military personnel should demonstrate a clear understanding of the dimensions of prejudice and bigotry, so they will have a sense of what the freedom they may be called to defend is all about. Tolerance training can not only help deprogram homophobia, but also promote mutual understanding among soldiers of different races, religions and cultures.

In all fairness to the military, it must be admitted that citizenship education is sorely lacking throughout the nation's educational system. Otherwise the military wouldn't be having this problem. Even before a person is old enough to join the military, they should be taught about the dangers of bigotry, intolerance, and prejudice in civics and citizenship classes in elementary and secondary school.

Some forward-looking U.S. corporations, such as Xerox, AT&T and Levi-Strauss, have provided educational programs to eradicate homophobia and other forms of bigotry from their labor force. An institution as important to the nation as the armed forces should do no less.

C O M M E N T S

Marietta Daily Journal
580 Fairground St.
Marietta, GA

Dear Editor,

The Marietta Daily Journal recently decided to stop running the comic strip, "For Better or For Worse" in which a teenager reveals he is gay. What is it about a gay character that makes it necessary to pull this comic strip? Is a gay character too offensive to acknowledge? Perhaps a gay character introduces too much reality amidst a pageful of talking animals, infants and Neanderthals. Is

it that the Journal's readers need to be protected from controversial fictional characters, or is it more likely that the Journal itself needs protection from paying subscribers and advertisers who would take issue with such characters?

Perhaps the comic page is no place for even a fictional character who chooses to live in sin. Besides, the introduction of such a character could lead to familiarization and would only serve to mainstream a group of people who some believe must be kept invisible.

The hearings will show that many other nations allow Gays and Lesbians to serve in their armed services with no apparent problems. Why should the U.S. be any different?

Have we forgotten that American democracy was founded to promote freedom from persecution? All forms of discrimination, whether based on religion, ethnicity, disability, age, sex or sexual orientation, are unAmerican. Any law which denies millions of hard-working, productive, tax-paying citizens equal rights because of their sexual orientation is unworthy of a great democracy.

Somehow we have to promote a stronger sense of justice among American youth, so they will be able to grow into mature adults, free from the narrow attitudes and fearful prejudices that encourage polarization and disunity. We have got to break the destructive ignorance-fear-hatred-violence chain that has divided Americans into "us and them" camps for so long.

When future social historians look back on the current debate about the ban on lesbian and gay people in the military, they will likely shake their heads in wonder at the ignorance, denial and hypocrisy marshalled in arguments defending the ban.

Lifting the ban on lesbians and gays in the military is but another step in America's journey to true democracy, where every citizen has full civil and human rights.

Coretta Scott King is president of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

Heaven forbid the comic page be a place where perceived anti-Christian notions are given any credence. An anti-Christian comic page? ...no way! At least not on the same page where we all get to find out how our lives are predisposed, based on our birth signs. Now there's a perfectly logical, Christian and controversy-free subject that we should all be exposed to.

Thank you Journal, for exercising such good judgment.

Dan Lazarus
Marietta



Sovies

Continued from page 3

Public Enemy #1 Award.

"We didn't take the time or the money to engrave an award for him," quipped Woolard, "but I'll send him the card [containing the winner's name], and tell him you sent it."

Southern Voice readers also created an award of their own, writing in Paul Stone as the Most Community Minded Leather Person.

In addition to the awards and the Armorettes, the audience was also treated to vocal groups Sighs and Voices. Sighs (Jay Rogers, Dik Holland and Patrick Hutchinson) performed a humorously choreographed "My Guy," while Voices sang a medley of songs from Hutchinson and Dan Pruitt's "Different" and "The Harvey Milk Show."

The songs, the nominees, the award recipients and the emcees all combined to make the Awards show a strong display of connection within Atlanta's diverse lesbian and gay communities. With superlatives abounding, the Southern Voice staff was overwhelmingly

pleased with the event.

"I could not ask for [the evening] to have been any better than it was," said SoVo editor Chris Cash. "I can't even imagine it."

General manager VanderEls agreed. "It was fantastic. To the people who weren't there," she said, "boy, did you miss it."

"But you'll have the chance next year," added Cash.

VanderEls heaped praise upon the many volunteers who made the event possible. "George [Rogan, of Lambda] and Ken [Gallups, of ALGPC] coordinated all the volunteers," she said, "and they did a great job. It couldn't have happened without them."

Both Cash and VanderEls stressed that it couldn't have happened without Southern Voice readers as well.

"These were [the readers'] awards, in reality," said Cash. "They were responsible from the beginning."

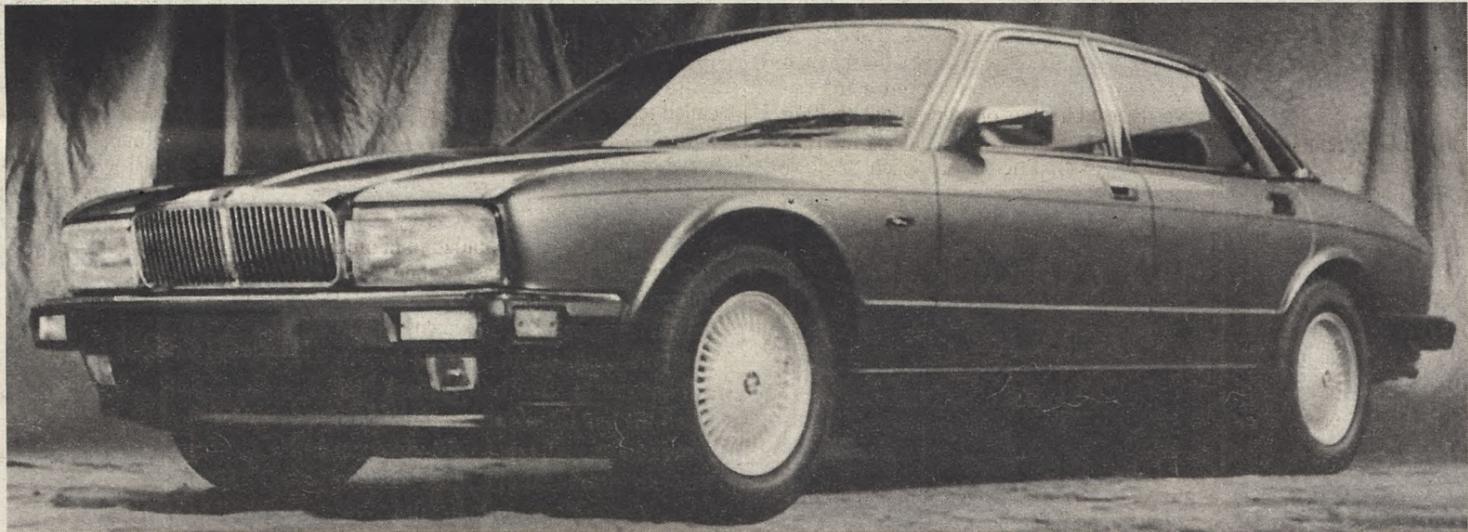
Other "Sovie" recipients were: Most Community Minded Business: Brushstrokes; Most Fun Social Organization: Interact; Atlanta's Hottest Event: Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride; Most Effective AIDS Organization: Project Open



Mona Bennett, voted Hippest Het, receives her award from emcee Cathy Woolard.

Hand; Most Welcoming Religious Organization: First MCC; Most Community Minded Drag Personality: Charlie Brown; Most Community Minded Arts Organization: SAME; Most Entertaining Entertainer: Angela Motter; Community Volunteer Extraordinaire: Larry Pellegrini; Atlanta's Hottest Bar: the Armory; Most Community Minded Bar: Burkhart's; Community's Closest Political Ally: State Sen. Ron Slotin.
K C WILDMOON

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Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

In the Spring, a Young Queer's Fancy...

Spring has sprung in Atlanta, and blizzard or no, it's breathtaking as always. Tulips, dogwoods and azaleas dance in the spring wind. Aries the Ram rides high in the heavens, sap is running in the trees, and the Gay Male Quest For the Boyfriend du Jour is on in full force.

One place to taste the frenzy is Wednesday nights at The Heretic, where the ever-popular Group Grope continues to draw crowds of shirtless twenty-somethings enacting their imagined vision of what the Gay Good Old Days must have been like.

But people in our community act horrified when the topic of Heretical Wednesdays arises. I have more than one friend who gets righteously indignant when Nancy Schaefer starts going on about men with 500 anonymous sexual encounters a year. For them, anyone who might participate in such behavior becomes a traitor to our cause, and earns the mother of all epithets—a "slut."

These signs of a reemergent Puritanism sex-negativity scare me. I attribute much of it to AIDS, which has profoundly confused our community sexually. Doesn't a fatal, incurable, sexually transmitted disease make sex bad? If so, then you should stop having it, shouldn't you? But, beware of heterosexual logic—it's not that simple.

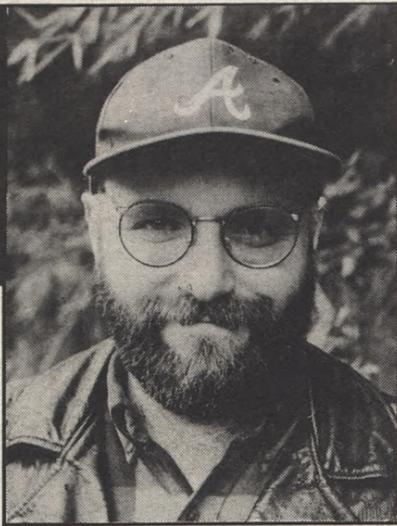
Look at the similar confusion in safe sex recommendations, drawn up by straight male epidemiologists, of course. They simultaneously suggested using condoms and having fewer sex partners. But wait—if you use condoms, why do you need to limit the number of partners? No reason, unless someone's trying to slip a bit of moralizing in amongst the health advice.

The sex-positive amongst us keep discovering re-erected walls (pardon the pun), ones we thought had already been breached, being rebuilt by the same people who called sex evil long before AIDS showed up. "If you'd only asked in 1983, we'd have told you how wicked your behavior is, and you wouldn't be dying now." I hoped we'd be done with the concept of "innocent" and "guilty" victims of a virus by now.

In this arena, things have changed only marginally since I trundled out of the closet nine years ago. As a community, unfortunately, we never came to consensus that our mission was to liberate society from sexual stereotypes. After learning the lessons of the Sexual Revolution, AIDS showed up and killed many sex-positive gay men. And now we once again have to remind society that there is no Constitutional provision decertifying promiscuous people from civil rights protection.

For gay men, I've always seen our choice as lying between celibacy and sexual activity. Logic tells you that celibacy is the only completely safe option. If you choose to have any sex, from one encounter to one thousand, then you've decided that sex is important enough to justify some level of risk, and that's when safe sex becomes your guide and imperative.

An instructive event along these lines,



a culmination of sorts, happened for me on my 34th birthday. Out at the bar that night, I noticed first one person, and then another with whom I had shared a previous erotic moment. As I kept looking, it started to seem like a reunion, then a convention, and before I stopped counting, I was further into double figures than I am willing to admit in print. They ran the gamut—from the ex-s I adore to people I can't even make eye contact with, from mistakes to treasures, from people I learned from to people I taught something to.

Ever since then, I've tried to figure out what to make of that evening. Should I have been mortified? Bemused? Entertained? Exhilarated? Jubilant?

The answer I recently arrived at is to look at that night as a most precious birthday gift. Society teaches us that sex is about one thing only (reproduction) which of course doesn't keep it from being covertly used for lots of other things (selling beer, subjugating women and scaring fundamentalists). But for me, each of those sexual encounters was about something different—for some it was intimacy, others companionship or life-partnership or play or therapy or boredom or learning to see through appearance and drag or learning to make better choices.

Sex, I learned, is about a vast panoply of things, from a release of energy to a window into the soul, from a vision of light to a shot in the dark, from old pain to new joy. When we try to limit sex to one thing, we limit ourselves, and end up limiting our souls in the process.

To those people who survived sex in the 1980s and now lament their checkered pasts, I want to ask, "What, specifically, is your problem?" Was the sex bad in some way—abusive, compulsive, done out of need and not in celebration? Did you learn nothing from it? Did you inject no pleasure into someone else's life, no energy into the Universe, no truth or trust or play or spirit? Did you gain no self-understanding? If not, then you may be right to regret all those lost bodily fluids. But don't dismiss all that experience, all those people, all that energy and power and pleasure, because society wants to make you ashamed of it.

Ultimately, should one of those right-wingers corner me on a TV talk show and call me a promiscuous slut, I hope I have the presence of mind to look straight into their eyes and say, "Yes, and what of it?" and not even worry that I just mortified my mother and cost us 20 votes in Congress. Until we reach that point, civil rights laws will be as useless to us as sodomy laws are to straight people—unenforceable efforts to change minds.

Until then, those Boys of Spring at the Heretic are truly on a Mission from the Goddess.

AL COTTON

L E T T E R S

Pridgen trial outcome makes it okay to gay bash

To the Editor:

As I write this, I am angry. Three Marines who were accused of beating a gay man in North Carolina have just been acquitted. The news media stated that the prosecution was unable to provide proof of the attack. Even though there was enough cause to make the arrests, there was not enough evidence to warrant a conviction, according to CNN Headline News.

Part of me wants to hold to the belief that the hatred that fills those three Marines is isolated, and after a few weeks, life will return to the generally apathetic, "I am concerned but I'll stay out" attitude that permeates so much of society. And possibly that some non-gay persons will realize the high incidence of hate crimes and begin to voice opposition to the violence perpetrated not only on Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals, but on all people as well.

But, as a Gay man, there is another part of me that is frightened. Frightened of "Randy Redneck" who thinks that since three Marines will not be held accountable for their actions, it will be perfectly acceptable for him to do some "fag-bashing" on a Saturday night.

And what recourse do we have? Many hate crimes are not reported because the "victims" are afraid to state their sexual orientation, or are afraid that if the perpetrator is apprehended, their sexual orientation will be called to light. There was always hope that, through our legal system, justice would always prevail. Recently, justice has become quite gray.

So, what to do? Are riots by the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual population in order? I think not. Violence against anyone is wrong. But protection of one's self is perfectly legal and appropriate. Some women have been carrying handguns for protection for years.

Maybe it is time for a push in the community for "Protection Awareness."

If guns frighten someone, there is mace or pepperguard sprays. There are self-defense classes also. There is safety in numbers; never travel or party alone. Be aware of your surroundings.

It is sad that the times have come to this.

James M. Wilson
Lawrenceville, GA

Rights yes, military no

To the Editor:

Thanks for the comment in Dish's column on April 8 questioning why anyone would want to serve in the military. I am a straight male that has to thank a gay therapist, and a mostly gay male survivors of sexual abuse group, for my still being among the living.

My childhood history led me to hate authority and it led me to the anti-Vietnam movement. From genocide against Native Americans to Bush's "New World Order," our military has been used to promote aggression, prop up dictators and in general be used as a tool of a system more interested in profit than human need.

While I understand it's a democratic right for gays and lesbians to participate fully in every aspect of our society, it's a contradiction to me to want to serve a system that generates racism, sexism, homophobia and so many other ills of this society.

Some psychologists think the violence we act out as a nation is only an extension of the violence found in so many of our homes. I know I can't rest until we have a society where children are nurtured and protected, our diversity is seen as a strength and our foreign policy is a reflection of our concern for people not domination.

In unity,
Paul McLennan

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BY ANDREA NATALIE



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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Veanne Jones and Jean Donald will celebrate nine fabulous years together on April 22. They will start with a quiet evening at home followed by a weekend of outdoor camping (I'm assuming you mean the kind done in tents). Happy Anniversary you two!



Veanne Jones and Jean Donald will celebrate nine fabulous years together on April 22nd.

BIRTHDAYS

I don't know what it is, but since I started writing his column my friends have stopped announcing their birthdays around me. However, being the good queen that I am, I *always* find out. So...

Happy Belated Birthday to my lunch buddy Bill Buschman. Bill hit another post-30 milestone back on March 30. This time around your birthday is going into my permanent calendar. Happy Birthday!

And another HBB goes out to my friend Lee Hand. His birthday was April 7. I'm sure Lee spent his natal day with his hands all over someone. Actually Lee spends every day that way...he's a massage therapist. Keep those fingers limber, Lee!

Happy Birthday (on time) to David Ragland of Huntsville, Alabama. David will hit the big 4-0 (ouch!) on April 28 and will celebrate with a limo tour of the finer gay spots in Huntsville. Let me know if there's a seat available in that limo, David. I might want to join this party! Happy Birthday...and thanks for using the Occasions Voice Mailbox!

CELEBRITY OCCASIONS

Local high school student Chance Claar was included in an interview on the Jane Pratt Show (Lifetime network) on Friday, April 16. The subject of the show was Homophobia in High School and College Campuses. Chance is a senior at Ben Franklin Academy and reports that she is out and the school is "really cool about it." She did phone this in late, but knowing Lifetime the show will probably be repeated. Watch Saturday listings in June or July for a possible rerun. Congratulations, Chance!

OCCASION OF OUR LIFE

The biggest Occasion of our lives is just around the corner. On Sunday, April 25 please make every effort possible to join more than one million of your brothers and sisters in what is sure to be the largest demonstration this country has ever seen. There is strength in numbers so let's show this country just how strong we really are!

And don't forget about the Commitment Ceremony on Saturday, April 24. Maybe this time next year we'll have to devote a whole page to the anniversaries?! In fact, if you do participate in the D.C. Commitment Ceremony, how about letting us know about it when you get back home so we can tell everyone about your special day.

MORE THANKS

I would like to say a special Thank You to the three unidentified people who phoned in get well wishes to me on the Occasions Hotline. My recovery is almost complete and is definitely ahead of schedule and it's thanks to people like you!

MARK du PONT

Looks like I'm going to have to start pounding the pavement to round up more Occasions! You can help me avoid exhaustion by phoning in your special notice to the Occasions Voice Mailbox at (404) 325-7600. We also accept notices in writing at the Southern Voice office. All notices will be published, but please try to give us two weeks notice.

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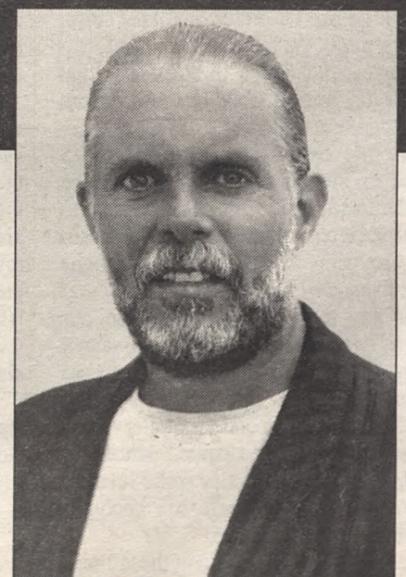
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Paradox and Perversity in Gay Lives Today

An interview with Frank Browning,
author of "The Culture of Desire"

Go figure. After years of disruption and discord inside what we seem to want to call the gay and lesbian "community," there finally seems to be a feeling of coming together. A coalescing around common issues—AIDS, gays in the military, support for Bill Clinton.

Into this apparent calm, storms National Public Radio correspondent Frank Browning with his lucid and well-constructed "The Culture of Desire: Paradox and Perversity in Gay Lives Today" (Crown Publishers).

Browning spent several years touring the country talking to gay men (he admits that his tome gives lesbians short shrift) to determine how they connect, what they have in common. His conclusions about how gay men do (and don't) come together today are distinctly challenging to the mindset that sees us all one big happy homo family.

Southern Voice columnist Al Cotton spoke to Browning in San Francisco.

AC: Many books have been written that document a person's travels around the country to "find" the gay community. How do you see your book in relation to others of that genre?

FB: I wanted to explore a set of ideas, and look at certain types of behavior around the country. For instance, I was interested in tribal gatherings, which don't have to be sacred; they can also be fun. I had heard about Hotlanta, and wanted to get some sense of the dynamic around the urge to get together. I think the idea of a gay party is quite different from other parties.

When I went to Miami, it was not to see a pretty place with a lot of butch boys; it was to study the way Latino gay men have a distinct understanding of family that I didn't see in Anglo or African-American communities—the notion of the family as a bulwark of civil pride and solidarity, a principal instrument through which the immigrant preserves space and memory. If I want to write about Americans' contemporary conundrum with the family, and I want to address it in gay terms, I need to go to a place where family is of critical importance.

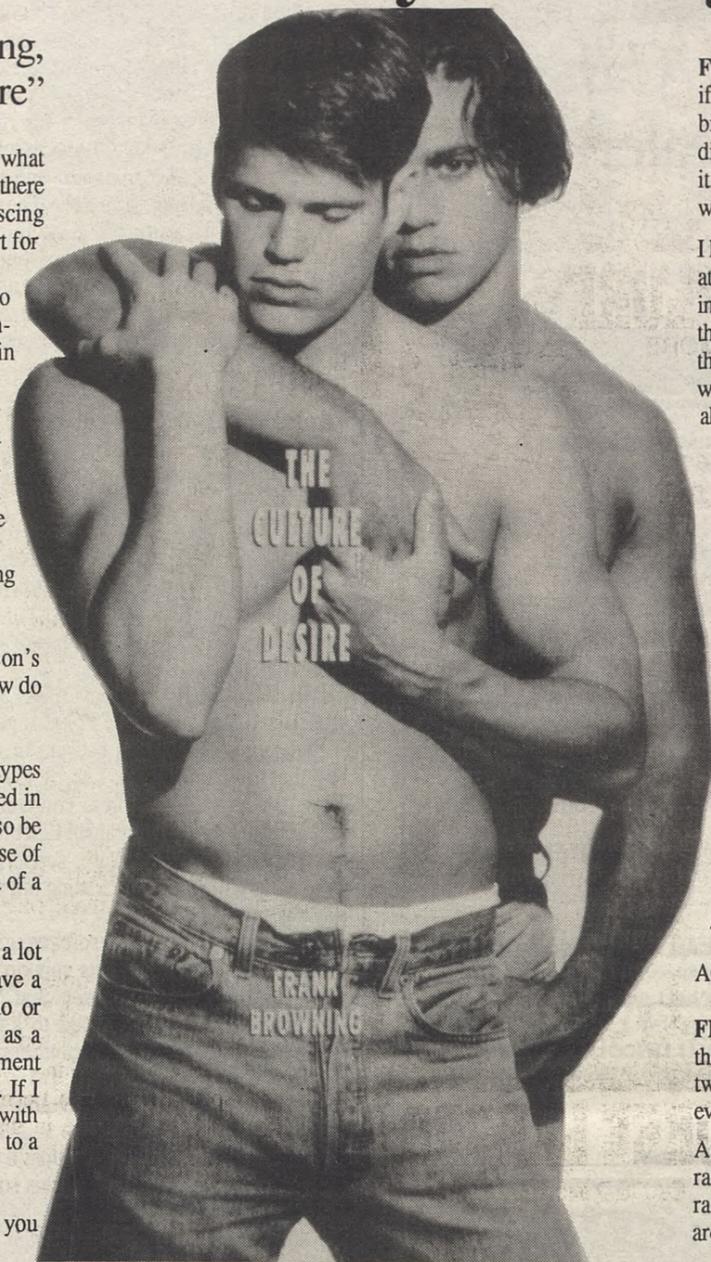
AC: Did you have a particular question in mind when you started?

FB: How do we think about what makes culture in America? I don't know what culture means in America. I would argue that gay men have a dream of a culture, which is about as much as any population in America gets. If your parents are a Russian, Ashkenaze Jew married to a second generation Japanese and you are cohabitating with a Latino, what is your culture?

Gay people, as a function of the way we are constrained to deal with the fate of inhabiting a flesh that doesn't perform according to convention scripts of romance, are much more self-conscious. Gays are constrained more than others to realize that the rituals of personal and collective identification are a set of artful dodges.

AC: I've found it hard even to write questions for you without using the word community. Did you ever come up with a definitive word to describe us? Lifestyle? Community? Culture?

FB: Lifestyle is about how you spend your money, how you decorate your house, where you live, etc. It's a "straight people" word to use when you're queasy about people sucking dick.



As for community, words really do mean things, and the word community describes a piece of earth on which people have built settlements and behave a certain set of ways. Community is a place, and phrases like gay community, and especially women's community, are ludicrous.

Culture is closer, but still inadequate. But it is also inadequate to describe America as well.

AC: Who did you write this book for?

FB: Sentient, literate human beings, and for myself. What I was attempting to do was something rather more akin to fiction, where you don't directly tell the reader what you're doing. If you would, talk about desire in its more intimate and private instances—there's too much ambiguity to do it any other way.

AC: I thought the sections about sex in Golden Gate Park and with your friend Tommy Biscotto beautifully expressed the way sex can be lots of different things—raw, tender, playful, thrilling. Did it make you nervous to write so frankly?

FB: Sure, but it seemed utterly dishonest not to. My editor asked if I was sure I wanted to do this—"don't you think you're going a bit too far?" I said "No, if I'm going to talk about what is so disturbing to the straight world about us, it's important that I do it." One reviewer, in The Advocate, called it "lurid." Lurid? That would suggest I didn't like it.

I keep going back to my story of the two liberal-minded reporters at NPR who read about gay issues, and said "Oh, this is disgusting," and "I don't know why they have to talk about it." I always thought that was bigoted and patronizing, but I realized finally that it was about much more than that, it was about erasing a whole division of human experience. It was about something akin to ethnic cleansing.

AC: Your story about Reed Greer and the Davids—friends and lovers he's lost to AIDS—portrayed a great deal of emotional detail about the way gay men bond, and cope in the 90s.

FB: The interrelation of sex, loss, death, caring, use of the body as an instrument of reassurance, is territory that is hard to get at, it scares people. It's easy to be made too concrete.

Someone came up after a reading in Los Angeles and wanted to talk. So we hung out, talked, spent some time snuggling for a while. We didn't have sex, but there was a sense that we could be like cats snuggling up in a bed.

Can men and women do that? Perhaps in some world where the power balance wasn't so awful, where the risk of physical violence wasn't so great. This is something that at this moment in American life is almost exclusively restricted to gay men.

AC: What's your take on the gay south?

FB: Well, I'm from Kentucky, and though Kentucky is not fully the South, it is a place that embraces orneriness and eccentricity, two words that I value, far more than Washington or perhaps even Los Angeles.

Atlanta, for the two weekends I have spent there, seems friendly, racially open. Compared to Washington there was vastly less racial hostility. Now, I know enough about the South that there are things going on under the surface that the visitor doesn't see.

My Hotlanta raft had three black men and one other white man, and I specifically wanted to find myself in that setting. My notion of how you look at the center, is that you find as smart a place as you can on the edge. That was my way of trying to get a vantage point on something that was much whiter than anything I've ever experienced.

Hotlanta in some ways felt an awful lot like a fraternity rush party—all those people with the same physical manner, the same body type, not too many dark people. And there is a sweetness about it that I just liked enormously. I had very complicated feelings about Hotlanta—countercultural whiplash.

AC: I loved your quote from Oscar Wilde: "What the paradox was to me in the sphere of thought, perversity became to me in the sphere of passion."

FB: I'm glad you liked it. Some people in Washington were quite upset about that word, perversity. But that tells you more about Washington. A real Southerner understands perversity.

AL COTTON



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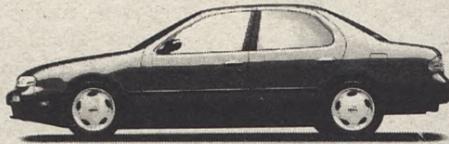
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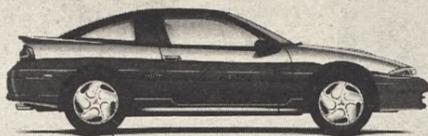
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RIGHT WATCH

Alaska is the next locale in the continuing fight for the rights of lesbians and gays to live without discrimination. This week, voters in Anchorage will take to the polls to vote on a referendum that would repeal a gay rights ordinance passed by the city Assembly in January. Three days after it passed, the measure was vetoed by Mayor Tom Fink. The Assembly overrode his veto, but a petition spearheaded by Citizens to Repeal the Homosexual Ordinance collected 20,000 signatures in a month to put the measure on the April 20 ballot. The ordinance has been suspended until the vote takes place.

While no formal polls have been done, Alaskans for Civil Rights says public opinion is split 50-50. An informal shopping mall survey in Anchorage by The Associated Press backs that up.

Six hundred supporters of the ordinance gathered on April 10 in Anchorage. Proponents included former Anchorage Mayor Tony Knowles and former state Sen. Arliss Strugulewski, the Republican party's gubernatorial candidate in 1990.

In Washington, a gay rights measure that passed the state House failed to get out of a Senate committee, but backers of the law say they're not done yet. Led by Gov. Mike Lowry, who said at a press conference that Republican President Abraham Lincoln would have voted for the measure, supporters say they will try to amend an existing bill with the gay rights measure.

Normally non-political software giant Microsoft Corp. has thrown its support behind the measure, writing to senators that "legislation such as [this] is important to a thriving and nondiscriminatory work environment."

Gov. Cecil Andrus of Idaho continues his opposition to an anti-gay initiative drive in that state, telling a call-in radio audience that the initiative "is nothing more than a generation of hate and bigotry within this state, and we don't need it."

After an opinion last month from Idaho's attorney general that their proposed anti-gay law would not pass constitutional muster, the Idaho Citizens Alliance has submitted a revised version that deletes a requirement that schools refrain from teaching homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle, instead permitting "age-appropriate" discussions.

The new version deletes its designation as the "Idaho Civil Rights Act," denies legal recognition of same-sex marriages, and bans any government-sponsored attempt to portray homosexuality as acceptable. It also includes a provision against hiring and firing based on private sexual behavior, but the head of the Idaho ACLU legal committee, George Patterson, says that the section is linked to compliance with other provisions forbidding the acceptability of homosexuality and will permit employment discrimination. The ACLU



Kathleen Metcalf, with Alaskans for Civil Rights, is fighting to prevent the gay rights ordinance which was passed by the Anchorage Assembly earlier this year from being repealed.

has asked Attorney General Larry EchoHawk to issue an opinion on the new version.

In Oregon, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment and housing is on its way to the state Senate after overwhelmingly favorable testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Among those testifying for the measure was Oregon National Guard Lt. Elli Work, who said she was risking her military career and would have to face her commanding officers after disclosing her homosexuality for the first time at last week's hearing.

In Colorado, a group of Colorado Springs residents have joined forces to oppose boycott efforts by both gay rights supporters and opponents. "A Voice of Reason" is made up largely of business leaders. Colorado for Family Values, sponsors of Amendment 2, recently called for a boycott of business that have gay rights policies.

World Youth Day, a religious conference set for Aug. 11-15 in Denver, has refused to sign a contract with the city because of a clause requiring that it not discriminate against gays and lesbians contracted to work at the conference. The Colorado Council of Churches has criticized the refusal.

The Latin American Studies Association has joined the Colorado boycott, voting to cancel its plans to hold its 1995 International Congress in Denver.

And the Rhode Island Senate Judiciary Committee has passed a gay rights measure, sending it to the full Senate for debate. A similar bill has been held up in the House Judiciary Committee for later debate.

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Marines acquitted in Pridgen trial; judge rules incident a bar brawl

Wilmington, NC—The acquittal of three Marines charged with assaulting patrons outside a gay bar sends a message that attacks on gays will go unpunished, a gay activist said April 14.

In a case that brought national attention when it came on the heels of President Clinton's announcement of his intention to lift the ban on gays in the military, Judge Jacqueline Morris-Goodson, who heard the case without a jury, said prosecutors failed to prove the fight was anything more than a bar brawl.

Following the verdict, the defendants rushed out of the courthouse and waved as they were driven away. They didn't speak to reporters but appeared happy, hugging their lawyers and each other after the verdict was read.

"I'm very happy it's done with," said Guy Watkins of Siler City, the father of one Marine. "I think they got a fair trial."

Pridgen said he was disappointed by the verdict but would pursue a civil suit to seek damages from the three Marines.

"I hope justice will be served in the civil suit," Pridgen said in a brief statement.

Mab Segrest of the North Carolina Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality said she was worried about how last week's verdict would be interpreted.

"We don't want it to seem like a green light that it's OK to beat up gay people," Segrest said. "We also hope the governor and heads of military bases across North Carolina make it clear that military people stationed here are not expected to go on violent rampages."

Prosecutors alleged that on Jan. 30 the three Marines kicked and beat three men at Mickey Ratz, a Wilmington gay bar.

Lance Cpls. Walter Watkins III, 26; Patrick Cardone, 23; and Colin Hunt, 20, were charged with simple assault and faced up to 30 days in jail or a \$50 fine. The fight occurred on the evening that President Clinton said he wanted to lift the ban on gays in the military.

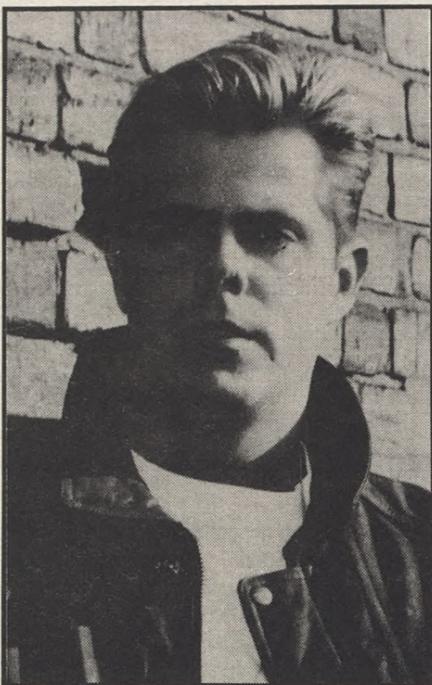
Crae Pridgen, the most severely injured man, had testified his attackers yelled, "Clinton must pay!" during the melee.

The Marines denied saying anything about Clinton. And defense attorneys said Pridgen picked a fight and that the Marines fought in self-defense.

Pridgen's undoing hinged on the testimony of a Mickey Ratz employee, who testified that Pridgen had a bad temper and a reputation for fighting.

"He's tried to start fights with me and other people on occasions," said Harold Bradley. "His reputation's really not good."

Bradley said Pridgen rushed to the front of the bar when he heard there was trouble. Pridgen testified last week that he didn't seek a fight and was trying to leave when he was dragged outside and beaten.



After defense attorneys used his past record to taint his credibility, Crae Pridgen said he felt as if he had been the one on trial. The Marines now face a civil lawsuit filed on behalf of Pridgen by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

"If he had stayed where he was, nothing would have happened," Bradley said. "...It wasn't a gay bashing. It was just a regular bar fight."

Following the trial, Pridgen had a heated encounter April 14 with a defense attorney on NBC-TV's "Today" show.

"He painted me as a criminal and all I was was a victim," he said. "I was the one put on trial, not these three Marines."

"I'm going to be charitable," responded attorney John Burney. "I'm not going to call him what he is. He speaks with a forked tongue."

Defense attorneys had used Pridgen's past record against him in trial, bringing out convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a suspended license. As if to underscore the defense tactic, just minutes before the verdict was announced, Pridgen was arrested in court on a 1992 bad check charge.

Capt. Todd Yeatts, a spokesman for Camp Lejeune, where the Marines were stationed, said the Marine Corps doesn't "condone Marines being involved in any kind of violence."

Maj. Jay Farrar said base officials were continuing their investigation of the incident, pending the outcome of another assault trial involving two of the men. Cardone and Watkins are charged in an incident that happened at a Jacksonville bar the night before the Wilmington fight. That case will be heard April 22.

The Marines also face a civil lawsuit on behalf of Pridgen, filed by the Southern Poverty Law Center. The lawsuit said Pridgen was the victim of a hate crime and should receive unspecified damages.

ESTES THOMPSON

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HNS Position Statement

Support of President Clinton in "Lifting the ban on Gays in the Military"

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- C. HNS recognizes that all Americans need to take personal responsibility for their behavior toward others.
- D. HNS upholds and believe in being an example for others in providing a firm stance and maintaining a solid commitment to the efforts of President Clinton to lift the ban on restricting homosexuals from military service. Fear should never be a basis for corporate or governmental policy.



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EYE ON THE MILITARY

Things are getting interesting in the gays in the military debate. Randy Shilts, author of "And the Band Played On," reports in his newest book that Retired **Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf**, who publicly defended the military's ban on gays, said privately that he knew of several excellent gay soldiers and that it "would be fine with him" if the policy were changed. Shilts wrote in "Conduct Unbecoming: Lesbians and Gays in the U.S. Military" that Schwarzkopf, who was the U.S. Commander in Operation Desert Storm, made the comments to a civil rights attorney.



General Colin Powell will talk about gays in the military at the Harvard commencement on June 10.

A University of Massachusetts professor has offered a \$10,000 reward to the first person who reliably outs a four-star military officer, a sitting member of the U.S. Supreme Court, or a living American Roman Catholic cardinal. William Percy, who has co-authored a book on outing, said that to qualify for the reward, outing must take place in the mass media and in a way that "neither the person outed nor his or her colleagues can effectively deny the accusation."

Meanwhile, the newly formed Nathan Hale Brigade is collecting names of anti-gay gay congressmen. The names will be made public should congress vote the military ban into law.

Campaign for Military Service director **Thomas Stoddard** created a stir when he said on CNBC's John McLaughlin Show that "It's not appropriate to have same-sex dancing on base." Stoddard was answering a question about what behaviors constitute "conduct unbecoming an officer," and made the comment after McLaughlin requested some clarification. Queer Nation/National Capital immediately called on Stoddard to stress that "codes of conduct should apply equally to heterosexuals and homosexuals."

Stoddard had not released a comment on the incident by press time.

A speech by a California congressman who opposes gays in the military was disrupted by four lesbians, including one who threw a chair. There were shouts and general confusion for a short period before the four women were ushered out of last week's speech by Congressman William Thomas to a Bakersfield American Legion post.

Gays in the military will be a topic of Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair **Gen. Colin Powell** when he addresses Harvard graduates at the June 10 commencement. Powell opposes the plan to lift the ban, a position not shared by the university or its president, Neil L. Rudenstine.

"The exclusionary policy is one that I myself strongly oppose," Rudenstine said in a statement praising Powell. By way of explaining the choice of Powell as a speaker, Rudenstine said only that the general had "an outstanding record of distinguished service to

the nation...played a crucial role in helping to shape global policy...and he's also a thoughtful and eloquent speaker."

An unnamed sailor who claimed that Airman Terry Helvey had beaten **Seaman Allen Schindler** to death on Oct. 27 because of a lovers' quarrel has failed a polygraph and admitted that he fabricated the story. The witness had said that he had had sexual relations with Helvey, and that Helvey had sexual relations with Schindler, but retracted those statements after the failed polygraph. Pentagon sources told the Washington Times that the sailor may be discharged because he acknowledged his homosexuality.

Helvey's court martial is scheduled to begin later this month. Defense attorneys have asked for a delay and a change of venue because of publicity surrounding the case.

An Air Force officer has been found guilty of sodomy and going to an off-limits nightclub on the testimony of the civilian ex-lover of his roommate. Capt. Troy Carlyle faces up to seven years in prison, dismissal from the Air Force and forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

The six-officer panel acquitted Carlyle of charges that he smoked marijuana, prompting defense attorney Mark Waple to ask the military judge, Lt. Col William S. Colwell, to reverse the sodomy conviction. Waple charged that the sodomy conviction was inconsistent with the acquittal on the marijuana charge since evidence for both came from the same witness.

Colwell has not ruled on the motion. He has asked for written statements on it, as well as a motion to delay sentencing until after the Department of Defense reviews its policy on excluding gays from the military.

Carlyle was charged under a military law that makes sodomy illegal.



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MOW will get mall—for price

Washington, DC—Organizers of the April 25 March on Washington had to pledge \$300,000 to repair the lawn on the National Mall in order to use it for the April 25 demonstration, which is expected to draw more than 1 million people.

The government is requiring the organizers to put up money in advance for repairing the grass—the first time such a condition has been imposed on political demonstrators.

Anonymous donors have agreed to sign a \$300,000 letter of credit that would be used to replace the grass on the Mall if it is damaged in the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation.

"We're at the position now that we need to have the demonstration occur," Billy Hileman, one of the event's co-chairs, said last week. "I will state very emphatically that it was not our idea...to pay to exercise free speech."

Sandra Alley, a spokeswoman for the National Park Service, which maintains the Mall, said organizers of festivals and commercial events there are regularly required to put up cash guarantees.

But she said this is the first time a group will put up money before it can exercise free speech on the popular strip of public land that runs from the Capitol to the Washington Monument.

The requirement was imposed for practical reasons, according to Alley. The Mall was recently reseeded and has been closed off.

"Your ability to express your First Amendment rights is not based upon your ability to pay," Alley said.

President Clinton's inaugural committee had paid to reseed the Mall after it was damaged by inauguration festivities in January. The Park Service announced the Mall would be closed until June 1.

In February, the service refused to give the gay march organizers a permit for the Mall.

The Park Service did give them permits for activity on other pieces of public lands, including the Ellipse behind the White House and the Washington Monument grounds.

But Gregory Adams, a spokesman for the march's organizing committee, said the group wanted access to the Mall because of its symbolism and because so many demonstrators are expected.

"Those grounds have become linked with practically every civil rights demonstration that's ever occurred," he said.

The solution was brokered by Rep. Gerry Studds, D-Mass., who is openly gay.

Hileman said the MOW office was inundated with calls from people who offered not only to pay to reseed the Mall but to perform the actual labor.

NAMES Quilt will be displayed on Mall

The decision to allow marchers on the Mall will also allow the NAMES Project's new AIDS Memorial Quilt to be displayed there throughout the weekend of the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation. Because the new Quilt will be in the center of the March itself, the NAMES Project anticipates a half-million visitors specifically for the Quilt and accordingly has issued an urgent call for additional volunteers.

The Quilt will be displayed on the Mall, in front of the Museum of Natural History, on Saturday and Sunday, April 24 and 25, from 10am to 6pm.

But the approval of the Mall site means the NAMES Project needs even more volunteers to help out with the historic two-day display. Volunteers may participate in a wide variety of activities, from helping people add new panels to the Quilt, to working at the panel check-in table, to being a Quilt monitor.

The new AIDS Memorial Quilt will actually be created throughout the weekend of the March as those attending the event bring new panels with them to Washington. The new panels will be added to the Quilt during its two-day display.

The first AIDS Memorial Quilt was created in conjunction with the 1987 March on Washington. Many of the panels to be added to the Quilt this month will honor people who were present at the 1987 March.

"The fact that many of the participants in the 1987 March are now commemorated in new panels will send the nation a dramatic message about the urgency of the AIDS crisis," said NAMES Project Executive Director Anthony Turney. Many people will be bringing a panel to honor someone they'd hoped to attend the 1993 March with, Turney added. "It will be quite bracing, even for those of us who are so familiar with the toll of AIDS, to see a new Quilt materialize before our eyes during this display."

Those seeking information on how to make a Quilt panel for the March on Washington Display may call (415) 882-5500. Those who wish to volunteer may call (415) 882-5500 in San Francisco or (202) 882-7753.

KIM I. MILLS

Holocaust Memorial Museum will remember gay victims of Nazi terror

Washington, D.C.—Local organizers for the upcoming March On Washington will hold a candlelight vigil at 6pm Friday, April 23, to commemorate the opening of the new U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum here.

The pre-march action provides a double-edged precedent: an event at a new, gay-relevant museum, and the first national observance of a gay symbol.

The edifice, on the edge of the Mall at 14th and Independence Ave., NW, will remember the forgotten gay victims of Nazi terror—the men with pink triangles.

Their struggle, survival—and all too often—their deaths, were chronicled in the play "Bent," in Heinz Heger's "The Men With the Pink Triangles" (Alyson, 1980), and is symbolized with buttons and other paraphernalia bearing the colorful symbol.

Traditional estimates are that about 15,000 gay or bisexual men were exterminated by the Nazis and about 50,000 were incarcerated in concentration camps, said Michael Beer, MOW's organizer for the vigil.

"We've never had a national demonstration

on the pink triangle," he said. "There are many, many things that need to be memorialized—Gypsies, Poles, Jews—but this will be the first time to focus on the pink triangle."

Speakers will include:

- Openly gay Barret Brick, head of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations

- Rabbi Michael Berenbaum, museum project director

- Openly gay Klaus Muller, who assembled the museum's gay display.

The museum will exhibit documents showing that people were killed by the Nazis for their homosexuality in a permanent display. "They're also doing a variety of other things to include gay and bi men in the museum," said Beer.

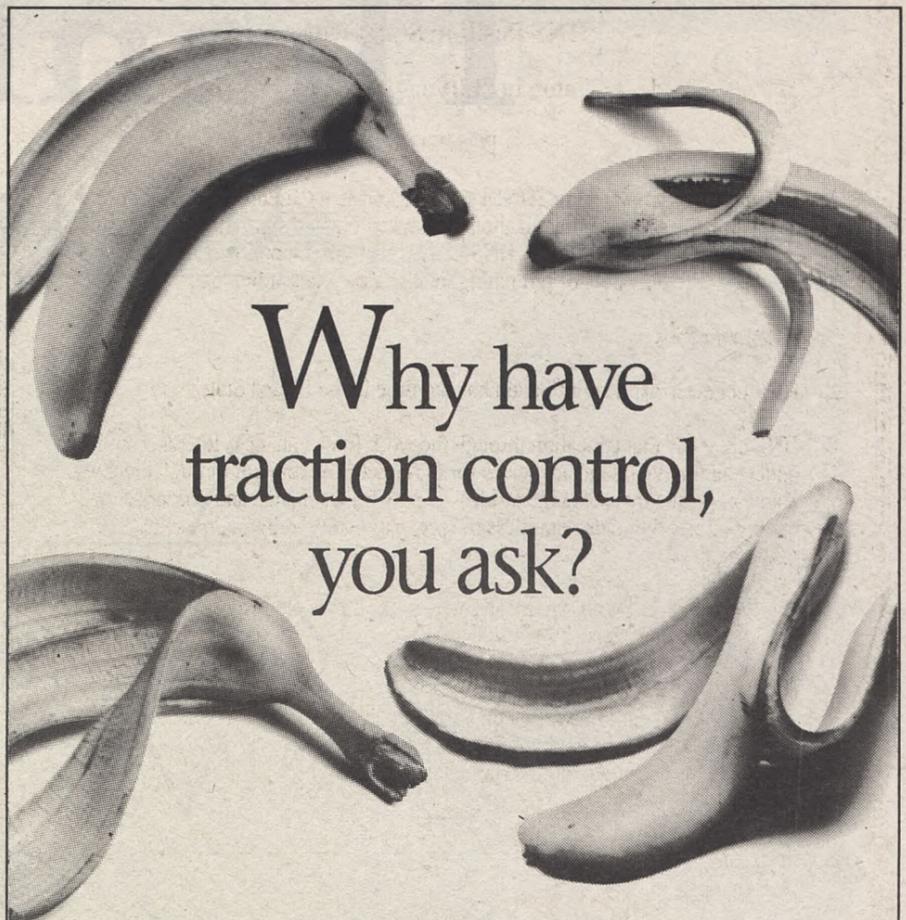
The fate of gay victims during the Holocaust have been "neglected or excluded" from past research, charged Muller, a German researcher of gay history at Holland's University of Amsterdam.

Over 500 people are expected at the April 23 vigil, Beer said. "It should be very impressive. We're getting calls from all over the country."

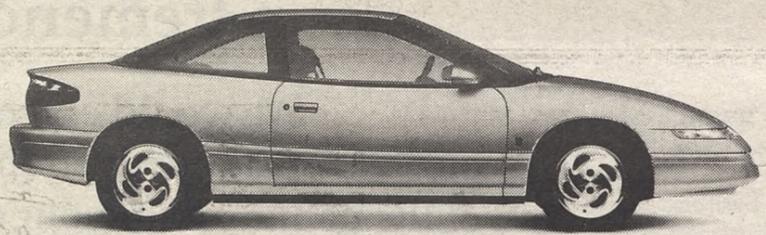
Close to 20,000 people were expected for the April 21 dedication ceremony. The museum officially opens the day after MOW.

The museum is accessible via the Smithsonian stop on DC's MetroRail system.

JOHN ZEH



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OUT & ABOUT

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ATLANTA NEIGHBORHOODS

INMAN PARK FESTIVAL

If you are one of those not going to the March on Washington, a great way to spend this weekend is ambling through Atlanta's first garden neighborhood for the 26th annual Inman Park Spring Festival. The Festival, April 22-25, includes a parade, an art exhibit, music, theater, arts and crafts, food, street vendors and a 5K and Fun Run. But possibly the highlight of the weekend is the tour of homes.

Inman Park, one of the last standing examples of Atlanta's turn-of-the-century Victorian architecture, has had its ups and downs including a restoration in the 1970s after nearly fifty years of steady decline. Driving through the area's quiet winding streets, spectators are transformed back to the days when the city's most affluent resided here. Asa G. Candler, founder of The Coca-Cola Company; Ernest Woodruff, financier and officer of The Coca-Cola Company, and his son Robert, a prominent Atlantan and patron of the arts; Wilbur Fiske Glenn, an influential Methodist minister; George King, founder of King Hardware; and Robert Winship, founder of Winship Machine Company all made Inman Park their home.

The brain child of Joel Hurt, one of Atlanta's most distinguished early builders, may have been years ahead of its time. He conceptualized a neighborhood connected with downtown by mass transit providing residents a quiet suburban lifestyle with access to another piece of his big picture, the South's first skyscraper office building, the Equitable, built in 1892. Evidence of the electric trolley system can still be seen at the Trolley Barn, a now defunct rail car house. Hurt named the neighborhood for his friend and business associate Samuel Inman, a financier and cotton broker.

James Forsyth Johnson, a relatively unknown landscape designer emulated legendary Frederick Law Olmstead's style when hired by Hurt to lay out Inman Park. The Olmstead influence is still evident on the picturesque streets and parks. Olmstead consulted with Hurt on Druid Hills, a later development. Some of Atlanta's greatest architects of the time designed homes in the neighborhood.

Inman Park was officially born in 1889 with a lot auction by Hurt's East Atlanta Land Company. Hurt himself was one of the first residents. Inman Park was laid out under strict specifications including a minimum cost per house at \$3,000, specified set-backs and zoning permitting solely residential.

1910 marks the end of the restrictions and the beginning of the construction of bungalows and apartments as well as small businesses. While the trend of less expensive abodes increased, the appeal of Inman Park's exclusive aristocratic lifestyle waned. The opening of Druid Hills provided a new mecca for Atlanta's upper class and Inman Park started its steady decline. The housing shortage of World War II produced smaller lots and a greater subdivision of Inman Park's Victorian homes into apartments. A rezoning ordinance in 1954 changed the neighborhood's zoning from primarily single family residential to low and high-rise apartments. The result—destruction of many old homes to make way for low rent apartment buildings. By 1968, Inman Park was a shadow of its former self with a high crime rate and an owner-occupancy rate of about fourteen percent.

Inman Park experienced a rebirth in the late 1960s. In February 1969, Atlanta decorator Robert Griggs bought and began renovating 866 Euclid Avenue. By 1971 about 10 other preservationists bought old homes and began fixing them up. Inman Park Restoration, Inc. (IPR) was founded in the fall of 1970. Initially, IPR focused on house restoration but soon it had bigger hurdles to overcome. Residents were faced with several uphill battles that threatened their lifestyle including fighting a proposed highway, the



Jim Piroli and Raymond Mancini's home on Edgewood Avenue is one of the 16 houses featured in the Inman Park Festival Tour of Homes this weekend.

neighborhood's high-use zoning, and the soon to be constructed MARTA.

The battles were fought and won and today, Inman Park stands as a monument to early Atlanta architecture boasting High Victorian Queen Anne, late Victorian Colonial and Classical Revival style homes. On June 20, 1973, Inman Park was placed on the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Section and officially listed on the National Register July 22, 1973.

The festival is the least commercial event staged in Atlanta. There is no paid staff; all planning and implementation is done by neighborhood volunteers. The art exhibited is prejudiced and the tour features more homes than any other in town—about 16.

While the homes are incredible, the people are laudable as well. Inman Park residents are well educated and friendly, creating a climate conducive to most lifestyles. People move into the area for its rich history and their love for older homes. This year, two homes owned by gay men can be seen on the tour. Charles Gray's 897 Edgewood Avenue home and Dr. Jim Piroli and Raymond Mancini's 1020 Edgewood Avenue home. Each is unique in its own way and neither should be missed.

Piroli and Mancini's home was built c. 1907 as a law office by S. Dean Siler. It was converted to a drug store and used as an office building until the 1960s when it was converted into a home. Marge Thurman, an attorney and head of the Democratic Party of Georgia previously owned the office. One interesting problem Piroli and Mancini faced was phone trouble due to the fact there were about ten phone lines hooked into the home.

Piroli and Mancini have lived in the house for six years and did most of the renovation themselves. Neither are strangers to restoration—they previously owned a c. 1827 home in the Garden District of New Orleans.

This is their first year on the tour. They are renovating the upstairs with furniture that can either break down and be reassembled or will fit up the characteristically narrow stairwell.

Their furniture is a combination of reproductions and antiques. The color scheme is warm and friendly with high ceilings and ample lighting. While most rooms are small, the dining room is large. It works well for them because

they love to entertain. Parties of 200 people occur often—they will not be throwing their usual cajun bash for this year's festival because the house is on the tour.

The house is adjacent to the field where the Battle of Atlanta was fought. There is a pile of rocks in their backyard typical of the mass graves of the Civil War.

Charles Gray, an industrial psychologist, has lived in his c. 1889 home for about ten years. It was designed by Godfrey Norman who also designed The Mansion on Piedmont Avenue. Gray features his home on the tour about every five years. Former Atlanta Mayor Roy LeCraw, who beat out Mayor Hartsfield on the platform that water was too high and there are too many speeding tickets, once lived in the house. Gray describes his house as a "reflection of the opulence of early Atlanta." The 6,000 square foot Norman Victorian home has 18 rooms including several fireplaces, exquisite chandeliers and high ceilings.

Gray refers to his home as a "small big house." The house is lined with windows on all sides. There is a round music room to the right of the entry room that holds four antique pianos, one of which is a player piano. The house is laden with antique furniture and art, none of which came with the house. Gray buys his antiques everywhere, yet the seemingly eclectic mix works well. There are two front porches and one in the back.

According to Gray, the owners of the house in 1903 changed the mantels and possibly added the wood floors, but most of the integrity remains. The house had been divided into apartments and then converted back to a single family home.

While touring Gray's sprawling mansion, don't be surprised by the flock of chickens residing in the back yard. His pseudo-farm is also home to a rich garden and a couple of cats and a dog but it's the rooster's morning call that neighbors say makes them feel like they're waking up in the country.

The Inman Park Festival Tour of Homes tour is sponsored in part by The Home Store Futon Gallery, Atlanta and Marietta and Fantasy Futons, Athens; WGST and WPCH. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 the day of the tour. Five percent of the house tour proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity. For more information, call 242-4895.

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C A L E N D A R

22 THURSDAY

DANCING NAKED IN THE MATERIAL WORLD. Photographer Marilyn Futterman presents her moving book, a collection of photographs and interviews with women who take off their clothes for money. Marilyn's photographs are currently on exhibit at the Emory Gallery. Charis Books and More at 7:30 p.m. 524-0304.

SARAH GILBERT. Dubbed "the funniest woman since Flannery O'Connor," the South Carolina author will be signing copies of her latest novel, "Summer Gloves," at Oxford Bookstore on Pharr Rd. from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. 262-3333.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes and guest conductor Andreas Delfs both make their ASO debuts tonight through Sat. at 8:00 p.m. The program features "Conquista," a new jazz-infused work by swiss composer Daniel Schnyder. 898-1182.

DONA CLARINES. DramaTech presents this play by Serafin and Alvarez Quitero tonight through Sat.

at 8:00 p.m. Performed in Spanish by Grupo Artístico Latino de Atlanta. Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts. 874-9920 (Spanish) 634-2221 (English).

ENVIRONMENTAL SHOWCASE. The largest environmental consumer show in the Southeast, featuring environmentally safe products and services for homes and businesses. North Atlanta Trade Center, 1700 Jeurgens Ct, Norcross. 279-9899.

ATLANTA ENTREPRENEURS. The club meets every Thurs. at 7:00 p.m. 457-6347.

23 FRIDAY

24-HOUR SLEEPOVER. Why call 1-900 and listen when you can watch for free at Backstreet? Free admission with bedding attire any time before 3:00 a.m. 873-1986.

BILLIE HOLIDAY FESTIVAL. Atlanta's Bureau of Cultural Affairs presents a weekend of music in honor of the great blues singer. The opening night features Nina Simone in a concert at CenterStage Theatre. 1374 W Peachtree. 817-6815.

LOCAL VOICES, GLOBAL ISSUES. Nexus Contemporary Art Center presents seven performance artists who use drama, dance, text and music to address subjects ranging from war to child abuse to racial discrimination tonight and tomorrow beginning at 8:00. 535 Means St NW. 688-1970.

THE ORGANIZER. The High Museum continues it's series focusing on the work of Marcello Mastroianni with this 1964 Italian drama directed by Mario Monicelli. 8:00 p.m. 892-3600.

DANNY WRIGHT. Popular pianist Danny Wright performs at the GA Tech Theatre at 8:00. 894-9600.

21ST CENTURY FAITH WALK. To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the March on Washington led by Dr. Martin Luther King, a walk to the Capitol Building will be held today beginning at 6:00 a.m. The march steps off at the College Park MARTA Station parking lot. 723-7230.

24 SATURDAY

HIV UPDATE. The syndicated cable TV show airs every Sat at 6:00 p.m. on Channel 12. This month's program focuses on how the medical community deals with death and suicide by people with HIV/AIDS.

GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL. A cast of thousands entertains visitors and hundreds of craft shops present their wares for demonstration and sale in this recreation of an English country fair. The 30-acre 16th century village is located 10 miles past Hartsfield on I-85 at Exit 12. Sat & Sun through June 13. 964-8575

ABBIE HOFFMAN. In a 20-minute home video taped one year before his death, the 60s leader speaks his mind. The video will be followed by a documentary about the Chemobyl nuclear disaster. The videos will be shown at the LSP Community Center at 7:30 p.m. \$3 suggested donation. 368-7137.

VEGETABLE GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS. The Atlanta Botanical Garden presents an easy and fun class on growing your own vegetables. 10:00-noon. 876-5859.

BABETTE'S FEAST. GPTV presents this Academy Award Winner that tells the story of two beautiful women who pass up love and fame to remain in their small Danish village. Channel 8, 9:00 p.m.

25 SUNDAY

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON. 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!
HISTORY OF SOUTHERN GARDENS. Enjoy a slide-show tour of 32 celebrated southern gardens at the Atlanta Botanical Garden from 2:00-3:30. 876-5859.

SEVERAL DANCERS CORE. The dance troupe presents several works-in-progress at 7 Stages Performing Arts Center in LSP at 5:00 p.m. 373-4154.

TITICUT FOLLIES. This 1964 documentary about the conditions that existed at the Bridgewater State Hospital for the Criminally Insane in Massachusetts was prevented by a court injunction from being shown for 24 years. The film produced by Frederick Wiseman remains the only film ever censored for reasons other than obscenity or national security. GPTV Channel 8, 11:00 p.m.

HISTORIC OAKLAND. Take a guided walking tour through Atlanta's oldest cemetery each Sat at 11:00 a.m. and Sun at 2:00 p.m. The third largest greenspace in Atlanta is home to a treasure of Victorian monuments. 688-2107 for more info.

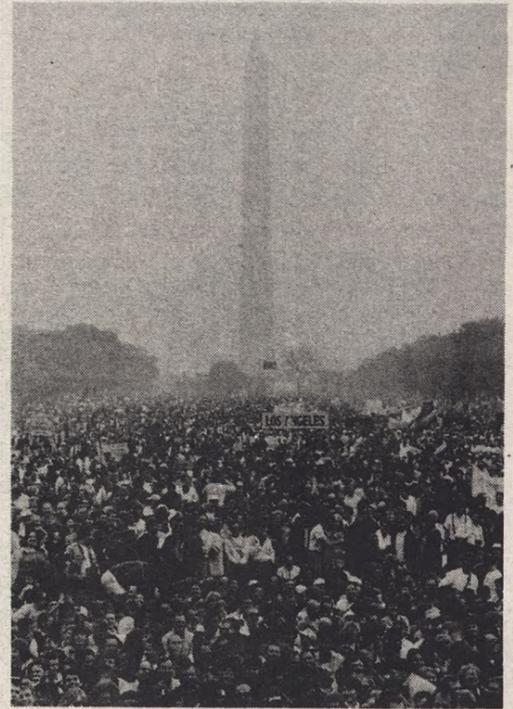
26 MONDAY

PROP AUCTION. Costumes, neon signs, furniture, backdrops and scripts will be auctioned to the highest bidder in a benefit for the Alliance Theatre. Preview is at 6:00 and the bidding begins at 7:00. 898-1132.

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 Ch. 12.

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

MEDICINE AT THE CROSSROADS. The GPTV series looks at how medicine can no longer



solve health problems and the need for the medical establishment to respond to social conditions that cause disease in the first place. Channel 8, 9:00 p.m.

AIDS can be seen on People TV Ch. 12 at 2:30 p.m. and again on Sat at 10:00 p.m. It also airs on City Ch. 6 at 5:00 p.m. on Thurs.

STUFFED PUPPET THEATRE. Holland's celebrated adult puppet theatre presents "Manipulator" and "Underdog," two short plays in which power is used and abused with hilarious and shocking consequences, at 7 Stages in LSP. 523-7647.

27 TUESDAY

FOURTH TUESDAY. Members of PFLAG will speak at this month's meeting of the Atlanta lesbian organization. The program is entitled "Coming Out to Our Parents." 662-4353.

A CHORUS LINE. Broadway comes to Atlanta as Theater of the Stars presents this musical at the Fox Theatre through May 2. Tues-Sat at 8:00 and Sat-Sun at 2:00. 817-8700.

SOUTHERN COUNTRY. Learn the Circle Jerk at Hoedowns or the Basic Waltz at the Otherside as part of Southern Country's dance schedule. 8:00 p.m. 938-0609.

28 WEDNESDAY

POSITIVE LIVING. This locally produced show about people living with



O N G O I

SWAN LAKE. Through Apr. 25. The Atlanta Ballet in collaboration with the Cleveland San Jose Ballet present the 1895 ballet by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov. Atlanta Civic Center. Tickets available at any Ticketmaster location or by calling 249-6400.

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 by two other actors. Thurs-Sat at 8:00 p.m., Sun at 7:00 p.m. 221-0831.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN. Through May 1. Theatre in the Square

N G A N

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. 424-4603.

BESSIE'S BLUES. Through May 2. Jomandi presents Bernardine Mitchell and Atlanta's hottest musical talents in this affirmation of life as a celebration. Hear the blues at 14th St. Playhouse. Wed-Sat at 8:00 p.m. and Sun at 3:00 p.m. 873-1099.

SECOND SAMUEL. Through May 22. The whole town of Second Samuel, GA is talking about what happened when sweet old Miss Gertrude got her final wash and set before being laid to rest in this play presented by Southern Fried

D U P C

Productions. Fri and Sat at 8:00 p.m., Sun at 2:00 p.m. Mercer Fine Arts Auditorium. 378-8646.

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

BETRAYAL. Through May 16. The Alliance Theatre presents Harold Pinter's romantic drama directed by Michael Olich. The show can be seen Tues-Sun. 898-1127.

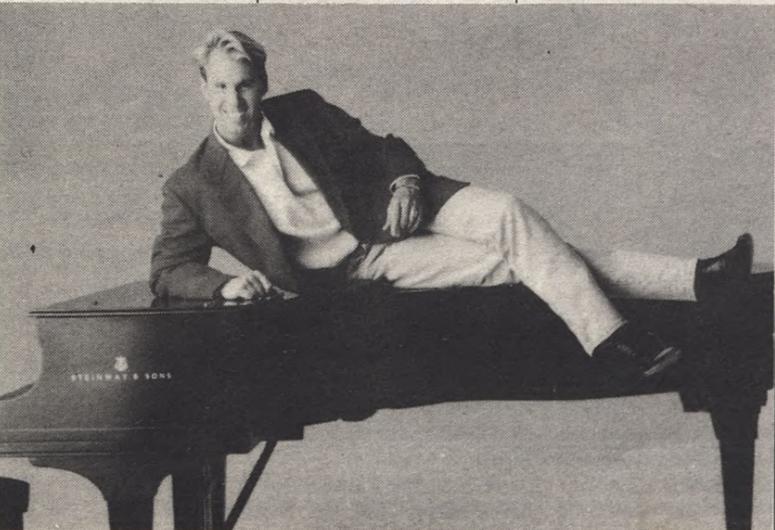
DIRTY HARRIET-MAGNUM FORCE. Through July 21. This parody of the classic 70s tough-guy detective story follows inspector Harriet as

O M I N G

she tracks down a homicidal maniac. Agatha's, Atlanta's Mystery Dinner Theatre. Tue-Sat at 7:30. 875-1610.

ARTSFEST 93. Apr. 30-May 2. In a benefit for Project Open Hand, Burkhardt's Pub presents a weekend of art, entertainment and food. Works from several of the major galleries in the Atlanta area will be featured in auctions throughout the weekend.

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. Tickets are on sale now. \$150. 662-4280.



Pictured:

ABOVE LEFT: Over 1 million lesbians and gays are expected to fill the mall in the nation's capital on Apr.

25. And they won't be shopping. Other events are scheduled throughout the week. Photo by Patsy Lynch

BELOW: If you haven't already left for Washington, pianist Danny Wright appears at the Georgia Tech Theatre for the Performing Arts on April 23.

ABOVE: Cleveland San Jose Ballet's Karen Gabay as Odile and Joseph Konicki as the evil sorcerer Von Rothbart in the Atlanta Ballet's "Swan Lake," through April 25. Photo by Randy Choura

Activist Signorile's new book deals with "outing" and growing up queer

New York City—It's doubtful anyone in this East Village cafe would recognize the slight, smiling man in the green leather jacket as the angry gay militant who introduced "outing" to the world.

Michelangelo Signorile, 32, began the controversial practice of naming closeted gays in his column in the now-defunct magazine, *Outweek*. His in-your-face commentary mirrored the rise of gay activism in the late 1980s with groups like ACT UP that stemmed from the AIDS crisis.

So angry was Signorile that he exposed revered public figures, movie stars and some gossip columnists. His rage at people who decried homosexuality—and at closeted gays—spewed forth in furious, all-capitalized sentences.

Now Signorile has written his first book, "Queer in America—Sex, The Media and The Closets of Power," (Random House \$23) that veteran AIDS activist Larry Kramer calls "one of the most important books of the 20th century." It will be published next month.

Signorile says his book was heavily lawyered by Random House—scrutinized more thoroughly than any book by the publisher except for Julia Phillips' 1991 bestselling expose of Hollywood, "You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again."

It is provocative, with detailed chapters on the closeted gay underworld in Hollywood, Washington and New York, and the story of a gay man who was sexually harassed by his boss, an unnamed powerful legislator who is married with children and has never acknowledged his homosexuality.

Though familiar names from the New York-Washington-Hollywood axis pop up, Signorile points out that no one is "freshly outed" in the book.

In fact, the most affecting chapters in the book are about Signorile's difficult childhood and the story of Sheila Kuehl, who played "Zelda Gilroy" on the 1950s TV series, "Dobie Gillis."

Kuehl's once-successful acting career disintegrated when rumors about her lesbianism reached studio executives. She's now an openly gay attorney in Los Angeles.

But pre-hype about "Queer in America," including New York tabloid gossip items about in-house discord about the book among editors at Random House, pegged it a revolutionary tome.

Sipping coffee at Cafe Orlin on St. Marks Place, just a few blocks from his apartment, Signorile seems strangely soft-spoken and amiable—for a revolutionary.

He admits that people expect a fearsome terrorist when they meet him. But after a few minutes, he's just Mike Signorile, who grew up a closeted, miserable kid in a working-class, Italian-Catholic family in Brooklyn.

"In a way I was naive about outing when I started," said Signorile. "There'd been this unwritten rule that you never discuss another person's homosexuality publicly. I didn't realize then how ironclad the rule was. I broke the rule because it just felt like the time was right. I thought, this



MICHAEL WAKEFIELD

Gay rights activist and columnist Michelangelo Signorile

unwritten rule is dumb. The world is changing and things are dire for us."

Signorile's decision to out closeted gays came at a tumultuous time in his personal life. He had just come out to his parents, who were initially upset. His friends were dying of AIDS. He was caring for a sick lover.

"I looked back over my past and it all became very clear to me. I felt a despair and anger that led me to rock bottom and that's what it took for me to see what kind of a toll a life in the closet can take. All that anger came out in my columns."

But Signorile says his book is about "the closet," not outing.

"To me, the issue is the closet," he says. "Outing is terribly contentious. With outing we kind of presented the solution without addressing the problem first. The closet is the problem."

Signorile's youth was painful and puzzling, a combination he says is often typical for gays and lesbians. He realized he was gay when he was 12 but had no one to talk to about it and no knowledge of gay culture.

"My personality development was stunted and deformed," writes Signorile in the chapter titled, "A Queer's Own Story." "I had been a bubbly, smart kid when I entered school, but now I was defensive and belligerent. Whereas I might have developed into one of those kids who was funny, irrepres-

ible and well-liked, instead I was a 'faggot,' laughed at and ostracized. All my time and energy were consumed with trying to prove I wasn't this horrible thing, this sissy-faggot-queer."

One day in sixth grade, after Signorile had been spit on and called "Queer!" by a group of kids, he tore out of the building in a panic and disappeared for two hours.

A kind teacher took him aside and told him that nothing would change for awhile, that his life might continue to be "horrible," but if he persevered and stayed strong, "one day, everything will be fine."

Signorile says he realizes now the teacher was probably gay himself but couldn't tell him out of fear.

"There are two ways people deal with the closet," he says. "There are those who block it out until they're adults and those who deal with it when they're young. I used to envy people who didn't go through what I did but then they would tell me they wish they'd faced it earlier. But either way, it's horrible."

Signorile says he has a few regrets about his early, angry outings but still believes that all gays should come out of the closet.

"I regret being so mean and on the attack," he says. "I would often feel bad after writing a column. But at the same time I know that if I hadn't done it, there wouldn't have been as much attention focused on the issue."

But Signorile clearly believes that in the case of outing, the ends justified the means. For him, the closet is the ultimate horror.

"It's living a lie," he says. "It's constantly being aware that you harbor this dirty secret. I think straight people can relate if they think of one outrageous lie they've told and how it keeps unraveling in their face. It means constantly covering up. Being in the closet means you think about being in the closet all the time. Being out means you hardly ever think of it."

Signorile now writes a column for the national gay magazine, *The Advocate*. He remains politically active and predicts that the 90s will be the decade that activist gays, having gained more support with the Clinton Administration, take on the religious right.

But his columns have a less strident tone. The prediction made by his grade school teacher that "one day, everything will be fine" may have come partly true. When Signorile came out to his parents, they were so traumatized that he stopped talking to them for awhile. He and his mother had screaming matches on the phone.

That changed one day when Signorile went to see them and spent "hours" at the kitchen table "letting them throw a million questions at me."

His book is dedicated to "Martha and Frank Signorile, the most loving, understanding and supportive parents in America."

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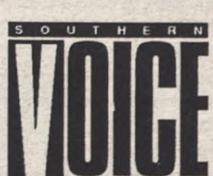
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THEATRE REVIEW

BESSIE'S BLUES

"I was put here to make music, so I'm gonna make some," explains the legendary Bessie Smith, speaking to us through the talent of Bernardine Mitchell in Jomandi Productions' world premiere musical "Bessie's Blues." Miss Smith did; and Miss Mitchell does.

Both are blessed with the musical courage to strip away veneer, stare life in the face and face truth. According to Memphis Slim, "Blues is truth." But as Miss Smith said, "It don't matter who said, long as it got said."

"Bessie's Blues" says plenty, thanks to writer-director Thomas W. Jones II, who has beautifully interwoven the threads of Bessie's life into a colorful, abstract tapestry, combining the pain and happiness, successes and failures, triumphs and losses, yet never crossing into the sugar-coating idolizing often so tempting with one of Miss Smith's stature and talent. The dialogue is crisp, snappy, generously peppered with black colloquialisms, with surface humor shielding the otherwise unbearable pain underneath.

Jones introduces Miss Smith to his audience as a tremendously gifted woman unafraid to let her vulnerability be showcased, yet unable to reign in that vulnerability in the business side of her life. She was easily taken—especially by men. Money meant little to her. She made plenty, and she handed out plenty. What she did best was personify the blues through her music.

"Bessie's Blues" quickly lets the audience know that "blues" is much more than "Down Home Blues," "Empty Bed Blues," "Reckless Blues;" it's also about the blues Miss Smith faced on a daily—and nightly—basis. The loss of a child; getting dumped by men after one-night stands; her struggle with bisexuality; reliance on alcohol to ease the pain of being alone and unfulfilled; and her unflinching gift, or curse, of facing and singing the truth.

Jones asks the question, through Miss Mitchell: "Did you ever get full, Bessie? Did you ever get full?" And though it's never verbalized in so many words, one realizes the only times Bessie Smith really "got full" was when she was singing.

Miss Mitchell slips into this role as easily as she does one of costume designer Goldie Dicks' colorful frocks. The part seems one that Miss Mitchell, no stranger to Atlanta theater and night-



Bernardine Mitchell is the heart and soul of "Bessie's Blues."

club audiences, was destined to play. But more important than just portraying Bessie, Miss Mitchell also gets to be "Bern" and engages in conversations with Bessie, asking questions we might ask, wondering things we might wonder, and sharing the pain now so obvious in retrospect yet perhaps too elusive and evasive at the time to be addressed. Then, it was just a way of life and the "blues" was just coping.

Breathing life into Jones' script are eight extremely talented singers and dancers, each of whom gets a turn in the spotlight.

Miss Mitchell is top-billed but the other seven are not just stage dressing. Crystal Fox, a regular on TV's "In the Heat of the Night," is featured in an upbeat stray into current-day rap music with "Get Wit' It," written by Jones and Keith Rawls. And Cheryl Renee gets her turn with a rousing rendition of "Why Must I Stand Alone?," "another Jones-Rawls original. Alexia Jones is the spirit of Bessie Smith, ever-present, but frequently watching from the shadows and periphery of the show in progress.

The men, Barry Bruce, Brian Chandler, Mark Ford and Khalil Reed, play a multitude of roles representing the various men who wandered in and out of Bessie's life, usually taking advantage of the woman in one way or another.

But at the heart of "Bessie's Blues" is the immensely talented Miss Mitchell, who can break your heart with a hauntingly beautiful new song, "Who Prays for Me?," make you want to hit the dance floor and raise a whole lot of hell with "Gimme a Pigfoot and a Bottle of Beer," or just sit back and see life for what it sometimes really is with "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out."

It's been 16 years since I first saw and heard Bernardine Mitchell, then a shy young woman just returned to Atlanta from Oberlin College. She was filling in for a friend in a nightclub gig at a Pershing Point spot called Tyrone's, long since a victim of a wrecking ball swung in the name of progress. That night was one of those rare serendipitous occasions which make all the boring evenings bearable and worthwhile. She began with that smile that still can fill even the coldest, most barren room and actually apologized because the regular singer was missing. Then, she began to sing: "The way you wear your hat, the way you sip your tea..."

Since then, the name "Bernardine Mitchell" has been seen all across the country in touring theater productions and nightclubs. She's a crowd favorite at Charleston's prestigious Spoleto Festival. And in her hometown she is considered a natural treasure. But personally, I like her best—and I think she's at her best—in a small, intimate room, with appreciative listeners. At such times, I think she's full, and like the Gershwins said: "They can't take that away from me."

JOSEPH LITSCH

Bessie's Blues runs through May 2 at 14th St. Playhouse. Call 873-1099 for tickets.

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PHOTO: Lynn Sheppard

Sese Abejon and Diane Lee

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The newest addition to the ever-growing Midtown skyline is the GLG Grand Tower on 14th Street. Seen to best advantage at night, when the building is dramatically lit, this monolith adds considerably to the grandeur of the highrise neighborhood of Midtown. The 28th floor of this magnificent building will be the setting for 1993's **Uncork a Cure** Wine Tasting to benefit the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta on Friday evening, April 30, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

If your image of a wine tasting is one of staid old men swirling and swilling samples of wine only to turn and spit the wine into a spittoon, forget it. Although there will be over 60 premium Italian wines for guests to sample, no one will be spitting. In addition to the wine, gourmet food is being provided by Camille's, LaGrotta, Bice, and San Genarro restaurants. Of course, the view from the 28th floor should be magnificent. Imagine enjoying a glass of wine while watching the sun set from such a vantage point.

Last year's event attracted a huge number of people to one entire floor of the NationsBank building at Peachtree and North Avenue. Among the notable guests were Congressman John Lewis, Councilwoman Mary Davis, and Monica Kaufman.

ARCA is a non-profit community-based organization founded by a group of physicians treating people with HIV. President and founder Dr. Melanie Thompson encourages people to attend the event and support the work done by ARCA to find new treatments and hopefully a cure. "There are a number of important clinical drug trials that we are striving to bring to Atlanta. 'Uncork a Cure' is one way we are appealing to the Atlanta community for funds to bring additional trials to Atlanta and to make those trials accessible to all communities," she said.

Tickets for this event may be obtained by calling ARCA at 873-4103. The \$35 price is tax deductible and may be charged to a major credit card.

April is Festival time and one of the most popular of all is

AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



The Georgia Renaissance Festival opens April 24

the annual **Georgia Renaissance Festival**. 1993 marks the eighth year for the festival of medieval fun and games. Located just south of the Airport on I-85 at exit 12, the Festival takes place in a 16th century village with a new entrance this year featuring two three-story towers modeled after the Tower of London. The towers will be decorated with colorful banners and flags beckoning people inside to enjoy such attractions as the Amazing Maze and Steve Hody's Birds of Prey Show. This new addition to the festival will

allow people to see falcons, hawks and eagles perform free-flight maneuvers at the command of their handler and trainer, Steve Hody.

The maze is also a new addition, which features eight towers and is almost a mile long. After navigating the course, you climb the victory tower and gloat over the others who have not mastered the game. A 25 foot slide puts you back onto the busy village street.

Grand Opening Weekend is April 24 and 25. This is the "Buy One, Get One Free" weekend from Coca-Cola. Any Coke product gets you a second ticket free with the purchase of one adult ticket. May 1 and 2 is the Crafts Celebration Weekend. The festival runs every weekend thereafter through June 13, including Memorial Day, Monday, May 31. Hours are from 10:30 AM to 6 PM, rain or shine.

The opening of a new bar in town is always good news. But the opening of a new bar which plans to feature all nude male dancers is good news indeed! Atlanta is known as a center for adult entertainment (ask any male conventioner where he is headed after the seminar—he'll say the Gold Club) and it is high time that our community was able to enjoy the same entertainment the straight community does. Of necessity, the bar will be Bring Your Own Bottle. It is called **Studio 420** and is located at 420-B Amour Drive, just off Monroe. Opening night is Friday, April 16 and every Friday thereafter. Give the bar a call at 885-1886.

I ran into the wonderful costume designer Sabrina recently. She has been working her needles getting some of the South's top entertainers ready for **Miss USA** to be held in early May in San Antonio, Texas. Sabrina has created inspired costumes for Bianca Page (Miss Tennessee) and for our own goddess in residence Lauren LeMasters (Miss South Carolina). Lauren will give them tits and ass in a Daisy Mae outfit complete with beaded peaches on each cheek of her Daisy Dukes. Bianca will become a female Elvis straight out of Memphis. Good Luck to Lauren in her quest for the crown.

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Homo Moon: It had to happen eventually. A mainstream card company (Paper Moon Graphics) has come out with a line of lesbian/gay greeting cards. Okay, okay it's not Hallmark (or even Recycled Paper), but Paper Moon is widely distributed in mainstream card shops all over the country. We doubt that stores in Unadilla (or even Fairburn) will carry cards like the one shown here, but maybe there's hope for Dunwoody. Maybe.

Geographic Queen: The current issue of National Geographic (the one with the striking cover of the butch white Marine holding the tiny black boy after Hurricane Andrew) contains what we think is a first for that staid publication. In a section about why various folks volunteered to help clean up and rebuild after the storm is this quote from Bob Raech. "Well, we're a bunch of queens who want to help. Every one of us. My lover has AIDS. AIDS is a human problem. So is this. We care." Raech, lest you do not recognize the name, is one of the movers and shakers behind the redevelopment of Miami's South Beach.

Rabid Reductionist: Dish does not know why folks insist on sending us homophobic editorials from small town papers across the South. But they do. And we sense their frustration, though there is little we can do about it. The editors of papers like The Haralson Gateway-Beacon are not likely to give much credence to letters from Atlanta homos about the rantings of the likes of one Tommy Reeves. Actually, we find Mr. Reeves' thinking ("God created all things" and "[God] created man after the image of Gods" but of course God hates queers) so flawed as to be funny. How does Mr. Reeves know that God isn't gay? Probably through the same screwy logic that allows him to believe that God is a man. Haralson County, by the way, is the home of House Speaker Tom ("I don't know nothing about no sodomy") Murphy.

Christian Camp?: Friends who have been to see "The Judas Project" (a 2000 AD recreation of the last days of Christ) say they wonder if the producers have any idea just how camp the new movie is. "Jesus and his buddies hug, and kiss, and go

Dish

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



Will this new line of gay/lesbian greeting cards from Paper Moon make it into your local Hallmark shop?

fishing together," says one friend, "Hell, it's kinda like a fundamentalist Hotlanta River Expo." Add really amateurish performances (and perhaps the consumption of mind-altering sub-

stances) and you've got all the makings of a real camp cult winner. Could this be the "Rocky Horror Picture" show for the '90s?

Straight Swoon: Dish simply does not understand why actors who play gay/lesbian roles in film, on Broadway, and on TV have to be so damn clear in telling us that they are not queer. Homo actors, after all, don't usually go around telling us that they are not *straight*. The latest in this string of nay-gayers is the toothsome Mandy Patinkin who plays a gay man coming of age in the age of AIDS in the Broadway smash "Falsettos." Patinkin told The Advocate, "First of all I'm not gay. Secondly, if I was gay, I'd be very proud of it." Great Mandy, but would you risk your career and tell the world? We sure hope so. "Falsettos," by the way, opens the Alliance Theatre's '93-'94 season next September. No word yet on whether openly gay actors will play the lead roles.

Persona Non Grata: The producer of the recent (and devastatingly dismal) Academy Awards show has said that he will not invite Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon, or Tim Robbins back to the show because their political statements during the show (about HIV+ Haitian refugees and Chinese oppression in Tibet) were "rude and inappropriate and unacceptable behavior." Funny, it's the only part of the show that we found even the least bit exciting.

24 Hours With Dish: Speaking of awards, Dish would like to announce a contest. First prize will be 24 hours of non-stop sodomy fun with the Dish of your choice—guys get a guy, women get a woman, and bis get the androgyne in all of us. What, you ask, is the contest? State Rep. Doug Teper has introduced legislation which would require the Georgia laws against fornication, adultery and sodomy to be posted in hotel rooms. For those who don't comprehend English, Teper has called for "International Symbols" describing these fun activities. Get out your drafting tools, let your imagination run wild, and send us the results. We'll publish the winner. And, no, you don't have to claim the prize.

April 22 - April 28, 1993

The New Moon occurs on April 21 in Taurus, providing a grounding, but determined energy for marching to a different drummer. Persistence, determination and an earthy diplomacy are qualities of Taurus which can be very useful in creating social change. New Moon cycle is excellent for creating new patterns.

ARIES, the New Moon is in your 2nd house of financial and material resources (money and stuff you own), so you may feel like buying more stuff and thereby depleting your resources, or you may decide to sell or give away the "stuff" you don't need. Happy Birthday, **TAURUS!** If you decide to celebrate by going totally romantic, then be sure to practice safety and some discrimination. With lots of energy and emotion flowing, you could get swept away or wiped out! **GEMINI**, with the Sun in your 12th house of dreaming, visions and the collective unconscious, you may find yourself needing more sleep or spending more time in a dreamy state. Keep your feet on the ground and write down your dreams for a few weeks.

CANCER, Mars moves into your 2nd house of finances and material resources (including money) on the 27th, making it easier for you to spend more impulsively. Just be sure you

STARSIGNS

actually want something before you whip out cash, check or charge. **LEO**, as Mars moves into your 1st house with its fiery, assertive energy, you may need to be more circumspect and consider the feelings of others before you speak everything that comes to mind. Also stay aware of your temper and impatience. **VIRGO**, you now have a grand trine of Earth energy created with the Sun in Taurus and the good ol' Uranus/Neptune conjunction in Capricorn. Who knows, you could come up with a cure for the common cold or a new design for intergalactic travel! **LIBRA**, Jupiter in your 1st house of personality and personal appearance is still dancing back and forth with Venus in your 7th house of personal relationships and partnerships, so be prepared for close encounters with fascinating people. **SCORPIO**, with Mercury moving forward in your 1st house of personality, self-awareness and personal concerns, you may tend to dominate

personal conversations with your own experiences. Do your best to give others equal time and attention. **SAGITTARIUS**, if you are feeling frustrated with the way the world is right now, you may want to join forces with others who are working for change in a positive and healthy way. Avoid those who are angry, whiney or just gather to complain!

CAPRICORN, if you are putting in long hours on the job or investing loads of time and energy into your career, you still need rest and relaxation just to keep your perspective on life. Take a few days, get out of town and cool down. **AQUARIUS**, Holy Hot Wheels, is that Masked Man a Crusader for Justice or the neighborhood crook? Sometimes it is hard to tell these days, but you can use your amazing ability on the trail and uncover the Truth about people who wield power. **PISCES**, if you are disturbed by the negative emotions being voiced or otherwise expressed by family or friends, please remember that you always have the option to get off the phone or leave. Sometimes it is not productive to listen to all that stuff.

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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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Tax time (and paying for the pilgrimage to DC) make me think about ways to eat inexpensively. Okay, okay, cheap.

La Fonda Latina (1150-3 Euclid Ave. 577-8317) is scrunched behind Junkman's Daughter and the Euclid Ave. Yacht Club in a covered courtyard reclaimed from a garage.

When La Fonda opened a couple of years ago, there was no roof, just some raw tables on raw concrete, and a \$5 skillet of paella that most everybody agreed was one of the best food values in town. Maybe so, but for my delicate sensibilities, the surrounds were a just a tad too funky.

Well, despite the fact that I have not been a regular patron, La Fonda has flourished. The spacious sunken dining room now sports a translucent plastic roof. Plain walls have been painted hot colors and decorated with some very camp art—a series of nude female food figures is my fave. Another nude woman (and a fair sized stand of papyrus) adorn a raised pond in the middle of the room. Well modulated salsa emanates from the sound system. It makes my butt wiggle.

The paella that caused such a stir is now \$5.95 (\$10.95 for two). Liberally sprinkled with calamari, shrimp, chicken, chorizo and scattered veggies, the iron skillet of yellow rice is still a mighty good bargain. The chicken tastes as if it might have come on a slow boat from the old country, but the rest of the ingredients are fresh and the flavors well mingled.

For a buck less, you can have what may well be the culinary deal of the century: half a chicken and liberal servings of black beans and yellow rice. The bird—rubbed with too much spice and too much salt, then grilled over a hickory fire—is always tender, flavorful and filling. When heavenly forces and the cook's spirit align properly, this is quite simply the best bird served in Atlanta. Don't miss it.

Almost as much bang for the buck is available from quesadillas packed with cheddar and Monterey Jack and either chicken or shrimp. Both come with beans and rice and cost less than \$5. Such a deal!

I haven't tried a \$4.95 grilled veggie kabob, but they look luscious and, assuming that they are spiced and grilled with the same finesse as the chicken, they should also be major swoon food.

The only dessert I've sampled is a yummy, creamy, heavy on the vanilla flan. Better than most in town, its \$2.25 price seems reasonable—until you compare it to the price of an entrée.

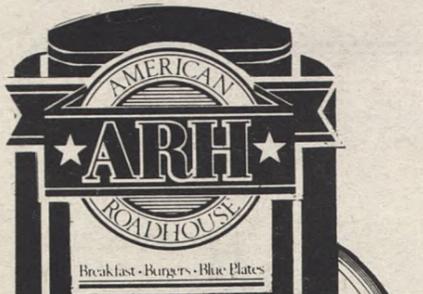
The selection of beer and wine is small, but serviceable and reasonable—Mexican brews are \$2, domestics \$1.75 or \$5.50 a pitcher.

Service is quick and remarkably kind and affable considering the air of machismo that generally permeates Latin eateries. Check it out soon.

Hartsfield Horror Story

Speaking of (not) cheap eats, catch the following price comparisons for food in major airports around the US.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

A hot dog: Atlanta, \$4.20; Chicago, \$2.75; Los Angeles, \$2.69; New York, \$1.79.

A large soft drink: Atlanta, \$2.10; New York, \$1.69; Los Angeles, \$1.69; Chicago, \$1.60.

A beer: New York, \$3.75; Los Angeles, \$3.50; Chicago, \$3.05; Atlanta, \$2.95.

A small frozen yogurt: Chicago, \$2.10; Atlanta, \$2.05; Los Angeles, \$1.69; New York, \$1.50.

Draw what conclusions you may. Me? I think this explains why there are so many people with glassy eyes cruising the concourses at Hartsfield.

Bean Time

One of the cheapest, most nutritious, easy to store (and easy to prepare) food-stuffs is beans. Given the pallid condition of my wallet, I'm definitely thinking more about lentils, beans and split peas.

Dried legumes keep almost forever in the pantry, but beware of storing the fancy gourmet brands (like Dean and DeLuca) for more than a couple of months. One of the reasons that these beans are so expensive is that they are relatively fresh—cook 'em soon after you buy them for full flavor.

Some bean tips.

Storage: Dried beans need to be kept in an airtight container, but not refrigerated or frozen—which dries them out. (The same is true of coffee, ground or in whole beans.) Once they are cooked, however beans and most bean dishes freeze quite well. (So does coffee for that matter, something to consider when making ice cubes for iced coffee.)

Preparation: Pick through the beans, peas, or lentils before you cook them. You'll be amazed at the chaff you'll find, including small stones that look much like beans, but are death on dentures.

Soaking: Soak dried beans (unless they are this year's crop, lentils, or peas) in cold water for at least an hour. Overnight is better. Then rinse thoroughly before you cook them. Don't use the soaking water for cooking water...unless you want to set Mt. Vesuvius off in your intestines.

Cooking: Figure one cup of dried beans for every two and one-half cups of cooked. Follow the recommended time of the package, but never cook beans at a boil. They'll get done just as fast at a simmer and be much more tender. I like to add all kinds of goodies to mine—garlic, celery, carrots, bay leaves, a ham hock, red wine, even beer. Avoid adding the latter two (and acidic veggies like tomatoes) until the last 30 minutes or so of cooking; they keep the beans from softening properly.

Cooked beans seems to be happy for at least a week in the 'fridge and for months in the freezer. Wrap them in tortillas and top with salsa and cheese; mix with rice and serve with a salad; add to soup; make a cassoulet; or add ton of garlic, mash 'em up and spread on toast rounds.

The only way I haven't found to use beans is in dessert. Send your recipes soon.

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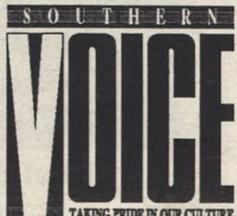
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COMMUNITY NEWS

AID Atlanta receives \$25,000 grant from Magic Johnson Foundation and Miller Brewing Company

Atlanta—A \$25,000 grant made through the Magic Johnson Foundation, Inc. by the Miller Brewing Company has given AID Atlanta a significant financial boost.

A national leader in AIDS education and services, AID Atlanta was selected for the grant based on the quality and scope of its ongoing work in promoting community AIDS awareness and providing services to people with AIDS and their families.

"We were pleased to be able to see first-hand the fine job Sandy Thurman and the entire AID Atlanta staff are carrying out," said Vincent M. Bryson, president and CEO of the Magic Johnson Foundation. "We join Miller Brewing Company in offering our best wishes to AID Atlanta as it continues its work in Atlanta."

"Responding to the HIV crisis is one of the greatest challenges confronting humanity in this century. With the help of the Magic Johnson Foundation and Miller Brewing Company and others who share this sense of commitment, we have a fighting chance of curbing this devastating epidemic," said Sandra Thurman, executive director of AID Atlanta.

The \$25,000 grant will help fund such AID Atlanta programs as AIDS 101 seminars, the Pediatrics Program, the Buddy Program, and educational Youth Outreach activities, as well as general patient case management and community education services.

The Magic Johnson Foundation, founded by NBA basketball legend Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Jr. is an AIDS education/prevention-oriented organization based in Los Angeles. Foundation board members representing the entertainment and sports industries include Debbie Allen-Nixon, Arsenio Hall, Denzel Washington and Michael Jordan.

AID Atlanta is the Southeast's largest and oldest community-based, non-profit AIDS service agency and one of the top six AIDS service agencies in the country. Founded in 1982 by volunteers, it now provides a range of services to people with HIV disease, their families and friends, and the general community. In 1991 alone, more

than 100,000 Atlantans received instruction or educational materials on HIV prevention from AID Atlanta.

Hospitality Atlanta begins new monthly publication

Hospitality Atlanta, a networking organization for Atlanta's African American lesbian community, began publishing a monthly newsletter this month. The title of the publication is **Venus**, and the editors hope it will provide news and information about current events, health, arts, politics, love and more.

Hospitality Atlanta believes that the newsletter will help lesbian women of color in Georgia and neighboring states build a greater networking resource. The group focuses on entertainment, business and education contacts within their community.

The publication is named in memory of Venus Landin, a former member of the organization who was killed earlier this year.

To contact **Venus** for information, submissions or ad rates call 404-627-0520 or write Hospitality Atlanta, P.O. Box 55410, Atlanta, GA 30308.

GAPAC

Due to the unavailability of space, GAPAC's fundraiser at the National March on Washington has been cancelled. However, you can still support GAPAC's services to the community, which include rating candidates for office and funding a year-round lobbyist to advocate for lesbian/gay concerns on the state and local levels. Don't miss the special benefit performance of "Bent," produced by SAME, on May 8th at 8:00pm. Proceeds will benefit both GAPAC and SAME. Seating is limited; call 888-0719 today for your ticket. The theater is located at 75 Bennett St. NW. Ticket price: \$20.00.

GAPAC will also be hosting a night out at the bars on May 15. Stop by your favorite spot and check out GAPAC's new T-shirts. You can also make a donation or join GAPAC at the door.

S U B S C R I B E

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Age: 44

Relationship status: 12 years

How long in Atlanta: 20 years

Last book read: "Boots of Leather,
Slippers of Gold" by Liz Kennedy and
Madalyn Davis

Pet peeve: Traffic



Saralyn Chesnut moved to Atlanta in 1973 to become a lesbian.

"I was living in Savannah at the time and I couldn't find any other lesbians," she remembers with a smile. "At that time a lot of people were gravitating toward Atlanta."

Relaxing on the couch in her small but comfortable office at Emory University where she serves as Director of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Life, the Tifton, Georgia native recounts the details of her life as a lesbian.

"I always knew in some sense that I was a lesbian. I had a girlfriend in the first grade," she explains. "But I fought it for a long time. I dated men throughout high school and college and thought that I might fall in love with one of them and not have to deal with these feelings I was having."

It got to the point, she says, that she resigned herself to not ever having a sexual relationship, but "that didn't last long, thankfully."

She came out with a sorority sister at The University of Georgia in 1970, and from then on, there was no stopping her.

After completing her B.A. in English at UGA, she received her Masters in English from Florida State University. Then on to Atlanta where she says she began building a context for her life, immersing herself in the lesbian community.

She continued her politically active life until the mid-80s when she went back to school to work on her Doctorate Degree.

"I was working on my dissertation at Emory and teaching at Georgia Tech when I saw the ad in SoVo for this Director's job. The more I thought about it, I felt it was the perfect job," she says. "It brings all the parts of my life together; the part that is interested in social and political change and the part that likes academic things like thinking, reading and writing."

But, Saralyn is not resting on her laurels. She is busy making sure the Office of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Life is making a difference on campus.

"It's an important thing that Emory is doing by having us here," she says, her easy South

Georgia accent coming through slightly, "they could do more, however. Emory certainly is not a homosexual haven. But just having the Office helps us be very visible. People on this campus have to take lesbian, gay and bisexual issues into account now."

Saralyn says her office, so far, has not suffered from any major backlash from groups on campus, but they must be vigilant about the student newspaper, The Wheel.

"They cover Greek life very well because that's where their contacts are," she explains. "We're trying to develop contacts with them, as well. We always write letters when we feel we've been overlooked and the letter gets published so our voice gets out there."

She also appreciates the importance of the organization for the students themselves.

"It would have helped a lot if when I was in college an organization like this had existed. When you're isolated and you don't have any sense that you can be gay and have a life, we become very valuable."

The organization sponsors a coming out group that may boast a small attendance, but is "very important for those involved." Saralyn's office is also interested in building bridges between Emory's gay and lesbian community and the larger Atlanta community. Events and speakers sponsored by Emory therefore are always open to the public at large so the two communities can meet and grow.

Growing is something Saralyn knows the value of and after 44 years she is not giving up on her own growth. She says she is open to whatever the future may hold for her, whether that's teaching or staying where she is.

"Ever since I've come back to school things have just come along," she shrugs. "Even when I've never had a definite sense of where to go next, something would just present itself and it would feel right. I've found that if you keep yourself open and go according to what feels right and good at the time it works out. It's worked for me so far."

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's—1492 Piedmont, 873-4655
The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon, 87EAGLE
551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon, 873-4052
Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983
Goodies—64 Third St. 873-3355
The Heretic—2069 Cheshire Bridge, 325-3061
Incognito—857 Collier Rd. 355-5189
Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
The Metro—48 6th Street, 874-9869
New Order—1544 Piedmont, 874-8247
Opus—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055
Peppers by Frank Powell—980 Piedmont Ave. NE 872-4000
Petrus—1150 Peachtree St. 873-6700
Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon, 892-7871
Scandals—Ansley Square, 875-5957
Tin Lizzie—Ford Factory Square, 874-3961
Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge, 248-9712
Weekends—688 Spring St. 875-5835

Direct Action/Political

ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201
ACT UP—874-6782 (O)
Atlanta Greens, Green Party USA, Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Queer Caucus—368-7137
Catalyst—(404) 776-1478
Dykes & Faggots Bash Back—P.O. Box 14531, Atlanta 30324, voice mail 908-5369
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

Atlanta Entrepreneurs' Club—457-6347
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

Hosanna African Unity Life Center—872-9055
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
Luring Lesbians (fishing club)—218 Indian Branc Way, Lawrenceville 30243, 963-1329 or 256-6959
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—write: LSG, POB 7864, Athens, 30604
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
John Howell Park Project—873-2950
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
Gay & Lesbian Student Alliance—Clayton State College—471-4567
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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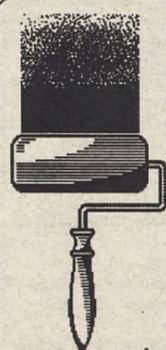
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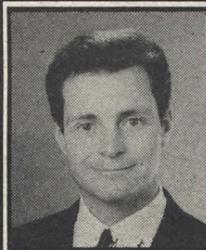
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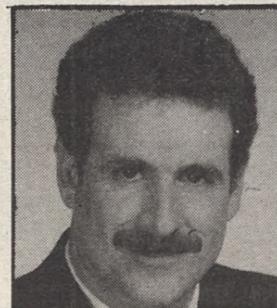
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CLASSIFIEDS

AIDS Services & Education

AID Atlanta 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? 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. 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.

AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN- 888-9991 - a 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.

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, counseling, referral (minority cultural sensitivity) begins mid Feb. For confidential info call OUTREACH, INC. 346-3922.

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.

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

AID ATLANTA is hosting an open house for prospective volunteers Thursday, April 22, 1993 - 5:30pm to 8:00pm. AID Atlanta offices are at 1438 W. Peachtree St., Suite 100. Learn the ways you can help in the fight against AIDS! For more information call 872-0600. (6.9)

EAST MEETS WEST: A Chinese music concert Sunday, May 2 at 2:00pm at the Unitarian Universalist Cong. of Atlanta, 1911 Cliff Valley Way, NE. Talented pianists, violinists, and vocalists from China perform traditional and modern Chinese music. Sponsored by the US/China People's Friendship Association and the Racial and Ethnic Concerns Working Group. Tickets \$10/ea (\$5 for students) on sale at the church each Sun. morning. For ticket information and directions to the church, call 584-8534 before 10:00pm. (6.11)

Four Flirtations tickets for 8pm Saturday, April 24 in DC. Your last chance to see Michael Callen perform with the Flirts. Gary 876-1831 (days), 373-0426 (before 10pm). (6.9)

HAVE YOU A GAY OR LESBIAN WEDDING?

We're writing a same-sex wedding book for a major publisher and would love to

include your wedding story! Call Paul or Tess at 213-656-6343. (6.10)

Researcher/Educator seeks to interview G/L/Bi teachers, K-12, for project on ending homophobia. Will be in Atlanta April 10-13. Leave name, number at (207) 780-5376. Confidentiality assured. (6.9)

ZAMI-A support/social group for the growth and education of lesbians in the African-American community. Monthly meetings every third Sun. of each month. For information, please call Laura at (404) 768-4979 or Dee at 294-4377. (6.10)

SEEKING TERRI BRITAIN

R. U. OK?

HB-933-2412 (6.9)

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)

Employment

PART TIME

HIV POSITIVE?

UNEMPLOYED?

We are a small gay-owned company seeking two part-time public relations/marketing reps to help the HIV Community in lowering their health care costs and educating the HIV+ Community in how to get the most benefits from their insurance companies. For personal interview, please call Dan 368-0050 day, 875-5311 evening. (6.12)

Student's Organizing Students, a national young women's health org., seeking grass-roots organizers for its State Organizer Program in So. Cal., SD, and GA. These organizers typically take a semester off or hiatus from school to organize around issues of women's health. Beginning in August, the paid positions generally last six months with

the potential for another six. Applicants should show dedication to the issues outlined on S.O.S.'s agenda and have some experience with campus/community organizing. Application due date: 5/1/93. Please send cover letter and resume to: The State Organizer Program, attn: Leigh Brown, Students Organizing Students, 1600 Broadway, Suite 404, New York, New York 10019. (6.12)

FULL TIME

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - STOP AIDS PROJECT of San Francisco seeks applicants for the position of Executive Director to oversee a staff of eight, a \$600k budget, and 200 volunteers. Strong community leadership, grants management and fundraising expertise, extensive organizational management and AIDS education/prevention experience required. Substantial business and financial management skills necessary. Master's degree or equivalent experience in related field, 4+ years executive level management experience required. Persons of color, persons with HIV/AIDS strongly encouraged to apply. Send resume with cover letter and salary requirements to: Search Committee, STOP AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez St., San Francisco, Ca. 94114. Deadline for receipt of applications is May 7, 1993. STOP AIDS Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6.9)

Buckhead Florist-in shop plant maintenance. Call 816-8833, Monday-Saturday, 3-5pm. (6.9)

For Sale

Ticket available for the March On Washington. Leaves Atlanta 1:00pm Fri., returns Sunday 10:00pm. American Airlines. \$200. 436-5255 (6.9)

Health

PERSONAL GROWTH

Heal the hurt of childhood abuse. Ongoing sexual & physical / emotional abuse grips. \$25 per session. Claudia Scarbrough, MS, MCC. 717-4146. (6.12)

Merchandise

STUFF/GARAGE SALES

BIG SCREEN Zenith 46" projection-TV, picture-on-picture, color, stereo and digital remote. Asking \$1,600 (retails at \$2,395). 876-6096. (6.9)

RETAIL

HAWTHORNE VILLAGE ANTIQUES

Four NEW Dealers. Antiques • Books • Art - 3032 N. Decatur Rd. between DeKalb Indus. & E. Ponce, 294-4585. (6.12)

MISCELLANEOUS

'89 760 Volvo, 4 DR, Turbo, leather int., sun roof, ABS, all power options, phone, ext. warranty. Andy, 237-9666. (6.9)

Pets

WILD COUNTRY GIRLS

Gorgeous, playful, loving adult female malamute for adoption. Needs to run. Prefers women. 373-9190. (6.9)

Real Estate

FOR RENT

EMORY/LENOX-Luxurious condo. Spacious. All amenities. Balcony overlooking pool. 3 BR, 2 BA. \$800. 934-9867. (6.12)

Forest Park-nice, clean 3 BR, 1 BA brick ranch. Appliances, draperies, deck, fence. \$550 + deposit. 361-1539. (6.9)

Apt. complex needs considerate neighbor. 1665 Briarcliff near Sage Hill 2 BR, 1 BA. No pets. Reasonable rent. Call 321-0811. (6.10)

SEEKING TO RENT

Need 3 BR, 2 BA home with fenced yard in the Austell / Powder Springs Area. Please call Martha 1-205-854-3988. (6.9)

FOR SALE

Ideal home & location for professional singles & couples. This updated Buckhead charmer had 3 bedrooms + bonus, lovely & private garden; garage. Pam Urch BBRKS. 237-3974 ex. 243. (6.11)

Roommates

GWF seeks same to share 2BR. 1.5 BA Townhouse in Clarkston, W/D, fenced yard, must like dogs. Available May 1, \$300/mo. plus 1/2 util. Call JJ. 296-2443, leave message. (6.11)

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. (6.12)

N. Decatur/Emory area. GWM seeking non-smoking male to share 3 BR condo. All amenities \$375 except phone. Deposit + 6 months lease required. Serious calls only 378-6497. (6.11)

Roommate wanted: GWF 30, professional seeks responsible non-smoking roommate. Must have a life & a personality! Dunwoody. 457-7025. \$300. (6.11)

Kennesaw. Seeking responsible GWF to share large house in the suburbs. Nice neighborhood, yard & W/D. Swim/tennis community. 427-2454. (6.14)

Travel

IRISH BED & BREAKFAST:

Come home to Ireland! Quality Farm & manor homes. Delta Air, car, accommodations, breakfast and personal

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TO PLACE AN AD DEADLINE: Tuesday, 5pm for following week's issue.

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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 (4 weeks minimum) x # weeks _____
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 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
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itinerary. CELTIC ADVENTURES: (404) 261-7924. 511 East Paces Ferry Rd. Atlanta, GA 30305. (6.11)

INTOWN ATLANTA

Springdale-East B&B, a gay-hosted B&B in Victorian Inman Park. Comfortable ambience. Call 523-5804 for information and reservations. (6.14)

SWIFTWATERS WOMANSPACE - Riverfront campground and Bed & Breakfast with in-room hot tub. In scenic mountain forest. One hour north. Backpacking Outfitters. (706) 864-3229. (6.11)

COASTAL MAINE - FABULOUS VIEWS - Sea Gnomes' Home-Rooms for Womyn, PO Box 33, Stonington, ME 04681. Cool nights, brochure, seasonal. (6.9)

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)

Volunteers

America's first park dedicated to a gay man needs someone familiar with applying for federal grants and as a liaison to Rep. Lewis and Senator Nunn offices. Leave message 873-2950. (6.12)

Voice Connection

WOMEN

GWF, attractive, 34, seeks same for dinner, dancing, movies, music, outdoors, indoors, art, theatre, etc. Humorous, witty, intelligent a must. ☎ 1383

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. (6.12)

GBF 2 kids seems feminine, likes to be controlling. Seeks extremely feminine BF who wants a serious relationship. No chubbies. ☎ 1382

Single female seeking other females for friendship and possible relationship. 18-25. No butches. ☎ 1381

If you are progressive, open, searching, health-minded, communicative, professional, over 35 & looking for a friend, call me. ☎ 1374

GBF attractive romantic of 28; Searching thru ads for female life-mate. You should be attractive too—Insightful, thoughtful, communicative and true. ☎ 1356

GWF - 33, intelligent, attractive, vegetarian, with strong sense of integrity, into non-bar activities, seeks a GF, 32-40 who thinks well of herself, with similar interests. ☎ 1354

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 sks same for friendship and other possibilities. ☎ 1324

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

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, assertive, progressive and extremely conscious college student 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 sin-

cere 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. Femie, 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

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

MEN

WM, 29, 6 ft, 175 lbs, receding Willis type, country boy, boots, jeans, conservative, CLOSETED, seeks same for long friendship. Rockdale area. ☎ 1384

Bottom seeks muscular Top, 25 to 40 who gives safe Greek, spankings, WS, TT, obedience training, verbal humiliation, and likes to receive body worship, rimming, boot service and other safe S&M. ☎ 1385

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

SIZZLING HUNKS LIVE!! 1-800-284-2739. 3.50/minute. Wild Gay Party Line 2.00/minute or 1-900-745-0833. 18+

Attractive GWM 40 seeks attractive GWM 25-40 who is sincere, romantic and affectionate. POB 11606, Atlanta 30355. ☎ 1379

Handsome, educated, Bohemian GBM, 27, HIV+, versatile mostly bottom, loves jazz. Relationship oriented, seeks GM. Boxholder PO Box 632, Leesville, SC 29070.

Asians, Blacks, Hispanics, and all others: Mature WM, active, hot, more. Beginners welcome. ☎ 1380

LGM, 40, 5'9", 160. Honest, sincere bottom seeks dominant masculine tall top B/M huge well endowed for committed relationship. POB 45273, Atlanta 30320. (6.11)

"Married" GWM, 37, black/blue, attractive, trim, intelligent, masculine, muscular, hairy & passionate, seeks attractive daytime top. Box 7243, Atlanta 30309. (6.11)

GWM, 35, 5'5", 137, Br/Bi, bearded/

hairy, HIV+, seeks attractive submissive boy for cuddling/kink, possible relationship. No smokers. ☎ 1375

Mr. Right seeks Mr. Ready. Handsome top seeks bottom for loving relationship. ☎ 1376

Handsome WM, 35, 6'2", 185, Brown hair / eyes, moustache. Runner, swimmer, well-educated, professional, seeking similar WM 30+. ☎ 1377

GWM - 23, 6'1", Br/Bi, versatile, HIV-. Sks out-doorsey 25-30 GWM for pos relationship. No fems. PO Box 1354, Cornelia, GA 30531. ☎ 1378

LAIDBACK, WM, semi-loner, 42, 6'2", 180 lbs, HIV-, seeks similar man also interested in mutually private "French" tutoring, no femmes! ☎ 1358

GWM seeks fine GBMs 18-28 for hot, safe fun in Orlando, Fla area. Cum, be with me! ☎ 1357

WM, 34, 5'11", 168, Professional, clean-cut, handsome foot-slave seeks masculine, big-footed (12+) WM (30-45) for discreet service. PO Box 723452, Atlanta, GA 31139-0452. (6.9)

GBM 34, 5'10, 190, good-looking, athletic, masculine, very romantic sks hairy masculine GWM, 25-40 for friendship and possible romance. ☎ 1355

Athletic GBM, 25, 6'2", 190, seeks bigger stronger GWM to help me gain extra muscle. You'll get friendship, maybe more. ☎ 1353

ATHENS-Irish beekeeper (new to area) seeks mature masculine (bis?), discreet (monogamous/safe) companion to share rustic country "cottage" life. ☎ 1352

28yo GWM, average looks, HIV-. Seeking guys (18-25) for casual encounters. Safe sex only, limits respected. ☎ 1351

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#. Hung well? Me, too. Seeking other GWM into size porno strings fun. Boxholder #119, 1579-F Monroe Dr., Atlanta 30324. (6.9)

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

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

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 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

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). Pluses for you - 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, skg tall, handsome, sincere, non-smoker, GWM for romantic perm. 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, sks 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 sks GM 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 prof. seeks quality, slen-

der GBM, age unimportant, for friendship, perhaps relationship. ☎ 1242

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

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

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

BM seeks masculine BM to become ? buddies. ☎ 1236

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Latino GWM, 24, 6', sincere, good personality, sks 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

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

White male bottom looking for top man, any race or age for daytime get-

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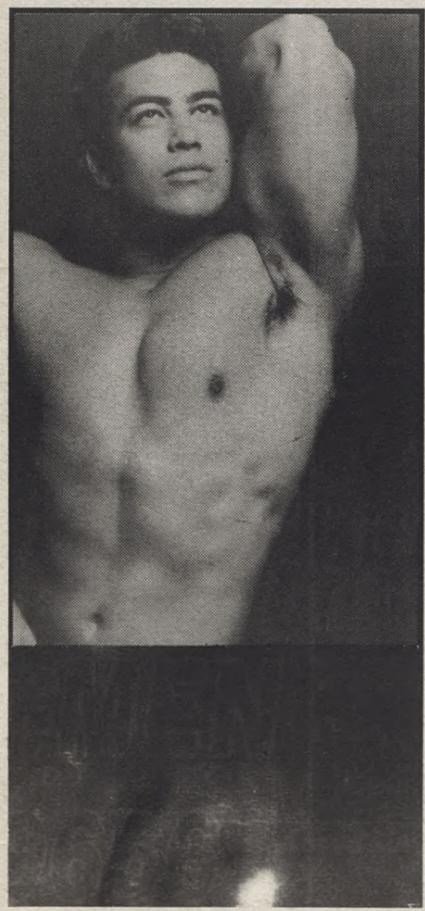
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