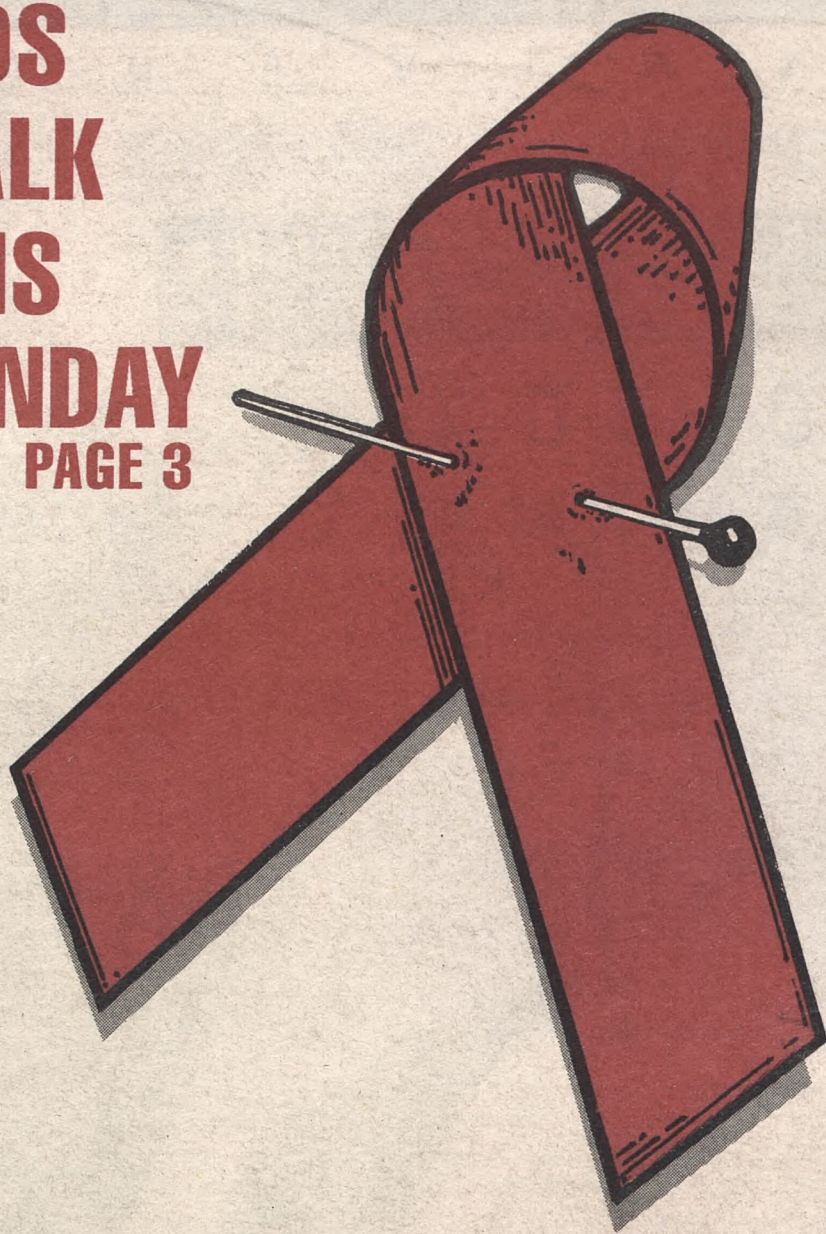


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**AIDS
WALK
THIS
SUNDAY**
PAGE 3



JACK JONES

OCT 14 - OCT 20 / 1993

CENSORSHIP ARTIST

Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, SoVo's four-part look at the Christian right's leaders, continues with Donald Wildmon **PAGE 7**

NEWS

Billy McKinney physically ejected from mayoral forum **PAGE 3**

Gay Atlanta man to be tossed from military reserves **PAGE 3**

State health officials try to fix minority HIV outreach program **PAGE 15**

NATION

New York serial killings hit home for Atlanta woman **PAGE 9**

PEOPLE

Front Runners to participate in DeKalb's Take Back The Night **PAGE 23**

Burkhart's hosts County Fair '93 to benefit AIDS Walk Atlanta **PAGE 30**

OUT AND ABOUT

MUSIC

Gay rock hits Atlanta with Pansy Division and Kristen Hall **PAGE 25**

MOVIES

Cinefest premieres "Last Call at Maud's," a look at an historic lesbian bar **PAGE 33**

Long-awaited "M Butterfly" falls far short of the play **PAGE 29**

MIXED MESSAGE

Though a federal judge dismissed Robin Shahar's discrimination lawsuit against Attorney General Michael Bowers last week, the language in his ruling may mark a gay/lesbian rights milestone.

by KC WILDMOON

Atlanta—Georgia Attorney General Michael Bowers was within his legal rights when he withdrew a job offer from attorney Robin Shahar after discovering she planned to marry her lesbian partner, a federal judge has ruled.

But in handing down his ruling last week, U.S. District Court Judge Richard C. Freeman said that lesbians and gay men have a constitutionally-protected right to their relationships—the first time such protection has ever been recognized by a federal judge.

However, Freeman said that Shahar's right to pursue her marriage to her partner, Fran Shahar, was outweighed by Bowers' "interest in the efficient delivery" of services performed by his office. He issued a summary judgment in favor of Bowers, effectively dismissing the suit.

"I'm very disappointed, although there are a couple of positive points," Shahar said.

"We are going to be appealing," said Shahar's attorney, Debra Schwartz. "Summary judgment is only supposed to be granted if there are no undisputed facts, and we think that there are, particularly in regards to Bowers' alleged rationale."

When contacted by Southern Voice, Bowers said he was "extremely pleased" with the decision but would not comment further on the case.

In 1991, after learning of her relationship with Fran Shahar, Bowers withdrew an offer of employment to Robin Shahar, even though she had previously interned in Bowers' office and had graduated sixth in her class at Emory University's law school. The Shahars were married in a religious ceremony a short time later.

Bowers claimed that because Georgia law does not provide for same-sex marriages, he could not allow Shahar to work in his office as an assistant attorney general. Shahar sued, and, in later court briefs filed in

support of his case, Bowers also cited the case of *Bowers vs. Hardwick*, which the U.S. Supreme Court used to uphold Georgia's sodomy law.

Last year, Freeman rejected that argument, going so far as to threaten the attorney general with sanctions for using it. But in making his ruling last week, Freeman, in a puzzling change of course, agreed that "suspected sexual conduct of department attorneys" could interfere with the operation of the state's top law enforcement office.

"This case is not about sodomy," said Shahar. "But there's an underlying sense that sodomy is out there somewhere—we just can't put our finger on it."

Early in Freeman's 23-page ruling, the judge says that Shahar's relationship with her partner, Fran Shahar, "constitutes a constitutionally-protected intimate association" under the right to freedom of association, the first time a federal court has made such a ruling about lesbian and gay relationships.

"The court finds that [Shahar] pursued her desired association only at the price of her desired employment," wrote Freeman. "Thus, the question before the court is whether [Bowers] justifiably imposed that price."

Freeman ruled that Bowers did, in fact, have a justifiable reason to withdraw the employment offer from Shahar, agreeing with Bowers that the operations of his office could be detrimentally affected if Shahar's union with Fran were to become common knowledge.

"They're saying I would have brought discredit to the office," said Shahar, who now works in the city of Atlanta's law department. "It hasn't been true where I'm working now or where I worked before this. And it wasn't true the summer I worked [in the attorney general's office as a law clerk in 1990]. In fact, based on the work I did there that summer, they decided to

CONTINUES ON PAGE 19



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Billy McKinney ejected from candidates' forum

Nancy Schaefer beats a hasty retreat as her campaign manager scuffles with security guards

Atlanta—State Rep. Billy McKinney, who is managing the campaign of anti-gay mayoral candidate Nancy Schaefer, had to be physically removed from a candidates' forum last week after tussling with security guards.

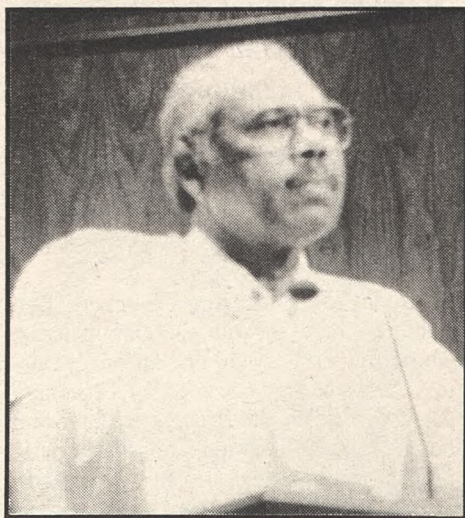
McKinney, already facing charges for allegedly punching a lesbian activist earlier this year, marched toward the stage and began shouting at the moderator after he learned that Schaefer, who had missed a deadline imposed by the forum's sponsors, would not be allowed to speak.

"He was bodily removed from the room," said Sherry Frank, regional director for the American Jewish Committee, which organized the Oct. 4 forum at the Georgia Power Auditorium. "He was there to create a disturbance, and that didn't happen because they got him out of the room."

As her campaign manager was being taken out by security guards, Schaefer apparently left.

"She just disappeared," said GAPAC lobbyist Larry Pellegrini, who attended the forum. "She was right at the back and she just disappeared."

Candidates interested in participating in the forum were requested to respond to the committee by 10 a.m. on the day of the event in order to



McKinney was "bodily removed from the room," says forum organizer Sherry Frank.

be included. Eight candidates responded, not including Schaefer. So when she arrived at the forum, she was told she could not participate.

"[McKinney] got hot and bothered by it," said Frank.

McKinney raced up the center aisle of the auditorium as the forum began, shouting at the moderator, Pellegrini said.

"He pointed up at her and said 'you all are being unfair,' something like that," Pellegrini said. "Then he turned to the audience and said that a very important candidate was not being allowed to speak—Nancy Schaefer."

According to Pellegrini, a security guard crossed the room and asked McKinney to sit

down and be quiet. McKinney warned the guard not to touch him, and when the guard put a hand on the state representative's shoulder, McKinney reacted.

"He grabbed the officer around the neck," Pellegrini said. "He had him literally in a hammerlock."

The security guard and two other forum organizers managed to get McKinney outside the auditorium, where a loud discussion continued, with McKinney twice trying to force his way back into the room.

The forum resumed as soon as McKinney was escorted out, even though the sounds of the argument from the hall could be heard inside the auditorium.

Frank said that no charges were filed as a result of the incident. Neither McKinney nor the Schaefer campaign returned Southern Voice's phone calls for comment.

McKinney, an African American Democrat who represents a district in southwest Atlanta, allied himself with Schaefer, a white Christian supremacist with Republican ties from the northside, as the domestic partnership issue exploded in the city this past summer. Their alliance is based primarily on their mutual opposition to lesbian/gay rights legislation.

McKinney has been charged with assault for allegedly striking lesbian activist Annie Archbold during the City Council's final debate on domestic partnership in August. Archbold has been charged with striking a McKinney supporter. Trial dates have not yet been set in either case.

KC WILDMOON

Discharge recommended for gay reservist

"I trusted Bill Clinton to do what he said he would do," says Atlanta's Danny Ingram.

"I respectfully submit that I am a gay soldier."

With those words, written in a letter to Maj. Gen. John C. Roth on Oct. 23, 1992, Danny Ingram, a specialist with the United States Army Reserve, informed his commanding officer of his sexual orientation. He did so at Roth's request, knowing full well that discharge proceedings would be started against him simply because of those words.

"I trusted Bill Clinton to do what he said he would do," said Ingram. "And as time went by, I felt like I might beat it."

But it has not worked out that way. On Oct. 3, a three-officer panel recommended discharge for Ingram, based solely on his admission that he is gay. It is a story being played out across the country as the battle over gays in the military is fought in the nation's federal courts.

"When the board [issued its recommendation], the president [of the board] said, 'You know we hate to make a recommendation like this, but we have no choice,'" said Ingram, who has served with the reserves for more than 5 years with a maintenance unit.

"I have an exceptional record—all kinds of letters, awards. It was obvious I was very good at being a soldier. I think the board thought it was very unfortunate that they were going to have to recommend a discharge."

The military's policy on gays and lesbians remains in limbo. President Clinton's "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy hadn't even gone into effect yet when the compromise was overruled by Congress, which instead approved language that says "homosexuality is incompatible with military service." Three federal court judges have ruled the ban unconstitutional, but the Clinton administration is fighting those rulings.

Ingram's reserve status required him to work with his unit one weekend each month and two

weeks each summer. He said that he had not been open about his orientation with members of his unit, because, he said, "I knew that there could be problems."

"This was a very heavily discussed topic over the past few months," Ingram said. "Strangely enough, the older guys, particularly the ones who had been in the military for a long time, were accepting. They were fine with it. It was the younger guys who had some very nega-

tive feelings."

"In fact, if the letter had never gone further than the general and myself, he would be the only one that knew."

Ingram's battle with the military began last September when he met Joseph Steffan, the U.S. Naval Academy midshipman booted from the service shortly before graduation.

"I felt ashamed that I wasn't doing any-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 17



Ingram on duty with the 81st U.S. Army Reserve Command

AIDS Walk this Sunday

Six-mile walk raises money for AIDS service organizations

Atlanta—More than 13,000 people are expected to converge on Midtown's Piedmont Park Sunday afternoon for AIDS Walk Atlanta.

Producers of the city's third-annual AIDS walk are hoping to raise \$1 million from the event, which directly benefits AID Atlanta and Project Open Hand and also provides grant money for other AIDS service organizations in the city.

Walkers are scheduled to begin registering and turning in their pledge money at 1 p.m. in a tent on the 10th Street side of the park. After a pre-walk opening ceremony at 1:30 p.m., walkers will begin a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk at 2 p.m. from Midtown through Ansley Park and Virginia-Highland and back to the park.

Craig Miller of Miller Zeichik Associates, which is producing the walk this year, said that the exact route of the walk is not being released in advance for security reasons. This year, the walk, expected to take about two hours, is twice the distance of last year's walk.

"We changed it because we think it helps with fundraising," said Miller, whose firm produces AIDS walks in Los Angeles and San Francisco. He said because people often pledge a dollar amount per kilometer, increasing the distance of the walk increases the amount of money generated.

Walkers are scheduled to begin registering and turning in their pledge money at 1 p.m. in a tent on the 10th Street side of the park. After a pre-walk opening ceremony at 1:30 p.m., walkers will begin a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk at 2 p.m. from Midtown through Ansley Park and Virginia-Highland and back to the park.

At 4 p.m., a post-walk concert will be held at the park.

At press time, the only confirmed entertainer for the event is singer Michael Callen. But, Miller says, "We have a number of exciting irons in the fire."

About 300 to 400 teams, representing corporations, businesses and community groups, are expected to participate. Walkers who have not signed up sponsors but who would like to contribute can do so at the registration tent.

After expenses are paid, 60 percent of the walk's proceeds go to AID Atlanta and 15 percent to Project Open Hand. The remaining 25 percent go to the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation for distribution to other AIDS service organizations.

RICHARD SHUMATE

Correction

In an article in last week's Southern Voice about GAPAC's forum for City Council candidates, the position of Chester Dixon, a candidate in District 2, on the issue of domestic partnership was incorrectly stated. Dixon says he supports domestic partnership. Southern Voice regrets the error.

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Queer books deluge Perry library

*Readers respond to Deb Price's
column about Sam Nunn's
hometown*

Perry, GA—Spurred on by a lesbian newspaper columnist, people from across the country have sent dozens of books on lesbians and gays to the public library in Perry, the hometown of U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn.

During a visit to Georgia in August, Deb Price, a columnist with the Detroit News whose column is syndicated nationally, visited Perry and its library. She then wrote a column in which she said she couldn't find books that would allow a fair-minded Perry resident to understand gay men or lesbians, and she invited readers to send books on gay issues to the library.

So far, about 50 books have been received. "We have received material from various parts of the United States—California, Minnesota, New Orleans, Detroit, Alabama, Atlanta," Houston County library director Judy Golden said. "Everywhere her column has appeared, we have received material both pro and con."

Golden said she didn't know about the column until she received a letter from a Detroit reader thanking the library for not maintaining an extensive collection of material about gays and lesbians.

Since May 1992, Price has written a weekly column on lesbian/gay issues. Syndicated by Gannett and the Los Angeles Times Syndicate, the column is published in dozens of newspapers nationwide.

"There is no intent to pass judgment on an entire town," Price told The Macon Telegraph. "As a reporter, you write about what you find."

In the library, she said, she couldn't find more than four books in the card catalog un-



Deb Price found only four books under the heading "homosexuality."

der the entry "homosexuality." Two were dated to the '70s and were written by anti-gay/lesbian activist Anita Bryant. The others were works by journalist Randy Shilts, Price said.

Price noted in her column that Shilts' "Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military" had been checked out only once.

The library director said there have been few requests for books on gays or lesbians. If the library receives a request, she said it can obtain books on loan from libraries throughout the country.

So far, the library is trying to sort the 50 books it has received.

"If the book has been reviewed and is suitable for our collection, we keep it," Golden said. "If not, we give it to Friends of The Library."

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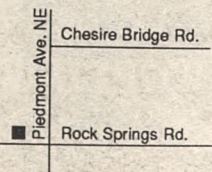
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Tampa gay rights law revived

Tampa, FL—A gay/lesbian rights ordinance in Tampa could go back into effect after the Florida Supreme Court ruled invalid some signatures used in a successful petition drive to repeal it.

Voters overturned the ordinance last November, but Hillsborough County's elections supervisor challenged the vote, saying 462 people who signed petitions placing the matter on the ballot had temporarily been taken off the voter rolls because they hadn't voted in two years. Without the names, opponents of the law fell short of the number of signatures needed to place their referendum on the ballot.

The state Supreme Court said elections officials were right when they concluded state

law doesn't allow people whose names have been temporarily removed from voter rolls to sign petitions.

"The prevention of fraud and the maintenance of up-to-date and reliable registration records are necessary to preserve ballot integrity and a valid election process," Justice Ben Overton wrote in a unanimous decision.

The Tampa law bans discrimination based on sexual orientation. It was added to the city's human rights ordinance in May 1991 to protect lesbians and gays from bias in jobs, housing and public accommodations, such as restaurants.

A lawyer for the referendum's organizers said he will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Anti-bias amendment drive starts

Tampa, FL—A gay/lesbian rights task force has launched a petition drive to pass a state constitutional amendment that would ban discrimination based on a person's private life.

Members of the Human Rights Task Force, an umbrella group for a number of gay/lesbian organizations, said the proposal purposely makes no mention of homosexuals and comes in response to those characterizing gays and lesbians as seeking "special" rights.

"This proposal effectively refutes the notion that this struggle is about 'special' anything," said Keith Roberts, the lawyer representing the task force. "It captures simply and straightforwardly what gays and lesbians and all citizens justifiable and understandably seek—the right to be free from discrimination based on purely personal matters having nothing to do with an individual's ability."

The Florida Constitution already has a provision that "every natural person has the right to be let alone and free from governmental intrusion into his private life."

The task force's amendment would add: "No person shall be denied access or opportunity in employment, housing, public services or accommodations or the extension of credit, on account of matters pertaining to his or her private life."

Supporters must collect more than 400,000 signatures statewide to get the amendment on the November 1994 ballot.

Roberts said the proposal is a direct response to a statewide effort launched in March by David Caton and the American Family Association to repeal existing gay/lesbian rights ordinances and to bar any new laws.

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Clinton Administration Wants Order Against Gay Ban Overruled:

A federal judge's ruling forbidding all discrimination against gays in the military is a burden and would "seriously interfere" with day-to-day military operations, the Justice Department said last week. The comments came Oct. 1 when the Clinton administration asked the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to immediately overrule U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter's ruling in the case of sailor Keith Meinhold. Hatter, who had previously struck down the military's original ban policy, issued a new ruling on Sept. 30 would prevent implementation of Clinton's new "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military and issued an injunction against it. The Clinton administration said it would abide by Hatter's injunction, temporarily stopping discharges of gays and lesbians, until the appeal can be heard.



PINK PHOTO

Judge uses the case of Keith Meinhold to strike down "don't ask, don't tell."

he hoped to return to work at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, but the hospital, which is affiliated with the University of Washington, is objecting to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission finding.

Dutch Congregation Vetoes Transsexual Pastor: Members of the Dutch Reformed Church in a conservative farming region of the Netherlands have rejected a transsexual minister as their pastor. "I will always be a pastor in my heart, but there's no place in the Dutch Reformed Church for me," the Rev. Janine De Boer said last week, adding that she had decided to halt her pastoral activities. De Boer, 60, had sex change surgery in 1982 and has been preaching regularly at the church since 1990. The congregation declined to hire her as pastor when she revealed her sex change during confirmation proceedings.

California Couple Wins Suit Against Reunion Photographer: A gay male couple in Santa Ana who challenged a photographer's decision to exclude them from a high school reunion photo album have won their case on appeal. A three-judge panel of the fourth District Court of Appeals ruled photographer Dan Worthington violated the men's civil rights because he excluded them based on gender. David Engel attended the 10th reunion of his University High School class in 1987 and paid to have his picture taken with his partner, Eric Underwood, and have the photo included in a keepsake photo album. Attorneys for Worthington, who refused to print the men's photograph because he did not want to use the album as "a forum for lifestyle," say his actions were not discriminatory and that they will appeal.

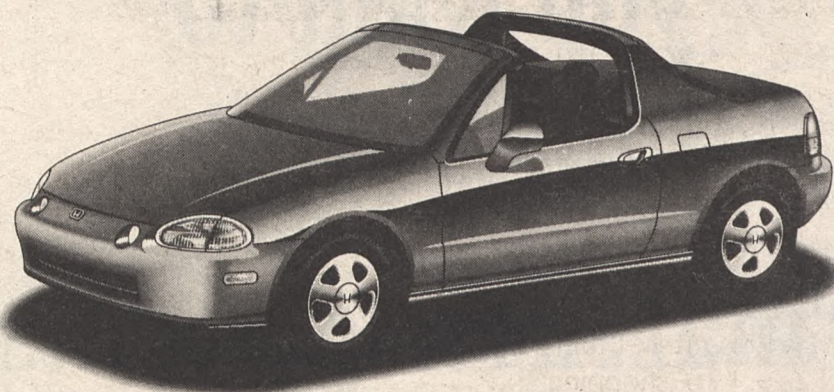
New San Francisco Library Will Include Gay Archive: San Francisco's new \$135 million main library, scheduled to open in 1995, will include one of the most ambitious archives ever assembled of materials on lesbian and gay history, literature and culture. There are dozens of small gay and lesbian archives around the country, but the new library's Gay and Lesbian Center is expected to include hundreds of thousands of items and become the focal point of a major research center, sponsoring exhibits, conferences and readings. The library plans to index almost 200 gay and lesbian periodicals. The collection will also have a video component.

Navy Barred From Discharging Gay Submarine Officer: A federal judge has barred the Navy from discharging a gay submarine officer because the man admitted he is gay only after President Clinton indicated the military's rules would be changed. Lt. Richard D. Selland "made the statement about his homosexuality, not for broadcasting on television, but in the company of his chaplain to his commanding officer," said U.S. District Judge Louis Oberdorfer ruled. The judge said the Navy had come "perilously close" to being in contempt of an order issued by a judge in San Francisco that holds the military's discharge violates the Constitution.

New York Lifts Ban On Domestic Partner Coverage: New York state's insurance superintendent has ruled that the state's insurance law should not preclude coverage for unmarried partners, as has been the accepted interpretation of the law for 54 years. The ruling makes it legal for insurance companies to offer domestic partnership coverage, a benefit long sought by lesbian and gay advocates in the state. Previously, the law was interpreted to allow coverage for employees, their spouses and children. The department had previously ruled that a clause allowing coverage for "other persons chiefly dependent upon" an employee specifically did not include domestic partners.

New Hampshire P-FLAG Organizes Book-Buying Drive: A Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays chapter in Portsmouth is organizing a book-buying drive to place books about lesbians and gays in high school libraries around the state. The drive is aimed at providing accurate, positive information for gay teens. "Everything tells these kids that they are nasty, horrible, perverted people unworthy of love and respect," said Betsy Janeway, president of the chapter. The drive will provide about \$100 worth of books to each of the 38 high schools who responded to a letter from Janeway that they would accept the books. Two libraries said they would not, and 55 did not respond.

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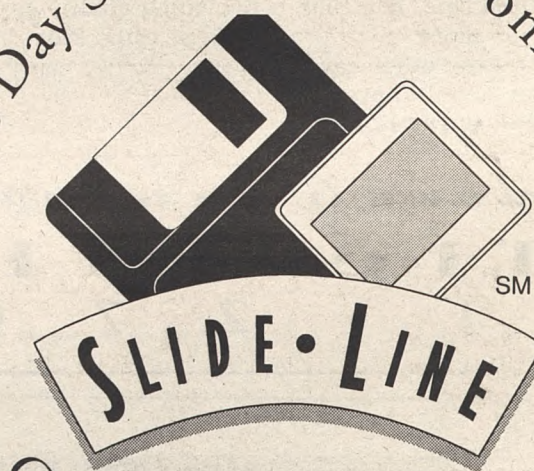
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ELECTION 93

by RICHARD SHUMATE

In some cases, telling the gay/lesbian friendly candidates in Atlanta's elections from the not-so-friendly candidates is an easy call. But in other cases, the line is much fuzzier.

Take the case, for instance, of **Ayisha Jeffries**, who is one of the candidates in City Council District 2. She is running against gay candidate **Eric Spivey** and at least two gay-friendly candidates, **Debi Starnes** and **Chester Dixon**.

GAPAC, which evaluates candidates on gay/lesbian issues, has some concerns about Jeffries. She did not return the group's questionnaire (she told Southern Voice that she received the wrong form), she has not been interviewed by GAPAC and, in conversations both with GAPAC officials and Southern Voice, she declined to state her positions on specific gay/lesbian issues, including domestic partnership.

But Jeffries has taken great umbrage at the suggestion from GAPAC that she leans to the right on gay/lesbian issues, as reported in Southern Voice. She told us that "I believe in the full human and civil rights for all categories of people."

"My commitment is to do the right things to protect your civil and human rights," she said.

Over in the mayor's race last week, **Nancy Schaefer** got perhaps the biggest boost of her campaign when **Jack Kemp**, considered a 1996 GOP presidential contender, endorsed her candidacy.

Kemp, a former Bush administration official and congressman from New York, was in town for a fundraiser for Schaefer's anti-gay/lesbian group, Family Concerns. The invitation to the fundraiser included the names of a number of prominent politicians, including **Billy Lovett**, head of the state GOP, and **U.S. Rep. John Linder**, who represents DeKalb County.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution wrote a fawning piece about the event, discussing the viability of Schaefer's attempt to ally blacks and Christian supremacists in the city.

Meanwhile, the campaign for mayor hit the TV airwaves last week, as both **Michael Lomax** and **Bill Campbell** started running ads. The third major candidate in the race, **Myrtle Davis**, has so far not run any ads.

Crime was a theme running through both advertising campaigns, with Lomax walking in military cadence in front of a phalanx of uniformed officers. Campbell, less well known than Lomax, included some ads designed to acquaint the voters with his past, including one showing him as a small child integrating Raleigh's public schools.

One of the more curious battles is shaping up in City Council District 9, a district in the northwest part of the city that combines some of its poorest areas with some of its wealthiest. **Ari Casper-Silberman**, who lives in the Cross Creek area and has ties to Nancy Schaefer, is making a spirited run against the incumbent, **Jared Samples**, who grew up in Perry Homes and is one of the youngest people ever to serve on the City Council. The other candidate in the race is **Kathy Carter**.

The curiosity here is why Samples, who is black, has been targeted by the religious right. He was a strong opponent of domestic partnership—seemingly the ideal kind of candidate for the right's proposed alliance.



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If Wildmon doesn't like what he sees, we might not get to see it

SoVo's Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse series continues with a look at Rev. Don Wildmon and his American Family Association

by KC WILDMOON

Procter and Gamble was the first to give in. Then came Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, Wendy's, Domino's Pizza, Ralston Purina, General Mills, Clorox, Sears, Burger King, Honda, Mazda and Nissan.

All have caved in to pressure from Rev. Donald Wildmon and his American Family Association—pressure to pull advertising from “offensive” television programming.

True, hardly any of those companies will admit that Wildmon's strong-arm tactics had anything to do with their decisions to pull ads from shows such as “Saturday Night Live.” But all of them did so after receiving letters from Wildmon, telling the companies that if they did not agree to change their policies, he would send out half a million “action alerts” saying that their companies had “no problem” with the vulgarity he saw on the shows in question. Burger King went as far as placing ads in 500 papers across the country touting the company's support of “traditional family values.”

Though he maintains a low personal profile, Wildmon, from his base in Tupelo, Miss., has a long reach. He can be found not only monitoring television for indecency, but also museums, video stores, convenience stores and Saturday morning cartoons.

Blockbuster Video stops carrying NC-17 rated movies. Wildmon was behind it.

7-Eleven stores drop Playboy and Penthouse. Wildmon was behind it.

A nationwide boycott is launched against Martin Scorsese's film, “The Last Temptation of Christ.” Who made it happen? Who else. Wildmon.

Mighty Mouse is accused of sniffing cocaine. Wildmon again.

Jesse Helms attacks the National Endowment for the Arts because of the photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe and Andres Serrano. Wildmon had made the phone call alerting the North Carolina senator.

It would be too easy, and definitely a mistake, to underestimate Donald Wildmon's influence, to write him off as a prudish old man from

a remote corner of Mississippi. He has found a niche in the 90s that appeals to many parents—attacking American television and movies.

And while Wildmon's take on the state of the media may differ in content with that of the average American, they share the same we-don't-like-what's-going-on tone. And that makes it very difficult to counter Wildmon's barrage of attacks on advertisers and sponsors.

He leads boycotts, writes letters, threatens, cajoles and otherwise makes himself unpleasant to the sponsors of those programs which meet with his disapproval. He's also founded the AFA Law Center, which mounts legal battles against pornography, vulgarity and excessive violence in the media with a staff of 400 volunteer lawyers.

The American Family Association's monthly newsletter, AFA Journal, tells its one-million address mailing list who to boycott, with graphic descriptions of why. A radio station, WAFR-FM (American Family Radio) plays Christian



music and news to the Tupelo area and entertains on-hold callers to the AFA.

He's a one man blackmail outfit. And it works.

About this series



They are four straight white men with religious fervor, political savvy and media access, and they are using them to take aim at gays and lesbians in America. They are the Four Horsemen of our Apocalypse—televangelists Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell; James Dobson, who is trying to re-define family in a fundamentalist image through his Focus on the Family; and Donald

Wildmon, head of the pro-censorship American Family Association. In a four-part series, Southern Voice staff writer KC Wildmoon explores how and why these men built their power—and how they are using it against us.

- Sept. 30: Pat Robertson
- Last week: Jerry Falwell
- This week: Donald Wildmon
- Next week: James Dobson

At first glance, Donald Ellis Wildmon fits the stereotype of a backwoods fundamentalist minister perfectly. The youngest of five children, he was raised on a cotton farm in Ripley, Miss. with no electricity, no telephone and no indoor plumbing.

In a rare 1991 interview with Christianity Today, he joked, “I'm from Mississippi, which means I don't wear shoes. I'm a preacher, which means me and Elmer Gantry are first cousins.”

But Wildmon, while perhaps a reactionary, is no uneducated bumpkin. He is a graduate of the prestigious Methodist seminary at Atlanta's Emory University. At first rejected because his high school record was less than exemplary, he told Christianity Today that he “found out who had influence,” reapplied and was admitted. It took him only two years to complete the school's three-year program.

When Wildmon was two, a streak of bad luck hit the family farm, and his father sold it and got a job investigating venereal diseases for the state board of health. His mother returned to school for a teaching certificate.

Not much is known about Wildmon's childhood. Southern Voice could not locate a copy of his 1989 autobiography, “The Man the Networks Love to Hate,” but the few accounts that are available point to an idyllic, 50s lifestyle—mom, dad and the kids, church, no worries, summer camp. This is the lifestyle to which America ought to return, Wildmon says.

After Emory, Wildmon travelled a circuit of small churches in Mississippi, eventually pastoring Lee Acres Methodist Church in Tupelo. He wrote inspirational gift books and led tours to the Holy Land, and he battled church bureaucracy over what he saw as its liberal leanings.

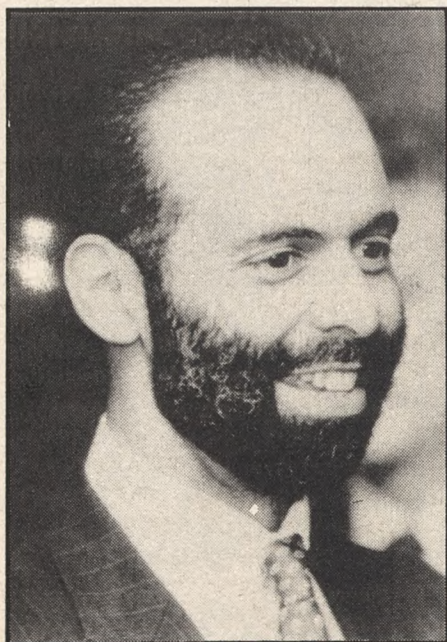
If he had any inclination to join the televangelist path paved by Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and the like, he showed it only once—trying to convince the church to buy a pair of radio stations. He got no takers.

In fact, Wildmon eschews the media, regularly turning down requests for interviews (“He's not interested right now,” a spokeswoman told Southern Voice when we requested a chat with the reverend). But Don Wildmon did have a calling in the media, and he found it one winter evening in 1976 while watching television with

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

MICHAEL LOMAX

ELECT A MAYOR WHO'S GOT THE “STRENGTH TO CHANGE”



- the only candidate who hired an openly Gay staff person to serve as a liaison with the Lesbian and Gay community
- the candidate who has pledged to make mandatory Lesbian/Gay sensitivity training for the Atlanta Police Department and all City Department Heads
- the only candidate who has had direct experience in addressing the AIDS crisis by leading the fight to secure funding for Grady's Ponce de Leon Infectious Disease Clinic
- the candidate who voted in support of Fulton County's non-discrimination policy to include sexual orientation

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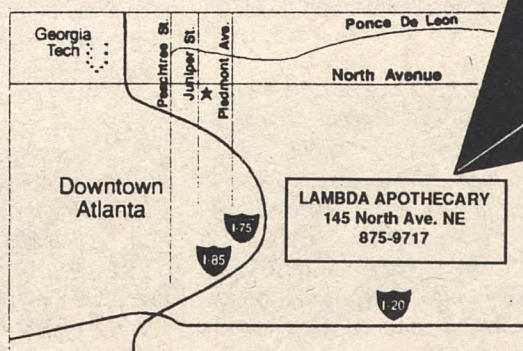
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There is only one City Council candidate in the 6th District who has earned our trust and deserves our vote on November 2.

- She has long been a champion of human rights, fighting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, age, race, ethnicity or disability.
- She sponsored and successfully fought for Atlanta's Domestic Partnership legislation—twice.
- She has been Atlanta's leader in the preservation of our neighborhoods.
- She has vigorously fought to preserve Piedmont Park.
- She has sought a budget neutral effect of the tax reappraisal.
- She has supported legislation funding the arts.
- She had questions about sodomy removed from police applications and initiated police recruit sensitivity training in lesbian and gay issues.
- She has worked to make our streets safer, supporting neighborhood watches and bringing police mini-precincts into our neighborhoods.
- She favors strong ethics legislation and she has introduced a tough ethics proposal of her own.
- She has led environmental protection efforts, bringing citywide curbside recycling to Atlanta.

Her history of community involvement, her experience in city government and her proven record of accomplishment make it clear—there is only one choice!

We enthusiastically endorse the re-election of

Mary Davis

for Atlanta City Council, District 6



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 Loretta Redd, Ph.D.
 Thomas E. Latimer
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Paid For By Friends of Mary Davis

New York serial killings hit home for Atlanta woman

Anne Fauver says the death of her friend brought home just how much violence is directed at the gay community

by PAMELA EVANS

Violent crime happens to people who put themselves at risk. Violent crime happens to other people, people we do not know, probably do not want to know.

Or so many of us would like to think.

Both stereotypes now ring false for local real estate agent Anne Fauver. A friend of hers, Michael Sakara, recently fell victim to a particularly heinous crime in New York City, where a killer of homosexual men may be stalking the streets outside of gay bars.

Five men have been murdered, dismembered and dumped in remote areas outside the city. Sakara, the most recent victim, disappeared July 29, 1993. His head and arms were found in two bags near Haverstraw, N.Y., in Rockland County. The rest of his body was found August 8, about 10 miles from the site where the first remains were discovered.

"After I heard about Michael's death, I started acting strangely," said Fauver. "I couldn't think straight. I had to keep busy all the time. Then one day I was having a massage and a thought just popped into my head. I had been quiet too long."

Fauver had been discouraged and disturbed about the ban against gays in the military and then during the summer about the anti-gay/lesbian resolutions in Cobb County. The impact of Sakara's death was the final straw.

"I don't think I realized just how much hate is being directed at our community," she said.

Since 1991, the dismembered bodies of five gay or bisexual men have been found in three Eastern states. Four of the five victims were last

seen in gay bars in New York City. A fifth was not known to have visited New York or a gay bar, although other similarities still appear to link this murder to the other four.

Each was meticulously dismembered, suggesting a knowledge of anatomy. Their body parts were discovered stuffed inside plastic bags. All were middle-aged men, between 44 and 56.

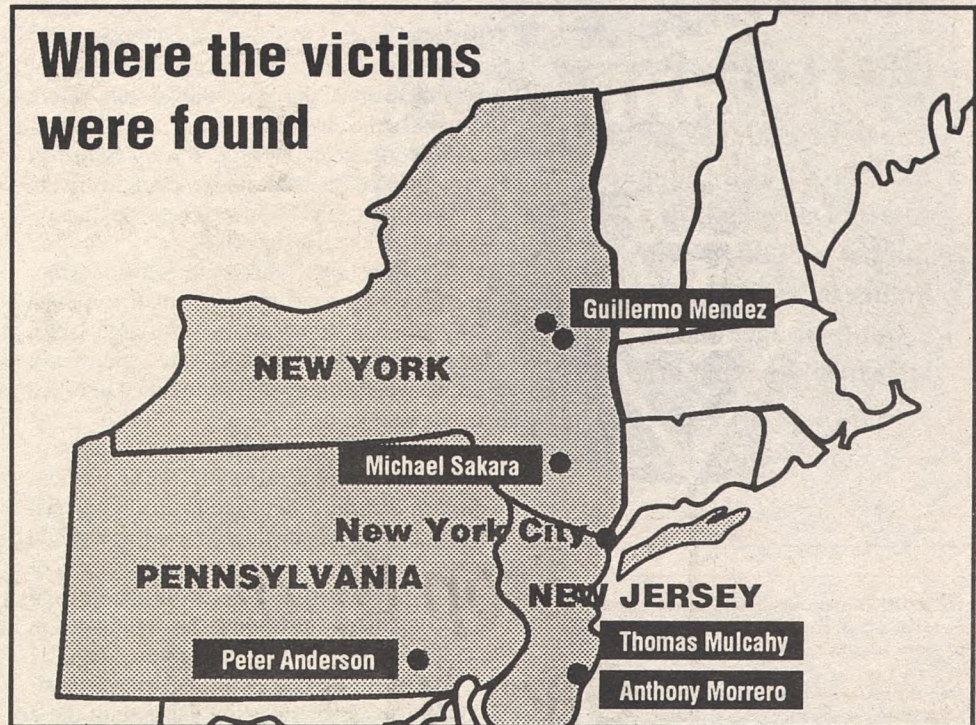
Peter Anderson, 54, an investment broker from Philadelphia, was visiting New York to attend a fundraising dinner. He was killed on May 3, 1991, after last being seen at The Townhouse, a gay bar. His body was found in bags along the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Anthony Morrero, 44, who had been working as a prostitute in the Port Authority bus terminal, was last seen in gay bars and was found on May 10 in bags along a highway in Ocean County, N.J.

Thomas Mulcahy, a 57-year-old executive, was married for more than 30 years and lived in a comfortable suburb outside Boston. He, too, was last seen at The Townhouse. His body was found in bags in garbage cans in July 1992, also in Ocean County. Guillermo Mendez, a 50-year-old Cuban refugee, was found in July in a dump in Rotterdam, N.Y. His head and fingertips had been removed, possibly to delay identification, authorities say. His head was found three weeks later in a cemetery in nearby Schenectady.

Fauver brought the story of the possible serial killings to Southern Voice, hoping an article might warn the gay community about potential dangers here and elsewhere. "People need to be aware of what is going on," she said.

She also was impacted by the fact that some-

Where the victims were found



one she knew was the victim of such a grisly hate crime. Another friend of Sakara, Bob Mayfield, felt the same way. Their fond memories of Sakara—late night dinner soirees and a home filled with music—are now defaced by images of the discovery of his remains.

Both are confused by their friend's victimization. "You'd have to know Michael," said Mayfield. "He was street smart. He'd been in and around the New York bar scene for 30 years. He was extremely bright, a very smart person. Not to mention, he was 6-foot-4. He could not have been easily fooled."

Sakara's sister, Marilyn, a Santa Fe, N.M. resident and a lesbian, agreed. "Almost every-

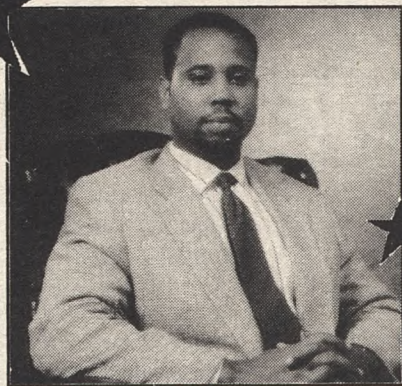
one who knew Michael would feel the same way," she said. "He was a big guy, around 250 pounds. Even when drinking, he had enough common sense not to go off with a person he didn't know."

She described 56-year-old Michael as someone who went out to the bars almost every night after leaving his job as a typesetter and lithographer, particularly to the Five Oaks, where he sat on the same barstool and enjoyed the sing-alongs that took place each evening. She said it was not typical for her brother to leave a bar with someone he had just met. A long-term rela-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 20

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NEXT WEEK

Atlanta's Next Leader

The three leading candidates for mayor—Bill Campbell, Myrtle Davis and Michael Lomax—sit down with Southern Voice to talk about their agendas for the lesbian and gay community.

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

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

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

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EDITORIAL

Stand up for two politicians who stood for us

We have spent a bit of energy on these pages as of late focusing on politicians who have done us wrong, pondering how we might be able to snuff out their little careers before they have the chance to do any more damage. So it is a welcome change this week to talk about two politicians who have done us right.

Unfortunately, these two women are paying a price because they did.

Carolyn Long Banks and Barbara Asher are both long-time members of the Atlanta City Council. They serve in at-large posts, meaning that voters throughout the city will decide whether they will be returned to office in November.

Both Banks and Asher supported controversial measures, approved by the City Council, that created a domestic partnership registry for unmarried people who live together and extended benefits to the domestic partners of city employees. Both stood with the lesbian/gay community in winning this fight, even in the face a backlash from the forces of hate.

And both have drawn right-wing opposition in November's election because of those stands.

Jackie Livingston, running against Asher for at-large Post 16, and John H. Lewis Sr., running against Banks for at-large Post 14, are both believed to have ties to the Christian right. Lewis' name may be a particularly problem for Banks. Though he is not the father of the popular and progressive U.S. Rep. John Lewis,

that bit of misinformation is being floated in some parts of the city.

Lesbian and gay voters in Atlanta, however, can help our friends in these races because of Atlanta's system in selecting members of the City Council. In addition to 12 councilpersons elected from specific districts, there are also six at-large posts, including those of Asher and Banks, for which everyone in the city gets to vote.

Though they may be far down the ballot and aren't attracting as much interest as, say, the battle in the gay-friendly 6th District or two other districts with gay and lesbian candidates, voters in our community need to make a point of voting in these at-large races, particularly posts 14 and 16.

Asher and Banks stood with us. Now is the time for us to stand with them.

RICHARD SHUMATE



Carolyn Long Banks



Barbara Asher

L E T T E R S

Former resident applauds Morningside Chase

We've heard a great deal lately about the controversy regarding the management company for Morningside Chase Apartments. Belcore & Associates (the management company) issued a notice through the rental office manager to residents stating that public displays of affection cannot be tolerated in the public areas of the apartment community, prompted largely by residents recent complaints about such activity.

As stated by Gaetano Belcore, the [company's] president, this notice does not apply to such innocent activities such as kissing or hugging, but to the more "intimate" ways some residents (and non-residents) have been showing their love and/or lust within the complex's public areas.

Having lived at Morningside Chase several years ago, I applaud Belcore & Associates for their stand to discourage this kind of public behavior. I moved from Morningside because I, too, was sick by "harmless" skinny dipping romps turning into late night oral sex festivals, and of seeing two (or more) people emerge from the single toilet restroom in the laundromat.

Those who are hiding behind the usual cries of discrimination are simply sexually starved fools who can't keep their zippers up long enough to make it to a bedroom. If those people wish to live in the Parliament House, they should by all means move there.

Greg Henry
Atlanta

DeAundra wants Danny Roble back

Hey y'all. Maybe I ain't been told the whole story or somethin', but I just thought I would write to y'all an' say how sorry I was that y'all has done fired Mr. Danny Roble from y'all's staff.

A couple of years ago when he done joined up with y'all, I said to myself how glad I was that a bit of humanisticism had done gotten on board. Part of what I wanted more of in y'all's publication was some fun (I mean, hard news is great, but entertainment is part of what people is lookin' for too). Anyway, when he done come on, he added culture an' excitement to the paper better than any other writer like him in town.

Mostly what I liked so much about his column was that not only did he pay attention to budding superstars like myself, but that boy was all over this city writin' about benefits an' entertainment of all kinds.

I just thought that I would let y'all know how I will miss his column an' how I hope that y'all consider rehirin' him—soon.

DeAundra Peck
Atlanta

Editor's note: Watch for an exciting new nightlife column, coming to SoVo in November.

A cartoonist by any other name...

Peigman? Deiman? Deignau?
Your regular editorial cartoonist is fabulous!
Who is he?

Mel Hart
Atlanta

Editor's note: The name of our fabulous cartoonist is Deignan. And we're sure she would thank you for the compliment.

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HOW TO AVOID A FIGHT WITH YOUR LOVER



NEVER ADMIT THAT YOU STILL WEAR ANYTHING THAT ANY OF YOUR EX-LOVERS EVER BOUGHT YOU.

Coming up with a way for family to help family

How's your money holding out?

I know that's a rude question. That's why I asked it.

It seems we're trained from pre-newt-ness to talk about our sex lives (Sex life? Who has time?), preferences (Why, yes, I would prefer some) and our orientation (What do Asians know that I don't?). We are encouraged to divulge the functionality (or lack thereof) of our founding families in the name of openness and honesty (A fine old lesbian tradition, as in, "Thank you for sharing"). And all things private become public property at the drop of an inclination. Almost all things.

Except money.

If you have any, you're taught not to tell for fear of flaunting it, or worse yet, for fear of charitable solicitations that always seem far more charitable to the asker (as in, "Thank you for sharing"). But if you don't have any, you're in real trouble, because the lack of lucre (bread, gelt, cash, currency, token, brass, dough, capital, scratch, moola) is regarded as a major character defect.

Now, in case you hadn't noticed, there's a rather odd economy out there. Perhaps you were waiting for the Clinton buckmeisters to wave their magic wands and cure us of 12 Republican years by the time you have to replace the hot water heater. Or you thought it was just you. Or you and some of your friends, none of whom ever exactly comes right out and says, "We don't know how we're going to pay rent and eat in the same month," but you kind of get the idea.

Last week, I listened to a friend with a nice haircut talk about reading a \$20 book, one chapter at a time, every time she went to the bookstore, because \$20 for a spare book wasn't



Cleaning Out My Closet

by SHELLY ROBERTS

"currently in her operating budget." Which didn't thrill my other friend, the bookstore owner, who keeps wondering how long he can run his business as a non-profit organization.

Formerly-comfortable acquaintances have rented out their house because one of them lost her job in the currently retrenching economy. They rented to formerly-comfortable acquaintances who had to sell their house because both of them lost their jobs in the retrenching economy. Both sets talk about "restricted cash flow" as though they didn't mean that their money was now living as an out-of-wallet experience.

Then there are those of us who carve our existence out of the grip of employers who confuse the word "management" with the word

"boss," believing the latter gives them entitlements similar to those the early Romans had in relation to Christians. In this community, we non-salaried are legion. Independent contractors. Small business owners. Consultants. Brokers. Advisors. Freelancers. Soul proprietors who choose independence because we know that on-staff means eventually co-workers will want to know with whom you carve your Halloween pumpkin. So we go our own way, preferring the exhilaration of living on the edge.

Only now a lot of us are having a hard time telling which side of the edge we're on. Met any affluent gay or lesbian...oh, say...real estate agents lately? Me neither.

But it's not something we talk about with each other. It's way too private. It's easier to reveal the true meaning of your bumper stickers to strangers than the reality of your dwindling bank balance to friends.

Are we worse off than any other part of the population? Maybe. Because you can't call on rich relatives (or any other kind) in emergencies when they've disowned you.

So here's my thought. It's modeled after the Advertising Industry Emergency Fund in L.A., a highly enlightened and evolved concept called "taking care of our own selves." It's a fund created by everybody tossing in \$10 or \$20. It's locally managed and available to cover small emergencies. Like a new transmission and no job. Or a foreclosure hanging on one more mortgage payment. It's a little-things safety net for the most economically vulnerable. Us. Someplace to turn when a bank won't touch you and you'd never consider food stamps. Or you've spent them already. Not for big emergencies. Other agencies handle those.

This would be a very private fund where asking has no stigma. Without a huge committee of blabber-mouth judges equating your personal worth with your net worth. A community piggy bank where if you need it, you ask. And if the fund has it, you get it. You agree to pay it back when you can. And you do. Because you might need it again. Or someone else might need it. Just that simple. "Family" helping out "family."

Now, I have to tell you, I don't have idea one about the legality of something like this. Or how to structure it. Or what the tax ramifications are. That's where you come in. I want you to think about how you could accomplish this where you live. Then I want you to do it. Just that simple.

Because it's way too embarrassing to have someone throw a benefit on your behalf, and way too scary if they don't. And because we ought to have some place we can turn when there's no place to turn to. Some place easy, accessible, non-judgmental, not mired in unneighborly red tape—and some place that's ours.

So do it for me, would you? Don't write to ask for my permission. Just put it into place without all the high drama of being politically correct. Then let everyone know what works and what mistakes to avoid. We can learn from each other, be there for each other and make a small, safe corner in a world that actually believes "don't ask, don't tell" is an acceptable answer to anything.

A gay and lesbian emergency fund. A Queer National Savings and Loan. Saving each other by making quick and simple loans. Imagine. Why, it could bring a whole new meaning to "Thank you for sharing."

L E T T E R S

P-FLAG wants world to know that it has embraced change

Your editorial of Sept. 30, "Time for Leaders to Listen and Embrace Change," overlooks the emerging powerhouse in the gay and lesbian movement—P-FLAG, recently re-named Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. We have embraced change. Now we need the world to realize it. We are no longer simply a network of 320 plus support groups—we are everywhere and we are activating.

We have trained 65 grassroots activists in identifying the "religious" right threat and how to fight it. Judy Colbs, Atlanta chapter president, was instrumental in fighting the Cobb County Commission and helping to organize the Queer Family Picnic. Candace Steele, regional director for the Pacific Northwest, camped for weeks in KOA campgrounds across Oregon lobbying for the defeat of Measure 9

and similar "sons of 9." Terri Bibbens, Tucson chapter president, has co-founded the Tucson Human Rights Coalition. Jean Genasci, regional director for the Northeast, has testified at all levels of government and now serves on the Massachusetts' governor's commission on gay and lesbian youth, aiming to educate society and youth about gay and lesbian people.

Sandy Moore, regional director of the

Southern region, has formed coalitions with religious leaders and has held several high visibility events in her hometown of Ft. Worth, Texas. Carroll Austin-Jewitt, Toronto chapter president, walked into her local school board and told them, "Our children are dying, what are you doing?" Carroll's actions resulted in a gay and lesbian youth program titled, "Our Children Are Dying."

Mitzi Henderson, national P-FLAG president, has traveled across the United States and Europe speaking and inspiring people to get involved with P-FLAG's civil rights and education programs.

We must pull together and stand up side-by-side with our families and friends. Too many parents want to speak out for the equal rights of their children only to be censored by the very children they are fighting for. We need to realize that heterophobia is as dangerous as homophobia. We have embraced the change. It is now time for the community to wake up and act up with us. Yes, your families and friends are there for you. Show them that you will stand with them. We cannot do it alone.

We need time, efforts and financial backing of not only the gay, lesbian and bisexual community but of more of our families and friends as well. We need volunteers with enthusiasm and energy. We need people to speak to schools, call their elected representatives, demonstrate and protest and, yes, stuff envelopes. Together we can be more effective. Together we can reach out to our own natural community and beyond.

We need to support one another. We need to stand strong together. Please, join our struggle—it's all about you.

George Neighbors Jr.
Washington D.C.

Editor's note: Neighbors is a public information officer for P-FLAG.



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Strategies for women fighting migraines

by DR. HERMAN WEINREB

If you are a woman who suffers from migraine headaches around the time of menstruation, you are not alone. Approximately 60 percent of women who get migraines report some relation of their headaches to their menstrual cycle.

Although there is no absolute cure for these headaches, there are medications that can relieve the pain, and lifestyle changes that may help reduce migraine frequency.

Migraine headaches result when blood vessels in the brain expand abnormally and stimulate surrounding pain fibers.

Why do the blood vessels dilate? No-body knows for sure. However, a number of factors seem to contribute to migraines in women, including changes in body hormones that accompany menstruation.

As a period nears, a woman's hormones, including estrogen, are most in flux. Consequently, the closer a woman is to having her period, the more likely a migraine will occur.

If you suffer from migraines at the time of your period, you should anticipate its occurrence, as a number of medications can relieve migraine pain, especially if the drugs are taken just as the headaches are starting.

In the last few years, new drugs have been developed for migraine headache, and migraine relief may also be found in stress

reduction and diet changes.

Stress contributes to all kinds of headaches, including migraines. Contemplate the stresses in your life and formulate plans for reducing their negative influence. Likewise, a poor diet, including too much alcohol or fluctuations in caffeine levels, can help cause migraines. In some people, even a small glass of red wine can touch off a migraine headache. And some fragrances, such as perfumes, may also prompt a migraine.

Since migraine headaches are related to blood flow, exercise helps regulate blood circulation and can help reduce migraine occurrence. Also, cessation of smoking should be an important consideration since nicotine hurts the regulation of blood circulation.

Some migraine sufferers may also benefit from biofeedback, a system that uses electrical monitoring to stimulate blood circulation and increase blood flow to the extremities.

Also, read the package information on your other medications. Some drugs, including birth control pills, may aggravate headaches, including migraines. Seek to replace these medications with other, less troublesome treatments.

Dr. Weinreb is an assistant professor of neurology at New York University Medical Center.

Dropping anonymous HIV testing had no adverse effects, CDC says

Durham, NC—North Carolina's decision to switch from anonymous to confidential HIV testing did not result in fewer tests or affect the rate of infection, according to a preliminary study by the federal Centers for Disease Control.

The report examined the impact of the state's decision to curtail anonymous testing in 83 counties in September 1991. The state reinstated anonymous testing in all 100 counties after a Superior Court judge ruled earlier this year that the restriction was unconstitutional.

Those tested anonymously for HIV do not have to reveal their identities. Under confidential testing, people are required to provide their name, address and phone number, although the state is legally restricted from releasing that information.

Opponents of confidential testing predicted it would discourage people from seeking the test. The opponents also said they didn't trust health officials to keep identities confidential.

"We really tried to find an impact," said William Kassler, principal author of the study. "We went out of our way to find an adverse impact. It appears in the general population

that there is no adverse impact overall."

But Steve Harris, a member of ACT UP/Triangle who was a plaintiff in the lawsuit that restored anonymous testing, said the preliminary report does not support a switch to confidential testing.

"They reviewed this in a linear model, which has been questioned all along," he said. "That's not the most appropriate way to review the data...It's comparing apples and oranges."

Harris also said the state's decision to exclude activists and other interested parties from the meeting at which the report was presented only strengthened the feelings of distrust and suspicion.

Kassler presented the report to state health officials and faculty members at the University of North Carolina School of Public Health, emphasizing the tentative nature of the findings.

State officials say information collected from confidential testing allows them to contact persons who test positive but don't return for the results, as well as those who had sexual contact with the infected person.

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Weapons turned to breast cancer war

X-ray technology once used to examine nuclear warheads may be useful in early detection of breast cancer

Washington, DC—Machinery designed to detect and analyze flaws in nuclear warheads and experimental laser weapons soon may be used to provide women better early detection of breast cancer.

The Energy Department signed an agreement Oct. 6 for a \$3.28 million joint venture between the department's Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California and a Colorado manufacturer of X-ray equipment to develop improved "digital" detection technology for breast cancer.

Fischer Imaging Corp. of Denver, a leading manufacturer of diagnostic X-ray machinery, will finance \$2.4 million, while the government will contribute \$880,000, according to the agreement.

The digital technology will allow clearer images for medical technicians and lead to earlier and more precise detection of cancers in the breast, cancer experts said.

Dr. Faina Shtern, chairman of diagnostic imaging at the National Cancer Institute, said the new technology, once it is widely used, will represent "a real revolution" in the ability to analyze breast X-ray images and detect early cancers.

While a prototype of commercial equipment may be ready for government review in about a year, industry and government officials acknowledged at a news conference it may take as long a decade for the technology to widely replace the 12,000 current X-ray machines now in use.

But Morgan Niels, chairman of Fischer Imaging, said the equipment is likely to be available at some hospitals much earlier.

"We think it will be compelling for major medical institutions to take this technology as soon as they can get it," said Niels.

He expects the new equipment to cost two to three times as much as most conventional X-ray machinery—but be cheaper to operate.

The digital technology has been used for years at government weapons laboratories such as Lawrence Livermore to check for possible flaws in components of weapons and other defense-related hardware.

Some of the government's machinery costs several million dollars, compared with roughly \$75,000 for conventional X-ray equipment used in hospitals.

The joint venture is the latest in an attempt to convert scientific expertise at government weapons laboratories into commercial and civilian uses.

"Our goal would be that we have this product ready for FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approval in 1994," Niels said Tuesday.

Clint Logan, mammography project leader at Lawrence Livermore, said it might take a bit longer, perhaps three years, to resolve technical problems and two more years to obtain FDA approval.

Breast cancer claims the lives of an estimated 46,000 women in the United States each year. While X-ray imaging, along with physical examinations, is considered the most effective means of early detection, health experts estimate a fifth of mammograms, using current conventional technology, fail to detect cancers that are present.

The digital equipment would provide better image quality, require less radiation dose, allow detection of smaller tumors and detect early signs of a problem in younger women whose breast tissue is more dense, which makes conventional X-ray machinery less reliable, said Niels.

Niels said the supercomputers available at Livermore, one of the leading government

The new digital equipment would provide better image quality, require less radiation dose, allow detection of smaller tumors and detect early signs of a problem in younger women whose breast tissue is more dense.

research facilities, also will allow researchers to find the optimum wave length to achieve the best image at the lowest dose levels, thereby reducing X-ray radiation exposure to patients.

Fischer Imaging hopes to develop a digital version that costs two to three times what conventional X-ray equipment costs. Niels said such a price would be commercially competitive since the digital equipment is cheaper to operate, provides cheaper storage and produces less waste.

Digital mammography uses electronic radiation detectors to capture the image created by X-rays passing through the breast. A converter changes the X-ray energy to visible light. While a conventional X-ray machine captures the images on film, the digital system allows it to be viewed directly on electronic displays similar to a home computer.

Niels said because the image is much clearer, with greater contrast, it will allow better detection with fewer X-rays actually being taken and detect smaller tumors.

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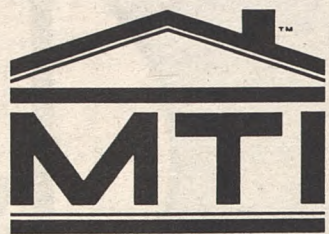
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South Beach chef develops HIV cuisine

Miami Beach, FL—Frank Wager had no idea how to eat healthy, and his ignorance was helping HIV kill him.

Then he met chef Kathy Raffle on trendy South Beach, who has come up with special dishes for people with diminished immune systems. Now he's one of about a dozen people with HIV or AIDS who eat Raffle's cooking regularly.

"For the most part, people who have AIDS have no idea about the nutritional aspects that are very important to their health," Wager said. "Unfortunately, we don't have the time or the background to eat what is good for us."

Raffle, a transplanted New Yorker, says offering a special menu emerged from necessity earlier this year when she was cooking at Falcon's Lair on the Beach. She now cooks at nearby Coral Cafe.

"The restaurant I was working at was next to a gay club and most of the customers were gay," she said. "We were getting a lot of customers in, requesting Caesar salad with no egg and pasta with no dairy. To make it easier on the waiter and myself, I just thought we would do a menu with items on it for people with compromised immune systems."

One concern was that other customers would not feel uncomfortable ordering dishes especially intended for people with AIDS. Special dishes are marked discreetly on the menu with asterisks.

"Everybody told me I was crazy," Raffle said. "They said I would turn people away when they see there are this many items for HIV. But once they eat the food and they think it's OK, that's what counts."

She created a variation on ravioli that uses pureed vegetables with a sauce made from soy milk instead of cream. Many of her speciality dishes use garlic, basil and fruit—always fresh.

She had to shelve her French method of cooking and began to concentrate on lighter, healthier ingredients.

To develop a strategy for such a menu, Raffle consulted nurse Susan Luck of the nearby StratoGen Clinic. Luck, also from New York, had worked in Manhattan under a grant putting together healthy diets for people with HIV.

"The medical mode has approached their nutrition with food that is high in fats for high calories," Luck said. "They want to fatten them up, but very often the fats themselves are problematic."

Luck said some raw foods, such as an egg in a Caesar salad, contain bacteria an immune-deficient body can't tolerate. Dairy products also contain lactose, a sugar she says many with HIV can't digest.

Raffle uses lots of pasta because it's easy to digest and high in nutrients.

Wager said his health improved immediately after he began eating her food.

"You can actually improve the immune system by eating right," the 41-year-old real estate agent said. "If you don't, your immune system is going to decline faster, you have more of a chance of losing weight and more of a chance of getting an opportunistic infection that can kill you."

Raffle, who is currently working on a cookbook, said having a place where people with AIDS can sit down to have a specially designed meal is as healthy psychologically as it is physically.

"Sometimes they get depressed when they're home by themselves, and they don't eat good or they eat junk food," Raffle said. "Someplace like here, they can come in with their friends, sit down in a nice atmosphere and not have to worry about what they are going to eat."

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Herbal HIV treatment under study

Boulder, CO—Hauser Chemical Research Inc. has won a \$500,000 grant to continue researching naturally-occurring chemicals that may be helpful in treating HIV-positive people and people with AIDS.

The grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, a division of the National Institutes of Health, will allow Hauser to expand research into naturally-occurring chemicals called artemisinin derivatives.

Artemisinin derivatives, which Hauser isolated from the herb *Artemisia annua*, may be helpful in treating parasitic infections that

include toxoplasmosis and cryptosporidiosis, common causes of death in people suffering from unintentional suppression of the immune system. The Chinese have long used *Artemisia annua* to treat malaria, also a parasitic infection.

The grant will be used for research into selecting compounds that may be effective in treating the parasitic infections.

"At the end of the program we should have data on which [compounds] we want to use," said Dean Stull, Hauser's chief executive.

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State officials repairing troubled minority HIV program

Internal squabbles brought the People of Color Initiative to a halt this summer

by ANDREA L. BERRY

Atlanta—Even as they make plans to introduce a statewide HIV awareness campaign for African-American women next month, officials in the state of Georgia's AIDS program are scurrying to fix problems that brought its minority HIV prevention program to a virtual halt this summer.

Billed in 1987 as an innovative partnership between the state, the Morehouse School of Medicine and grassroots organizations, the People of Color Initiative was organized to fund community-based organizations doing HIV education in communities of color in Georgia. But six years and several million dollars later, those involved with the program see a "bureaucratic nightmare" that values power and paperwork over people and prevention.

"We're not talking about reducing the spread of HIV infection through educating people of color," says Dora Burke, the medical school's staff contact for the initiative. "Put all of that in the back of your mind. Today, we're talking about personal ego gratification for whoever needs it."

State officials and those at Morehouse are blaming each other for the problems. And the federal Centers for Disease Control, which provides federal money for the initiative, was so concerned that it has stepped in to monitor the program.

Every year, community groups compete for federal funds available through the Georgia Department of Human Resources to provide counseling, workshops and street outreach to men,

women, teenagers and children in urban and rural areas.

Originally, Morehouse School of Medicine's role was to help the DHR move those funds faster and more effectively. "When we first started, we had to sell organizations on the value of HIV prevention because the concept was so new," says Burke. "Now we have more [organizations] who want to participate than we have money to give."

Though problems with the initiative had been simmering for six years, they come to a boil in March as Dr. Kathleen Toomey took over as director of the state's infectious disease program. Dr. Toomey, who brings an impressive public health background to her job, recently told the Georgia Task Force on AIDS that the state should emphasize "people rather than disease" and that "community agencies are the necessary links to an integrated approach to prevention and care."

But as Dr. Toomey publicly stressed the need for more collaboration at the community level, internal power struggles were making her staff look more like the cast of a steamy prime time soap than a public health program. As one DHR AIDS staffer put it, "We were all jockeying for positions with Dr. Toomey. Those community organizations just got lost in the shuffle."

As the power struggles caused the program to grind to a halt, delays in dispersing money began to affect the community organizations, one of which had to borrow money to meet its payroll. Others had staff who worked second jobs. Then in July, without Dr. Toomey's knowledge, the DHR advertised statewide for a new coordinating center to replace Morehouse in managing and evaluating the program.

Although one DeKalb County organization applied, public health officials say the ad was "a mistake," and announced that Morehouse would remain the initiative's coordinating center until

July 1994.

"I don't know why that announcement was published without [Dr. Toomey's] knowledge," says Tim Broughton, acting coordinator for the People of Color Initiative. "It should never have happened."

By August, the People of Color initiative had been in turmoil for eight months. The community organizations had no idea why the DHR couldn't resolve the problems.

"No one was talking, and when they were, they just kept telling us they were 'working on it,'" says Dazon Dixon of SisterLove, an Atlanta-based agency that provides education to African-American women and one of the organizations funded this year by DHR.

Questions were also being raised about the way DHR was processing funding applications. Review committee member James Beverly, associate director of Georgia Health Decisions, called the 1992 review process "inadequate and disgraceful," adding there were a lot of "off-the-record and negative comments" about the Morehouse staff's participation in the program.

For the past seven years, Morehouse School of Medicine has received \$1.3 million from DHR to perform various tasks for minority organizations funded to do HIV/AIDS prevention education. At best, the Morehouse contracts with DHR "were unclear, and efforts to clarify those responsibilities were never supported," says Gwen-Dolyn Cutter, the state's former HIV program manager. This year, efforts by DHR to make Morehouse "more accountable" resulted in Morehouse's refusal to sign the coordinating contract for several months.

"[The state] was angry because we wouldn't take the heat for them on all the problems with the initiative," says Burke. "We've served as the whipping post the whole time." Cutter maintains she has not been part of the state's contract negotiations with Morehouse for the



AIDS educators Dazon Dixon and Rudy Carn talk with Dr. Kathleen Toomey (right), head of the state's infectious disease program, about how to fix problems in the People of Color Initiative.

past two years. "I was only responsible for implementing decisions that were already made by other managers," she says.

As a scorecard became necessary to keep track of the internal bickering, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) entered the fray.

In an independent assessment of Georgia's HIV prevention program, a CDC team acknowledged a "breakdown of communication between the Morehouse School of Medicine staff and state AIDS officials over what should be done for [community based groups funded through the initiative]."

The CDC team also expressed concern that DHR had never formally evaluated Morehouse School of Medicine's role in the program.

"I don't feel that DHR hasn't listened to the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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Minority HIV program

Continued from page 15

[community groups]," says CDC's Megan Foley. "I think their concerns just never reached the right person."

Dazon Dixon finally decided that Gov. Zell Miller and DHR Commissioner James Ledbetter might be the right people. Rudy Carn, whose agency provides AIDS education to gay and lesbian African-Americans, called U.S. Rep. John Lewis. After that, contracts that public health officials had taken months to write were processed within 48 hours. "If we hadn't called, I believe we'd still be waiting for our money," says Dixon.

State officials admit that frequent staff turnover and reorganization makes accountability hard to come by. The Division of Public Health has had two directors since the death of Dr. James Alley in 1990. Since 1986, the AIDS program has been part of the Office of Infectious Disease, the Communicable Disease Branch and now the Epidemiology and Prevention Branch. The branch has had three directors over the past six years, and the People of Color Initiative has had four coordinators.

In mid-September, Dr. Toomey asked the community-based organizations to give her team a chance to fix some of the initiative's long-standing problems. Some of the changes that Dr. Toomey's staff is now implementing under the CDC's watchful eye include:

- appointing an independent steering committee with knowledge about HIV in communities of color to oversee the entire grant application and review process;
- developing specific responsibilities for Morehouse School of Medicine and DHR staff so that consistent financial monitoring and program evaluation can occur
- performing more site visits so that DHR's AIDS staffers can have first-hand knowledge about each group's activities.

In addition, Tim Broughton says "a new

attitude" among the AIDS staff will keep personality problems from recurring. "It's not about getting even or finding fault. It's about restoring DHR's reputation and rebuilding trust in communities of color."

Dora Burke is also optimistic about the future. "At one time, we had our differences with DHR, but nothing that couldn't be resolved," she says. "Dr. Toomey understands the problems of the community-based organizations, as well as those at the public health level."

One of the CDC's options if Georgia's efforts fail is to withhold funding for the state's minority initiative. "At that point, though, the wrong people are punished and nobody is served," says Foley. "I hope DHR has learned that working more effectively with [community-based organizations] in this area has to be a priority."

But epidemics rarely wait for bureaucracies to untangle. HIV infections among heterosexuals in Georgia continue to rise, with 80 percent of the state's new AIDS cases now reported among African-American women. AIDS is now the leading cause of death in Georgia for African-American men and women between the ages of 20-44.

"Cultural sensitivity is not just a buzzword," says Dixon. "This experience has taught me that organizations of color can't afford to operate in isolation."

The other lessons learned this year can be measured in very human terms. One DHR staffer described a vivacious young woman in her 20s named "Toni," who was well known to federal and state public health officials for her work as an HIV educator.

"Toni died of AIDS last spring," he recalled, quietly. "But many of us were so consumed with the busy work of our jobs, we didn't even know she had passed. We really need to even know she had passed. We really need to straighten this thing out, if only for Toni."

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"Heather" not in Atlanta's libraries

But library officials insist the decision was based on the books's quality, not its lesbian-positive message.

Atlanta—The lesbian-positive book "Heather Has Two Mommies" has been attacked, and in a few cases removed from the shelves, in communities across the nation.

But here in Atlanta, people who want to check "Heather Has Two Mommies" out of any of the libraries in the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library system are also out of luck.

However, librarians insist their decision not to carry "Heather" has nothing to do with homophobia. The book, they say, is just too dull and confusing.

In 1990, the Atlanta-Fulton Library's collections management committee rejected both "Heather" and another often-attacked book, "Daddy's Roommate," which is about a boy's relationship with his father and his father's male lover. Judith Lunsford, a spokesperson for the library, said the rejections were based largely on poor or lukewarm reviews in trade publications and inspections of the books by committee members. The review committee also "expressed concerns that some of ["Daddy's Roommate's"] illustrations stereotyped gay men," she said.

But after at least two intown library users requested a reconsideration, the committee decided to make "Daddy's Roommate" available earlier this year.

"The second time around, they decided the information was more important than those concerns," said Lunsford. But the committee again rejected "Heather," citing the book's "dry, stiff" text and "dull" illustrations.

In a letter to the library users who requested the reconsideration, Mary Jane French, acting chair of the committee, said that subject matter

of the book—Heather was conceived by artificial insemination and lives in a two-lesbian family—was "presented in a confusing way for the intended age level of the book, ages 2-5," and the text and illustrations were of poor quality.

"On balance, committee members felt that too many important, complex topics were forced together in a story whose purported central message—that there are many kinds of families and that this is normal and OK—seems to get lost," wrote French.

One library user, who asked that she remain anonymous, told Southern Voice she was surprised to find that the library did not include those books on the shelves.

"One of the principles of intellectual freedom is that materials involved in public debate should be freely available," she said. "And the library is the place for that."

Both "Heather" and "Daddy's Roommate" have been the targets of the Christian right in numerous library systems across the country, with fundamentalists fighting to keep such gay/lesbian-positive literature out of the hands of children. Lunsford said censorship played no role in the committee's decision to reject "Heather."

"This is not a matter of wanting to keep any kind of book out," she said. "It's a matter of keeping good, quality information on the subject in."

"Heather" is not the only book to be rejected on the basis of quality, said Lunsford. Other rejected materials include "Bear Goes to Town" by Anthony Brown and "Bungee the Helicopter" by Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York.

Both Lunsford and French, agree that the library's collections are sparse when it comes to books for younger children on "alternate lifestyles."

"We are actively trying to seek more books," said Lunsford.

KC WILDMOON

HEATHER HAS TWO MOMMIES



WRITTEN BY LESLÉA NEWMAN ILLUSTRATED BY DIANA SOUZA

Ingram

Continued from page 3

thing," Ingram said. "I thought, I cannot sit here silently and allow them to continue this policy without saying something."

He wrote to Roth to express his disagreement with the anti-gay policy. Roth wrote back, wrongly assuming that Ingram wanted to resign, and told him resignation was not possible. But if he would confirm his sexual orientation in writing, "I will direct that separation proceedings...be initiated without delay," Roth wrote.

Ingram did, and those proceedings began in

December, resulting in the recommendation to remove him from the service. That recommendation now goes to Roth, and must be approved by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and the Secretary of the Army.

Ingram, who has worked for 10 years as a management information specialist at Georgia Tech, said that he intends to fight the recommendation and the discharge if it is approved.

"I took an oath when I enlisted to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic," he said. "The only thing I've done is to uphold my oath of enlistment."

KC WILDMOON

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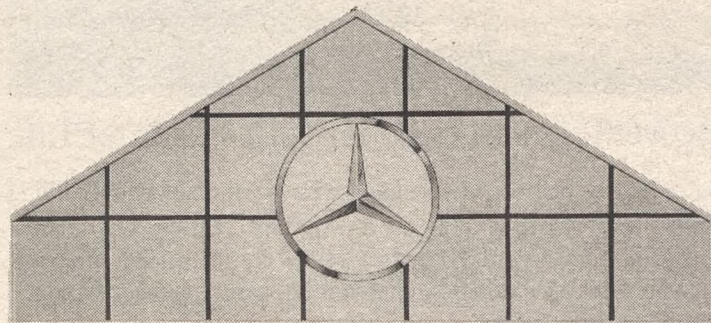
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FOUR HORSEMEN: Wildmon

Continued from page 7

his family.

What Wildmon saw that evening, or thought he saw, was television airwaves full of the most awful propaganda ever seen—programs stacked with violence, illicit sexuality, profanity and vulgarity.

"Shortly into the program, somebody was jumping into bed with somebody else," he said. "Of course, it was normal, approved—you know, there was no kind of condemnation or showing it as being wrong."

He resolved to do something about it. He asked his congregation, then in Southaven, Miss., to turn off their televisions for a week. They did. The resulting national media attention set off fireworks in Wildmon's mind.

"Turn the TV Off" week brought calls from reporters across the country, and Wildmon, who had spent some time as a sports reporter and local radio host, was quick to see a way to promote his new found cause. He quit the Southaven church, moved back to Tupelo and founded the National Federation for Decency.

"When I started this in 1977, I thought I was dealing with sex and violence on TV," he said. "I've discovered we are dealing with a war between the Christian view of man, and a secular, or humanistic or materialistic, view of man."

This is a view Wildmon frequently asserts—that the real battle is between Christianity and everybody else. He used that strategy while combating the release of "The Last Temptation of Christ," a movie he has never seen.

"The non-Christian officials who run Universal (which released "Last Temptation") proudly state [that] Christians will not stop them from releasing this movie," he wrote in a fundraising letter in 1988. Later, he described Universal as "a company whose decision-making body is dominated by non-Christians" and cited that the company's president is Jewish.

It's a simple "us vs. them" world view. "America's television networks... are clearly hostile to, and prejudiced and biased against, Christians and Christianity," he wrote in 1986. "Of the people who control television, who tell us what we can watch on the networks, 59 percent were raised in Jewish homes, 25 percent in Protestant homes and 12 percent in Catholic homes."

Anti-semitic? Despite those statements, Wildmon denies the charge.

But Jews are not Wildmon's only targets.

In 1981, the National Federation of Decency joined with Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority to form the Coalition for Better Television. One of their first target's was NBC's "Love, Sidney," a sitcom starring Tony Randall as a middle-aged gay man sharing an apartment with a single mother. The coalition went to work, and when the show reached the air in the fall of that year, there was no mention of the sexual orientation of Randall's character.

The American Family Association, along with another organization Wildmon formed, Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLear-TV), are continuing their efforts to change what Americans watch on television. They use 2,500 volunteer "monitors" to track the "filth" they see on television. The "monitors" dutifully write down every instance of "sex, violence and profanity" they see.

But Wildmon provides no standards for those monitors. They regularly count words like "stud" as profanity, and no distinction is made between a slap and a brutal murder. Nevertheless, the statistics they collect are used by Wildmon to threaten advertisers—to label them sponsors of "filth," "sexual perversion" and "pornography."

"I don't think there's any evidence of his group affecting sales," said Richard Kostyra, vice president of J. Walter Thompson, one of the country's largest advertising agencies. "No advertiser has told me privately there's ever been a

real effect. But no advertiser wants the nuisance that an [American Family Association] boycott brings. No CEO wants to have thousands of angry postcards sent to his home. It upsets the household."

Among Wildmon's targets through the years have been "thirtysomething," "St. Elsewhere," "Cheers," "Roseanne" and "The Golden Girls" for homosexuality; "Night Court" for transvestism; "Kate and Allie," "My Two Dads" and "Mr. Belvedere" for "unacceptable family arrangements;" and "Mighty Mouse" for drug use.

Yes, Donald Wildmon discovered that Mighty Mouse sniffed cocaine. And although the series animator protested that the super mouse was sniffing a flower in the three-and-a-half second segment under protest, the segment was lifted in subsequent runs of the show.

But not everyone has given into Wildmon's tactics. Holiday Inns (in-room, pay-per-view soft-porn movies), S.C. Johnson & Sons (advertising Johnson & Johnson products on suspect television shows), and Waldenbooks, along with its parent company, K Mart (sales of Playboy, Playgirl and Penthouse), have all held their ground and say that Wildmon's tactics have had no affect on their sales.

But with parents and Congress putting a renewed focus onto the content of television programs, Wildmon has found increasing success—and allies where there were none before.

"The environment is becoming better for him," said Arthur Kropp, president of People for the American Way. "People are not able to separate what Wildmon is doing when he's talking about sex and violence [from] concerns that we're seeing from (U.S. Sen.) Paul Simon and other liberal politicians about what is coming across on television."

Wildmon runs full page ads in newspapers across the country decrying sex and violence and urging communities to take the lead in the fight against such programming. The call is not lost on parents, and many answer with no knowledge of what lies under Wildmon's complaints.

"He's getting people to support him, who, if they really examined the American Family Association very closely, probably wouldn't be inclined to support him," Kropp said. "But because there is such a groundswell about what's happening in society, he's in good position to be influential, to build an organization and to have impact. Events have conspired to be positive for him. The environment is coming around to be conducive to what his pitch has always been."

The American Family Association claims nearly 700 chapters across the country. But that number may be misleading, because, for \$25, anyone can start a chapter, as Mother Jones and Playboy have in order to receive information from the AFA. Wildmon also claims to have a mailing list with more than 600,000 supporters, but a Mother Jones investigation revealed that only half of them are regularly sending money.

Still, even 300,000 is a large number. With chapters cropping up all over—a Florida chapter is leading the charge for an anti-gay rights ballot initiative—Wildmon will get more and more attention and more and more money. He'll use that money to coerce advertisers into changing their advertising patterns, to pull their ads from shows that present lesbians and gay men in a positive light, that show alternative families, that even mention sex or use profanity. Maybe he'll even demand that all television characters regularly go to church. A Christian church.

That's the America Donald Wildmon wants. He knows he doesn't represent a majority, but that doesn't bother him.

"No significant change has every been brought about by a majority," he said. "It's always been started by a committed minority."

Hussain: Blacks must lead fight of right

African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance awards dinner honors Joan Garner

Atlanta—Keynote speaker Pat Hussain brought the audience at Saturday night's fourth annual African American Lesbian Gay Alliance awards banquet to its feet as she urged the city's lesbian and gay African Americans to take the lead in fighting the recent resurgence of the religious right into the black community, exemplified in Atlanta by the Nancy Schaefer-led Jacob's Well.

"Who else can tell black America that being gay, bisexual and transgendered is not a white thing?" said Hussain, a community activist and native Atlantan. "If we talk to our people...tell them it's not about *them*—it's about *us*—it's about *me*—it'll make a real difference."

Hussain reminded the crowd that "slave ships were missionaries...bringing us to Christ" and that the Southern Baptist convention came into existence over the slavery issue.

Noting that she attended segregated schools

in the 1950s, Hussain said she remembered "hearing that separation of the races was ordained—that it was a Biblical imperative and the courts could not force us to do something immoral."

"There's not a lot of conversation I can have with people who've been born again when they were trying to keep me from being born at all," she added.

About 70 people gathered in the Georgia East Ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel on Oct. 9 to hear Hussain, and for the presentation of the 1993 Marquis Delano Walker Humanitarian Award, named for a founding member and original co-chair of the organization, to Joan Garner.

Garner, a former co-chair of AALGA, has served the city's lesbian/gay and African American communities in many capacities, including co-chair of the City Council's Lesbian/Gay Public Safety Task force and senior advisor to Mayor Maynard Jackson. Garner, now executive director of the Fund for Southern Communities, recalled her introduction to AALGA in 1988.

"I went to AALGA to talk about the [Human Rights Campaign Fund] dinner," she said. "I said, 'This is nice. I think I found my family.'"

KC WILDMOON

Shahar

Continued from page 1
hire me."

Shahar said that in her capacity with the city of Atlanta, she has come before judges who have known about the lawsuit, and several have offered words of encouragement.

"And I work with City Council members. I feel very respected by them," she said. "I don't feel like my sexual orientation or my ceremony with Fran has ever been...a negative issue in my relationships with City Council members."

Another point Shahar takes exception to in Freeman's ruling are his statements that Bowers did not engage in discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"If this had been a marriage between a man and a woman, this case would never have existed," she said. "The whole reason we're here is because two lesbians were involved."

The American Civil Liberties Union, which is representing Shahar in the case, hailed the parts of Freeman's ruling about the rights lesbians and gay men to their relationships, but sharply disagreed with his decision to balance those rights against those of Bowers.

"A federal court has ruled that lesbians and gays have a right to participate in a partnership ceremony and they have a right to their relationships," said Teresa Nelson, director of the Georgia chapter of the ACLU. "That is a plus."

For Shahar, the battle is not over. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear the appeal, a process that will probably take up to six months, and could order Freeman to let the case go to trial. If not, say her attorneys, they will



Robin Shahar

pursue the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

It's been a difficult process, Shahar said, but at least some part of this latest development is promising.

"I am encouraged by a statement that gays and lesbians are protected under the freedom of association laws," she said. "We can associate with whomever we want to associate with, and our relationships have some kind of constitutional protection. That, to me, feels like a huge step forward."

KC WILDMOON

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NY serial killings stun Atlantans

Continued from page 9

tionship had just ended six months before.

"That's what makes this whole thing even more alarming," she said.

There is much speculation as to how the perpetrator managed to lure Sakara into a car. Did he meet his assailant inside the Five Oaks, or was he accosted as he walked the short distance to the subway? A psychic his sister went to see following the murder said her brother left the bar willingly with his assailant.

"She suggested a drug may have been used, something slipped in his drink, something that made him lower his guard. It's real scary. It can happen to anyone," she said.

Losing her only sibling has made Sakara's sister reflective about the safety of the gay community. "Everyone says 'so and so didn't deserve to die like this or that.' It's true. Michael didn't deserve this. No one deserves this. But it happens," she said.

One particular organization in New York understands violent crime can happen to anyone, no matter how big or smart the individual. Since 1980, the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project has been helping gay and lesbian crime victims, including survivors of hate crimes, abusive relationships, sexual assault, HIV/AIDS-related violence and all other forms of crime.

Pick-up crimes, or crimes that happen in or around the gay bar scene, are a recent focus of the project. Between January and August of 1993, 30 cases of pick-up crimes were reported.

Those reports dramatically increased once news of the possible serial murders hit the street, according to Michael Meyerson, a spokesperson for the project.

"Yet most crimes still go unreported," said Meyerson. "There is a lack of support from friends. Revealing your lifestyle is an issue. But more than anything, it's a matter of just plain embarrassment. How could this happen to me?"

To help combat criminals who pick up their victims in bars, the Anti-Violence Project has organized Project Safe Bar, which sets up lines of communication between police, gay bar owners and people who survived encounters with attackers but failed to contact authorities.

Funded with \$30,000 from the Stonewall Community Foundation and a New York gay periodical, Project Safe Bar involves the distribution of 25,000 pamphlets to bars and patrons describing the problem and the program. Training sessions are held for bar owners, managers and staff concerning the crimes and how to respond to either a patron reporting an incident or a patron seeing a perpetrator in the establishment. In addition, the program assists victims in filing reports with the police and will accompany them to line-ups.

Brightly colored flyers ask, "Looking for a

good time?" The flyer goes on to give advice to anyone considering bringing someone home or leaving the bar with someone. Get the person's name. Find out some things about him. Introduce him to your friends or to the bartender. The flyer advises that you trust your instincts. If something feels wrong, move on.

According to Meyerson, a recent case was solved when five victims' stories were cross-referenced and the perpetrator was identified using line-ups. "He used a knock-out drug to render his victims unconscious, then he wiped them out," he said.

In another case, a victim may have been saved from physical harm because he followed Project Safe Bar's advice and introduced the man he was leaving the bar with to a friend. When the pair entered a nearby building, the victim was robbed of \$5. The perpetrator then fled, probably, said Meyerson, because he knew he could be recognized by more people than just the victim.

The Anti-Violence Project is hoping Project Safe Bar may produce someone with information about the Sakara case and the other four murders which could help police. They believe a bar patron somewhere may have survived an encounter with the killer and could supply vital details needed to solve the crime.

The same colored flyer asks bar patrons in New York to remember if in the past someone may have worked very hard to con them into leaving an establishment. The Anti-Violence Project theorizes that the killer may be overcoming the internal alarm systems of his victims by speaking with them at length and impressing them with his intelligence.

"He is the best con man ever," said Meyerson.

Although Project Safe Bar involves a much needed alliance with the New York City Police Department, the Anti-Violence Project criticized what it saw as a slow police response to investigating the murders of the five men. In a recent issue of The Advocate, project spokeswoman Bea Hanson said the police refused to get involved even after the May 1993 discovery of Morero's body and after being contacted by the project for assistance for the second time.

The NYPD's Scott Block, when asked about the criticism, said the department's refusal to investigate makes sense. "We don't think the murders took place in this city. The actual homicides happened in other jurisdictions. How can we investigate something outside our jurisdiction?" he asked.

Myerson called the NYPD's participation frustrating. "We supply them with tips and sometimes they tell us what's going on and sometimes they don't."

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**Thurs, Oct 28, 7:30 pm
WANDA M. JOHNSON**

Atlanta writer speaks on THE ART OF DREADLOCKS—how to get them on your head, why they are worn and what are the cultural and spiritual benefits.

OCCASIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Scott Tremmel Oct. 18.

Happy 28th birthday to Dan Valdez on Sept. 29.

Happy belated 36th birthday to Floyd Martin on Oct. 6.

Happy belated birthday (Oct. 6) and happy new job to hip hetero librarian Jeanne Gura.

SoVo office kitten Molly Ivins officially turned one and went from kitten to cat on National Coming Out Day (Oct. 11). In truth, the staff isn't sure when her birthday really is, but Coming Out Day seemed an appropriate time to celebrate her "cat mitzvah" into adulthood. Molly is happy to be adult because now she doesn't have to eat baby food anymore.

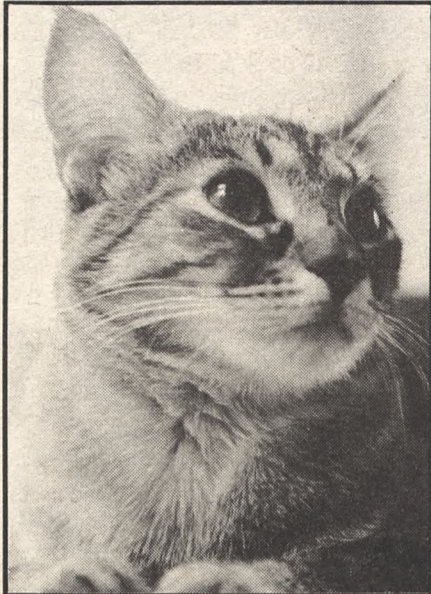
MCC District coordinator Jay Neely celebrated a birthday Oct. 2.

"Happy birthday to my Libra sisters: Julie C., Sandy N., Rhonda, Wendy W., Annabeth." Love ya, Alix Shyne.

ANNIVERSARY

Susan Teisciuro and Mary Huggins celebrated their 10th anniversary on Oct. 5. Susan and Mary spent a quiet, romantic evening together having dinner on the town and reminiscing.

When you have Occasions, let us know. Write Southern Voice/Occasions, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316, call (404) 876-0789, or fax to (404) 876-2709. Please include a phone number for verification.



SoVo's Molly Ivins celebrated her "cat mitzvah" on Oct. 11.

MOVING

SoVo contributor and former Atlantan Steve Warren, who has lived in San Francisco since 1979, is packing to move to Miami next month with his lover and domestic partner, Dan Michael Smith.

EMPLOYMENT

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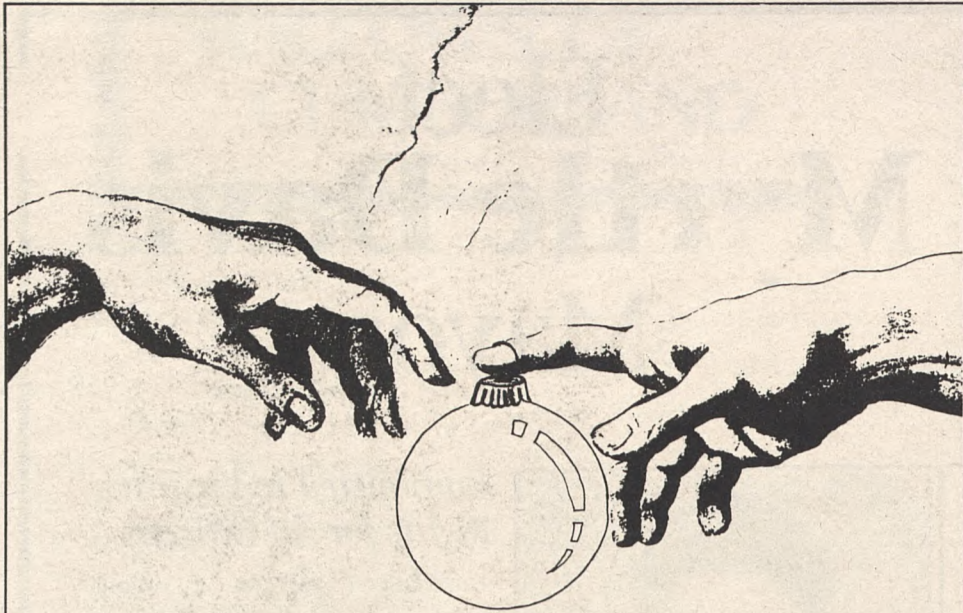
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Roger Malaybalay Sabordo

Roger Malaybalay Sabordo, 37, met the Creator of Us All on Sept. 16 at 3:35 p.m. He passed away in the arms and hands of his loving family all joined in unison, singing songs of the joy and life he had shared with those he loved most.

His passage, due to AIDS-related complications, was memorialized at a service at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sept. 18.

Roger was born Oct. 3, 1955, in Oakland, Calif. and has lived in the Atlanta area for 10 years. He was diagnosed as HIV-positive in the early 1980s and is considered among the longest surviving with the virus.

He is survived by his father, Ramon P. Sabordo, Columbus, Ga.; brothers, Ramon M. Sabordo Jr., Columbus, Rick Sabordo, Decatur, George Sabordo, Atlanta, and Ramon M. Sabordo III, Tucker; sisters Donna Foster, Newnan, Nancy Harris, Huntsville, Ala., Shirley Woodham, Stone Mountain, Rosalie Ziccarello, Atlanta, Rosanna McElwaney, Fairburn, Debbie Davis, Sharpsburg, and Rebecca Koch, Tucker.

We will remember Roger and keep him



with us forever with his kind heart, open friendship and his love for everything that was alive and among the living. We will always love you, Roger, and you will always be the best part of us.

In memory of Roger, please send a donation to Project Open Hand or NAPWA Atlanta.

To place an obituary

Southern Voice publishes obituaries of members of the gay and lesbian community as both news and a community service, free of charge.

To report a death call 876-0789 or write:

Southern Voice, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

Please include a name and phone number for verification.

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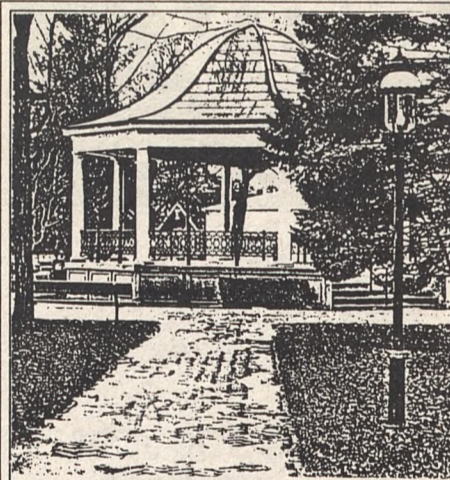
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HEARTLAND

Yard Barn Agent



Front Runners wants to attract women from its annual Pride Run, shown here, to its weekly events.

Looking for more than a few good lesbians

Front Runners launching new effort to broaden the group's appeal to women.

On Saturday, Oct. 16, volunteers from Atlanta's Front Runners, a gay and lesbian running and walking club, will lend their support to "Take Back the Night," a fundraiser for the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center.

Volunteering for this 5K run and 1 mile walk is the first of a series of events that Front Runners will participate in or sponsor in an effort to create more awareness in the lesbian community that there is a running and walking club that encourages their participation.

Renee Barrentine has recently been appointed women's coordinator for Front Runners, a position she is still trying to define. In her new position, Barrentine says she plans to develop more activities for the current women runners, as well as create some new events that will encourage new women members.

"I know the women runners and walkers are out there," says Barrentine. "And we know they are running on a regular basis because of the good times they posted at this year's Pride Run. Now, we just need to get them involved in the camaraderie we have from week to week.

According to Jim Kane, president of Atlanta's Front Runners, some gay and lesbian running clubs around the country draw between 30 percent and 40 percent of their members from the lesbian community.

"The women's coordinator position was created to broaden our appeal to women," Kane said. "We also want to create an awareness that we have walkers and runners at all skill levels in our organization."

"Renee came to Front Runners through an article in Southern Voice about our Pride Run," he said. "We hope more awareness of our organization will encourage a broader membership."

Barrentine says she is very pleased and very excited about her new position, and she wants feedback from the lesbian community on what they women want in a running organization. She plans to work with some of the other clubs around the nation to formulate some ideas that directly support women. She will also be using any and all feedback that she receives from the community.

"This is a positive way to interact with other lesbians and stay fit as well," Barrentine concludes.

"Take Back the Night" will be run in downtown Decatur on Saturday Oct. 16. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Front Runners runs or walks every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. and every Saturday morning at 9 a.m., meeting beside the tennis courts at Piedmont Park. Afterwards, they have dinner or brunch and socialize, which Kane says "is the best part of each week."

For more information on joining Front Runners or participating in Take Back the Night, call 621-5007.

RICHY HOWARD

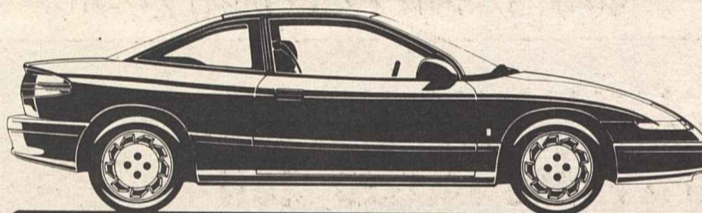


SUZANNE STEHLIK bought a Saturn coupe because she didn't have enough excitement in her life.

Suzanne wanted a car that felt more like her weekend and less like her week. Because Monday through Friday, she's a property tax analyst.

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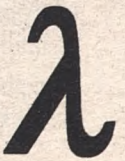
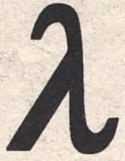
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OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

GAY Rock

by DEBBIE FRAKER

Guitar Survivor

Atlantan Kristen Hall's music career is on the way up

If you haven't seen Kristen Hall on the local music calendar recently, it's because she's been out of town, touring the East Coast.

After catching up with her in Delaware, however, she was excited to talk about her steadily climbing career. Her current Windham Hill recording, "Fact & Fiction," came out in June of this year, and she goes back into the recording studio in December to make another recording with Windham Hill.

Hall has been performing in Atlanta clubs for four years. Her first recording, "Real Life Stuff," was done independently with the help of friends Dede Vogt and Emily Saliers.

"It was recorded in a friend's living room," she recalls. Though she intended the recording to simply sell enough to help pay for her first CD, it did better than planned. "It sold so many that we just turned it into a CD and left it alone," she says. "Fact & Fiction" was originally recorded on Amy Ray's label, Daemon Records, a year before the Windham Hill recording came out.

Before starting her music career, Hall's job experiences were less successful. For about three years, she worked as a photographer for the Metropolitan Gayzette, an early gay and lesbian publication in Atlanta.

"I was 18 years old," she remembers. "I was still in my wearing-dresses stage of my life. All the guys there thought it was a scream that this 18-year-old girl in a dress wanted to work at their magazine."

CONTINUES ON PAGE 28



RUTH LITMAN



MARC GIELLER

Judy Garland they ain't

San Francisco's Pansy Division describes itself as a "pro-sex, pro-safe sex, all-queer rock 'n roll band"

Looking for new music from a queer perspective? Or maybe you're looking for something to heat you up as the nights turn chilly? You're in for a treat. Pansy Division is coming to Atlanta to play at the Dark Horse Tavern on Oct. 20.

Pansy Division, based in San Francisco, calls itself a "pro-sex, pro-safe sex, all-queer rock 'n roll band," and gay sex is what they are about. Lead singer, guitarist and songwriter Jon Ginoli founded the band in 1991, inspired by hearing Two Nice Girls perform "The Queer Song." He wondered "why aren't guys doing stuff like this." So he did. The band is an attempt to break out of the stereotype that all gay music is show tunes and disco.

Barry Walters, in *The Advocate*, says, "Pansy Division is designed to horrify your parents, alienate Judy Garland fans, bore disco fans and unite fag rockers."

With songs like "Fem in a Black Leather Jacket," "The Cocksucker Club," "Surrender Your Clothing," "Boyfriend Wanted" and "Homo Christmas," Pansy Division pulls no punches

about announcing who they are. Their music has been described as "pop-punk." Ginoli lists influences that range from the Ramones and the Buzzcocks to The Fall and early Dylan.

Ginoli is joined by Chris Freeman on bass and back-up vocals and David Ward, the "bisexual drummer." Their debut album is "Undressed," and was released in spring 1993. Across the album cover lies a beautiful young naked boy, and inside notes include instructions on how to put on a condom. They also have three 45s out: "Smells Like Queer Spirit," "Touch My Joe Camel," about the subliminal effects of cigarette advertising, and "Bill and Ted's Homosexual Adventure." (The latter tune is the title track of a video that will be showing during the Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Nov. 12-21).

Though their lyrics are more sexually explicit than their song titles, the sex comes with a sense of humor, as in "Bunnies": *I got the carrot, you got the stick/You start to nibble, I start to lick/And we get our bodies all hot and sweaty and runny/Then we fuck like bunnies.*

Born in Peoria, Ill., Ginoli "managed to escape." While living in Champaign, Ill., he was a member of a band called The Outnumbered. He moved to Los Angeles, but "again managed to escape." Settling in San Francisco, he found the perfect place to start the band he always wanted to hear.

After their debut at a Queer Nation benefit in San Francisco, Pansy Division has played at San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Pride Day two years running. They also played at the 1993 March on Washington. Currently the band is doing a nationwide three-week tour that will bring them all the way across to the East Coast and back home to San Francisco.

Catch them while they're in Atlanta, but don't bring Mom.

DEBBIE FRAKER

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OUT & ABOUT

C A L E N D A R

14 THURSDAY

GAPAC FORUM. Come and meet and hear the Decatur City Council and school board candidates at this forum sponsored by the Georgia Political Action Committee, the gay pac of Ga. 7:00 pm. Decatur Public Library, near the Church St. MARTA station. 872-8095 for more info.

ATLANTA RAINBOW NETWORK. This new organization to facilitate communication and encourage cooperation among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations holds its meeting tonight. Everyone welcome. 7:00 pm. First MCC Church. 1379 Tullie Rd, behind McDonald's on N. Druid Hills Rd near I-85. 662-9010 for more info.

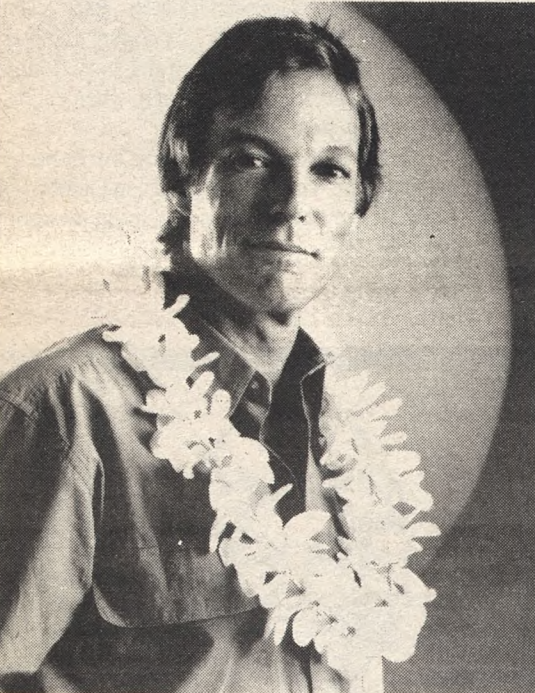
WE OUGHTA BE IN

PICTURES. Julia Willis, a Southern lesbian now living in Boston, reads from her new book of comic lesbian screenplays, "We Oughta Be In Pictures" and "Who Wears The Tux?" a funny quiz book for dykes who know the score. 7:30 pm. Charis Books & More. 419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304.

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

15 FRIDAY

HOMO HOMO. 800 East Gallery presents its second annual performance and visual art event that explores and celebrates what it's like to be queer in today's society.



Performers include DeAundra Peek, Deb Calabria, Cedric Maurice and more. Artists include Michael Venezia, Quinn, Larry Anderson and more. Doors open at 8:00 pm on Friday to view the art, with performances beginning at 10:00 pm. The sequence repeats next Friday. A must see and do! 522-8265 for more info.

THE BEST OF BROADWAY AND OPERA. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, conducted by William Fred Scott, present two evenings of the world's most beloved operatic arias and show-stopping Broadway favorites. Everything from "Cats" to "Carmen." Mezzo-soprano Deidra Palmour sings. Tonight and tomorrow night at 8:00 pm. Symphony Hall. 892-2414.

ATLANTA GAY AND LESBIAN ARTS FESTIVAL. AGALAF hosts music night tonight, an evening of song with Leeny Lasater, Kent Wilson and others. 8:00 p. OutProud Theatre. TULA Gallery, 75 Bennett St. Repeats next Friday night.

16 SATURDAY

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT. This 5k run/walk benefits the Dekalb Rape Crisis Center. All participants receive a long-sleeve tee shirt. 1 mile walk starts at 6:30 pm; 5k race at 7:00 pm. The starting line is at the intersection of Clairmont and Commerce in Downtown Decatur. 377-4138 for more info.

GARBANZO FESTIVAL. Sevananda Natural Foods

presents the second annual street festival featuring Joyce & Jacque, a puppet show, jazz singer Simone & Co. and the African Cultural Dance Company. Headline act is Big Fish Ensemble. Free admission and free food! 2 pm-7 pm. Parking lot at 1111 Euclid Ave.

COUNTY FAIR '93. Burkhardt's presents its second annual fundraising event for the AIDS Walk, featuring a dunking booth, pie throwing a hunk auction and appearances by Gilda Golden, Big Riby, Freddie Luka of 99X and much more. 5:00 pm-until. Burkhardt's at Ansley Square. 872-4403 for more info.

AGALAF MOVEMENT THEATRE. The Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Arts Festival presents an evening of performances featuring Patton White, Jim Chappeleaux, Faybell Mahoe and others. 8:00 pm. OutProud Theatre, 75 Benett St. 609-9590.

17 SUNDAY

AIDS WALK ATLANTA. AID Atlanta presents its annual walk to raise funds for local AIDS services and education organizations. Sign-up is at 1:00 pm in Piedmont Park with pre-walk festivities at 1:30 pm. The Walk steps off at 2:00 pm. Post-walk party at 4:00 pm. Call 876-WALK for registration information.

BIKE RIDE. Join George and the guys at Ansley Schwinn at Ansley II for a leisurely 15 mile ride every Sun at 10:00 am. Call 873-2451 for more info.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK.

Join in the Victorian picnic and festivities at historic Oakland Cemetery in celebration of its 143rd anniversary. Events include Jewish Storytelling with Warren Jacobs, Atlanta Memories with Frank Garrett, Atlanta's official city historian and more. Noon until 5:00 pm. 248 Oakland Ave. 688-2107 for more info.

18 MONDAY

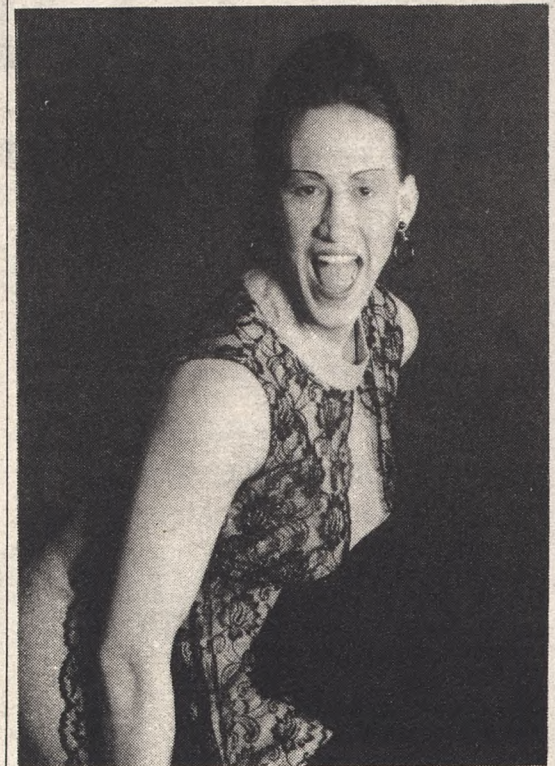
DAVID FRALEY. The latest work of this nationally known Atlanta artist is on exhibit now at the recently opened Trinity Arts Group Gallery. Fraley's work touches on issues important to the lesbian and gay community such as his painting "I knew him, Horatio" which deals with his first encounter with a friend's confession to being HIV+. 315 E. Paces Ferry Rd. Call 237-0370 for more info on exhibit hours.

DECATUR COTILLION CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT. Have Monday off? Then tee up for a good cause. This 6th annual golf toumey will benefit Our House, a day care facility for homeless children. Registration at 11:00 am, start at 12:30 pm. Southland Country Club, Stone Mountain. For more info call 370-0880 or 377-0074.

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program featuring interviews, news, arts & entertainment and more. 10:30 p.m. and again, Wed. 5:30 p.m. Cable Ch. 12.

19 TUESDAY

MY FAIR LADY. Richard Chamberlain stars in this romantic comedy filled with memorable music such as "I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face," and "I Could Have Danced All Night," and classic comedic characters such as Henry Higgins and Eliza Doolittle. Tues.-Sun. through Oct. 24.



Fox Theatre. 817-8700 or 249-6400.

ROMEO AND JULIET. Capitol City Opera Co. presents one night of Shakespeare's classic with beautiful operatic melodies. The evening includes a five-course Italian dinner, with specially selected Italian wines as well, for \$39.50. A thoroughly romantic evening. 6:30 pm. San Gennaro Italian Restaurant. 2196 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 633-2848.

20 WEDNESDAY

TWO TRAINS RUNNING. Kenny Leon directs this latest work by Pulitzer Prize-winner August Wilson, an ongoing chronicle of the lives of 20th century African Americans. Set in the tumultuous 60s, this play turns a sensitive ear to the quiet echoes of mighty changes in commomplace lives. Runs through Nov. 14. Alliance Theatre. 892-2414.

13TH ANNUAL THIRD WORLD FILM FESTIVAL. The City of Atlanta continues the tradition of presenting rarely seen films

and videos by independent filmmakers from around the world. Highlights include "Oggun Internally Present," "Black Women Behind The Camera," "A Place Of Rage," featuring Alice Walker and Angela Davis and much more. Runs through Oct. 24. Different locations with opening night at the Urban Life Auditorium at Ga. State Univ. Call 853-3ART, ext. 402.

POSITIVE LIVING. This locally produced show about people living with AIDS airs twice every week on 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.

ONGOING AND UPCOMING

UNQUESTIONED INTEGRITY: THE HILL-THOMAS HEARINGS. Through Oct. 24, Thurs.-Sun. 7 Stages Theatre opens its new season with this bold and insightful play taken from actual manuscripts of Clarence Thomas' Supreme Court confirmation hearings. 7 Stages Theatre. 1105 Euclid Ave. 523-7647.

THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING. Through Oct. 30. Embattled Theatre in the Square opens its 12th season with a new musical treatment of Carson McCuller's poignant story of a young girl coming of age in rural Georgia. Support Theatre in the Square who has lost all funding from Cobb County. See this play! 11 Whitlock Ave. in Marietta. 422-8369.

SIL0 X: A HAUNTED HOUSE. Thurs thru Sun nights in Oct. Spanning the length of three football fields, Silo X features lasers and extensive sound and lighting systems. Totally ghoulish. Perimeter Mall. 645-7900.

BEOWULF. Through Oct. 31. Theatrical Outfit presents this original adaptation of the oldest surviving literary work in the English language, dating back to 1000 A.D. in written form. The play is staged with audience members seated at banquet-style tables while the story unfolds around them. Theatrical Outfit, 1012 Peachtree St. 872-0665.

NUNSENSE II, THE SECOND COMING. Through Nov. 6. This musical comedy sequence to Nunsense has been held over. The play features the same five hysterically funny nuns, now smitten with the theatre bug and ready to put on a thank you program for all the people who supported them in their first benefit. Onstage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 897-1802.

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION. Through Nov. 14. Horizon Theatre opens its 10th anniversary season with this brilliant Broadway hit comedy about a charming stranger, Paul,

who manipulates an affluent Manhattan couple to take him into their cozy world. Unraveling the mystery of Paul, which includes the discovery that he is gay, changes everyone involved. Horizon Theatre. 584-7450.

ANNIE LEBOVITZ: PHOTOGRAPHS 1970-1990. Through Nov. 28. The work of one of the most exceptional portraitists of her generation is on exhibit starting today at the High Museum of Art. This retrospective of her work includes 125 photos from early assignments to current portraiture. High Museum of Art.

DOUBLE TAKES: A NEW LOOK AT THE HIGH. Through Jan. 2. The High Museum of Art marks its 10th anniversary of its award-winning building with a major exhibition celebrating the breadth and variety of its permanent collections. Double Takes presents a series of works from every major collecting area side-by-side to illustrate the recurrence

of key themes in art of every medium and genre from different periods and parts of the world. 892-HIGH.

LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER HALLOWEEN BALL. Oct. 30. Come out in any kind of drag you want to this annual party to benefit the Atlanta Lambda Community Center. A perfect way to spend Halloween! Lowe Gallery in TULA Arts Center, 75 Bennett St. 662-9010 for more info.

THE 5TH ANNUAL ATLANTA LESBIAN & GAY FILM FESTIVAL. Nov. 12-21. SAME and Southern Voice present the best darn l/g film festival to ever hit Atlanta. 10 days of feature length and short films on 2 screens. Politics, sex, history, AIDS, multiculturalism and more are covered in these U.S., Canadian and international films. Highlights include "Forbidden Love" and "Sex Is." Lefont Plaza Theatre. Watch SoVo in upcoming weeks for all the details.



PICTURED: ABOVE: Joe Lester Love will be one of the performers at "Homo Homo" at 800 East opening Friday. BELOW: "I knew him, Horatio" by David Fraley is on exhibit at Trinity Arts Group Gallery. LEFT: Richard Chamberlain stars in "My Fair Lady" at the Fox Theatre Oct. 19-24.

The legend of the Faggot

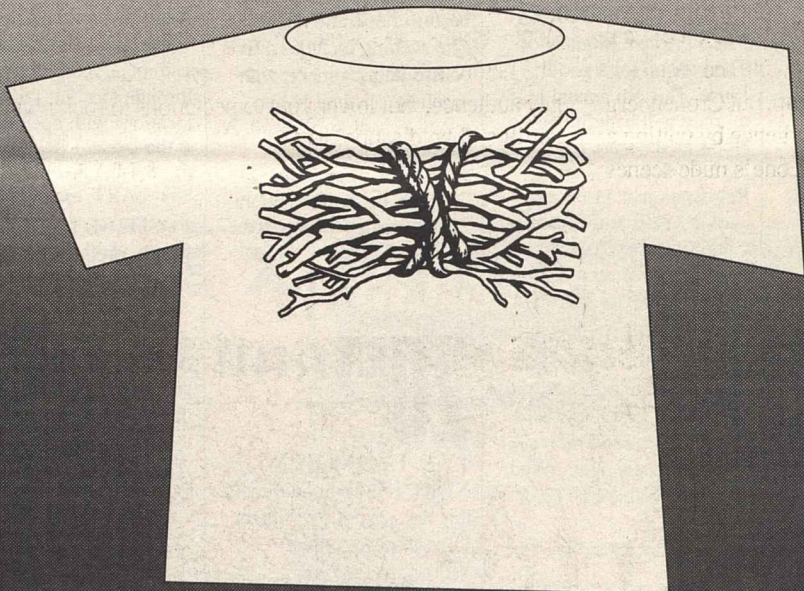
According to Webster's a **FAGGOT** is a bundle of sticks used for fuel. How then did this word gain usage as an **EXPRESSION** of contempt for gay men?

We must look to the Dark Ages. That period in the history of **HUMANKIND** when progress stopped, civilization declined and much of the hate and ignorance we suffer today began.

In that age a favorite pastime of church and state was burning at the stake all **UNDESIRABLES** and heretics who didn't **CONFORM** to the accepted standards of the ruling order. Wood being very costly and burnings very frequent made this sport expensive.

An economic **SOLUTION** was quick in coming. Burning at the stake was reserved for only superior sinners. Lesser deviants like **HOMO-SEXUALS**, were tossed on the pyre as cheaper fuel, just another faggot in the flames. Even those who recanted of their **SINS** and were spared the fire were forced to wear a badge with a faggot symbol so their status would be known to all.

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Kristin Hall

Continued from page 25

Her first assignment was "Slaves Night Out" at the Texas Drilling Company, where she ran into a co-worker who handed her a leash with a man at the other end. He asked her to "hold this while I go to the bathroom."

"I was 18 and very green," she says.

Though the publication itself ended in scandal, she remembers the journalism job as a "lovely time of my life."

"It was also very sad," she adds. "It's really when AIDS first started happening. I remember when we ran a whole back cover ad saying this is going on, be aware of it. The world was changing."

After the Gayzette folded, Hall says, "I became a bar hag. I worked at Weekends when it was still on Peachtree and it was still cool." Then her life took what she now considers a downhill turn.

"I got into drugs pretty heavily. From that point, it was just a rollercoaster. I spent really the next four or five years being fucked up, as fucked up as I could afford to be. I thank God every day that I had nothing to lose at the time, and that I wasn't dependable enough to earn more money, because everything I made went into my body through drugs or something else."

But it was also during this time that she began to pick up her guitar more often, if only to play for herself. "At every point in my life when it got desolate and shitty, at home I would pick up the guitar," she explains.

Her break came when she got a job selling futons. Her boss had a recording studio in his basement where he recorded a couple of her songs. He also made a recording for Indigo Girls in his basement studio.

"Then he played one of my songs for them, I guess," says Hall. Though she went into a year of drug rehabilitation at that point, that didn't

stop her music. "I would sneak out of drug rehab to go to Trackside. I told them I was going to a late AA meeting or something. Amy and Emily would let me play a song."

As Hall began to develop confidence in her music, she also saw others in her community getting recognition. "I remember picking up a paper and seeing a picture of Michelle Malone and [the article] saying she's the next big thing. And I thought, damn, I can do that," she says. But the music gave her more than confidence. It also became a bridge to her recovery.

"It seems to me that the only way you can get out of this circle is to make a new circle tangent to this one. Music really provided that place for me," she explains. The intensity of her lyrics also reflects the places she has come from.

Hall has toured as an opener for acts as diverse as Kathy Mattea, Joan Baez, Concrete Blonde, Christy Moore, Matthew Sweet and CSN. She teamed up with Michelle Malone to write two songs on Malone's "Relentless" LP on Arista. On Hall's "Fact & Fiction," she is joined by artists like John Ashton (Psychedelic Furs), Cindy Wilson (B-52s), Sara Lee (Gang of Four), and Emily Saliers (Indigo Girls). She has also toured with Indigo Girls, of course.

Though her acoustic-based guitar rhythms could be compared to Indigo Girls', "the similarity stops when you look at the lyrics. My music is so much of a story-telling," says Hall. In her songs, Hall explains, "I'm telling you this is exactly how I feel, and I'm not leaving you any room to interpret it."

In reference to her CD title, "Fact & Fiction," she says, "It's both. I try to stay true in the facts, but it's only my side of the story. I might think I've been perfectly clear, when in fact, I've been perfectly misleading."

Hall will be back in Atlanta for a performance at the Variety Playhouse on October 16. Look for her new CD to come out in the spring of 1994.

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Into another body

Film adaptation of Broadway's
"M. Butterfly" falls short

You can't tell the players even *with* a program in "M. Butterfly." Possibly the last, and certainly the least, of the current wave of gender-bender movies, the film, currently in release removes whatever was good about David Henry Hwang's play without finding anything adequate with which to replace it.

Based on an actual incident involving a French diplomat who didn't realize for 20 years that his Chinese "mistress" was a man, it was acceptable on a stylized stage set but not on artificial movie set.

Jeremy Irons plays Rene Gallimard, who works at the French Embassy in Beijing under ambassador Ian Richardson (They must have picked up their accents at *L'Oxford*). The one advantage to this absurdity is that if Irons' Gallimard can believe he's French, he can also accept Song Liling (John Lone), a Chinese man, as his "Butterfly," the Japanese heroine of an Italian opera who represents the fantasy of the submissive Oriental woman to Western men.

That Gallimard considers Song "the perfect woman" regardless of gender is part of his general political incorrectness. But Song isn't much better in this version, saying things such as "Only a man knows how a woman is supposed to act." And after an initial attempt to raise Gallimard's consciousness, Song starts referring to himself as the white man's "slave."

"I want honesty, no falseness between us," Gallimard stresses early in their relationship. Before long, Song is playing the spying game, but it's not clear whether this was his goal from the outset.

You'll have to read one of the books about the true story for all of the technical details. The movie visually suggests



Song Liling (John Lone), a Chinese man, becomes the "ideal" woman to a French diplomat (Jeremy Irons).

oral and anal sex between the men, and Song says he keeps his clothes on because "modesty is so important to the Chinese."

It's been suggested that the real Gallimard may have been aware of the deception and gone along with it rather than admit he was gay. Irons gives no clue in his lifeless performance, any more than he picks up hints in Song's lines such as "I do not know how to change my body into the body of another" and "As we embark on the most forbidden of loves, I'm so afraid of my destiny."

Hwang presumably followed the wishes of director David Cronenberg in gutting his stage play of most of the political dialogue that was so neatly interwoven with the personal story. What's left might have worked as camp, but Cronenberg is deadly serious, pandering to a straight audience by putting a naked woman on the screen but shooting Lone's nude scenes

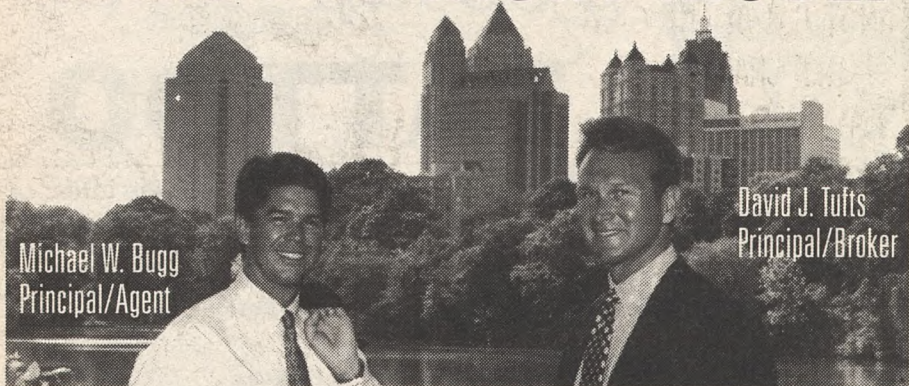
only from the rear or from the waist up.

"M. Butterfly" is about a male entertainer who dresses as a woman, but it's not "Tootsie." His act is musical, but this isn't "La Cage aux Folles." The impersonation fools a man in the audience, but it's not "Victor/Victoria." They become lovers, but it's not "Torch Song Trilogy," and they stay together a long time, but it's not "Longtime Companion." Although the drag queen is an Asian spy, it's not "Mata Hari," either.

On stage, "M. Butterfly" was quite possibly the best drama since "Equus." On screen, it's an embarrassment and a bore. The nature of the story gives it a certain curiosity value for a gay audience, but lower your expectations to rock bottom and you'll still be disappointed.

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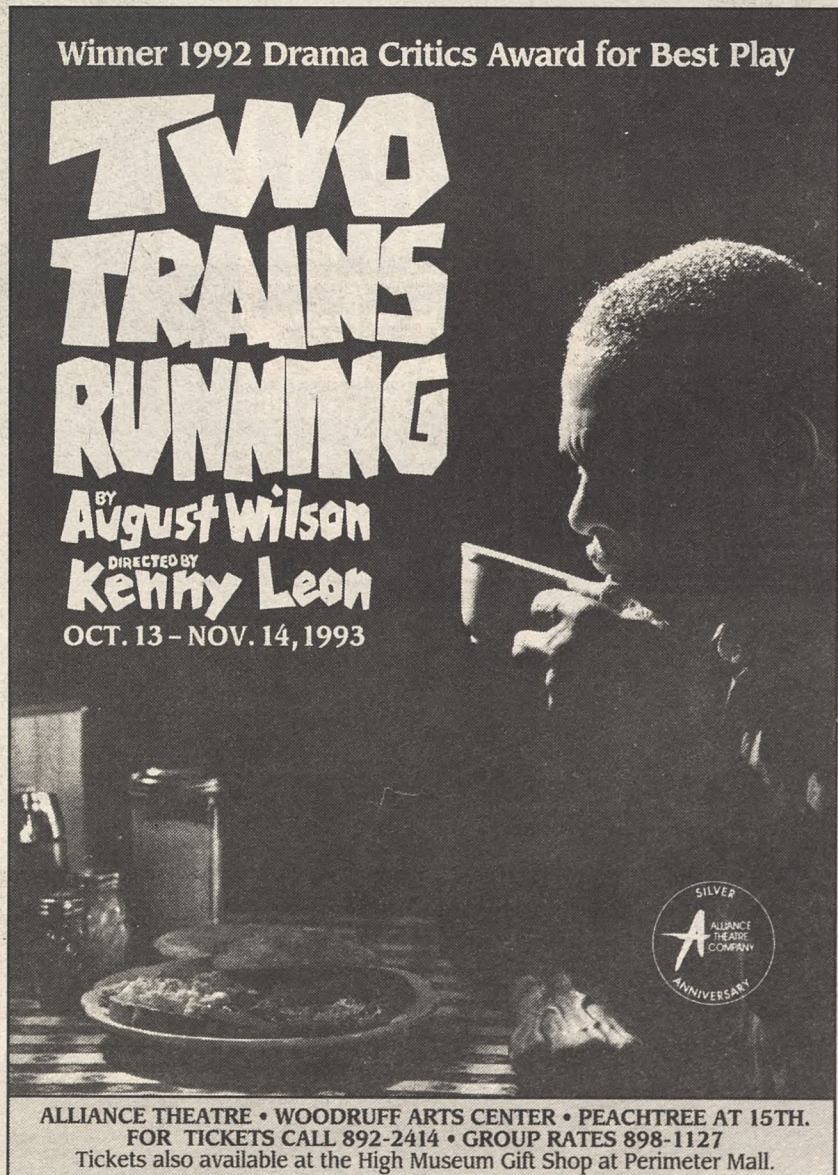
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It's county fair time this weekend at Burkhart's

Annual event is a benefit for Atlanta's AIDS Walk

While there have been a number of changes made in this year's AIDS Walk, one tradition that has grown up around the weekend of the walk will continue unchanged—County Fair '93.

Burkhart's Pub will register a significant show of gay-bar support for the effort this year by continuing with its annual benefit, with proceeds to go to the AIDS Walk.

"With County Fair, we're providing them some entertainment, and at the same time they're giving," says Harry Brown, co-chair of the event.

County Fair '93
runs October 15-17 at Burkhart's Pub in Ansley Square

\$12,000—a modestly increased goal from the \$11,000 the fair raised last year.

This year's fairground attractions will include something for everyone. For the playful, there will be a variety of carnival games. For the vengeful, a dunking tank and a pie-throwing booth occupied by local celebs and bar persona from various Atlanta establishments. ("Maybe they have enemies, or friends, who would just like to dunk them, or whatever," Brown said.)

Compulsive shoppers will find salvation at the rummage sale or one of five auctions of donated goods and services from area businesses. For masters and servants, there will be a jail, "where you lock people up and they have to talk people into paying a fine to get them out." And debauched individu-

als can expect plenty of cocktails and, of course, the after-hours hunk auction.

For this attraction, hunks-about-town donate their goods to be auctioned off for the service of dinner-for-two at a later date. If you want a hunk for dinner, expect to spend \$50 to \$300. But voyeurs can participate, too, by bidding on pieces of donated outfits worn by the hunks before they're sold.

The auctioneers will include well-known Atlanta celebrities, such as Peg, Gilda Golden and Big Ruby. "We chose them because they know how to work the crowd and intimidate the hunks," Brown said.

And a new tradition will begin at this year's Fair with the crowning of County Fair Queen. This honor will be awarded to the (drag) queen who sells the most tickets for a television, to be raffled off on Sunday.

Throughout the weekend you can also expect to see—and possibly dunk or put a pie in the face of—candidates for mayor and City Council, representatives from area AIDS organizations and (not yet divulged) big-name entertainers who will be participating in the AIDS Walk. Fast Freddy Luka from radio station 99X has signed on to be the auctioneer for the auction on Saturday.

Times are, of course, not set in stone, but here is a tentative schedule of events:

- Friday, Oct. 15: merchandise auction begins a 10 p.m., with a hunk auction at midnight.

- Saturday, Oct. 16 and Sunday Oct. 17: Outdoor carnival activity from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; merchandise auctions inside the bar; hunk auctions at midnight.

"It's all PG-rated stuff," Brown said, "...except the hunk auction."

County Fair is one of two major fundraisers that Burkhart's puts on every year. Art Fest, which is held in May, raises

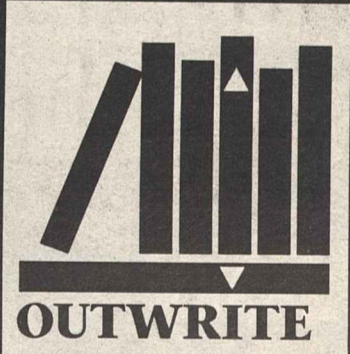


The hunk auction, which features Gilda Golden as one of the emcees, is one of the weekend's biggest hits.

money for Project Open Hand. In the past two years the pub has raised some \$36,000 for Atlanta AIDS agencies. All of the County Fair expenses are absorbed by Burkhart's, so 100 percent of the money raised is donated.

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Carmen loose on 42nd Street???

Atlanta Symphony program mixes show tunes with the best of opera

Show tunes are about to meet up with the opera—a dichotomous combination of "Showboat," "Carmen" and "Send in the Clowns."

The Atlanta Symphony's "Champagne and Coffee" series kicks off on Friday, Oct. 15 and Saturday, Oct. 16 with

The Best of Broadway and Opera
the first in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's "Champagne and Coffee" series. Friday, Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 16 at 10 a.m. at Symphony Hall in the Woodruff Arts Center

"The Best of Broadway and Opera," which features showstopping Broadway melodies combined with operatic classics, from "Die Meistersinger" to "Annie Get Your Gun."

Why combine such very different musical forms in one performance? The Atlanta Opera's artistic director William Fred Scott, who is directing the program, explains the theme as the symphony's

attempt "to convince people who like Broadway that an opera singer can perform Broadway songs and to convince people who like opera that Broadway music has its merits as well."

Joining the Atlanta Symphony in singing the selected arias and show tunes from Broadway will be mezzo-soprano Deidra Palmour, who last worked with Scott in the Atlanta Opera's production of "Albert Herring" last summer.

The "Champagne and Coffee" series has been extraordinarily successful in past years, largely due to the relaxed setting and informative nature of the programs. Atlanta Symphony spokesman Stephen Tunnell calls the concerts an "effective entry point for new symphony patrons."

Champagne Concerts, which are held on Friday and Sat-

urday evenings, feature a concert followed by a champagne reception; Coffee Concerts, held on Saturday mornings, are preceded by coffee, tea and pastries. Coffee concert-goers are also treated to a pre-concert talk by the day's conductor. Champagne Concerts are accompanied by commentary as part of the performance.

But while the concerts are designed to attract the more casual symphony listener, even more serious music lovers can usually find something interesting about the musical selections.

Scott, who is usually credited with building the Atlanta Opera into its present successful status, will conduct four of the six "Champagne and Coffee" programs this year, including the opening event.

What criteria has Scott used to choose from what seem like infinite possibilities in the world of musical theater and opera? It is music that he calls "little gems of the repertoire that might normally not be found on a symphony program."

Another advantage to the concerts that he points out is that "contrary to most symphony programs, endurance is not a factor with the 'Champagne and Coffee' series. Our themes create a focus that make the concert accessible and interesting, and we tend to select shorter pieces than in standard programs."

The music, however, is not the only thing entertaining about the series. Those who know Scott are well-acquainted with his wry sense of humor, and his talents in that area make his pre-concert patter irreverent and very entertaining. His musical knowledge and behind-the-scenes insight serve to introduce his audiences to the world of composers and performers with a droll touch. Most of all, he says, "we want to make our audiences feel comfortable in Symphony Hall."

Future themes for the "Champagne and Coffee" series



LISA KOHLER

Mezzo-soprano Deidra Palmour joins the Atlanta Symphony in "The Best of Broadway and Opera."

include "At the Movies," "A Night in Old Vienna," "Russian Salute" and "Best of the Big Bands."

Season tickets for the "Champagne and Coffee" concert series are available from the Atlanta Symphony ticket office at 1293 Peachtree St. NE, 4th Floor, or by calling 898-1189. Single tickets are available for all performances of the Atlanta Symphony at the Arts Center Box Office or by calling 892-2414.

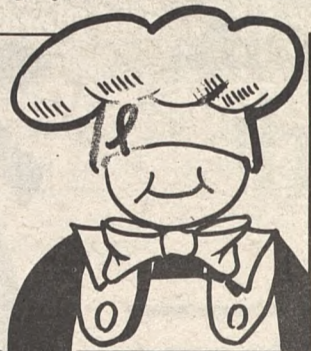
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FILM

LAST CALL AT MAUD'S

"I can think of no better place to have suspense and a real eerie feeling of decadence than a lesbian bar, because lesbians have always been outlaws," says Mary Wings, an author of lesbian mystery novels, in the opening moments of "Last Call at Maud's."

Wings is one of many lesbians interviewed in this documentary who look back on their own lives and the glory days of Maud's, a lesbian neighborhood bar which opened in 1966 in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco.

Last Call at Maud's

runs Oct. 15-21 at Georgia State's Cinefest. For more information, call 651-2463.

The film, which opens Oct. 15 at Cinefest at Georgia State University, traces the California lesbian culture and bar scene in the years following World War II, concentrating on Maud's, which was much more than a place to grab a drink—more like a haven and sorority house for 23 years for a generation of lesbians who knew all too well what it

meant to be an "outlaw" and live under the constant threat of police raids. Not until 1973, in fact, was it even legal for a woman to be a bartender in California.

Director Paris Poirer tells the absorbing story through a host of guests at the last bash for Maud's, which closed in September 1989. Maud's owner Rikki Streicher, poet/historian Judy Grahn, scholar Sally Gearheart, political organizer Pat Norman and the founding mothers of the West Coast lesbian movement, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, tell the stories that add up to a significant piece of gay history in which social life and political organizing were closely connected.

The 77-minute film actually interweaves two parallel stories. In the first, Streicher gives an anecdotal history of the bar that includes a clip of Janis Joplin, who was often found sitting at a bar stool in Maud's during the 60s.

More than 400 archival documents, including photographs,



This telling peek inside a lesbian bar in 1942 is part of the archival material in "Last Call at Maud's."

newspaper clippings, flyers and advertisements, were used to place the personal history of Maud's within the larger context of gay life in San Francisco. The film could have easily fallen into the home movie genre, but the historic documentation and the women of Maud's raise it to a much higher plane. It is an authentic social history of the ebb and flow of lesbian and gay life from the post-war era to the present, entirely from the perspective of personal experience.

The other story is told by the patrons of Maud's, both well known and not. Perhaps the most significant and fascinating stories come from Martin and Lyon, who founded The Daughters of Bilitis in 1956 and the first lesbian publication in the United States, "The Ladder." Their memories of the 50s and 60s underground, of bars being raided regularly by the police, are a credit to the patience they mustered for many years when even the most mundane facts of their daily lives broke the strict anti-homosexual laws that were on California's books.

Martin and Lyon describe one mixed bar where, when the designated lookout announced that the cops had arrived, the male and female couples on the dance floor instantaneously switched their same-sex partners for those of the other gender.

Despite having to live mostly hidden lives, none of the women at Maud's seem stricken with regret, bitterness or the kind of anger that eats from within. These are strong women,

funny women, women you want to hang out with.

"Most of the women in the film are sort of surrogate mothers, whether they'd like to think of themselves that way or not," says Poirer. "The younger generation needs to hear these stories from their forebears if they're going to progress. They need to figure out where we've been so they can decide where they want to go."

Toward the end of the film, at Maud's last party, we find out why the bar is shutting its doors. One interviewee explains, "Lesbians are sober and lean and marching now." Lesbians today do not need the bars like they did in the past, Streicher admits. The refuge that Maud's provided for so many years isn't so urgently needed any more because of the diffusion of lesbians and gays into the mainstream.

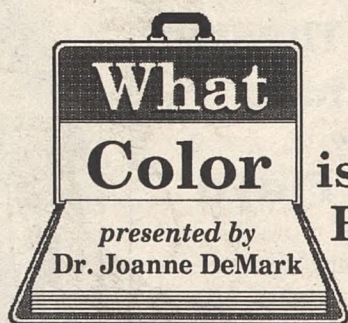
"There are no more dyke bars, just the intermittent sex clubs and weekend parties where lesbians take over clubs...and the older women aren't going there," laments Poirer. "Women of different generations wouldn't come together except to see movies like this. It's a sort of virtual reality replacement for the bars themselves in a way."

In addition to its showing at Cinefest, "Last Call at Maud's" will also be showing at The Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, scheduled for Nov. 12-21.

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hat incomparable rewards we are blessed with whilst gardening in the South.

Consider the entire month of October. Yankee gardeners have already witnessed the demise of their summer stuff and now have but a few tedious winter options open, involving cold frames, row covers, etc. But down here, we can reasonably expect tomatoes until Halloween, or even Thanksgiving, if we manage to avoid an early frost. Naturally, that means summer annuals too, as well as tender perennials remaining intact. Then, the fall stuff comes on line.

Thus, we can generally count on enjoying a positive embarrassment of riches: the summer lingering via geraniums, asters, dahlias, roses, phlox, zinnia, salvia, marigolds and unspent summer veggies, as well as the cooler season harbingers of mums, some camellias and berries from such natives as possum-haw and non-natives such as Japanese beautyberry.

We justifiably wax rhapsodic about having the best of both worlds. And we just need to do two things to keep that summer stuff alive a bit longer. First, keep them watered, and, second, keep them mulched (After a frost, watch for cottoneaster and firethorn to color-up, too).

Now, why are these two basic things so important? First of all, a well-watered (albeit, not drowned) plant is *ipso facto* hardier than a water-deprived plant. A healthy plant survives environmental stresses much more easily than an already-stressed plant.

So if the plant is getting about an inch of water a week (preferably from a good one-time soaking, not small, daily shots), she'll face drying winds and cooler temps with great strength and determination.

And of course, mulch assists in this, for it retards evapo-

ration. Generally, a mulched plant will retain water longer and require less of it than a non-mulched plant.

Additionally, mulch provides a thermal blanket, cooling in great heat and warming in colder temps. So water and mulch are a vital pair, not just for the summer things but all year round.

October also means fertilizer application and soil tests. Now, you don't want tender things to put on a great spurt of growth just before frosty temps nip at them. But fertilizer is good for evergreens, lawns (if you must), bulbs, beds, etc. I like rotted leaves, bone meal and manure, of course; and so do the green people.

Before applying things, it's a good idea to soil test. It is positively criminal to lime or add acidic things if your soil strays out of the ideal spot for a particular plant's growth.

Yes, some plants like it acidic (blueberries, oaks, evergreens, dogwoods, etc.). Some want it a little sweeter (most vegetables and bulbs). Some like it sweeter still (grasses and baby's breath). Yes, I'm talking pH value of the soil.

Technically, pH is a scale which measures the level of hydrogen ion activity in the soil. The scale is from zero (extremely acidic) to 14 (extremely alkaline), with seven being the neutral point.

Generally, the closer you move from acidic to neutral (say, from 5 to 6.5), the more nutrients become available to roots for uptake. However, if a plant likes acid and gets alkaline, it turns yellow and withers. And the reverse is true, too.

Given the importance then of knowing your soil type, how do you discover what you have? It's true that our clay

soils tend to be acidic. But for an accurate picture, you really must soil test, either on your own or through the state. While the testing is no longer provided free by the county agricultural extension service, I find the \$4 fee to be money well spent.

True, you can buy those little kits in hardware stores. However, the analysis you receive from the extension service is so thorough (not just whether the soil will work for the plants you said you intend to put in) that the other stuff simply pales in comparison.

Based on what you learn, you will know whether to add wood ashes (alkaline) or cottonseed meal (acidic) or whatever. This is in addition to the manure, leaves and bone meal, of course.

Not only is October an opportune time to learn what you've got, it's also an excellent time for cleaning up. Take a critical look at what remains out there. Remove those old corn stalks, gladiola stems, downed twigs and branches, debris and fallen fruit. Insects and disease will happily spend the winter in these if you do not. With gardening as in the rest of life, a little prevention now means peace of mind later.

If October takes a turn for the cool, you can put in the early flowering Dutch bulbs, prepare other bulb beds, remove border plants, put in all types of shrubs and divide perennials (Elizabeth Lawrence would approve). And don't forget that now is a good time for putting in spinach, radish, onions—seeds and sets—even lettuce and greens.

If October stays warm, sow hardy annuals (such as larkspur), dig up those sweet potatoes before any frost, pick the last summer fruits and prep the outside potted plants for indoor life (stop fertilizing, cut down on watering and move them inside for parts of the day if feasible).

If you do all that good prep work now, you'll be more than ready for next month's heavy planting schedule. And November is indeed our month to plant, plant, plant—everything from shrubs to trees to bulbs to roses to pansies to English peas.

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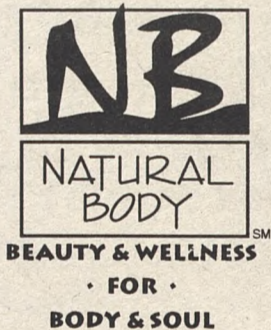
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T H E A T E R

THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING

Contrary to popular belief, theater critics do not love saying bad things, particularly when the group producing the show is Marietta's Theatre in the Square, which we all know has had its share of difficulties this year.

But putting its political troubles aside and examining the debut of its 11th season—a home-grown musical version of Carson McCullers' "The Member of the Wedding"—one must conclude that the show is one of Theatre in the Square's biggest stumbles.

It can be argued McCullers' painfully intimate story of awkward adolescent Frankie Addams (Susie Grimley) is ripe material for turning into a musical. Much of the writing is lyrical, with an internal rhythm which is almost melodic. Unfortunately, this lyrical writing has lulled the adapters at Theatre in the Square to be lazy. They've relied more on the original script and less on their own imaginations. Yes, they've attempted to turn some passages into songs, but they have failed to attack the real problem of how to turn a *nearly* perfect play into a credible musical.

There is more involved in turning a play into a musical than writing 17 songs and shoehorning them into existing dialogue. There needs to be a musical reason for doing this—in other words, using music to enhance, develop, advance or reconceptualize story elements where words alone would suffice. This could be as simple as writing songs which use a period sound ("The Member of the Wedding" is set in August 1945, though the adapters ignore this fact musically, while a show like "Grease" is the epitome of a period sound musical), or as complex as using a certain sound to carry an entire show (an example being Stephen Sondheim's use of the "Dies Irae" to create the funereal-like sound for the score of "Sweeney Todd").

There is a glaring error in Carson McCullers' original script which has always been a problem when this play is staged. The



The cast of Theater in the Square's "The Member of the Wedding," which plays through Oct. 30.

crucial moment of the show—when Frankie climbs into the car to join her brother and his new bride in their new life—takes place off stage; it is merely described to us by young John Henry (Noah Steinberg). While it is a dramatic moment in the show, it is one that has always felt hollow. We need to see it rather than having it told to us. The movie version with Julie Harris and Ethel Waters corrected this problem. The musical in Marietta does not. Instead, at a moment when a song is most definitely needed, the musical relies on McCullers' flawed script verbatim.

Yet, this is not the worst problem inherent in the show. No, that comes later in Act Two, when Honey Camden Brown (Frank Wright) comes to his sister Berenice (CeCelia Birt) desperate for

money because the police are after him. She quickly gives him what he needs. Does he then run away because the police are after him? Of course not. He stands around, sings a very long song, then finally departs. One would be hard pressed to remember a situation where a song was less necessary than at that moment.

The most ironic part of "The Member of the Wedding" at Theatre in the Square is that director/adaptor Michael Horne has assembled a very talented cast, which proceeds to do great justice to the original play. Because almost all of McCullers' script is left intact, we can see a very touching, moving production of the play. What is unfortunate is that the play stops 17 times to allow for these superfluous songs. When this show doesn't have to sing, Horne moves it with grace and style. But whenever there's a song, his staging suddenly turns clumsy.

If the score by Ellen McQueen and Frank Hamilton had been the least bit interesting or competent, it still would not solve the inherent problems with this adaptation. However, their lyrics are banal, trite and not interesting in the least. Their music is characterless and bland, with no period sound, no overriding musical theme or any musical purpose to it whatsoever. And the worst sin of all is that the play's musical director, Erik Bennett, has orchestrated "The Member of the Wedding" with heavy reliance on a synthesizer. There were no synthesizers in 1945, and there is no justification for using one in a show set in that time period. It made the entire show sound so out of whack as to render the songs even more inappropriate than they already were.

It is up to two actresses to successfully carry off any production of "The Member of the Wedding." Susie Grimley's Frankie is wildly hyperactive and gangly, wonderfully playful and essentially goodhearted. She's at her best in the book scenes, but she is at sea when she has to sing. CeCelia Birt is commanding as Berenice. She manages to deftly convey the world-weary nature of their character, and she even transcends the weak material she's given and makes her songs soar.

There's a very good production of "The Member of the Wedding" lurking underneath the musical miasma playing at Theatre in the Square. If you've always loved the play or movie, it's still worth seeing it live on stage. Just ignore the show when it stops for a song break.

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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Where have all the homos gone? It's been years since I've eaten at **The Country Place** (in Colony Square; 881-0144), but I'd swear that the place used to be packed with queers, especially at brunch. I know that this place is loaded with memories for me: of an ex-boyfriend who craved the steaks and ice cream pie; of a friend, now moved elsewhere, who worked there and regularly used his credits to treat us to bowls of pasta Milano; and of another friend, now dead, who craved the onion soup and fried rolls as much as life itself.

But times have changed, and so has the way I eat. Just the thought of a bowl of that cheese drunched onion soup and a basket of those greasy yeasty rolls is enough to make my arteries ache.

But **The Country Place** has changed, too. There's new decor, though so little altered that old friends will hardly be able to complain unless it is that, at prices like these, one really deserves a white table cloth. And there is a new menu, sporting differences more radical than those in the decor, but hanging on to a few of the old faves like the aforementioned onion soup and fried rolls.

The two most visible changes are that the host now introduces you to your waiter, rather than the waiter assaulting you with, "Hi, I'm Roquefort..." (Those mostly male waiters now also wear jeans, about which you'll get no grief from this corner). And the chalkboard menus, along with that horrid droning recitation of the day's fare, are gone—replaced by a laser printed list of offerings with nary a bowl of grits in sight.

A friend and I tried brunch recently, and although I've got some reservations, I think it's fair to say that if you like Peasant food and if you liked the old **Country Place**, you'll be pretty well pleased with the new one.

In line with current trendiness, the menu is equally divided between lighter sandwiches and salads and more traditional entrees saturated with fat, sugar and calories. Among the former: an organic field green salad with balsamic vinaigrette, a grilled tuna sandwich on focaccia and an Asian chicken salad. For those who don't have to worry about fat, there are poached eggs with andouille sausage, peppers, onions and tomatoes on fried potatoes with cheddar and mozzarella. Or poached eggs atop crab cakes, slathered with Hollandaise and a frittata packed with bacon and Swiss cheese.

There are also a couple of new soups. A robust dill-laced fish broth full of fresh salmon and sprinkled with corn is satisfying as well as easy on the eyes and the diet. Offered in combination with the field green salad, it's a more than decent way to feel well fed and self-righteous about your eating habits all at the same time. Red bean soup is less radical than the salmon broth; imagine a bowl of so-so chili run through a blender and you've got the picture. Decent, but not very original.

More fun by half is a grilled chicken breast sandwich (on focaccia), dressed with strips of grilled pablano peppers, grilled onions and cheddar and Monterey Jack cheese. Again, nothing terribly original, but the flavors all marry very well and the portion is filling. I've got qualms about shelling out \$9 for a gussied up variation of what sells for \$7.25 at Mick's, especially when the accompanying black bean salad is no where near as tasty as the pasta salad or French fries that come with the grilled bird sandwiches in those restaurants.

A "hickory" grilled salad is pretty tasty, too. Mostly courant veggies (a baby artichoke, a portobello mushroom, red and green peppers, red onions and a fat flower of broccoli) surround a heap of lemony cous-cous garnished with a Montrachet-like cheese. The presentation is mighty pretty, and the smoky fla-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

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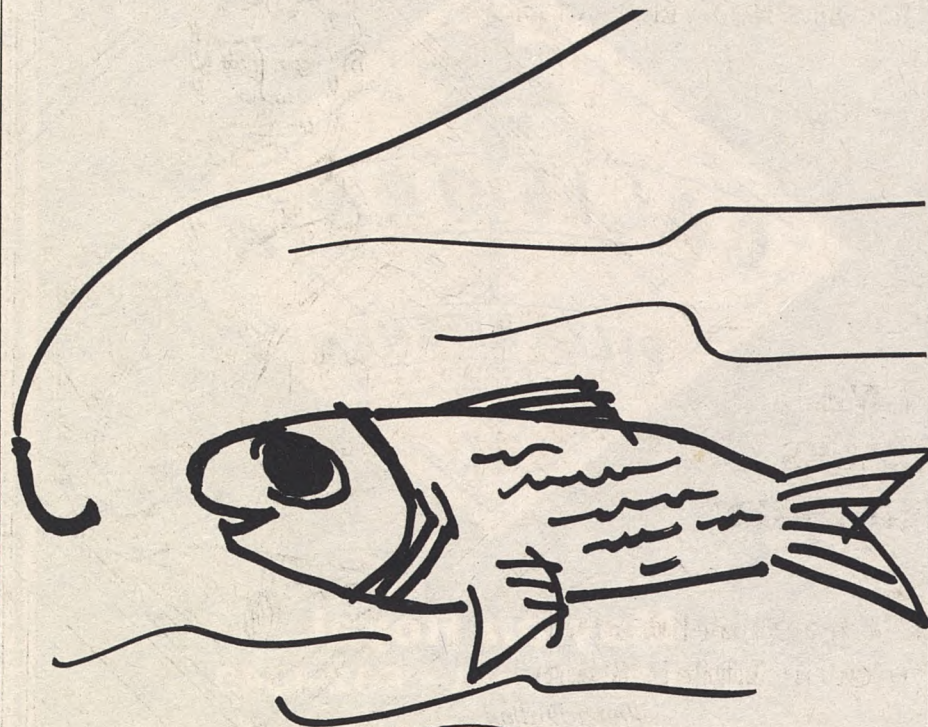
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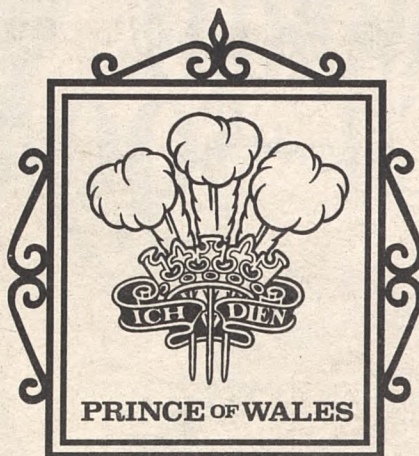
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

vors of the veggies are given a nice continuity by a mild garlic-basil vinaigrette. In typical Peasant style, the portion is (over)generous and the whole mess sports a slightly sweet taste that seems a mite out of place. My old brunch fave here was a fruit salad served with raspberry sorbet and a too-sweet poppy seed dressing; the veggies are a quantum leap in the right direction. Gripes aside, I'd definitely order it again.

Can one come here and not order dessert? I doubt it. The old, elegant, three-sorbets-in-a-bed-of-cassis-goo has been replaced by a single large bowl of sorbet—in this case, a rich orange mango-lime. Strong of flavor and smooth of texture, it's a winner.

Not so the peach bread pudding, slathered with spectacular caramel sauce and whipped cream. The bread is bland, the supply of peaches skimpy and the plethora of calories consumed in the process not worth the reward not received.

Service is attentive and quick with an occasional smack of fun. Not quite like the good old days when The Country Place sometimes felt like the dining hall at Camp Homohaven, but far from dour and institutionalized.

Three courses and coffee will set you back nearly \$20 a head, but there is little reason to eat that much food on Sunday afternoon unless you're planning a water diet for the rest of the day. Folks whose eyes do not tend betray their stomachs can spend \$12 and leave fully sated.

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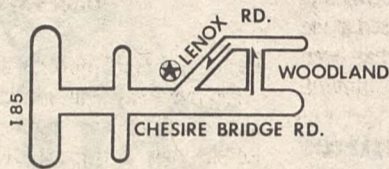
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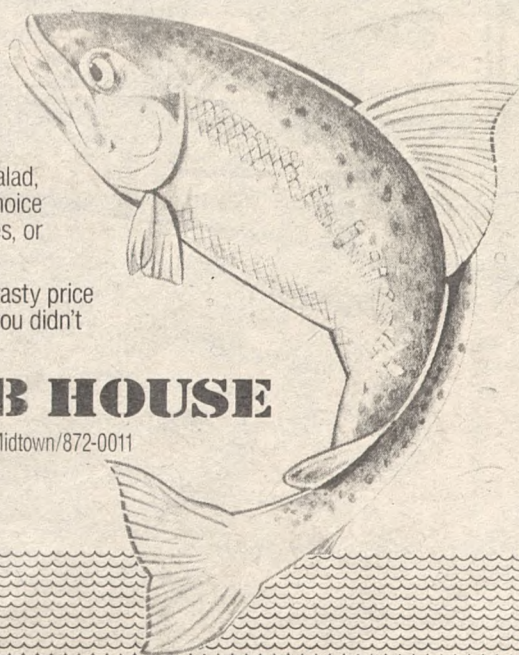
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High-Tech Hick: We are indebted to Myron Casteel for asking the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's "Q&A on the News" what Cobb Commissioner Gordon Wysong does to earn his daily bread. The AJ-C found out that he owns a company called Southern Porcelaine which, despite the fact that it sounds like a bathtub resurfacing company, is one that manufactures computer and electronics components. Dish finds it ironic that Wysong is involved in an industry that, at its most basic level, promotes the liberation of the human mind. Maybe some group like High-Tech Gays should investigate Wysong's business and see if a boycott is in order.

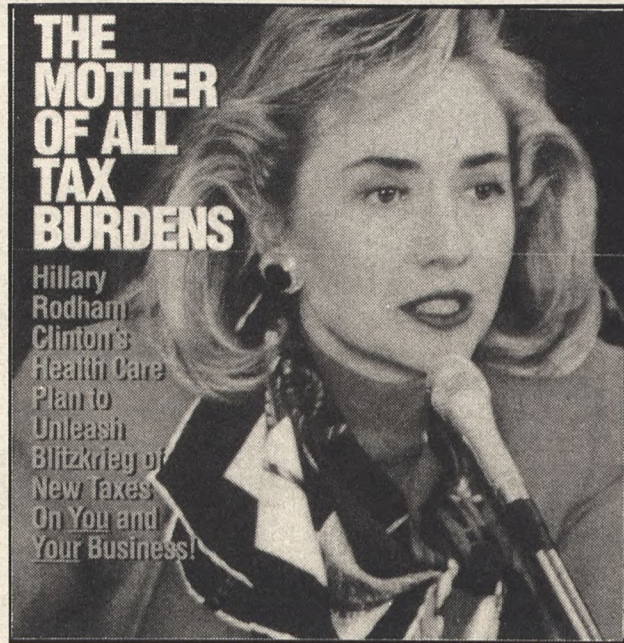
Accentuate the Negative: Using a "secret formula," the Southern Baptist Convention has determined that a full 46.1 percent of Alabamians would go to hell if they died tomorrow. What Dish finds interesting about this statistic is how it is being presented. Rather than rejoicing in the fact that more than half of the residents of Alabama would join them in heaven if Armageddon came tonight, these sad sacks have chosen to obsess about their friends and neighbors who just happen to be Jews, or Catholics, or homosexuals and who probably would feel like they were in hell if they went to these Baptists' heaven. Also instructive, we think, is the fact that the Marietta Daily Journal ran this as the lead story on the cover of its Sept. 18 edition. Dish thinks that prayer for the folks who made *that* decision might not be a bad idea.

Good Deeds, Albeit Small: We wish that this had been the headline on the Marietta Daily Journal rather than the fact that half the population of Alabama was going to hell. It seems that the excess of the money collected when the hat was passed at the pro-queer August 14 rally in Marietta's Glover Park has been given to the City of Marietta's Parks and Recreation Department. Says Jon Greaves of the Cobb Citizens Coalition, "It's just our way of showing appreciation for the Marietta city employees' courtesy and professionalism during the rally." That's what Dish calls family values.

An October Surprise?: Dish doesn't normally read the sports pages of the daily paper. Our major interest in the Braves is related to the fact that their winning ways allow us to walk

Dish

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



Dish says hands off Hillary.

(without a wait) into most any restaurant in the city on nights when they play. But a friend passed on a tidbit from those pages that we think you might enjoy. Seems that heartthrob Mark Lemke took a swipe at Jeff Blausner with a "list of things you don't want to know" about the Brave's star shortstop. Blausner fired back with a list of his own, which included the following: "He [Lemke] wears a garter belt and stockings for every Sunday afternoon game. Joe Namath is his idol." And "Lemke had to take out his second personal loan this year to pay for all the 900 calls he has made." Finally, "His fantasy in life is to have a date

which he can introduce in public." Dish's fantasy is that Lemke would reply to Blausner's barbs by standing up and coming out. Wouldn't that add a nice bit of spice to the Braves' (at least as this is written) winning ways.

Speaking of Coming Out: The producers of Sesame Street emphatically deny that Bert and Ernie will be revealed as gay lovers this season. They can deny it all they want, but we know the truth, don't we, Dish fans?

Blame it on Hillary: You would have thought that as Communism gasped its last, the mongers of capitalism would have relaxed their sphincters and quit being so damn defensive. You might have thought that. Or, like Dish, you might have received the fall issue of a nasty little mag called the Tax Reduction Reporter. The cover story this issue suggests (using words like "[a] Blitzkrieg of new taxes on you and your business") that the sole purpose of the Clintons' (specifically Hillary's—can you say sexism?) health care reform plan is to deplete the coffers of America's successful small businesses and drive them to rack and ruin. Given that thousands of small and medium size businesses all over this country manage to pay their fair share of health insurance premiums and still make a profit, we wonder why all of them can't. The answer, we think is simple...greed. We're not thrilled about higher taxes, but we're downright disgusted about the criminal inequality and outrageous cost of health care in this country.

Cards and Letters: You may have read in these pages a few weeks ago that Tom-Boy Cruise has staged a little snit fit and insisted that all the homoerotic tension between his character and that of Brad Pitt be stripped from the movie script of "Interview With a Vampire." Dish said months ago that Cruise was wrong for the part—you wanted proof, here it is. Author Anne Rice agreed and asked him to withdraw from the project. What can you do about this mess? Write to the producer David Geffen (who is himself queer) at 9130 Sunset Blvd., Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90069 and tell him you, your friends, your mama and your grandma will refuse to spend your hard earned dollars on tickets to a movie whose script has been so obviously perverted by the homophobia of a rich and spoiled actor.

October 14-October 20

New moon in Libra on Oct. 15. An excellent time to have a party or enjoyable evening with close friends. Also a good time to start new projects, better habits and more positive thinking. A wonderful time to be with people.

ARIES, the sun and Jupiter in your seventh house create wonderful opportunities for more depth in your relationships. If that hasn't been happening in your life lately, then you may be "lookin' for love in all the wrong places." **TAURUS**, your seventh house is indefinitely loaded with Venus and Mars visiting Pluto. Take advantage of this intensity to clear out your emotional closets. Throw out old and painful memories that can weigh you down. **GEMINI**, how is life in the fast lane? Or does it feel like you're walking in molasses. Either way, you'll do better with a steady pace that allows you to keep your sight focused on your own priorities.

CANCER, basic security is a must for your emotional well being. Just be careful that you don't become fixated on the material aspect of life. Be sure to keep your spirit and soul nourished. **LEO**, you can derive personal satisfaction and increase your self-

STARSIGNS

esteem by helping a good friend or fellow worker. Give them a sincere boost or word of appreciation. It will work wonders. **VIRGO**, if you are worrying about your money or personal finances, then stop immediately. Worry only digs a deeper pit. Use your wonderful creative mind to find or create better opportunities for yourself. Go forward, not backward.

LIBRA, hope you are having a wonderful birthday month. Make time to plan ahead for the next year, visualize the way you want your life to look, and feel, in the next 12 months. It will be a much smoother year. **SCORPIO**, how's life? Is your sensitivity level up again? Venus and Mars are visiting your old friend Pluto in your first house of self-awareness. Take it easy this week, with as much time as you can spare for relaxation. **SAGITTARIUS**,

with Venus and Mars joining Pluto in your 12th house of dreams, visions and the collective unconscious, you may feel somewhat overwhelmed with symbols, images and other input from within. Be patient, and it will sort itself out.

CAPRICORN, you need more physical exercise. It is often far too easy for you to put most of your energy into thinking. Seriously, you do need fresh air, sunshine and physical exercise every day. Go for it. **AQUARIUS**, you may be feeling some conflict right now between having a personal life and/or putting more and more energy into your career. Don't allow yourself to be pushed into a major decision or uncomfortable position. **PISCES**, with Venus and Mars joining Pluto in your ninth house of travel, adventure and metaphysical studies, you may find yourself needing an unusual experience or least a short vacation somewhere unique.

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.

Dykes to Watch Out For

revelations

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OUTLINES

MELINDA BYRNE

Age: 39
How long in Atlanta: 19 years
Relationship Status: learning to love myself
Last Book Read: "Dare to Be Yourself" by Alan Cohen
Pet Peeve: when my cat ignores me



You turn on the news and start fuming inside over the injustice of the ban on gays in the military. So you rush over to your computer, fire off a letter to the editor of your local paper, put it in an envelope and boom. There it is, a few days later on the op ed page for all to appreciate. Back to reality. You sit there fuming and shaking your head. You change the channels to something more neutral, like the feeding habits of giraffes on the Serengeti.

For Melinda Byrne, opting to change the channel would be a waste of energy. Instead, she processed her anger about the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" compromise in the form of a letter to the editor. Even though The Atlanta Journal-Constitution didn't print it, The New York Times ran the letter and so did USA Today (and Southern Voice).

So how does it feel to be heard in the country's biggest newspapers about your personal opinions and convictions? "It's interesting," she says. "Being heard is sometimes about hearing my own voice. I think that's why therapy is so valuable. When I sat down to write the letter, I was full of anger at people's prejudice. Writing the letter was a process for me in going beneath my anger to a deeper understanding of myself.

"Being a lesbian is where my heart is. It's where I live. Most living things thrive on light," she explains. "That's why I spoke about the darkness of 'the closet,' and needing the light to see how beautiful we are."

People have asked her "what's the big deal about having to say you're gay?" She says, "I knew telling the truth about my sexual orientation was important for me on a deep feeling level, but up until writing about it, I hadn't clearly put it into words, even for myself."

In her letter, she used the analogy of a Jewish person in a room full of Christians where the Christians thought the person was Christian but never knew because the Jewish person never spoke of his or her religion. Instead, the Jewish person lived the lie of silence neither confirming

nor denying his or her beliefs.

Interestingly, a Jewish man from Kansas City sought Melinda out, writing her a letter saying he read her letter in The New York Times. Her analogy, he wrote, supported him to come out about being Jewish. In addition, a straight man in New York called her to express his appreciation for being better able to understand the issue of coming out. "Although I spoke of coming out in the context of being lesbian or gay, the real message is to honor ourselves by expressing our truth, no matter what that truth is," she says.

Melinda works for a large government agency as an analyst. As an analyst, she says, she is constantly "in her head." This past year she has worked hard at bridging her heart and head in her personal life.

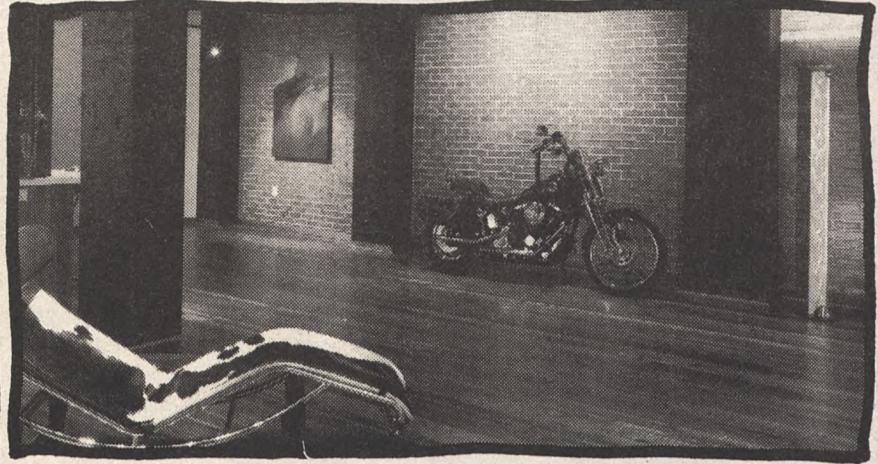
Asked about her career goals since she has had success at getting her letters published, she says she would like to be involved in creating and supporting workshops that produce harmony and understanding among a wide diversity of people. In March of next year she plans to be a participant in a workshop produced by The National Coalition Building Institute on "Prejudice Reduction."

She would also like to write more. "I'm interested in writing material and articles that promote a better understanding of ourselves collectively and individually." Recently she was asked by the staff at the Counseling Center at Georgia State University to work on a brochure about homophobia for their upcoming lunch and lecture series.

"At the March on Washington, my favorite T-shirt was one that said, 'Learn to Understand.' I'm discovering that to truly understand a principle or a person, you have to have intent to learn. If we do not feel our understanding will serve us well, our motivation for understanding eludes me. Hopefully, we will all one day understand that there is no greater way to serve ourselves than by learning to accept, honor and include all people."

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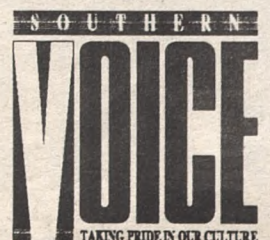
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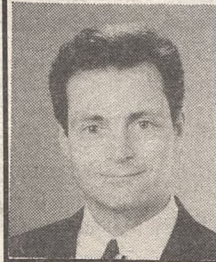


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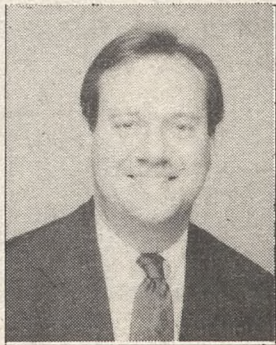
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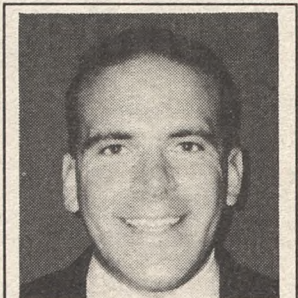
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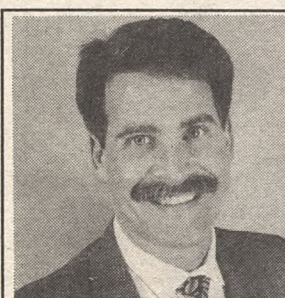
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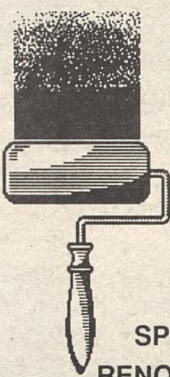
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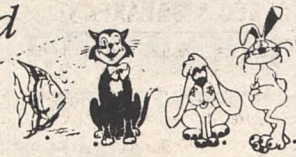


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GWF, very attractive, long hair, Gothic, grunge, alternative music, seeks GWF. Must be feminine and attractive, 47, no Bi's. ☎ 1738

GWF, professional, feminine, fit, desires correspondence with/meeting same 37-45. Appreciates intellect, depth, balance, equanimity, innate sensuality, taste. POB 674812, Marietta, GA 30067. (6.34)

GBF, prof., 30's, kids, attractive, enjoys books, music, dancing, laughing. Seeks GF 25-40 with similar interests for friendship & more. ☎ 1716

Feminine, GWF, 31, seeking dependable friendship, intelligent conversation, laughter (no zombies) and maybe romance with a sincere feminine lady. ☎ 1718

GWF, 35, attractive, romantic, seeks GWF 35-40, attractive feminine dark-haired, fun, likes outdoors, horses, country dancing. Must be honest, playful & stable. I am. Friendship possible relationship. No drugs. ☎ 1719

Single GBF interested in meeting single BF for friendship with many possibilities. ☎ 1701

BiWF, 40's, attractive, trim, first-timer seeks non-smoking, trim, feminine GWF 35-50 for discreet safe encounters. No drugs. ☎ 1709

GWF, seeks special woman 32-40 to meet another special woman, emotionally healthy, no drugs, alcohol abuse, feminine, start with friendship. ☎ 1711

BF experienced, adventurous, affectionate seeks intelligent, exotic, femi-female who enjoys travel, romance, dancing and a lot more. Non-smoker, novice OK, race unimportant. ☎ 1712

If you're a GBF drug free, independant, spiritual, proportioned, naturally beautiful, socio-politically conscious, intellectual, over x-lovers, conversationalist, monogamous - I'm waiting. ☎ 1703

GBF - Attractive, suave 25 yr. old lipstick butch seeks shapely, intelligent, extremely femme Black woman. Prefer Spelman type.

☎ 1707

Seeking aggressive, intelligent, open-minded, romantic for friendship & possible relationship. No drugs. ☎ 1685

GWF, 42, fun, adventurous, independent. Likes outdoors, sports, nice conversation and dinners. Seeks same to go with flow of universe. ☎ 1689

Black lesbian. Intellectually and physically blessed seeks dinner, theatre, bookstore, thriftstore, bowling, exercise companion. Children fine. No drugs, cigarettes, alcohol. ☎ 1672

Petite GWF 28, fem., non-smoker, romantic, sensual, fun-loving, independent. Seek GWF 25-35 for friendship. No smokers, Bi's, butches. ☎ 1680

GWF, 30, cute and petite, seeking same. Friendship in recovery can be fun without drugs and alcohol. Let's be adventurous. ☎ 1675

Feminine, attractive, GBF, no kids, seeking down to earth GBF's for friendship. Will answer all calls. ☎ 1671

GWF, 23, 5'1" seeking attractive GWF, 20's for fun, romantic evenings, good conversation. Friendship, possible relationship. Like fun? Let's meet! ☎ 1678

You: intelligent, secure BiWF, 25-45, seeking take charge partner for sensuous relationship - & willing to travel. Me: BiBF, 38, NY prof'l w/Atl. ties. ☎ 1673

Attractive GWF, 34, intelligent, professional, shapely, adventurous, sincere, new to Atlanta seeks similar GWF's. Come on Girls, I'm waiting! ☎ 1682

Attractive mature lesbian desires same, 40+, to share outdoor & indoor activities, affairs of the soul, humor, music. I am a professional in human services, stable, tolerant of diversity, + not on the rebound. Prefer womanly type. ☎ 1677

GBF, 33; attractive, sports/arts lover. Appreciates beautiful feminine GF with intellect and security. Call me today anyway. You'll see! ☎ 1665

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

GBF, 35, attractive & professional, seeks

feminine GF, down-to-earth, for companion / friendship. No games, bi's. ☎ 1660

BiBF, 32, attractive GA Peach, feminine, seeks gorgeous fem 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 - Enjoys 2-stepping, outdoors, all animals. Am emotionally healthy, playful, kind, considerate, and honest. Seeking same, 35-40. Friendship possible relationship. ☎ 1604

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

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

Romantic, intelligent, attractive GWF, 34, seeks witty GWF to share love and laughter. Professional, athletic, opinionated. In-

VOICE CONNECTION

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.

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.

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

trigued? 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 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

MEN

WM, 38, 5'8", very handsome, masculine, strong build, seeks open-minded, big man. Big belly is a plus. Letter with photo gets mine. POB 54076, Atlanta, GA 30308. (6.37)

Joven Cubana desea tener Amistad con Damas o caballeros de cualquier edad sincero y cariñoso. No Irogas. ☎ 1776

BM, masculine, built, 30, seeks Black Males for group meetings. Looks unimportant, masculinity, physique, and endowment are important. ☎ 1775

WANTED: ASSWORK. Handsome hairy autoless NE Georgia GWM 26 seeks similar butt enthusiasts for indepth recreation. Couples welcome. Ideas encouraged. ☎ 1782

GWM, 23, mature, college student, outdoorsy, hiker, sks honest guy 25-35. Friendship, maybe more. Box 1354, Cornelia, GA 30531. (6.37)

GWM, 34, handsome, 6'2", 175, Red/green,

swimmer. You are 30+, tall, bright, adventurous and stable. ☎ 1781

GBM, athletic, college educated, sensual, sexual, sensitive 27 year old, seeking masculine, educated physically fit GBM. ☎ 1747

29, tall, educated, very handsome, quality professional WM. Seeking similar, quality WM, handsome, for potential relationship. No games please! ☎ 1751

Atlanta's Hottest GWM - best dancer, most fashion conscious, great personality, great looks - need support to attain your full potential? Let's talk. ☎ 1743

GWM 27, Little overweight seeks GM 18-30 Top for relationship. Latin, Asian, all replies answered. ☎ 1748

GWM, 6', 175, mid 40s, smooth, healthy, professional, seeks HIV- bottom into submission, humiliation, embarrassment for discreet safe sessions. ☎ 1771

Leather Daddy needs leather boy - would you look great in leather jock, chaps, harness, collar & cap - Party with the men. ☎ 1742

INDEX

- AIDS SERVICES*
- ANNOUNCEMENTS*
- ACCOUNTING/TAXES
- EMPLOYMENT
 - Part Time
 - Full Time
 - Seeking*
- HEALTH
 - Fitness
 - Personal Growth
 - Massage*
- INSURANCE
- LEGAL
- LOST/FOUND*
- MERCHANDISE
 - Household Goods/
 - 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.

Misprints: Southern Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

(404) 876-1819
 1189 Virginia Avenue, NE

VOICE
 TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

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:	Business Ad Rates:	VOICE CONNECTION	4 weeks
Categories indicated by asterisks (*).	20 words \$12.00 minimum	20 words	FREE
NON-BUSINESS.	Giant headlines \$3.00	Telephone VOICEbox	FREE
20 words \$3.00 minimum	After 4 issues:	each additional word	50¢
each additional word 50¢	20 words \$11.00 minimum	Giant headlines	\$3.00
Giant headlines \$3.00	each additional word \$1.00	SV forwarding mailbox (optional)	10.00
----- COMPUTE YOUR COST -----	----- COMPUTE YOUR COST -----	Other P.O. Box	5.00
20 words @ 3.00 _____	20 words @ 12.00 _____	----- COMPUTE YOUR COST -----	
# addit. words @ 50¢ _____	# addit. words @ 1.00 _____	20 words	FREE
Giant headline @ 3.00 _____	Giant headline @ 3.00 _____	Telephone VOICEbox	FREE
SUBTOTAL _____	SUBTOTAL _____	# add. words @ 50¢ ea/wk _____	
x _____ # issues	x _____ # issues	Giant headline @ 3.00/week _____	
TOTAL COST _____	TOTAL COST _____	Forwarding box @ 10.00/week _____	
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		SUBTOTAL _____	
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VOICE
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ATLANTA
LESBIAN
and **GAY**
FILM
FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER
12-21
PONCE de LEON
PLAZA
THEATRE

Over 40 films, including:

Damned in the USA

by Paul Yule

A powerful feature-length documentary about art censorship in the United States, featuring the king of censorship himself, Donald Wildmon, as well as Mapplethorpe photographs, Madonna, 2 Live Crew. After seeing the film, Wildmon threatened to sue if it was exhibited.

Forbidden Love:

The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives

by Aerlyn Weissman and Lynne Fernie

Interviews with nine women paint a compelling, often hilarious and always rebellious portrait of lesbian sexuality and survival in Canada during the 1950s and 60s. The interviews are cleverly interspersed with lesbian pulp novel covers, tabloid headlines, archival photographs and film clips.

The Attendant

by Isaac Julien

A stylish, sexy fantasy set in an after-hours art museum; the attendant finds more in "Scene on the Coast of Africa" than might normally meet the eye.

Twin Bracelets

by Yu Shan Huang

Extraordinarily beautiful cinematography combines with a narrative that is richly emotional. Set in a small Chinese village, the film tells the story of two young girls who swear to remain together, forever: "to be sister, man and wife; to live together and die together." But can they?

Ticket Information

Opening Night

November 12

Feature Film and Reception

Tickets are \$15

Tickets for screening programs are \$7

A ten ticket card can be purchased for \$50 which can be used for all screenings except Opening Night. No advance reservations will be made for any screenings. All screenings will be held at the Plaza Theater at Ponce de Leon Ave. and North Highland.

Showing the best
of gay and lesbian
film and video
on two screens
over 10 days

For more information call SAME at 609-9590.