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# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

NOV 18 - NOV 24 / 1993

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## PRIDE CHAIRS RESIGN

*The Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee's board also decides to open its books to an independent auditor to restore community confidence*

by RICHARD SHUMATE

Atlanta—In a bid to restore community confidence, the board of directors of the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee last week accepted the resignations of its co-chairs and initiated an independent audit of the committee's books.

Paul Stone and Skip Marklein, who guided the committee through the Pride '93 event that wound up nearly \$70,000 in debt, were replaced by Richy Howard and Donna Narducci, who will serve as interim co-chairs until board elections in January. The board will also name an independent auditor, perhaps as soon as this week, to go over the committee's financial records—an audit that will be released to the public by the end of the year.

"We can't expect to receive donations and support unless we rebuild our credibility," Howard said. "The feedback we've gotten from the community is that they felt like we were covering something up. We don't want anybody in the community feeling like we're covering things up."

The auditor will be given access to all of the group's budgets and checkbooks and will be asked to determine where money was poorly spent and "where we screwed up," Howard said.

At a board meeting about a month ago, Stone offered his resignation, both as co-chair and as a member of the board of directors, which was not accepted by the board. But at a meeting on Nov. 9, the board decided to accept the resignation. Howard said that after a discussion on how best to repair the group's image—a discussion that included Marklein—the decision was made to replace her as well. She will remain as a member of the board of directors.

"As a group trying to decide what was best for the organization, this is what we came up with," said Howard, who said the committee is offering both co-chairs the opportunity to help with the debt eradication campaign. "We have not asked them to get the hell out of Dodge."

The Pride committee is being sued by Screenpeace, an Atlanta company that produced the T-shirts for Pride '93 and is still owed nearly \$70,000. Because the Pride committee has no assets, Screenpeace's attorneys are also going after the personal assets of Marklein and Stone by naming them as co-defendants in the suit. Their resignations are not expected to have any effect on the lawsuit.

In addition to the audit and the changes in leadership, the Pride committee is also trying to counter the impression by some in the community that Pride officials believe the debt is the community's fault.

"The ALGPC Board of Directors feels that Pride is the responsibility of the community but in no way does the board feel that the current debt is the fault of the community," read a ALGPC press release.

With seven fundraisers already planned and more expected, Howard says that the board hopes to eradicate the debt by this spring—early enough so that it doesn't have a detrimental affect on preparations for next year's Pride celebration in June. It has also decided to sell 12,000 remaining Pride '93 T-shirts at \$1 each for Christmas stocking stuffers in order to escape the cost of storing the leftover T-shirts, Howard said.

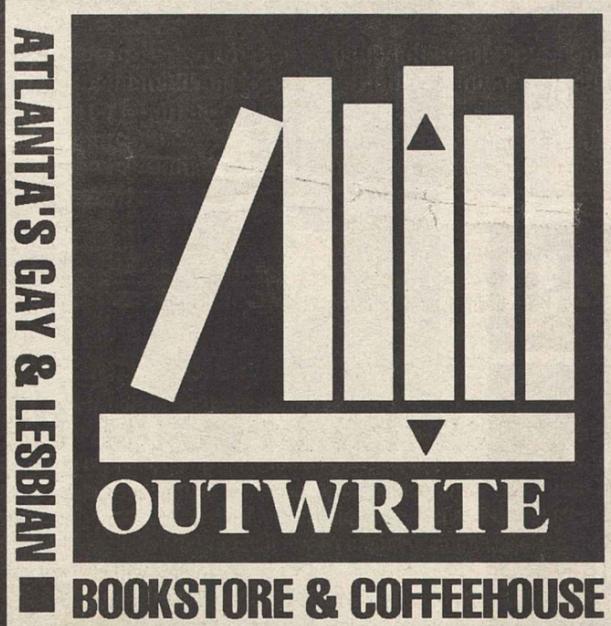
Anyone interested in getting involved in the Pride board elections, to be held in January, can call 662-4533 for more information.

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## Atlanta gay man slain

*Police seeking suspect they say was "known to rob homosexuals"*

Atlanta—A 26-year-old man whose body was found behind the Southwest Atlanta high school he had attended appears to have been the victim of anti-gay violence.

Delray Norman Green, who lived in Doraville, was shot once in the head sometime in the early hours of Nov. 6. His body, partially clothed, was left in the parking lot of Benjamin E. Mays High School. The charred remains of his car were found more than 20 miles away in Norcross.

Atlanta police say they have a suspect in Green's murder, and a warrant has been issued for his arrest on charges of murder and arson.

"This guy they've got the warrant for has been known to rob homosexuals in the past," said Capt. Herbert Carson of the Atlanta Police

Department's homicide division. "He's never killed any others."

Alton Gaston, a close friend of Green's, told Southern Voice that he and another friend had spent Friday night with Green. At about 1 a.m. Saturday morning, Green dropped them off in southwest Atlanta.

"He told us he was going home," Gaston said. "But he never made it."

Instead of returning to Doraville, Green apparently went to a downtown club. Carson said witnesses have placed Green and the suspect together in the club and believe they then "went around in [Green's] car." Police have not identified the club.

Following Green's funeral on Nov. 10, which was attended by mayoral candidate Michael Lomax, Gaston said he didn't believe Green's murderer was "one of us," and said he was angry that Green had fallen victim to a killer who preyed on gays. Police showed him a picture of the suspect, he said, but he didn't recognize the man.



Delray Green

"[Green] was like my brother," he said. "This can't go unattended. Not at all."

KC WILDMOON

## Amsterdam wins Gay Games

Washington, DC—And the winner is... Amsterdam.

Atlanta's bid for the 1998 Gay Games fell short last weekend, as the Federation of Gay Games voted to hold its 1998 event in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, marking the first time since their 1982 inception that the games will be held outside of North America.

The federation had reportedly been leaning toward holding the games on another continent in 1998, leaving Atlanta's organizers with an uphill climb from the start to win the bid. In addition to Atlanta and Amsterdam, the federation also considered a bid from Sydney, Australia.

"All three bids were exceptional," said federation co-presidents Rick Peterson and Susan Kennedy in a press release following the announcement. "Everyone's excited to see the Gay Games enhance its international status by being held off the North American continent for the first time."

The sentiment for moving the games appears to have been overwhelming. Of the 51 votes cast by the federation's board, Atlanta received just two, even though Atlanta's bid had far and away the strongest projected financial support.

Atlanta Gaymes, Inc., which prepared the city's bid with the help of the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau, planned a budget of \$8 million, to be largely supported by corporate monies. The Amsterdam committee presented a budget of \$3.5 million dollars for the event, with 59 percent of that figure coming from government grants. Sydney's \$2.6 million budget would have been funded through community support already in place for that city's hugely successful gay Mardi Gras celebration.

In addition, the numbers of participants projected in the bids of both Sydney and Amsterdam were lower than the number of participants at the 1990 Games in Vancouver, Canada. The 1994 Games, to be held in New York City next June, are expected to draw 15,000 athletes, double Vancouver's number, and Atlanta's bid planners projected that having the 1998 Games here would draw 22,000 participants.

Gov. Zell Miller, Mayor Maynard Jackson and South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu had sent letters of support for the Atlanta bid, and the Carter Center had agreed to host an international conference on human rights to coincide with the games in Atlanta.

Atlanta Gaymes also had the most diverse bid presentation, with the city's African-American and other minority communities represented, along with an equal representation of men and women, while Sydney's and Amsterdam's committees were entirely white.

Working in Amsterdam and Sydney's favor were the lack of restrictions on HIV-positive travellers in their countries and absence of laws against homosexuality. The Netherlands, in particular, has long been open to lesbians and gays, earning Amsterdam the moniker "The Gay Capital of Europe."

"Amsterdam is a very open society with a strong history of tolerance and acceptance, so it's only fitting that Amsterdam's theme for Gay Games V is 'friendship,'" said Kennedy and Peterson.

The federation co-presidents stressed that Amsterdam's selection will not be official until contractual arrangements are finalized. The 1998 Gay Games are tentatively scheduled for August 1-8.

The 1994 Gay Games in New York are set for June 18-25, just before Stonewall 25, the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots that precipitated the modern gay rights struggle.

KC WILDMOON

## Activists back on attack against Cracker Barrel

*No arrests reported at Lithonia sit in*

Lithonia—In the first sit in at a Cracker Barrel in more than a year, some 25 demonstrators took up nine tables for an hour and a half last week at the restaurant chain's Lithonia location to protest the company's anti-gay/lesbian hiring policies.

Another 10 to 15 people participated in a legal picket outside the DeKalb County restaurant. There were no arrests.

The Nov. 6 sit-in was the first in over a year, and was held to draw attention to Cracker Barrel's upcoming stockholders meeting, where stockholders will vote on resolutions that would protect the company's lesbian and gay employees from discrimination. Cracker Barrel officials have balked at such a vote since last year, but a recent court decision has put the issue on this year's ballot.

"We were just trying to put a little pulse into [the 3-year-old protest] after a long lull," said Dale Carrico, vice president of Queer Nation/Atlanta, which sponsored the demonstration.

Unlike previous Cracker Barrel sit-ins, the protestors inside the restaurant were not threatened with arrest and were allowed to stay until the end of the demonstration.

"We got no negative comments at all," said Carrico. "The hostess was kind enough to ask us back when we left. Our waitress begged us to stay until the end of her shift."

The fight to bring gay rights to the roadside eatery will go before the stockholders at the company's annual meeting on Nov. 23 in Lebanon, Tenn. The New York City Employees Retirement System, a major stockholder, has sponsored a resolution requiring the company to "implement non-discriminatory policies relating to sexual orientation and to add explicit prohibitions against such discrimination to their corporate employment policy statement."

The New York retirement system attempted to sponsor a similar resolution last year, but the Securities and Exchange Commission squelched the effort, ruling that such a resolution was "ordinary business activity" and therefore did not fall under shareholders' jurisdiction. But last month, a federal judge struck down that SEC ruling.

The Wall St. Project of the Community Lesbian and Gay Rights Institute of New York is urging government employees in California, Colorado, Florida, New Jersey and Texas to call their retirement funds, urging them to vote for the resolution. And the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution on Nov. 1 urging the California Teachers Retirement

System and the California Public Employees Retirement System to support the New York group's proposal.

Stockholders will also vote on a proposal by Atlantan Carl Owens to require the company's board to "reflect the various races, gender and sexual orientations of the stockholders." Owens

*"We got no negative comments at all," said Queer Nation/Atlanta vice president Dale Carrico. "The hostess was kind enough to ask us back when we left. Our waitress begged us to stay until the end of her shift."*

began a "Buy One" campaign in 1991, urging lesbians, gay men, and supporters to buy one share of Cracker Barrel stock. The company attempted to squelch that proposal as well, but in September the SEC ruled that Owens proposal was legitimate.

KC WILDMOON

## Coverdell co-sponsors federal hate crimes bill

*Georgia Republican lauded for his first gay-positive stance*

Washington, DC—Georgia's junior U.S. senator, Republican Paul Coverdell, signed on as a co-sponsor of a bill that increases penalties for hate crimes, including those committed against someone based on their sexual orientation.

Earlier this month, the full Senate passed the measure on a vote of 95 to 4. The House had already passed an identical bill last month.

"This is the first time Senator Coverdell has done anything positive on behalf of his lesbian and gay constituents," said Atlanta's HRCF representative, Don George. "We want an avalanche of mail thanking him, giving him encouragement to do the right thing again in the future. I'm sure he'll be blasted by the religious right."

"The passage of the measure is significant in its recognition of the rise in anti-black, anti-Semitic [and] gay and lesbian violence," said Carl Lange, executive director of the Atlanta



U.S. Sen. Paul Coverdell

chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "Mr. Coverdell should be applauded for his support."

The hate crimes bill was introduced by Sens. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colo., Carol Moseley-Braun, D-

Ill., Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, and Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. While Coverdell was a co-sponsor, Georgia's other U.S. senator, Sam Nunn, was not. Nunn, however, voted for the bill.

Similar legislation failed last year when Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., objected to the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the bill's language. Helms again objected to the measure, but in the end he was one of only four senators to oppose it.

"Someone who selects a victim based on hatred should be subject to the stiffest penalties," said bill sponsor Feinstein.

The act is limited to 14 federal offenses, such as crimes committed on government property, but supporters of the bill believe it will serve as an example to state and local governments when they consider similar measures and could be broadened to increase penalties in criminal civil rights cases.

The entire crime bill now goes before a Senate-House conference committee to iron out differences, but most observers believe the sentencing act will survive because of its widespread support among members of Congress.

KC WILDMOON



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## Judge says Marine may win

Washington, DC—A gay Marine likely will prevail in his suit challenging the Pentagon's ban on gays in the military, the judge hearing the case has indicated.

U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin said Sgt. Justin C. Elzie had presented "a strong case that he will probably succeed in establishing that the policy banning gay men and lesbians from the military solely on the basis of status serves no legitimate governmental purpose."

Sporkin offered that glimpse into his thinking last week in an order instructing the Pentagon not to discharge or take "any adverse action" against Elzie while his case is pending. His order was made public by

Elzie's lawyer, Lanny Breuer, who called it "a very important decision for the rights of gay people throughout the country."

Chief Warrant Officer Bill Wright, a Marine Corps spokesman, said, "The Marine Corps will abide by the ruling."

In a 13-page opinion, Sporkin said Elzie "has performed in a sterling fashion for 11 years," negating the Pentagon's assertion that homosexuality is incompatible with military service.

Elzie "did not become any less of a Marine on the day he announced his sexual orientation," Sporkin wrote.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Pridgen's suit cleared for trial

Wilmington, NC—A North Carolina judge will allow a lawsuit filed by Crae Pridgen against the three Marines who beat him in a Wilmington bar to proceed to trial.

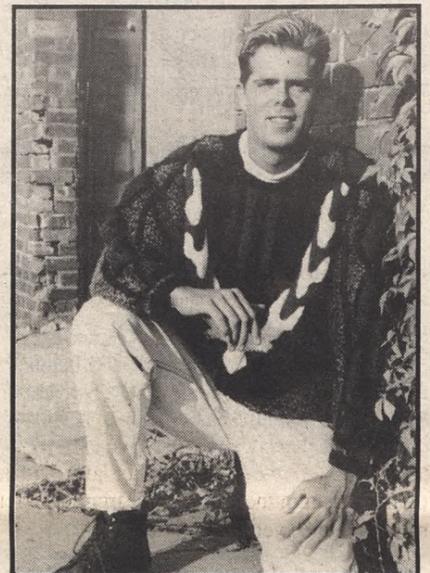
But citing the lack of a state law on hate crimes, New Hanover County Superior Court Judge Ernest Fullwood last week threw out language in the suit that referred to an attack as a hate crime.

Wilmington lawyer Clay Collier, representing the Marines, had asked for the dismissal of the suit, but Fullwood denied the request.

The lawsuit, filed on behalf of Pridgen by the Montgomery, Ala.-based Southern Poverty Law Center, accuses the three Marines of being out to hurt gays when they walked into Mickey Ratz, a Wilmington bar, the night of Jan. 29. The suit asks for damages in excess of \$10,000.

The Marines—Patrick Cardone, Colin Hunt and Walter Watkins—became involved in a brawl with bar patrons, including Pridgen, shortly after walking into the bar. The incident drew national publicity because of its timing, coming on the heels of President Clinton's proposal to lift the ban on lesbians and gay men in the military.

The lawsuit contended the Marines' action was a hate crime, motivated in part by



Crae Pridgen

their reaction to Clinton's announcement that he would reverse the ban on gays in the military. During the brawl, witnesses said they heard the Marines using phrases like, "Clinton's going to pay."

A judge later acquitted the three Marines of assault charges filed in connection with the incident.

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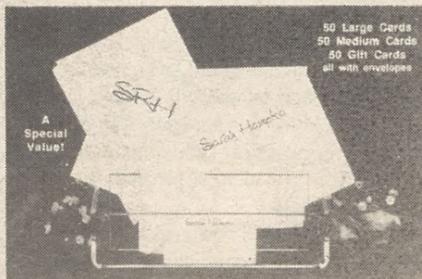
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## NC gay councilman resigns

Chapel Hill, NC—North Carolina's first openly gay elected official has resigned from his seat in the face of a recall effort after he pleaded guilty to charges that he failed to pay income taxes for 14 years.

Joe Herzenberg, a two term Chapel Hill Town Council member, had also served as mayor pro tem of Chapel Hill before his tax problems became public. According to Q-Notes, Charlotte's lesbian and gay newspaper, the council asked Herzenberg to resign, and when he refused, a petition drive was

begun to force a recall election.

The petition drive netted almost 400 signatures more than were needed for the election, and Herzenberg resigned several days after the petitions were submitted to the elections office.

Herzenberg told Q-Notes that he planned to continue his work with the Orange County AIDS Service Agency, most recently the effort to build a residence for AIDS patients in the county.

Q-NOTES

## Mayor won't appear at Falwell rally

Savannah—Savannah Mayor Susan Weiner cancelled plans to speak at a Jerry Falwell "Wake Up America" campaign stop after members of the city's lesbian and gay community "lit up" the City Hall switchboard with calls.

The Network News, the newsletter of the First City Network, a gay/lesbian group,

reported that in a meeting with two network members, the Republican mayor said she wasn't aware the campaign was being used by Falwell to drum up anti-gay sentiment. The network members say that Weiner said she was not anti-gay, but she would not make a public statement on the matter.

## Texas Governor Will Intervene In Apple Flap:

Texas Governor Anne Richards says she will step into the fray over Apple Computer's planned construction of a major facility near Austin, where two Williamson County Commissioners have pledged to oppose tax breaks for the computer giant because the company provides benefits to the partners of its lesbian and gay employees. Apple officials say the company will go ahead with its construction plans regardless of the Commission's actions—no vote will take place until after Apple submits its final construction proposal later this month—and will not scrap its benefits policy to mollify the commissioners.



Cincinnati's new pro-gay mayor says that questions about her sexual orientation are "inappropriate."

**Fear And Loathing In Cincinnati:** Cincinnati mayor-elect Roxanne Qualls is facing questions about her sexual orientation, while lesbian and gay activists in the city have called for a boycott after voters repealed City Council passed gay rights ordinance in last week's elections. Qualls, a two-term council member elected mayor by virtue of garnering the highest vote total of all council candidates, refused to answer questions about her sexual orientation, calling the questions "inappropriate." Cincinnati's mayoral position is largely a ceremonial one—city business is conducted by a city manager. Meanwhile, members of the Gay and Lesbian March Activists and ACT UP say they will picket key events in the city and have called on the country to boycott the city's arts, restaurants, hotels and tourist attractions in protest of the repeal of the gay rights ordinance.

**Catholic Charities Takes Over S.F. AIDS Residence:** Following the crushing disclosure of financial discrepancies at San Francisco's Shanti Project last spring, the city has transferred operational control of the country's largest residence for AIDS patients to Catholic Charities, Inc., an arm of San Francisco's Catholic Archdiocese. The move comes amid increasing tension between the city's lesbian/gay community and the Archdiocese, which repeatedly opposes any positive movement in the struggle for lesbian/gay rights. But lesbian city Supervisor Carole Migden says she is optimistic about Catholic Charities ability to continue to provide appropriate services to gay men and lesbians with HIV/AIDS. "I don't think of them in the same breath from the Archdiocese," she said. "I can't imagine that it's not going to be very successful."

**Congressional Conferees Adopt Restrictive Military Policy:** House and Senate negotiators agreed to a \$261 billion defense budget last week that includes a more restrictive version of President Clinton's policy on lesbians and gay men serving in the military. Lawmakers adopted a plan that would allow a future defense secretary to reinstate the practice of questioning military personnel about sexual orientation, a practice prohibited by Clinton's policy, introduced in July. The legislation makes no mention that sexual orientation is not a bar to military service—it calls homosexuality an "unacceptable risk" to morale, order and discipline—and has no language to discourage ferreting out gays in the armed services. The Clinton administration has described the legislation as "fully consistent" with its own policy.

**Texas Group Challenges Benefits For Domestic Partners:** A Baptist minister is leading a challenge to an Austin policy that provides benefits for gay partners of city employees. The Rev. Charles Bullock organized Concerned Texans, Inc. shortly after the City Council voted 5-2 in September to revise the city's leave and medical benefits plan to include gay partners. Volunteers with Concerned Texans began last week collecting signatures to place an amendment on a May ballot that would allow voters to decide whether gay men and lesbians should be included as a class eligible for employee benefits.

**Oregon Jury Says Being Named as Gay Is Not Defamation:** A jury decided last week that the Oregon Citizens Alliance did not defame a Springfield Human Rights Commissioner when the group incorrectly identified him as gay. George Wickizer had sued the anti-gay political group, claiming his reputation and family life were damaged by the error. OCA financial coordinator Scott Lively, who wrote the October 1991 press release, issued a retraction and apology three hours after distributing it. Jury members would not comment on their verdict.

**Universities Debate Hiring, Admissions And Curriculum On Gay Rights:** The association that sets academic standards for universities in California and Hawaii is debating whether to require them to address homosexuality when promoting diversity. Seventy-five professors, administrators and gay rights advocates discussed the issue last week at a meeting of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, which plans to adopt a policy on diversity next February. The debate broke down into a discussion between religious and public institutions, a division derided by Wiggy Siverstein, president of the Academic Professionals Staff for the California university system. "We are talking about the people we are entrusted to educate," he said, "that we do not educate about discrimination."

**Gay Candidates Fall Short In Houston:** Atlanta was not the only city where gay candidates failed to make the cut in city elections. Five openly gay City Council candidates in Houston went down to defeat in last week's elections, none even making it into runoff scheduled for early December. One candidate, Gene Harrington, garnered 32% of the vote in District D, which includes the lesbian/gay heavy Montrose area. "It's not this election today," said Harrington, who promised to return to electoral politics again, "it's the fact that we are here, and we are empowered."

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# ELECTION '93

by RICHARD SHUMATE

Where will **Myrtle Davis'** people go? That's the most important question to be decided in next week's mayoral runoff in Atlanta between **Bill Campbell** and **Michael Lomax**. And a precinct analysis of the first round of voting shows that where the lesbian/gay vote goes may help determine how that question is answered.

Davis, who was endorsed by GAPAC, apparently found some of her strongest support among lesbian and gay voters, running much better in neighborhoods with identifiable gay/lesbian populations than she did in the city as a whole. In the four Midtown precincts, for example, she captured 22 percent of the vote, compared with about 16 percent citywide, and nearly beat out Michael Lomax for second place. Results were similar in Virginia-Highland and the Grant Park/Ormewood Park area.

However, Campbell, as he was throughout the city, was the favored choice in lesbian/gay areas. He beat Lomax by 18 percentage points in Midtown, by 20 points in Virginia-Highland and by a whopping 47 percentage points in Inman Park-Little Five Points (where Campbell lives).

Lomax's percentages in the neighborhoods with lesbian/gay enclaves—which historically supported him in his county commission races—were about the same as his citywide total (23 percent). However, there was one notable exception—Ansley Park and the adjacent areas to the north, where Lomax narrowly beat Campbell in one precinct and nearly won another. It was the only part of town where Lomax beat Campbell.

If he has any hope of making up ground against Campbell, Lomax will probably have to capture the bulk of Davis' support. And more than one-sixth of all the votes cast for Davis citywide came from areas with identifiable lesbian/gay populations.

Next week's runoffs also feature two City Council races where the gay and lesbian candidates ran but didn't make it into the second round of voting.

In the 2nd District, which includes part of Midtown and Inman Park/Little Five Points, gay candidate **Eric Spivey**, who came in fourth, has endorsed **Debi Starnes**, who placed first in the initial round of voting. Starnes is running against Ayisha Jeffries.

"Debi and I have maintained a friendship throughout this election, and I respect her commitment to the district and the various communities she will represent," said Spivey. GAPAC, which endorsed Spivey in the first round of voting, has joined him in endorsing Spivey over Jeffries.

In the 1st District, which includes Grant Park and Ormewood Park, lesbian candidate **Carolyn White**, who came in fourth, has endorsed **Vern McCarty**. In this race, McCarty, the ex-husband of the district's former councilwoman, **Debbie McCarty**, is in a runoff with **Greg Pridgeon**, the man appointed to replace her this summer when she became parks commissioner.

"I think that [McCarty] will be more responsive in the community," said White, who said McCarty has "consistently" supported the community's agenda throughout the campaign. GAPAC, which endorsed White the first time around, has also endorsed McCarty.

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## Anti-gay measure in Macon

City Council considering Cobb-style resolution

Macon—Cobb County's resolution condemning the "gay lifestyle" has spawned its first progeny, an hour and a half south of Atlanta.

Macon City Councilman W.M. "Dick" Dickey has written a resolution closely modeled on the Cobb measure, passed in August after furious community debate. Dickey's resolution, which praises the "traditional lifestyle" and withholds government support from "alternative lifestyles," was scheduled to be discussed in committee on Nov. 15.

"The leadership of Macon should set an example that they oppose this type of lifestyle," Dickey told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, adding that the "lifestyles" he opposed included gays and unmarried heterosexuals living together. "I think that maybe if the little town of Macon does something like this, other

cities might jump on it, too."

Council President David Carter tried to cover up the targets of Dickey's proposal, saying, "I think a lot will be read into this that is not there."

Carter said he would support the resolution, but Councilwoman Elaine Lucas condemned it.

"I think it's ridiculous of us to even sit here...and think about discussing something as discriminatory as this resolution," she said. "It says we are setting up classes of people that we consider proper and other classes of people we don't consider proper."

The AJC reported that an informal poll of Macon's council members revealed a majority opposed to the resolution.

KC WILDMOON

## Fisher to speak at Interfaith service

Atlanta—Mary Davis Fisher, a woman living with AIDS who addressed the 1992 Republican National Convention, will be the speaker for the Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network's fifth annual "Service of Hope and Healing."

The service begins at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 21 at the First Presbyterian Church, 1328 Peachtree St., near the High Museum.

Fisher, whose moving speech at the GOP convention pleaded for greater tolerance of all people living with HIV, was diagnosed with HIV in 1991. Recognized as a leader in the effort to bring awareness and compassion to the cause of HIV/AIDS, she is the founder of the Family AIDS Network.

"We're delighted to have Mary Fisher with us. Her participation in the interfaith service witnesses to the reality that AIDS knows no

discrimination," says network co-director Bob Hudak. "Her presence is also a compelling reminder that it requires of us all, from every political, social, and religious background, to stand together in the work which needs to be done. It's a very significant way by which we can speak credibly about God's presence to people infected with HIV disease."

Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network is a coalition of churches and synagogues dedicated to overcoming, as Fisher stated, the "ignorance, prejudice and silence" that prevents us from treating all people as "gifts from God."

The network's Common Ground Day Activity Home for anyone living with HIV was recently featured in a CBS documentary about bridging the gap between the faith community and people living with HIV.

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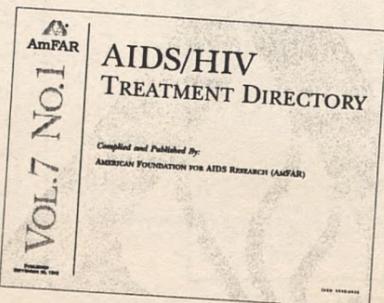
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## A Thanksgiving Story

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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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SOUTHERN VOICE

## GUEST EDITORIAL

## Ban fight shows the folly of pragmatism

by RICHARD D. MOHR

When the new military appropriations bill, which includes language restricting the right of lesbians and gays to enter the military, is signed, Bill Clinton will become the first president in U.S. history to write discrimination against gay people into federal law. The course and resolution of the battle over the ban thoroughly discredit gay politics of pragmatism and compromise.

Pragmatists, such as Barney Frank and Tom Stoddard, argued that some version of the Nunn-Clinton "don't ask, don't tell" compromise was morally acceptable because it would block Congress from writing the ban into law, where it likely would remain for decades, no longer subject to presidential discretion.

The strategy failed spectacularly. The new law eliminates even the virtues which pragmatists thought they could discern in Clinton's compromise. The Associated Press put it this way: the new law "scuttles three major tenets of the Clinton plan—orientation not [being] a bar to service, an end to witchhunts to ferret out gays and even-handed enforcement of the Uniform Code of Military Justice for homosexuals and heterosexuals."

And what of Clinton's plan itself? The only thing it compromised was gay dignity. The rituals of "don't ask, don't tell" reaffirm and seal the closet, drench it with shame and cast gays as degraded, abject beings. And yet, gay/lesbian pragmatists, in their moral blindness, claimed that this was fine, that this was a step in the right direction, indeed the foundation for future gay progress. If so, I'd hate to see the rest of the journey. The Nunn, Clinton, Frank and Stoddard compromises each greased the skids, one for the next, leading inexorably to the Congressional ban. Once compromises

begin, politics cannot stop them—only courageous, principled action can.

What is to be done? Taking gay dignity as our guiding principle, we can sort priorities. We should avoid those pragmatists who view lesbian/gay dignity as a commodity for sale. We should certainly give a low priority to politicians who have shown themselves incapable of even recognizing the importance of gay dignity. Barney Frank is the chief offender here. We should also give a low priority to gay Uncle Toms, such as the Campaign for Military Service and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. We should give an even lower priority to gay Booker T. Washingtons, such as Tim McFeeley and his Human Rights Campaign Fund, who believe that we will get rights if we just keep our noses clean, "act responsibly," and try to buy off heterosexuals by giving them PAC money.

Instead, we should support groups that have gay dignity as their goal and guide their actions by it. Lesbian/gay litigative groups that take on the tough cases are star instances of this commitment and practice. There are many cases that are so important that they are worth losing—cases that lay claim to our dignity and rights are of this sort. For in the very process of asserting one's claim to rights, one dignifies oneself, even if the right is, as a matter of law, denied.

And we need to give more importance to gay/lesbian cultural projects. We should support those gay individuals and institutions that are transforming American culture by being openly gay, by directly challenging oppression and by improving society by injecting gay values into it. Groups such as the gay anti-defamation league GLAAD do this in an exemplary way—by challenging homophobia

in the mass media, by hounding it to increase coverage of gay issues and, most importantly, by pressing the media to incorporate gay perspectives. Thanks to these sorts of actions, the taboo against talking about lesbian/gay issues has all but collapsed in mainstream society.

For the first time, reasoned public discourse is possible on gay issues. But now that the channels are open, more than ever we need ideas with which to fill them. And so we need to support gay/lesbian artists, writers, thinkers, and prophets, not as entertainers or gurus, but as the first among our community builders and as catalysts, such as Tony Kushner, Larry Kramer and Michelangelo Signorile, who have begun transforming society without pandering to its values.

The landscape is littered with phony friends. Beware of politicians and leaders, gay or not, who promise happiness tomorrow if only we are just good enough today by the standards of those who have traditionally oppressed us.

Change is in the air. But we cannot be sure that great reversals are not in store—or even that the long arc of the universe does in the end bend toward justice. Nevertheless, we must stay the course. For we can be sure that if we take dignity as our polestar and if we guide our lives by principle and certify them with the sacrifices which principled living entails, then to a significant degree, gay justice can be ours through our own actions, our worth shining forth unsullied, clear and free.

*Richard D. Mohr is an author and philosophy professor at the University of Illinois. His latest book is "A More Perfect Union: Why Straight Americans Must Stand Up For Gay Rights."*

## LETTERS

## HRCF did not endorse Arrington in city race

Thanks for all of your excellent coverage of the lesbian and gay community and of the issues that affect us. I want to clarify one piece of information that appeared in an advertisement in your Oct. 28 issue.

In that issue, City Council President Marvin Arrington solicited support for his re-election saying he was endorsed by the Human Rights Campaign Fund. In fact, while Arrington may

have a good record on lesbian and gay issues, he did not receive the campaign fund's endorsement because we support only federal candidates. We have been pleased to endorse Representatives John Lewis and Cynthia McKinney and other Georgians running for Congress over the years, but we never have endorsed in a local campaign.

The campaign fund has great respect for

all of the work done by the lesbian and gay community in Georgia. Keep up all of your good work. You are an example for the rest of us.

Eric Rosenthal  
Washington D.C.

*Editor's note: Rosenthal is the HRCF's political director*

## Mickey Day deserves better

I know that it was all in fun, but [Dish's] irreverent comparison between Jerry Falwell and the late Mickey Day [SoVo, Nov. 4], particularly the assertion that "it's possible that Jerry and Mickey were the same person," was enough to make my stomach turn.

Mickey was a loving, gentle and giving person—sincere in every respect—who has undoubtedly found his place among the angels. Jerry Falwell is a hateful and dangerous bigot who deserves to burn in hell for all eternity. You might as well have compared Mickey to Adolph Hitler; Jerry Falwell would do all that Hitler did, if only given the means.

Mickey's untimely departure was a great loss to many of us in the gay and lesbian community. His memory deserves to be protected and certainly deserves better treatment than what was afforded in your most recent "Dish."

Robert Weaver  
Atlanta



## Gobbled by the gay urban food chain

I have a friend who is considering a move to San Francisco, and I don't like that. To me, he is the type of person Atlanta can ill afford to lose—talented, creative, a native Southerner, very community oriented. And yet he wouldn't be the first that I've bid goodbye to on the way to larger, if not greener, pastures. I hate to see him gobbled up by the Gay Urban Food Chain.

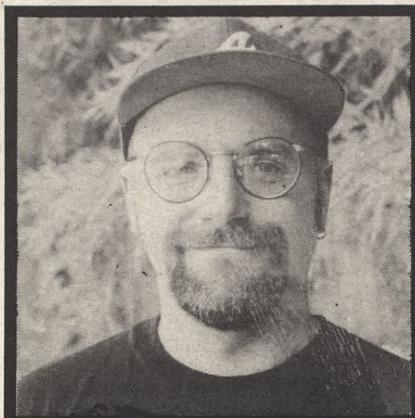
That's my term for the way gay men relocate. Use my friend's history as an example: He started (let's be generic) in Burgville, South Carolina. From there it was Columbia, South Carolina (to school), then Charlotte and Atlanta.

And if he leaves, his progression on to San Francisco would be virtually archetypal, San Francisco being a classic destination city for gay men, the gold at the end of the rainbow, earned by years of climbing the ladder and proving yourself able to survive on the next rung. Why not take the final step?

And so goes the Gay Food Chain, especially with people from small towns. I was one of those boys who sensed early on that my dreams couldn't be fulfilled by my version of Burgville—Hamilton, Alabama—and finally managed to figure out how to swap the old model in for a newer one. It takes a "what the hell" attitude to relocate, and considering my cautious nature, for me it always felt like finally surrendering to the inevitable.

My progression was quite similar to my friend's, only a little further west—from Hamilton to Montgomery for school, Nashville for more school, Montgomery again, and finally Atlanta. Each time, my cautious nature protected me (each move was well planned, safe, with a job or school waiting), but ultimately each time I was forced to keep looking for a place to which I was better suited.

Of course, the Peter Principle (which in its corporate form states that we rise in an organization to our own level of incompetence, and then stay there) has a Relocation Corollary. City-wise, you work your way up until you overreach, but instead of staying there, you back up one space (or two or three, if you burned bridges on the way out of town). I've seen more than one person aim at the Big Apple, and return in three months later, chastened and minus a little of the glimmer that once lit their eyes. Finding your relocation ceiling can be a painful experience.



### Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

And let me admit, one of the reasons I'm still in Atlanta is that none of the standard destination cities—New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago—has overcome my caution enough to move me on. Each of those cities, it seems to me, requires so much more effort for daily survival than does Atlanta. The alternative to which I am attracted—Seattle—isn't a destination, but more like a lateral transfer.

And because Seattle is so similar to Atlanta, a change doesn't make sense. It wouldn't be an upgrade, like San Francisco or New York, but more like swapping one pleasantly livable city for another. Why do that once you've become established in the first one?

Personally, I keep hoping that Atlanta can add itself to the short list of destination cities, can climb one notch higher on the food chain. The opportunity is there, with CNN growing and Ted Turner branching out and the Olympics on the way, and momentum developing.

The alternative—that Atlanta becomes complacent and some other city, like Charlotte, rivals Atlanta's regional dominance, had seemed too ridiculous to even consider until recently (and my friends from Charlotte still find that prospect unimaginable, agreeing with my favorite line about the urban life outside of Atlanta—that without its gay population, Atlanta would have the urban soul of Birmingham).

ham). But Charlotte's recent success in areas that should be Atlanta's, from business and banks to sports to airlines, makes me a little nervous. Our fair city had better not rest long on its laurels.

The lesson of the Gay Urban Food Chain is how talent doesn't slide downhill but instead climbs up it. Talented people find themselves handcuffed to a dream, pulled from place to place, like Ricky in that "I Love Lucy" episode trying to sleep in Lucy's bed, until some part of that dream finds a place to rest. For gay men, that starts out as a place where we're not alone, not the only one, which as society exists now, can almost never be in Burgville or Hamilton, and evolves into whatever.

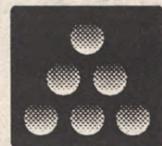
I've heard some gay men complain about this osmosis of gay talent to cities because of the danger it represents to us through our home towns. As gay people in small towns move away, precious few of us remain behind to teach our families and friends tolerance for gay people. That's why politicians can lie about us back there to get votes, which can adversely affect the place we move to as well.

I remain basically skeptical that we can ever win at the ballot box (black people couldn't in 1965, either), but I know it won't happen until we figure out a way to elect better legislators from those places we once called home. That's not a reason to stay, however. We shouldn't sacrifice our own lives (and a sacrifice it would be for me to live *anywhere* in Alabama) to make these places better.

I admit that I wouldn't have let any of these arguments keep me in Montgomery. And while I'm admitting, let me admit that this whole column has been a long, involved effort to tell my friend that I hope he doesn't go. It will be up to him to balance my arguments with his dreams and see if there's any overlap. I trust him to make the right decision.

I'll understand if he leaves—when dreams are sacrificed, the soul suffers. But Atlanta doesn't have enough people of his talent and creativity and stature (no pun intended) to spare any for crazy California. Personally, I hope we get the chance to work together to make Atlanta a destination for a long time to come.

And if not, then at least I have a place to stay in San Francisco. It's a nice place to visit, I hear.



## GLAAD News

by CARL LANGE

### Lesbian Character on Sisters

NBC's prime time weekly program, "Sisters," has added a new character who just happens to be lesbian. Norma Lear, as played by Nora Dunn, comes out to series star Alex, played by Swoozie Kurtz.

Nora is at first seen as a harsh and unfriendly woman, but, in warming up to Alex, is revealed to be a caring, three-dimensional person, challenging typical lesbian stereotypes.

Alex reacts with homophobia that almost borders on hysteria. She loses sight of the person and sees only the sexuality. She spends a good portion of the show feeling sexually threatened and unsure of how to act or respond.

Alex's confusion is ultimately dealt with by her mother with a "what's the big deal" speech where her mom informs her that the family's oldest friend also just happens to be gay.

Warner Brothers Television, producer of "Sisters," deserves recognition for adding a lesbian character to a popular prime time show and for educating the public about homophobia. Let Warner Brothers know you enjoy seeing Norma and encourage them to continue showing her as a well-rounded human being.

Write Keyser and Amy Lippman, co-executive Producers, c/o Warner Bros. Television, 300 Television Plaza, Burbank, CA 91505 or call (818) 954-7413 or fax (818) 954-7367.

### CBS On "Special Rights"

In an otherwise competent segment of the CBS Evening News (Monday, November 1), news correspondent Scott Pelley gave this explanation of Colorado's Amendment 2: "Basically, Amendment 2 says that homosexuals have no special legal rights in Colorado." The reporter put a great deal of emphasis on the word "special."

Pelley's explanation is incorrect. Amendment 2 says nothing about "special legal rights." Instead, the amendment clearly denies equal rights to lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

Pelley's use of the term "special rights" is particularly disturbing because it represents a capitulation to the campaign of misinformation being waged by the religious right. The phrase "special rights" was invented to promote hate legislation that, in fact, denies equal rights to lesbians and gays.

CBS needs to be reminded professional journalism requires reporting the facts and not propaganda. Ask the network to define one "special right" and let them know that Pelley's journalism on this subject is both unprofessional and dangerous. Calls and letters should be directed to Eric Ober, president, CBS News, 524 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019 or call (212) 975-4321.

Tom Trela of GLAAD/NY and Al Kielwasser of GLAAD/SFBA contributed to this column.

Meetings: Nov. 22 Speakers Bureau Video Production Meeting, Nov. 23 Volunteer Night, Nov. 30 Volunteer Night, Dec. 6 Speakers Bureau Committee. For more information, or to report an instance of defamation, contact GLAAD/Atlanta at P.O. Box 55111, Atlanta GA 30308 or call (404) 605-7477. This column is a product of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Atlanta, Inc.

## LETTER

### Don't dismiss Friedan's politics

Concerning Dish's recent mentioning of a protest of Betty Friedan's hate politics of the 70s [SoVo, Nov. 4], I would have to give them an 'A' for spelling but an 'F' for accuracy.

To make the record accurate, Friedan was one of the co-founders of the National Organization for Women and a women's rights activist. First, Friedan did not call lesbians in the women's movement the "lavender menace." That term was coined by lesbians to critique Friedan's hate politics. Unfortunately, she did more than have "some problems with homophobia those many years ago." Friedan is guilty of actively purging lesbians from NOW. Her exclusionary politics do not end there. She also developed an agenda that ignored women of color and women of lower socioeconomic status.

White, middle to upper class women (with Friedan's full backing) were not inclusive of women of color or lesbians when shaping the goals of the feminist movement of the 70s. Dish can dismiss Friedan's hate politics, but try to be accurate.

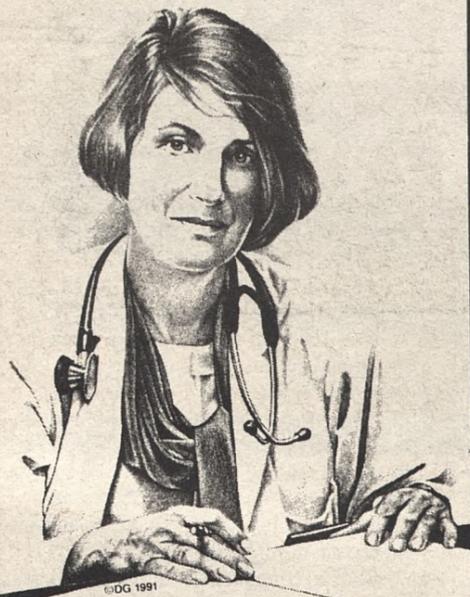
Alfred Hilderbrand  
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BY ANDREA NATALIE



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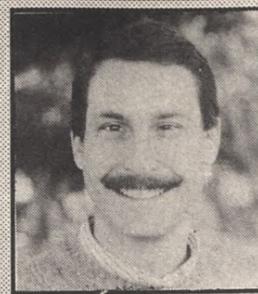
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# AIDS

## AT THE CROSSROADS

by Bruce Mirken



## Destroying lives in order to save them

A little over a year ago the California legislature passed a bill allowing communities to legally set up needle exchange programs in order to stem the tide of HIV infection among drug users by giving them an alternative to sharing dirty needles. Citing a supposed lack of evidence that needle exchanges are effective, Gov. Wilson vetoed the bill.

This year the legislature passed a nearly identical measure. This time, though, it came accompanied by a massive U.C. Berkeley/U.C. San Francisco study reviewing dozens of needle exchange programs in this country and abroad. To no one's surprise, the researchers found that needle exchanges did indeed reduce the needle-sharing that spreads HIV. Just as importantly, they don't lead to increased use of illegal drugs. Remember that as you read on.

Wilson dutifully read the report. And vetoed the bill again.

But this time the scientists had taken away his fig leaf, so for once in his miserable excuse for a career, the governor had to edge close to the truth.

In his veto message, Wilson fretted about needle exchange "sending a mixed message" to young people. "In blunt terms," he continued, "is it worth reducing the risk of infection to intravenous drug users at the potentially far greater cost of undermining all our other preventive anti-drug efforts...?" Wouldn't needle exchange make it harder to tell young people that they "must suffer the consequences of their personal choices"?

So in the upside-down world of the "war on drugs" it's better to let California's 400,000 drug injectors—and their wives, husbands, lovers and children—die rather than send the wrong "message." Better to let the bodies pile up than to confuse the "message."

The last time I heard reasoning like this was during the Vietnam War, when a military spokesman uttered the line that came to symbolize the stupidity and futility of that conflict: "We had to destroy the village in order to save it."

This time, though, the "village" is our own people. After clogging our courts and prisons with drug offenders with no discernable effect on drug usage, now we're told that we must let hundreds of thousands die rather than admit that this "war" has been a deadly, brutal, catastrophic failure.

Enough is enough.

And no, offering addicts bleach kits with which to clean shared needles is *not* an adequate substitute for allowing them access to sterile ones. Research published earlier this year cast new doubt on the conventional wisdom about how long HIV must be exposed to bleach in order to be completely inactivated. Properly sterilizing a syringe with bleach is a fairly intricate procedure—not difficult for a trained lab technician, but extremely tricky for an addict going into withdrawal, with unsteady hands and a distorted sense of time. As long as drug injectors are forced to share needles, they will continue to die.

But even if you don't care about people

who shoot up, remember that this is the same "war" that keeps people with AIDS, cancer or other catastrophic illnesses from using marijuana even when a doctor thinks it is the best thing to ease their pain, control their nausea or boost their appetite. Two years ago Harvard University polled 1,035 cancer specialists, and nearly half said they would prescribe marijuana for their patients. A significant number said they had already recommended it.

Still, marijuana—by any sane reckoning a less harmful drug than tobacco or alcohol—remains a Class I controlled substance, bureaucratized for a highly dangerous drug that has no medicinal value. To hell with what 500 cancer specialists say, we've got a war to fight.

Of course, a synthetic version of marijuana's main active ingredient is available by prescription under the brand name Marinol. Unfortunately the stuff is far more expensive than plain, garden-variety pot.

More to the point, many who have used both say that Marinol doesn't work as well as marijuana. Shouldn't people fighting for their lives have the choice? What kind of society denies people facing a deadly illness the medication that might ease their suffering?

Once again, it's all about symbols and messages. Giving sick people medical marijuana might "send a message" to kids that the stuff isn't so terrible, and we can't allow that, can we? Better to let people with AIDS or cancer suffer—after all, they're just going to die anyway.

Meanwhile look at what the drug war has done to our society: We have more of our population in prison than any other industrialized country on the planet, overwhelmingly due to drug-related offenses. "Asset forfeiture" laws allow the homes, cars and other belongings of suspected drug traffickers to be seized by the government *without anyone being convicted of any crime*. The unlucky victims literally have to prove that the seized property wasn't used for drug dealing, making them guilty until proven innocent. Didn't we used to have a Bill of Rights in this country?

Meanwhile, any effect on rates of drug usage is barely discernible.

But what is undeniable is the terrifying increase in drug-related violence. The drive-by shootings and terror gripping many of our inner cities didn't spring out of nowhere: It's a direct result of the crack trade and the battle for turf in an underground market made both more lucrative and more dangerous by drug war-created artificial scarcities.

Surveying the battlefield of the "war on drugs"—from drug injectors waiting to enter treatment programs condemned to death because they can't get clean needles to a 79-year-old grandmother recently threatened with jail for growing pot in her backyard in order to help a sick son—it is useful to remember the words of William Bennett, the Reagan White House's first "drug czar."

The question, Bennett said, is not whether or not the drug war will be won, "The question is how high the body count will be."

## New drug promises hope for women who want to quit smoking

Seattle, WA—Cancer researchers are gearing up to study a drug that may help prevent withdrawal symptoms and weight gain among people trying to quit smoking.

The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center study will focus on fenfluramine, also known as Pondimin, which has been used for 20 years to treat migraine headaches, obesity and learning disorders. Researchers think the drug may also prevent weight gain among aspiring non-smokers, as well as the negative feelings that can accompany nicotine withdrawal.

"We expect that this medication will significantly help people with the withdrawal process and make quitting easier," study coordinator Diane Powers said.

Fred Hutchinson is seeking 800 female smokers from age 30 to 65 to participate in a study called SIGH—Smokers' Intervention for Good Health. Women were chosen for the trial because research shows they have a harder time quitting smoking than men, she said.

"Women actually physiologically have more difficulty than men with withdrawal symptoms...They're more intense and usually last longer," Powers said. Researchers "don't know why that is but they do know that it's true," she added. "That relates to the whole host of withdrawal symptoms."

In addition to gaining a few pounds, she said, smokers trying to kick the habit often report feeling irritable and depressed, insomnia, and food cravings.

"This pill is expected to help all of those," Powers said.

Half the participants will receive fenfluramine, while the others will receive a placebo. All participants will be asked to try to quit smoking. The drug has a few minor side effects, with a dry mouth the most commonly reported problem, she said.

Although there has been no publicity on the study until now, researchers have received calls from women as far away as Oregon and Montana who heard about it by word of mouth.

Those chosen for the study must attend one meeting in Seattle, where they will receive a 12-week supply of the drug or the placebo and advice on how to stop smoking. Follow-ups will be done by phone and mail. "We want to find a method or combination in the long run that lets people quit and stay quit," Powers said.

Pat Hogan, a Tacoma neurologist and president of the Tobacco Free Coalition of Pierce County, said he'll follow the trial with interest.

"I think it could be a tremendous step forward. One of the major drawbacks of quitting for many people is their concern about weight gain," Hogan said. "If nothing else, if it (fenfluramine) would just remove the fear, the worry about the weight gain, it would be a good step forward," he added.

Women interested in participating in the study can call researchers at (206) 667-4946.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Numerous alternatives may make hysterectomy unnecessary

by DR. STEVEN R. GOLDSTEIN

Diagnostic advances and less invasive procedures may offer alternatives to hysterectomy today, so it's important for women to know about these new options to be able to discuss them with their physicians.

Almost 600,000 hysterectomies are performed annually in the United States at a cost of more than \$9 billion, giving rise to the hope that a number of these operations may be avoidable. Hysterectomy is the surgical removal of the uterus, which also eliminates menstruation and the ability to become pregnant. Depending upon the circumstances, the operation may require two to five days of hospitalization, and four to six weeks for a complete recovery.

Benign fibroid tumors of the uterus, which cause an increase in uterine size, pelvic pain and abnormal vaginal bleeding, are responsible for 30 percent of hysterectomies. In the past, if the uterus was enlarged by fibroids to the size of a 12 to 14-week pregnancy—even without symptoms—a hysterectomy was performed.

The reason often given for surgery was that the uterine enlargement made it impossible to feel the ovaries and check for possible cancer. Now, sonograms can often tell the physician if the ovaries are enlarged—even in overweight women.

Abnormal vaginal bleeding is a frequent indicator for hysterectomy, but recent techniques have enhanced the ability to identify its cause and often avoid surgery. Increasingly, ultrasound can provide accurate information about the condition of the uterus and its lining, the endometrium.

With a sonohysterogram, a sterile saline solution is introduced into the uterus, permitting the physician to identify polyps and fibroids. This procedure may even deter-

mine when bleeding is hormonally caused so that it may be hormonally treated. Some smaller fibroids and polyps may be removed with same-day resectoscopic surgery, using a wire loop connected to an electric current to shave the tumor.

In younger women wishing to preserve their reproductive potential, fibroid tumors may be removed alone, with reconstruction of the uterus. This procedure, called myomectomy, is especially useful in women below the age of 40.

When fibroids tumors bleed very heavily and are not amenable to these techniques, hysterectomy becomes necessary. Hysterectomy also is appropriate for significant degrees of pelvic support defects, or uterine prolapse, where a portion of the uterus protrudes below the opening of the vagina. Less extensive operative procedures may be employed in younger women desiring retention of the uterus.

For older women, who are no longer reasonable candidates for a major operative procedure, vaginal pessaries (rings that support the uterus) can be useful for these conditions.

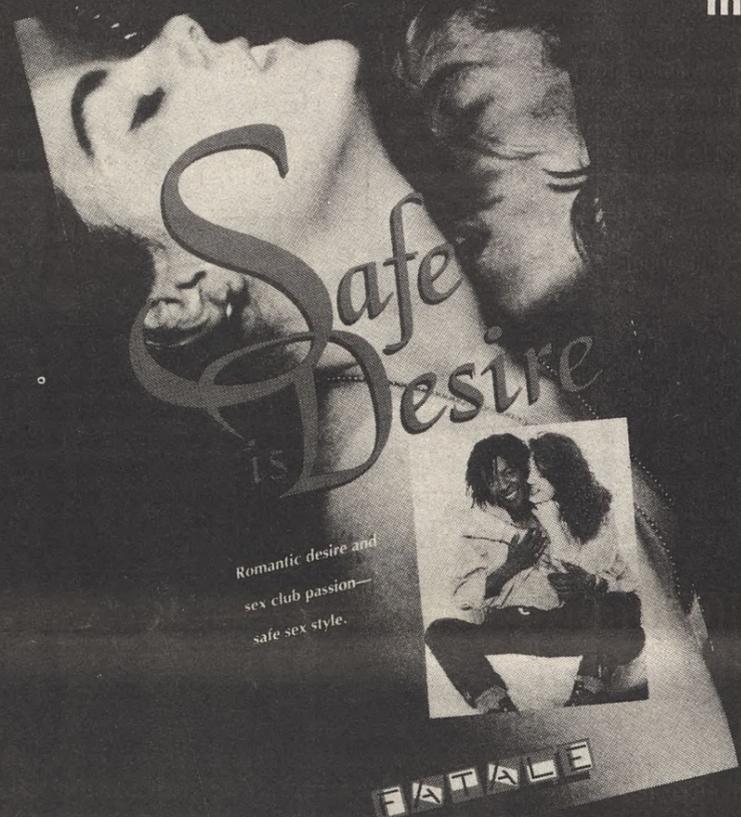
When the indication is pelvic pain, hysterectomy should be offered only after extensive diagnostic procedures have failed to find a specific cause.

Hysterectomy is usually not an emergency procedure. If it is recommended, there is almost always time to ask, "what is the indication?" and "are other options available?" Barring malignancy, the answer may be, "yes."

Dr. Steven R. Goldstein is associate professor of obstetrics-gynecology at New York University Medical Center.

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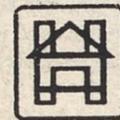
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## Tainted blood supplies spread AIDS fear from Europe to the Third World

Geneva—From prosperous West Europe to the world's poorest nations, contaminated blood supplies are spreading fear that life-saving transfusions could actually lead to death from AIDS.

Evidence that a German company distributed plasma products tainted with HIV has spread panic and sent other European countries scurrying to check their stocks. A recent scandal in Colombia set back South American efforts to improve safety. Patchy testing of blood supplies in Africa has hindered attempts to stem the spread of the disease in the worst-affected continent. And tainted blood given to orphans during the Communist era has resulted in more than 2,300 infected children in Romania.

What is the risk of contracting HIV through contaminated blood?

Low in wealthy countries and high in parts of the Third World. The World Health Organization estimates there have been about 2.5 million cases of full-blown acquired immune deficiency syndrome since records were first kept in 1981. Around 14 million people worldwide have the human immunodeficiency virus.

"Globally between 5-10 percent of cases are estimated to be due to transfusion-trans-

mitted infection through blood and blood products," said Dr. Jean Emmanuel of WHO's global program on AIDS. WHO estimates about 75 percent of cases worldwide are from heterosexual intercourse, the rest from homosexual intercourse, contaminated needles, or from mother to child.

In the United States, health authorities estimate the risk of patients becoming infected with HIV from blood transfusions is about one in 250,000, compared with one in 2,500 in 1985.

About half the 20,000 hemophiliacs in the United States were infected by HIV before testing for the virus was introduced in 1985. Similar stories unfolded in Japan, Canada, Britain, Spain, Italy and Switzerland.

In France, four senior health officials were convicted last year of knowingly allowing hemophiliacs to receive blood-clotting products tainted by HIV in 1985. Heat-treated plasma had just become available from the United States, but the head of France's national blood bank decided the imports would be too costly. About 1,200 hemophiliacs were infected by the Factor 8 they needed to clot their blood to prevent bleeding.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Condom ads invade mainstream media in D.C.

Washington, DC—Advertisements for condoms have made their way into the mainstream media in Washington, DC—thanks to the efforts of Whitman-Walker Clinic.

The clinic's ads, advocating the use of condoms for AIDS prevention, are now being broadcast on five Washington area television stations (including two network affiliates) and five radio stations. Print versions appear in a dozen local magazines and newspapers (including The Washington Post), and on Metro Bush Shelters.

Whitman-Walker sponsors an AIDS Awareness Month campaign every October. This year's campaign featured ads that include pictures of condoms. In an effort to reach many different ethnic and racial groups, the ads also include several street names or slang expressions for condoms, such as "love glove," "raincoat," and the French "preservatif." The ads carry the slogan, "It Doesn't Matter What You Call It—Wear It."

The Clinic modified the ads to answer

the concerns of two network TV affiliates (WTTG-TV Channel 5/Fox and WJLA Channel 7/ABC) and The Washington Post. In the revised versions, the condoms are packaged and some of the street names used in the original version of the ad have been cut.

As of June 30, 1993, 8,560 cases of full-blown AIDS had been reported in the Washington DC metropolitan area. 5,268 AIDS-related deaths had been reported. On October 19, 1993, Washington DC Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly, the city's School Board President and Commissioner of Public Health joined Whitman-Walker's Executive Director, Jim Graham, in calling on network television affiliates to run the condom ads.

Debates over condom advertising are underway in several cities across the U.S. In Boston, The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has rejected condom ads and The Massachusetts AIDS Action Committee has hired an attorney to sue the MBTA for censorship.

## Two new studies show AIDS vaccine helps boost immune system

Meriden, CT—MicroGeneSys Inc.'s AIDS vaccine can help afflicted patients regain the ability to fight off other germs and protect them from attacks on their immune system, two new studies indicate.

The studies of VaxSyn gp160, performed at the Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control and the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, were released last week at a meeting in Alexandria, Va.

The Swedish government funded the experiments, which show the VaxSyn vaccine can extend the lives of people infected with AIDS.

In one of the studies, 40 people with

AIDS were injected with the vaccine and monitored for two years. All showed an increased immune response to tetanus, the flu, measles, cytomegalovirus and HIV. The other study showed VaxSyn recipients produced fewer autoantibodies, which attack a healthy immune system.

The results are a "hopeful sign," but only a full-scale clinical trial can prove whether the vaccine will work, said Eric Sandstrom, associate professor of the Karolinska Institute and co-author of the studies.

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## Karen Boyles resigns as director of Project Open Hand/Atlanta

*She cites a family medical emergency for her decision*

Atlanta—Project Open Hand is seeking a new executive director after the resignation last week of Karen J. Boyles, who had held the position since 1990.

Christopher M. Bennett, the agency's board treasurer, has been named interim director while the board conducts a search for a permanent leader. Bennett has resigned his board positions in order to serve as executive director and has taken a leave of absence from his real estate business.

"Working for a direct service agency for three years is very exhausting," Boyles said, citing a family emergency that prompted the suddenness of her resignation, which was ef-

fective Nov. 5. "Those two things combined were just more than I could deal with. I decided to move on to something less stressful."

Project Open Hand board vice president Paul Horning characterized Boyles' tenure as "compassionate and caring." "Karen has carried Project Open Hand through a key stage of development, and we are all grateful to her," he said.

Boyles came to Project Open Hand in November 1990 from the DeKalb County Council on Aging, where she worked with the Meals on Wheels program.

"It was a natural for me to go in to Open Hand," Boyles said of the transition from providing meals for the elderly to providing meals for people with AIDS. "I appreciate having had the opportunity to serve this remarkable organization," Boyles said.

But while the stress of managing a direct

service agency took its toll on Boyles, the increased demand for services has also taken its toll on the agency itself.

"Each year it's tougher and tougher, and

*"Each year it's tougher and tougher, and from time to time we go through some cash crunches," said Paul Horning, vice president of Project Open Hand's board. "But we're meeting payroll, and we're meeting the need of feeding people. Yes, we need money. But no, we're not going broke."*

from time to time we go through some cash crunches," said Horning. "But we're meeting payroll, and we're meeting the need of feeding people."

"Yes, we need money," he said. "But no, we're not going broke."

Bennett, who is a certified public accountant, seemed the ideal choice as interim director, Horning said.

"Chris has already been working with the...staff to upgrade our...accounting system," he said. "It makes sense to have someone familiar with the operation and staff fill the executive director's chair while a widespread search for Karen's successor is conducted."

Board secretary Brenda Dawson is heading the search committee for a new executive director.

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A car displaying Nazi regalia is attacked as it enters a state park for an anti-lesbian/gay rally

## Counterdemonstrators lash back at KKK/Nazi rally against Gays

*Supremacist groups decide to cancel parade for their own safety*

Washington Crossing, PA— Jim Currie and a caravan of friends drove four hours from New York to protest against hate.

They arrived eager to blend their voices with 300 others, who gathered in a state park in Washington Crossing, about 40 miles north of Philadelphia. They came on Nov. 6 to protest against the message of white separatists, Ku Klux Klan members and skinheads, who gathered in the park to express their hate for lesbians and gay men.

But the students from New York said what they found on their side of the highway was anger and hate equal to what they had come to oppose.

Counterprotesters threw rocks and bottles, got rough with two men wearing Confederate flag emblems on their hats and smashed the window of a car driven by a white supremacist. "I have a lot of problems with people who say there's no free speech for certain groups, even fascists," said Currie, a junior at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

The 50 people who rallied under the organization of the United States of America Nationalist Party were outnumbered 6-to-1 by counterprotesters. They also were outnumbered by 300 state troopers wearing riot gear, who

watched on foot, on horseback, on motorcycles and in helicopters.

Police kept the sides separated by a creek, but violence still erupted. No injuries were reported, and there was only one arrest, for underage drinking, State Police Sgt. Richard Morris said.

*Led by dueling megaphones, the counterprotesters chanted "Death, death, death to the Klan," and "When genocide is what you preach, you can't hide behind free speech."*

*The white supremacists chanted "Heil Hitler" and stretched their left arms straight in salute.*

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The white supremacists chanted "Heil Hitler" and stretched their left

arms straight in salute.

Police searched each car driven by a Nationalist Party supporter as it entered the park. They frisked each person.

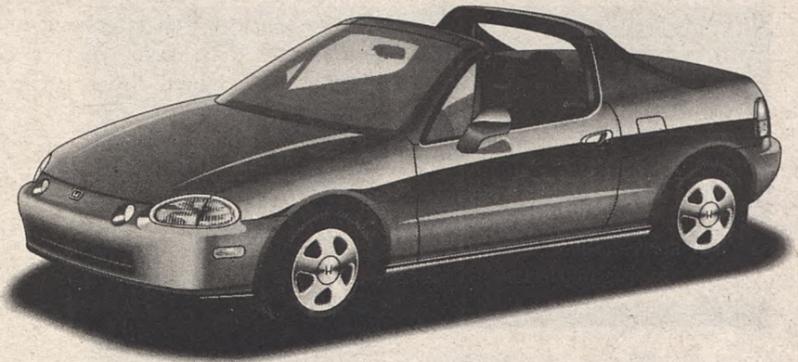
A 22-year-old man, who identified himself only as Chris, said he drove an hour from Norristown, Penn. to "protest faggots."

"The Bible says Adam and Eve," he said. "Not Adam and Steve."

The rally in Washington Crossing was to have been followed by an anti-gay/lesbian parade in nearby New Hope. But that march was cancelled by its neo-Nazi and KKK organizers because they said they didn't believe police could provide sufficient protection against counterdemonstrators.

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## Alexander takes helm of arts group

Washington, DC—Actress Jane Alexander took over the National Endowment for the Arts with no experience in politics or in running a bureaucracy. But the 53-year-old Tony Award winner says she's not worried.

"It doesn't make me nervous, I don't know why," she said with a laugh. "Maybe I've played too many great women—from Eleanor Roosevelt to the first woman justice of the Supreme Court to, recently, a bank executive. Maybe I'm confusing art with life."

More seriously, she added, she is ready to lead.

"I have a vision for the agency and for arts in this country, and I think it's a question of leadership as much as it is of administrative experience," the NEA chairwoman said.

It's been widely alleged that the endowment, for which President Clinton sought \$174 million this fiscal year, uses taxpayer money to support pornographic art, obscenity, art that attacks religion, art that attacks politicians. That's largely untrue, she said.

She plans to make sure people know what the endowment really does—supporting museums, symphonies, folk artists and designers across the nation.

"So I'm going to get out there and try to tell the truth and hope people will listen with regard to the—what is it?—100,000 grants in 27 years," she said, furrowing her brow and waving a hand for emphasis.

She'll do it by talking, to the news media and many others.

"And I want to talk to your local Rotary Club, and...your local board of community theaters, and whatever—your local arts galler-

ies association and festivals," Alexander said.

"I can see myself going out and just standing up with a bullhorn and talking to people in general and having a good time about it. The arts are about having a good time."

Many of those attacking the endowment in Congress just want their voices heard, she said.

"They don't want to see the arts endowment abolished. They don't want to knock the arts per se," she said. "They just want some responsiveness to some people in their constituency who are upset about certain things."

"They have a right to be upset. But what I want to do is just get up there and be vocal too."

Alexander is an accomplished actress, winner of a Tony and an Emmy. Her stature in the art world is one of her biggest assets. So is her articulate voice and her evenhanded approach.

Timing is on her side, too, she said.

"I think we're in a whole new time. And not the least of it is we're in an administration that is wholly supportive of the arts and the endowment and wants to see the arts as an integral part of everybody's life in this country."

Alexander isn't ready to talk specifics. She won't say how she'll change the agency. And she won't comment on the Clinton administration's decision to appeal a court ruling that knocked down mandatory decency standards put in place during the Bush administration.

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## Join Andy Young and Community Leaders Across Atlanta in Support of Michael Lomax for Mayor



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## Activists gather in Durham to create change

Durham, N.C.— The nation's largest annual gathering of gay and lesbian activists took place in Durham last weekend.

The Creating Change conference, sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, was held from Nov. 10-14. It featured more than 35 skills-building workshops, and 10 day-long intensive sessions on Fighting the Right, Civil Rights/Privacy, Anti-Violence, Health Policy, Ageism, Age, and Aging, Work and Family, International Activism, Sex and Sexuality, Southern Community Organizing, and Youth Organizing. In addition, Creating Change featured a two-day Movement Building Institute including People of Color Organizing, Diversity Training, and Race, Class, and Gender Institute.

Featured plenary speakers included Mab Segrest, a North Carolina-based activist who spoke on her years of activism in the South, including battles with the Klan and Nazi movements; Dr. Marjorie Hill, currently of New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation, and former Director of the Mayor's Office for the Lesbian and Gay Community; and Dr. Franklin Kameny, one of the founders of the Mattachine Society of Washington and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in 1973. He returned this year to honor NGLTF as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. Special guests at the conference included Soweto-born Cecil Nyathi, president of a grassroots gay and lesbian advocacy organization in South Africa, Micha Ramakers, from the Information Secretariat of the International Gay and Lesbian Association, and a book signing by famed author/poet Adrienne Rich.

On Saturday, Nov. 13, the Creating Change conference featured Stand Up For Your Rights III, a gala showcase of queer community talent at Duke University's Page Auditorium. The evening included Michele Crone, a women's music festival legend as emcee; lesbian comic Lea Delaria; performance artist Brian Freeman (and co-founder of Pomo Afro Homos, Post Modern African-American Ho-

mosexuals); performer and playwright Kate Bornstein (she has a unique non-gendered point of view); a cappella group Sons & Lovers; and North Carolina's Common Woman Chorus.

This year's conference also featured a town hall meeting on "Access to Power; Whose Access, Whose Power," moderated by Sue Hyde, NGLTF Fight the Right Organizer, and included presentations by Bob Hattoy, Assistant Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior, and Amber Hollibaugh, Lesbian AIDS Project Coordinator of the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York.

"Creating Change will allow time for activists to share experiences, discuss theory and

develop unified strategies on the issues," according to Ivy Young, director of the Creating Change. "Activists who attend Creating Change will better be able to explore issues in depth and learn from each other."

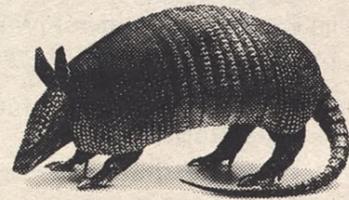
Last year more than 1,200 organizers, students and activists from 46 states and six countries assembled in Los Angeles for the largest Creating Change conference ever. Past conferences

have also been held in Minneapolis and Washington, D.C.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is the country's oldest national gay and lesbian advocacy organization and serves as the grassroots organizing arm of the lesbian and gay movement. NGLTF is currently undertaking an organizational expansion that is carefully gauged to refocus the energies of the Task Force on key issues such as state and local civil rights organizing, developing a proactive health care agenda and fighting the anti-gay activities of the Far Right, along with NGLTF's current anti-violence and privacy programs. "The Task Force, while strengthening activism on a state and local level, will continue to set the tone and pace of a national agenda for securing full equality for lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals," said Peri Jude Radecic, who took over as executive director on Nov. 1.

*"Creating Change will allow time for activists to share experiences, discuss theory and develop unified strategies on the issues," according to Ivy Young, director of the Creating Change. "Activists who attend Creating Change will better be able to explore issues in depth and learn from each other."*

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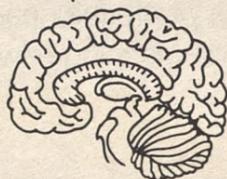
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## Right wingers zap P-FLAG phone line

*Huge bills for harassing 800-number calls forced the group to turn off its line*

Washington, DC—Despite persistent rumors that gays and fundamentalists could bring down each other's 800 lines by tying up their toll-free numbers, it was only rumor—until recently.

This past year, Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) became the first casualty of the right wing's guerrilla war on gay groups.

Between January and May, P-FLAG received up to 100 calls a day from single numbers in Colorado Springs, Colo., the home of Focus on the Family as well as other anti-gay groups. Because P-FLAG was on a computerized referral system, it didn't realize what was going on until the bills started rolling in. Last June, P-FLAG had to pull its 800 number. It currently is raising funds to get it up again.

"Soon after President Clinton brought up the idea of lifting the military ban on lesbians and gays, someone from the right started abusing the system," said George Neighbors, spokesperson at P-FLAG's headquarters in Washington, D.C. "It blew the system out. We had to pull the whole service."

Neighbors did not know how much the actual phone bill was, but he said he thought it was in the tens of thousands of dollars.

According to AT&T spokesperson Sue Adams, phone harassment isn't that common though AT&T has had enough problems with it to create its own 800 number for "annoying, harassing or threatening calls."

"I have only heard of anecdotal instances," said Adams. "But even so, we now have a cor-

porate security group which deals with annoying or harassing phone calls. It has happened often enough that our security officer has developed guidelines for it that can help anyone who is experiencing these kind of calls."

While phone calls like this aren't necessarily illegal, AT&T says it does everything in its power to stop them. From a special security unit to investigation to help with filing criminal charges when applicable, AT&T wants to make sure the 800 numbers are used by legitimate callers only.

"If local laws are being broken, we will refer the matter to local law authorities, but if it falls under AT&T guidelines of harassing or annoying calls, we will help resolve the matter," Adams said.

Although P-FLAG later identified the persons involved, the group has not yet taken action against them.

In the past, the fear of extremists being able to run up exorbitant bills has been a persistent one for gay groups, said David Smith of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"Whenever I've been involved in publicizing an 800 number, it has always been brought up that it was a right-wing tactic," said Smith. "It has been a concern because it is considered a direct action tactic."

P-FLAG officials say they see what happened as a temporary setback. Though they were \$50,000 in debt by June, they have started a telemarketing campaign and are asking people who join the national organization to pay dues and give donations to fund the 800 line, which P-FLAG plans to have ready by next year.

"We're not going to let this stop us," said Neighbors. "We hope to have the number back as soon as possible. Early 1994 is our goal."

DELL RICHARDS

# ✓ Debi Starnes

## City Council District 2

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#### THANK YOU!

As the returns came in on election night, I was deeply moved and very grateful for the confidence that you, the voters of District 2 showed in me.

I wish I had the chance to thank each and every one of you in person. I am especially moved by coming in first or second in 13 out of 15 precincts in this District. To find such strong support in every neighborhood is very important to me, because I want to represent all of us.

I also want the gay men and lesbian community to know that I have been supportive of gay rights **BEFORE** I ran for office. While on the Atlanta Zoning Review Board, I was a key vote for the Jerusalem House.

I am also happy to report that I have been endorsed by GAPAC and Eric Spivey (former candidate for District 2.)

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your support is a blessing.

*Debi*



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## Family

Continued from page 19

The Massachusetts case is not the only one expanding the definition of family. Two other cases also point up this change.

• A gay man, Kevin Thomas, was given custody of the 5-year-old girl he helped raise from birth although he is not related to the child by blood and the biological mother fought the decision.

• By adopting, a Vermont lesbian was allowed to become the legal stepmother of the two children born to her lover through artificial insemination. Until the past few years, same-sex parents were not allowed to become legal step-parents.

"Courts are recognizing that biology is not necessarily a determination of parent-child relationships," said Paula Ettelbrick, who submitted a friends-of-the-court brief on the case for Lambda Legal Defense Fund before she became the Director of Public Policy for the National Center for Lesbian Rights. "It also reflects a certain recognition of lesbian families, that the courts view these families as just as capable of raising children as other families."

States throughout the country are beginning to recognize the gay parent as a rightful stepparent. Cases in Florida, Washington, California and the District of Columbia are just a few of the states which have recognized this change in the past few years.

"Vermont was unique in that it was the first time a state supreme court allowed a lesbian second-parent adoption," said Ettelbrick. "Most cases are at the trial court level and are almost unanimous in granting the adoption."

In fact, the courts have been quietly expanding the definition of family in custody cases for nearly a decade. In 1987, Craig Corbett was given custody of his deceased lover's adolescent son, Brian, over the objections of the boy's biological fundamentalist mother. Amid a firestorm

of publicity, Corbett spent nearly \$800,000 on legal fees, finally declared bankruptcy and lost homes scattered across the West and Hawaii to see that the case through.

"I spent a fortune going through this exercise, but I couldn't allow the relationship with Brian to end," said Corbett. "His father Frank always was the nurturer, the one who sat up all night with him when he was sick. Brian had been with us since he was four or five."

The difference today is that, seven years after Corbett's ordeal, the publicity surrounding gay cases has died down amid an onslaught of heterosexual non-biological parents demanding rights equal to biological parents. As a result, cases like Kevin Thomas' hardly get a mention. Yet Thomas' attorney, Glen H. Schwartz, argued successfully that because Thomas has acted as 5-year-old Courtney's father and that Courtney believed Thomas was her father, it gave Thomas rights that he would have been inconceivable a decade ago.

"Thomas was the presumed father—a man who had taken the child into his home and held the child out as his own," said Schwartz who has successfully argued other cases for fathers. In fact, Thomas went so far as to change his last name to that of Courtney and the mother's other children. "This was the family unit the child grew up in."

Despite victories in similar cases, Schwartz is quick to point out that same-sex couples should not rely on the courts for help. That despite legal procedures, the decision could go either way.

"In this case, we were mirroring the traditional family, a 1950's style family, so you're not doing anything that unusual," said Schwartz. Schwartz counsels all gay couples who are sharing children to adopt, if possible.

"What's being allowed in stepparent adoption, usually between two women, where the mother never gives up her rights," said Schwartz. "It's a front-end solution to a back-end problem."

DELL RICHARDS



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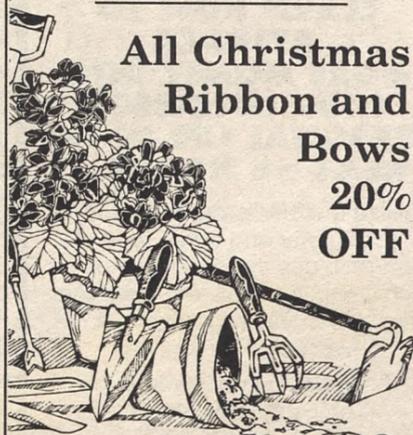
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## Festival enters second weekend

After last weekend's gala opening, the fifth annual Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, presented by SAME and Southern Voice, heads into its second and final weekend at the Plaza Theatre.

On Thursday, Nov. 18, "I Am My Own Woman," a compelling biographical look at Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, is the headlining feature at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., while on Friday, Nov. 19, the controversial "Damned in the U.S.A.," a look at censorship and the National Endowment for the Arts, takes center stage at 9:30 p.m.

On Saturday, Nov. 20, "Twin Bracelets," the moving tale of two young Chinese women who vow to remain together forever, runs at 7 p.m., while "Sex Is..." a look at gay male sexuality in the age of AIDS, runs at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. On Sunday, Nov. 21, "The Last Island," a feminist 90s version of "Lord of the Flies," begins at 9 p.m.

Late night this weekend, the festival takes a turn to the erotic. At 11:30 p.m. both Friday and Saturday, "The First Annual Gay Men's Erotic Safe Sex Video Awards," a collection featuring the best entries in a video contest in San Francisco, is scheduled for the theater's Screening Room B. And two bonus showings of the lesbian safe-sex film "Safe is Desire" are scheduled for Screening Room A at the same time for the special price of \$3.50—good news for those of you who may have had trouble seeing that picture last weekend because of technical problems.

The Plaza Theatre is located at the corner of North Highland and Ponce de Leon avenues. All screening programs, some of which contain more than one movie, are \$7, or a pass for 10 screenings is available for \$50.

A complete program for the festival is available at the theater and at the Southern Voice office at 1189 Virginia Avenue, NE.

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OCCASIONS

**BIRTHDAYS**

Happy birthday (not to mention Happy Thanksgiving) to Liz Hill who turns 51 on Nov. 25.

Happy belated birthday to David Whittier on Nov. 10.

Jim Simmons, he of the sexy goatee, celebrated a birthday on Nov. 11.

**PASSED THE BAR**

Deborah Bedsole proudly announces that her partner Karen M. Patten just passed the godawful bar exam and is now an official big dog lawyer. Congratulations.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Chris Duncan and Brian Mobley celebrate their eighth anniversary on Nov. 23.

Claudia Miller and Caroline Sigman celebrated their first year together with a commitment ceremony on Oct. 31. Many family members and friends attended the ceremony and reception at the Highlander/Midtown Music Hall. The ceremony was written and performed by the couple's dear friend, Michael.



Claudia Miller and Caroline Sigman eat cake at their commitment ceremony.

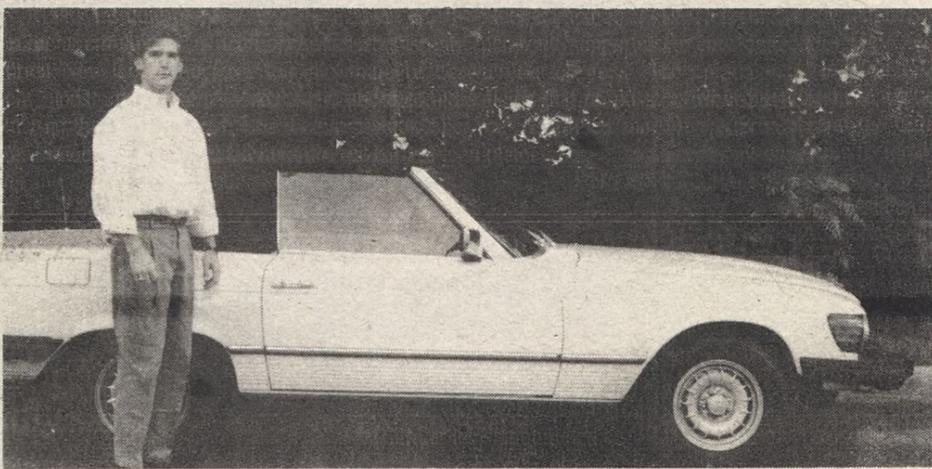
**GRADUATION**

Welcome the return of an Atlanta native, Kurt Straudt, who recently graduated from the Savannah College of Art & Design with a photography degree. Kurt, who also goes by "Ms. Pepper Lambchops," will be spending the holidays in his hometown before going to pursue other projects in Mexico during the coming year.

*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.*

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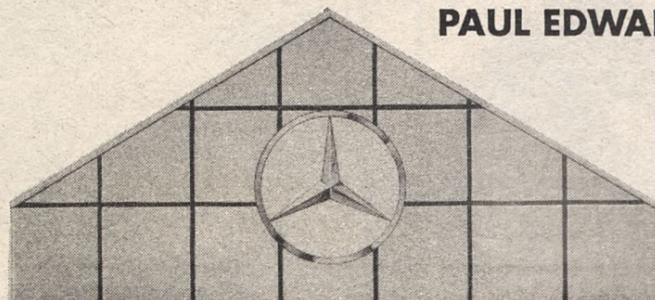
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# OBITUARIES

23

## Kevin George Cochran

Kevin, 33, an Atlanta native, died October 31 at the home of his parents. He will be missed by his parents, Roy and Georgette Cochran, his brother, Steve, his sisters, Karen Allen and Melissa Perry, his companion, Terry DeLauder, his nephews and niece, and many friends and relatives. Kevin's warm smile, gentle nature, and love for life will remain forever with those whose

life he touched. A celebration of Kevin's life was held Nov. 6 at the home of Pete and Mary Peterson.

"Our love is frozen in time  
I'll be your champion and you will be mine  
I will remember you."

I'll always love you.  
—Terry

### 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.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Public Safety Task Force

More than a year ago, the Lesbian and Gay Public Safety Task Force was formed by the Atlanta City Council as part of the City Council's Public Safety Committee. The purpose of this task force is to hear the concerns, complaints and recommendations of Atlanta's lesbian and gay community on public safety matters. In addition, the task force investigates concerns the lesbian and gay community has with Atlanta public safety agencies and makes the results and recommendations known to the Atlanta City Council Public Safety Committee and the heads of the affected agencies.

The task force meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Atlanta City Council Committee Room (Room 2) in Atlanta City Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend a task force meeting. Any public safety concerns may be raised in person at these meetings or can be forwarded either by calling 330-6504 or writing to the Lesbian and Gay Public Safety Task Force, 55 Trinity Ave. SW, Suite 2900, Atlanta GA 30335.

Currently, there are vacant positions on The Lesbian and Gay Public Safety Task Force. The task force strongly encourages those members of the physically challenged and persons of color from the Atlanta lesbian and gay community to submit resumes for positions. Anyone from the Atlanta lesbian and gay community can apply. All positions are voluntary. Anyone interested in serving on the task force should send a letter of intent and a resume to the above listed address.

### DeKalb women's center

Every year more than 300,000 Georgia women are abused. Domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury to women in this country. The Women's Resource Center of DeKalb County is currently seeking volunteers for the following positions: Crisis Hotline, Child Advocacy, Office Support, Shelter Advocacy, Legal Advocacy. For more information, please contact the Women's Resource Center at 688-9436

### Metro hospice volunteers

Metro Hospice, a non-profit, community based hospice program is seeking special volunteers.

Affirming life and regarding dying as a normal process, Metro Hospice focuses on maintaining the patient at home during the last stages of terminal illness. By providing an interdisciplinary team approach to care, Metro Hospice offers medical, emotional, spiritual and educational support to the patient/family unit.

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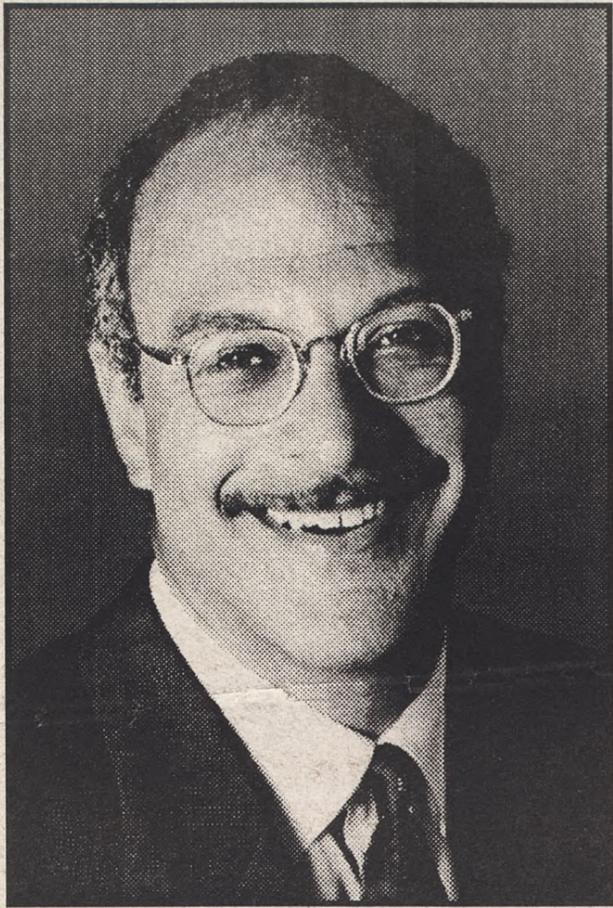
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**Throughout three terms in office with the Atlanta City Council, Bill Campbell has forged an active and progressive legislative agenda for lesbian and gay issues:**

- As early as 1985, Bill Campbell cosponsored legislation creating a fund to educate city employees on the facts about HIV/AIDS.
- Bill supported legislation to support funding for HIV/AIDS research.
- In 1986, he cosponsored legislation prohibiting job discrimination in city employment based on sexual orientation.
- In 1989, Bill cosponsored legislation to establish a citywide policy to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- In 1992, he cosponsored the resolution in support of overturning Colorado's controversial anti-gay legislation, "Amendment 2."
- In addition, Bill Campbell cosponsored the resolution prohibiting travel of city employees to states that prohibit the adoption or enforcement of anti-discrimination laws.
- In 1993, Bill supported the domestic partnership registry and domestic partner benefits legislation.

**As mayor providing "a new generation of leadership for change" in the City of Atlanta, Bill Campbell will continue his commitment to the lesbian and gay communities:**

- Bill Campbell will support a citywide ordinance forbidding housing and employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
- Bill Campbell will require all companies doing business with the city of Atlanta to have a sexual orientation clause included in their non-discrimination policies.
- As Mayor, he will appoint leaders in Atlanta's HIV/AIDS community to an advisory board designed to help shape Atlanta's response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- Bill will provide active leadership in hospice zoning issues and will earmark a percentage of low-income housing to HIV/AIDS patients.
- Bill Campbell will continue the city's paid lesbian/gay liaison position to advise the mayor on issues facing the lesbian and gay communities.
- Bill will promote stronger legislation against hate crimes.
- Finally, Bill Campbell will require improved sensitivity training for all city police and fire officials.

## Vote November 23. Punch # 3

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# OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

*Da-da-da-*  
*da-da,*  
*sway,*  
*sway*

*It's gay writer Paul Rudnick who puts the words in the mouths of those bizarre Addams*

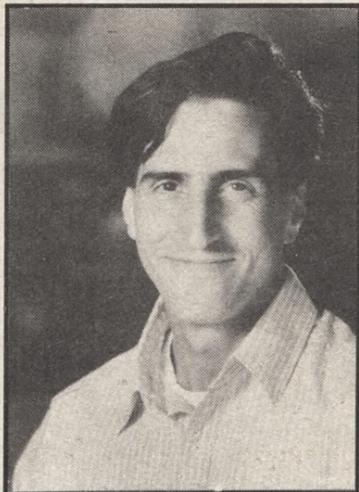
by STEVE WARREN

These days, writer Paul Rudnick is the definition of hot in New York and Hollywood.

His play "Jeffrey," a comedy about gay romance in the age of AIDS, is an off-Broadway sensation and is now running in Los Angeles and San Francisco while heading for three other continents and the movie screen. "Addams Family Values," which he wrote, opens in theaters this week.

Though Rudnick gets his first film credit as the author of "Addams Family Values," he assisted on the screenplay for the 1991 hit "The Addams Family" and wrote the original script for "Sister Act" but took his name off the project when the studio dropped Bette Midler from it.

If this has been a good year for Rudnick, it's been a great year for gay theater in general. He's optimistic that the trend will spread to Hollywood, that he will not only continue to work as an openly gay screenwriter but eventually write gay films for major studios as well.



Paul Rudnick says he follows his muse "because no other muse will have me."

"In the theater," he speculates, "gay writers had so much on their minds and were tired of trying to disguise it, and the audience was curious enough, so a wave of gay theater just burst forth." Among the advantages of this proliferation, he says, is that "no one play has to carry the whole burden (of representing the gay community)."

The lesbian and



"Addams Family Values," the clan gathers for Uncle Fester's wedding.

gay press has been especially tough on our own films and plays because each one doesn't explore all aspects of lesbian/gay life and all kinds of people within it. "I can understand the criticism," Rudnick says, "because there's such a hunger for gay material. Besides, we're such a critical people."

Despite Hollywood's famous homophobia, he thinks "things may be starting to improve. As people let their guard down a bit and get over their deep fear... whatever result they expect from an open gay presence hasn't occurred. Look at David Geffen—he's only become more powerful (since coming out)."

"What's exciting," Rudnick continues, "is the wave of gay filmmakers—gregg araki, Jennie Livingston, Todd Haynes. I think you'll get a real breakthrough one of these days." He compares it to the situation with African Americans, many of whom were ready to follow Spike Lee through the barriers he broke down, but cautions, "It's trickier and there's a question of audience size."

What Rudnick is really waiting for is the day when labels won't matter, when gay or straight writers of all races can write about any topic, and actors and directors won't be limited by their own orientation. Of course, straights have never had a problem crossing over, but it hasn't been a two-way street. There's been a strong gay presence in Hollywood since movies were invented, but the unwritten law has required you to be closeted to work in the mainstream.

Rudnick didn't set out to buck the system, he just ignored it. "I'd like to think I was hired because I had talents that were desired," he says. "I wasn't hired because I was a gay writer, I was hired because I understood the material. That's how it should be."

Once he was in, did he try to slip some queer material into "Addams Family Values?" Rudnick avoids a direct, negative answer. "The Addamses are the royal family of perversion," he says. "I think the Addams Family are welcoming of things far more bizarre than homosexuality. I shudder to think of what they might resist."

But how about gay or lesbian characters? "It's a big family and there's a wedding. I'm sure there's something of everything there." At least the movie should be campy, and a little bit subversive, though not as much so as when Charles Addams first published his cartoons, or even when they were adapted for a TV series.

"When you think of The Simpsons or Beavis and Butt-Head, the Addamses are demure," Rudnick admits, while trying to

make them sound as naughty as he can. "They are a family that seems to relish murder and necrophilia and cannibalism, but you never quite see it." It's their edge, he believes, that makes them work in the '90s. "If you tried to do the Donna Reed (Show) film, unless someone was institutionalized it wouldn't wash... Jesse Helms imagines we just want to watch The Brady Bunch, but America expresses itself otherwise."

In addition to Anjelica Huston, Raul Julia, Christopher Lloyd and other returnees from The Addams Family, Addams Family Values adds Carol Kane as Granny and Joan Cusack as a nanny who arouses Uncle Fester while caring for Gomez and Morticia's new baby; and "a slew of terrific New York stage actors" who don't get the screen exposure they deserve, including Dana Ivey, Christine Baranski, Nathan Lane and Harriet Harris, who played in "Jeffrey" in New York and Los Angeles. With such a cast, he says, "you write up to them rather than worrying if they can handle it."

Rudnick considers himself lucky to have been blessed with good directors—Christopher Ashley for all three productions of "Jeffrey" and Barry Sonnenfeld for both "Addams Family" movies. "Any writer can lose perspective," he says. "You need the input of people who know what they're doing. They can add so much you're not aware of.... It's like having a loving parent, a good therapist, a merciful God—you feel taken care of.... Chris Ashley is someone I respect. After all, I trust him with far more than my life: my play."

A deal is just about finalized to bring "Jeffrey" to the screen as a low-budget, independent production. It gives Rudnick more control, though less money, than he might have gotten from a major studio. He will have script approval, and might have been able to direct if he'd held out for that, but he doesn't want to. "I would slap people," he says. "I would be the Zsa Zsa of directors."

No other U.S. stagings of "Jeffrey" are planned yet, the playwright says, but "there are going to be Israeli, Japanese and German productions. The German translator sent me a list of questions about phrases he didn't understand. My favorite was 'hot bubble butt.' I didn't know how to explain, but I thought maybe a picture would do it."

Being able to write from his gay heart and his commercial head gives him the best of both worlds and frees Paul Rudnick to follow his own muse—"desperately," he adds. "No other muse will have me."

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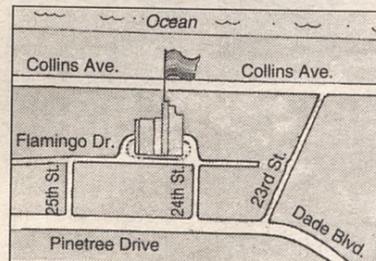
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OUT & ABOUT

C A L E N D A R

18 THURSDAY

**WOMAN FORUM.** Atlanta's original women's radio program, still going strong. 6-7 pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.  
**GAY GRAFITTI.** Representatives from GAPAC discuss the current political climate. 7-8 pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.  
**LESBIAN/GAY FILM**

**FESTIVAL.** Screening for SAME & Southern Voice's 5th annual fest include "Looking for Langston," "Two Sprint People," and "Black Body." All screenings at LeFont Plaza, 7 & 9:30 pm.  
**JESS HAWK OAKENSTAR.** Solo performer appears at Charis at 7:30pm. 524-0304.  
**OUTWRITE BOOKS GRAND OPENING**

**WEEKEND.** After a private party tonight, festivities begin with book signings by Rakesh Ratti on Friday, Greg Johnson and Nicola Griffith on Saturday, and a cooking demonstration by Susan Langhorne and Bill Murphy on Sunday. Midtown Promenade, corner of Monroe & Virginia. 607-0082.

**POWER OF WORDS.** Southern Regional Council presents 25 award-winning writers in a conference addressing "The Changing South and the Nation," through Saturday. Atlanta Renaissance Hotel. 522-8764.

**LINDA VILLAROSA.** Senior editor at Essence Magazine speaks about being "Black, Gay and Out," sponsored by Emory's Office of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Life, party of the school's Unity Week. Reception 3-5 pm, Rm. 246 of Dobbs University Center, lecture at 8pm in Winship Ballroom with reception following. 727-0272.

include "Pink in Public" and "Bill & Ted's Homosexual Adventure."

**MUSICA FEMINA.** Another part of Emory's Unity Week, the two-woman group performs works from women composers in Rm. 208 of White Hall at 7:30 pm. Free. 727-2000.

**JOSEPH AND THE TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.** Through Dec. 19. Stage Door Players presents the Webber-Rice show, taken loosely from the Bible, about the man who ends up Mayor of Egypt. North DeKalb Cultural Center. Thurs-Sun. 396-1726.

Monroe Drive. 607-1095.  
**SANTA COMES TO LENOX.** This is the day St. Nick rides MARTA through town and ends up for his holiday stay at Lenox. The Santa Express starts at the airport at 10:15 am, with Lenox arrival scheduled for 11 am. Rudolph won't be there, though.

**LAUGHING MATTERS.** Improv troupe is wild and wacky at Manuel's Thursdays & Saturdays throughout November. 8pm. 717-4714.

21 SUNDAY

**FILM FESTIVAL.** Final night of the festival. Offerings include "Last Call at Maud's" and "Je Ne Regrette Rien."

**GLORIA WADE-GAYLES.** Spelman professor & author Wade-Gayles reads from "Pushed Back to Strength," a collection of lyrical, playful essays. Charis Books. 7:30pm. 524-0304.

**SERVICE OF HOPE AND HEALING.** Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network's fifth annual service will be held at First Presbyterian Church at 5pm. Mary Davis Fisher will be the featured speaker. 874-8686.

**LES CHANTEUSES AFRICAINES.** The musical and literary voices of African women, with host Alicia Banks, who offers a unique perspective that includes the lesbian point of view. 1-4am. WRFG, 89.3 FM.

22 MONDAY

**STILL AIN'T SATISFIED.** Music and interviews from a lesbian perspective. Cool music for any queer or interested other. 7-9pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.

**OUT IN ATLANTA.** Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program featuring interviews, news, arts & entertainment and more.

20 SATURDAY

**FILM FESTIVAL.** Works by local filmmakers show at 4:30 pm, evening films include "Kiev Blue" and the First Annual Gay Men's Erotic Safe Sex Video Awards.

**KOOLHIPFUNKYSTUFF.** The opening of Atlanta's first retail establishment solely benefitting services for persons with AIDS. Proceeds from sales benefit the Good Samaritan Project. Gala reception at 7pm, 1030

19 FRIDAY

**FILM FESTIVAL.** Tonight's screenings

**DOCTOR FAUSTUS.** The Shakespeare Tavern presents Christopher Marlowe's tale of a man who sells his soul to the devil. Thurs-Sat until Dec. 5. Also Wed. Nov. 24, with no performance on Nov. 25. 874-5299.

**EULA MAE'S BEAUTY, BAIT AND TACKLE:** Through Dec. 11. This hilarious local production by Frank Blocker and Chuck Richards is packed with wacky characters based on the author's families and friends. You know what they say about truth being stranger (and funnier) than fiction. Weds.-Sat. with Sat & Sun matinees. 14th Street Playhouse. 355-8057 for reservations.

**TOUCHABLES 1993.** Unusual art exhibit encourages visitors to feel the art. Through Dec. 16. Georgia Tech Westbrook Gallery. Reception today 2:30-4pm. 992-6175.

**STEEL MAGNOLIAS.** Trivy's beauty salon comes alive at Neighborhood Playhouse, through Dec. 18. Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm & 7pm. 373-5311.

**APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS.** Theatrical Outfit's holiday offering runs through Dec. 23. 872-0665.

**AN AMERICAN SAMPLER: QUILTS IN THE HIGH MUSEUM OF ART.** Through Dec. 31. A superb selection of home-

spun and hand-style quilts goes on exhibit today at the newly renovated High Museum of Folk Art and Photography Galleries in the Georgia-Pacific Center. Free. 892-HIGH for more info.

**ART AT THE EDGE: RAY SMITH.** Through Jan. 2. This exhibit at the High, which features a new cycle of paintings by Ray Smith, is held in conjunction with "Mexican Tapestry", a celebration of Mexican culture presented by Atlanta's Cultural Olympiad. Smith, who was raised in central Mexico, draws upon Mexican tales, popular culture and the rich legacy of Mexican modern art in his work. High Museum of Art. 892-HIGH.

**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 places seemingly unrelated 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.

**THE NUTCRACKER.** Tickets are now on sale for the Atlanta Ballet's annual classic, set to run Dec. 3-26. 817-8700.



10:30 p.m. and again, Wed. 5:30 p.m. Cable Ch. 12.

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL.** The real thing, not the 10 minute version. The Alliance Theatre's annual classic opens tonight with Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the rest. Directed by Kenny Leon and adapted by Sandra Deer. Through Dec. 26. 892-2414.

23 TUESDAY

**HOMO FOR THE HOLIDAYS.** A Stress Management Seminar for the Season. \$15, 7pm. 605-7443.

**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.

24 WEDNESDAY

**BWMT ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND.** The annual anniversary celebration of Black and White Men Together (12 years in Atlanta) begins tonight and includes a potluck dinner on Thanksgiving, Sunday brunch, workshops and a banquet. 892-BWMT.

**1940S RADIO HOUR.** Theatre in the Square's annual holiday offering opens tonight and runs through Jan. 1. Performances will be held in the larger performing arts space at Southern Tech. The show features music, skits, sound effects, and a 10-min. condensed version of A Christmas Carol. 422-8639 for tickets and information.

ABOVE: Tom Key stars as Ebenezer Scrooge in the Alliance Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol," opening Nov. 24. Photo by David Zeiger  
 LEFT: Musica Femina appears on the Emory campus on Nov. 19.  
 BELOW: Patricia French and Angela Bratcher are mother and daughter in the bittersweet comedy "Steel Magnolias" at Neighborhood Playhouse through Dec. 18. Photo by Gil Williams

ON GOING AND UPCOMING

**AGAMENON & ELECTRA.** Theatre Emory stages both Greek plays on one production. Through Nov. 20 at Mary Gray Munroe Theater. 727-6187.

**SHORT THEATRE! 800 East** presents a series of short pieces written and produced by local writers. Includes work by Doug Loggins, Pamela Shook, Madeleine St. Romain, Steven Seaberg, Jim Miller, and Eric Blanc. Thurs, Fri, Sat thru Nov. 20. 522-8265.

**ROSE.** Through Nov. 20. Andrew Davies' tale of a charmingly unconventional woman. Underground Theatre, downstairs at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation on Cliff Valley Way. Candlelit dinner theatre on Nov. 20. (6:30 pm). Thurs & Fri. shows at 8pm. 634-5134.

**CONTINGENCIES.** An evening of one act plays about the unexpected. 7 Stages, thru Nov. 21. 523-7647.

**ROCKETTES & SUSAN ANTON.** The Radio City Music Hall Spectacular comes to the Fox, presented by Theatre of the Stars. Through Nov. 21. 8pm Tues-Sat, Sat & Sun 2pm, Sun 7 pm. 249-6400.

**PILL HILL.** Through Nov. 21. Jomandi Productions opens its 15th anniversary season with this provocative drama about the frustrations of six black males spanning 10 years, beginning in the early 1970s. 14th St.

Playhouse. 873-1099.  
**SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION.** Through Nov. 28. Horizon Theatre opens its 10th anniversary season with this brilliant Broadway hit comedy about a charming stranger who manipulates an affluent Manhattan couple to take him into their cozy world. 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. Her provocative photographs of celebrities have been seen in Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, Time, etc. This retrospective of her work includes 125 photos from early assignments to current portraiture. High Museum of Art.

**PETER KITCHELL AND JOHNNY MYERS.** Abstracts by Kitchell and wildlife by Myers on display at BurnNoff Gallery at Clear Creek Center today through Dec. 4. 875-3475.

**TALLEY'S FOLLY.** Through Dec. 4. Southern Fried Productions presents Lanford Wilson's story of Sally Talley and her Jewish suitor Matt Friedman, in 1940s Missouri. It is described by Clive Barnes as "a love poem for an apple and an orange." Fri & Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm, thru Dec. 4. Mercer Fine Arts



28 O U T & A B O U T

**T H E A T E R**

**EULA MAE'S**

In the past several years, plays about the South have become very popular in New York. Just look at the success of shows such as "Pump Boys and Dinettes," "Smoke on the Mountain" and "Crimes of the Heart." Now another play—an Atlanta-bred one—would like to join that group: "Eula Mae's Beauty, Bait & Tackle." It just may make it, with a little bit of luck and a tad more work.

"Eula Mae" first showed up in Atlanta late last spring. It was an uneven, unpolished collection of sketches from various sources, all tied together by the character of Eula Mae, a former rodeo rider who has come home to Alabama to live with her aged mother, Anna Mae. Compiled by Frank Blocker and Chuck Richards, "Eula Mae" was somewhat funny, but it could have stood some improvement.

At that time, according to Blocker, "an agent from New York came to see us, and he liked a lot of what he saw. He told us to change some things and to concentrate on the pieces we'd written, rather than the ones by other people."

The results of the reworking of "Eula Mae" are now on display again at the 14th Street Playhouse. This time, it's a more polished and professional show. The humor is much more on target, and the portraits of "some typical and some not-so-typical Southern kind of folks" are more affectionately drawn. Indeed, there's not a mean thought to be found in any of the nine characters in the play.

The main conceit of "Eula Mae" is that Blocker and Richards each play four different characters ("like 'Greater Tuna,' though without the fast-paced costume changes," Blocker noted). Both men don wigs at times and play women (with considerable aplomb), but this is not a drag show by any means.

The character of Eula Mae, played here by Linda Patton,



Frank Blocker in the revamped "Eula Mae's," now playing at the 14th Street Playhouse

is the thread that holds this series of sketches together. Not much happens to her, per se. She's more of a Greek chorus to comment on the actions of the other characters. Unfortunately, she's also the most poorly-drawn of the characters in the play. She's not a terribly interesting person to begin with, and Patton's portrayal tends to bland when compared to the

pyrotechnics of the others on stage.

Conversely, both Blocker and Richards like to take center stage and command it. Richards gets the showier roles. He plays Rita Mae, a washed-up beauty queen, to perfection, right down to the walk (he demonstrates it for us). He also gets the chance to play her mother, Eva Mae (who has a great routine about Tammy Wynette).

Blocker's performances are intensely fascinating, true portraits lovingly performed. He has lavished a great deal of attention to detail in bringing all four of his characters to life. While his Sue-Sue Daniels, a former beauty contestant, is a howl, his short vignette as a Traveler is stunningly poignant.

Robert Putnam's direction is strong and consistent, but it seems his job has been made easier by having two strong actors holding court.

Richards has expressed a strong interest in going further with this play. "We want to take it off Broadway," he said. "We really think there's a future for it."

The group has been working on "Eula Mae" since April, according to Blocker. A lot of material has been added and dropped since its initial run, and the troupe has performed bits and pieces of the show in outlying Georgia towns to test audience reaction.

The authors' New York agent has been encouraging, Blocker said. "He's coming back to see the show during this run. We've made the changes he has suggested, and he thinks there might be interest in the show. We all hope so."

"Eula Mae's Beauty, Bait & Tackle" certain does have a lot of potential, though much of the real charm of the show comes directly from the performances by Blocker and Richards. While the writing is vastly improved, there still needs to be some work done on the character of Eula Mae herself. She holds little interest for us. Blocker says Eula Mae is there "to bring some form of balance to the show." She does, but it's not the right kind of balance.

Still, there might come a day when you can say, "I saw 'Eula Mae' back in Atlanta before it became a hit in New York." It shows promise. It just needs a little more work.

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# Finding innocence even in the presence of knowledge

*Choreographer Louise Runyon Barth and her company explore those opposite—but not exclusive—traits.*

Modern people tend to view knowledge and innocence as two diametrically opposed—and exclusive—human traits. Knowledge, gained through years of experience, replaces innocence, forever marking the transition from childhood into adulthood.

**Louise Runyon Barth Dance Company,**  
Nov. 19-21, 8 p.m.,  
7 Stages, 1105 Euclid Ave.,  
Little Five Points.  
Call 523-7647.

But dancer/choreographer Louise Runyon Barth does not accept that premise, and the six works in the Louise Runyon Barth Dance Company's third annual concert reflect her belief that all life is magical—and inclusive.

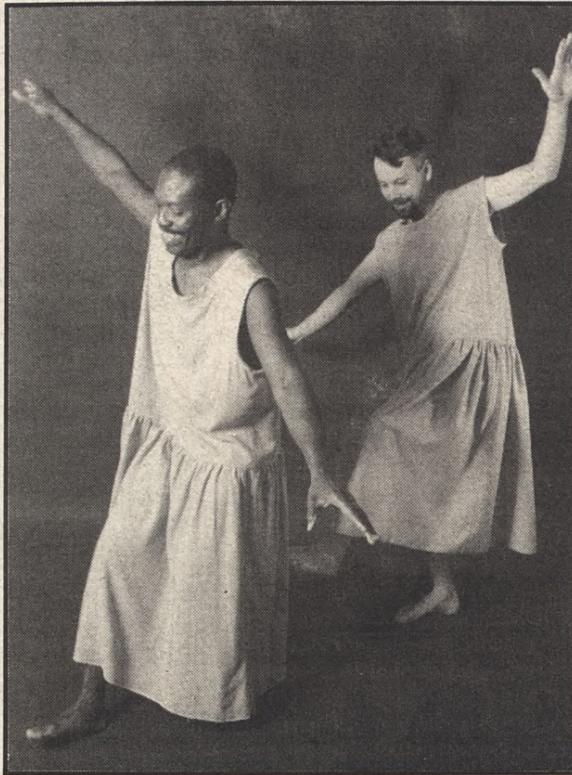
"It takes the view that we can have both knowledge and innocence," she said of "Simple Bodies, Innocent Souls," one of four pieces to premiere in "Knowledge and Innocence" this weekend at 7 Stages.

The piece, which combines text and movement in a manner that has become almost a trademark of Barth's work, explores the innocence of pre-pubesence, particularly as it relates to gender.

Barth admits that she dreamed the opening section of "Simple Bodies" several years ago—a segment in which three girls (four in the dream) wearing Sunday School dresses stand together touching "their breasts and other parts of their bodies."

"And a boy comes over to them, with his arms outstretched and his head down, like a bull, and one of the party dresses goes over the boy," Barth said.

"In the piece we explore what happens to the two men [in the company] when the dresses go over their heads," Barth explained. "It's delightful. And we also explore what happens to the girls when the girls lose their dresses—which is not as dramatic, because we don't wear dresses all the time anyway, if at all."



DANNY NEWBES

R. Kent Wilson and Martin R. Keefer Jr. will perform in "Simple Bodies, Innocent Souls."

Barth examines a similar theme in "Speaking in Tongues/Mothers and Sons," a duet for Barth and Lucas, her nine-year-old son.

"[Both 'Simple Bodies' and 'Speaking in Tongues'] are inspired a lot by having a 9-year-old son," she said. "...looking at his magical approach to life, which is not dictated by sexual stereotypes."

Also premiering will be a solo piece by Martin R. Keefer, Jr., called "Conversations with God," performed to sections of An-

drew Lloyd Webber's "Requiem," and Susan L. Wiesner's "Waiting For to Go," a unison duet or "solo for two women."

"Conversations" examines spirituality—personal demons and the unburdening of self from sin; "Waiting For to Go," performed by Wiesner and Barth, presents at once the dehumanization and ultimate vitality of women, and is inspired by the real life experiences faced by women each day—waiting in doctor's offices, glass ceilings.

Also on the program will be a revised version of "In Kind," now called "Bathed and Blessed" to music by Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and a dance puppetry piece originally produced last year with the Center for Puppetry Arts' XPT Theatre called "Dolls/Careless Love."

Barth says that the company's group pieces reflect her commitment to involving each dancer in the work.

"Everything we do in terms of group work is created collaboratively," she said. "A lot of the piece is created through improvisation. We have a somewhat collective approach [to choreography]."

That approach brings multiple viewpoints into the dance. "Simple Minds" is a prime example—the stories woven into the piece are from the backgrounds of the dancers themselves.

"One of the stories is about a girl I knew who was really delighted by her sexual development," Barth said. "We knew her in camp and thought she was a little odd—but she had a wonderful respect for her body that a lot of little girls don't."

Barth, who often uses memories from her past in creating her work, says that she is pleased to be presenting some of the more magical and positive aspects of childhood.

"I've dealt with a lot of childhood experiences, like abandonment," she said. "This is exciting because it's still based in my life, but looking at a positive childhood."

The piece with her son, she said, is "especially inspirational to me, making that connection with my own childhood."

KC WILDMOON

Louise Runyon Barth Dance Company presents "Knowledge and Innocence" at 8 p.m. on Fri, Sat, & Sun, Nov. 19-21 at 7 Stages Performing Arts Center, 1105 Euclid Ave. in Little 5 Points. Tickets \$12 at the door; \$9 in advance and for seniors, students, artists & the unemployed. 523-7647 for reservations.

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## Outwrite, a gay and lesbian bookstore, opens in Midtown

Let's face it: Not all bookstore fare is as easy to come by as the new Judy Garland biography or the 1994 Madonna calendar. And if you've ever browsed Atlanta bookstores for topics and titles relevant to the lives of gays and lesbians, chances are you've done your milling around between two shelves dedicated to "Gay Studies."

Outwrite, Atlanta's new bookstore/coffeehouse, enables one to pick up the latest, the most obscure and the classics in gay and lesbian literature in addition to that Madonna calendar—all under one roof. The store, which opened in the Midtown Promenade last Friday, will hold its official grand opening throughout the weekend of Nov. 19.

Primary owner and manager Philip Rafshoon says the store will offer the most complete selection of literature by, for, and about gays and lesbians, in addition to subjects of interest to the community. The store currently carries 1,500 book titles and several hard-to-find magazines. Rafshoon says that eventually the newsstand alone will carry 100 titles.

In this store, new titles from Gore Vidal, Sandra Bernhard and Greg Johnson get prominent display space. And even a quick glance around the sections leaves little if any to be desired for subject matter. Sections for Religion, Health, AIDS, and Families are included with those for Fiction, Biographies, Mystery and Sci-Fi.

"The lesbian and gay titles that you get in general bookstores probably aren't the older fiction and classics," says Outwrite employee Rob Nixon. "You can go into a bookstore and get Edmund White's latest titles, but you may not be able to find one of his earliest novels."

To be fair, there's also a shelf for Heterosexual Studies.

"Oh it was just kind of a joke," Rafshoon said. "Right now there's a bunch of family nature books. We *won't* carry Rush Limbaugh's book, though."

Rafshoon spent the past 10 years burning out on the corporate grind. About two years ago, thinking of starting his own business, he sensed a need that was totally unfulfilled in Atlanta.

"Every city in the country that has a sizable gay and lesbian population has a gay and lesbian bookstore," Rafshoon said. "In the course of putting this together I have probably spoken with 20 people who have [considered the idea] at one point. But there

was a lot of fear that a bookstore from outside the city would expand to Atlanta and put whatever opened out of business."

Rafshoon took the position from the start that if you open a bookstore correctly and consistently stock it well, nobody will take it away. He started by identifying the wants and needs of the community.

"They wanted a broad selection," he said. "They wanted a coffeehouse. They wanted a nice space where they could go and call their own and be proud of."

New, modern and open, Outwrite is a very nice space—definitely not your average bookstore. And the coffeehouse atmosphere, Rafshoon thinks, will provide for a good meeting-place alternative to the bars.

While the bookstore will undoubtedly pose a minor threat to a portion of the business of some gay and lesbian retail outlets, it still fills a void in the community. Charis Books and More, for example, is a feminist bookstore with strong lesbian support but does not offer goods or services for men.

"We choose to provide information for both men and women and try to bring back the spirit of gays and lesbians working together toward a common goal," said Rafshoon. "Because Charis exists, we assume that a larger percentage of our customers will be male, but we still want to be able to service the women's market very, very well."

Another objective for Outwrite was to provide an environment in which closeted people would feel comfortable browsing or taking a book to the counter.

"It serves two purposes," he said. "One, for those people who aren't out to be able to come further out of the closet and learn more from reading. And second, for those who are out and are comfortable going to [mainstream retail outlets] and buying



Outwrite owner/manager Philip Rafshoon (left), shown here with collaborators Debbie Fraker and Mike Ballacchino, and says his store will fill a "need that was totally unfulfilled in Atlanta."

these books, it gives them a more concentrated selection—and they know that when these books are published, this is going to be the first place in town to carry them."

Although Outwrite is currently open for business, it will host several book-signings for the official grand opening during the weekend of Nov. 19-21.

On Friday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. author Rakesh Ratti will sign and read from "A Lotus of Another Color," which deals with coming out in Asia. On Saturday, Nov. 20, Greg Johnson will sign and read from his successful "Pagan Babies" at 2 p.m. At 7 that night, sci-fi author Nicola Griffith will sign and read from her "Ammonite."

On Sunday, the 21st at 4 p.m., Susan Langhorne and Bill Murphy, authors of "The Red Ribbon Cookbook," recipes for people living with HIV, will do a cooking demonstration.

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# Celebrate '93 set for this weekend in Birmingham

*Birmingham*—A crowd of more than 1,000 is expected to gather in Birmingham this weekend from around the Southeast to kick off the holiday spirit with an event that has become one of Alabama's largest lesbian/gay celebrations.

Celebrate '93 will be held Saturday, Nov. 20 at the historic Alabama Theater, beginning at 9 p.m. and continuing until 2 a.m. Headlining the evening's entertainment will be Los Angeles entertainer Mona Caywood and her "Miss Fern" character, and BETTY, a New York-based lesbian singing group. The evening will also include dance music and, in a bit of nostalgic holiday flair, the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown.

What has become Celebrate '93 started out 14 years ago as a fall party hosted by a few friends. "It basically just grew from there," said Bob Gager, co-chairperson of Celebrate Inc., which is the event's sponsor.

Celebrate Inc. is a non-profit organization, and the proceeds from this year's event will benefit a variety of Alabama AIDS service organizations, including Birmingham AIDS Outreach, West Alabama AIDS Outreach, UAB 1917 Clinic and Agape House. The bulk of the proceeds will go to Agape House, which provides housing and care for people with AIDS.

Tickets to Celebrate '93 are \$25. They are available at



Mona Caywood brings "Miss Fern" from Los Angeles

Lodestar Books and Buchanans in Birmingham, Michaels in Tuscaloosa, Brushstrokes in Atlanta or at the door on the night of the event. In conjunction with the event, a brunch will be held on Sunday, Nov. 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the UAB president's mansion.

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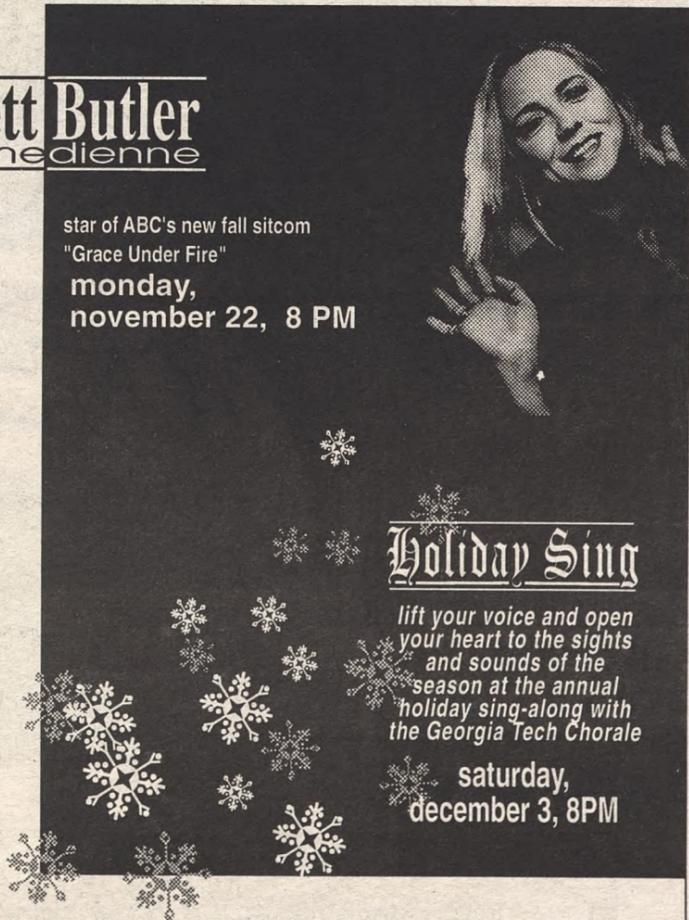
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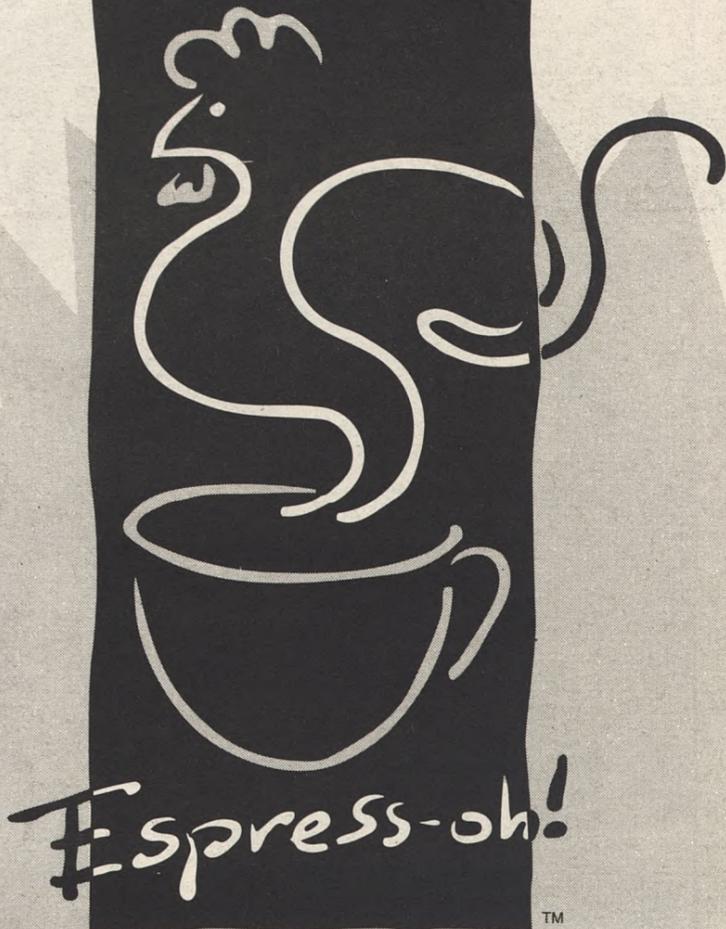


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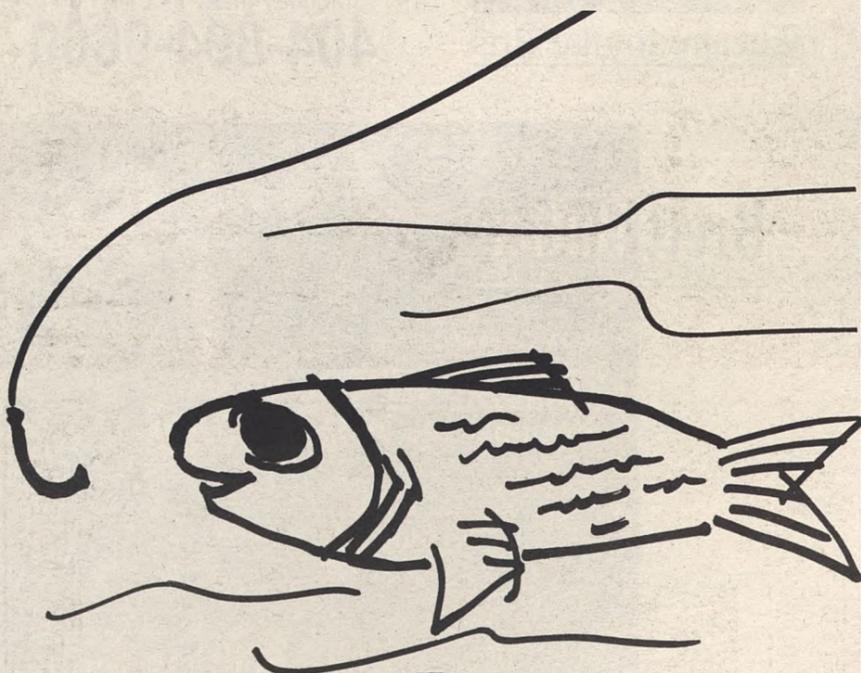


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More than one friend looked at me like I'd gone around the bend when I said that I was going to Cobb County for Project Open Hand's recent Dining Out for Life night—especially since I was also celebrating my birthday on that same night.

Why in God's name would any self-respecting intown homo do such a thing?

Two reasons. A couple of dear friends live out that way. And Mario's of Atlanta (736 Johnson Ferry Road, 578-8009; smack in the middle of East Cobb not far from Gordon Wysong's home) was one of three very courageous Cobb eateries participating in Project Open Hand's fundraiser. Given the number of intown dining parlors regularly patronized by queers that didn't choose to be part of the massive effort to feed people with AIDS, I wanted to take my business where it would be noticed and appreciated.

I'd also heard nothing but praise for Mario's, which has been open for almost a year now.

The restaurant, thriving in an all but deserted strip center, looks great. The checkered tile floors, white stucco walls, wood and brick accents and a sprawling array of tables all feel just right. Better yet, this night, the extremely affable staff are all wearing red ribbons and Dining Out for Life info adorns each table. The four of us, all pretty obviously gay, are given a warm and effusive welcome and efficient, attentive service. Even if the food had been awful, I would have been happy as a clam.

The multifold menu is divided into panels each offering a half dozen or more possibilities from prosaic pizza (or a ham sandwich) to fresh grilled seafood sauced with lemon, white wine, capers and roasted peppers. Baskets of fat, hot yeast rolls dripping with oil and garlic arrive almost immediately. A refill also comes with exceptionally fine, chewy breadsticks.

Appetizers may be simple—fried calamari—or complex—a stack of breaded eggplant, layered with feta, asiago and mozzarella cheeses and sauced with a bracing tomato-asiago "syrup." Great stuff, but filling to the max, so plan to split it at least two ways.

Salads—house and Caesar—arrive in family style in big bowls; the \$5.50 "junior" is plenty for four. Enlivened by gorgonzola, calamata olives and Belgian endive, the house version sounds more exciting than it is. Not bad—everything is fresh, crisp and cold—but not the equal of Rocky's similarly, and more skillfully executed, cousin.

Pasta entrees come in small and large portions—a nice touch that allows you graze more completely through the menu without risking distended belly syndrome. Choices range from simple spaghetti with meat sauce to an elegant combo of flaked salmon with dill in a pink vodka sauce. Or the same suave pink stuff laced with ground sausage and basil.

The latter two dishes provide good insight into the kitchen's strengths and weaknesses. In the former, the scallops of fish are numerous and beautifully cooked—hot but still moist and tender. And the pink sauce is smooth, creamy and mild. Too mild in fact to be much fun with the equally unassertive salmon. And the advertised dill is all but undetectable. But that same pink sauce enlivened by spicy ground sausage and lots of basil is stompedown good, the sort of stuff that inspires passionate arias.

Prices are moderate: figure about \$25 a head for three courses and wine

If Mario's were nearer home, I'd be there weekly working my way through the menu in search of the kitchen's strengths—escarole and beans, roasted peppers, and rigatoni with chicken and broccoli sound especially promising. If you live in the wilds of Cobb or North Fulton, the restaurant is definitely worth your patronage.

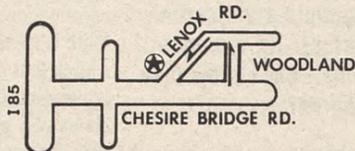


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# Lauper returns with her "Hat Full of Stars"

Cyndi Lauper had made a career out of shocking people—from the shaved head and outrageous clothing she wore for her gay-positive 1984 debut album "She's So Unusual," to appearing naked in the video for her 1989 single "I Drive All Night." So perhaps it's no surprise that even at age 40, Lauper still has plenty of shocks up her multi-colored sleeves.

"I want to offend everybody," Lauper says proudly. "I like it when people get agitated. Then they say the things that they feel. Whether [what they say] is right or wrong, at least they're hearing themselves. Sometimes they might say something that even surprises themselves. Then they have to work at [changing] it. Some people will, some people won't."

Lauper, of course, has a long history of turning even controversial topics into hit songs—like in 1984's masturbation-themed "She Bop." "She's So Unusual," one of the most popular albums of 1984, contained songs like "When You Were Mine" and "He's So Unusual," with their open, obvious references to homosexuality. "Boy Blue," a 1986 single off of her "True Colors" album, was one of the first pop songs to deal with the subject of AIDS (proceeds were donated to AIDS causes).

These days, Lauper's look may be more conventional—her hair is platinum blonde rather than blue—but her music is just as bold as ever. "Hat Full of Stars," her latest album and her first since 1989's disappointing "A Night to Remember," is an expertly crafted mix of hip hop, soul and rock and is getting some of the best reviews of her career. About the only style of music the album doesn't have is straight rap because, according to Lauper, "I can't talk. I have this terrible accent. I can't stand my voice."

Meanwhile, along with the album's wide variety of musical styles, its pointed lyrics explore topics such as incest, apartheid, domestic violence and even death in a back alley abortion. "When you come to the creative forum," Lauper says, "you have to make a decision about who you are. Are you coming to create or are you coming to make money?"

As for her frequent references to gays in her songs, Lauper is matter-of-fact. "It's not like [homosexuality] is an unusual thing," she says. "Some of the most creative people I know are gay. If you're in a creative field, you know gay people. You work side by side. I have a [gay] sensibility like that because a lot of people



KIM STRINGER/LOWE

**Cyndi Lauper says, "I hate it when people are discriminated against because they're different. As a woman, I've always been discriminated against. But I know that if I was a lesbian, it would be even harder."**

I know are gay. My husband and I double date [with gay or lesbian couples] all the time. We're heterosexual, but we don't discriminate that way. Our friends are our friends."

Unlike most popular actors or singers, however, Lauper has chosen to take a stand for gays in public as well. "I hate it when people are discriminated against because they're different," she says. "As a woman, I've always been discriminated against. But I know that if I was a lesbian, it would be even harder."

Gay-bashing is another topic that outrages her. "Sometimes I wish I knew karate or judo," she says, so she could go around warning bashers with that high-pitched Bronx-accented voice of hers, "'Don't you even think about it.' But I don't. Yet. I'm working on the judo."

As for her AIDS-themed hit "Boy Blue," Lauper says she had no choice but to write the song. "A very dear friend of mine had passed away [from AIDS], so I wrote about this particular person," Lauper says. "I'm sure he would've liked me to write 'That's What Friends Are For,' but that wasn't my talent. It was more personal. This person had the bluest eyes I ever saw, so I called him boy blue." Still, looking back, Lauper now admits, "The song wasn't as clear [about AIDS] as it should have been."

One reason Lauper understands so well about AIDS or gay-related discrimination may be because, as a singer, she considers herself a story-teller, writing and interpreting for an audience the intimate stories of other people.

"Stories are important," Lauper says. "I have always been interested in the person at the center of the song—the character, the person telling the song. As a singer, whose oratory I'm singing or speaking tells a story. It's almost like folk-lore."

One of the best stories on the album is found in "Sally's Pigeons," a song co-written with country singer Mary-Chapin Carpenter about a woman's reminiscence of a childhood friend who died in a back alley abortion.

"Sometimes right and wrong fall into a grey area," Lauper says of the song's evocative lyrics. "Sometimes things that everyone views as like really bad happen very innocently, and then a life is taken. I don't think that anyone wants to get an abortion. I think that it's a choice that people make sometimes, but no one is jumping up and down excited about it. [The song] is mainly about two girls coming into womanhood, and how sometimes you slip into the grey area. But you both walk the same path. It's why does something happen to one person and not you?"

Abortion may be an unlikely topic for a pop song, but it's not surprising to find it on a Cyndi Lauper album given the fact that she's always been openly feminist. "I have no choice," she says. "That's what I am. I burnt my training bra when I was a kid."

BRENT HARTINGER

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**The Sins of Sodom:** Seems that three of Atlanta's most visible big bad fags decided to drop in on Nancy Schaefer's election night party at the Marriott. Pretty soon a security person approached them and suggested that they should leave "because they were gay." To which one fag replied, "that would be *queer*, thank you." Cops were then called in and our heroes were escorted from the premises. Given her obsession with the sins of sodomites, Dish thinks that Nancy needs to be adjusting her bifocals and re-reading the Good Book to discover that the real sin perpetrated by the residents of Sodom and Gomorrah was a lack of hospitality towards their guests. Then again, we wonder how queers would respond if Ms. Big Hair dropped in at Backstreet or The Eagle for a cocktail.

**Izzy He, or Isn't He?:** As nauseated as we are by Whatizit (recently renamed Izzy), Dish believes that Atlanta Journal-Constitution columnist Colin Campbell spends more than enough time ranting and raving about the slimy blue maggot. We do think, however, that you should know that the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games has issued a whole list of things that Izzy can do now that he has a name. (We're confused, didn't he have a name before?) High on this list is "sign checks." Pretty scary when you consider just how close to the edge Olympic finances are. He can also "be a newspaper columnist" which we know makes Colin Campbell want to puke and should make Lewis Grizzard nervous as hell. But what's really weird, given that pre-teen kids are this character's primary audience, is that Izzy can "receive messages in the 'personals.'" Under "men seeking women" or "men seeking men?" Which brings up *this* question: just who decided that Izzy was a he? Wouldn't a female or ambisexual mascot have been more PC? We hope that Mr. Campbell will further investigate these burning issues.

**Vacation in Hell:** Dish tends to think of the travel industry as fairly liberal. After all, lots of folks who are not married (at least

# Dish

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



Dish wonders just how personal Izzy wants to get.

to each other) ride airplanes (and other fun things) and share hotel rooms with each other. Thus we were more than a little horrified when reading the latest issue of "Travel and Leisure" to discover that the various Sandals resorts around the world will accept only heterosexual couples at their vacation spas. (They don't take kids either, but that's another ball of wax.) This, of course, is entirely legal as none of the resorts are located in places that have public accommodations laws that cover homos. Dish, however, has an idea. We think it would be way cool if about 100 queers (half men, half women) were to get together and hit one of these resorts disguised as hetero couples. On their first night they could switch rooms and then arrive at breakfast, arm in arm, with their same sex lovers. The biggest problem with that idea is that the tab is nearly \$350 a day per person. Too damn

much we think for a place that hates homos, serves Carlo Rossi wines and is decorated like a Holiday Inn. Yuk.

**Life Imitates Art Imitates Life:** If you thought that the plot in John Guare's "Six Degrees of Separation" was suitably Byzantine and bizzaro check this. Seems that a 35 year-old gay man has been bopping around Gotham City schmoozing with the rich and famous and telling them that he is one Paul Bennett, heir to the Mellon banking family, a member of the board of the Mellon Bank and the owner of a seat on the on the New York Stock Exchange. He claimed he was the family's black sheep because of his "flamboyant homosexual lifestyle." Well, Paul Vogt may be a flamboyant queer, but he is none of the rest of the things he claimed to be, and his duplicity (as well as the \$80,000-plus that he embezzled while he was playing poseur) has gotten him in deep do-do with the law, like probation on a 15-year sentence and 1,000 hours of community service. And he can't drink, do drugs or remain unemployed either. But we bet it was fun while it lasted.

**Condom Conundrum:** Dish's friend the News Fairy recently bought some Ramses rubbers and was distressed to note that all the instructions thereon referred only to vaginal intercourse with women. Said friend took umbrage with this and fired off a letter to the maker of these latex sheathes. The company replied that it would change the word "woman" in its instructions to "partner" but noted that since "testing and safety data for condoms was developed only based on vaginal use" it could not do away with the vaginal reference. Our question—given the number of men who regularly wrap their phalli in latex and put them in orifices other than vaginas—is why? Can you say homophobia? Good, we knew you could.

NOVEMBER 18 - NOVEMBER 24, 1993

We are now heading full throttle for the holidays as the sun moves into the mutable fire sign of Sagittarius on Nov. 21. This time of year can be intense and emotionally draining unless you are very clear, early on, about the kind of experience you want. We can't control the thoughts and actions of others, but we can make clear choices for ourselves.

**ARIES**, with the sun joining Mars in your ninth house of higher education, travel and world view, you may get the urge to see or do something different, possibly even exotic. If you do travel, stay away from potentially volatile areas or risky activities.  
**TAURUS**, now that Jupiter is in your seventh house of close friends, partnerships and significant others, your social life could certainly expand into new and exciting arenas. Don't hesitate to accept invitations for something you haven't done before.  
**GEMINI**, with the sun and Mars moving through your seventh house of close friends, partnerships and significant others, you can have a real social whirl during the holidays. Meet new people, make new friends and spend quality time with those you love.  
**CANCER**, heading for the kitchen to get ready for the holidays? If you love to cook for others, then you probably do some tasting as

## STARSIGNS

you go and that can add unexpected pounds and inches. Watch you sweet tooth and get plenty of exercise.  
**LEO**, the sun and Mars, with its assertive, move-ahead energy, is in your fifth house of passion and creative expression. Be sure to make time for fun and creativity. Your job/career is not sufficient to express all your passionate energy.  
**VIRGO**, you can enjoy this time of year best by spending time with close friends and those you love, rather than overloading yourself with things you think should or must be done. Quality time at home with your special someone could be very nurturing.  
**LIBRA**, let your social wings unfurl. The world, especially people in your immediate circle, need to experience your gift of charm, grace and the true joy of friends getting together and sharing. At heart, you are a true mediator and bridge builder.  
**SCORPIO**, hopefully you had a wonderful birthday month with a bit of quality personal time to reflect on the year gone by and picture how you want the next 12 months to look. Do your best

to release any anger over personal hurts and move ahead in freedom.  
 Happy birthday, **SAGITTARIUS**. You made it through another year, hopefully without too many bumps and bruises and with most of your dreams coming true. You are a beginning a brand new solar year, so out with the old and in with the new. Let's celebrate.  
**CAPRICORN**, as you probably can sense, we are in a cycle of tremendous change with high stakes for all of us. Your ability to structure and organize is a true gift, much needed right now. Watch Mother Nature for clues about creating patterns that work.  
**AQUARIUS**, if you are feeling the urge to be more involved with political or social issues, this is a great time. Your skills are needed in formulating strategy and defining the real issues. You'll also find yourself among like-minded folks.  
**PISCES**, with your compassion and ability to listen, people may be drawn to you with their troubles and sorrows. However, you don't need to be everyone's unofficial therapist, and you definitely deserve friends who are healthy, happy and prosperous.

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

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- AID Atlanta—872-0600
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- AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991
- AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728
- AIDS Legal Project—688-5433
- AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246
- AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317
- AIDS and Substance Abuse Speakers Network—977-7797
- AIDS SUPPORT—Jewish Family Services—888-6400, #76
- Atlanta Buyers Club—874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357
- Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network—874-8686
- Atlanta Lesbian AIDS Project—250-8177
- Childkind—936-9655
- Common Ground—874-6425
- First MCC AIDS Ministry—325-4143
- Georgia AIDS Therapy Information Network—1-800-551-2728
- Good Samaritan Project—873-4589
- Grady Mem. Hospital Infectious Disease Program—341 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atl. 30308, (404) 616-2440
- The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—876-0105
- National Assn of People With AIDS/Atlanta—874-7926
- The Names Project/Atlanta—605-7386
- Outreach, Inc.—(404) 346-3922
- People's United Pet Support—370-0178
- Pets Are Loving Support (P.A.L.S.)—876-PALS
- Positive Impact—885-9040
- Positive Outlook On Health—872-9954
- Project Open Hand Atlanta—525-4620

### Arts/Entertainment/Culture

- Atlanta Diversity Chorale—607-1146
- Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—438-5823
- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing—POB 7032, Atlanta 30357, 876-1060
- Atlanta Rainbow Ensemble—872-3135
- "Funny...That Way"—875-2275
- Gay & Lesbian Marching Band—872-9763
- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc.—609-9590
- Southern Country Atlanta—938-0609

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- The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280
- Babylon—Piedmont Grove, 10th & Monroe.
- Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
- Bellissima—688 Spring Street.
- Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786
- Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895
- Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655
- Bulldog & Co.—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
- Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
- Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178
- The Cove—586 Worchester. 875-2477
- Crazy Ray'z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
- Crown Club—2050 Cheshire Br. 636-5470
- The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
- 551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052
- Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983
- Goodies—64 Third St. 873-3355
- The Heretic—2069 Cheshire Bridge. 325-3061
- Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
- The Metro—48 6th Street, 874-9869
- New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247
- Opus—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
- The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
- The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055
- Peppers by Frank Powell—980 Piedmont Ave. NE 872-4000
- Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
- Revolution—293 Pharr Rd. 816-5455
- Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
- The Model—T—Ford Factory Square. 872-2209
- Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712

### Direct Action/Political

- ACLU of Georgia—523-5398
- ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201
- ACT UP—874-6782 (O)
- Atlanta Greens, Green Party USA, Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Queer Caucus—368-7137
- Catalyst—(404) 776-1478
- Cobb Citizens Coalition—POB 965336, Marietta 30066, 256-8690
- Dykes & Faggots Bash Back—P.O. Box 14531, Atlanta 30324, voice mail 908-5369
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—605-7477
- Georgia Advocates for Battered Women & Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atl. 30312
- Georgia Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—(404) 662-4199 or POB 5282, Atlanta 30307
- GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628
- Human Rights Campaign Fund—Field Committee, 231-5751
- LEGAL—605-7476
- Lesbian Avengers—621-5016
- National Association of People with AIDS Hotline—874-7926
- National Organization for Women, Gay & Lesbian Rights Task Force—636-7435
- Neighbors Network—257-5550
- Queer Nation—605-7396
- Republicans for Individual Freedoms—PO 13162, Atlanta, GA 30324, 239-1679
- Straight But Not Narrow—242-2256 (voice mail)
- STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line—605-STOP

### National

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

### Professional

- Atlanta Entrepreneurs' Club—Dr. Bravy 457-6347
- Bar Owner's Assn—POB 15114, Atlanta 30333-0114
- Fourth Tuesday—662-4353
- Gay/Lesbian Postal Employees Network (G/L PEN)—POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397
- GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251
- HomeGirls—622-0105
- LEAGUE, Inc. (Employees of AT&T)—404/872-2359
- Nat'l Gay Pilots Assoc.—PO Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542, (703) 660-3852
- Nat'l Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assoc.—634-7429
- Nat'l Federaton of Career Women—(404) 659-0315
- OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)

### Spiritual

- All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154
- Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—876-0631
- Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350
- Congregation Bet Haverim—642-3467
- Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—565-2126
- First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta—378-5570
- First Metropolitan Community Church of Atl—325-4143
- Friends for Lesbian & Gay Concerns (Quakers)—370-1340
- Gay & Lesbian Mormons—570-2561 (dig. page)
- Gay Spirit Visions—378-7224
- Grant Park Aldersgate United Methodist Church—627-6221; 575 Boulevard SE
- Hosanna African Unity Life Center—872-9055
- Integrity (Episcopal)—642-3183
- Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta—636-7109
- Oakhurst Presbyterian Church—378-6284
- Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—373-5830
- Unitarian Universalists—634-5134, George at 688-2242

### Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

- Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
- Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
- Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME
- Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
- Greater Atlanta Natutrist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)
- Hotlanta Soccer—876-7372
- Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
- Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
- Lambda Car Club—POB 11705, Atlanta 30355
- Luring Lesbians (fishing club)—932-5236
- Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535
- S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 30357, 760-8126
- Wilderness Network of GA—SASE, POB 55156, Atlanta 30308
- Women's Outdoor Network—624-3418
- Women's Rugby—659-6916 or 761-8939
- TRICKS Bridge Club—2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339
- Underwater Escapes—289-0696

### Service/Support/Social

- About Crossdressing—Janet, 624-3770
- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—239-8184 (voice mail)
- Amazon Salon Young Feminist Network—223-3718
- American Educational Gender Info Service—POB 33724, Decatur 30033, (404) 939-0244 (eve)
- Asians & Friends—Atlanta—876-0090
- Athens Lesbian Information—LSG, POB 7864, Athens, 30604
- Atlanta Corporal Punishment Club—Box 11863, Atlanta 30355
- Atlanta Couples Together—365-2455
- Atlanta Gay Center—876-5372
- Atlanta Gender Exploration—875-9846
- Atlanta Lambda Community Center—POB 15180, Atlanta 30333, 662-9010
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Comm—662-4533
- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance—POB 5502, Atlanta 30307, phone 378-9769
- Atlanta Lesbian Singles Organization (ALSO)—843-4492
- Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016
- BiAtlanta—256-8992
- Bisexuals of Atlanta Resource Network—908-3413
- Black and White Men Together—892-BWMT
- Caregivers to PWAs Support Group—874-1109 or 875-6109
- Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
- Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
- Emotions Anonymous—872-0979
- First Women—G.G. Richardson, POB 724711, Atl. 30339, 612-9473
- Friends Atlanta—662-4501
- Gay Fathers of Atlanta—342-6451
- Gay Help Line—6pm-11pm 892-0661
- Gay/Lesbian AA & Al-Anon—881-9188
- Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America—623-4099
- Gay/Lesbian Task Force to the Public Safety Comm. of City Council—330-6504
- Georgia Girth & Mirth—POB 9678, Atl. 30319, (404) 621-5710
- Georgia Lesbian Ecofeminists—525-9085
- Gwinnett Lambda—POB 464848, Lwrnc'ville 30246, 871-GAYS
- Hospitality Atlanta—627-0520
- Interact of Atlanta—984-9875
- KO-Existance—875-8936
- John Howell Park Project—876-0105
- Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262
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- Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous—703-3897
- Lesbian Support Group—627-7387
- Lesbians Considering Parenthood—908-1704
- Lesbians Over 50—850-1005
- Lesbians With Children—740-1729
- Men of Little 5 Points—POB 5425, Atlanta 30307
- Name the Violence Support Group for Battered Lesbians—822-9570; Crisis Hotline—688-9436
- Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)—892-5868
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—296-0830 or 875-9440
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Chattanooga—(615) 875-5750, (615) 622-3813
- Positive Black Lesbians United (PBLU)—294-4377
- Prime Timers—POB 29487, Atlanta 30359
- Queer Youth—P.O. Box 54032, Atlanta 30308; 605-7396
- Real Gay World BBS—404-266-0856
- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048
- Support Group for Battered Gay Partners—(404) 350-0456
- Survivors of Incest Anonymous—POB 2502, Decatur, GA 30031; 239-8018
- Uniformed Svcs Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206
- Women In Kaboots—(WINK) 438-1421
- Women of Wisdom—289-8819
- Wordsmith Society—Chris at 498-0137
- Young Adult Support Group—876-5372
- Zami—908-3356
- Agnes Scott Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance—Box 501, Decatur 30030; 373-1632
- Alliance of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students of GA State—605-7681
- Bi, Lesbian & Gay Student Union of West Ga. College—706-834-3569
- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—727-6692
- Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Comm. College 423-6246
- Georgia Tech Gay Alumni Group—POB 50291, GA Tech Sta., Atlanta 30332
- Georgia Tech Gay & Lesbian Alliance—497-0684
- Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Student Union of the Univ. of Ga.—POB 2438
- Athens 30612-0438 or call 404/549-9368
- S.E. Alternative Lifestyles Association—248-9307
- Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479

OUTLINES

**BROOKE PERRY**

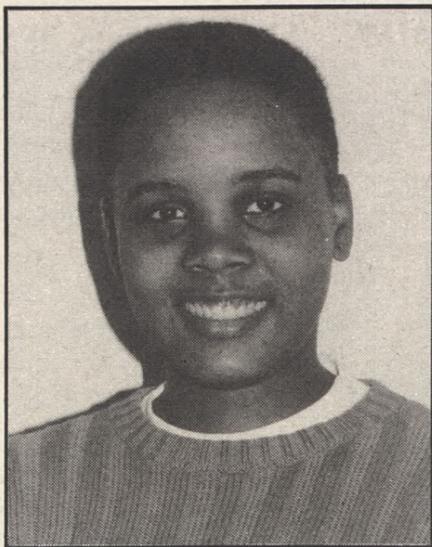
**Age:** 24

**How long in Atlanta:**  
A little over two years

**Relationship Status:**  
Depends on who asks

**Last Books Read:** "Persistent Desire" by Joan Nestle and "Clover" by Dori Sanders

**Pet Peeve:**  
Irresponsible pet owners



Maybe that pet peeve comes from the little orange and white kitten sitting in Brooke Perry's lap, biting her hand and constantly purring. She found him wandering around the neighborhood, "skinny and sniffing," and took him in. Living alone for the first time, Perry finds Tobasco good company.

"Sometimes I feel a little wierd coming home alone," she says, "But I'm so busy with people that it's nice to come home to nobody but him."

And Perry is busy. She arrived in Atlanta just over two years ago after graduating from Yale University with a degree in architecture. She came here for love, she admits, a little embarrassed.

"I moved down here in a 1977 Chevy Malibu with about \$500," she says. "I followed some woman down here, and it didn't work out."

"Actually, I had come down to visit and I really liked the city. A lot of my friends at Yale were Southern—from Georgia and North Carolina. I guess I just liked the people better."

She quickly found the African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance (AALGA) and Zami, an African American lesbian social organization, and settled into Southern living, Atlanta-style. Both organizations are important to Perry—she is now co-chair of AALGA. And Zami offers plentiful opportunities for social interaction.

"We have discussions, go to plays," she said. "We're kind of like a bunch of friends, but we have regular meetings."

But lately her focus has been on more spiritual matters, as she has become involved with Friends for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, a lesbian/gay arm of the Quakers.

"[The group] bridges the gaps between the social, political and spiritual," she says. "Just about everything."

"When I was in college, I was secretary of a church council and deeply involved. Then through a process of conflicts with other church members—both before coming out and after—because I wasn't towing the party line, I left."

"I became less receptive to the idea of a

pastor taking responsibility for my spiritual growth," she adds.

The Quakers offered a logical alternative to more traditional religious groups.

"A 'friend' invited me [to attend a Quaker meeting]," she laughs. "I really like going there because I get to interact with a wide variety of people."

Perry came out while in the New Haven, Conn. college and says that Yale offered a safe environment for that process.

"I had a lot of lesbian and gay friends," she says. "Yale is one of the easiest places to come out—it's purported to have a reasonably high proportion of lesbian and gay students. We had bizarre right wing people, too, but they were kind of cartoonish."

Perry's family had a difficult time with her coming out, but she believes it had as much to do with her finishing school and reaching adulthood as with her lesbianism.

"My coming out was horrible for them," she remembers. "My father didn't talk to me for a long time. My mother didn't talk to me for a long time, and when she did she said some horrible things. They're pretty supportive now, but it didn't start out that way."

"I think we have a better relationship now than before," she continues. "When I came out, I became honest about a lot of things. It wasn't just a process of coming out—it was growing up and them acknowledging I was an adult."

Perry also has a 14-year-old sister—"she makes me jewelry"—and a 20-year-old brother, also at Yale.

"He is a human rights activist/pacifist who volunteers his time teaching and working with disadvantaged children and playing in a rock band," she says. "But my parents don't know that."

"They brought us up that we should do what we want to do," she adds, laughing again. "Sometimes they wish they hadn't."

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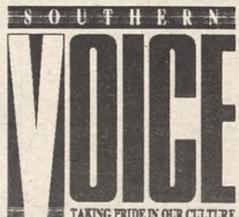
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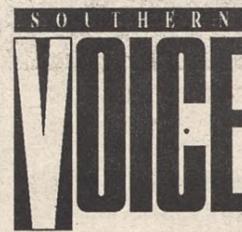
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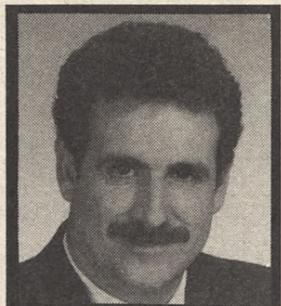
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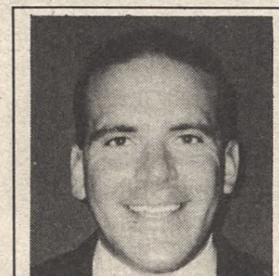
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The AIDS Legal Project is seeking volunteers to assist with clerical tasks. We need one or two people, morning or afternoon, who are detail-oriented. Prv. office exp. helpful but not req. Persons w/HIV encouraged to apply. For information, please contact Jeffrey McIntyre at 614-3972. (6.41)

**HIV SELF-CARE WORKSHOP** Feeling Stressed? Depressed? Want some questions answered? Dec. 1, Wed. 7-8:30pm. Body work and HIV: A hands-on experience. Joe Chancey, Certified Massage Therapist. (6.40)

Positive Impact provides mental health services to persons who are affected by HIV and have limited financial resources. Services are provided by volunteer mental health professionals. Call 885-9040 to volunteer or request services. (6.39)

Good Samaritan Project provides support for persons with AIDS. Support group, buddy program, clothing/food, practical support, pastoral care. 873-4589. (6.45)

**AIDS SUPPORT:** Jewish Family Services sponsors a support group for Jewish people affected by HIV/AIDS, their families or lovers. 2nd and 4th Sundays, 7:30 p.m. in Buckhead. For information: 888-6400, voice mailbox 76.

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

**AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN**— 888-9991 — a project of the Feminist Women's Health Cr. 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri, 10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anonymity assured.

**HIV+ Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** for African Am. **FREE ANONYMOUS HIV TESTS**, counselling, referral (minority cultural sensitivity). For confidential info call **OUT-REACH, INC.** 346-3922.

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

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

**Atlanta Gay Center**—Plus groups for HIV-affected people. Fri., 8 pm and Sun., 6 pm. 63 12th St. Call 876-5372 for more info. Helpline, 892-0661, for info, counseling and referral.

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

**Announcements**

**Homo for the Holidays: Stress Management Seminar** for the Season, Professionally facilitated, \$15. Nov. 23, 7 pm and Dec. 11, 3:30 pm. Call 605-7443 for information. (6.42)

**TELL IT LIKE IT IS!** Lesbian and gay storytelling group forming. Meet monthly to develop and perform your "family" stories. Contact Jimmy, 873-3654, evenings. (6.42)

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**Volunteer with Pride.** With your help, Pride '94 will be the biggest ever. Call the Pride Line — 662-4533. (6.44)

**Atlanta Lesbian & Gay Pride Committee (ALGPC)** meets the third Thursday every month, 7:00 p.m. Call the Pride Line for location 662-4533. (6.44)

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**MORE ON PAGE 42**

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CALLIGRAPHY - Your special occasion documented in fine, artistic calligraphy, personalized to your specifications. Ornamental designs, elegant borders, traditional and/or personal symbols. Commitment ceremonies, anniversaries, celebrations of all kinds. Stephanie Miller 522-8541 (6.43-odd)

Travel

THE OLD MILL - Bed, Breakfast & Browsing, Bat Cave, NC! Relax by rushing mountain stream near Asheville. Phone 704-625-4256. (6.47)

OAKWOOD HOUSE B&B - Atlanta. Gracious, relaxed, gay-friendly. Inman Park historic area. Near Little 5 Points. \$75-85/couple. 521-9320, 1-800-388-4403. (6.43)

Gay World Travel Areas - Gay owned & operated accommodations list. Maps & more. Send \$10. Go Places With Pride, 9418 133 Street, Jamaica, NY 11419. (6.40)

Volunteers

HELP A CHILD

AID Atlanta is looking for volunteers who are willing to work one morning a week from 9-12 in the new pediatric nursery. Responsibilities include watching and playing with young children while their parents see the doctor. This is one of the most rewarding yet least stressful services available. Minorities and men are urged to participate. If interested, please contact Jack Schiffman, Pediatric Coordinator, AID Atlanta, 874-6517. (6.41)

Volunteers needed for the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee. Come to the general meetings, 3rd Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Colony Square Hotel. Hotel parking validated. (ongoing)

Good Samaritan Project provides support for persons with AIDS. Volunteers needed - as buddies, practical support, office, clothing/food bank. 873-4589. (6.45)

Voice Connection

WOMEN

Very attractive BiWF, 28, sexy, feminine, long hair. Seeks WF, trim, under 33, for hot times. Local. 1008

I am attractive and loving and searching for Ms. Right - pretty, intelligent, active, stable companion with available time & transportation. 1848

Come play w/me; GWF - 31, wine + roses lady w/good sense of humor & a love of adventure. Looking for the right woman to sweep me off my feet. Must be lustful of all life's pleasures + romantic. 1841

GWF, 38, Lake Dweller, dog lover, convertible driver, free spirit, honest, sincere, direct, 5'7", blonde, hazel eyes, athletic body. 1845

GWF, 31, attractive, secure romantic, seeks kind-natured GF. Age unimportant. P.O. Box 1319, Cedartown, GA 30125-1319. (6.41)

BiWF, trim, 40's, experienced, seeks feminine, trim, attractive, BiF for discreet get togethers. 1835

Very attractive, educated, feminine. Passions: music, philosophy, politics, travel. Seeking friendship and conversation with attractive, feminine, intelligent woman. 1825

Large feminine WF looking for BiB or WF for fun and friendship. Write: Skeeter, P.O. Box 1685, Cornelia, GA 30531. (6.39)

Wonderful, full-figured Lesbian (40) seeks fun-loving + intelligent Lesbian. Are you honest, warm and stable? Enjoy children? 1793

Open GF sought for quality friendship. Must understand college student's life. Must enjoy theatre, art, dance, dining. 20-27. 1798

GWF - I love life, fun and dogs. Work hard, play hard and know how to relax. No drugs/Alcohol. 40ish. 1789

GWF, 32, baby dyke starting over, seeks GWF 20-35 into laughter, movies, romance and commitment. No drugs, non-smoker, kids-okay. 1780

GBF, attractive, very feminine, seeks fun-loving, aggressive GF for friendship, possible relationship. 1774

Cute, feminine, GWF, 27, educated, academic professional, energetic, cat-lover, passionate and playful, seeks soulmate and friends close to my age for intellectual and comical stimulation. 1778

GWF, early twenties, doesn't know how to pick up women, but sure knows what to do once she's got one. 1783

GWF, 34, I'm an old fashioned girl with new age ideas. My mom will like you too if, like me, you're natural, emotionally stable, attractive, kind, humorous, intelligent, and has integrity. 1777

Young 40, attractive, intelligent, blessed with many good friends. Are you honest, stable, tender? With no fear of the potential relationship? 1773

Attractive GF Seeking foreign, petite lipstick lesbian for companionship, to enjoy life, love and happiness. No butch, bi's or kids. 1746

Attractive GWF seeking feminine GWF who enjoys being wined and dined in life's simple pleasures. No bi's, drug free. 1744

Lesbian seeking women to talk with, laugh with and walk with along life's path. If your world includes films, theater, books, travel, pets, politics, spirituality and joy, I look forward to talking to you. 1713

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

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

GWF, 42, fun, adventurous, independant. 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, independant. 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 sensual 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

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, 1780

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 feminine female, any race, for possible one-on-one relationship. 1643

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

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 GF 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. Intrigued? You should be!! 1566

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

MEN

Hot and Hairy 30 yr. old GWM seeking handsome big brother for fun and more. FTBB. 1012

My ABC's - GWM 33, seeks same, 18-40, who is athletic, Active, Aggressive, Bold, Built, Beautiful, Cute, Crazy & Curious. 1011

GBM, 32, 5'10", 150, athletic, attractive, professional, spiritual, various interests, newly relocated, seeks friendships, possible relationship, 25-40, race unimportant. No drugs, non-smoker. 1010

GWM, 39, 5'11", 190, bi/blu, healthy HIV top. ISO comrade for hero's journey to new life, workout, gardening, movies, hiking. 1009

LEGS IN THE AIR?? attractive top, 38, brown hair, blue eyes, Scotch/Irish seeks cute hot bottom for safe fun. 1007

BM seeks masculine BM for uninhibited times. 1006

Wanna fight? Like to box with tough men. Dirty talk, leather fights and more. 6, 185 lbs, built. Put 'em up! 1005

AFRICANIZED USA-born, raised in West Africa, not-you-basic WM seeks BM for friendship/relationship. Please be 5'10"+, 30-50 y.o. 1004

Goodlooking WM, 32, 6', 170#, hot gym body, seeks same for friendship/relationship. Must be masculine, non-smoker, healthy, professional. Do you exist. 1003

GWM, 30, 6'2", looking for college graduate, masculine, thin, GBM 22-30 to share in building the good life, must be spontaneous & possess a sense of humor. 1015

Take charge! GWM, athletic, 28, professional, great looks seeks safe, dominant, older, endowed inshape WM who needs oral service. 1850

GWM, top, dominant, 45yo, 6', 180 lbs, clean shaven, seeks under 30 men also clean shaven for fun safe hot times. 1851

Masculine GWM, 26, 5'10" 160 lbs, blond/brown, hairy; seeks goodlooking butch top to 40 (sane, sexy, safe) for direct manly maneuvers. 1852

Attractive interracial couple seeks attractive male(s), any race, for very good times, humor/friendships. No attitude, tops, bottoms welcome. 1849

Attractive BM, 33. Educated, fit, fun, honest, financially secure professional, many interests, ready for relationship. Seeks WM, 29 and over. Serious replies only. 1842

GWM - HIV+ - very attractive, 28 yo, physi-

**VOICE CONNECTION**

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cally fit healthy, Br/bl, 5'9", 160 lbs, professional, masculine, clean cut, smooth. Likes - a normal life, good times and great sex. Would like to meet/date similar, very similar! 1843

GBM, 6', 200 #, 38, seeks blue collar type BM, 190+, 25+, looks unimportant, endowment and personality are. Not into bars. 1846

Bald 46yo, masculine, sincere, executive seeks same, 30-45. Enjoys tennis, exercise, outdoors, theater, symphony. Looking for monogamous relationship. 1847

Sexy, hairy leatherboy, 33, 5'8" 150 br/br HIV seeks hairy, affectionate, nonsmoking, intelligent, kinky, horny, top/daddy to 45. 1840

Handsome GWM, 21, mature professional, 6'1" - 185, brwn/brwn sks sincere GWM, 30-40. Take charge kinda guy - romantic, cultured, not only interested in a pretty face but what's inside. Let's talk!!! 1839

GBM, 29, 6'1", 240 lbs, competitive body-builder, professional, masculine, discreet, seeking BM with similar characteristics and interests to spend time with. 1836

Looking for you! Me: Handsome, sexy, 5'8", 165 lbs, workout, professional, romantic, adventurous. You: sexy, my size or bigger, well-built, romantic, adventurous. Call to talk! Big arms, big heart preferred! 1828

BM - Handsome, athletic, muscular, romantic, honest, seek masculine, athletic, handsome, muscular, discreet men for relationship. Policemen & armed forces preferred. 1834

GWM, 39, 5'9", 135 lbs., beard, versatile, daytime playmate for all types of action. Seeks 25-45 GWM into playing hard. 1829

GWM, Attractive, witty, youngish 50, 6', 185 lbs, moustache, brn/blu, healthy HIV, interests: movies, cooking, cards, theater, dining out, travel, quiet evenings - into: cuddling, long-term companionship, Greek love, light smoker/drinker, no drugs, seeks GWM 40-55 w/similar needs/wants. 1830

DESIRED: Professional GBM, 30ish, top with average build to spend quiet evenings with professional HIV+ healthy GWM, slim build, athletic, honest. 1832

Friendship or relationship? GWM 31, HIV+, enjoys country music & dance, easy going, seeks same/older. Call + find out more! 1833

GBM, 30, 5'10", 185 lbs, goodlooking endowment seeks guys 18-35 to share fun sessions of J/O at my place. 1837

Butch, handsome, hung, fit youngster (24) gives or receives safe, discreet French service to/from butch endowed athletes; leave message. 1838

GWM, 36, 5'11", lean, attractive, seeks similar GWM into movies, conversation, "Star Trek," safe sex and low-key lifestyle. 1826

GWM 29, Professional, attractive, sincere, honest, financially secure, relationship oriented. I believe there has to be someone out there who believes in having a loving, caring, monogamous relationship. You - Attractive GBM 20-31 professional or serious minded student. I enjoy quiet evenings at home, walks in the park, stimulating conversation, working out, traveling, and anything romantic! Interested? Let's talk. Serious only. 1824

Handsone No. Ga. Mtns. WM, 37, 5'8"/145, healthy seeks aggressive eager French active GWM for regular encounters! 1796

GWM, 27, 6'1", 175#, clean cut, athletic, non-smoker, masculine, intelligent, very attractive, seeks similar, 22-32. 1795

W/M, 35, blond, moustache, butch, handsome, 5'8", 150, fun-loving, single, wants to relocate Gulf Coast Mississippi, Louisiana, needs contacts. 1794

BM, 5'8", 160lbs, trim, masculine, endowed, versatile. Seeks same for intense encounters.

1800  
Hot GWM want out, active, confident, Gd/k, hot, political boyfriends. No closet wimps! 20's/30's Adventure. Any race. I dare you! 1790

GWM, 38, 5'10", 180, somewhat attractive, tired of lonely weekends, have friends, need more, HIV-, like companionship, walks, cooking, seek similar, 36-43. 1792

I want it all! Passion, romance, sex - all that is possible in a committed relationship. I am GWM, 45, professional, athletic, non-smoker, HIV+ and healthy. Looking for fun and adventure, a kid to play with mine, sensitivity and maturity. A Prince who is self aware enough to take care of himself and to care for me. Serious replies only, please. 1791

GWM, 26, 5'10", 160 lbs., nonsmoker, masculine type, versatile, college grad, recently out, seeks similar GWM (20-30) for dating, possible relationship. Write: "Jake," P.O. Box 101592, B'ham, AL 35210 (6.39)

BiBM, 32, handsome newly relocated to Atlanta. Very discreet, not into bar scene, seeks same. No fats/fems. 1799

GWM, sincere, stable, Attractive, healthy, well-educated professional, 40's, masculine. Seeks quality clean-cut WM college-student. Novice fine. 1797

GWM, 22, HIV-, swimmer's build, affectionate, stable, seeks attractive, hairy, stable, mature, HIV-, "Bruce Willis" type, 30+ for possible relationship. 1788

F.F.B.B. (Fuzzy face/back/butt) sought by GWM, 35, 6'1", 170#, smooth, bear admirer. Hibernation time is near! 1787

THREE-WAY ACTION: attractive top, 30's, 5'11", 160 lbs, seeks handsome couple for safe, regular, discreet, no-strings encounters. 1786

Senior Male - seeks male 25-35 to mentor, help financially, and for companionship during week days. Clean, masculine, healthy. 1785

Horny Midtown Professional. Involved GWM, 40, 5'10", 155, HIV-, with place seeks guys for 5 pm adventurous, creative safe fun. 1784

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

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

WANTED: ASSWORK. Handsome hairy autless NB Groom GWM 26 seeks similar butt enthusiasts for in-depth recreation. Couples welcome. Ideas encouraged. 1782

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

Hairy and stocky GWM sought by medium

size GWM bear. Prefer friendly, professional, healthy, nongame, sincere, husky but trim bears. 1772

GWM Business owner needs attractive young live-in companion, relationship oriented, maintain household, help manage businesses. Some travel, I'll reciprocate generously. 1741

GWM, 35, tall attractive. New to Atlanta. Seeks same 25-45 for friendship/safe fun/relationship? Duluth/Gwinnett area a plus. 1750

Female impersonation. You - pretty young man. Me - mature male mentor/hobbyist with dresses, furs, jewelry, prof. make-up & wigs. Beginners only. 1740

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

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

GWM, 35, 6'2", 175, trim, attractive top gentleman, bearded, smooth body. Into movies, travel, dining out, music, romantic evenings, and cuddling. Seeking GWM, attractive, non-smoking, good natured, smooth bottom, with similar interests. 30-40. 1739

Cool Nights - Hot Tub Fun. Masculine, fit GWM, 34, Br/Br, 5'10", 155 seeks similar GWM couple - Splash around! Maybe more. 1737

Youthful 41, GWM, goodlooking professional seeking person possessing: humor, confidence, class, compassion, kids, activism, pets? Seeking relationship, no race preference. Call me, let's talk some. 1736

Hot, muscular GWM couple - 28, 6', 160#; 30, 5'11", 170#, seeks great looking male(s) for adventures in the bedroom. 1735

GBM, 27, 5'11", 220# seeks GWM 30-50 for serious relationship and good times. 1715

GWM, 29, 5'7", 170 Br/H/L, Novice Boy seeks WM 25-40 dominant. Spanking, discipline, W/S, B/D, Safe S/M. Make me serve. 1714

GBM newly relocated to Atlanta wishes to meet attractive masculine gay male who is not into bars. 1710

GWM, good looking, into local music, vegetarian food, C.G. Jung, Comedy Central, lesbians, dating. Seeks similar 30-40. 1704

Hairy, trim, youthful, GWM, 51, 145#, ashblonde/moustache, professional, seeks GWM, non-smoker, slim, varied interests, into affection, relationship. 40-55. 1705

Attractive, professional GWM into running, MST3000, Mexican food, existentialism w/without the angst seeks similar 25-35 with sense of humor. 1706

GBM, 33, 5'7", 130, masculine bottom, novice, seeks heavy-set, very dominant top 200+, 40-60. 1708

GWM, 30, HIV-, 180, 6'1", average to good looking seeks GM 24-30 for friendship, sex and possible relationship. 1702

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

Roswell, handsome, masculine, professional, 50 Bi-DWM

PERSONALS

27, very good-looking. Romantic, spiritual, and healthy, seeks GBM 27-37 who is good-looking and who is spiritual and likes to go to movies and do romantic things, not into bars. Who's looking for a possible relationship. Please, no feds. ☎ 1661

GBM, tall, slim, light complexion, seeks GWM/Hispanic male for fun times, friendship / relationship. Under 32 yo. ☎ 1683

Goodlooking GWM 33, 5'9", 150, athletic, professional, great personality and values, healthy HIV. Looking to meet another exceptional man. ☎ 1670

Average GBM bottom seeking serious friendship with relationship oriented, masculine, aggressive, private, average Black G/BiM absolute top under 51. ☎ 1684

GWM, 35, 5'8", 145#, br/br, handsome, masc, seeks similar 21-30s to help with small resort in North GA Mtns. & relationship. ☎ 1674

Bet you wish you knew me? Uncut idolizer of massive hairy chests seeks GWM for relationship. 30s, smooth, professional. ☎ 1681

Omo-Oschun, W/M, blond, moustache, 40, 5'8", slim, handsome, likes: wolves, nature, son montuano, musica campesina, Cajun & Cuban cultures. ☎ 1676

Handsome 6'2", 180, GWM seeks same over 30 with varied interests who is professional, intelligent and enjoys life like me. ☎ 1668

GWM, 42, 5'11", 170, brn/bl, relationship-oriented, non-bar type, seeks same in GWM, late 20s. ☎ 1662

To Japanese GM, 41, from August 19 Voice Connection, please contact me (GWM, 38), we have the same dream. ☎ 1663

Work Hard, want to Play Hard - Prof., stable, happy GWM couple, 29, Bi/Gr, 5'8", 145, 35, br/br, 6, 175, seek fun guy or couple for good times - possible real good time, hot and safe. ☎ 1666

BM, bottom, discreet, seeks BM, top, discreet, masculine, for special friendship. ☎ 1669

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GBM, 27, Professional, relationship-oriented, community-involved, ISO GM, 25-35, for

cheap movie date. ☎ 1638

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GWM 30-40+. ☎ 1573

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Handsome, blond/moustache, slim, 40, 5'8", masculine, blue collar, non-bar, negative, seeks W/M, moustache, handsome, rimming, romantic, relationship, 35-45. ☎ 1549

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

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

TV/TS

WM, 30, enjoys being female passable, seeks man who wants a submissive girl to obey and please. ☎ 1634

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

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BISEXUAL

BiWM, 33, adorable, seek Bi, G, S Females for holiday cheer. Let's visit our families, enjoy a play or coffee. Anxiously waiting—Love ☎ 1014

White couple, married, 30's, seeking BiWf to share fun and fantasy from both worlds in an intimate relationship. ☎ 1013

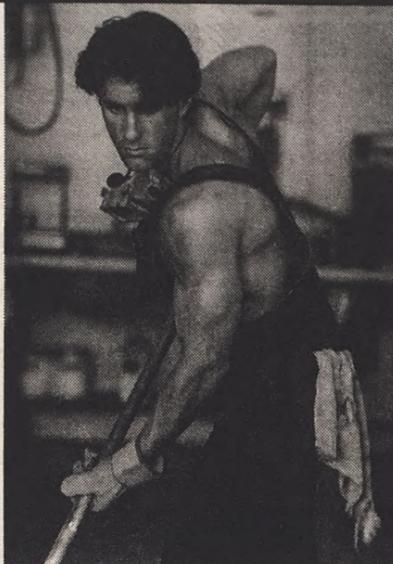
WANTED: fellow traveler(s) to go Dutch with bi guy 65 on land/sea/air jaunts worldwide. Leave your message anytime. ☎ 1844

Tall attractive BiTV seeks attractive tall Bi W/M over 40 for friendship and possible relationship. Sincere only. ☎ 1831

BM married, 54, great shape, seeks mature shapely BiF (30-50) for very discreet safe encounters. ☎ 1570

BiWM, 30, 5'11", 175, very attractive, great shape, sharp mind would like to meet other bi women/men. Let's talk! ☎ 1717

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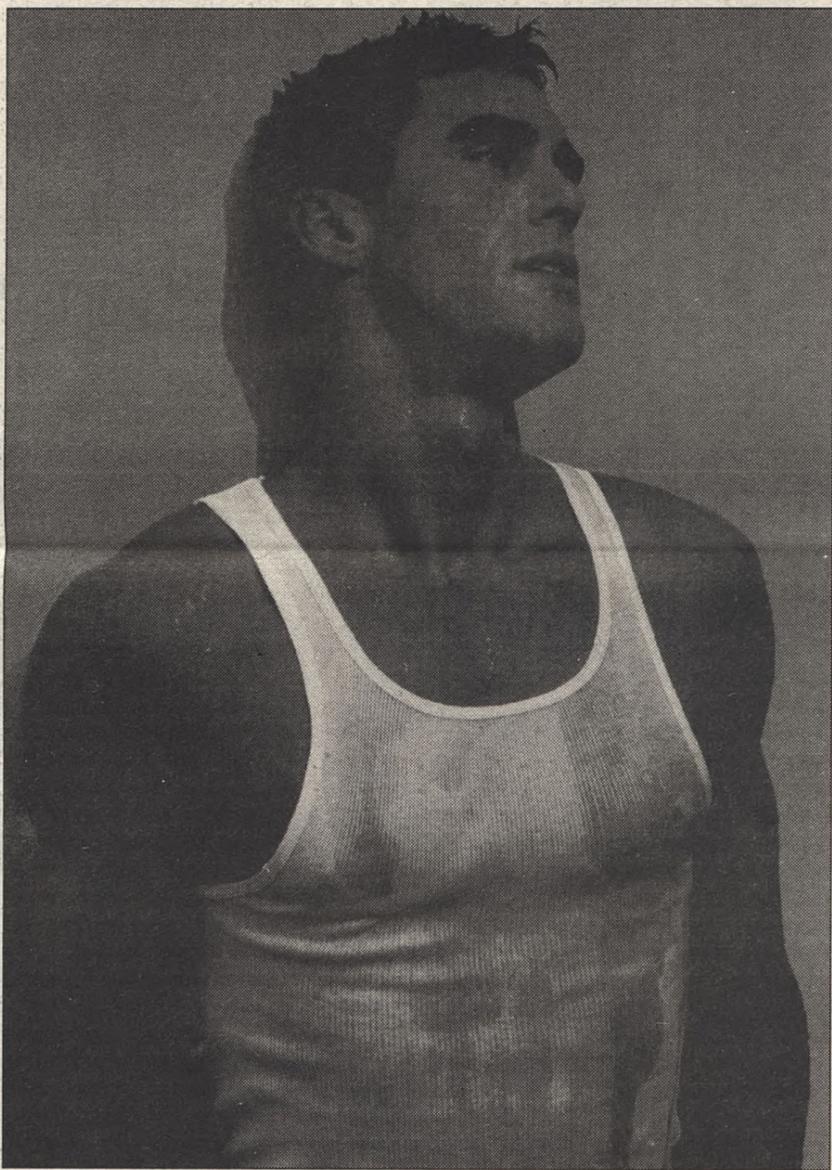
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