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AUG. 26 - SEPT. 1 / 1993

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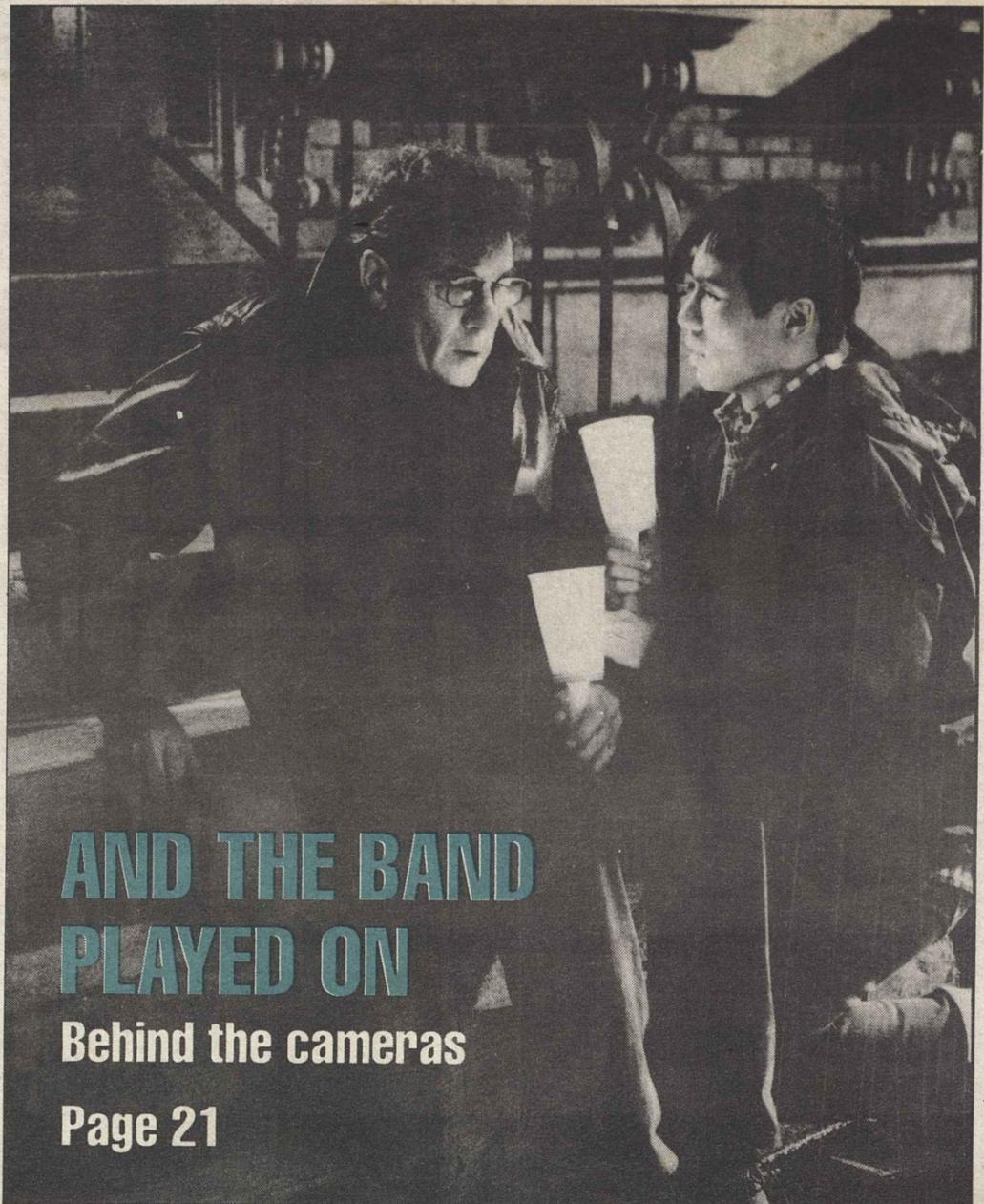
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**AND THE BAND
PLAYED ON**

Behind the cameras

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GAY AND GRAY

*America has almost four million lesbians and gays age 60 or older.
For them, being gay has presented a unique set of challenges.*

by CANDACE CHELLEW

Evelyn Fry remembers what it was like to be a lesbian before Stonewall was a glint in a policeman's eye.

She frequented gay bars in Chicago years earlier and had her share of bumps and bruises at the hands of police.

"I wish I had a nickel for every night I spent in the Saturday night lock-up," she chuckles from her Cobb County home. "In the bars, you kept one eye on who you were with and the other on the door, watching for the cops. I've had black eyes and puffed lips from my nights out, but you go back to the bars because there

was nowhere else to go."

Like many gays and lesbians at the age of 65, Evelyn is retired after spending 27 years in the Navy. Unlike many gays and lesbians her age, she is out of the closet.

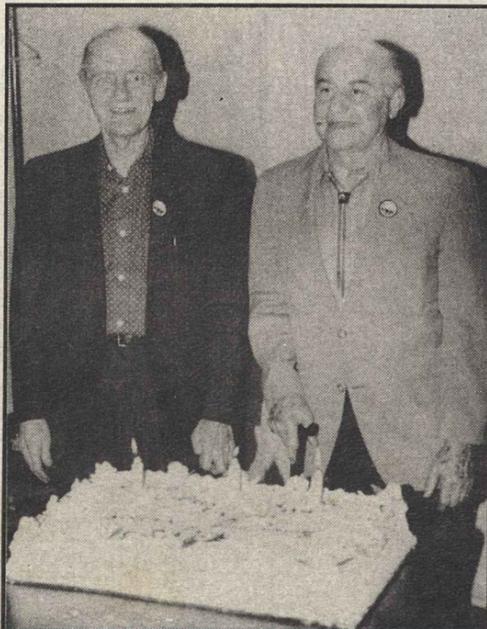
According to statistics, there are more than four million gay men and lesbians in the United States who are over 60. They are generally invisible because of fear based on past prejudices from society. In their youth, they were called sick by doctors, a menace by the police and immoral by the clergy. Many still see the world as a hostile place where they can't be out.

Evelyn Fry doesn't buy it. "They've done everything they can to me, why not be out?" she insists. "I spent the better part of my life lying about who I was. We've come to a point that if we don't stand up now, we will be right back to where we were before."

But not all seniors see it that way. Greg Anderson is a social worker with SAGE, Seniors in a Gay Environment, a social service organization based in New York City. "I hear a lot of my older clients say that things were better when we all kept it quiet because being out just makes people hate us more," he says. "Now, that's internalized homophobia, but if that's the way you perceive the world, I'm not going to do you much good by insisting that you drop that attitude. You bring people out of the closet slowly—you don't yank them out. I think it would be great if everyone came out, but I don't think a lot of these people ever will."

Just like the youngsters behind them, older gays and lesbians embody a diversity of opinion. They are also diverse in their appearance and lifestyle. Some got married, some live alone, some have kids and grandchildren, some have long term partners. Some are sick, some are healthy, some have outlived their families and spouses.

As the gays and lesbians of the baby boom set grow older, they too will discover that aging is one thing in life that can't be avoided.



**Despite all the impediments society has placed
in their way, some gay and lesbian partners
who met in the 1930s and 1940s
are still together.**

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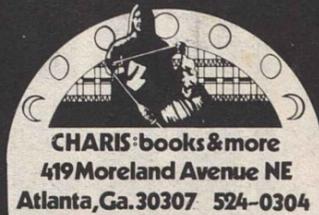
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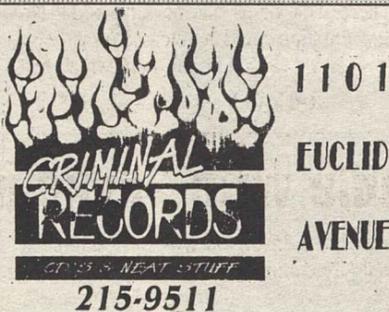


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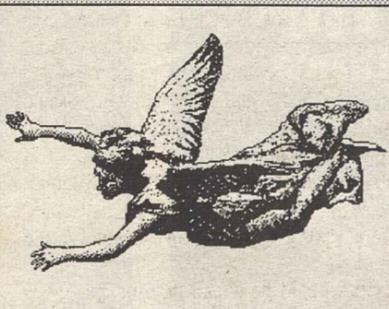


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NIPPED IN THE BUD

Christian Coalition organizing meeting in DeKalb County runs into effective opposition from progressive forces.

Decatur—When the Christian Coalition came to DeKalb County last week for an organizational meeting, the effort seemed doomed from the start.

About two-thirds of the 120 people in attendance at the Manuel Maloof Center were not right-wing Christians but part of a peaceful anti-coalition demonstration organized by a host of progressive groups, from the National Organization for Women to Queer Nation to the Georgia Abortion Rights Action League.

Then, a technical goof-up left the meeting without a sound system. And someone forgot the flag, eliminating the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting ended abruptly just 30 minutes after it began, the indication being that the speakers had said all they could given the company they had on hand.

The coalition is a political-action group that came out of Pat Robertson's 1988 political campaign. It is organized on national, state and county levels and currently claims to have a membership of 350,000 nationwide. Locally, it has been in the news of late because coalition members are believed to be active in an anti-gay/lesbian campaign by the Cobb County Commission.

However, DeKalb County is perhaps the most politically liberal in the metro area, with an ethnically-diverse population that includes many gays and lesbians. And county residents excised by the antics of the Christian Coalition decided to fight back.

"How many of you realize that this is a wake-up call to get organized so that we don't become a county of intolerance and hate?" said Mary Hickey, co-chair of NOW/Atlanta, who

addressed the demonstrators after the coalition meeting broke up. She pledged that as long as the coalition members held their meetings in public places, they would be followed.

"We want to be there every step of the way to find out what it is they're trying to do to our county."

The evening's informal Christian Coalition agenda consisted of introductions, vague pontifications from leaders and prayers. The ideological division of those in attendance was duly noted in the opening prayer, which included an appeal to the Lord for relief from "attacks on basic family values."

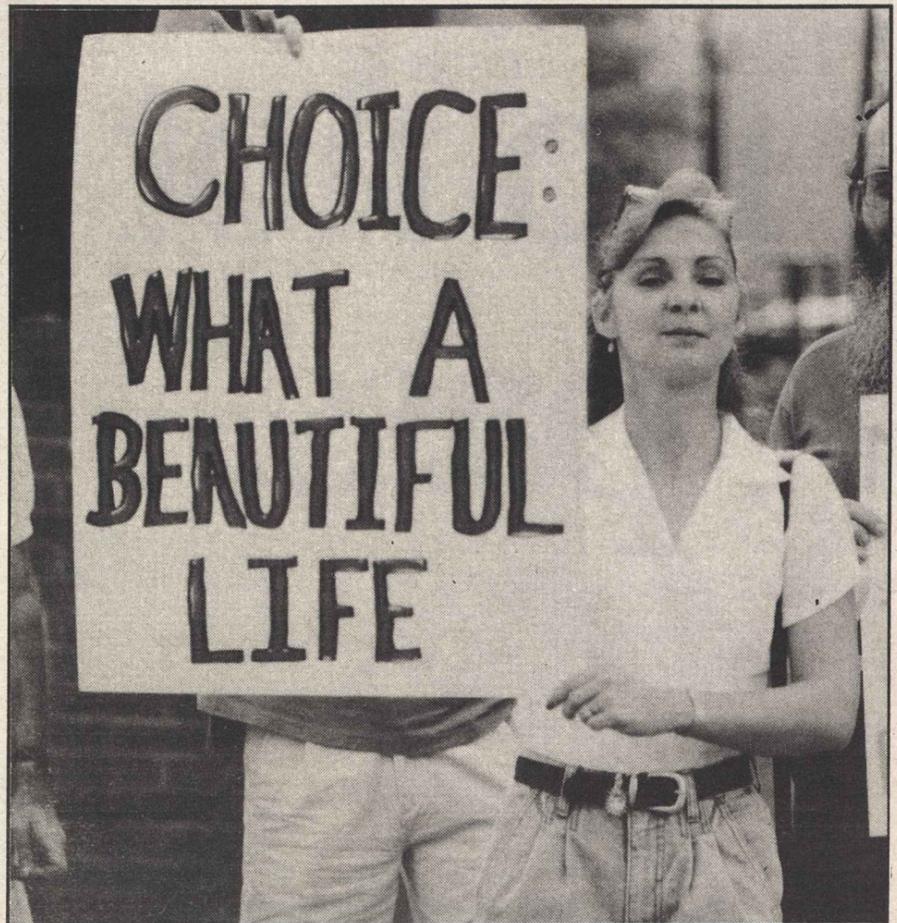
That, ironically, may have been the evening's most hostile moment.

Pat Gartland, the state director of the Christian Coalition, who has organized chapters in 35 Georgia counties including Cobb, Fulton, Clayton and Gwinnett, said that the coalition's purpose is to "bring the [pro-family groups that are concerned with what's happening in this country] out of the pews and into the precinct...to vote for the candidate of your choice."

Specific issues of concern were curiously relegated to "the tax increase" and ability to "choose the school of your choice." Gartland indicated that the coalition would feed off of other groups such as "pro-life and anti-porn" for information but would not dwell on those issues.

"It goes farther than the things attacked by the religious right," said the coalition's communications co-chair, Doug Marshall, who cited taxes, public policy and crime as predators of family values.

But judging from the newspaper being dis-



About 80 opponents of the religious right turned out last Thursday to let the Christian Coalition know it's not wanted in DeKalb.

tributed at the door—a letter to the state of Georgia from Pat Robertson—plenty of social issues of concern to the group had gone untouched. The most urgent issues facing Christians in this country today are abortion, prayer in public schools, homosexuals in the military and gay rights, Robertson said.

In an interview before the meeting, Marshall

told Southern Voice that, despite the coalition's emergence in DeKalb at the same time as the battle is raging in Cobb, the group is not connected to, or inspired by, the Cobb commission activity. However, he said they were closely watching what was happening in Cobb.

JAMES FITCH

Counselor says he's victim of anti-gay job bias

Smyrna—A Sandy Springs man says he has been barred from his job as an adolescent counselor because of anti-gay discrimination.

Lloyd Swann, who has worked in the adolescent unit at the Ridgeview Institute in Smyrna since January, said he received a written "performance problem notice" on August 15 from a nursing manager who said she did not feel "he is appropriate to work on the adolescent unit" and advised that he receive immediate education about therapeutic relationships.

The notice related an incident in which a patient said Swann had "openly acknowledged" being gay and "shown her a bracelet he was wearing, which read 'Proud to be a Gay Atlantan.'"

Swann denies such an incident took place, though he acknowledges that he did wear a bracelet, from this year's Pride celebration, to

work on August 6. "I noticed a patient looking at it, and I immediately realized it wasn't a good idea to wear it, so I took it off," he said.

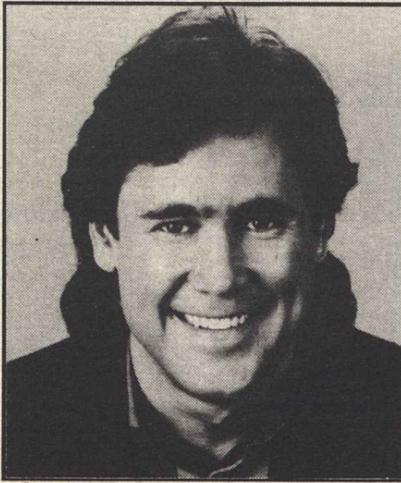
But Florence Manning, Ridgeview's human resources coordinator, says Swann was not the victim of anti-gay discrimination. "We don't have issues with employees being gay," she said.

Swann left Ridgeview after getting the problem notice, believing he had been fired.

"I've always worked on the adolescent unit," he said. "It's where I was trained. I'm good there. The kids like me. The letter states that I can't work there."

However, another hospital spokesperson, Beth Gault, said that while she could not discuss specific personnel issues, "[Swann] is still employed here. His status has not changed." No further information could be released on the case without Swann's written permission, which had

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18



Lloyd Swann denies that he discussed his sexual orientation with patients.

Cobb takes up arts measure

Marietta—The Cobb County Commission is expected to approve a measure this week that would limit arts funding only to those organizations that exhibit "strong community, family-oriented standards."

Previously, the commission has proclaimed homosexuality incompatible with community standards in a 3-1 vote on Aug. 10. And this Tuesday, just after Southern Voice went to press, commissioners were expected to take up the anti-arts measure.

"If they vote to pass this [policy change], they have sealed their fate," said Lisa Mount, president of the Atlanta Theatre Coalition. "Cobb County will be doubly marked for their discrimination against gays and lesbians and the arts."

The attempt to change the policy was brought about by complaints against a Theatre in the Square production of "Lips Together, Teeth Apart," a play about two heterosexual couples vacationing in a home on Fire Island. While none of the commissioners—and few Cobb County supporters of the measure—actually saw it, the play's discussion of the couples' gay neighbors brought a firestorm of invective from residents complaining about lack of family values.

Some even attacked the play's title, claiming it was somehow suggestive of "the gay lifestyle." The title actually refers to a remedy for teeth-grinding.

"It's a very clear agenda," said Mount. "To condemn homosexuality and silence the arts. It's unconstitutional, and my community values are the Constitution."

While a public hearing on the measure was scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoon and the issue was on the agenda for Tuesday night's

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

Lesbian runs into trouble with "dyke money" stamp

Decatur—A lesbian who stamped the words "dyke money" on a money order that she used to pay her rent says an assistant leasing manager in her Decatur apartment complex then circulated a homophobic memo to colleagues describing his encounter with her.

The memo included a photocopy of Annise Barber's money order, with her address written plainly across the bottom, and Barber, 19, now says she fears for her safety.

The memo read: "The stamp was custom made and stamped in bright pink. She said (in her cute yet lesbo voice) that she wanted our complex to know how much the gay and lesbian community contributes (to which I said, 'look Butch, I don't care!'). People never cease to amaze me."

Barber lives in the Oaktree Apartments, lo-

cated near the Kensington MARTA station at Memorial Drive and Kensington Road.

While the memo was unsigned, Barber was able to attribute it to an assistant leasing manager because she had a conversation with him in which he said, "look Butch, I don't care." She doesn't know how widely the memo was circulated, but its very existence was frightening.

"I'm afraid," she said. "They haven't turned my security alarm on. What could happen to me and no one would know?"

Barber said that she contacted Dean Sigmon, the supervisor of the man she says distributed the memo, asking for an apology and for the man's removal.

"[Sigmon] said he'd had nothing but raves [about his] performance, and he didn't think he could meet my demands," Barber said. "He

couldn't even give me an apology? That is outrageous."

Sigmon told Southern Voice he had met with Barber and heard her complaints but denied knowledge of the memo.

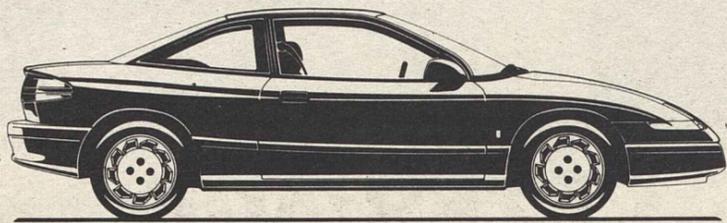
"I'm going to have to talk with [the assistant leasing manager]," he said. "If there is such a memo, I'd like to see that as well."

The man Barber believes circulated the memo was off work and could not be reached for comment.

Barber said she is speaking with an attorney about possible legal action. "A landlord is supposed to provide safe housing, and they have endangered my safety."

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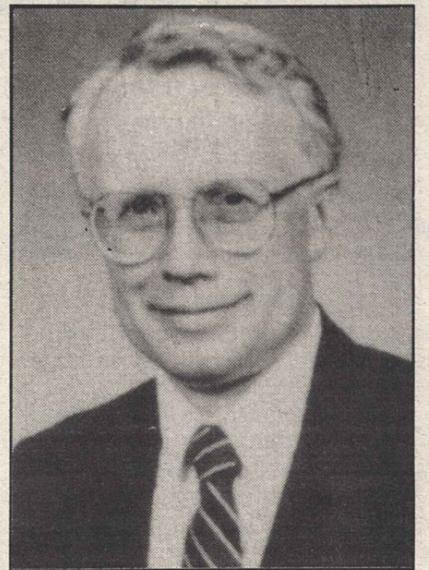
Asheville, NC—An Asheville man with a long history of work on both civic and gay/lesbian issues has become that city's first openly gay candidate for the City Council.

"Asheville has a great future, and I want to help make that happen," Ron Lambe, 57, told Community Connections, a gay paper in Asheville. "I believe we have an opportunity to build on Asheville's remarkable assets to make this a truly wonderful and exciting city for everyone."

Lambe currently serves as operations manager for the Western North Carolina Alliance, a grassroots citizens organization. He also serves on an efficiency task force for the local water authority and a local task force for safe drinking water, as well as being vice chairman of a Democratic Party precinct committee in West Asheville.

He is also co-chair of the Asheville Gay and Lesbian Community Council and was one of the organizers of North Carolina's Pride celebration when it came to Asheville for the first time in 1992. He also helped organize the Carolyn Cansler Center, the city's gay/lesbian community center.

Lambe is also known around the Southeast as one of the founders of the Gay Spirit Visions Conference in Highlands, N.C. and as



Ron Lambe wants a seat on the Asheville City Council.

the former managing editor of the RFD Journal. He was also part of a gay men's collective that ran the Running Water Retreat Center from 1978 to 1988.

Alabama students "condomize" bars

Tuscaloosa, AL—In an effort to slow the spread of the HIV virus, a University of Alabama student group has begun a first-ever outreach program at Tuscaloosa bars.

Students for Education to Prevent AIDS, or SEPA, began the program earlier this summer. SEPA's outreach program consists of placing in local bars a small, clear-plastic container filled with condoms and small brochures with information on the proper use of a condom in prevention of contracting HIV. The containers are placed near cash registers, entrance ways or other high-traffic areas of the establishment.

"The goal of this project is to provide easy access to condoms to young, college-aged adults, who are increasingly at risk for contracting HIV," Coy Stout, the president of SEPA, wrote in a letter to local bar owners.

The condoms and brochures are provided by West Alabama AIDS Outreach, which receives them from the Alabama Department of Public Health. The condoms are coated with the spermicide nonoxynol 9, and on the side of the container is an information panel with a

phone number people may call if they want more information about AIDS/HIV.

Stout, a graduate student in social work, said the program began in June when he sent letters to seven bars in the area which have a significant student patronage. Currently, four of the bars contacted have asked for containers.

"We have had a positive response from the bar owners," Stout said. "Many of them have already called back for refills."

Debbie LeBron, education project coordinator of West Alabama AIDS Outreach, said this is the first continual bar outreach in the Tuscaloosa area.

"We've talked about bar outreach for a long time," LeBron said. While she had conducted a number of programs in person at local bars, this is the first one that is scheduled to go on indefinitely.

Also, she said, SEPA's program may have advantages over other plans because people feel embarrassed or scared to ask a stranger sitting at a table for a condom or for information. "This is very anonymous."

Hand-holding lesbians thrown out

Franconia, VA—A lesbian couple was asked to leave a roller rink because they held hands and skated together during a designated couples' period.

Clarity Haynes and Lynn Borowitz were part of a group of friends who went skating at the Franconia Skating Center to celebrate a friend's 24th birthday.

"What happened is horrifying," said Haynes, 22. "All we did was hold hands on the roller rink floor."

The women said occasionally the floor was cleared and it was announced that for several songs only girls or only boys could skate.

Then the floor was reserved for couples, said Borowitz, 22. "They did announce it was male and female couples beforehand, and we knew that potentially there would be a problem," she said. "But we felt that was all the more reason to do it."

"If anyone doesn't follow our rules, we ask them to leave," manager Charles Lowe said of the Aug. 6 incident. He refused further comment.

Rink rules posted near the front entrance

do not specify who is allowed to skate together.

"It's just absurd. I can't even get angry about something so terribly silly," said Janel Brooks, the woman whose birthday the group was celebrating.

When Haynes and Borowitz went onto the floor, a skating rink worker who patrols the floor immediately approached them, the two said.

"He kept following us and asking us if we had a hearing problem," Borowitz said. Haynes said, "I told him we were a couple, but he said it was only male-female couples."

By the time the women left the floor after they were told that police were being called, several teenage girls had gathered to offer their support, the women said.

Police said that the women left without incident and that a 14-year-old girl, who had loudly supported the women, was arrested for trespassing because she refused to leave the rink. The girl was released to her parents and has not been charged, police said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reno's Office Won't Probe Hateful Oregon Flyers:

The U.S. Justice Department says it cannot launch an investigation into who is responsible for distributing flyers in Oregon that call for the execution and castration of gays and lesbians. Mitzi Henderson, president of Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians, wrote a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno requesting the investigation because the flyers "present the clear potential for more widespread assaults and killing," according to a report in the Washington Blade. But a Justice Department official says that while the department is "concerned," it cannot investigate because federal laws do not extend civil rights protections on the basis of sexual orientation. The flyers asked people to collect the names of gays and lesbians and called on them to "slash the throat of the perverted heathen."



Attorney General Janet Reno

investigations of the couple by a court-appointed guardian and an independent investigative organization. The women, identified as J.M.G. and E.O. in court papers, were described by investigators to be "loving and warm people who are providing the child with a secure environment in which to grow up." But the judge stopped short of recognizing the adopting woman as a stepmother because New Jersey does not recognize same-sex marriages.

Gay/Lesbian Group Recognized By UN: The United Nations has granted "roster consultative status" to the International Lesbian and Gay Association, an unprecedented move which allows the international advocacy group to submit papers to the UN on issues concerning the worldwide lesbian and gay community. Twenty-two out of 43 nations—including the United States—voted in favor of the move, while four voted against and 17 abstained. The approval for consultative status represents a compromise victory, however. ILGA had requested approval for a "category II" status, which would have allowed the group to speak before the UN as well as submit papers.

Gay Cop Returns To LA Police Force: A gay policeman who won a harassment suit returned to work, vowing times have changed for the Los Angeles Police Department, and announcing a recruitment program for gay officers. "I'm not going to tolerate anything like I did for 3 1/2 years," said Sgt. Mitchell Grobeson. "Anything happens, I'm going to advise the chief. And the chief is not going to tolerate it. I guarantee it." Police Chief Willie Williams succeeded Daryl Gates last year, promising to fight discrimination of any kind. Grobeson joined the department in 1981 and was harassed by his fellow officers when his sexual orientation was revealed. He resigned, sued and won a \$770,000 settlement in February.

Texas Jury Acquits 3 ACT UPers Who Shouted Down Falwell: Three ACT UP members who used an air horn to razz Jerry Falwell and screamed as he began a speech at last year's Republican National Convention have been acquitted by a Houston jury. The three—James Richard Smith, Scott Sawyer, and Kim Yvette Edwards—were members of ACT UP/New York. Smith had previously been acquitted of two other charges stemming from the incident but still faces trial for allegedly biting a sheriff's deputy during his arrest.

Marine Claims He Killed Japanese Man Because He Made Advances: The attorney for Christopher Glidden, a Pennsylvania Marine on trial in Okinawa for killing a Japanese man, says his client did hit Seiyu Yokuta in the head with a flower pot and a concrete block. But Glidden's lawyer, Minoru Uechi, using a "homosexual panic" defense, claims Glidden snapped when Yokuta tried to fondle him and that the drunken rage which led to Yokuta's death may have been fueled by sexual abuse in Glidden's past. Uechi said that Glidden was raped by a male relative at age 15 and sexually assaulted by a classmate when he was 13.

Senators Urge Pentagon To Release Study Favoring Gays In The Military: Eight Democratic senators are urging the Pentagon to release an independent study that they say finds "no substantive basis" for keeping the ban on gays serving openly in the military. Signing the letter were Sens. Tom Harkin, Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Howard Metzenbaum, Carol Moseley-Braun, Russell Feingold, Paul Wellstone and Patty Murray. The \$1.3 million study was conducted by the Rand Corporation, and insiders who have seen it say that it "cast[s] serious doubt on the wisdom of adopting" President Clinton's compromise policy. Questioned about the lawmakers' call, Pentagon spokeswoman Kathleen deLaski said the military did plan to eventually release the study.

America's Insurance Commissioners Going to Colorado: Despite a nationwide boycott of Colorado because of the state's anti-gay/lesbian rights amendment, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners has decided to hold its 1994 spring meeting in Denver, pumping more than \$2 million into the state's economy. New York Boycott Colorado has called for lesbians and gay men to write their state insurance commissioners to object to the "busting of [the] Colorado boycott."

Kansas City Passes Hate Crimes Ordinance: The Kansas City, Mo. City Council last week adopted a measure that imposes tougher penalties against criminals who act based on discrimination, including sexual orientation. The council vote was 11-1, with Councilwoman Kathryn Shields casting the sole no vote. She supported the law's intent, she said, but thought it infringed on free speech. "We are very pleased with this law," said Scott De Long, a board member of Kansas City's Human Rights Project. "It's important that those who perpetrate bigoted violence understand that they will have to suffer increased consequences."

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New law stops Oregon hate votes

But anti-gay/lesbian rights groups to challenge it in court

Salem, OR—An anti-gay rights group has gone to court to try to strike down a new law that will stop anti-gay/lesbian initiatives sweeping through Oregon's cities and counties.

Gov. Barbara Roberts signed the measure into law on Aug. 2, saying "it is my strong hope that signing [the bill] will help end the bitterness and division this issue has engendered in our state."

"I look forward to a day when no Oregonian suffers the pain of bigotry and when all Oregonians enjoy equal protection under the law," said Roberts, who supported an even stronger lesbian/gay rights bill that stalled in the legislature.

But the new law was barely a week old when the Oregon Citizens Alliance sued the state. The group's chairman, Lon Mabon, called the law "patently unconstitutional."

The law would prohibit any city or county from enacting or enforcing ordinances that single out any person or group based on sexual orientation. The measure also prohibits city and counties from enacting laws that give "special rights" to gays and lesbians.

However, Gov. Roberts said she signed the bill believing it would not invalidate ordinances enacted in Portland, Corvallis



Openly lesbian Rep. Gail Shibley, D-Portland, says the new law will "stop the [Oregon Citizens Alliance's] march through Oregon."

a vote in November in Keizer, a city just north of Salem, where a ballot measure would bar the city from passing gay/lesbian rights protections similar to those in Portland, Corvallis and Ashland.

While it fights the new law in the court, the OCA is still trying to get other local jurisdictions to defy the measure and enact anti-gay/lesbian ordinances. Mabon complained that the state law takes away the rights of local people to enact legislation by initiative referendum.

The House approved the measure 38-21 on July 6, and the Senate passed it 19-11 on July 28. Roberts received it on Aug. 1 and signed it the next day. The OCA has announced its plans to seek recall elections of 14 legislators from the House and six from the Senate who voted for anti-referendum bill. So far, no similar effort has been announced against Gov. Roberts.

While Oregon's two openly gay legislators applauded Roberts signing the bill, both expressed concern that it does not go far enough.

Rep. Gail Shibley, D-Portland, said the new law was "good for what it does, but it doesn't guarantee equal protections for gays and lesbians in housing and employment.

"But, it does stop the OCA's march through Oregon," she said while breaking into a broad smile.

The governor's signature "put in place the truce, the treaty," said Rep. George Eighmey, D-Portland. "Unfortunately, the truce called for by our side—those who promote the civil rights of all people—wasn't recognized by Lon Mabon.

"His true colors are finally coming out. He was given the language he wanted about no special rights, but he wanted more, to deny all rights."

Eighmey said the message of the new law is that "the civil rights of gays and lesbians, people of color, religious groups, etc., cannot be put up for popular vote."

"[It] is not a gay rights bill, but it does stop the Sherman-like march of the OCA through each village, town, city and county of this state," he said. "We've kicked the OCA in its shins. Maybe it won't be necessary to kick any higher."

NEIL HEILPERN and ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. George Eighmey, an openly gay Democrat from Portland, said the message of the new law is that "the civil rights of gays and lesbians, people of color, religious groups, etc., cannot be put up for popular vote."

"We've kicked the OCA in its shins. Maybe it won't be necessary to kick any higher."

and Ashland that prohibit discrimination against people on the basis of their sexual orientation.

After a statewide anti-gay/lesbian rights initiative failed to pass last year, Mabon's group started putting similar initiatives on ballots in cities and counties throughout Oregon. The measures passed in four counties and in the cities of Springfield, Cornelius, Junction City and Canby. The new law would invalidate those ordinances and prohibit other cities and counties from jumping on the OCA bandwagon.

However, State Elections Director Colleen Sealock, acting on the advice of the state's attorney general, advised local officials to go ahead with elections on OCA initiatives scheduled for September in Jackson County and six cities. The American Civil Liberties Union is expected to sue to stop those elections.

The new bill also apparently won't stop

Into the belly of the beast

It may go down as one of history's most well-protected picnics.

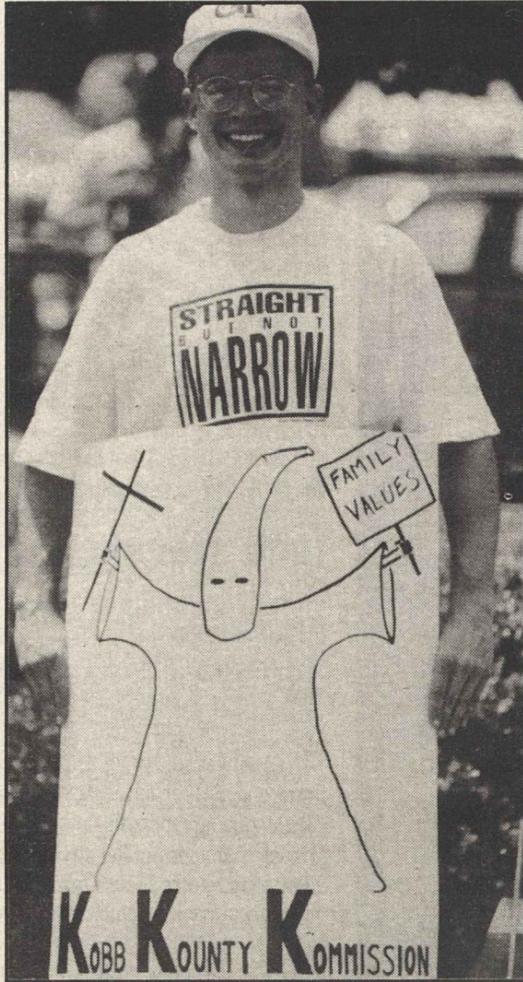
An impressive crowd of about 1,000 lesbians, gays and human rights supporters gathered Sunday under the relentless sun in the Marietta Square for food, fellowship—and to make it clear to the Cobb County Commission and their Christian supremacist supporters that despite their recent legislative lunacy, gays and lesbians are here and here to stay.

"We do not know this God these people are espousing," said Mark Stevens of Integrity, an Episcopal gay/lesbian ministry. Several speakers blasted anti-gay/lesbian demonstrators at previous gatherings for holding signs that said "Thank God for AIDS."

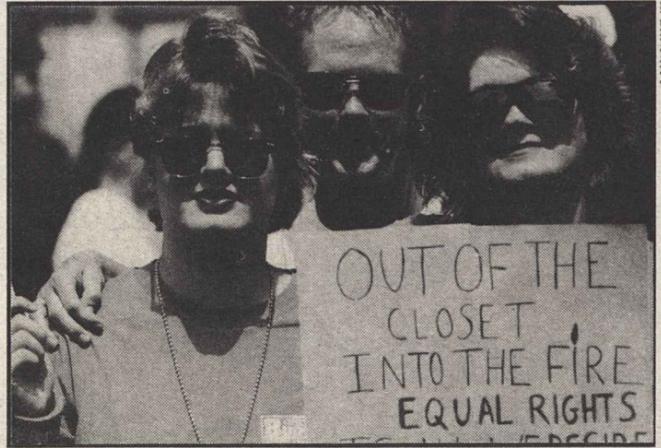
Worried about possible "aggressive tactics" by gay/lesbian groups from Atlanta, and potential clashes with anti-gay forces, the square was surrounded by policemen, though, as Lisa Kung of the Lesbian Avengers asked rhetorically, "Since when has a picnic in the park been considered aggression?"

The only incidents Sunday afternoon were two bomb scares that turned out to be hoaxes. Christian supremacist groups, bolstered by right-wing hate groups and former Gov. Lester Maddox, then took the square later in the afternoon to pray for the picnickers.

RICHARD SHUMATE



Chris Brown lets the commissioners know the error of their ways.



Tabetha Durham (left), Lesley Mantooth and De Schneider let their voices be heard.



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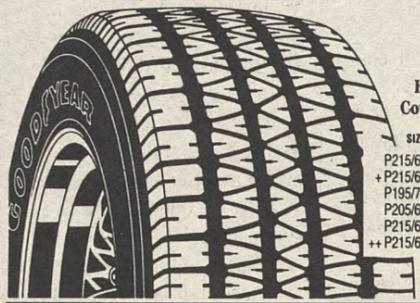
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Artcare surpasses goal

Atlanta's fifth annual Artcare auction, which was held Saturday, July 24, at the Swissotel, raised \$112,000 to benefit AIDS service organizations in the Atlanta area. Through donations, ticket sales, art and souvenir sales, Artcare raised nearly \$10,000 more this year than last.

In cooperation with Artcare, the Elton John Foundation is donating 50 cents for every dollar raised at the auction. According to Artcare chairman Jackie Stephenson, the total raised over the last four years of the event is \$335,000.

The organizations which benefit annually from the auction are AID Atlanta, Project Open Hand, Childkind and the Visiting Nurses Association.

P.A.L.S. seeks food storage

Each month, Pets Are Loving Support, Inc., gathers, repackages and then distributes pet food to its clients, who are people living with AIDS throughout metro Atlanta. The problem, however, is what to do with all those cans of kitty vittles and bags of puppy chow.

That's because P.A.L.S. currently has no central storage location, making food distribution something of an adventure. So P.A.L.S. is in search of someone who will donate about 2,000 square feet of space, which will need to be temperature controlled. With this space, P.A.L.S. volunteers can store, sort and prepare food all in one location.

Anyone who has space to donate, or who wants to donate food, kitty litter or become a volunteer, can call P.A.L.S. at (404) 876-7257.

Grady Sets Meetings on Priorities

Grady Memorial Hospital is holding a series of public meetings to set its priorities for 1994. The meetings are: Wednesday, Aug. 25, 6:30-9 p.m. in the auditorium of the Manuel Maloof Center, 1300 Commerce Drive in Decatur; Tuesday, Aug. 31, 6:30-9 p.m. at the South Fulton Annex, 56 Stonewall Tell Road in College Park; and Thursday, Sept. 2, 6:30-9 p.m. at the North Fulton Annex, 7741 Roswell Road, Atlanta.

Lambda opens office

The Atlanta Lambda Community Center has opened its development office in the 14th Street Playhouse building, corner of Juniper and 14th Street. The center is currently expanding its major fundraising drive, and the

development office will house this effort, as well as board meetings and committee meetings. For more information, call 662-9010.

NAPWA holding immune restoration forum

The National Association of People With AIDS will be sponsoring a free forum on immune restoration on Sunday, Aug. 29th from 2-4 p.m. at the Colony Square Hotel, 14th and Peachtree St., Atlanta. Dr. Paula Sparti, of Miami, who has just returned from a Washington, D.C. conference of the nation's top scientists on the immune system, will be the featured speaker.

Open House at AID Atlanta

The next Open House at AID Atlanta will be Thursday, Aug. 26 from 5:30-8 p.m. at 1438 W. Peachtree Street. Volunteers and staff from the agency's various programs will be present to talk about their services and the different volunteer opportunities available with AID Atlanta. For more information, call 872-0600.

Recovery anthology seeks submissions

"Old-timers" in recovery are being sought for a new anthology, "The Next Step: Out From Under, Volume Two." Material is being sought from lesbians in recovery from any of a variety of addictions, with a focus on later stage (eight or more years) recovery. Any style/format and recovery program will be considered. The deadline is Nov. 1. Send stamped self-addressed envelope for guidelines to: Jean Swallow, OFU2 Editor, 2404 California Street, #27, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Small business class at GSU

The Small Business Development Center at Georgia State University will begin their fall quarter session of "How to Start Your Own Business" on Wednesday, Sept. 8. This seven-week series will be held at Georgia State University from 6-9 p.m. Topics will include the business plans, legal issues, tax forms, marketing, record keeping, financial statements and financing. The registration fee is \$99. For more information call Pam Davis at 651-3550.



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A question of justice

TV special on Wilmington bashing raises concerns about whether the system can protect minorities from hate

When the three Marines accused of beating patrons of a gay/lesbian bar in Wilmington N.C. were on trial, one of the most telling moments came when defendant Walter Watkins was asked if he indeed had said to a police officer, "I hit the homos, too."

He admitted that he had.

"You didn't think to refer to them as people?" asked prosecutor James Faison.

"No sir, I did not at the time."

Throughout the trial testimony, which is now part of a Court TV special on the case, the defense maintained that what happened that night last January—amidst the highly charged atmosphere surrounding the gays in the military debate—was not a gay bashing. And in the wake of the Marine's acquittal, many in the public at large, including many gays and lesbians, have come to the view that this was simply a fight—and that Crae Pridgen and the two other men who were beaten were somehow partly responsible.

In a real sense, it was Pridgen, the man that garnered a boatload of media attention after the beating, who was put on trial in this case and found guilty in the court of public opinion of being a publicity hound and of blowing what happened that night in the Mickey Ratz bar out of all proportion.

But the Court TV special (which hasn't been seen in Atlanta because most metro cable systems don't carry the cable network) raises some serious questions as to whether justice has been served in this case, as does the June conviction of two of the same Marines for assaulting a female employee of a topless bar in Jacksonville N.C. on the night before the incident at Mickey Ratz.

The question is not whether the Marines should have been acquitted at the end of the Wilmington trial. Based on the testimony presented in the Court TV special, it would be hard to imagine that the judge (who was deciding the case without a jury) could have reached the legal standard of "beyond a reasonable doubt" and found them guilty.

Part of the problem with getting a conviction stemmed from the fact that Pridgen and the two other victims—John Laughter and Lance Hoffer—had trouble identifying exactly who was hitting them. Laughter clearly identified Marine Colin Hunt as throwing the first punch, and Pridgen identified another Marine, Patrick Cardone, as the man who hit him in the face and pulled him out the door of the bar. But when asked who was hitting them as the fight moved outside the bar, they could not make positive identifications. As Pridgen noted, it was hard to tell because he was curled in a fetal position,

protecting himself.

Another central issue in the trial was whether the Marines were provoked. According to the testimony, when they came in the bar, waiting for a female companion to use the restroom, one of them said, "Is this a gay bar?" Laughter told them that it was, and, if they didn't like queers, they should get out.

Laughter said the Marines then began to engage in anti-gay rhetoric, and he picked up a telephone to call police. As he had the phone in his hand, Hunt punched him, starting the fight. But Hunt said he punched Laughter because he thought he was going to hit him with the telephone, and the Marines maintain that the gay men were making inflammatory comments, such as telling the Marines that they wanted to "suck their cocks."

The description of the altercation between Hunt and Laughter produced the trial's most humorous, and perhaps unintentionally ironic moment, when defense attorney John Burney noted that Laughter was a "big ol' 6-foot man" picking on Hunt, the smallest of the Marines, whom he termed a "little tiny boy."

NEWS ANALYSIS

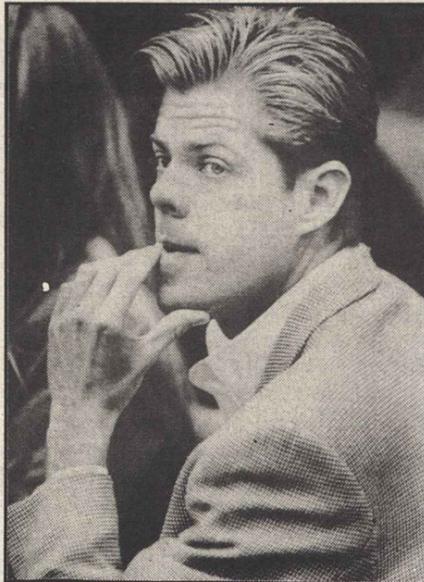
The image of a Marine being picked on and physically intimidated by a gay man was too much for Cardone, who couldn't suppress a chuckle.

Another factor in the acquittal was the fact that the prosecutor chosen to try the case, Faison, was weak and ineffective. Faison, who had been practicing criminal law just six months prior to the trial, was going up against a lead defense attorney, Burney, who is a folksy former district attorney with more than 30 years of trial experience.

In an interview with Court TV after the case was over, Faison attributed the judge's acquittal to the fact that the state's witnesses weren't credible. While arguing the case, he actually said that the victims "weren't perfect that night." And he all but conceded that the victims had used abusive language toward the Marines (a charge Pridgen and the others deny), then weakly argued that "abusive language alone is not a reason to assault someone."

Perhaps the victims weren't perfect that night. But, as even the most casual watcher of "L.A. Law" or "Perry Mason" knows, it is not a good idea for an attorney to trash his own witnesses.

One of the most troubling questions in this case is whether the fact that the victims were gay played any role in the selection of such an inexperienced prosecutor to handle such an im-



During the trial of the three Marines, the defense managed to put beating victim Crae Pridgen on trial.

portant, high-profile case—or whether it contributed to Faison's lackluster performance.

But while the judge's ruling might have been understandable, given the conflicting testimony and weakness of the prosecution, using that acquittal to say that a virulent strain of hatred toward gay people didn't play a role in this case is ludicrous.

The prosecution's star witness was Amanda Lopez, a former girlfriend of one of the Marines, who had been drinking with them that night in several Wilmington bars. She testified that the Marines did beat the gay men and that she tried to get them to stop, telling them that what they were doing was "stupid." Earlier in the evening, she said they had discussed the issue of gays and lesbians in the military, and all three defendants expressed their strong opposition.

In the days after the incident, Pridgen maintained that, as he was being beaten, the Marines were shouting "Clinton must pay." There was strong corroboration of that during the trial from a police officer, who said he overheard the Marines using that exact three-world phrase as they sat in the Wilmington jail. The policeman said the Marines "stated they hate all faggots [and] they wished all faggots would die."

So the picture that was painted in the trial—of three upstanding Marines, two of whom served in the Persian Gulf war, provoked into defending themselves against a bunch of drunken faggots with filthy mouths—isn't supported by the trial testimony.

This case isn't to the gay/lesbian community what the Rodney King case was to the African-American community. There was no mystifying acquittal in the face of overwhelming evidence. But on the other hand, this case does illustrate the level of hate gays and lesbians still face in their everyday lives—and how they cannot depend on the criminal justice system to protect them from that hate.

RICHARD SHUMATE

Pridgen plea bargains in embezzlement case

Wilmington, N.C.—Crae Pridgen has settled his legal troubles with the state of North Carolina, pleading guilty in July to a misdemeanor charge of illegal use of a credit card.

In return, two felony charges of embezzlement were dropped. District Court Judge Shelly Holt sentenced Pridgen to 12 months in jail but suspended the sentence.

Pridgen had been accused of using an expired credit card at a Wilmington clothing store where he had been working prior to the Jan. 29 incident in the Mickey Ratz bar, when three Marines were charged with beating Pridgen and other patrons in a case that made national headlines.

Southern Voice had reported that Wilmington police could not find Pridgen, that he was believed to be in San Francisco and that District Attorney Jerry Spivey might try to extradite him to North Carolina to face the embezzlement charges. But David Webb, a spokesman for the Southern Poverty Law Center, which is representing Pridgen in connection with a possible lawsuit against the Marines, said Pridgen "had never been in hiding in San Francisco."

According to Webb, Pridgen was in South Carolina when police came to his residence, and he turned himself in when he became aware that police were looking for him.

Webb says that before the embezzlement charges were even filed, Pridgen had already made restitution to the store for the amount of money involved in using the expired credit card, which was issued in Pridgen's name. Webb attributed the filing of the charges to a dispute over a personal loan to Pridgen by the owner of the store, which Pridgen could not pay back after he left his job in the wake of the publicity over the beating incident.

"There was never any effort by Crae to defraud anyone," said Webb, who said Pridgen has recently moved from Wilmington to Montgomery, Ala., which is also where the Southern Poverty Law Center, a public interest legal firm that frequently represents the victims of hate crimes, is located.

"He's trying to get his life together. This whole thing has been devastating," Webb said.

Webb said no final decision has been made on whether to pursue a civil lawsuit against the Marines, who were acquitted of criminal charges in the case.

RICHARD SHUMATE

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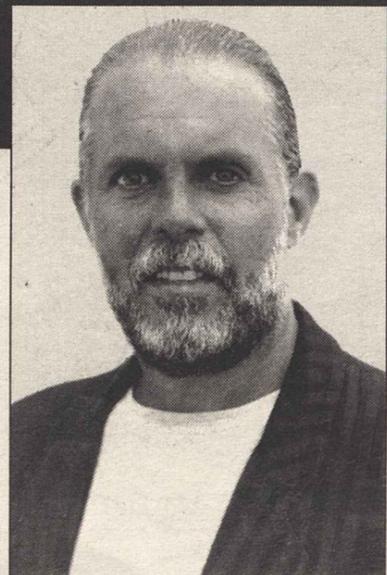
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Southern Voice interviews the creative force behind the splashy Atlanta production of the Broadway hit.

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

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

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SOUTHERN VOICE

EDITORIAL

Achtenberg letter evidence of Nunn's dark side

Under a strict dictionary definition, there can be no question that U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn suffers from acute homophobia, a phobia being a persistent, irrational fear of something, someone or, in this case, a group of someones.

The question, however, is whether, when it comes to lesbians and gays, Nunn is really antipathetic—that is, a person who genuinely despises those disgusting "queer folks" with the zeal of a Jerry Falwell or a Jesse Helms.

We realize that even asking the question is a serious violation of the spirit of political correctness with which our community seems to be consumed. Just ask Human Rights Campaign Fund lobbyist Cathy Woolard, who suggested, on a recent front page of this newspaper, that perhaps Senator Sam wasn't the anti-Christ and received fusillades from various quarters.

The senator himself seems to believe that he has gotten a bad rap, insisting that he doesn't hate gay people. They serve on his staff (though a couple of them were tossed a few years back for no good reason), and, after all, he voted to confirm Roberta Achtenberg, the openly lesbian San Francisco supervisor who is now an assistant secretary in the Department of Health and Human Services.

But a recent constituent letter sent by the senator, concerning Achtenberg, convinces us that there indeed is a streak of anti-gay antipathy that is a mile wide and struggling to surface above Nunn's carefully-constructed facade of civility.

The letter, which went out to those who wrote him about Achtenberg, said he found her effort to pressure the Boy Scouts into stopping its systematic discrimination against gays "abhorrent."

"It would be difficult for me to imagine an individual with whom I have more disagreements over what the media now calls 'lifestyle' issues than I do with Ms. Achtenberg," wrote Nunn.

So why did he vote for her? Because, Nunn said, it is his policy to give a president the benefit of the doubt in approving nominees (this from the man who torpedoed John

Tower's defense secretary appointment a few years back). "My policy is to oppose a nominee only when my objection to an individual is over an issue or situation which has direct bearing on the nominee's future responsibilities as a federal official," Nunn wrote.

And because, Nunn says, Ms. Achtenberg's position will not give her any responsibility over federal policy on gay and lesbian issues, he therefore voted for her. "Had her perspective confirmation given her authority over an issue related to gay and lesbian rights, I would have voted against her."

Oh, we see. Lesbians and gays are all right in high office as long as they are not given the power to do anything that would advance the cause of their own liberation.

At least Jesse Helms was honest. He just



said flat out that she was a "damn lesbian," and, if that made him a bigot, then so be it. Nunn instead wants it both ways. He finds Achtenberg's defense of her people "abhorrent" but votes for her and then comes up with a tortuous explanation for the Bubbas back home as to why he didn't really want to do it. He was just being loyal to his president, he says. Meanwhile, he can point to the Achtenberg vote as evidence that he really isn't a hate monger.

All of this would be laughable if it wasn't so sick.

The Sam Nunn's of the world are more dangerous than the Jesse Helmses because, as we saw during the military debacle, they can successfully repackage their bigotry and hostility as prudent policy and then sell it to the public.

So forgive us, senator, if we remain skeptical when you insist that you don't really have anything against us.

We guess we just get cranky when our hard-earned dollars are taxed away to pay the salaries of people who work to systematically deny us our civil rights. Even if they don't really hate us.

RICHARD SHUMATE

While we're on the subject...

There is another Georgia congressman wallowing in hypocrisy (OK, there is probably more than one, but we have to keep our ink bill within reason). U.S. Rep. John Linder, a Dunwoody reactionary who, apparently unbeknownst to him, represents most of the scads and scads of gay men and lesbians who call DeKalb County home, sent out a constituent letter saying he just didn't understand why he was being accused of being a bigot. Why, back when he was a small businessman (working for a living instead of slopping at the public trough as a member of Congress), he even hired gay folks.

Well, Mr. Linder, perhaps the reason for

the bigot label can be found in another letter you sent to people who were upset with you for your behavior during the recent military madness. In it, you noted that all kinds of non-queer people also can't get in the military—the old, the overweight, the handicapped and those with poor eyesight. "As there is no right to join the military, none of the people in any of these groupings lose any civil right as a result," Linder said.

Well, thankfully for the congressman, nobody loses their civil rights for making ridiculous and insulting analogies. But they should lose their seat in Congress.

RICHARD SHUMATE

LETTERS

Letter trashing Woolard unrealistic

A recent letter-writer was being unrealistically critical of Cathy Woolard [Letters, SoVo, Aug. 12].

Ms. Woolard has a right to be candid, and I appreciate hearing her perspective. It's OK that she's curious about what makes Sam Nunn tick. I would agree that it is "fascinating" how much focus, sacrifice and work the militant Christian right puts into their misguided causes, unlike much of my so-called "progressive" contemporaries, who sit around moping when they're not busy complaining, fantasizing or talking a lot of talk. And maybe after some poor organizer has called them for the 10th time, they might drop 10 bucks in the mail (which may be a fraction of their nightly bar tab), or go out and collect a page of signatures,

and then talk about it for the next two years.

The writer threatens to not renew his membership with Woolard's organization. Big deal. You can bet the right wingers are writing out checks for more than membership dues. While the right-wingers may have their heads up their butts, many "progressives" have their heads in the sand, pretending that things will get better (and not worse) without substantial sacrifice.

I'm surprised that Southern Voice entertains such bored, cynical letters. It's sad to see someone "walking the walk" getting publicly trashed by so much "talk." Don't we all have better things to do?

Brett Hamrick
Atlanta

Attack unwarranted

It is unfortunate "Speak Out" will have one less supporter due to Randy Fair's inability to find anyone "fascinating" who may be in opposition to his views. His attack against Cathy Woolard [Letters, SoVo, Aug. 12] is more than unwarranted because she finds Sam Nunn "fascinating." For a man who is quiet mannered with little personality, Sen. Nunn does have considerable influence, and I myself find that "fascinating." I am very proud to call Cathy Woolard my friend and for years have found her "fascinating."

Jim Bell
Atlanta

First domestic partners offer thanks

Due to the accident of being first to register for domestic partnership in Atlanta, we have received a certain amount of coverage in the local publications. The response has been very positive, with many friends, and sometimes total strangers, offering congratulations and sending touching notes (at times using scary phrases such as "role models").

We welcome this publicity because we (are hammy and) believe that any time gays are mentioned in a positive manner it helps, if only a little bit.

But we shouldn't lose track of the fact that the true heroes are the ones who pushed this legislation through and fought for it and won it for us. We merely took advantage of their achievement. To them go our heartfelt thanks.

Keep up the fight
Diego F. Sans and Jon-Ivan Weaver
Atlanta

Tea, a biscuit...and SoVo

Once a week I order a cup of tea, a biscuit and settle down with the Southern Voice, prepared to experience a myriad of feelings.

I go from anger to outrage to sadness and grief and at times, on to hopefulness, all intertwined with seasonings of humor. Every issue stirs up a mixture of feelings. My wish is that more people, gay and straight, would read your paper. It is a weekly routine that has enriched my life.

Fran Solomon
Atlanta



Those pesky blood-sucking (political) fleas

This has been an especially bad year for fleas. Shortly after Pride, I noticed that Malcolm, my oldest (who just turned 11) had that horrifyingly Bill-the-Cat-like look that he gets when his flea allergy kicks in. And Aengus, my youngest (soon to be nine) was scratching a bit more furiously than usual. Since then, we've gone from topical sprays to fumigators to major flea-flushers. I have gone to work smelling like pyrethrum, with only limited success.

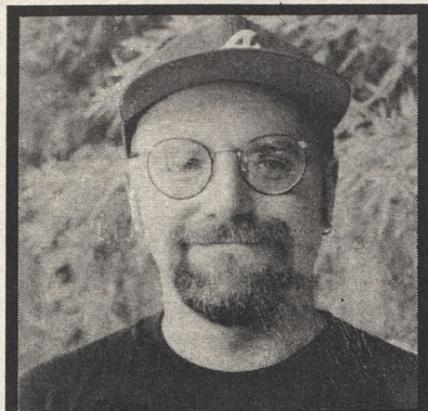
I assuage my pet-owner guilt by noting fleas are everywhere this year—I've had them jump on me in restaurants and drug stores. Perhaps even extreme vigilance may not be effective in a year this bad. Fortunately, bubonic plague being pretty much history, the only damage fleas can do is hop on your leg, bite you, then hop off.

And in my more optimistic moments, that also summarizes my opinion of politicians. It seems that our March On Washington turned up the heat sufficiently to make 1993 an especially bad year for a different kind of pesky little blood-sucker. They jump on our issues, bite us and then hop off for other vote-filled locations, having dined at a prime spot for those whose fortunes rise and fall on the demagogic popularity of their actions.

Now, I'm not talking about Bill Clinton or Barney Frank, who many in our community want to blame. Seems to me that Bill got as much of a compromise on gays in the military as our minimal level of political clout could support. That's what presidents do. Barney tried to push Bill toward something better that might be politically acceptable and couldn't even get that much. That's how Congress works. As I see it, they tried, they failed and they're excused.

There's still a gracious plenty of politicians to yell at this year. Like Sam, the sourpuss who is clueless how to support a Democratic president. And Maynard, the lame duck with lame excuses. And the new Hosea, McKinney, who tried to jump-start his mayoral campaign by punching out a not-so-defenseless lesbian.

But I want to start with the hapless Cobb County Commission. Seems they wanted to say something about gays in the military *real* bad, but Cobb County just doesn't have a military to ban us from. So what do they do? They search around for something else to ban us from, and, lo and behold, they are in the theater. "Quick, boys. Get 'em!" "But Mr.



Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

Wysong, they're actors. They haven't done anything wrong." "Okay, then let's not give 'em any money. Then they'll have to move back to Midtown and do drag shows. Good riddance."

Cobb County's debacle also shows us how far local politicians will go when given cover by national figures like Sam Nunn. I can't help but wonder where all this would be today if Clinton had just named Sam secretary of state like he wanted. Our esteemed senator would have been off hiking Bosnian mountains and Somali deserts last May instead of touring the barracks of Navy ships and holding the most biased Senate hearings in recent memory. Alas, the road not taken...

For our community, now is the time to assess what went wrong this year. First, I propose that we pick our fights better. A recent editorial in "The Nation" perfectly summed up the gays in the military issue: "The military as an institution stands entirely against the humanistic values behind the gay rights movement." This was absolutely the wrong issue, both for our community and for this president, whose military record didn't exactly shine to begin with. We couldn't win this one, so how did it take over the agenda?

Secondly, we must focus on grass roots organizing. Can we build letter and phone trees as strong as Pat Robertson's? Have we thanked unexpected supporters like Marvin Arrington, who was not known as a friend of our community and yet broke the 7-7 tie in the City

Council's second domestic partnership vote? Have we asked our parents and siblings and friends who live in non-urban areas like Cedartown or Clayton or Waycross to talk to their legislators?

We should remember that politicians act carefully only when they know their votes have consequences. Until our national community looks like a big can of Raid coming down the street (as it does in San Francisco, and here, sometimes), we'll lose more battles.

And there are more battles coming. Domestic partnership (which is an issue far worthier of our energy) has heated things up throughout Georgia to the extent that we should expect to see anti-gay legislation on the governor's desk next year. What are the chances of Zell vetoing a vote-getter in a tough election year? Personally, I'll take the odds of Pick Three, thank you.

There's a Colorado-like referendum in Florida looming on the horizon—the first time a gay issue has been voted on in a state that has not repealed its sodomy law. Will Florida pass a law forbidding local governments from passing gay rights laws? A similar vote was won by the homophobes in Tampa in 1992. Do we imagine the rest of Florida to be more enlightened?

Mercifully, American politicians usually do precious little that truly affects their constituents' day-to-day lives. Gordon Wysong can dry up Cobb County's culture simply because he knows he can find us there (as Fran Lebowitz once observed, if you took the gay influence out of American culture, you're pretty much left with "Let's Make a Deal"). Sam Nunn can prevent me from enlisting, and he won't need a bayonet to do it. For me, the quality of my life remains much as it was before they acted, as was my house when there were just a few fleas.

And that's the problem, because ignoring an infestation won't make it disappear. Berlin had gay rights laws in the 1920s, before economic disaster brought Hitler and hate to power. Until the political version of the Orkin man arrives to fumigate our various political institutions, we must be vigilant, realizing that our work will be hard, our victories few and our short-term results heavy on itch and short on scratch.

As for my house, fleas are still hopping. But at least I feel better knowing that I'm spraying at them.



GLAAD
News

by CARL LANGE
and AL KIELWASSER

Cobb County... Where Censorship Is an Art

On August 10th, the Cobb County Board of Commissioners declared gays and "gay lifestyles" incompatible with Cobb County. Since the submission of this column, other events have occurred in Cobb. Let your voice be heard. Write: Letters to the Editor, Marietta Daily Journal, 580 Fairground St., Marietta, GA 30061; Letters to the Editor, Atlanta Constitution, P.O. Box 4689, Atlanta, GA 30302; Cobb County Board of Commissioners, 100 Cherokee St., Marietta, GA 30090. Call the Cobb Citizens Coalition to help preserve the rights of all citizens at (404) 256-8690. Commissioner Bill Cooper, who has spoken out against discrimination, may be reached at 528-3313. The other commissioners are: Bill Byrne, chairman, 528-3300; Gordon Wysong, 528-3317; Joe Lee Thompson, 528-3315; Freeman Poole, 528-3311. To flex your dollar muscles, ask the manager at each business in Cobb that you use if they are supportive of citizen's rights and if they welcome lesbians and gays. If you choose not to support a business (or all of Cobb), call the Cobb Chamber of Commerce at (404)980-2000.

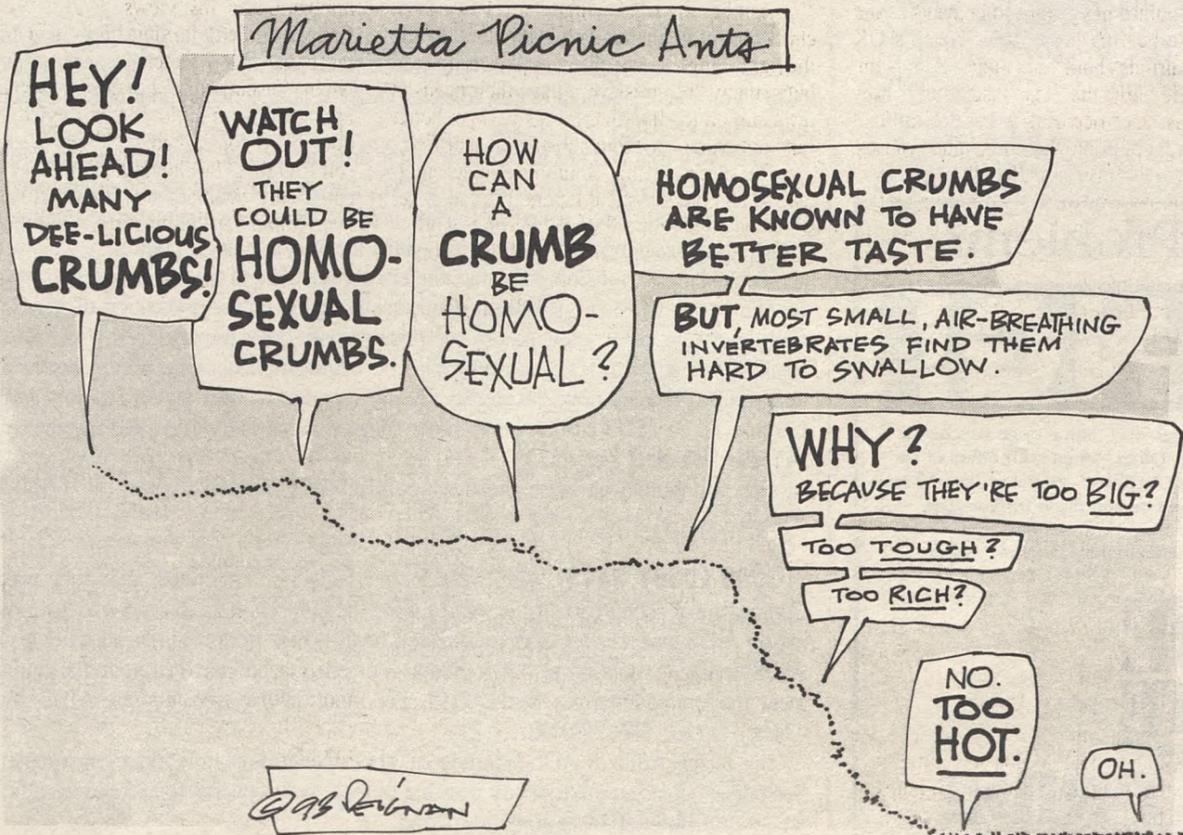
WNNX

99X, the station with "no labels," is in the forefront of mainstream Atlanta radio in recognizing its gay and lesbian listeners. "Hate is not a family value" is a frequent PSA sound-bite as well as commercials and shows that include gay and lesbian themes. On the Aug. 18, "Viewpoint Atlanta," which starts at 7 a.m., Ken Pauly interviewed representatives of "The Experience," a experiential workshop that, although not limited to lesbians and gays, is predominantly attended by lesbians and gays. The discussion covered the workshop's mission of self-empowerment and helping individuals in being honest and open with themselves. To commend WNNX, write Ken Pauly, news director, and Mark Renier, station manager, WNNX, 3405 Piedmont Road, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30305 or call (404) 266-0997.

Fighting the Myths

The Hetrick-Martin Institute has published the second on its "Factfile" series, "Fighting the Myths: Lesbian and Gay Adults—and Youth." The two-page sheet "invalidates the myth that lesbians and gays are in any way a threat to children and offers a wealth of statistics to help lesbian and gay organizations and professionals arm themselves with the facts." This "Factfile," as well as the first (on "Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth"), are free for the asking. To receive a copy write: Hetrick-Martin Institute, 401 West Street, NY 10014. For any other information call (212)633-8920.

GLAAD/Atlanta confronts defamation and works as a resource for media professionals and others seeking accurate and inclusive representations of lesbians and gay men. Call (404) 605-7477 or write GLAAD/Atlanta at P.O. Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30309. This column is a product of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Atlanta, Inc.



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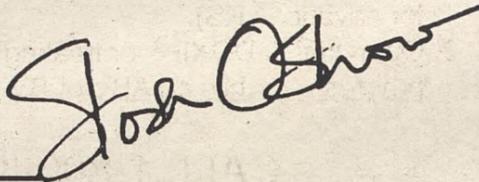
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STOSH OSTROW, M.D.
General Practice



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WARNING!

Here we go again! Another year, more "gay treatment programs"! Some huge psychiatric hospital chains are suddenly claiming to be gay affirming. Others tempt with offers of an exotic resort location but are not even accredited treatment facilities!! Founded seven years ago as the nation's first accredited lesbian and gay treatment center, Pride Institute has helped thousands of our sisters and brothers. Call for our free consumer tip sheet, "Facts Every Gay Person Should Know When Considering a Treatment Program" before committing yourself to any program.

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Study finds female doctors offer more cancer tests to women

Boston, MA—A cancer screening study that asked, "Does the sex of the physician matter?" concludes it indeed does, at least if the patient is a woman.

The real question, though, is why.

The study found that women who get their care from female doctors are about twice as likely to receive a Pap smear to check for cervical cancer, and they are about 40 percent more apt to receive a mammogram to screen for breast cancer.

Dr. Nicole Lurie, who directed the study, said there are many possible explanations, and the data suggest that the sex differences may become less pronounced when the value of the test is most clear cut.

Major health organizations agree that women over age 50 should receive annual mammograms. However, experts differ on the need for these tests in younger women.

Lurie said her research found that women over age 50 were only 16 percent more likely to get a mammogram from a female doctor than a male.

Guidelines for Pap smears also vary, but in general they urge women to get them every one to three years.

Suggestions of sex bias in medical treatment have become a contentious subject in

recent years. For instance, some studies have shown that men are treated more aggressively than women for heart disease.

Lurie, a researcher at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, said her study is the largest to examine whether the sex of the doctor makes a difference. She based her conclusions on a review of the records of 97,962 women patients enrolled in Medica, a Minneapolis-area health plan.

Among the findings:

- Young male doctors were less likely than older male physicians to perform the cancer tests on women.

- The sex difference in testing women was much more pronounced among family practitioners and internists than among obstetrician-gynecologists.

- Among physicians over age 42, women doctors did pap smears on 58 percent of the female patients they saw over a one-year period, while male doctors did them on 37 percent.

Lurie said she is beginning another study that will attempt to explain the sex differences.

DANIEL Q. HANEY

AIDS BRIEFS

BRUCE MIRKEN

AIDS AND HEALTH CARE REFORM: Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the New York-based gay and lesbian legal advocacy group, has issued a report on AIDS and health care reform that is sharply critical of the "managed competition" approach reportedly favored by the Clinton administration.

The report, titled "Health Care Reform: Lessons From The HIV Epidemic," points out that managed competition generally means steering people into managed-care plans that limit their choices of doctors and other providers, and in which medical decisions are often subject to strict financial scrutiny—often by non-medical people. According to Michael T. Isbell, the Lambda staff attorney who authored the report, "This approach, which may make sense for patients without intensive medical needs, incorporates dangerous incentives to underserve patients with chronic conditions, who present the greatest threat to the plans' profitability."

Copies are available for \$15 (plus \$2.90 for shipping and handling) from Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 666 Broadway, Suite 1200, New York, NY 10012-2317.

INFECTION PREVENTION STUDIES: The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has begun two new trials of treatments intended to prevent cytomegalovirus (CMV) or mycobacterium avium complex (MAC), both serious opportunistic infections in people with AIDS.

The CMV trial will test an oral form of the drug ganciclovir. Intravenous ganciclovir is one of two drugs now used to treat active CMV disease. The more-recently-developed oral form has recently been tested in Europe and Australia as a maintenance treatment to prevent recurrence once IV therapy has gotten the infection under control.

The other trial will compare rifabutin, clarithromycin and the two drugs used together for prevention of MAC. Rifabutin was recently approved for prevention of MAC, and Clarithromycin, commonly used in combination with other drugs to treat active cases of MAC, has also been used as a prophylactic treatment, with encouraging results from uncontrolled studies done previously. A lab report presented at the 9th International Conference on AIDS earlier this summer suggested that two drugs used together might increase each other's effect.

For information on these and other government-sponsored studies, call 1-800-TRIALS-A.

AIDS LOBBY DAYS: With Congress in a budget-cutting mood, and in the wake of Congressional action earlier this year to write the HIV immigration ban into law, Washington AIDS lobbyists are anxious to have Congress hear from the folks back home about AIDS issues. A coalition of AIDS groups is organizing people to come to the capitol to meet their representatives Sept. 12-14. For more information, contact AIDS Action Council at (202)986-1300 ext.15.

For those unable to go to Washington, D.C., Congress is in recess from August 9 to September 3, and it is frequently possible to meet with congressional representatives at their local district offices during this period.

Two surveys examine sexual behaviors of gay community

Houston—Results of two surveys examining taking the HIV antibody test and knowing its results, and what influence they have on sexual activity, were presented at the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in July. One study looked at gay men in Philadelphia and the other at gays and lesbians in Kentucky.

The 1992 Philadelphia Men's Survey examined the sexual behaviors of 975 men, around 94 per cent of whom identified themselves as gay or bisexual. The survey found a higher rate of "risky" behavior among lower-income men, men of color and men with a lower level of education.

The study sample consisted of about 63 per cent Caucasian men, 25 per cent African Americans, five per cent Latino, two per cent Asian and five per cent "other."

60 per cent of the men reported being HIV negative, 28 per cent said they had not been tested, and 12 per cent reported they are HIV positive.

Among those who have taken the HIV antibody test, about 30 per cent of African American men said they were HIV-infected, around 18 per cent of the Latino men, and 10 per cent of the Caucasian men.

Among all men in the sample, the top five reasons for not being tested were: Not wanting to know the results; fear of the effects of taking the test on career, schooling or insurance; not wanting their name to be reported to state or federal government; believing they always have safer sex; and believing they are not HIV-infected and do not need to be tested.

African Americans were more likely not to have taken the test, results showed, followed by Caucasians and Latinos.

Reasons given for not being tested varied by ethnic group, income and educational level. Most African American men said their most important reason for not being tested was that they did not want to know the results. Those men with a lower education level said they did not know where to get tested or trust the confidentiality of the test results.

Older men who had not been tested said they believed they were not HIV-infected and therefore did not need testing; less-educated men also said they believed they had never had sex with an HIV-infected person.

African American men were more likely

than Caucasian men to have had sex with a woman in the past year and to identify as bisexual. 23 per cent of the HIV-infected men in the study said they had had sex with a woman in the past year.

The main reason reported for not insisting a partner wear a condom during anal sex was that the sex was exciting and the men did not want to stop to put on a condom.

African American men and Latino men were more likely than Caucasian men to report using withdrawal as a method of preventing HIV transmission, and African American men more frequently indicated that they did not have a condom available during sex.

Kentucky men and women

In the Kentucky study, the sexual behavior of both gay men and lesbians was compared to HIV-status and whether participants had been tested. 500 lesbians and 567 gay men in Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky's major cities, were surveyed.

23 per cent of the lesbians reported being tested and 58 per cent of gay men. One lesbian reported being HIV-infected which made it impossible to discuss sexual behaviors since any discussion would be based on the activities of one woman. 35 per cent of the men reported being positive.

The sample was overwhelming Caucasian, with only about 4.2 per cent African Americans and 2.1 per cent in other ethnic categories.

Among those who had not been tested, 91 per cent of lesbians and 54 per cent of gay men said their top reason for not being tested was that they did not believe they were at risk for HIV.

Knowing their HIV status did not significantly alter the sexual behaviors of lesbians in the sample. Of those who had not been tested, 87 per cent said they had participated in unprotected oral sex, while of lesbians who had been tested, 84 per cent had oral sex without a barrier.

Gay men who were HIV infected were slightly less likely to participate in unprotected sex—oral, anal, oral/anal, and contact with fluids—than men who tested negative. Results showed extremely similar rates of unprotected forms of sex for men who tested positive and negative.

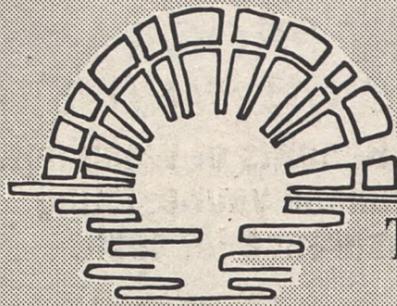
KRISTINA CAMPBELL
THE WASHINGTON BLADE

Hoffman-LaRoche halts development of AIDS drug

Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc. has announced plans to scrap development of a drug the pharmaceutical giant once considered promising in the fight against AIDS. The company said August 2 that the drug, known as a TAT antagonist, had proven ineffective at safe dosage levels. The compound was discovered by Roche scientists in 1989. The announcement drew criticism from AIDS activists who have accused the company of moving slowly in developing drugs to treat the disease, but Dr. Iain Sim, an international project director at the company, countered that researchers were bound to run into dead ends in trying to find cures for AIDS.



AIDS activists, long at odds with Hoffmann-LaRoche, were not pleased that the company stopped research on a drug that seems to be ineffective.



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Marching in memory of Rustin

African-American lesbians and gays to pay tribute to the openly gay man who organized the 1963 March on Washington.

Washington, DC—When leaders of the African-American lesbian and gay community participate in this weekend's 30th anniversary of the historic March on Washington for civil rights, their tributes will center around Bayard Rustin, the openly gay black man who was the architect of the 1963 march.

A group called the Bayard Rustin Commemorative Alliance is planning two days of celebrations on Aug. 28 and 29 in honor of Rustin, one of the giants of the civil rights movement for five decades, despite the bigotry directed at him because he was gay.

"Rustin's unshakable principles transcended race, class, color, religion and national boundaries. His ideas were not those of an armchair theorist, but found substance in tangible results as he passionately fought for economic justice, human rights and participatory democracy," wrote U.S. Rep. John Lewis in tribute when Rustin died in 1987.

A veteran of the struggle for civil rights whose work began in the 1940s, Rustin, participated in some early "freedom rides" into

sexuals and transgenders to make a statement of solidarity by participating in this march.

"The NAACP and other civil rights leaders made bold strokes last spring by speaking from the stage of the April 25th March On Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Rights," noted alliance co-chair Mandy Carter. "That was a significant moment in our attempts to build coalitions within the civil rights communities, and it is important that we not lose that momentum."

A reception honoring the new generation of black lesbian and gay leadership will take place on Sunday, Aug. 29 at 5:30 p.m. The reception, which will be held at Trumpet's Restaurant and Lounge, is designed to provide an opportunity for various members of the



Martha Wash will headline "Lift Ev'ry Voice," a musical celebration of the heritage of African-American gays and lesbians.

"Our sole focus is to provide a powerful mix of learning, sharing, entertainment and celebration," said event producer Gregory Adams. "This concert is therefore open to everyone free of charge so that no one will have to miss it because of financial consideration."

the segregated South, more than nearly two decades before an army of freedom riders would come in the 1960s. After several years as a close advisor to Martin Luther King Jr., a time during which he was dubbed the "Socrates of the civil rights movement," he was appointed deputy director of the 1963 March, best known for King's stirring "I Have A Dream" speech.

In the position, he organized all of the logistics for the event, which drew 250,000 and is now recognized as one of the turning points in the movement's history. But the appointment didn't come without controversy. Leaders of both the NAACP and the National Urban League questioned putting Rustin, who in addition to being openly gay was also a pacifist and a socialist, in such a prominent position, fearing that civil rights opponents would use him to discredit the march.

The Bayard Rustin Commemorative Alliance is an ad hoc committee formed to ensure that the work of Rustin was recognized during the commemoration of the march's 30th anniversary celebration.

On Saturday, Aug. 28, the Alliance will sponsor a rally and freedom march beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the McPherson Square. The rally will feature brief remarks from lesbian/gay/bisexual politicians and civil rights leaders.

At approximately 11 a.m., the gathering will proceed to the top of the Ellipse, where it will join in the 30th Anniversary March. Organizers are encouraging all lesbians, gays, bi-

civil rights communities to meet, speak and exchange ideas with each other in a social setting. The \$25 per person donation for the reception will include a complimentary buffet.

The finale, "Lift Ev'ry Voice," is a musical celebration of the magnificent African-American lesbian and gay heritage. Pop Diva Martha Wash will headline the event, which also will feature other black celebrity entertainers and a 150-voice choir performing traditional gospel music. The concert will take place Sunday, Aug. 29 at 8 p.m. in the Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center.

"Lift Ev'ry Voice" is not a fundraiser. Event producer Gregory Adams says, "Our sole focus is to provide a powerful mix of learning, sharing, entertainment and celebration. This concert is therefore open to everyone free of charge so that no one will have to miss it because of financial consideration."

"Lift Ev'ry Voice" is being produced and directed by Adams, who most recently served as the communications director for the 1993 gay/lesbian/bisexual march.

For more information, contact the Bayard Rustin Commemorative Alliance at 718 Sixth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 or call (202) 546-7188.

RICHARD SHUMATE

Gay and lesbian booksellers squeezed by chains

As if the economy weren't enough of a downer, gay and lesbian bookstores are being squeezed by chain stores—so much so that independent booksellers at the recent American Booksellers Convention in Miami demanded that the association investigate unfair trade practices in the industry.

"This issue is really affecting the independent stores," said Carol Seajay, publisher of Feminist Bookstore News, a trade journal for lesbian bookstore owners. "They're taking away our bread and leaving us only the butter."

Things are so bad that Seajay said the majors and the independents are "not even playing the same game."

"What they are doing is illegal, immoral and unprincipled."

No one's naming names, but chains have been accused of such questionable business dealings as demanding larger volume discounts than are usual and refusing to stock an author's book if the author doesn't give a reading at their store first.

In general, bookseller discounts—ranging from 20 to 50 percent—depend on the number of books a store buys.

"[The chains] can buy in such vast quantities that they get a much bigger discount," said Sherry Emory of Charis Books and More in Atlanta. And that allows some stores are able to sell newly released hardbacks at 30 percent (or more) off.

"Conduct Unbecoming," Randy Shilts' new book, is a prime example. The list price of the recently-released hardback is \$27.95, but it is being discounted to \$16.95 by some chains. Although this saves the customer money, bestsellers are the bread-and-butter of the independent store. If customers go to major chains for the biggies, it hurts the gay and lesbian store which can't

buy in volume—or give volume discounts.

"The bestsellers support the rest of the store," said Ed Hermance, owner of Giovanni's Room in Philadelphia. "Without being able to sell them, we can't stay alive."

So, in an industry that is already burdened with high overheads and minimal profits, where discounting makes it that much harder for an independent bookstore to stay in business, how do the small stores compete?

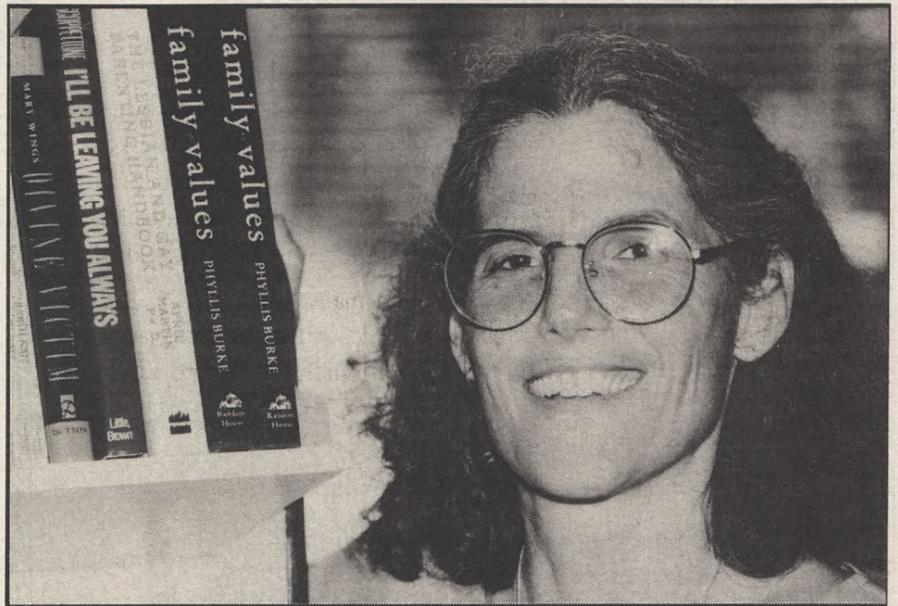
Charis, which has been a fixture in Little Five Points for more than 18 years, fights back by providing the hands-on service a chain store can't match. Early next year, the store is moving across the street into a new building twice as large.

"What we try to do is have a depth of titles the majors don't have," says Emory. "A customer will be able to come in here and find what they are looking for."

In addition, clerks are more knowledgeable, with the ability to discuss books instead of just working a cash register, Emory said. "We really do have a wonderful, loyal group of customers."

While Charis' location in funky LSP remains untouched by sterile chain stores, in some cities they are moving into areas already occupied by independent gay and lesbian stores and luring away their customers. Cody's in Berkeley recently was surrounded by chain stores which tried unsuccessfully to target its customers. Berkeley residents have been slow to make the switch after decades of Cody's being their main squeeze. A Different Light in San Francisco faced a similar situation when a major chain store opened down the street. But their customers, too, have been fiercely loyal.

But if customers aren't politically sophisticated enough to be loyal, the result can spell disaster. Tales of independent bookstores going



Charis' Sherry Emory says her bookstore competes by having "a depth of titles the majors don't have."

belly up abound. Already hit by a slow economy and a public holding onto its pennies with more than usual tightness, independents all over the country are going out of business. In Philadelphia, Hermance admits that having an aggressive major chain move into the area has had an impact, even though Giovanni's Room has been open for 20 years.

"It's definitely hurt us," said Hermance. Hermance is particularly upset because so few people take into account the other services a gay and lesbian bookstore provides. Chains will never be a community resource center, as is his store, he says.

"People call us to find out about events,"

said Hermance. "People here feel free to come out, and they will never be able to do that at a chain store."

Gay stores that haven't been hurt yet are worried.

"It's really scary," said People Like Us' Barnett. "They've only been in Chicago a year and are just starting to have an impact."

No one's sure what the long-term will be, but gay and lesbian booksellers like Barnett are nervous about the effects. Barnett thinks that if the corporations who control the major chains are calling the shots, it could eventually mean the end of gay and lesbian publishing.

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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Local business owners Robin Brown and Mike Jenkins will celebrate 15 fabulous years together on Aug. 28. Congratulations, guys.

A dinner was held recently in honor of Christopher Allers, founder of Positive Impact (a non-profit institute for HIV-related mental health programs) on Aug. 9. This was also the 18-month anniversary of the organization.

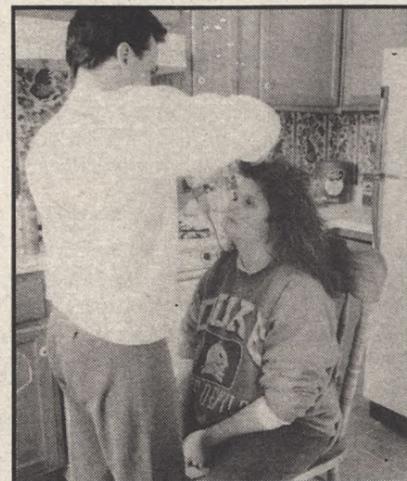
BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday on Aug. 23 to Tom Broyles from his partner of 16 years, Bill Buckner. Bill says it's been a wonderful 16 years.

Happy belated birthday to Jennifer Prinson, who turned 22 back on Aug. 20. She celebrated in grand style at Rupert's with her buddies from The Southern Element.

Happy birthday to Ronald Lee Wisener on Aug. 30.

Happy 34th birthday to the great Ritchie Crownfield on Aug. 28. Ritchie is back in Atlanta after working in Pennsylvania for a while. He is one of the co-producers of "Straight From the Heart," and his friend Timothy is glad to have him back in Atlanta.



Jennifer Prinson gets a new "do" for her birthday.

Timothy also wanted to wish a happy 31st birthday to local activist and performer Tim Pettus on Aug. 30. Tim has starred in various productions around town including "Straight From the Heart."

EMPLOYMENT

Congratulations to Jon Allen on his new job at Yerkes Research Center at Emory University.

Thanks for all the calls and letters. The number for Occasions is (404) 325-7600. Got a special birthday, anniversary, promotion, graduation, birth, or other occasion of note? Please call.

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WENDY JANE WORKMAN

New York's SAGE is one of an expanding array of groups for older gays and lesbians.

Gay and Gray

Continued from page 1

"We as a community have really bought into the myth that old means lonely and homely and that somehow, it won't happen to us," says Anderson. "We believe aging is only for old people."

Sarah Swint, a 61-year-old Atlanta woman who helped found Lesbians Over 50, says there are some nice surprises in aging.

"When you are in your 20s, you dread the 30s. In the 30s, you dread the 40s. But you find with each decade that it's good, so it must be the next decade when it goes downhill," she laughs. "Even when we get to 90, we think it must be 92 or 97 when it gets bad. But each time you hit the next decade, you find it has its own pleasures and rewards, as well as its own problems."

Many of the problems faced by older gays and lesbians are really no different than those faced by straight people their age—the physical aging process, the loss of friends and loved ones, the end of careers and the beginning of loneliness. But in another way, according to Anderson, what older gays and lesbians face is unique.

"Particular to gays and lesbians is the feeling of never being connected to the system," says Anderson. "These are people who did not grow up in a very welcoming and generous time. Many still perceive the world as very hostile."

Fry knows that hostility very well. During her 27 years in the military, she worked in communications as a decoder. She joined when she was 17 near the end of World War II. She served during the Korean War and part of Vietnam.

"The biggest part for me was going through the witch hunts in the military," she recalls. "There were so many good friends who had their lives shattered. One thing I learned about the service is that if they really need you, they put the blinders on, but if you can be easily replaced they will go after you. I lost some good friends to the hunts."

In the bar scenes, Fry has seen the brutality of police. "There were many people who were beaten to death," she remembers. "It depended on how well you could hold your liquor. If you said the wrong thing, you got hit the wrong way."

Older gays and lesbians are survivors, and many of their stories are hair raising. But, many of their lives are studies in triumph. There are couples who met in the 1930s and 1940s who are still together today, despite society's attempts to tear them apart.

"Many of these people can serve as role models," emphasizes Anderson. "We can learn a lot from gay and lesbian seniors who have lived tough lives, and who may have been on the front lines when it wasn't safe to be there."

Fry says that she thinks young gays and lesbians today face a comparatively easier situation. "A lot of the problems we faced were that you couldn't be who you were. I look at these young gals today and think how lucky they are," she says. "If I wanted to wear a leather jacket or

dress comfortably, I had to be careful were I went. Now you can dress how you like, and that's wonderful."

But that doesn't mean that she thinks a young gay man or lesbian today will grow up to be any less of a survivor. "I think we all have our times to be strong," Fry says. "Where we had to be strong in one way, these kids today are being strong in a way that I don't know if I could have coped with. In each generation, we have our own crosses to bear. I hope with the advantages they have today, the young ones will learn a lot faster than we did."

As gays and lesbians age, they must begin to think about the times when they cannot take care of themselves any more. Some have gone into mainstream nursing homes where they find they must go back into the closet. Slowly, our community is realizing we must one day take care of our own.

"I don't expect to go into a straight nursing home," says Swint. "I hope to go to a lesbian nursing home. There are some group homes out West that are starting up and also one in Florida where you can be open. There are also some groups in Georgia looking to start homes. But, if nothing else, I'll start my own."

Support systems for older gays and lesbians continue to flourish. The nation's most well-established organization is SAGE, a 15-year-old New York group with more than 7,000 members. Using a professional social service orientation, SAGE has broken ground with specialized AIDS and home care programs. They provide a senior center and day programs, as well as sponsoring a buddy program called "Friendly Visitor."

Anderson sees their main role as helping seniors cope and use the system to help themselves. A secondary role is one of education.

"We are terribly cruel to our elderly. As an organization we need to constantly educate our community and the community at large," says Anderson. "I see a lot of ageism in our community. When you're young and pretty life is great, but don't you dare get old because no one will want you. None of us are immune from aging. In fact, it can be a wonderfully powerful experience."

Gays and lesbians in Atlanta have some resources to turn to as well. For gay men, there is a local Prime Timers organization that sponsors activities like dinners and other outings. Swint says Lesbians Over 50 is "a group to be friends."

"We are not an activity group," says Swint. "The purpose is friends and you hope for an activity, where other groups are activities and you hope for friends."

Lesbians Over 50 usually meet in public libraries, and Swint emphasizes the group is safe for those who don't want to be out. "People have to make a commitment here to protect other people's privacy," she says.

Ken Berg contributed to this article.

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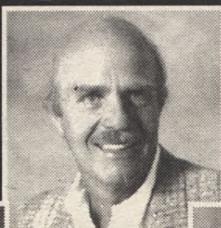
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Cobb arts measure

Continued from page 3

commission meeting, rumors abounded at press time that the commission would go even further and vote to cut all county funding for the arts.

The reason the commissioners are considering cutting all funding is to avoid a censorship lawsuit that they will almost certainly face if they decide to dole out arts funding based upon the content of the art.

"They're trying to save face," Jon Greaves, organizer of the Cobb Citizens Coalition, a group organized to fight the commission's measures. "They'll probably try to [cut all arts funding] but they shouldn't."

Greaves pointed out that the county's arts funding comes from the parks and recreation department. "Some people play softball for recreation, and some go to a play," he said. "So if they're going to cut the arts, then maybe they shouldn't fund any recreation."

Commissioner Gordon Wysong, architect of both measures, disagrees with Greaves' point of view, saying that recreational facilities are used by children.

"But when they cut arts funding altogether, a number of smaller theaters will cease to exist," said Greaves. "And three of those are children's theaters."

"[Cutting all arts funding] is the ultimate form of censorship," added Mount. "And it will be met with opposition just as strong as there is against the other proposal. [The commissioners] think that will diffuse the issue, and it won't."

Support for those who are against the measure came last week from actress Joanne Woodward, who grew up in Marietta. Woodward faxed a statement on August 10 decrying the commissioners' stand.

"I was shocked and dismayed to learn that the town where I was raised, whose values I have relied on to rear my own children, the

community I love, could do something so dehumanizing," she wrote. "I am extremely disturbed that the Cobb County Commission would attempt to dictate family values; family values that should originate in the home."

Meanwhile, the Cobb Citizens Coalition and other groups around the metro area are standing firm against the right wing assault. A Queer Family Picnic on Sunday drew over one thousand gay, lesbian and arts supporters to the Marietta Square, and last week the executive committee of the Cobb County Community Relations Council adopted a statement calling the anti-gay resolution "ill-advised and inappropriate."

"It's a good start, but it doesn't go far enough," said Greaves, who is a member of the council. "We need to ask that they rescind the resolution."

If nothing can change the commission's mind, many in the lesbian and gay community believe an economic boycott, similar to the boycott of Colorado, may be necessary.

Late last week, it appeared that such a boycott may have had its first taker, when WGST radio reported that a large corporate meeting scheduled for Cobb's Galleria Center had been cancelled, although no formal announcement had been made at press time.

Boycotts and rumors of cancelled meetings aside, Jon Greaves believes the publicity generated by the Cobb Commission's actions may even do some good for the county's gay and lesbian population.

"We have changed public opinion," he said. "But people out here are conservative, even the gay people. We are trying to educate people and win support. It takes a special effort, but we are doing it."

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Counselor

Continued from page 3

not been provided to Ridgeview by the time Southern Voice went to press.

Another Ridgeview official, Randy Billingsley, told Southern Voice that institute's policy is for counselors not to reveal personal information, and that if that occurs, the counselor is required to attend an educational course.

"No one would be dismissed for that behavior, unless he failed to complete the course," Billingsley said. "It's tough working with adolescents, and the boundaries have to be very, very clear."

But Swann told Southern Voice he has never discussed his sexual orientation with either patients or staff at work. "But I've been asked many times if I'm seeing anyone, or if I date,"

he said. "I don't answer, because it's none of their business."

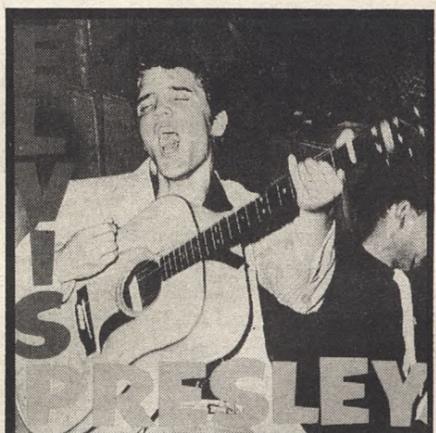
Swann disputes the version of the bracelet incident in the report and says he is concerned that he was not asked for his side of the story until after the letter was given to him.

"I haven't worked this week and they haven't called me," he said. "Something is going on here."

He has written a response to the problem notice he received, detailing his version of events and complaining about the manner in which the issue was handled.

"I think I deserve a far better approach than that which Ridgeview has taken," he wrote.

KC WILDMOON



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Writer/activist Larry Kramer speaks up—to Playboy

Last year, when noted writer and AIDS activist Larry Kramer gave an extensive interview to the Advocate, he said that it would likely be his last interview. He was, he said, going to spend whatever time he had left on his writing.

Kramer being Kramer, of course, it hasn't turned out that way. It would, perhaps, be easier to get the Mississippi to run from south to north than to keep Larry Kramer quiet. His latest interview is in a very curious venue, the highly heterosexual pages of Playboy magazine. In a lengthy and candid conversation with David Nimmons, Kramer—part prophet, part genius and part cranky, obnoxious name caller—shows a more mellow, more human side of himself than comes through in his speeches or column writing.

Mellow for him, that is. Kramer still gets off some zingers in his own indomitable style, as when he calls the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention here in Atlanta "the single most concentrated group of idiots in one building that this government finances."

Here are some of the other things Kramer had to say to Nimmons in the Playboy interview:

- On how he predicted in 1981, when AIDS was still a complete mystery, that it would sweep through America and change the world: "You're talking about a virus being transmitted sexually in a world that fucks plentifully. Two plus two equals four. What kind of brain or crystal ball do you need to figure that one out? I don't think I was any great prophet."

"I want very much to be remembered as a writer first and an activist second—not the other way around."

- On why he compares AIDS to the Jewish Holocaust: "A billion people potentially dying by the new century is a far superior number than the 6 million Jews killed in World War II. I know people resent the comparison, but tough shit...I consider George Bush and Ronald Reagan's actions to be conscious and premeditated. With regard to AIDS, they were equivalent to Hitler's actions with the Jews."

- On why he has limited his work with ACT UP, which he helped found: "I came to find ACT UP constraining because so much of its success is based on consensus and process, which drive me nuts. It suffers from the same problem the [National Institutes of Health have], or any bureaucracy where a bunch of disparate people have to compromise. I can't stand the imprecision of grassroots activism anymore."

- On sex: "Be careful. Be cautious. Be concerned. Be considerate. Use a condom. Don't fuck just for the sake of fucking. Fuck because you love the person or want to get to know the person. I don't know what other advice to give in the face of a plague where death is spread through sex."

- On the sexual revolution: "Whatever benefits the sexual revolution brought, it

also brought AIDS. The road was taken for the most logical and, perhaps, virtuous reasons. But in the end, it proved to be the wrong road. Let's face it: That's the life we were all leading, gay and straight. But it cost too much. I tend to be very hard on the sexual revolution."

- On why he blames the spread of AIDS on the fact that straight people oppress gay people: "I think gay people were forced to make a virtue out of the only thing we had: our sexuality. Our dicks. Our interactions with one another were on that base level. If we had been allowed to get married, there wouldn't have been such need for the promiscuity. That's basically what the bathhouses and bars were all about."

- On his reaction in 1988 when he found out he was HIV-positive: "I remember standing on a street corner near the building where I was given the news and just being overwhelmed with a sort of awe that it finally had happened. It felt like an affirmation of something I knew was probably going to happen. So I accepted it, I think with sur-

prising ease."

- On President Clinton: "I think Clinton goes from bad to worse. By the time your readers read this, we may be on our way to having one of the worst presidents who ever inhabited the White House. I don't see how he will extricate himself from the morass he's in...I am completely and utterly without hope in terms of what he'll do for AIDS and for my people."

- On the fact that Barbra Streisand is directing the film version of his play, "The Normal Heart": "She calls me a lot. I suddenly realize that on the end of the line is this incredible star who's meant so much to my life, just in terms of my being a fan. I have all of her records and sing all of her songs and I can't go to a supermarket or a shopping mall without one of her songs suddenly invading my consciousness."

- On how he would like to be remembered: "I want very much to be remembered as a writer first and an activist second—not the other way around."

RICHARD SHUMATE



Kramer, shown here at the March On Washington, tells Playboy that he is "utterly without hope" that Clinton will do anything for gays or about AIDS.

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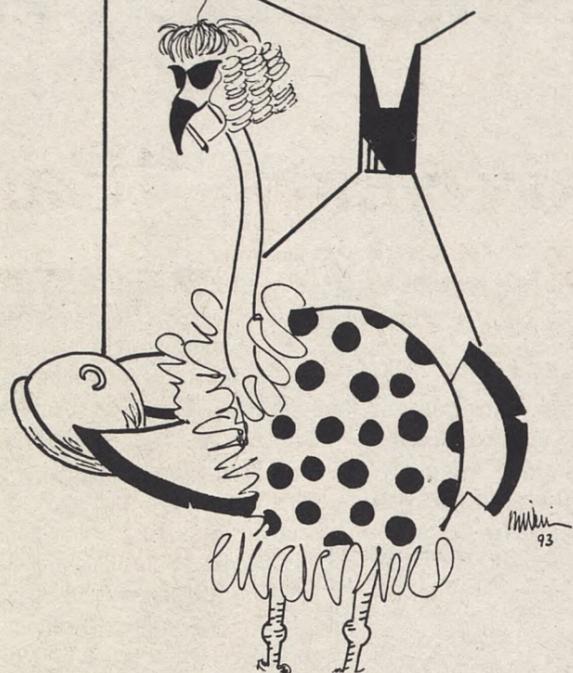
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OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

After six years, "Band" finally ready to play

The struggle to put Randy Shilts' epic book about the AIDS crisis on film is a saga in itself

by BRENT HARTINGER

If "Basic Instinct" got lesbians and gays angry, "And the Band Played On" has them confused.

With the exception of that infamous movie about a bisexual ice-pick killer, few films in recent memory have generated as much interest in the gay community as "And the Band Played On," a television movie to air this September on HBO. In the works for six years, the film version of Randy Shilts' journalistic account of the early fight against AIDS has been plagued by rumors of trouble behind the scenes, almost since publication of the book in 1987.

Last May, for example, the Advocate ran a story which declared definitively that the very "fear, pettiness and ego" that have crippled the fight against HIV "have undermined the making of the movie." Another rumor even alleges that friends of Ronald Reagan successfully pressured HBO to remove certain scenes in the movie critical of his administration.

And The Band Played On debuts on HBO on Saturday Sept. 11

And yet, while no one claims that this has been an easy movie to make, close observers on the project—including

author Randy Shilts—defend the filmmakers, especially HBO, claiming they've acted in good faith and have been unfairly drawn into the often inflammatory vortex of AIDS and gay politics. "It's the whole persecution complex you sometimes get in the minority press," Shilts says. "Someone says they're doing these awful things—oh, my God, it must be true."

This fall, the "Band" will finally play. But sorting out what really happened behind the scenes of the film is almost as complicated as the book upon which the movie is based.

In 1987, Shilts' book, "And the Band Played On," was climbing the best-seller lists on a wave of nearly unanimous acclaim, and Hollywood, just beginning to come to terms with its shocking lack of attention to AIDS, was immediately interested. Contrary to popular belief, Shilts says there was much more interest in that book than in "Conduct Unbecoming," his most recent book about the even timelier topic of gays in the military.

Hollywood mogul Aaron Spelling, who had produced a slew of lightweight television hits, including "Charlie's Angels" and "The Love Boat," saw the importance of Shilts' book and took the project to ABC, which turned him down flat. Then another producer, Edgar Scherick, persuaded NBC to take on the project. The network "developed" it as a miniseries for two years before quietly dropping the project. According to NBC, their decision was due to the "complex nature of the book," but others pointed out that the network also dropped its planned television movie about Rock Hudson the same day, and that both actions came suspiciously soon after the news that an ABC movie about Rock Hudson had frightened advertisers and lost thousands of dollars for the network.

"It's a horrible thought if the networks felt that sponsors wouldn't sponsor it because it's a 'gay' disease," Spelling says now. "But there's got to be a reason NBC turned it down."

Fortunately, while NBC was dropping the project, Bob Cooper, senior vice president at HBO Pictures, had decided that it would be perfect for subscriber-supported HBO. The day NBC set it free, Cooper picked up the option, giving Shilts an unprecedented but ironclad guarantee that HBO would not just "develop" the already-troubled project but would actually get it made.

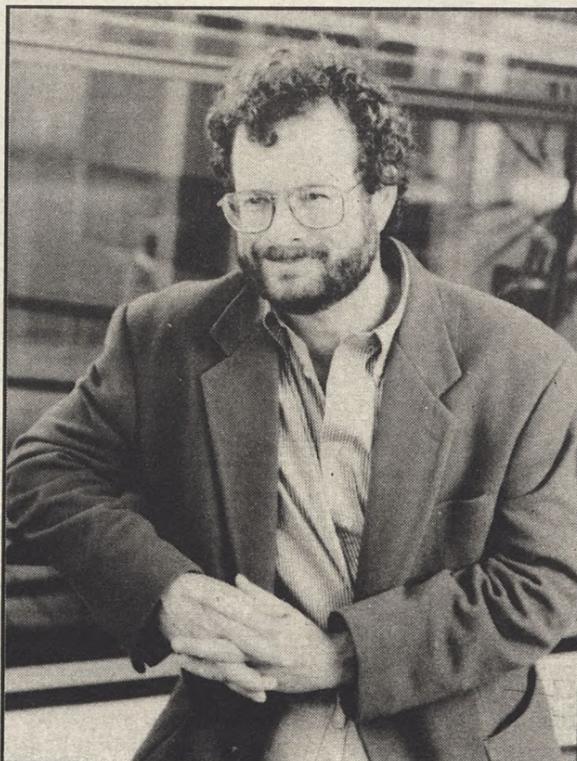
"Of any decision I've ever had to make at HBO, this is the easiest one," Cooper says. He notes that not only is the film an important story that needs to be told, but it also was great dramatic material about a very provocative subject. "This is the prototype of what an HBO movie should be," he says, explaining that the cable network uses controversial attention-getting films like last year's "Citizen Cohn" to attract and keep viewers.



Alan Alda (who plays medical researcher Robert Gallo) and Matthew Modine (as Centers for Disease Control researcher Don Francis) in a scene from "And The Band Played On."

Aaron Spelling signed on as executive producer (with E. Duke Vincent), but even his awesome clout, and Cooper's unconditional guarantee that the film would get made, didn't easily transform the book to film. Writer Arnold Schulman ("Tucker: The Man and His Dream") was hired to write a screenplay and ended up writing 17 drafts of the script.

"I had no idea what a massive undertaking it would be," Schulman says now of his efforts to translate the 630-page book into a two-hour dramatic movie. Almost immediately, he and HBO decided to focus not on the emotional impact of AIDS—as other television projects like "An Early Frost" and "Our Sons" had done—but on the political impact. "Once that decision was made, a lot of stuff [from the book] was eliminated." But Schulman still had to decide which characters to focus on, and,



Author Randy Shilts says he's pleased with HBO's treatment of his work.

because the film is based on real-life people, "everything had to be extremely documented."

And even more difficult problem was finding the right director. The producers hired Joel Schumacker ("Dying Young," "Flatliners" and "Falling Down"), who worked on the project for six months but eventually decided the film was so important it required documentary, rather than feature, treatment. HBO, however, was committed to the idea of a dramatic feature. As a result, Schumacker was replaced by Richard Pearce ("The Long Walk Home" and "Leap of Faith"), who left a mere three months later due to "creative differences." Finally, the producers settled on Roger Spottiswoode ("Under Fire" and "Shoot to Kill").

Shilts, meanwhile, was primarily concerned that gays be portrayed favorably, or at least fairly, in the film. He had requested in writing from the start that the movie not dwell on "Patient Zero," the gay flight attendant profiled in his book who directly or indirectly infected hundreds of the very first AIDS patients. He also wanted some of the major characters to be gay, and that the gay bathhouse controversy—where many gays vociferously insisted that gay bathhouses be kept open despite the fact that they were major transmission points for HIV—be put in context. HBO acted in "very, very good faith," Shilts says, showing him every draft of the screenplay and taking the critiques seriously.

But all these delays were causing rumblings in the gay press and elsewhere. Rumors flew that the film might never get made, especially after the project's eventual termination at NBC. "It's the only movie I can think of in HBO history that while we were in development, let alone making it, there was all kinds of media scrutiny," Cooper says. "It's a hot potato."

The biggest obstacle was still to come. In the spring of 1991, when the movie was finally ready to film, the producers couldn't find any "name" actors willing to appear in the controversial project. A slew of big-name actors turned the film down. Many agents reportedly wouldn't even give the script to their clients to read. HBO continued to insist on big names to give the controversial project clout and visibility. This meant more delays.

Then, at the last minute, Richard Gere, Matthew Modine and Whoopi Goldberg all signed on. "I would never consider that a role I might play would have a negative impact on my career," says Modine, adding that the deaths of friends and co-workers to the disease made it vital that he align with the film.

"Only when Richard Gere and Whoopi Goldberg became

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24

Oy vey, my father's gay!



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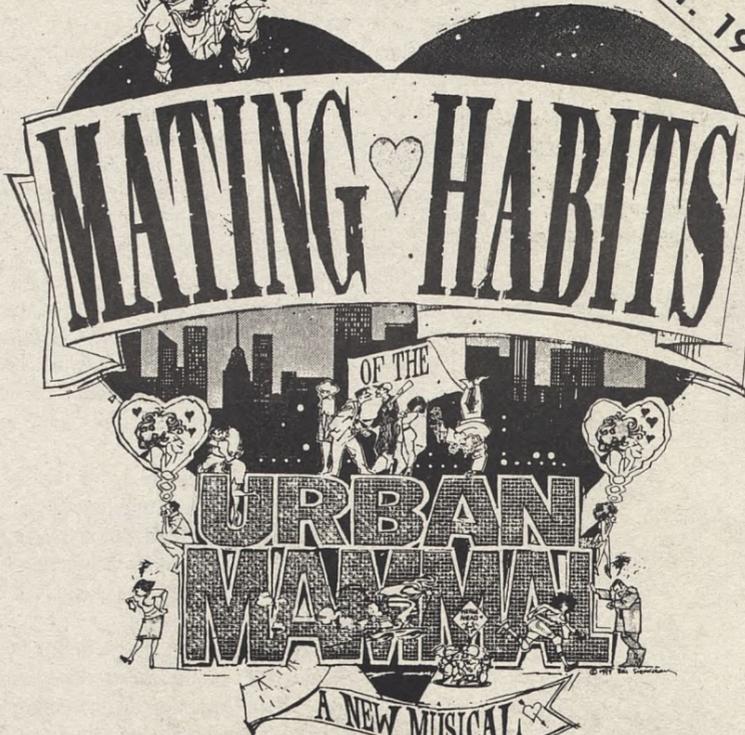
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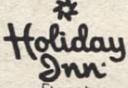
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C A L E N D A R

26 THURSDAY

PEOPLE, POTLIKKER & POLITICIANS.

Storyteller Grace Hawthorne tells about growing up in Waterproof, Louisiana and other Southern folk tales. Charis Books & More. 7:30 pm. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

GAY GRAFFITI. Local radio show offers news, music and info for Atlanta's gay and lesbian community every Thursday night at 7:00 pm on WRFG, 89.3.

C.S. LEWIS ONSTAGE. Theater Emory opens its season with this one-man show, adapted and performed by Tom Key, from the works of C.S. Lewis. Today through Sat. 8:00 pm. Mary Gray Munroe Theater in Dobbs Univ. Center. 727-6187.

ATLANTA ENTREPRENEURS' CLUB. Network with the gay business community tonight. 7:00 p.m. 457-6347.

27 FRIDAY

SHAKESPEARE BY THE LAKE. Enjoy the Bard's most popular

comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," by the banks of Gross Lake in beautiful Conyers. Don't miss the antics of Bottom and the Fairy King and Queen! Tonight and Sat at 8:00 pm; Sun at 7:00 pm. 922-3143 for reservations and directions. Presented by The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern and the Conyers-Rockdale Council for the Arts.

GETTING THE LOVE YOU WANT. A weekend workshop for gay and lesbian couples who want more from their relationships. For complete information call 377-3773 or 381-0569.

E/R², PEACHTREE MEMORIAL. Don't miss the final weekend of this hit comedy drama set in an Atlanta emergency room. Tonight's performance is a benefit for AID Atlanta. Onstage Atlanta. 897-1802.

28 SATURDAY

SISTER THUNDER. Everyone who ever dreamed of beating a drum, and everyone who does, is invited to an open jam for drums and other percussion instruments. This is a participation event and there is limited seating. Some instruments

will be available to share. Presented by SAME. 8:00 pm. Outproud Theatre. 75 Bennett St. 609-9590.

SOUNDCHECK MUSIC SHOWCASE. Bands from around the country compete in this search for top American talent. Andy Easton and Tin Roof from Atlanta go against five other bands from around the southeast including halcyon out of Tampa, FL. 8:30 pm. Variety Playhouse. LSP. 524-7354.

THE ARTS AGAINST AIDS. This first major fundraiser for Chattanooga Cares, which serves HIV patients in both Tennessee and North Georgia counties, will offer one-of-a-kind items in a silent auction. Don't miss this opportunity to buy a pair of Liz Taylor's shoes or a reproduction of Dorothy's costume from the Wizard of Oz. Tickets are \$50. 7:00 pm. Radisson Read House. (615) 265-2273 for more info.

HIV UPDATE. The syndicated cable TV show airs every Sat at 6 p.m. on Channel 12.

29 SUNDAY

NEIL YOUNG IN CONCERT. Don't know if any tickets are left but for you 40 somethings this

is a must see, so get out the plastic and go see the "Old Man." Lakewood Amphitheatre. 817-8700.

EYES ON THE PRIZE. This powerful 6-part series details the spirit and stories of the civil rights struggle in America between 1954 and 1965. The series, and its sequel, which goes through the mid-80s, air nightly through Fri. Tonight, three programs air back-to-back. 9:00 pm. Channel 8, GPTV.

MONTREUX AT- LANTA MUSIC FESTIVAL. This 11-day event runs through Sept. 6 and features a wide variety of musicians in different locations. Call 853-3ART for complete information.

30 MONDAY

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program. 10:30 p.m. and again, Wed. 5:30 p.m. 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.

31 TUESDAY

WHY AM I GAY? STORIES OF COMING OUT IN AMERICA. Stay up late or set your VCRs for this HBO documentary that "paints a



moving and thought-provoking picture" of what we already know—what it's like to grow up gay. Check listings for times.

1 WEDNESDAY

POSITIVE LIVING. This locally produced show about people living with AIDS. People TV Ch. 12, 2:30 p.m. and again on Sat., 10 p.m. It also airs on City Ch. 6, Th. 5 p.m.

FRONT RUNNERS. It's not too early to start training for the 1994 Pride Run. Run with the Front Runners. Meet at 6:30 pm in Piedmont Park parking lot near the tennis courts. 621-5007.

Pictured: ABOVE: Eyes on the Prize, a history of the civil rights struggle, airs this week on GPTV.

LEFT: Bottom and Titania in "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Photo by Michael Holland.

BELOW: halcyon out of Tampa, FL will make a run for best band on Saturday night at Variety Playhouse.



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

SEXUAL PERVERSITY IN CHICAGO. Through Aug 28. The play, best remembered for the movie adaptation "About Last Night," follows the lives and exploits of two bachelors, Dan and Bernie, and presents a harsh commentary on the male perception of sex and love. The female point of view comes through Deborah and Joan, two roommates. When Dan and Deborah fall in love, their friends sound a voice of doom. Th-Sat 8 p.m. 14 th St. Playhouse. \$10. 881-6304.

THE CONDUCT OF LIFE. Through Aug 28. A unique and devastating play, written by Cuban-American Maria Irene Fornes, dealing with the psychology of a torturer as seen by three women in his life. Th-Sat 8 p.m. 7 Stages Backdoor Theatre, LSP. \$7. 523-7647.

SMOKE ON THE

MOUNTAIN. Through Sept 4. This popular and highly successful musical comedy and good-time gospel celebration returns to Theatre in the Square. 8 p.m. T-Sat, 3 & 7 p.m. Sun. 11 Whitlock Ave, Marietta. \$15-\$25. 422-8369.

MATING HABITS OF THE URBAN MAMMAL. Through Sept. 19. Due to popular demand, this new comical musical has been held over at The Discovery Arena at Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur. Performances are Thurs through Sun. 373-5311 or Ticketmaster at 817-87000.

RHYTHM FEST '93. Labor Day weekend. The 4th annual women's music, art and politics festival promises to be even better than last year. Call 873-1551 for all the info.

PFLAG CONVENTION.

Sept 3-6. Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians will be in fun-filled New Orleans networking, learning about gay and lesbian issues through a multitude of workshops and enjoying the scenery. Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. Discounted hotel rates available. \$100 registration. (504) 523-3922/288-2332.

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON. Sept. 11. Randy Shilts' best selling book about the early years of AIDS comes to HBO tonight. See story on page 21. 8:00 pm. Other play dates are Sept. 14, 17, 19, 22, 26 and 30.

40th ANNUAL AT- LANTA ARTS FESTIVAL. Sept 11-19. Experience one of the most comprehensive multi-disciplinary arts events in North America. Hundreds of booths and exhibits,

food and fun in Piedmont Park. This group is also looking for volunteers to help with the event. 885-1125.

CELEBRATING GAY SPIRIT VISIONS. Sept 16-19. Explore your nature with a group of men who love men on top of "The Mountain" in North Carolina through tribal rituals, workshops and presentations focusing on silence, vision and action. Authors Tom Spanbauer and Andrew Ramer will be present. \$195-\$225. (704) 526-5838, (404) 378-1227/ Al Cotton.

NEW WOMAN CONFERENCE. Sept 23-26. A three-day conference for new (post-operative) women and their male and female partners. A retreat held near San Francisco that combines communing with nature with the sharing of experience. P.O. Box 67, S. Berwick, ME 03908. (207) 676-5870.



halcyon

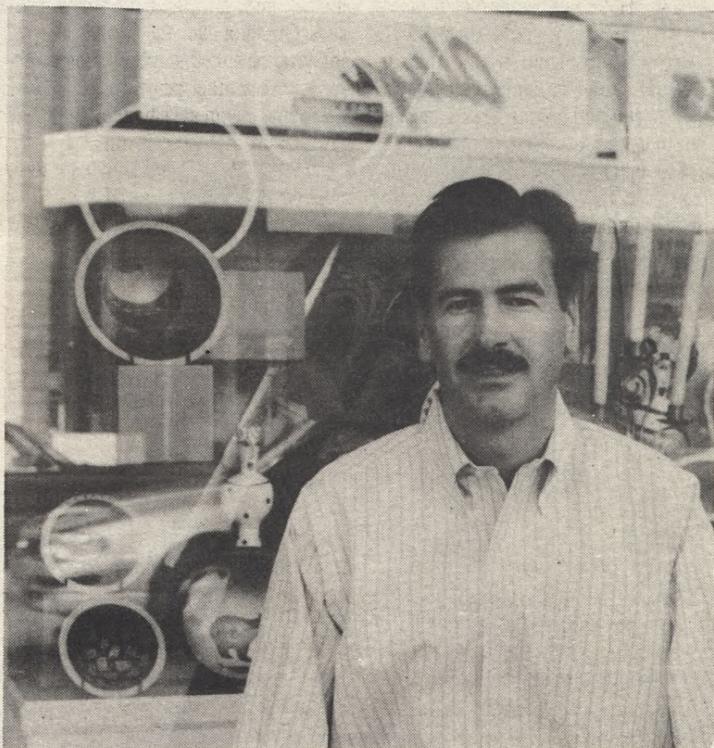
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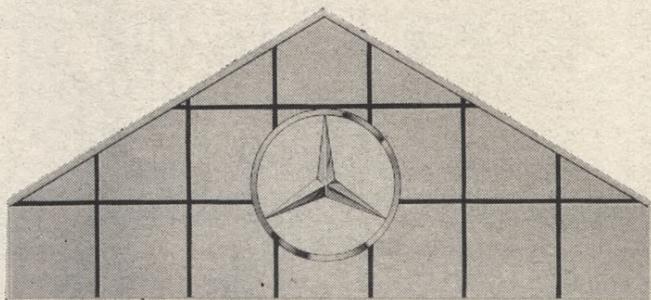
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"WHERE THE SAFEST CAR IN THE WORLD IS MORE AFFORDABLE"

Band Played On

Continued from page 21.

involved did other people come on board," says producer Sarah Pillsbury. The admittedly stellar cast now also includes Alan Alda, Anjelica Huston, Steve Martin, Ian McKellen, Glenna Headly, Swoosie Kurtz, B.C. Wong and Lily Tomlin (replacing Whoopi Goldberg, who had to drop out because of illness). Along with the producers on the project, all have agreed to donate their salaries to AIDS organizations, and HBO will match the money.

Filming was completed in January, but the rumors were just beginning. They reached a peak in May when the Advocate printed an interview with disgruntled director Roger Spottiswoode, which included his allegations that HBO was toning down the film's political content. "[HBO] wanted to remove the politics out of it," Spottiswoode is quoted as saying. "They're scared of it."

Cooper termed that allegation "an absolute lie, and I don't use words like that lightly."

"It's such lunacy. Anyone who knows HBO knows it's not true—not because we're so courageous, but because it's not in our business interest [to tone down the film's politics]," he says, citing "Common Threads," HBO's explicit and award-winning 1989 film about the AIDS quilt. "We're the ones who do well by being provocative."

He says that HBO is even planning an advertising campaign for the movie which emphasizes its controversial politics, noting that "AIDS is the first political disease." And Cooper points out that Spottiswoode, who walked off the project in frustration, did eventually return to complete the editing of the film.

"HBO was not trying to soften the film in any way," agrees screenwriter Schulman, a sentiment which is also echoed by producer Pillsbury. "They wanted more against Reagan.

They wanted it to be the hardest, toughest work we could make. The more controversy, the better."

The resulting film pulls absolutely no punches, Schulman says, naming names and laying the blame for the spread of AIDS clearly at the feet of a long list of individuals and groups—the Reagan administration, the blood banks, the scientific community, the media, the American public and even certain short-sided members of the gay community. Any edits that took place in the film were the result of legal issues or because of competing creative differences, according to Schulman and Pillsbury.

"I think every group is indicted—all of us, for not taking a larger interest in this," Schulman says.

Perhaps the most telling of all is the opinion of Shilts, who is so pleased with HBO's handling of the project that he didn't hesitate to sell them the option to "Conduct Unbecoming," his latest book which is about gays and lesbians in the military.

According to Shilts, it was HBO who insisted that "And the Band Played On" be sympathetic to gays, often over the specific objections of director Roger Spottiswoode. "Frankly, [Spottiswoode] never seemed concerned when I would worry about gay portrayals," Shilts says. "HBO maintains they were never going to take [the politics] out, Spottiswoode says they were. All I know is that with the gay content, HBO was much more responsive to my concerns than he was."

These days, the one thing that everyone agrees on is that the final product is an impressive film. "At the end of the day, it would be almost impossible to make a bad version of this film, and it won't be," Pillsbury says. "It's going to be a good film."

If what's on-screen is half as interesting as what's been going on behind the scenes, it can't miss.

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PERFECT CASTING

Gay actor Mitchell Lichtenstein plays American lover of a Taiwanese man in "The Wedding Banquet," a provocative new comedy.

Back in 1983, Mitchell Lichtenstein played a queer in an army barracks in Robert Altman's film of the David Rabe play "Streamers." Ten years later, the debate over gays in the military became a front-page issue.

But Lichtenstein says his latest feature is getting quicker results. One week after "The Wedding Banquet" opened in Taiwan, the first lesbian and gay organization was formed at a Taiwanese university. The film's influence was acknowledged, the actor says, adding with a chuckle, "I take personal credit." The first gay-themed Taiwanese film, which opens in Atlanta on Aug. 27, went on to break box office records in the conservative country.

The Wedding Banquet opens Friday, Aug. 27 at Phipps Plaza

It's hard to draw Lichtenstein into a conversation about racism in the gay community—"I'm sure there is every variety of racism," he says. "We have all the evils of every other community."—because, he points out, it's not an issue in "The Wedding Banquet." He plays Simon, the American lover of Taiwanese Wai-Tung (Winston Chao) in the comedy, but the interracial nature of their relationship is "not addressed, just taken for granted, as is our gay relationship, on one level."

While their domestic situation is a given from the audience's perspective, the story concerns Wai's parents, who want grandchildren. Mama keeps registering her thirtysomething son with dating services. He doesn't like living a lie, but he's used to it, and Taiwan seems far enough from New York to keep the folks blissfully ig-

norant.

Through a series of plot machinations, Wai-Tung agrees to marry Wei-Wei (May Chin), an artist on the verge of being deported if she doesn't find a husband. His parents come over for the wedding and forget to go home again, to the chagrin of Simon, who suggested the marriage in the first place.

In "Streamers," Lichtenstein flirted with a frighteningly intense African American, played by Michael Wright, and now he's partnered with an Asian in "The Wedding Banquet." Is he worried about being typecast as a GWM in interracial relationships? "That'll ensure a few more roles," he laughs. "I've got a few races left."

Wright and Lichtenstein should have become top stars after their work in "Streamers." But while both have continued to act (Wright was in "The Five Heartbeats" two years ago), neither has had a lot of high-profile roles.

"They liked the performance but didn't want the 'taint' of it," Lichtenstein agrees. He doesn't assume an angry posture against the movie business and doesn't appear to be the type to blame his misfortunes on external forces. But he acknowledges that he's been a victim of "discreet discrimination" for being openly gay. "It bothered me for a while, but now I'm playing more gay parts."

He's also played a variety of parts, gay and otherwise, in theaters on both coasts as well as in Portland, Minneapolis and other cities. He's had film roles in "The Lords of Discipline" and "Crackers" and TV guest shots in "Miami Vice" and "The Equalizer."

"I don't think there's anything wrong with being typecast," Lichtenstein says. "But the range



Mitchell Lichtenstein and Winston Chao play Simon and Wai-Tung, lovers who have their lives interrupted when Wai-Tung's parents come from Taiwan.

of gay roles is so limited, as it was for blacks for a while."

Industry attitudes may be changing, slowly, Lichtenstein says. He moved a couple of years ago from Los Angeles back to New York, where gayness is less of a problem for the theater-oriented crowd. His own attitude has changed more rapidly: "I stopped caring about anyone who has an attitude about it."

The son of a pop artist Roy Lichtenstein and a graduate of Yale Drama School, the actor doesn't know if Altman cast him in "Streamers" because he was gay. "He always told me it was

because I could blush on cue. I don't know if it's true or not, but that's all he said."

The role in "The Wedding Banquet" came about "through regular channels," Lichtenstein says. Director Ang Lee was in New York casting and consulted some women who had placed the actor on other projects.

Lichtenstein says he may have been the only gay person involved in making "The Wedding Banquet." "When I went into it, I assumed Ang must be gay, and producer James Schamus, who did 'Swoon' and 'Poison.' But they're not."

STEVE WARREN

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TELEVISION

IN A NEW LIGHT

ABC's upcoming special on AIDS, "In A New Light," clearly falls into the category of "star-studded" television extravaganza.

Hosted by Arsenio Hall and Paula Abdul, the show will feature performances and appearances by a host of celebrities. But to those who might be afraid it will be more fluff than substance, producers insist that "In A New Light" will provide real information on AIDS and HIV—probably the most graphic and frank discussion of HIV transmission ever on network television.

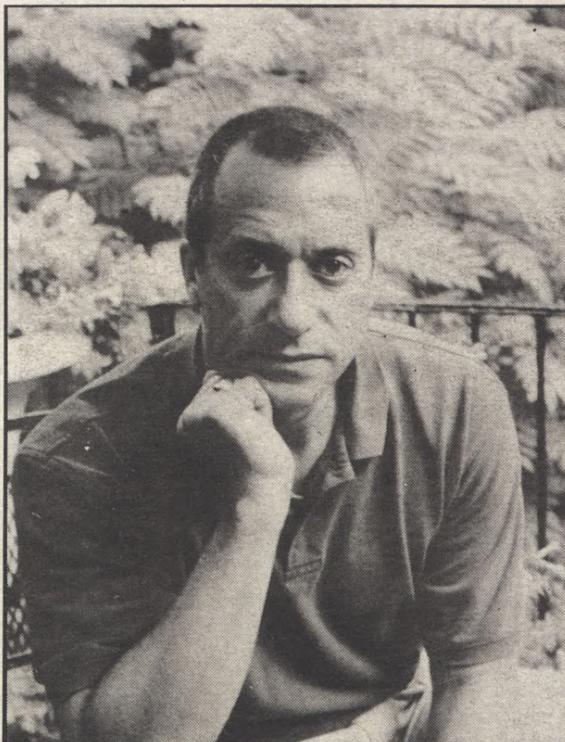
In a New Light airs on ABC (in Atlanta, WSB-TV Channel 2) on Saturday, Sept. 4 at 8 p.m.

"It's a lot of great entertainment, but what's revolutionary about this show is the straightforward AIDS education," says Joseph Lovett, the show's executive producer. "One of the problems in AIDS education, as most gay and lesbian people know, is that we have been very euphemistic in our language."

"People think they can get AIDS in a swimming pool," says Lovett. "Why do they think that? Well, because we've said you can get AIDS from bodily fluids." So Lovett says that the show will be very explicit about what "bodily fluids" are.

"We talk about sexual intercourse—vaginal, oral and rectal. We show a condom being put on a penis-shaped object," he says, noting that the show focuses on the most current high-risk populations, heterosexual women and young people. "It's really more of a straight focus than a gay focus, because those are the people who have to wake up."

Lovett says he hopes to make people understand not just that they are at risk, but that their children are at risk.



BARRY CHERIN

Joseph Lovett, the executive producer of "In A New Light," says he hopes the show will empower people to stop the spread of the AIDS epidemic.

Entertainers on the bill for the evening include Patti Austin, Pat Benetar, Clint Black, Elaine Bosler, Garth Brooks, Dr. Joyce Brothers, Michael Callen, Cindy Crawford, Melissa Etheridge, Hulk Hogan, Elton John, Barry Manilow, Rosie Perez, Luke Perry, Geraldo Rivera, Silk, Lily Tomlin, Blair Underwood, Ben Vereen and Malcolm Jamal-Warner.

This is "In A New Light's" second year on ABC. But the annual show actually has its roots in Atlanta, because the idea came from "Heartstrings."

"I had done a documentary on the original 'Heartstrings' show," says Lovett. "It was from that that 'In A New Light'

grew. Last year's show incorporated much of the 'Heartstrings' show."

Phil Beuth, ABC's president of early morning and late night entertainment, wanted to do something through which he could personally make a difference because his son died of AIDS. Barbara Walters introduced Lovett to Beuth, and the show was born.

The first show was a success, both commercially and educationally.

"Last year, we sold all our ads, and we hope we will this year," says Lovett. But more importantly, the Centers for Disease Control reported a record number of responses to the AIDS Hotline number that appeared on the screen throughout the show, while AIDS Project Los Angeles had a 400 percent increase in calls to its local number immediately after the show aired.

When asked his goal for this year's show, Lovett replies: "To get people to stop transmitting HIV, to protect themselves and their partners."

Joseph Lovett has been producing AIDS programming for network television for 10 years, including segments for "20/20." He says he is proud of ABC for the support they have given him for his AIDS programs, particularly this one. "It's a very brave thing for the corporation to do. When anyone does something like this, they should be given the same degree of positive support as they would get negative attention for doing something wrong."

Lovett calls "In A New Light" appropriate for all age groups. "I think it is something that should be seen by the entire family and should be discussed," he says. He admits that some people aren't going to like the show, but he also insists that "there should be nothing controversial about stopping this epidemic."

As the show's title suggests, it looks at AIDS "in a new light." Lovett himself seems to look at the situation with some necessary optimism.

"We do have the power to stop the spread of this epidemic, and it is an epidemic," he says. "This is stoppable. So why not stop it? Why not stop a killer epidemic?"

DEBBIE FRAKER

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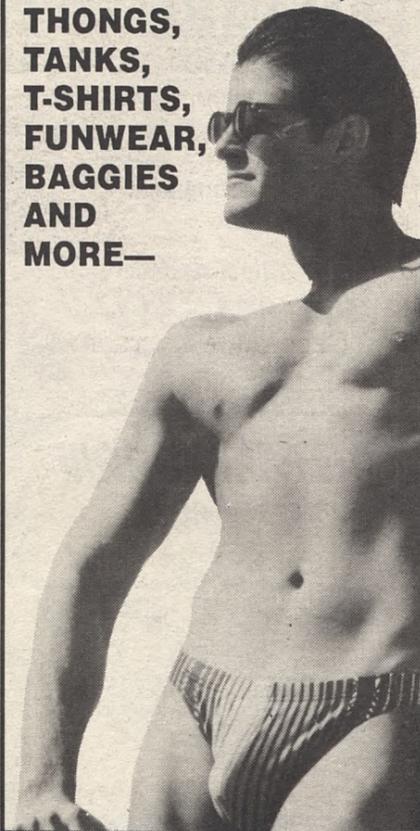
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If you still doubt that perseverance pays off and dreams do come true, just ask Tasha Kahn, the newly crowned Miss Georgia Continental. Tasha, a voluptuous lady with more than enough female curvature to make her a strong Continental contender, has been aiming for this crown for several years. Every time, she has faced very stiff competition from the likes of Lauren LaMasters (1991) and Ashley Kruiz (1992).

This year the competition was just as fierce, but Tasha's confidence level, wardrobe and overall polish were at their peak. She generated an ovation of approval from the audience when she slithered down the length of the runway in her low cut swimsuit, descended the steps, approached the judges' table, took judge Hal Gresham's hand as if to shake it but instead brought it gently up to her face and rubbed it across her cheeks, leaving no doubt about her smooth femininity.

Much of the credit for widening the gap between Tasha and the other contestants belongs to her hair stylist Regina Sims. Regina creatively augmented Tasha's own jet tresses with skillfully styled hair pieces rather than large clunky wigs tortured into too heavy up-do's with bangs.

Florida's Tiffany McRae was first runner up, with Atlanta's Motion placing second and capturing the all-important talent award. Motion's high energy dance number was made even more visually impressive by the contributions of artists Dan Henigman and Jody Harvey, who designed the revealing tribal costumes for the diva and her backup boys. Also competing were Divinity (a former Miss Miami), LaToya St. James and the very popular China Fox.

Tickets go on sale early in September for the much anticipated Miss National Atlanta Pageant to be held in the International Ballroom of the Omni Hotel at CNN Center. This pageant will do much to restore the glory to our city's title. At least nine former Miss Atlantas are expected to be here, including Dina Jacobs, Amber Richards, Sable Chanel and Tina DeVore.

One of Atlanta's most talented designers, Grey Brown, is teaming up with comic Cissy Rimwell to present a night of fun at Velvet's Popcorn on Saturday, Aug. 28 in the Popcorn Lounge. According to Cissy, the party is a benefit to raise money for her own pet project, "The Cissy Rimwell Shelter

AFTER HOURS

DANNY ROBLE



Tasha Kahn is the new Miss Georgia Continental.

for Homeless Go-Go Boys." Says Cissy, "This problem cannot be ignored any longer...in all the major cities of the world, there are large numbers of G-string clad go-go boys wandering aimlessly, relying on the kindness of strangers—and you

know how far that will get you. You can see them on the corners of busy intersections, holding signs that say "Will Dance For Food." It is so sad. I have also seen them approach drivers at stoplights and offer to dance to the music on the car radio, hoping for a dollar. But more often than not, the driver speeds away, leaving the hapless go-go boy dancing a capella. Whenever I see these boys dancing in the clubs wearing next to nothing, something comes over me and I just want to do all that I can to them—I mean for them. I've often offered to share my motel room with one or two of them...they are always so grateful, but that's just the kind of woman I am."

"At the party, we'll have several of these muscular boys dancing and accepting tips. Our goal is to put a down payment on a building to provide housing for these young men. Remember, a dollar in their crotch means a roof over their heads."

Jennifer Perry, the ever busy hostess and producer of her own television show on DeKalb and Fulton public access, plans to tape a special edition of her musical variety show at Eddie's Attic in Decatur on Saturday, Aug. 28. "The Jennifer Perry Show" features local singers and musicians such as Sulli, Rache Alpert, Melanie Hammet and Angela Motter, as well as entertainers near and dear to our hearts such as Lily White and DeAundra Peek. Sharing the stage at Eddie's will be singers Caroline Aiken, DeDe Vogt and Cass Kennedy, whose recently released "Icons" CD is getting lots of attention. The taping begins at 9 p.m.

"Jennifer Perry" broadcasts in DeKalb on Channel 12 on Sundays at 11 p.m. and Fridays at 9 p.m. and also on Channel 12 in Fulton on Sundays at 11 p.m. Coming up on Friday Aug. 27, the show will feature Tim Wilson, one of the city's favorite comedians, and Matt Bliss, former trumpet player with Prince and the Revolution. The following Sunday, Aug. 29 brings us the band Month of Sundays. On tap for Sept. 5 is Jennifer's Game Show featuring a panel of celebs including teen supermodel DeAundra Peek, Robin Kessler of Jupiter Symphony and Todd Bush, hairdresser to the stars. The show will be hosted by writer Ed Sutherland, with modeling assistance by Vanna White stand-in Andrea Nicole Bennett. Look for a brand new "vienner" recipe from DeAundra.

Don't Miss Out...

The Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus Under the direction of Glenna Shepherd, announces open rehearsals August 22 and 29 during the first two weeks of its twelfth Atlanta season. After these dates, auditions will be required for membership during the 1993-94 season. Rehearsal time is 4:00-6:30 pm at the First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr., NE.

Singers of all parts are welcome, with first soprano voices especially sought. Women of color are urged to join.

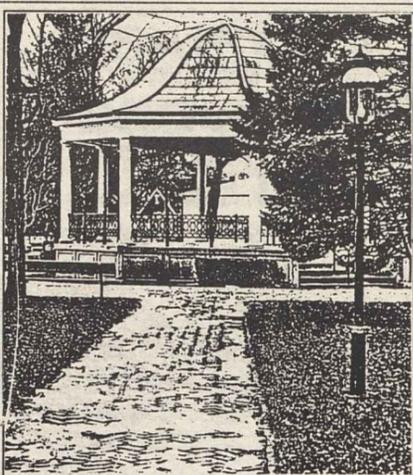
The AFWC is a non-auditioned, community-based chorus open to all women who enjoy group singing. Call 438-5823 for more information.

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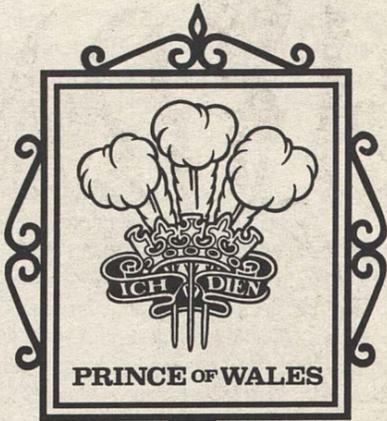
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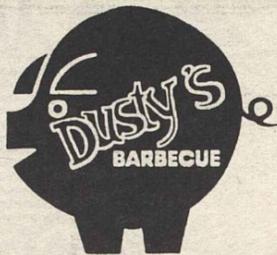


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CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Remember a few weeks ago when I was kvetching about the lack of good take-out emporia on the east side of town? (I should mention that, yes, I do know about Indian Delights. And I think the food is nothing less than stellar. But it doesn't travel very well, and the pile of Styrofoam containers left over after all is said and done puts me in a real eco-funk.)

And remember a week or two before that, I was singing the praises of Bella Cucina and bemoaning the fact that every neighborhood in town did not have such a wonderful little sandwich shop/takeout parlor?

Well guess what, food fans? Decatur has a new eatery by the name of **Cafe 308** (308F West Ponce de Leon, 370-0308—actually it faces Ponce de Leon Place in the strip center formally fronted by Maier & Berkele.) If I hadn't so recently sampled the wares at Bella Cucina, I'd be turning cartwheels over Cafe 308. As it is, I'm only thrilled to have it in the neighborhood and recommending it to everyone I see.

The concept is simple. A rectangular green and white room sports some interesting art and a mix-and-match assortment of tables and chairs. There's an ice cream freezer stocked with a nice assortment of Greenwood products and another cooler decorated with a couple of very pretty made-in-house desserts. The kitchen is open, the menu on a chalkboard. You order at the counter, and a friendly employee brings your food to your table.

The menu is equally simple—a soup d'jour, seven sandwiches, a similar number of salads and (maybe) a hot entree special of the day.

Start with the soup, a gazpacho made with roasted veggies every time I've visited. It's smooth, rich, smoky and mild. At first taste, it was too mild for my spice-seeking tongue, but it gets better and better with each bite. A bit of hot sauce might be interesting, but it might just ruin the whole thing too.

Like Bella Cucina, the two specialty sandwiches are based on grilled eggplant and grilled rosemary chicken, but they're not identical clones.

The eggplant comes on mild rosemary focaccia (from the Buckhead Bread Company) garnished with sweet roasted peppers, smoky provolone cheese and sinus-clearing honey mustard. Both the eggplant and the mustard are among the best I've ever tasted, but the mustard overwhelms the mild eggplant. By all means, order the sandwich, but ask that mayo (or maybe pesto mayo) be substituted for the mustard. Try the yellow stuff on a smoked ham sandwich. *That* should be heaven.

The chicken sandwich (on the BBC's fabulous, chewy calmata olive loaf) is a mite messy, but the addition of sharp feta cheese, hot pepperoncini and ripe tomatoes make for a flavor extravaganza that's not to be missed.

The same sweet, moist chicken can also be had on top of a remarkably good Caesar salad. Crisp lettuce, strong anchovy-laced dressing and plenty of freshly grated parmesan make this a real treat in a city that seems hell-bent on producing increasingly boring variations of what should be a very assertively flavored dish. The salad (which sports gobs of exquisite, nutty little wheat-bread croutons) is also available sans chicken. If you smile and say "please," you can get some of that fabulous grilled eggplant on your Caesar. Yum.

Piles of that great feta show up again in a
CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



A Different Thai Experience

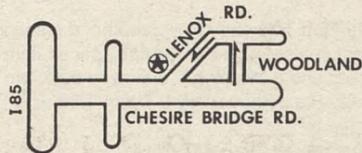
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

tasty plate full of what the menu calls a Greek salad. But it isn't. The lettuce is wrong (romaine, not iceberg) and so is the dressing (red wine vinaigrette, not olive oil and lemon). There are a few calmata olives and plenty of those great croutons, but no dried oregano. Don't get me wrong—it tasted great, and I wiped my plate clean with a slab of olive oil soaked, griddle-cooked toast that set me swooning with each bite. It's just that there's more to a Greek salad than feta cheese.

Sandwiches come with a choice of three side salads. Tomato/dill/caper pasta is pleasant enough, but pretty boring. Roasted red skin potatoes in balsamic vinaigrette are perkier but still nothing special. Black beans and corn laced with cilantro are the hands-down winner in this race, though not exactly the ideal accompaniment for a sweet and mild capered tuna salad on potato dill bread. Zap's excellent potato chips are an option if none of the salads floats your taste boat.

I've tried three of Cafe 308's desserts. A really pretty banana cake with two kinds of butter cream frosting suffers from sugar shock and the mixed metaphor of loaf-like cake and wedding cake-like icing. Not much fun unless you're in search of a sugar rush. Blueberry peach pie is also sweet but far better balanced with a nice acid bite from the fruit in evidence. The crust is tender and short. Good as your mama would make if she did it from from scratch.

Far and away the winner in the dessert contest is a meringue shell filled with whipped cream and fat, ripe strawberries. The meringue—crisp outside, moist inside—is sugary but beautifully balanced by the strawberries with the whipped cream acting as a smooth liaison between the two.

Cafe 308 is open until 8 p.m., Monday-Friday and until 4:30 on Saturday. Check it out soon.

Tummy Rumbings

Seems like it has been a year ago that I was busy singing the praises of Ben & Jerry's frozen yogurt while bemoaning the fact that the Cherry Garcia flavor was so uninspired.

Well, B&J must have heard my lament because the new formulation of that product now packs about twice as much flavor as did the original, and the texture is way creamier. The yogurt has a mild cherry flavor, the cherries are sinfully rich and the chocolate chips have a nice bite.

Best of all, here's totally fabulous frozen desert that gets a mere 17 percent of its calories from fat. Amazing.

Also pretty amazing (at least to folks like me who see exercise as anathema) is the latest word (from the CDC and the American College of Sports Medicine) that 30 minutes of moderate, even intermittent, exercise a day does as much good a major workout.

That's subjective, of course. Obviously, a 30-minute walk a day is not going to yield iron abs or bulging biceps. But several fairly large studies have shown that several miles a day at 15-20 minutes a mile reduce your risk of death from cardiovascular causes as much as quitting smoking does.

Another much smaller study suggest that a similar amount of exercise can less stress, anxiety and depression by as much as 30 percent.

Need an excuse to get started? The AIDS walk is coming up in October.

Coming Attractions: Look for Sir Ian McKellen (Britain's only openly queer knight) in three films due out soon. "The Ballad of Little Jo" has his character protecting a young woman who chooses to live as a man (and bashing a woman who refuses him fellatio). Dish may well skip this one, which one critic said "delivers a joyless vision of gender bending." McKellen will also appear in "Six Degrees of Separation," which was totally stripped of its homo component when star Will (Fresh Prince) Smith flat refused to kiss another man while the cameras were rolling. Nyet again. More encouragingly, Sir Ian will play Bill Kraus (an openly gay and proud man) in HBO's version of "And the Band Played On." Then again there's much controversy over whether all the politics of Randy Shilts' book have been stripped from the movie. Watch your September HBO schedule for times. Finally, the best news seems to be about, "The Wedding Banquet," a Taiwanese flick that chronicles the travails of an Asian gay man and his lover when the former's conservative parents come to visit this country. Despite Taiwan's basically conservative nature, the film has grossed more money there than any other non-Kung-Fu flick.

Martina Watch: OK, we know that she's come and gone, but we thought you'd be interested to know where we spotted Martina whilst she was in town for the Atlanta Thunder's season—playing pool at Eddie's Attic in Decatur; making merry at Revolution in Buckhead and spending wisely at Common Pond in Va-Hi. No matter where we saw her, Ms. N. was usually surrounded by a coterie of 8-10 women. The only two Dish recognized were Indigo Girl Emily Saliers and Common Pond owner Susan Owens. And, no, we did not ask for an autograph. When is public, Dish is constantly besieged by signature hounds, and we don't like it one little bit.

Boycott Wynonna: We think it's pretty disgusting (but totally understandable) that Pope JP II chose to visit the Hate State last week to subvert and pervert the minds of America's impression-

Dish

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



Dish is not amused by Wynonna's papal affinity.

able youth. But lest you wonder how you should or should not be spending your country music dollar, you may want to note that Ms. Wynonna Judd performed a free concert as part of the Pope Party in Denver. We think free is the operative word here. Tells you exactly where the woman's heart is, and it ain't in our court.

Marietta Miracle: Dish has pretty much quit reading the free

"Neighbor" newspaper that litters our yard every week. But we were delighted to receive a copy of the Aug. 4 edition of that publication from a reader who pointed out an editorial by Elmo Ellis (usually no paragon of progressivity) saying that "gays have a right to serve." Well, you could have knocked Dish over with a feather. The Neighbor papers are published by Otis Brumby Jr. (who owns the rabidly reactionary Marietta Daily Journal) and features editorials by Dillard Munford (who makes Pat Buchanan look like a flaming liberal). Ellis' facts are a little fuzzy—he thinks that queers are a distinct gender—but his point of view is refreshing when seen amongst the usual dreck in these papers. Drop a note to Elmo c/o the Neighbor Newspapers, P.O. Box 449, Marietta, GA 30061 and thank him for his support.

Marietta Miracle II: The other recent media miracle took place in the paper published down on Marietta St. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported that they received 50 letters the day after the Cobb Commission's fag bashing resolution—two supported the fundies, 48 used words like "embarrassed," "appalled" and "ashamed" to describe how they felt about the hate-filled action taken by Cobb's elected officials. We don't have an address where you can send thanks for this miracle—well, maybe to the Goddess...in heaven.

Green With Envy: Lewis Grizzard (who seems to be meaner, but slicker about how he presents that meanness, since his recent heart surgery) spent some time whining about some of the goings on in queer Atlanta during raft race weekend. Grizzard says he was taken aghast by the scene (reported in his own paper) where glamor queen Raven was scantily clad, drinking vodka and using a bit of profanity to describe him/herself. As if Grizzard himself doesn't regularly consume alcohol, use profanity and oggle scantily-clad women. Talk about hypocrisy. Or maybe Lewis is just envious because straight folks don't have an annual event anything like the Hotlanta weekend—unless it's a trip to the nearest Hooter's for a brew and some wings.

AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

The sun went into Virgo (a mutable Earth sign) on Aug. 22, so be sure and tell all of your Virgo friends "Happy Birthday" and take them out for a health food lunch. Also, plan to have your friends over on Aug. 26 to celebrate Women's Equality Day.

ARIES, if your career is not going as planned, you may want to be more in sync with the infamous Uranus/Neptune conjunction. This pair is creating chaos everywhere and pushing lots of people into creative crises (all of which can be very positive). **TAURUS**, with the sun and Mercury cruising through your fifth house of creativity, pleasure and romance, you should be having a grand time expressing yourself. You'll be glad you did. **GEMINI**, still a good time for you to be at home, especially if there are unfinished projects. Get organized and complete what you've started, so you will be ready for fall. You might even plan a trip as a reward for getting projects completed.

CANCER, the Uranus/Neptune combination in your seventh house of close personal relationships may express itself as change or at least uncertainty about how things will turn out, especially with partnerships. Trust your instincts and be optimistic. **LEO**, Venus

STARSIGNS

in your first house of personality, habits and self-awareness makes this an excellent time to take an inventory of your feelings and your emotional bank account. If you are holding some heavy or negative emotions, off load immediately. Happy birthday, Dear **VIRGO**. How is your birthday month going? Hopefully, you are having a wonderful time. Since this is the beginning of your solar year, think about your goals and aspirations for the next 12 months and write down what you want.

LIBRA, take advantage of this very exciting Mars/Jupiter combination to get your life moving in a direction you feel good about. An excellent opportunity to get rid of doubt, hesitation and anything else that slows you down when you need to be moving.

SCORPIO, you know when you are at peace with yourself and have a chance to be centered, you can trust your instincts and intuition. So, give yourself a chance to be at peace and allow

your higher intelligence to come to the surface. It will work. **SAGITTARIUS**, if you are feeling that your best efforts have failed or that doors are rapidly closing in your face, then you may need to take an objective look at what you are actually trying to accomplish. Are you really living your own dream?

CAPRICORN, well, how was last week? Hopefully, you were able to do something really creative with all the unusual energy moving through your solar system. With this energy, it can be difficult to make long-range plans, so stay in the 3-4 month range. **AQUARIUS**, Venus is in your seventh house of close personal relationships, including partnerships and the love of your life. You'll be looking good and probably very much appreciated for your appearance and/or your personality. Good time to be social. **PISCES**, once in a blue moon, they say. Well, this is yours. The second full moon this month is on Aug. 31, and it is in your sign. It's perfect for romance, imagination and wishing for the moon. Be creative and may all your wishes come true.

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.

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

IF OUR FAVORITE SISTERS CAN BE FAULTED AT ALL, (& I'M INCLINED TO BELIEVE THEY CAN'T BE) IT'S SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY CARE ABOUT PEOPLE TOO MUCH... SO IT'S NOT HARD TO UNDERSTAND JUST HOW BADLY THEY FELT UPON LEARNING THAT 2 DEAR OLD FRIENDS FROM L.A. WERE TREATING EACH OTHER TERRIBLY, AND WERE ON THE VERGE OF SPLITTING UP...

OH MERY THAT'S AWFUL! WE'LL CATCH THE VERY NEXT PLANE OUT!

LOS ANGELES (Map showing various neighborhoods like San Fernando, Burbank, Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Torrance, Compton, Gardena, etc.)

THE TRAGIC REPORTS PROVED TRUE, RELATIONS WERE BADLY FRAID...

AND SO THE HAT SISTERS TRIED EVERYTHING THEY COULD THINK OF TO EFFECT A RECONCILIATION... BUT THE COMBATANTS WOULD HAVE NOTHING OF IT... A MRS. BATES, WHO LIVED NEARBY, TOLD OUR HEROINES THAT THIS HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR QUITE SOME TIME...

JANE, YOU'VE COMMITTED AN ACT OF UNKINDNESS...

YOU SAID COOK HER SOME DIN-DIN SO I DID... I COOKED HER SOME DIN-DIN...

SAY, HOW ABOUT A TRIP TO THE BEACH?

JANE DEAR, UNGAG YOUR SISTER... SHE'S TURNING PURPLE

PAN FRIED PET CANARY WITH BASIL!

BABY JANE SISTERS...

WELL, IT'S SAD TO SAY, BUT THE SISTERS LEARNED, AS WE ALL DO AT SOME POINT IN OUR LIVES, THAT SOME PEOPLE JUST DON'T WANT TO BE HELPED.

THERE NOW! ISN'T THIS OODLES BETTER? I JUST KNEW A TRIP TO THE SEA SHORE WOULD HELP PATCH THINGS UP. ISN'T THIS GORGEOUS!

OOOH I HATE IT WHEN IT'S NOT MY TURN TO BE ANNETTE...

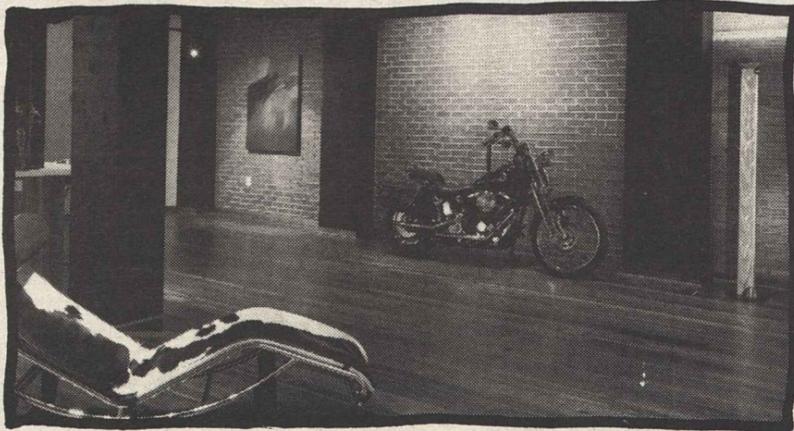
I LIE. YOU WEREN'T THE CAUSE OF MY PARALYZING ACCIDENT...

WHY YOU BITCH!

YOU DID, HOWEVER. RUN UP A STAGGERING LIQUOR TAB AT JOHNSON'S... NOT TO MENTION YOUR BLUDGEONING TO DEATH OF OUR HOUSEKEEPER, ELVIRA, YOUR SURLY DEMEANOR... YOUR INCENSANTLY OFF KEY SINGING...

BY ERIC ORNER.

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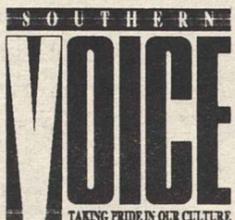
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ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Organizations

- AID Atlanta—872-0600
- AIDS Education/Services for Minorities—POB 87277, Atlanta, 30337, 762-6002
- AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991
- AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728
- AIDS Legal Project—688-5433
- AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246
- AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317
- AIDS and Substance Abuse Speakers Network—977-7797
- AIDS SUPPORT—Jewish Family Services—888-6400, #76
- Atlanta Buyers Club—874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357.
- Atlanta Lesbian AIDS Project—250-8177
- Childkind—936-9655
- First MCC AIDS Ministry—872-2246
- Georgia AIDS Therapy Information Network—1-800-551-2728
- Grady Mem. Hospital Infectious Disease Program—35 Butler St., SE, POB 26113, Atl., GA 30335-3801, (404) 616-2440
- The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—876-0105
- 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/Culture

- Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—438-5823
- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing—POB 7032, Atlanta 30357, 876-1060
- Atlanta Rainbow Ensemble—872-3135
- "Funny... That Way"—875-2275
- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc—609-9590
- Southern Country Atlanta—938-0609

Bars

- The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280
- Babylon—Piedmont Grove, 10th & Monroe.
- Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
- Bellissima—688 Spring Street.
- Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786
- Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895
- Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655
- Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
- Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
- Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178
- The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477
- Crazy Ray 'z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
- Crown Club—2050 Cheshire Br. 636-5470
- 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
- Loreta'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
- Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
- Revolution—293 Pharr Rd. 816-5455
- Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
- The Model-T—Ford Factory Square. 872-2209
- Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712

Direct Action/Political

- ACLU of Georgia—523-5398
- 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 & Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atl. 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—621-5016
- 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

National

- Human Rights Campaign Fund—1012 14th St. NW, Suite 607, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 628-4160
- Lambda Legal Defense Fund—666 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, NY 10012, (212) 995-8585
- National Gay and Lesbian Task Force—1517 U. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, (202) 332-6483
- Old Lesbians Organizing for Change—OLOC, PO Box 980422, Houston, TX 77098
- Stonewall 25/Internat'l March—662-6753

Professional

- Atlanta Entrepreneurs' Club—Dr. Bravy 457-6347
- Bar Owner's Assn—POB 15114, Atlanta 30333-0114
- Fourth Tuesday—662-4353
- Gay/Lesbian Postal Employees Network (G/L PEN)—POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397
- GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251
- HomeGirls—622-0105
- LEAGUE, Inc. (Employees of AT&T)—404/872-2359
- Nat'l Gay Pilots Assoc.—PO Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542, (703) 660-3852
- Nat'l Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assoc.—634-7429
- 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—876-0631
- Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350
- Congregation Bet Haverim—642-3467
- Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—215-0585
- First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta—378-5570
- First Metropolitan Community Church of Atl—872-2246
- Gay & Lesbian Mormons—570-2561 (dig. page)
- Gay Spirit Visions—378-7224
- Grant Park Aldersgate United Methodist Church—627-6221; 575 Boulevard SE
- 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, Georgia at 688-2242

Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

- Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
- Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
- Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME
- Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
- Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)
- 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)—932-5236
- Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535
- S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 30357, 760-8126
- Wilderness Network of GA—SASE, POB 55156, Atlanta 30308
- 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—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
- Bisexuals of Atlanta Resource Network—908-3413
- Black and White Men Together—892-BWMT
- Caregivers to PWAs Support Group—874-1109 or 875-6109
- Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
- Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
- Emotions Anonymous—872-0979
- First Women—G.G. Richardson, POB 724711, Atl. 30339, 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—POB 9678, Atl. 30319, (404) 621-5710
- Georgia Lesbian Ecofeminists—525-9085
- Gwinnett Lambda—POB 464848, Lwrnc'ville 30246, 871-GAYS
- Hospitality Atlanta—627-0520
- Interact of Atlanta—984-9875
- KO-Existence—875-8936
- John Howell Park Project—876-0105
- Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262
- Latinos En Accion—621-5743
- Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous—325-4909
- Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous—703-3897
- 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
- Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)—892-5868
- Parents, Friends of Lesbians and Gays—296-0830 or 875-9440
- Parents, Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Athens—(706) 208-1704
- Parents, Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Chattanooga—(615) 875-5750, (615) 622-3813
- Queer Youth—P.O. Box 54032, Atlanta 30308; 605-7396
- Real Gay World BBS—404-266-0856
- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048
- Support Group for Battered Gay Partners—(404) 873-9832
- Survivors of Incest Anonymous—239-8018
- Uniformed Svcs Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206
- Women In Kahoots—(WLNK) 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 St. College—471-4567
- Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Comm. College 423-6246
- 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

OUTLINE

JOHN TEMPLETON

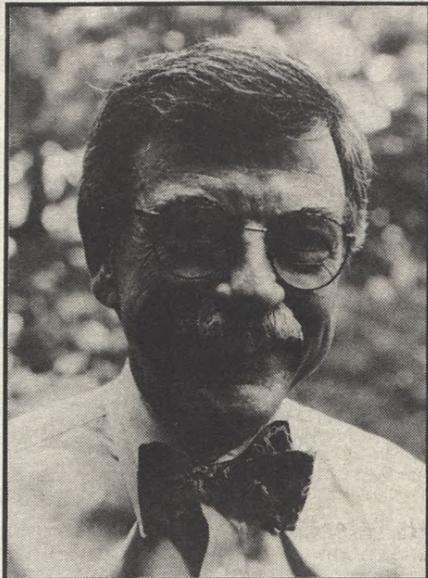
Age: 54

How Long in Atlanta: 5½ years

Relationship Status: Domestic partner of five years

Last Book Read: "Extraordinary People" by Paul Gervais

Pet Peeve: Bigoted people



John calls himself lucky. Lucky to be doing what he does, to be living his life the way that he does, lucky to be giving so much of himself to other people, to strangers, men, women, children, IV drug abusers, teenagers. With his omnipresent bow tie, genuine good cheer and a ready smile for anyone that needs it, John makes the new Infectious Disease Clinic of Grady Hospital a bit easier of a place to be, certainly less frightening and definitely more caring.

As the director of education and counseling at the IDC, it's his job. As an Episcopal priest, it is his avocation and, as he explains, as a gay man, it's his life's work.

John laughs about how he got to this place in his life. "Therapy, and lots of it. You have to go through a lot of stuff in order to really be where you want to be. I remember that one day I was driving home from a session and I realized in this one incredible moment that I and nobody else was in charge of my life. Not the church, nor my family. Me. And that's what I try to impart to my patients, because the more they are in charge, the more in control they are going to be of their physical and mental state. Once you figure out you shouldn't be blaming everyone else, at least for me, this was when I figured I could fix it."

Therapeutic life-fixing for John was actually quite complicated. Born and reared in what he called a "very traditional Southern home" in Memphis, John did the things he thought he was supposed to do. After attending Rhodes College, he married his childhood "sweetheart" and raised a family of two daughters and a son. Feeling trapped by the very traditions that molded him and that conflicted with his acknowledgment that he was indeed gay, John began the process of fixing, but not until after bouts of depression and alcoholism made therapy a must.

"I went back to school and changed the direction of my life by receiving a masters degree in social work from the University of Georgia in the mid-80s." But before that, at the divinity school of the University of the South in the late 60s, John had become an Episcopal priest.

John discovered the priesthood was not the answer. "I left the church in 1985 after my divorce, and I'm just angry at the church at large for not seeing the value in gay relationships. I don't understand how the church was so active in the civil rights movement but is afraid to be supportive to us." John thinks the church "will not allow clergy to be who we really are because of the irrational fear that it will stir up the congregation and cause problems." Though he does not attend church now, he continues to be involved by leading a support group for HIV-positive people at All Saints

Episcopal Church.

But it wasn't the church that brought John to Atlanta. "Actually, I moved here to do my graduate internship at AID Atlanta." Using both his pastoral and social work skills, John was recognized as an important link in the growing need for counseling and was hired by Grady Hospital to be its outpatient HIV social worker.

"We were back in some cramped little corner," he recalls with a wistful glance. "This," he says, looking around him at his new ultra-modern office and gesturing to the rest of the building, "is now the best facility of its kind in the country."

Perhaps it was also John's destiny to come to Atlanta and to meet his partner as well. "I was a regular member of a married and divorced gay men's group, and one night he walked in and I just knew the moment I looked at him that he was the man for me. And I grabbed the person next to me and just blurted out, 'He's mine.'"

Five years later, John proudly states that "he's still the only man for me," and John is making up for the past he says he lost when he divorced his wife by enjoying his chance to start over and create his world anew with his partner. They have a bought a house together in Virginia-Highland and have worked hard on the renovations.

"It's been exciting merging our two lives. We have a marvelous life together." He added it is also an anecdote for a sometimes difficult profession. "With such an incredible partner, I am able to leave the job behind. Otherwise, work, as much as I enjoy it, would be too intense."

Is he out to his family? His warm open smile fades for a moment and he confides, "My only regret is that I am not in a good place with one of my daughters. She is working through the 'issue,' whatever the 'issue' is to her. But my other daughter and my son have a good relationship with me, but it wasn't easy."

But it's that luck thing that John comes back to, again and again. "I feel lucky because I've been able to pull it all together. Even though it wasn't always a picnic, I wouldn't trade it for anything. And I want to continue to make a difference for our patients. The wonderful thing about the clinic is that everyone who works here, professional and volunteer, all are here because they want to be. This makes it a great atmosphere."

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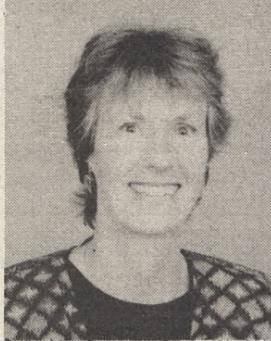
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AID Atlanta Services include education, case management, transportation, housing, buddy program, practical support, home-less services, pediatric services, support groups, AIDS Information Line. Call 872-0600 for more information.

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TROY STATE UNIVERSITY Gay/Lesbian Alumni will meet for first time Sat., Aug. 28, 8 p.m., The Peasant, Piedmont Rd. More info, call 451-3653, leave message. (6.27)

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- MERCHANDISE
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 - Garage Sales*
 - Retail
- PETS*
- PUBLICATIONS
- REAL ESTATE
 - Financing
 - For Rent
 - For Sale
- ROOMMATES*
- SERVICES
 - Residential
 - Commercial
- TRAVEL
- VOLUNTEERS*
- FREE VOICE CONNECTION
 - Men
 - Women
 - TV/TS

Ad Policy: Southern Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Ryan Publications' standards. No refunds for early cancellation.

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CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

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1189 Virginia Avenue, NE



Mailing address:
P.O. Box 18215
Atlanta, GA 30316

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.

Individual Rates:

Categories indicated by asterisks (*).
NON-BUSINESS.
20 words \$3.00 minimum
each additional word 50¢
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COMPUTE YOUR COST

20 words @ 3.00 _____
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Giant headline @ 3.00 _____
SUBTOTAL _____
x # issues _____
TOTAL COST _____

Business Ad Rates:

20 words \$12.00 minimum
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20 words \$11.00 minimum
each additional word \$1.00

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each additional word 50¢
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SV forwarding mailbox (optional) 10.00
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COMPUTE YOUR COST

20 words FREE
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Giant headline @ 3.00/week _____
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SUBTOTAL _____
(4 weeks minimum) x # weeks _____
TOTAL COST _____

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City _____
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Now that you're successful, or maybe your busy social life doesn't include cleaning! We'll do it for you! 962-4431. (6.27)

Travel

THE OLD MILL

Bat Cave, N.C. Relax on the banks of a rushing mountain stream 20 miles east of Asheville. Call 1-704-625-4256. (6.29)

Secluded Mountain Cabins - Creekside. Rustic. Borders Chattahoochee National Forest. 3rd night free. 404-634-5728. (6.27)

SWIFTWATERS WOMANSPACE

Riverfront Camping or Bed & Breakfast with in-room HOT TUB. In scenic mountain forest - one hour north. Now building CABINS. (706) 864-3229 (6.32)

LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 rooms, 100 acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, peace & privacy, Highlands Inn, Box 118 SV, Bethlehem, NH 03574. (603) 869-3978. (6.35)

Volunteers

AIDS WALK ATLANTA. Volunteers needed to help produce the Southeast's largest fundraiser for AIDS—the Atlanta AIDS Walk on October 17. Daytime volunteers especially needed, as well as people to work evenings and weekends. Call 876-9255. Ask for Julia. (6.34)

Help elect a new city council for the new mayor. To volunteer with the Committee to Elect Andy Loftis City Council, contact Kyle Limbaugh, 873-0468. (6.27)

The Living AIDS Memorial Park needs volunteers. Normal business hours. Light clerical, filing and Word Perfect. Call Rick at 876-0105

Voice Connection

WOMEN

GBF, 35, attractive & professional, seeks feminine GF, down-to-earth, for companionship/friendship. No games, bi's. ☎ 1660

BiBF, 32, attractive GA Peach, feminine, seeks gorgeous feminine female, any race, for possible one-on-one relationship. ☎ 1643

WANTED! Attractive fem. late 20's+ for fun & more. Me, country semi-butche blonde, 25, non-drinker, no drugs. ☎ 1646

WF 31 - Adventurous, untamed, a bit crazy, very humorous, like dancing, pool, outdoors, etc. Lkg 4 same w/wild imagination. Plz call!!! ☎ 1647

GWF, 40, Professional - self-confident, feminine non-smoker, lover of life, humor, the arts, nature and stimulating conversation seeks same (38-42) for friendship and possibly more. No dykes, butch or co-dependents! ☎ 1623

GBF looking for a GBF (feminine). No bi or Bitchy (over 30) please. ☎ 1635

GWF, 24, new to Atlanta. Looking for friends and more who like laughter, movies, music, romance, trying new things, conversation, candlelight and commitment. Race, age unimportant. No drugs, no smokers. ☎ 1628

GBF, full figure, 32, fem, new to Atlanta seeks GBF, DDF, for friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 1629

GWF, 34, pleasingly plump, seeks a nice, respectable, down to earth romantic working GWF 35+. No drugs, booze or bar flies, smokers welcomed. PO Box 2361, Lilburn, GA 30226. (6.29)

GWF, 40, professional keeps yuppie tendencies somewhat in check with feminist, humanist, humorous outlook. Seeks generous heart, quality mind, playful soul, pampered body, verbal and emotional feast for creative, gentle relationship. ☎ 1599

GWF - Enjoys 2-stepping, outdoors, all animals. Am emotionally healthy, playful, kind, considerate, and honest. Seeking same, 35-40. Friendship possible relationship. ☎ 1604

Baby linebacker seeking exquisite blonde for lovely healing from the life we're given, and passionately embracing the life we make. ☎ 1603

Desired: Wise, lovey, genteel woman. Feeling and success oriented. Appreciates life's finer offerings, reverts its simpler pleasures. You are fit GWF 37-44, passionate, positive, with wit and imagination, also seeking to share the wonder, warmth, and adventure. You remember how to question authority and are occasionally up for throwing caution to the wind. Eclectic interests.

Value fun, intimacy and autonomy. If meeting a woman with the above qualities appeals to you, write back! (Don't respond if you're having an identity crisis, a drug abuser, in recovery.) PO Box 2053, Decatur, GA 30031. (6.27)

GWF - Artistic, mature (40), smoker, professional seeks companion to experience NY-Atlanta exchange of ideas, travel & loving relationship - Send Photo POB 723442, Smyrna, GA 31139. (6.27)

Wonderful, intelligent GWF looking for that special lady, 30-40's, who has sense of humor, honesty, loyalty and is financially secure. ☎ 1594

GWF, 30, cute and petite, seeks feminine GWF 25-35 for friendship, possibly more. No addicts, butches or plumps. ☎ 1592

ATLANTA Bi-FEMALE - BiWF, 26, 5'4", 125#, blonde, nude dancer. Seeks Bi-Female 18-35. Live-in Possible. No men, couples or heavies. Write: Andrea, P.O. Box 2257, Forest Park, GA 30051. ☎ 1572

BiBF, 20, seeks friend/companion/etc., any race, 18-25. Likes: music, theatre, movies. Intelligent, affectionate, sincere, non-smoker. ☎ 1569

GWF - 36, accomplished, thoughtful, deliberate, practical, healthy, musical, kind, good looking, opinionated seeks similar women for friendship and fun. ☎ 1551

GWF, new to Atlanta, looking for white water dykes. Let's go paddle! ☎ 1568

Romantic, intelligent, attractive GWF, 34, seeks witty GWF to share love and laughter. Professional, athletic, opinionated. Intrigued? You should be!! ☎ 1566

Seeking love, friendship or whatever develops. GWF, 34, attractive, professional, fun, intelligent, witty, athletic. Too good to be true! ☎ 1565

Seeking intelligent GWF 32-42 active in the gay community in volunteer/work with AIDS related programs. GWF interested in friendship. ☎ 1547

Good looking GBF, 26, desires a GBF 28+ who is shapely, intelligent and sincere. ☎ 1550

GWF looking for special GWF 30-40. Integrity, intelligent, monogamous. Enjoys galleries, music, theatre, books, having fun. No drugs, alcohol abuse. ☎ 1556

GWF seeks GWF feminine for friendship or possibly more. Must love children and being pampered. No drugs. ☎ 1528

GWF feminine, attractive, professional, VERY discreet seeks same GWF or BiWF 24-35 for friendship. Preferably Columbus, Auburn area - Confidential. ☎ 1526

GWF, 23, 5'2", slim, good sense of humor, positive, motivated, has own life, seeking attractive, secure woman who enjoys local music, outdoors, arts, romance. No butch, no druggies, no psychos. ☎ 1525

GWF seeks GWF 35-55, average size, for friendship and possibly more. No drugs. ☎ 1523

Wonderful intelligent GWF looking for special lady 30-40s who has sense of humor, honesty and loyalty for relationship. ☎ 1521

BiBF, 41, auto erotic, discreet MM, closet butch, first timer. Lonely for intelligent open minded bi/GF for friendship & mutual interest. ☎ 1495

GWF, 40's, seeks serious animal lover, vegetarian, non-smoker who has trouble with grown people who believe in supernatural beings. ☎ 1497

GBF in search of other gay females for friendship, possibly more. A good sense of humor is the only requirement. ☎ 1499

Warm, cute, full-figured GBF seeks intelligent, warm, fun female for quality friendship. Variety of interests, good times w/ good friends. Be positive, honest, caring and drug-free. ☎ 1488

GBF, attractive, very feminine, seeks fun-loving, aggressive GF for friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 1462

Cute fem GBF, 20, seeks aggressive GF for friendship and perhaps more. Age and race not important. ☎ 1477

GBF, aggressive, looking for a friendship. Seeking intelligent, career-minded, honest woman, not butch, between 20-30, no drugs. ☎ 1461

GBF seeks that special someone between 18-27 for friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 1455

DWF, 20s, Bi, curious, happy, funny, intelligent, artistic, drug-free, non-bar personality seeks companion & entry level exercise partner. ☎ 1446

Attractive, athletic GBF (30) seeks athletic GWF for that special kinda relationship.

Take a chance and call. Please fems-only! ☎ 1424

20 aggressive GBF enjoys music, sports, and having a good time. Seeks GBF 18-27 for friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 1421

GWF, 25, fem, pleasing plump with daughter, seeking GF for friendship, maybe more. Enjoy music, movies and more. No drugs. ☎ 1419

Single 30 year old male seeks lesbian for marriage of mutual convenience. ☎ 1420

GWF seeks same age 31-40 emotionally healthy, feminine, communicative, affectionate, thoughtful, no drugs, smokers, for friendship, possible relationship. Hopeless? ☎ 1413

GBF, 18, petite, lipstick lesbian, seeks GBF 18-21 for friendship, maybe more. ☎ 1416

Seriously GBF seeking...A black woman who is feminine, bitchy, petite and willing to bow down to me. ☎ 1409

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

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

MEN

GWM, 39, 6'1", 185, br/hzl, HIV negative, reserved, honest, hard working, non-bar, non-smoker, cat-lover, likes spectator sports, travel, French language. Seeks compatible GWM 35-45 for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1650

GWM, 32, 6'3", professional, my eclectic interests: Country/rock music, Braves, comic book art, Grateful Dead, movies...sincere replies please. ☎ 1649

GWM, 28, handsome, 5'11", 150, brown/blue, healthy seek similar 25-35. Reply to 513 Bankhead Ave., Suite 119, Carrollton, GA 30117 (6.30)

GWM, 35, handsome, looking for big bears who are sincere, into outdoors, romance, cuddling. You never know. ☎ 1648

Anal erotic seeks playmates, friends, etc. for long fun sessions. SM NOT. ☎ 1645

GWM seeks other ex-Catholics who sometimes feel like concentration camp survivors. Join me in a safe crew for a possibly dangerous voyage to discover/reconcile/slay ancient beasts and tell scary stories. Gay men preferred, ex-religious orders welcome. Brendan the Bold. ☎ 1644

TALENTED HANDS WANTED:

To explore a masculine, country, muscular, handsome bottom. Prefer masculine hairy tops for safe, discreet sensuous handball. ☎ 1642

GWM 35, 5'8", 160 lb, br/br, g-look, masc, muscular, clean cut, adventurous, laid back, non-pretentious, honest, romantic, considerate, seeks same in secure energetic GWM 35-45. ☎ 1625

Versatile GWM, 35, seeks neighborhood BM for close and convenient fun; Lakewood and adjacent areas. ☎ 1626

YOU: Loving, masculine, FIT, articulate, 35+, imperfect, safe, handsome. ME: Loving, masculine, GETTING FIT, athletic #250, 38, GWM, fallible, safe, handsome. ☎ 1637

GBM, 27, Professional, relationship-oriented, community-involved, ISO GM, 25-35, for cheap movie date. Write: KCC, POB 1334, Atlanta, GA 30301-1334 or call ☎ 1638

Slender GWM, 36, artist/architect, seeks brainy GBM engaged in creative labor. Serious, sensitive, sensuous if drunk, head full of ideas, I seek Black friend/lover equally self-challenged. Coffee? ☎ 1639

Wanna wrestle? GWM, 6 ft., 185, blonde/blue, 45, good shape, seeks others interested in wrestling, safe fun. ☎ 1640

Leather Dad sks same/younger 4 sensory deprivation, intense S&M, B&D, wax, hoods, gags, assplay. Versatile, sane, mutual. ☎ 1641

Are you out there? GWM, 20s seeks GAM to hang with, maybe more. Please be honest and caring. ☎ 1627

GBM, 29, seeks GWM 25-35 to share quiet evenings together, movies, dining out, friendship, possibly more. ☎ 1630

GWM, masculine, healthy, 61, ALA farmer, seeks discreet older trim white/oriental male for fun, friendship & more. ☎ 1631

VOICE CONNECTION

DIRECTIONS (vertical text on left and right)

TO PLACE FREE AD

Fill out the classified order form in this section. 20 WORD MESSAGE FREE. An SV forwarding mailbox costs \$10.00 or you may use your own PO Box for \$5.00. Mail or drop off your completed order for with payment. A simple instruction sheet will be mailed to you which will enable you to record your spoken message AT NO COST.

1-900-370-4099

TO RESPOND

Check each week's paper for ads which interest you. Choose ad(s) with the symbol ☎ and call 1-900-370-4099. The system will guide you to the recorded message of your choice. Listen to the spoken ad and then leave your response. Cost to you will be \$1.50 per minute charged to your phone bill.

CALL NOW (\$1.50 per minute. Must be 18 or over. Touch tone phones only.)

GWM, 47, 6'6", 210, sandy/blue, seeking gay Black, Hispanic, Native-American or Oriental male for serious friendship / romance / relationship. ☎ 1632

GBM, 5'10", 190#, 21, seeks Teddy Bear type BM 190+, 25+, looks not important. Intelligence a must. Not into bars. ☎ 1633

Blue eyed top, boyish 38, playful, mustache, seeks safe bottom boyfriend. Photo & telephone to; POB 13162, Atl., GA 30324. (6.29)

GBM, 28, dominant, masculine endowed top seeks GWM for french service. Must be discreet, passive and experienced. ☎ 1601

Romantic, assertive, spiritual, handsome GBM, 5'10", 160 lbs., 39 years, with hazel eyes seeks person possessing great emotional depth to chase rainbows with for a lifetime. Any race. ☎ 1602

GWM, HIV+, 34, seeks men for dining, movies, possible intimacy. ☎ 1600

Black male seeks a masculine black male with a touch of New York flavor for adventurous fun. ☎ 1598

Attractive professional GBM Top, 35, good condition, masculine, affectionate, seeks GWM Bottom (same attributes) for friendship/possible relationship. You 29-40. POB 371847, Decatur, GA 30037. ☎ 1596

GWM nudist, 40, 5'11", 185 lbs, muscular build, relocating to Atlanta mid-August, seeking GWM/GWC for fun in the sun and friendship. Professional, clean-cut, healthy, versatile enjoys sensual massages, videos, french, dancing and hot times. ☎ 1597

Back-to-the-land survivor dares rugged outdoorsman to join him and crafts in rustic, peaceful, secluded northeast Georgia retreat. ☎ 1589

GWM, 39, 5'7", 140 lbs., brn/hzl, beard, versatile, daytime playmate interested in safe anal, oral ball action seeks GWM 30's-45 with similar interests. ☎ 1595

GWM, 30, 6'2", looking for college graduate, masculine, thin, GBM 22-30 to share in building the good life, must be spontaneous and possess a sense of humor. ☎ 1593

GWM, 35, 5'6", 135 lbs, clean-cut, youthful looks, slim muscular body, seeking hard bodied muscular males into showing off, J/O, body-worship. ☎ 1591

USA-born, raised in West Africa GWM, 30s, seriously seeking GBM (5'10"/taller) for friend/relationship. Benjamin, POB 21675, Long Beach, California 90801-4675. (6.27)

Fairly Humid WM, 6'3", 185 lbs., 43, HIV-, non-bar, seeks similarly heated "blue-collar" guy, 30-40, for hassle-free "Dog Day Afternoon" Popsicle Breaks! ☎ 1590

GWM 35, 5'9", 160, beard, masculine seeks older in-shape GB stud for discreet encounters. ☎ 1588

Nice guy, 55, 160 lbs, safe HIV neg. masculine, endowed top desires friendship (relationship?) with slim white male under 40. ☎ 1587

GBM SEEKS GM BODYBUILDER—Me: 29, attractive, masculine, "Charles Atlas Before" likes Kahill Gibran, Joe Campbell, volunteering, movies, traveling. You: secure, masculine, GM race unimportant. Goal: friendship possible relationship with physical and spiritual growth. ☎ 1543

After living seven years scared this very healthy HIV+ attractive, masculine GWM 5'9", B/BI, 189, wishes to relax, love, and move on with life again. Desire attractive GWM 30-40+. ☎ 1573

Masculine GWM, 26, 5'10", 155#, blond/brown, seeks good looking Butch top to 45 (sane, sexy, safe) for intense manly encounters. ☎ 1567

I very fine looks, body, mind, soul, circa 35 young looking masculine man seeks similar for one on one. Negative. ☎ 1571

Attractive GWM, 30, 5'5", 132, Brn/brn, hairy, seeking tall, handsome, sincere, non-smoking GWM for husband, 30-40ish. ☎ 1318

GWM master seeks cute young slave boy. You light S&M, bondage, housework, personal services for room, nice wardrobe, travel, transportation. ☎ 1560

GWM Daddy needs pretty young boy to dress in leather & other cute/sexy outfits & go out and party. ☎ 1561

GWM, mid-40's, Healthy HIV+, seeks stable young GWM for hot massage, high erotic states, extended cuddle sessions and possible relationship. ☎ 1559

Masculine WM, 41, brn/grn, in shape, stable, professional seeks masculine, healthy, safe non-smoker WM. ☎ 1558

GWM, 36, Healthy HIV+ seeks other GWMs who are relationship oriented. I'm slim, great cook, attractive, romantic, love to cuddle. ☎ 1557

GWM photographer seeks 18 to 25 y.o. GWM to model nude to tuxedo, no experience needed, develop portfolio, travel. ☎ 1562

NEED A SPANKING? Skillfully administered by GWM, 38, 5'10", HAIRY, 170#, to guys 18-40. Discretion assured, limits respected. Beginners OK. ☎ 1555

GWM 35+ prof. 6'3" seeks same to 40. Respond if you seek simple life of love. Tennis, hairy, masc. sought. ☎ 1554

GWM Young looking/acting 40, 5'7", br/bl, muscular, attractive, sexy, sincere, outdoors, varied interests, fun, HIV-. Seeks similar. ☎ 1552

Relocate to Chicago? Italian guy 39, 5'6", 145#, seeks masculine hairy southern accented GWM 35-45 for permanent relationship. Into affection, stability, safe oral sex no anal. ☎ 1548

GWM mature professional seeks good looking, sincere and mature young man (20s) for travel, shopping, spoiling, possible relationship, no drugs, prefer non-smoker. ☎ 1563

Big Brother, Big Bottom, Carolina GWM, 50, 6'3", 250, ISO younger GWM, attractive Top. Trim and smooth A+. Will travel. ☎ 1546

GWM seeks attractive young GWM for dining out, travel, movies, cuddling, relationship, sincere only. ☎ 1564

America's #1 GAY DATELINE. All lifestyles. In Your Area. 1-900-860-1333 \$2.50/minute. CCI BOCA, Florida. 18+. (6.33)

SIZZLING HUNKS LIVE!! 1-800-284-2739. \$3.50/minute. Wild Gay Party Line \$2.00/minute or 1-900-745-0833. 18+. (6.33)

BM, 27, 6'1", 255, HIV pos., discreet, masculine, independent, affectionate, versatile; but I prefer to be bottom, NO Games. ☎ 1527

GWM seeks gay Jewish male 23-27 for

friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 1529

Looking for love? GWM, 38, 6'2" prof. seeks romance with same 30-40. Hairy chest major plus. Sincere and caring. ☎ 1447

You: nice looking, tall, glasses, light-skinned at Bulldogs on 6/20. You left during show. Please call again. ☎ 1518

GBM, attractive, hairy, versatile, top & bottom, seeks other black males for discreet encounters. ☎ 1522

Sexy, hairy leatherboy, 33, 5'8" 150 br/br HIV seeks hairy, affectionate, nonsmoking, intelligent, kinky, horny, top/daddy to 45. ☎ 1519

GWM, 30, healthy HIV+, financially stable, enjoy country music, dance, outdoors & more. Seeking same/older friendship/relationship. Facial hair a +. ☎ 1520

French Active GWM, 32, 5'10", 135#, blk/brn, must. Lay back, relax and enjoy. Str/G/BI WMs needed to fulfill constant cravings. ☎ 1524

BM, 20, 140 lbs, 5'7" attractive, and new to the scene seeks mature male 20-25 for friendship/relationship. ☎ 1517

BiWM - 5'11", 165 lbs, 26, brown hair/blue eyes, very good looking, muscular, clean-cut fraternity stud, seeks other extremely good looking, muscular guys. ☎ 1504

Clean-cut GWM, 31, 5'11", 175# seeks athletic GWM 25-35. Interests: 99X, weightlifting. Prefer non-smoker and the smoother the better. ☎ 1515

GWM, handsome, HIV-, desires someone to date; enjoys the mountains, hikes, reading, serious conversation, Comedy Central, 60s TV, long kisses. Weary of tactile deprivation. ☎ 1501

GWM, 31, 5'9", 175, Bi/bl looking for someone with a sense of romance and a desire for love. Call me. ☎ 1491

GWM, 38, 6', 155, HIV+, looking for someone to spend time with and see what happens. ☎ 1490

Relationship wanted. Cute GWM 25, 5'3", 130#, red/brn hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, versatile. Your are 18-30, slim build, sincere. ☎ 1498

Monogamous and quality relationship wanted. Affectionate, honest and spiritual Japanese GM, 41, HIV negative, seeks warm hearted GWM. Into exercise, nature walk and healthy food. Ready to settle down with someone special in Atlanta. Like cuddling. Prefer around my age. ☎ 1502

Black man seeks masculine black man for friendship and etc. ☎ 1496

GWM COUPLE, 32 & 38 seek versatile GWM for fun and games. Us: Both 5'9", 185#, bl/bl and br/gr. Love lots of body contact. ☎ 1500

GWM, 30, 6'1", 170, brn/brn. Seeks WM 25-45 y/o professional for friendship, possibly more. Hairy/muscular preferred. ☎ 1503

Kissing, Screwing, Cuddling—my three favorite things!!! 38 year old nice guy, brown/blue, mustache, romantic, safe top. ☎ 1489

Teddy Bear seeks companion 35-50 for good times, happy times, quiet times. I am sincere, sophisticated and funny! Bearded, 6'1", 240 lbs, 47 years old. ☎ 1492

GWM, 6'2", 170 lbs, 55 attractive, healthy, clean cut, educated, ISO masculine male relationship. No smokers/alcohol/drugs. ☎ 1493

PERSONALS

Blond/green, 5'8", 150, 40, moustache, masculine, non-bar. Likes wolves, nature, ghost stories, calm moustached, 35-45, masc. white. ☎ 1494

Masculine GWM, 32, 6', 185, blond/moustache, attractive, stable, easy-going professional seeks similar non-bar type, non-smoking, GWM, 28-42 for relationship. ☎ 1485

Young looking GWM passive, endowed, wants spankings and/or safe S/M (HIV+). ☎ 1484

GWM, 35, 5'9", 160, beard, balding, masculine, versital, seek 35-40s GBM or GWM for fun, friendship and more. ☎ 1486

GWM, 26, 5'11", 170 lbs. Tired of bar scene and games. Looking for Mr. Right between 30-40 years old. ☎ 1483

Spanish GM 40, 5'9, 160, sincere, passionate bottom seeks dominant masculine, sincere, honest top B/M well-endowed for committed relationship. ☎ 1463

GBM, 29, college business grad, professional, blue-suit type, church goer, community involved, seeks brother for more than physical. ☎ 1475

GWM, 29, 6'4", 195, tall, dark, handsome, healthy, HIV neg., romantic, masculine, artistic, not into bars, loves outdoors, serious replies. ☎ 1482

GWM, 34, 5'8", 160 lbs. G-look, masc, muscular, gymfly, laid back, non pretentious, honest, affectionate, romantic seeks same in secure GWM 35-45. ☎ 1476

Handsome, passionate, 35, 6'1", 175, healthy WM looking for summer sizzle and workout partner, Jazz lover. ☎ 1480

GWM, 32, 5'10", 135#, blk/brn, very French active, ISO laid back, dominant, verbal, WMs to help fulfill my constant cravings. ☎ 1478

GWM, 28, 6', 180 lbs, brn/grn, healthy, HIV+, considered attractive with a variety of interests, seeking someone similar. ☎ 1479

Submissive WM, 30, 5'10", 165, attractive & fit, seeks training from strict dominant. I'm a novice, but eager to learn! ☎ 1460

GWM, 29, Br/Br, 5'8" 150 lbs. Interests: spirituality, sci-fi and fun. Seeks 19-35, HIV- into same for friendship and more. ☎ 1457

White collar Asian male, 29, 5'10", seeks guy 20-35 for friendship. You like massage when watching TV. ☎ 1454

WM, 31, 5'8", prof., attr, fit, smooth. HIV-, rel. oriented. Seeks WM 30-45, prof., attr., tall, hairy. ☎ 1453

GWM, 55, wise, artsy, affectionate, seeks Top down to earth same for relationship. ☎ 1450

GWM, 30, handsome, athletic, HIV+ but healthy, seeks masculine GBM, 25-40 for friendship and more. I live out-of-town and visit Atlanta often. ☎ 1451

Black Male, 23, very masculine, athletic, tall, healthy, in good shape, with varied interests, seeks Black Male with similar qualities. ☎ 1425

Successful GWM, 40s, masculine, professional. Seeks very attractive wholesome WM under 24 for relationship / work / school. ☎ 1456

GWM, 35, 5'8", 130 lbs. Brown/blue seeks WM top for monogamous relationship. No bar flys. Love to cuddle. ☎ 1448

GWM, 5'11", brn/bm, 200# prof. seeks young smooth slim bottom GWM for fun times. ☎ 1445

GBM, 5'10", 200 lbs, average looks, occasional drag, 22 seeks BM 190#, 25+, for friend, looks not important. Not into bars. ☎ 1444

GWM, 32, 5'9", brown hair, brown eyes, masculine, attractive seeks GWM 18-39 for friendship, companionship. ☎ 1422

GWM, 6', 175, smooth, professional, attractive, HIV- seeks discreet younger, submissive, HIV- playmate interested in safe fist action, WS, or spanking. Novice welcome. ☎ 1449

Black Prince-where RU? I: gwm, 36, 260#, handsome, masculine, N2 fitness. You: athletic, confident, masc., trim. Please hurry, buddy. ☎ 1412

GWM, 36, healthy, HIV, 5'11", 180, good-looking, muscular, seeks top. You: GWM, masculine, 32-45, good shape. ☎ 1411

GWM, 29, 5'7", 160, br/br. Masculine, intelligent, affectionate top seeks masculine, intelligent, affectionate bottom to share life and love. ☎ 1415

Attractive, masculine BM, 30, seeking well endowed masculine BM for no strings fun. ☎ 1418

African American, Hispanic and Anglo athletes. Handsome, muscular GWM looking for sparring partners. Semi experienced boxer. But can be easy and sexy. ☎ 1387

DENTURES A PLUS!-Know what I mean? Looking for Mr. Right or Mr. Right now. Possible regular thing or not at all. Let's talk. ☎ 1386

GWMC seeks young (18-25), goodlooking GWM for house boy / slave. Private room / bath in exchange for house work / personal services. Call for details. ☎ 1388

GWM, 37, 5'6", 160#, blk/grn, hairy, moustache, healthy, non-smoker, professional, NW area. Seeking similar GWM, 35-40's for possible relationship. ☎ 1407

GWM, 49, attractive. Fit, swimmer, HIV-, seeks boyfriend 25-45, prefer slender, fem., literary / artistic interests important. Any race. ☎ 1408

WM, 29, 6 ft, 175 lbs, roeding Willis type, country boy, boots, jeans, conservative, CLOSETED, seeks same for LONG friend-

ship. 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

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

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Texas WM, 39, 5'11", 175# seeks feminine passable Transsexual (pre-op) or Transvestite 21-45 for long lasting relationship/ friendship. ☎ 1553

46, BiWM, 6'1", clean, safe, smooth, bottom, love others into CD, TV/TS, feminine things, can satisfy demanding top. ☎ 1410

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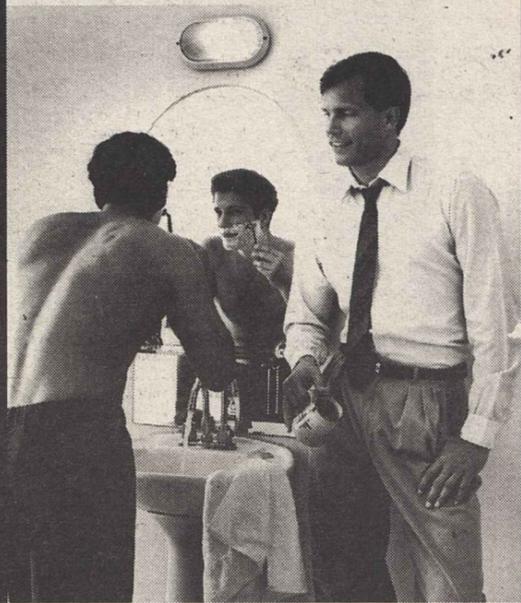
SBM married, 54, great shape, seeks mature shapely BiBF (30-50) for ver discreet safe encounters. ☎ 1570

30's BiWM, 6', dark hair and eyes, Francophile, seeks BiWF whose interests include literature, language(s), Scrabble. Chamber music OK. ☎ 1487

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